

Tribute to pop star

A FUNDRAISING tribute to a musical legend is to be held in Somerton later on this month.

The Elton John Tribute Show will also feature a cabaret and disco at the Edgar Community Hall on the Bancombe Trading Estate from 7.30pm until midnight on Saturday, April 28.

The event is being held to raise funds for the Somerton Town Youth Football Club.

For more information about the event or to book a ticket call 01458 274497.

Raise your issues

THERE will be a chance for local residents to raise their issues with their local MP in Somerton on Saturday.

David Heath, Liberal Democrat MP for Somerton and Frome, will be holding an advice surgery in the Globe Inn, Market Place, from 10am to 10.45am.

Anyone who would like to raise any problems they might be having, queries or complaints is encouraged to come down and speak to Mr Heath. No appointment is necessary.



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A patriotic party

A ST George's Day party is to be held in a village near Langport to raise money for charity.

The community event will be held in Kingsbury Episcopi's Church Rooms on Saturday, April 28, starting at 7.30pm.

All proceeds from the event will go towards the St Martin's Church fund.

For more information or to purchase a ticket contact either Liz or Graham Beckinsale on 01935 823996 or Barbara Moore on 01935 822889.

Garden opens up

A GARDEN in Somerton is opening up to the public on Friday.

Midney Gardens, at Mill Lane, Midney, will be taking part in the National Gardens Scheme, which raises money for charities.

People will be welcome to visit the garden from 11am to 5pm and there will also be a range of plants available for purchase.

For more information visit www.ngs.org.uk.

'Family fights draw us closer together'

BY JENNY THOMSON

e-mail newsdesk@westgaz.co.uk

A FAMILY of kung fu fighters have been celebrating after earning their first belts at a new Somerton club.

Three generations of the same family, grandma Marilyn Holm, 61, from Long Load, dad Matt, 25, mum Juliet, 24, and son Jack, 5, all from Somerton, relieve the stress of the day with a little sparring on Thursday evenings.

Matt Holm attends the adult class of Reality Martial Arts and Self Defence (MASD) along with his mother and his wife, while son Jack attends the children's class at Somerton Infants School.

The family first heard about the club through their son's school but after taking him Juliet decided she would like to join as well, but she needed moral support and so invited her mother-in-law to join her.

Mr Holm said the club offered them a good family deal so before long he had signed up as well.

He said: "Luckily I don't have to spar with my wife and mother as I get paired up with the other men."

"In all honesty when we were doing the grading the instruct-

"It will be easy peasy lemon squeezy"

ors said how good Juliet is.

"To be fair she probably is the best. She always wears the trousers in our relationship."

The family all took part in their first grading where they had to show off their moves in an official display to outside instructors last month.

The adults earned their yellow belts while Jack achieved the first yellow stripe on his white belt because he is younger.

Mr Holm said: "None of us have ever done martial arts before but we are all really glad we joined. It is good for fitness and sometimes it is good to let off a bit of steam. Plus it is something we can all do as a family."

"I practise a lot at home especially with my son. Jack gets so excited

about it. I'm sure he will be a black belt before any of us."

Five-year-old Jack said he enjoys learning new moves with his parents and gran and has hopes to keep it up until he earns his black belt.

When asked who would win in a fight Jack said: "Me, because I would jump up and land on mummy and daddy. It will be easy peasy lemon squeezy."

The club which started up in Somerton in January is run by husband and wife team Don, 54, and Diane Linton, 53, who both hold black belts, 2nd Dan in Free-style Martial Arts.

Mr Linton said: "Our style contains some techniques from karate, tae kwon do, kickboxing and Muay Thai. Our reality-based self-defence techniques, which also form part of our style, are from Commando Krav Maga and the Self Defence Federation."

Anyone who would like to find out more about the club can contact Mr Linton on 07702 986983 or visit www.realitymasd.co.uk.



FIGHTING FAMILY:

Grandma Marilyn Holm, 61, with her son Matt, 25, and five-year-old grandson Jack, who all take part in martial arts training together in Somerton.

GENERATIONS ATTACK: Grandma and grandson practise their moves together.

Show sporty side at church service

A SPORTS-THEMED church service will be taking place in the village of Compton Dundon next week.

The Church of St Andrew will host the special service from 10am on Sunday, April 29, as a celebration of 'Team Church'.

The event will be put on with the help of sporty vicar Reverend Canon Brian Pearson, Brookside Primary School pupils and other visitors.

The all-age service will also have communication support for the hearing impaired.

Members of the public are being encouraged to come to the service dressed for sport and to help decorate the church with bats, rackets, balls, bowls, sticks, gloves, saddles, and other sports equipment.

Music marks the arrival of spring

A MUSICAL celebration of spring is to take place near Langport next week.

Springfest at Drayton Nurseries in Drayton will feature music from Smoking Gun, Captain Turned Civilian, Tom Rotheram, Hollie Trevis and The Beatablockers on Saturday, April 28.

The event will kick off at 6pm and end at midnight.

There will also be hot and cold food as well as a bar.

Tickets from Drayton Nurseries on 01458 251926 or from Curry Rivel Post Office, Evans the Butchers in Langport or Emma B Coffee Shop in Somerton.



WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?
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