

GRATIS

The CHARD Flyer

SUMMER 2026

THE **FREE TOWN GUIDE** ABOUT CHARD FOR CHARD
PRODUCED QUARTERLY: SUMMER • AUTUMN • WINTER • SPRING

LOCAL NEWS & PHOTOS

REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS

LOCAL BUSINESSES
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LOCAL TOWN & AREA MAPS

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WELCOME TO SUMMER!

As I write this we are enjoying the best summer weather imaginable! Sunny days, quiet walks, warm balmy evenings – things we simply dreamt of a few months ago!

Our front-cover photo features “Chard Leisure Centre”. In view of the hot weather and the importance of this fantastic facility for Chard and district for swimming opportunities, it seemed appropriate to highlight this recent major investment in our Town.

On **Page 10** we have more “Sweet Memories of Chard”, courtesy of Craig Hussey. On **Pages 20 & 21** we have news from Chard Community Hub. The Friends of Chard Reservoir have a great article across **Pages 24 & 25**. Then on **Pages 26 & 27** we have our useful maps of Chard and the TA20 postcode.

Chard Town Football Club have had an interesting season, read their round-up on **Pages 34 & 35**. On **Page 36**, CLOKS announce their latest production – “We Will Rock You”. The ladies at Chard Inner Wheel have “Royal” connections – on **Pages 42 & 43**.

This edition of the Chard Flyer brings you a huge selection of local businesses and service providers, plus events, places to visit and a great choice of “eateries”!

So.... From SKIPS to SCRAPED WHEELS; from HENRY’S to HEARING; from KITCHENS to CARPETS; and from FENCING to PHONES, find it all here in The Chard Flyer!

Best wishes,

Anthony Bucke. EDITOR.

Email: chard@theantiquetourist.com
Wednesday 27th May 2026.

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WANT TO JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT EDITION - AUTUMN 2026?

One copy of The Chard Flyer is delivered by Royal Mail to every business and private address in TA20 postcode.

That is almost 11,000 potential customers!

Distribution will be week commencing 31st August.
Deadline for inclusion 31st July.

Please call Nick on 07852 484419 or email theflyerpublications@gmail.com.

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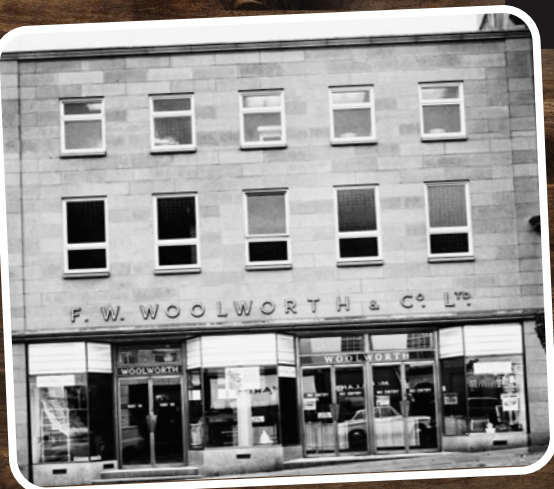
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Areas covered: Chard, Ilminster,
Axminster, Seaton, Lyme Regis,
Bridport and areas in between



Photos kindly
supplied by
Craig Hussey

SWEET MEMORIES of CHARD



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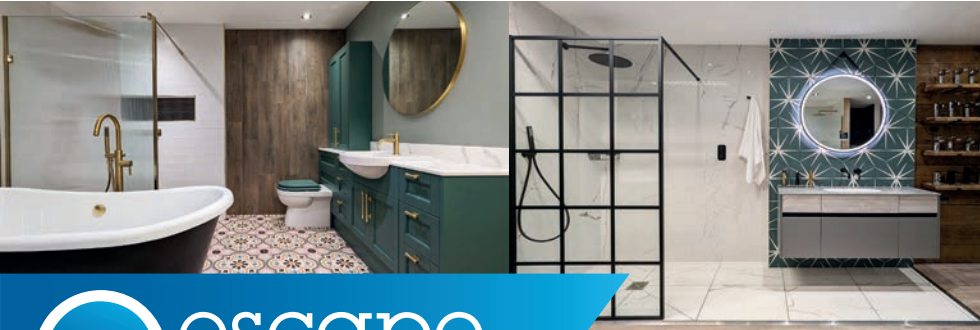
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Chard Community Hub

Supporting the Whole Family

At Chard Community Hub, we understand how challenging family life can be and that being a parent/carer can feel overwhelming and lonely. We offer a whole host of free support and services, from our non-judgmental, safe space in the Boden Centre on Boden Street.

Bright Beginnings



Megan, our Early Years Lead, supports the youngest in our community. There are many activities aimed at the under 2s and their siblings, such as a weekly group with Young Somerset and Stay and Play sessions. Parents/

carers and little ones can take part in our four week Bright Beginnings course, with activities to help with bonding, early development, and to have fun!

We regularly visit Gillingham Grange Care Home, for reading sessions with babies and residents and for cinema-style screenings of children's films.

The Somerset Health Visiting team is based here on Tuesdays with Healthy Little Ones. It's an opportunity to weigh your baby and seek advice and support.

School Life

Our pre-loved school uniform is available on a swap or 'pay-as-you-can' basis. This means that cost doesn't have to be a barrier to getting kids kitted out with all they need. Our uniform is available five days a week: Monday 9am to 11am, Tuesday 11am to 1pm, Wednesday 10am to 1pm, Thursday 10am to midday

and Friday midday to 4pm.

Our Sewing Repair Hub are always happy to take up school trousers, replace coat zips and sew on missing buttons. They're at the Hub on Tuesday mornings, from 10am to 12.30pm.

We know that finding fun, free activities during school breaks is hard. We're open for Holiday Play Sessions, with activities for kids of all ages. We have lots coming up this summer; look out for upcoming dates being shared on our Facebook and Instagram (@chardcommunityhub).



Young People

We offer support for young people in the community in various ways. From volunteering and home education opportunities, to a dedicated weekly Youth Hub. Young people have access to a fun, safe space, with a hot meal and Reach youth workers on hand for support. Join in on Wednesdays, from 3.15pm to 5.15pm.

The Hub is signed up to the Swish C Card Scheme, so that young people can get advice around sexual health and contraception from trained volunteers. Appointments can be booked by emailing mparfoot@holyrood.bep.ac.

We also have sample sizes of Holyrood Academy blazers and skirts, so that you can try things on before ordering from Price & Buckland online.

Parents

With support starting during the ante-natal and post-natal stage, with a monthly PANDAS drop-in group, we

want to make sure parents/carers also take care of their own well-being. Join the trained PANDAS volunteers on the last Friday of the month, between 10am and 11.30am if you're finding parenting tricky.

Our Silent Book Club gets parents/carers reading and improving literacy skills, which are key to helping with homework. Come along on Wednesdays, between 6pm and 8pm for a chance to cosy up with the book of your choice. E-readers and audiobooks are welcome!

We're hoping to have a dedicated Dads group up and running in the near future; a place for Dads to come together and share the load. If this would be of interest to you, then we'd love to hear from you. We want to create a group that truly works for male parents and carers so would love your input! Reach out to mparfoot@holyrood.bep.ac.

In the meantime, The Chard Talk Club for men meets at the Hub fortnightly on



Thursdays, between 6.30pm and 8.30pm. All men (18+), parents or not, can come together to share what's on their mind and talk through their stresses.

Food Support

Family life is expensive and sometimes the budget just doesn't last for the month. We offer support with food, energy bills and the costs of caring for a pet. Do get in touch if any of these services could be helpful for you. There's no referral needed, and our volunteers are here to listen with kindness, not judgement.

KINDNESS ♥ COLLABORATION ♥ POSITIVITY

For more information on these groups and services, pop in, find us on social media or send an email to secretary@chardcommunityhub.com

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Chris Chatfield at Hornsbury Mill

Leading the way is Hornsbury's recent joiner, incredible Head chef Chris Chatfield.

Having previously worked with and trained by Michael Cains himself, this is the start of a whole brand-new culinary chapter for Hornsbury Mill.

Previously holding the prestigious position as Michael Cains's Head Chef, Chris joins Hornsbury with a wealth of natural and ingrained talent.

Alongside his 21 years' culinary experience, Chris has been

collecting an accolade of recognition and awards. Having worked in various Michelin star and multi rosette kitchens across the UK and gained no less than 8 rosettes over different venues himself.

Judging by the success Chris is already making of the restaurant at Hornsbury Mill, it's easy to see why. Will Hornsbury be the next venture to receive Rosettes under this exceptional talent? We think so!

Ready to rival all the best local eateries, and with a passion for local produce, exceptional ingredient pairings, and supporting local farmers and local suppliers, Hornsbury Mill

is going to become every food lover's dream destination.

From elegant and inventive tasting evenings, through to cooked to perfection Sunday roasts and the mill's newly launched speciality afternoon teas, there's something for everyone who appreciates great food in a rustic and charming environment.

Alongside owner, Tony Dickel who took over the mill in 2024, and a new events team, Hornsbury Mill is excited to see what's next for this beautiful and historic venue.



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HORNSBURY MILL



The Friends of Chard Reservoir

The Friends of Chard Reservoir (FCR) group have had a phenomenal start. Four fund raising events have taken place so far and nearly £1000 has been raised. These funds are to be used at the direct discretion of the rangers for improvements and projects as projected to benefit the reservoir/nature reserve and visitors.

Recent visitors will have noticed an improved entrance on the south-west entrance to the meadows. The raised gravel path, willow fencing and rain-

water routing is much appreciated to those who remember the boggy entrance from the very wet start to the year. Further improvements to signage are also evident. These improvements and other items on the

rangers 'wish-list' are exactly what the friends group was conceived to enable.

There are numerous upcoming events for the reservoir. The 'Friends of Chard Reservoir' Facebook



page and Instagram page at www.instagram.com/friends_of_chard_reservoir2025 will give details of such events so keep a regular check there, while also keeping up with the FCR news. Events are varied from onsite nature walks, bat detectors & bug bonanzas to quiz nights & social events, such as the very successful recent cheese night event.

The social element of the FCR group has the added benefit of knowing

you are having a positive impact on the reservoir and nature reserve. Helping one of Chard's most precious beauty spots while meeting like-minded people.

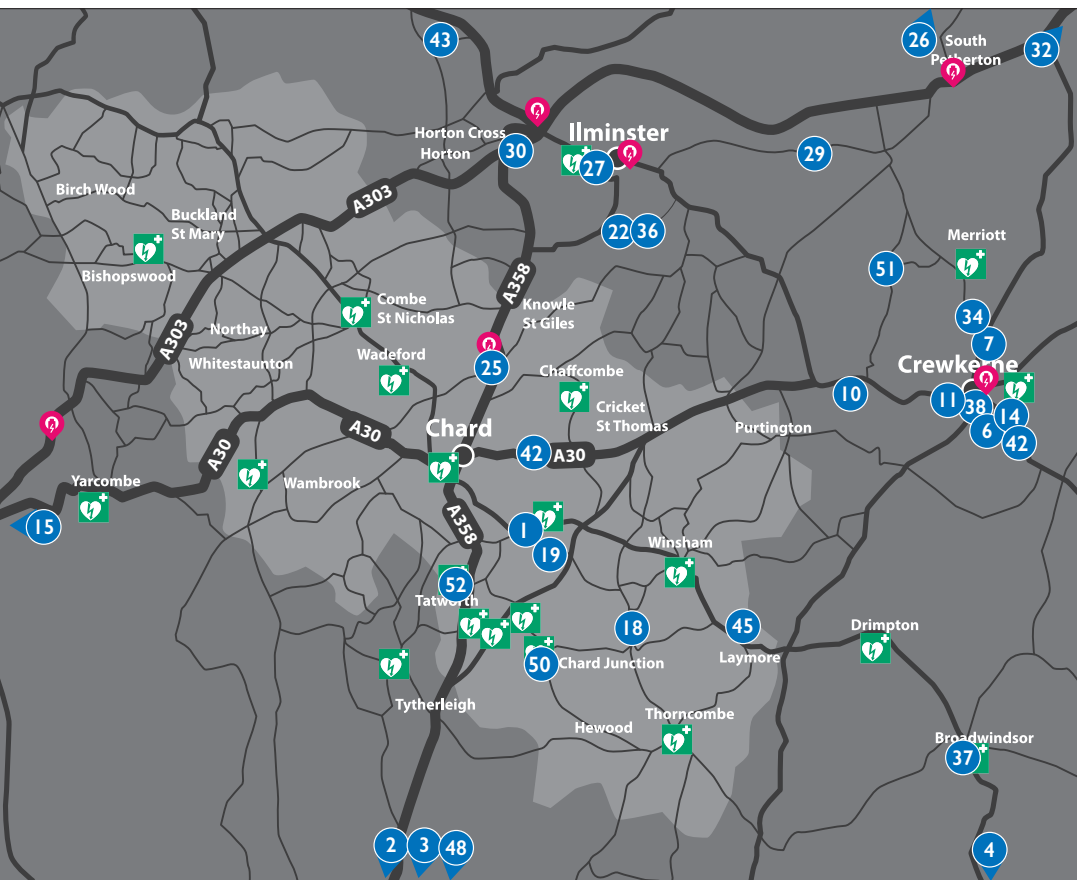
The FCR group meet every couple months. We would love to grow the group and are wanting to increase the committee members. The next meeting will be Thursday 25 June at 6:30pm. The venue will be confirmed via the Facebook page. A warm welcome will

be given. If you're a dog walker who knows how lucky we are to have such a lovely place available, a walker who recognises the benefits of being in the natural environment, a couple who know how important the area is to them & the community or anyone else who wants to help the rangers do what they do best. If you would like to play your part, please come along, knowing you will be very welcome. We hope to see you there.



Photos by
Malcolm Brown
and Toby Hooper.





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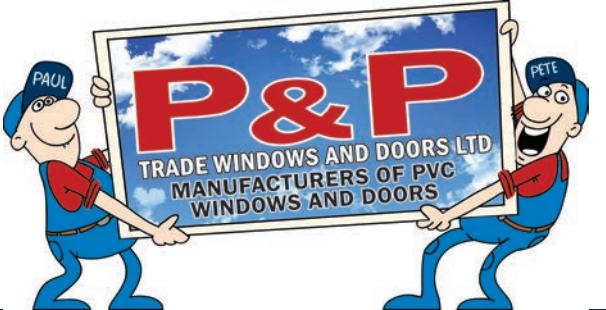
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Chard Town FC 2025/26 Season Review

The season continued into 2026 with constant postponements causing major disruption across all three teams and leaving the fixture schedule extremely fragmented. Despite the difficult conditions and regular breaks between matches, there were still many memorable moments, impressive performances and encouraging signs throughout the campaign.

The First Team began the year with an away trip to Staplegrove. Chard battled well during the opening stages but eventually went behind after sustained pressure from the home side before conceding a second shortly afterwards. Chard created chances of their own, including opportunities for Jordon Clapp, but were ultimately defeated 3-0. Another difficult away fixture followed at Frys where the game remained evenly balanced for long periods. The home side took the lead late in the first half before Jordon Clapp equalised after Alex Manley's powerful effort was spilled by the goalkeeper. However, a well taken free kick restored the advantage for the hosts who eventually secured a 2-1 win.

The Reserves started the year more positively with a hard-fought 1-0 victory away at St Martins, while the U18s faced a difficult cup tie against Staplegrove Youth and exited the competition after defeat. A scheduled trip to Chilcompton later in January was abandoned after worsening weather conditions made the pitch unsafe, adding to the growing list of disrupted fixtures.

February finally brought some momentum for the First Team. A confident away performance at Ashton & Backwell produced a 2-0 victory thanks to goals from Luca Manley and Jordon Clapp, giving Chard their first win of 2026 and an important clean sheet. This was followed by one of the most entertaining matches of



Luca Manley 14 goals from 30 appearances.

the season at Zembard Lane as Stockwood Wanderers were defeated 3-2, with Jordon Clapp scoring a superb hat-trick. The following week Chard produced another excellent attacking display in a 5-2 victory over Worle. Clapp struck twice again, Luca Manley added two goals of his own and Joe Gummer scored his first goal for the First Team in an impressive all-round team performance.

The Reserves also enjoyed a strong spell during this period, securing victories against Upottery and St Martins while remaining competitive in the Bill Slee Cup. Their determination and consistency throughout the campaign ensured they remained towards the top end of the table for much of the season.

The U18s faced arguably the most difficult schedule of all after months without regular football. Once fixtures resumed they were often required to play multiple games within a short period against strong opposition. Although defeats against sides such as Willand Rovers and Tiverton proved challenging, the team continued to show character and determination throughout. A thrilling 3-3 draw at Frome after conceding a late equaliser demonstrated their resilience, while another dramatic 5-5 draw away at Wellington provided one of the most entertaining games of the season.

As the campaign progressed, Harry

Crittenden became one of the standout players for the U18s. He scored regularly during the closing months of the season, including a superb hat-trick in a 3-0 victory over Shepton Mallet. Further goals against Axminster and Tiverton highlighted the continued progress of the younger players despite the difficult season structure.

March and April brought mixed fortunes for the First Team. Performances often remained competitive but late goals proved costly on several occasions. Narrow defeats to Nailsea, Stockwood Wanderers and Congresbury frustrated both players and supporters, especially after strong spells within the matches. Against Congresbury, Chard led through goals from Luca Manley and Brad Pitman before the visitors turned the game around late on to win 4-2.

One of the highlights of the season came over the Easter weekend. Away at Clevedon United, Chard produced an outstanding attacking display in a dramatic 4-3 victory. James Boyland opened the scoring after a well-worked move before Luca Manley added two more goals. Ryan Mason caused constant problems for the home defence throughout the game and scored a dramatic late winner to secure all three points after an end-to-end contest. Just two days later, however, the quick turnaround and fixture congestion took its toll as Chard suffered defeat away at Chilcompton Sports.

The final weeks of the season continued to provide plenty of drama. The First Team secured another impressive away victory at Congresbury thanks to goals from Jake Davey, Luca Manley and Ryan Mason, while the Reserves produced a remarkable comeback against the University of Exeter after trailing 2-0. Goals from Dem Driver, Radu and Bradley Masters helped complete a superb turnaround victory in one of the Reserves' best results of the season.

The U18s ended their season with a spirited performance against league champions Tiverton. After falling two goals behind they

fought back brilliantly through goals from Olly Wiltshire and Harry Crittenden before eventually conceding a late winner. Although disappointing, the performance summed up the commitment and character shown by the squad throughout the season.



Harry Crittenden 22 goals from 16 appearances.

At the conclusion of the campaign the First Team finished 10th in the league with a record of 12 wins, 1 draw and 15 defeats. The Reserves finished an impressive 4th with 10 wins, 2 draws and 6 defeats while still having games remaining to play. The U18s finished 5th with a record of 6 wins, 3 draws and 5 defeats after a season heavily affected by postponements and fixture congestion.

Following the end of the season, First Team manager Andrew Holmes announced he would step down after three seasons in charge, having successfully established the club as a competitive and stable mid-table side. Reserves manager James Govier also stepped down from his role and Gary Parsley was confirmed as his replacement ahead of the new season.

Attention now turns towards the 2026/27 campaign. The club continues to look for volunteers, sponsors and committee members to help move Chard Town Football Club forward both on and off the pitch. A vacancy for a Club Treasurer has also been announced, while preparations are already underway for another busy and exciting season ahead.

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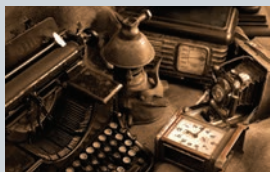
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11th July - Annual Chard Horticultural Show

19th July - World Cup Final



28th July - Bernie Scott Mediumship Evening

29th July - Talk by Nan Sloane on the Life and Times of Margaret Bondfield

22nd August - Chard Summer Ball



4th September - 90s night

18th September - The Virtues

26th September - Oktoberfest



16th - 18th October - Chard's Got Talent

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A brush with Royalty at Chard Inner Wheel!

What an interesting talk Chard members enjoyed from Jackie who went from being a social worker in this country and later with the Army in Germany, a tour guide in London and Hampton Court, to working full time at Windsor Castle as a guide/historian until a few years ago. She had lots of lovely stories including her shutting one of The Queen's corgis in the kitchen when she met it legging down the passage one evening, and her subsequent encounter with HM in the passage immediately afterwards. Jackie really enjoyed her work with The Family and the photos show a few of the presents she received over her 12+ years at Windsor. One of the annual Christmas puddings has been kept unopened for posterity!

Tell us about your organization!

Who would like to come and tell us about your organisation in Chard or surrounding area? We are particularly interested in any who provide for the youngsters in the area, and from any organisation that



feels they are not well known by us all. Please email chard.iw@outlook.com as very soon we will be planning our activities for the new Inner Wheel year which starts on 1st July.

Ladies, do come along to visit us and bring a friend or two. We love having visitors and anyone who is the slightest bit interested is very welcome. We are looking for cheerful women, with good ideas, who like to be 'doing things' and who are keen to help the local community in general, and young people in particular. More hands make light work and



more fun! You can come a few times to see if it's something with which you'd like to become involved, before you need to apply for membership.

Plans are afoot for a new venue for our Fun Tea & Dance afternoons! Put Tuesday 29th September 2026 in your diary and keep the date free. These afternoons are for anyone of any age who'd like to do something different, meet new people or old friends, dance or sing along, eat cake and enjoy themselves!

Our Quiz team has enjoyed 'limited success' this past season – we have neither excelled nor disgraced ourselves

(although those wooden spoons might be very useful), but we have enjoyed the Quizzes we have attended and look forward to many more.

The Fun Bingo evenings have finished for the present, and we thank everyone who has supported us. Soon we will be reporting upon the local beneficiaries from these and our other fundraising efforts.

Last October we had to postpone our 75th Anniversary celebrations so we are now looking forward to celebrating at Hornsbury Mill on a lovely summers evening in June.

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The Inn also offers a fully

functioning skittle alley and dart boards, perfect for friendly games and lively evenings. With space available for both small gatherings and larger groups,

Ye Olde Poppe Inn remains a friendly local pub and a place where good food, good company, and good times always meet.



Under New Ownership

Enjoy hearty home-cooked meals, classic Sunday roasts, and a great pint in welcoming surroundings.

the perfect place to relax and unwind

Mon-Sat: 12:00 pm - 11:00 pm
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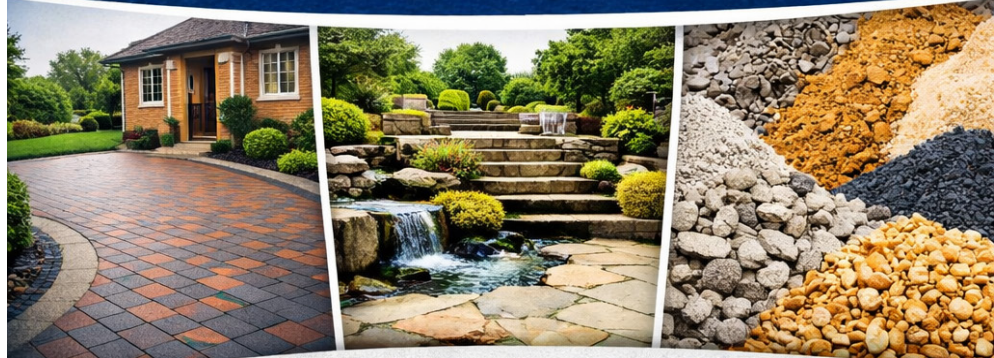
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