



ST. PETER & ST. PAUL

PARISH CHURCH MAGAZINE

NORTH CURRY WITH WRANTAGE

Harvest Festival

21st September
Harvest Supper 7pm

22nd September
10am church service

We welcome the

Taunton Military Wives Choir

14th September at 7pm for their
inaugural performance.

Tickets £10 – on sale at the Post Office
2nd September, see page 20

SEPTEMBER 2019

FREE PUBLICATION - £6/YEAR FOR A DELIVERED COPY

Quilting exhibition at North Curry Parish Church
Saturday & Sunday, September 21 & 22, 12 noon to 5 pm



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Church Diary Events for 2019 – September - December

Saturday, 14th September, Clean up morning

Saturday, 14th September, Taunton Military Wives Choir in the evening

Saturday, 21st September, Harvest Supper

Saturday, Sunday 21st/22nd September, North Curry Quilting Group Exhibition

Saturday, 12th October, District Bellringers AGM

Friday, 18th October, Voskresenije Russian Choir concert

Tuesday, 29th October, Children's Activity Day

Sunday, 10th November, Remembrance Service at the War Memorial

Saturday, 16th November, Autumn Fair

Sunday, 17th November, Choral Evensong with *In Ecclesia*

Coffee Mornings, every Monday morning

Produce Market, first Saturday of every month 9.30am-11.30am- next date:

7th September

School Holiday Terms

Summer 24th July – 1st September

Half Term 28th October – 1st November

Winter 23rd December – 3rd January 2020

Bellringers, every Monday evening, 7pm-8.30pm

Non Parish Church Diary Events: August

Wednesday, 4th September, Changing Careers

North Curry WI

Thursday, 5th September, Rejuvenating a tired garden

NC & District Gardeners

Saturday, 7th & 21st September, Bingo

Burrowbridge

Tuesday, 17th September, Exhibition opens

NC Coffee Shop

Wednesday, 18th September, Mr Gibbs talks Chinese!

North Curry WI

Wednesday, 25th September, Red Joan

North Curry Film Club

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

For other local events, check out the Parish Council website and calendar at www.northcurry.com

Church officers numbers, and other local useful numbers, can now be found at the inside back page.

www.northcurrychurch.co.uk/ email ncurrymag@gmail.com

Cover photo:

Comma butterfly on blackberries by Sue Ashton

Churchyard Mowing contractor Required April 2020

If interested in quoting, please contact David Akerman, Churchwarden 01823 490 234

Little Angels Toddlers Club and Pram Service

Every 2nd Thursday in the month at the parish church.

Next meeting
10am
12th September

Announcements/ News in Brief

Congratulations to our August 200 Club Winners

1st Prize - £30: Joan Ryan

2nd Prize - £20: Patricia Curtis 3rd Prize - £10: Michael Spearpoint

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 would like a guaranteed copy of the magazine delivered monthly to your door, only £6 per year. Please contact Jenny Satchwell.

Coffee Mondays, in the Parish Church, **will end on 30th September.**

Every Monday, 9:30am to 11:30am, coffee, tea, cake and a chin-wag!

Saturday 14th September is a clean-up morning for the church and churchyard – bring your shears and dusters. The church will be open to welcome Ride and Stride, a Bath & Wells initiative to visit churches in the Diocese on bike, foot or horseback even, and in the evening from 7pm Taunton Military Wives Choir give a concert.

The North Curry Quilting Group, who celebrate their 30th year this year, will be exhibiting some of the quilts they have made over the years at the church over the Harvest Festival weekend 21st /22nd September.

Due to no available vehicle on the road during August, the Mobile Library Service had to be cancelled. However, it is hoped that the NEW MOBILE LIBRARY vehicle will be launched in September, with a brand new stock of books. The actual date has yet to be set, so please check online or with the council services. Current books on loan will be renewed for a further 8 weeks.

The choir is always interested in welcoming new voices. Contact Jean Smith for details on how to join. There are weekly practices on Fridays usually in the late afternoon.

Volunteers and fresh faces always welcome at the church, to help with events and the like. We shall make you feel most welcome. Come along to a church service or to a coffee morning, to meet up

A DVD of the Flower Festival, containing over 50 photos, is now on sale at the Post Office - £5 each.

Flower Rota at the church – we are requiring assistance and helpers with the church flowers. If you would like to be part of the team that keeps our church in blooming good display, please contact Lorraine on 491665.

A newly donated bench has been installed at the path crossways, halfway between the lych gate and the southern church entrance.

Recently, a very clumsy contractor managed to damage our lych gate, scraping along both panels and knocking the hinges. The estimated repair will be c£600, which will be sorted in September.



We celebrate the harvest on the weekend of 21st /22nd September with Harvest Supper in Village Hall on the Saturday evening (with a guest speaker from the Mercy Ships Charity and the local ukulele band providing tuneful entertainment). On the Sunday, we have a Festival Eucharist in church with the Revd Martin Mudie. The following Sunday (28th) at Burrowbridge, we come together for a Benefice Harvest Patronal Eucharist celebrating St Michael and All Angels. The service will be at 11am, with a "free" ploughmans lunch afterwards.



Jesus and the Saints are set for a facelift! As part of the planned autumn refurbishments, work will begin in September on the Chancel as well as various walls, monuments and the lych gate. Health and Safety signs will be on display, as plenty of protection panels and scaffolding will be in place. The projects are anticipated to take 6 weeks to complete.

Isle Abbots, North Curry & Isle Brewers Heating Oil Club – now is the time to join! Visit www.oil-club.co.uk/search and click the link to North Curry. Joining is free and order as part of a buying group. The more members we have, the better rate per litre we can negotiate – which saves us all £££.

The bellringers from Bicknoller will be visiting on Friday 13th September (unlucky for some!), to join with our bellringers. 8.00pm to 8.45pm.

Murder, mystery and suspense can now all be found in the church. A selection of 2nd books donated by the vicar are available for a modest donation.

Bell Tower Appeal

If you would like to make a donation towards this project, please back to North Curry Bellringers: Account: 38229860 - Sort Code: 30-91-91 or give a cheque in person to Paul or Darren.

The Rev'd John Tyler writes

My Dear Friends,

Just over a year ago my wife Meg and I were on a self-guided trekking holiday in the Southern French Alps ; we set out each morning (our main luggage loaded onto Libellule, our patient donkey-companion) and did our best to follow directions to the next overnight stop. The second day we missed a vital direction and encountered steeper and steeper slopes, the path shrank to a whisper, the landmarks – such as they were – were unrecognisable.

What do you do when you feel you have taken a wrong turning?

We tried to cut across to where we thought the right path ought to be ; the forest got darker and a bleached large animal skull lay rather ostentatiously among the trees (there are plenty of wolves in those parts) ; if we were still wandering when dusk fell we could climb a tree but feared that it lay beyond Libellule's talents . . .

In the event we returned to our wayward path and retraced our steps for an hour or so (recognising landmarks with relief) until we found the fork where we had originally gone wrong. Lesson learned !

Sometimes we take wrong turnings in life – as individuals, as a Society, as a Nation, as a Human Race. Many of us, I think are wondering if that is the case now, on some or all of those levels. The Christian way is to admit mistakes. Only our pride is hurt if we know we are on the wrong track and acknowledge it and do our best to put it right. We can leave the bluff and bluster and refusal to admit that we can be wrong to the current generation of politicians. It is a sign of strength, not of weakness to admit mistakes calmly and realistically.

This is true in our personal lives as much as anywhere else. I have a real fondness for the English habit of apologising whether it is your fault or not. How many of us apologise if we inadvertently bump into a lamp post? If it is part of the British character it is an endearing quality – a sign of self-deprecating courtesy and innate humility. Christians take things further, knowing that they need to ask for forgiveness just as much as they need to forgive others – that was an often-repeated teaching of Jesus. That is the only way to deal effectively with past mistakes and to find our way back onto the right path.

God grant us all his guidance in the days and weeks and months ahead.
Every Blessing, John Tyler.

Benefice of Athelney – Service Rota

September – 2019

1st September		THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
08.00	North Curry	Holy Communion	Revd John Tyler
09.30	Lyng	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Mudie
10.00	North Curry	Eucharist	Revd John Tyler
18.00	Stoke St Gregory	Evensong	Mr Ralph Roberts
<i>4th September (Wednesday)</i>			
17.00	Stoke St Gregory	Evening Prayer	Revd Dr Jane Sutton

8th September		THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
08.00	Stoke St Gregory	Holy Communion	Revd John Tyler
10.00	Stoke St Gregory	United Benefice Eucharist	Revd John Tyler
18.30	Lyng	Harvest Festival	Mr Rob Walrond
<i>11th September (Wednesday)</i>			
17.00	Stoke St Gregory	Evening Prayer	Revd Dr Jane Sutton

15th September		THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
08.00	North Curry	Holy Communion	Revd John Tyler
09.30	Burrowbridge	Holy Communion	Revd John Tyler
11.00	Stoke St Gregory	Eucharist	Revd Martin Mudie
18.00	North Curry	Evensong	Dr Robert Dunning
<i>18th September (Wednesday)</i>			
17.00	Stoke St Gregory	Evening Prayer	Revd Dr Jane Sutton

22nd September		THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
09.30	Lyng	Service of the Word	Mr Ralph Roberts
10.00	North Curry	Harvest Festival Eucharist	Revd Martin Mudie
11.00	Stoke St Gregory	Eucharist	Revd John Tyler
<i>25th September (Wednesday)</i>			
17.00	Stoke St Gregory	Evening Prayer	Revd Dr Jane Sutton

29th September		MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS	
11.00	Burrowbridge	United Benefice Harvest Festival Patronal Eucharist	Revd Martin Mudie

During the Benefice Vacancy, for information about baptisms, weddings, funerals and regular services or other Church business, contact a churchwarden: Mary Piers 01823 491434 or David Akerman 01823 490234.

A time for grace and patience

September is the month when schools go back, harvest services are being planned, and the College of Bishops takes place. Yippee! Actually I'm not being sarcastic. Of course there's always a sense of this is a month when many of us feel 'back at work'. It can seem a busy month with lots to challenge us. However we do have some agency in how we approach the tasks of daily living, don't we?

So, for instance, at the College of Bishops this month, we shall do more work on 'Living in Love and Faith', the theology, social anthropology, biblical scholarship and scientific knowledge being considered as the Church reflects on issues of human identity, sexuality and marriage. I'm looking forward to it. And that's not being sarcastic either. You see it is not that this will be an easy topic, something which we can just all agree to but rather it will be an opportunity to meet together with one another in the presence of God. We will no doubt have some difficult conversations, grapple over imponderables, find ourselves feeling vulnerable but this is the stuff of life, and seeking to find God's way in a world which has little time for religious faith anymore.

The College meets in an Oxford college over a few days and it can sometimes seem rather distant from the everyday world in which we live. However we always celebrate Holy Cross day while we are there. The Collect for that day reminds us that "*the passion of thy blessed Son hast made an instrument of painful death to be for us the means of life and peace*".

That surely means that life and peace can be found even **through** the experience of pain and death. In fact sometimes it's the only way to find them. Dealing with complex issues, tackling challenging tasks is not about finding the easiest and quickest route to an answer. Sometimes it requires much more from us and we need the grace and patience of the Christ who made Himself a sacrifice for us.

The following is the prayer we use on Holy Cross Day after we receive bread and wine together, perhaps we need to use it more as we face the challenge of seeking to live as men and women of God in His world today.

"O faithful God, whose Son bore our sins in his body on the tree and gave us this sacrament to show forth his death until he come: give us grace to glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our hope."

The Right Revd Ruth Worsley
Bishop of Taunton

News from North Curry /Curland Methodists, by Daphne Gilham

The church council met on 5th August at the home of Dick Brewer. The items discussed were many and varied. Following devotions led by Deborah from the book of Zephaniah, those who were unable to attend though ill health were remembered.

Property matters were high on the agenda. It was noted that the work done on the windows had been completed to a very satisfactory conclusion. Garden work continues and was deemed to be well done. Questions about the state of the floor coverings were dealt with and solutions were found to the satisfaction of all.

The financial report contributed by Rodney Jones was his last as he retires for the post of treasurer in September. The council is very grateful for the sterling work he has put in over the past years and a letter of thanks will be sent to him.

It was also the last meeting with our circuit steward Jane Allin who finishes her term in office from September. Expressions of gratitude for all she has done to keep North Curry/Curland on the circuit radar and her tireless support and assistance in all matters and aspects of church life, was recognised and commented upon. The council was sad to see her go and wish her well in the future. She has been a good friend.

Forthcoming events were on the agenda and the next one will be the Harvest festival on 22nd September. The harvest supper on the following evening will be a buffet style supper as last year served in the chapel. This was considered a success as so many of our folk are unable to negotiate the stairs. Donations of £6 will be accepted and Rachel and Evelyn are to co-ordinate the arrangements. The charity for the year is S.U.R.E.

Congratulations go to Dick on his special birthday this month. Good wishes for a happy retirement were sent to the vicar from the North Curry/Curland Methodist Church.

Resurrection Choir of St Petersburg

Friday 18th October 7pm
at the Parish Church
(doors open 6:30pm)
Tickets £10
on sale at the Post Office
from 16th September



Readers Comments:

We always enjoy reading the comments from our avid readers. Last month, we posed to our readers about what we would like to see from our new vicar, and what ceremony we should adopt for newly installed kissing gates.

"I think we need a kiss chase around all the stiles, and style marks given for the most passionate kiss."

"In this age of political correctness, obviously no touching is allowed – so I think we should just blow a kiss from across the gate."

"I will only participate if you persuade Julia Roberts to officially pucker up at the new gates."

And as to thoughts on the new vicar...

'We need a Tom Cruise lookalike for our Vicar.' Harassed Mother of 3.

'Where is Dawn French when we need Her ?'

'Let's at least have an incumbent of adequate stature who doesn't have to stand on a wooden chair to Baptise babies at our Font.'

'He (or she) must fill the Church with Young People; but they must be quiet and do what they are told and respect their elders.'

'She (or he) must Visit all of our homes – but only when we have been given due warning (so we can tidy up).'

'A Vicar must love dogs . Or be a dog (They have much nicer natures than most people).'

'I've changed my mind. George Clooney.' Harassed Mother of 3 (again).

And on other matters...

"I'm not saying that the vicar's sermon was uninteresting last week, but my pew colleague woke me up halfway through with his snoring."

"Once again, the PCC has, against my advice, spent money on frivolities. Buying chocolate biscuits to eat after Sunday services is a massive luxury and may cost an extra £56.34 per year. I therefore, have no option, but to resign as treasurer. However, I may change my mind if you add jammie dodgers biscuits."

"Every time I go to church, the vicar has readings that bang on about the poor. Blessed are the poor, look after the poor, orphans and alike... that is all we get. Why can't we have some readings where the good things happen to rich people for a change?"

'When is the church joining the twitter and facebook age, so I can write meaningless comments directly from the comfort of my own ipad, rather than emailing them to the magazine editor, hashtag#bored on a wet afternoon'

"I think the wally of the month award for August should go to the Council individual who decided to get the roads freshly white lined in Greenway, and then a few weeks later, had them covered over with road resurfacing chippings."

If you have anything to comment upon, please email ncurrymag@gmail.com

Wednesday, 18th September.

The North Curry Society's "3rd Wednesday" talks resume on 18th September, when North Curry residents continue to share their fascinating lives, starting with Keith Gibbs on Chinese physics. He will bring a few experiments, some Chinese artifacts (including written Chinese) and a slide show presentation. Keith graduated with a degree in Physics from University College London followed by PGCE at Cambridge University, after which he taught Physics for 36 years in four schools across the south of England until retirement in 2002. Since then he has given over 200 talks on practical Physics, fun and educational experiments to students, teachers, teacher trainers and the general public, both in the U.K and abroad (Ireland, Netherlands, Mongolia and mainland China).

In 2017 Keith was invited to join a group of five other Physics teachers to run a course in Beijing for able 17 and 18-year-old Chinese students, fortunately all good English speakers. He returned in 2018 and again earlier this year.

The organisers very kindly laid on three days of sightseeing each year, and this will form the background of Keith's talk. It will cover the Great Wall of China, various temples in Beijing, Tiananmen Square, traffic and air pollution, the gardens in Suzhou, chopsticks, Chinese food and restaurants (not like we think of a Chinese meal here), the city of Shanghai (24 million people and an impressive waterfront), Hanzhou with its world heritage lake and Buddhist shrine, shopping in traditional shops and shopping malls, travel in China (trains, maglev and motorways), a little Chinese language ... and finally the Chinese people.

Why not join our meetings in the Village Hall at 7:30pm for coffee and chat, talks start at 8pm. Full-year membership costs £5; visitors very welcome on payment of a small entrance charge. If not yet a member, come as a visitor and join next month at the AGM when annual subscriptions will be due.

We look forward to welcoming you.



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Harvest Festival

Why didn't anybody think of it before? We have had Plough Sunday, Rogation and Lammas from goodness knows when, but it wasn't until 1843 was anything celebrating the end of harvest that was held in a church. There had been all sorts of "harvest home" celebrations on farms here and abroad, with many traditions. In some areas the workers left a small patch of corn known as a Mell or Neck; the cutting of this was completed last after the other sheaves were hauled. Then a large harvest supper was held with the farmer inviting all the workers to attend the feast. In New England in America the Thanksgiving Day emanated from the Harvest Home customs of Europe. They included the Native American tribes in their feast since they showed the Pilgrims the best crops to grow in the area and certainly saved them from starvation. In Britain and many European countries, drunkenness and disorder was often found in these celebrations, although probably not in New England.

Harvest Festival was the brainchild of the Reverend Robert Hawker of Morwenstow in Cornwall. He asked his parishioners to a special Thanksgiving Service on 1st October 1843 to celebrate the end of harvest. They duly obliged, decorating the church for the occasion and thanking God for the harvest. The Reverend Beal, who was a curate in Devon, then the headmaster of Tavistock Grammar School took the custom to East Anglia when he became the rector of Brooke in Norfolk. He encouraged it in many parishes in an attempt to curb what he thought was disgraceful behaviour in many of the harvest home celebrations. The custom then spread across Britain with many churches holding their own services of thanksgiving.

Hymn writers rose to the challenge. We Plough the Fields and Scatter, was originally a German folk song written by Matthaius Cladius in 1782 and set to music in 1800. It was translated into English by Jane Montgomery Campbell in 1861 and remains one of the most popular hymns today. Henry Alford wrote Come Ye Thankful people Come, in 1844, and set it loosely on the Parable of the Tares. It was set to today's tune in 1851. To Thee Our Lord Our Hearts We Raise, was written by the well known hymn writer, William Chatterdon Dix in 1863, setting it to Arthur Sullivan's tune, Bishopsgarth.

As Britain became a more urban society in the early 20th century, there was a slow shift in the harvest festival services in towns with people linking it with a concern for the developing world where harvest was often uncertain. In the countryside this aspect existed as well, but the Harvest Festival was still a celebration of a good job done. In the 20th and 21st centuries harvest has become somewhat easier than the 19th century. As well as modern machinery such as combine harvesters, the weather has improved. Two years 1815 (known as the year without a summer) and 1879 (the worst summer Britain has known) there were disastrous harvests. When the Krakatoa volcano exploded in August 1883 the temperature of the world dropped by 1.2 degrees Centigrade. This together with ash in the stratosphere caused five years of miserable summers and poor harvests. Since then things have improved noticeably. We have had a few difficult years, the last one being 2000 (the El Nino year) but apart from them, harvest has been fair to good. Thank God for that!

Tom Jeanes



North Curry Coffee Shop

This year's Autumn Exhibition theme is "My Favourite Piece" which can be in any media eg: painting, print, drawing, sculpture, ceramic, embroidery etc. Entry forms will be available from the coffee shop from 6th August and entries to the exhibition should be delivered to the coffee shop on the morning of 16th September. There will be prizes for 1st and 2nd (£50 and £25 cash respectively) by public vote and a £50 cash

Art Group prize. We look forward to welcoming a wide range of entries which always generates a lot of interest and discussion!

ANNUAL COFFEE SHOP OPEN EXHIBITION 17TH SEPTEMBER

Opening hours: 10am – 5.00pm, Tuesday to Sunday

Burrowbridge Bingo

Come and join us at Coronation Hall

We try to meet every two weeks on a Saturday evening at 7.30pm, next meetings 7th & 21st September in the Millennium Room of the Coronation Hall.

We play for small cash prizes and an accumulating cash Jackpot plus coffee break raffle with small raffle prizes donated by members.

A full 10 games as well as two jackpot rounds costs £5 tea/coffee and biscuits just 30p.

For more details, just phone Sue or Brian Walker on 01823 698500.



Pop along – you'll be very welcome Directions to the hall – on reaching Burrowbridge traffic lights, take the left turn at the crossroads, before the bridge, into West Yeo Road. The hall is about 500 yards on the right, with plenty of parking. Go on with you.... what are you waiting for?



Do you have the voice of an angel, and would like to join our choir?

We would love you to join our friendly group, please call Jean Smith on 01823 490961 to find out more.



Presented by Don Hoyle

NEW SEASON!



On **Wednesday 25th September** we are starting our **new season** of films with the tense drama **Red Joan** starring Judi Dench & Sophie Cookson. In a picturesque village in England, Joan Stanley (Judi Dench), lives in contented retirement. Suddenly her tranquil existence is shattered as she's shockingly arrested by MI5. For Joan has been hiding an incredible past; she is one of the most influential spies in living history. Not to be missed! Come along and join – still **only £25 for 12 films.**

There is such a variety – from the brand-new Ken Loach to the classic "The Post". We have comedies, dramas & a documentary.

Programmes available from the Post Office & the Coffee Shop. Our Saturday afternoon, 'Winter Warmers', will start in October.

For **Red Joan**, the Village Hall doors and 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!

More information on our films on www.northcurryfilmsociety.org.uk

North Curry and District Amateur Gardeners, by Heather Williams



Our next meeting will be on Thursday 5th September when our speaker will be Elizabeth Holman on "Rejuvenating a tired garden". I think many gardens are feeling quite tired this year after all the dryness and heat so hopefully this talk will fill us with enthusiasm to sort them out!

Meetings are held in the Pavilion of the Greenway playing fields on the first Thursday of the month at 7.45pm for 8.00pm start. Guests are always welcome so please do feel free to come and join our friendly group for an interesting talk and stay for coffee and a chat afterwards.

We look forward to seeing you all again!

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

Proceeds for churchyard maintenance

To sign up, contact Sue Bethune on 01823 490179



North Curry W.I, Jill Cox reports

Drumming, floral decorations, a magician, Hanna somatics and strawcraft are just a few of the varied items included in our new programme for the next twelve months – with theatre visits, hands-on workshops, and outings also on the agenda.

After a summer break, our first meeting in the village hall is on Wednesday, 4th September at 2pm when we welcome Sheila Colton speaking on the subject of 'Changing Careers'. Sheila, herself a WI member, has worked for the Metropolitan Police in London, and she actually stepped in to fill a gap during one of the recent County speaker introduction days; we found her so interesting and entertaining that we booked her straight away. If you are not a member, visitors are welcome to join us for a small entrance fee, listen to our speakers and take part in the afternoon which includes tea and social time.

North Curry WI is also part of a group of WI's, who each year takes it in turns to organise extra activities for the group. This year we have been the organisers and look forward to our third event later this month when we are holding a movie evening as we Sing-A-Long to South Pacific. Our plans are to create a cinema atmosphere including usherettes, popcorn and ice creams, with Hawaiian dress optional! Members from our 7 group WI's have been invited and we hope they will come along, sing-a-long and enjoy 'Some Enchanted Evening' followed by lots of 'Happy Talk'! (Oops)

Produce Market

In the Village Hall

Saturday 7th September

9.30am-11.30am

Time to practice your haggling and to grab a bargain!

August was a very busy market, with lots of new people visiting for the first time.

We would like more stall holders so if you would like one please get in touch with me on 01823 490319.

We do need volunteers to put out or put away the table and chairs. If you feel like you could get involved with this, please phone me on the number above.

Do come along and browse at your leisure at the various stalls.

Our kitchen is open throughout serving delicious bacon baps and hot drinks.

Anne Williams

News from Bath & Wells Diocese

Ride+Stride for Churches - Putting your best foot and pedal forward to support our local churches and community.

This September, thousands of people across Somerset and the UK will be walking, pedalling or riding their horses to support the annual **Ride+Stride** fundraising event. Somerset will be playing its part as well and we hope you will join us on **Saturday 14th September**. The *Somerset Churches Trust* is calling on people to explore our beautiful countryside, make new friends and help support the work of the charity to protect our churches, chapels and places of worship.

As we have a few other things planned ourselves for the 14th September, so St Peter and St Pauls will not be running an event, but as usual, our church will be open to visitors. However, we do have the clean up day planned, so we will be "open" to meet any participants.

September will be Royal Editorial for RUH Will Month 2019

During September 2019, the RUH Will Month will return. This fundraising initiative provides an opportunity for the local community to work with professional solicitors to write or update their Wills knowing that all fees will be donated to the Forever Friends Appeal to help the RUH to continue the high quality care that patients of the hospital receive.

In addition, the cost to have your Will written professionally through the scheme has been reduced significantly to a cost of £100 for a single standard Will and £150 for two standard Mirror Wills or Joint Wills. The client may also request to have their fees donated to a specific area of the hospital which may hold special meaning to them, their family or friends.

Reflecting on the Rural Forum

More than 100 people came together for this year's Rural Forum which took place on a lovely sunny day in the beautiful surroundings of Bagley Baptist Church. The focus of the day was to support, resource and equip rural churches to listen and respond to the needs of their local, rural communities.

Bath and Wells Rural Affairs Adviser Rob Walrond says,

"I was delighted by the turnout. There were lots of questions asked and lively discussions taking place. People felt encouraged and motivated, they had a lot to take home with them."

Attendees heard from guest speakers; Marion Carson the Project Manager for the Diocese of Exeter's Growing the Rural Church Programme, (The programme supports rural churches across Devon to engage with their communities to explore opportunities for further missional, community, cultural and commercial use of their church buildings) and Mark Betson the National Rural Officer for the Church of England whose role focuses on developing the Church's support for the rural church and rural communities.

In the afternoon those who attended were invited to join workshops to explore and learn more about; Listening to our farming community (Anita Simmons and Suzie Wilkinson of Farming Community Network), Reimagining rural ministry: Developing a learning community to support mission across multiple parishes (Selina Garner),

Releasing the gifts of people across the Deanery (Jane Chamberlain and Jonathan Philpott), Flourishing rural schools across the diocese, (Ed Greggory). For the first time this year parish and benefice administrators took part in their own listening and responding session, which included specialist training on diocesan management systems.

Tracey Staples took part in the administrator sessions,

"It was a great opportunity for rural church administrators to get together and discuss with diocesan staff how we think we could work together going forward. We were given training and had a chance to talk about ways in which the diocesan teams could be of more help to us, which would enable us in turn to be of more help to them! We feel that building relationships with diocesan staff is important."

"The next step is to plan some more training with the diocese specifically for administrators on topics that we have suggested. We hope to be able to do this in Archdeaconries. Rural church administrators often work alone so it would be great if we can support each other and share ideas via an email and the occasional coffee morning.

Church offers unusual camping opportunity

St Bartholomew's in Failand is a much-loved church, but is in an isolated location, and with an aging congregation which is struggling to attract young people they are aware their funding is dwindling. We know the feeling at North Curry!

But an article in The Daily Telegraph and a feature on the BBC's Countryfile has led their Churchwarden Chris Sage to find a creative solution to open their beautiful church up to a wider audience and bring in much needed funds, by opening their church for camping.

While there is plenty of excitement about the initiative there are some natural nerves too.

Julie added: "There's the logistics of everything. We do worship here and it has to be treated as a worship centre, so there's a slight nervousness about people

treating our building with the respect it deserves. That's the only reservation that I have, but I'm so pleased that we can welcome people into this building because that's what it needs. It needs to be loved by everybody not just by the congregation but everybody that comes to stay and I'm sure they will just leave with a spiritual peace."



For more details on these stories, visit:

<https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/supporting-parishes/parish-communication/supporting-parish-magazine-editors/>

St Peter and St Paul ,Churchwardens Update, David Akerman writes Interregnum (search for new vicar)

This process is underway. Each of the four parishes has appointed their two representatives for the selection panel. For North Curry, Mary Piers and David Akerman have been given this task.

"Profiles" of each parish are being put together by panels in each parish and a meeting was held on 12th August with Caroline Bruce (a diocesan advisor) to take this forward and to prepare a questionnaire to ask residents (not just churchgoers) what they think. This will be distributed with the pink sheet to all households in the parish . There will be a" feedback" meeting in Stoke St Gregory village hall on 28th September, 10am until noon, to hear the views expressed by the whole benefice. The vicarage has been vacated. Costs of refurbishment and possible letting is an issue for the diocese not for us, but we are still responsible for the upkeep of the grounds until a new occupant is found.

Services

Our normal pattern continues with excellent support from John Tyler, Martin Mudie, Robert Dunning, and Ralph Roberts with additional preachers drawn from the diocese.

If you have any questions, please ask a churchwarden (who may not have the answer but will try to find one).

Refurbishments

The programme of refurbishments and repairs in the churchyard is likely to commence at the very end of September. A contractor has been chosen from amongst four who responded to the tender and is recommended by the church architect.

The complete programme will seriously deplete our reserves and already there have been several kind offers of additional donations towards the works.

Please do not hold back if you would like to donate!

On 14th September we have one of twice yearly "clean-up" days. Please do come at 10am. There is something to do for all abilities. Work on the roofs will be done at a different time but there is a myriad of jobs to done both inside and outside the church to keep "God's Acre" (actually two acres) in good order.

Commonwealth War Graves

Some of you have noticed that we have War Graves in our churchyard. The question has been asked "how many and in memory of whom"

We have four:

Private Harry Udell Gannett, Devonshire Regiment died 13th January 1919

Private Charles William Stodgell, Devonshire Regiment died 2nd February 1919

Second Lieutenant Peter John Carr , Royal Artillery died 11th October 1941

Sgt John Bernard Hebditch, Royal Airforce Volunteer Res. died 1st December 1943

Information taken from the War Graves Commission website

Harvest Supper

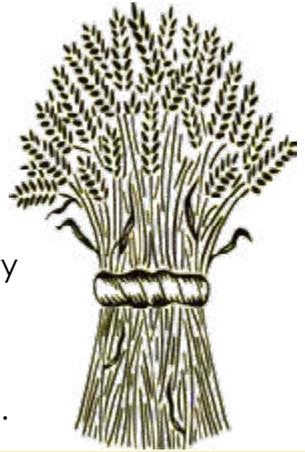
Saturday 21st September

A sumptuous banquet awaits you - 7pm for 7.30pm
at the Village Hall Tickets £10 (adult), £5 (under 12)
on sale at the Post Office from 2nd September

- * Guest speaker from the Mercy Ships Charity
- * Ukulele band

Limited spaces available

Get your ticket today to avoid disappointment...



Mercy Ships Charity

At the harvest supper this year, we have invited a guest speaker from the Mercy Ships Charity. A collection box on the night will be available to those wishing to give to their cause.

Who are they though...? Mercy Ships is a faith-based international development organisation that deploys hospital ships to some of the poorest countries in the world, delivering vital, free healthcare to people in desperate need. More information at www.mercyships.org.uk



Church Clean-Up Day – 14th September

Please come along from 10am to assist with the little jobs around the church. Dusting to weeding, gully clearing to cobweb clearing – something for everyone – you only need spend half an hour, but if we all did a little, much will get done. Tom and Rob already started in August, with the removal of 6 trailer loads of old debris from under the yews.

Free refreshments will be available.



Taunton Military Wives Choir

On Saturday 14th September we welcome Taunton Military Wives Choir. Their programme includes old favourites such as Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree, Water of Tyne and a medley from Les Misérables.

Taunton Military Wives Choir was formed just over 6 years ago and is part of the Military Wives Choir Foundation.

Within the choir there are wives and girlfriends of both serving and retired military personnel, mothers, sisters and daughters, also several ladies who have served within the armed forces themselves.

Their Musical Director is Edward Goater, a tenor and music teacher living in Wells. He studied conducting with Norman Barnes MBE and for many years was a member of the BBC Singers.

Edward is also musical director of the Taunton Choral Society.

7pm Saturday 14th September 2019
at North Curry Parish Church

Doors open 6:30pm

Tickets £10 will be available at

North Curry Post Office

from the beginning of September.

The Choir will have copies of their songs available on CD

Quilting exhibition at North Curry Parish Church

Saturday & Sunday, 21st & 22nd September

12 noon to 5 pm

We are a group of friends who have been quilting together for 30 years and are celebrating with an exhibition of work at the parish church.

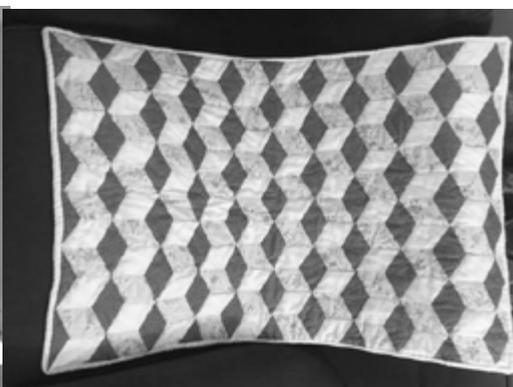
Meeting in each other's houses fortnightly, we work collectively on patchwork quilts for each other to celebrate and mark momentous occasions and to raise money for charity.

Our early quilts were made of recycled fabrics from favourite items mixed with jumble sale finds: latterly the construction has gone up market and we buy new, specialist quilting cottons which are longer lasting.

There will be a great variety of patterns and fabrics on show – some are made up of traditional American eight inch square blocks while others are complete, all-over designs.

We are grateful to the church for allowing us to be part of their harvest thanksgiving weekend. Entry is free but donations will be accepted for the church; also, we will offer light refreshments, again in aid of the church.

Anne Pike



North Curry Bellringers, Darren Woodyer writes

After the past couple of months and announcing the Bell Appeal, we have been so focused on getting this off to a good start that we had neglected finishing our new floor. All of the wood was down and it was signed off by the church but we hadn't got any carpet down. For those who had been up the tower before we started that project you may remember it was like walking on Josephs amazing technicoloured dream coat. I think we had every colour on the Dulux colour card on our floor. Well not any more. After some bargain hunting, I was able to purchase 70m² of blue carpet tiles for £70. This was a steal, only problem was they were up north and I hadn't seen them but what the heck you have to take a chance now and again. I won them on a popular auction website and then sorted out haulage, which cost just as much as the tiles.

They all arrived a week later and 4 of us took wheelbarrows up to the church to move them to the tower. I was able to get a good look at them and the majority were in good condition. We got them all in behind the tower door and then as the ringers came for practice on Sunday morning, we all took some upstairs. After a couple of weeks, we had enough of them upstairs to lay them out to see how many we needed and the state of the tiles. We found that we only needed about half of them! We went through them again to pick out the best of the best and transported the rest downstairs.

On a Saturday morning at the beginning of August, my foster daughter and I with glue and paintbrush in hand, set off up the tower to get the tiles glued down. People joined us through the day which was nice, and by the end of the afternoon all of the tiles were down. Phew!

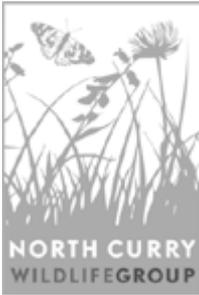
I then decided that just to finish it off I would wash the carpet to just take out any old dirt. It is now all finished and clean and looks amazing (even if I say so myself!). I'd like to just thank all those who have helped once again to do such a good job on this project.

If anyone would like any carpet tiles for a job at their home, we have loads left and they come up a treat when washed. We would like to recoup some of the money we spent getting them. If you are interested please feel free to contact us or email me on

gograndsiredoubles@gmail.com



Why not come and give ringing a go. Practice Evenings: Monday, 7pm – 9pm.
Contact Darren, tower captain 07718 05907
email: gograndsiredoubles@gmail.com



For pictures and information please visit our website:
www.northcurrybells.com **North Curry Wildlife Group**

We were absolutely delighted when Kate and Simon Mears offered to design and illustrate an information board for visitors to the Community Woodland, and regular walkers there will know that this is now in place. As well as a map of the main paths and features of the woodland, Kate has painted illustrations of some of the most characteristic trees, plants, birds and insects to be found at the woodland and so the board is extremely attractive as well as, we hope, informative. Huge

thanks go to Kate and Simon for their generosity in giving us such wonderful artwork, and to the National Lottery Community Fund for enabling us to convert this into the finished board now on site.

A new activity at the woodland that is allowing us to discover more about the wildlife there is moth trapping, thanks to the expertise of new resident Stephen Locke on whose advice we have bought a Skinner moth trap (again using our lottery award). Under Stephen's guidance, we have so far trapped on three occasions and recorded a total of 37 moths. Among the most numerous have been Common Footman and Ruby Tiger; among the largest have been Drinkers, a Lappet and an Oak Eggar moth. We look forward to adding to this list and to organising a mothing event when we have gained more experience.



The heatwave in July proved something of a challenge to our newly planted plug plants on the 'bee bank' next to the pond, but they are now establishing themselves. We are hoping to improve the diversity of the flowering plants at the woodland and have chosen plants for the new bank especially suited to bees, butterflies and other pollinators.

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Tea break!

Harvest Festival Wordsearch

Can you find the Harvest themed words hidden in the grid?



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LAMMASTIDE, MICHAELMAS, COMBINE, HARVESTER,
FARMER, HOME, MOON, CROP, MOW, TRACTOR

The Edinburgh Fringe joke awards - 2019 shortlist

"Someone stole my antidepressants. Whoever they are, I hope they're happy" - Richard Stott

"What's driving Brexit? From here it looks like it's probably the Duke of Edinburgh" - Milton Jones

"A cowboy asked me if I could help him round up 18 cows. I said, 'Yes, of course. - That's 20 cows'" - Jake Lambert

"A thesaurus is great. There's no other word for it" - Ross Smith

"Sleep is my favourite thing in the world. It's the reason I get up in the morning" - Ross Smith

"I accidentally booked myself onto an escapology course; I'm really struggling to get out of it" - Adele Cliff

"After learning six hours of basic semaphore, I was flagging" - Richard Pulsford

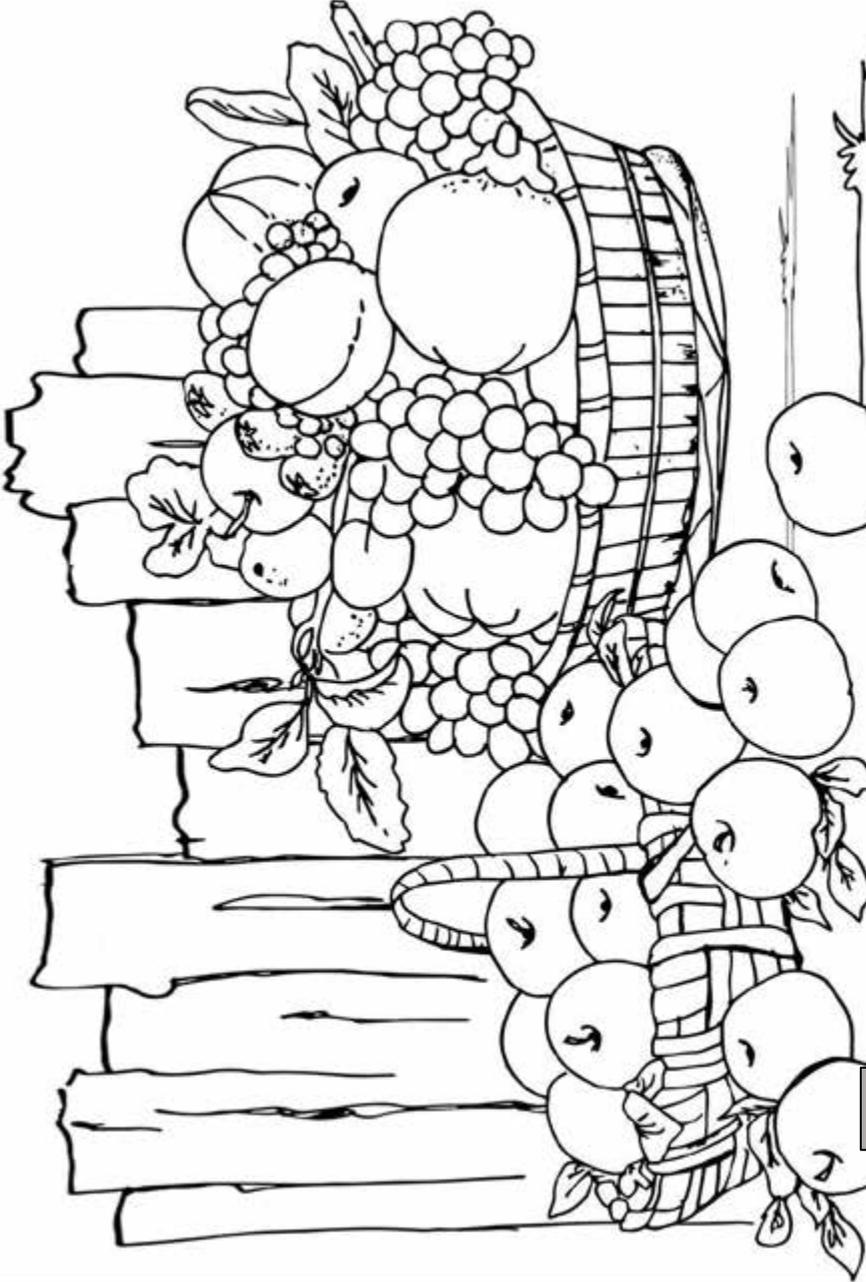
"To be or not to be a horse rider, that is Equestrian" - Mark Simmons

"I've got an Eton-themed advent calendar, where all the doors are opened for me by my dad's contacts" - Ivo Graham

"I keep randomly shouting out 'Broccoli' and 'Cauliflower' - I think I might have florets" - Olaf Falafel

HARVEST FESTIVAL

COLOURING IN PAGE



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ME

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 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.

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.

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 back for details. BACS to North Curry PCC – Account No: 00514650, Sort Code: 30-98-45

“Your days are numbered. Use them to throw open the windows of your soul to the sun. If you do not, the sun will soon set, and you with it.”
— Marcus Aurelius

Register of:

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals (March 2019 - August 2019)

We ask for God's Blessing on all the following

Baptisms

Edward Tommy Tucker, Andrew George Tratt	
William Matthew Daniel Perry	May 2019
Imogen Ruby Wilson	June 2019

Weddings

Robert McKinlay/ Ceri Morgan	April 2019
Matthew Walker/ Philija Wilcox	May 2019

Funerals

Leslie Stenson, Jeffery Pipe	March 2019
Gordon Bowey	April 2019
Muriel Mudie, Avril Madeley, Michael Griffiths	June 2019

Church Opening and Closing Rota

Sunday, week commencing during September 2019

1 st *	Tony Brooker	8 th	David Walker	15 th *	Ralph Roberts
22 nd	S&A Billinghamurst	29 th	Dave & Sarah Franks		

*=8am service

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation;

but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

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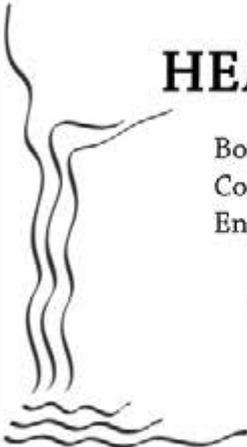
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<u>Officer:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Contact Number:</u>
Vicar	Vacant	
Honorary Associate Priest	Rev'd John Tyler	01460 281574
Reader	Ralph Roberts	01823 490933
Churchwarden	David Akerman	01823 490234
Churchwarden & Verger	Mary Piers	01823 491434
Churchwardens 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: ncurrymag@gmail.com	

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

Other useful numbers for North Curry

Coffee Shop	01823 491414	
Little Acorns	01823 491615	www.littleacornsnorthcurry.co.uk
Parish Council Offices	01823 490136	www.northcurry.com
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Currently the cost is £3.50 per meal.

***The meals are cooked in the cooks' own
kitchens and delivered to houses in
Stoke St Gregory and North Curry.
We are all volunteers and our cooks have
food safety certificates***

***If you think Stoke St Gregory Meals could be
of help to you,
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Carole Joll 490077 or
Vicki Fielding 490565 or Judy Blair 490222***