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### ***"Discovering Antique Tea Caddies—a talk by Jim Burrell.***

The history of tea is a fascinating one and so too that of the caddies designed to contain it. Caddies come in all shapes, sizes and materials. This will be an illustrated talk from Jim who collects and used to restore antique furniture. At Seavington Millennium Hall 7pm for 7.30pm on **Thursday 21 February 2008**. Tickets £7 to include a glass of wine from:-

John Tudor 01460 242055, Michael Bancroft 01460 240714,

Annie Prichard 01460 241762 or SAE with cheque [made out to SMCST]  
to Jim Burrell at Upton Barn, Seavington, Ilminster, TA19 0PZ.

**There will be a raffle with, among other things, a tea caddy to be won.  
IN AID OF ST MICHAELS CHURCH SEAVINGTON TRUST.**

### **Langport & District Red Cross Group Fund Raising Theatre Trips**

Date	Show	Time#	Cost	Book By	Pay by
Wed 23 Apr	South Pacific	5:20	£34	23 Feb	23 Feb
Sun 11 May	Beauty & the Beast on Ice	11:30	£29	4 Mar	4 Mar
			(1 adult + 2 child £80)		
Fri 30 May	Aspects of Love	5:20	£35	15 Mar	30 Mar
Fri 6 Jun	Fiddler on the Roof	5:20	£36	31 Mar	6 Apr
Fri 20 Jun	Oh! What a Night	5:20	£33	31 Mar	12 Apr
Fri 8 Aug	Hello Dolly	5:20	£31	20 May	31 May
			(£36 after 28 Feb)		

Time# is the start time from Curry Rivel. Langport is +10 mins,  
To book please call Chris Cox on 01458 273085  
or write to 2 Camden Road, Somerton TA11 6RN.

### **MOBILE LIBRARY calls at Fivehead 3 weekly Tuesday**

**Dates: Feb: 5, 26, March 18, April 8,**

# Fivehead Village Newsletter

**PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY  
BY  
FIVEHEAD PARISH COUNCIL**

**No. 122 FEBRUARY 2008**

Parish Council

Chairman	Mr M Cavil	281750
Vice Chairman	Mr M Tennant	281930
Members		
	Mr G Balmer	281578
	Mrs K Beacham	281414
	Mrs N Cameron	281358
	Mrs H Clarke	281634
	Mr K Male	281233
Clerk	Mrs M Knox	281341

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### Langport Shopping Bus.....Tuesday and Fridays

Stowey Road.....10.14	Surgery.....12.05
Langport Town Hall....10.30	Langport Shopping Precinct....12.06 approx
Surgery.....10.32	Stowey Road..... 12.23.

### Fivehead Village Post Office & Store

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**IF NOT PLEASE TELL US**

## Fivehead Village Hall Fund Raising Group

Our thanks to all those who have signed up for the 100 Club this year. We are very grateful for this support. We do depend on the Club contribution as a boost to funds for the maintenance of the Hall and towards new facilities. Winners of the Christmas Draw are shown below. The January draw will take place at our AGM on the 22 January.

The Polish Play is our next fund raising event . This is a professionally staged, theatrical entertainment made especially for Village Halls. It starts as a play and ends as a country dance. It is great fun and suitable for children from age 7 years upward and adults of all ages. A bar and refreshments will be available. So do come and have a great evening. For information or tickets ( costing £8 for Adults and £5 for Children), telephone Ann Leyburn 281251 or Richard Hadfield 281904.

### 100 Club - Christmas Draw Winners

1st Prize T. Burge £100 2nd Prize M. Daly £ 25 3rd Prize Kingsbury £ 10  
4th Prize Howard Two entries in January Draw.

Ann Whittle  
Fund Raising Chairperson

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#### Parish Council cont'd

As many of you know I, the Clerk, ride my horse in the parish a great deal. This gives me a good view down into the ditches and verges of our lanes and I am shocked by the quantity of litter, particularly plastic bottles. Having collected two big bags full of rubbish, most of which can be recycled, from a short stretch of the Isle Brewers Road I have come to the conclusion that many are water bottles discarded by runners. This time of year with cut hedges and trimmed verges it is easy to see and collect this rubbish. If you can clear an area, wonderful and better still discourage anyone you see chucking rubbish away.

Actions identified by the Parish Plan which fall under the ownership of the Parish Council are or will be attended to as appropriate. Do please consult **with any member for a progress report.**

### **Prayers & Bears**

Prayers and Bears is a fun time for pre-school children and their Mums—songs, story, craft and refreshments in St. Martin's Church, Fivehead.

Prayers and Bears is being re-launched on the first Friday of each month at 10.30, beginning on Friday 7th March. Hope you can come and join us. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to Phone Meg Tyler 01460 281573.

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## **Fivehead Fellowship & Leisure Club**

**20<sup>th</sup> November 2007** Xmas Shopping Trip to Plymouth was in inclement weather conditions. However those going on this journey down to Devon enjoyed the visit. The numbers of Members were lower than usual in past excursions which was a pity as the weather cleared up in the afternoon.

**30<sup>th</sup> November 2007.** This was an extra bonus to the Club's Annual programme with a Talk by Geoffrey Stanford entitled "The Ascent of Everest" having been arranged through the medium of our Chairman who had been fortunate to hear this talk previously, and thought that this would generate interest in the locality of Fivehead by having this for all the Villagers.

On a wild rainy night with conditions akin to Everest, some of the Public braved the elements in the walk to the Village Hall, some Visitors looking as if they had just come down off the Mountain themselves. They were however rewarded by this talk with colour slides of this remote area in the world. Mr Stanford had not only climbed to the Summit, but had climbed Everest a second time having to give up three quarters of the way up due to adverse conditions. and was able to give graphic details of both climbs. The Audience through the pictures were given the journey from the Base Camps up to the top, with amazing shots of snow chasms with aluminium ladders to breach over which the Climbers and Sherpa's had to cross. We even saw explicit photographs of foot frostbite caused by the cold, and then finally reached the climax of the ascent. with photos at the summit, in beautiful sunny conditions.

The summit of Everest being 29,000 feet plus above sea level experiences severe cold and fierce winds at some times over 100mph, such is the endurance and courage of Climbers world-wide to tackle this notorious Mountain. It was incredible that this young Man had done this in past years and made it to the top. Mr Stanford also brought along some of his equipment, such as clothing, boots, icepick, and oxygen bottle. Even the Hall had been draped with prayer flags that added to the atmosphere, a most interesting talk to the large Audience of over ninety Club Members and Public who attended.

Our Chairman wishes to thank all the hard working Committee Members who gave up their free time to distribute hand-delivered flyers to make this a success, and especially to all the Villagers who came to this memorable event.

**4<sup>th</sup> December 2007** Annual General Meeting took place with some 33 Members in attendance. The Chairman's report gave encouraging news of the increased numbers joining the Club from our recent recruiting campaign around Fivehead, which was good news.

Our Hon Treasurer then gave the satisfactory information that the Club's finances were sound and profitable although the Plymouth trip showed a loss because of the low numbers. Mr John Taylor outlined plans of visits in the New Year for the Club, including trips to the House of Marbles in Bovey Tracey, and the Zoo at Marwell.

Sadly our Secretary Mrs June Matravers after many years in this important job is retiring, and we wish her well for the future after all her good work she has done for the Club over the years. In appreciation the Chairman presented her on behalf of the Club with a bouquet of flowers.

We welcome to the Club as our new Secretary Mrs Ann Leyburn.

The Officers and Committee were then voted en bloc for another year, and Mrs Jo Clarke then thanked the Committee for all their hard work in running the Club for the enjoyment of Members. The Meeting then closed for tea and usual raffle.

## **Fivehead Baptist Church**

‘Trading places.’

Well it’s February, so how goes your New Years resolution? Has it gone? Was it loosing a bit of weight? Keeping fit? Possibly jogging? Well if you have given up already even though you really wanted to get back out there on the streets, how about this idea I came across. A man in America placed an ad in the local paper that read, “rent me for just \$1.95 and I will jog for you at least one mile a day (weather permitting) for the next year. The customer will receive a suitably framed certificate, attesting that your jogger is securing for you the benefits of a healthful glow, extraordinary stamina, an exciting muscle tone, and a powerful sense of total well being”. Ridiculous I know, but in just a few days 322 people had signed up, which more than covered his advertising costs and left him with a tidy profit! Did he actually jog for them for a year? Who knows? But as I thought about this perhaps it’s not so ridiculous. Why? Because as a Christian I believe in a saviour who said that he had come to save me from my sins by paying my debts and dying my death on a cross. Not me but Him. Moreover, he then said that his resurrection would eventually become my resurrection and his eternal life would one day become my eternal life! Sound ridiculous to you? How about if he had said it would cost you \$1.95. No he didn’t even ask that of us – just that we believed in him. No charge it’s a gift of God’s grace given through faith in Him. Did he actually do it, yes he did, and the proof is in the bible for all to read. Now where’s that chaps phone number, I should be running at least two miles a day. For sale one pair of unused running shoes, contact Revd Keith Glover.

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## **R.S.P.B January 2008**

Christmas saw some unremarkable weather out on the moors with fairly warm temperatures and low rainfall leading to relatively low wintering bird numbers. Most of the ducks and wading birds that spend the winter here migrate from more northerly parts of Europe. If conditions in these areas are also (relatively) mild and unwintery, the birds are loathe to leave, and we see smaller numbers on our wetlands in the UK.

The mild weather is still with us now – but at least we have some rain! This seems to have brought in an influx of snipe – one of the most extreme looking of all waders with a bill almost the length of its body. Snipe are incredibly hard to see when feeding on the ground as they blend into the background almost perfectly. Their striped brown and yellow plumage just like the winter-dead grasses and muddy margins of pools around which they feed. However, they give themselves away when disturbed, making a distinctive sneezing call and flying off skywards in a panic with a towering zigzagging flight. Snipe feed on worms and other soil invertebrates – easily pulled from the rain-softened soils and with all the precipitation we have been having recently they can be seen in just about any field you care to think of.

The rainfall has also increased the numbers of other wintering waders with over 25,000 lapwings and 10,000 golden plovers on West Sedgemoor in mid January and an abundance of ducks at the deep water roost - at the last count there were in excess of 20,000 wigeon; 7000 teal; 1,200 shoveler and 400 pintail.

At the time of writing, much of West Sedgemoor is actually too wet for birds that are soil or ground feeders (or ones that can’t swim!) with the highest water levels being recorded on site for the last six years. With the rain-soaked 64,000ha (150,000 acres) of the Levels and Moors all around though, there are no shortage of suitable feeding grounds.

It is not too late to join one of the team here on a guided walk out onto West Sedgemoor. These walks take you to a covered viewing platform that overlooks the heart of the wildfowl roost. On recent walks, visitors have witnessed some amazing sights and sounds - from the sheer spectacle of tens of thousands of ducks and waders to the blur of a lightningly quick peregrine knocking a teal from the sky - or the gentle moth-like flight of a ghostly barn owl, cruising over the field edges. You will also be served a hot drink to warm your fingers! .

**For more information call the reserve office on 01458 252 805.**

Items for the next Newsletter should reach the Editor  
Mrs Pat Price, 7 Ganges Close, Fivehead (01460) 281573  
by Friday 21st March for distribution early April  
The editor cannot be responsible for any errors/omissions.  
Email me on pat-harry.price@virgin.net.

### Fivehead Village Hall Management Committee

#### Chairperson's Annual Report

I should like to thank all those who have sponsored the hall over the year ending October 2007 namely the Parish Council, Lambert Hut Trust, the Bridge Club, our window cleaner Kevin Bawden, 100 Club Members and Green Shutters Nursery; also those who have given up their time to help manage the Hall over the past year.

The Hall Management Committee have, with a small increase in user fees, now been able to fund a cleaner, Julia Davis Selby, who has done an excellent job keeping the hall clean. My thanks also go to our user groups who have continued to support us. Our fund raising team have again worked hard and held some very successful events, raising much needed money for Village Hall funds. These funds are required to finance our mortgage and to allow us to improve facilities. We are most grateful to them and to Jean and Lynn at the Village Shop who have very kindly acted as our 'ticket agency'.

This year we have been able to address some of our projects set out in the Development Plan. Working parties have weeded the banks round the car park; edged them in oak sleepers, planned a planting scheme and with a generous anonymous donation been able to purchase plants and plant up these banks to create a garden. Green Shutters also generously donated extra shrubs; other members of the community donated herbaceous plants and spring bulbs. We hope to make a start towards building a paved terrace at the back of the Hall this year. Any offers of help are always gratefully received.

With our support the Drama Group have secured funding for a mobile stage which will be used for the first time in this year's pantomime. The Management Committee's next task is to fund and provide a new secure storage unit which the Under Fives will also need to share due to vandalism. Unfortunately, we have again suffered from this problem. The Under Fives' wooden storage shed was irreparably damaged and the gate/fencing to their secure play area repeatedly damaged. Other pieces of Hall property and the Playing Field have also been damaged. The Police are now helping us in our attempts to stop this happening.

On a positive note we have various activities planned for this year including an exciting new venture on the 20<sup>th</sup> February for the whole family. Please look out for information on this and other events. I do hope you will please support these as they are run for you and your village Hall. This is your community and I look forward to seeing you at our events

## *Parish Council*

There is still a vacancy on Council. If you have an interest in the development of Fivehead please contact any councillor for information on what is involved. Being a councillor is an interesting position giving insight into how Somerset works as a whole. It is largely to do with keeping the fabric of the place and society working as well as possible and is not too time consuming

On December 10<sup>th</sup> there was a call from a good number of you for a Public Meeting at which an officer of SSDC would clarify the situation regarding the development on Stillbrook Yard. This request was made the following day. One of the corporate directors telephoned by return explaining why at that time it would be inadvisable to hold such a meeting. The reasons given were acceptable to the Chairman and Clerk and a written response was provided instead which was posted immediately on the Parish Notice Board. For those who have not seen it, it is reproduced below.

**Unauthorised Residential Site – Paddock adjacent to Isle Abbots Road, Fivehead**  
**This notice is to advise the Parish Council of the actions undertaken by South Somerset District Council, in respect of the recent unauthorised residential occupation of the paddock adjacent to Isle Abbots Road.**

**Upon being notified of the occupation the Council thereafter served a Temporary Stop Notice and then followed this up on the 19th November with the service of a Stop Notice, to prevent any further incursion, and an Enforcement Notice which in time requires the clearance of the site.**

**Since the service of the Stop Notice, further caravans have moved onto the site in breach of the Notice, and as such the matter has now been referred to the Council's Solicitor for his consideration. It is difficult for the Council to comment further at this point given the legal considerations currently being undertaken.**

**For information, the District Council received and registered a planning application for the retention of 4 gypsy pitches at the site on 23rd November 2007. Under UK planning law the Council is obliged to consider this application on its merits and cannot take into consideration that the application is retrospective. The Case Officer for this application is Lee Walton, and should you wish to make comments on the proposal then you should make them in writing to Lee Walton, The Council Offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil, BA20 2HT. The application is likely to be considered by the Area North Committee sometime in the New Year. Any person making comments on the application will be notified, in advance, of the Committee date.**

**There has been no new information to date. Council submitted a response which included points raised at the December meeting.**

Fivehead put forward a successful bid for a grant of 3K from the South Somerset Area Working Panel towards the cost of staging which will be of great benefit to the village. The Drama Group and the Lambert Hut Trust provided the balance of the money. The stage was put to use immediately for the production of Humpty Dumpty, more about this elsewhere in the newsletter no doubt.

Cont'd over.....



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### ***Playing Field Management Committee***

The Management committee would like to thank all those who attended or helped in anyway buying raffle tickets donating prizes at our Christmas Bingo the turnout was very good even though the weather was not great with you help we made a profit of £560.00. which will be used on the playing field .

Grand Draw Winners 1st: £50. Beverley King. 2nd: Hamper Peter Knight.  
3rd: Whisky Simon c/o HEP A full list will be displayed in the shop.

**Easter Bingo Saturday March 15th** at the village hall **7.30 for 8.00pm** we look forward to seeing you all. The theme will again be Chickens and eggs.

We are currently working on upgrading the tennis court to a multi sports area. This is a large project and cannot be done quickly so as a safety factor we are going to take down the tennis fencing in the next couple of weeks, we feel that this is the right thing to do in its present state and is not helped by holes being made in it. We would like to apologise to the Tennis members and I will be writing to them. We hope you will all bear with us during this period.

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### ***Fivehead Drama Group***

The party's over, the make up is washed off and all the scenery, props and staging is cleared away and the pantomime is over for another year. Although sales were less (particularly Friday performance ) this year the pantomime was a success mainly because we have managed to reduce our hire costs to a minimum. Last year we purchased our lights and this year the staging. Thanks to a grant of £3,000 from South Somerset District Council and a donation from the Lambert Hut Trust of £1,290 we managed to fund the rest to purchase our lightweight demountable stage. In particular we would like to thank the Parish Council for supporting our grant application and also the Parish Clerk Margaret Knox who personally vigorously pursued our application through the various committees, also to the Lambert Hut Trust for their generous donation.

We would like to thank all those who came to see us and all those back stage and behind the scenes people who support us every time.

**Three Raffle Prizes not collected. White 305 Orange 388 & 500 contact 281573.**