

Fivehead & Swell

Community Matters

Published every two months

By Fivehead Parish Council

No 227 June 2025

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Smooth Pixels

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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 COUNCIL

	0300 123 2224	www.somerset.gov.uk
Somerset Councillors - Mike Stanton	07802 472160	mike.stanton@somerset.gov.uk
Richard Wilkins		richard.wilkins@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
-		

PARISH COUNCIL

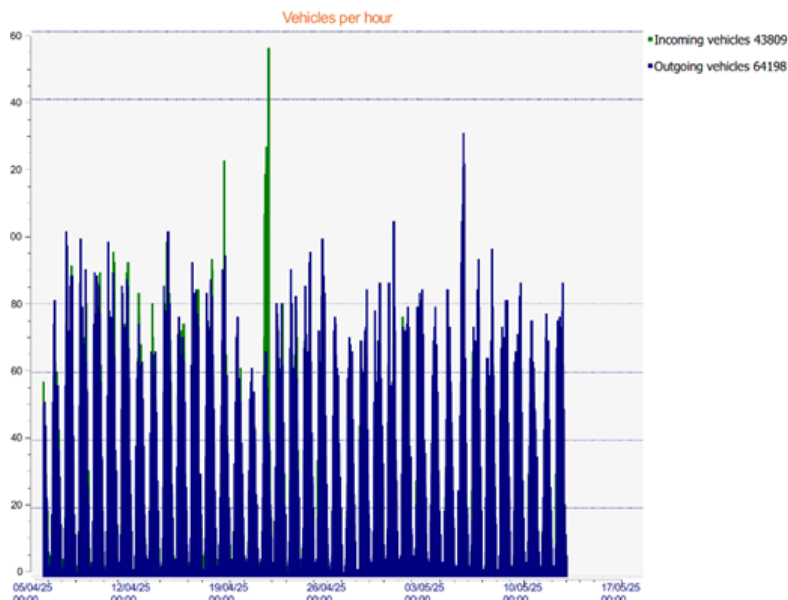
Kate Beacham (Chair)	6 Ganges Close	01460 281414
Laura Howard (Vice Chair)	The Old Manse	01460 282911
Robert (Rob) Wynn	Meldon	01460 281288
Bruce Ferguson Dr.	Poolhayes Swell	01458 250138
Dave Braddock	24 Ganges Close	07303 003087
Christina Munday	Cathanger Manor	01460 281589
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USEFUL CONTACTS

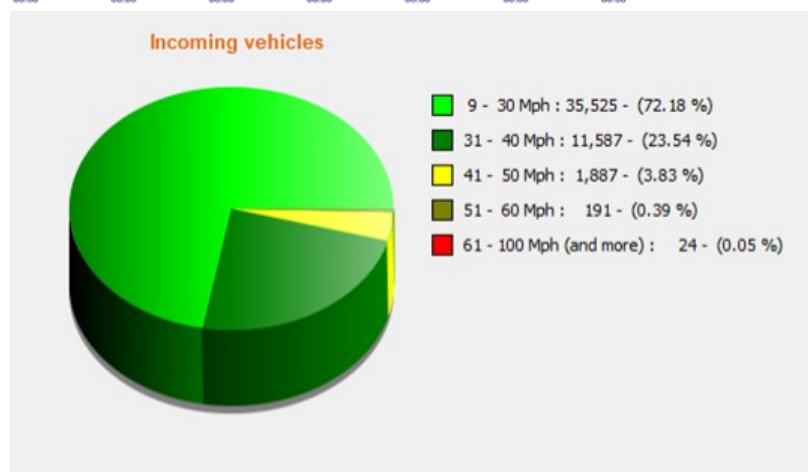
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Bernie Graham	077950280465	bernie.graham@aol.com
Village Hall & Playing Field — Pip Brett	07795 316144	pipbrett@me.com
The Crown Inn	01460 281322	info@thecrowninnfivehead.co.uk

Parish Council

At its May meeting, the Parish Council reviewed the first month's data from our newly-deployed community Speed Indicator Device (SID). The initial data collected at two points on the top road highlighted interesting traffic patterns and speeds.



The SID started at Greenshutters on 5 April and was moved to outside the garage on 24 April. During this time, a colossal number of over 100,000 vehicles were recorded passing through the village (see graph left).



The average recorded speed for vehicles travelling towards the device (incoming) was 29mph, as shown on the pie chart.

Over 95% of vehicles were travelling at less than 40mph, with a very small proportion of vehicles speeding excessively. The highest speeds recorded were 78mph (after midnight) and 80mph (daytime).

From the data, it was noticeable that vehicles slowed by around 4-5% on approach to the device, showing the positive effect speed monitoring has, triggering the driver to slow down in speed limited areas. It is likely that their speed reduces by around a further 15% after they have passed the device.

The Council will be continuing to gather data, moving on to Butcher's Hill and Stowey Road, before returning to the A378, in order to consider putting forward a case to the relevant authorities, to explore speed enforcement and other measures to help with road safety and accident prevention, where needed.

Thanks to Councillors Braddock, Wynn and Ferguson, for installing and moving the equipment between locations, and running the data analysis.



Wishing everyone a great summer!

Jayne Parsons Parish Clerk

Email: fiveheadpc@gmail.com

Parish Council - continued

Other news

News from the Fixers

The extra warm and dry weather this Spring caught the Fixers out a bit! The weeds in our beds grew fast and the grass and hedges along the footpaths and droves put a spurt on. But, working with the footpath team, the grass and hedges are now under control and the beds are back to their normal weed free status. Maintenance work at the cemetery is ongoing as usual.



Highlights this Spring were the lovely tulips in the Langford Corner Coronation bed – it has never looked so bright and colourful. The team worked hard on a wet and cold November day to plant the tulips donated by Greenshutters Garden Centre and Nurseries and the Parish Council. They have certainly brightened up this area as you walk through the village.

The flower boxes around the telephone kiosk were a close second in colour. This area is going to receive a make-over soon.

Not all of our ideas work unfortunately. The soil in the Pound is constantly wet during winter, so the tulip bulbs planted there did not survive. A rethink is needed - loads of horse manure to improve the soil and sticking to bedding and small shrubs?!

Going forward, if we are having more flowers around the village, more help with watering will be needed. So, the Fivehead Sprinklers team has been set up! Thanks to residents and the churches, there are 4 taps available for Fixers to fill up their watering cans.

Active Travel update from our parish representative

The Active Travel Working Group is moving forward with plans for an eventual joined-up network of paths and quiet lanes accessible to all who would like to use them. There are many existing routes in our area, but connecting them all takes quite a bit of work and local knowledge.

At present, we are working on four main routes radiating out of Langport to Bridgwater, Glastonbury and Wells via Somerton, South Petherton and Taunton via Hatch Beauchamp. The routes are already there, but all have missing safe and quiet links and this is what we are working on. You may already have noticed the short stretch on Sandpits Hill, as you leave Curry Rivel for Langport, and this is part of a larger scheme to avoid cyclists having to use the hill down into Langport.

If you would like further information about the scheme and how it will impact you, please do get in touch with me, Viv Fouracre, at fiveheadactivetravel@gmail.com



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Wiveliscombe TA4 2PW



Fivehead Rights of Way

Fivehead Footpaths June 2025

Well, we have had the most beautiful spring this year. A real season of colour, blossom, gorgeous weather and little, if no rain. I'm sure gardeners are beginning to wish for a bit of precipitation as I write.

Usual hedge trimming has begun again to keep the paths open. If you notice anything in particular that you think needs our attention, please contact me - details below.

PLEASE... I have been asked by a couple of landowners around the village to mention about dogs running loose in the fields. If there is a path that runs through a field please remember to keep your dog on a lead. Even if you think there is no harm in letting the dog run free, damage to crops can occur and should any dog poo be left within the crop this could lead to fatalities if that crop is subsequently fed to animals.

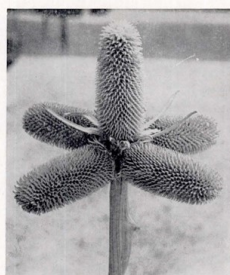
ALSO... the Footpaths are what they say they are. They are not suitable or meant for wheeled vehicles. If you want to use a non-motorised wheeled vehicle you can use a bridleway which is a public right of way where walkers, horse riders, and cyclists are able to use a designated path or track. It is a highway where the public has the right to travel on foot, horseback, or by bicycle. While cyclists are allowed on bridleways, they are required to give way to pedestrians and horse riders, Please see the map below for the designated Bridleways around the village. These are highlighted in blue.

My contact details marybraddock@btinternet.com. If you wish to join our team of volunteers who help to maintain our paths and bridleways, please contact me.



Five heads in Fivehead

When people think of Somerset, they typically think of cider and cider orchards. However, for centuries, right up until the 1980s, certain central areas were also famous for a somewhat unusual crop - the humble biennial Fullers teasel. The teasel heads or burrs were used in huge quantities, especially in northern mills, for raising the nap on woollen cloth during the finishing process.



FREAK FIVE-HEADED TEASEL FOUND AT FIVEHEAD IN SOMERSET

The village of Fivehead was renowned for its high quality teasels and, in the past, hundreds of acres were set aside for this crop. The sour clay soils, rich in molybdenum, combined with the local climate, presented ideal growing conditions. In the early 1960s there were still some fifty growers in and around Fivehead.

The normal teasel plant resembles a candelabra with a central dominant head called the king. However, in 1957 a freak five-headed teasel was found in Fivehead and news of its unique formation made Country Life magazine. *By Herodotus*

Village Hall & Playing Field

The view from the Village Hall and Playing Field

It has been a remarkable year as we proceed towards finalising the merger of our two charities, the Village Hall Charitable Trust and the Playing Field Charitable Trust, into a single entity predictably named the 'Fivehead Village Hall & Playing Field' charity! Upon the completion of the merger, the previous charities will be dissolved, and all assets will be transferred to the new entity.



The new charity was established by the former organisations in August 2023, and it convened its first Annual General Meeting (AGM) in March 2025, during which eight new trustees were elected including Mike King as Chairman, Joe Hancox, Treasurer, Pip Brett, Secretary. The newly appointed trustees are eager to commence their duties, with comprehensive plans for events, fundraising, improvements, and volunteer programs.

Due to a minor administrative issue, there has been a delay in completing the merger. This pause has afforded the trustees the opportunity to organise and familiarise themselves with the operational aspects of our exceptional facilities.

We recently bid farewell to Kevin Stevens and Frank Doggett, Chairmen of the old charities, who collectively dedicated approximately 80 years of service to the Parish, earning immense gratitude from all trustees and volunteers over the years. We will soon also say goodbye to the remaining trustees of the old charities, who have extended their service longer than anticipated; their contributions are highly appreciated.

The Playing Fields Committee has reaffirmed the fields' original purpose by entering into an agreement with North Curry Youth Football Club. The club, which hosts at least 18 youth teams from South Somerset, will base its girls under 12 and 13, and boys under 15 teams in Fivehead. We encourage attendance and support during their matches, typically held on Saturday or Sunday mornings (please refer to the hall diary on the Village website, starting in September).

The Village Hall remains a preferred venue, hosting 17 regular user groups and accommodating over 400 bookings annually. There is still availability on weekends, and we aim to attract more events, particularly weddings and parties, given our excellent facilities.

Fundraising remains a critical component of our yearly activities. The Village Fete is scheduled to return in July, and the bar and kitchen will be upgraded to support a full calendar of events. The 100 Club continues to be popular, awarding £1200 in prize money over the year.

The Hall and Fields are currently navigating a period of transition. However, with the indispensable support of knowledgeable trustees from the dissolving charities and the enthusiasm of our new trustees, the future promises to be exceptionally bright.

100 Club Winners

APRIL

13	M. Corns	£50
79	Wears Your Shirt	£25
19	D. & T. Allen	£15
71	D. Male	£10

MAY

8	J. Guthrie	£50
79	J. Benton	£25
52	A. Jocelyn	£15
99	F. Doggett	£10

Fivehead Fellowship Club

– *bringing people together*



We're rapidly approaching the halfway point of 2025, with two meetings remaining before our summer break in August.

We had a musical theme in April, when musicians Adelaide and Clare took us on a quizzical world cruise. This lively meeting was enjoyed by all who attended.

Our May meeting was attended by over three quarters of our membership. Fivehead's own garden specialist, Gary Bean treated us to a lively and fascinating insight into his 25 years' work for Crown Estates, looking after 90 acres of Royal Gardens in Windsor Great Park. The talk featured splendid images of the gardens and plants across the seasons.

Coming up.....

Tuesday 10th June – visit to Badbury Flower Gardens, complete with cream tea

Please meet at Fivehead Village Hall at 2-15 pm for car sharing

Our host for the afternoon, Helen Toon, will explain how she and her husband are promoting the growing and sale of traditional English flowers. Members will be able to wander around the gardens and there will be a short flower arranging demonstration. The afternoon will finish with a marvellous cream tea.

Tuesday 8th July – Somerset Traditional Trades and Charcoal Art Demo by Kate Lynch

Fivehead Village Hall – doors open at 2-15 pm

Kate Lynch is a rural documentary artist. Her charcoal drawings, pastels and paintings celebrate traditional rural work and traditions in Somerset, from beekeeping to willow growing and basketmaking. Kate also collects the personal stories of her subjects and includes these in her exhibitions and books. Her talk on traditional trades in Somerset will be followed by a charcoal demonstration.

Please remember, there are no age restrictions for joining the Fellowship. We have no religious affiliations and our goal is to provide a platform for friendship. Membership is only £10.00 a year (February to February) and if you want a taster, you can come as a visitor to our Village Hall meetings for £3.00.

For further details on the Fellowship and our events please contact:

Margaret on: 01460 281341 or email: fiveheadfellowshipsecretary@gmail.com



FIVEHEAD VILLAGE FETE - TUG OF WAR

(Sponsored by The Crown Inn, Fivehead)

Saturday 5th July 2025

Free entry

WINNERS GET VOUCHER FOR BAR

PLEASE CONFIRM ENTRY BY 21 JUNE 2025

TEAMS OF 6 PULLERS TO INCLUDE 2 LADIES

Timings: Pulls to start at 12.45 approx

For further information contact Mary Braddock

marybraddock@btinternet.com

UNITED BENEFICE OF CURRY RIVEL, FIVEHEAD AND SWELL

St Martin's Fivehead



Churchwarden

Trish Allen Tel: 01460 281674

Rector: Vacant

Curate: Revd: Mark McKnight

Tel: 01458 251375

or

07471556366

St Catherine's Swell



Churchwarden

Anna Rees Tel: 01458 253067

Parish Pump 8th June — Day of Pentecost Whit Sunday

Pentecost took place on the well-established Jewish festival of First fruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was seven weeks after Easter, or 50 days including Easter. A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit – the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told His disciples that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for His disciples, but He knew they could not do the work themselves. They would need His help.

And so, they waited in Jerusalem, praying together with His other followers, for many days. And then, on that fateful morning, there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues, to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1-9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the disciples and followers of Jesus. The Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian Church that morning, proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course, Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, He could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of His Holy Spirit.

Father's Day - what we most value in our fathers

Father's Day is 15th June – a day to honour and appreciate our fathers and father figures, such as grandfathers and fathers-in-law. Many of us will make a special effort to see them on the day.

No two fathers are alike, of course, but various polls across the internet reveal some interesting similarities of what people have most valued in their dad.

These traits include: being dependable, approachable, protective, patient, affectionate, honest, willing to listen, compassionate, and having spent time with them when they were young.

That's quite a list! People whose fathers had even some of those strengths have a lot to be thankful for.

Thankfully, our Father in Heaven certainly has all those traits. Jesus said the Father is totally dependable and protective of us, longs for us to turn to Him, and is full of compassion and love. And we are to call Him 'Abba' – Daddy!

The United Benefice of Curry Rivel, Fivehead & Swell

Welcome to our Benefice. Here are the planned services for the months ahead. For more information please contact our Associate Minister Rev'd Scott Patterson at: scottr.patterson@btinternet.com

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

Planned Services & Events for June

Sunday 1st.	10.00am All Age Family & Friends Communion Service (CW) + refreshments 6.00pm Evening Prayer	Fivehead Curry Rivel
Saturday 7th.	3.30pm-5.30pm Messy Church in the Old School Room	Curry Rivel
Sunday 8th.	Pentecost 9.30am United Benefice Holy Communion (BCP) + refreshments	Swell
Tuesday 10th.	10.00am-12.00pm Craft & Coffee in the Old School Room	Curry Rivel
Sunday 15th.	9.30am A Service of Morning Worship 10.30am All Age Family & Friends Service + refreshments	Fivehead Curry Rivel
Sunday 22nd.	9.30am Parish Communion (CW) + refreshments 11.00am A Service of Morning Worship + refreshments 6.00pm Prayer Book Evening (BCP)	Fivehead Curry Rivel Swell
Sunday 29th.	10.30am UUB Holy Communion (CW)	Huish Episcopi

Planned Services & Events for July

Saturday 5th.	10.00am-12.00pm Messy Church in the Old School Room	Curry Rivel
Sunday 6th.	10.00am All Age Family & Friends Communion Service (CW) + refreshments 6.00pm Evening Prayer	Fivehead Curry Rivel
Tuesday 8th.	10.00am-12.00pm Craft & Coffee in the Old School Room	Curry Rivel
Sunday 13th.	9.30am Prayer Book Communion Service (BCP) 11.00am Parish communion Service (CW) + refreshments	Swell Curry Rivel
Sunday 20th.	9.30am A Service of Morning Worship 10.30am All Age Family & Friends Service + refreshments	Fivehead Curry Rivel
Sunday 27th.	9.30am Parish Communion (CW) + refreshments 11.00am A Service of Morning Worship + refreshments 6.00pm Prayer Book Evensong (BCP)	Fivehead Curry Rivel Swell

Defibrillator News

Thank you everyone who has raised funds and attended our Defib Awareness sessions. £329 has been raised this year and a big thank you to the weekly quiz teams who have helped support this worthy cause. Also big thanks to Kevin and Les who provide the challenging questions.

We have two defibrillators in Fivehead. We encourage you to practice life saving techniques shown on British Heart Foundation website at www.big.org.uk. If anyone wants to donate, please contact Fivehead Parish Council or marybraddock@btinternet.com

Fivehead Naturewatch

Dave Braddock

The common cockchafer, or May Bug as it is more commonly known, is the UK's largest scarab beetle, about 2.5cm in size. With its rusty-brown wing cases, pointed tail and fan-like antennae it is unmistakable. It is a clumsy flier and makes a buzzing sound and often bangs into windows at night if there is a light on.

Adults start to appear at the end of April or in May and live for about five to seven weeks. The mating behaviour is controlled by pheromones. The males usually swarm during the mating season while the females stay put and feed on leaves watching. The leaves release green leaf volatiles when they are fed on by females, which the male can sense and thus locate the female for any mating opportunities.

After about two weeks, the female begins laying eggs, which she buries about 10 to 20 cm deep in the earth. She may do this several times until she has laid between 60 and 80 eggs. Most typically, the female beetle lays its eggs in fields. The preferred food for adults is oak leaves, but they will also feed on conifer needles.

The larvae, known as chafer grubs, hatch four to six weeks after being laid as eggs. They feed on plant roots. The grubs develop in the earth for three to four years, in colder climates even five years, and grow continually to a size of about 4–5 cm, before they pupate in early autumn and develop into an adult cockchafer in six weeks.

The cockchafer overwinters in the earth at depths between 20 and 100 cm. They work their way to the surface only in spring. Because of their long development time as larvae, chafers appear in a cycle of every three or four years; the years vary from region to region.

Help wanted

If you see a dead hedgehog in the roads of Fivehead and Swell, can you let me know as we are doing a survey of their distribution.

Thanks.

Yeo Valley Organic want to let you know they are hosting their very first Organic Garden Festival from 18th - 20th September and they'd love to see you all there!



Located on the shore of Blagdon Lake in North Somerset, you can expect specialist speakers, engaging panel discussions with horticultural experts, including Arit Anderson, Frances Tophill and Alys Fowler, enlightening workshops, and hands-on demonstrations. Plus, live entertainment, music, beautiful plants for sale, and delicious food & drink. To find out more information and where to buy your tickets head to :

<https://yvogardenfestival.co.uk/>

Alone, destitute and without a friend

Oh, don't be!

Come and join the fun at Fivehead Drama Group's Summer Revue
28th June 2025, 7.30 p.m, Fivehead Village Hall

An entertaining evening of sketches, song and swimming.

Wait! Swimming? Are you sure?

Sure! And a desolate desert island drama

Ah, the swimming?

Maybe!

Did I say there will also be a traditional ploughman's supper with a selection of delicious



award-winning artisan cheeses provided by Sharpham?

Fantastic!

Tickets, only £10.00, will be available from The Stables Cafe, The Crown Inn Fivehead and Fivehead Premier Stores from 30th May 2025

Licenced bar, CASH ONLY





CURRY RIVEL CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL UPDATE

'Caring, Curious and Confident

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

If you are interested in your child attending our school, do contact us if you would like to visit: 01458 251404

or email office@curryrivel.somerset.sch.uk.

Ali Pook, Head Teacher

Unfortunately no report this month.



Supporting British Red Cross

Charity Theatre Trips invites you to support the British Red Cross by enjoying a show at Bristol Hippodrome. There is a lot to choose from, with coach travel included in the price. We start at Curry Rivel, pick-up in Langport and Somerton, then either Keinton Mandeville and Shepton Mallet, or Street, Glastonbury and Wells. Any profit is donated to British Red Cross.

Our latest ticket reservations are for The Bristol Light Opera Company amateur premiere of 'Les Misérables' and the new highly highly-praised production of 'Fiddler on the Roof', both in July. In October we are delighted that Welsh National Opera are in Bristol for the opera 'Tosca'. Reserve now with no obligation and pay later, usually two months before the performance date.

For full details of all our trips and to reserve tickets log on to www.charitytheatretrips.com

Show	Date	Cost	Time
Warhorse	Mon 9 Jun 25	£48/£62	17:00
Moulin Rouge	Tue 22 Jul 25	£58/£73	17:00
Les Misérables	Sat 16 Aug 25	£74	10:00
Fiddler on the Roof	Tue 26 Aug 25	£48/£60/£70	17:00
Bat out of Hell	Tue 2 Sep 25	£47/£59	17:00
Lion, Witch & Wardrobe	Thu 18 Sep 25	£57/£65	16:30
Calamity Jane	Thu 25 Sep 25	/£48/£58	17:00
Tosca	Sat 18 Oct 25	£58/£73	17:00
The Book of Mormon	Tue 28 Oct 25	£63/£78	17:00
Riverdance	Fri 28 Nov 25	£73/£83	17:00
Jack and the Beanstalk	Thu 18 Dec 25	£52	16:30

Baptist Church

www.fiveheadbaptist.co.uk

pastor@fiveheadbaptist.co.uk

Tel 01460 281182



Rev. Matthew Cottington

Thoughts from The Manse

Some thoughts on forgiveness...

Forgiveness is one of the hardest things we ever have to do... and also one of the most necessary.

Some of you may have listened to a recent episode of Ramblings on Radio 4 where Clare Balding spoke with the author Manni Coe. At one point Manni spoke of the difficulty to forgive, suggesting that forgiveness can be difficult because when you forgive someone you can't blame them any more. You can no longer hang the shame on them.

I'm sure this is sometimes true.

Sometimes.

Manni also mentioned that forgiveness is something we need to do because forgiveness is about being released from the pain and trauma that still binds us. This healing, he suggests, is not linear and often needs to be done over and over again. This aspect of forgiveness-as-release is something the Bible also emphasises. One of the biblical words for "forgiveness" literally means "release" - not so much the release of the one who has wronged us, but the release of ourselves from the pain it continues to cause us as we carry past hurts in our minds and bodies.

As I write this I am deeply conscious of how hard (impossible?) this can sometimes be. My heart goes out to all who feel deep scars or carry heavy burdens of trauma and pain from the past. It is not easy. But, it can be made more possible with love and support.

Jesus spoke often about forgiveness. As he died on the cross he expressed a sense of feeling utterly abandoned and alone. But he also prayed "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." Jesus carried the pain. But he also expressed the release we all need.

It is good to know we have a God who understands the pain we go through, and who also understands that there exists the possibility of moving on, into a future where the chains have fallen off and our minds can live freely again. May God help us each in this difficult but necessary journey. His compassion never fails. Pastor Matt Cottington.

Fivehead Baptist Church meets for gathered worship on Sunday mornings (10:30am) in the church building at the bottom of Butchers Hill. Everyone is welcome. For more information visit our website: www.fiveheadbaptist.co.uk

A note about the recent Wildlife Photography Exhibition...

We were delighted by the response to our South-West wildlife photography exhibition held in May. The exhibitors put on an amazing display of wildlife photographs which were enjoyed by more than 300 visitors. It was also great to have RSPB and Somerset Wildlife Trust join us. Donations were made to both these causes following the exhibition. It was a very special week celebrating the wonderful wildlife around us. Thank you to all who helped organise, all who took part, and all who visited the exhibition.

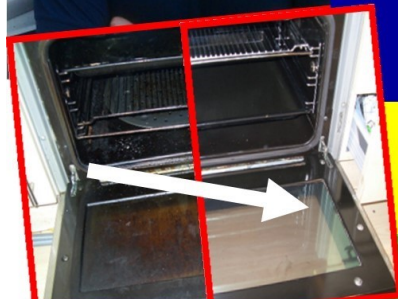


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*New Ageing Index report 2024-25



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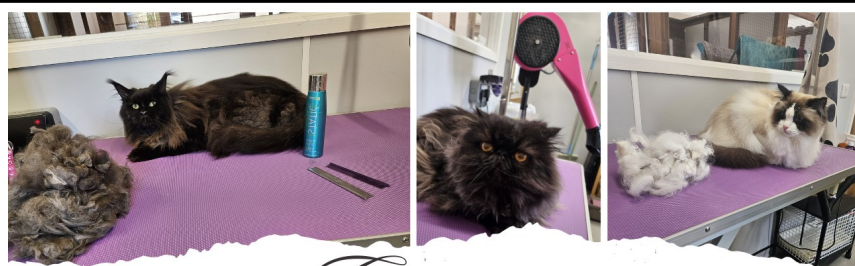
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We have an ever-changing display of local art work & crafts and a selection of Fair Trade goods from around the world.

Our staff are all volunteers, so please do get in touch if you would like to serve occasionally or regularly. It is a great way of getting to know people in the village.

Come down and see us...

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the stable
 at Fivehead Baptist Church

Opening Times

Wednesday 2.00pm to 4.30pm

Thursday 10.00am to 4.30pm

Friday 10.00am to 4.30pm

Saturday 10.00am to 1.00pm

plus Thursday Nights - Youth Cafe

7.30pm to 9.00pm

for anyone aged 11-19

The Stable

The Stable is a community-run café in the heart of the village. It is the realisation of a vision which began in the congregation of Fivehead Baptist Church. It's purpose is to provide a space of friendship, relaxation, and encouragement for all. We are staffed entirely by volunteers and our profits are given away to charities both locally and worldwide.

It's amazing what a few acts of kindness and giving can add up to! As we reflect on the many different things our volunteers and visitors bring to the cafe we realise what a huge impact it all has. Thank you so much!

The Stable has been wonderfully busy, with an especially encouraging week of extra opening hours during the recent Wildlife Photography Exhibition at the Baptist Church next door. It was wonderful to see so many people enjoying the cafe space alongside the wildlife photographs.

Our menu is updated from time to time, so do pop in to see what we have to offer. The fantastic range of home-made cakes continues to be a favourite among our customers, as well as our range of paninis and, of course, the coffee!

We continue to develop our outdoor space. Having put in some decking areas last year we are now focusing on the garden area to the side of the Baptist Church. The ground has become rather uneven where the tables stand so we plan to level it and add a paved area. This garden space is particularly useful for larger groups who prefer to sit outside. It also sits next to some garden space where children can play. A new cantilever sun parasol has also been bought to offer a portable shade.

Thank you again to all our volunteers and visitors. If you would like to help out at The Stable in any way, please do let us know.

The Stable Opening Times: Wednesdays 14:00 - 16:30 Thursdays 10:00 - 16.30 (Youth Café 19:30 - 21:00) Fridays 10:00 - 16.30 Saturdays 10:00 – 13:00 First Sunday of Each Month 10:00 – 12 noon

Fivehead Drama Group

Wanted: would-be Princesses and Princes and many more...

Fivehead Drama Group is auditioning for its next production - **Cinderella**.

The auditions will be held at Fivehead Village Hall, Stowey Road on Saturday, July 19th between 11.00am and 1.00pm.

Performances will be in January 2026 and rehearsals start Tuesday evenings from September 2025.

We are looking for people to play a variety of roles so, if you think you have what it takes to join a fun group of amateur thespians, just turn up and let us see what you can do. We specifically seek actors between the ages of 16 and 40ish, but everyone is welcome.

If you want to be considered, but can't make it on the 19th July, please call:

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To all Friends and Neighbours,

Polish your wellies, dust off your sun hats (or umbrellas, let's be honest), and get ready for the VILLAGE FETE!

Join us for a glorious day of good old fashioned fun - cakes that defy gravity, tombolas with mysterious prizes, and the newly built skittles board ready to find a champion. There'll be something for everyone, stalls, games, live music, a bar and enough tea to float a small boat.

But a fete without villagers is just, well, a sad collection of bunting and lonely scones. WE NEED YOU! Whether you come to shop, scoff cake, or just enjoy time with your neighbours, your presence will make it all worthwhile.

So please bring your family, friends and of course your best village spirit. We will do our best to make it a day full of fun, laughter and mild competitive rivalry in the Tug of War.

See you there.

With fond regards

Fivehead Fete Working Group

Saturday 5th July, 12 - 4pm

Diary of Events

Day/Date/Time		Description	Where
Sunday 8th June	9.30am	Pentecost St Catherine's Church	Swell
Tuesday 10th June	2.15pm	Garden Visit Fellowship Club	Badbury Gdns
Saturday 28th June	7.00pm	Drama Group Summer Revue	Village Hall
Saturday 5th July	12.00 noon	Village Fete	Playing Field
Tuesday 8th July	2.15pm	Fellowship Club meeting	Village Hall
Friday 11th July	11.00am	Crown Fivehead GS Paul Rowe's Bowl	Dainton Park
Wednesday 23rd July		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	
Usually 1st Monday 6.30pm	Monthly	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall

Crown Fivehead Golf Society

The second event of the year **The Spring Trophy** event was on Friday 11th April at **Enmore Park GC** and we were blessed with another fine spring day. The results were: 1st. Phil Dibble 40pts (back 9 24pts), 2nd. Tony Chedzoy 40pts (back 9 23pts), 3rd. John Bolton (back 9 19pts). Best out Stuart Clayton 20pts, Best in Peter Lang 19pts, Longest Drive 5th. Andrew Stanton, 18th. Guy Dibble. NTP 2nd. Bruce Ferguson, 15th. Len White. NTP in 2. 4th. Dave Baker, 17th. Geoff Dight. There was one 2 Tony Chedzoy.

Friday 9th May was for **The Geoff Bray Trophy** and was at the **Isle of Wedmore GC**. Again we had a fine day. The results were: 1st. Peter Lang 38pts, 2nd. Tony Chedzoy 33pts, 3rd. John Blackwell 32pts. Best out Malcolm Head 17pts (on count back) Best in Les Wheatley 18pts. Longest Drive 6th. Mark Bradford, 14th. Tony Chedzoy. NTP 4th. James Duder, 18th. Guy Dibble. NTP in 2. 7th. Guy Dibble, 12th. Bob Durrant.

There were no 2's so the £20 will roll over to the June event which will be on Friday 13th June at **Dainton Park GC**, when we will be competing for **The Paul Rowe's Bowl**.

To date the blobs have raised £130.00 for our charity this year. £500 will be donated to the **Fivehead Fixers** and the remainder to **Christmas Sparkle**, a Taunton based charity which provides Christmas presents for underprivileged children and families.

Harry Price, Chairman

Contact details: gary.smith555@btinternet.com