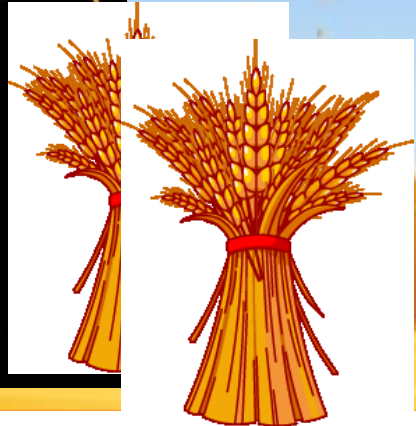


Three in One

Magazine of St Nicholas Curdworth,
St Chad Wishaw and
St John the Baptist Middleton

**An exciting new Talent Scheme everyone can take
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Raise the song of Harvest home!



September/October 2019

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Regular Events Programme -2019

Curdworth 60+ Dementia Friendly Lunch Club

27th September 2019 12.30 pm-2.30pm Curdworth Village Hall

25th October 2019 12.30pm-2.30pm Curdworth Village Hall

Wishaw Coffee Mornings

12th September 2019 10.30am-12.00pm Wishaw Memorial Hall

10th October 2019 10.30am-12.00pm Wishaw Memorial Hall

Middleton Coffee Mornings

First and last Wednesdays 11.00am to 1.00pm Middleton Village Hall

Curdworth Friendship Group

11th September 2019 2.30pm Curdworth Church Hall

9th October 2019 2.30pm Curdworth Church Hall

Men's Breakfast:

21st September 2019 9.00am The Old School House

19th October 2019 9.00am The Old School House

email Steve at steven.blaber@blueyonder.co.uk to book.



You are invited to a.....

HARVEST SUPPER on Saturday 5th October 2019

7.00pm at Wishaw Memorial Hall

Entertainment

Bring your own drinks.

Tickets: £8 (under 12s £5) - includes Supper

Tickets from Margaret Allen or Pat Turner

Curdworth Choir Concert!

Saturday 21st September 2019

7:30 Curdworth Village Hall



**Come and join us for a
relaxed programme of light and
popular music to suit all tastes**

**Tickets £8.00
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from Isabel Potter, Margaret Allen
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CHANGE IS COMING!

One of the paradoxes we all face in life is the conflict between change and stability.

Part of us, if our lives are reasonably comfortable, is all for stability, leaving things as they are. Another part, maybe the more adventurous, might feel that new horizons, new possibilities, are available if we try to seize them. The eternal snag is that history shows you can't go back. If you have chosen the new way and it doesn't work the way you thought it might, you have to either accept it or move on again. Reassembling a discarded past is not an option. The world of politics teaches us this. Jam tomorrow politicians promise us, vote for me and all will be well. But for many tomorrow is a long time coming.

The Christian faith has been in these islands for approaching two thousand years. Jesus Christ taught a new way. The law of love. Love for other people, evidenced in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Love for them whoever they are and however hard that might be. This rule was at the heart of the expansion of our faith in its early days. It caused many Christians to be martyred (killed for their faith). Though Christians could be retaliatory! That faith came to Britain through the Romans and the Celts, and famously Archbishop Augustine in 597 AD.

This brought great change. Christianity became 'established'. Before long every area (parish) had a priest. The Church managed to represent both stability by providing and staffing a building and change by teaching of the new life in Christ shown in his life and teaching, and death and resurrection. A new structure for new people. In this Three in One parish that stability is still seen in three magnificent (but expensive to maintain) buildings. In all the changes we face we remember as we admire them the overarching love of God for us his children.

Here is an ancient evening prayer

Be present O merciful God and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen. **ROY ALLEN**



Sunday - 29th September

Sunday, 29th September is the date of our next joint service. This time, the service will be held at St Nicholas' Church Curdworth at the different time of **10.00am**. led by Rev Roy Allen. The service will be followed by tea, coffee and cake in the Church Hall.

All PCC and DCC members are particularly asked to be there as there will be a short meeting after the refreshments (or even while they are being consumed!), the purpose of which is to share the latest information on Safeguarding.

The safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults is the responsibility of all of us in our churches and whole communities and this is an opportunity to hear about the latest advice. We always say meetings won't be long, but this one really won't and presenting the information in this way will mean it can be delivered once and not have to be repeated on several different occasions.

Everyone is encouraged to attend both the service and the meeting.

The plan is:

Service at 10.00am

Tea, coffee and cake served just after 11.00am

Presentation to begin at 11.15am

Finish – no later than 12 noon

Thank you -The Churchwardens

Curdworth Women's Guild

June Meeting:

Maureen welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Mr Harold Williams (known to everyone as 'H') formerly Chairman of the Sutton Fuchsia Society. He guided us through the process of cultivating fuchsias which he has been growing for over 20 years, winning 'best in show' 3 years running at the Sutton Society.

'H' gave us many tips e.g. re potting compost to be used with perlite (6 parts compost to 1 perlite), how to take cuttings and also how to hybridize or cross breed fuchsias which he often does for his grand children. Many of the Guild are enthusiastic gardeners and 'H' was happy to answer all their questions. After the talk the ladies were able to purchase plants and 'H' kindly donated two specimens to the raffle.

Everyone agreed that it had been a most entertaining, informative and enjoyable afternoon.

July Meeting:

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Two of the ladies (Chrissy and Nicola) volunteered to take part in the demonstration which proved very interesting. Jenny talked us through the process of Reiki and what the benefits are.

Reiki is a Japanese technique for stress reduction and relaxation that also promotes healing. It is administered by "laying on hands" and is based on the idea that an unseen "life force energy" flows through us and is what causes us to be alive. If one's "life force energy" is low, then we are more likely to get sick and feel stressed, and if it is high we are more capable of being happy and healthy. Maureen thanked Jenny and remarked that she had never known members to be so quiet during a demonstration!

Afternoon Cream Tea - August 18th



The Guild Cream Tea in aid of the charity 'Troop Aid' was a real success. Apologies to those of you who could not get tickets, they sold so fast we could hardly keep up! A big thank you to everyone who supported us in any way. A special thank you to the ladies who worked so hard serving and washing up, and of course to all the Guild members who had worked on the quilt. The raffle was drawn by one of the founders of the charity and Chloe, Maureen's granddaughter was the lucky winner. Second prize of a goodie hamper went to Lisa Wilcox and third prize, a box of Champney's Spa Treatments was won by Susan Treadwell.

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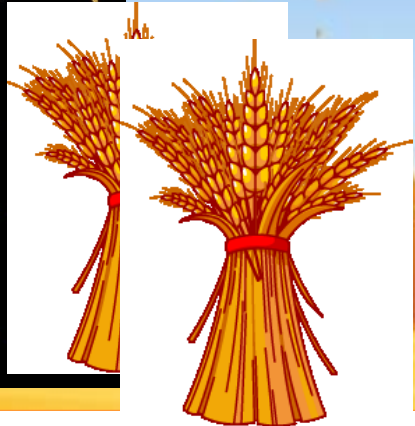
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Christmas Tree Festival 2019 St Nicholas Church, Curdworth.

Christmas Tree Festival will take place this year from
Tuesday 3rd until Sat 7th December 2019.

Tuesday to Thursday 2.00pm until 7.00pm

Friday 2.00pm until 8.00pm

Saturday 2.00pm until 5.00pm

Entry for trees will be by donation with a minimum of
£5.

Admission will be £3.50 with children under 12yrs going in
free.
There will be tea, coffee, mulled wine, soft drinks and mince
pies included in the price.

We will need the trees in Church on **Sunday** 1st December
between 2.00 and 5.00pm and
Monday 2nd December between **2.00** and 5.00pm.

Please carry on supporting this event and make
it as successful as usual!
All monies going to support our beautiful Church.

For any information please ring Eileen Rawson on 01675
470221 or email me on eileenrawson@hotmail.com.



COMPUTER PROBLEMS?

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Get local, honest & friendly help with virus removal,
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Telephone: 01675 470105

Caroline@putertutor.co.uk

www.putertutor.co.uk



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Middleton Musings

When writing something that won't be read for about 6 weeks, it is interesting to consider what people will be thinking about. September and October is the period when Harvest is celebrated. All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above so thank the Lord for all his love.

In Middleton in July we had the Fete and Horticultural show which was another successful and enjoyable event. A big thank you and Well Done to all who helped. It was good to see long term volunteers being celebrated for all their support. I didn't see everyone who was recognised in this way, but Gordon and Shirley were included. The Horticultural show is a good way to start thinking about harvest. The beautiful flower arrangements are one example, they show skill, an eye for colour and a celebration of the growing. However, all the items entered combined the best of creation with human skill and dedication.

I wonder what harvest means for you. I have captured my thoughts using HARVEST as a mnemonic.

H: At *harvest* we bring *home* all that the earth has produced and we are *humbled* by the blessings God has poured upon us.

A: we present an *acceptable* offering back to God and become more *aware* of the cycle of the seasons and our dependence on our Heavenly father

R: St Paul tells the Galatians that they will *reap* what they sow. After the harvest the reaping of crops is over, and we can turn our thoughts sowing in the Spirit to reap eternal life and the fruit of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.

V: *vegetables* and fruit are our 5 a day target, but do we have an equivalent 5 a day to help with our spiritual health. How about prayer, praise, bible reading, listening and loving service.

H: Harvest is the *evening* time of the year, the *endeavour* of the year is behind us. What do we look forward to?

S: All the harvest produce is *stored* away for the winter, there is still some *sun* to enjoy and we can *sing* the *song* of harvest home. With all we have let us *share* this bounty with those less fortunate than ourselves

T: Above all harvest is about *thanksgiving*. Thanks to all who have worked the land to bring us the crops to our tables, thanks to all who serve us in our shops, transporting the goods and Thanks to God who has blessed us with so much. *Andrew Farrow*

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

It's the time of year for new beginnings – a new term, a new season. We are again celebrating “Back to Church Sunday” in all our churches. This is a nationwide initiative and is a great opportunity to come to back to church if you haven't been for a while, or to invite someone you know who may have been to church for a wedding, baptism or funeral. Maybe you haven't been to church since you attended Sunday School as a child. Maybe you have something on your mind and coming to church could provide the opportunity you need get a fresh perspective on what is troubling you.

Whatever the reason may be, you are particularly invited to come to church, at any time, but especially on 15th September. If you would like an invitation to give to someone else, or you would like us to invite someone, please either ask for an invitation or, even better, fill in a slip with the person's name and address and we will send a personal invitation.

For a slip or an invitation, please ask a Churchwarden.

Back to Church Sunday : SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2019

9.30am at St Chad's Church Wishaw

11.00am at St Nicholas Church Curdworth

6.30pm at St John the Baptist Middleton

Matthew Geoffrey Keeling
18th August 1986 - 29th June 2019

The Keeling family and Hannah would like to thank everyone for their help and organisation for the funeral of their beloved Matthew. We were overwhelmed by the numbers in attendance: facilitated by the cooperation and kindness of everyone in the village: a tribute to the wonderful young man he was. We are extremely grateful to all those who assisted including Church wardens, volunteers, flower arrangers, logistics and the audio assistance to broadcast the service to all those standing outside.

We have received many cards, good wishes, prayers and donations that, to date, have amounted to approximately £5,000 going to Midland Air Ambulance and Help for Heroes.

We will miss him enormously

Hannah, Geoff, Cate, Emma and Andrew Keeling

ALPHA CLUB

Alpha Club is for young people (upper junior and secondary school age) and meets at Curdworth Church Hall on Sunday evenings in term time from 6.00-7.30pm. We always begin by sharing a meal and afterwards there is often time for discussion, games, music and just generally catching up on what has been happening both in our lives and in the world outside.



New members are always welcome to come along, see what we do and decide if it's for them. Alpha re-starts on **Sunday 8th September at 6.00pm**. Contact Margaret Allen for further details. (contact details at the back of the magazine).

Launching in September.....

Talent Scheme!



This your chance to get involved, share your talents, have a lot of fun and at the same time support our three historic churches.

Are you wondering what exactly is a Talent Scheme? Well, it's all based on the Parable of the Talents in the New Testament.

We will give you a £5 note and you will think of an ingenious way to multiply it.

With your £5 note will be a leaflet with a lot of ideas in it to help fire your imagination. You could do anything from a raffle to a coffee morning, from baking and selling cakes to having a film night.

Ideas can be small or large, one-off events or on-going ones, some may raise £20, others may raise £200. The list is limitless. The main thing is that everyone can be involved, even if the main thing you do is support other people's events.

Your idea can be publicised in the weekly notices, through this magazine or locally placed adverts. Be sure to involve your friends, family and neighbours and enjoy!

Please continue to support your churches, the clergy, Wardens and the Parochial Church Council as we strive to not just maintain, but improve, develop and build on what we do. If there is any way in which you can do more than you already do, we would really appreciate it. You just being there at services and other events does a lot to lift our spirits!

Children's Choir

The Children's Choir presented their Summer Concert in Curdworth Church Hall on Sunday 7th July. They sang to a full house and presented a varied programme, including songs from Disney films and other shows. They ended their programme with "Hallelujah", from Shrek, which has almost become their theme song. Earlier in the year they recorded this song to be played at Joan Williams' funeral. Joan had been a long-time and enthusiastic supporter of the Children's Choir and they were honoured to be heard, if not seen, at her funeral.

As usual, the audience were welcomed and seated by the Choir, as well as being encouraged to buy raffle tickets. In the interval they served tea and cakes. The Concert raised £252.00 for church funds! Thank you to everyone who supported the afternoon. There is a further opportunity to support the Children's Choir at the Choir Concert on 21st September, at Curdworth Village Hall.

It would be lovely to welcome new singers, and children aged 8+ are very welcome to join us.

Our rehearsals are on Wednesdays in term time from 6.00-7.00pm in Curdworth Church Hall and will re-start on **Wednesday 4th September at 6.00pm**. We will be preparing for a number of special events including Harvest, Christingle and Christmas.

Contact Margaret Allen for further details and to arrange to come for a taster session, to see if you like what we do.

Thank you—Flower Festival

St. George's Church, Minworth would like to thank everyone who supported their Flower Festival in June. A great total of £1,027 was raised during a busy weekend and support from Curdworth was much appreciated.

Curdworth Poetry Group

Some people will recognise the name “Josephine Hart”, a producer of plays, a director of the “Haymarket Publishers”; who grew up in Ireland and attended a convent school. She later married Maurice Saatchi (the brother in law of Nigella Lawson). Josephine’s life was steeped in poetry from her earliest years and she continued to promote the reading of poetry with understanding.

Towards the end of her life she began her book “Catching Life by the Throat” by noting that “the most perfect lines of Poetry I have ever heard are at the opening WORDS of the St John’s Gospel; “In the beginning was the WORD and the WORD was with God and the WORD was God”.

“Poetry, is a TRINITY of sound, sense and sensibility, it gives a voice to experience in the way no other medium can. It has never let me down. EVER. Without poetry I would have found life less comprehensible, less bearable and infinitely less enjoyable”. “I was a WORD child in a country of WORD children” Josephine was however, acutely aware of the fact that Poetry needs to be “declaimed” and HEARD rather than read and her book includes a CD with famous actors reading the poems.

I recognised the truth of this from the summer evenings my family, plus two other families, used to sit in the evening sunshine at our camp site near Bude (with a small glass of wine) and recite poetry to one another. Sir John Betjeman in particular wrote much about Cornwall where he spent his summer holidays, before WWI. Soon after moving into Curdworth (2004) I recognised that the Church Hall would make a good place to listen to poetry, and I started the poetry reading group.

We meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7.30 p.m. and like to finish at 9.30 p.m. It is a “cafe style” laid back setting, and people can come and go to suit themselves A variety of cheeses and wines plus soft drinks are available during the evening.

Most months we have agreed a “subject” for our poems for the following month, and people either use the Internet or take home one of the “library” of books available, to search for poems relating to the subject. Subjects such as – Trees, The Sea, Rivers, Boats/ships, the seasons, Love, Friendship..... You would be surprised there are poems about very topic and subject that you can think of.

We sit in a 2 thirds circle at the card tables, and then read or listen to poems and mostly both. People often like to explain why a particular poem has meant, or means a great deal to them. But in a relaxed environment where you may engage or not as you wish. Most people do have a poem that has remained with them since childhood and “I Remember, I Remember” is a collection of poems nominated by well know public figures, that they have valued since childhood, I have two copies.

To finish, Kipling wrote wide ranging Poems, one that many people remember is just two stanzas “The way through the woods”; there is not space for the whole poem here but two lines in particular embody the “feel” of this often learned poem, look it up “on line” you will be glad you did.

*Yet, if you enter the woods at night,
On a summers evening late,
When the night-air cools, on the Trout-ringed pools
Where the otter whistles his mate:*

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this issue. **The deadline for the Nov/Dec issue will be the 15th October, (Paul please take note)** although I will take anything you have at any time before that. Please keep items coming. Sue

UPDATE FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

Our main aim during the last few months has been to maintain our service pattern in all three churches as far as possible and to ensure that services are well-organised and led. We have endeavoured to keep an eye on attendances at services and tried to note any absentees and follow them up. On the whole, attendance has shown improvement, with some people who had lost contact with us coming back to church, even if only occasionally and in one or two cases on a weekly basis. Inevitably, we have lost people through moving from the area as well as through death and they are much missed.

We have held a number of social and fundraising events and there have been several engaging and uplifting services and devotional events, such as the Carol Services and a performance of "From Pharaoh to Freedom", together with a Holy Week Evening of Music and Readings, which all received positive responses and very good support. There are several more events in the pipeline, including two Quiz Nights, a Harvest Supper, a Concert and we will be celebrating Back to Church Sunday, along with follow up events, such as Harvest Festivals, Christingle and Carol Services.

We have managed a number of significant large events, such as weddings and funerals, some of which have attracted huge numbers. These have been handled with dignity and efficiency by all concerned.

We are conscious of the need to raise money to pay our Common Fund contribution and to maintain our historic buildings. We are equally conscious that we have a duty and a desire to promote Christian worship in our communities and to serve those communities in a social and caring setting too. Community (dementia-friendly) events happen in each of the villages every month, as well as a Friendship Group for (mainly older) people who have been bereaved or live alone. These are all sponsored by the churches and supported by other members of the community, so are good examples of co-operation between the churches and the communities. We have 3 different groups for young people, which need further development and we would very much like to re-establish and develop our links with Curdworth School and the Pre-School.

Although we haven't registered as **ECO churches** yet, we have begun to consider this issue at the young people's Alpha Club. We began looking at the survey and discovered that, whilst we have a way to go, we have already adopted some ECO friendly practices. We hope that they will put together a presentation to deliver at all three churches from September to kick start our bid to be ECO churches.



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During the interregnum, and until a new Vicar is appointed to the parish, here are the names and contact details for people to get in touch with if you would like to organise a baptism, wedding or funeral.

Baptisms – Rev Roy Allen – 01675 470629 or 07778 458 789
email: roy_v_allen@hotmail.com

Weddings – Mrs Isabel Potter – 07858 481 743
email: auntydizzyspell@aol.com

Funerals - Rev Roy Allen – 01675 470629 or 07778 458 789
email: roy_v_allen@hotmail.com

The Churchwardens are also available to speak to if you wish.



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Secretary	Penny Jenkins	0121 308 0721	penny@jenx.org
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