

# 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

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

## Rota of Services in the 6 Parishes –December 2016

Sunday	Badger	Beckbury	Ryton	Kemberton	Stockton	Sutton Maddock
Dec 4 <sup>th</sup>		9.30am Morning Worship TD	9.30am Communion KH (new)			11am Communion KH (new)
Dec 11 <sup>th</sup>		5.30pm Carols		11am Communion KH (new)	3pm Carols	
Dec 18 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am Matins TD		9.30am Matins KH	17 <sup>th</sup> SAT 5pm Carols		4pm Carols
Dec 24 <sup>th</sup>		11pm Communion		5pm Communion		11pm Communion
Dec 25 <sup>th</sup>	9am Communion		10.15am Communion			

**January 1<sup>st</sup>**

**NO SERVICES**

**KH – Revd Keith Hodson:**

**TD – Tina Dalton**

**LT – Local Team**

## PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Dear Lord Jesus, born in a stable  
protect our children from all that may harm and hurt them  
for your love's sake.

**Amen**

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,

As I write now in mid-November the odds for a white Christmas this year are 7-2 in Dundee, and surprisingly Ladbrooks are offering 5-1 in London. Punters continue to dream along with Bing Crosby.

Our Christmas carols tempt us to think in terms of snow at Christmas with carols like “*See amid the winter snow*” and “*in the bleak mid-winter..... snow had fallen, snow on snow*”. Of course it is very different for those in the southern hemisphere where 25<sup>th</sup> December is mid-summer and it’s “barbies on the beach” for some. Our youngest daughter will be in Australia this Christmas, but I think she will be missing the traditional British Christmas, even if it’s wet and cloudy.

25<sup>th</sup> December is the ‘official birthday’ of Jesus, only fixed about 350AD when there were already a number of winter festivals in European countries around that date. But the gospel story, about angels visiting the shepherds who were looking after their sheep out on the hillsides around Bethlehem, points to the birth of Jesus not being in the winter. In the summer sheep were out in the fields but in the winter they were brought down into the villages. But, as the saying goes, ‘why spoil a good story with the truth’. We have been brought up with pictures and carols of nativities and snow, and no amount of scholarly opinion is going to change that!

But even if it is the “wrong date”, we still celebrate the birth of Jesus (as we celebrated the Queen’s 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday last June even though she was born in April). At church we celebrate that once in royal David’s city, the little town of Bethlehem, while shepherds watched their flocks by night, and the herald angels sang glory to the new born king, away in a manger, lying on a bed of straw, on a silent night, a holy night, unto us a boy was born King of all creation. We celebrate God not keeping his distance from the hurting world, but sending his Son and taking the risk of “coming to his own people, but his own people not receiving him” (as St John’s Gospel puts it).

And of course we invite everyone to *come and adore him Christ the King*.

Wishing you all Christmas blessings

*Keith Hodson*

## DIARY DATES FOR December

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>		Final date for appeal re Grindle Farm
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm	Bridgnorth Ukulele Band with Sing-along at Ryton Church
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Prayers on Wednesday
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Beckbury Parish Council meet in Beckbury Village Hall
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	3pm	Carol Service at Stockton Church
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm	Carol Service at Beckbury Church
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	12noon	Friendship Club Christmas Lunch In Beckbury Village Hall
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup>	2-4pm	Nativity scenes at Sutton Maddock Church
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup>	5pm	Carol Service at Kemberton Church
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	4pm	Carol Service at Sutton Maddock Church
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10am	Prayers on Wednesday



## CHURCH NEWS

On Saturday 7.30pm 3<sup>rd</sup> December at Ryton Church the Friends of the Church are holding a *sing-along* with Bridgnorth Ukulele Band. Tickets £5 (see details elsewhere in this newsletter).

The **Christmas services** at the six local churches can be found on the December Service table. The “midnight mass” starts at 11pm at both Beckbury and Sutton Maddock. Albrighton and Shifnal Churches have services on 1<sup>st</sup> January.

Beckbury has the **Christingle Service** at 10am Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2pm – 4pm and again after the carol service on 18<sup>th</sup> December Sutton Maddock Church has a **nativities display** with a wide variety of styles and designs of the Christmas crib scene. Thanks to those who have donated sets for display.

## WEDDINGS

Congratulations to Adrian Plummer and Hayley Whele who were married at Badger Church on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

## CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathies to the family of the late Kate Thomas, aged 92, of Badger, whose service was held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at St John’s Church, Bridgnorth.

## **DEFIBRILLATOR CONTACTS**

If some-one has collapsed and appears to be unconscious you should call one of the trained operators listed below. You should also dial 999 for an ambulance

Heather Thomas	01952 750334	Anne Evans	01952 750347
Di Rawthenstall	01952 750208	Roy Sutcliffe	01952 750358
Rick Cattel	01746 783942	Neil & Louise Dunn	01952 750413
Peter Gibbins	01952 750293		

## **SIX PARISHES FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

Our November visit to Mere Park Garden Centre, Newport was very enjoyable with a winter wonderland full of gift ideas to browse through on one side of the car park. Then on to the other side of the site was a larger building with even more ideas, plus of course a thriving garden centre which members eagerly sorted through, with one lady emerging with hanging baskets and viola plants, and another member clutching a packet of broad beans. Finally we all met in the café for a well-earned cup of tea and one of the best cream scones and strawberry jam we have tasted this year.

Our next meeting on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December is our annual Christmas lunch at Beckbury Village Hall starting at 12noon, this will be a bring and share lunch and, as usual, promises to be of a very high standard. There will be a Christmas Raffle, all raffle prizes to be gift wrapped in Christmas wrapping paper marked lady or gentlemen. Entertainment, by popular request, supplied by Dave Towers. Anyone wishing to join us on this festive occasion will be most welcome.

## **BECKBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

The Council met on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Progress on the Community Shop Project was reported to the Council, after receiving a positive response to our pre-planning application, we have now decided on the preferred building supplier and we will be submitting a full planning application in the next few weeks. We could still do with some more volunteers so please make contact with Cat Spickernell if you are interested. [Cat.spickernell@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Cat.spickernell@yahoo.co.uk), tel 750428

Carl Steventon reported that the new Beckbury Web site was up and running - [www.beckburyparish.co.uk](http://www.beckburyparish.co.uk). The village is encouraged to make use of the site for local news/publicity and there is a page for items for sale. Contact Carl, tel 07701 059161.

A refresher training course for defibrillator operators is fixed for 5<sup>th</sup> November. Post meeting note: 6 people turned up, including 3 new operators. The list of contact numbers is published in the Parish Newsletter, so keep a copy handy.

The annual village litter pick is planned for the first Sunday of November – the 6<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10am at the village hall. Post meeting note: thanks to the team of 6 people and 2 dogs who turned up to help.

David de Courcy reported that he had checked all the parish salt bins in preparation for winter and these were all full or thereabouts.

The Council discussed the BT intention to shut down the telephone box as it had not been used at all in the last 12 months. This was accepted and it was suggested that this might be an opportunity to purchase the box if anyone is interested.

# **RYTON AND GRINDLE PARISH COUNCIL**

## **UPDATE ON THE GRINDLE HOUSE FARM PLANNING APPLICATION**

We can now confirm that an appeal has been made by Apley Estate to the Secretary of State against the Enforcement Notice issued by Shropshire Council on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

The Appeal will be heard by The National Planning Officer early next year.

You therefore have one last opportunity to have your views taken into account within the decision making process.

I would urge individuals who made earlier representation to do so again reiterating their concerns and continuing opposition to this application as previously stated and adding any further information you think appropriate.

**THIS MUST BE RECEIVED BY SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL BY 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2016.**

Thank you

RYTON AND GRINDLE PARISH COUNCIL

## **BECKBURY ALLOTMENTS**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> October we held our annual Giant Pumpkin Competition at The Seven Stars pub. We had a fantastic number of entries in the 3 classes. Adults, children and a new class opened by the Allotment Association for Beckbury Primary School in which Beau Mountford won the trophy with her whopper of a pumpkin weighing 56lb, Luca Tinkler won the children's category with an incredible giant of a pumpkin weighing 126lb. Kind sponsorship was given by Renew of Grindle for the adult category where Dave Cattel took 1<sup>st</sup> prize of £100 for his monster of a pumpkin weighing 268lb, beating long time champion Barry Truss!

The day was a great success. Not only did we have the weighing of these amazing pumpkins but the children also had fun apple crushing too. Big thanks to Katie Dorrell for the lovely pumpkin cake. The raffle raised £50 for The Starlight children's foundation helping children with cancer. So many thanks to all who came along and bought raffle tickets, your support is greatly appreciated.

We still have half an allotment plot available for next year, so if anyone is interested please contact Mark Spickernell (allotment chairman) on 07870621720.

Winter is upon us, leaves are still falling and it's vital to keep on top of them. Clear paths for obvious slippery reasons and lawns too, as they can damage the sward. Collect the leaves and put into wire frames or black plastic bags with holes in for drainage. Open the bags next autumn and you will find that the leaves have changed into a crumbly material that is ideal to be used as a mulch. If you leave it another year it will have rotted down further to a dark brown compost. This material contains a high level of humus which helps soil to retain moisture and enable it to hold on to nutrients.

Happy compost making.

*Heidi Pringle Scott*

**FOSACRAG PRESENTS**  
**A SING-A-LONG-A-LELE**  
With the BRIDGNORTH UKULELE BAND

From the Beatles to YMCA.....  
Pew Dancing

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2016 at 7.30pm  
ST ANDREWS CHURCH, RYTON

Tickets £5.00 to include a free glass of wine and nibbles  
More wine, drinks and nibbles on sale. Prize Raffle  
Tickets from Mark Dady 01952 750844 or [markdady@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:markdady@hotmail.co.uk)

**PROCEEDS TO FOSACRAG FOR THE PRESERVATION  
OF RYTON CHURCH AND UKULELE CHARITIES**

**NATIVITY - back by popular demand**

Come and see our treasured nativity scenes on display at  
St Mary's Church, Sutton Maddock  
On **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2-4pm**  
And at our **Carol Service on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm.**

...and if you have a nativity scene to add to our display, please contact  
Shiona Ferriday, 01952 730313, [ferridaysp@aol.com](mailto:ferridaysp@aol.com)

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The  
**Carpet Gallery**

1 Aston Street  
TF11 8DW 01952 463690  
[www.carpetgalleryshifnal.co.uk](http://www.carpetgalleryshifnal.co.uk)

# **COMPUTER TRAINING**

## **ALBRIGHTON BROADPLACE**

### **The Red House Community Centre, Albrighton**

We are a friendly group of local volunteers who offer you the chance of learning or improving your computer skills. Many of our 'learners' are absolute beginners.

We run from 2.30 to 4.30pm each Thursday afternoon (2 x 1 hour sessions)

The training is given on a one to one basis so you learn at your speed not that of a class, we work with you on whatever you want to learn, it may be learning how to send emails or accessing the internet to open up a whole new world out there. You may wish to look at holiday destinations or visitor attractions, do 'on-line' shopping or just look at what a shop may have to offer before you visit. There is so much one can do on the internet, even just going onto the BBC website is a whole new experience. You decide what you want to do and we will help you achieve it. Age is no barrier, our current oldest learner is 84 years young! You may have some experience but just require more help, possibly with photographs or 'attachments'.

Our rules do not allow us to do repairs or fault finding on your computer however.

Quite often we can help with little tips on using your computer. You can either use our laptops or bring your own. The first session (1 hour) is free and if you wish to continue it will only cost you £2 per session, this charge is simply to cover the hire of the room. If you are undecided about a computer or an I-Pad, and whether it is worth buying one, you can try out ours and see if you enjoy it before buying. Be warned, it can become addictive.

If you are interested, please contact either Geoff Page on 01902 372821 or Mike Pitchford on 01902 597701 before coming in, and we would be happy to discuss it further with you.

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



*George and Karen Campion  
who would like to wish everyone  
a very happy Christmas and a  
peaceful and prosperous New Year*

