

Curry Mallet Primary School

2007 is the 150th birthday of Curry Mallet Primary School. There are various events in the pipeline to celebrate the birthday including an **Open Afternoon** on **Thursday 28th June** to which all are invited.

The school PTFA is also planning a **Summer Ball** on **Saturday 30th June** to raise funds for books and furniture for the new school library. We would love to see as many ex. pupils, parents and staff at both or either events so please make a note of the dates. They both promise to be a lot of fun. Further details to follow.

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Fivehead Village Newsletter

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY
BY
FIVEHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

No. 117 APRIL 2007

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Langport Town Hall....10.30	Langport Shopping Precinct....12.06 approx
Surgery.....10.32	Stowey Road..... 12.23.

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IF NOT PLEASE TELL US

Playing Field Management Committee

By the time you receive this our Easter Bingo will have been and gone all Chicken dinners eaten and probably chocolate eggs as well except for a few hardy types who will keep them until Easter.

At the **Village Summer Event** the Playing Field Committee are having a **crocker-smashing stall**, if anyone has any old crocks they would like to get shot of please contact **Pat Price 281573** and I will arrange to collect the items, cups plates, mugs etc. And hopefully a smashing time will be had by all.

As you will have seen the work is almost complete on the fencing which I think you will agree it looks great, our thanks go to our fencing team.

During next month the renewals for the tennis membership will be sent out your prompt attention to this is much appreciated it also saves us money sending out reminders. If anyone has lapsed their membership and are not intending to renew the return of the key would be helpful and also saves money getting new keys cut.

Langport & District Red Cross

<u>Date</u>	<u>Show</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Book By</u>	<u>Pay by</u>	<u>Seats</u>
Oct: 10.	42nd Street	5.20	£32.	31st Aug:	31st Aug.	Stalls

Start time is from Curry Rivel.
for further information contact **Chris Cox on 01458 273085**

Watercolour Painting Classes

Why don't you come and join our small, but very friendly group, and learn a new skill?

Classes are held in the village hall every Friday morning 9.30-12.30.
are suitable for complete beginners – Cost is £10 per three hour session
inclusive of individual tuition, and of course tea and biscuits!

Come as often as you like, there is no set course or up-front fee.

Tuition is by local artist Pat Board. See www.patboard.co.uk

No equipment or materials are needed for the first couple of lessons
so try before you buy, you just might love it! -

If interested and want to know more Telephone **Pat on 01460 281396**

RSPB News - April 2007

The continuous flurry of rain showers through the end of January, much of February and the beginning of March have certainly produced extensive flooding on the levels, providing many photo opportunities for visitors to the area. The levels have been the focus of attention for many television programmes recently, too. Greylake and West Sedgemoor were featured on Inside Out and a forthcoming Johnny Kingdom series respectively, displaying the levels in full flood with the wonderful variety of wintering ducks and waders to be seen.

Five hazel coppice plots in our woodlands have now been completed and deer fenced to protect the new growth from being nibbled. With a great deal of help from our faithful platoon, the Taunton Mid-week Volunteers, we cleared out and laid an extensive hedgerow. We also planted 1000 blackthorn and hawthorn in the areas of hedgerow that were deemed unsuitable for laying. In the laid hedgerow, 24 brown hairstreak butterfly eggs were found. The brown hairstreak is a rare butterfly which depends on hedgerows and woodland edges for its survival. It lays eggs in mid to late August on blackthorn, particularly on young leading shoots of blackthorn, on the southerly or westerly side (the sunny side) of a hedge. It will also lay on suckering blackthorn at the base of a hedge. A hedge flailed in the first week of August, which will then have a spurge of growth following this, can be beneficial to brown hairstreaks when choosing areas to lay their eggs, later in the month. The eggs are white and only the size of a pin head, so can be difficult to spot! Once the eggs hatch, from late April to May, the emergent caterpillar will feed on leaves in the hedge until it pupates into a chrysalis. The adult butterfly will emerge in late July. Females tend to feed on late summer flowers like fleabane and bramble, while males will feed on honeydew high in the tree tops, particularly on ash trees. Courtship and mating take place high in the tree tops, and apart from female butterflies laying eggs, brown hairstreaks spend most of their life span up in the tree tops.

Find out more about wildlife on your doorstep during our spring and summer walks!

April

Saturday 7th Dawn Chorus, 7th – 14th Aren't Birds Brilliant Heronry Week,

Friday 20th Snipe Walk, Saturday 21st Bluebells and Birdsong Walk,

Friday 27th Snipe Walk, Saturday 28th Snipe Walk.

May

Friday 4th Nightingale Walk, Friday 11th Nightingale Walk, Saturday 12th Nightingale Walk,

Friday 18th Nightingale Walk, Sunday 20th Dawn Chorus.

June

Sunday 10th Wildflower Walks.

July

Saturday 14th Dragonfly and Damselfly Walk. Please phone to book on 01458 252805.

Becky Thorpe Assistant Warden, West Sedgemoor Reserve.

Fivehead Fellowship & Leisure Club

Tuesday February 6th Once again our annual event of a Lunch took place in the New Village Hall attended by some Forty Members who sat down for an excellent meal prepared and served by Peter & Hilary Maisey and their team of hard working helpers in the Kitchen. Served was a hot first course followed by a dessert either chocolate or strawberry gateau and coffee or tea to follow, and this scrumptious meal was devoured with great enjoyment by all concerned. Our Chairman gave a brief address afterwards thanking everybody who prepared and put on this superb lunch,

Wednesday February 21st The last Ice Show visited by the Club was two years ago, and Club Members were keen to see if the Show "Holiday on Ice" for this year would be better, They were not disappointed as this performance was outstanding, beautiful and exhilarating to watch. The theme was a "Fantasy", put on by a Dutch touring Company that has performed throughout Europe and was finishing in the United Kingdom at the West Point Arena near Exeter for just a week which coincided with the half-term School holidays. The Arena held some 4000 seats completely filled by the audience that were then treated to a spectacle, which left all breathless. The mass of 50 Skaters on the Ice at one time, in some of the themes was incredible, not least the Costumes, Lighting, Music, and Choreography The Grand Finale of the Show was with the cast in costumes that were lit with miniature lights, Acrobats spinning from the ceiling and indoor fireworks. This would be hard to beat a superb and memorable Show.

Tuesday March 6th Our Speaker Mr J Burgess had worked for the BBC Radio for over 25 Years. He was able to recall some of the most interesting times of his career. Starting with the Natural History Unit in Bristol He then joined Radio Devon as an outside Broadcaster in Country Radio programmes taking a recording machine to varied and unusual venues to produce an item for Wireless. Bringing to the Hall a speaker with CD application, He played some most interesting pieces. This ranged from a speech by General Montgomery during the War to the Troops, to recording Blackbirds singing at Hinkley Point Nuclear Station, to Deer rutting in the wild. Members heard how once He had to do an item from the Eddystone Lighthouse, He was landed on the Helipad at the top, and was told by the Pilot not to stop and admire the view! A most enjoyable and interesting talk on Radio through the years.

Fivehead Baptist Church

The daffodils are standing proud and the blossoms on the trees have started coming out in earnest! I love spring...I am amazed at the baby lambs that we see in the fields and the tiny chicks and ducklings. I am reminded every year, through these visual events, of the promise of new life that we can have if we put our trust in Jesus Christ. He suffered for us on the cross so that we can have a fresh new life with God in Heaven.

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me." John 14 v.6)

As you tuck into your Easter Eggs, given to you by friends and family and think of the new life they represent, give a thought to Jesus. He also has a gift of new life that he wants to give to you. You just need to accept it!

Please come along to our services and find out more.

Family Services are on the 3rd Sunday

Communion Services are on the 4th Sunday

**Where there are 5 Sundays, please see the notice board for details
or call Keith on 01460 281910**

All Services start at 10.30am. Please join us, you will be very welcome!

MOBILE LIBRARY calls at Fivehead 3 weekly Tuesday

Dates: April: 10, May: 1, 22, June: 12

Orchard Rise.....9.40 - 09.55

Red Post.....10.00 - 10.10

Ganges Close.....10.15 - 10.30

St. Martin's Close.....10.35 - 11.05

Webbers.....11.10 - 11.25

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new build / extensions / alterations etc.

Fivehead & District W.I.

The annual Flower, Vegetable and Craft Show will be held on **July 14th** in the Village Hall as part of the Village Day Celebrations. We hope everyone will try to enter something, the schedules will be available from April. - Good Luck!

Our afternoon walks on the first Wednesday of the month start again on **April 4th - 2.30pm** from the **Village Hall**.

Contact: Margaret Curtis (01460) 281352

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Parish Council

**Items for the next Newsletter should reach the Editor
Mrs Pat Price, 7 Ganges Close, Fivehead (01460) 281573
by Friday 18th May for distribution early June
The editor cannot be responsible for any errors/omissions.
Email me on pat-harry.price@virgin.net.**

Fivehead Drama Group

This year's pantomime was seen by 193 people and although costs were down (thanks to us managing to purchase and install lights in the village hall) and income was significantly increased we still made a small loss. We would like to thank all those who supported us in setting up, scenery and props and all the backstage help that goes into producing such a venture

We have decided to produce a Summer production on **Saturday 28th July 2007** of a 1 act play and a revue of sketches , music and dance. Anybody interested in joining us in this venture– singers, dancers etc. and particularly a piano or keyboard player please contact one of the committee. Harry Price, Kevin Stevens, Sheila Land, Margaret Smith, Robyn Glover.

We look forward to welcoming all - when we are sure you will have an enjoyable

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Council is the eyes and ears for the local population and tries to assist in improving facilities whenever it can. Earlier in the year Fivehead put in a successful bid for more work on our rights of way network after problems were identified on a footpath from Standerwick Lane running east through fields under the RSPB woodland. During the planning stage the RSPB offered to clear the blocked section of the path and subsequent to that the District Council put in new gates and stiles and a contractor levelled the rutted surface so it will be well worth taking a walk over that side of the hill in the Spring. As part of the same funding package a new stile has improved access from the fields north of the River Isle, heading east, into the arable land beyond The Parish Plan has identified that you value the Rights of Way network and it is hoped to establish a system whereby problems such as missing signs and obstructions can be reported by walkers and riders so that appropriate action can be taken and minor clearance work undertaken. In the meanwhile report via the Clerk on 281341.

If you have a serious requirement for low cost housing within Fivehead please contact the Clerk. It appears from the Plan analysis there may be a wish for this and Council is happy to take the matter forward but to do this a genuine need and uptake will need to be proven to enable all the relevant hoops to be jumped through!

Another of Council's duties is to liaise with Highways. This is not always rewarding. How much simpler it would be if all the drains blocked in the same week and all potholes appeared the week before the repair unit comes rather than the inevitable week after. Why does the Swell sign snap off two weeks after the team have come and collected the broken sign for Isle Abbots? The workforce have to cover the whole of South Somerset so it is not hard to understand the problems for the Highways Authority but nevertheless it is very frustrating at times. However by the time you read this Fivehead should have had all of its gullies emptied.

I am sure that all of you will be really interested to know that **Vicki** and **Neil** were at the Pound. Sadly though, whilst there they scored the seat, bought with Women's Institute funds, with their names and more! Also the walls have been sprayed with red graffiti. The Pound is structurally maintained at Public (your!) expense and cared for by the W.I. Perhaps the culprits or their families might like to try to clear up this unacceptable vandalism.

Fivehead Village Hall Fund Raising Sub-Group

Our Quiz Night on 23 February was well supported and enjoyed by all. Entry fees and raffles raised just under £300 after deduction of expenses. An auction of two bottles of Malt Whisky, donated by the family of the late Dr. Paul Northcott raised another £72. This money will be used to purchase some new wine glasses for the hall. Our thanks to Paul's family. Many thanks also to our fund raising team for their hard work on the night and thanks to everyone that supported the event.

We are planning a **Family Event** on **12 May**; a Treasure Trail plus Bar and Bar-B-Q. Watch for posters giving more information about this.

We are always looking for new fund raising ideas. Would anyone like to hold a Coffee morning, garage sale, bring and buy sale or sell at a Car Boot Sale on our behalf. Any other suggestions?.

Please telephone Ann Whittle (281892) or Kate Shakspeare (2813320).

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