

The Beckington Group of Parishes

Beckington  
Berkley  
Lullington & Orchardleigh  
Rodden



# *Network*

April 2020

## CONTACT LIST

|   |                      |                    |                        |
|---|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| <i>We are awaiting the arrival of our new Rector</i>                                      | <b>Readers</b>       | Dr. J. Beaven      | 830535                 |
|   |                      | Mr. G. Bridges     | 01225 755784           |
|   |                      | Mr. S. McKie       | 830369                 |
|   | <b>Readers - PTO</b> | Mr. H. M. Daniel   | 461870                 |
|   |                      | Cdr. E. Phillimore | 830677                 |
|   |                      |                    |                        |
| <b>Baptist Minister:</b> The Revd. M. I. White<br>Email: blythehouseconsultancy@gmail.com |                      |                    | 453334<br>07971 438694 |

| <b>Church Officers Beckington</b>              |              |  |
|--|--------------|--|
| PCC Secretary                                  | M Rolfe      | 01225 763040<br>mikeandeunice@btinternet.com |
| Church Wardens<br>wardens.beckington@gmail.com | Judith Craig | 830970                                       |
|  | Su Coates    | 831644                                       |
|  | Andy Howson  | 455753<br>andyjhowson2@hotmail.co.uk         |
|  | Maria Beaven | 830535<br>maria.beaven@outlook.com           |
| Deputies                                       |              |  |
| Treasurer                                      | J Johnson    | beckingtontreasurer@gmail.com                |

| <b>Berkley</b> |                  |                                      |
|----------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| PCC Secretary  | Caroline White   | white2caroline@gmail.com             |
| Church Warden  | Jeanette Hayward | 832315<br>jeanette@jhayward.plus.com |
|                |                  |                                      |
| Treasurer      | Christine Eyres  | c.eyres17@gmail.com                  |

| <b>Rodden</b>  |                   |   |
|----------------|-------------------|---|
| PCC Secretary  | Melanie Pattinson | 07803327381                             |
| Treasurer      | Michael Ruddick   | 464463<br>michaelruddick@rocketmail.com |
| Church Wardens |                   |   |
|                |                   |   |
|                |                   |   |
| Deputy         | Jim Dowling       | 462515<br>flintford2@gmx.co.uk          |

### Lullington with Orchardleigh

<https://lullandorch.org.uk> Twitter: @LullandOrch  
 email addresses end with ...@lullandorch.org.uk  
 Churchwardens: wardens@...  
 Glyn & Ruth Bridges 01225 755784  
 Jenny Ladd 01373 830514  
 David King 01225 710127  
 Treasurer: Jo Rathmell treasurer@...  
 Weddings: Jenny Ladd weddings@...  
 Baptisms: baptisms@...  
 Director of Music: David King music@....  
 Verger: Jeanette Hayward weddverger@...

### Beckington Web Site:

[www.beckington.org.uk](http://www.beckington.org.uk)

### Beckington School Web Site:

[www.beckingtonandmellsfederation.co.uk](http://www.beckingtonandmellsfederation.co.uk)

### Berkley School Web Site:

[www.berkleyschool.co.uk](http://www.berkleyschool.co.uk)

### Springmead School Web Site:

[www.springmead.com](http://www.springmead.com)

### Beckington Memorial Hall

Gary Peters 01373 830949  
beckingtonmemorialhall.org.uk

### Beckington Parish Council

beckingtonparishcouncil.org.uk  
Clerk: Simon Pritchard 07792 478960

### Berkley Parish Council

Clerk: Janet Harvey 01373 832303

### Bell ringing practice

at St. George's is every Thursday  
from 7.30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Tower Captain: J Ball 830419  
johnagball.51@gmail.com

### Beckington Group Mothers' Union

Branch Leaders: Jenny Ayrton 01373 830208 & Jacky Lobley. Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Wed in the month except August.

### Beckington Tower Lighting

Mary Hickling 01373 830274

### Beckington Pre-School

[beckingtonpre-school.co.uk](http://beckingtonpre-school.co.uk)

Please submit items for publication  
in the **May** issue to:

beckington.network@gmail.com  
to arrive no later than 12 noon on

**April 20<sup>th</sup>**

Network Advertising: Mrs. J. Evemy,  
01823 322 287 Julie@evemy.net

# Reader's Message

## Our New Rector

We are glad to tell you that, at long last, we are looking forward to welcoming a new Rector in July, the Revd Prebendary Ronnie Crossman. Currently in a Diocesan post in Salisbury, she was Vicar of Highbridge for 9 years where her ministry was much appreciated. While there she acted as Axbridge Area Dean, coordinating and encouraging the work and witness of the 12 benefices in that Deanery. She visited all our parishes in February before being interviewed.

## A Sudden Storm

Meanwhile, we are in an unprecedented situation in which our health and many lives are threatened by an unseen virus. The economy on which we all rely is also threatened. It is as though we have been struck by a sudden and unexpected storm. Where is God in all of this?

That was a question that the Jesus' disciples asked when they were caught by a storm of great ferocity on the Lake of Galilee. Jesus was asleep, and the panicking disciples shook him awake desperately asking, "*Don't you care?*". Jesus stood and rebuked the storm and commanded peace, and the wind dropped and the water calmed. Turning to his disciples he asked "*Where is your faith?*" He was teaching them that when we invite Him into our lives we can trust in Him in the midst of all life's storms. So today, the current is an opportunity to discover that Jesus Christ really is here among us with his promise of peace, if we will but humbly open our hearts to Him.

## Church Services

While public worship in all churches has been suspended, the church is people and we continue to serve God in the community. Clergy or Readers will be in our churches at the normal service times, praying for our communities. Others will set aside time at home to worship and pray. Over the past five years without a Rector, we have worked together and recognise that each of us has our own role. So, while some pray, others are doing something else that needs to be done, including helping friends and neighbours. That will continue.

## Assistance

If you are self-isolating and are not already in touch with help, contact either me (see below) or one of your parish Church Wardens listed on Page 2 and we will put you in touch with someone in your neighbourhood.

## Prayer

Similarly, if you have concerns you want to talk through or would like us to pray for you or someone you know is in need, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me, your church wardens, or our Prayer Chain co-ordinator Jane Kellett and her husband, Andrew, a Baptist Minister. (01373 830464).

## Finally

There is so much more to say about what is going on, and I would be happy to let you have further some thoughts either by email or post, should you want to find out more about how Jesus is in our midst, saying "*Be of good cheer, I am with you!*"

Edmund Phillimore  
01373 830677.

[whephillimore@btinternet.com](mailto:whephillimore@btinternet.com)

## ***To all in the Beckington Community from St George's Church***

In the light of new Government guidance around non-essential social contact, the Church of England has issued advice that public worship is to be suspended until further notice.

While there will be no public services in St George's, the church will remain open during daylight hours for private prayer or meditation. The life and worship of the church community will continue. At scheduled service times, one of our Readers or retired Clergy will be praying, on behalf of us all, in St George's. You can join in at home, and if you would like material to help you participate please contact Edmund Phillimore (See below). If you want help or to talk to someone for any reason, please contact any of the following people:

Edmund Phillimore 01373 830677  
whephillimore@btinternet.com

Judith Craig (Churchwarden) 01373 830970

wardens.beckington@gmail.com

Su Coates (Churchwarden)  
01373 831644

wardens.beckington@gmail.com

Maria Beaven (Deputy Churchwarden)  
07940 420 596

maria.beaven@outlook.com

We are working together with others in Beckington so that those in isolation have the help they need. If you are aware of anyone in need or are in need of help yourself, please contact those listed above or below who can signpost you to the relevant and available help.

Lucy Beatrice Hill is co-ordinating a village wide group of people providing practical help: [lucy@pdbas.com](mailto:lucy@pdbas.com)  
Please also get in touch if you can offer help.

Health Connections Mendip 01373 468368 during office hours.

Please be assured of the church's continuing prayer for everyone affected by the virus in this very challenging time.

Please see Page 12 for extra help offered by local businesses.

The **Community Council for Somerset** (community / village agents) are already working in communities with different groups and individuals to make sure the vulnerable are identified and supported. Local village agent details can be found at <https://somersetagents.org/somerset-village-agents/>

'**Spark Somerset**' are also looking at what support they can provide to voluntary sector organisations and community groups locally, including looking to identify charities who may be needing help from volunteers. To find out more visit: <https://www.sparksomerset.org.uk/>

## **FROME AREA BUILDING SUPPLIES**

**We have expanded and now stock a substantial range of quality building materials for the trade and DIY.**

Our new showroom stocks all that you need for your building/DIY projects INCLUDING: FIXINGS, PAINT, BUILDING CHEMICALS,

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FENCING PRODUCTS, SLEEPERS,  
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HIRE, **AND MUCH MORE!**

We are able to source almost any building material just give us a call. Please come in and see us at our new premises! Church Farm, Parkgate Lane, Rode, BA11 6PW  
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**stephencooper1969@hotmail.co.uk**  
**www.pianotunerbath.co.uk**

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Email: [martinschimney@hotmail.com](mailto:martinschimney@hotmail.com)

[www.martinschimneyservices.co.uk](http://www.martinschimneyservices.co.uk)

## **Mole Catcher**

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**No Mole  
No Fee**



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www.danceworksfrome.co.uk

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Monday - Friday 9 am to 6 p.m.

Saturday 9 am to 5 p.m.

Sunday 10 am to 2 p.m.

(café to 4pm)

Restaurant: Tues-Sat from 5.30pm

**White Row Farm Shop,  
Beckington BA11 6TN**

**Tel: 01373 830798**

**www.whiterowfarm.co.uk**



## Bespoke Tabby Chic Feline Holiday Homecare

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Mrs Lisa Applegate



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01373 464180

## Frome Farmers' Market

Frome Farmers' Market takes place  
every month in the Cheese & Grain Hall  
in Frome.

The market takes place every 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Saturday of the month all year round  
from 9am-1pm.

www.somersetfarmersmarkets.co.uk

## The Hospital of St Cross & Almshouse of Noble Poverty

'England's Oldest Almshouse'

### Vacancies for Brothers

The Hospital, founded in 1132, is home to 25 retired laymen ('Brothers') and applications are welcomed. A registered Charity with a Christian foundation, the Hospital is situated a mile south of Winchester. Each Brother lives independently and occupies a flat which he furnishes himself.

Further information and an application form are obtainable from:  
Clerk to the Trustees, Hospital of St Cross Winchester, SO23 9SD  
Tel: 01962 878218  
E-mail: clerk@hospitalofstcross.co.uk  
www.hospitalofstcross.co.uk  
Registered Charity No.202751





**Garston**  
Veterinary Group



We are offering **10% off** Laser Therapy treatments during March & April.

### Laser therapy

Laser therapy is a non-invasive treatment using specific wavelengths of light (red and near-infrared) to create therapeutic effects which can improve wound healing time, pain reduction, increased circulation and decreased swelling.

Laser Therapy Treatment sessions are held at our Warminster and Trowbridge surgeries.  
Please contact your usual surgery to make arrangements.



|              |              |              |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Frome        | Melksham     | Trowbridge   | Warminster   | Westbury     |
| 01373 452225 | 01225 617779 | 01225 754021 | 01985 213350 | 01373 301448 |

[www.garstonvets.co.uk](http://www.garstonvets.co.uk)



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Give Jane Healey in our 6 Kingsway office a call on 01373 485485 to make an appointment.

|              |              |              |              |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| CHIPPENHAM   | FROME        | MALMESBURY   | SWINDON      | TROWBRIDGE   | WARMINSTER   |
| 01249 444300 | 01373 485485 | 01666 822671 | 01793 522688 | 01225 755621 | 01985 217464 |

[www.fsmsolicitors.co.uk](http://www.fsmsolicitors.co.uk)

[enquiries@fsmsolicitors.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@fsmsolicitors.co.uk)



## **St. George's**

### ***Floodlighting***

If you would like the tower to be floodlit please contact:  
Mary Hickling

maryhickling@btinternet.com or 830274.  
Suggested donation £10 **payable to PCC Beckington.**

The tower was lit on:  
January 15<sup>th</sup> 2000  
Joshua James Vezey  
Taken before his day dawned and  
always in our dreams  
Love dad, mum and family xx

March 3<sup>rd</sup> in loving memory of Mike. Jo  
Casey

## **Friends of St. George's**

Friends of St George's regrettably must cancel The St. George's supper on April 25<sup>th</sup> and hope to re schedule the event later in the year.

Plant Sale: This year people will be spending more time in their garden and we feel it will be important to have our usual plant sale so are working on ways to have a plant sale in May, in line with social distancing. Everyone in the village is welcome to partake and use the opportunity to swap plants. Growing and sharing is never more important!

It is hoped to have it the week-end 16/17<sup>th</sup> May, over both days. For further details and ideas watch this space and village Facebook or contact  
Jo Casey 8830885



# **CHRIST<sup>THE</sup> LORD IS RISEN TODAY!**

Matthew 28 v6





## ***St. Mary's Berkley***

### **St Mary's Berkley PCC**

Following the sad loss of our much respected Church Warden, Eric, and the retirement of two other long serving, loyal members of the PCC, we are hoping to welcome some new members to join us.

Therefore, we are reaching out to you if you are a Christian living locally who could give a little time to work alongside the rest of the PCC. We meet about 5 times a year where we discuss ongoing matters and seek to faithfully serve the community around us. We are supported by a dedicated Village Committee who plan successful fundraising events which ensure the upkeep of the building. If you would like to know a little more about this then do please contact any

member of the PCC. But in particular:

Jeanette Hayward (Church Warden)  
on 01373 382315

Or

Caroline White (PCC Secretary) on  
01373 461913

## ***Parents & Toddlers***

Sadly, unable to meet at present.

More details from Freda: 830597

## ***From the Registers***

Lullington

### Marriages

7<sup>th</sup> March - Thomas Jones and  
Christine Holmes

### Baptism

15<sup>th</sup> March - Edward William Crouch

## **Church Warden Vacancy**

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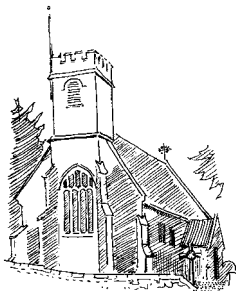
If you would like to know a little more about this then do please contact any member of the PCC. But in particular

Jeanette Hayward ( Church Warden) on 01373 382315

or

Caroline White PCC Secretary ) on 01373 461913

## **All Saints Rodden**



### **Social Events for 2020**

#### **Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Unfortunately, due to the Coronavirus outbreak, the Afternoon Tea at Rodden Church hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May has had to be cancelled. We will update you on future social events in due course.

**Saturday July 25<sup>th</sup> - Barbecue at Flintford Farm, 6.00pm**

**Monday October 5<sup>th</sup> - Harvest Supper @ 7.00pm**

**Saturday November 21<sup>st</sup> - Festive Soup & Puds, 12-2pm.**

Jim Dowling

**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at No 30** is suspended, hopefully not for long!

Sheila Walker

| Date             | Flowers         | Cleaning        |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | LENT            | Vacant          |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> | Easter Day      | Flower Team     |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> | Flower Team     | Flower Team     |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> | Flower Team     | Flower Team     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Melanie/Rachael | Melanie/Rachael |

## **What is a Lasting Power of Attorney?**

Many of us know that it is important to write a Will, but fewer of us have considered making a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA).

An LPA is a legal document in which you can appoint trusted individuals (such as your relatives, or friends) to make decisions on your behalf, known as your 'Attorneys'. There are two different types of LPA:

### **Property and Affairs**

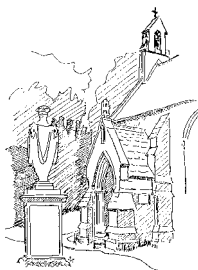
This LPA will allow your Attorneys to help you manage your money, property and finances, for example. They can pay your bills and transfer, or invest your money for you. You can tailor the LPA to give as much, or as little, power as you would like to.

### **Health and Welfare**

This LPA will allow your Attorneys to make decisions about your health and care; which may include what medical treatment you receive and where you live, etc. If you are capable of making those decisions yourself then your wishes will be paramount, and your Attorneys will be permitted to liaise with medical professionals etc. in relation to your needs.

Please get in touch with Jane Healey at Forrester Sylvester Mackett Solicitors, who has extensive experience in dealing with LPAs and Court of Protection matters, as well as Wills and Estates, and Tax Planning. Tel: 01373 485 485 or Email Jane directly:

[janehealey@fmsolicitors.co.uk](mailto:janehealey@fmsolicitors.co.uk)



## **Lullington & Orchardleigh**

### **It's annual meeting time! Covid 19 permitting**

The Annual Vestry for the Election of Churchwardens in Lullington with Orchardleigh will take place in All Saints Church, Lullington at 7:30pm on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place immediately following the Vestry and will receive the annual reports and elect PCC members.

In preparation for this the Electoral Roll of the parish will be revised between 21<sup>st</sup> March and 4<sup>th</sup> April, application forms can be obtained from Glyn Bridges the Electoral Roll Officer: wardens@lullandorch.org.uk

### *Delights of Lullington 55: Bonfire time*

It's a clear evening in early spring. Dusk is thickening very slowly. Occasionally, a great blast of wind from the west rushes past, hooshing the bonfire into action and scattering the smoke away over the fields. But mostly the fire ticks along peaceably, giving out a few crackles deep in the mound of briar rose and apple and yew and hazel and ivy prunings. The smoke creeps out, sometimes towering straight up in the air and sometimes billowing about in confusion.

I could watch this for hours. And I do. Leaning on my fork as the sunlight fades around me, I listen to the blackbirds riffing away and two tawny

owls hooting slightly testily at each other. The tractor and trailer from Laverton thunders past in the lane, still at its Sisyphean task of drowning the fields in dung. The last glints of sunlight fade away, and Venus appears over our house.

Meanwhile the pile clicks and hisses and flares and shifts and billows. From time to time I fuss about forking unburned strays of twig and bramble back onto the top. But mostly I stare. You can't hurry a bonfire. Well you can, I suppose, if you chuck some petrol on top and wait for the sheet of flame to roar out. However, this not only endangers your eyebrows and leaves a nasty whiff of chemicals – it's also against the whole magical spirit of the enterprise. A bit like adding Ribena to cider.

Next morning, it's still plugging on. The embers have patiently digested and reduced the mighty mound to a tiny extinct volcano of ash and scorched fragments. In the pale light of day it looks rather pathetic. I rake it around and the whole thing disappears into the soil. All that's left is a blackened patch and a few wisps of grey dust. But for days afterwards the delicious scent of woodsmoke clings to my shirt and trousers and hair. Then they all get a good wash and I can look forward to next year's bonfire.

Great Bustard

## ***Help is at Hand***

### **Beckington Food Providers and Suppliers and what they can offer to those house-bound because of Coronavirus**

**Ivy House Farm** Doorstep delivery of Organic Jersey Milk, Butter and Cream across the local area every Monday, Wednesday and Friday starting on Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup>. This will be a CONTACTLESS DELIVERY SERVICE with payment taken over the phone, we'll be taking every precaution to keep residents of the village safe. Thanks for your support!  
Please phone 01373 831 263 or email [distribution@ivyhousefarmdairy.co.uk](mailto:distribution@ivyhousefarmdairy.co.uk) before 10am with orders. Check the website [ivyhousefarmdairy.co.uk](http://ivyhousefarmdairy.co.uk) for a full list of products.

They have committed to keep White Row and Mes Amis fully supplied, even if they need to do 3 deliveries a day.

**White Row** are unable to offer a delivery service, but can provide as much as possible to meet local demand.

If people are social distancing and do not wish to enter the shop, pay at the till etc ... then they can order and pay by phone and do click and collect, ... either with orders brought out to them in the car park, or send a 'Buber' driver\* (see below)

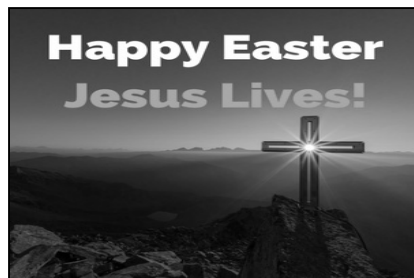
Shop: 01373 830798  
Café & Restaurant: 01373 831694  
Take Away: 01373 830510  
Fishmongers: 01373 831641  
Florist & Gift Shop: 01373 830024  
Butcher: 01373 830428  
Deli Counter: 01373 830702  
<https://www.whiterowfarm.co.uk/takeaway>

**Mes Amis** are able to provide a 9-5 takeaway service of their fresh, healthy daily dishes and deliver in their van. They can also provide basic essentials such as milk, bread and cake!  
Tel 01373 830723

**Moo2.me** - Order online or by phone Tel 01373 831489: dairy and grocery delivery, based locally in Standerwick and covering the entire Parish.

**'Buber'** - Beckington's answer to Uber ... comprising a group of healthy volunteer drivers able to help collect supplies that are already paid for - from any of these listed local businesses.  
Please contact Lucy Beatrice Hill 07716 433 240 or Maria Beaven 07940 420 596 who will organise someone to collect your provisions for you.

Compiled by Shannon Brooke



## ***Standerwick, Berkley and Beckington W.I.***

At our **FEBRUARY** meeting Police Sergeant Rachel Clark gave us a very interesting and informative talk on our local police. She was accompanied by Police Community Support Officer Mike Storey. Rachel has a total of 23 police officers in her team. The local police office is over the Kentucky Chicken outlet, near Sainsbury's store in Frome. Her area covers Frome Town, Frome rural north, Frome rural south, Shepton Mallet town and Shepton Mallet rural. Mike with other PCSO's walk around the areas talking to people and they often tell him things that are very useful.. Mike cannot arrest people, but he can detain them. Police officers are on duty 24/7. If you want to contact the police either ring 999, or if not urgent 101. Police officers now have computers to be up to date with what is happening immediately. The body camera gives valuable evidence when someone is arrested. Also very essential is the body vest the police wear which is very heavy. Police can call on an armed response vehicle, or other forces if necessary. Fortunately there is not much knife crime in this area but drugs are a problem. Members of the police force make regular visits to schools to talk about the dangers of drugs. They also work with councils and housing departments to sort out antisocial behaviour , noise problems, mental health issues and off road biking. The helicopter can be helpful in looking for someone with dementia who is missing as well as anyone wanted by the police. A Police officer's shift is 10 hours.

In contrast, at our **MARCH** meeting Reverend Clive Fairclough told us about his two years as chaplain at St. Andrews church in Moscow. He and his wife really enjoyed their time there. British merchants built the church there in 1884, but it was closed in 1920 after the revolution of 1917. The merchants kept some of their valuables in the church, so those were taken. Also, the priceless organ was destroyed along with the stained glass windows. The army set up a post in the church tower to watch the streets below. The services began again in 1991 and it is now a protected building. On the gates there is the rose of England, the thistle of Scotland and the shamrock of Ireland. The British Embassy is close by. Inside there is a bar called the Hammer and Pickle. Everyone knows that the bar is bugged, so watch what you say. Drinks in the bar and tickets to the ballet are very cheap. There are no parks in the city, they are outside with lakes and fountains. There are many statues all over the city including in the train stations.

Due to the current situation our meetings are unfortunately cancelled until further notice. When the situation changes I will send the information in Network and it will be available on our Facebook page.

Marion Oxlade

BECKINGTON, NORTON ST PHILIP &  
RODE  
JUNIOR CRICKET  
2020 SEASON



Cricket for boys and girls of all ages

The new season gets underway in a ~~few weeks time~~ sometime in May possibly June....hopefully! and if you are active, enjoy team sports and want somewhere for your mum and dad to relax and socialise while you have fun, then Beckington Cricket Club is the place to be this summer. Level 3 coach Stuart Kingwell leads a team of Level 2 coaches, Club players and parents in probably what is the best junior coaching set up in the area!

**Time:** 6 - 7.30pm

**Day:** Thursday

**Venue:** Beckington Cricket Club, The Recreation Ground, BA11 6SJ

**Start date:** To be confirmed subject to current Covid 19 situation

**All Stars - age 5+ years**

Entry level very basic ball skills with lots of fun and parent participation. All children receive an All Star shirt, bat, ball and rucksack. An excellent introduction to cricket.

The All Stars is an English Cricket Board led initiative. For more information or to sign up for this now please contact the All Stars Co-ordinator:

Holly Pickering: [beckingtonallstars@gmail.com](mailto:beckingtonallstars@gmail.com)



**U7 Kwick Cricket** - For the slightly more advanced school year 1&2 children. A very first taste of match play cricket but still fun as always. Plastic bats and balls. One or two matches played during the season....with a lot of patience from the spectators and coaches!!

**U9s Kwick Cricket** - Year 3&4. Again played with plastic bats and balls with regular matches played against other clubs

**Girls Cricket** - We have an ever growing girls section at the club. Girls will always have the choice to mix in with the boys or to train with the girls squad. All girls are encouraged to join in matches and we are hoping soon to field a girls only team.

**U11s, U13s, & U15s.** School years 5 to 10. Here we have moved onto hardball cricket with pads and helmets, the full monty! Matches are played in The Bath and District Youth Cricket League (BDYCL) on Mondays or Tuesday evenings, with training still on a Thursday.

For more information please contact Mark Finch, Junior Chairman 07876-191100



Flight

Big U.F.O.s fly high,

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with different suns,

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The other aliens say they will be  
back soon.

**By** Theo Rooth

## **Springmead Wake and Shake for Sport Relief**

The whole school took part in a wake and shake all in the name of charity for Sports Relief. What a fabulous bunch of children and staff we have!!





## **Rode & District Gardening Club**

Our March meeting started with a quick AGM when we were delighted to welcome Tracey Gardener as our new treasurer. We then enjoyed a talk on No Dig Gardening, postponed from last year. Stephanie Hafferty has been kitchen gardening with Charles Dowding, working for Cameron McIntosh and worked at Hadspen House which has now become the Newt and is currently doing the vegetable garden for the Hauser and Worth Gallery in Bruton.

The idea of no-dig has been around for a while; students at Kew are encouraged to do the comparison by cultivating their plots half dug and half no-dig so they can assess the differences. National Trust kitchen gardens have gone over to no-dig methods. Essentially no-dig maintains the structure of the soil and allows organisms to transfer moisture and nutrients through to roots to establish healthy plants. The key to this is good compost spread on the soil in spring and left undisturbed, no digging it in. Any sort of compost, home made, mushroom, local authority, woodchip, manure as long as it is well rotted will work. A layer of 5cms should be enough for a year. This helps to maintain moisture and helps soil condition. Compost is gradually drawn into the soil by worms which helps with drainage on clay soils and will help bulk up lighter soils. Fungal networks, which are very site specific, are developed and lead to healthy soil and plants. Compost is the key with patience being needed to let material rot properly. Turning home made

compost heaps will speed up composting but left alone it will all rot eventually. For the impatient, hot composting bins will rot everything including food and bones.

Stephanie recommended sowing vegetables in modules indoors and planting out into the layer of compost. Beetroot, onions, leeks, salad onions can all be multi-sown with a few seeds in each module which will grow on to be harvested in a clump, producing more, smaller vegetables. Lettuce can be grown individually but harvested by picking single leaves from each plant which will be replaced in days maintaining a continuous supply. This can be sustained all year by sowing fresh plants about 4 times a year and picking fewer leaves from plants kept undercover in winter. Clearing debris from the beds will discourage slugs which don't like the compost surface. The layer of compost will prevent the growth of many annual weeds but perennial weeds should be excluded as much as possible. Stephanie uses environ mesh to cover crops to keep off pests.

Stephanie was thanked for a brilliantly informative evening which encouraged us all to give it a go. If you want to start from scratch or find out more look at [www.nodighome.com](http://www.nodighome.com) or [www.charlesdowding.co.uk](http://www.charlesdowding.co.uk)

At time of going to press future meetings have been cancelled in line with recommendations.

Averil Morrow

## ***Beckington Memorial Hall***

The Memorial Hall Committee are pleased to welcome two new representatives;

Floor Holmes from the Beckington Players and Hannah Drury from Springmead School.

A very warm welcome to them both. Can we take this opportunity to invite more people, from the village in general, regular hall users and any clubs to follow their lead.

We meet every second Monday of the month at 7.00pm in the Clifford Suite.

We were very pleased to receive a generous cheque from the Beckington Players from the Pantomime. Thank you Players for all your hard work and generosity of performance.

### **200 Club**

The winners this month were Chris Rose and Steve Jenkins.

## ***Beckington Book Exchange***

**The Beckington Book Exchange is now open!**

The Beckington Book Exchange is situated inside St George's Church, on a bookcase on the far wall, not far from the children's play area. The Church is open daily from around 9.00 am until dusk.

If you have not already seen for yourself what the Book Exchange has to offer why not wander along with a book you have enjoyed and swap it for another good read. You will find fiction, non-fiction, hardbacks and

paperbacks. We'd love it to be well used and enjoyed by the village but please remember to keep the shelves tidy for people attending the church for services.

Thank you to the many people in the village that have donated books.

Please send comments, suggestions and feedback to me on [zamund@btinternet.com](mailto:zamund@btinternet.com) or 01373 454439

Roz Serle

## ***Beckington Group Mothers' Union***

We were fortunate that our Mothering Sunday tea took place earlier in the month, and we were able to meet for a friendly gathering, enjoying tea and home-made cakes, and raising money for some of the MU projects supporting families throughout the world.

Sadly, we have now been informed that all MU activities have been cancelled, so there will be no meetings until further notice. Please pray for one another at this difficult time, and try to keep in touch to offer support and friendship, especially to those who live alone.

Rosemary Ball

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## **From your Rector elect, Reverend Prebendary Ronnie Crossman**

Dear Friends

As I write the world feels a very different place than it did just a few days ago. We are all living with the effects of Covid-19. I want you to know how much you are all in my thoughts and prayers at this time. I already feel part of you, although I have yet to meet most of you. My heart really is with you all as a community. I know you are all trying to find ways to support each other. My arrival in July seems a very long way away and even if we are still not able to exercise a public ministry, I shall be with you.

I also know many of you would like to know a little more about the person who will be joining you as their Rector, so I'll do my best to share a little of my story knowing there will be more to share once I've arrived.

I grew up in a small village just outside Exeter in Devon. Apparently from a very early age I used to "play churches" with my dolls and teddy bears by sitting them all up and holding pretend services! I even wrote sermons from the age of seven. (My mum told me this!). It was probably because my dad was a Diocesan Reader, and would travel to villages across Devon taking services and playing the organ. I would go with him and sometimes even pump the organ in the remote places with no electricity.

My childhood faith moved from play time to something very real when I

was ten. That's when I started reading the bible for myself and started following daily reading notes. I remember my confirmation



being a really significant moment even though I was still only eleven. I think this is why I value the faith development and leadership potential in our young people. I was still a teenager when I felt called in a very real way to full time ministry.

As a student I attended a very large evangelical church in Exeter for evening worship and a smaller house church in the morning. I was a member of the Paramedical Student Christian Fellowship and Christian Union in Exeter University whilst I trained as an Occupational Therapist. Over the years I have had the privilege of experiencing many different church styles and denominations. I even worked for the Lutheran Church in Germany for a year.

I was ordained in 1993, priested in 1994. I have been a university chaplain in Bristol and Bavaria. From 2002-2010 I was team missionary in a large parish of around 27,000 in Portishead as we attempted to plant a new worshipping community on a very large new estate in a new school. I became vicar to the parish of

Highbridge in 2010. I worked very closely with the Baptist Church and we set up a foodbank and other support in the community.

Since September of last year I have been Diocesan Vocations Coordinator in Salisbury Diocese. This was a ministry to which I could bring a wide experience of churchmanship and to embrace the extensive theological views that make up our Anglican communion. I've always been involved with the local schools and what I have missed most in my current job is popping into a school to help out with breakfast, loitering in the staff room, leading worship and I even miss the banter of a governor meeting! When my diocesan post looked as if it would change, I decided to return to parish ministry and placed an application to Beckington Benefice.

Myself and my partner, Liz are very much looking forward to worshipping with you. We bring a chubby cat called Ariki and hope to adopt a puppy once we've settled in to our new home. We have an extensive family who live across the country many of whom we hope you will meet over time. We hope our home will be a place of welcome and look forward to getting to know you all.

In my daily reading this morning I stumbled upon a reading in Philippians that seems appropriate as we seek to share God's love with those around us, even at a distance.

*"Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.....stand firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents....."*

Sadly our opponent at the moment is a tiny virus with a huge capacity to destroy. But it can't destroy our love and compassion for others. With our continued prayer in these difficult times.

Ronnie & Liz

## ***Beckington Astronomical Society***

([www.beckingtonas.org](http://www.beckingtonas.org))

In view of the coronavirus situation the April meeting of the society has been cancelled. It is doubtful if any further meetings will be held before September. Please visit our website for the latest information or give me a ring.

Venus will be close to its brightest and very easy to identify as it is the brightest object in the western evening night sky (apart from the moon). With good binoculars you should be able to see Venus as a crescent. Interestingly Venus at its brightest is a crescent as it is closer to the Earth than it is when it is close to a full disc

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## **Beckington Parish Council**

### **Webbs Mead Ditch**

Following on from last month's report about this ditch, it has now been confirmed by the Senior Asset Maintenance Officer at Mendip District Council that the ditch is indeed in the ownership of the District Council.

Further work is going to be scheduled for the Summer as the District Council are going to dig it out. The ditch plays an important part in the drainage of the Allotments that are currently waterlogged.

### **COVID-19**

At the time of writing, the government has said that all non-necessary contact should be avoided. The Government has been urged to pass emergency legislation that would allow local government business to be conducted by conference call. At this point (17<sup>th</sup> March) no such facility exists so the Parish Council will have to continue to hold meetings to make formal decisions. However, the meetings will be short and to the point. While the Public will still be allowed to

attend, you will not be encouraged to attend and there will be no public participation. If you wish to make an approach to the Parish Council, then please do so by letter or email. As you can imagine only the core services will be carried out over the coming months.

### **Want more space from over-taking drivers? Wear a hi-vis vest with an arrow, says study**

Researchers in Canada have said that cyclists who wear high-visibility vests with an arrow pointing to the left results in motorists giving them more space when overtaking.

The Parish Council is very keen to promote safe cycling so we are highlighting the existence of such jackets that can be bought from all good cycling shops and of course online. Don't buy a Canadian jacket though, as you will need a UK one with the arrow pointing to the right!

Simon Pritchard, Parish Clerk





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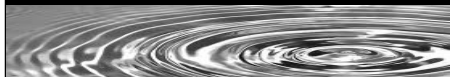
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## **Beckington Planning Applications**

For details see:

<https://publicaccess.mendip.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

### Parish Clerk Decision

2020/0546/LBC - Alterations to existing dwelling and annexe, including replacement windows and doors, internal alterations and partial demolition to reopen blocked opening on ground floor.

Wool Hall Castle Corner Beckington

2020/0545/HSE - Alterations to existing dwelling and annexe, including replacement windows and doors, internal alterations and partial demolition to reopen blocked opening on ground floor

Wool Hall Castle Corner Beckington

2018/0971/HSE - The removal of a modern extension, the reinstatement of original fenestration, repair works, and the provision of a single storey rear extension, with associated hard and soft landscaping (amended scheme).

15 Castle Corner Beckington

Parish Council recommendation: No Objection

## ***The Woodlanders Music Hall Seeks Good Causes***

The Woodlanders, Somerset's longest running music hall, is famous for their annual music hall shows at East Woodlands Village Hall, near Longleat. They always welcome new members and are inviting any budding thespians, musicians, costume makers, prop makers, painters etc

who would be interested in joining them for this year's Variety show - which runs from Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October to Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October to contact Trudi on 01373 462745.

Anyone interested in joining the group is invited to come along to one of our meetings; the next ones are on the following Monday's – 6<sup>th</sup> April (AGM) 7.30pm and 4<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm at the Horse and Groom pub at East Woodlands. If you prefer you can always give them a call on 01373 462745 or visit their website [www.thewoodlanders.org.uk](http://www.thewoodlanders.org.uk) for more information.

Each year, the Woodlanders donate the proceeds from their show to local communities. Last year's donations totalled over £1,500. To be considered, applicants need to state the group or organisation they are representing, why they would like a donation and what they would do with the money. Requests should be sent to: The Secretary, The Woodlanders, Mrs T Whittock, Windsbatch Lane, Oldford, Frome, BA11 2NN. All requests must be received by 6<sup>th</sup> April.

This year the Woodlanders Music Hall AGM is on 6<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm at the Horse & Groom Pub (in the conservatory), East Woodlands.

If you belong to or know of a local charity or good cause please contact us if you would like to be considered for a donation.

## SERVICES April 2020

*Public worship in all churches has been temporarily suspended, but the life and worship of the church continues – albeit in a different way. See pages 3-4 for more details.*

Church of England resources:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

scroll down to “Digital resources” or go to:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/online-church>

To search for traditional Book of Common Prayers Services:

<https://www.pbs.org.uk/churches-and-services/-1>

Premier Christian Radio Online, on DAB radio or Freeview channel 725

### St. Bart's (C of E.) Bath

The Bible encourages us not to neglect meeting together but to encourage one another... (Hebrews 10:24-25), and we can do that in a “virtual” way. We will be live-streaming a short ‘no congregation’ service at 10.30am starting each Sunday. Do use your laptop, tablet, smart TV or smartphone to access our YouTube channel and join in with others:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaeZiiKhF3K\\_sPntUz1Bbcw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaeZiiKhF3K_sPntUz1Bbcw)

## Diary Dates

***Please check with organisers before venturing out***

- May 16 St. George's **Plant Sale & Coffee Morning** 10am-noon
- May 26 **W.I. Outing to Denman (Tuesday)**
- Jun 3 **MU**, 2.15, Lahs Place. Talk - from Curate to Bishop's wife
- Jun 4 **W.I.** Colourful Buttonholes
- Jun 14 **Beckington Open Gardens** for Friends of St. George's 2pm
- Jul 1 **MU** Cream Teas, 2.30pm
- Jul 2 **W.I.** Curious Bath
- Jul 25 **Rodden Barbecue** at Flintford Farm, 6.00pm
- Aug 6 **W.I.** Social Evening – shared supper & Quiz
- Aug 21 **RBL Biennial Fundraising Dinner** at Beckington Memorial Hall
- Sep 3 **W.I.** Behind the Scenes at the National Trust
- Oct 1 **W.I.** Down the Garden Path
- Oct 3 **St George's Barn Dance**
- Oct 5 **Rodden Harvest Supper** 7.00pm
- Nov 5 **W.I.** 'Refresh' and talk on Rwanda
- Nov 6 **St. George's Early Christmas Market**
- Nov 13-15 **Beckington Benefice Weekend Away**, Sidmouth

- Nov 21 **Rodden Festive Soup & Puds**, 12-2pm.
- Dec 3 **W.I.** Kingdom of the Ice Bears

**Our special thanks to volunteer emergency distributors who are stepping in to hand deliver *Network* to you.**

**There are additional copies in churches which are remaining open as much as possible.**

The calendar of activities in St. George's church is online at  
[www.beckington.org.uk/stgeorgescalendar](http://www.beckington.org.uk/stgeorgescalendar)