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Lullington with Orchardleigh

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www.beckington.org.uk

Beckington School Web Site: www.beckingtonandmellsfederation.co.uk

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Berkley School Web Site:

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Springmead School Web Site:

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Beckington Memorial Hall

Sara Coffield 01373 710210 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

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Please submit items for publication in the September issue to:

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to arrive no later than 12 noon on

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From the Baptist Minister.

Behold I make all things new

Like it or not, the world that we are experiencing as we emerge from the effects of the Covid Pandemic, does not present the same experience as the world that existed prior to the outbreak. In every area of life, we have to accept that things are going to be different.

We have just celebrated Pentecost with memory of the Gift of the Holy Spirit given as a Comforter and Guide. Let us remember that this Gift is God's gift to us, so let's claim it. It was given to aid all who were followers of Jesus. Many folks with much more time on their hands due to Lockdown have found their attention turned to a search for support in times of crisis. Folk have considered aspects of relationships in life and in death. Some have taken new interest in spiritual matters, have watched televised church services or listened to news items that have given focus to secular and spiritually based groups assisting others during the Lockdown. Many of these groups challenge us concerning our spiritual values, respect for others in society and our own support of others prior to the challenge brought in this pandemic.

We find Hope and Challenge in Isaiah Ch 43 vv 18 & 19

"Forget the former things: do not dwell on the past, See I am doing a new thing...I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland"

This can indeed be a message of Hope for us. Thankfully God has not changed and we look to Him for promised support. The result of the pandemic has created as it were a desert of our previous ways of life, we have become thirsty needing new refreshment, we can find it in these words for Isaiah has a message for us that is positive and helpful.

As we move out from the restrictions that we have experienced in recent times, we have to move forward and not look back, Yes, we are going to have to change. As individuals, and as society in all aspects, political, social, economic, and in church life, we have to move on believing that the future holds that which is new and vibrant.

Let's claim new vision, new strength and new purpose for our own lives. We go forward in fellowship to experience God's love and to share that love with one another.

Yours in Christ.

Michael White

Dear Friends

My prayers for you all continue and it has been good to meet a few of you out and about. I thank you for the many messages of welcome, cards and flowers. I would like to especially thank the wonderful team who worked so hard on the Rectory garden before Liz and I arrived.

A colleague from my previous role commented that he was currently only able to plan up to a fortnight ahead. At the moment it feels as if each day brings new guidance related to the pandemic we are living in. It is incredibly difficult to plan ahead, so as I write this article on 15th June, in advance of my licensing on 9th July, it is impossible to know what the first few weeks may hold. We don't know what form the licensing will take; it is likely to be online as we suspect we shall still be some weeks away from being able to gather for corporate worship.

My hope is that I can begin to learn a little more of your story over the summer. It seems likely that will mean meeting outside and I look forward to visiting your gardens or to invite you to the Rectory garden. We shall begin to think about our hopes for our future ministry together in each of the villages, each with their own distinct gifts and needs. This takes time and that's a good thing. It may have felt difficult at times not to have been able to gather in your church for significant moments. You may have been unable to celebrate a marriage, have your child baptised or may have grieved the loss of a loved one away from friends and family. There will be opportunity in the coming months to mark these special moments and I shall try and make that a priority. At the moment we just don't know exactly how and when.

Many of us will be missing regular Sunday worship. My hope is to work closely with the Churchwardens under the guidance of our Bishops to resume worship as soon and as safely as we can, and in the meantime, I look forward to joining in with what is currently happening in our churches and communities and offering prayers and worship in ever new and creative ways.

I join you in a time when the sands keep shifting and we are unsure of the path ahead. That's ok, for we just travel step by step, prepared to reach out and help each other along the way.

Rev Ronnie





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St. George's

We are very pleased to announce that St George's will shortly re-open for two sessions a week for individual prayer and reflection.

The initial times will be on **Tuesdays** from 9-12am and Fridays 3-6pm, and at the time of writing, we hope that this can commence on 26th June, subject to approval of our risk assessment plan. Any changes will be posted on the Church door and on the village Facebook page.

We are working to help keep everyone safe, and so whenever possible, and certainly in the initial stages of the church re-opening, someone will be present to give any necessary guidance regarding the new arrangements to those who visit.

Only part of the church will be open, and signs will indicate the direction of movement around this area. Please use the sanitising hand gel on entry and on leaving the building: the church door will be left open to avoid contact with the handle. Coloured laminated cards indicate the places visitors may sit and there will also be a Bible in front of the seat and a kneeler if required. Everyone must keep 2 metres from others who are not in their household, at all times. Before leaving, the coloured cards, and any

Bibles or pens used must be placed in the designated boxes and an entry made in the contact book, preferably with the visitor's own pen. These details will only be used to inform visitors of any increased infection risk that we might become aware of.

Any gifts towards the upkeep of the church can be placed in the slot in the wall to the left of the door on your way out, and visitors are welcome to take any of the free leaflets on the display tables, but if picked up, they should be removed and not returned to the table.

We are sorry that the book exchange cannot operate at present.

With many thanks for helping us to keep everyone safe and healthy.

Judith Craig & Su Coates Church Wardens

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.

Parents & Toddlers

Sadly, unable to meet at present. More details from Freda: 830597

News and views from your District Councillor - an update since election in May 2019

I must start by thanking anyone reading this who voted for me and also assure anyone who didn't that I am working my socks off on their behalf!

This is a big rural ward, facing potentially massive change: the much talked about Selwood Garden Village (2,000+ new houses and industrial areas), a cider company wanting to build a large factory in the beautiful Orchardleigh Valley and Local Plan Part II needing to be increased with an additional 505 houses.

The massive level of training required was a surprise. I work part-time, so attending the many training sessions first time around and getting to grips with everything quickly was going to be challenging. However, fate assisted. I was suddenly off work for several weeks after a serious car crash and so was able to attend all of the MDC training sessions ... every cloud has a silver lining!

Licensing

Licensing Board has proven very interesting. Licences to sell/serve alcohol are only a small part of the wide range of licences issued by a local authority. From Taxi and Private Hire licences, to more unusual requirements ...e.g. licences to keep 'Dangerous Wild Animals' and licences for on stage hypnotism. It's had its ups and downs. The day of training in Taunton was excellent, led by a very charismatic international barrister, who seemingly inspired all attendees from various councils. However, 3 of us from Mendip were asked to stay and attend an

emergency sub-committee hearing immediately after the training. Suddenly we were listening to a graphic victim account of an alleged assault by a taxi driver, which truly shocked us all to the core. Being 'thrown in at the deep end' was literally what happened that day! Looking at how MDC and the other key support teams co-ordinate the logistics of supporting 'Glastonbury', including the licensing side of things. by going behind the scenes when gates opened on the Wednesday, was very insightful. It really is a military operation in practice. Our Licensing Board is looking to improve things further in years to come - see my next update - and sadly with COVID-19 no 'Glasto' this year!

Climate & Ecological Emergency Group (CEEG)

The leader of the Green Party locally, Cllr Shane Collins, and I are reviewing MDC's energy provision and future policy. We are members of the CEEG, very ably led by Cllr. Tom Ronan.

I'm also working very closely with other Green councillors on issues impacting planning decisions. Sadly I still have to make my voice heard on the environmental harm that repeatedly happens when illegal encampment occurs, mass fly tipping is undertaken, or noise pollution negatively impacts the lives of nearby local residents. Numerous issues are ongoing matters of investigation and/or enforcement.

While occasionally very disillusioned, persistence is the key. Affected constituents are grateful I am batting for them, even if I'm not winning any test matches! Note that for a long-

time many issues have gone on, but been swept under the proverbial carpet of official red tape, or parked as 'too difficult' to resolve etc ... Sadly victims have remained victims and sometimes been repeated victims in their own homes. This is especially so in rural areas where lone residents, or farmers, are isolated. Many are impacted, but they are impacted individually, so the widespread problems are not addressed as a whole ... they should and must be!

Cases coming to Planning Board require a lot of time, and getting them heard at Planning Board requires even more time. Working effectively with the residents, we saw the Cider factory application pulled and resited iust 2 days before it came before the Board. Orchardleigh Valley breathed a huge sigh of relief and remains beautiful. A great result. A deferral won has also given time to do a lot of research on a site next to the River Frome in Tytherington. More work with the Planning Board and MDC Planning team giving attention to Gypsy and Traveller (G&T) Pitch legislation is urgently needed. Simply rolling over on green field sites I do not believe is (a) necessary or (b) a responsible answer to Mendip's failure to provide for the G&T community. Berkley Parish has had 3 decisions overturned in favour of the Parish Council and one deferral. In September last year I may have thought yet another general election was not beyond the realms of possibility, and have been acutely aware that an international pandemic was very certainly an ever present global risk (since having Swine flu

very badly in 2009). However, after beating Redrow at the Public Inquiry in 2018, MDC suddenly agreeing to include Redrow's Phase II proposals in the District's Local Plan Part II. (LPPII) without any public consultation, or discussion with the ward member ... NO WAY! I was wrong and I'm delighted to report that the responses that people sent in following our public meeting about this, and the letter from the combined Parish Councils, have made a difference ... the Inspector will now hold a hearing in the Autumn. On the COVID-19 front, co-ordinating local food provision and helping small businesses get their grants where bureaucracy had got in the way were easily achieved. Removing holidaymakers coming here illegally to camp out and make merry, often on other folks' land and clearly in breach of lockdown rules, has proved impossible and remains highly frustrating.

So, following an eventful year, please stay safe and well, be kind to those around you and email me if you have a Mendip-related query, or need my assistance.

Councillor Shannon Brooke (Cllr.Brooke@Mendip.gov.uk)

One Somerset Engagement Underway

Surveys of residents and businesses across the county is taking place as Somerset County Council gathers views towards disbanding all five councils and setting up a new single Unitary Authority. It follows a decision in February that Somerset County Council will look to reduce duplication and waste across the five councils and instead involve communities more closely in decisions that have an impact in their area through a new 'One Somerset' approach. Somerset County Council Leader David Fothergill said: "Our focus has been, and continues to be on coronavirus and keeping people in Somerset safe. This goes without saying. However, as we move towards recovery we also need to be looking ahead and preparing to support our residents and businesses in uncertain economic times. "The evidence shows there are significant benefits in removing five councils and replacing them with one benefits which will support our communities going forward. "We are continuing to develop our business case transparently so we can present it to Full Council in July. We want people to really understand what these benefits will mean to them and it's important we gather the views of the public as best we can."In a joint report commissioned by all five councils before the coronavirus pandemic, it was unanimously agreed that the existing arrangements were not working well, and that change was needed. Cllr Fothergill was quick to praise the joint working of the councils throughout the crisis. "Coronavirus has shown that working in a crisis with our district colleagues can bring about some great results. But it shouldn't

take a crisis to do that - we know that having one Council will keep those great services going but also free up vital funding to invest in key areas like climate change and more local decision making. We need this to work not just in a crisis, but in our day-today operations and that's what unitary will do for Somerset. "And he pointed out that if the government supported the proposal, it would see all councils scrapped and replaced with a new unitary authority. "This would allow more decisions to be made locally at parish, town and city level rather than in more remote district councils headquarters." he said. As part of that engagement your views are wanted and you can do this through an online survey that is scheduled to open on the 22nd June at 10am until 31st August at 23.59.

You can also sign up for notifications about the consultation or get in touch through the contact page. You can find out more from the dedicated onesomerset.org.uk website that includes press releases, letter to the Secretary of State, a decision report, myth busters and a frequently asked questions section. Sign up now for consultation notifications and take the opportunity to have your say. For more information, visit the One Somerset website

Somerset website at onesomerset.org.uk

Linda Oliver County Councilor, Frome North Division



Lullington & Orchardleigh

Delights of Lullington Unconsidered trifles

New freedom, new resolution. Mine is simple: whenever you go for a walk, pick up something to take home. Nothing infectious, mind. Anything that's edible or beautiful – or just plain weird.

A month ago, I was mostly stuffing bags full of wild garlic, which I turned into pesto and had on my breakfast toast. This was to be plimmed out with other leaves, like the peppery jack-by-the-hedge and alexanders and dandelions. Or, best of all - though you'd have to go a few miles to find it - was Bath asparagus, a legacy from the Romans.

Now's a good time of year to pick up bailer twine. It comes in iolly colours. and is spewed out in handy lengths during haymaking and harvest. My pockets are full of the stuff, and I use it for knotting together bean and pea sticks in the garden. Which brings me on to the bean poles themselves: long bundles of hazels I hack out of thickets and copses and lug home on my shoulder, cutting, in my fancy, a fine Hardyesque figure as I trudge sweatily through the village. Then there are the oddities. Buried in a dry crumbly bank was a badger's skull with a working jaw and even a

few yellow teeth. That'll impress the grandchildren.

There are feathers from pheasants, partridges, ducks and even the odd bird of prey. And in a belatedly ploughed field was a big old horseshoe, cast by a carthorse sixty or seventy years ago before everyone bombed round in monstrous airconditioned tractors.

At the moment I'm obsessed with stones.

In certain spots (maybe near old settlements), the plough turns up countless thousands every year. Most are useless tiddlers, and some are big and even-faced enough for building walls. But just a few catch the imagination, and one of these sits now in my garden like a little abstract sculpture.

Its face is moulded in a pattern of swelling curves which remind me of some prehistoric Earth goddess. Is this natural or human work? I'll never know, but I've christened it Bettany.

Great Bustard

Beckington Astronomical Society (BAS)

www.beckingtonas.org

Like most astronomical societies, the BAS does not meet in July/August (irrespective of lockdown). During July/August the sky never gets really dark. There are 3 stages of twilight: Civil, Nautical and Astronomical when the Sun is up to 6 degrees, 6-12 degrees 12-18 degrees below the horizon respectively.

After the Sun sets it still shines on the upper atmosphere; the scattered light gives us twilight. We might see Noctilucent clouds. These clouds are very high in the atmosphere and lit from underneath during twilight.

Despite not getting really dark, the summer is not a bad time to buy a telescope. You can learn to use it on a mild night compared with a frosty winter's night. During lockdown I expect a few telescopes have come out of cupboards and been dusted off.

A word of caution. Think very carefully about what observing you want to do before making a purchase. Good binoculars are better than a poorquality telescope. Steer clear of cheap telescopes claiming high magnifications (e.g. x300). There are 2 basic designs of telescope: the Newtonian Reflector incorporating a main (primary) mirror and the Refractor using a lens. There are mixtures of these designs e.g. Schmitt Cassegrain. The larger the diameter of the telescope tube the more light it can collect and so fainter objects will be able to be seen.

For a reflecting telescope a mirror of at least 6-inch diameter is to be preferred. For refractors pick a 3 inch or larger diameter lens.

The mount design is very important. It needs to be rigid and free of vibration. A wobbly mount is useless. There are two basic designs of mount: an Alt/Azimuth (like a gun mounting) and an Equatorial mount which has one of its turning axes parallel to the Earth's axis. This is important for photography (e.g. galaxies)

Expect to pay at least £300 for a telescope (but for the serious observer one of the popular mounts with Goth computer control costs about £800).

Amateur astronomy is a fascinating hobby. The most important thing is to get a telescope you will use. If it takes 30 mins to set up you will probably not bother to get it out the cupboard. Do some research and try and talk to some amateur astronomers for advice - come to the BAS meetings when they start again.

John Ball 830419

Springmead School

Talking about Race and Colour

We have been thinking about how we teach our children about these vitally important issues and here's one of the assemblies I have just shared.

There are over 7.5 billion people in the world; that is an incredible number to imagine. What is even more incredible is that every single one of those 7.5 billion people are all different: every one of them is absolutely unique. That includes the way they feel, their thoughts, the way they behave and the way they look.

Some of us are tall, some short, some with dark hair, some blond hair, some curly hair, some with freckles, some with black skin, some with brown skin, some with cream skin, some with green eyes, some with grey eyes...the list is endless. As well as many, many differences, we have huge similarities too. These differences and similarities make the human race so special. But it sometimes goes very wrong. People can forget that different doesn't mean better or worse, it just means different. My grandma used to say to me:

'Madeleine, no one is better than you and no one is worse'.

She was a very wise grandma, what she was saying was that we are all absolutely equal.

Talking about our differences and our similarities can sometimes be tricky as we worry that people might take offence or get upset. But it's OK to talk about our differences, like skin colour,

and to celebrate and enjoy those differences. We just need to do it with gentleness, love and kindness. It is also OK to speak out if we see something that doesn't feel right; if you hear someone being unkind to anyone, try to be brave and say something or tell a grown-up. If everyone says no to meanness, we would have a better world. The children were the encouraged to watch a beautiful song on you tube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0a h Yf7ey1Q

Here Gary Barlow and Andrew Lloyd Webber have written a song to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee called Sing. Gary Barlow goes on a journey across many countries to find people with beautiful voices to perform the song for the Queen. In this video we can recognise and enjoy the difference in the people we see, but it is actually their similarities that unite them; their beautiful voices, their love of music and their absolute sense of joy.

I hope you enjoy it. God bless

> Madeleine Taylor Principal Springmead School

Then and Now: A United Front

Lifelong Beckington resident Tom Matthews reminisces our village in wartime – and finds similarities with the modern day.

Pop, pop, pop. Aged six, I was walking through the churchyard after school, when I heard the sound of a dogfight overhead. I looked up to see a plane, on fire, diving down in the direction of Woolverton. Frightened, I ran home, my gas mask thumping on my hip. Bang, bang, bang.

It may come as a surprise, but throughout the Second World War, Beckington played an important role in the fight against the Germans. The village was part of the defence against invasion: Pill boxes were built along the River Frome; tank traps were installed on Beckington's roads and there were sandbagged machine gun pits on the corner of Sandy Lane and Warminster Road. There was even a village prison.

For a young boy, it was an exciting time. British troops occupied the Abbey and Castle and set up camp on the Recreation Ground. They were followed, later, by American airborne troops – some of whom returned for R&R after D-Day.

I wasn't aware of the horror or tragedy of war. My friends and I found it a great adventure. American soldiers gave me cap badges, insignia, shrapnel pieces, coins and chewing gum. At school, we were taught how to identify German planes. When the sirens went off in Frome, sounding out an attack, my mother and I would huddle under the kitchen table. 'Here, they come,' my father would say. A continuous hum and you knew the planes were British. A pulsating hum and it was the Germans, en route to bomb Bath, Bristol and Cardiff.

The war broke down social barriers. Everyone was united by a shared mission: to win the war. Food was rationed and there were shortages of almost everything, but villagers helped those in need. Sometimes, Mr Hillman, the village baker, gave out free bread. Local women were employed at Enderby Hall producing Sam Browns and webbing for the soldiers. There was a local Home Guard who patrolled the village at night.

On VE day, street parties lined Goose Street and Church Hill. That night, there was a torchlit procession and everyone carried candles in jam jars mounted on sticks. There was singing and laughter and much rejoicing. At the Rec, there was a bonfire and the Home Guard set off thunder flashes and flares. We were happy.

But that happiness was tinged with sorrow for the village lives that had been lost in the conflict.

I am reminded of those times, today; I see people being kinder to one another, rallying together against a common enemy. Times are challenging again but we will get through this.

Together.

And, maybe then, the streets of Beckington will be illuminated by candles and celebration, once more.

Tom Matthews

The village postman Harry Gibson with Tom aged around 5 and his friend John Veasey with the box car.



For Sale or Wanted

If you would like an entry in this column, please send it to Julie Evemy (see inside front cover). A suggested donation of £1 towards Network would be appreciated which can be left in the slot in the wall inside St George's church-when open. Private advertisements only please.

For Sale

Mobility Scooter, barely used, excellent condition/as new. £300 or near offer, was £600 new, Bryan White 07792 234004

For Sale

2 Phillips folding bikes. 6 gears, adult size. Both in good condition. (Including BAGS, HELMETS, LOCKS)

£25 each- Cary 30 Sandy View, Beckington Ph; 01373 830351 or Mob: 07593534216

Beckington Planning Applications

For details see:

https://publicaccess.mendip.gov.uk/on line-applications/.

Current Planning Applications

Received and will be responded to by the Clerk

2020/0632/FUL - Conversion of barn to create 2 no. dwellings with garage Monmouth House 4 Bath Road Beckington Frome Somerset, 11 Jun 2020

Sharing Gardening Tips

Network Magazine is looking for articles / tips on growing vegetables, flowers or any other general garden related advice.

Perhaps you would like to share what plants or vegetables work well in your garden, allotment or containers. Have you got valuable tips or stories from family or friends that you are willing to share?

Do you have before and after pictures of your gardens or allotments that we could publish in our monthly Network magazine? Do you have a plot on the new Beckington allotment site? What are your new exciting plans for there? Please contact beckington.network@gmail.com
Thank you.

New BEE-ginning's!

It all started back in 2019 with discussions within the Frome Beekeepers Association committee to have an Apiary. A vote was put forward in March with the members, and it was a yes!

From then onwards, despite the Covid/19 pandemic, the Apiary has come to fruition with lots of hard work from members who volunteered to help clear the piece of land on the Frome Agricultural Site at West Woodlands in readiness for the bees.

The hives were established and the bees moved in, and so far, all is going well. During this time there is very little happening within the association owing to social distancing, but as time

goes on, we hope to return to some sort of normality and welcome visitors to our new Apiary.

If you have an interest in bees or keeping bees or would like to become a member of the FBKA, you can visit the Somerset Beekeepers website/Frome Division where the relevant contacts can be found; we also have a Facebook page "Frome Beekeepers."

Frome Beekeepers Debbie Hicks





Standerwick, Berkley and Beckington W.I.



Teddy & Embroidery from Regina

Our meetings are on hold at present due to the lockdown for the Corona Virus.

Our last meeting on the 5th of March seems ages ago. The Rev Fairclough then spoke about his time in Russia. He said there are many sculptures in Moscow city, but no parks. The parks are all on the outskirts of the city, about 40 minutes' drive away. Now as we have been unable to go very far from our homes, at least we are better off than the people in Moscow.

We have green spaces not too far away, and gardens to enjoy, even if looking at other people's gardens if we go out for a walk.

The W.I. is having a Zoom meeting once a week, for those members who are able to join in.

A copy of the County News is being sent out to all members with an email address, and those without are contacted by members that have emails. At the Zoom meetings there is often a quiz and a chance to catch up with what everyone is doing.

Members have shown their paintings, bags they have made and also a teddy bear and very intricate embroidery. One member has also managed to knit herself a jumper for the cooler weather. We also shared pictures of our gardens. Everyone is being very careful and managing to stay safe.

No one yet knows when and how we will be able to meet again, but we are trying to keep in touch and look forward to being able to see everyone again in the future.

Marion Oxlade

Delicious Recipes

This month's recipe for **Mustard Chicken** has been kindly sent in by Janet from Standerwick, Berkley & Beckington W.I.

- 1 Tablespoon oil
- 4 skinless and boned chicken breasts or thighs cut into strips
- Crushed garlic clove, or any form of garlic (leave out if not wanted)
- 250ml single cream (or substitute with plain yogurt/cream cheese or similar – you will need to mix with water/milk to resemble cream).
- 1 tablespoon plain flour (or use what you have)
- 1 tablespoon mustard (coarse grain, English, or any mix of mustard to your taste)
- salt and pepper to taste.
- 1) Heat oil add garlic and chicken strips 3-4 mins.
- 2) Remove chicken and keep warm.
- 3) Mix flour and cream to a smooth paste cook gently in the same pan 2 mins stir in mustard and salt and pepper.
- 4) Return chicken into the pan with the sauce, cook gently for a few more mins, test with a fork for tenderness.
- 5) Serve with rice, potatoes or pasta with veg or salad.

Heats well the next day.

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Anna Hammond BA DipArch Msc ARB e: annahammond@ymail.com m: 0772 941 1360 t: 01373 834439



Parents & Toddlers

We Meet every Tuesday between 2 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. in the Beckington Baptist Church Hall.

Everyone welcome, especially new families who have just moved into the area.

More details: Freda 830597

Parish People

Each month we will be finding out about local groups, societies, individuals or businesses who have connections to our parishes.

This month we have been talking to.....

Andy Howson from Howson Gardens, the local fully trained Horticulturalist, RHS Dip, City and Guilds qualified with over 40 years' experience. Howson Gardens Tel: 07704 156159

Why did you decide to become a Horticulturist?

don't have blood, I have sap. My grandparents had a nursery and before school age I was able to pick and grade cut flowers and tomatoes ready to go to Covent Garden Market, London. My grandparents would produce a ton of tomatoes per week for the Market ". Other family gardening connections were a Rose nursery in Norwich, and a Clematis nursery in Suffolk.

What is the best part of your job? "When you turn up to a garden and are given a new challenge: I like looking at the finished article."

Name a garden you would like to work on and why?

"Chatsworth House Gardens in Derbyshire, because they are wonderfully kept and still in use. They have an amazing glass house and kitchen gardens. In one of the walled gardens they have what is known as a 'Peach Wall' which is a heated wall with fireplaces and chimneys that were lit to keep frost off the peach blossom. The walls were also glazed on top to keep Peach Leaf Curl off the plants and had gossamer curtains which hung down to help keep radiant frosts off the flowers in early spring."

Besides working in this area, do you have any other connections?

"I moved to Southwick, and went to a Springmead Carol service at St George's Church in 2011/12, and liked it as a church. I have lived in other villages, but Beckington has a community spirit.

Everyone is helpful and supportivewilling to go the extra mile."

And finally, tell us something interesting people don't know about you

currently chair of the Bath Philatelic Society" (stamp collecting) with a specialist interest in Charity Christmas posts." I have written a draft copy of a catalogue with over 700 entries which I hope to publish in 2021."

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Parish Council Meetings

Beckington Parish Council held its first formal remote meeting. While members of the council have used Zoom and WhatsApp over the last few months to keep in contact, no formal meeting has been held since the start of March. The meeting was the Annual Council Meeting and was held on June 9th. Councillor Mark Wilson was re-elected as Parish Council Chairman for 2020/21, with Cllr Paula Fox serving as Vice-Chairman. As the meeting was a success, further ones will be held in this format. Residents are welcome to join the council online. you just need to email the Clerk for the joining code a few days before the next meeting.

Recently, Clir Wilson has been taking on responsibility for coordinating some of the Covid response in the Parish. The Council divides up the responsibilities across its Membership so that the Chairman that is not responsible for everything:

- Cllr Roland Kelly holds the Planning and Development Portfolio; this means he coordinates the Parish Councils response to all tree and planning applications made to Mendip District Council.
- Cllr Kevin Bishop holds the Highways & Transport Portfolio; contact him for issues relating to the same.
- Cllr Liz Wright is the Council's Rep to Rudge, as well as the Footpaths and Rights of way rep.

- Clir Clive Winterbourne looks after the Local Environment Portfolio. Clive helps keep an eye on all the new dog bins and is the fly-tipping supremo as well as looking after the Council's assets around the Parish.
- Clir Paula Fox is the S106 local developer money coordinator.
 Mendip District Council hold many thousands of pounds that need to be spent on improving facilities within the Parish.
 Contact Paula if you think you have a project that may qualify.
- Mr Simon Pritchard Parish Clerk.

Full contact details for all the Members can be found on the Parish Council website. If you want to contact the Council about an issue not covered above, then please contact the Clerk in the first instance.

Community Grants Money: The Parish Council's community grants pot is now open. The Council has a set aside pot of money for the benefit of local groups: the application form can be download from the Parish Councils website, it is not overly burdensome.

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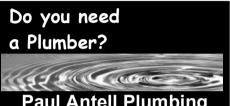
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SERVICES July/August 2020

Public worship in all churches has been temporarily suspended, but the life and worship of the church continues – albeit in a different way.

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-andservices/-1

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Prayer Requests

Do you have a prayer request? or would you like someone to be prayed for by Beckington group of parishes prayer team? You can now send in your prayer

requests to

beckington.network@gmail.com

Hardington Vale

Our neighbouring benefice, based in Norton St Philip and Rode, is streaming services every Sunday at 10.30 am. You can access this through their website https://www.hardingtonvale.org.uk Under the heading 'Sunday Services.'

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

Streams a live service at 10.30am each Sunday.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC aeZiiKhF3K sPntUz1Bbcw

Well worth watching- A collaboration from 65 churches singing a blessing of peace

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PU tll3mNj5U

Weekly services from HTB

Holy Trinity Brompton. A vibrant Anglican church (home of the Alpha course, originally developed at HTB in 1977) are running their church services online. Available at https://www.htb.org/services

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Psalm 46:1

Diary Dates

Please follow government advice STAY ALERT

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Check with organizers before venturing out

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 R B L Biennial Annual Dinner CANCELLED

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 CANCELLED

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 all the volunteers that are helping during the Covid pandemic



Please note that the next issue of Network is for **September**. All articles for this edition must be received by **midday on August 20**th

Network is online!

The online copy of Network can be found at:

www.beckington.org.uk/church/net work-magazine.htm

and on the Information page at: beckingtonparishcouncil.org.uk