

# SIX PARISHES NEWSLETTER

for

St Giles' Church. Badger

St Milburga's Church. Beckbury

St Andrew's Church. Ryton

Rector: Revd. Keith Hodson tel 01952 750774

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## Rota of Services for the 6 Parishes – May 2019

	Badger	Beckbury	Ryton	Kemberton	Stockton	Sutton Maddock
May 5 <sup>th</sup>		9.30am Communion KH new	9.30am Matins TD	11am Communion KH new		
May 12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am Matins KH			11am Morning Worship LT		11am Communion KH new
May 19 <sup>th</sup>		9.30am Morning Worship LT	9.30am Communion KH trad	8.15 Communion KH trad		11am Matins KH
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am Communion KH trad				11am Rogation Service KH	

**KH – Revd Keith Hodson**

**TD – Tina Dalton**

**LT – Local Team**

### PRAYER OF THE MONTH (a Rogationtide Prayer)

Lord of heaven and earth

pour out the abundance of your blessing upon the farms and fields of our parishes

that they may bring forth their harvests in due season

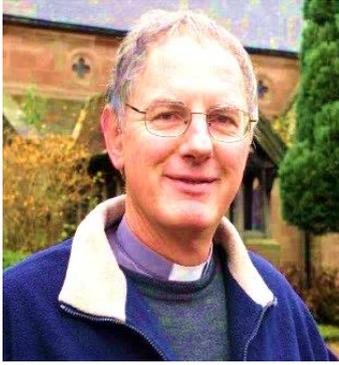
and that we may thank you for your faithfulness.

Amen

Contributions for next month's newsletter to either –

**David Tooth at Havenside, Beckbury-01952 750324. Email – [davidtooth.salop@gmail.com](mailto:davidtooth.salop@gmail.com)**

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



## FROM THE RECTORY

### Holidays

Dear friends

Last month I ended my letter with a comment about the move of what used to be Whitmonday bank holiday to the more fixed Spring Bank Holiday. Whitsun changes its date according to the date of Easter (see last month's letter) because it comes 7 weeks (= fifty days) after the Jewish festival of Passover. The Church now calls Whitsunday by its old name of *Pentecost* which means fiftieth. The English name was originally *White Sunday* because it was a common day for baptisms and confirmations when candidates (Latin for ('white')) dressed in white.

Occasionally Whitsun and the spring bank holiday coincide, but this year Whitsunday is on 9<sup>th</sup> June while the bank holiday is 27<sup>th</sup> May.

Earlier on 6<sup>th</sup> May we have the "early spring bank holiday" I heard someone refer to this recently as "Labour Day" which along with "Worker's Day" was an earlier name for the celebration of work and workers held at first on 1<sup>st</sup> May.

Much earlier though 1<sup>st</sup> May was the first day of summer in the old Celtic calendar and celebrated with Maypole dancing, May queens, Morris dancing, well dressing and village events, carnivals, processions and decorations. Some villages still keep or have revived these old customs, but many have been lost in our modern age.

With only 8 public holidays in the UK we have fewer than other European countries, and there have been proposals in the past to increase the number in the UK. By the end of May we only have 3 more to look forward to – August bank holiday, Christmas Day and Boxing Day. It would have perhaps been an opportunity to have increased the number of public holidays in line with the EU countries. Maybe in the future some brave politician will propose a *Brexit Day* as a national holiday.

Jeremy Corbyn has talked about making the dates of the four national patron saints as extra holidays (March 1<sup>st</sup>, March 17<sup>th</sup>, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, November 30<sup>th</sup>). One difficulty is odd single days interrupt the week, so we have a pattern of Monday holidays, without any event associated with the date. France celebrate Bastille Day and the end of WW2 on the actual dates (14<sup>th</sup> July; 8<sup>th</sup> May) whichever day of the week they fall.

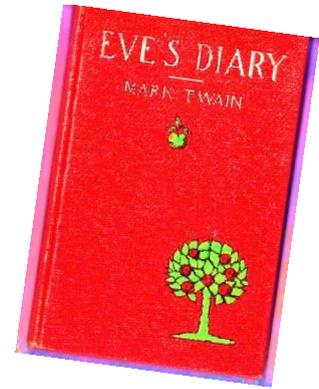
So ideas, suggestions, petitions for new public holidays to our MP?

Enjoy your May Bank Holidays

*Keith Hodson*

## DIARY DATES FOR May 2019

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	Beckbury Parish Council meet in Beckbury Village Hall
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	10am	Prayers on Wednesday
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	7pm	Ryton & Grindle Parish Council meet in Ryton Church
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Music in May at Sutton Maddock Church
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Six Parishes Friendship Club visit to The National Memorial Arboretum
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10am	Prayers on Wednesday



## CHURCH NEWS

**Lent Lunches** at Shifnal Methodist Church raised in total £837.27 for Christian Aid.

It was agreed that the proceeds will go to the Cyclone Idai Appeal for those suffering in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe.

Thanks to everyone who helped **decorating** our churches for Easter.

**Church wardens** elected at our annual meetings will be formally commissioned at the special service at Malinslee, Telford 7.30pm 21<sup>st</sup> May.

The annual Six Parishes **Rogation Sunday** service is at Stockton Church, 11am 26<sup>th</sup> **May** when we remember the local farms and fields of our parishes.

The **Ascension Day** service is at 10am Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May at Beckbury Church.

## CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathies to the family of the late James Buxton of Ryton, aged 91, whose service was held at Ryton Church on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

### MUSIC IN MAY

With Cleobury Mortimer Concert Brass

At St Mary's, Sutton Maddock Church

**On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May, at 7.30pm**

Tickets £10 - Under 16 - £4

Includes wine/soft drinks and a served Finger Buffet

Prize Draw

Tickets available Allan and Angela 01952 581857

Chris 01952 730666

**THE SIX PARISHES FRIENDSHIP CLUB, VISIT  
THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM,  
ALREWAS**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

Seats are available on the coach for anyone interested in joining us  
for a fascinating day out.

A 50 minute trip around the 150 acre site is also included.

Coach leaves Beckbury at 9.30am  
and arrives back at Beckbury around 5.30pm

**Cost £15 per person to include coach fare and hire of seats on land train**

For further information please contact David or Beryl Tooth  
Tel. 01952 750324

## **BECKBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

Beckbury Parish Council met on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 in the Village Hall Beckbury.

Councillor Gibbins informed the Parish Council that Beckbury Community Shop had celebrated its First Birthday. He stated that a series of walks were set up over several days. These were well received with a total of more than 200 taking part across all walks. Councillor Tooth informed us that he took 50 plus people on a tour of the village talking about the history of Beckbury.

All residents will be given the option to fill in a questionnaire which will be used to update the Village Plan. It will be a short questionnaire approximately 2 pages in length. It will be provided in several formats such as paper or filling in an online form. Please check the newsletter for further details. We ask that you fill the questionnaire in and have your say.

We have received reports in relation to several reports of Fly Tipping. Fly Tipping is an offence, please be vigilant and if you see anybody doing it please contact the local council and report it.

*Carl Steventon*

## **IAN FIELD AND HELP FOR HEROES**

I've agreed again (sorry) – **third time** – to face cycling another 400 miles for Help for Heroes across a hilly route in Northern France.

We've resurrected the old team name – **MAMIL Tour de France** – and to the team of James Selka, Jim Hancock and Sean McCarry have added a new team member in Paul Phillips. So our motley crew of middle aged, unfit and overweight (some more than others) men will once again try and complete the challenge to raise funds for a very worthwhile cause – Help for Heroes. Before you ask – yes it does hurt and yes it's all very sore!

I said I wouldn't do it again after 2017 but did, completing the 2018 ride from the Glade of the Armistice in the Forest of Compiègne, France through the battlefields of the Somme and on into Belgium. I said "never again", thinking instead I would retire a promising cycling career and hang up my pedals. And then I've ignored that and signed up for 2019! The Big Battlefield Bike Ride 2019 takes place across 5 days in June and heads from Cherbourg, through Normandy and the famous beaches to finish in Paris – around 400 gruelling miles.

We have a big target this year to hit - £2,750 per person or £13,750 between the five of us – so all donations, however big or small, are very welcome.

If you would like to support me with this challenge and donate, you can here:  
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ian-field3>

Help for Heroes is a great charity, supporting wounded, injured and sick servicemen and women, who have given so much to our country, to live independent and fulfilling lives.

As ever, I promise to post our progress here and on my social media sites – as well as bore anybody willing to listen, over a pint. Thanks again for taking the time to have a look.

Kind regards, *Ian*

## **BECKBURY COMMUNITY SHOP**

After celebrating the Shop's first birthday, our very successful walking festival at the end of March and having completed our first year end stocktake we have now re-stocked and are getting ready for the summer.

We have invested in a new ice-cream freezer and filled it with 10 different ice creams and lollies, including Walls Magnums at £1.60 each – you will struggle to find them as cheap elsewhere.

We have restocked our wine shelf, trying some new selections, with advice from Tom McAllister and still have the ever popular Beckbury Bitter and Bridgnorth Gold on offer.

We are still managing to maintain our very competitive prices and many of the products are available cheaper than you will find them in the local stores in Albrighton and Shifnal. For example a 4pt bottle of milk at £1.30 will cost you up to £1.50 at other local shops. We sell a large loaf at £1.40 and the same loaf will cost you £1.55 in Shifnal. Our most popular multigrain loaf at £1.25 costs £1.40 in Shifnal.

So if you haven't already shopped with us please give Beckbury Shop a try and if you are already one of our regular customers thank you for the support.

## **NEWS FROM RYTON & GRINDLE PARISH COUNCIL**

There was a Parish Council meeting held at St Andrew's Church on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

**Meeting News:** Cllr Webb spoke on behalf of residents who had approached him concerned about the lack of warnings and road signs indicating that horse riders were on the road. New stabling facilities have been opened increasing the amount of horse traffic on the lanes. Ryton & Grindle Parish Council will investigate whether additional road signs can be put in place.

**Parish Plan:** This was discussed, and it was agreed that a questionnaire would be 'door stepped' during the summer so that residents' views on the Parish can be canvassed.

**Donations** were discussed and it was agreed to give St Andrew's Church the same donation as last year - £2,000 to assist with grass cutting costs.

**Good News!** The new noticeboards are now in place, special thanks to Councillor Amey for organising their revival! They have been designed, built and installed by local craftsmen at Holdsworths.

**Note for the Diary:** The next meeting is on the 8<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in St Andrew's Church.

This is the Annual meeting of the *Parish* followed by the Annual meeting of the Parish Council, which although similar in name are very different meetings. The purpose of the Annual Parish Meeting is to encourage residents to attend and speak freely to Councillors and discuss matters that could possibly go under the radar of the bi monthly Parish Council Meetings, in other words things that are important to you as a resident and not necessarily usual Council Business. The Chairman will also present a review of the past year.

The Annual meeting of the Parish Council is a normal Parish Council meeting, with the Chairman and Vice chair being elected prior to the meeting starting.

We would love to see you there, so please come along if you can. Agendas will be posted on the website and noticeboards nearer the time.

To contact the Parish Council [clerk.rgpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.rgpc@gmail.com)

Website address [www.rytonandgrindle.org.uk](http://www.rytonandgrindle.org.uk)

## **BECKBURY COMMUNITY SHOP**

### **PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED**

Beckbury Community Shop are hoping to produce a few postcards of old Beckbury to sell in the shop. Do you have any old colour or black and white photographs of Beckbury which are in good condition that you would be willing to lend us for a short time and would be happy to have reproduced. They would be kept safely for a short time and returned once we have made a final choice for the postcards.

**Please contact Julie on 01952 750368 if you think you can help.**

# **BECKBURY VILLAGE HALL**

## **May 19<sup>th</sup> Update**

Beckbury Village Hall trustees and supporters have been busy since our last update, mainly with raising funds for the refurbishment project, but also ensuring all appropriate policies are in place and that we are complying with them, working towards getting our website and on-line booking system in place and doing the many tasks that the maintenance of a Victorian village hall requires.

We are currently awaiting the outcome of several funding applications and hope to bring you good news on that front soon.

Our **FAD (Fund a Day)** scheme could raise us over £5,000 if we get sponsorship for every day of the year. Please do consider paying the running costs of £14 for one day at the Village Hall, choose your date, pay your £14 to Treasurer Dee Holes or Sec. Heather Thomas or at the Community Shop and be entered in an annual draw.

We are also looking for:

- Individuals to organise, or help organise, a fundraiser
- Your support at our meetings – **just turn up, all are welcome and you don't have to be a trustee** – next meeting is **7.30pm, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019 in the hall**
- Someone who would be willing to help us with IT and social media.

Many thanks for all your support.

.....and finally.....

### **THANKS**

The trustees would like to record their thanks to Phil Jones who, without fuss, ensures the waste bins are on the kerbside at the right time every week, monitors our oil usage and helps generally in many other ways. Thank you Phil.

**Heather Thomas** [heathert806@gmail.com](mailto:heathert806@gmail.com) 01952 750334

## **SEVEN STARS, BECKBURY**

Here at Craft & Jam Venues we are delighted to announce we are soon to be starting the refurbishment of the Seven Stars in Beckbury. We are a small family run independent brand and we are very excited to bring this lovely country pub into our family – it suits our passion for the local feel, fresh food, live music and social events down to a tee!

Please bear with us whilst we give the pub one of our 'Craft & Jam' makeovers, we're sure you'll be pleased with the end result and it will be worth the wait. We aim to be launching before summer is out and will keep you updated with our progress. If you'd like to see what we're about please do check out our website [craftandjamvenues.co.uk](http://craftandjamvenues.co.uk) and if you have any queries in the meantime please feel free to contact us via email [teamcraftandjam@gmail.com](mailto:teamcraftandjam@gmail.com). We look forward to meeting everyone and enjoying many celebrations over the years to come!

# **BECKBURY ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION**

## **The Allotment in May**

Lighter evenings mean we get more chance to spend on our allotments. Temperatures are rising but there is always a chance of ground frost so be prepared to protect your lovingly grown tender vegetables. By the end of the month you should definitely be safe to plant out.

### **Jobs to be getting on with:**

- Mulch your strawberries with a thick layer of clean straw
- Sow cauliflower, carrots, chicory, French runner beans, parsley spinach and Swiss chard outside.
- Sow sweetcorn, courgettes, marrow, pumpkins and squash indoors
- Harden off brassicas, celery, celeriac, courgettes, fennel and leeks
- Provide support for peas and sturdy wigwams/frames for runner beans
- Remove raspberry canes that have grown away from their rows
- Protect fruit with netting or a cage
- Harvest early broad beans and rhubarb
- Plant asparagus crowns
- Chit and plant out second early potatoes in the first half of the month
- Melons can be sown indoors on a sunny window sill or heated greenhouse

Winter is well and truly over (not that we really had one in my eyes). From now until autumn it's planting, watering, feeding and harvesting. Sadly weeding and hoeing too.....but we won't dwell on that. At the end of the day we'll have amazingly healthy fruit and vegetables to bring to our tables in the knowledge we've grown them ourselves and with all the Brexit scaremongering going around about fresh vegetable prices increasing we might be saving a £1 or two! There are still a few of our plots available. If you don't fancy a full plot then we can halve one so you can give it a try. Please ring Gina (allotment chairwoman) on 07795625316 for details.

*Heidi Pringle-Scott*

## **PRESTON TRUST HOMES**

### **Apartment Available**

Preston Trust Homes has a rare vacancy for a retired person (over 60yrs) or couple seeking an apartment providing a quiet, safe and comfortable environment.

Preston Trust Homes, located in Forton road, Newport, Shropshire is a charity run organisation and a member of the Almshouse Association providing independent living for the elderly.

The apartment available for appointment is on the first floor and can be accessed by stairs or a lift, it is one of 14 one-bedroomed apartments in a modern complex.

Apartments have been refurbished but unfurnished. An apartment briefly comprises of an entrance hall, lounge, bedroom, kitchen with cooker and bathroom with walk-in shower. Other facilities include a door entry system, lifeline, fire detection equipment, telephone, television points and car parking space.

The complex also includes a communal lounge, kitchen, laundry, lift, landscaped gardens, residents and visitors' parking. The home is managed by a part-time manager.

Enquiries and applications can made to: PTH Manager John Roberts on 01952 282050  
Mobile 07903 652416. Email: [info@prestontrushomes.org.uk](mailto:info@prestontrushomes.org.uk)

## **FREE RANGE PORK FROM RYTON**

Our pork is almost ready, some of you have already expressed an interest in trying it so, if you would like to know what REAL pork tastes like, or would like to see the pigs drop us an email; You might have noticed our Large Black Pedigree pigs in our fields between Beckbury and Ryton.

To put your minds at rest, all the pork will be professionally butchered and wrapped.

Anne and Tim Banks, Valley Farm, Ryton  
[Annebanks80@gmail.com](mailto:Annebanks80@gmail.com) or Tel. 01952 750242

## **HAVENHILLS HIKE – SATURDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

### **15k and 25k hikes**

Both walks begin at Havenhills Farm. They pass through small valleys, beside hidden streams, along woodland paths, across private pastures and sweeping expanses of farmland. Both routes are easily manageable but with some steep uneven steps and across rough pastures, not suitable for buggies or wheels of any kind. Dogs are welcome on the 15k route if kept on a lead.

Money raised will be shared between St Andrew's Church, Ryton and 1<sup>st</sup> Shifnal Scouts group.

See [www.havenhillshike.co.uk](http://www.havenhillshike.co.uk) for more information and to book your tickets.  
Or call Karen on 07971 480365.

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**This month's Newsletter is kindly sponsored by**

**Max and Freda Breeze**