The Athelney Magazine



Covering the church parishes of Burrowbridge, Lyng, North Curry and Stoke St Gregory

February 2026

£1

Who's Who

Details of other roles can be found on the website, athelneybenefice.com/whoswho

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Treasurer	Margaret Williamson	01823 690471, emwilliamson@btinternet.com
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Churchwarden	Vacant	
Treasurer	Steve Loveridge	07808 656329, stevejloveridge@gmail.com
School Room Bookings	Pat Sollis	01823 490750, pat.sollis1@btinternet.com

The Athelney Bulletin

As well as this monthly Athelney Magazine, there is a weekly publication available online and in each church. The Athelney Bulletin is emailed out each weekend and printed copies can be found in readiness for Sunday worship. The bulletin contains all the readings for each Sunday and also news and notices of upcoming events. If you would like to receive this bulletin in your email either contact vicar@athelneybenefice.com or complete the form on the benefice website, athelneybenefice.com/signup

Coffee, Tea and Fellowship across the Benefice



Each month there is a pattern of gatherings, featuring tea, coffee, cakes and conversation. All are open to all. All are wonderful opportunities to chat and all the cakes are guaranteed to be of a very high standard.



You can find the coffee mornings here:

Burrowbridge

1st Saturday of each month, from 10am to 12pm in church.
Free to all.

Lyng

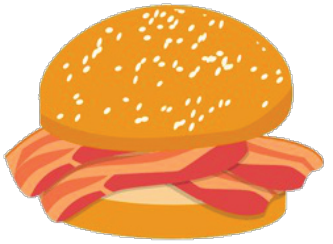
Lyng Big Bart Breakfasts are held monthly on the third Saturday of the month, 10.30am.

North Curry

Wednesdays at 10am in church.

Stoke St Gregory

The Levellers meet at 2.30pm every third Tuesday in the Williams Hall. A time of conversation and fellowship, often with a visiting speaker.



Thank you to everyone who helps with these events

To Submit Copy

Copy deadline is **14th Februaary** for the March Magazine; Please note: **July and December are double months.**

Please send **content** in an email attachment (ideally a Microsoft Word document) to **magazine@athelneybenefice.com**. Please add "CONTENT" to the subject line. If you are sending content pertaining to more than one thing, please send separate attachments and for each item, making it clear in which edition it is to appear. Please use 12-point Arial font and ensure that it fits into a maximum of 2 A5 pages where possible. To check this set your word document to be in landscape orientation with 2 columns. ***If none of this makes any sense, please just write it out long hand and put it through the vicarage door…***

To Subscribe

Our printing costs have recently incresased owing to the general price increases of so many things. The annual subscrioption, therefore, will be increased accordingly. **Subscriptions this year (2025-2026) will be £10** and will run as usual from May to April. Please pay your deliverer the £10 requested.

Thank you!

To Advertise

If you wish to advertise in the magazine, please contact us via email using this address: magads@athelneybenefice.com

Prices are for 10 editions of the magazine Full page £100, Half page £55. We no longer offer a quarter page. One off (single edition) adverts are £10 for up to one full page.

To Contact

Any questions please send an email to magazine@athelneybenefice.com and we will respond as soon as possible. Please use the group emails provided rather than sending things direct to one person.



The Athelney Benefice

Where next for Athelney?



It is almost a year since I introduced the idea that "we, the four parishes of Athelney," might become "we, the six parishes of Athelney." I think I wrote back then that this wasn't going to be an immediate change, that the Church of England can move at a pace that renders a garden mollusc as Usain Bolt.

Well, here we are… a year along and things are beginning to get moving. Again. It's not been all treading water, to mix the metaphor (perhaps "running on the spot" or "jogging" would be better). There have been meetings and discussions, and rightly so. The snail's pace can be a good thing. As is the great deal of prayer. Acting in haste, repenting at leisure, and all that... The pausing and praying and the the reconsiderations about just how we go about amalgamating six parishes into a single benefice have been helpful.

But there is a time when you need to move forward and this is about to happen. Had it not been for my significant encounter with a nasty virus last month I would now be reporting back on a meeting between all six groups of wardens from the parishes together with the Archdeacon, are dean and myself. But that got shelved and will now take place on 10th February.

That meeting on 10th is intended to get us over the start line proper. You may recall that last year I spoke of "informal" and "formal" processes that need to be followed. The past year's reflections and discussions were the informal. We are now about to explore the formal. As you will not be surprised to learn, there are very precise documents and proposals that need to be drafted that need to be presented to the inner workings of the Church of England, rather like a Bill going through Parliament, and much has to be considered before the "Bill" can become an "Act" whereby the Athelney Benefice is formally recognised as the six parishes of Burrowbridge, Lyng, Middlezoy, North Curry, Othery and Stoke St Gregory. Nothing is agreed and settled until and when everyone has agreed. There is still a lot to be discussed.

As well as that process, there is also some very basic groundwork to be

done. The practicalities of worship rotas, how the clergy and lay readers can ensure we can get to the various parishes on a Sunday, how we meet to set these rotas, how I get to meet people and work out various pastoral responsibilities; and that's before we explore Easter and Christmas. Also, I need to work out how to add a new school to my schedule. There is a great deal to consider.

All that said, and it does seem like a lot of change, this very time of transformation needs to be encountered with an open mind that sees the opportunities for growth it all represents. Growth not simply in terms for extra parishes. Indeed, arguably not that at all. I am thinking of the opportunities for deepening of our faith and spiritual lives by encountering other communities. I am writing this as vicar of four parishes, and I know there is significant concern at how I might be able to take on two more. This article is from the point of view of Athelney as we are currently, but if and when we become six I know that we as four will be able to welcome two more into our benefice and continue to grow.

We are a welcoming, hospitable and encouraging group of four parishes. We can be just such a benefice of six and find good things in that too. I write this in the week of prayer for Christian Unity and as I do I reflect upon the joy and hope that our diversity as Christians brings us; not just across denominations (Anglican, Baptist, Methodist) but from within our Anglican way of being as disciples of Jesus.

I am not naive enough to think we can simply carry on as we are but with 50% more parishes. No: some things will need to change. But as and when the landscape becomes clearer we will I know, with prayer, support and encouragement from the Holy Spirit, find ways to continue to flourish, to learn from our new brothers and sisters, and to discover that we are enriched by the diversity we all bring.



The March magazine will, I hope and pray, bring more concrete and defined plans to the fore. In the meantime, please pray for our wardens as we gather and respond to the Archdeacon's starting pistol.

Sometimes I write benign pleasantries, other times I share what has been getting under my skin a little more. If you would like to respond to either, I am always interested, please let me know what thoughts in you my words elicit. vicar@athelneybenefice.com



Martin's Musings

A monthly observation on life by Revd Martin Mudie

As I write this, I am sitting in my armchair on a damp yet mild January day. The girls are cuddled up in their beds and all is well with their little world. I am very lucky with my girls as they will not go out in the rain. They hurry, all excitedly to the front door, but at the sign of any dampness they perform an almost balletic 180 degree and return to their beds, putting up the DO NOT DISTURB sign en route.

January is also the month where some people choose to make New Year's Resolutions. I myself haven't done since I was 21, when I realised that usually they were things I ought to be doing in the new year, to make myself a better person. Butl have never wanted to be a better person, I just try and do the best I can in life in any given situation.

I have always found people who want to improve themselves rather tedious as once they have done that, they usually try to improve me. Oh, dear me, no. I also have problem with "ought" as it usually involves someone telling me how to live my life and I really don't need that. I much prefer the word "obligation" as it really helps me through life. My natural state of being is being inert and without that sense of obligation by choice, I would do very little.

One of the most important things Mother taught me was that if you agreed to do something then you should really try to do it to the best of your ability. So, I find myself on a cold dark Sunday morning in January leaving my warm comfortable bed to conduct the first service of the day at 8.30 in an often cold church. I have never understood why anyone would want to be religious at such an ungodly hour, lovely in the summer but definitely not for the winter, but there we go!

The weather in January can be very miserable and if it wasn't for the girls and a lack of money it would be nice to spend the month sunny and warm, but there we go. However, January can have it's compensations: after an enjoyably busy December, it is wonderful to just chill. So my January is spent indoors, reading, listening to the radio and munching my way through the often unhealthy goodies which kind friends have given me at Christmas often watching various TV presenters travelling in sunnier and warmer climes. Many mammals hibernate in the winter and I am more than happy to follow their good example. So, however you choose to spend your winter, the girls join with me in wishing you a very happy new year.



Generations growing in faith together

By Fiona Gibson, who will become the Bishop of Taunton on 8 February 2026



Our extended family recently got together for a celebration. We were nine adults from 24-68, one toddler, and one dog, and it was glorious! The joy was simply in being together, whatever our age.

I sometimes wonder what would happen in the life of our churches if we could adopt the same outlook there? Each generation glad that the other is there. Each generation contributing something to the whole. Each generation looking to the interests of the others, making sure there was something that spoke to the others even if not to them.

The writer of the Chronicles records something you could miss if you weren't looking for it. In 2 Chronicles 20, when Judah was facing attack from Ammon and Moab, King Jehoshaphat proclaimed a fast and summoned the people. This is what it says in verse 13:

"All Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children."

At a time of great peril, when the king was seeking the LORD, all generations came together to pray.

We often think of intergenerational meaning us older ones passing on wisdom to the younger ones, and that's certainly part of it. But a truly intergenerational family, which the church is, means all generations welcoming one another, valuing one another, learning from one another, and praying with and for one another. It's not a one-way thing.

Our younger generations are ambassadors from the future, with wisdom to give us about their culture, and how to share the timeless truths of the gospel with their peers. They are leaders and learners, just as we all are.

What might it look like across our diocese if we committed to making room for other generations? What might it look like if, like the people of God in ancient times, we came together in our year of especial focus on prayer - adults, young people, and little ones - and sought the power and wisdom of God together? I have a feeling we'd be surprised!

DIOCESE OF Bath&Wells
Living and telling the story of Jesus

Burrowbridge



Oh, No! Not again!?

They say that good fences make for good neighbours… but we could do without having to keep dealing with the one next to the Mump. After many months of to-ing and fro-ing over the past year and more with The National Trust and Natural England, we finally managed to repair the wall over the summer last year. Then, just before Christmas another part came down. There are many words we could use to describe our reaction, but the most polite is probably, "Phooey". The fallen wall has been made safe (thanks to Nielsen) and we are happy that sheep won't be getting into the churchyard, but please do take care if you are walking along the perimeter either of the Mump or in the churchyard.



Given the dampness of the soil currently, and the generally inclement weather, we are not proposing to fix anything until Spring arrives.

Our challenge will be to find ways to get this fixed as cheaply as possible, and even clearing the ground will be costly. So, here's advanced notice: when the weather improves and the days noticeably lengthen, probably during Lent, we will be organising a working party to help clear the stones etc. Then we can decide how best to fix the gap!

Volunteers needed…

If you are hail and hearty and would like to help get the ground cleared in Burrowbridge Churchyard

Please do contact The Vicar, vicar@athelneybenefice.com

We don't have a date yet, but we can start to plan when we know who is available to help!



Lyng

Somerset Day 2026

As part of our ongoing and developing awareness of the history of the benefice, with the recognition of St Athelwin and his association with Alfred the Great, the parishes of Burrowbridge and Lyng in particular are working with Aller to celebrate Somerset Day in style. Currently the weekend of May 9th/10th is looking like this:

Saturday 9th May: A Pilgrimage Walk (ticketed event)



A short 6 mile walk from St Andrew's Church at Aller to St Bartholomew's Church at East Lyng, taking in the nature and wildlife along the Rivers Sowy and Parrett, St Michael's Church at Burrow Mump and views over the Levels, with special exclusive permission to walk across the Isle of Athelney from the abbey to the marsh fort where Alfred hid in the late ninth century and planned his victory over the Vikings, and where Athelwin set up his spiritual residency two centuries earlier.

Tickets will cost £10 per person which will cover safety costs (road signs etc.) with any surplus being donated to the churches involved in hosting walkers.

Sunday 10th May: BBQ in the Park at Aller

BBQ and licensed bar at Aller Recreation Ground (TA10 0QP) provided by The Old Pound Inn with performances including:

The Lost Somerset Singers (ticketed event at Aller church)

Renowned natural voice practitioner, choir conductor, musician, writer and archaeologist Yvette Staelens with a performance from Somerset's rich folk song heritage collected from local towns, villages and hamlets of rural Somerset by revivalist Cecil Sharp



Elven Dale: Sounds of the Mead Hall

Reenactment group playing music and songs with early medieval musical instruments. Founded by Hrafn Rìkharðsson in 2016, with performances including Warhorns Festival, Fantasy Forest and Valhalla Viking Festival. Their epic double album "Land of Legend' was released March 2025

The Langport Mummers



A colourful and incredibly entertaining local troupe performing traditional Mumming plays with hilarious twists and turns!

The Alfred Family Walk

The launch of a new short family walk from Aller Recreation Ground to Aller Church, standing in the footsteps of Alfred whilst learning about the wider history of the Isle of Alders from Bronze Age farmers to Iron Age warriors, Romans and Saxons, and not forgetting the fearsome Aller dragon! The walk continues across the fields of a working diary farm with cows and sheep, and through the village to see the amazing mosaics of Bryan Newman before returning to the recreation ground.

Further information and booking for all these events can be found www.socialcircles.org.uk/somerset-day-2026, or use the QR code above.

Updates will appear in subsequent magazines!



Lyng Parish Council

The Parish Council meets at Lyng Village Hall every two months, usually on a Monday evening. Members of the public are always welcome to attend.

Dates of next Parish Council meetings:

- Monday 9th March 2026, 7.30pm
- Monday 11th May 2026, 7.30pm (APCM)

The agendas and minutes of previous meetings are published on the parish website: lyngparish.square.site

The parish clerk, Mrs Helen Barrington, can be contacted via email lyngpc1@outlook.com or Tel: 01823 490391.



North Curry

200 CLUB

The 200 Club still 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.

Winners

Sun 7th December

1st Julian Comrie
2nd Eileen Kearn
3rd Susan Harrison

Sun 4th January

1st Mike Flemming
2nd Carol Lawrence
3rd Joan Ryan

North Curry Coffee Shop

With the nights drawing in now, we will be changing to our Winter opening hours from Tuesday 2nd December. We will be open on Tuesdays to Saturdays from 10am to 4pm and on Sundays from 10am to 3.30pm, with last orders 15 minutes before closing. We will also be closed over Christmas from the end of Sunday 21st December and will reopen on Tuesday 20th January to allow us time for some much needed maintenance work.

Don't forget we sell a wide range of local crafts, art, cards and jewellery and we are well stocked for the Christmas season, including earrings from £5.50, pottery from £4, Christmas decorations from £1.50, wrist warmers from £4, handmade soap, wooden boxes and plenty more. Come in for a browse - our stocks are refreshed regularly.

If you are looking for an opportunity to help your local community and make new friends, while raising money for your favourite charity, come and join our friendly team of volunteers. Email us at coffeeshop@northcurry.com or call us on 01823 491414.

We look forward to welcoming you.



North Curry and District Amateur Gardeners

February Talk: "How to love your garden" by Catherine Williams

Friday 6th February at the Village Hall in Greenway, 7.45pm for the 8.00pm talk.

Visitors and new members are very welcome. If you are new to gardening or are more experienced come along or ring 01823 491122 for more information.

Meetings, with a guest speaker, are on the first Friday of each month from February to May and again from September to December. In the summer months we arrange local Garden Visits.

Advance notice: On March 6th Marcel de Fossard will talk about Clematis based on 40 years experience of growing

NORTH CURRY SOCIETY

"Making photographs in North Curry since 2021", by Colin Trim, LRPS

Wednesday February 11th, 7.30pm for 8pm, by North Curry Society Chairman Colin Trim LRPS

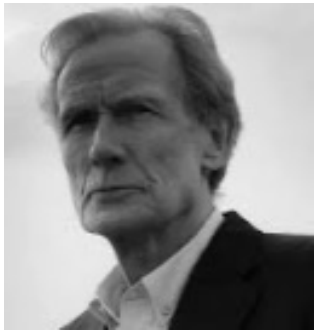
Colin explores the history, heritage, cultural life and landscape of his native village with photographs taken since returning five years ago.

Membership cards with the year's programme are available from the Treasurer. Visitors always welcome, on payment of the £5 guest fee (or you can join on the night for only £15 for the rest of the year).

The Society generally meets on the third Wednesday each month to hear about aspects of local heritage, but note that our meeting is one week earlier this month. Our Chairman would be pleased to learn about topics and speakers of interest to you: contact him at 01823 490337.



NORTH CURRY **F I L M** CLUB



On Saturday February 7th, we are showing the detective mystery film starring Bill Nye, **Sometimes Always Never**. If you are a fan of scrabble, you'll want to see it! Puzzled – you'll have to come and see it!

The Village Hall doors open at 2.30pm, with the film starting at 3pm. Entry £5 adults. There's an intermission for tea and home-made cake (donation requested).



On Wednesday February 25th, we are showing **All We Imagine As Light**, which is set in Mumbai. You experience the city through the lives of a nurse, Prabha, and her flat mate, Anu. A magical film, highly recommended. The Village Hall doors & bar open at 7pm, with the film starting at 7.30pm. Also open to guests (£5).

Can you help with putting out the chairs before the films each month? It takes about 20 mins. Please contact Don 01823 490 859

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The North Curry Calendar 2027

(yes... looking ahead...)

By Colin Trim, colinhtrim@gmail.com

The Village Calendar, which is created by the Parish Church and sold through the Post Office, needs fresh photographers to ensure that the quality of the calendar is maintained and that it appeals to the whole village community. You do not need to be involved in any way with the church in order to submit images for consideration!

I have been invited to oversee the production of the 2027 Calendar and I hope that very much, as a resident of the village and/or a recent entrant to the Village Flower Show Photography Section, you can be persuaded to make some images over the next 10 months for submission to the Selection Panel by next August. We would like local landscape and architecture photos, images documenting village residents going about their daily business, and images of village events. Please bear in mind the following points:

1 All images must be submitted as digital files by email and must be in landscape format i.e the picture must be wider than the high. If using a mobile phone that means taking the picture with the phone turned 'on its side!

2. Most mobile phone/cameras nowadays produce images far larger than three megabytes. This however is the absolute minimum to enable sharp, clear images for printing the calendar.

3. I am publicising these details at this early stage as we need images for each of the 12 months in the year with photos shot in Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer. Snow, frost, autumn leaves, wind, rain, low-light, fog/mist and sun are all eminently 'photo-friendly' conditions! Photos of village events may be less climatically dependent, although 'atmosphere' can help!

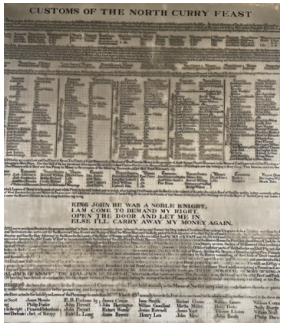
4. We shall endeavour to include the work of as many village photographers as possible. We need 14 images. and you may submit as many images as you wish.

5. The name of the photographer will be published with each selected image.

Please contact me if you would like any further information. Full details of entry dates, email addresses etc will be published in the Spring and Summer 2026 in The Pink Paper, on posters throughout the village, in the Benefice Magazine and on NextDoor. But please send me what you wish at any time before then.

Happy Snapping, Good Luck, and let's make the 2027 Calendar the best yet!

Reeves Feast: North Curry Parochial Charities


CUSTOMS OF THE NORTH CURRY FEAST

KING JOHN HE WAS A NOBLE KNIGHT,
HE GAVE THE MANOR OF NORTH CURRY
OWN THE DOOR AND LAY THE LOCK
ELSE I'LL CARRY AWAY MY MONEY AGAIN.

Are you aware of the North Curry Parochial Charities? They are an ancient set of funds administered by a board of six trustees on behalf of the parish council.

Probably they had their origins in the Reeve's Feast which dates to the time of King John or earlier Saxon times. The earliest known document dates from 1314 and is commemorated on a monument in the vestry of North Curry Parish Church (with a copy near the loo!)

The last full feast was in 1865 but in 1868 the funds were converted into a charity yielding a yearly sum of £33.13s.9.5d of North Curry was allocated £21. The balance was due to West Hatch and Stoke St Gregory which were formerly part of North Curry parish. In 1974 the charities link with West Hatch and Stoke was severed (the Stoke fund still operates).

The charities came from an unknown donor, the charities of Sophia Gould, Charlotte Burge Robbs, and Mary Ann Crease.

In 2018 a celebration of 150 years was held on the playing field, and a small surplus was added to the fund. Formerly coal, bread and blankets were distributed to those in need in the parish. In recent years tokens which can be spent at the village stores or Wrantage Mills have been provided. The trustees distribute the income from the investments, but this is limited. They wish to increase the capital and thereby the income which can be obtained.

If you enjoy living in this community would you consider making a bequest to the charities in your will? This is straightforward to do :

Include our name, address and charity number to ensure your gift reaches us. Name: Reeve 's Feast, address: North Curry Parish Council, Town Farm Community Stable, North Curry,TA3 6NP, charity Number: 204996

Remember to choose the type of gift you want to include. It's important to consider how much you want to leave when leaving a gift to charity in your Will, along with if you'd like it to be used for a specific purpose. There are two options: First, a "residuary gift", a percentage or share of your estate when gifts of money or items have been distributed and costs have been deducted. The value of this type of gift will increase as the value of your estate increases. Second, a "pecuniary gift", a specific sum of money. To ensure that it keeps value over the years, you can make it index-linked. Whichever you choose, the Parochial Charities will be most grateful to distribute your gift.

Moscow Drug Club are playing at North Curry parish church, 7.30pm on Thursday 19th February (half-term week)

The quintet are a class act, blending some classic jazz styles – gipsy, Berlin cabaret, French musette, tango, etc. Think Jaques Brel and Tom Waites.

They have a healthy Somerset following and are a masterpiece in easy-listening. Their live show is a chilled mix of songs and instrumentals with some good chat to break it all up.



Moscow Drug Club, named after a song written by a Canadian composer by the name of BB Gabor, are a heady and waggish mix of Jazz French musette, Latin Grooves and New Orleans Swing. The group are billed as 'Transcendent Troubadours of World Jazz!'

They are touring Somerset with Take Art for four4 dates. After North Curry they go on to Norton sub Hamdon and East Quantoxhead, ending the week at Castle Cary.

Combining their original material with songs by the likes of Jaques Brel, Tom Waits, Leonard Cohen & Eartha Kitt, Moscow Drug Club deliver an intoxicating and intimate musical experience you won't soon forget!

With well-executed, easy-listening songs, virtuosic trumpet and accordion, and great grizzly vocals. It will be a chilled evening, lovely night out!

"Absolutely knock out performance, great musicianship and very entertaining!!"

"Amazingly evocative, beautiful and inspiring, such originality"

"The best music concert I've seen in years!"

Find them here (moscowdrugclub.com):

AP@NC present

Presented on behalf of Stage Right Creative Ltd. and Alan P Frayne.

Jack and the Beanstalk

17—21 February

at North Curry Village Hall



Tickets on sale at Post Office

or Contact Lee on 07751029297



ALL AGE WORSHIP



10 am



A 30 minute informal service

Followed by Coffee, Cake, Crafts and Activituies

Next service: 15th February

EXPLORING FAITH TOGETHER

North Curry Parish Church

For more info: www.athelneybenefice.com

Talking Cafe

North Curry:
3rd Friday, Village Hall, 2pm to 4pm

When?

Stoke St Gregory:
2nd Thursday, Village Coffee Shop, 10am to 12pm



somerset village & community agents
part of CCS





WHY POP IN?

Talking Cafes are great if you are looking for help and advice on important issues such as:

- caring for another
- housing
- health
- finance
- help with food/cooking
- adult social care
- children's services
- feelings of loneliness and isolation
- anything else that is worrying you.



Meet your local Village Agent and other support services.

www.somersetagents.org/talkingcafes

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Provided by: CCS people - place - enterprise

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Stoke St Gregory

Preparations for Christmas 2026! And grateful thanks for Christmas 2025

By Jane White, Churchwarden, (retd!)



I think we can all agree that we had a great build up to Christmas at St Gregory's. This was thanks in a huge way to Simon's commitment to preparing and celebrating with all the various members of his parishes whatever their ages, ably helped by Martin. The season was well and truly marked and I am enormously grateful to all concerned, whether they decorated the church or took part in all the services and supplied warming refreshments afterwards. In many cases the jollifications were only possible because of the generosity of a limited and dwindling number of people who have given generously for a number of years.



With ever-increasing costs for everything from "easy peelers" to mince pies and Christmas trees, we are hoping to start raising funds to cover the costs in some part for next Christmas. Again, entirely through the generosity of a few individuals, we have all enjoyed free refreshments after mid-morning services. The PCC have discussed ways of raising a Christmas gift fund and are suggesting that people might be invited to put a small sum into the kitty when they stay for coffee after a service. This does involve all of us remembering to put the odd extra coin in our pockets in addition to the money for our weekly collection but would, I hope, raise something worthwhile towards the costs for next Christmas.



Pre Lent- Sunday Lunch, St Gregory's Church, Sunday 15th February at 12.30pm

We hope that we have started a new Pre Lent tradition with last year's successful introduction of a Benefice Lunch on the Sunday prior to the start of Lent. Easter this year is in early April which means that Shrove Tuesday is on 17th February and the lunch cannot be combined with a United Benefice Service. However, we would still like to extend the invitation to all our friends from the other parishes to join us for lunch after our Eucharist service. You would, of course, be very welcome to attend the service at 11am.

Lunch will be served at 12.3pm and we obviously need to have numbers of those wishing to attend in good time to make preparations. Please let Jane or Pat know by Saturday 7th February if you would like to be there, and note any dietary requirements.



Further details and reservations, please contact Jane (490508, janepwhite@hotmail.com) or Pat (490750, pat.sollis1@btinternet.com).

Charity Lunch in aid of the RNLI

There will be a Charity Lunch on Monday February 23rd in the School Room by St Gregory's, from 12.30- 2.00 pm.

The RNLI is entirely supported by public donation, no government money; they badly need our support, so come and have a chat and a delicious bowl of soup.

If you would like to support a charity of your own choosing by running another lunch please contact Annette on 490297

Stoke St Gregory WI

Stoke St Gregory WI meet at the Village Hall on the second Tuesday of the month from 7pm.

We are a friendly ever expanding group that gets together for monthly meetings plus outings, supporting community events and social time.

New members are always welcome so if you are intrigued to know more about the Institute please don't hesitate to get in touch.

It is only £5 for a visitor.

For the February members meeting on the 10th we will be hearing about the The American Museum & Garden in Bath.

We have free refreshments, a trade stall, a raffle and for February we will have a competition to read out a funny poem.

If you ever wondered what we get up to at a meeting then please don't hesitate to get in touch for more details.

Amelia Holt,
President, 07985 317252

Our own member Karen Housego gave us a fascinating talk about the history and habits of Nuns through the ages at the January meeting where she provided us with a slide show and told us about characters like St Hildegard of Bingen, a German abbess, mystic, writer of theological works and composer of sacred music.



There is always something to learn with the WI.

🎉 Save the Date! 🎉

Stoke St Gregory Village Fete is back on Saturday 11th July at 1pm, and we can't wait to return to the playing field for another fantastic community day!

Expect all your favourite traditional stalls plus some exciting new additions we're working hard to bring to life. 🌟

Interested in having a stall? Or want to get involved behind the scenes and help organise this year's fete? Please contact Sara Sollis on 07496 668223 or sarasollis1@gmail.com

CHARITY SUPPER & TALK

Saturday February 7th at Stoke St Gregory Baptist Church

In aid of The National Autistic Society

National Autistic Society

A two-course hot meal + coffee/tea, followed by a talk (see below).

6.30 for 7pm for supper; 7.45 for 8pm for the talk

Tickets for meal & talk £15 each; donations on the door for coffee & talk only. Contact dianne.callaghan52@gmail.com for tickets or more information or phone Kathy on 07721368165

Tickets will also be available in the Stoke St Gregory Village Shop.

William Hogarth (1697–1764): Medicine and Morality , by Mike Davidson



William Hogarth developed the art form "modern moral subject". These are several series of paintings and engravings that tell cautionary tales through vivid, often humorous depictions of Georgian life.

Hogarth's London was a city where wealth, disease, poverty, and immorality intertwined. His art captured the medical and social realities of 18th-century urban life with biting satire. This talk looks at Hogarth's work from both a medical and moral viewpoint.

FRIENDS of Stoke St Gregory Primary School

Stoke St Gregory Primary School



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More information :

Friends of Stoke St Gregory School

FOS volunteer group; 07595644656

Fos@ssg.oak.education

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Stoke St Gregory

Readers

Please read both Old and New Testament readings as shown in the bulletin. If changing weeks please advise Jane or Pat

1st Feb	Will
15th Feb	Barbara P
22nd Feb	Jo
1st Mar	Sally

Cleaners

1st Feb	Annette & Susan
8th Feb	Marilyn & Terri
15th Feb	Penny & Simon
22nd Feb	Linda & Brent
1st Mar	Annette & Susan

Sidespersons

1st Feb	Barbara M
15th Feb	Barbara P
22nd Feb	Simon & Penny
1st Mar	John

Flowers

1st Feb to 16th Feb: Margaret Poole

Amelia Holt to clear the flowers for Lent on 17th Feb

North Curry

	Sidesmen	Intercessions	Readers
1st Feb	L Paul ,T Jeanes	H Griffiths	H Baker
8th Feb	J Sergeant, T Jones	D Walker	D Akerman
15th Feb	J Dare	Z Sykes	D Walker, D Farnham
18th Feb (Ash Wed)	L Farnham	M Piers	J Satchwell, D Farnham
22nd Feb	S Keele, P Burgess	D Farnham	D Walker
1st Mar	C Trim, P Burgess	J Satchwell	C Trim

Services across the Benefice

1st February Candlemas

9.30am	North Curry	Eucharist
10.00am	Stoke Baptists	Messy Church, starting with breakfast
10.30am	North Curry Methodists	United Service (Lisieux Way)
11.00am	Stoke St Gregory	Eucharist
3.00pm	Lyng	Service of the Word

8th February 2nd Sunday before Lent

8.30am	Stoke St Gregory	Prayer Book Eucharist
9.30am	Burrowbridge	Service of the Word
10.00am	North Curry	Eucharist
10.30am	Stoke Baptists	Prayer Café
11.00am	North Curry Methodists	

15th February Sunday next before Lent

8.30am	North Curry	Prayer Book Eucharist
9.30am	Lyng	Eucharist
10.00am	North Curry	Benefice Family Worship
10.30am	Stoke Baptists	Morning Worship with Communion
11.00am	Stoke St Gregory	Eucharist
11.00am	North Curry Methodists	with Holy Communion
4.00pm	North Curry	Evensong

18th February Ash Wednesday

10.00am	North Curry	Eucharist

22nd February 1st Sunday of Lent

9.30am	Burrowbridge	Eucharist
10.00am	North Curry	Eucharist
10.30am	Stoke Baptists	Morning. Worship (James McKee)
11.00am	Stoke St Gregory	Eucharist
11.00am	North Curry Methodists	

28th February (Saturday)

9.30am	North Curry	Inter-church Prayer Fellowship

1st March 2nd Sunday of Lent

8.30am	North Curry	Prayer Book Eucharist
9.30am	Lyng	Service of the Word
10.00am	North Curry	Eucharist
10.00am	Stoke Baptists	Messy Church, starting with breakfast
11.00am	Stoke St Gregory	Eucharist
11.00am	North Curry Methodists	