

ST. PETER & ST. PAUL NORTH CURRY WITH WRANTAGE



And in this edition:

Darren Woodyer talks bells, Helen Morley reviews music week at the school and Phil Stone updates us on the Wildlife Group.

With puzzles, cracker jokes plus much more, welcome to our church magazine.

DECEMBER 2018

70P

Church Officers and Contacts

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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

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 Data Protection Act 1998.

The church website is www.northcurrychurch.co.uk

Christmas Decorations at the Church

Decorating will begin in the week commencing 17th December.

We need your assistance with this year's festive decorations at the church. The more help, the merrier.

As in previous years, local clubs, societies and organisations are invited to participate in the activity and/or make contributions towards flowers and poinsettias.

We are also IN NEED OF ARTIFICIAL Christmas Trees, to aid with our display. If you have one you could loan, 5ft tall ideally, that would be marvellous.

Many thanks

Lorraine Bryan-Brown

491665

The Remembrance Service – 11th November

Following a very meaningful Service in the Church, the congregation gathered at the village square's Cenotaph, where they joined many local villagers.



Around 200, from babes to veterans, were in attendance to pay their respects to the fallen from the Great War, and to remember all those that died in wars since.

THE GREAT WAR
R E M E M B E R E D

The good Lord provided sunshine



throughout, as Reverend Mudie lead the Remembrance, assisted by Mike Scott, the Baptist Chapel Pastor and Deborah Kirk, the Methodist Minister.

With heads bowed in silent reflection, the church bell poignantly tolled to mark the hour.

After the Remembrance Service, we extended an invitation to all to return to our church for refreshments. It was wonderful to welcome so very many back, to chat, to reminisce, exchange memories and just to be in God's beautiful Cathedral of the Moors.

Mary Piers, Church Warden

God with us



DIOCESE OF
Bath & Wells

Living the story. Telling the story.

Letter from

The Right Reverend Ruth Worsley, Bishop of Taunton

Well, we are into the frantic pressie-buying month of December now. The American 'Black Friday' tradition appears to be firmly a part of our own pattern and has brought the search for the perfect Christmas present yet earlier in our calendar. Parish and school Christmas Fayres offer us home-made, Fairtrade, recycled and singular alternatives. And increasingly the inequalities within our economy become more apparent as people risk debt to bring a smile to their child's face.

When I was a parish priest we found that many of our single parents felt trapped by the pressure of keeping up with those around them. We tried to introduce a maximum spend for all our congregational and family present buying in order to bring some parity. It wasn't easy!

I'm reminded at this time of year of the line that we are seeing more frequently, accompanying invitations to weddings and Birthday parties: **'No presents required, just your presence!'**

It makes me think about what Christmas really means. During this time of preparation and waiting for the big day to arrive, many of us will sing the words of that Advent hymn, 'O come, O come, Emmanuel', a 12th century hymn that invites God to fulfil his prophecy to his people. Will we really take in those words?

'Emmanuel' means 'God with us', such an important and comforting phrase in these times of uncertainty and anxiety, as we wonder what the new year will bring.

Christmas we know is a time when people can feel lonely, disappointed, stressed. There are reputedly more suicides and marriage breakdowns during the course of this holiday period. One of the best Christmas presents we can offer then must surely be that of hospitality, a listening ear and simply our 'presence' among those who feel forgotten, rejected or overlooked.

In so doing we will find God's own present to us this Christmas, as in any and all other Christmases, His presence. The God to whom "every animal of the forest and the cattle on a thousand hills, belongs" (Psalm 50) has given us the best present of all - **He is with us.**

The Rev'd John Tyler writes

My Dear Friends,

I am beginning this letter at the end of Remembrance Sunday; though I realise that by the time this is in print that may seem like a distant memory, I would like to pay tribute to all those whose hard work and dedication made this an especially memorable occasion in all four parishes. The feeling that we owe a debt, not just of gratitude but also of honour and dedication, to all those who suffered and in so many cases died in the two World Wars of the Twentieth Century and so many other conflicts, seems to strengthen with the passing of the years. Thank you also to all those of you who came to join in our Acts of Remembrance.

We are now moving on to the Season of Advent and then to Christmas. It is always a joy to witness the atmosphere of expectancy that this time of the Christian Year brings. The First Christmas witnessed the birth of the longed-for Saviour, eagerly expected by his nation for hundreds of years. All the tinsel and tatty glitter of Christmas in the Twenty-First Century cannot obscure the simple wonder that lies at the heart of the Christmas story : the Baby born in a poor and squalid stable to a young mother in Bethlehem, because there was 'no room in the inn'. Yet this same scrap of vulnerable life is proclaimed by the Angel to the shepherds 'a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord'. God doesn't just work in mysterious ways; he shows the power of his love by coming to us in a way that emphasises that just a tiny flicker of Light can drive back the darkness.

Many of you will be aware that our Churches in the Benefice have been a bit under pressure this Autumn. Apart from the absence of the Vicar (but we hope she will soon be well enough to resume her post) we have had quite a number of very serious health-issues among key members of our Church officers and congregations. I would like to pay tribute and express my personal Thanks to all those who have worked extra-hard to make sure our Churches continue to serve their communities, and to maintain patterns of worship and pastoral care at their usual high level. I am not going to mention names, but you all know who you are!

Meanwhile I would like to assure you all that we are determined to continue to maintain the Church Services and activity as nearly as possible as planned. With the proviso that Fire and Flood can cause problems, there is no intention of cutting down in any way.

And, in spite of difficulties, there have been achievements this Autumn: all the parishes have done extremely well, and there have been significant initiatives and happy occasions throughout the Benefice. You can read about many of these elsewhere in this Magazine.

I hope I shall have the opportunity to say this personally to many if not all of you later in the month ... but in case we happen to miss one another:

A VERY BLESSED AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL

John Tyler.

Announcements

We have some terrific Christmas Services lined up this December. Please see the Advent service listing for more details.

Congratulations to our November 200 Club Winners

1st Prize - £30: Sally Rossiter

2nd Prize - £20: Mrs P. Pine, 3rd Prize - £10: Liz Tennant

On the 2nd December service, we shall have our first ever Christmas Prize Draw of £60. Do come along to this inaugural event; it maybe you leaving with a £60 cheque – just in time for Christmas shopping!

If you are not a member, and would like to join, please contact Sue Bethune. The annual subscription is £18. Players must be 18+ yrs.

The Produce Market, 1st December, 9.15am-12.00pm for your chance to grab a bargain. The kitchen will be open throughout. New stalls for this month and just in time for Christmas.

The Chalice Morris men wish their season's greetings, and thank their hosts and all the folk who joined them at Stoke St Gregory and North Curry this year. In their annual report, these events were rated among their most successful and enjoyable venues. They will be back next year.

Those that attended the Evensong Service at the end of October, were part of a true spectacle. A full congregation enjoyed the choirs of "In Ecclesia", from Taunton, as well as the returning professional Russians singing a couple of songs, albeit on their day off. We look forward to welcoming them back, and thank "In Ecclesia" for their generous donation towards our funds.

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

Little Angels, Toddlers Club and Pram Service. Every 2nd Thursday in the month at the church. Look forward to welcoming you there to meet other parents and their children.

Magazine editor required. You must have your own computer. Minimal editing/ styling required, as a case of managing contributions via email.

For sale, Yamaha PSP keyboard with stand and cover. £50ono with proceeds to the church. Contact Geoff Golder on 491446.

Commemorations in December

Saints and other holy people commemorated in December

The Church's year begins in December with the major liturgical cycle Advent to Candlemas, including Christmas when we remember that God humbled himself to take on human form and live among us. Within this cycle fall other Holy Days, saints and other holy people (some well-known, others less so), whose example and teaching may inspire us. We pray that we may be strengthened by our communion with all the saints.

Saturday 1	Charles de Foucauld , Hermit in the Sahara, 1916
Sunday 2	ADVENT SUNDAY
Monday 3	Francis Xavier , Missionary, Apostle of the Indies, 1552
Tuesday 4	John of Damascus , Monk, Teacher of the Faith, c.749 Nicholas Ferrar , Deacon, Founder of the Little Gidding Community, 1637
Thursday 6	Nicholas , Bishop of Myra, c.326
Friday 7	Ambrose , Bishop of Milan, Teacher of the Faith, 397
Saturday 8	The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday 13	Lucy , Martyr at Syracuse, 304 Samuel Johnson , Moralist, 1784
Friday 14	John of the Cross , Poet, Teacher of the Faith, 1591
Monday 17	O SAPIENTIA Eglantyne Jebb , Social Reformer, Founder of 'Save the Children', 1928
Friday 21	Thomas the Apostle (<i>if not celebrated on 3 July</i>)
Monday 24	CHRISTMAS EVE
Tuesday 25	CHRISTMAS DAY
Wednesday 26	Stephen , Deacon, First Martyr
Thursday 27	John , Apostle and Evangelist
Friday 28	The Holy Innocents
Saturday 29	Thomas Becket , Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170 (<i>may be celebrated on 7 July instead</i>)
Monday 31	John Wyclif , Reformer, 1384

North Curry Bellringers and World War 1

On 11 November 2018, 100 years since Armistice, bells rang out in unison from churches and cathedrals in villages, towns and cities across the country.

Church bells across the UK remained restricted throughout the course of the war and only rang freely once Armistice was declared on 11 November 1918. On that day, the ringing of church bells erupted spontaneously across the country, as an outpouring of relief that 4 years of war had come to an end.

To mark the First World War centenary commemorations, 1,400 new bell ringers have been recruited in honour of the 1,400 that lost their lives during the Great War. We honoured that moment this year, not just for the 1,400 bell ringers who died, but so we may remember all those that gave their lives in war.

The campaign to recruit bell ringers, Ringing Remembers, has helped keep this traditional British art alive – linking together past, present and future generations.

North Curry has recruited 4 new ringers this year, two of whom are children. We have teamed up with the local school, and have encouraged many children over the past 6 weeks to join; and now their family members are taking part too.

Bell ringing continues on a Monday evening. Contact the Tower captain, Darren Woodyer, for details on how to join the group. Training is organised for beginners.

Children and adults alike, will be very welcome to join in.



Advent and Christmas services

in North Curry

2018/ 2019

(at Parish Church,
unless indicated
elsewhere)



27 November (Tuesday)

18.00 Brownies Nativity
at Methodist Church

2 December ADVENT SUNDAY

08.00 Holy Communion
10.00 Eucharist

7 December (Friday)

19.00 Advent Taizé Service
at Methodist Church

9 December THE 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10.00 United Benefice Eucharist
at Lyng

13 December (Thursday)

10.00 Little Angels

16 December THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

08.00 Holy Communion
10.30 Carol Service
at Baptist Church

15.00 Carol Service
at Methodist Church

16.00 Carol Service

17 December (Monday)

18.00 Carols in the Square
Queen Square Garden

23 December THE 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10.00 Morning Prayer

24 December CHRISTMAS EVE

17.00 Crib Service
23.30 Midnight Mass

25 December CHRISTMAS DAY

10.00 Christmas Eucharist
10.30 Thanksgiving Service
at Baptist Church

30 December THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

10.00 United Benefice Eucharist

6 January THE EPIPHANY

08.00 Holy Communion
10.00 Eucharist

10 January (Thursday)

10.00 Little Angels

13 January THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

10.00 United Benefice Eucharist
at Burrowbridge

20 January THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

08.00 Holy Communion
10.00 Morning Prayer

27 January THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

10.00 Eucharist

3 February THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST

(Candlemas)

08.00 Holy Communion
10.00 Eucharist
16.00 Christingle Service

A View from the Treasurer's Tower

With gracious and proud acknowledgement, I would like to thank all those whom reviewed their planned giving from our November appeal. Gracious, in that so many had replied, and proud that when called upon, our members and villagers took up the challenge to support our church.

As I am writing this on 15th November, I am not aware of the final pledge information. All pledges had remained sealed until 25th November, so that they all received a blessing at our Planned Giving Service.

However, prior to this service, I had been handed numerous and generous one off donations in direct response. Without your encouragement and joyful giving, our task as custodians would be all the more difficult, and much less enjoyable.

A detailed Treasurer's report will follow in January's issue, on the results for 2018 and the budget for 2019.

Rob Ellis, Treasurer

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NORTH CURRY W.I

If popularity can be judged by the number of times you get invited back to a party, then our entertainers this month certainly meet that criterion. For the third (or maybe fourth) time we are delighted to welcome the Avalonian Free State Choir from Glastonbury, who will be joining us in helping to make our festive Christmas meeting a joyful one. The Choir is an unaccompanied natural voice choir and has an incredible enthusiasm to translate music into a wonderful experience. We look forward to hearing some of their wide repertoire of songs, and especially to them joining with us in the rendering of Jerusalem which this month should make a stirring sound 'in North Curry's green and pleasant land' (or at least in the village hall!)

Over the following days, we meet with local groups for a united carol service at Hatch Beauchamp Church followed by tea in the village hall and finally, a fitting highlight of our year, we join other W.I.'s throughout Somerset for our annual carol service in Wells Cathedral.

As Christmas approaches, we send special greetings to everyone for a happy and peaceful time.



On Wednesday **12th December**, we are showing the comedy **Maggie's Plan** starring Greta Gerwig, Ethan Hawke & Julianne Moore.

The acting is top notch and the dialogue very witty. The standout performance is Greta Gerwig who plays Maggie. Her big doe-eyed innocence and naivety about the

ways of the world make her scheming utterly forgivable. Maggie wants to have a baby, raising it on her own, but when she gets romantically involved with John, a married man, things get complicated and all the balance of Maggie's plans may collapse.



The Village Hall doors and bar open at 7 pm with the film starting at 7.30 pm. Free to members and it isn't too late to join (£25 for 9 films) or come as a guest (£5). Anyone can be a guest – just come along!

There is no **Winter Warmer** in December. The next one is Michael Caine's **My Generation** on Saturday 12th January.

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

North Curry Coffee Shop

Remember the coffee shop for that last minute Christmas gift or decoration, as we have a diverse range of unique handmade items including pottery, wood, needle felted glass and fabric.

New for this year are "Linolites", backlit images from original hand pulled lino prints!



Merry Christmas to everyone; we hope to welcome you soon.

News from North Curry /Curland Methodists

December 2018

By the time this goes out, a number of events will have taken place at North Curry/Curland Methodist Church.

Remembrance Sunday will, as usual have been observed on the village green with Rev'd Deborah Kirk taking part in the service. This is an occasion when Anglicans and Methodists come together to remember and pray. Fittingly, this year, the occasion actually fell on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

The Brownies Nativity was planned for 27th November, with them celebrating Christmas in their own enthusiastic way. A report will follow in the next edition.

Another TAIZE evening is to be on 7th December, Always a time of calm before the rush and bustle of the Festive Season.

The Carol service will be held on the 16th December, when it is hoped the chapel will be full.

Dates for the diary:

December

Taize evening 7th at 7pm

Carol service 16th at 3pm

Forward dates

The Annual Quiz in aid of church missions is at Lisieux Way Methodist Church on 16th February at 7pm.

Church Council will be on 21st February at 2pm.

Saturday 1st December 2018
St Mary Magdalene Church,
Taunton
7:30pm

Handel
Messiah

Conductor: Ed Goater
Soprano - Cheryl Rosevear
Alto - Louise Mott
Tenor - to be confirmed
Bass - Craig Bissex

Tickets: £18/£15
(Students £9/£7.50/Under 12s Free)
Taunton Visitor Centre - 01823 340470
or
www.tauntonchoralsociety.org.uk

CRACKIN THE CODE
(Pre-concert talk by Ed Goater at 6.45)

Taunton Choral Society Registered Charity Number 948113

North Curry C of E Primary School Music Enrichment Week - October 2018

'Where words fail, music speaks', Hans Christian Anderson.

Just before half term, North Curry C of E Primary School celebrated the enjoyment of Music in a Music themed Enrichment week. The week began with a visit from the North Curry Village Orchestra who played for the

Musical Instrument Award Winners 26th October 2018



children in a mini Musical extravaganza. The children learnt about the various different instruments and enjoyed Tim Hill seeing how many different instruments and tunes he could play in 3 minutes!

On Tuesday, Kathy Towns went around each class teaching them vocal games. On Wednesday, 'Fab Drumming' visited the school and every child had fun making music with their own drum making. On Thursday, Milly Riquelme ran some Cuban Latin Music workshops which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

We even had a design and make your own Musical instrument homework/competition organised by Mrs Morley and Sasha Herriman. Congratulations to all the winners who were either awarded a mindfulness Music themed colouring book or key ring.

Helen Morley, Headteacher North Curry C of E Primary School
www.northcurryschool.co.uk

Children's Activity Day

30th October

We had around 25 children, aged from 4yr to 10yr, enjoying a range of activities that we provided in the church.

The theme was light, and as well as making their own lantern, children had the chance to play with messy stuff, making stars and suncatchers, visit a science table where they could make their own pin hole viewer, to name but a few. They also had a chance to play on the organ and visit up into the bell tower, to have a go at bell ringing.

It was lovely to see how vibrant the church was with all the various activities, and the little ones running around.

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

Gracious thanks to the "young" fellas from the bell ringers, that gave up their time to show the children their presentation. All that ventured up the tight spiral stair case enjoyed their experience.

If you would like to volunteer, either with the planning or table management, please do not hesitate to contact Jenny. All assistance gratefully received. The next Children's Activity Day will be in the Spring Half Term 2019, on 19th February.

And it doesn't need to stop there. Any parent (or child) wishing to become more involved with the church, either through the attendance of service, or helping with fund raising events, you would be most welcome.

North Curry Village 2019 Calendars
are now out!

Professionally photographed by Julian Comrie.
Just £10 each, available at the Post Office.

Monday 17th December
Carol Singing
6pm – Queen Square Gardens

Come and join us at the start of the Christmas Season.

Sing all your favourite carols; we provide all the hymn sheets and whether you have been before or not, our very own choir members will make you very welcome.

The more the merrier, a real family affair for all ages.

Dress up warmly and bring a torch.

This event takes place no matter the weather,
so if singing is your thing, please do join us.

* * *

North Curry and District Amateur Gardeners

The next meeting is on **Thursday 6th December**
when our talk will be on

“Going wild in the garden”

by **Dr and Mrs Bebbington.**



Join us for mulled wine and mince pies at the
slightly earlier time of **7.30pm** and the talk will start at 8.00pm as usual.

Meetings are held in the Pavilion of the Greenway Playing fields and guests
are always welcome, so feel free to come along.

There will be no meeting in January.

North Curry Wildlife Group news

The wildlife Group, working in partnership with Transition Athelney, have been successful in obtaining a grant of almost £10,000 from the National Lottery under the 'Awards for all' scheme.

This will fund a wide range of projects at the Community Woodland, which is part of the White Street sports ground. The wildlife pond will get a liner to ensure that it is a wetland habitat throughout the year, a notice board will be installed giving information about wildlife areas around the village, together with a leaflet which will be available at the coffee shop.

Cameras to film bird boxes and other wildlife using the woodland will be purchased, wild life survey equipment made available and more wildflowers planted around the village. Further work is planned on the butterfly bank to increase the range of species there.

It is hoped that the school will be enabled to make more use of the woodland and a series of community events will be organised over the next year.



Tim Hill is taking the lead on the community activities, involving the school and anyone who is interested.

Tim describes what is being planned:

Wassails and other celebrations

There are plans afoot to create some events here in North Curry next year, bringing people together to celebrate the village, the seasons, local produce and more, combining art, growing, cooking, feasting and fun. The celebrations are being organised by the village wildlife group. These would include a wassail in January, spring and summer events, and apple day. Our ideas include building a cob oven, lantern making, produce sharing, processions and more. Anyone interested in joining in please Tim Hill on milton3hill@yahoo.co.uk. There will be a meeting in December for anyone interested.

Phil Stone, Chairman of the Wildlife Group

If you would like to know more, contact phil.stone7@icloud.com

www.northcurrywildlife.com

Tide Times for December 2018

If you fancy the occasional walk at the beach, but have no idea when the tide is high or low, we have included a tide times table for December.

Watchet (High Waters)

GMT

Datum: Chart Datum

Year:2018

December

Time	Mtrs	Time	Mtrs	Time	Mtrs
1 00:30	9.29	12 09:06	9.95	23 06:29	11.60
Sa 13:02	9.50	W 21:22	9.55	Su 18:56	11.63
2 01:47	9.35	13 09:40	9.43	24 07:16	11.79
Su 14:19	9.71	Th 21:57	9.07	M 19:44	11.70
3 03:00	9.75	14 10:19	8.95	25 08:03	11.80
M 15:28	10.15	F 22:40	8.63	Tu 20:31	11.58
4 04:01	10.27	15 11:08	8.54	26 08:49	11.61
Tu 16:24	10.57	Sa 23:34	8.30	W 21:20	11.26
5 04:50	10.69	16		27 09:40	11.24
W 17:11	10.84	Su 12:13	8.32	Th 22:11	10.77
6 05:35	10.96	17 00:46	8.20	28 10:32	10.73
Th 17:53	10.98	M 13:34	8.46	F 23:04	10.20
7 06:13	11.11	18 02:08	8.54	29 11:29	10.20
F 18:31	11.04	Tu 14:43	9.02	Sa	
8 06:50	11.18	19 03:11	9.24	30 00:03	9.69
Sa 19:08	11.02	W 15:39	9.76	Su 12:31	9.76
9 07:26	11.12	20 04:04	10.03	31 01:09	9.36
Su 19:44	10.85	Th 16:32	10.46	M 13:39	9.51
10 08:01	10.87	21 04:55	10.73		
M 20:18	10.51	F 17:20	11.02		
11 08:34	10.45	22 05:43	11.26		
Tu 20:49	10.05	Sa 18:09	11.41		

Although it is for Watchet, I have been informed that the south coast tides times are roughly the same as the north coast. Whilst only the high tide times are listed, you will need to work out the low tides times for yourself.

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.

Understanding the Bible Better December 2018

These explorations continue this month, and are open to EVERYONE. Each session, lasting less than an hour, is virtually independent, so there is no need to feel committed to all of them, and anyone can come and join in at any time.

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

The dates are December 3rd, 10th, 17th. Each Monday session will be repeated. First in the Committee Room of the Village Hall, North Curry from 4 – 5 pm; then the same day in the Church Rooms, Stoke St. Gregory, from 6 – 7 pm. You can choose the time that suits you best any Monday.

There is NO CHARGE, though any (small) donations towards the cost of tea, coffee, hire of rooms and photocopying, will be appreciated.

We shall focus on people, from Old and New Testament:

3rd December, The Man who made God laugh.

10th December, The Woman who defied Racial Prejudice.

17th December, The Men who transformed our View of God.

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

Every Blessing,
John Tyler



From all of us on the Parochial Church Council, we sincerely thank you for your kindness and support throughout the past year, and wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Wednesday, 19th December

'Tales from a Somerset Country Copper'

At our 'Christmas' meeting Brian Phelps will be taking a look at the numerous and humorous incidences that took place in the working life of his village bobby (PC 19, H.C. "Tiny" Weaver) from his unusual invitation to join the force in 1934, until he put his career on hold in 1942 to take a more active part in World War2 by joining the RAF.

Brian was born in Bishops Lydeard in 1947, the third child of eight. He was involved in the building trade until 1963 when he returned to college and where he gained a HND in Social Care, a Teaching Diploma and a degree course in Social Care Management. He then taught at the college until 2001 when he retired. He and his wife now enjoy gardening, their ever increasing family and wandering the country to enjoy the national heritage.

This month festive drinks and nibbles will be served from 7.30pm.



The North Curry Society meets on the third Wednesday 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.

Chairman: **Alan Billinghamurst**

The editors thank all contributors and advertisers for their varied and interesting articles/ announcements throughout the year. We also thank Rockwell Printers, of Taunton, for their printing services and support. To you all, may you have a very happy Christmas and a prosperous 2019.

Young Church May: colouring sheet

16 December 2018, the Third Sunday of Advent: Luke 3: 7-18



It's fun to wrap up presents to give at Christmas!

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 fees are set by the Church of England and a list is displayed in the church porch or available online from www.churchofengland.org



There are also regulations governing the condition of the churchyard and graves, designed to ensure it remains a special peaceful place.

There is a copy 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 the secretary should you wish to know more on fees and availability.

* * *

It's a cracker

And it wouldn't be Christmas, without some cracker jokes. So for your amusement

What carol is heard in the desert? O camel ye faithful!

Who is Santa's favourite singer? Elf-is Presley!

What do you call a boomerang that does not come back? A stick

What is the best Christmas present in the world? A broken drum – you just can't beat it!

Tea break!

This month, a Sudoku challenge...

6	8						4	
7		9	1	4			6	3
		4	3					8
4				5			8	
2					6		9	1
9			4	1		7	2	
					1	2	5	7
		1	6	2			3	
				3	5			4

Hate numbers, fair enough, leave that to the accountants!

Try the hidden anagrams

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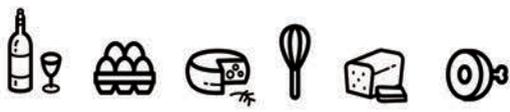
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