



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

A busy October for the WI

Carolyn Paton

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

As well as the usual interest groups which meet up independently during the month, the entire membership of the WI saw quite a lot of each other during October, as in addition to the usual topic-based meeting, we celebrated 100 years of existence here in Curry Rivel - of which more in a moment.



First things first, an observation; many of us have links with particular charities which are present on our High Streets, as they have a retail arm. Two managers from one of these shops came to fill us in on this retail side of charity fund-raising for St Margaret's Hospice – a familiar part of Langport's Bow Street. Kevin Plumridge explained how the network of shops were organised and operated within our region. Some of the details were eye-

opening to those of us who simply pop in from time to time either to donate or to buy.

You may have noticed attractive window displays; they are down to the individual shop manager, who has autonomy within the shop and takes a keen interest, as these can be key to drawing the public in. You may have wondered how much of the cash generated actually gets to the hospice; 100% from donated gifts, and 50% of new goods. What about items that don't sell? After three weeks they are moved, or sold on to specialists by weight – not to landfill. How do staff recognise valuable items? A specialist tours the shops weekly to cast an expert eye, and may recommend selling on eBay or at auction.

We have all seen larger items of furniture in the window locally; ours is one of the relatively few 'mixed' shops; most are dedicated to clothing, bric-a-brac and other small items. Five premises in our region are dedicated to furniture, and one of them is in the old cinema at Taunton. There is also warehouse storage for cross-season donations; so necessary when people have a clear-out at the end of summer or of winter, handing over things that won't be suitable until the following year.

A whole army of volunteers are the backbone of this retail sector, in addition to some full-time salaried managers. Some volunteers have been involved for many years, and this speaks well for the organisation.



Underpinning the whole retail operation are what is described as the 'four pillars': people, customers, sales and profit, in that order. Care is taken to keep in mind that for both donors and purchasers, there may be a particular link to the Hospice movement, and contact with the public in whatever form tries to be sensitive to this. These are not quite ordinary shops, and thanks are due to Kevin and Debbie who explained their operation so clearly, with understanding and compassion. Time to pop into a Hospice shop again!

As ever – if you are interested to know more about the WI, contact Anne Geach, President, on: 01458 253078



It's not only the BBC, nor local residents, who have Centenaries to celebrate!

Friday 21st October saw the membership gathered together once more, this time in party mode. The date was significant, since it represented almost exactly a century of WI existence in the village.

A display in the foyer of past programmes gave some idea of previous activities across the years, along with some photographs and a medal which turned out to be the Presidential Insignia from times gone by. This modest exhibition created quite a lot of interest as people moved into the Sewers Hall where the 70 or so members - past and present, plus some invitees - were presented with a glass of fizz by some valiant male barmen. During this time, Patrick Rendell kindly contributed to the warm and friendly ambiance with a selection of background music on the piano.

There was a little time to greet and chat with each other under the specially sewn bunting (in WI colours, of course) which bedecked the ceiling, a magnificent banner which had been specially made in time for the occasion, before being seated at beautifully laid tables with white tablecloths, flower

arrangements and napkins in the signature colours of white purple and gold. Each participant was presented with a corsage, and all in all, the stage was set for a stylish celebration.

The President, Anne Geach, welcomed all present and introduced the invitees – among whom were the County Chair Theresa Hemms, and the County Office Secretary Casey Worrall, before inviting us to begin a delicious hot lunch catered and served by Kathryn Fewings of Littleton Caterers and her staff. Further drinks were available from the bar which continued to be ably staffed by four willing partners of members. Following coffee, a special birthday cake was cut by Neta Chorley and Anne Geach, and petit fours-type cakes were brought to the tables.

Before a musical entertainment given by David Andrews, the raffle was drawn, and the lucky prize winners took possession of their trophies. So – it was a wonderful way to celebrate the existence of a movement here in Curry Rivel that has provided friendship, stimulation and interest to many women across the century.

Congratulations! And may the WI continue to flourish for many more years!

Hare coursing is cruel and illegal...

...and it's happening on your doorstep!

Sadly some people think it's fine to set dogs onto a wild animal and watch it being ripped into bloody pieces until it dies. They call it sport.

Hares are caught and mutilated and murdered in this way and it's called hare coursing....normally there's gambling involved.

"Hare coursing was banned in 2004 and has recently seen the sentencing guidelines amended," said Sgt Katie Maun from Avon and Somerset Police's Rural Affairs Unit. She added: "Hare coursing is primarily a seasonal issue affecting rural communities across our force area. It is most common from late Summer when the crops are cut through to Spring, when crops are grown enough to provide hares with sufficient cover."

How you can help

This is where you and I come in.

Sgt Maun said: "We urge members of the public to report any incident of hare coursing, as well as poaching.

If the crime is ongoing, please call 999....If you are suspicious of an individual who you believe may be linked to hare coursing, or the crime is not ongoing, please call 101 or report through our online form on our website."

Hares aren't protected

Noted. Hares are not a protected species and farmers in England have the right to shoot Brown Hares and Mountain Hares when they are damaging or destroying their crops. In Scotland and Wales they are protected to a degree as there are closed seasons for both species.

However, hare coursing is a more violent act which causes the animal a significant amount of stress and harm before being killed.

In Scotland and Wales, hares are protected to a degree due to the close seasons of both species, but this law has yet to be realised in England.

For more information

To find out more about hare coursing and what to look out for, visit the Avon and Somerset Police website and search for their Hare Coursing Q&A.



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Sedgemoor Gardens Club

Sylvia Goodenough

It was a wild and windy evening but there was an impressive turnout for our November meeting, held as usual on the second Tuesday of the month in All Saints Hall, Langport.

Braving the elements was well worth the effort, as our talk by Mike Burks, the CEO of the Gardens Group of garden centres, was outstanding. With only some plants as aids Mike talked fluently and very amusingly for just over an hour about "Gardening Folklore"; the questions and discussion afterwards lasted for another half an hour. From the well-known beery end for slugs and companion planting amongst vegetables to the less known and more unlikely herbal remedies, Mike's talk ranged widely. The concept he wanted to press home, possibly with his tongue in his cheek, was that a successful potato crop has to be planted on Good Friday evening, in the dark and naked! He did explain some possible justification for Good Friday, even though it is not a fixed date, but could only speculate on the possible reasons for the rest! Maybe enough members will try this out and report back on their potatoes (and colds/pneumonia?)


Next month is our members' Christmas buffet and quiz. The new year starts with a talk from Dr Paul Bygrave about the gardens of Forde Abbey. This will be particularly interesting as we are hoping to visit the Abbey gardens for our coach trip in June. Our annual Daffodil Festival is held in March, and the schedule for this will be available to members in December. Anyone joining the club now will be able to take part in this and all our 2023 meetings and trips - do contact our secretary, Jean, on 01458 259025 for more details, and/or visit our website at sedgemoorgardensclub.co.uk to see more about us.



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Charity Theatre Trips for the Red Cross

Chris Cox

So far, we have run 274 trips to many events and £67,362 has been donated to charity.

To start off 2023 we are looking forward to the critically acclaimed Lincoln Theatre production of *My Fair Lady* at Bristol Hippodrome on Tuesday 21st February. Payment will be due in early January but the earlier you book the better your seats. You can cancel until the date that I pay for the reserved tickets, usually two months before the trip.

Our full list to date is

My Fair Lady, Tue 21st February;
Bourne's Sleeping Beauty, Thu 2nd March;
The Commitments, Tue 21st March;
The King and I, Thu 30th March;
Fisherman's Friends, Thu 4th May;

Strictly Ballroom, Tue 11th July; *Charlie & The Chocolate Factory*, Wed 27th September.

Our coach departs from Curry Rivel, picks up en route via Langport and Somerton, then either via Wells or Shepton Mallet.

You can access more details at www.charitytheatretrips.com.

To book please use the web-site booking form, e-mail charitytheatretrips@binternet.com, or phone 01458 273085.



Many thanks!

In a period of considerable uncertainty, both locally and worldwide, here at *Curry Rivel News* we have been very fortunate in having a wonderful degree of consistent support from our readers, advertisers, volunteer distributors and contributors, for which we wholeheartedly thank you.

And we wish you all a happy & healthy Christmas and peaceful & prosperous New Year.

The Curry Rivel News team



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CRiB Wins Gold Again!

On 13th October the South-West in Bloom awards were held at Haselbury Mill near Crewkerne. Four of us attended the day which included lunch and talks by interesting speakers. In the afternoon we were delighted to receive our **FOURTH** Gold award in the Cox Cup category of Large Village. The judges look for horticultural excellence, community involvement and environmental responsibility. Well done to everyone involved with CRiB in any way and to the villagers who keep their front gardens and displays looking lovely.

We also submitted three entries in the 'It's Your Neighbourhood' category. These were Curry Woods Conservation Trust, The CRiB allotment and the Primary School.

I am pleased to say that Curry Woods and the Allotment won an 'Outstanding' award and the primary school 'Thriving'. Well done to all those involved. To our further delight Curry Woods was awarded a discretionary award The Monk Plate for the best use of native planting. Well done to all those involved with Curry Woods conservation Trust!

Open Gardens Allocations

As a result of the Open Gardens held in June this year, we had £1000 to divide between the following organisations in the village. The Primary School and nursery, The Brownies and Rainbows, Beavers. The Food Bank and Refugees. Thank you again to those who opened their Gardens and those who helped behind the scenes. The next event will be in June 2024. Is there anyone in the village who would like to organise this worth while event. Contact Gina Beauchamp, details above.

Gina's Swansong

Dear Curry Rivel Residents,
I am writing this to ask for your help with finding replacements for myself and for our Treasurer, Annette Stein. We have both worked hard for 5 years to make our village beautiful. CRiB have redesigned the War Memorial, Granny's Garden and the sensory wall. We have established planting at the village ends and the railings, there are displays all over the village. All the major work has been done. There is a dedicated band of helpers and waterers who can assist. We just need someone to coordinate it and run it, plus a new treasurer. If the work is delegated and lots of villagers help it will not be too much to do in order to keep our village looking lovely through the year. CRiB is funded by the Parish Council and we work with them on areas such as grass cutting, Eastfield and planning outside spaces in the village.

Please get in touch if you would like to offer your help and ask any questions. If we do not find a new leader then CRiB will go into dormancy with just the minimum being done to stop displays from being removed. At this time of year there is relatively little to do, the main jobs are in the spring and summer. I hope to hear from you soon. I would like to thank everyone in the village who has supported CRiB in any way over the last five years.

Gina



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Curry Rivel Music

SAXOPHONE AND HARP - REALLY?

Malcolm Cotterill

Some came out of curiosity. Some came apprehensively. Some came loaded with scepticism. Some came because Curry Rivel Music consistently delivers music and musicians of the very best.

Curry Rivel Music certainly delivered to all those who came to hear that improbable sounding combination and all went home later with lifted spirits and a smile.

What they heard at the concert on 22nd October at St Andrew's Church were two virtuosi at the top of their game. Huw Wiggin is the professor of saxophone at the Royal Academy of Music and appears never to take a breath however long the note, passage or the piece. Oliver Wass is the only harpist to have won the Guildhall School of Music gold medal following other winners like Jacqueline du Pré and Bryn Terfel and is well known to Curry Rivel Music for his earlier visits with the Pelleas Ensemble.

The exuberant playing of the duo dispelled any misgivings of the audience. The combination of the instruments was fluid,



harmonious and exciting in a programme which depended, of course, on the arrangement of established repertoire much of which was written long before the saxophone was developed in the 1840s. By then J S Bach had been dead for nearly 100 years but he would have been delighted to hear his cello suite No 2 given the Wiggin/Wass treatment.

At the other end of the time line were Hugh Wiggin's arrangement of the jazz musician Chick Corea's Children's Songs, Béla Kovács' Hungarian salute to Rov Feidman "Peace be with you" and Oliver's recent arrangement of Francisco Tarrega's haunting "Memories of Alhambra".

Whether the music was soulful, spirited, pensive or light-hearted this enormously talented pair produced a truly remarkable evening's entertainment.

For further information about Curry Rivel Music please visit www.curryrivelmusic.org or email Mrs Anne Michell, Secretary, anne.michell@btinternet.com

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Louisa Butland (nee Daniel) Carnival Queen

Looking Back

We have been sent these photographs by Julie Bulloch (née Bakonyi) who went to school in Curry Rivel. They feature her aunt, Louisa Daniel, when she was Curry Rivel's Carnival Queen. Sadly she is no longer with us, but if she were, she would be 100. We also have the photograph of Louisa's wedding to Dennis Butland in 1956. Julie says that others in the picture are her grandmother, Elda Daniel, and Grandfather as well as cousins from both families.

Perhaps you can see people you remember.
It was only 66 years ago!

Movies in the Village Hall

mvh.curry.wix.com/films
Alison Cockrell

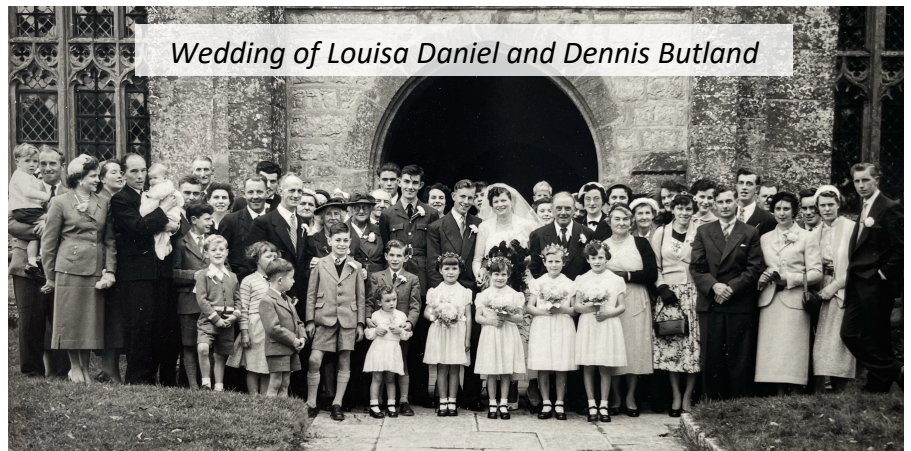
We'll be back!



As we know most of you are very busy in December, this is just a reminder that we won't be having a movie screening in our Village Hall this month.

We'll be back in the new year with a great series of wonderful films kicking off with "Fisherman's Friends: One and All" on Friday 20 January.

A big "thank you" to all of you who have supported Movies in the Village Hall during 2022. Mark, Myfanwy, Kevin, Annette, Carolyn, Bob and Alison wish you happy and peaceful Christmas.



Wedding of Louisa Daniel and Dennis Butland

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Stronger 4 Longer

Lexie MacPhail

(Somerset Activity & Sports Partnership)

As we get older, muscle strength is reduced and some movements, such as leaning sideways or turning quickly, can cause a loss of balance. This can begin earlier than expected from our early fifties onwards. The good news is, you don't have to start weightlifting to build strength - hill-walking, yoga, team sports like tennis and cricket, or even just climbing the stairs can all help to build muscle strength and prevent falls and injuries later in life.

Stronger 4 Longer is a new campaign encouraging adults over 50 to build muscle strength to protect their future health. To find out how to get started, and to find resources and exercises you can try at home and out and about, visit the **Stronger 4 Longer** website at www.sasp.co.uk/stronger4longer.

SASP has recently launched new resources which can help you to be more active at home. You can do these exercises while making a cup of tea or cleaning your teeth – take a look at the Move More with Bands resources, both seated and standing, and with resistance bands. Make these exercises part of your everyday habits.



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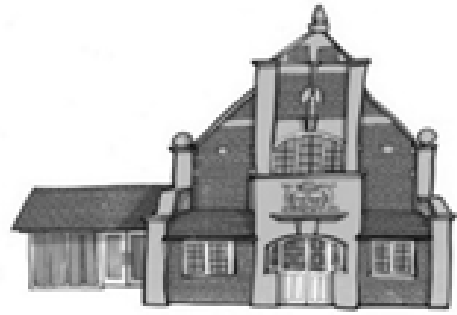
AGM Report and Big Breakfast

Hazel Morris

The Village Hall Management Committee held its AGM on Monday 31st October at which the Chair and Treasurer gave their annual reports, the Annual Accounts were approved, and the Committee Members were re-elected. It has been a busy and successful year with all previous and some new regular users now using the hall. As was previously reported, the receipt of grants has enabled us to install a new heating system and extend the suspended ceiling. This has, unfortunately, come at a cost as The Entertainers have had to cancel their pantomime this year. Representatives of the group attended the AGM and subsequent committee meeting to express their disappointment and to investigate any alternative solutions.

Both the Chair and Treasurer announced their resignations at the Committee Meeting, and we therefore **need two new volunteers** to take on these roles. Please contact either of the existing role holders for more information about what's involved – see contact details below. All other officials were appointed. A full list of the Management Committee with contact details is posted on the noticeboard at the hall.

We are pleased to announce the date of the next **BIG BREAKFAST - SUNDAY 4th DECEMBER 8.30am until 12.30pm.** Get the date in your diaries and come early to avoid disappointment! Christmas themed and with all the usual treats including the ever-popular



tombola and, of course, fabulous food! Don't forget we now accept card payments. Everybody welcome! This is always a successful event and wouldn't be possible without our army of volunteers. However, we find ourselves a couple of people short so if you'd like to lend a hand, please get in touch.

Contact details for vacancies information –

hazelmorriscrvh@gmail.com and myfanwy@mmashton.uk

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

December

Thursday 1st

10.00 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 4th

10.00 **FH** - All Age Family Service
 (+ refreshments)

11.15 **FH** - Said Communion CW

6.00 pm **CR** - Evening Prayer

Saturday 10th

15.30-17.30 **CR OSR** Messy Church

Sunday 11th

9.30 **SW** - Holy Communion BCP

11.00 **CR** - Parish Communion CW

6.00 pm **FH** - Carol Service

Tuesday 13th

10.00-12.00 **CR OSR** - Craft & Coffee

7.00 pm **SW** — Carol Service

Thursday 15th

10.00 **CR OSR** - Holy Communion BCP

Sunday 18th

9.30 **FH** - Parish Communion

6.00 pm **CR** - Carol Service

Saturday 24th Christmas Eve

4.00 pm **CR** - United Benefice

Crib Service

11.15 pm **FH** - Midnight Communion CW

Sunday 25th Christmas Day

9.00 **SW** - Christmas BCP
 Communion Service

10.30 **CR** - Family Christmas
 Celebration

CR = St. Andrew's Church, Curry Rivel
CR OSR = Old School Room, Curry Rivel,
 'behind' St. Andrew's Church
FH = St. Martin's Church, Fivehead
SW = St. Catherine's Church, Swell

Scott's spot

Beautiful yet broken

Most of us will remember Simon and Garfunkel and probably many of us have some of their songs tucked away – *The Sound of Silence* or *Bridge Over Troubled Waters* come to mind. One year at a concert in the Albert Hall Simon and Garfunkel sang the Christmas carol *Silent Night*. The words and the music were hauntingly beautiful and the audience were transfixed by what they heard. But in the background there was another sound. It was a BBC newsreader reading a news bulletin. The contrast was astonishing and immediate. For alongside the peaceful calm of that carol were words talking about a world which was violent and suffering. This raises the question: how can we reconcile the paradox of a world which is so incredibly beautiful and yet at the same time also broken and troubled?

The answer to that is not easy or straightforward, but the Christian faith helps us to face the reality of the world as it is, not the world which we might wish for. Christmas reminds us that Jesus came to us as the **Prince of Peace** (Isaiah 9:6) and the **Lord of Lords** (1 Tim 6:15). But this figure came – in the words of the carol – in the midst of a bleak midwinter. He came in humility and poverty. He came to a world which was broken and troubled. He came to suffer and to die for the sin of all who call on his name



St. Andrew's Rotas December

Brass - Lynne Comley & Wendy Graves
Flowers

3rd & 10th - Advent
 17th & 24th - Christmas arrangements

Cleaning

3rd - Wendy Graves

10th - Anne Geach

17th - Anne Goff

24th - Jackie &

John de Ronde

31st - Carolyn Paton



Scott's Spot ctd. . .

And in that wondrous 'heaven-to-earth coming' the shepherds heard the voice of the angel who proclaimed: **"Do not be afraid; I bring you good news of great joy for all the people. Today in David's town a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."** (Luke 2:10/11)

Listening to the news we are often reminded of the violence and suffering there is around the world today. This moves the Christian to pray for the world and to remember those who suffer through conflict, war and natural disasters. But the Christian faith also reminds us that in Jesus we can receive the love and peace which comes from knowing God.

So this Christmas can I encourage you to pray for God's world? To pray that in the sound of silence many will hear the sound of peace, and to pray also that the love of Jesus may be a bridge over troubled waters and a channel of healing and forgiveness.

With every blessing for you and those you love this Christmas,

Rev. Scott.

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

A big thank you to anyone who contributed to the 25 beautifully filled boxes collected this year and the monetary donations which help towards the rising cost of transportation.

These boxes will bring joy to people in desperate need.

From St. Andrew's Registers

Funerals

May God grant them eternal rest.

28th September - Service of

Thanksgiving for the Life of

Robert Fielding († 25th August)

5th October - Interment of ashes of

David John Christopher Stewart

(† 20th March)

11th October - Memorial service for

Ellen Rosina Willey (Nell)

(† 25th September)

followed by burial in cemetery

19th October - Funeral service at

Taunton Crematorium of

Margaret Lilian Patricia Carter

(† 2nd October)

and interment of ashes in cemetery on
 20th October



The church families of St. Andrew's Church and the United Reformed Church wish everyone in our Parish and beyond a blessed Christmas and Happy New



**Carols, bangers and mash
on Friday 2nd December
in the Village Hall**

When you receive this issue of the CR News this event will be almost upon us. Tickets (£ 7.50) are still available in the BP petrol station/Post Office and at Sandpit's.

Doors open at 7.00 pm.

Carol singing

Monday 5th December 7.00 pm



The venue for this year's Carol singing will again be the **Village Green**. Please join us in singing the seasonal Carols, accompanied by local musicians.

Refreshments (mulled wine & mince pies) will be served afterwards.

St. Andrew's Autumn Fayre

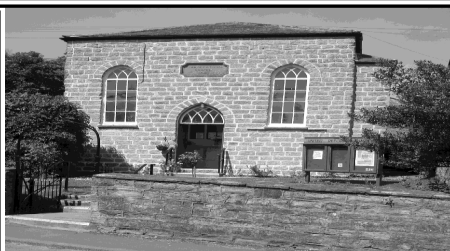
The slightly ominous weather on the morning of 29th October did not deter a steady stream of people visiting the Old School Room — perhaps tempted to find an early Christmas gift among the many items for sale, especially the high quality bric-à-brac, or just to buy a tasty home made cake.

A total of over £ 700 was raised.

A sincere thank you to all who came and those who in any way contributed.



**Autumn Fayre
visitors in the OSR**



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. 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

United Reformed Church

December

Services at 10.30 (unless indicated otherwise) in our Chapel building and simultaneously via Zoom

Anyone unable to attend in person who would like to feel part of a worshipping community is invited to join with us -from any denomination or none; simply email Steve Beney on sbeney6@gmail.com expressing your interest and he will make contact with you to explain how you can join with us on Sundays @ 10:30 am.

Sunday 4th - to be arranged

Sunday 11th - Rev Evelyn Ridout

Sunday 18th - 3.30 pm Charity Carol Service (no morning service) led by Rev Tim Richards

Saturday 24th - Christmas Eve 5.00 pm

Holy Communion

Sunday 25th - no service

January

Sunday 1st - to be arranged

ADVENT & CAROLS @ Curry Rivel URC

Do you look forward to opening the windows on an Advent Calendar throughout the month of December wondering with anticipation what you might find? Pictorial images of the Christmas story, chocolates, scented candles, beauty products, individual gifts, are all known to be found behind numbered doors. At the URC we are reversing this concept & rather than find a gift for ourselves we invite you to join us in putting something aside instead, something to give to someone else. This year we are putting aside, throughout December, items for our local foodbank & encourage readers of the CRN, Village Organisations & Groups to join us. An item a day, or money of you prefer, - whatever you are able to manage - as we count down the days to Christmas. Non-perishable foodstuffs, hygiene products, money, will all be gratefully received: check out the Curry Rivel face book page which is often has updated posts with suggestions of what is needed. The URC will be hosting a Village **CAROL SERVICE** on **Sunday 18th December at 3:30 pm** to which all reverse Advent Calendar donations can be brought to be passed on to Foodbank representatives. Carols will be followed by hot drinks & mince pies. We do hope you can help & look forward to your company.

URC Christmas Eve Service 5.00 pm

As you anticipate Christmas, many of you will have your own Christmas Eve traditions; ours include breakfast with friends. This year many Ukrainians will be spending their first Christmas in the UK. I wonder how it will be for them? Ukrainian Orthodox Christians follow the Julian calendar and therefore celebrate Christmas in early January rather than December. One of their important Christmas Eve traditions centres on an enormous feast – so large that only snacking is permitted beforehand. The meal consists of as many as 12 or 13 courses representing Jesus's apostles. Before anything else is eaten, bread, previously blessed, then dipped in honey, is shared starting with the eldest down to the youngest. Here at the URC one of our traditions is a service of Holy Communion at Midnight. This year we are adapting the time of this traditional service: please note our **Christmas Eve service** is at the earlier time of **5.00 pm** to which all are welcome. With every blessing this Christmas time, Rev. Tim.



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WARNING

All the below events are subject to cancellation at short notice due to the Corona virus epidemic please contact each group for details.....Keep well, Keep safe



...In December

Regular Events

MONDAY

10.00	Art Club	Village Hall
10.00	Table Tennis (kevl@outlook.com)	Village Hall
6.00	Pilates	Primary School
6.45	Explorer Scouts	Scout Hall, Langport

TUESDAY

10.00	Craft & Coffee (2nd only)	Old School Room
10.00	Keep Fit (nicky.barker1@btinternet.com)	Village Hall
2.30	Forget-Me-Not-Café	Village Hall
4.30	Rainbows/Brownies	Drayton Village Hall
5.45	Pilates	Primary School
6.00	Cub Pack	Scout Hall, Langport
6.30	Rangers	URC Hall
6.30	Langport Youth Club	Ridge way Hall
7.00	Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
7.30	Sedgemoor Garden Club (2nd only)	All Saints Hall L'port

WEDNESDAY

10.30	Sparklers Toddler Group	Old School Room
5.30	Beavers	Scout Hall, Langport
6.30	Cycling Club	Bridge Cafe
6.45	Scouts	Scout Hall, Langport
7.30	Bell Ringing	St. Andrews

THURSDAY

10.00	WI (2nd only)	Village Hall
2.00	Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
6.30	Yoga	Village Hall
7.30	Parish Council (1st only)	

FRIDAY

9.30	Pilates	Village Hall
9.30-2	Friday Club	Village Hall
7.30	Movie Night (3rd only)	Village Hall

SATURDAY

9.00	Cycling Club	Bridge Cafe
3.30-5.30 (2nd only)	Messy Church	Old School Room

Some Useful Telephone Numbers

Youth Organisations

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorer Scouts	(gslthelevelsscouts@gmail.com)
Rainbows	01823 698940
Brownies	251953
Rangers	252901
Langport Youth Club	0793 899 338

Sports Clubs

Short Mat Bowls Club	251616
Crickets Club	01823 698849 & 01458 252791
Yoga	07789 862548
Pilates	07769 351984

Social

Flower Show	250311
Out & About	0788 737 7942
Royal British Legion	01460 281115
Twinning Association	01460 281905
Women's Institute	253078
Rotary Club of Langport & Somerton	252813
Sedgemoor Garden Club	250091
Heale Lane Allotment Association	741880
Curry Rivel in Bloom	762296
Friday Club	252791
Health Walks	250725
Mother and Baby	07732 197030
Forget-Me-Not-Café	252710 & 396123

Arts

Entertainers	250311
Music Club	250863
Art Club	253126

Community Facilities

Food Bank (help@curryrivel.org.uk)	0771 6792760
Village Hall (crvhbookings@gmail.com)	07789 661288
Old School Room Bookings (crosrbookings@gmail.com)	250655/253856
United Reformed Church Hall - Bookings etc.	259391

Community Services

Doctors	250464
Police	101
Yarlington Housing	01935 404500
Footpath & Litter Warden	johncasebourne@sky.com

Education

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

Local Authorities

Parish Council (Clerk) curryrivelparish@outlook.com	07714 510828
District Council	0 1935 462462
County Council	0300 123 2224

Religious

Church of England Rector	251375
Churchwarden	259003
Secretary PCC	251355
Organist & Bell Ringing	253856
Flower Guild	252710
Roman Catholic Church, Somerton	07483 120 603
URC Minister	252799
Messy Church	01458 762523

Deadlines for January 2023 Edition

Advertising: 5pm Thursday 1st December
Send to: crn.nigel@outlook.com

Comments & Articles: 5pm Monday 5th December
Send to: curryrivelnews@gmail.com

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Pick up your Prescription from the Post Office

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

Hedges, information and an Award



Peter Goodenough

Anyone seeing the hedges around the Curry Woods Conservation area field just after they had been laid last winter would be forgiven for thinking “that’s the end of those hedges”. However the skills of generations past may look ridiculous to us today, but they work! The hedge plants, although the stems were nearly severed and laid flat, responded vigorously and grew strongly. Drought, (what drought?!), they still grew without any attention through the warmest summer since 1976. This is an example, if any is needed, of why the sustainable ways of antiquity were so successful. Growing plants for food, fuel and building worked for 1000 years before plastics, probably we could do it again. We (Paul actually) have now manually cut the new hedges using hand-held tools, and very good it looks too. There is a picture of Paul Deacon working on the hedge. There are some areas that need extra planting where there wasn’t anything to lay but of the new hazel shrub planted in some of these gaps only one did not survive the heat in the summer.

A super new information board has been designed and Paul managed the printing. Our Treasurer/ Engineer Alan Cockerell built some supports out of angle iron he had left from another job and erected the board by the gate. A picture speaks a thousand words! Please come and see our beautiful new hedge and information board.

We have also planted three test strips with wildflower mixtures to see which works best to grow wild perennial plants. We will then be able to use the best method to plant up that part of the field that is not woodland. Some mainly grass area will be left to provide cover for our resident hares.

Finally, as mentioned in the CRiB article, we entered the Britain in Bloom stand alone “In your Neighbourhood” class. We were judged to be outstanding, achieving the highest score and winning the “Monk Trophy” for the best planting of native plants in the South-West. To have the national Royal Horticultural Society endorsing our project so fulsomely is truly humbling and I wish to record my personal thanks to the Trustees (As the judge wrote in his remarks “I met Peter, Paul and Mary (Sylvia’s middle name”) as well as Alan and Catherine. Also, thanks to the enormous help given to us by the wonderful *Re-imagining the Levels* team who have sponsored the planting of 60000 trees and shrubs across Somerset. I won’t name them all but they know who they are!.

Finally, finally thanks to all of you who subscribed, dug, planted and read the articles. Do walk the area and see the developing woods, look especially for those areas in the mature woodland that have been fenced off to keep out our deer friends, See how they differ from the unfenced areas in the spring, any pictures and stories of things you have seen can be sent to us for inclusion on the website or for inclusion in CRN articles with your permission. Our website is currywoodsconservationtrust.com



Paul and Alan with the new information board



Paul trimming the hedge



Sylvia working on one of the test patches