


The Beckington Group of Parishes



Beckington  
Berkley  
Lullington & Orchardleigh  
Rodden

# Network

May 2021

## CONTACT LIST

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 01373 831680 / 07712 117721  
 Ronnie keeps Fridays free for  
 rest, family and friends

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	Mr. G. Bridges	01225 755784
	Mr. S. McKie	830369
<b>Readers PTO (Permission to Officiate)</b>	Mr. H. M. Daniel	
	Cdr. E. Phillimore	830677
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	Su Coates	
Deputy	Maria Beaven	830535
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Treasurer	Michael Ruddick	464463
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Church Wardens	Jim Beck	464574
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	Jim Dowling	462515
<a href="mailto:flintford2@gmx.co.uk">flintford2@gmx.co.uk</a>		
<b>Lullington with Orchardleigh</b>		
<a href="https://lullandorch.org.uk">https://lullandorch.org.uk</a> Twitter: @LullandOrch		
email addresses end with ...@lullandorch.org.uk		
Churchwardens: wardens@...		
Glyn & Ruth Bridges 01225 755784		
Jenny Ladd 01373 830514		
Treasurer: Jo Rathmell treasurer@...		
Weddings: Jenny Ladd weddings@...		
Baptisms: baptisms@...		
Director of Music: David King music@....		
Vergers: Jeanette Hayward weddverger@...		

### **Beckington Web Site:**

Awaiting reconstruction

### **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**

Sara Coffield 01373 710210

[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 **June** issue to:

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

to arrive no later than **12 noon** on

**May 20<sup>th</sup>**

**For Network Advertising:** Mrs. J. Evemy

Please call after 4pm during weekdays

07540 133396 [Julie@evemy.net](mailto:Julie@evemy.net)

## A Reflection

Dear Friends

The month of May is a stunning month as we listen to the song of the dawn chorus and delight as Spring turns to summer, the days lengthen, and the air warms. It is also the month we celebrate Pentecost when we recall the coming of the Holy Spirit into the lives of the first followers of Christ. A time when, for the early church, there was much uncertainty and a good deal of fear. But early experience of the Holy Spirit brought a refreshed hope into the early church. People were encouraged to share the story of Jesus and to tell of their own personal experience.

After a long and difficult year of covid we may well feel we need a new and fresh experience to encourage us. In the middle of this month St George's church in Beckington is hosting a very special weekend to renew and refresh us. We are pleased to welcome a small team from ReSource who help ordinary people and ordinary churches to engage with the Holy Spirit for renewal, discipleship and mission. Please see below on how to book your place.

Rev Ronnie

### **Benefice Weekend: 14<sup>th</sup>- 16<sup>th</sup> May**

#### **BOOKING DETAILS**

We are currently planning the benefice weekend. A mixture of worship in church, outdoor activities and small gatherings.

To help us plan please let Maria Beaven know if you hope to attend.

[maria.beaven@outlook.com](mailto:maria.beaven@outlook.com)

Tel. 07940420596



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## **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

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## Beckington Private Hire

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## Frome Farmers' Market

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

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

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

## The Hospital of St Cross & Almshouse of Noble Poverty 'England's Oldest Almshouse' Vacancies for Brothers

The Hospital, founded in 1132, is home to 25 retired  
laymen ('Brothers') and applications are welcomed.  
A registered Charity with a Christian foundation, the  
Hospital is situated a mile south of Winchester. Each  
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Further information and an application form are obtainable from:  
Clerk to the Trustees, Hospital of St Cross Winchester, SO23 9SD  
Tel: 01962 878218  
E-mail: [clerk1@hospitalofstcross.co.uk](mailto:clerk1@hospitalofstcross.co.uk)  
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## St. George's Beckington

### Floodlighting

9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> April the church tower was flood lit in memory and appreciation of **HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh**.

If you would like the tower to be floodlit, please contact: Mary Hickling [maryhickling@btinternet.com](mailto:maryhickling@btinternet.com) or 830274. Suggested donation £10 **payable to PCC Beckington**. Thank you.

### Ecology and the Church

A small group at St George's Church in Beckington have begun looking closely at our responsibility towards the environment. Small sections of the churchyard will now be carefully managed to encourage a greater number of wild flowers to thrive and in turn create a better environment for wildlife.

We hope to include local schools and our community in providing bug hotels and surveying the land to record the wildlife and plants in the area. You may have a particular expertise in ecology and wildlife, or a special interest you would like to develop further. We would love to hear from you. Please email [rectorronnie@outlook.com](mailto:rectorronnie@outlook.com) or text 07712 117721

## APCM 2021

**Beckington with Standerwick APCM will be held on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2021 following the 10.30am Benefice Communion Service at St George's Church.**

### Friends of St George's

**The Auction of Talents has raised a wonderful £1000 and we thank all of you who supported by giving and buying.**

Please see page 17 for the silent auction results.

Please note

**Plant Sale on Saturday  
MAY 8<sup>th</sup> (10-12) and  
Beckington Open  
Gardens on SUNDAY  
13<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2-5pm**

### Christian Aid Week

**10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

In Beckington we are not organising a house-to-house collection. For online donations, please visit [caweek.org](http://caweek.org) Thank you.

There may be the possibility of a fund-raising advert being held in Frome. If this occurs, details will be published in Network.

Freda Brann





## St. Mary's Berkley

We were delighted to resume our All Age Service (Family Service) on

April 18<sup>th</sup>.

It was wonderful to worship together within the church building and it was lovely to see those people who attended.

Caroline led the service and John Beaven gave a child centred talk based on the theme of "Jesus is Alive" which gave the adults plenty to reflect on too.

Obviously, we took great care to ensure a covid safe environment and we very much look forward to many more of you joining us for the services over the summer months. Dates will be in Network.

Caroline White



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers



## Lullington & Orchardleigh

There will be a **BCP Holy Communion service on Ascension Day, Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May, in All Saints Lullington - time -11.00 am.**

To book please email Jenny Ladd, [jladd@sharpfrost.plus.com](mailto:jladd@sharpfrost.plus.com)



## All Saints Rodden

All Saints Church had well attended services on Easter Sunday and on 18<sup>th</sup> April.

We will be holding a **Holy Communion service on 9<sup>th</sup> May and Evensong on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May both at 6.30pm.**

**Our APCM will also be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May preceding worship at 5.15pm in Rodden church Hall.**

**Rodden 200** club is fully subscribed and applications are now closed. Many thanks to everyone who has donated and provided vital income in these difficult times.

Jim Dowling



## **Berkley School**

Dear Community,

As I write this I am at home, as it is the Easter holidays, the sun is shining and we will soon be preparing for a day out at some local gardens. I feel really lucky and blessed to be able to make a plan, to be outdoors without my hat and scarf and to share the day with someone else. With this great feeling and the hope and joy that springs brings us I think we are set to have a wonderful term 5 and 6 in school and in the wider community. I do hope all of you are able to enjoy these long awaited and precious moments as I find they help us feel connected.

At the end of last term, we had an Easter Extravaganza, we spent the whole week involved in cross curricular activities, each class presented part of the Easter Story and in a whole school (virtual) assembly we had to put the story back together. We had a lot of acting, dressing up, art work and some lovely narration. The children created little videos for the parents to watch at home of what they had been doing in school. We also had a lovely surprise from our Year 1 children who came outside to share the words of a song for the office staff to hear.

At Berkley the grounds are all ready and waiting for the pupils to return, the mud kitchens are out, water and sand is shining in the sun and seeds are sat ready to be planted. In Term 5 the children in Year 4 will be visiting Mill on the Brue, this is a fantastic opportunity which they missed last year. In school the pupils are thinking about a reflection area within the grounds for all to

use, this also links to an art project in the pipe line which we will announce soon. We will all be busy until the end of the summer but we are ready. Another new venture also starting is a partnership with a company called Karmadrama; this will begin as an after school club in the first instance. At the centre of this company is the well-being of the child.

Thank you for your ongoing support; we are a small school and all help is hugely appreciated. We thank you for spreading the word about our school and cannot wait to welcome members of the community back in to enrich our curriculum and to strengthen our relationships. Take care of each other.

Suzanne Thompson

## **Beckington School**

Hopefully you all had a lovely Easter with opportunities to get outside in the dry, but cool weather. The week before we broke up for the holiday, we managed some lovely Easter walks around the village, with planned stopping places to tell parts of the Easter story to the children.

Huge thanks to Maria Beaven, Caroline White and Reverend Ronnie for organising these, accompanying us and leading the story telling to give the children a better understanding of the meaning of the Easter story. The children also loved the opportunity to look for mini-beasts and listen to the birds while enjoying the sunshine. Despite the continued pandemic situation, our Y4 children are going

to be able to visit Mill on the Brue for two days of outdoor activity, just without the overnight experience. While they do this, our Y3 children will spend some time engaged in art activities and visiting Mell's School to join the children there for some sports and forest school activities. We hope all the children enjoy chance to spend time with friends and take part in new challenges.

The whole school is currently taking part in the Sustrans Big Pedal where we are encouraging children and families to come to school in an environmentally friendly way – cycling, walking or scootering. We hope this continues to develop healthy life styles and ease congestion around the school. Each class will have a 'bring your wheels to school' day too!

We plan on making the learning in the summer term as much fun as possible and hope that by the end of the term we can once again invite our parents in for events such as sports day.

Thank-you to FoBS (Friends of Beckington School) for their continued support – the children loved their Easter eggs given to them by the Easter Rabbit!

Claire Chantler

## Springmead School

A year ago, along with the rest of the country, we were in the first lockdown. The experience of the last year has been quite remarkable; we have all learnt so much about ourselves. Undoubtedly there have been tough challenges to overcome, almost on a daily basis, for children,

parents and staff. As a small school who prides itself on punching well above its weight in provision, pandemic or no pandemic, we have been fully tested:

- Negotiating our way around constantly changing guidance
- Staff and parents needing to learn, on the job, how to teach remotely
- Keeping children pushing forward in their learning and supporting their well-being
- Keeping everyone safe in a Covid secure environment
- On a weekly basis covering staff absences while awaiting test results, after picking up school bugs
- Steering the ship through a period of uncertainty.

Alone, this task would have been impossible; with the support of enabling adults, we have held a steady course. Indeed, there have been many moments of joy; watching children overcome difficulties, and seeing them relish the new opportunities that the situation has presented, has been inspiring. As a school we haven't always got it right, goodness knows; however, with a supportive community we have been able to stay firm in our resolve to provide a rich, nurturing and balanced provision that is true to our philosophy and aims.

This term we are busy on every level; balancing the needs of a rich and broad curriculum and academic learning, with the need to experience all life, and to offer and relish the sheer joy of being with

friends and the excitement of a rich provision. We have annual tests in a couple of weeks but also exciting trips, clubs, performances, sporting events and many extra-mural activities to look forward to as well.

As we enter our 19<sup>th</sup> year we are as excited as ever.

Madeleine Taylor

## **Beckington Astronomical Society (BAS)**

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

I have noticed over the past few days (17-19th April) what lovely clear nights we have had and the lovely Moon high in the sky. In mid-May the Moon will again be high in the sky and at 1st 1/4. This is ideal for seeing surface detail particularly at the terminator as the shadows cast by the Sun show off the craters. Viewing through binoculars or a telescope will be particularly rewarding. Try taking a picture with a camera. Gone are the days when film was used and one needed to judiciously choose camera settings to get reasonable results without it being expensive in film and processing costs. Nowadays one can take numerous shots using various camera settings. The Moon is very bright and people are often surprised at how short an exposure is required. Ideally mount the camera on a tripod and use the time delay to minimise any vibration. If you have a telescope, try holding the camera against the eyepiece. You may need to adjust the focus. The image shown here is one taken

through my 10-inch Newtonian telescope a few years ago.



John Ball 830419

## **Remembering an outstanding astronomer**

It was 150 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> May 1871, that John Herschel – British astronomer, mathematician, chemist and pioneering photographer – died at the age of 79. Among other things, he named seven of Saturn's moons and four moons of Uranus, as well as investigating colour blindness. He was also President of the Royal Astronomical Society three times.

He was the son of Sir William Herschel, a distinguished scientist who had moved from Germany to Britain and later discovered the planet Uranus, thus creating a pronunciation problem that still hasn't gone away.

Sir John Herschel, himself knighted in 1831, made many contributions to the science of photography and invented the blueprint. He was also deeply interested in the philosophy of science and pioneered an

inductive approach to experiments and the construction of scientific theories.

Between 1834 and 1838 he worked in South Africa with his wife Margaret, studying and photographing Cape flora as well as continuing his astronomical interests. It was here that he met Charles Darwin, on his way home in the HMS Beagle, and had a significant influence on him. Sir John also developed and backed the use of the impressive Julian day numbering system in astronomy.

Tim Lenton

## Village Agent News

Hello readers

As the temperature rises and the days are lighter for longer, it's a real boost for many of us that we can get out and about and meet people outdoors!

You may however still be feeling anxious and isolated until restrictions are further eased in the summer. If this is the case, have you thought about joining a Befriending Service? CCS has a NEW project called **CHAT TO CONNECT** for Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) People.

Do you want to meet new people in a similar position to you, with shared interests? We know it's good to talk and share experiences. We can connect you with another person who is on the CEV list to keep your spirits up – you are not alone. Complete the

short online registration form, and we will match you with another person with similar interests and hobbies. You may need some technical support in order to connect with someone so we are also offering one-to-one virtual support with phones, tablets, and laptops, downloading apps, and using Zoom or WhatsApp.

We have people ready to help you get online and talk to others! Go to:

<https://ccslovesomerset.org/chat-to-connect/>

Nic.07946461468.

[Nicolae@somersetccc.org.uk](mailto:Nicolae@somersetccc.org.uk)

## Beckington Parish Council

### Your Local Councils:

When things go wrong (or even right!) it is often 'the council' you think of reporting it to or to contact for help.

In Somerset we have three tiers of Local Government...

### Beckington Parish Council provides:

- The Allotments
- Bus shelters
- Grants to help local organisations
- Cutting of Sue's Walk

The Parish Council also:

- Scrutinises Planning Applications (but does not have the power to agree or deny them)
- Scrutinises Mendip Council's Local Plan

- Undertakes projects with other agencies to improve the area
- Acts as an enabler to encourage other community groups to undertake projects.

Website:

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

Email:

[beckingtonparishcouncil@outlook.com](mailto:beckingtonparishcouncil@outlook.com)

**Mendip District Council is responsible for:**

- Rubbish collection
- Fly tipping
- Recycling
- Council Tax collections
- Housing
- Planning applications
- Elections and electoral registration

Tel: 0300 303 8588

Website: [www.mendip.gov.uk](http://www.mendip.gov.uk)

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[customerservices@mendip.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@mendip.gov.uk)

**Somerset County Council is responsible for services across the whole county:**

- Education
- Transport
- Highways
- Social care
- Libraries

Tel: 0300 123 2224

Website: [www.somerset.gov.uk](http://www.somerset.gov.uk)

Email:

[generalenquiries@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:generalenquiries@somerset.gov.uk)

**Standerwick, Berkley & Beckington WI**

In April we had another Zoom meeting. Our speaker was Emma Britton who gave us a lively talk on her career path. Her career so far was divided into four parts.

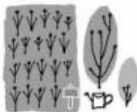
She started out giving keep fit classes, was then asked by Radio Somerset to do keep fit classes, then onto Radio Bristol doing the breakfast show, this meant a 3am start from her home to the studio. Her latest venture being to embark on being a Celebrant, this involves taking Funerals, Weddings, and Naming ceremonies.

Our next meeting will be our AGM, again via zoom but we all hope that the vaccine rollout continues successfully and that we will soon be able to meet up and have a proper natter.

New members are always welcome, if you are interested in joining us please get in touch with either June Saffin 466272 or Roz Serle [zamund@btinternet.com](mailto:zamund@btinternet.com)

Simon Pritchard  
Parish Clerk

# 2020 will not be forgotten easily but one positive legacy of the year was the creation of the Beckington Allotment Association. So, we thought it was about time we introduced ourselves.



It's just over a year since we were each allocated our little 'patch of potential' on a field behind the David Wilson development - that's a polite way of saying that the site was overgrown and partly underwater. So, having briefly considered the commercial viability of starting the Beckington paddy fields, we set to work. Armed with spades, forks and a wheelbarrow-full of enthusiasm, we went forth to do battle with the mud.

Work commenced at an impressive rate - tonnes of manure were shifted, hedges were hacked and sheds seemed to spontaneously multiply overnight. We only encountered a couple of initial mishaps, including one of our members (who shall remain anonymous) becoming so stuck in the quagmire that they only managed to free themselves by clambering onto a nearby plank of wood serving as a life raft. We happily avoided a search and rescue call out on this occasion but his left welly boot is still missing in action!

To our relief, Summer came early last year which meant the mud was soon replaced with baked-dry earth, presenting its own challenges. But the warm, sunny days meant an early crop of produce and it wasn't long before we were hunting for the buried golden nuggets of first early potatoes, inhaling the sweet, earthy scent of freshly-pulled carrot and discussing 101 things to do with courgette!

Article by Amy McElhinney.

## BECKINGTON ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

By mid Summer the transformation from boggy field to productive garden was complete: ropes of squash tendrils lay tangled across the ground; beans helter-skeltered up bamboo towers; dahlias swayed in the breeze like giant, feathery pom-poms and sunflowers stood tall and proud, watching over all.

The colourful scene inspired Beckington artist and plot holder, Sarah Ball, to create a series of watercolour paintings which are now available to buy as greeting cards in Mes Amis.

If you didn't get a look at the plots in the summer - check out our video on YouTube



<https://youtu.be/pSZH16zXwx4>

Our first year on the plots was more productive than we could have hoped for but the allotments have given us so much more than our bountiful harvest; providing a space for socially-distanced exercise during lockdowns, a focus for our minds throughout the challenges of the past year and the chance to grow our community. New friendships have been formed as we have both encouraged and learnt from one another occasionally helped along by a mild dose of plot-envy (no-one can beat a shed with pink curtains, right?).

We have plenty of plans for the future of the allotments and their role in the wider community. We'll keep you posted on our news and progress each month here, as well as sharing some of our seasonal growing tips.

We've planted a little seed... let's see what it can become!



## **FRIENDS OF ST GEORGE'S**

### **PLANT SALE**

**Preserves + Books + Bric-a-Brac**

**SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> May 10am-12noon**

OUTSIDE AT:

- 24 Bath Road,
- 29 Goose Street
- "Stepstones" (next to the Baptist church)

**Social distancing strictly observed.**  
Donations only as change cannot be given.



### **Jasmine's Dogathon for Dorothy House**

Jasmine, my popular, 5-year-old yellow Labrador/Husky cross, managed to complete her commitment to run for 250 dog miles over the six weeks that ended on 20th March.

Thanks to a total of 61 donations - mostly from readers of "Network" but also from friends and neighbours a bit further afield - the surprisingly high sum of **£1,783** has been raised for Dorothy House. This figure includes the Gift Aid rebates that will eventually accrue to the charity from most of the donations. This is a splendid result and our sincere thanks are hereby extended to all who donated so generously, especially to the 15 donors who preferred to make their donations anonymously. Jasmine does not have a legal copyright over the word "Dogathon" and encourages other energetic dogs to embark on their own Dogathons for this very good cause!

Christopher Massy-Beresford (01373 830 524)





## **I wish you a joyful May**

When Van Gogh painted 'The Raising of Lazarus', he turned to Rembrandt for inspiration. But in place of the figure of Jesus, he painted a warm, glowing sun, radiant in the sky, and shining out to bring renewal of life to Lazarus and his sisters.

From time immemorial people have placed the sun at the centre of life and worship. As Christianity grew and spread, it took over ceremonies and practices associated with that belief, but then moved the focus from the sun above to the Son, Jesus, on the earth below.

We can see that in the traditions and worship of Christmas and Easter. In May we celebrate the goodness and

*( 'May Morning on Magdalen Tower'  
by Holman Hunt )*

fruitfulness of nature brought by the sun with Maypole dancing, the crowning of the May Queen, and games and sports, just as the Romans went dancing in the fields at this time, rejoicing in the gifts of Flora, the goddess of nature. In May the druids would greet the sun in the sky as they gathered on a high place.

That custom persisted for several centuries, particularly at Magdalen College in Oxford. In 1840 Dr John Bloxam revived the ceremony. Holman Hunt, one of that group of artists known as the Pre-Raphaelites, visited Oxford in 1851 and so enjoyed the Christmas festivities that he decided to honour the college life in one of his

paintings. That decision took many years to reach the canvas: his painting of 'May Morning on Magdalen Tower' is one of his last complete works in 1890.

We can easily identify the choristers gathered to greet the rising sun in music and song. Amid the clouds and blue sky above, the birds are flying and the floor where the choir stand is bedecked with flowers. It is a glorious celebration of the fruitfulness of May and the summer: God's creation bringing so many gifts. The president of the college is the man with the dark beard at the right of the painting, and Dr Bloxam is beside him. But there is an unusual character there also, at the side of the painting a Parsee, an ancient worshipper of the sun from Persia, perhaps representing not just those who look to the light of the sun, but are also searching for the light of truth. The young chorister in the middle looking out at us holds a lily, the symbol of Mary, the mother of God's Son.

All creation is gathered to greet the dawn and the rising sun of May – the birds above and people below, young and old, Christian and non-Christian - all united to proclaim the goodness and renewal promised by the sun.

Holman Hunt said that he wanted to represent 'the spirit of a beautiful, primitive and in a large sense eternal service.' Here is a vivid reminder that the faith we profess opens our eyes to God's goodness and glory symbolised in the rising sun, and that He welcomes everyone to share in those gifts.

Revd Michael Burgess

## Silent Auction Results

Not all the original Lots are mentioned either if bids were not cast or if for matters of confidentiality.

Garage Restaurant - <i>dinner for four in a rustic setting</i>	£80
Special afternoon tea for 6 including a glass of Fizz!	£25
Three Hours Gardening by experienced couple	£100.97
Recover your favourite silk lampshade	£150
Dog Walking or Dog sitting (2-4 hours)	£10
Personalised home crafted gift cards	£20
Two Jars of Rudge Honey harvested Autumn 2021.	£16
Afternoon Tea for four on a veranda with stunning views	£150
'Made by Maria' chocolate brownies each month for a year"	£75
Pressure hosing to clean a patio	£105
500g sourdough boule every 2 weeks for 2 months	£50
A rustic Bird Feeder	£25
A Hanging Bird Box	£100
Three ½ hour piano lessons for a beginner	£24
a jar of lemon curd x 3 months	£30
A homemade fruit cake	£10
Garden Watering (to cover a holiday period)	£20

## NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR SOMERSET BUSES

The UK Government has just launched a new national bus strategy for England entitled Bus Back Better. The government believes “buses are the easiest, cheapest and quickest way to improve transport”. This national Bus Strategy is backed by £3 billion of new funding and forms a key plank in the government’s twin agenda of “Levelling Up” and “ensuring the economy meets Net Zero carbon emissions”. This is the biggest change in buses in the last 30 years! Said Peter Travis, Co-Chair of Somerset Bus Partnership and a Chair of Frome and Villages Bus User Group, “This new national bus strategy and its extra funding gives us in Somerset the chance to deliver major improvements in the County’s bus services. Somerset now needs to seize this unique opportunity.”

The newly formed Somerset Bus Partnership is supported both by councilors and by bus user groups across Somerset and it will seek to work with local town and parish councils and with Somerset County Council to input into a Bus Enhancement Partnership for Somerset that incorporates both what current bus users need and take steps to facilitate more Somerset residents to switch from using private cars to travel by bus.

At 10 journeys per resident, Somerset currently has the fourth lowest bus passenger journeys per population in England. It is the lowest in the South West. Bus

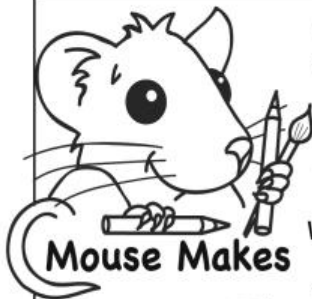
passenger journeys in Somerset have decreased by more than some 40% over the past decade.

“The new Bus Strategy provides the funding to reverse this decline in passenger numbers in Somerset and see Somerset playing its part in the Government’s levelling up and green agendas by launching a Bus Enhancement Initiative for Somerset. Somerset needs to commit to this initiative by June 2021.” Said Peter Travis

We are looking for bus users or people who may be interested in buses or concerned about the Climate Emergency who would like to join in and help work out how we can take advantage of Bus Back Better. Do please get in contact via the below contact details:

Contact:  
Peter Travis  
Somerset Bus Partnership  
01373 831726  
SBPMendip@outlook.com






Re arrange the scrambled letters to find the missing words.

 The Holy Spirit  
**VSEIL**  
with us and in us.

The Holy Spirit  
helps us to  
**WKNO**  
we belong to God.

The Holy Spirit  
**HCTSEEA**  
us about God. 

The Holy Spirit  
**KPESSA**  
God's word to us.

The Holy Spirit  
**PHLSE**  
us to tell others  
about Jesus.

 The Holy Spirit  
helps us when we  
**AYPR**

On the day of **PENTECOST**  
the disciples were gathered  
together in one place...

What sound did they hear?

*Acts 2:2*

What did they see?

*Acts 2:3*

What filled them?

*Acts 2:4*

How did they speak?

*Acts 2:4*

What did the crowd hear?

*Acts 2:6*

Which countries  
had they come from?

*Acts 2:9*

What was  
their reaction?

*Acts 2:12-13*

Who explained

what was  
happening?

What did he say?

*Acts 2:14-36*

How many  
people were  
baptised  
that day?

*Acts 2:41*

Change each letter to the  
letter before it in the  
alphabet and see what  
the **Holy Spirit**  
produces in us:

KPZ   
IVNJMJUZ  
TFMG DPOUSPM  
GBJUIGVMOFTT  
LJOEOFTT  
QBUJFODF  
QFBDF  
MPWF  
HPPEOFTT 

*Galatians 5:22*

What is the work of the  
**Holy Spirit**? What does He do?  
Fill in the missing letters.

  
TEAC \_ES  
COMF \_RTS

REVEA \_S 

IN \_OU



TRAN \_FORMS

 HEL \_S 

 GU \_DES

 ENEWS  
CONV \_CTS  
SANC \_IFIES

## Ascension Day 13<sup>th</sup> May

40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. These are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to His disciples, following His death and resurrection. Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20.

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those 40 days. Jesus was seen by numerous of His disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged His disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent Him, He was now going to send them – to all corners of the earth, as His witnesses.

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy:

*'When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up His hands – and blessed them.'*

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with His return to His Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless His disciples. He and they had a bond as close as could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles – persecution and death – and resurrection! Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with

love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus:

*'While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven.'* (Luke 24:50-1)

He was not forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which would also be theirs one day:

*'I am ascending to my Father and to your Father, to my God and your God...'* (John 20:17)

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and have Him look on you with love. No wonder then that Luke goes on:

*'they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.'*  
(Luke 24:52,53)

No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day! *'I am going to prepare a place for you... I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.'* (John 14:2,3) In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on earth.

Parish Pump  
(an editorial resource for church  
magazine editors)

## Day of Pentecost Whit Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

Pentecost took place on the well-established Jewish festival of Firstfruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was seven weeks after Easter, or 50 days including Easter.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit – the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told His disciples that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for His disciples, but He knew they could not do the work themselves. They would need His help.

And so, they waited in Jerusalem, praying together with His other followers, for many days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues, to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the disciples and followers of

Jesus. The Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian Church that morning, proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course, Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, He could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of His Holy Spirit.

### **Network is online!**

The online copy of Network can be found at:

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

and on the Information page at:  
[beckingtonparishcouncil.org.uk](http://beckingtonparishcouncil.org.uk)





## Trinity Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May

### Celebrating our God who is Three Persons

Trying to explain the doctrine of the Trinity has kept many a theologian busy down the centuries. One helpful picture is to imagine the sun shining in the sky. The sun itself way out there in space, and unapproachable in its fiery majesty is the Father. The light that flows from it, which gives us life and illuminates all our lives, is the Son. The heat that flows from it, and which gives us all the energy to move and grow, is the Holy Spirit. You cannot have the sun without its light and its heat. The light and the heat are from the sun, are *of* the sun, and yet are also distinct in themselves, with their own roles to play.

The Bible makes clear that God is One God, who is disclosed in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit. For example:

*Deuteronomy 6:4: 'Hear O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one.'*

*Isaiah 45:22: 'Turn to me and be saved... for I am God, and there is no other.'*

*Genesis 1:1-2: 'In the beginning God created.... and the Spirit of God was hovering...'*

*Judges 14:6: 'The Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power...'*

*John 1:1-3: 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.'*

*Luke 24:49 actually manages to squeeze the whole Trinity into one sentence. Jesus tells His disciples: 'I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power (the Holy Spirit) from on high.'*

In other words, the sun eternally gives off light and heat, and whenever we turn to its brilliant light, we find that the warmth and life there as well.

Parish Pump



## People in the Parish

This month Network has been speaking with **Jane Kellett** from Beckington who shares her story of faith, life and love.

Being born in Perranporth with the surname 'Trevenna' I am proud of my Cornish roots! I had a lovely childhood, later leaving home to train as a nurse in Exeter & midwife in Oxford. After working as a night sister in the Radcliffe, I moved to Bristol as a sister at Southmead hospital. Going to church I met Tim, a geologist, training for Anglican ministry at Trinity College. We got engaged after 6 weeks, married within 6 months & had 30 years of happy marriage.

I trained to teach nurses at UWE before we moved to Hertfordshire. Tim was a curate & I taught at a hospital in Stevenage. To our delight, after 3 miscarriages our daughter Rebecca was born, followed 2 yrs later by David, by which time we had moved to a small mining village in Warwickshire where Tim was vicar.

In 1985 we moved to the Lizard peninsula in Cornwall - St Keverne spending 10 happy years there. Then Tim was asked to direct training for the diocese so we moved nearer Truro, where he also had care of 3 small rural churches. During this time both children left to go to university & I worked for NHS Direct as a Nurse Advisor.

Before coming to Beckington where Tim was appointed Rector, we moved to Norwich, where I worked

in diabetes research, later teaching nurses & medical students advanced skills. Tim was chaplain to Norwich university UEA & assisted at Norwich cathedral, but missed working in a parish so we moved here in 2005.

This was to have been our last appointment before retiring to Cornwall, but as some of you realise, it was not to be - Tim collapsed while running in Nov 06 & was taken to the RUH deeply unconscious, dying 10 days later without regaining consciousness.

Life was very hard but many friends supported me. I had to move from the Rectory & bought a house in the village. I was working as sister of a Stroke Rehabilitation Unit at Shepton Mallet, so continued there until retirement & now have been volunteering as a Samaritan for 10 yrs. I love singing & joined a choir in every place we lived.

I was blessed to find love again; I met Andrew, a Baptist Minister. We married in 2013 & now have a blended family- 4 children, 2 grandsons, with another babe on the way!

Throughout my life from childhood my Christian faith has helped me through good & hard times. I know there is a loving, caring God who just wants to make himself known to each of us.

**Jane, thank you** for your open and authentic story.

“Do you ever go into your own garden and feel that you are trespassing?”

### **My Garden?**

I thought I owned a garden  
A lovely place to be  
A bird said, “Beg your pardon,  
“This land belongs to me!”

A squirrel dropped a nut on me  
Which wasn't what I'd planned  
“Get lost!”, said he, “for can't you see  
“You trespass on my land”

A pheasant flapped and squawked so loud  
I scarce could hear me think!  
“Get off my ground, for two's a crowd!”  
He kicked up such a stink!

The wild-life around me  
So loudly do protest!  
They growl and screech till I can see  
That I am just a guest!

Nigel Beeton



### **Corsley House Gardens**

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### **For Sale or Wanted**

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If you would like an entry in this column, please send it to Julie Evey (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.

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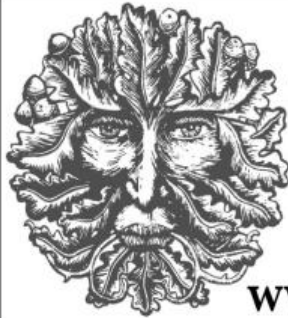
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## Worship in May

Please visit [www.lullandorch.org.uk](http://www.lullandorch.org.uk) for details of booking for worship and the APCM at Lullington & Orchardleigh

The Church of St George in Beckington is open daily for private prayer.

Please observe the continued guidance and law when visiting our churches. Face Masks must be worn. Please maintain 2m distance

and avoid mingling indoors.

Singing is not yet permitted indoors. For those who continue to worship at home a monthly service sheet is available from Rev Ronnie.

Ronnie also circulates a weekly update. Please contact Ronnie on [Rectorronnie@outlook.com](mailto:Rectorronnie@outlook.com) to be added to the circulation or on 01373 831680 if you do not have access to email.

Parish			
<b>St. George's Beckington</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> May	10.00am	Morning Worship
	9 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00am	Communion with Berkley
	16 <sup>th</sup> May	8.00am	BCP Communion
		10.00am	Benefice Weekend Worship (see article on page3)
		23 <sup>rd</sup> May	10.00am
	30 <sup>th</sup> May	10.30am	Benefice Communion (followed by APCM)
<b>St. Mary's Berkley</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> May	9.00am	Communion
	23 <sup>rd</sup> May	9.00am	All Age Worship for Pentecost
APCM will take place Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> May at 7pm.			
<b>All Saints Rodden</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> May	6.30pm	BCP Communion
	23 <sup>rd</sup> May	6.30pm	Evensong for Pentecost (APCM at 5.15pm)
<b>Lullington &amp; Orchardleigh</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> May	11am	BCP Holy Communion
	9 <sup>th</sup> May	11am	BCP Matins
	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> May Ascension Day	11am	BCP Holy Communion
	16 <sup>th</sup> May	11am	BCP Holy Matins
	23 <sup>rd</sup> May	11am	BCP Holy Communion
	30 <sup>th</sup> May	11am	BCP Holy Communion
<b>Beckington Baptist Church</b>		3pm	Services each Sunday at 3pm to which all are welcome