

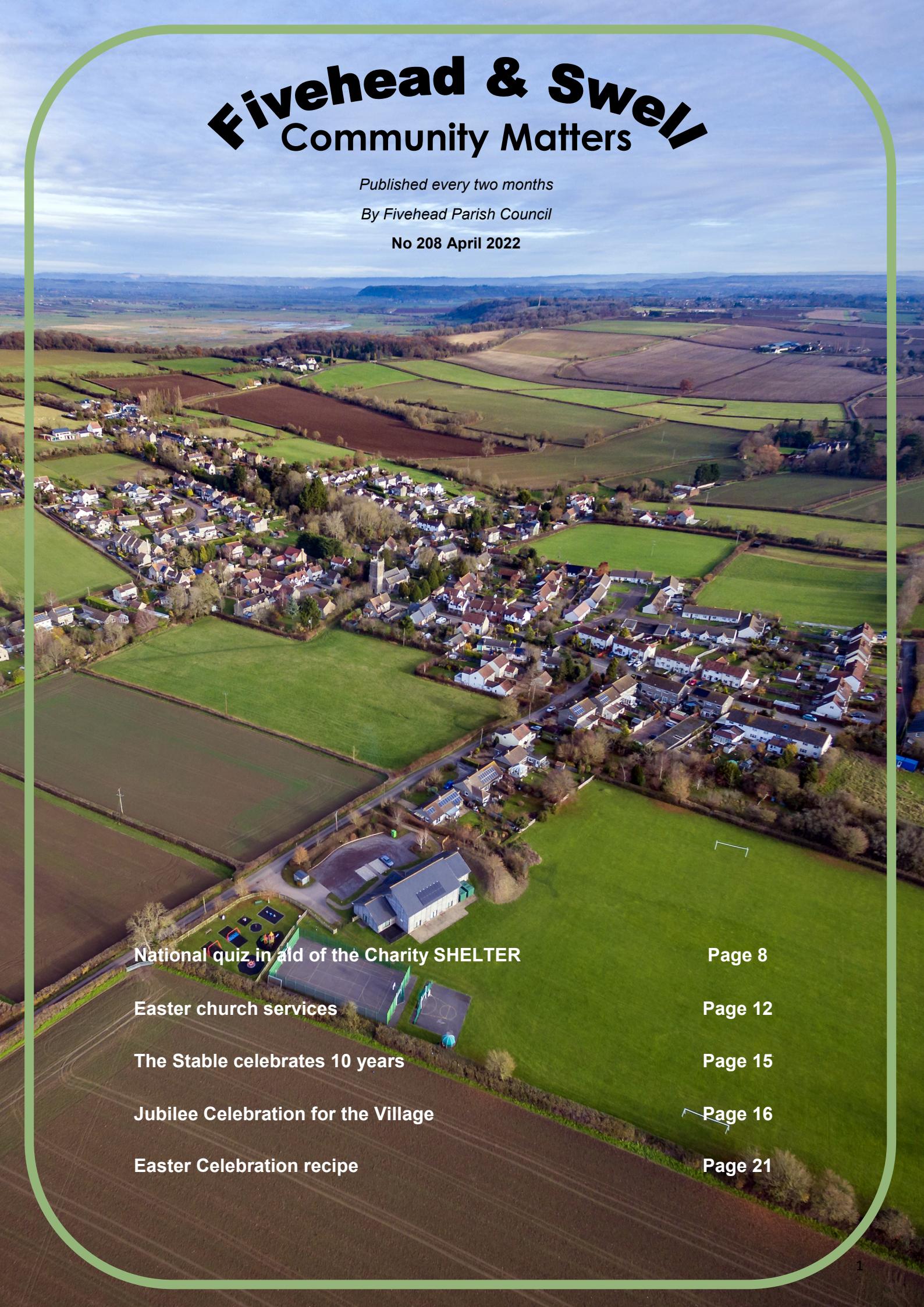
Fivehead & Swell

Community Matters

Published every two months

By Fivehead Parish Council

No 208 April 2022



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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

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	www.ageuk.org.uk
Citizens' Advice	03444 889 623	
Somerset Community Connect—local care and services to help you choose the right care and support.		www.somersetcommunityconnect.org.uk

MEDICAL

Langport Surgery	01458 250464	www.langportsurgery.co.uk
North Curry Health Centre	01823 490505	www.northcurryhealthcentre.co.uk
Musgrove Park Hospital	01823 333444	www.tsft.nhs.uk
Yeovil District Hospital	01935 475122	www.yeovilhospital.co.uk

SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL

County Councillor - Clare Aparicio-Paul	07879 313117	email: capaul@somerset.gov.uk
Highways and Travel		www.travelsomerset.gov.uk
Rights of Way-Volunteer & Trails Officer	01823 358250	www.roam.somerset.gov.uk/roam/map
Somerset Waste Partnership	01823 625700	www.somersetwaste.gov.uk

SOUTH SOMERSET DISTRICT COUNCIL

District Councillor - Malcolm Cavill	01823 481335	malcolm.cavill@southsomerset.gov.uk
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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

USEFUL CONTACTS

Drama Group—Kevin Stevens	07794 226149	kevinmstevens11@gmail.com
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Playing Fields — Frank Doggett	01460 281549	
Sue Atwell Shop	07930278600	sue.atwell@hotmail.co.uk
The Crown Inn	01460 281322	snpubsltd@gmail.com
Short Mat Bowls— Heather Gorton	01460 281995	h.gorton74@gmail.com

Since the last issue, Council meetings have focused on financial and planning matters.

Taking into consideration the high rate of inflation and other economic pressures, the Precept for 2022-2023 was set below inflation at 2.96%, (equivalent to £1.77 increase per annum on a Band D charge), with a small top-up from Reserves to cover budgeted expenditure for the year. This also covers grants to support local facilities, such as the Playing Field which currently has little means of income due to the ongoing effects of the pandemic, and the Village Hall, to help with a key project to install Wi-Fi at the Hall which will support future business activities. The Parish Council was delighted to secure part-funding of this project on their behalf, from the Somerset County Council Parish Fund.

Consultation has been frustrating on several matters where building has appeared not to have been executed to plan. The lack of building control and enforcement officers on the ground has been raised with the District Council. Enforcement has been working hard to reduce a huge backlog of reported matters, but there are still delays in getting officers to visit urgent suspected breaches before damage is done (eg, to the rural environment), which cannot be easily rectified.

Concerns about light disturbance, particularly to nocturnal wildlife, by a local soft fruit grower have been raised by residents across our surrounding communities. A visit was organised in March for representatives from neighbouring Parish Councils, along with District and Country Councillors, to understand the challenges faced by the business, including the ongoing difficulty in obtaining black-out blinds ordered from Europe. The company has apologised for the upset caused and given reassurance that blinds will be fitted before the 2022/23 growing season, which will eliminate all of the light. In the meantime, they have taken steps to minimise the impact to the night sky by running lights less, not using the full amount of lighting and using blackout plastics on the side of the glasshouses.

Looking ahead, the new Council year starts in May; Parish elections have been brought forward to coincide with the County election on 5 May. Notice has been given for nominees' applications to be delivered up to 4pm on 5 April 2022; this has to be 'by hand' to the District Council Offices in Yeovil. For further information, please contact the Clerk.



Jubilee celebrations are just a couple of months away, starting with a double bank holiday from 2 - 3 June. A small group of village volunteers is meeting regularly to plan a nostalgic 'bring your own' picnic event at the Village Hall, with a marquee on the Playing Field, on Sunday 5 June. See page 16 for more information.

As of 31 March, Fivehead's phone box now carries a defibrillator, available for the community to use in an emergency. It will be registered so that emergency services can use it and also direct people to it, so they can start delivering potentially life-saving treatment. With more than 30,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests in the UK every year, defibrillators are being made more widely available to support health of local communities, often thanks to donations and fundraising, as in the case of ours. A further defibrillator is sited at Sue Atwell's shop on the A378. Please look out for more information in the coming weeks, as the small specialist team of residents who have kindly co-ordinated the project will be communicating more about this basic life-saving facility and training.

With best wishes

Jayne Parsons

Parish Clerk

Email: fiveheadpc@gmail.com

Parish Council - other news

Would you like to help protect local heritage?

Somerset residents are invited to nominate what's valuable in their community as part of a new project being delivered by the South West Heritage Trust. The project covers Somerset and Exmoor National Park. The Local Heritage List helps to protect buildings, sites and structures that local people regard as important - from medieval cottages to unusual post-boxes.

Somerset and Exmoor National Park were chosen by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government as one of 22 national pilots for a Local Heritage List Project. Local listing will stop locally significant sites from being overlooked, and will offer some increased protections through the planning system.

There are several ways to make a nomination, including through the 'Know Your Place' website, or by post or email. You can find out more at: www.swheritage.org.uk/local-heritage-list

Fivehead Pound

Fivehead's historic Pound is currently listed within the Somerset Environment Records. The Pound can



be found adjacent to the Glendale development site at the bottom of Butcher's Hill. Traditionally, it would have been used to impound loose cattle or sheep which had strayed, until they were collected by their owners, who likely would have had to pay a fine for their return.

Limited records are available for the Pound, but residents have looked after the structure for decades. Unfortunately, it has sustained some damage during the current development works. The Council is working with the previous owner of Glendale to complete the transfer of the Title for the Pound, so that it can protect it for the community for years to come and will then be able to organise ongoing maintenance to keep it in stable repair. The Pound is regarded as an 'undesignated heritage asset', which means it has importance as a heritage asset and protects it from demolition.

The Parish Council is nominating the Pound for the Local Heritage List to raise its status further and welcomes residents to do this too.

Fivehead Litter Update

As this year's national Spring Clean campaign gets underway, Fivehead's Litter Champion, Viv Fouracre was pleased to update that the local litter problem has improved since lockdown. About 20 bags have been collected recently, mainly from passing vehicles who discard fast food wrappers. Work will be starting on the A378 again soon, which is quite badly littered in places.



Viv is part of the CPRE Somerset group and collects litter all year round. If anyone is interested in joining in with this work, more information can be found on the CPRE website, along with how to obtain a free kit to get started: <https://www.cpresomerset.org.uk/news/join-our-2minute-litterpick-project>



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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

Post Covid, the Village Hall is now back to full occupancy. The long-promised defibrillators are in place in the old telephone box and at the Fivehead Service Station at the top of Butchers Hill, look for the signs. We will be seeking volunteers to be trained on their use.



We are grateful to the Parish Council for awarding a grant of £597 towards installing Wi-Fi and CCTV. Regrettably, Dave Allen has resigned as our church representative but Heather Clark and Clare Rowles (landlady at The Crown) have become trustees.

An Easter Quiz has been arranged at THE CROWN for Easter Sunday 17th of April at 7 pm (for 7-30). The cost is £3 per person and there is a maximum of six per team, There will be CASH prizes with proceeds donated to the Village Hall. Tables are selling quickly so phone Clare/Chris on (01460)281322 to secure your place.

Finally (and critically!) the Village Hall trustees are exploring what we can do to offer help to Ukrainian refugees. It was agreed by the committee, before we go any further, to approach the Parish Council, for discussions as part of a feasibility study.

Contacts: Chairperson: Kevin Stevens 07794226149
Treasurer & Booking Clerk: Richard Hadfield 01460 281904
Secretary: Dave Cunningham 01460 281651

100 Club Winners

February 2022			March 2022		
No. 74	M. Way	£50	No.109	R. Schofield	£50
No. 62	J. Moore	£25	No.118	L. Hoover	£25
No. 12	M. Way	£15	No.117	L. Hoover	£15
No.79	O&L. Howard	£10	No. 20	G.Rogers	£10

Fivehead Drama Group

Due to Covid, we unfortunately have again had to postpone the airing of **Sherlock Holmes and the Hound of the Basketcases**.

This will now take place in **January 2023**, in the meantime. We will be looking at presenting some entertainment during this summer, perhaps to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. Watch this space.

We will be resuming our monthly get-togethers in **The Crown Inn** on the last Tuesday of the month at 8.00pm, recommencing on **Tuesday 26th. April**.

Fivehead Rights of Way

If you enjoy walking and want to be a part of the village team of footpath volunteers, we will be delighted if you want to join in, please contact me: marybraddock@btinternet.com

Storms Dudley and Eunice were a powerful test of our trees and hedgerows. Footpaths have been checked but if you think we have missed anything, please get in touch.

The path from Cathanger down to cross the A378 is now clear of undergrowth. The steps are due to go in beginning of March, fingers crossed. The broken stile on the path from Smiths Farm out towards South Drove has been replaced with a gate and the “high jump” pole over the stile near Squirrelsmead Cottage has been removed. The two footpaths across the fields at Swell, one behind Swell Court and the other that runs off the right-hand road bend in Swell are now passable. Several rotten fingerposts have been replaced by Somerset County Council around the village

Risk of Spread of Disease in Livestock from Dog Faeces

I've learnt something new this year about dog poo and when it can become a major problem for livestock. Even though I came from a conservation, volunteering role where we had livestock grazing a nature reserve, I had not heard about this; maybe this is new to many other people as well.

Parasites called Neosporosis are found in some dog faeces and can result in pregnant cows aborting. The message to members of the public is to remember to pick up any faeces from dogs they are walking. Faeces from infected dogs can contaminate pasture and potentially cattle feed ie hay or silage as well as water or bedding. This disease, in herds causes abortion, with associated loss of milk yield. It has a serious impact on farm economies and makes this an important disease to try to control. Briefly:

Neospora eggs are produced by infected dogs and excreted in their faeces.

Cattle will become infected if they eat food or drink water contaminated with Neospora eggs.

The disease manifests when Neospora multiplies in the cells of the developing calf and its placenta and causes sufficient damage to trigger abortion or stillbirth.

There are no drugs currently available to control this disease in cattle or to cure infected animals.

No vaccine is currently licensed in the UK to prevent neosporosis in cattle.

Current knowledge suggests that Neospora does not cause disease in human beings.

Ref: www.moredun.org.uk/research/practical-animal-health-information

(Moredun is committed to promoting livestock health and welfare through research and education and is recognised worldwide for its contribution to research into infectious diseases of farmed livestock.)

Another parasite found in dog poo is Sarcocystosis which can cause death in sheep.

Please pick up dog poo and safely dispose of it.

Enjoy your Village walks

**JOIN US FOR
THE WORLD'S
BIGGEST PUB QUIZ**



The Crown Inn on Wednesday 11th. May

Folk & Acoustic Music Night -The Crown Inn

Sadly our guests for March's Folk & Acoustic Music Night - The Farey Family - had to cancel at short notice due to the dreaded Covid! However, our stalwart floorsingers provided a great evening's music. Apart from regulars David Sutcliffe and Martin Hudson, along with Karen and myself, visiting singer Richard Ratcliffe came all the way from Worthing and Will Southcote returned for the occasion with his accordion, having read about the cancellation.

Marram Grass were formed nearly 4 years ago by **Adam Montague** (guitar and vocals), **Martin Baxter** (guitar), and **Helen Baxter** (fiddle). They were joined, just before Covid, in December 2019 by vocalist **Maria Thorne**, who has also joined Adam in writing much of their material. And more recently, they have been found by **Dan Marino** an excellent percussionist, who helps keeps Adam and Martin from straying....(Adam says, I mean speeding up!)

They play an eclectic mix of music, taking influences globally and from many genres. They're not afraid to be a little political, but do it with a smile and a laugh. Blending beautiful harmonies with an upbeat style. They have been known to get audiences dancing in the rain.

Music will begin at 7.30pm. As usual 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.

Future Bookings

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

April 9th **Marram Grass**
May 14th Tim Brine & Sue Franklin
June 11th Thornbridge
July 9th to be confirmed

Let's keep on singing!

Laurie



Marram Grass

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Charity Theatre Trips for 2022/2023

Charity Theatre Trips

The only remaining trips booked for 2022 are the ones listed below and unless something interesting pops up that will conclude this year.



The pantomime this year, running through December, is **Cinderella** with **Craig Revel Horwood**. If that is of interest to anyone, let me know and I will see if it is worth setting up a trip.

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;

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 where you will find up to date details.

Chris

Book on line at www.theatretrips.webeden.co.uk , e-mail Charitytheatrerips@btinternet.com or phone me on 01458 273085.



Clare and Chris welcome you to
The CROWN INN Fivehead

Opening hours:

Tues, Wed, Thurs 3-11pm

Fri & Sat 12-11pm

Sun 12-10pm



Quiz night every Wednesday. £1 per person. 8.30pm. Just turn up and join in!

Every Friday 8.00pm - Chase the Joker and Spin the wheel - £1 ticket

Meat raffle 3rd April and 8th May. 3pm –£1 ticket

Folk and Acoustic Night 7.30pm. 9th April & 14th May

BIG Easter Quiz - Sunday 17th April. Booking required

We are taking part on 11th May 8.30pm.
Will you join us at The CROWN INN?

JOIN US FOR
THE WORLD'S
BIGGEST PUB QUIZ

In aid of SHELTER



01460 281322



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The CROWN INN is on Facebook

UNITED BENEFICE OF CURRY RIVEL, FIVEHEAD AND SWELL

St Martin's Fivehead



Rector:
Revd. Scott Patterson
Tel: 01458 251375

Churchwardens

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

St Catherine's Swell



Churchwarden

Anna Rees Tel: 01458 253067

Scott's Spot – April 2022

Roots for the Storm

I was spoilt for choice for illustrations this time. Deep rooted trees that stand strong during storms; wells deep enough so that there is water even through the longest drought; the off-pitch training that shows its value in the match; the house built on a foundation of rock that withstands the onslaught of waves.

With the Ukrainian/Russian war in mind, a comment was made recently that reminded me of a false assumption many make. The assumption seemed to be that rather like an ostrich sticking their head in the sand Christians who worship the good and all powerful God of the Bible, avoid thinking about the question of suffering and evil in this world, **until** forced to by global events. There was concern that times such as these meant extra pressure for the Christian. This subject of suffering alongside a good and omnipotent God, is of course an old question that is, admittedly, a significant wrestle. But that is not to say that Christians do not wrestle with it, or indeed that there aren't meaningful answers. There are. Answers that can root a Christian during the storms of life, or strengthen them during times of struggle or pain.

Whole books have been written on this subject so I can't begin to address it here. But human culpability in the exercise of our God-given free-will, alongside what it means to be able to really love, would be a good place to start. Is not real love only actually possible where its opposite is a real alternative?

This month will see the world's 2.3 billion Christians remembering Christ's Good Friday crucifixion, and celebrating his Easter Day resurrection. And it's here that the paradox of a suffering world, and the good and all powerful God of Scripture, finds its most robust response. For in those world changing events it was God himself, in Jesus, who faced the suffering of the cross, who de-fanged sin and evil on our behalf, and through the resurrection opened the door to life eternal. Here the good and all powerful God of creation faced down the evil of this world and triumphed. It is from this victorious Lord that Christians draw strength and courage at all times, whether facing personal or global suffering. It's upon this rock that we build the houses of our lives. But if you're not a Christian, what about you? What are you rooted to; how deep is your well; how solid are your foundations in this uncertain world? On a baptism visit, a vicar turned to the dad and asked him directly: "*what about you and God, how's that going?*" The response was honest and likely fairly typical. He said that he didn't really do God because things were going well. It's understandable, but can I suggest also rather short-sighted? The vicar rightly went on to explain that it's **precisely** in those times of happiness, health and security that the off-pitch training with God needs to happen. Then you will be better prepared for the brokenness this world next throws at you.

Waiting to turn to God in times of crisis will still help to a degree. For those who turn to him, Christ's not in the business of letting people down. But if you have grown deep roots in the sunshine through exploration, Bible study, prayer and worship, then, when darkness next strikes – and it always does – you will know where to turn and who to trust.

Good Friday and Easter means that light can shine even in the very darkest corners of this world. Christ offers his light to all.

With Easter Blessings to you and those you love

Revd. Scott

The United Benefice of Curry Rivel, Fivehead & Swell

Welcome to our Benefice. Here are the planned services for the months ahead.

If you would like to receive the latest Benefice news. Information, prayers, recent talks and other helpful material, then, to be added to the Benefice email list, please contact the

Rector Revd. Scott Paterson at: scottr.patterson@btinternet.com

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

Planned Services for April

Sunday 3rd.	10.00am All Age Family & Friends Service + refreshments 11.00am said Communion Service (CW) 6.00pm A Service of Evening Worship	Fivehead Fivehead Curry Rivel
Thursday 7th.	10.00am Prayer Book Communion in the Old School Room	Curry Rivel
Sunday 10th.	Palm Sunday 10.00am United Benefice All Age Service & Communion 8.30pm Short, meditative Holy Week Services of Night Prayer Please note: these are on-line services that will be held via Zoom The link is available from the above email address	Curry Rivel
Mon - Wed 11th- 13th.		
Thursday 14th.	Maundy Thursday 7.00pm 'The Last Supper' Remembering the events of Maundy Thursday Evening	Curry Rivel
Friday 15th.	Good Friday 10.00am Good Friday All Age Family & Friends Service 2.00-3.00pm The Hour of the Cross 6.00pm Compline	Fivehead Curry Rivel Swell
Sunday 17th.	Easter Day 8.00am Prayer Book (BCP) Easter Communion 9.30am Family Easter Communion Service (CW) 11.00am Family Easter Communion Service (CW)	Swell Fivehead Curry Rivel
Sunday 24th.	11.00am A United Benefice Service of Holy Communion (CW)	Curry Rivel
Thursday 28th.	10.00am Prayer Book Communion in the Old School Room	Curry Rivel

Planned Services for May

Sunday 1st.	10.00am All Age Family & Friends Service + refreshments 11.00am said Communion Service (CW) 6.00pm Evening Prayer (CW)	Fivehead Fivehead Curry Rivel
Thursday 5th.	10.00am Prayer Book Communion in the Old School Room	Curry Rivel
Sunday 8th.	9.30am BCP Prayer Book Communion Service 11.00am Parish Communion Service (CW)	Swell Curry Rivel
Sunday 15th.	Rogation Walk Sunday From 9.15am Bacon Sandwiches, coffee & introduction Walk to St Catherine's Swell to arrive approx 10.45am Prayer, Praise and Communion Walk to St Andrew's Curry Rivel to arrive approx 12.30pm Final prayer and closing hymn + Bring and share lunch in the Old School Room	Fivehead Swell Curry Rivel

Continued on page 13

UNITED BENEFICE OF CURRY RIVEL, FIVEHEAD AND SWELL

Planned Services for May (Cont)

Thursday 19th.	10.00am Prayer Book Communion in the Old School Room	Curry Rivel
Sunday 22nd.	9.30am Parish Communion (CW) 11.00am A Service of Morning Worship 6.00pm Prayer Book Evensong (BCP)	Fivehead Curry Rivel Swell
Sunday 29th	10.00am 5th Sunday United Benefice All Age Communion	Fivehead

Fivehead Nature Watch

Dave Braddock



It is definitely Spring now. Clocks have gone forward, lighter mornings and evenings. The temperature lets us down at times, but it is here. Now is the time to get out and about as the wildlife has woken up and becomes more vocal and visible.

Below are a few species that should be easy to see and hear now around the village. Blackbirds, Song thrushes and Robins are now serenading us each morning and evening along with the ever-present Wood Pigeon. The beautiful song of the Skylark can be heard over the local fields and Yellowhammers with their “little bit of bread and no cheese” song will be singing their heads off from the tops of the hedges. Fivehead and Swell are fortunate to have good populations of both of these birds. The first Swallows will be arriving from their African Wintering ground after travelling over 6000 miles to get here.



Walking around the village and lanes sulphur yellow butterflies will be seen, Brimstones taking their first flights after hibernation. The first Peacock and Tortoiseshell butterflies will be emerging, Red Admirals and possibly an early Comma will be sunning themselves in sheltered patches. The first Queen Buff tail and Common Carder Bumble bee will be waking up from their Winter slumber and looking out for the first flowering wildflowers to take their first sugary meal since they went into hibernation in October.

Spring is a fantastic time to be out and about, seeing what is waking up from the Winter. The first wildflowers like primroses and cowslips will be out and early blackthorn hedges and cherry trees will be starting to blossom, providing food for the nectaring insects.



Not to be outdone, mammals will be more visible, Field mice and, if you are very lucky, Dormice will be seen scuttling through the hedgerows at dawn and dusk. Bats will be emerging now on warmer evenings, and they are easier to see at dusk at this time of year.

My surveying season now starts to ramp up with bats, hedgerows and wildflowers, then on to insects, moths and birds.

We are very lucky here to have a wealth of natural beauty around us and we need to make sure we protect it. It can be easily destroyed in a flash and can take years to recover. For example, the 100m of protected hedge opposite the Old Manse, home to rare, protected breeding Dormice, various breeding birds and a haven for various butterflies and insects was basically destroyed illegally overnight by a developer, because he needed access to another field he wants to develop without having planning permission.

As usual get in touch with me at davebraddock349@gmail.com if you see anything interesting.

CURRY RIVEL CHURCH OF ENGLAND



PRIMARY SCHOOL UPDATE

'Caring, Curious and Confident'

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

It has been difficult to know what time of year it is when we have had such cold wet days. I commend the children managing with 'wet playtimes' when they have had to stay in.

As head teacher I am often conducting 'learning walks' to assess the quality of teaching and learning across the school, and the SENDCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) and I have been conducting more formal lesson observations- we have been impressed by the children's 'behaviour for learning' in all classes. The lessons we have seen are representative of the broad, balanced and ambitious curriculum we are teaching here at Curry Rivel, exposing the children to high level vocabulary, building on prior learning and ensuring the children are gaining new knowledge and practising new skills. In Pippin, I was impressed with Pippin pupils' use of 'ten frames', Deines equipment and number lines to start adding numbers; Maigold demonstrated great tennis skills, learning how to hold a racket and how to hit a ball with accuracy; Gala have been writing their own creative version of the Owl and Pussy cat; Discovery were making predictions about their new text 'The Great Kapok Tree', English work linked to their learning about the Amazon rainforest; Camelot pupils were learning how to compose a piece of music using the 'Garageband' App (Chords, major and minor notes included!) and Blenheim were learning the complexities of rounders rules and how to avoid running your teammates out in a game! All lessons aim to develop 'sticky knowledge' so that children not only 'know more' but 'remember more'. Of course, we have areas to work on, and I am impressed that the staff here are so committed to their own professional development and improvement.

At Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School we nurture our children to become 'Caring, Curious and Confident' young people. We have chosen a tree with its leaves and fruit to symbolise our school vision and values. The tree represents the school, rooted to the village community and local area. The leaves, our 'Caring, Curious and Confident' children, and the fruit, our school's core Christian values. It is only by working together with our families will our children thrive and grow, so we were very thankful for virtual parents' evenings...despite the technical hitches!.

It has been wonderful to see the Year 6 pupils completing their 'Bikeability' lessons this week (A real sense of some normality). We are also looking forward to some more usual summer events like country dancing at the village fete (pencil it in for the 17th July), and sports' day (with or without an audience?)

We had a great Pjamarama day wearing our pyjamas and sharing our favourite literature, stories and books. A 'random reading raffle' meant many children 'won' books to take home and keep. It has also been pleasing to see the librarians in action, with all our older classes borrowing books over the week from our lending library.

Somerset Day was on Sunday 22nd May and the children will have a session in their classes and in assembly to learn about our amazing county. The PTA are still busy, despite the barriers and the PTA Silly Spoons competition raised an amazing £97.50.

You would think we were a bit quieter in school right now, but as you can see, school life continues. If you would like to find out more about our warm and welcoming school, nursery and baby room, please do not hesitate in contacting us.

Mrs Ali Pook

Head Teacher





Rev. Matthew Cottingham

Thoughts from The Manse

The world may sometimes feel like a confusing muddle of goodness and tragedy. Over recent weeks many have been struggling to cope with the rising cost of living, various humanitarian crises have been on our news, and war has returned to Europe, bringing the terrible realities of violence closer to home. And yet we have also seen the courage and kindness of people standing together for what is right, people opening their homes to welcome others, and people seeking to bring help and support to those in need. Do we feel despair or hope as we look at our world? Perhaps a bit of both.

Easter will soon be here and we do well to listen again to its message because, more than any other Christian season, Easter is where we see God in the midst of those complex realities of life in this world. Jesus experienced it all. He knew both the goodness and the tragedy. He knew the sorrow and the joy. Easter is a human dying on a cross. Easter is also a human risen to new life. And this crucified and risen human was in fact God with us.

Easter is about the realities that affect us all: death and life, hurt and healing, sorrow and joy, despair and hope. But in the events of Easter we see them all taking place within the life of God. It is our pain and our hope being shared by him, and through it we're told that his salvation comes to us. It comes not by mere platitudes, nor by painting over the cracks, nor by a God who is unaffected by it all. Salvation comes through God's determination to be there in the middle of it, carrying our weight, suffering with us, in order to bring us through with new minds, new hearts, new courage, new hope, new life. Easter is about a God who willingly dies for our sins and then rises again to enable us to go forward in new and better ways. It shows us both the stark reality of evil and the more powerful reality of good. Easter therefore prompts us to think about who we are, where we stand, and what we hope for - both for ourselves and for the world. And even for those who have died amidst life's tragedies, Easter is about a God who brings life even there, beyond the grave.

So, as we think of Christ's death and resurrection this Easter we are presented again with the goodness of God which meets us face to face, just as we are, so that he can transform us. We see Jesus - a man who is God, pointing the way. In him we see a hope which outshines the darkness. We see a cross which became a resurrection, and we pray that God will take our human story out of death into resurrection too.

May the message of Easter fill us all with the hope of Christ this year.

Rev. Matthew Cottingham.

News from the Stable – April 2022

The Stable Cafe will be celebrating its 10th birthday this June! There will be celebrations, including an exhibition of crafts on 7-11th June. Over the ten years that The Stable has been open, it has donated well over £3000 of tips money to various charities at home and abroad. This is in addition to the considerable sum (usually £1000) that we have given away at the end of each year in recent years (divided between local causes and developing countries). But that's just the financial bit! Most importantly, The Stable is a warm, safe and welcoming space that we are privileged to make available for villagers and visitors to meet in.

It has been so good to be part of our wonderful village community over these years. We are grateful to all who have helped out and volunteered during that time. We look forward to many more years to come.

Judith Male



Fivehead's Big Jubilee Lunch

Come and celebrate Her Majesty's glorious reign

on

Sunday 5th June 2022

at Fivehead Village Hall

Dress to impress, bring a picnic, and enjoy quizzes & Competitions

Invitations to follow

The Big Easter Quiz

Easter Sunday

17th April

7.00pm for 7.30pm

£3 per head

Teams of up to 6 maximum

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8.30pm

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Dear Editor

May I through your publication thank the shoppers at Langport Tesco who last Saturday generously donated £1215.50 to our Red Cross Ukraine Appeal bucket collection.

Thanks are also due to the 18 volunteers who held the buckets and smiled at every customer, and of course to the Manager and Staff at Tesco Langport who always make us so welcome.

Our volunteers and customers at our Langport Red Cross Centre Shop have to date donated £3319.50 to the Ukraine Appeal, all of which will support our fellow Red Cross volunteers in the countries affected by the war.

With thanks

Chris Cox

Group Leader Langport & District Red Cross

The Crown Inn

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15th-18th April

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For the long weekend

Langport Red Cross Shop

Langport Red Cross shop urgently needs new volunteers to help out.

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Do pop in one morning and give us the once over.

Chris Cox

Group Leader

Contacts: 01458 273085, 07963 689 699, cox.cj@btinternet.com

Fivehead Drama Group

Informal get-together
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Of The
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**7.30pm
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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

Here's this month's Playing field news:

After the disruption caused by gales, hopefully the fine spring weather we've enjoyed recently will continue so that we can all get out and about!

Gale damage

The recent gales brought down three trees plus some branches at the bottom of the playing field. The debris was cleared in time for the first grass cutting of the season to go ahead as planned.

Dangerous fools

Either they are stupid or just plain wicked, perhaps both. I refer to the mindless people responsible for a spate of bottle smashing, leaving broken glass wide spread around the goal mouths, and on the MUGA and half MUGA as well as the adjacent grass. You don't need me to tell you the possible risks for innocent playing field users.

We think, and sincerely hope, we have managed to clear it all up.

Happy Easter everyone,

Frank Doggett Chairperson

Fivehead Short Mat Bowls

Do you fancy a pleasant evening out, good company, gentle exercise and meeting others from your village? Then come along on a Monday evening to the Village Hall and join in the short mat bowls.

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.

Village Hall on Mondays 7.30pm till 9.30pm.

Heather

St Martin's Bellringers

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At the Church

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Food & Drink

Crown Roast of Lamb

The Crown can be prepared by your butcher; it consists of 2 best end necks that have been chined and tied together to form a Crown

Ingredients

175g (6oz) Dried Apricots	100g (4oz) Shelled Walnut Pieces
1 bunch Spring Onions finely chopped	1 Egg
175g (6oz) Fresh Breadcrumbs	1 Crown of Lamb
25g (1oz) Chopped Fresh Parsley	

Method

Soak the apricots in water or tea for 6 hours or overnight.

Preheat the oven 190° C/ 375° F/ 170° Fan/ Gas 5

Mix together the Spring Onions, Breadcrumbs & Parsley. Roughly chop the Apricots and crush the Walnuts leaving some quite reasonable sized pieces. Mix into the breadcrumb mixture and add the egg to bind it.

Place the Crown of Lamb in your roasting tray and, with it in position, stuff with the breadcrumb & apricot mixture.

You might want to put a piece of foil over the top as this not only helps the stuffing to cook but also prevents the bones from burning.

Roast in the oven for 60 - 70 minutes if you like your lamb pink, or 70 – 80 minutes if you like it well done.

To serve slice the crown down into individual chops and serve a good spoonful of stuffing with each helping. Make the gravy in the normal way using the pan drippings.

Wine Pairing for this month's recipe. Wine selection by Paddy Magill Vine Wine

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This dish is asking for a well balanced and medium bodied white wine

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Diary of Events

Day/Date/Time		Description	Where
Sunday 17th April	9.30am	Easter Service	St Martin's Church
Sunday 17th April	7.30pm	Big Easter Quiz	The Crown Inn
Wednesday 11th May	tba	The World's Biggest Pub Quiz	The Crown Inn
Sunday 15th May	9.15am	Rogation Walk	All the Churches
Friday 20th May		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's first outing on Friday 11th. March was at **Clevedon Golf Club**. The weather was atrocious, heavy rain and strong wind, leading to most sensible golfers calling it a day after 9 holes. We are hoping that the weather will be better for our **Spring Trophy Outing to Dorset Golf & Country Club on Friday 8th. April**. This is followed by the **Geoff Bray Cup** to be held this year at **Yeovil Golf Club on Friday 13th May**.

New members are always welcome and if you are interested in joining us contact Gary Smith **01460 281555** or email gary.smith555@btinternet.com

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