

# Fivehead & Swell

## Community Matters

*Published every two months*

*By Fivehead Parish Council*

**No 207 February 2022**

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<b>INFORMATION</b> Editor Harry Price  <b>Published by</b> Fivehead Parish Council  <b>Advertising Contact</b> Harry Price Tel 01460 281573 E-Mail: harryprice183@btinternet.com  <b>Printed By</b> Parish Magazine Printing Co  <b>Items for the next edition of the newsletter</b> should reach the Editor Mr. Harry Price, 7 Ganges Close, Fivehead ( 01460 281573) By <b>Wednesday 23rd. March 2022</b> for distribution early <b>April</b>  Email the editor at harryprice183@btinternet.com  © Fivehead Parish Council  Cover Photograph Graham Land	<b>INFORMATION</b> Useful contact numbers and other information <hr/> <b>PARISH COUNCIL NEWS</b> Councillor steps down Budgets being finalised Jubilee Celebrations take shape <hr/> <b>VILLAGE HALL</b> AGM Tuesday 15th February 7.30pm <hr/> <b>FOOTPATHS &amp; RIGHTS OF WAY</b> Latest update on the footpaths in the village <hr/> <b>SUE ATWELL'S SHOP</b> Exciting new stock coming <hr/> <b>CHARITY THEATRE TRIPS</b> Bristol Hippodrome starts to come alive <hr/> <b>St. MARTIN'S &amp; St. CATHERINE'S CHURCH NEWS</b> Scott's message and parable and all Service details <hr/> <b>FIVEHEAD NATURE WATCH</b> The wild side of Fivehead revealed <hr/> <b>CURRY RIVEL PRIMARY SCHOOL</b> Sporting success and a busy new start to the year <hr/> <b>THE BAPTIST CHURCH</b> Matt's thoughts on Matthew Webb Space Telescope <hr/> <b>FIVEHEAD PLAYING FIELD</b> Walking football on offer and TV appearances <hr/> <b>FOOD AND DRINK</b> Recipe from The Crown Inn <hr/> <b>WHAT'S ON</b> Mother's day service	<b>3</b>  <b>4-5</b>  <b>7</b>  <b>8</b>  <b>8</b>  <b>10</b>  <b>11-12</b>  <b>13</b>  <b>14</b>  <b>15</b>  <b>20</b>  <b>21</b>  <b>24</b>
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The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the publisher. Whilst every effort has been taken to ensure the information supplied for inclusion in the newsletter is accurate, responsibility cannot be accepted for any omissions or inaccurate information. We reserve the right to edit any contribution for the purpose of clarity, consistency and layout limitations.

By supplying material for publication in Community Matters, you are giving consent for its publication on the village website at [www.fivehead-village.org.uk](http://www.fivehead-village.org.uk)

# Useful Information

## EMERGENCY AND HELP SERVICES

Emergency No. (All Services)	999	
Non-Emergency Police No.	101	
Non-Emergency Medical No.	111	
Samaritans	116 123	
Age Concern	0800 00 99 66	<a href="http://www.ageuk.org.uk">www.ageuk.org.uk</a>
Citizens' Advice	03444 889 623	
Somerset Community Connect—local care and services to help you choose the right care and support.		<a href="http://www.somersetcommunityconnect.org.uk">www.somersetcommunityconnect.org.uk</a>

## MEDICAL

Langport Surgery	01458 250464	<a href="http://www.langportsurgery.co.uk">www.langportsurgery.co.uk</a>
North Curry Health Centre	01823 490505	<a href="http://www.northcurryhealthcentre.co.uk">www.northcurryhealthcentre.co.uk</a>
Musgrove Park Hospital	01823 333444	<a href="http://www.tsft.nhs.uk">www.tsft.nhs.uk</a>
Yeovil District Hospital	01935 475122	<a href="http://www.yeovilhospital.co.uk">www.yeovilhospital.co.uk</a>

## SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL

	0300 123 2224	<a href="http://www.somerset.gov.uk">www.somerset.gov.uk</a>
County Councillor - Clare Aparicio-Paul	07879 313117	email: <a href="mailto:capaul@somerset.gov.uk">capaul@somerset.gov.uk</a>
Highways and Travel		<a href="http://www.travelsomerset.gov.uk">www.travelsomerset.gov.uk</a>
Rights of Way-Volunteer & Trails Officer	01823 358250	<a href="http://www.roam.somerset.gov.uk/roam/map">www.roam.somerset.gov.uk/roam/map</a>
Somerset Waste Partnership	01823 625700	<a href="http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk">www.somersetwaste.gov.uk</a>

## SOUTH SOMERSET DISTRICT COUNCIL

	01935 462462	<a href="http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk">www.southsomerset.gov.uk</a>
District Councillor - Malcolm Cavill	01823 481335	<a href="mailto:malcolm.cavill@southsomerset.gov.uk">malcolm.cavill@southsomerset.gov.uk</a>

## PARISH COUNCIL

Kate Beacham (Chair)	6 Ganges Close	01460 281414
Laura Howard (Vice Chair)	The Old Manse	01460 282911
Ken Male	Tanyard Farm	01460 281233
Nina Cameron	18 Ganges Close	01460 281358
Robert (Rob) Wynn	Meldon	01460 281288
Bruce Ferguson Dr.	Poolhayes Swell	01458 250138
Jayne Parsons (Clerk)	White Lias House, Turnhill Rd, High Ham TA10 9DF	07432 275954

E-Mail contact for all matters [fiveheadpc@gmail.com](mailto:fiveheadpc@gmail.com)

## USEFUL CONTACTS

Drama Group—Kevin Stevens	07794 226149	<a href="mailto:kevinmstevens11@gmail.com">kevinmstevens11@gmail.com</a>
Harry Price	01460 281573	<a href="mailto:harryprice183@btinternet.com">harryprice183@btinternet.com</a>
Playing Fields — Frank Doggett	01460 281549	
Sue Atwell Shop	07930278600	<a href="mailto:sue.atwell@hotmail.co.uk">sue.atwell@hotmail.co.uk</a>
The Crown Inn	01460 281322	<a href="mailto:snpubsLtd@gmail.com">snpubsLtd@gmail.com</a>
Short Mat Bowls— Heather Gorton	01460 281995	<a href="mailto:h.gorton74@gmail.com">h.gorton74@gmail.com</a>



After another disrupted year, a return to some of our festive traditions was much welcomed, including carols and refreshments in the Crown Inn car park, organised with the help of our new publicans, Clare and Chris.

Across the road, a beautiful tree, in the grounds of St Martin's Church, was kindly donated by Greenshutters Nurseries - a special thank you to Roger Eavis and Oliver and Laura Howard for the installation and decoration!

Parish Path volunteers, Dave and Mary Braddock, were busy over the holiday period, clearing the overgrowth on a footpath near Cathanger Manor and preparing the way for new steps to relieve a particularly steep and slippery slope, which leads out to the top road. After making contact with our new Parish Ranger, Mary has since heard that Somerset County Council is willing to install the steps to make this path safer for the community, so a great start to the year and a big thank you to all our Parish Path volunteers for all their work to keep our paths safe and accessible.

In December, an emergency removal of a large Lawson Cypress branch down in the Cemetery was carried out by Arbortech; and during January, the bramble has been cut back and the log piles, which have been left to create a natural habitat, have been tidied by Dave Braddock ready for Spring.

After 5 years as a Fivehead Parish Councillor, thanks go to Pip Brett who stepped down in January. Pip has made an enthusiastic contribution to many aspects of village life, with her avid passion for local history, wildlife and the environment, and helping save Fivehead's last remaining pub. Pip has taken a strong lead in planning briefings, with her knowledge and interest in planning procedure and skills in the specialist *Parish Online* software for Councils; she has also been the Council's representative on the Playing Field Committee, helping to obtain grant funding from the National Lottery for improvements, and as Secretary for the local branches of the Royal British Legion, Pip has looked after the War Memorial. The Council is sorry to lose Pip's input as a Councillor, but delighted that she will be continuing to contribute as a volunteer where she can. The Council will be looking to fill the Councillor vacancy as part of the local election arrangements, which have been brought forward to May 2022.

The focus of the Parish Council's January meeting is to set the budget and precept for the next financial year. (The outcome will be reported in the April update, as the meeting will be taking place after the newsletter deadline.) Councillors will be taking into account the difficult times for parishioners and balancing this with the current high rates of inflation, project priorities and the needs of our local facility providers to help keep them running. There are some grant funding opportunities, which these organisations may be able to benefit from, including the Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant scheme, to support businesses in South Somerset which offer in-person services in the hospitality, leisure and accommodation services; those eligible can apply up until 28 February 2022. Information on the scheme can be found on the District Council's website or you can email [restart@southsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:restart@southsomerset.gov.uk)

Whilst current Covid restrictions look set to be lifted by the end of January, as cases are starting to drop again, medical advice is still to remain vigilant and alert to the risks that are still around us, as Omicron is by no means a mild virus and the symptoms could be serious for people with underlying health concerns, or those who are not yet vaccinated.

As always, we hope you keep safe and healthy,

With best wishes

Jayne Parsons

Parish Clerk

Email: [fiveheadpc@gmail.com](mailto:fiveheadpc@gmail.com)

# Parish Council - other news

## Platinum Jubilee Celebrations



Four days of official celebrations are planned for Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee, including two special bank holidays, from Thursday 2 to Sunday 5 June. This will be the first time a British monarch has marked a Platinum Jubilee, 70 years as Sovereign. In September 2015, The Queen overtook Queen Victoria as the longest reigning monarch.

As well as the public events and national moments of reflection on the Queen's 70 years of service, community activities are encouraged, for people to come together to celebrate this historic milestone.

## Join our local team

If you have ideas for our local parish celebrations and/or would be willing to join a small group of volunteers to help with the arrangements, please let us know by Monday 14 February by emailing the Clerk at [fiveheadpc@gmail.com](mailto:fiveheadpc@gmail.com).

There is a long tradition of lighting of beacons for Royal Jubilees, Weddings and Coronations so a national chain of beacons is planned on Thursday evening, which will follow the Queen's Birthday Parade (Trooping of the Colour) earlier in the day. Over 1,500 beacons will be lit throughout the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories.

The last day has been proposed for family events which might include tea parties or picnics, but other suggestions from the community are very welcome at this stage. Your ideas will help to make this a unique and enjoyable occasion to remember!

## More special initiatives

In addition, initiatives including The Queen's Green Canopy and the Platinum Pudding competition will create a lasting reminder of The Queen's Jubilee, while The Queen's private estates will also join in with special Jubilee themed events offering more opportunities for members of the public to celebrate the historic milestone. For full details, visit <https://www.royal.uk/platinum-jubilee-central-weekend>

## Other news

### Report Highways faults without delay...

A new upgraded online system with an improved interactive map means members of the public can now report any problems they experience on our highways, at any time of day. From potholes, blocked drains and broken manhole covers, to mud on the road, overgrown vegetation, damaged pavements or cycle paths, faulty traffic lights or missing markings – they can all be reported in just minutes from your smartphone, tablet or computer. Please report via [www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem-on-the-road/](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem-on-the-road/)

Remember that you can keep in touch with the latest news on <https://fivehead-village.org.uk>, or sign up to the village email group via the website home page or email [fiveheadpc@gmail.com](mailto:fiveheadpc@gmail.com)



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Pound Pool, Somerton, Somerset, TA11 6LZ  
01458 272297 or Langport 01458 250509



# Village Hall

## Management Committee

### The View from the Village Hall

The Village Hall Management Committee is delighted to enter 2022 free of debt, having repaid our outstanding loan.

However, we remind the village that the hall is now some 15 years or so old, and is in increasing need of TLC. A "Wish List" has been drawn up of improvements to the fabric, details of which will be announced at the forthcoming AGM on Tuesday 15th February, in the hall at 7:30 pm. We are seeking grant aid and are developing fundraising plans.



The Christmas Quiz, attended by over 80 people, raised almost £300 and grateful thanks are due to the owners of the Crown for their generosity in hosting it. Plans are advancing for a similar quiz at Easter. The long-awaited defibrillators have been ordered and installation should take place in the coming weeks. Sadly, the Pantomime has had to be postponed (Covid complications!) but we are hoping to run events in the summer, possibly a fete and activities to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The 100 Club, meanwhile, continues to prosper. Thanks to Paul Narey's efforts, there are currently 117 members and annual contributions total over £3000.

We all look forward to a prosperous and eventful New Year.

**Contacts:** Chairperson: Kevin Stevens 07794226149

## 100 Club Winners

December 2021			January 2022		
No. 64	D. Powell	£100	No. 4	J. Cramp	£50
No. 117	L. Hoover	£25	No. 65	G. Smith	£25
No. 43	M. Brett	£15	No. 35	C. Garbutt	£15
No.116	R. Lawrynowicz	£10	No. 95	R. Burdge	£10

## Fivehead Drama Group

Due to covid restrictions and uncertainty of what rules affected the Village Hall, we unfortunately had to postpone the airing of **Sherlock Holmes and the Hound of the Basketcases**.

However it has been rescheduled for **Friday 25th March 7.30pm. & Saturday 26th March Matinee 2.30pm & evening 7.30pm**. Tickets will be on sale from our usual locations from early March.

We will be resuming our monthly get togethers in **The Crown Inn** on the last Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. except when rehearsing which recommences on **Tuesday 15th February**.

# Fivehead Rights of Way

Hello and best wishes for 2022. Hope you get to enjoy some walking this year. With the winter comes very wet and muddy footpaths and it is not much fun walking them. But we are on the right side of the winter solstice and the days are beginning to lengthen again.

The short footpath from Cathanger to A378 is open with the bulk of the overgrowth being cleared. I have requested some steps to be put in at the top to make it safer to climb down as the first section is very steep. The other steep part on the other side of the A378 also needs work with the stile being reinforced or renewed. The whole path is quite slippery and muddy so care is required if walking it but it does mean that the circular walk around the village is possible.



The footpath from the bottom of Cemetery Hill to the river has a new gate where the old one fell apart and the footbridge on the same footpath over the ditch which had a broken slat has been replaced. I have been informed that the bridge will be repaired in 2022. Green Lane is now fully open with low hanging trees having been removed.

Some disconnect handles for those electric fences have been delivered to a couple of farms, hopefully these will be useful when stock goes out in the fields in the spring. I have a couple and can get more so if you see a problem with electric fences, please let me know and we can hopefully overcome blockages caused by electric fences.

I have copied and pasted the advice from the Countryside Code April 2021. There is more detailed information in [the Countryside Code on GOV.UK](#)

Key points are

- be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside
- leave gates and property as you find them
- do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking
- be nice, say hello, share the space
- follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available

Many footpaths, bridleways and other public rights of way cross private land, working farms and in some cases are close to private homes. Please keep to the paths, keep your distance from landowners, and if you have a dog with you, keep it under close control (on a short lead or at heel). Continue to follow the restrictions and measures which are in place to protect you and others. Care must also be taken when approaching animals with their young.

Walkers/Visitors: Please remember Respect Protect Enjoy.

Landowners have Rights, Responsibilities and Liabilities. If in doubt statutory guidance can be accessed at gov.uk

My email: marybraddock@btinternet.com

## *Sue Attwell Shop News :*

Belated happy New Year everyone. We hope you had a good Christmas. At long last Chris & I have visited a trade fair and new stock is arriving.

We have beautiful leather handbags by **Yoshi** - a funky new look in leather. Unisex casual bags made from vintage recycled tarpaulin. Scarves made from recycled plastic bottles. Faux cashmere wraps. Extra designs from our old friends **Eco Chic** again all made from recycled plastic bottles.

So plenty of ideas for Valentine's Day & Mother's Day. Valentine Cards for just a £1 romance has never been so cheap! Why not order a hand cut sirloin steak from Sausage Shed for that special meal.

We are hoping to stock savoury & sweet suet puddings from our good friends **Quantock Steamers**, just trying to arrange a tasting day. We now stock filled rolls for lunches and away day picnics.

Look forward to seeing you all.

Sue & Chris

# Folk & Acoustic Music Night -The Crown Inn

"Quality, rather than Quantity" sums up our Floorsingers Night on January 8th. For a variety of reasons, turnout was smaller than usual, but the advantage for the four singers/groups that turned up was that each got to sing more than the usual two songs!

Karen and I started the evening off, then Martin Hudson sang a couple of unaccompanied traditional songs. Susannah Billeter joined us in the second half with some of her amusing original songs.

We were delighted that Marram Grass came all the way from Devon! They comprise Martin Baxter on guitar (Martin regularly delights us with his exquisite solo instrumentals), plus Adam Montague on guitar and vocals, but this time joined by their excellent lead singer Maria Thorn. We enjoyed their variety mix of songs so much, including a Richard Thompson song plus some of their own compositions, that I've booked them for a guest appearance on April 9th!



## NEXT FOLK & ACOUSTIC MUSIC NIGHT

Saturday February 12th, 7.30pm

Pete Stearn & Will Southcote

Pete Stearn is one of our regular floorsingers who always delights the audience with his cockney charm and his eclectic mix of songs which might include blues, folk, pop or even rock 'n roll - always laced with his own infectious sense of humour! On this occasion, Pete will be joined by Will Southcote with extra vocals and some pretty impressive accordion playing.

Music will begin at 7.30pm. Floorsingers are welcome to sing and/or play in the first half - until the beer break at 8.30pm. Simply sign up in the book on the night or email me in advance.

A great evening of music and fun is guaranteed!

Our landlords Chris & Clare assure me that all due Covid precautions are in place, including extra, regular deep cleaning and availability of hand sanitising. The seats will be spaced apart at a reasonable safe distance and we will encourage everyone to wear masks (unless drinking or performing.) We would also request that everyone takes a lateral flow test that day and only come if you are Covid negative and free of symptoms. There will be no food available, except bar snacks/nibbles.

## Future Bookings

I am delighted to announce the following exciting bookings for 2022:

March 12th The Farey Family

April 9th Marram Grass

May 14th Tim Brine & Sue  
Franklin

June 11th Thornbridge

Let's keep on singing!

Laurie

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# THE BRISTOL HIPPODROME

100 YEARS

Charity Theatre Trips for 2022/2023

## Charity Theatre Trips

Thanks if you are one of the many folk who have been supporting Langport Red Cross Centre Shop over the past three months. Now here's another pleasant way to donate to the Red Cross! Chris Cox, the leader of the Langport & District volunteer group, has published his second memoir, 'Jim Jams' which relates the often humorous, though sometimes tragic, 'jams' that Jim (a thinly disguised Chris) and his relations have found themselves in over the years. It costs £5, plus £2 postage. All profit is donated to the Red Cross. Order as below.

Puccini's Madam Butterfly is back at Bristol Hippodrome on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. If you fancy humming along just contact Chris by e-mail [Charitytheatretrips@btinternet.com](mailto:Charitytheatretrips@btinternet.com) or phone on 01458 273085.

Other trips up and running are **Lion King**, Wed 9 March, £78/£108; **We Will Rock You**, Wed 20 Apr, £45/£58; **Mamma Mia**, Mon 20 Jun 22, £49/£61; **Les Miserables**, Tuesday 19 Jul 22, £45/£58; **The Commitments**, Tue 21 Mar 23, £50; **Strictly Ballroom**, Tue 13 Jun 2023

We now have a Groups link on Facebook, if you do such exciting things! You can sign yourself up to receive the latest news. The link is 'Charity Theatre Trips'. Our website is [www.charitytheatretrips.com](http://www.charitytheatretrips.com) where you will find up to date details.

See you on the coach.



Clare and Chris welcome you to  
The CROWN INN Fivehead

Opening hours:

Tues, Wed, Thurs 3-11pm

Fri & Sat 12-11pm

Sun 12-10pm



Wednesday quiz nights re starting 2nd February. £1 per person. 8.30pm

Every Friday 7.30pm - Chase the Joker and Spin the wheel - £1 ticket

Meat raffle 3pm - First Sunday of the month. Next date 6th February - £1 ticket

SIX NATIONS matches shown on our big screen and new projector.

First match 5th March – Promotions on the day!



01460 281322



[snpubsLtd@gmail.com](mailto:snpubsLtd@gmail.com)



The CROWN INN is on Facebook

# UNITED BENEFICE OF CURRY RIVEL, FIVEHEAD AND SWELL

## St Martin's Fivehead



### Churchwardens

Ellen Balmer Tel: 01460 281578  
Trish Allen Tel: 01460 281674

## St Catherine's Swell



### Churchwarden

Anna Rees Tel: 01458 253067

**Rector:**  
Revd. Scott Patterson  
Tel: 01458 251375

## Scott's Spot – February 2022

## Gratis

'Gratis' can be defined as: *'something received or given without payment'*. In the world around us however the idea of 'gratis' is often met with suspicion. There's no such thing as a free gift, we're told. Read the small print and there's always a catch, for experience suggests that you never get something for nothing. So when we receive a phone call telling us we've won a free holiday, or an email saying we've come up trumps in some obscure lottery, we're more than a touch suspicious.

When it comes to the central message of the Christian faith however, I suspect that wariness is an unhelpful barrier, because Christianity is all about gratis. The Bible word for this is 'grace' and it is grace that sets the Christian faith apart from all other religions. At root the other world religions are about what people **do** for God. Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, the message is: 'do this', 'pray this', 'go there', 'learn this' in order to draw closer to God. They are about what we do; the onus is on us. On the other hand, Christianity is all about receiving freely what God has already **done** – grace. The central message is this: God on a cross in Jesus, paying the price for sin, opening the way to restored relationship with God, and a new life shaped by Divine help and eternal hope, is a gift freely offered to all. As the Apostle Paul put it: ***'For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not of your own doing; it is a gift of God...'*** (Ephesians 2:8).

But, for some reading this, the 'no such thing as a free gift' alarm may be ringing. What of the expectations that seem to accompany the Christian life? What about church and worship, life lived under Jesus' leadership, the expectation to change? Doesn't all this mean that even God's grace isn't gratis; that there are still strings attached? Well it is a matter of order – which comes first – for the Christian life does indeed include these things. Here's the order that stands religious thinking on its head. The gift is offered, we receive it by faith, and only then does our gratitude, understanding and love lead naturally to a heart-felt desire to respond. The response to grace is loving service. Earning forgiveness and favour with God - even slightly contributing to it - is not in the picture. Below is a modern parable that is perhaps helpful for understanding the gracious nature of the Christian gospel.

*A rich man loved collecting pieces of art and his home was full of Picasso and Cezanne and other famous artists. One day his son was killed in action saving another man's life. That saved man visited bringing a portrait he'd made of the son as a gift. He explained that it wasn't great art, but he thought the father might like it. A few years later the old man died and all his art works went to auction. The sale began with the portrait of the son, but the connoisseurs complained that it didn't constitute real art so when the auctioneer asked for a bid, the room was silent.*

*He asked again: "Who will take the son?" Eventually, a frail old man, the rich man's gardener, offered £10, all he had, but no one raised the bid, so the painting was his.*

*Suddenly the auctioneer brought down his gavel and declared the sale closed. There was uproar in the room. What about the real paintings? The auctioneer made known the rich man's will. (cont. page 12)*

# The United Benefice of Curry Rivel, Fivehead & Swell

(cont. from page 11)

Whoever bought the portrait of his son would inherit his entire estate, including the valuable art collection.

He had recalibrated the value system – whoever got the son, got everything.

May God's grace and peace be with you,

Rev Scott

**Please note** Due to some Covid uncertainty remaining the Services listed below may be liable to change. If you would value reassurance as to whether a particular service is on, then please contact the Parish Office on 01458 251375.

## Planned Services for February

<b>Thursday 3rd</b>	10.00am Prayer Book Communion in the Old School Room	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
<b>Sunday 6th</b>	10.00am All Age Family & Friends Service + Refreshments	<b>Fivehead</b>
	11.00am said Communion Service (CW)	<b>Fivehead</b>
	6.00pm A Service of Evening Worship	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
<b>Sunday 13th</b>	9.30am BCP Prayer Book Communion Service	<b>Swell</b>
	11.00am Parish Communion Service (CW)	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
	6.00pm A Service of Evening Worship	<b>Fivehead</b>
<b>Thursday 17th</b>	10.00am Prayer Book Communion in the Old School Room	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
<b>Sunday 20th</b>	9.30am Morning Prayer (CW)	<b>Fivehead</b>
	11.00am All Age Family & Friends Service	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
	12 noon said Communion Service (CW)	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
<b>Sunday 27th</b>	9.30am Parish Communion (CW)	<b>Fivehead</b>
	11.00am A Service of Morning Worship	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
	6.00pm BCP Prayer Book Meeting	<b>Swell</b>

## Planned Services for March

<b>Wednesday 2nd</b>	<b>7.30pm</b> A United Benefice <b>Ash Wednesday</b> Service	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
<b>Thursday 3rd</b>	10.00am Prayer Book Communion in the Old School Room	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
<b>Sunday 6th</b>	10.00am All Age Family & Friends Service + refreshments	<b>Fivehead</b>
	11.00am said Communion Service (CW)	<b>Fivehead</b>
	6.00pm Evening Prayer (CW)	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
<b>Sunday 13th</b>	9.30am BCP Prayer Book Communion Service	<b>Swell</b>
	11.00am Parish Communion Service (CW)	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
<b>Thursday 17th</b>	10.00am Prayer Book Communion in the Old School Room	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
<b>Sunday 20th</b>	<b>(Note- 4th. Sunday Service Pattern)</b>	
	9.30am Parish Communion (CW)	<b>Fivehead</b>
	11.00am Morning Prayer (CW)	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
	6.00pm BCP Prayer Book Evensong	<b>Swell</b>
<b>Sunday 27th</b>	<b>Mothering Sunday</b>	
	10.00am United Benefice All Age Family <b>Mothering Sunday Service</b>	<b>Curry Rivel</b>
	11.00am said Communion Service (CW)	<b>Curry Rivel</b>

**BCP = Book of Common Prayer, CW = Common Worship, UB = United Benefice**

# Fivehead Nature Watch

Dave Braddock

I have been surveying the wildlife around Fivehead and Swell now for approaching a year. It has been interesting to find species that have not been recorded here before and seeing that species that have been recorded are still here and doing well. The community of Fivehead and Swell are lucky in having a wealth of nature on their doorstep. It is not being built on at an alarming rate (at present) as it is in other parts of Somerset. We still have scrubby, open areas and trees, and we still have field margins of sorts. We are very lucky to have a native hedge and verge margin complex, which is being looked after favourably overall by landowners.



These hedgerows are the jewels of our village and need to be protected. The hedgerows, as well as supporting the rare Dormouse contain a thriving population of Yellowhammers and Linnets, which are declining nationally due to the loss of hedgerow habitat. Mature hedges are classed as 'important' and usually need planning permission to remove, so I intend to survey as many as I can this year to help re-enforce this. Good numbers of Skylarks can still be found singing over the fields in Summer when you go walking down the lanes. I have found that the

hedgerows supported twenty-one species of butterflies last year, in good numbers which is remarkable and surveying the wildflowers will keep me going for years. The Fivehead river is still clean enough to support 8 or 9 species of Dragonfly and Damselfly, including the scarce White-legged Damselfly which finds the river suitable to form small colonies.

Most of my Spring and Summer nights last year were taken up by surveying for bats. There are 16 species of bats recorded in Somerset, and I have potentially found twelve species in Fivehead and Swell. Some bat species are hard or impossible to tell apart without sophisticated and expensive equipment and I need to survey again in the Spring to confirm. The rarest species found were several Barbastelle bats in different areas of the village. This is exciting as it could mean that there are several colonies waiting to be found. Other species of bat were found in good numbers in suitable areas, which is encouraging.

It is not all good news; we have lost the Greater and Lesser Horseshoe bats around the Glendale area, and I have only recorded 1 Greater Horseshoe bat and no Lesser Horseshoe bats in the whole of Fivehead and Swell which is surprising.

Most bat species are thriving here because there is hardly any light pollution from street and outside lights and there are plenty of hedgerows and fields for them to foraging and travel along. Bats have quite a lot of legal protection but these laws are regularly ignored by developers so these laws need to be checked on in future planning so we can keep Fivehead and Swell as a bat haven.

So, for my next round of Spring and Summer bat surveys, as well as revisiting previous sites, I am looking for help from you. I need to survey more areas so I can hopefully survey the whole of Fivehead and Swell by the end of the year, it is a big, but manageable task. I can survey most of the areas by siting in the lanes for a couple of hours from last light, but a garden or piece of land is best. The survey areas that I need to cover are:

Cathanger area, Stowey Road and Lane, Swell Lane, especially near St Catherine's Church, Stilbrook Lane, South View Farm area, Orchard Rise, especially overlooking the old Council dump and fields and near the sewage farm area.

If you can help with the above areas that would be great, please contact me at [davebraddock349@gmail.com](mailto:davebraddock349@gmail.com). Also



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# CURRY RIVEL CHURCH OF ENGLAND

## PRIMARY SCHOOL UPDATE

### 'Caring, Curious and Confident'

'Healthy trees bearing good fruit' - Matthew 7 v 17



It has been a busy start to the year, with our football team reaching the South Somerset Schools' finals, after school clubs starting and new playground markings on our three playground areas.

Our broad and balanced curriculum continues with 13 subjects taught in key stage 2 (Can you name them all?). We are committed to preparing the children for their futures, so 'Primary Futures' is a vital part of our curriculum, where children meet people from different professions and learn about their career choices, what their jobs involve and the struggles they may have encountered on the way- we hope over the course of their time at Curry Rivel School children are inspired by one of the varied jobs and careers they learn about. Dr Simon Gittins and Dr Chris Hoare met the children (Via 'Teams') and talked about their respective jobs in the Hydrographic office and medicine. Other classes will be meeting a female mechanical engineer.

*"When you become a doctor, you still need to learn."*

*"You have to do a lot of learning to become a doctor."*

*"Not everyone in hospitals are doctors and nurses."*

*"I learned that the hydrographic office help the Royal Navy"*

*"I learned why maps are so important."*

Pupils Feedback: In Collective Worship we have been thinking about 'turning over a new leaf' and we have been sharing our New Year Resolutions (Some of mine are going better than others...). Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who passed away as 2021 drew to a close, once said,

***"Do your little bit of good where you are; it is rff***

***little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."***

May we be encouraged to do little bits of good every day and whenever the opportunity arises.

Mrs Emma Myhill is our school's Mental Health Lead, and she is working to develop our 'Well-being and Mental Health' culture for both children and adults. She has recently been putting up posters around the school to remind the children of an important message: 'Tell a trusted adult'.

We have discussed worries and what we can do if worries make us sad. One of those strategies is to 'tell a trusted adult' and we always encourage the children to share their concerns with adults at home or at school so that we can support them through any difficulties.

Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School is such a special place- if you want to find out more, please email us to arrange a visit: [curryrivel@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:curryrivel@educ.somerset.gov.uk)



Mrs Ali Pook (Head Teacher)



**Rev. Matthew Cottingham**

*Thoughts from The Manse*

On Christmas Day last year the new James Webb Space Telescope was launched into space onboard an Ariane 5 rocket. The telescope is one of the most exciting ventures in modern astronomy and promises to unlock new scientific insights into the universe and its history. Many of us had been following its progress during development, eagerly awaiting its launch, anticipating the new things we will learn when it begins to look deep into space and time.

As human beings we have an inherent desire to ask questions, to discover, and to make sense of things. The new space telescope is just one example of this human longing to explore and understand the world and the cosmos around us. For us not to do so would be like asking the birds not to sing. Science is a great blessing as it opens up new vistas and new opportunities to us. It enlarges us. It is an exciting adventure.

But this journey of human questioning and discovery pre-dates the scientific era in which we live today. It seems we have always been creatures of intrigue. We have always felt that spark of fascination when glimpsing something new. We have always tried to understand how we fit into it all. In the past things were examined and explained through other means than science – for example, through story and poetry and tradition – but these too are ways of making sense of our lives in the world. In fact, they are still an essential part of our journey today; as powerful as they ever were in our lives.

Theology too is a way of understanding the realities around us. For those of us who are people of faith, theology answers a uniquely important set of questions about what it means to be human, what it means to live well, and what it means to say “God”. Theology often asks the “Why?” questions of life: its meaning, its purpose, its hope, its goal. As Christians we believe those vitally important questions are answered above all in Jesus Christ, who is described as God’s light and God’s spoken word to us all. He’s even described as our Saviour; which means he is the one who can bring us out of whatever harms us and into the places where life can open up and thrive.

As the James Webb Space Telescope continues its journey into orbit, marking another step in our journey of discovery, so too we continue the journey of learning what it means to be human, learning what it means to live well in community, and learning what it means to be children of God in this incredible universe he has made. At Fivehead Baptist Church we believe that journey is an important one for us all – a journey that leads us to God and the fullness of life he intends for us.

## **News from the Stable – January 2022**

It hardly seems possible that The Stable will be celebrating its 10th birthday this summer. (Watch out for lots of celebration cakes and maybe anniversary offers too). It is always a privilege to serve the community and be able to offer this meeting place.

2021 was another challenging year, with various levels of lockdown and serving outside etc. We were grateful for a community grant helping us to purchase a card reader.

Since we have opened we have given away over £3,500 (our tips) to a wide variety of causes, both home and abroad. In the last five years, since we have built up a working balance, we have given away a significant sum at the end of each year; usually £500 to a local cause and £500 to a developing country. At the end of 2021 we have sent £500 to ‘Love Musgrove’ and £500 to Dreamlands hospital in Kenya.

We would welcome more volunteers to serve or to bake and we can accommodate how little or how much time you are able to give.

We have regular art displays and during January and February we have an art display by someone from the village. It’s always good to hear from new artists too. We also have local pottery, honey, juice and cards.

## Recent Amendments to The Highway Code

In our panic of the Highways Agency releasing a new “Rule/Law” about our mobile phones in vehicles, that we can no longer touch, pick up to look at or play Candy Crush whilst driving, another rule has been applied.

Rule 215: (who knew there are so many!) - how to overtake ponies/horses on a road.

Fivehead and the surrounding villages seeming to have more animals on the road/highway, this new code is what the agency have come up with as of January 2022:

*“Horse riders and horse-drawn vehicles. Be particularly careful of horse riders and horse-drawn vehicles especially when approaching, overtaking, passing or moving away.*

*Always pass wide and slowly.*

*When you see a horse on a road, you should slow down to a maximum of 10 mph.*

*Be patient, do not sound your horn or rev your engine.*

*When safe to do so, pass wide and slow, allowing at least 2 metres of space.*

*Feral or semi feral ponies found in areas such as the New Forest, Exmoor and Dartmoor require the same consideration as ridden horses when approaching or passing.*

*Horse riders are often children, so take extra care and remember riders may ride in double file when escorting a young or inexperienced horse or rider.*

*Look out for horse riders’ and horse drivers’ signals and heed a request to slow down or stop.*

*Take great care and treat all horses as a potential hazard; they can be unpredictable despite the efforts of their rider/driver.*

*Remember there are three brains at work when you pass a horse: the rider’s, the driver’s and the horse’s.*

*Do not forget horses are flight animals and can move incredibly quickly if startled.”*

The majority of riders will move, stop safely, get as close to the edge as possible and be as helpful as they can, to allow motorised vehicles to keep moving, as long as we hear you coming, electric vehicles are very quiet! If the horse and rider are not, it is probable, they can see a potential danger you cannot, and the riders tend to know their animals best.

All we ask to keep everyone safe, including ponies or horses is pass wide and slow. To help drivers, even more, visibility on the road for vehicles is vital.

Riders should remember Rule 50:

Other clothing. You should wear:

- boots or shoes with hard soles and heels
- **light-coloured or fluorescent clothing in daylight**
- reflective clothing if you have to ride at night or in poor visibility

Hope this helps! Keep horse-riding—keep safe!

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## *Crown Fivehead Skittles 1977*

In 1977 it was a golden year for The Crown Inn skittles team who won that year: Sedgemoor League 1st Division, Knockout Cup & Nomination Cup The Bridgwater Town District & Sedgemoor Leagues Cup ( the local equivalent of football's European Cup) plus some individual trophies shown in the picture.



Team: Left to right

Gary Smith, Mike Weller, Clive McHardy, Martin Pester, Bernard Amor, John Hitchcock, Kevin Stevens, Wynn Jones, Barrie Barrett, Ken Gray

## Fivehead Drama Group

Informal get-together

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Of The  
Month**

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**Saturday**

**5th. February**



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There are always delicious home-made cakes, scones and toasted teacakes. We also serve a range of paninis.

We have a book swap and regularly changing displays of local artwork, greetings cards, and a selection of Fair Trade goods from around the world.

### Opening Times

Wednesday 2.00pm to 5.00pm

Thursday 10.00am to 4.30pm

7.30pm to 9.00pm

(Youth Café)

Friday 10.00am to 4.30pm

Saturday 10.00am to 1.00pm

Thursday Nights are Youth Café open to any young people aged 11—19. Cheap drinks and snacks

Telephone 01460 281060



# Fivehead Playing Field News

## ITV on the Playing Field

We were approached by ITV West Country asking for permission to film an interview on the playing field to cover a news item. Filming went ahead and resulted in a report being broadcast on Wednesday January 12th.

## Walking Football Anyone?

We are exploring the possibility of starting a walking football club. This will be open to everyone, either football aficionados or complete novices. It has similar rules, but is less strenuous than classic football, it's 6 players a-side and can be played on grass or hard surface, & still has all the fun and excitement. Plus it's a good excuse to meet up with friends & neighbours and maybe even a visit to the Crown afterwards to slake one's thirst. Please contact **Dave Allen** on **07986173494** for more information.

## Helpers needed

We need to attract one or two new, enthusiastic people to join our friendly group to enable the Playing Field facilities to thrive for us, and future generations. Give me, **Frank Doggett**, a call on **01460 281549** and I can tell you about all the things we do!

## Covid Effect

Covid is still having an effect, with constantly changing advice making it impossible to plan ahead. Hopefully we will be able to contribute to the celebrations for the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** in June, meanwhile we will continue to maintain the Playing Field as a safe area for all ages to enjoy.

Frank Doggett

# Fivehead Short Mat Bowls

After a Christmas break, Fivehead Short Mat Bowls is back for the New Year. We still have space for people to come and have a go. First session is FREE!

Not only that, refreshments such as tea, coffee & biscuits are on offer.

We are at the Village Hall on Mondays 7.30pm till 9.30pm. Heather

## St Martin's Bellringers

Every Monday 7.15pm.  
At the Church

## Contact Details

[linda.elphick160@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.elphick160@btinternet.com)



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# Food & Drink

## Crispy Coated Pork Belly

### Ingredients

1 Egg,

1 Lb/ 450g of pork Belly Slices, excess fat trimmed off if you like but it tastes better left on

1 Small Packet of dry stuffing of your choice ( Sage & Onion/ Parsley and Thyme)

2 Onions, sliced

Vegetable oil or dripping

A non-stick roasting tin just large enough to spread the belly slices out in a single layer

### Method

Break the egg into a bowl and whisk

Pour the stuffing packet into another bowl, do not add water

Slice the onions and lay in the bottom of the roasting tin, drizzle with the oil or dripping

Dip each belly slice in the egg to coat it all over then roll in the stuffing to coat each slice completely, and then place in the roasting tin. Repeat until you have coated all the slices and filled the tin, then drizzle with more oil or dripping, then cover with foil.

Put the tin into a pre-heated oven at 150-160°C or gas mark 3 for approx 1.5 hours, remove the foil and continue to cook for a further hour until the stuffing is crisp and the fat has rendered out of the pork belly

You can use the onions and fat in the bottom of the tin to make a lovely rich gravy, then serve with roast potatoes and vegetables of your choice

This recipe by courtesy of **Chris & Clare** from **The Crown Inn**

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# Diary of Events

Day/Date/Time		Description	Where
Sunday 6th February	3.00pm	Meat Raffle £1 per ticket	The Crown Inn
Tuesday 15th February	7.30pm	Village Hall AGM	Village Hall
Fri/Saturday 25/26th March	7.30pm	Pantomime	Village Hall
Sunday 27th March	10.00pm	Mothering Sunday Service	St Andrew's Church
Wednesday 21st. March 2022		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	
Mondays @ 7.30pm	Weekly	Short Mat Bowls	Village Hall
Mondays @ 7.15pm	Weekly	Bellringing	St Martin's Church
Wednesdays @ 4.45pm	Weekly	Dragonflys Dance Group	Village Hall
Usually 1st Monday 6.30pm	Monthly	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall

## Crown Fivehead Golf Society

The Society held their AGM at The Crown Inn on Tuesday 11th January when cheques were presented to **The British Heart Foundation £700 & SCAD £700**, also presented to **Phil Locke**



**The Andy Grinter Trophy** for the best golfer of the year. The Committee has already started booking dates for this year and by the time this magazine is published 90% of the dates will be booked.  
**Charity Day 19th August**



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### Fivehead Social Media

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