

SIX PARISHES NEWSLETTER

for

St Giles' Church. Badger

St Milburga's Church. Beckbury

St Andrew's Church, Ryt Rector: Revd. Keith Hodson

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Rota of Services for the 6 Parishes – December 2019

	Badger	Beckbury	Ryton	Kemberton	Stockton	Sutton Maddock
Dec 1 st		9.30am Communion KH new		11am Communion KH new		
Dec 8 th		10am Family Service LT	9.30am Communion KH new			11am Morning Worship KH
Dec 15 th	9.30am Communion KH	6pm Carols KH		11am Morning Worship TD		
Dec 21 st Saturday	4pm Carols					
Dec 22 nd			9.30am Morning Worship KH	6pm Carols KH	11am Communion and Carols KH	4pm Carols KH
Tuesday 24 th Christmas		11pm Communion		5pm Communion		11pm Communion
Dec 25 th Christmas	9am Communion		10.15am Communion			
Dec 29 th	NO SERVICES					

KH – Revd Keith Hodson

TD – Tina Dalton

LT – Local Team



Rota of Services for the 6 Parishes – January 2020

	Badger	Beckbury	Ryton	Kemberton	Stockton	Sutton Maddock
Jan 5th Epiphany		9.30am Morning Worship KH				11am Matins KH
Jan 12th	9.30am Matins KH			11am Communion KH		
Jan 19th		9.30am Communion KH New	9.30am Morning Worship TD			11am Communion KH new
Jan 26th	9.30am Communion KH			11am Morning Worship LT	11am Plough Service KH	
Feb 2nd Candlemas		9.30am Matins KH				11am Morning Worship KH

KH – Revd Keith Hodson

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PRAYER OF THE MONTH

**Lord God, we pray for our nation and the political parties
that all may work together for the common good.**

Amen

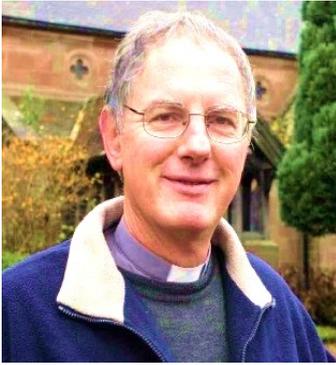
The next newsletter will not be issued until the beginning of February (missing out January) to give everyone concerned a well-deserved break over Christmas.

We would like to thank all our sponsors and the team who have helped deliver the Newsletter over the past year.

Contributions for February’s newsletter to either:

David Tooth at Havenside, Beckbury – 01952 750324. Email – davidtooth.salop@gmail.com

Or Ruth Ferguson at Tarltons, Beckbury – 01952 750267 not later than 14th January, please.



FROM THE RECTORY

XMAS and BREXIT

Dear friends

XMAS and Brexit sound like strange bedfellows, though many will be hoping that the election will bring “*tidings of comfort and joy*” for those trying to make progress on the UK’s withdrawal from the EU.

But there is another link between them – beyond the fact that they both have X (for the unknown?) in the spelling. Indeed it is something that all events share in common. Let me give that connection in words written by an American banker Thomas Mellon (died 1908).

‘In the short voyage of a lifetime, we can see the eddies and ripples upon the surface, but not the under-currents changing the main channel of the stream. History alone can determine the deep seated causes which have been at work to bring them about’.

I am not going to unpack everything in those words, but we are all aware of the change in seeing the significance and importance of an event which comes with time and a longer perspective when assessing past causes and events. Instant analysis and judgements can suffer from a lack of perspective. We all often wish we had hindsight at the time of having to make a decision.

Despite all the rhetoric and claims now on all sides about Brexit and Remain, it will only be in years ahead that a more balanced and accurate assessment will be made about the benefits and losses of this present national issue.

On the separate topic of Christmas, I think that it was probably only Mary who at the time realised the significance of giving birth to a baby boy in Bethlehem. Yet now some 2,000 years later it is celebrated around the world, because it gave rise to a major religion with millions of followers.

I cannot predict whether the whole country will be fully celebrating on 13th December; if the present campaigns are an indication then I expect we will remain a rather divided nation. Christmas may come as a welcome distraction from it all. But treating it as a “distraction” would further belittle the importance of Christmas. Seeing it as merely a holiday, and not a holy day, diminishes the birth of a special person whose influence continues still today. Thankfully the worldwide Church celebrates the *tidings of comfort and joy* on 25th December – you are invited.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.
Hodson

Keith

DIARY DATES FOR December 2019



Wed 4 th Dec	7.30pm	Beckbury Parish Council meet in Beckbury Village Hall
Tues 10 th Dec	12 noon	Six Parishes Friendship Club meet at Havenside, Beckbury for annual Christmas Party
Wed 11 th Dec	10am	Prayers on Wednesday
Wed 11 th Dec	7.30pm	Ryton Parish Council meet in Ryton Church
Sun 15 th Dec	6pm	Carol Service in Beckbury Church
Sat 21 st Dec	4pm	Carol Service at Badger Church
Sun 22 nd Dec	4pm	Carol Service at Sutton Maddock Church
Sun 22 nd Dec	6pm	Carol Service at Kemberton Church

CHURCH NEWS

Times and Dates for our **Christmas Communions and Carol Services** are listed in the Services Rota in this newsletter.

There are no local services on 29th December.

There will be services at Shifnal, Albrighton, Worfield and Pattingham

The **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** is 18th – 25th January 2020.

There will be a 12.30pm lunch time meeting at St Andrew's Shifnal on Wednesday 22nd January 2020 (soup and service)

The annual **Plough Service** will be at Stockton Church at 11am 26th January 2020.

Families are asked to take away **Christmas wreathes and flowers** from **church yard graves** by the end of January. If you are not able to do this, we will do it in February.

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to Wilf Warr, son of Edward and Victoria, who was baptised at Stockton Church on 17th November 2019.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathies to the family of the late Martin Wellsbury of Kemberton, aged 81, whose service was held at Kemberton Church on 22nd November 2019.

BADGER REMEMBRANCE COLLECTION

Grateful thanks to all the Badger residents who generously supported the Poppy Appeal this year - we raised the fantastic sum of £157.32. Apologies to anyone we missed out. We plan to collect on behalf of the Royal British Legion in the village again next year.

Nicky and Terry Lipscombe

CHRISTMAS CALENDARS

You may recall the Beckbury Shop asking for photographs earlier this year to include in a Beckbury village calendar. These photos have now been inspected, collated and some put together into calendar format and printed. The calendars are now for sale in the shop and what a delight they are. What a keen eye and imagination our photographers have shown us from a lovely study of daffodils to the sombre study of poppies for Remembrance Day. A whole gamut of emotions in one year and on sale in the shop at only £5.00 each. If you would like a calendar then visit the shop as soon as possible as they are selling fast.

SIX PARISHES FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Once again, due to illness, numbers were down for our annual pre-Christmas visit to a garden centre, but never-the-less our visit was to Wyevale, now the Bridgnorth Garden Centre at Shipley. Having recently been taken over, things were not quite as orderly as usual, but most of us came away with Christmas bargains. At 3.15pm we all met up in the cafeteria for a chin wag and tea and scones before we finished with a raffle prior to wending our way home.

On Tuesday 10th December we will be having our usual Christmas party, but with numbers being reduced due to other commitments we are meeting this year at Havenside, starting at 12 noon as usual. Food will be provided and shared by members and raffle prizes to be Christmas wrapped and labelled lady or gent. Entertainment will be provided by members telling stories, singing, poems and monologues.

For our meeting on Tuesday 14th January we will be having lunch at the Smokey Cow in Beckbury, meeting at 12 noon at the pub.

BECKBURY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on Wednesday 6th November 2019.

The Parish has suffered a lot of wet weather in the last week or so, which has resulted in several of the local roads being flooded. This we have been made aware of as it meant that the state of the roads has deteriorated even more, with new potholes appearing. We are constantly emailing the local council with your concerns and awaiting their response. If you come across any potholes, fly-tipping etc. can I ask that you report them to the Local Council. The website www.fixmystreet.com can be used to file reports and upload any supporting pictures.

By the time you read this, the annual Beckbury Trail road race should have taken place. I am sure that it would have been a success if not wet and muddy. Another successful event that has taken place in our village. Well done to all involved.

The responses to the Parish Plan have now been received and are now being analysed. Once this is complete each household will receive an updated document.

The council received an update on the Village Hall. We were informed that work on the new roof will begin hopefully in spring 2020.

The next meeting will take on Wednesday 4th December 2019.

Carl Steventon

BECKBURY COMMUNITY SHOP

Christmas is just around the corner and the shop is full of Christmas cards, crafts, gifts and goodies. The Beckbury Community Calendar is now in stock, it's just £5 and features a collection of lovely images of Beckbury throughout the year, thank you to everyone who contributed their pictures.

The talented village crafters have been hard at work again this year and the Christmas table is full of handmade tree decorations and gifts. Beckbury Christmas puddings have arrived in the shop, they sold out fast last year, so be quick to avoid disappointment. We have a selection of charity Christmas cards, packs of festive Beckbury Church cards and new Christmas card designs by local artists on the shelves too.

We'll be lighting up the shop Christmas tree on Saturday 30th November at 5pm. There will be Christmas music and carols around the Christmas tree, and we'll be serving mulled wine and hot chocolate to keep you all warm. Bring a decoration to hang on the tree if you have one and the wearing of Christmas jumpers is encouraged!

Community Shop Christmas Opening Hours

Christmas Eve: 9am – 12noon

Boxing Day – **CLOSED**

New Year's Eve: 9am – 12noon

Christmas Day: **CLOSED**

Friday 27th December: 9am – 12noon

New Year's Day: **CLOSED**

We are planning an 'ECO January' initiative for the New Year; we'll be looking at ways to make the shop more environmentally conscious and efficient and we will be introducing some new sustainable stock. If you have any suggestions, we'd love to hear from you.

We'll be collecting seasonal photos of Beckbury throughout next year for the 2021 Beckbury village calendar, so don't forget to send us your pictures to info@beckburyshop.co.uk.

We would like to wish everyone a healthy and happy Christmas. Thank you for your continued support throughout the year, we couldn't do it without you.

BECKBURY ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

With the festive season soon upon us we hardly have time to think about our frost covered plots. But if weather permits and you feel like working off a few mince pies, then here are a few jobs to be getting on with:

- ! Bonfire rubbish
- ! Order seeds
- ! Plan veg beds
- ! Winter prune fruit bushes (not stone fruit)
- ! Force rhubarb
- ! Wash down greenhouses and polytunnels with Citrox (a natural disinfectant made from citrus fruits)
- ! Also containers, seed trays and potting bench (prevents pests and disease at the propagation stage)
- ! Prune grapes. This job was traditionally carried out on New Year's Day.
- ! Ensure that the wheelbarrow doesn't have a flat tyre!

So although the allotment may look a little bare there is plenty to be getting on with if you can drag yourself away from the warmth of your fire. All our allotments are now taken but if you'd like to put your name down on the waiting list please contact Gina Somerville (allotment chairwoman) on 07795625316.

Heidi Pringle-Scott

CHILDREN IN NEED

A **Huge Thank You** to everyone who made a cake, made some coffee, sourced some coffee, drank some coffee, ate some cake, donated some milk and those who just donated!

You raised £108.65 for Children in Need!

BECKBURY CRAFT & XMAS FAYRE

The Xmas Fayre held on Saturday 16th November in Beckbury Village Hall was voted a huge success by all exhibitors, with many varied items on display ranging from Christmas wreathes to cards, from toys to trinkets, with a packed hall of visitors eager to look and purchase. Thank you to Dee Holes and her team for a marvellous display.

A group from Beckbury Church had also joined in to raise money for roof repairs and they looked after various stalls including Tombola and Lucky Dip, with Jean Wood and friends looking after the Bric-a-Brac stall which was in a tent outside on a bitterly cold day – thank you Jean. Also thanks to the team looking after refreshments including mulled wine and a selection of cakes.

When all was added up the Church Roof Fund had benefitted, including numerous donations, to the sum of £1,350. The following day we learned that an anonymous donation of £1,000 had been received from a lady who had read reports in the local press.

A **Big Thank you** to everyone involved.

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BLOW DRY £15

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LOCAL GIRL RUNS FOR ENGLAND



Local girl Lucie Tait-Harris was recently selected as part of a four ladies England team at the British & Irish Masters International cross-country race held on the Liverpool Aintree racecourse on Saturday 16th November running against teams from Scotland, Wales and Ireland.

Lucie finished 5th in her category and was 21st overall from over 200 competitors. England were placed 1st overall.

The following day Lucie took part in the 5.6 mile Beckbury Trail.

THE 5.6 MILE BECKBURY TRAIL, SUNDAY 17TH November

275 runners competed in this race, with local runners to the fore and once again Lucie Tait-Harris showed her class and prowess with a sparkling run to take 14th place overall, and the first Beckbury resident home with a time of 40mins 49sec. was closely followed by Alex Lister in 20th position with a time of 42mins 38 sec. Other locals included Tom McAllister 48.53, Peter Gibbins (veteran) 54.54, Tom Spickernell 56.56 and Emily Lister at 59.10.

Liam Thomas won the Junior Cup, open to local runners under 16 with a very good 54.14sec.



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time
43.11,

A merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all our readers.



**This month's Newsletter
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