

# ST. PETER & ST. PAUL

PARISH CHURCH MAGAZINE

## NORTH CURRY WITH WRANTAGE

Mothering  
Sunday

31<sup>st</sup> March

Don't forget to treat  
*your mum!*

Family Eucharist  
Service 10am

Vicar  
announces  
retirement

**And in** this month's edition

Suspense, mystery, intrigue as  
readers reply to Revd Tyler's  
article, and scandal, as  
treasurer defies Diocese.

**MARCH  
2019**

**70P ISSUE PRICE - £6/YEAR FOR A DELIVERED COPY**

## Parish Church Diary Events: March - June

Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, Quiz Night

Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> March, Violin/ Cello Concert

Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, Lent Course Course Rationale and Jesus' First Decision

Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> March, Lent Course Jesus' Second Decision

Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, Church clean-up Day

Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> March, Lent Course Jesus' Teaching on the Kingdom

Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> March, Mothering Sunday

Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> April, Lent Course Jesus' radical perspective on Suffering

Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> April, Lent Course Jesus' Legacy to his Followers

Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> April, Easter

Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April, Tardito Concert

Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> May, May Fair Stall, in North Curry

Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> May, Christian Aid morning, Methodist Church garden

Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> May, Rogation Sunday, Walks and various Benefice services

Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> June, Choral Evensong, with "In Ecclesia" choir

Saturday/Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> June, Flower Festival

Produce Market, first Saturday of every month - next date: 2<sup>nd</sup> March

### School Holiday Terms

Easter 6<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> April

Half Term 25<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June

Summer 24<sup>th</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup> September



## Church Spring Clean, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, from 9.30am

We are asking all members and church users to come along, if only for an hour, to help clean, dust, polish, weed and sweep.

A well earned cuppa and biscuit will be provided at the end!

Thank you

## Non Parish Church Diary Events: March

Tuesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> March, Old Somerset Newspaper Talk	SSG Church
Wednesday, 6 <sup>th</sup> March, Driving Safer for Longer	WI
Thursday, 7 <sup>th</sup> March, A Cottage Garden History	NC Amateur Gardeners
Saturday, 9 <sup>th</sup> March, Guernsey Literary and Potato...	North Curry Film Club
Saturday, 16 <sup>th</sup> March, Social Evening	NC Amateur Gardeners
Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> March, 17 <sup>th</sup> Century Crime Talk	North Curry Society
Saturday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> March, Soup and Pud Lunch	WI
Wednesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> March, Letters from Baghdad	North Curry Film Club
Saturday, 6 <sup>th</sup> April, Julie Felix Concert	Village Hall

(Details on all these events can be found inside the magazine)

## Church Officers and Contacts

<u>Officer:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Contact Number:</u>
Vicar	Rev'd Tricia Staple	01823 490255
Honorary Associate Priest	Rev'd John Tyler	01460 281574
Reader	Ralph Roberts	01823 490933
Churchwarden	David Akerman	01823 490234
Churchwarden & Verger	Mary Piers	01823 491434
Churchwardens Emeritus	Tony Brooker	01823 490422
	Janet Dare	01823 490747
PCC Secretary/ Safe Guarding	Helen Griffiths	01823 491298
PCC Treasurer	Rob Ellis	01823 490599
Tower Captain	Darren Woodyer	01823 690162
Flower List Organiser	Lorraine Bryan Brown	01823 491665
Events Bookings Secretary	David Walker	01823 491231
Produce Market Organiser	Anne Williams	07531 382078
Little Angels/ Electoral Roll	Jenny Satchwell	01823 490463
Choir	Jean Smith	01823 490961
PCC 200 Club	Sue Bethune	01823 490179
Magazine Editor	Rob Ellis, email: <a href="mailto:ncurrymag@gmail.com">ncurrymag@gmail.com</a>	
PCC (Parochial Church Council) Address, for general correspondences		
St Peter and St Paul Church, Church Road, North Curry, Somerset. TA3 6LJ		
(Post box by kissing gate, at vicar's parking area)		

The church website is [www.northcurrychurch.co.uk](http://www.northcurrychurch.co.uk)

## Other useful numbers for North Curry

Coffee Shop	01823 491414	
Parish Council Offices	01823 490136	<a href="http://www.northcurry.com">www.northcurry.com</a>
Post Office/ Stores	01823 490261	
Primary School	01823 490423	<a href="http://www.northcurryschool.co.uk">www.northcurryschool.co.uk</a>
Surgery	01823 490505	<a href="http://www.northcurryhealthcentre.co.uk">www.northcurryhealthcentre.co.uk</a>

# Produce Market

Village Hall

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** 9.30am-11.30am

Time to practice your haggling and to grab a bargain!  
The kitchen will be open throughout, serving bacon butties and hot drinks.

The Countess of Munster Musical Trust  
in association with John Simpson

Presents a recital by  
IONEL MANCIU (Violin) and LEO POPPLEWELL (Cello)

In the Parish Church

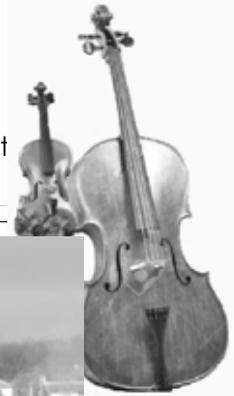
**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March**

7pm (doors open 6:30pm)

PROCEEDS to RNLI, Seafarers & Church

Tickets **£10** on sale **NOW**

**North Curry Post Office** or at the door on the night



7<sup>th</sup> April, our benefice church at Lyng  
is having their Planned Giving Service.

If you would like to join the 3 current members they have paying for their church upkeep, please contact their treasurer.

Contact Margaret Williamson – 01823 690471  
emwilliamson@btinternet.com

Obtaining front cover pictures and ideas can be tricky. Fortunately, Julian Comrie has kindly provided this month's picture as well as a few others for future months. However, for the April edition, I have enlisted the creative geniuses, that are the Year 6 pupils at North Curry Primary School.

**Hello mum! Happy Mothering Sunday. BTW, THIS MAGAZINE WILL BE FREE NEXT MONTH**



The PCC are holding a competition for the best design to be used on our April (Easter) edition. Their work will be put on display in the church from 2<sup>nd</sup> March to 10<sup>th</sup> March and the congregation will get the chance to judge their favourite. We are indebted to Trish Green, the Year 6 teacher, and Head teacher Helen Morley, for their cooperation and support, as well as our thanks to the children involved. We look forward to seeing their designs and presenting the winner next month.

Of course, March is a busy month with all sorts of things happening. We have our quiz, Pancake Day (yay) followed by Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent. Then we have our March concert plus all the other village events to look forward to. Towards the end of the month, on the 20<sup>th</sup>, the Spring Equinox occurs, and on 31<sup>st</sup> March, we can all start to look forward to longer evenings as the clocks "spring forward" an hour. And it's tipped off with Mothering Sunday, and our family service.

**Truncated Art Work.** I came across this news story in early February. For those of you that did not see it, this sculpture was done by Sculptor Simon O'Rourke in North Wales, from a single fallen tree. Apparently, it was causing traffic issues, as passing traffic were slowing down to look at it.

Maybe we need something similar to control our speeding motorists through the centre of the village! Other pictures and the full news story can be found at:



[www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-47103392](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-47103392)

## **Announcements/ News in Brief**

As you will appreciate, Tricia has been off from active duty for a while now. After many years of service to our church and benefice, she has decided to step down. She writes:

"Dear friends

It is with mixed feelings of sadness and relief that I tell you I hope to retire at the end of June this year. As you know, I have struggled for some time now, but tried to keep going. Having failed to get back on track, and still being signed by my doctor as 'not fit for work', I feel it would be unfair on everybody to continue that struggle. It has been a difficult journey, but I believe this is the right thing to do for the sake of all to and with whom I minister.

My grateful thanks to the churchwardens and my ministerial colleagues, particularly dear John Tyler, who have worked tirelessly to keep the Benefice not only afloat but buoyant.

I would also like to thank those who have stood by me and supported me during these difficult few months – your comfort and encouragement have kept me going through quite a dark and unsettled period. Although I cannot name names, you know who you are, and I am eternally grateful to you for not giving up on me.

I shall be back before I retire, so I shall have the opportunity to thank people and to say 'goodbye'.

Bless you all,

Tricia-the-Vicar"

Congratulations to our February 200 Club Winners

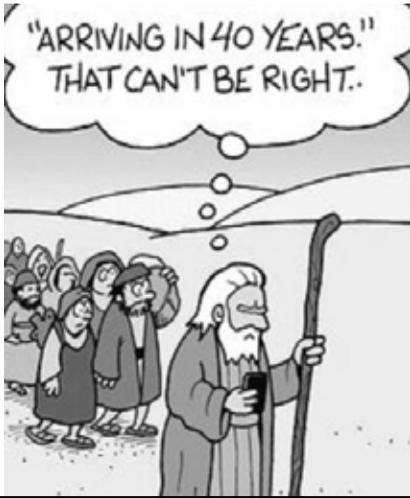
1st Prize - £30: Mr D. Walker

2nd Prize - £20: Mr J. Popham, 3rd Prize - £10: Mrs D. Doble

If you are not a member, and would like to join, please contact Sue Bethune on 490179. The annual subscription is £18. Players must be 18+ yrs. If you are renewing your subscription and pay by standing order, please remember to update it from £12 to £18.

The Produce Market. It's a social gathering with a bazaar! 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 9.30am-11.30am, the village hall is the place to be. The kitchen will be open throughout, serving bacon butties and hot drinks, from only 50p, with a surprise guest working in the kitchen...

Posy Making, 9.30am 30<sup>th</sup> March in the church, in readiness for Mothering Sunday. Please bring your foliage and flowers the night before. In case of doubt, contact Jenny Satchwell who is organising it.



Revd Tyler reviews his rogation walk SatNav....

Spring Lent Courses begin this month. See page 13 for more details.

Rogation Benefice Walk, 26<sup>th</sup> May.  
Revd Tyler will lead us around our various churches, see page 14 for details.

The Parish Council have unveiled its new website, with plenty of information.  
[www.northcurry.com](http://www.northcurry.com)

Our Health and Safety policy has been updated. See page 29.

The PCC (the Parochial Church Council) has decided after many years to drop the issue price of the magazine from the April edition – however, an annual delivery

charge of £6 (which works out at 50p/issue) will continue, for those that would like it delivered and have a guaranteed copy. The print run will continue for now at 200 copies, so any undelivered issues will be available to collect from the church or post office for free, on a first come basis. Anyone that had paid this year's annual fee for the magazine can ask to have their money refunded if they no longer wish to have it delivered. We thank all of those that deliver our magazine, and on its behalf, have collected the fees due. Your commitment through rain and shine is truly appreciated.

The mobile library calls once a month. It visits on a Wednesday every 4 weeks and stops in Queen Square for 45 minutes between 1.45pm–2.30pm. There is a good selection of books of all subjects and it is a really important resource. The next visit is on 27<sup>th</sup> March.

The next Parochial Church Council meeting will be held on 11<sup>th</sup> March. Should you have something that you wished discussed at this meeting, please forward it to the Secretary or a Warden by 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Does anyone have a spare Dyson style bagless upright vacuum cleaner that they could donate to the church? The Henry Hoover, whilst still in good working order, is not as easy to use an "upright". Many thanks.

## The Rev'd Martin Mudie writes

March sees the return of new life to both town and countryside. In the gardens not only crocus but early daffodils make a very welcome appearance foretelling the arrival of Spring.

In the Church we are also looking forward to the new life for all which is at the centre of our Easter celebration. However, before we get there for that celebration, we observe the preparation season of Lent. Now Lent is observed by people in many ways. Some deny themselves the joy which is chocolate as a mark of respect for the 40 days which Jesus spent in the wilderness prior to his ministry. Although I admire their will power, I have no intention in joining their number!

So for many years now rather than depriving myself of things I like, I try and take on something new. For some time now, my wonderful doctor has been encouraging me to do something weird called exercise, so this year I intend to go on a 10 minute speed walk every day except Sunday which is, of course, the Day of Rest! We will see how it goes.

Lent is one of our preparation seasons. In the ancient Church, baptisms took place at Easter and those preparing for that spent Lent in reflection on the direction of their lives. It went so well that it was extended to the whole Church. Now, it seems to me, such reflection could be very helpful whether you have a faith or not. In the business of our daily lives we can all be on the treadmill of just getting things done for ourselves or loved ones, rather than reflecting on what we actually want in life. So my advice this Lent, which please do feel free to ignore, is to take 10 minutes a day for yourselves. Think about your direction of your lives and if now is a good time to either make small or large changes to enrich not only yourselves but the lives of those in your family or community.

Remember, the promise of Easter is Jesus came to us so that we could enjoy life to the full and be better and more contented people.

\* \* \*

## Readers comments...

Dear Revd Tyler, from your January letter, you sought out a sign of hope from us. Unfortunately, no contributions were received. However, just for you, I have this. Marvel Comic readers will know that is not an S, but the Kryptonian symbol for Hope. But maybe you already knew that, and secretly wear it under your cassock...



Dear John, I write with regard your February piece...

I think the Chinese probe was actually taking photos of the newly formed churchyard fence, but used the moon as a cover story. Probably looking for ways to improve the Great Wall, and where better to start...

Miss T Ree

Dear John, can we really blame technology for society's failings? Perhaps the consumers are as much to blame as the so called researchers and manufacturers. How did we become a "throw away" society built on convenience and the perception of needing it now? Teflon, it has put us on a slippery slope...

A Hydra, Five Heads

Dear John, I do think scientific research and interplanetary exploration is worthwhile, not instead of making this world a better place but as well as. Many of the world's ills are not the result of a shortage of resources but a misallocation by our social and political systems. There is enough food to go around - it is not shared equitably.

It is our inquisitiveness and ability to imagine, along with our thoughts to go back and forth through time that distinguishes our species.

Happily, we humans seem to be prepared to share a lot of science across nations. Isn't it good that the International Space Station is international despite Messrs Trump and Putin?

I am sorry John that you were not enthused by the dark side of the moon - I want to keep exploring.

Mr DA Akerman, North Curry

Dear Revd Tyler, where would our world be without satellites, mobile phones and airplanes to take us on long haul holidays. The tech for these all came through research programmes, such as Space; brilliant, well paid engineers and scientists have improved our everyday lives. Maybe if Jesus was born in today's world, Mary would have checked the Inn's online availability and booked a room in advance of the journey. And the Magi would have texted for directions.

Gordon Bennett

Dear John, the good Lord has furnished us with curiosity and with intellect and physical resources to discover what we can about our surroundings. No doubt we will only ever scratch the surface of the complexity and elegance of creation, but hopefully God will be pleased and amused with the efforts we make.

I don't believe the millions we spend on space research would make a perceptible difference if spent instead on addressing poverty and hunger. What would make a difference would be tackling the enormous disparities of income and wealth between the obscenely rich few and the abjectly poor many. Not a matter for scientists, but politicians.

Mr D Walker, North Curry

Dear Revd Tyler, I do not believe exploration or research is the problem; it is our lack of care in disposing of our waste. I despair when I see pictures of space rockets fly up. Their propellant devices are freely jettisoned into the sea; I bet no one goes to clear them up, and let's not think about what fumes and alike are being exhausted. And whilst I'm on it, take plastic as another example - used in everything, but did anyone stop to think on how it might be disposed of once it finished being useful. Short term gains, without thoughtful vision or care of the future.

Teresa Green, in Woodland Views

31<sup>st</sup> March, the clocks "spring forward" an hour, as BST (British Summer Time) begins



## Growth Mindset by Starfish Class North Curry C of E School

The local children in the younger class have been working on their attitude towards learning. It is something that we all can adopt and put into our everyday lives. How often do we give up on something when we find it too hard to do?

To assist with their learning hurdles, they are using the following methods.

In your mind you have both a 'growth mindset' and a 'fixed mindset'. If you have a fixed mindset you give up easily and say "I can't do this" and "I'm not going to keep trying". In Starfish Class, our teacher encourages us to have a growth mindset where we do not give up. Our motto is 'practise makes progress'.

We know that we will FAIL many times before we succeed. FAIL = First Attempt In Learning. We also celebrate mistakes. One thing we ask each other is 'Have you made a wonderful, glorious mistake today?' We challenge ourselves to think about what we can do to improve and tell ourselves that we can learn new things. We also talk about the power of yet! In other words we might not be able to do something straight away but if we keep on trying we know we will succeed.



All the teachers have taken on a growth mindset challenge to show us that we can all achieve anything if we put our mind to it. Some of their challenges are to learn how to bake, to bike ride up a hill, to learn to play a musical instrument from scratch and to learn British Sign Language. Each term the teachers show us how far they have come on their journey.

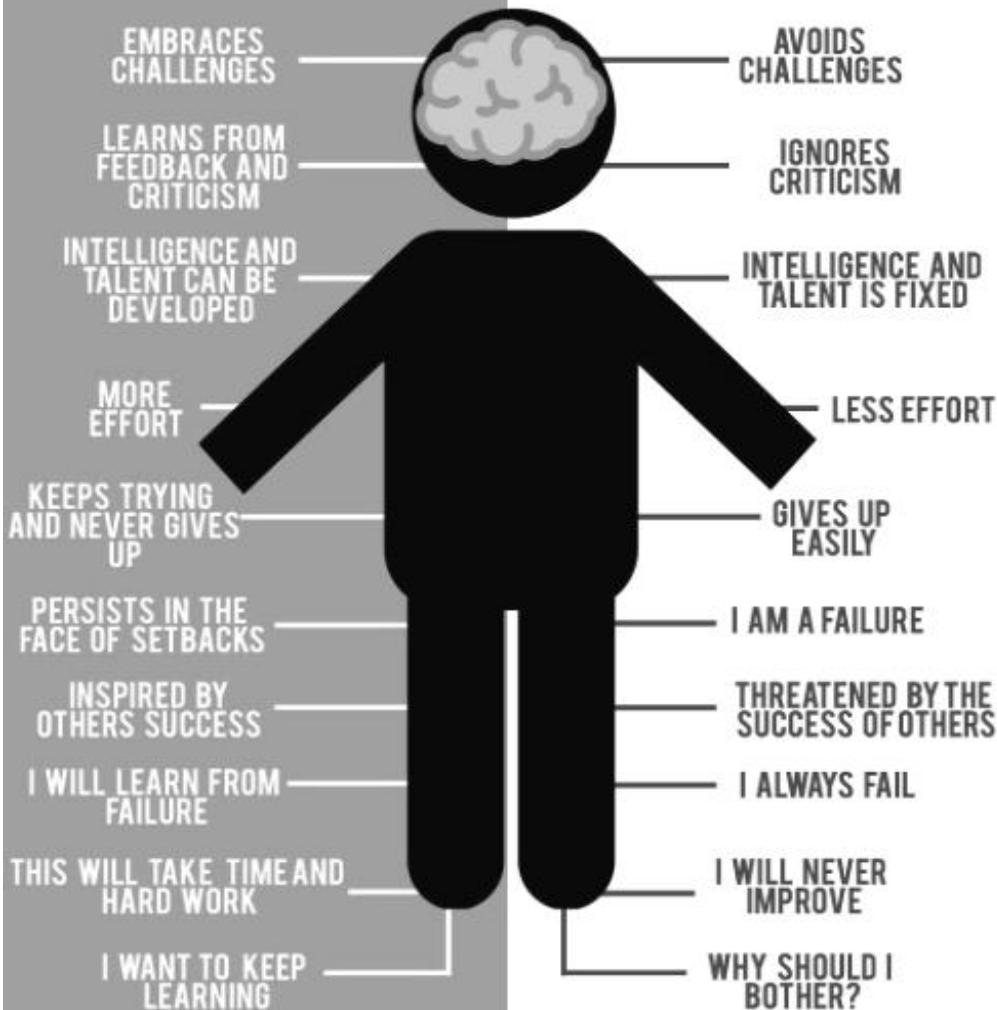
It makes us think about not giving up and working hard towards our goals. Remember never give up because you will be able to do something but if you do give up you will never be able to achieve it.

Little Angels  
Toddlers Club and Pram Service  
Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in the month at the church.  
Next meeting 10am – 14<sup>th</sup> March

# GROWTH MINDSET

VS.

# FIXED MINDSET



Always use a growth mindset!

Thank you Starfish Class for this thought provoking article...

## North Curry W.I, Jill Cox reports

Wednesday, 6th March 2.00pm – NC Village Hall

### ‘DRIVING SAFER FOR LONGER’

Today's roads are busier than ever and, for some older drivers, driving has become a worrying if necessary challenge. A representative from Somerset Road Safety Organisation will be giving our March talk, advising on ways of helping to keep drivers stay safer on the roads for longer. We look forward to learning of any practical advice that we can employ to reassure ourselves and perhaps even making driving enjoyable again. If you think this subject may be of interest to you, please join us on 6<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm to listen to our speaker and perhaps stay later for tea and social time – you will be very welcome.

AND – talking of Welcome –

We hope you can come along to the SOUP AND PUD LUNCH on SATURDAY 23RD MARCH (12noon – 2.00pm) in North Curry Village Hall. This has become an annual and popular event and once again we will be providing a wide variety of appetising soups and a delicious selection of puddings – ALL HOME MADE. There is no need to book – just turn up on the day for a relaxing lunchtime treat – cost £6.00.



Upon receipt of the below, I thought my editorial fan club had sent a picture of themselves. But alas not. Instead, it was the lovely ladies of the WI from their recent Curling competition.



## **LENT COURSE - March and April**

Our Lent Course this year has the general title '**Jesus before Christianity**'. As with the Advent Course, each session will be chaired by the Revd John Tyler (Ralph Roberts will chair the 1<sup>st</sup> April).

First in the

**North Curry Parish Church**, (change of venue from the Autumn) from 4 – 5 pm, then later the same day at the

**Church Rooms, Stoke St. Gregory**, from 6 – 7 pm.

These sessions are **FREE** to attend, though any (small) donations towards the cost of tea, coffee, heating and copying, would be appreciated. Each session, lasting less than an hour, is virtually independent, so there is no need to feel committed to be at all of them, and anyone can come and join in at any session.

It might be a good idea to bring along your Bible.

If there is anything more you would like to know, please contact John on 01460 281574, or at tyleruk@tiscali.co.uk .

March 11<sup>th</sup> Course Rationale and **Jesus' First Decision**

March 18<sup>th</sup> **Jesus' Second Decision**

March 25<sup>th</sup> **Jesus' Teaching on the Kingdom**

April 1<sup>st</sup> **Jesus' Radical perspective on Suffering**

April 8<sup>th</sup> **Jesus' Legacy to his Followers**

\* \* \*

After the excitement of Christmas, Ash Wednesday brings us to the reflective season of Lent when we can take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness. Since the middle ages it has become the custom to begin Lent by being marked in ash with the sign of the cross as a sign of repentance. In North Curry we will do this at a mid-week Eucharist on the evening of 6<sup>th</sup> March.

A millennium before the medieval custom of Ashing, Lent was already established as the 40 days, less Sundays, leading up to Easter. Easter was the time when new converts to Christianity were Baptised, and this period was used for their preparation and instruction. It was probably only later that Lent gained its character as a season of Fasting and Penance.

During this season, 25<sup>th</sup> March is observed as the Feast of the Annunciation (count the months) and March ends with Mothering Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Lent, a day of refreshment from the Lenten rigours. The month also includes two of our national patron saints, David and Patrick.

## Rogationtide Walk, Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May

In a couple of months, Revd John Tyler will again lead the walk around our benefice, visiting all the Athelney churches and asking for God's Blessing at each.

Below, is a brief outline of the day, with a more detailed presentation to follow in the May edition of the magazine.

So if you plan on joining us, maybe it is time to finely tune your limbs in preparation. Why not indulge yourself in some walks around our beautiful village in readiness of the jaunt?

8.00am	Start at North Curry Church	Emmaus Eucharist
9.00am	walk to Stoke St. Gregory	approx 3 miles
11.00am	Stoke St. Gregory Church	Short service
11.30am	walk to Burrowbridge	approx 4.25 miles
2.00pm	Arrive at Burrowbridge, Break for lunch	
2.30pm	Burrowbridge Church	Short service
3.15pm	Burrow Mump	Blessing
3.30pm	walk to Athelney Abbey	approx 1.5 miles
4.15pm	Athelney Abbey	Blessing
4.45pm	walk to Lyng	approx 1 mile
5.30pm	Lyng Church	Short Service
6.00pm	From top of Church Tower	Blessing

Times are approximate and may have to be adjusted.

You can walk the entire route (approx 9.5 miles), or just join us on part of it. Whilst the gradient will be mostly level, some footpaths and muddy fields may be involved.

Stout walking shoes/ boots are recommended, and bring along some "emergency" refreshments, including water. Dogs welcome, but must be

kept under strict control the whole time.

We will have refreshment and rest points along the way.

Offers of help to transport weary walkers back from Lyng at the end of the day would be much appreciated. Please contact John if you can assist.



Lyng Church, where the walk will finish

photo courtesy of Julian Comrie

Letter from the Right Reverend  
Ruth Worsley, Bishop of Taunton

## **Let Him look at you**

The other day, someone was speaking about visiting with her elderly mum. She was telling me that whenever she visited, she would offer to do any jobs that might be needed and beyond her mum's reach. Her mum's response was to say: "**Just sit down and let me look at you**". I've been thinking about that conversation ever since.

What a wonderful thing to say to your child. "**Just sit down and let me look at you**".

She was sharing this vignette, a year after her mum's death. There are no more opportunities for her mum to 'sit and look at her'. How glad she is that she took the time while her mum was alive.

I wonder if I can say the same. Have I made time for the things that really matter or am I so focused on the tasks at hand that I forget the need for space to develop relationships? I have a sense that this isn't just about the people who matter to me but also that it may be Jesus speaking to me as well. "**Just sit down and let me look at you**".

The story of Mary and Martha opening up their home to Jesus in hospitality perhaps reminds us most of the priority of spending time in the presence of Jesus. Martha complains at Mary's lack of support in helping with the household jobs. Jesus response is to suggest that Martha has become so distracted with the 'tasks' of hospitality that she has missed the point of what welcome and relationship is.

We often think of this story as being about Mary and Martha's priorities. Which is of greater significance? Our attitude of service or that of spiritual exploration? However I'm wondering if Jesus was saying something more. "**Just sit down and let me look at you**". What would Jesus see if He looked at you? How does He look at you?

8<sup>th</sup> March is international women's day, often an opportunity to remind us that society's way of looking at women has changed over the years. The Me Too movement has revealed some of the ways in which women have been objectified resulting in forms of abuse. Alongside that growing realisation we are increasingly aware that many women and men feel a sense of dissatisfaction with how they look and can find their mental health affected as a result. Many of us find another person looking at us, uncomfortable.

I'd like to suggest that we might hear these words, "**just sit down and let me look at you**", as an invitation from Jesus to spend time under his gaze this week. Not as a means of incurring shame but rather to receive the look of love that he so wants us to see.

## North Curry Coffee Shop, Rachel Davis reports

Situated in the centre of the village, is a community project run by volunteers and is entirely self financing. Since it opened in May 2006, over £100,000 has been raised for charities nominated by our volunteers. The menu features high quality coffee and tea, a selection of fruit juices and soft drinks, a range of homemade cakes and light refreshments suitable for lunch or morning and afternoon snacks. The Coffee Shop is a venue for exhibitions by local artists and crafts people. There is a wide selection of second hand books, arts and crafts, cards and jewellery for sale.



From 1<sup>st</sup> March the coffee shops opening hours will be back to normal opening from 10 am - 5 pm. The Management Committee of the North Curry Coffee Shop is **looking for new members to join the committee**. Both current volunteers and new people will be welcomed. At the AGM in April the positions of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer will become vacant. The present incumbents are happy to discuss the roles with anyone willing to take on one of these positions. If you are interested in any of these important roles or in joining the committee, please contact Tina Stone (490837) or Sheila Brown (490848).

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## SOUP & PUD

THIS ANNUAL POPULAR EVENT  
IS ON

**SATURDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> MARCH**

12 NOON – 2 P.M.

VILLAGE HALL NORTH CURRY



DELICIOUS HOMEMADE  
SOUP AND PUDDING

*Just turn up on the day £6.00pp*

All proceeds to North Curry W.I.

## Investing in the Individual

John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

You are invited to join me for a series on monthly gatherings on

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January – 7.30pm to 9.00pm

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February - 7.30pm to 9.00pm

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March - 7.30pm to 9.00pm**

All at Holy Trinity, Bridgwater from 7.30pm to 9.00pm



- Purpose:** Equipping: Enabling: Encouraging: Envisioning:  
**How:** Looking at areas of life such as - Prayer: Discipleship: Evangelism: Leadership: Work: Geared around those who would like to come along  
**What:** A series on monthly gatherings to look at how we intentionally grow as followers of Jesus and how this makes a difference where we are. Come to one or all the sessions.  
**Who:** Open to anyone who would like to grow in their faith, mission and ministry.  
It's for equipping the local church in its own mission and ministry  
It's to help grow the kingdom

For more information please contact



Sedgemoor Deanery Mission Enabler  
Morey A C Andrews  
07966 941098 / dmesedgemoor@gmail.com

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DIOCESE OF  
**Bath & Wells**

[www.bathandwells.org.uk](http://www.bathandwells.org.uk)

Living the story. Telling the story.

Our Diocese website has all sorts of useful information on it regarding the Christian faith.

Do take the time to have a look and explore for yourself on what your Diocese is doing and what support it can provide.

## New Electoral Roll 2019

It's that time again! Every six years, a new Electoral Roll is compiled. Signing up on the Electoral Roll means you can take part in the decisions affecting the Church, and can also allow you to stand for the Parochial Church Council. In essence, you have a voice...

On **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**, notice of the preparation of the New Electoral Roll will be displayed in the Church porch. Application Forms will be available in the Church and from PCC members. The last date for inclusion in the new Roll will be Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March, and the new list will be displayed from Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April. No new members may be added from this date until after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, which is on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April.

If you would like more information, please speak with the Electoral Roll Officer, Jenny Satchwell, on 01823 490463.

\* \* \*

## Children's Activity Day – 19<sup>th</sup> February, review

The theme this time was Tree of Life, and around 22 children, aged from 4yr to 10yr, had tremendous fun, branching into different activities. There were the usual messy play, craft making tables, a puzzle trail, as well as try outs on the organ and bell ringing. The science table proved challenging, but they soon twigged what was needed. Once sapped of all their energy, it was time for refreshments before taking root in a group to listen to the end story, which was the tale of Zacchaeus the tax collector.



roberto tardito  
LLIBRE VERMELL DE MONTSERRAT  
*the old pilgrims' music*

**Roberto Tardito - European Tour 2019**  
First performance of his tour starts at  
North Curry, 23<sup>rd</sup> April

**Tickets £10**  
**On sale from 18<sup>th</sup> March**  
at the Post Office

Then they all helped pack away, before leaving all the happier for their morning trip to the church.

Much thanks to Jenny Satchwell, and her team of volunteers, and the bell ringers too, for all their work in making this happen.

We would welcome any parent (or child) wishing to become more involved with the church, either through the attendance of service, or helping with the activity day or with fund raising events.

Please contact Jenny Satchwell, or come along to any Sunday service.

## North Curry and District Amateur Gardeners, by Heather Williams



Our next meeting will be on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March when our speaker will be the well-known Sally Gregson talking on "A cottage garden history". It promises to be really interesting and I hope that she'll bring some of her wonderful plants with her!

Don't forget the Social Evening in the Village Hall on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 for 7.30pm. This is free to all members but guests may come at the cost of £15.00 each. Also don't forget to bring a glass and whatever you fancy to drink. If you haven't been before, this is always a jolly occasion with lovely food, a bit of a quiz and lots of lovely people to chat to.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month in the Pavilion of the Greenway Playing Fields at 7.45 for 8.00pm. New members and guests are always welcome so come and join us for the talk and stay for coffee and a chat afterwards.



### North Curry Flower Festival

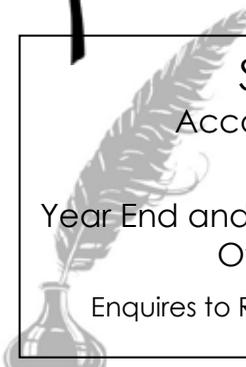
29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> June at North Curry Church

Why not become involved this year?

Contact Lorraine Bryan Brown  
01823 491665

This year's theme is Book Titles

And we hope to make this year's event  
as spectacular as last year's



### SCR Business Services Ltd

Accountancy and bookkeeping Services

in North Curry, and surrounding villages

Year End and Management Accounts, VAT, CIS, Payroll

Over 30 yrs experience - free initial consultation

Enquires to Rob Ellis 01823 490599/ email: [rellisscr@hotmail.com](mailto:rellisscr@hotmail.com)

## Benefice of Athelney – Service Rota March – 2019

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	<b>THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT</b>		
08.00	North Curry	Holy Communion	Rev'd John Tyler
09.30	Lyng	Holy Communion	Rev'd Martin Mudie
10.00	North Curry	Eucharist	Rev'd John Tyler
11.00	Stoke St Gregory	Morning Prayer	Dr Robert Dunning
<i>6<sup>th</sup> March</i>	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>		
17.00	Stoke St Gregory	Evening Prayer	Dr Jane Sutton
19.00	North Curry	Holy Communion with Ashing	Rev'd John Tyler

<b>10<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>		
08.00	Stoke St Gregory	Holy Communion	Rev'd John Tyler
10.00	Lyng	United Benefice Eucharist	Rev'd John Tyler
<i>13<sup>th</sup> March</i>	<i>(Wednesday)</i>		
17.00	Stoke St Gregory	Evening Prayer	Dr Jane Sutton

<b>17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT</b>		
08.00	North Curry	Holy Communion	Rev'd John Tyler
09.30	Burrowbridge	Holy Communion	Rev'd Martin Mudie
10.00	North Curry	Morning Prayer	Ralph Roberts
11.00	Stoke St Gregory	Eucharist	Rev'd John Tyler
<i>20<sup>th</sup> March</i>	<i>(Wednesday)</i>		
17.00	Stoke St Gregory	Evening Prayer	Dr Jane Sutton

<b>24<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</b>		
09.30	Burrowbridge	Morning Prayer	Dr Robert Dunning
10.00	North Curry	Eucharist	Rev'd John Tyler
11.00	Stoke St Gregory	Eucharist	Rev'd Martin Mudie
<i>27<sup>th</sup> March</i>	<i>(Wednesday)</i>		
17.00	Stoke St Gregory	Evening Prayer	Dr Jane Sutton

<b>31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>MOTHERING SUNDAY</b>	<b>BST starts, clocks go forward</b>	
09.30	Lyng	Service of the Word	Rev'd John Tyler
10.00	Burrowbridge	Service of the Word	Ralph Roberts
10.00	North Curry	Family Eucharist	Rev'd Martin Mudie
11.00	Stoke St Gregory	Eucharist	Rev'd John Tyler
<i>3<sup>rd</sup> April</i>	<i>(Wednesday)</i>		
17.00	Stoke St Gregory	Evening Prayer	Dr Jane Sutton

The 200 Club always has room for one more! Players must be  
18yrs+ to join. Only **£18 per year (£1.50/month)**

Prizes each month £30/ £20/ £10

To sign up, contact Sue Bethune on 01823 490179

If you are renewing your subscription between March – August  
please remember to update your standing order from £12 to £18.

## **Julie Felix is coming to North Curry in April**

**She is giving a concert at the Village Hall  
on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April**



A legend of the folk music world; singer, songwriter, guitarist, charismatic entertainer... dubbed "the First Lady of Folk" by the Times ...the first folk singer to have her own TV show, to fill the Royal Albert Hall, and to sing in Westminster Abbey.



Doors (and bar) open at 7pm, with the concert beginning at 7:30pm. Julie will give two 45-minute sessions, separated by an interval (with bar).

The bar will re-open for Julie's "meet & greet" and CD sale & signing following her second session.

**Tickets will be £12 each**, available **now**, at the Post Office, from Fleur White (01823 491424), or – depending on availability – at the door. Don't leave it to the last minute - demand is so high that advance reservations for well over 50% of the available tickets have already been accepted.

This means that there is no guarantee that any will be left for at-the-door purchase on the night of the concert.

## **Stoke St. Gregory Parish Church**

### **SHROVE TUESDAY SUPPER**

(Selection of Hot Food, bring your own drink)

**TUESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH @ 7.30pm, at the Church Room**

**Talk By Dr. Robert Dunning on**

**Old Somerset Newspapers**

**Tickets £10.00**

Please add name to list in the church or telephone  
01823 490508 or 490750

Please notify any dietary needs when booking  
Proceeds for SSG Church Funds

## North Curry Wassail, 25th January review



Tim Hill, in association with the Wildlife Group, led a good crowd in a celebration of noise and merriment at this year's event. The brilliance of the musicians, ably supported by the many children, meant that any lingering evil spirits were truly ushered away from the apple trees. As such, we look forward to a bountiful harvest in the Wildlife area.

If you are not sure where to find the Wildlife Group corner, go down Stoke Road to White Street, and then 2<sup>nd</sup> left into Morris Way. At the end, you will find the White Street Pavilion, home to the Cricket and Football Clubs.



The wildlife corner can be found to furthest right hand corner, at the top overlooking the sports fields.

Whilst it is wheelchair/push chair accessible, you have to

bear in mind that the route is all grass, and at this time of year, it can be a bit wet under foot (or wheel). It is definitely worth a visit, if only to linger in the seating area to watch the birds for a while.

If you would like to know more, contact Phil Stone at [phil.stone7@icloud.com](mailto:phil.stone7@icloud.com) or visit their website at [www.northcurrywildlife.com](http://www.northcurrywildlife.com).

The Somerset Village Agent project is run by the Community Council for Somerset (CCS) and now covers half of the county.



somerset  
village & community  
agents

The project uses paid, part time, highly trained individuals living in the parish 'clusters' they support.

Village Agents help to bridge the gap between isolated, excluded, vulnerable and lonely individuals & statutory and/or voluntary organisations which offer specific solutions to identified needs.

We work with people of all ages and deal with a wide variety of issues although a considerable number of our clients are elderly and involves social care issues.

Linda Burton is our Village Agent, and for the surrounding villages. She is new to the role and is keen to get to know the community and offer signposting and support.

The objectives of the Somerset Village Agent project are to:

- Ensure that people receive the benefits they are entitled to
- Direct people to organisations that can help them
- Ensure people living alone are not forgotten
- Make the local community aware of social problems in their area
- Offer advice, particularly to the elderly
- Locate people who are lonely and need help such as food or local services
- Advice on energy problems and how to save money

**Please contact Linda if you or someone you know would benefit from her support.**

Linda Burton | Village Agent | Tel: 01823 331222 |  
Mobile: 07931018019 | Email:  
linda@somersetccc.org.uk



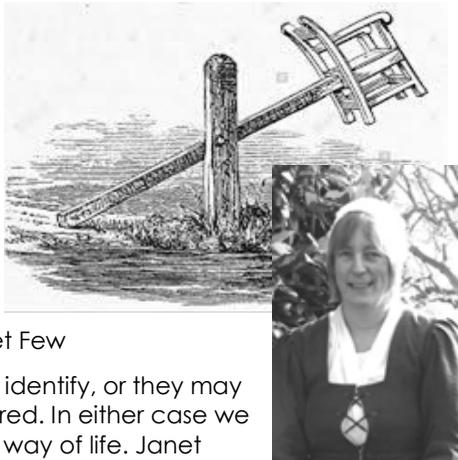
**SOMERSET INDEPENDENCE PLUS:** This is a one-stop shop for equipment, home improvements and advice to help people live independently at home for longer. It is based at Unit 17, Knights Rd., Chelston Industrial Park near Wellington and is open to the public on Mondays from 9.30am – 4pm. Alternatively appointments can be booked by contacting Somerset Direct on 0300 123 2224. It can offer advice and financial assistance that covers a number of improvements, adaptations or repairs that might need to be carried out on your home and staff will be on site to provide advice and information.

Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm  
North Curry Village Hall

**Ducking Stools, Dissenters, Debtors  
and Drunks:** *crime and punishment in  
the seventeenth century.* A talk by Dr Janet Few

Our ancestors may be people that we can identify, or they may be lurking, nameless, waiting to be discovered. In either case we owe it to them to find out more about their way of life. Janet Few (aka Mistress Agnes) is an historian who, having researched social and community life in the 1600s, interprets those times for us - and for others across the English-speaking world and at sea. Her company, Swords and Spindles, provides living history presentations for schools, heritage sites, history societies and social groups.

The North Curry Society meets on the third Wednesday of each month in the Village Hall, starting at 8pm (hot drinks and socialising from 7:30pm). Annual membership of £5 includes admission to talks, discussions and refreshments; visitors pay a small charge (currently £1). Whether you are a visitor, new to the Society or an established member, we look forward to welcoming you.



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**Presented by Don Hoyle**



On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March, we have our last Winter Warmer, the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society. Set in 1941, a group of four English people are walking at night in occupied Guernsey. They are stopped by Germans for breaching the curfew. When asked for their reason, one of the women notices a book in the pocket of one of the Germans and says that they were at a book group. Collectively they make up the book group's name, the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, and so begins the story. The Village Hall opens at 2.30 pm and the film starts at 3 pm. It costs £5 (+ a donation for tea etc).

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March we are showing a documentary: Letters from Baghdad, about the amazing Gertrude Bell, an archaeologist, diplomat, writer, photographer, cartographer and suspected spy. She had a fascinating life that far too few know about. The Village Hall doors/ bar open at 7 pm with the film starting at 7.30 pm.

Free to members & £5 for guests. Anyone can be a guest – just come along! Why not join for a ½ year £12.50 for 6 films?

More information on our films on [www.northcurryfilmsociety.org.uk](http://www.northcurryfilmsociety.org.uk)



## **News from North Curry /Curland Methodists, by Daphne Gilham**

25 or so people from the Parish Church and the Methodist Chapel met together for their United Covenant Service. Rev Martin Mudie preached the sermon with his little dog at his side. Andrew Goodwin played for the service with his usual sensitive and uplifting accompaniment, and the intercessions were led by Jenny Satchwell.

The whole service, led by Rev Deborah Kirk, was a wonderful expression of our unity in Christ, and led to several suggestions that we should look for more opportunities to worship together.

A goodly number of people from all across the Circuit met at Lisieux Way for the annual quiz, held on 16<sup>th</sup> February, supporting World Missions. This is a longstanding joint venture from Lisieux Way and North Curry Methodist Churches which was the usual mix of fun, challenge, and exceptionally good food!

The regular Quizmaster, Roy Crouch, had delegated responsibility to a deputy, but his careful instructions and preparation meant that all ran smoothly. There were 8 challenging rounds, plus two Marathon Rounds, testing our trivia facts knowledge on a range of topics. The excellent supper kept us going during the evening.

'Bucks Quiz' team won, whilst the 'Duffers' claimed the booby prize.

Thanks to everyone involved, participates and organisers alike, with the evening generating nearly £250 towards our funds.

As March has 5 Sundays, North Curry is going to hold a favourite hymn evening on 31<sup>st</sup> March, at 6.30 pm. Put the date in your diary and come along and sing some of your favourites. Please let Daphne have your choices on 01823 284700.

The church council due to be held in February was postponed and will now be held in April, the date to be arranged.

\* \* \*

### **Elizabeth Howells writes a short piece in memory of her late husband, Peter.**

Amongst her many fond memories, she recalls this short story.

Some years ago Peter Howells was on holiday in the Holy Land. When he arrived in Cana of Galilee he decided to buy three bottles of wine, and bring them back to North Curry.

One he gave to the Parish Church – one to the Methodist and one to the Baptists. Father Bernard (the then Incumbent) said "Thank you – we will wait for the appropriate Sunday and use it then for Communion".

"Many thanks" said the Methodist Minister. "We will use it for Communion next Sunday with the appropriate scriptures".

The Elder of the Baptist Church received the wine pleasantly but made no comment and Peter was afraid he had caused offence not knowing how the Baptists felt about alcohol. Some weeks later Peter met with John the Baptist (as the Elder was affectionately known locally). "Oh Peter, thank you for that wine – it went down a treat for supper with a bit of bread and cheese!"

## North Curry Bellringers, Darren Woodyer writes

Life in the bell tower never seems to stand still. If it's not getting the clock sorted out, after it has decided to have a funny five minutes, its teaching the children from the local school in the after-school club.

We are passionate about our bells and that said there are lots of projects on our wish list to ensure the bells are heard over the village and Moors for many years to come.

Community support and backing is vital to ensure we achieve our goals.

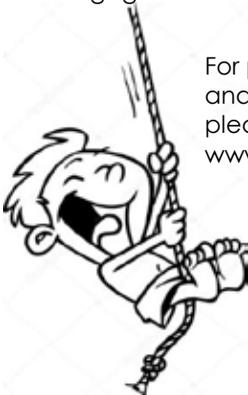
One project that is under way at the moment is to level the floor slightly in the tower. For those of you who have not been up into the tower, we have the traditional spiral staircase which leads up into the ringing chamber where all of the ropes are. One issue is that at the top of the stairs, there is an oak joist which protrudes approximately 2 inches above the floor, and runs the whole length of the tower. Not only is it a trip hazard, it also causes problems when ringing a couple of the bells, because one foot could be on the beam and the other on the lower floor.

A faculty application has been submitted, and the plan is to build a wooden frame on the floor and to secure a thick boarding on top. This would bring the main floor level up to the same height as the beam.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome new ringer Roger Edwards and his family to the village, and also thank him for his help so far with the ringing. I have heard rumours that there are other people in the village that would like to come and have a go, please do, we don't bite!

Even if you just want to come and see what all the racket is about, you can pop up to the tower on a Monday evening or you can give me a ring to have a chat about it first.

Practice Evenings on a Monday, 7pm – 9pm.  
Contact Darren, tower captain 07718 05907  
email: [gograndsiiredoubles@gmail.com](mailto:gograndsiiredoubles@gmail.com)



For pictures  
and information  
please visit our website:  
[www.northcurrybells.com](http://www.northcurrybells.com)

*Woouou-hooooo...  
...little Darren was having way too much  
fun at his first bellringing tryout.*

## A View from the Treasurer's Tower, Rob Ellis reports

Last Month, I put in a detailed report of our accounts. Just to see if anyone was actually reading it, I definitely (ohh no you didn't haha!) printed some erroneous 2017 comparative figures. As no one commented... is there anyone actually reading this I wonder? Anyho, below are the revised table of overheads, with 2017 showing the corrected figures.

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Diocese/ minister/ clergy share and expenses	£21,144	£27,216	£27,198
Insurance	£2,436	£3,000	£2,897 *
Churchyard maintenance	£3,388	£2,420	£4,276
Church sundries – candles, cleaning etc	£3,513	£1,676	£2,653 *
Heating and lighting	£1,610	£1,585	£1,925
Equipment/music maintenance and servicing	£1,680	£1,272	£2,218 *
Administration – stationery, postage, copying etc	£480	£431	£1,459
<b>Total</b>	<b>£34,251</b>	<b>£37,600</b>	<b>£42,626</b>
Average cost per month	£2,854	£3,133	£3,552

\* figure changed from previous issue

As you are aware, I am continually striving to bring down the yearly overhead costs, but they are still working out at around £658 per week (which is around £95 per day). Whilst I may be able to get the costs down a bit more here and there, I suggest £658 should be considered our baseline costs. Our giving and fund raising need to cover this per week to keep us solvent, which I believe is achievable with our committed and generous members.

As a note to the Parish Share (Diocese cost), which is our largest overhead (as it would be for most churches), I am confident of reducing our 2019 Share by over £6,000 (perhaps even more) from 2018. We (the wardens and I) met the Diocese Funding Committee Chairman in Wells during February to plead our case for a significant reduction. We felt our reasoning was well received, but as negotiations are continuing, I have no definitive confirmation as yet. I will update you all in the next report. I certainly have no intention of paying their demand for £21,757.

As for moving forward, as at the end of February, we were still on track for a small surplus by the end of the year.

Our work on the new fence (reported last issue) has saved us a bob or three from what we had anticipated. As such, we would like to receive your suggestions on how to spend our grant money around the church, to make it more enjoyable for you. As an example, we are considering pew cushions or some comfortable chairs by the coffee table. As we have just got ourselves back on track, I am not suggesting a wholesale revamp, but anything you might like seen done at the church, please let me know so it can be discussed by the PCC.

That way, we can start to plan ahead with our "wish lists", to improve our experience of visiting God's house.

And lastly, I was heartened by a letter received from a visitor. Not having any money at the time, they took a magazine, but forwarded in the post a covering letter and donation. Many probably would have not bothered, but it goes to prove the spirit of honesty and integrity still remain.

With spring now close, maybe it is time again for those strolls along the beach, so the tide time table is back!

As before, only the high tides are listed; low tides are roughly half way between each time slot.

North and south coast times are approx the same, though the table for Watchet is used as a guide.

<b>Watchet (High Waters)</b>						
<b>GMT</b>		<b>Datum: Chart Datum</b>			<b>Year:2019</b>	
<b>March</b>						
	<b>Time</b>	<b>Mtrs</b>		<b>Time</b>	<b>Mtrs</b>	
	1 01:59	8.18		12 09:40	10.10	23 08:00
	F 14:42	8.20		Tu 21:53	9.86	Sa 20:21
	2 03:28	8.57		13 10:15	9.55	24 08:40
	Sa 16:04	8.79		W 22:30	9.35	Su 21:01
	3 04:31	9.35	☾	14 11:01	9.02	25 09:19
	Su 16:57	9.54		Th 23:25	8.84	M 21:40
	4 05:18	10.05		15		26 09:58
	M 17:39	10.12		F 12:16	8.56	Tu 22:17
	5 05:57	10.51		16 00:57	8.53	27 10:36
	Tu 18:16	10.47		Sa 13:56	8.59	W 22:57
●	6 06:31	10.76		17 02:34	8.93	28 11:20
	W 18:48	10.68		Su 15:22	9.30	☾ Th 23:51
	7 07:03	10.91		18 03:53	9.83	29
	Th 19:17	10.86		M 16:33	10.30	F 12:26
	8 07:32	11.04		19 04:58	10.82	30 01:16
	F 19:47	11.00		Tu 17:29	11.20	Sa 14:00
	9 08:03	11.10		20 05:50	11.60	31 02:51
	Sa 20:17	11.02		W 18:18	11.83	Su 15:31
	10 08:35	10.98	○	21 06:35	12.10	
	Su 20:48	10.81		Th 19:01	12.19	
	11 09:07	10.62		22 07:18	12.36	
	M 21:20	10.38		F 19:41	12.31	

Add 1 Hour for British Summer Time 31st March - 27th October

### ADVERTISING RATES – annual/ single issue rates

Full Page: £96 - £10/issue - Outside Back Cover - £120, Inside Back Cover - £105

Half Page - £50 - £5/issue - Inside Front Cover - £60

Quarter Page - £30 - £3/issue

Bespoke advert sizes can also be provided, contact the editor for a price and to discuss your requirements.

The views expressed in the magazine are those of the individuals/societies who send in items. The deadline for contributions is the 13th of the previous month. The editor reserves the right to change any copy provided without recourse to the contributor.

Gathering and use of information in carrying out its tasks, North Curry PCC is involved in collecting personal data, addresses etc. We take privacy and confidentiality seriously, and fully comply with the principles of the United Kingdom GDPR/ Data Protection Act 2018.

## Health and Safety

A recent unfortunate accident to one of our volunteers who was working alone has exemplified the need for us to review our Health and Safety procedures at the church.

### General Statement of Policy

Our policy is to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that our activities are carried out safely and do not pose a risk to the health of our volunteers, visitors, congregation, and others who may use the church and churchyard. This will be in accordance with good practice and any relevant statutory provisions where they apply.

### Personal Responsibility

It is the duty of each and every person using or visiting the church and churchyard to exercise personal responsibility for their own safety and that of others.

### Specific Considerations

It is anticipated that a fully revised policy will be adopted at the next PCC meeting. Meanwhile in addition to exercising personal responsibility it is essential that:

- Anyone using a ladder or reaching high places is accompanied.
- Ideally "lone working" will be kept to a minimum. Any lone workers must have an operating mobile phone on their person and ensure that someone knows where they are and that they have returned safely. No one should enter the cellar (boiler room) or bell chamber (above the ringing chamber) or onto any church roof unless accompanied.
- No easily combustible materials or sources of ignition may be left unattended in the church.
- Those who close the church must check diligently that there is no one left in the church.

David Akerman and Mary Piers, Churchwardens

\* \* \*

## Church Opening and Closing Rota

Sunday, week commencing during March 2019

3<sup>rd</sup> \* David Walker

10<sup>th</sup> Ralph Roberts

17<sup>th</sup> \* Tom Jeanes

24<sup>th</sup> Michael Griffiths

31<sup>st</sup> Robin Rudman

\* Denotes 8am service

## **North Curry Church**

Is part of the Benefice of Athelney, along with the parishes of Stoke St. Gregory, Lyng and Burrowbridge – the Parish Church is frequently referred to as 'The Cathedral of the Moors', and from the River Tone valley it is easy to understand why. It was built on a site of an earlier Norman church in about 1300 in the Decorated style, using Ham Hill stone, blue lias stone, and some grey sandstone from a quarry within the parish. About a hundred years later it was updated in the Perpendicular style when the roofs of the nave and aisles were raised to accommodate larger windows. Evidences of the original pitches can be seen both outside on the south and east faces of the tower, and inside on its west arch. At this time the upper stage of the tower and the parapets were added, as was the interesting collection of gargoyles and hunkypunks.

The North Curry Parish Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials date from 1539 and are almost complete.

The churchyard, just over two acres, is in two parts, with the lower 'new' part has been in use since 1952. The upper 'old' part has gravestones that are centuries old, and includes war memorials. A plan of the graves, complete with the names of the occupants, can be found in the church porch. This is a place of solace and tranquillity, with seating on the north (far) side affording magnificent views across the River Tone to yonder hills in all directions. In springtime, the natural beauty is never more apparent, when the flora carpets amongst the headstones and trees.

### **Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals**

If you are interested in getting married, having a church blessing for a civil marriage or organising a baptism or funeral please contact the vicar, or one of the churchwardens.

The statutory fees are set by the Church of England and a fee list is displayed in the church porch, or is available online from:

[www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org).

Additional local fees may be due in accordance with the services required. At the time of your enquiry, all fee options will be explained.

There are also regulations governing the condition of the churchyard and graves, designed to ensure it remains a special peaceful place. Again, a copy is available in the church porch.

### **Hiring the Church**

Our church is available for hire, for events such as concerts, talks and exhibitions for which we make a reasonable charge. Contact David Walker should you wish to know more on fees and availability.

## Will Planning and Legacies

Having a Will in place, for when the time comes, is strongly recommended for all individuals, to ensure your final wishes are clearly laid out to friends and family. To supplement your planning, the church has developed a checklist leaflet, "Final Wishes", which is in no way a will, but designed to help those left behind with your instructions and administration of your estate. This leaflet will be available in the church literature section.

## Planned Giving and Donations

Planned Giving, by standing order, is a regular charitable payment (or pledge) to the church. This type of giving is an important and integral aspect of our finances, as the majority of our income comes through the planned giving scheme.

Donation pledges by standing order are easier to administer, both for you and us. Regular planned giving can also attract tax gift aid, enabling us to boost your donation by 25%. Donations can be given monthly, quarterly, or yearly, and the amount is very much up to you. You are not beholden once started, and can be cancelled at anytime. Please contact our Treasurer, Rob Ellis 01823 490599, for the appropriate forms to complete, or to discuss your giving pledge. Standing order mandates are not the same as direct debit mandates. The amounts and dates are fixed, and the instruction to your bank is completely controlled by you.

One off donations can be made anytime – cheques payable to North Curry PCC, and can be mailed to the Church address – see inside cover for details.

\* \* \*

Register of:

### **Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals** (September 2018 – February 2019)

We ask for God's Blessing on all the following

#### Baptisms

Angela Marie Derrick	October 2018
Cally Terence Case	November 2018
Theodore John Harris	December 2018

#### Weddings

Callum Chedzoy/ Rebecca Tottle	September 2018
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#### Funerals

Bruce Wall	September 2018
Bernard Drake, Maurice Lane	October 2018
Charles Woods	November 2018
Michael Dennis, Meryl Rowe	February 2019

**Tea break!** In need of a giggle..?

### **The best 3 jokes from the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2018**

1. "Working at the JobCentre has to be a tense job – knowing that if you get fired, you still have to come in the next day" – Adam Rowe
2. "I had a job drilling holes for water – it was well boring" – Leo Kearse
3. "I took out a loan to pay for an exorcism. If I don't pay it back, I'm going to get repossessed" – Olaf Falafel

And some from Tim Vine, a past winner of the fringe.

- "Crime in multi-storey car parks. That is wrong on so many different levels."
- "You know, somebody actually complimented me on my driving today. They left a little note on the windscreen, it said 'Parking Fine.' So that was nice."
- I phoned the local gym and I asked if they could teach me how to do the splits. He said, "How flexible are you?" I said, "I can't make Tuesdays."
- I went into a shop and I said, "Can someone sell me a kettle." The bloke said "Kenwood" I said, "Where is he?"
- So this bloke says to me, "Can I come in your house and talk about your carpets?" I thought "That's all I need, a Je-hoover's witness".
- "Apparently, 1 in 5 people in the world are Chinese. And there are 5 people in my family, so it must be one of them. It's either my mum or my dad. Or my older brother Colin. Or my younger brother Ho-Chan-Chu. But I think it's Colin."
- I was in the army once and the Sergeant said to me: "What does surrender mean?" I said: "I give up!"

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