



November 2024

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

Food Bank relocates to United Reform Church

Steve Allinson

As many of you may have picked up from the village website and our Facebook page, our “three villages” Food Bank has now moved full circle and returned to our original home at the United Reform Church.

When we commenced this project during the first COVID lockdown, we were very fortunate to use the facilities at the URC, and, in particular, their hall. As life returned to the “new normal” after the lockdowns ended, because the premises were in use for other organisations, we relocated to St Andrews, where we have been for the last two years.

We have been very grateful to Scott, Mark and the St Andrews PCC for allowing us to be based in the chapel there, and we have continued from there to help those in need in our village communities and tried to make a difference.

However, the opportunity arose recently to return to the URC, which allows a little more space for our volunteers to work, and rather more privacy for our clients. We are very thankful to the congregation at the URC for their welcome. I know they feel that assisting the Food Bank in this way is also something that can be undertaken as an ongoing tribute to Rev Tim Richards who was instrumental in the original days of the Food Bank.



Our move went very smoothly with the help of vans, trailers, and muscles- not to mention Ginny Smith’s home-made cakes to welcome us at the URC!

It was apt to make this move during the season of harvest, and, as the accompanying picture shows, we were welcomed to the URC with all the donations from their Harvest Festival weekend which we have utilised for our clients.

Our work will continue as before, and donations can be taken between 10.30-11.30am every Wednesday. Further, if you know of anyone or a family who may be in need of our support, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any member of the volunteers whom you may know.

As we begin to think of Christmas, we remember it can also be a challenging time for many who are struggling to budget and cope with financial and other difficulties so the work of this and many Food Banks up and down the country becomes ever more important and necessary. Finally, in that regard, thank you to the Curry Rivel News itself for their generous donation for our work.

Thank you again for your support. You can contact me:
by telephone: 07808164068,
or email : steve@allinsonlaw.com



Charity Theatre Trips

Chris Cox

Charity Theatre Trips organises a coach to Bristol Hippodrome to raise funds that support British Red Cross and its volunteer - run shop in Langport.

In February we shall run our 300th trip and celebrate in style at the theatre.

Mary Poppins flies in in November. whilst Goldilocks pantomime rounds off 2024 in December.

2025 trips are booking up well, and include Only Fools and Horses, Hairspray, Cinderella ballet, Tina Turner, Chicago, Moulin Rouge, The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, Warhorse, Calamity Jane, Mamma Mia, and Riverdance.

Our coach starts in Curry Rivel, routes via Langport and Somerton, then either Keinton Mandeville and Shepton Mallet or Street, Glastonbury, and Wells.

For dates and prices go to www.charitytheatretrips.com where you can also book your places.

You can also e-mail charitytheatretrips@btinternet.com or phone 01458 273085

Movies in the Village Hall

mvh.curry.wixsite.com/films

Alison Cockrell

No Movies in the Village Hall in November

As many of you will know, we don't normally have a film in December as everyone is very busy in the run up to Christmas. This year we have taken the unusual step of deciding not to have a November screening either. We regret having to take this decision but we are experiencing difficulties in obtaining good film titles that will appeal to as many of our attendees as possible.

We hope to be back in the new year with some new movies. Thank you to everyone who has supported Movies in the Village Hall thus far.



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The Rotary Club of Langport and Somerton

Adrienne Holmes

The Rotary Club of Langport and Somerton was established 70 years ago. The Rotary movement is a worldwide organisation with any Rotarian being welcomed at over 46,000 clubs.

We meet on Thursday evenings at the Langport Arms. Our monthly programme includes outside speakers plus visits to places of local interest, social activities and in recent months we have enjoyed skittles, indoor curling and have painted oil drums for Archies Xtra, an initiative for youth in Somerton.

We support both local charities and international projects. Most recently we have supported the Community Shed in Langport and Eastfield of Bowers Hill, an equine therapy farm working with adults who have learning disabilities. Internationally, we have been able to fund 3 Water Survival Boxes and several members packed 40 boxes at their headquarters. All our fundraising to support charities is done with fun in mind.

A fundraising event coming soon is a Fashion Show on Saturday, 16th November in the Edgar Hall, Somerton at 2.30pm (doors open at 1.30pm). A ladies' afternoon with a difference! As well as a live Catwalk Show there will be ample time to try on and buy this season's designer and high street brands at bargain prices. Tickets £10 to include a glass of wine. For tickets or further information contact Maureen Nethercott 07765392883 or maureen.net@sky.com The money raised at this event will go to Dementia UK and local charities.

If you would like more information about the club contact the secretary, Clive Sills: csills@whsmithnet.co.uk Our club is always keen to welcome new members.

Would you be able to help by delivering a few copies of the Curry Rivel News each month?

You receive your copy of the Curry Rivel News each month because someone is kind enough to give a little of their precious time to deliver it.

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It wouldn't take a lot of your time, but would be very much appreciated by those who receive the copies that you delivered.

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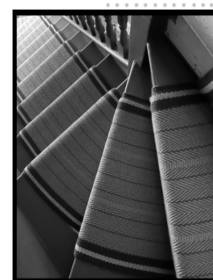
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Sedgemoor Gardens Club

Sylvia Goodenough



Our new year of meetings will be well under way by the time you read this.

Members attended the AGM in September and heard that the club membership last year was very good with the number at the end of the year being higher than for several years. This has enabled us to start the 2024-5 session with the cost of membership the same as for last year (£15 single/£25 double). Our members also become members of the Gold Club of the Gardens Group of garden centres and members collected their 5 competition daffodil bulbs which are provided as part of Gold Club membership. These are to be planted in a pot and brought to our Daffodil Festival in March 2025 where they form a well-supported class. It is always fascinating to see how different the outcomes are - everyone starts out with bulbs from the same sack and yet in March some will be flowering and some not, some short, some tall

After the business of the AGM and the award of prizes for the monthly competitions there was a break for refreshments before members were treated to a talk by our president, Dr Peter Goodenough. Before retirement Peter was head of a Protein Engineering department in Reading at the exciting time when only a few protein structures were known, and

the race was on to elucidate more of the important ones. However, Peter has always retained his enthusiasm for botany, the subject of his first degree, and living in Curry Rivel has enabled him to develop it into environmental issues, as illustrated by his talk on the botany and Biodiversity of the Somerset Hills, Levels and Moors, in which he skillfully linked the geology of the region to the plant life seen above the underlying rocks.

Our meeting in October took place just after the CRN went to press, but I'm sure the topic of "Dahlias" will go down well, as they are fascinating as well as beautiful plants, flowering at this time of year when many others have given up. Dahlias are tuberous plants and in the past their tubers (swollen stems but often confused as roots) were a food source like potatoes, which are also tubers. November will see us listening to a timely talk on planning our garden borders - a nice way to look ahead to the gardening season to come!

We are a friendly group and welcome new members - just come along on the second Tuesday of the month to All Saints Hall, Langport at 7 for 7.30pm or if you would like to talk to our secretary Jean to get further information, give her a ring on 01458 259025.

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News from Curry Rivel School

Ali Pook - Headteacher

We have welcomed everyone back to the new school year, including 21 new reception pupils.

The school grounds at Curry Rivel are looking amazing - we are so lucky to have so much space, a large hall, front and back playgrounds, a field and an orchard - many smaller village schools would be envious. As head teacher, I have high expectations for the school premises as I believe that the surroundings for both staff and pupils impact on how they feel about being here. Not only does our school look great because it is uncluttered and tidy, it also means that children and staff can access resources easily and it also reduces risk of accidents etc. Over the summer we have had the following works completed:

- Blenheim and Camelot classrooms, as well as other areas redecorated
- New ramp to access a Sensory Room (Room in development)
- New shelter in the Orchard, funded by a grant available through the local Parish Council, & also supported by Yarcombe Woodland Products.



At Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School, we believe everyone can be a leader and make a difference. We value what our children think and say about learning and school life and we encourage them to confidently share their views and take on various roles and responsibilities.

The roles and responsibilities we will have this year include:

- House captains (Chosen by senior staff)
- School Council Representatives (Voted in on Democracy Day)
- Sports Leaders (Apply for job)
- Librarians (Apply for job)
- Worship Leaders (Apply for job)

Our new Year 6 house captains have been announced.

Congratulations - you will have many tasks to do in your role, as well as being ambassadors for the school and role models to others.

Apple Trees Wraparound Care are excited to let you know they have expanded!

- We are open from 7:30 am for breakfast to mirror Little Pips Nursery opening times!
- We will also trial re-introducing the later session on Thursday afternoons meaning we'll be open from 7:30am-5:30pm Monday - Thursday and 7:30am-4:30pm on Fridays.
- Sessions are still just £5 per session, but if you're a tax payer, you can even save 20% by using the HMRC Tax-free Childcare Scheme! Just ask us how.

If you are interested in your child attending our school, do contact us if you would like to visit: 01458 251 404 or email office@curryrivel.somerset.sch.uk. You are welcome to our Open Morning on Thursday 14th November, 9.00-10.30 am- please get in touch to book your place.



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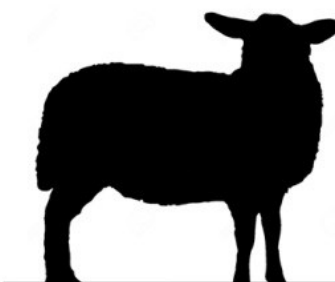
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W.I. News

Sally Harvey

September is the start of our new year and members were pleased to be back and catch up after the summer break.

The business meeting picked up on the July activities which included a Treasure Hunt around the village organised by member Sally Hair, this was followed by coffee and cake in the Firehouse who generously donated a prize for the winning team. The Book group had met and discussed *The Judas Horse* by Lynda Le Plante. There were other activities to report on which took us out of the village and where we interacted with other local WI groups. These included a summer quiz where our team of members did not win nor disgrace themselves either, a Golf Croquet Day at Dowlish Wake, a walk and cream tea at Hatch Beauchamp and members representing Curry Rivel at the Centenary Celebrations for Long Sutton WI. The table tennis group and the walking groups both managed to meet in August too!

The speaker in September was Mike Rendell who gave a very entertaining talk on the history of Gin. Mike is a retired lawyer turned historian and author with several books published on

the 18th Century, his area of expertise. His talk on gin started with the origins of distilling in the ancient world and travelled through time and place showing how gin, sometimes called Geneva, commonly distilled and drunk in Holland, was brought as a drink to England when William of Orange became king. Next came the problems of gin in eighteenth-century London, immortalised by Hogarth's art, through to the twentieth century emergence across the Atlantic of cocktails such as the martini. He also talked about the growth of the Temperance Movement and the origins of the Prohibition alongside the popularity of gin. Mike then brought us up to date with the revival of gin as a popular and 'trendy' drink and the emergence of craft gins including the impact such brands as Hendricks, Sipsmith and Fever Tree have had on our gin drinking habits and the market. Although Mike did not bring any samples members very much enjoyed the informative talk.

The WI meets once a month on the 2nd Thursday at 10.00 – 12.00 in the Village Hall. We love to welcome new members. If you wish to know more, or are interested in joining, please contact Sally Harvey, President, on 01458 253431.

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A new group promoting biodiversity and sustainability in Curry Rivel

Matt Geen

The Parish Council is setting up a biodiversity and sustainability working group, and is looking for people from the parish to join it.

Both *biodiversity* (a measure of the health of the living natural world) and *sustainability* (meeting the challenges of human impact on the physical world, in particular climate change and pollution) are critical issues that we need to tackle.

The natural world is particularly glorious over the whole parish – which includes internationally recognised nature sites – and is an important part of the joy of living here. Improving the impact that we, the inhabitants of the parish, have on the natural and physical world is something that we can do more effectively by working together.

As well as advising the Parish Council, the working group will make records of wildlife around the parish, and arrange public meetings to inform people about the natural wealth here, or to help them to save money as well as the planet by changing the way that they heat their houses or travel.

An example of work that the group has already started is to help the Parish Council respond to planning applications from the point of view of environment. Planning applications in the UK must now include a demonstration of biodiversity net gain;

in simple terms, that the proposed building or other change will leave biodiversity better than it was before.

See www.gov.uk/government/collections/biodiversity-net-gain. It's a great idea, but it's new and complicated. The working group doesn't pretend to be experts, but it can at least cast a critical eye over the documents in planning application packs. This is where local experience really helps!

The new group will continue the work of the Heating Initiatives project, helping people in the parish to access good, impartial advice on cheaper, more effective, and more sustainable house heating.

Would you like to join the group? The working group is looking for people with skills and interests such as:

- Photography artwork or graphics (e.g. wildlife photos, posters).
- Collecting wildlife sightings and records.
- Social media.
- Joining working parties, e.g. for ground maintenance.
- Leading on parish CO₂ reduction: e.g., heating, transport.
- Leading on parish pollution and waste reduction.
- Helping to assess planning applications.

The group will meet at locations in the village every few weeks. Your involvement could be anything from a few hours a year to a few hours a week. As with parish councillors, all working group involvement is entirely voluntary and unpaid.

Just a bit of info on parish council working groups. These include anyone from the parish as well as parish councillors. The role of these groups is to advise the parish council and to work with people in the parish and other organisations on a particular subject. Other Curry Rivel working groups include those for Active Travel and the village cemetery.

If you would like to be involved, please email Cllr Matt Geen at matt.geen@curryrivel.org.uk.

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Curry Rivel Music.

Peter Merry

AURORA WIND QUINTET

The second half of the Curry Rivel Music Club season continued with an exhilarating and impressive recital given by the Aurora Wind Quintet, a group that had performed to us once before some 12 years ago. It is the lot of wind players to have as their repertoire, music by lesser-known composers and this was very much reflected in the Aurora's programme.

The first piece was a beautifully crafted Humoresque for quintet by the Austrian composer, teacher and conductor Alexander Zemlinsky. Though he was the teacher of Schoenberg, this charming and tuneful little piece gave no inkling of the turmoil that was besetting music in Vienna at that time. Each member of the Quintet played with great attention to the changing dynamics and subtle articulations and provided a glorious start to the evening.

This was followed by a quintet by another lesser known composer, Franz Danzi, who is generally attributed as being the father of the wind quintet. Strangely, he was a cellist rather than a wind player, in the famous Mannheim orchestra at the turn of the C19th and produced some 20 wind quintets. The beautiful melodies and the tricky technical passages were skilfully played by each of the Auroras who made light of the dazzling woodwind scales and virtuosic arpeggios on the horn.

The largest piece and probably the finest modern wind quintet followed. This was one by the Danish composer Carl Nielsen who died in 1931. The work very much exploits the particular characteristics of each instrument, in the context of a solo, as a duo and as part of the whole

ensemble. The players entered these different roles with skill and daring and performed, what for me, was the highlight of the evening.

After the interval, we were treated by the quirky Trio for flute, oboe and clarinet by Malcolm Arnold, a composer with such a distinctive voice and a master of writing for wind instruments. The considerable technical demands of the three very different movements were played with great ease and the witty last movement brought smiles on the faces of the rapt audience.

The Wind Quintet by August Klughart followed. This composer, probably never before encountered by any of the audience, was like so many of his contemporaries, a working conductor in C19th Germany, who also composed. This nicely crafted quintet contains all the elements one might expect – a dramatic opening movement, a tuneful slow movement, a scampering scherzo and a rip-roaring finale. The members of the Aurora quintet did more than do justice to this slight, but interesting rarity.



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Christmas Craft Fair

We are excited to announce our 4th Annual Christmas Craft Fair on Sunday 24th November from 10.30am to 12.30pm at Curry Rivel Village Hall.

Local crafters will be showcasing their talents selling a wide variety of gift opportunities including knitted items, gift boxes, macrame work, cards, jewelry, pottery and key rings so we are sure there will be something for everybody.

During the event, we are hoping to raise funds for the Curry Rivel, Drayton and Hambridge Foodbank. There will be a competition to win a prize and the entry fees for this, together with the tea and coffee donations, will go to the Foodbank.

We look forward to welcoming you to our event.
Sunday 24th
November at
10.30am – Free
Entry.

Angela
Edwards and
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Where – Curry Rivel Village Hall



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

November

*Please note some changes to the usual start time of services, shown **bold underlined** below.*

Sunday 3rd

10.00 **FH** - All Age Family and Friends Service + refreshments

11.15 **FH** - Said Communion CW
 6.00 pm **CR** - United Benefice

All Souls Service of Thanksgiving

Sunday 10th - Remembrance Sunday

9.00 **SW** - Remembrance Service
 Holy Communion BCP

10.45 **FH** - Remembrance Sunday Service, with Fivehead Baptists

10.53 **CR** - Remembrance Sunday Service, followed by ceremony at the War Memorial

Monday 11th

3.30 - 4.30 pm **CR OSR** - Lego Club

Tuesday 12th

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

Saturday 16th

3.30 - 5.30 pm **CR OSR** - Messy Church

Sunday 17th

9.30 **FH** - Morning Worship

10.30 **CR** - All Age Family & Friends Service + refreshments

11.45 **CR** - said Communion CW

Monday 18th

3.30 - 4.30 pm **CR OSR** - Lego Club

Sunday 24th

9.30 **FH** - Parish Communion CW

11.00 **CR** - Morning Worship CW
 6.00 pm **SW** - Evensong BCP

Monday 25th

3.30 - 4.30 pm **CR OSR** - Lego Club

A light which shines in the darkness

The custodial sentences imposed on many of those involved in the recent riots in communities across our country have highlighted, yet again, the issue of criminal justice and the pressures and strains within the prison system. The seemingly ever-increasing size of the prison population; the appalling conditions within many of our older prisons, especially those in our inner cities; the almost total lack of provision for education and rehabilitation and an apparent unwillingness by those elected to Parliament to consider whether the whole of our justice system needs a radical overhaul have all resulted in much media comment.

But one part of the prison system which has not been mentioned is the invaluable role played by those who serve as Chaplains. Prison and restorative justice have been a constant thread almost throughout the whole of my life, beginning with my first visit while still in my teens to what was then called a Borstal. Since then, I've had the privilege of working with chaplaincy teams across the whole of the prison estate.

A light which shines in the darkness - ctd...

I've witnessed at first hand the extraordinary work done those teams, lay and ordained, of all faiths, working together to witness to God's love in Christ and caring for all those in the prison system, both staff and prisoners. I've often said to those on the outside, if you want to know what true collaborative ministry looks like in practice, look no further than a chaplaincy team. While each member remains true to his or her particular faith, the barriers which often divide people of faith have no part in that shared work of witness and service.

Sadly, all too often, the work of Chaplaincies not just in prison but in all aspects of our human life, in education, hospital, mental health, care homes and many other places, is barely known – that is, until we need their care. But Chaplaincies are the yeast which leaven our society. The light which shines in the darkness. Society, as we long and pray for it to be, would be the poorer without them.

Bishop Trevor Willmott

Assistant Bishop for the Diocese of Bath and Wells

Lego Club

For children of primary school age, to create and play. Please bring a parent / guardian - they can chat over a cuppa.

Term time Mondays 3.30 — 4.30pm in the Old School Room (see diary).

Donations for drinks and snacks are welcome.

For more information contact

Rev Mark McKnight on 074 7155 6366 or markmcknight5@gmail.com

From St. Andrew's Registers

Weddings

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

7th September - Amy Jane Corfield and Omikunle Awede John Babawale

14th September - Catherine Lock and Josh Evans

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

St. Andrew's Rotas November

Flowers

1st & 8th - Evelyn Leckie
 15th & 22nd - Annette Stein
 December 1st - Advent



Cleaning

2nd - Jackie & John de Ronde
 9th - Nicky Barker
 16th - Liz Rendell
 23rd - Lynne Comley
 30th - Tina Geary



It's easy!
To advertise here

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Nigel Grinsted

07734 226000
crn.nigel@outlook.com

St. Andrew's Autumn Fayre

This year's Autumn Fayre will take place
in the **Old School Room** on
Saturday 9th November 10.00-12.30

There will be stalls with a variety of
goods—hand-made craft items — cakes
— books — plants and bric-à-brac.

May be you can find that early Christmas
present.

Refreshments will be available in the
church.

We look forward to seeing you.

ADVANCE NOTICE**Carols, Bangers & Mash**

Friday 6th December 7.00pm

This year St. Andrew's Church will
again host this popular event, held in the
Village Hall.

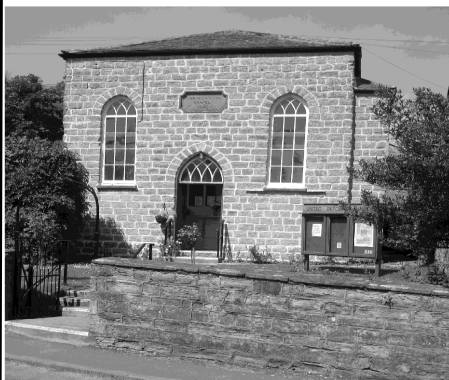
On arrival a glass of mulled wine/cider
will be available, followed by a meal of
bangers & mash and a selection of
puddings, for £ 12.50 per ticket. There
will also be a bar.

The evening will feature intervals of
light entertainment and Carol singing.

Tickets will be on sale from **mid
November** in Sandpit's, the Post Office/
petrol station, or from Dave & Sally on
253431 or curryrivelsta@gmail.com and
some members of St. Andrew's
congregation - NOT at the door on the
evening. For a vegetarian option, please
contact Dave & Sally (number above) or
e-mail to the above address,

Tickets for the **raffle** will also be
available from **mid November**, from
members of St. Andrew's congregation,
until 5th December 4.00pm and in the
Village Hall, on the evening.

We look forward to seeing you.

United Reformed Church**November**

**Services take place in our Chapel
building, all starting at 10.30am.**

3rd - A service led by Mrs Jo Morling

10th - Joining St. Andrew's Church for
a Service of Remembrance

17th - A Service of Prayer and Fellowship

24th - A service led by Mr Barry Bryer

What a World

There is much to celebrate in the
beautiful countryside surrounding us in
Curry Rivel. We have wonderful flower
meadows, and still a variety of wildlife.

And yet, and yet, we also live in one of
the most nature depleted countries in
the world, and nature is still seriously
declining (4th State of Nature Report,
September 2024)

Many species are endangered and we
have lost so much. Where are the
greenfinches which used to come to our
bird feeders, or the skylarks, the
nightingales or the cuckoo?

At the URC we are fond of stories.
There is a folk story about a beautiful
carved ball which brings home to us the
damage which has been done to
Creation. It tells of a beautiful ball
made by a craftsman with intricate
detail of the natural world.

We are a small, inclusive, outward
looking group of people and we
welcome all wherever they are on their
life/spiritual journey, 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 our
work together is rooted in our
relationships with God, each other, and
the world around us.

Tea/coffee is served after every service
providing the opportunity to meet and
chat with each other and the service
leader.

URC Minister: vacant

Hall Bookings: 01458 253953

What a world ctd . . .

The ball was passed down from
generation to generation in the hope
that people would learn from it. At the
beginning it was treated as the very
special thing it was, but gradually its
purpose was forgotten and it became
damaged and degraded.

People met and discussed how the
ball might be repaired and specialist
advice was sought.

While all this policy making and
planning was going on, a small child
took the ball in her hands, and slowly
her love for it restored the ball to life.

Our world is like that ball. Planning
and talking alone won't restore it to the
beautiful place it was when God created
it. We can only restore it with love.

**We should like to thank everyone
who came to our Harvest Lunch. It was
a lovely get-together and over £200
was raised for St. Margaret's Hospice.**

Jenny and Tony Potts,
Elders Curry Rivel URC

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consistency and layout limitations. By supplying material for publication,
you are giving consent for its publication on the village community
website.

"A Five Year Old Could Do That"

Trying to make sense of Modern Art

Mary Mullineux

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution has been celebrating 200 years of life-saving this year.

During that time over 146,000 lives have been saved, and all by volunteers. To help ensure that the RNLI can continue its essential work – it might be your life they save one day! - the Somerton and Langport Area Branch of the RNLI is holding an illustrated talk at Long Sutton Village Hall (TA10 0NT) on Friday 22nd November. 6:15pm for 7:00pm. This fascinating talk is called "A Five Year Old Could Do That". Richard Kay, Lawrences' picture expert, will be helping us to make sense of modern art.

Tickets for the evening are £18 and this includes a glass of wine and canapés.

Telephone 01458 223613 for more information. To buy your tickets or donate to the RNLI, our bank details are: Barclays Bank Branch Code: 20-68-95, A/C No. 93032671. The account name is: Royal National Lifeboat Institution and the reference is: 798565 + your surname.

Learn all about modern art and save lives at sea. What could be better?



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Regular Events

MONDAY

	Acrobatic Arts Club ages 3+	
10.00am	Art Club	Village Hall
10.00am	Table Tennis (kevl@outlook.com)	Village Hall
6.00pm	Pilates	Village Hall
6.45pm	Explorer Scouts	Scout Hall, Langport
7.00pm	Bridge Club	Ridgeway Hall, Langport

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

5.30pm	Beavers	Scout Hall, Langport
6.30pm	Cycling Club	Bridge Café, Langport
6.45pm	Scouts	Scout Hall, Langport
7.30pm	Bell Ringing	St. Andrews
7.30pm	Parish Council (1st only)	Village Hall

THURSDAY

10.00am	WI (2nd only)	Village Hall
6.30pm	Yoga	Village Hall

FRIDAY

9.30am-2pm	Friday Club (fortnightly)	Village Hall
4.00pm	Table Tennis	Village Hall
7.00pm	Movie Night (3rd only)	Village Hall

SATURDAY

9.00am	Cycling Club	Bridge Café, Langport
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Some Useful Telephone Numbers

Youth Organisations

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorer Scouts	(gslthelevelsscouts@gmail.com)
Langport Youth Club	07930 899338

Sports Clubs

Short Mat Bowls Club	251616
Cricket Club	251453
Yoga	07789 862548
Pilates	Emily Fagence
	07940 276265

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
Forget-Me-Not-Café	252710 & 396123
Langport Cycle Club	0777 567 0546

Arts

Acrobatic Arts Club	Phoebe Cridlin	07842 518140
Entertainers		250311
Music Club		250863
Art Club		253126

Community Facilities

Food Bank	(help@curryrivel.org.uk)	07714 265384
Village Hall	(crvhbookings@gmail.com)	07789 661288
Old School Room Bookings	(crosrbookings@gmail.com)	250655/253856
United Reformed Church Hall - Bookings etc.		253953

Community Services

Doctors		250464
Police		101
Yarlington Housing		01935 404500
Footpath & Litter Warden	johncasebourne@sky.com	
Secret World Wildlife Rescue	01278 768723	07463 087507

Education

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

Local Authorities

Parish Council (Clerk)	clerk@curryrivel.org.uk	07534 318840
District Council		01935 462462
County Council		0300 123 2224

Religious

St. Andrew's Church - church office		251375
Churchwarden	079 3638 0994	259003
Secretary PCC		251355
Organist & Bell Ringing		253856
Flower Guild		252710
Roman Catholic Church, Somerton		07483 120 603
URC Minister (vacant)		
Messy Church		01458 762523



Deadlines for December 2024 Edition

Advertising:	5pm Thursday 7th November
Send to:	crn.nigel@outlook.com
Comments & Articles:	5pm Monday 11th November
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!

NATURAL HISTORY

Beetles are brilliant - yeah yeah yeah

Here Nigel Grinsted looks at some of the most fascinating facts about incredible beetles. Be amazed!

There are more than 400,000 beetle species in the world which is more than any other insect. 25% of all animal species are beetles. In the UK we have over 4,000 beetle species.

Spotting beetles

But how often do we see them? Mainly never! That's because they don't fly much, when they do it's often at night and many species live in the dark in undergrowth and leaf litter.

No beetles sting but a few species can pinch or bite which can cause an allergic reaction. The biggest pincher is the Stag Beetle. It's quite rare now but strangely is fairly common in London.

Who the devil are you?

Watch out for the Devil's Coach Horse. It has no sting but its jaws can bite and it can emit a foul-smelling odour as a deterrent against predators.

Beetle heroes

But many beetle species are Nature's heroes. Many only consume non living organic matter (such as Dung Beetles that unsurprisingly consume dung) which helps produce organic loam which wild plants germinate in. There are 60 Dung Beetle species in the UK. Some beetles are carnivores and consume slugs, snails and other invertebrates such as the Violet Ground Beetle. Others are scavengers (such as the Water Scavenger Beetle) but it's often the larvae, that scavenge.

Do I really have to fly?

Beetles have two pairs of wings - a top hard pair (called elytron) which are used for protection but aren't used for flying and a membranous pair which are for flying and fold beneath the hard wings. Some beetles are flightless.

I'm not sure if any beetles migrate. I've researched this and some websites say

they do migrate but the distance they can fly is very short. Maybe 100m - hardly far enough to qualify as migration. So if anyone knows more about beetle migration please contact me.

Here in the UK we often see Cockchafer Beetles which are large but can fly strongly and are attracted to light. They're often called Maybugs because that's when they fly.

47 year old beetle!

Of course we generally only see adult beetles. However most of their lives are spent as eggs, larvae or pupae. Their life cycle varies according to the different beetle species and they all metamorphose like moths and butterflies do. Some have a very long lifespan. The Oak Splendour Beetle lives as a larva in Oak for up to 30 years. Indeed one larva was found alive in a staircase in Southend-on-Sea which was at least 47 years old! Stag Beetles live for up to seven years, mainly as larvae feeding on rotting wood.

Friends and foes

Some beetles are pests. Gardeners don't like the Rose Chafer Beetle that eat the flowers, nectar and pollen of roses. However gardeners and farmers like Ground Beetles because both the adult and the larva predate slugs, snails and other invertebrates.

We can't forget Ladybirds. There are 46 Ladybird species in the UK - the most common is the Seven Spot Ladybird. The larvae of some Ladybirds consume Greenfly and Blackfly larvae.

Some well known insects that could be mistaken for beetles are Cockroaches, Earwigs and Cicadas.

BEETLES YOU MAY BUMP INTO



Male Stag Beetles scuffling



The scary Devil's Coach Horse



Dung Beetle posing appropriately



Cockchafer - ready for take-off



Seven Spot Ladybird larva



Pine Ladybird



Oak Splendour Beetle