

# 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

**NHS HEALTH CHECKS 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER:** Due to popular demand a further NHS Health Check session will take place on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> December, between 9:30 - 3:00 in the NHS Health Check Van in the Village Hall car park. If you are aged 40 to 74 and haven't had an NHS health check in the last 5 years you could be eligible for this free check. Each check takes approx. 20 minutes. For more information and to book your private appointment please tel. 01823 261794 or go to [www.somersethealthchecks.co.uk/northcurry](http://www.somersethealthchecks.co.uk/northcurry)

**FORTHCOMING ROAD CLOSURES:** SCC will be undertaking drainage works from 8<sup>th</sup> January resulting in road closures in the region of The Shambles, The Pavement and Stoke Road in The Fosse/White St. area. Some closures will be traffic light controlled and some may be complete closure between certain hours. Look in the January newsletter for further details or go to [www.travelsomerset.co.uk](http://www.travelsomerset.co.uk) and look on the Roadworks section for information on all road closures.

**WINTER DE-ICING:** Once again there are a limited number of 20kg bags of de-icing material available for self-help use on the public highway/footways in the event of prolonged periods of snow or ice. If you are interested please contact the Parish Clerk.

**WASTE COLLECTIONS OVER CHRISTMAS:** Please note that in the Christmas week **all** collections will be two days later than usual and in the New Year week all collections will be one day later than usual. There will be NO garden waste collections from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January. All waste collections will be back to usual from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January.

**INVISIBLE PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS!** With the long nights of winter now with us, PLEASE could all pedestrians and cyclists out and about on the roads at dusk or in the dark, wear something reflective. It could make the difference between a driver seeing and avoiding you or not seeing you.

**KISSING GATES:** To improve footpath accessibility the PC hope to replace a number of stiles with kissing gates costing approx. £250 each. While this is PC funded, one resident has kindly agreed to donate one of the gates, should anyone else would like to contribute towards this project please contact the Parish Clerk.

**MARIE-CURIE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS:** Marie Curie are looking for people to volunteer a few hours of their time each week to support local people with terminal illnesses and their families. To find out more, call free on 0800 304 7414 (Mon - Fri, 9am to 5pm) or email [somersethelper@mariecurie.org.uk](mailto:somersethelper@mariecurie.org.uk)

**BE ON YOUR GUARD!** With the dark nights incidents of break-ins often increase in the Parish. Please remember to secure property and report any suspicious behaviour to the Police.

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

Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting 7:30pm

No Planning Meeting in December

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



On **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December**, we are showing **Sweet Bean**, a Japanese film (with subtitles). It is about Sentaro, a baker, who runs a small pancake shop. He's lonely and in debt. When 76-year-old Tokue responds to his ad for an assistant, cheerfully agreeing to the low pay, Sentaro is sceptical about her - until she gives him a taste of her perfect sweet bean paste, which makes his pancakes irresistible. Word spreads, the business thrives but rumours start circulating about a dark secret in Tokue's past, and Sentaro decides he will have to let her go.



The Village Hall doors and bar open at 7:00pm with the film starting at 7:30pm. Free to members; it costs £5 as a guest. Anyone can be a guest - just come along!

**Children to entertain after Christmas?**



We have a special showing of **THE BFG**, 2:00pm on **29<sup>th</sup> December**. Space is limited so book now. Tickets from the Post Office, or at the above film, are £4 for adults and £3 for accompanied children. Adults CAN come on their own as well! More information on our films on [www.northcurryfilmsociety.org.uk](http://www.northcurryfilmsociety.org.uk)



## North Curry Produce Market

The next produce market is on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December in the village hall North Curry 9:30 – 11:30am.

All the usual stall holders with their local products plus some new ones will be there, so be sure to come early to stock up for Christmas.

As usual, tea, coffee and bacon butties, and perhaps a mince pie too!

The produce market team, on behalf of the parish church, would like to thank you for your support throughout 2017 and we wish you a very happy Christmas.

There will be a market in January on the 2<sup>nd</sup>





## NORTH CURRY SOCIETY



### The Art of Giving

Just in time for Christmas on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** we welcome David Birch who for nearly fifty years worked in the upper rooms of a famous Bond Street jewellers, making silver and gold articles, mainly to be given as gifts or for presentations.

David will explain how he got into silversmithing and apprenticeships, the type of articles he made when he started, and how the influences of fashion and modern advances changed the work that was produced more recently. You will learn something of the silversmithing workshop, the tools and some of the unusual weights and measurements used in the past.

David will show pictures of unusual items, though sadly has no free samples, but we know it will be a fascinating evening.

The talk starts at 8:00pm with wine and seasonal refreshments, free for members, from 7:30pm. Non-members are most welcome for a modest fee of £2. We look forward to seeing you there.



### Barn Dancing Club

Our next session will be on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 7:30pm** in the village hall. Being December we'll have a Christmas theme so bring a plate of food plus anything frivolous or decorative to wear. That's all you need to bring; your first visit will be free of charge. Do come along and join in the fun! Singles, couples or groups always welcome. Absolutely no experience, just a good sense of humour, needed.

For further details phone Brian or Kathryn on 490623.

## Lunch with us

How do you fancy chicken wrapped in ham and sage followed by apple crumble and custard? Or possibly roast pork with roast potatoes followed by a good dollop of gooseberry fool; gooseberries from the allotment of course. For one reason or another the fortnightly Tuesday Lunch Club have vacancies for new members. When the club restarted five years ago, we set a limit of thirty as that was enough for our excellent team of cooks to cope with - not forgetting the Head Washer-upper. Apart from the excellent food we often have a speaker to amuse or enlighten us, so it makes a nice social mid-morning get together once a fortnight. All for just £4 a time. But to join there are qualifications: first you should be over 60 - no upper limit - and then enjoy eating; and chatting. Is that too difficult?

Our last meeting this year is 19<sup>th</sup> December, our Christmas lunch, which will be held at the Bird in Hand to give our cooks a rest; we restart on 9<sup>th</sup> Jan.

If you're interested please contact Joanne Preston on 491083 or Dave Patten 490782.



## North Curry W.I.

We begin Christmas celebrations at our December meeting when we endeavour to get the business part of the meeting over as soon as possible before commencing with our annual party. We look forward to entertainment from our guest, Jonathon Weeks, with **'A Blast from the Past'** as well as music and games followed by a festive tea prepared by our hard working committee.

The following week we travel to Wells for shopping and lunch before joining all other Somerset W.I.s for our Annual Carol Festival in the Cathedral. This is the highlight of our year as we listen to beautiful music and readings and join in the singing of well-loved carols; all proceeded by the uplifting words of our anthem, Jerusalem, as sung by hundreds of voices in such a stunning setting.

We welcomed several visitors to our meeting last month and look forward to seeing them again in the New Year. Until then we wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a peaceful 2018 to follow.



## North Curry and District Amateur Gardeners

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December** when we will have **David Moon** presenting **"Gardens of the Rich and Famous"**. David opens his own garden for the NGS most years and some of you may remember him doing an unusual presentation for us a few years ago.

As this is the December meeting, **come early at 7:30pm** and join us for mulled wine and mince pies before the talk!

Meetings are held in the Pavilion of the Greenway Playing Fields on the first Thursday of the month, talks start at 8:00pm and everyone is very welcome. If you're not already a member, come and check us out. We're always happy to see new faces!

## North Curry Community Coffee Shop

Don't forget about the coffee shop for any last minute Christmas shopping, save another trip into Taunton and support local makers. We have the biggest range of gifts and decorations yet with several new suppliers for this year. Pottery willow tree jugs made in North Curry, glass, needle felted, wooden and knitted decorations starting from £1.50, wooden puzzles and pots, fabric cosmetic bags, cushions, keyrings and lavender bags to name just a few! Our fresh soups made daily are now back on the menu so pop in and warm up whilst having a browse for some inspiration!

## The Little Big Horns North Curry Village Hall Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December

The Little Big Horns return for a night of funky brass spiced with a few seasonal delights. Bringing the sound of New Orleans to North Curry, the band mix funk, jazz, ska and reggae to create a rich, danceable and enjoyable musical stew. Doors open 7:30pm and the music will start at 8:00. Tickets are £7, £5 concessions and £10 for family with children. Available on the door

## A date for the New Diary

Cheer a wintry day with a delicious shepherd's pie lunch at Highcroft House, Knapp Lane.

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January, 12:30 for 1:00pm.

Tickets £15 [first glass of wine free] on sale at the Village Post Office after Christmas.

# RUSSIAN CONCERT CHANGE OF DATE

Please note that our friends from St Petersburg, the Voskresinije Choir, will now be singing in

## North Curry Church

on

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

Apologies for the change - it is a complicated tour to organise.



in North Curry

Many people experience the joy of Christmas, and there's lots going on in the village this year - as you'll read in this newsletter - though for some, joy is tinged with loss and a little sadness. Christians at this time celebrate Emmanuel – God with us – and the North Curry churches have arranged the usual worship events over the season. We hope you enjoy Christmas and will join us for some or all of these events. Listen out for the bells! The ringers will do their bit, for sure.

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 7pm: Advent Taizé Service** at the Methodist Chapel. Singing, Advent readings and guided silence in the prayerful, candlelit style of Taizé.

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 3-5pm: Family Activity Afternoon and Christingle** at the Methodist Chapel. Children and their accompanying adults welcome.

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 11am:** at North Curry Baptist Church – A traditional **Carol Service** with a simple message proclaiming the good news of how faith in the Lord Jesus can make us right with God and ready for eternity.

**3pm: Carol Service** at the Methodist Chapel with items from the Neroche Handbell Ringers and mince pies to follow.

**4pm: Carol Service** at the Parish Church. Nine lessons to hear, ten carols to sing, following the Christmas story from The Fall, through the Prophets foretelling the coming Saviour, to St John unfolding the great mystery of the Incarnation.

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 6pm: Carols in the Square** Queen Square Garden Carols by candlelight: sing from the Bethlehem carol sheet.

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December, 5pm: Crib Service** at the Parish Church. The Nativity story, told mainly for children.

**11:30pm: Midnight Mass** at the Parish Church O come, all ye faithful.

**Christmas Day, 10am: All-age Eucharist** at the Parish Church to celebrate the birth of Christ.

**10:30am:** at North Curry Baptist Church – **a short service giving thanks** that on that first Christmas morning, Almighty God humbled himself to take on human form and lived and died and rose again as a sacrifice for sin, for all who will believe.

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December, 10am: United Benefice Service** at Lyng Parish Church The four Athelney parish congregations gather for the First Sunday of Christmas.

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 10am: Children's Activity Morning** at the Parish Church.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January, 10am: Eucharist for The Epiphany** at the Parish Church recalling the visit of the Wise Men.

Save the date!

## North Curry Ball

**Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

at

**Somerset County Cricket Club**

**More details to follow soon!**

## Village Calendar 2018

This year there are two village calendars. Do look out for the calendar created by the parish church and available at North Curry post office counter and at the Produce Market on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, price £10 (complete with envelope if you wish to post it or make a gift) and opening to A3 - which gives you twice as much space for writing. Julian Comrie has produced new photographs for every month taking us through the year, and excelling his 2017 effort:

*January, Winter Sun; February, A promise of Spring; March, Spring in the churchyard; April, Expectation; May, The Village May Fair; June, A village garden; July, Queen Square Garden; August, The Village Show; September, The Primary School; October, Preparing the land; November, Autumn light; December, Christmas.*

All profits go to support North Curry parish church.

## Carols in the Square

6pm Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December in Queen Square Gardens  
Come warmly wrapped up and with a light and ready to sing!

Start the Christmas week on a high note.

Carol sheets are provided.

All are welcome. See you there . . .

## Children's Holiday Activities

These will take place in the Parish Church 10 - 12 noon on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

Lots of fun things to do.

All children up to 11years are welcome, but we would appreciate pre-school children being accompanied by an adult.

For more details, please ring Jenny Satchwell on 490463.

Light refreshments provided.

## North Curry Village Hall

Secretary: Michael Griffiths  
phone 491298

[villagehall@northcurry.com](mailto:villagehall@northcurry.com)

To hire the hall contact  
Fleur White 491424

[hallbookings@northcurry.com](mailto:hallbookings@northcurry.com)



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)

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

## Transition Athelney: 10 Years of Practical and Awareness Work

On **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January** in **North Curry Village Hall at 7:30pm**, TA will be holding its AGM. The brief formalities will be followed by **'Chasing Tomorrow'**, a short, quirky film about two Frenchmen exploring England to meet pioneers of a sustainable future. It is a tribute and follow-up to 'Demain' which we showed in October to a large and appreciative audience. Please join us for this free event.

We will be celebrating a decade of activity in the area. Our work has spanned numerous films and talks covering a wide range of subjects on how we can build a stable and enjoyable future without fossil fuels. Equally varied have been our projects, lasting and on-going, to help implement these values.

Collaboration is a vital part of Transition. On **Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> January at 7:30pm** TA members Adrian Tait and Phil Stone with another speaker from Exeter University will be contributing to an event titled **'Taunton, Floods and the Future'**. This is in the Creative Innovation Centre, Paul Street, Taunton and is organised by the East Deane Lib Dems. Free entry; cash bar.

Contact: Brian on 490623 or email [ta@bkjeanes.co.uk](mailto:ta@bkjeanes.co.uk)



towards a greener community



## The Royal British Legion

The next meeting will take place at The Bird in Hand on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 7:30pm.

The annual Christmas Bingo will be held at the Village Hall on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Doors open 7:00pm; eyes down at 7:30pm. Donations for prizes would be gratefully received.

The Pub Quiz held on 11<sup>th</sup> September was very well supported and raised £180 for Dunkirk House Royal British Legion Hospital at Bishops Lydeard. We would like to thank all those that attended and donated prizes for the event. Everyone enjoyed themselves and hoped we would organise another quiz!

# Christmas in the Square

*Continuing the tradition of the village getting together just before Christmas*

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 4:00 – 6:00pm**

*Festive fun for all ages*

**Christmas Tree in the Square  
with switching on of the lights**



**Guest singers and musicians**

*Children's Games; Hot Dogs, Roast Pork Rolls  
Mulled Wine, Mince Pies, Hot Chocolate,  
'Rhum au Chocolat' and Raffle*

**Father Christmas,  
if we are all very good**



Sponsored by North Curry Post Office & Stores  
and Supported by North Curry Pavilion and FONCS  
All proceeds to the Pavilion and FONCS

**North Curry Liberal Democrats**

## TAUNTON - FLOODS AND THE FUTURE

On 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018, East Deane Liberal Democrats (incorporating North Curry branch) are hosting an environmental evening, entitled "Taunton, Floods and the Future" at the Creative Innovation Centre (CIC), Memorial Hall, Paul Street, Taunton TA 3PF, at 7:00pm. There will be three brief presentations by Professor Neil Adger and Dr Tara Quinn researchers from Exeter University on findings on flood resilience after the floods of 2013/14, Adrian Tait of Transition Athelney, and Councillor Phil Stone on 'Re-inventing the Levels'. This is followed by a panel discussion. Representatives from the Environment Agency and Somerset County Council will be invited.

There will be a pay bar and admission is free. There are several nearby car parks. Please come and join us on what should be an informative evening.

For further information and intention to come please contact David Akerman, telephone 01823 490234, or Mike Owen on 01823 442264.

## Decorating the Parish Church Christmas 2017

We will be decorating the Church during the week of 18<sup>th</sup> December.

As usual, local clubs, societies and organisations are invited to participate in the activity and/ or make a contribution towards flowers and poinsettias.

Please come along and get involved – it's all very good fun!

For more information, please contact Lorraine BB on 491665.