

The Beckington Group of Parishes

Beckington  
Berkley  
Lullington & Orchardleigh  
Rodden



***Network***

February 2020

## CONTACT LIST

<i>We are awaiting the appointment of a 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
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<b>Berkley</b>		
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	Alan Sandall	465869 alansandall8@gmail.com
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<b>Lullington with Orchardleigh</b>		
<a href="https://lullandorch.org.uk">https://lullandorch.org.uk</a> Twitter: @LullandOrch		
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Director of Music: David King music@....		
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### 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](http://beckingtonmemorialhall.org.uk)

### Beckington Parish Council

[beckingtonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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 **March** issue to:

[beckington.network@gmail.com](mailto:beckington.network@gmail.com)

to arrive no later than 12 noon on

**February 20<sup>th</sup>**

Network Advertising: Mrs. J. Evemy,

01823 322 287 [Julie@evemy.net](mailto:Julie@evemy.net)

## *Edmund's Message*

This is the first issue of *Network* of 2020 and in a new decade, so  
A happy New Year to you all!

A new season brings fresh hope, reflecting the rhythm of day and night, in which a good night's sleep restores energy and enthusiasm. That rhythm was reinforced when Sunday was treated as a day of rest giving people space to catch up and regather. It reflects the reality that God is the God of a thousand new beginnings, as every day he is restoring the damage done by evil in the lives of individuals and the community as well in nature itself.

February will bring the challenge of being outside the EU. Getting there has been painful and we long for our hurts and divisions to be healed. But how can that be done? Psalm 121 begins by asking that question, "I lift up my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from?" Poetically 'the hills' suggests human strength and security. But the writer has a better answer: "My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth." That may seem a pious platitude, but Christian annals abound with stories of people recording the many ways in which God has been faithful to his promise.

God not only promises his protection, he also promises healing. One such promise was given in response to King Solomon's prayer when he dedicated the temple in Jerusalem. God assured the King that he had heard his prayer. When people, who had

forgotten him and were in distress, sought his face, humbly acknowledged their errors and resolved to do what is right, God promised: "then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." (2 Chronicles 7:14); here is the sure new beginning that is still on offer.

If we really want to see the wounds and divisions healed in both nation and church, we need to do what God calls us to do, so that he can give us that fresh start as he forgives and heals. That is why our church services begin with confession, reminding us that in his goodness and mercy God is ever willing to give us that new beginning. That prayer of confession begins "We have strayed...", showing that it is a corporate prayer that we make not only for ourselves but for our community both as a church and a nation. If at first sight God may not seem to answer our prayers, we should look closer and see how he is at work through the many people who, in so many ways, are restoring the broken and alleviating suffering.

So, as we face the challenges of a new decade, let us do so by looking humbly for God's promised help. May you find the happiness of knowing him as your Heavenly Father.

Edmund Phillimore  
Reader, Beckington

## ***The Future of St George's, Beckington***

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

Jeremiah 29:11

The New Year is a time to look forward and to plan and at St. George's, we are doing just that. We could have spent the last five years whilst without a Rector marking time or even going into some sort of decline. However, it's been a period of pulling together and resilience. We are trusting that someone will be appointed in the near future but we need to keep attending to the spiritual and physical needs of our community whether we have an incumbent or not.

Various 'physical' problems at St. George's in 2019 have made us stop and take stock. Our aged boiler developed a terminal fault, we've had on-going electrical problems and a section of the churchyard wall collapsed. The last two are straightforward, though not inexpensive, to rectify. The first, the boiler, is not going to be easy to solve but tackling the problem can be seen as an opportunity to re-shape the future of the church, materially and spiritually. As we are going to have to replace our current heating arrangements with something modern, efficient and environmentally sustainable, what else can we achieve to maximise the benefit that will eventually result from the inevitable disruption and expense?

If the boiler is re-sited, what do we do with the ancient boiler house? Do we

take this opportunity to put in much needed facilities such as a toilet and a kitchenette in there or in the church itself? How can we make the building more user- friendly, more welcoming and more useful to our surrounding communities without spoiling its beauty? St. George's has changed significantly over the centuries, as anyone who has read Michael McGarvie's excellent history will know.

We are going to have a number of challenges and will have to draw up a 2, 5 or even 10 year plan. The biggest obstacle will be the expense. A new heating system will cost between £20000 and £30000. The Church of England is funded from the bottom up, not the top down, and our weekly running costs, excluding repairs and purchases, are around £1000 per week. (That is not a misprint!) We shall need to fundraise, apply for grants, get planning permissions from both Mendip and the diocese etc. We shall need people with energy, vision, time and expertise.

You may not be a regular at St. George's or any other church but you may well still love the building and feel proud that we have such a beautiful church in our midst. We are on a mission in more ways than one so if you have time or expertise that you can offer us, do get in touch. In the meantime, we shall publish updates on any developments.

Su Coates  
Church Warden, Beckington

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## Frome Farmers' Market

Frome Farmers' Market takes place  
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in Frome.

The market takes place every 2<sup>nd</sup>  
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www.somersetfarmersmarkets.co.uk

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E-mail: clerk@hospitalofstcross.co.uk  
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## **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:

December 22<sup>nd</sup> in memory of Charlie Howell from his family.

January 2<sup>nd</sup> in memory of my mother-in-law. Jo Casey

January 15<sup>th</sup> Happy memories of Keith. Sylvia Holley and family.

The tower will be lit on:  
March 3<sup>rd</sup> in loving memory of Mike. Jo Casey

### **The Christmas Tree Festival at St George's**

We wish to thank all those organisations who kindly provided (White Row Farm Shop and Mole Valley Farmers) and decorated trees for the church. They were: Beckington First School, Beckington Pre School, Parent and Toddlers Group, Royal British Legion, Mothers Union, Beckington Village Choir, 2 Ladies' house groups, Women's Institute, Monday Club and the Bell Ringers. Voted the most popular tree was the British Legion " Remembrance" Tree,

closely followed by the Monday Club "Memories" tree.

We do hope all of you who visited during the Festival enjoyed seeing the church so beautifully decorated.

Services held during the Festival included "Christingle", The First School Christmas Service and "Carols by Candlelight", all of which were very well attended and the warmth of the spirit of Christmas was tangible. Extra diligence by the church wardens ensured the church boiler functioned to provide some physical warmth for these times and we can only apologise for a cold church during the week! [See Page 3].

It is planned to have another festival for next Christmas; so if you, your organisation or business would like to take part we should be delighted to hear from you.

Jo Casey

### **Friends of St George's Diary Dates**

April 25<sup>th</sup> Saturday **St George's Day supper 7pm**

Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup> 10-12 noon **plant sale & coffee morning**

Sunday June 14<sup>th</sup> **Beckington Open Gardens 2pm**

Friday November 6<sup>th</sup> **Early Christmas Market**





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

### ***All-age Service!***

Everyone is invited to our next all-age service which is on Sunday February 16<sup>th</sup> at 9.15am.

Something for everyone!

### ***Coming Soon!***

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March    **Berkley Fun  
Quiz Night and supper**, Beckington  
Village Hall 7pm

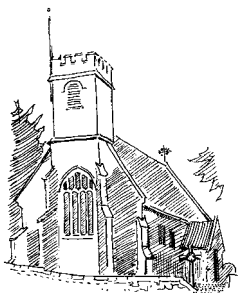
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April    **Plants sale  
coffee morning** Tangiers Farm  
10.30am

THE ST MARY'S CHURCH BERKLEY CHARITABLE TRUST  
HAS ESTABLISHED A TRUST FUND, (CHARITY NUMBER 1174747)

The aim of this fund is to encourage people with a connection to BERKLEY CHURCH from school, marriage, christening, attending church, loss of a loved one or just living in the area etc. to make a donation or leave a LEGACY when making a will to help build a secure fund for the maintenance of this unusual church with its domed ceiling for future generations.

For further information if required contact Eric J. Oakes, Church Warden  
Tel 01373 474652 or email [ericoakes@btconnect.com](mailto:ericoakes@btconnect.com)

## All Saints Rodden



Our Church at Rodden has lost a most devoted member with the passing of June Beck, wife of Jim, long-serving churchwarden.

June carried no title apart from PCC member, but her work for the church and its family was immense, indeed never-ending. Much was not recognised, of course, because that was June's way; only now will such sincerity be so apparent.

Born in Weymouth in 1935, she met Jim as a 13-year-old teenager.

Walking the Esplanade with friends, her group met Jim with his friends. As was said in the eulogy, "This was the start of what turned out to be a long and loving relationship that lasted 71 years – 66 of them married."

Jim and June had two children, Anne and Jill, and with their children June became "the Matriarch of the family", instilling her high morals into all the children. When visiting Jim and June's home, one could see how the children and grandchildren were the centre of her life.

Both became very involved with Rodden Church when they moved to Frome in 1971. June worked hard to help All Saints' and its congregation, ready to tackle any task, be it flower arranging, catering and raising money, above all many hundreds of pounds with the annual Christmas/Harvest draw. Behind the scenes June did so much to support Jim as churchwarden, spending many hours

"finding" organists, and arranging hymns for services. This was a major task during her last years, due to her health. Thank you, June, from all of us.

The first social event of 2020 in the Rodden calendar will be a **Coffee Morning at The Old Carthouse, Flintford Farm, Frome on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February from 10.00am**. There will be a Bring and Buy stall, cakes and a raffle.

Further events are planned for the year. More information will be given when dates are finalised.

Jim Dowling

## Rodden 200 Club

We begin a new year with a new name: **Rodden 300 Club** which will allow for future growth and help increase church funds.

Included in this Network for Rodden is the application form for completion if you would like to join.

Many thanks

Sheila Courtney

Date	Flowers	Cleaning
2	Mrs Higham	Mrs Higham
9	Mrs Bungay	Mrs Bungay
16	Mrs Bungay	Mrs Bungay
23	Vacant	Miss McKee
1	LENT	Miss McKee

**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at No 30** will be on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Please join us at 30 Styles Hill from 10.30am. Come and take a break and join us for a hot drink and a chat.

Sheila Walker

*See page 14 for more ...*

## ***Rode & District Gardening Club***

For the start of the New Year we welcomed the return of David Moon to give us an audio-visual presentation about the Royal Horticultural Society.

The Society holds 6 major Garden Shows around the country, Chelsea being the most well-known but now joined by Hampton Court, Malvern, Chatsworth, Tatton Park and Cardiff.

The Society, with the help of many volunteers, now organises the Britain in Bloom competition where cities, towns and villages compete for "Best in Bloom" awards. This also links with community and neighbourhood groups working to use derelict land, 'green' small areas and grow vegetables and garden in a sustainable way.

There are 4 major gardens run by the Society. The first, founded in 1903 is at Wisley in Surrey where there are extensive trial grounds and every sort of garden, all kept immaculate by students and gardeners. They have an enormous Glasshouse which has 3 climatic zones to display plants from different parts of the world. There is an extensive re-vamp underway at the moment and we can look forward to much improved facilities as well as some modern developments.

Rosemoor in North Devon was given to the Society by Lady Anne Palmer and has a spectacular vegetable garden and wonderful displays of spring bulbs and shrubs. Hyde Hall in Essex specialises in drought tolerant plants displayed in a dry garden and has planted 60,000 trees to make a Wild Wood. The Yorkshire Botanic

Garden became Harlow Carr in 2001 and is famous for its candelabra primulas and meconopsis blue poppies in early summer, displayed along the longest stream-side garden in Britain. The Society is in the process of planting a new garden, Bridgewater in Salford which is due to open this summer.

David also showed us some examples of gardens closer to home. Kilver Court in Shepton Mallet where a rock garden was bought from the Chelsea Flower Show and transported to Somerset to become a spectacular part of the garden under the viaduct. The organic garden at Holt Farm near Blagdon Lake, run by Yeo Valley, has a variety of meadows, herbaceous borders and vegetables. Knoll Gardens in Dorset specialise in grasses and demonstrates the versatility of these plants.

David was thanked for another lovely presentation.

Next month we will welcome Christine Brain to talk about Wall Shrubs and Climbers. Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm in Rode Village Hall.

Averil Morrow

## **Beckington Astronomical Society**

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

Our next meeting is on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February at the Beckington Baptist Church Hall starting at 7.30pm. We finish around 9.30pm with tea/ coffee. Annual membership £15 or £3.00 for a single meeting.

We will have a beginner's item (about 15 mins) and this will be followed by our visiting speaker Bob Mizon who will be talking about 'Asterisms: Jewels of the Starry Sky '. You do not need to know anything about astronomy to join us - just a desire to know more about this fascinating subject.

If you have any questions please look at our website or give me a ring on 01373830 419. If you have any questions please look at our website or give me a ring on 01373 830 419.

John Ball

## **Parents & Toddlers**

Everyone is welcome, especially new families with babies and toddlers.

We meet on Tuesday afternoons from 2pm to 3.30pm at the Baptist Church hall.

More details from Freda: 830597

## **Beckington Memorial Hall**

### **The Mikado!**

This will be staged on February 1<sup>st</sup> at 7.30pm but **it will now be in St. George's church**. Feel free to bring a cushion! The White Horse Opera Company will be performing and we would hope to make an evening of it: hot drinks and snacks will be available.

Tickets are on sale soon in Mes Amis and on Facebook (if you're techno-savvy) for info.

## *From the Registers*

### **Rodden**

#### Funeral

10<sup>th</sup> January June Rosalind Merle Beck

### **Lullington**

#### Marriages

21<sup>st</sup> December - Charles Lee and  
Rebecca Foster

3<sup>rd</sup> January - Alexander Taylor and Jennifer  
Cawley

4<sup>th</sup> January - Lorsson De Bie and Georgina  
Osmond

11<sup>th</sup> January - Matthew Bloodworth and  
Grace Stewart

#### Baptisms

5<sup>th</sup> January - Jenna Helen Arnall

5<sup>th</sup> January - Hei Man Amelia Au Yeung

## **Beckington Group Mothers' Union**

The first meeting of 2020 was the AGM, when members listened to reports of the branch activities over the past twelve months. Membership is holding up well, and the future for our branch looks healthy. Jenny Ayrtton and Jackie Lobley were re-elected as joint leaders for one more year, with Jackie as treasurer and Rosemary Ball secretary.

Representatives from the branch will attend diocesan meetings to keep in touch with any developments, and there will be a monthly newsletter available on-line from the MU website.



Our meeting on February 5<sup>th</sup> will be the **annual wave of prayer service** at 2.15pm at LaHS Place, focusing on our links with members overseas, and on March 4<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting a tea to support the **Make a Mother's Day Appeal** at 2.30pm at LaHS Place. We welcome new members so please come along if you are interested.

Rosemary Ball

## **Rodden Church History – Then & Now**

Rodden Church has a history which can be traced back to the 13<sup>th</sup> Century. In January it added a new page when the Rev Clarissa Shaw-Notice accepted an invitation to lead the Celebration of Holy Communion. Undoubtedly the first Church of England woman priest to do so at All Saints. Thirty nine men and women gave her a warm, effusive, welcome – more than double the size of congregation she was expecting on a dark winter's evening, at a church in the middle of a farm!

The Rev Clarissa, as she is known, is curate at Holy Trinity Church in Frome, having trained with the vicar and Area Dean, the Rev Graham Owen. She is soon to leave to become vicar of her own church or churches.

When she came to visit All Saints, in preparation, and saw and felt its special feel, she said its country setting reminded her of her native Jamaica, where she grew up as a child.

Clarissa handled the traditional 1662 style of service well, with her sermon brief, pertinent and precise – no words wasted. Always appreciated at Rodden.

The task of the evening for the wardens was persuading the congregation it was time to go home as they stayed to chat with their history-making woman priest, who, by the way, did not know of that importance until told afterwards!

Alan Sandall

## **Somerset Council News**

For more than two years the Leaders and Chief Executives of all Somerset's five local authorities have been discussing the future shape of local government in the county.

An independent report, produced for all Somerset's councils, is published here: <https://onesomerset.org.uk/> setting out the pros, cons and possibilities of different options – ranging from the councils working closer together to the creation of a single 'Unitary' Authority. All the options have merit and each has the potential to save millions.

All Councils working more closely together could achieve a predicted saving of £10m-£32m, creating a single Unitary Authority – a predicted saving of £35m-47m

The Leader of Somerset County Council, Councillor David Fothergill, has underlined his view that a single, Unitary Authority for Somerset is the best way forward. It would reduce duplication and inefficiencies and see resources pooled, meaning more money for frontline services like schools, transport and climate change initiatives, housing and social care.

Linda Oliver

## **Berkley School**

Happy 2020 to you all,

The end of the 2019 saw the year 3 and 4 children visit Stourhead and this included some Narnia themed activities and a guided tour of the house. The children were in awe and wonder during their walk around, they enjoyed a hot chocolate at the end to warm up cold hands. The children took pleasure in celebrating our learning for the term. We also celebrated everyone's talents and achievements which have taken place outside of school. It can be hard to perform in front of an audience, especially when you have only just starting learning something new like an instrument or a dance. It was good for the children to see their peers in a different light.

Back at school our younger children have been using the outdoor classroom as well as making winter decorations to hang in the playground. Every January the Y4 children take part in the Big Garden Birdwatch which takes place across the county. The children are given tips on how to attract birds, where to place feeders and how to identify garden birds. The children spent time observing and recording their findings with their class teacher.

We are bringing our curriculum alive with a range of visits and workshops this term. The Reception children have had an exclusive showing of CATS and have made cats eyes and masks. The Year 1 and 2 children had a huge amount of fun whilst handling reptiles and insects during a recent workshop, they were able to get up close to the

insects and find out some interesting facts.

This term our Christian value is *service and giving* and we are particularly focussing on the 'service' part. We have already had a lot of children being nominated for helping others in the playground and for supporting others emotionally during the day. We have thought about how Christians serve God and how we all serve our friends and family as we go about our routines and daily jobs.



### **Community Club**

We would really like to offer the children a lunchtime club that is led by someone from the community. This person may have a skill or hobby they can share with the children. It could be sewing, drawing, board games or cooking. These are just a few examples. If you think you may have the time once a week to lead a club for the children of Berkley it would be for 35 minutes between 12-1pm. I would love to hear from you. Thank you in advance.

Best Wishes

Suzanne Thompson, Headteacher

## **We Are Undefeatable Somerset**

*We Are Undefeatable Somerset* is a new local campaign, launched by Somerset Activity & Sports Partnership (SASP) with the aim of inspiring those living with long-term health conditions to be more active and move more. The need for this campaign came about when a country wide study showed that 1 in 4 people were living with a long-term condition and were more likely to be inactive as a result.



Using local ambassadors from across the county who have one or more health conditions, SASP wants to motivate and encourage others to move more in ways that suit them, showcasing the powerful stories of using physical activity to increase health and happiness through fun, friendships and better physical fitness. SASP hope they will inspire and connect with other older people with long term health conditions to think about moving just a little more to help them have a better quality of life.

The official launch of this campaign took place at The Beach Hotel in Minehead at the end of January, where the ambassadors shared their inspiring stories, as well as key speakers from Public Health, the Clinical Director for the Living Better Primary Care Network and also the SASP CEO.

Following the launch and reveal of initial resources based on the Taunton and West Somerset ambassadors, additional content will be released over the coming months, introducing further ambassadors from Mendip, Sedgemoor and South Somerset.

If you're interested in finding out more about this campaign and available activities, please visit [www.sasp.co.uk/long-term-conditions](http://www.sasp.co.uk/long-term-conditions) or [Undefeatable Somerset](#).

James Gardner



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## Springmead School

Our Annual Science Fair event was terrific; the Village Hall was buzzing with excitement with well- prepared, attentive children. Over the two days of the event, the children were thoroughly immersed in all things science. They savoured visiting each other's stands, indeed for some this was the highlight. For others, the highpoint was the presentation of their carefully prepared projects to peers and to visiting adults. Each child spoke animatedly and articulately about their chosen subject.

There was a whole host of different scientific concepts. The Science fair is a fantastic way for the children to explore areas of a subject which they might not necessarily cover within the classroom topics. This really encourages further thinking, especially within an area they are already interested in! Practical work in Science develops a mind-set of scientific enquiry which can promote a stronger engagement in the subject. It is also a fantastic tool for encouraging independent learning and initiative, in coming up with their own ideas and suggestions for what to do. Team work plays a huge part as well and the children really excel themselves in planning their projects together.

On top of the positive areas in regard to Science, the Science fair at Springmead is the perfect opportunity for the pupils to develop their presentation skills, learning how to explain concepts clearly, engaging their audience and speaking to a small audience.



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## ***Band in a Barn***



Band in a Barn is an annual live music event held on a working farm in Norton St. Philip.

Band in a Barn is organised entirely by volunteers and raised over £17,000 in 2019 for charities and local good causes

This year's event, Band in a Barn 2020 will take place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June at Norton Farm, Norton St Philip, Bath BA2 7NF – timings to be advised. All proceeds will be donated to charity and selected local good causes.

Tickets are priced at £15 (advance sales only)

Tickets will be available via the Band in a Barn FaceBook page

[www.facebook.com/bandinabarnnsp](http://www.facebook.com/bandinabarnnsp)

For more information or if you are interested in becoming a sponsor please contact Stefanie Mitchell [biabcontactus@gmail.com](mailto:biabcontactus@gmail.com) or via Facebook

[www.facebook.com/bandinabarnnsp](http://www.facebook.com/bandinabarnnsp)

We are excited to announce our headline act, Call of The Kraken. Hailing from Shropshire, Call of the Kraken are a four-strong party band who play all over the UK, we cannot wait to hear what they sound like in the Barn!

## **SMALL GRANT SCHEME OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS**

[biabsmallgrantscheme@gmail.com](mailto:biabsmallgrantscheme@gmail.com)

The Norton St Philip-based, Band in a Barn live music fundraising event launched its Small Grants Scheme in November 2018. Launched initially in 2018, the Small Grants Scheme is designed to connect the Band in a Barn team with good causes that would benefit from a donation of up to £500.

The Scheme aims to support small local projects and grass roots initiatives and welcomes applications on a continuous rolling basis throughout the year.

The application process is simple, requiring the submission of an email telling the Band in a Barn team a little about the applicant's project or organisation and explaining how a Small Grant from Band in a Barn would help.

If you are involved with a project or organisation that you think would benefit from a Small Grant, please get in touch.

## **SPONSORSHIP**

We have already been contacted by several sponsors for this year – if you are interested in helping us to raise as much as possible for range of deserving beneficiaries, while also raising the profile of your business, please get in touch!

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

We had a late change of speakers for the December Meeting. Rachel Harding from Yeovil gave us a fascinating insight into the world of Ballroom Dancing.

Rachel and husband decided to take dancing lessons as complete beginners in 1980. After 12 weeks of lessons and a great amount of practice at home they moved into the world of competitions. Rachel made all her dresses travelling to specialist shops for materials and accessories and special shoes. Her partner's suits were specialist made.

After 2 years they were winning many competitions but in order to improve decided to take lessons from an ex-world champion, eventually qualifying for International Competitions. After 14 years they decided to hang up their dancing shoes having won 1683 medals and cups.

Our next meeting is on February 6<sup>th</sup> when we welcome Rachel Clark talking about Policing.

Jean Kershaw

## ***Beckington Village Christmas Tree***

Once again, on behalf of all the village people, thank you to the Hillman Family for another fabulous Christmas Tree. To all the people that turned up for the Carol Singing on a rather damp evening. To Mes Amis, The Foresters, and. the Woolpack for providing the Mulled Wine and all the Mince Pies. Last but not least the Musicians. It was, as usual, a wonderful start to the Festive Season.

Peter West.



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## ***Beckington Parish Council***

### **Spring Bulbs Planted:**

Two Members of the Parish Council have been very busy planting Spring bulbs - Councillors Winterbourne and Wright have planted hundreds on the Frome road and plan to plant more on the other entrances to Beckington. Separately, some residents in Rudge have been doing just the same along the verges in Rudge. Fingers crossed we will see the flowers in spring.

### **The New Mendip District Council Local Plan.**

Mendip District Council (MDC) has been told by The Planning Inspectorate that its Local Plan needs to include plans to build more houses – 505 to be precise – the response by MDC appears to be to target the North-East of the district, as in Beckington and our neighbouring parishes of Rode, Norton St Philip, Chilcompton and Kilmersdon. Joint meetings of all five Parish Councils have taken place and the engagement of a Planning Barrister is being seriously considered, as there is strong feeling that many of the Parishes in this area of Mendip have taken enough development for now. The cost of engaging a barrister would be shared across a few of the Parish Councils. As always, the Parish Council would be keen to hear your view on this, do you think the village should have some more development as there is plenty of space around the village and to keep it growing is a good thing? Or would you support the Parish Council spending money on legal advice in an attempt to prevent or reduce the amount of further homes

being built. Do email or attend the next Parish Council meeting and let us know.

### **Get Involved – We need you!**

While there seems to be a common misconception that the way to get things done these days is to post a negative comment on Facebook, in fact the real work is going on behind the scenes by the volunteer Councillors of the Parish Council. Each Member looks after an area for the Council, from open spaces to planning applications, bulb planting to highways safety. The Parish Council is looking for a few more people to get involved: the commitment is one meeting a month and the time that you wish to put into your chosen area. Please email the Clerk if interested in making a difference.

### **Community Grants:**

The Community Grants fund will close at the end of February, so this is your organization's last chance to apply for some grant funding until May.

Simon Pritchard, Parish Clerk

## ***Beckington Planning Applications***

See: page 30



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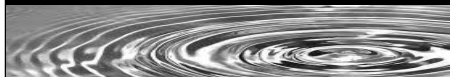
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## ***Beckington Planning Applications***

For details see:

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

Install 5no windows and 1no door to the front elevation. Open for Comment. Rudge Lane Rudge  
Ref. No: 2019/2901/FUL Received: 28 Nov 2019 Status: Registered

Erection of single storey garden room extension and alterations Open for Comment 5 Rylands Beckington Frome BA11 6SD  
Ref. No: 2019/2842/HSE Received: 26 Nov 2019 Status: Registered

Proposed erection of oak framed garden room. 1 Green Park Lane Cottages Green Park Lane Beckington BA11 6TT  
Ref. No: 2019/2803/HSE Received: 20 Nov 2019 Status: Decided

Extension of existing garden annex and new rear canopy to main house. Lower Rudge Farm Rudge Lane Rudge Frome BA11 2QE  
Ref. No: 2019/2780/HSE Received: 19 Nov 2019 | Status: Decided

Demolition of existing workshop and erection of replacement workshop. 18 Warminster Road Beckington BA11 6SY  
Ref. No: 2019/2761/HSE | Received: 13 Nov 2019 Status: Decided

Proposed erection of 4 new dwellinghouses and demolition of existing dwelling. Open for Comment 22 Frome Road Beckington BA11 6TD

Ref. No: 2019/2736/FUL | Received: 12 Nov 2019 Status: Registered

Installation of 4 solid internal shutters to the four East facing windows. Open for Comment

15 Bath Road Beckington BA11 6SL  
Ref. No: 2019/2650/LBC Received: 23 Oct 2019 Status: Registered

Erection of conservatory (Retrospective) Open for Comment 25 Castle Corner Beckington Frome BA11 6TA  
Ref. No: 2019/3027/HSE Received: 20 Dec 2019 Status: Awaiting decision

Construction of farm track and alteration to existing access (part retrospective). Open for Comment Land At Rudge Lane Standerwick  
Ref. No: 2019/2974/FUL Received: 12 Dec 2019 | Status: Registered

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<b>St. George's Beckington</b>		Feb 2	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
			10.00am	Morning Worship
		Feb 9	10.00am	Holy Communion <i>with Berkley</i>
		Feb 16	10.00am	BCP Matins
		Feb 23	10.00am	Morning Worship
		Mar 1	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
			10.00am	Morning Worship
<b>St. Mary's Berkley</b>		Feb 2	11.00am	BCP Matins
		Feb 9	10.00am	Holy Communion <b>at Beckington</b>
		Feb 16	9.15am	<b>All-age Service</b>
		Feb 23	9.15am	Holy Communion
		Mar 1	11.00am	BCP Matins
<b>All Saints Rodden</b>		Feb 2	6.30pm	BCP Evensong
		Feb 9	6.30pm	BCP Holy Communion
		Feb 16	11.00am	BCP Holy Communion
		Feb 23	11.00am	BCP Matins
	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	Feb 26	10.30am	BCP Holy Communion
		Mar 1	6.30pm	BCP Evensong
<b>All Saints Lullington</b>		Feb 2	11.00am	BCP Holy Communion
		Feb 16	11.00am	BCP Matins
		Mar 1	11.00am	BCP Holy Communion
<b>St. Mary's Orchardleigh</b>		Feb 9	11.00am	BCP Matins
		Feb 23	11.00am	BCP Holy Communion
		Mar 8	11.00am	BCP Matins
<b>Baptist Church</b>	Services each Sunday at 3pm to which all are welcome			

## ***Diary Dates***

### **This month**

- Feb 1    ***The Mikado*** 7.30pm at St. George's Church Beckington
- Feb 5    **MU** meeting Lahs Place 2.15pm Wave of Prayer Service
- Feb 6    **1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at No. 30** Styles Hill from 10.30am
- Feb 6    **W.I.** 7.30pm Policing
- Feb 21    **B.A.S.** 7.30pm at Beckington Baptist Church hall
- Feb 28    **Rodden Coffee Morning** 10am Flintford Farm

### **Later in the Year**

- Mar 4    **MU** Make a Mother's Day Tea Lahs Place 2.30pm
- Mar 5    **W.I.** From Russia with Love
- Mar 20    **RBL** Illustrated talk *From Caravels to Carnations* 7.30pm at Beckington Memorial Hall
- Mar 21    **Berkley Fun Quiz Night & Supper** at Beckington Memorial Hall 7pm
- Apr 2    **W.I.** Gardens of the Rich
- Apr 25    **Berkley Plant Sale & Coffee Morning** Tangiers Farm 10.30am
- Apr 25    **St. George's Day Supper** 7pm
- May 7    **W.I.** AGM Resolutions & Quiz
- May 26    **W.I.** Outing to Denman (Tuesday)
- Jun 4    **W.I.** Colourful Buttonholes

- Jun 14    **Beckington Open Gardens** for Friends of St. George's 2pm
- Jul 2    **W.I.** Curious Bath
- Aug 6    **W.I.** Social Evening – shared supper & Quiz
- Sep 3    **W.I.** Behind the Scenes at the National Trust
- Oct 1    **W.I.** Down the Garden Path
- Nov 5    **W.I.** 'Refresh' and talk on Rwanda
- Nov 6    **St. George's Early Christmas Market**
- Dec 3    **W.I.** Kingdom of the Ice Bears

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