



NORTH CURRY NEWSLETTER

Articles of not more than 150 words, regarding village events of a voluntary or charitable nature, are accepted in good faith, by the 12th of the preceding month for inclusion via the Pink Posting Box in North Curry Post Office, or to Newsletter@northcurry.com or to the Editor Barbara Drakeford, Chorlton, Lillesdon, North Curry (Tel 490811)

North Curry Parish Council

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee - 2012: You will be aware that the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen is being celebrated next year. The Council recognises that parishioners will wish to see some kind of celebratory event or events to mark this occasion. The Council also sees it as appropriate to have a permanent record of the Jubilee – perhaps not as elaborate as the existing Victoria Memorial. To move forward will require funds, volunteers and ideas. Any individual or organisation with ideas or suggestions and/or wishing to participate is requested to contact the Parish Clerk by the end of March. The Council is proposing a Steering Committee be set up to coordinate the efforts of the Parish in this project and is pleased to announce that Lady Mary Stewart-Wilson has agreed to take on the Chairmanship. Her close association with the Royal Family over many years will undoubtedly help to ensure that whatever we do is appropriate to the occasion.

Parish Clerk: - The Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs. Barbara Wellwood as Parish Clerk with immediate effect. Barbara lives in Meare Green and has been active in the local community for a number of years. She is a Governor of North Curry School, Treasurer of Taunton Deane Bridleway Association and a former Committee Member of Little Acorns. We wish her well in her new appointment.

Web Site: - There are still several businesses and organisations in the Parish not making use of the free publicity available through our website. If you wish to participate just contact the Webmaster at webmaster@northcurry.com. Also can we request those already participating regularly to make sure their entries are up to date. On a recent check 25% of the businesses on the site had undeliverable e-mail addresses!

Elections: You are reminded once again that the election of a new Parish Council will take place in May. Please read the second of our series of three articles designed to inform you of what it means to be a councillor which we are publishing elsewhere in this newsletter.

Parish Council diary for February

Wed 9 th	Council Meeting	7:30 pm
Wed 23 rd	Planning Committee	8:00 pm

Contact the Parish Council: 01823 490136 or parishcouncil@northcurry.com

North Curry Film Club

The generosity of the Coffee Shop Management, individual coffee shop volunteers and CATS '83 together with money already raised by the village hall through performances by Somerset Opera means we are almost ready to install a wide screen, projector, sound system and DVD player in the village hall. Anyone who is interested in setting up and/or joining a film club is invited to an evening discussion event in the village hall on Wednesday 9th February. If you are unable to come but would like to register your interest in the film club please email mjgubbin@aol.com or phone 01823 490201 so that you can be kept in the loop.



The Society will meet again on Wednesday 16th February 2011 at 8:00pm in the Village Hall when Dr. Mark Steer will present "Should Beavers return to Somerset". What a controversial subject!

Mark is a development officer on the Somerset Wildlife Trust's Brue Valley Living Landscape project at Tonedale Mill, near Wellington and he is interested in restoring biodiversity on the moors & levels. For any of us who have seen the work of beavers in Canada or elsewhere, and for those who haven't, this should be a fascinating evening.

Members & non-members are all welcome.

Produce Market

The first market for 2011 is on Saturday 5th February 9:30am until 11:30am. All the usual stalls, plus local venison. We look forward to seeing you.

Contact Joyce Gore 01823/490216

The February Newsletter is sponsored by The Rising Sun, Knapp

Open for drinks, lunch and dinner Tuesday to Sunday. Closed Monday. Reservations 01823 491027



North Curry Luncheon Club

A reminder of lunch club dates for your diaries. February 1st and February 15th followed by March 1st.

New members are always welcome; ring either Tina 480629 or Joyce 490216.

WALKERS

Walk off those pounds you put on over Christmas!

Footpath walks happen most Saturdays at 2pm from the Post Office; Wellingtons or strong footwear advisable.

Please follow the Country Code - keep to footpaths and keep dogs under close control.

Further details from Betty Koppa on 01823 490404

PARISH CHURCH



FEBRUARY EVENTS

St Valentine

On Sunday 13th February – the day before St Valentine's Day there will be a service at 4pm at North Curry church to celebrate marriage and committed loving relationships. All are welcome to this service, whether recently married, planning to be married or simply wishing to celebrate an on-going or past marriage or loving relationship. We hope this will be a joyous occasion.

The collections from the four Christmas services raised £600 which will be divided equally between Open Door, Samaritan's Purse and the Church of England Children Society. Thank you to all who gave so generously.



Royal British legion

The amount raised from the Poppy Collection was £2541.58p. Our thanks to everybody – I'm sure it will be put to good use in the present circumstances.

The Annual Branch Supper will be held at the Bird in Hand on 7th February at 7:30pm for 8 o'clock. The charge will be £11.50 per head, so do come along for a pleasant evening in convivial company. If you do decide to attend the Supper, please let Geoffrey Durrant know on 490685, so that the caterers have some idea of numbers.

There will not be a meeting of the Branch this month.



The AGM and Annual Quiz Night will take place on Saturday 12th February (not as previously advertised), at 7pm for the AGM and 7:30 for the Quiz in the Pavilion, Greenway. Tickets cost £8 including a buffet supper and are available from Karen Boddy 490583, Jenny Satchwell 490463 and the Post Office. This is always a fun occasion and we hope to see you there.

In 2011 we are celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Twinning and look forward to welcoming the French party between 2nd and 5th June. We will celebrate with a Barn Dance in the Village Hall at 7:30 on Saturday 4th June.

Anyone wishing to be involved or to host will be warmly welcomed. Contact Gillian Akerman 490234 for further information.



North Curry Amateur Gardeners

First Thursday of the month at the Pavilion 7:45 for 8 pm

On Thursday 3rd March Dr George Hargreaves will be coming to speak about the "Seasons at Westonbirt".

The Party will be in the Village Hall on Saturday 19th March, 7:00 for 7:30pm. Please bring your drinks and glasses. Make sure your name is on the list so that the committee knows for how many to cater.

THE SORCERER

COMING SOON...
Somerset Opera
12th March
in the Village Hall

In aid of screen, projector and DVD player



The Parish Council

This is the second of a series of three features designed to introduce you to the work of the Council and encourage you to consider standing for election to the Council next May.

What is a Councillor?

You may become a councillor if you are over 18 and are British national, a citizen of the Commonwealth or of the European Union. There are also residential qualifications which we will cover next month. You will not be a paid employee of the council. You get no financial reward for being a councillor and will be held accountable by local people for things that happen locally, so why get involved? You almost certainly want to do something positive and, like most councillors, you hope to make a difference by influencing decisions that affect your community. Whilst in some parishes councillors represent a political party, North Curry Parish Council has a strong tradition of independence from overt party political affiliations. Your task is to bring local issues to the attention of the council, and help it make decisions on behalf of the local community.

How do I carry out my duties?

The Council meets for 2 to 3 hours on the second Wednesday in every month. You will be expected to attend Council meetings regularly. The Planning Committee meets every month except December on the last Wednesday. Members of the Planning Committee take turns to visit sites subject to Planning Applications and report back on the merits or otherwise of the Application. There are also other sub-committees and working groups, some permanent and others to deal with specific issues.

You will probably be invited to take the lead on a particular facet of the Council's interests, e.g. planning, footpaths, gypsies, flooding, Welcome Booklet, speed watch, playing fields, Village Hall Committee, finance, etc.. In this capacity you may well have to represent the Council on other bodies, receive representations from parishioners and report back to the Council with recommendations for action.

You will be expected at all times to maintain an awareness of what is going on in the parish, trying to assess the mood and opinions on issues of the day. You must never forget that you are elected as a councillor to represent the views of the parishioners, not just your own personal views. You will be required to behave in accordance with standards laid down by the government in a Code of Conduct.

Next month we will address "Becoming a Councillor?"

North Curry Village Hall

Secretary: Joan Gubbin
phone 490201

To hire the hall contact
David Woolfenden 491222

hallbookings@northcurry.com



Little Acorns Pre-School

We are very proud to announce that Little Acorns Pre-School North Curry has become a **Somerset Centre for Innovation and Research** in recognition of **outstanding commitment to Continual Professional Development of all staff and the promotion of creativity.**

The award was presented by David Cameron from the Somerset Centre for Integrated Learning in conjunction with University College of Plymouth.

Staff member, Forest School Leader and Early Years Professional Candidate, Judy Dawson-Cable, with support from Little Acorns manager Alison Hembrow, created Levels School which celebrates the rich cultural diversity of our local environment. The Pre-School is now collaborating with Tamara Dixon, fellow Forest School leader of Woodlands Pre-school in Ruishton, and P.H. Coate & Sons who have provided a permanent Forest School site as part of their Higher Level Stewardship award.

For further information or to register your child at this forward thinking setting, please contact Alison Hembrow or Judy Dawson Cable on 01823 491 615 or email littleacorns@hotmail.co.uk



NORTH CURRY COMMUNITY COFFEE SHOP

February may be wet and windy, so come inside the Coffee Shop and enjoy the warmth of food and friendship as well as the atmospheric landscapes of Somerset countryside by locally born and bred water colour artist Peter Cottell. Peter has exhibited in the Coffee Shop before and we appreciate him filling this slot at short notice. You may have seen his successful exhibitions at East Lambrook Manor, Hambridge Smokery Restaurant, galleries in Ilminster and South Petherton, at Barrington Court, in Somerton Parish Rooms and at Craft Fairs and Markets.

More joy? In December the sum of £10,910.75 was paid out to the good causes chosen by volunteers in addition to the £5,390 in the summer. Now if you became a volunteer, you too could donate the profit accredited to your hours worked to whichever charity or good cause you like. Think about it – ring Jan 490795 or Kathryn 490623.