

SIX PARISHES NEWSLETTER



for
 St Giles' Church. Badger
 St Milburga's Church. Beckbury
 St Andrew's Church. Ryton

Rector: Rev'd Keith Hodson tel 01952 750774

Email: keithhodson@talk21.com

Web Site: <http://www.beckburygroupministry.org.uk>

Rota of Services in the 6 Parishes - June 2015

Sunday	Badger	Beckbury	Ryton	Kemberton	Stockton	Sutton Maddock
2015 June 7 th	9.30am Matins LT	9.30am Communion KH (new)		11 am Communion KH (new)		6.30pm Evening Worship KH
June 14 th		5.30pm Evensong KH	9.30am Communion KH (trad)	11am Morning Worship KH		11am Matins LT
June 21 st	9.30am Communion KH	9.30am Matins TD		8.15am Communion KH (trad)		11am Communion KH (new)
June 28 th		10am Family LT	9.30am Morning Worship KH	6.30pm Evening Worship KH	11am Communion KH (new)	
July 5 th	9.30am Matins KH			11am Morning Worship LT		11am Communion KH (trad)

KH - Revd Keith Hodson;

TD - Tina Dalton;

LT - Local Team;

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
 for the love which from our birth over and around us lies
 Lord of all, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.



Next Newsletter

Contributions for next month's newsletter to either –

David Tooth at Havenside, Beckbury – 01952 750324. Email - david.tooth2@btinternet.com

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



FROM THE RECTORY

Dear friends,

With all the election reports and the VE Day 70th anniversary coverage, some of you may not have seen a short inside page article headed (11th May)

Christians send me poison-pen mail, says the Archbishop of Canterbury

His address covered issues of religious differences and extremism. He said that in order to tackle extremism, faith groups must stop issuing “bland”, “anaemic” statements about what they have in common, and acknowledge their differences respectfully.

“We need to move to beyond inter-religious interaction in which we the usual suspects issue bland statements of anaemic intent.....all desperate to agree with one another, so that the very worst outcome could possibly be that we end up acknowledging our differences. That is not enough in the face of the dangers we face at this time. It is disingenuous and ultimately dishonest, because alongside all that we hold in common and all that we share, there are profound differences too in what we believe and in the outworking of our faith”.

One of the archbishop’s earlier positions was at Coventry Cathedral, a centre for international reconciliation since 1940, following the blitz and the bombing of the city and old cathedral. So the Archbishop is no stranger to dealing with argument and conflict.

In the short piece quoted above it is clear that he believes that sweeping differences under the carpet causes extremism to flourish as passionate adherents to their cause see moderate leaders claiming for instance that “we share so much in common”.

What struck me from the headline was that those who send ‘hate mail’ can be described as ‘Christians’. Surely we would shout, “they can’t be Christians, if they do that!” But I wonder if that is exactly what the Archbishop’s critics are saying – because of some of his actions and words, he cannot be a “real Christian” or a “true believer”.

We all have our own ideas and opinions on what it is to be a “Christian”, as we will have our ideas and opinions on what it is to be a football fan of Myclub FC. What of a supporter who is not a season ticket holder? What of a fan who rarely goes to the actual matches? What about someone who can’t list the key players? What about a fan who criticises the main goal scorer or the manager? I suspect that there will be some fans who would say, “You’re not a real fan if you don’t.....!”

So who decides who is a “real fan”, or a “real Christian”? I guess we will all find out at the end of the day.

With best wishes

Keith Hodson

DIARY DATES FOR JUNE

Every Monday to Friday		Oasis Christian Shop in Shifnal open 11am – 3pm
Every Saturday		Oasis Christian Shop in Shifnal open 11am – 1pm
Wednesday 3rd	10am	Prayers on Wednesday
Wednesday 3rd	7.30pm	Beckbury Parish Council meet in Beckbury Village Hall
Friday 5 th	7.30pm	Sutton Maddock “Thank You Evening”
Tuesday 9 th	2pm	Friendship Club meeting in Beckbury Village Hall
Tuesday 16 th	7.30pm	Shifnal Flower Club Workshop Evening
Wednesday 17 th	10am	Prayers on Wednesday
Wednesday 24 th	7.30pm	Beckbury Village Hall AGM
Wednesday 24 th	7pm	General Meeting of Churches Together in Shifnal District At Sutton Maddock Church
Friday 26 th	2.30pm	Albrighton Seniors Forum meet at Methodist Hall, Albrighton



CHURCH NEWS

On Friday 5th June St Mary’s Sutton Maddock is saying ‘**thank you**’ to all helpers, volunteers and supporters of the church at a special evening. After a very short service, food and drinks will be served.

Thanks to our **church yard maintenance** teams – paid and volunteer; especially to the working party who tackled the long grass at Stockton. We hope that after the spring grass growing season, things may be a little easier in the summer months.

Thanks to our **bell ringers** who have started their season of ringing for weddings as well as for Sunday services around the churches.

Graham Walker has retired after 40 years as our treasurer at **Badger Church**; before that he was church warden. He was educated at the school in Badger and attended the Sunday School. The PCC thanked him for all his years of service and gave him a small gift of appreciation.

The next General Meeting of **Churches Together in Shifnal District** is to be held at St Mary’s Church, Sutton Maddock at 7pm Wednesday 24th June.

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to Tyrion Goss, son of Peter and Rachel, who was baptised on 3rd May 2015 at Beckbury Church.

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to Stephen Taylor and Stephanie Plumpton who were married on 2nd May 2015 at Kemberton Church.

Also congratulations to Adrian Pearson and Jane Bramhill who were married on 15th May 2015 at Kemberton Church.

Congratulations also to James Draper and Karen Holmes who were married on 22nd May 2015 at Stockton Church.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathies to the family of the late Romy Hughes, aged 81, of Ironbridge whose service was held on 15th May 2015 at Ryton Church.

APLEY ESTATE MULTITERRAIN RUN

Last year's race at Apley Park produced the magnificent sum of £993.23p each for both Stockton and Beckbury Churches.

Our thanks to the race organisers and to Lord Hamilton for this very useful boost to our church funds.

SIX PARISHES FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Last month I mentioned that our club were visiting the midland's little Cathedral at Tong in May and under the excellent guidance of Revd Pippa Thorneycroft more of its secrets were exposed. We learned that the church dates from 1410 and was initially built for Isabel, widow of Falke de Pembrugge, the tombs show its close connections with the Royal Courts through the centuries and, indeed, one of its tombs carries verse from William Shakespeare himself. One interesting piece of furniture in the Church had originally been a triple deck pulpit and just looking to where the top pulpit had been was enough to give me a nosebleed. One interesting character was George Durant II whose father had bought the Tong Estate in 1764. Young George had 14 children by his first wife, 6 by his second wife and a further 31 children by residents of his estate. With no family allowance in those days the upkeep of all those children must have been a drain on the pockets of George Durant.

Having heard some of Tong Church's secrets, most of our members intend to go again and learn more of this fascinating place. After our church tour was completed, we were escorted to the village hall where a slap up afternoon tea awaited us, together with a glass of sherry to toast our birthday girls of the day, Margaret Downward and Vera Malkin.

After tea, it was announced that our June trip to Llandudno had to be postponed until September, and instead we will be meeting in Beckbury Village Hall at 2pm for a session of Bingo, organized by Alison Speke, who incidentally is our next birthday girl!

LOCAL HERO JOINS VE70 PARADE



Sutton Maddock War Veteran Sid Speke received an invitation to the national VE70 service in Westminster Abbey on Sunday 10th May and the parade which followed. Sid, as many of you know, served in the Royal Navy during WW2, seeing service in Arctic Convoys, Mediterranean operations and in West Africa. He is a member of the Apley Park branch of the Royal British Legion and it was through the Legion that the invitation came.

Sid travelled to London on Saturday afternoon by train from Telford and stayed in London overnight. After breakfast at 7am Sid, accompanied by his son Stephen, daughter-in-law Alison and Nicola one of his six grandchildren, got in a London Cab to Westminster where they were dropped off outside the Houses of Parliament, the driver didn't charge a fare saying 10 minutes of his time was nothing compared to Sid's service! After collecting their passes Sid and Stephen headed for the Abbey while Alison and Nicola joined his other son Maxwell and his wife Carolyn in the family enclosure.

Most of you are probably used to seeing Sid on a bike, but due to the long day in London he was on wheels of a different kind with Stephen pushing him in a wheelchair. While Sid was waiting near the Abbey he met two American Veterans, one of whom had landed on Omaha Beach on D-Day, they admired his recently awarded Russian medal and discussed their experiences. He was then stopped by a reporter from BBC Radio London who interviewed him live on their morning programme, asking where he had travelled from and about his wartime service. After queuing for around an hour Sid and Stephen passed through the airport style security barriers and approached the Abbey, where a large contingent of photographers greeted the veterans.

Once inside, an RAF Flight Lieutenant escorted them to their seats in the North Transept opposite to the Royal Family, behind the Churchill family and alongside the Chelsea Pensioners. Sid enjoyed the service, insisting on standing with everyone else at various times although he did admit afterwards to finding himself with his eyes closed at one stage during the Archbishop of Canterbury's sermon! (he's sure this never happens during Keith's!)

After the service they left the Abbey and joined the other veterans forming up in Victoria Street for the Parade led by representatives of today's armed forces. Sid was wheeled through Parliament Square and into Whitehall through cheering crowds several deep in places, passing the Cenotaph and entering Horse Guards Parade. In Horse Guards Parade Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall were waiting for the veterans, Sid saluting smartly as he passed them.

After the parade Sid and his family joined other veterans and their families in St James Park where the British Legion hosted a picnic lunch. They were also joined by Prince Charles and Camilla, the Prime Minister, senior members of the armed forces and government ministers. After a walk into Trafalgar Square for some sightseeing it was back to the station via taxi (again free of charge!) for the train home.

BECKBURY PARISH COUNCIL

The Council met on Wednesday 6th May for the monthly meeting and the Annual Meeting.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman were formally reappointed for 2015/2016.

The actions arising from the Parish Plan were reviewed again. A date of 20th September (after the Beckbury Show) was agreed as an ideal time for a village litter pick, which will be publicized again nearer the time. The issue of dog fouling in the village was reviewed again – this has been reported as a recent problem on Higford Lane, and we are still waiting for the Council to install a new bin at the end of the lane.

The Community Shop Group are making good progress with the recent questionnaire which has received a good response. A village meeting is due to be held for all interested.

Carl Steventon reported that Tuesday evening football had started on the playing field.

The chairman reported that a joint parish council meeting had been planned for 14th May to discuss the RENEW (Grindle) planning application which is being resubmitted to the May Shropshire Council meeting.

David Cummings reported that the forms to register the Seven Stars pub as a village community asset with Shropshire had been submitted.

Two planning applications were reviewed – an application to trim trees at The Old Rectory and erection of a double garage at Brook Farm – no objections raised.

DOG OWNERS

There have recently been numerous complaints about thoughtless dog owners leaving dog faeces on the ground rather than collecting it for deposit in bins.

The main areas for concern are:

THE CHURCHYARD - whilst there is a public footpath through the churchyard it is an offence to let dogs run free, fouling paths and also around the graves, please control your pets and clean up after them.

STREETS, including Higford Lane – this is the same problem as above and mainly affects parents with children and pushchairs, and people going out for a walk.

PLAYING FIELD – dogs are not allowed on the playing field, owners of dogs who let their dogs run on the field are liable to a maximum fine of £1,000.

HORSE RIDERS with dogs running free are breaking local by-laws which state that all dogs in our villages should be on leads, please control your dogs or leave them at home.

Whilst it is appreciated that the majority of dog owners are very responsible and caring, unfortunately it is just a small minority who are making it difficult for people to enjoy walking round the village.

LITTER BINS can be found at the corner of Higford Lane, in the village square and outside the school gates.

BECKBURY VILLAGE HALL

The Annual General Meeting of Beckbury Village Hall
will be held on Wednesday 24th June at 7.30pm

All residents of our villages are welcome to attend and
to ask any questions they may have.

If you are interested in helping in any way please
contact the chairman, John Wood on 01952 750388.

BECKBURY COMMUNITY SHOP

**Meeting to be held on Wednesday 10th June
In Beckbury Village Hall starting at 7.30pm**

NEXT STEPS – Thank you to everyone who completed a questionnaire about the potential for a community run shop. A total of 307 questionnaires were distributed to Beckbury and the surrounding villages of Badger, Ryton and Grindle, and Burnhill Green. At the time of writing there was a 54% response rate in Beckbury and 37% in the surrounding areas, with many positive responses and offers of help.

The next step is an open meeting in Beckbury Village on Wednesday 10th June at 7.30pm which everyone is invited to attend. The committee will present the results of the questionnaire and it will be a chance to discuss the project further.

If anyone has not received a questionnaire and would like to complete one please contact Cat Spickernell on 01952 750428 or Emily Lister on 01952 750473. There is a collection box in the village hall porch if you have a completed questionnaire. Apologies if we missed delivering to or collecting from you.

Cat Spickernell

BECKBURY DEFIBRILLATOR

If someone has collapsed and appears to be unconscious you should first DIAL 999 and get the ambulance service on its way. Tell the operator that you are going to contact the local De-fib operator right away.

Phone one from the list below and they will bring the De-fib to you urgently. The current operators are:

Beckbury	- Heather Thomas	01952 750334	Ann Evans	01952 750347
	Di Rawstone	01952 750208	Roy Sutcliffe	01952 750358
	Carl Steventon	07701 059161		
Badger	- Rick Cattell	01746 783942		
Ryton	- Louise & Neil Dunn	01952 750413		

Why not pin this list in a prominent position so that you can refer to it quickly.

If you are interested in joining one of our teams, please contact Heather Thomas for further details.

GARDENING TIPS AND TASKS FOR JUNE

Well, the days are warming quickly despite the cold wind of late. Beware the late frosts as delicate plants will require protection for a few more weeks yet. If you're a bit behind don't worry, there is still time to get your mulch and well-rotted muck in before the herbaceous plants take off.

Unless you are a Buddhist or a pacifist, now is the time to wage war on slugs and snails. They love tulips and delicacies such as the delicious young shoots of delphiniums and the like, so use pet-friendly slug pellets, drench the ground around hostas with liquid slug killer to deal with slugs below the surface or invest in a biological control such as nematodes which are natural microscopic predators of slugs. They are already in the soil, you are just increasing the concentration for a while.

Tip of the Day. "The best way to garden is to put on a wide-brimmed straw hat and some old clothes. And with a hoe in one hand and a cold drink in the other, tell somebody else where to dig."

Allotment Dates:

Open Day and Fundraising Saturday 18th July.
BBQ, Plant and Vegetable Sale, Raffle, Bric-a-Brac
Cream Teas and home-made scones for sale.

Mark the Gardener

CHARITY FASHION SHOW – Saturday 30th May

Please support our Fashion Show on Saturday 30th May from 12 noon to 3pm, at the Masons Arms, Kemberton.

Stylish French ladies and children's clothes for summer style, including Captain Tortue.

Raising funds for cancer research and our local hospice.

Tickets £5.00p each to include pink fizz and nibbles.

Enquiries to Victoria Rance 01952 585052 or 07973985633

ALBRIGHTON SENIORS FORUM

Shropshire Seniors works with other voluntary groups and like-minded organisations to represent the views and aspirations of all older people in Shropshire and to build a countrywide voice for older people. It is a registered charity with the aim of promoting good quality of life and wellbeing for all older people, including the most vulnerable. This is important because of a general failure to involve older people in issues affecting their lives. Through our district forums we actively canvas the views of our members, and then seek to ensure that these are passed on, and acted upon, by the relevant local authorities. The Association has several and expanding district forums, all of which operate independently, and a collective membership of about 6,000 older people. Each forum is represented on the Shropshire Seniors management committee, which meets monthly in Shrewsbury.

We meet in the Methodist Hall, Albrighton on the last Friday of each month. For further information please contact David Sellars on 01952 750281.

This month's newsletter is kindly sponsored by

JOHN AND CHERYL DOCKERTY