

SIX PARISHES NEWSLETTER

for

St Giles' Church. Badger

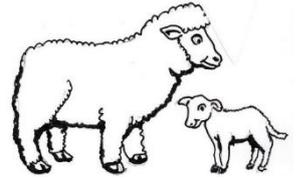
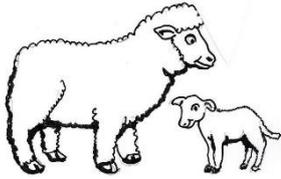
St Milburga's Church. Beckbury

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 - May 2015

Sunday	Badger	Beckbury	Ryton	Kemberton	Stockton	Sutton Maddock
2015 May 3 rd			9.30 am Communion KH (new)	11 am Morning Worship LT	11 am Communion KH (new)	6.30 pm Evensong KH
May 10 th	9.30 am Matins KH	9.30 am Morning Worship TD		8.15 am Communion KH (trad)		11 am Rogation Service KH
May 17 th		9.30 am Communion KH (trad)				11 am Communion KH (trad)
May 24 WHITSUN				10.30 am Songs of Praise KH		
May 31 st TRINITY	9.30 am Communion KH (trad)		9.30 am Matins TD	6.30 pm Evensong KH		11 am Morning Worship LT

KH - Revd Keith Hodson;

TD - Tina Dalton;

LT - Local Team;

PRAYER OF THE MONTH (for Rogationtide)

Almighty God, pour out the abundance of your blessing upon the crops and animals, fields and pastures, the farms and countryside; so that the face of the earth may be renewed and bring forth its fruits and harvests in due season.

AMEN



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,

Our six local churches have all agreed to become food bank collection points. Last year there was a presentation about food banks at a deanery meeting, and from that came the discussion and decision to contribute to the local food bank distribution centres in Bridgnorth and Telford.

Only last month the biggest organiser, the Trussell Trust, reported that they are giving more emergency foodboxes than previously; 345,000 parcels given in 2012/13 jumped to 913,000 in 2013/14. Their experience is that many of those who are given vouchers for foodboxes are in need because of difficulties, delays and bureaucracy with benefits. Families suddenly find themselves without income and have to turn to their local food bank in the emergency.

Over the years food bank organisers have changed their approach, so that now rather than people just turning up and requesting food, vouchers are issued by social and health workers who are visiting families and couples in need and so know their circumstances.

Food boxes organised by the Trussell Trust contain a minimum of three days nutritionally balanced, non-perishable food – such items as soup, cereals, rice pudding, tea bags, instant coffee, instant mash potato, rice/pasta, sauces, tinned meat/fish, tinned fruit, biscuits, powdered milk.

Locally we in the churches are not able to run any kind of scheme ourselves – and we doubt that there are many families in need in our villages. But we can contribute to the food banks that are operating nearby. The Bridgnorth Food Bank is an independent organisation – the Bridgnorth Community Trust, sponsored and supported by the Christian churches of Bridgnorth. The Telford Foodbank is part of *Telford Crisis Support* and is based at the Madeley Methodist Church.

There is a box in church for donations and contributions of dried, packetted and tinned foods. Our churches are generally open in the day time so anyone can call in and put something in the box (and replacing the lid tightly). Please check the sell-by-date – we do not want any out-of-date nor close to the sell-by-date products. We will then deliver the donated food items to the local foodbanks.

A tin of beans may only seem a very small thing; but together with contributions from others it can help a family through a difficult time in their lives.

With best wishes

Keith Hodson

DIARY DATES FOR May

Every Monday to Friday		Oasis Christian Shop in Shifnal open 11am – 3pm
Every Saturday		Oasis Christian Shop in Shifnal open 11am – 1pm
Wednesday 6 th	10am	Prayers on Wednesday
Wednesday 6 th	7.30pm	Beckbury Parish Council meet in Beckbury Village Hall
Tuesday 12 th	1.30pm	Friendship Club meet by Beckbury Church for visit to Tong Church
Sunday 17 th	11am	Bluebell Walk at Cosford Grange
Wednesday 20 th	10am	Prayers on Wednesday
Tuesday 26 th	7.30pm	Shifnal Flower Club – Workshop-Living Card Floral Design at Shifnal Village Hall



CHURCH NEWS

Thank you to everyone who helped to **clean and decorate** our churches for Easter services with lovely spring flowers. Thanks also to the church yard maintenance teams who have started **cutting church yard grass**. Please help them by observing church yard regulations and keeping small pots and vases off the graves and placing flowers by the headstone.

After the churches' annual meetings in April some of the **church wardens** have taken a year out for personal reasons. We are pleased to welcome Michael Kirk as a new warden at Badger along with Sue Pearce who continues her duties for another year.

Church wardens are formally commissioned by the archdeacon and bishop at an annual service. This year the service is part of **Confluence** a meeting at All Saints, Wellington at 7.30pm Thursday 28th May. Information is available in the churches.

The annual **Rogation Sunday** service is at Sutton Maddock Church 11am May 10th.

Food Bank Donation Boxes are at the back of our churches. If you wish to make donations please check the suggestions list and place your items inside the box and put the lid back on firmly.

Churches Together in Shifnal District: The next meeting of Churches Together in Shifnal District will be on Wednesday 24th June starting at 7.30pm in Sutton Maddock Church.

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to Rose Chalmers, daughter of Stephen and Simone, who was baptised on 29th March 2015 at Sutton Maddock Church.

Congratulations also to Leo, son of Ian and Lisa, who was baptised on 12th April 2015 at Sutton Maddock Church.

Also congratulations to Sienna Durkin, daughter of Ricky and Raisa, who was baptised on 26th April 2015 at Beckbury Church.

Congratulations also to Henry Solari, son of Edward and Rebecca, who was baptised on 26th April 2015 at Beckbury Church.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathies to the family of the late David Webster, aged 50, of Sutton Hill, whose service was held on 15th April 2015 at Sutton Maddock Church.

We also extend our sympathies to the family of the late Pat Weston, aged 63, of Brockton whose service was held on 21st April 2015 at Sutton Maddock Church.

THE LATE DAVID NIXON

The family of the late David Nixon of Badger would like to thank everyone who sent cards, letters, flowers and gave such wonderful support after we lost David so very unexpectedly on 9th February 2015.

We would like to thank the many friends who attended his service during which over £2,000.00 was donated, to be divided between The Epilepsy Society and The Midlands Air Ambulance.

LENT LUNCHES

On behalf of Christian Aid I would like to thank everyone very much for their generous donations and time and especially to members of the Methodist Church for the use of their hall and excellent facilities, which go a long way to making the lunches such a success. The overall total collected during lent amounts to £880.96p of which £586.00 has been gift aided.

In Christian Aid's last response to us they said "Our thanks to all those who have taken part this year in hosting and catering for your events. It is a mammoth task but you seem to have got it down to a fine art".

That is a testament to all the hard work put in by all the soup teams, clergy and supporters and why personally I find it very rewarding to be involved.

David Senior, local Christian Aid representative.

BLUEBELL DINGLE OPEN DAY – SUNDAY 17TH May 2015

Walk in the woodland and wonder at the bluebells – On Sunday 17th May 11am to 4pm the dingle at Cosford Grange (situated between Shifnal and Albrighton) will be open to the public for a Bluebell Walk. This picturesque sandstone valley, through which Cosford Brook runs, is not usually open to the general public, and so with thanks to the owner Ralph Young, the Bluebell Walk will offer adults and children alike the chance to explore a rather unique corner of the Shropshire countryside. As you drive down the A464 you would have no idea that, tucked between the road and the Cosford Air Field, is a hidden gem. Carved out of the Keuper red sandstone that characterises the topography between Wolverhampton and Shifnal the Cosford Dingle is a historic wooded glade which in late spring is covered in a carpet of bluebells which edge marshland plants along the Cosford Brook.

The owner Ralph Young has created a series of woodland paths and bridges that take you through the dingle and past the ancient Cosford Mill which although ruined, still stands at one end. This was built in 1825 when the land was owned by the Earl of Shrewsbury, for the purpose of milling corn. At this time, the glade was filled by a large mill pond. However, in World War 11 the RAF blew up the damn that created the pond, as its shimmering in the moonlight could have brought the adjacent Cosford Airfield to the attention of the enemy flying above. Since then, the land has reverted to marsh and woodland with the brook running through it. Adding to the unique experience of this special walk, Ralph Young has collected interesting artefacts and statues that nestle within the greenery, adding an element of magic and folklore. Strange faces of elves and wizards peer at you through leaves and branches. A miniature bridge takes you over the remnants of the old weir where water still gushes.

The walk begins at Cosford Grange itself, where children will be entertained by a collection of interesting birds and animals including turkeys, geese and rabbits. Wooden benches line the farm area for those who would rather admire the view than wander in the woodland.

The entrance fee for the day is £5.00 for adults and children are free. Tea and cake will be on offer at £1.00 per serving. All proceeds raised will go towards the historic neighbouring Ryton Church and much needed building repairs which must be undertaken in order to ensure its survival. Opening times are from 11am to 4pm. Please note that sadly the walk is not suitable for wheelchair users though robust pushchairs should make it.

For further information, please contact Christina Kenyon-Slaney - cks@hatton-grange.com or Lesley Young - lpyoung81@gmail.com

SIX PARISHES FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Twenty four members gathered on 14th April for a visit to Dobies Garden Centre at Gailey which is a most impressive site packed with every type of plant and equipment a gardener could ever want, and after which for many of us was a successful search, we adjourned to the café for a well-earned jam and cream scone and a pot of tea.

Our next meeting on Tuesday 12th May will be for a guided tour of Tong Church followed by afternoon tea, including sandwiches, cakes and a cup of tea. Tong Church is known as the little cathedral with its ornate tombs and high decoration, and of course the famous grave of Little Nell in the churchyard. Costs for this outing are £5.00 for members and £10.00 for non-members, cars leaving from outside the church at 1.30pm.

On Tuesday 9th June we will be travelling to Llandudno for a day at the seaside. Our coach will be leaving Beckbury at 9.30am and returning around 7.30pm. The cost per passenger is £10.00 each, payable in advance. Early booking is advisable as this is a very popular trip.

BECKBURY PARISH COUNCIL

The council met on Wednesday 1st April.

The actions arising from the Parish Plan were reviewed again. The council agreed a grant of £100.00 to cover the expenses for the group set up to explore the feasibility and viability of setting up a community shop in Beckbury. It was reported that the group have already met three times and have recruited two extra members. They have had good help from the Plunkett Foundation who have supported many other community shops.

Carl Steventon reported that the playing field committee had a meeting planned to organise the maintenance arrangements for the summer season, with Tuesday evening football due to start later in April. The RAF Cosford WARMA charity walk is due to take place on 25 and 26th April.

David Cummings reported on the moves to register the Seven Stars pub as a village community asset with Shropshire Council. This would give the village some say in the future of the pub in the event of the Brewery pulling out.

BECKBURY COMMUNITY SHOP

The Beckbury Community Shop Committee have been distributing and collecting questionnaires during April to gauge the level of support for the idea of a community shop to be run by volunteers.

At the time of this newsletter, questionnaires will have been circulated in Beckbury, Badger, Ryton and Burnhill Green. Please contact Cat Spickernell if you live outside these areas and would like to complete one, or if you have been missed out (01952 750428 or beckburysshop@hotmail.com).

There will be a meeting in May at Beckbury Village Hall to present the results of the questionnaire.

BELL RINGERS WANTED

Our small team of bell ringers is keen to recruit some more members. We practice every Tuesday evening, usually in Beckbury, 7.45 – 9 pm and ring at services and weddings at 5 of the 6 local churches.

Bell ringing is good exercise, is fun and you do not need to be a church goer, so why not give it a try? Please give one of us a call to find out more.

Andrew Gordon 01952 244983
Heather Thomas 01952 750334
Roger Baylis 01952 730206

Andrew Pooler 01952 588014
John Whitham 01952 750382
Pete & Judith Gibbins 01952 750293

SAYYES, SHIFNAL AND ALBRIGHTON

Sadly we have said farewell and thank you to Karen our Youth Work Coordinator. She has been working right across the area of benefit which, of course, includes the Six Parishes. Karen gave the project a new energy and helped it become more rooted in the local churches and community. In the clubs she has introduced a more interactive programme of activities and encouraged volunteers to take a more active role, while the young people have been enabled to take more responsibility as club members.

For the summer term we will maintain two clubs: Tuesday night 6 – 7.30pm at Trinity Methodist Church, Shifnal and Friday night 7 – 9pm at St Mary's Church Centre, Albrighton. It is mainly due to the commitment of the volunteers that we are able to sustain this level of activity.

Meanwhile we are exploring new ways of reaching more of the young people in the area and will be seeking a replacement for Karen.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our supporters and wish Karen well for the future on behalf of the Shifnal and Albrighton Christian Youth Project – SAYYES.

For further information please contact Angela – 01952 730216 or 07771707912

Angela Chatham – Chairman

SHIFNAL FLOWER CLUB

WORKSHOP THURSDAY 19TH MAY

MAY DAY TOPIARY TREE by Hazel Davis

Held at Curriers Lane Room, Shifnal, starting at 7.30pm

Please bring to the Workshop:

- 1 plant pot 6-7" diameter
- 2 bunches of small roses, to fit the pot
- Small leaf greenery from the garden i.e. skimmia, box, hebe, small ivy
- 1 metre of string, ribbon or raffia
- Secateurs

Cost: members £2.00, non-members £4.00. Visitors are very welcome
For more information please contact Christine Finlan 01952 750312

**This month's newsletter is sponsored in the memory of
Vicky Lamb (nee Collings) who died on 10th April 2014,
One month short of her 46th Birthday, sorely missed.**



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