

The Beckington Group of Parishes

Beckington
Berkley
Lullington & Orchardleigh
Rodden

Network

June 2020

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Lullington with Orchardleigh

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Beckington Web Site:

www.beckington.org.uk

Beckington School Web Site:

www.beckingtonandmellsfederation.co.uk

Berkley School Web Site:

www.berkleyschool.co.uk

Springmead School Web Site:

www.springmead.com

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

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at St. George's is every Thursday
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Tower Captain: J Ball 830419
johnagball.51@gmail.com

Beckington Group Mothers' Union

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

Beckington Tower Lighting

Mary Hickling 01373 830274

Beckington Pre-School

beckingtonpre-school.co.uk

Please submit items for publication in the
July / August issue to:

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

20th June

Network Advertising: Mrs. J. Evemy

Please call after 4pm during weekdays
07540 133396 Julie@evemy.net

Reader's Message

Living with uncertainty is never easy. Recalling the challenges of living with greater uncertainty in WW2, it was hope that brought us through. That hope is seen in the film *The Darkest Hour*, shown recently on TV. Churchill draws strength to rally the country to fight on from the people on the underground who believed that we would overcome Nazi tyranny, because good must triumph over evil - a hope drawn from our Christian heritage.

Today Covid 19 challenges our self-sufficiency, reminding us that it is God's world and we ignore him and his love at our peril. The opportunity is here to rediscover the Christian hope that enables us to cope with trouble. God is not the source of evil, but he is the one who is able to bring good out of trouble. He is the one who can lift us out of fear, the fear of both the unknown and death. But we do need to humbly seek his help in prayer.

At this time thousands around the world have been doing just that, asking him to end this pandemic, mitigate its economic consequences and help us develop vaccines and live aright in the future.

That calls for a humility that we find difficult, as we prefer to do things our own way and remain in control of our lives. Handing over control to God is scary, and we all struggle to do that. But countless testimonies from both past and present encourage us to put our hope and trust in God every day.

Consider one from the distant past. Most know Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical *Joseph and his Amazing Coloured Dreamcoat*. It is loosely based on the Bible story whose ending relates how, in the midst of famine, Joseph's brothers came to buy wheat from him. Instead of taking revenge upon them as many might have done, he forgave them for cruelly selling him into slavery in Egypt, saying: "*What you intended for evil, God has used for good - for the saving of many lives.*"

Here, possibly some 1,800 years before Jesus came, Joseph foreshadowed the Cross and God's plan to rescue the world from death and give life. Peter brings this out when he first addressed the people of Jerusalem. He told them bluntly, that while they had wickedly crucified Jesus, the holy one, God had raised him from the dead. Many responded by asking, "*What shall we do?*"; Peter told them to repent and believe so that God could forgive their sins, and give them life. Here is the supreme example of how God brings good out of evil. So today, make the chorus of a recent hymn by Tim Hughes, *Hope and Glory*, your prayer:

*Only you can move the mountain, only you can heal our land.
Christ alone our hope and glory, Christ alone in you we stand.*

Edmund Phillimore



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

Services at St Georges

While there are currently no public services in the church, one of our Readers or retired Clergy will continue to read a service and pray at scheduled service times (at home, until permitted in the church building). Everyone is welcome to participate in their own home with a service template that can be used each week and a weekly sheet with a thought for the day and relevant prayers. If you would like to receive your copies please contact Edmund Phillimore on whephillimore@btinternet.com or phone 01373 830677

The Bright Field

I have seen the sun break through
to illuminate a small field
for a while, and gone my way
and forgotten it. But that was the pearl
of great price, the one field that had
treasure in it. I realise now that I must
give all that I have
to possess it. Life is not hurrying

on to a receding future, nor hankering
after an imagined past. It is the turning
aside like Moses to the miracle of the
lit bush, to the brightness that seemed
as transitory as your youth once, but
is the eternity that awaits you.

R.S.Thomas

Parents & Toddlers

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

Coronavirus update from Somerset County Council

All our help and information is now **available in a single place** on the SCC website

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus/covid-19-latest-advice/>

Send to a friend

These coronavirus bulletins are now available to anyone. Please send to a friend who would like to stay up to date with the latest developments. To sign up simply visit

www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus.

Beckington Group Mothers' Union

In view of the restrictions imposed by Coronavirus there is not much to report at present. Many if not all of our members are in the age group affected by lock down, so we have been keeping in touch by phone and email, and some have ventured in to the realms of Zoom and Skype. There have been newsletters and information from the diocese, but sadly this has been to say many events have been cancelled, and we may not meet again for some time. We were pleased to have been able to hold our Mothering Sunday tea, which now seems a long time ago, and sorry to have been unable to have our much anticipated Donkey Therapy meeting! The rest of this year's programme has been put on hold, the first possible date being September.

We have had the sad news that one of our oldest and most faithful members has died recently. Kath Elliott has been in failing health for some time, but always made a great effort to attend meetings when she could. Kath had great integrity and strength of character, and a strong active Christian faith. she would often lead prayers and contribute to MU Cathedral prayers at Wells, and was a faithful member of Christchurch in Frome.



Her working life was spent teaching, and when she retired she was head of Combe Down Junior school. One of her great joys was Girl Guides. She loved camping and being with young people. Another great love was her garden, which she missed greatly when she moved into residential care a couple of years ago. She was a member of Frome Embroiderers Guild, and some of her many embroideries hung on the walls of her little room. Kath loved cats and belonged to the Cats Protection group.

For many years Kath was our MU Deanery President. She welcomed progress and continued to take an active interest in the changing face of MU. Many of us will remember her very fondly, and were pleased to have known her.

We all look forward to the time when we can meet again, and hope all our members are thinking of one another, praying for all our members and keeping safe and well. If you need any help or information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Rosemary Ball

Beckington C of E First School

This was a poem that Owl Class wrote in the autumn term with Pete the Poet.

They were learning about the American Native Indians which provided their inspiration.

Class spiritual thoughts for a better world.

May the sun lift our sadness

May the moon bring us health

May the rain sprinkle us with happiness

May the breeze blow away our fears

May the stars sparkle us to sleep

May the river wash us with new energy

May the mountain look down on us with wisdom

May the paw of the lion cub offer forgiveness

May the baby's smile touch us with joy

May our vibrant energy bind us

May our great friendship build a better world

May every flower in us bloom forever.

Springmead School

Through the media and through our own school community it has been fascinating to observe how people responded to the lockdown. As a person who is slightly prone to worry, I have especially been moved by those who see 'silver linings' in all situations. It seems that these people, although concerned, appreciated this phase of their life too. I guess that they have seen that although difficult to recall right now, just a few weeks ago, many of us were trying to find ways to spend more time with our families. It's absolutely true that our present situation comes with genuine fears and challenges, but it's also true that we have the power to choose how we respond. If we choose, we can accept the challenges but also embrace the enormous opportunity we have to draw our families and school community closer than ever with words of encouragement, appreciation and shared understanding. I am taking a leaf out of their book and saying a huge thank you to positive people...to my staff who have provided wall-to-wall, unbroken, remote learning, remotely and in school and to parents and children who have been so adaptable and positive.

Beth Dinnis in Year 6 is a positive person:

Having to do schoolwork at home is quite hard but is something new for everyone. At first, technology seemed to be against us! Tricky when all the new work was online. I have had a few problems with things not loading and having to share with my brother

and sister but it has always eventually worked and we have learnt to take turns! Our routine is very much the



same every day. We are ready at nine o'clock to do Joe Wick's PE and then we do a music lesson or start our class work. I normally finish around eleven o'clock and then I have some free time before lunch. I read for about an hour after lunch before finishing my afternoon class work. The class Zoom meeting takes place every afternoon which is now quite fun, now that I know what I am doing! Usually when I wake up, I think "Another day of home school!" but when I go to bed I think "Actually it wasn't that bad. I got everything done and dusted!". Being at home isn't the best place to do school work and I miss my friends and teachers, however, I'm learning new things, doing lots of baking, craft, building Lego and making a music video and this is helping to get us through these strange times. Stay well.

Warmest,
Madeleine Taylor
Springmead School

Gardening Sharing Tips Wanted

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.

A DIFFERENT WORLD

Snippets taken from notes of John V Harris former Head Gardener

With a wish to spread his wings and acquire qualifications, my father left home in 1923 which was an apple farm in Herefordshire, to become a garden boy. Becoming a head gardener offered plenty of situations to choose from and led to a respected and responsible position in a gentleman's establishment. A lad leaving school, taking a job at a country home, could look forward to a lifetime in the profession, steadily improving his situation to a point where he could offer marriage to a young lady, quite often herself employed in domestic service, ultimately aiming for the prestigious position of head gardener. World War

I and increasing mechanisation had reduced the number of posts available but the profession was still highly organised and respected as was domestic service.

When applying for a post advertised in the Gardeners Chronicle, the bothy, which was the name of the accommodation, was an all important consideration. This could consist of a few rooms next to the potting shed, or a lodge or cottage in the grounds, where the unmarried gardeners ate and slept.

A minimum of furniture and beds with coal was provided but personal laundry and purchase of food was the responsibility of the inmates. In a good bothy a cleaning lady would be provided two mornings a week with additional cooking on some days.

John writes "In one lodging with only two of us, a lady cleaned two mornings a week and we did our own cooking. The accommodation was somewhat spartan but we were young with cast iron stomachs and we survived. At Eaton Hall I lived in a purpose-built bothy with three floors of relatively palatial accommodation and even a real bathroom with constant hot water, housing 14 young men all working in the glass houses. Here we had two cleaning ladies five days a week who did all our cooking as well as well as changing bed linen." Having left home, living in a bothy with other lads and learning to be independent led to several moves, (gaining a position as third journeyman, then second journeyman graduating to first journeyman, then foreman), providing sufficient experience to apply for a head gardener's job in a small

establishment, usually with a tied cottage.

Different establishments provided specific experience, eg glass houses which involved care of exotic and expensive orchids and fruit such as peach trees and other rarer fruit; vegetable growing, fruit growing, kitchen garden, pleasure grounds or general management; all the time gaining another step up the ladder. Occasionally a special requirement was mentioned ie a good scythe hand, motor mower experience, floral decorator etc. The hours were generally 6.00 am to 5.00 pm with half an hour for breakfast and an hour for lunch. There were no tea breaks and everyone took turns with weekend duty. My father writes "Aged 26 I took my first head gardener's post in charge of six men at 45 shillings per week (£2.50) with a tied cottage. Up to this point I boasted that I had never stayed more than two years in one post or moved less than 100 miles between jobs."

What the system did was to turn out a large number of young knowledgeable men, capable of dealing with virtually anything that grows and all attaining good positions of single-handed married gardeners or head gardeners in charge of large estate gardens and staff. This system had been in place for many years, and before the days of railway transport, men walked from place to place which is why in this profession, as in many others, gardeners were called journeymen. Sadly, after World War II, for the gentry, life as they had known it for hundreds of years was no longer viable. They had lost their young sons

who would have taken over, and thousands of young men and women who had left their jobs looking after the land never came home again. Many big houses sadly fell into ruin and some of the lucky ones were sold and the land divided.

It is maybe difficult for our young people today to appreciate that domestic staff, stable staff, gardening staff, whoever they were and whatever they did, on the whole looked up to and respected their employers and did not feel degraded in any way for being employed in their respective positions. It was normal to speak with deference and politeness and to always take off your hat and always call your employers "Sir" or "Madam" or "Lady" or "Sir." One did a good job to the absolute best of your ability; you were regarded as a professional in your area and mutual respect and dependence on each other was accepted and appreciated. However, there are always exceptions and there will always be stories of terrible conditions in which many servants worked but I think I would have taken my chances of being a house parlour maid in a big house rather than a mill hand in a city factory.

Sally Bailey

Wanted or For Sale

If you would like an entry in this column, please send it to Julie Every (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 (once it reopens). Private advertisements only please.

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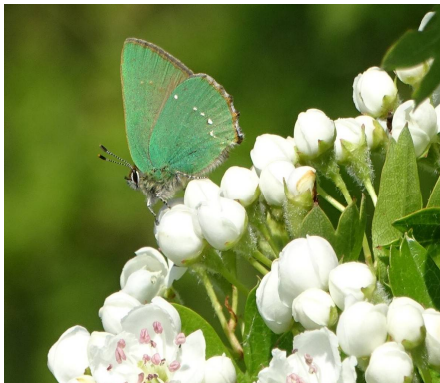
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For Sale

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

Bryan White 07792 234004

Friends of St George's



THANK YOU to everyone who supported our PLANT SALE on May 16th, your donations amounted to an amazing **£1371.00**

We are so grateful for your generosity and support on this occasion and hope your plants will thrive and enhance this time of staying at home. The money will go to help keep the Church in good repair.

Sadly, we have to **cancel** the **OPEN GARDENS** scheduled for June as social distancing would be impossible for several gardens, and therefore not acceptable for their owners. We still have some canes for beans.

Please contact Freda: 830597

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Thank You

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This month's recipe is the ever popular **Banana Loaf** kindly sent in by Mes Amis:

Oven temperature: gas 4/180C/350F

Line a 2lb loaf tin with baking parchment ...soak dried fruit in hot water for 30mins then drain ... add dry ingredients to bowl, then mix in melted butter, eggs and mashed banana mix, drained fruit and nuts (don't over mix).

Spoon batter into loaf tin... bake in oven 50-60mins - leave in tin until cold... also great toasted ... also freezes well, if it lasts that long!

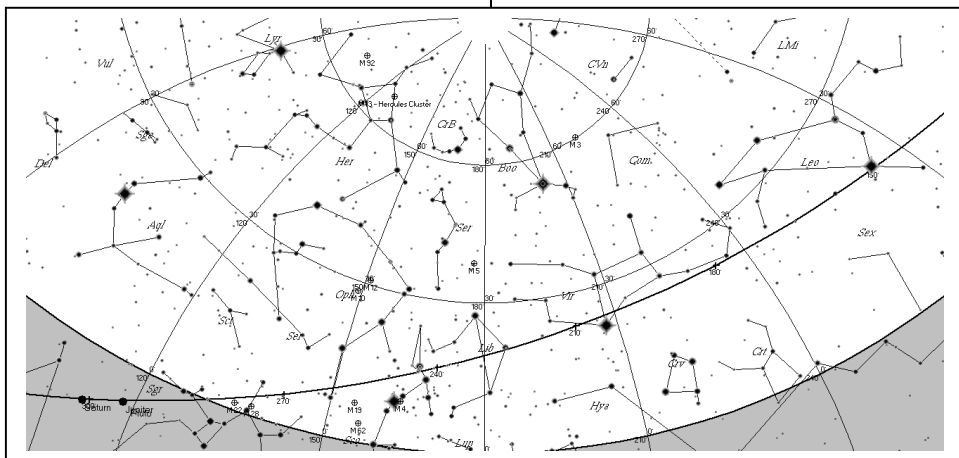


Beckington Astronomical Society

The star map shows the night sky looking South from Beckington at 10.30pm (BST) around the middle of June. I will cover a few things which I hope may be of interest to those new to astronomy. A few things about the map. The stars appear to move from East to West as the night moves on; it is really the Earth turning causing you to look into a different part of space.

find the constellations shown on the map.

As we all know stars differ in how bright we see them. Hipparchus a Greek Astronomer (second century B.C.) produced the 1st known star map. He numbered the stars from 1 the brightest to 6 for those he could only just see. In more modern times we are able to measure how bright we see the stars and the Magnitudes – the brightness number ascribed to the



The line round the bottom represents the horizon. Objects to the lower right (west) will set as the evening progresses, Objects in the East below the line will rise. Note particularly Jupiter and Saturn. These planets will have risen by about midnight but you will need a low horizon to see them (i.e. no hills or tall buildings). Wait until about 2.00am when they will be easier to see although unfortunately it will be some years before we see them high in the night sky again. The lines sweeping up from the horizon meet directly above your head so that should give you an idea of where to

star was formalized. A magnitude 1 star is 100 X brighter than a Magnitude 6 star. This seems a bit back to front but there we are. Some stars were found to be brighter than 1 so they had to go to '0' or even -ve values. The difference between each level is about 2.5 (root 5 for the mathematicians amongst you if you want to be precise). ie a magnitude 1 is 2.5 times brighter than a magnitude 2. The Sun is Magnitude -27. A trick question: What is the brightest star in the sky? Even astronomers get caught on this sometimes when they have not listened carefully to the question. They

might say, Sirius, but of course it is our Sun. Sirius is the brightest star in the NIGHT sky. If you look on the map upper left middle you will see in the constellation of Hercules what is called the Hercules Cluster M13. (Note M does not stand for magnitude here – see later) This is called a globular cluster made up of millions of stars. If you have really good eyesight you might just be able to see it as a small fuzzy patch – binoculars will give you a much more rewarding view. Its magnitude is M. 5.8 but a word of caution. The human eye sees a point of light (e.g. star) more easily than if the light is spread over a slightly larger area (like M13).

I will finish by considering the 'M' in M13. M here stands for Messier. Charles Messier was a French Astronomer (mid 18th C.) who was a keen comet hunter. In those days you identified a possible comet by seeing if over a period of weeks, it moved against the backdrop of stars. Messier got annoyed by wasting time on fuzzy objects he had found in the past that did not move but he had forgotten about. He listed these objects (although he did not know what they were) so as to not waste time on them. His list of over 100 objects are avidly searched out by amateur astronomers - they include galaxies, globular clusters, nebulae and other objects. One last point: the Comet named Swan, that it was hoped would be visible in the summer, has broken into a few pieces so is unlikely to give us a display. It followed true to the amateur astronomer's saying: "Comets are like

cats – they have a tail and are unpredictable!!"

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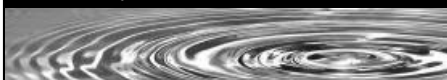
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Beckington Planning Applications

For details see:

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

Current Planning Applications

Received and will be responded to by the Clerk:

2020/0572/FUL - Adjustments to doors and windows, internal alterations, removal of rear brick chimney stack and raising of the rear roof

**The Full Moon Inn Rudge Lane
Rudge Frome BA11 2QF, 04 May**

Related Application:

2020/0573/LBC - Adjustments to doors and windows, internal alterations, removal of rear brick chimney stack and raising of the rear roof.

**The Full Moon Inn Rudge Lane
Rudge Frome BA11 2QF, 28 Apr**

Parish Clerk Decision:

2019/2736/FUL - Proposed erection of 4 new dwelling houses and demolition of existing dwelling.

**22 Frome Road Beckington Frome
BA11 6TD, 21 Nov 2019**

**Parish Council recommendation:
Objection**

2020/0693/OTA - Outline application with all matters reserved for the provision of two dwelling houses.

**Land At 379975 152332 Bath Road
Beckington Frome Somerset, 02
Apr 2020**

**Parish Council recommendation:
Objection**

2020/0467/TCA - T1 - Willow.
dismantle/fell

**5 Bath Road Beckington Frome
BA11 6SW, 03 Mar 2020**

**Parish Council recommendation:
Objection**

SERVICES June 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-and-services/-1>

Premier Christian Radio:

Online, on DAB radio or Freeview channel 725

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

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

Well worth watching- A collaboration from 65 churches singing a blessing of peace
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUtll3mNj5U>

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>

Diary Dates

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Thank You

- 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**

Please note that the next
issue of Network is for **July /
August** and goes to print at
midday on **June 20th**.

Network is online!

The online copy of Network can be
found at:

[www.beckington.org.uk/church/net
work-magazine.htm](http://www.beckington.org.uk/church/network-magazine.htm)

and on the Information page at:

beckingtonparishcouncil.org.uk