

# ST. PETER & ST. PAUL

PARISH CHURCH MAGAZINE

NORTH CURRY WITH WRANTAGE



**AUGUST 2020**

**FREE PUBLICATION**

## Dear footpath users

Please keep to the footpath routes; wandering across fields off the footpath is trespassing.

Remember to latch gates, take home your litter, stray children and pets!

If you do pooper-scoop, dispose of the bag in the appropriate bin – not just under the nearest hedge. Plastic bags are not biodegradable.

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**LAST MONTH for getting in your PHOTOS!**  
**The calendar photo competition was due to end on 31<sup>st</sup> August**

to provide photographs for the 2021 calendar.



However, due to the lockdown, it would seem entrants have been a bit sluggish coming forward, so we are extending the **deadline** until **15<sup>th</sup> September** – we hope as many of you as possible will participate in your village calendar.

Terms and conditions:

The competition for selection is open to all amateur photographers who live in the parish.

The subject is to be the parish month by month – places, events, and so on; family photos are not required.

The aim is to create a calendar with relevant pictures for each month of the year, so don't hesitate to submit winter pictures!

Each entrant may submit up to three photographs.

The name and address of the photographer, together with the picture title, location, and month must be identified for each photograph, and the photographer must declare that they hold the copyright.

Entries are to be submitted to the editor of the parish magazine in digital format in high resolution JPEG files, in landscape format, at not less than 200 dpi, and sent to **ncurrymag@gmail.com with an email covering** the instructions in the paragraph above.

No fees will be paid to the entrants, and the proceeds of the sale of the calendar are to benefit the parish church.

Selection will be made by a panel of judges, appointed by the PCC; the criteria will be the merit of the photograph and its suitability for the calendar. The judges' decision is final.

So please do not be shy... give it a go, and send in your best snaps. They don't necessarily need to be from 2020.

Cover Photo – Keeping a Watchful Eye, by Sue Vickery

**Church officers phone numbers, and other local useful phone numbers, can be found on the inside back page.**

[www.northcurrychurch.co.uk/](http://www.northcurrychurch.co.uk/) email [ncurrymag@gmail.com](mailto:ncurrymag@gmail.com)

**Announcements/ News in Brief**

Congratulation to our 200 Club Winners

Prizes, First £30, Second £20, Third £10

May

1<sup>st</sup> Sue Back

2<sup>nd</sup> Donated to SPPP

3<sup>rd</sup> David Walker

June

1<sup>st</sup> Judith Hincks

2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Ginger

3<sup>rd</sup> David Birch

July

1<sup>st</sup> Trevor Steer

2<sup>nd</sup> Diana Hemmings

3<sup>rd</sup> Heather Richards

If you would like to join, please contact Sue Bethune on 490179

Players must be over 18 years old, with all proceeds going towards the churchyard maintenance.

The church is open from 9am to 5pm, daily.

A Message from your Churchwardens:

Good news. We are now able to conduct Services in our Church. The Church has been open for some while for Private Prayer and this continues to be available in the Chancel. Main Services are being held in the Nave and we had our first Evensong for months on 12<sup>th</sup> July with 27 devoted souls coming along. Sadly we are not permitted to sing but our accomplished Organist Helen Griffiths played beautiful peaceful religious music. How lovely to be able to worship once more in the Cathedral of the Moors.

All Benefice Churchwardens and other Rota meeting members met at the end of July to plan future Services. We are bound by C OF E/National Regulations but will do our very best to provide suitable worship. We will publish Services as soon as confirmed.

For those visiting the Church sadly a different sight will greet you with taped off areas, pew cushions removed and kneelers, hymn books and any paper material safely placed away. Regulations!

Members of the PCC still endeavour to keep in touch with many in the Community.

Other questions such as Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals should be directed to the Churchwardens. Under current conditions it is possible to have these ceremonies but with restricted numbers.

Your Churchwardens continue working through the high level of day to day administration. You would be surprised at the amount that comes our way! We are eternally grateful to the Rev John Tyler, the Rev Martin Mudie, Ralph Roberts and Robert Dunning our Readers for their amazing support and wise

guidance. Indeed we are very grateful to you all for your support in these very strange times.

May Covid-19 soon be a thing of the past or at least something we are able to come to terms with and live with without too much stress.

God Bless

Mary Piers, David Akerman

Churchwardens

The usual visit of the Russian Choir will sadly not take place this October.

## **Editor's Comments**

Despite it being half way through summer, I am yet to sample a pint in a beer garden – I hope to remedy that situation this week! Before all too long, our summer will be gone – even the lockdown weather of constant sunshine has made way to murky grey skies with the occasional sunny spell in between. Summer 2020... what has happened to you?

Though that did have me pondering...

When will our produce market be allowed to commence once more?

When will our clubs and societies be allowed to meet? And when they do, will this nonsense of masks be a mandatory requirement?

Do we really need to wait until 2021 before we consider social events again?

Is Christmas 2020 cancelled? It is starting to look that way...?!

Even our church services are restricted.

Evensong without the singing; wouldn't that just make it an Even? – what an odd predicament, and must subtract from the whole event. But if you get the numbers, it should add up to quite the occasion without it dividing opinion on distancing issues. A sign of the times! Apparently though, you are allowed to hum along to the organ music... so that would make it an Evenhum - ho-hum!

So the outlook for 2020 is more draconian government rules, restriction in movement and gatherings, and face masks. How did it come to this?

The easing in lockdown protocols are still a long way off, so there are still no events to publicise (though the church is now offering a few Sunday services). And no one took up Rev Tyler's challenge from last month of "What I learned in the lockdown". So all in all, not much to report upon in this issue.

But on a cheerier note, Sue Vickery kindly allowed her photo to be used for the front cover, as the Calendar Photo competition continues. Summer is still here for another couple of months.. so let us make the most of what we do have... and not to dwell on what we haven't!

## **HARVEST THANKSGIVING WALK 2020.**

For the time being there must remain some uncertainty what form our Harvest Thanksgivings can take in our Churches this Autumn, and indeed whether they can take place at all.

I have had so many positive comments on my Report of my Rogation Walk – many from non-Church parishioners – that I feel almost guilty in having undertaken it largely solo . . .

With this in mind I am proposing a **Harvest Thanksgiving Walk on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

(I'm afraid this is the only Saturday in September I have free, so can't offer alternatives).

The Theme of the Walk will obviously be Thanksgiving for Harvest and All God's Blessings.

The form of the Walk is that people – choosing their own Timing and Route - will converge on Burrowbridge Church and Burrow Mump for **a Thanksgiving Holy Communion in the Churchyard at 12 noon** (if weather suitable), and Blessing of the Benefice from the slopes of the Mump, followed by a Bring-your-own Picnic.

The carpark at the North side of the Mump should be used, not the King Alfred carpark.

Some suggested routes :

North Curry - Lyng - Athelney – Burrowbridge.

Lyng - Athelney - Burrowbridge.

North Curry - Curload - Burrowbridge.

Curload -Burrowbridge.

Stoke St. Gregory – Stathe - Burrowbridge.

Stathe - Burrowbridge.

I'm sure there may be other possibilities !!

PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY NOW . . . . .

John Tyler

## The Rev'd John Tyler writes

My Dear Friends,

One of the characteristics of growing old(er) is that one can fall asleep with relative ease (often at unexpected moments or in strange circumstances), but waking up may be a much more protracted and complicated business. A twinge of arthritis or rheumatism, having slept in the wrong position, an aging digestive system, sometimes just a general reluctance to face the day....

I can't help seeing this as an analogy of going into and coming out of Lockdown. It was imposed swiftly (though some felt a little late) and seemed to happen literally overnight. In contrast the process of easing ourselves out of Lockdown is a much more complicated business, with endless debate about the timing of stages and exactly what these stages should be. What is true for us as a Nation and Society, is true for us as individuals too: It is not just the practicalities of where we can go, who we can mix with, when we should wear a mask (and opinion remains fiercely divided still at this moment of writing as to what, if any, are the benefits of masks . . .); there are also psychological effects observable in many people. Lockdown has encouraged us all to shun contact, be wary of even the most innocuous encounter, be careful of almost everything except an isolated, solitary existence. At this stage it is difficult to gauge what lasting effects this will have had on us all, but it cannot be healthy in the long term.

Of course individuals vary a great deal in how they regard this difficult – and often rather painful – process of Emerging from Lockdown. Some seem almost to relish the restrictions and limitations; others seem to follow the Riding principle, "If you fall off your horse, get back on again as soon as possible."

What is true of Society and individuals, is true of the Churches too. It was relatively easy (though only time will tell if it was right) to decree that all the Churches should be locked. It is proving much more protracted and complicated to ease ourselves back into something approaching normality. When and How should the Churches be re-opened?

What should be allowed to happen in them, and under what conditions? These are the questions that your Churchwardens and others are having to struggle with; they deserve your support and prayers at this time of difficult decisions. Meanwhile I hope for us all as individuals there will be increasingly frequent times when we can forget this shadow on our lives.

Every Blessing,

John Tyler.

Letter from the Right Reverend  
Ruth Worsley, Bishop Taunton

## Time for a rest

I'm tired! I don't know about you? And yet I am getting up later and going to bed earlier than I was accustomed to before the pandemic struck. I'm travelling less, indeed I still have an almost full tank of petrol and have had to call out the AA three times because the battery has died! I'm at home principally, but my working day has got fuller and more demanding as time has gone on.

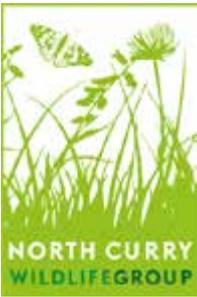
So, I'm planning a holiday! A retreat and some study leave. Having been ordained 24 years I have yet to have a period of sabbatical and I'm looking forward to it! It is not going to take the form I would have planned. There will not be the opportunity of a trip overseas or a residential conference to attend, but there will be plenty of time for family, rest, reading and reflection.

What about you? I know some of you might be feeling that our children have had one big holiday at home since lockdown but I can assure you that they, their parents and their teachers have all been working hard to ensure that learning can continue even though the normal patterns have been disturbed. Whether we have been working from home, furloughed or feeling alone in isolation, each of us will I expect have experienced something of the sense of weariness that heightened anxiety, change of routine and uncertain expectation brings.

So I want to encourage you to take some time off. There's a fabulous little children's story called, Jesus' Day Off, which you might like read as an example of the need for even the Creator to re-create. The example of Sabbath rest which our Creator God offers us in the opening chapters of the Bible, speak to us of the need for taking time to put down the tools of work and take space to reflect and rest.

We have spent the past few months in lockdown in order to keep ourselves physically healthy. Let's make sure that in these next few months we attend as much to our spiritual and emotional health, by discovering sabbath rest!

With every blessing  
Bishop Ruth



## North Curry Wildlife Group

### Ant Tower

A new construction at the Community Woodland has been built with ants in mind, as Phil

Stone explains:

After the builders tipped the soil from the new path to extend the butterfly bank, they next repaired the concrete paving, but they buried the broken slabs a few inches under the bank so when I came to cultivate the bank the slabs had to be moved. As I dug them out, I noticed that a lot of black ants had colonised the slabs – in just a couple of weeks. As I felt a bit guilty about disturbing them and, as I didn't know what to do with the slabs, I thought of building a small tower out of them with spaces between the layers which might be suitable for ants to colonise.

I needed to secure the pile of slabs with four stakes buried in the ground. I then added a skin of weathered pallet timbers to enclose the tower and create an environment which might be suitable for ants, using more soil to fill inside the timber skin. Some ants came with the soil used to fill the structure.



So I hope they stay!

This is an experimental construction, an approach we have used elsewhere in the wildlife area, sometimes successfully, sometimes not. The plastic protective tubes used for tree planting are occasionally colonised by ants, and they can build the nest of soil right to the top of the 1.2 metre high tubes. I have sometimes had to cut the tubes full of ants off to save the young trees and this was a way of trying to put an ant habitat back.

Ants are an important part of our ecosystem if it is to be healthy, and we need them. If this tower proves to be a

suitable habitat for them I hope others might try this approach.



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

*Celebrating North Curry  
and Curland's Church Anniversary  
28<sup>th</sup> June 2020*



The occasion commemorating the amalgamation of the two small chapels at North Curry and Curland is always one to celebrate. However, those planning the event this year were rather overcome with doubt as the 'lock in' situation continued.

However, due the technical ability of friends in the circuit and the inventiveness of our minister Deborah, the day turned into one of joyous celebration.

The Sunday afternoon online service was well 'attended' judging by the names of worshippers on the 'chat' line. Friends from Rowbarton, Temple, Lisieux Way, the Bridgwater area and North Curry/Curland Methodist churches plus some from the village Anglican church were able to sing, pray and listen to the powerful sermon delivered by Deborah. Hallelujah!

NC/C members provided the hymn choices, most of them well known favourites.

**Tell out my soul-** Jean House

**All things bright and beautiful-** remembering Sheila Bailey

**Count your blessings** - Dick Brewer

**Christ be our light-** Brian and Evelyn Hillier

**Amazing Grace-** Roy Crouch

**Put your hand in the hand of the man-** Paul and Rachel Rogers

**The old rugged cross-** Betty and Tony Koppa

**Make me a channel of your peace-** Una Walker

**How great thou art-** Rodney and Sue Jones

**One more step along the world I go-** Andrew Goodwin

**This, this is the God we adore-** Daphne Gilham

For those members not on the internet, a cd of the hymns is going to be compiled.

Dates for the diary.

Harvest Festival Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 3pm. Preacher Rev'd Deborah Kirk.

## **A time for Lament...**

We are all aware of the question children ask most frequently when they are going on a long journey – ‘Are we nearly there yet?’ or in other words ‘How much longer?’ It’s a question that perhaps we might be asking ourselves now as we start to emerge slowly from our places of isolation or restricted movement and begin to think about picking up some of the strands of our lives again.

‘How long?’ is the recurring theme of a simple little psalm which came up in our service readings a week or two ago...Psalm 13. Although we don’t know the actual circumstances of the one who wrote it, but his ‘How long?’ cries out from a place of despair, or undeserved trouble. It is known as a Psalm of Lament.

‘How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me? (Ps 13 : 1-2)

A lament is an urgent prayer to God, which expresses pain that things are not as they should be, might accuse God of neglect, and pleads for God to come to the aid of the ones who are suffering. And it is when the suffering seems to continue that the lament is at its most poignant. Because this type of psalm is based on the conviction that God actually is a God who acts, saves, blesses and restores, and when that doesn’t happen, the psalmist wants to remind God of God’s nature and character, and call on him to answer in this need, this time, this suffering..

Some Christians would have you believe that they never experience times when God seems distant, never feel alone or downhearted, never seem to be affected by the sadnesses that the rest of us have to cope with. But of course, that is just not a true picture. Life is not like that. And one of the things we learn from the Psalms is that it is important to be honest with God and with ourselves. There’s no pretence here – no polite complaint, it is a broken-hearted cry about the injustice and the suffering that is surrounding the one who prays.

But the very fact that he is able to voice the anguish he is feeling points to his relationship with God. We can see this in our own children or grandchildren – if they are hungry, or hurt, or ill, they don’t go next door to the neighbour to ask for help, they go to their parent or grandparent who they know loves them, and who they trust will do all he or she can, to heal and restore their world.

The reverse of this is tragically illustrated by Dr. Russell Moore in his book, 'Adopted for Life'. Moore describes going to an orphanage in Russia when he was in the process of pursuing adoption. The silence from the nursery was eerie. The babies in the cribs never cried. Not because they never needed anything, but because they had learned that no one cared enough to answer. Children who are confident of the love of a parent cry out to them.

So a Lament starts out as a cry to God, but it becomes more than that...as you read on, Psalm 13 answers itself.. 'But I trust in your unfailing love.' It becomes a voicing of trust and hope in a God who will be in the unknown future, whatever that will look like.

We need perhaps to remind ourselves that our feeling that we are all alone in our suffering doesn't mean that God is absent – any more than being unable to see the sun on a cloudy day means it has ceased to exist. God is with us whether we sense him or not. And that assurance can be a source of hope, and thankfulness.

Lament is not only for the suffering; it is also for solidarity with the suffering. When we read through the psalms, we might feel that there are some which just don't seem to "fit" our lives—and we might conclude that there is little point in dwelling on them.

However, the point of praying the psalms is that we align ourselves with the those who suffer, in our families, our communities, our world. Maybe we are not being pursued by enemies or hemmed in on every side, but what about the suffering Christians in Syria or North Korea? What about my friend who is dealing with a cancer diagnosis? We love our neighbour when we allow their experience of pain to become the substance of our prayer.

To lament is to protest – to name what is wrong – to give voice to other's suffering and pain, to hold the brokenness of the world before God and to pray for God to act. In a broken world, for a broken people, lament may be our best gift and offering.

There have been other Bible readings as well over the past weeks, verses which remind us that we are never on this journey through life on our own. That the Lord is our Shepherd, that God in Christ is with us always, that his eye is on the sparrow – the little ordinary ones, and we can trust in God's faithful love to hold us through the storms, and to bring rest for our weariness.

A Methodist service continues to be offered each week as a Youtube recording, which can be accessed by clicking the link on the home page of [www.rowbartonmethodist.org.uk](http://www.rowbartonmethodist.org.uk)

You can also see previous weeks' services by going to Youtube, and typing Rowbarton Methodist Church in the search.

Some have been asking when we shall meet for services again. You will be aware that there are a raft of assessments and precautions to take before we can do so, and at a time when some of our most vulnerable people are still shielding, and others are only just emerging from 12 weeks of isolation, the Methodist Church is urging caution and patience.

One of the things we knew of course, but has been highlighted for us in a new way during lockdown, is that God is not locked within our church buildings, but is to be found in the ordinary everyday places where faithful people pray, where neighbour serves neighbour, and where communities draw together to laugh and cry with one another.

Our chapel will open for worship in due time, and in the meantime, look for the signs of the Kingdom growing within you and among you.

Peace for the journey  
Deborah  
Methodist Minister

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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  
Cheque payments to North Curry PCC  
Standing Order/ BACS payments to  
North Curry PCC – Account No: 00514650, Sort Code: 30-98-45



Presented by Don Hoyle

We hope that we can return in September, with the six films we were not able to show this season. We are busy putting together a programme – more information next month. In the meantime,...

### **Morricone – death of a giant of film music**

Sadly, on 6<sup>th</sup> July, Ennio Morricone died. He was a Master of Film Music for nearly 70 years and composed some 400 scores for films and television. He became well known following his score for Sergio Leone's *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* in 1966. It is a ground-breaking piece that includes yodelling and, famously, whistling. You only have to hear a bit of it to conjure up the image of an unshaven Clint Eastwood in this 'spaghetti western'. Morricone also composed some 100 classical pieces of an avant-garde nature. He also wrote songs for the likes of Paul Anka, Joan Baez and, more recently, Andrea Bocelli.



Another stand-out film was in 1986, Roland Joffé's *The Mission*. Again, his music is innovative, and uses native instruments. *Gabriel's Oboe* is its most famous theme and it is used when the protagonist, the Jesuit Father Gabriel (Jeremy Irons), walks up to a waterfall and starts playing his oboe, aiming to befriend the natives with his

music so he can carry his missionary work in the New World. It is a beautiful tune and very memorable, but I am not sure it evokes the film in the way other music does.

One of my favourite films, which has his music that always gets to me, is Giuseppe Tomatore's *Cinema Paradiso*. The music so perfectly carries the film's nostalgia and sentimentality.

The score won the 1986 BAFTA Best Film Music award. Like *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*, the music immediately makes me see little mischievous Toto and his relationship with Alfredo. Morricone wrote the music with his son, Andrea.



Film music is often a key feature of a film. Can you imagine *Gone with the Wind* without *Tara's theme*? Or *Star Wars* without

John William's *Imperial March* music? Would you have been so scared in the shower curtain scene in *Psycho* without Bernard Herrmann's music?

Would *Casablanca* still be a great film without *As time goes by*? I think so. However, I cannot imagine *Jaws* without the shark theme or *Lord of the Rings* without Howard Shore's music for *The Shire*.

What other film music does this – it immediately evokes the feelings of the film?

Don Hoyle (in a personal capacity – these views are not necessarily those of the Film Club).

### **What does being in debt feel like?**

Fearful, desperate, their world out of control and in a state of chaos, this is how people experiencing the blight of personal indebtedness are described by the local charity Taunton Area Debt Advice. TADA helps people from all walks of life by providing a free, unconditional, non-judgmental, fully confidential advice and practical support to help them become debt free.

Martin Ingrams, our local postman, is a Trustee and says “We put people back on their feet. We sort out the jumbled chaos of debt to understand where they are. We take the burden of the problems off their shoulders by being a shield from the threatening letters and telephone calls. We give them a plan, make arrangements and negotiate agreements. Then they have hope, they have structure. They can see life beyond the spiral of debt. They have a future”.

TADA is supported by local churches, but offers its free debt advice to people of faith or no faith at all. The TADA Debt Advisers are regulated and authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority. People can gain access to this free support by going to the web site [www.tauntonareadebtadvice.uk](http://www.tauntonareadebtadvice.uk) or calling the helpline 07921 526087. TADA is a member of Community Money Advice which is a national charity with 1300 volunteers working in 160 debt advice centres across the United Kingdom.

The enforced government lockdown restriction will cause financial ruin and hardship to many, and once furloughing ends, the unemployment and fallout of closed businesses will hit many young individuals who have no guaranteed income. TADA is a local based charity that help these individuals to best plan and manage their financial stresses. If you would like to know more, either to help, donate or are in need of help yourself, please contact them 07921 526087.

# North Curry and District Amateur Gardeners

By Heather Williams

I'm hoping that this might be the last month that I'm filling a space rather than giving details of our next meeting!

I thought that as it's August, and hopefully warm, that water usage might be the thing to consider.

Water is a precious resource; it doesn't just come from reservoirs as suppliers also take both groundwater and water from rivers and streams causing problems for our wildlife. A shocking statistic is that up to 70% of water supply can be used in gardens. So firstly, we need to look after our soil. Organic matter helps to conserve moisture so mulch, mulch and mulch again. Also mulch the surface of your hanging baskets and pots to trap moisture and use water retentive granules. A wonderful way of recycling an old woolly jumper is to stitch some of it into the base of your baskets before you fill them, it can look really quirky as well.

Only water if necessary. Check your soil several inches down, if it is still moist, you don't need to water. Furthermore, your plants will tell you when they're not happy. There's a difference of opinion as to whether it's best to water at night or in the morning but if you're not an early riser it's probably better to do it in the evening so you lose less to evaporation. Next, the right amount of water. This depends on soil type but the RHS rule of thumb is 24litres per sqm (5.2 gall per 10 sq ft) every 7 to 10 days. That's about two and a half 10 litre watering cans per sq m (apparently!!) Onto the flowers! It's hard to let go of some of our most traditional perennials but there's a huge selection of plants that can resist dry conditions and the RHS website has loads of ideas for you to try and we all love lavenders, verbena bonariensis and the tougher salvias, as do the all-important bees and butterflies. Finally, save water where you can. Grey water from your bath, shower or washing up can be used as plants can cope with soap and some detergent but obviously not anything with bleach, disinfectant or cleaning fluids. It'll probably rain every day now! August is also a good time to save some seeds from your favourite plants. Collect them on a dry day and keep them dry and cool until it's time to sow them in the Spring. That's one of the wonderful things about gardeners, we're always looking forward and planning for the next season whilst enjoying the current one.



**Answers to last month's anagrams if you didn't get them:** Agapanthus, Cyclamen hederifolium and Iris reticulata

Stay safe, enjoy your garden and don't forget to wear your hat and sunscreen!

In view of the uncertainty about future regulations for public assembly, your Committee has reluctantly decided to cancel our speakers and Village Hall bookings for the remainder of this year. We feel we cannot meet the necessary distancing and hygiene requirements. The Hall has been booked for Wednesdays in 2021, when more normal social distancing may be possible without the need to control numbers: the second Wednesday in February and the third Wednesday in other months except for July (when we hope to meet outdoors) and August (no meeting).

We do hope to welcome you back in the New Year to resume our lively programme of meetings reviewing our natural and built heritage and the fascinating life experiences of North Curry residents. We hope to announce speakers and arrangements for the AGM in the next edition of this magazine. Membership fees paid for 2019-20 will include 2021; we'll collect £5 from new members (or £1 from visitors) at our first meeting.

We're looking forward to seeing you all again.

## **CAMES MEAD B&B**

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## **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 is just over two acres and remains 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 wild flora carpets amongst the headstones. The lower part to the north has been in use since 1952, whilst around the church, gravestones that are centuries old can be located along with 4 war memorials. A plan of the graveyard can be found in the church porch.

## **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](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, along with COVID-19 protocols. There are 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.

## **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 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 page for details.

BACS to North Curry PCC : Account No: 00514650, Sort Code: 30-98-45

## Commonwealth War Graves

Private Harry Udell Gannett, Devonshire Regiment died 13<sup>th</sup> January 1919

Private Charles William Stodgell, Devonshire Regiment died 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1919

Second Lieutenant Peter John Carr , Royal Artillery died 11<sup>th</sup> October 1941

Sgt John Bernard Hebditch, Royal Airforce Volunteer Res. died 1<sup>st</sup> December 1943

Information taken from the War Graves Commission website

Register of:

**Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals** (February – July 2020)

We ask for God's Blessing on all the following

Baptisms

None

Weddings

None

Funerals

Tony Brooker

February

Phylis Pine, Sheila Bailey

April

Paul White

June

## Prayer for the Athelney Benefice

Almighty God,

Who made all things and sustains all things;

We come together remembering the past and full of hope for the future;

We thank you for the part you call us to play in our Benefice's continuing story.

Lord, bind us more closely together and unite us in the work of your kingdom in our communities;

Help us to draw on the gifts and talents in our midst and to use them in your service.

May we be a welcoming and loving community, united in worshipping you and open to your guiding Spirit.

Holy Spirit guide us at this time of uncertainty and change:

Fill us with vision and energy; make us faithful in prayer and worship, that we may discover your way for the future and see your kingdom grow.

We ask these things in the name of your Son our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen

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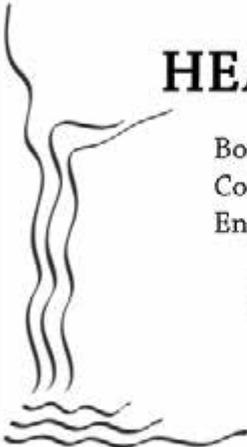
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## Church Officers and Contacts

<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	Janet Dare	01823 490747
PCC Secretary/ Safe Guarding	Helen Griffiths	01823 491298
PCC Treasurer	Vacant, Interim - David Akerman	
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	01823 490319
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	
Little Herons	01823 490423	<a href="http://www.northcurryschool.co.uk/little-herons-pre-school/">www.northcurryschool.co.uk/little-herons-pre-school/</a>
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>
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