



# 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 12<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month for inclusion via the Pink Posting Box in North Curry Post Office, or to [Newsletter@northcurry.com](mailto:Newsletter@northcurry.com) or to the Editor Barbara Drakeford, Chorlton, Lillesdon, North Curry (Tel 490811)

## North Curry Parish Council

**TDBC SITE ALLOCATION CONSULTATION:** Don't forget to submit your comments by 26<sup>th</sup> February, go to [http://consultidf.tauntondeane.gov.uk/portal/sadmp/d\\_sadmp/draft\\_sadmp\\_consultation](http://consultidf.tauntondeane.gov.uk/portal/sadmp/d_sadmp/draft_sadmp_consultation)

**DEAFPLUS VISIT:** The DeafPLUS advisory van will be in Queen Square on Tues. 17<sup>th</sup> February from 12:30pm to 2:00pm. If you have hearing problems, you would be welcome to drop in.

**NORTH CURRY WEBSITE:** There is a wealth of local information on the North Curry Website (accessed at [www.northcurry.com](http://www.northcurry.com)) from footpath maps, amenity information, club news, history, occasional urgent messages from the Parish Council and much more! It also includes information about becoming a Parish Councillor (see the links in the Parish Council section or look at "Becoming a Parish Councillor" in "Recent News" on the home page) and a "Flood Awareness" sheet, which gives tips on how to help minimise flooding (look under "Flood Warden" on the contents page).

**HELP SUPPORT NORTH CURRY'S GREEN SPACES:** The Parish Council is looking for volunteers to help manage those green spaces around the Parish for which it is responsible. The role is in two parts - one involves meeting up every month or so to consider what needs to be done, the other involves carrying out the agreed works e.g. pruning/planting etc. Three Parish Councillors have already agreed to give up their time to help care for our open spaces but any help which other Parish residents can give will be welcome. Please contact the Parish Clerk for further information if you are interested.

**BLOCKED DRAINS:** Please keep an eye on drains near you and report any blockages to Highways. Also, during windy weather, ensure recycling put out for collection is secure and cannot blow away and block nearby drains or cause a hazard in the road.

**WINTER DE-ICING:** There are still 20kg bags of de-icing material available for self-help use on the public highway/footways. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you could make use of one.

**PARISH COUNCIL DIARY FOR FEBRUARY:** Parishioners are welcome to attend any meeting.

Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>	Council Meeting	7:30 pm
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	Planning Meeting	8:00 pm

**CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL:** 01823 490136 or [parishcouncil@northcurry.com](mailto:parishcouncil@northcurry.com)



## Table Top Sale

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February  
from 10am

North Curry Village Hall

Entry £1

Now is the time to spring clean and sell all those items you no longer have room or use for. If you would like to reserve a table to sell items please contact the secretary, Joan Gubbin 490201. Large tables £10, Small tables £5.

## HELP – THIS IS SERIOUS!

No-one has come forward to take on the posts of Secretary or Chairman of the Village Hall. This is serious. Without a committee the hall cannot operate. The village hall is a thriving and vital part of our community. It is booked every night of the week and most days. If we cannot fill these posts the hall will either close or be handed back to the parish council to run.

Can we allow this to happen?

The current post holders are happy to stay on the committee to help the new members. Contact Joan on 490201 or Liz 490191 to find out what is involved.

**Wake up, North Curry! Save your village hall!**



Our last **Winter Warmer** will be shown on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February – *A Song for Marion*

Doors open 2:30pm and the film starts at 3pm. Tickets £5 for members and non-members and there will be the usual interval with tea and cake.

The next regular film on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> is **Behind the Candelabra**, a film that failed to get a release in American cinemas and was shown on television instead! Matt Damon and Michael Douglas star in this (possibly) outrageous telling of the Liberace story. It is huge fun but you have been warned...!

Doors open at 7pm with non-members admitted from 7:15pm at an admission fee of £5.

Full details of our programme, with trailers for the films, can be found on our website [www.northcurryfilmsociety.org.uk](http://www.northcurryfilmsociety.org.uk)

## The Produce Market

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February  
9:30-11:30 in the Village Hall

It was good to see our supporters after the Christmas break. We will be stocking up with some new items both on stalls and in the kitchen so hope you will come and see the difference. The market makes a welcome contribution to the church and with an expensive new boiler needed we need a boost to funds!

*See you there!*



### Next Meeting

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February



### Wild, Wet and Wonderful

The RSPB Somerset Reserves  
with

### Becky Hughes

At our next meeting on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February, Becky Hughes will speak about the RSPB Somerset nature reserves. RSPB is the UK's biggest nature conservation charity, with a history going back to 1889, focusing on conservation of the UK's wildlife and restoring and protecting its natural habitats, also working internationally in key areas to protect birds and other wildlife. 8pm in the Village Hall. Visitors welcome.

Then in March, George and Teresa Jones lead us through the corridors of power at Westminster and Whitehall.



Following on from the successful New Year's Eve party at Stoke St Gregory in 2013 and their inability to host one this year, we decided to give it a go.

Ticket sales were initially slow and we were concerned that we might not actually have enough people for the night. However, come 9:30 on the evening, the dance floor was full and we were in full swing, with children enjoying movies or just running around having lots of fun.

Everyone who attended said that it was great fun and have asked us to organise again next year. So this is also early notice.

The village hall is booked and we are planning to either have the same DJ (we will get him setting up earlier this time) or possibly a different one. So that following your feedback, we will be making sure the disco starts nice and early with children's disco and games.

If we have a karaoke next year it'll be only for half an hour or so; get your requests in early.

Also, next year, regarding food, we will be selling snacks again, but have decided that people can bring their own food. However, no drink as we are running a bar again. If you would like to pop a bottle of bubbly at midnight that'll be fine, however if you wish to drink it before then will be charging corkage.

We will also be putting a limit on tickets this year as we feel that with only five more families we would have been full, so be aware for next year to get tickets early as they will be going on sale at the end of October.

Thanks to all who attended this year and helped in making the evening great fun; we on the committee certainly enjoyed ourselves.

On a separate note we are in need of a new secretary as Sue Oldfield who, after doing a great job for two years, needs to take a break; so if interested in helping us out with committee meetings once every month, please contact Andi Moll or any other member of the committee to find out what's involved. Andy can be contacted on 490046 or 07771 748 518.

The Playing fields committee are looking for some storage space in the form of containers, to replace our rotting shed, does anyone have, that they no longer want, or know where we could get:

20' tunnel (one with doors either end) or  
Two small ones 8x8 and 15-18' or  
20' standard one

Please contact Andy Moll if you can help 07771 748 518



### North Curry W.I.

2015 got off to an entertaining start to our programme with a demonstration of paper making using recycled paper and magazines, which were then used to produce notepaper, cards and pictures.

February meeting will be our birthday celebration. This will include a bring-and-share tea and entertainment from two classical trained musicians playing flute and keyboard.

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month in the village hall at 2:00pm and new members are always welcome.

### White Street 200 Club

White Street 200 Club results for November 2014:

1. £25 Chloe Rowlinson
2. £15 Mark Jolliffe
3. £10 Malcolm Tennant

December 2014 results:

1. £25 Bob Perry
2. £15 Tina Stone
3. £10 Phil Sharp

You've got to be in it to win it! All proceeds go back into maintaining this fabulous facility. There are a few numbers left Call Maria 491095 or Michele 490276



## North Curry and District Amateur Gardeners

Our first meeting of the New Year is on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February and is titled "Living with the Boss"

Margaret Adams trained as a nurse then married a farmer and became a slave! Married for 53 years, she has a wealth of farming stories to tell, some of them in rhyme (a bit Pam Ayres) and in a Somerset accent – her words!

Come along and be entertained!

Meetings are held in North Curry Playing Fields Pavilion at 7:45pm for 8:00pm.

New members and visitors are always welcome so why not come and join this friendly group and get hints and tips for your garden.

Stay for coffee and a chat.

## North Curry Community Energy

The installation of solar voltaic (solar pv) on public buildings in North Curry has been under consideration for some years and this vision took a big step forward with the installation of 10kw of capacity on the church roof last year. Should the proposals prove to be viable, this output from public buildings in the village could rise to as much as 44kw before long. Drawing encouragement from Transition Athelney's renewable energy fair last September, ideas on other locations were dusted down. Discussions with the relevant parties are well under way and looking very positive.

A scheme of this size merits its own name; North Curry Community Energy (NCCE) came readily to mind. As all but one of the buildings are the responsibility of the Parish Council, the option of NCCE becoming a subsidiary of the PC is being explored. Other stakeholders, notably Transition Athelney and all the people or bodies running the buildings concerned, would be represented. Finance and ownership, income from electricity generation, insurance and all other relevant details are under discussion. The organisers of NCCE are also in discussion with representatives of Brendon Energy, based in Wiveliscombe, which has a wealth of relevant experience and may well be able to help us with the launch and administration of the scheme.

If you have any queries about this project, please contact one of the organisers:

David Akerman:  
[davidakerman@tauntonbroadband.co.uk](mailto:davidakerman@tauntonbroadband.co.uk)  
Tel 490234

Brian Jeanes: [bandk@bkjeanes.co.uk](mailto:bandk@bkjeanes.co.uk)  
Tel 490623

Phil Stone: [phil.stone7@btinternet.com](mailto:phil.stone7@btinternet.com)  
Tel 491689

Adrian Tait: [adrian\\_tait@btinternet.com](mailto:adrian_tait@btinternet.com)  
Tel 490270



## Royal British Legion

The next meeting of the Branch will be on 9<sup>th</sup> February at the Bird in Hand, starting at 7:30pm

The Branch Supper will be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February, arriving at 7:30 for 8:00pm; so do come along and enjoy a pleasant evening.

### Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red

Following the momentous display of ceramic poppies at the Tower of London, all the 888,246 poppies have been sold in aid of six of the services charities. If you have been lucky enough to purchase one, we would like to organise a photo call of all the local poppies purchased. We know they are still being dispatched, but if you will be the proud owner of one (or more!), please contact Mike Fleming 01823 490456.

## North Curry Village Show Marmalade Alert!

Don't forget you can replenish your stocks of marmalade (before Paddington gets them) between 10am and 12 noon on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February, at the Pavilion, when there will also be coffee and a raffle.

Another date for your diary is Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February, when Marie Comrie will be running a class to help you improve your flower arranging skills. This will also be at the Pavilion, between 2:00 and 3:30pm Could anyone wishing to come to the Flower Arranging afternoon please get tickets (at £5 each) from the Post Office before the event.

Advance Notice:

### North Curry Parish Church

#### Soup and Pud Lunch

This will take place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March in the village hall, from 12 noon till 2:00pm.

Offers of puddings are most welcome and if you would like to donate one please contact Kate Roberts 490933. Soup makers also wanted.

## NORTH CURRY



**MAY FAIR**  
To be held  
16<sup>th</sup> May 2015

While I am overseas at the moment I have left the wonderful May Fair committee in charge of the next stall holders meeting which will be at **7:30pm on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March in The Bird in Hand.** That leaves only two months before the big day so please get there to book your stalls!

For any other queries please use the same phone number 491397 and Jen Quinn will be able to answer your questions.

Many thanks and I look forward to seeing everyone at this year's May Fair. Mel Quinn



Over this past Christmas season the people of North Curry have, again, most generously supported the sale of Save the Children Christmas cards and also the amazing variety of preserves and chutneys which Helen K. continues to make and donate for sale to benefit Save the Children. Also, a number of very kind donations have been received, including from the Community Coffee Shop – on behalf of one or two of the volunteers who work there and have nominated Save the Children to receive their share. We do thank you all, so much, for this very kind and generous support and want to report to you how this has been raised over the past year

Sale of Christmas cards and wrap	£652.58
Sale of donated items	£123.30
Donations from individuals and from the Coffee Shop	£674.04
<hr/>	
Making a TOTAL of	£1,449.92

It is through its hundreds of local fundraising groups that Save the Children raises much of the money which enables it to respond so swiftly when called upon to help in both natural and man-made disaster situations across the world. Many of you will have read and seen how much new work has been undertaken in west Africa during 2014 in an effort to protect and treat children and their families who are affected by the Ebola crisis. So many children, both in many countries overseas and in the UK, still need much help and support when growing up in so many of these challenging and dangerous situations – and Save the Children continues to provide that help and support for as many children as possible. Thank you, North Curry, for your support of this local effort.

Carole Smith, Hon Co-ordinator, Taunton and District Branch of **Save the Children**

**North Curry  
Village Hall**

Secretary: Joan Gubbin  
phone 490201  
To hire the hall contact  
Jenny Quinn 491397  
[hallbookings@northcurry.com](mailto:hallbookings@northcurry.com)

## Planning for the Future, Planting for the Future

Transition Athelney is involved in a range of activities this year, to help stimulate innovative work in North Curry and nearby villages, aimed at protecting our environment and promoting local self-reliance. Our involvement in North Curry Community Energy has been mentioned this month under that heading. We also remain actively involved in efforts to promote a joined-up response to the threat of flooding. Our food projects “Food Yards” and “Fruits of Athelney” are ongoing, as are our occasional fairs, conferences and meetings to highlight issues of particular concern and interest.

In our early days, five years ago, we helped to muster a team of volunteers for the White Street plantation and are excited by the prospect of another opportunity for tree-planting in the village, later this year. This is a first call for volunteers to assist with planting trees. Last time, the age range included quite young children right up to the elderly. It brought people together with a shared interest in the beauty of our environment and a mind to the future. It reminded us that this work can involve several generations as well as its results benefitting generations to come.

If you would like to be involved in tree-planting a little later in the year, please let us know.

Brian: telephone 490623  
Adrian: telephone 490270



*towards a greener community*



Available to hire as a venue for parties (children’s and adults), meetings and celebrations. With a large outdoor area ideal for bouncy castles and games, in addition a multi-use games area (MUGA) for children and young people to have fun and let off steam.

To book see calendar and booking form at [www.ncpavilion.co.uk](http://www.ncpavilion.co.uk) or email [pavilion@northcurry.com](mailto:pavilion@northcurry.com) or call 07551 759 190



<http://en-gb.facebook.com/NorthCurryPavilion>