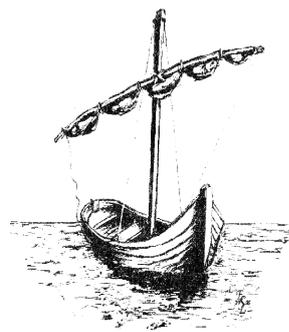


# The Parish Magazine



Ashton-under-Hill

Beckford

Overbury

Alstone &

Teddington

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October 2018

50p

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*The morns are meeker than they were,  
The nuts are getting brown;  
The berry's cheek is plumper,  
The rose is out of town.  
The maple wears a gayer scarf,  
The field a scarlet gown.  
Lest I should be old-fashioned,  
I'll put a trinket on.*

*'Autumn' by  
Emily Dickinson*

**Schedule of Services for The Parish of Overbury with  
Teddington, Alstone and Little Washbourne, with Beckford  
and Ashton under Hill.**



OCTOBER	Ashton	Beckford	Overbury	Alstone	Teddington
<b>7<sup>th</sup> October</b> 19th Sunday after Trinity	<b>11:00am</b> Harvest Festival <i>Lay Team</i>	<b>8:00am</b> BCP HC <i>R Tett</i>	<b>11:00am</b> Harvest Festival & Baptism <i>Katy Morgan</i>	<b>9.30 am</b> CW HC <i>Katy Morgan</i>	
	<b>4:00pm – Farewell Service for Clive Parr at Elmley Castle</b>				
<b>14th October</b> 20th Sunday after Trinity	<b>9.30 am</b> CW HC <i>R Tett</i>	<b>6.00 pm</b> Harvest Festival	<b>11.00 am</b> CW HC <i>R Tett</i>		<b>9.30 am</b> Morning Prayer <i>R Palmer</i>
<b>21<sup>st</sup> October</b> 21st Sunday after Trinity	<b>11.00 am</b> Village Worship <i>D Lewis</i>	<b>9.30 am</b> CW HC <i>Len Burn</i>	<b>8.00 am</b> BCP HC <i>R Tett</i>	<b>6:00pm</b> Evening Prayer <i>G Pharo</i>	
<b>28<sup>th</sup> October</b> Last Sunday after Trinity Bible Sunday	<b>10:00am - United Parish Worship at Teddington</b> <i>Guest Speaker: Dennis Shaw</i>				
<b>NOVEMBER</b>					
<b>4<sup>th</sup> November</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday before Advent All Saints'	<b>11:00am</b> CW HC D Lewis <b>4:00pm</b> All Souls' Service	<b>8:00am</b> BCP HC <i>D Lewis</i>	<b>11:00am</b> Family Service <i>Lay Team</i>		<b>9:30am</b> CW HC <i>D Lewis</i>

**Morning Prayers** will be said at 8.30am on Fridays at Ashton.

**Holy Communion** is celebrated at 10.00am on Wednesdays in St Faith's Church, Overbury.

**Clergy:** Revd Canon Matthew Baynes  
Revd David Lewis

Revd Canon Susan Renshaw  
Revd Rick Tett (Curate)

**Readers:** Roger Palmer



The Rector, **Canon Matthew Baynes** can be contacted at any time on: 01684 772237 or email: baynes@toucansurf.com.

**Parish Office:**

**Tuesday** mornings: 9.00am to 12noon: 01684 772237

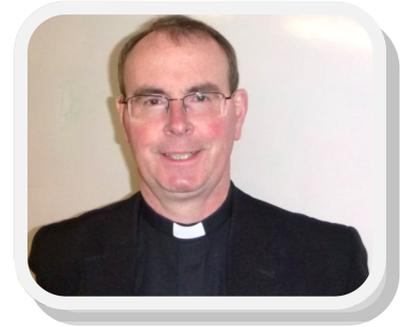
**Friday** mornings (Beckford Village Hall),: 9am to 12 noon:  
01386 881349

or amanda.parihoffice@talktalk.net (Parish Secretary)



## **Great Expectations**

In his book “Being Disciples” Rowan Williams begins by saying that Christian discipleship is a state of being. It is not just a question of what we believe, or what we do, or what decisions we make. It is about a state of being, and about being in a relationship with Jesus. It is a state characterised by awareness and expectation.



Being a disciple is a continuous thing. It is not just a matter of turning up from time to time. In the ancient world a student was probably somebody who committed themselves to being with a teacher or master continually. Such a disciple would literally follow their teacher to be with them, observing how the teacher conducted himself in all sorts of situations, and listening for any words of wisdom the expert produced.

This model of teaching and learning continues to this day in countries such as India, where individuals might seek to attach themselves to a ‘guru.’ Possibly it is alluded to in the opening chapter of John’s Gospel as two people approach Jesus and ask “where are you staying?” He responds by inviting them to “come and see”, and we are told that they stayed with him for the rest of the day.

Discipleship involves a willingness to be changed. Being in the presence of the master means that the way you see and experience the world could change. As Rowan Williams says, it is about expectancy. The disciple expects that something is going to break through from the teacher: maybe something out of the ordinary that transforms their understanding. In the teacher’s company reality can suddenly open up in a new way.

For the Christian today there may be an analogy in birdwatching. The experienced birdwatcher is patient. He or she sits still, possibly for a long while, aware that something could suddenly burst into view. The mentality is one of awareness and expectation, and it means being relaxed and alert at the same time. If something spectacular should appear – maybe a kingfisher or a falcon or an owl – the birdwatcher does not want to miss the moment.

So expectation is a central part of being a disciple. Expectation that the Lord is going to do or say something. Indeed, as Christians we could ask about our expectations of each other. In the presence of another individual we can always ask ourselves, “what is Christ giving me or offering to me through this person?” We may not agree with the other person about everything, but we can still approach them with the expectation that Christ is present in them and through them.

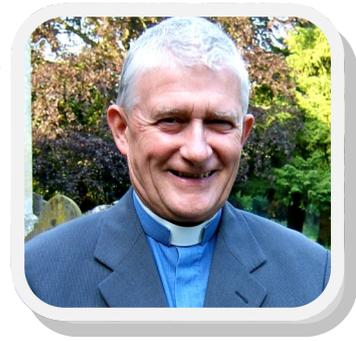
***David Lewis***

## SERVICES IN OCTOBER

### SUNDAY 7th OCTOBER

This is the date when we shall say farewell to Clive Parr who has helped to take services in the Parish for some years. His last service will be at 4:00pm at Elmley Castle.

The service will be a Choral Evensong, without a sermon. Clive has chosen the hymns, and he will introduce them in the course of the service. There will be wine, soft drinks and nibbles in the church after the service, generously provided by Clive and Mary.



### HARVEST FESTIVALS

#### SUNDAY 7th OCTOBER

Harvest will be celebrated at 11:00am at both Ashton and Overbury where there will also be a Baptism.



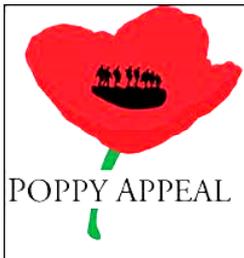
#### SUNDAY 14th OCTOBER

On this Sunday, there will be a Harvest Festival held at Beckford at 6:00pm.

Everyone is most welcome to any of these services and we hope that many of you will be able to come along.

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### WANTED – POPPY APPEAL COLLECTORS



The Royal British Legion leads the nation in providing financial, social and emotional support to members and veterans of the Armed Forces and their families. The annual Poppy Appeal is the main driving force to ensure this wonderful support is properly funded.

**The Beckford and Ashton Under Hill RBL branch, which also includes Conderton, Overbury, Kemerton, Teddington, Grafton, Alstone and Bengrove, is proud to play its part.**

We would be delighted and grateful to hear from anyone from our nine villages who would be able to help with the Appeal this year. This would involve door to door poppy selling and volunteers would do as much or as little as they're able to during the Appeal period of 27th October to 10th November.

***If you would like to find out more please email Ian Dickson on [iandicksoncz@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:iandicksoncz@yahoo.co.uk) or call 01386 882511 – please leave a message if there is no answer.***

Thank you

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### All Souls' Service in Ashton

This year's Beckford Group service will be hosted by St Barbara's church, Ashton and will take place at 4pm on **Sunday 4th November**, affording the opportunity to remember those family members and friends who have died; whether recently or longer ago. Candles may be lit in their memory as we recall their names. Each of our churches will have lists available to which names can be added, for remembrance. If you are unable to get to a church for this purpose, please contact your churchwarden and give the information so that details can be included on the main list for the service.

After the service tea, or coffee, and cakes will be served in the church so please do come along and take part in this special occasion.



## ANNUAL PARISH TEA

You are cordially invited to the Annual Parish Tea which will be held in  
**Beckford Village Hall at 3pm on Tuesday 2nd October.**

There will be cakes and sandwiches plus a free mini raffle.  
**Do come and join us.**



If you can, please let your church warden know if you are coming or if you need a lift.  
Everyone welcome.

Please contact me if you would like to help in any way.

**Judith Hunter, 01386 882087**

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### Kemerton Lectures



**Kemerton Lectures** re-start on **Thursday 4th October** with a course of 8 talks by David Whitehead, a well-known local historian and author, whose previous lectures in Kemerton have been enthusiastically received.

His subject is **The Gathering Storm: the Road to Civil War in the South Midlands and the Marches, 1603-46.**

We meet in the Victoria Hall, Kemerton, on Thursdays at 7.30pm and entry is £5 per lecture.

*More details on the Kemerton Lectures web page: [kemerton.org.uk/lectures](http://kemerton.org.uk/lectures), or contact Sue Bennett (01386 725 245).*

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### WEEKLY CLUBS AND CLASSES

One of our readers has suggested that days and times of weekly clubs and classes held throughout the parish could be included in the magazine.

This, of course, would be dependent on the space available, but if you would like to include details of a club or class that you run or attend, please contact me (see directory page) with the information, including the venue and contact details.



**Chris Godfrey, Editor**

#### Bredon Bridge Club



Bredon Bridge Club are seeking new members. We play friendly duplicate bridge on Friday evenings 6.45pm to 10pm approx. at Bredon's Norton Village Hall.

If you have played family/rubber bridge we can help you with the transition to duplicate.

**Please phone Mike Barrett on 01684 772194 for further information.**

#### Overbury Stitchers

We are a small friendly needlework group who meet every Wednesday at the Old Village Shop in Overbury from 10am. We work on a wide variety of techniques. We each bring our own projects, with help, advice and instructions always available if so wished.

**All are welcome.**



Call Angelina Rooney on 01386 725585 or email: [angelinarooney@gmail.com](mailto:angelinarooney@gmail.com) for more information.



He wore the Church Army Uniform with a full sense of duty almost wearing it out until through the efforts of others, it was replaced with a new one, not before time. I remember during the late 1990's an astonished man said to me "You will never guess what I have just seen outside the Chapel up the road, a man in the old fashioned Church Army uniform, I haven't seen anyone in that for years" I replied that would have been Dennis. There were things that may have put Dennis in a bygone age. As far as I am aware he did not possess a computer or own a mobile phone, he always wrote with a fountain pen and answered his telephone with the words "St. Nicholas Cottage" almost akin to a character from a Miss Marple mystery.

Dennis enjoyed many afternoon teas at Tythe Court with my mother and other friends even taking his brother along when he came to stay. I do not know how many cups of tea or slices of cake or how many people he visited but Dennis lived out his life as a constant witness and testimony to his faith in Jesus Christ. I heard that he offered lifts to hitch hikers not just taking them to the nearest junction but taking them to their destination.

In the pulpit Dennis preached with power and authority. He was a humble and gracious man who always had his bible at his side. There is a wonderful photograph of him in the Overbury and Conderton book 2000, in which he is wearing his robes with arms outstretched with his bible in his left hand.

The Salvation Army use the expression "Promoted to Glory" for those who have departed. How fitting this is for Dennis the Church Army Captain who could say "for me to live for Christ to die is gain".

*Charles Archer*

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**From Revd Jan Moore. Vicar of Beckford Group 2002-2009**

When I received a call from Church Army Sister Pat Holland in Bishops Cleeve, to tell me that Dennis Oxley had died, I experienced that sad joy which is the Christian response to the end of a long life, lived for Christ. Only such a Saint as Dennis could be gracious enough to have adjusted to working alongside a female vicar (what was the world coming to?!) who also wore make-up, long earrings and occasionally a short skirt! Considering the changes that Dennis had accommodated over decades of globe-trotting and engagement with very diverse communities, he was a bit of a miracle. But as a Gloucester Archdeacon once said at a public meeting "The Church of England is a miracle.....it must be, for something so awful to have lasted so long!" Dennis definitely does not match that Archdeacon's description of a miracle, but like us all, sustained his loyalty to the dear old CofE despite its shortcomings! And Dennis, like me, was privileged to work within an organisation which opens many doors to reach people in multiple kinds of need, and offers many people to share the joy of Christian living. I experienced that joy at Dennis' Memorial Service in Beckford Church. It was a privilege to be touched by his ministry, even through his death, and to be part of the loving community he had served for all his retirement years. As his vicar, I once aired a thought with him that I wished I had 'even half his time for visiting', to which he replied, 'that's what you will do in your retirement!'

I am now retired from full-time CofE employment and living in Cirencester. But, of course, still taking services, also enjoying ministry in the local primary school and doing other ancillary activities in the community. Dennis was a model of integrity and his words are still ringing true! Anyone is welcome to look me up down here at No 8 St Johns Close, Stratton, Cirencester, GL7 2JA, 01285640077 for coffee or something stronger!  
therevjan@gmail.com.

***God Bless. Jan Moore***

## News from Ashton under Hill

### St Barbara's Church, Ashton

#### St Barbara's Picnic

Maybe things never do turn out quite as one imagines they are going to! We advertised a church picnic at St Barbara's for 19th August to take place after the service. Our intention was to widen the appeal of a Village Worship Sunday and see who would come. A summer picnic seemed a good idea even though a number of people would be away on holiday. Of course, it had been planned during the heatwave, and the actual day started out very blustery and potentially rainy. In the meantime, a baptism\* was scheduled to take place in the church so no space would be available there.

In the event, we transferred to the garden of Bruce and Phillipa, out came the sun and the drinks, and it proved to be a very happy occasion. There was a chance to play Jenga, share some food and just chat. The Cyphus children, Jenny and Adam, served ice-cream, having decided that it was essential to a good picnic. We enjoyed some wonderful coffee cake made by Graham Pharo who took the service and came over with Barbara to join us. Twenty-two people came to the service, and fifteen stayed for the picnic.

***The collection in church for Mzamomhle raised £172.72\*\*.***

Thanks to everyone for their support, especially to Bruce and Phillipa for their kind hospitality in giving us a superior venue. We'll do it again next year!

\*The Baptism was for Hattie Luna, great grand-daughter of Margaret Nicklin, so a special occasion for the family.

\*\*The Mzamomhle total has been boosted by £80 from the Parish Walks

#### Sunday 7th October - Village Harvest Festival at 11am with speaker Charles Archer

Please bring items to decorate the church on the morning of Saturday 6th. Donations of tinned/package goods will be taken to "Caring Hands in the Vale".

Messy Church on Saturday morning from 10 am.

The collection taken at the service will go to "**Practical Action**" who invest in small local projects in developing countries like Africa and India.



#### Saturday 24th November - CHRISTMAS FAIR.



Please do think of us when sorting out your cupboards! There will be the usual stalls – cakes, preserves, quality crafts, second hand book stall, tombola, raffle and games, plus teas and mince pies. Also, St Richard's Hospice cards and Christmas items.

***In aid of St Richard's Hospice and St Barbara's Church.***

***Please come and support us. Items to Judith Hunter please.***

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#### Ashton Open Gardens – A New Chapter



This year has seen not only the most successful Open Gardens weekend, but also the resignation of two of the key stalwarts of the organising committee. Alex Dodge stepped down from the role of secretary earlier in the summer and more recently John Kenrick from the role of Chairman. At this point we must offer our heartfelt thanks to them both for their help and unfailing commitment to AOG. Both have contributed so much to Open Gardens over the years, we wonder how we will replace them, Alex's tenacious approach to all things AOG and John as our Leader and front man. However, replace them we must, and we have to see it as an opportunity to encourage new ideas and possibly a new approach for the organising committee. We welcome Linda who has recently joined us as Secretary and we wish her every success.

#### WE NEED YOU!

We have many willing volunteers throughout the village, without whom the weekend would not be the success it has always been. To maintain this and improve the event we do need to recruit some new members onto the organising committee in order to bring some fresh ideas to the table. You don't need to be a gardener, or have your garden open, to be an active member of the Committee, you just need to be willing and able to contribute.

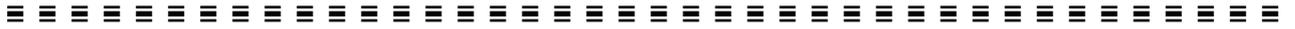
**Open Gardens cont.**

**So.....3 questions for you:**

- ◆ Would you like to be a member of the Committee?
- ◆ Have you got any ideas you would like considered by the Committee to help improve Ashton Open Gardens?
- ◆ Would you be prepared to open your garden as a new one in 2019 on 8/9th June?

Perfect garden? Not necessary. Interesting? All gardens are interesting. A work in progress? Most gardens are never 'finished'.

***If you answer 'Yes' to any of the above please contact Linda on 07599 046718 or lindateague@live.com.***



**ASHTON UNDER HILL W.I. - September Report**

The September meeting was attended by 32 members and guests; it felt good to get back to the autumn term after a busy summer. The business meeting asked for support for the Village Fete as we provide the Tombola stall for adults and the filled jars for children. WI also provide cakes for the refreshments.

The Craft group is meeting to finalise our group entry for the annual competition at Malvern and the Book Club is thriving. We have two public awareness campaigns running at the moment: we are collecting old jewellery and watches etc for the WI charity ACCW which assists women in poorer countries, and also mounting our own campaign towards "Reducing Plastic Waste". Members commented how difficult it is when the whole of domestic packaging is centred on the use of plastics, but we agreed to think of small ways in which we can all make a start. Doreen Parsons and Marjy Face came up with the first ideas and were rewarded with a flower bouquet. The topic will be revisited in November.

The speaker was Caro Day on "the History of the Everyman Theatre". The talk was full of interest as several of our members are old Cheltonians and between us we have attended many shows. Caro began with the very first evidence of a play in 1611 at the Crown Inn, then the development of the fashionable Spa town in the 18th century when theatrical entertainments were staged in various venues for the entertainment of the many visitors. A visit by George III to the Royal Well was a highlight. It was a very lively evening, as Caro persuaded WI volunteers to take part. Henrietta Cook read out a poem, Jane Wilson dressed up as King George, and five ladies showed off their dramatic skills in acting out a scene from "Lady Clancarty" – in costume of course. This was the play which inaugurated the theatre in 1891 and was a hilarious interlude. Well done Marion, Marjy, Chris, Gail and Gillie! The Everyman title appeared in the 1960s; it had previously been called 'Matcham's

Theatre and Opera House' after the architect, who was famous in his day. He built the Royal Opera House in London and also the Buxton Opera House. It always had an elaborate design, ornate décor and was originally lit by a gas chandelier. It has been re-built and refurbished along with many extensions over the last 120 years. The last one was finished in 2011. We really appreciated the excellent photographic record that Caro brought to show as she contrasted early photos of the original sites with how things look now. There were also star shots from the 60s, for example a moody and handsome Richard Burton and a very young Penelope Keith learning her craft in repertory. Although in decline in the 1950s along with many other theatres, the Everyman has adapted in modern times and hosts youth and community events as well as a great variety of plays and shows. Joan Richmond thanked Caro on our behalf and we all felt it was an excellent talk which really brought the theatre to life.



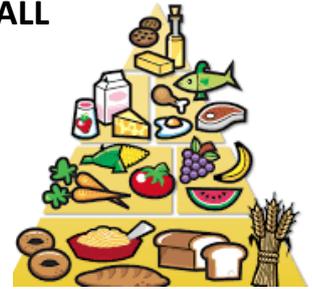
***The next meeting is on Tuesday 2nd October at 7.30pm when Sarah Champier will talk about "The Royal Florist"***

***Judith Hunter***



THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE invite you to our HARVEST SUPPER  
 SATURDAY 13th OCTOBER at 6:30 p.m.  
 In TEDDINGTON and ALSTONE VILLAGE HALL

- Delicious 2 Course Hot Supper
- Entertainment
- Bring your own drinks
- Tickets £10 each. £5 for children under 11



Tickets from: Brian 01242 620898 or Caroline 01242 621139  
 This is a ticket-only event with limited space so please book early.

*Proceeds to be divided between the Village Hall and our two churches.*

=====  
 TEDDINGTON VILLAGE HALL 50+ CLUB  
 Friday 26th October 2:30pm – 4.30pm



Entrance fee of £3.00 includes a cup of tea/coffee & cake plus all participation activities for those wishing to take part. Family and friends most welcome.

For more information call Sue on 01242 620264, or  
 Brian on 01242 620898

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**Alstone Spooky Night - Saturday 27th October at 5pm**

Halloween Party at Alstone Playing Field  
 (venue if wet: Teddington Village Hall)



- ◆ Bonfire, BBQ, Drinks, Music, Stalls, Games & more
- ◆ Best Pumpkin Competition
- ◆ Best Fancy Dress (under 8, over 8, adult)

*Tickets: Adults £5, children £3, Family £15, (2 adults, 2 children)*  
*Enquiries: Kay Morrison: 01242 620298*

All Proceeds to the Alstone Defibrillator Fund  
 Any other donations will be gratefully received.



*Our recent coffee morning in aid of the Defibrillator Fund raised £550.  
 Thank you all for your support & please join us again on 27th October!*

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**Teddington Quiz Night**

Saturday 24th November, 7:30pm in Teddington Village Hall

- Teams of 4
- Cost £7.50 per person to include a ploughman's bap.



Bring your own drinks. Any donations of raffle prizes gratefully received on the night.  
 For those new to this event, it is a fun evening in aid of charity.  
 12 teams are the maximum; so book early to avoid disappointment.

**PLEASE ONLY CALL WHEN YOU HAVE A TEAM OF 4**

*Anne & Phil Clark, 621167 after 6:00pm*

## **News from Beckford**

### **From the Beckford Registers**

#### **Baptism:**

26th August 2018 - Joseph Alan Cameron, son of Matthew and Christine Cameron

#### **Wedding:**

25th August 2018 - Andrew Paul McLellan to Anna Marie Brown

#### **Interment of Ashes:**

4th September 2018 - Rita Antoinette Barnett : Died 18th May 2017

11th September 2018 - Susan Annie Wilson: Died 26th July 2018

### **Dennis Oxley – funeral collection**

The collection at – and subsequent to - Dennis's funeral has now been closed and a total of **£977.50** has been despatched to his chosen beneficiary, The Church Army. A remarkable sum and a fitting tribute to Dennis's role in our lives in these villages. This includes the sum of £307.50 which was received at the service, as reported last month.

### **LAST CHANCE!**

If you haven't already secured your tickets for the wonderful concert of **English Church Music through the Ages** to be held in Beckford Church on Saturday 6th October at 7pm, please buy them now! There is just time – *if, indeed, tickets remain available.....* Seating is limited so tickets must be bought in advance and will not be available at the door. Costing £15, including wine (or soft drink) and Canapés. Tickets may be had from David Carvill (01386 882002 or davidcarvill@tuca.co.uk ) or from Beckford Stores (personal collection only).

### **Beckford Harvest Festival**

Beckford's service of Harvest Festival will take place on **Sunday 14th October at 6pm**. Do come and join us for this traditional service, with its popular hymns, in a church decorated with the fruits and flowers of the season. Afterwards we shall gather to enjoy a social time over a glass (or two) of wine to celebrate this landmark in the year.

Gifts of fruit, flowers and vegetables will be welcome to add to the beauty of the church and later they will be taken to the St Vincent and St George Day Centre in Cheltenham where they will be gratefully received and put to good use.

**Please deliver any such offerings to the church by no later than noon on Saturday 13th October. Many thanks!**



### **Beckford Coffee Morning**



The usual monthly Coffee Morning will take place on **Friday 26th October from 10:30am to 12 noon** and we look forward to welcoming everyone once again. This happy event goes from strength to strength and attracts people from this village and neighbouring ones, together with newcomers, who find it a good place to make new friends. We are also often joined by passers-by, attracted by the signage. Come and join the throng! This month is in aid of church funds: a minimum of £2.50 for coffee/tea and home-made cake – companionship free!

## BECKFORD W.I. - September Report



Our President, Yo Yates welcomed 24 members and 6 visitors to Village Hall on Monday 10th September. Our speaker for the evening was Carol Southworth who had come to talk about the life and history of King Richard III and the subsequent discovery of his grave in Leicester. She explained that this period of history was very poorly documented and there were conflicting accounts of the man, ranging from him being perceived as a murderous tyrant to a benevolent ruler. Carol started by illustrating her talk with the family tree of Richard III and his relationship to Edward IV and his sons, the so-called Princes in the Tower, whom it is claimed that Richard, as the wicked uncle, had murdered. She explained that the evidence for this was very weak and was based on accounts by Sir Thomas More, who was only a child at the time of the death of Edward IV, and Dominic Mancini, the Chancellor of France. There is virtually no written evidence from the time. Since Shakespeare used Sir Thomas More's accounts as the basis for his history play "Richard III", this has been the most familiar account portraying the king as a humpbacked, murderous traitor and tyrant. The facts are difficult to confirm but the young princes went missing soon after their father's death. Richard had been given the task of protecting them and his reputation at the time was one of an honourable man. Once he had assumed the throne he was regarded as a just ruler and his coronation was well-attended. Carol then spoke about the evidence for the survival of the Princes and the likelihood that someone other than Richard had arranged for them to be either spirited away to the Continent or murdered. Richard's death at the Battle of Bosworth was particularly brutal. His body was taken to Leicester, displayed and then buried at Greyfriars Priory. It was then rumoured to have been dug up and thrown in the River Soar on the dissolution of the Priory following the orders of Henry VIII. The chances of finding the remains of Richard III seemed very slim but in 2009 the search for his grave began and ended, successfully when a car park in Leicester was excavated and a skeleton was unearthed. Then, using DNA evidence from the skeleton and two distant relatives who had been traced, the bones were positively confirmed to be those of Richard III. The skeleton was almost complete and the spinal vertebrae showed evidence of scoliosis, not a humpback deformation but a sideways displacement of the backbone. Using digital reconstruction techniques, a model was made of the head and face and this was very similar to the 16th century portraits. The remains were buried in a tomb in Leicester Cathedral. Carol answered a number of questions from the audience and Yo thanked her for her fascinating talk.



After refreshments the meeting continued and plans for a visit to the Bristol Aerospace Museum to see the last Concorde to fly, were finalised. The book club has a meeting in September to discuss Ken Follett's book "Night over Water". Members are going to the Fashion Show organised by Kemerton WI and the monthly walk is to Wormington from Dumbleton.

The next meeting is on **Monday 8th October at 7.30pm** when the speaker will be Mike Ledbury who is to give a talk entitled "**Confessions of a Morris Dancer**" which promises to be a humorous look at the subject! **All are most welcome.**

*Clare Henderson, Meeting Secretary*

### *Beckford Nature Reserve*

The AGM of Beckford Nature Reserve will take place on  
**Friday 19th October at 7.30 pm**  
in Beckford Village Hall.

SPEAKER: Captain Ken Whittaker  
SUBJECT: An illustrated talk on SOUTH GEORGIA

Tea/Coffee provided. All are most welcome

## News From Overbury

September began with the very happy baptism of Louis Jack Ru Joseph Carter at our Family Service – which sadly marked the last time Susan will conduct a christening at St Faith's. In order to give her a proper send-off, a magnificent afternoon choral celebration of Holy Communion was held at Eckington on 16th September which included Rachmaninov's beautiful "To Thee, O Lord" and the Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, Benedictus and Agnus Dei from Haydn's 'Little Organ Mass'. An uplifting sermon was preached by the Archdeacon, Robert Jones, and we then all adjourned to the Village Hall for delicious refreshments, speeches and presentations to Susan and Charles. The ten years she has spent with us at St Faith's have flown by and we have benefitted so much from her wisdom, humour and dedication to St Faith's and Overbury School.

We at Overbury will be holding our own **Farewell Party for Susan and Charles at 7:00pm on Friday, 12th October** at Whitcombe and would be delighted to welcome congregation members from any of the other churches in the Beckford Group who would like to join us. I

if you would like to come, please phone Faith Hallett on 01386 725206 or email [faith.hallett1@gmail.com](mailto:faith.hallett1@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

In the meantime, we are looking forward to our Family Service Harvest Festival on Sunday 7th October which is to be taken by the Revd Katy Morgan and which will also include the baptism of Everly Aldridge. The church will be decorated during the morning of Saturday 6th October and we will be delighted to receive contributions of both fresh produce and 'store cupboard' items as well as inviting everybody who would like to come and help us decorate. Floristry skills are NOT a pre-requisite - just enthusiasm and an ability to balance piles of apples!



On Saturday 13th October, the marriage of Rhian Bryant and Thomas Moore will take place – we love hosting weddings at St Faith's and know that it will be a joyful occasion.



After our glorious summer, the leaves are just beginning to turn and the last swallows have left our utility room for their long journey south. Soon autumn will be upon us with its mists and mellow fruitfulness and the hard but satisfying work involved in putting our gardens to bed for the winter.

December still seems very far away but please make sure you have put the ***Excelsa Voces concert on Saturday evening, 8th December in your diary!***

### **CORRECTION! Friends of St Faith's AGM**

The AGM is taking place on **SUNDAY 21st October in the church at 3pm – not on Saturday** as printed in the September issue of the Magazine. Apologies for any confusion and we look forward to seeing Friends old, new and potential.

There will be tea and coffee available before the meeting and a chance to look at the plans for the vestry restructuring to create a kitchenette and disabled bathroom. Please do come and join us if you can as it is an opportunity to discuss the projects to which we might contribute our funds in the coming year. Your input and ideas would be most welcome.

***We warmly welcome anyone who might be interested in improving, repairing and maintaining our beautiful ancient building and its churchyard and in ensuring that it continues to play an important role in the centre of our community.***



## NEWS FROM THE TEDDINGTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

As most of you are aware, Teddington Village Hall belongs to the Parish of Teddington which includes Alstone, Bengrove and outlying residents on the A435 & B4077. The Village Hall Committee (Trustees) get together six times a year to discuss the ongoing management, maintenance and upkeep of the hall. Income from fund raising, grant awards and hire fees over the past 2-3 years has enabled crucial maintenance works to make the hall more attractive for our parishioners. Increased use of the hall has included clubs, classes, fund raising events, private events, parties and more. Our most recent fund-raising event was held on Saturday 8th September when residents joined us to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the RAF and Suffragette Movement. Afternoon Tea was served and guests were received by four uniform-clad gentlemen who specialise in sharing memorabilia relating to the Royal



Flying Corps era into the RAF and WW2 period. Manikins dressed in flying uniforms along with guns from spitfire aeroplanes were but a few items of memorabilia displayed. Many stories and much information was also shared with those who attended. **With the help of our kind volunteers we managed to raise £400 and feedback indicated a great time was had by all.**

Our budget for 'keeping the lights on' as we say, is about **£3,000** per year. In addition, we also have to budget for any major required maintenance work. Works on the rear of the hall to alleviate damp occurring from an old chimney stack and guttering problems are currently being planned, costing in the region of £2,500. Other works scheduled when funds permit relate to resurfacing part of the damaged driveway, re-lacquering the hall floor and replacement of the banquet chairs. Longer term plans also include the provision of a disabled toilet facility, this being dependent upon successful grant applications/fund raising.



Our keen team of 7 committee members volunteer their time to man a cleaning rota, garden maintenance, manage general H&S/Fire Safety requirements and much more. Tim and Phil also carry out many of the smaller maintenance tasks to help keep costs down, thus preserving funds. As well as running major fund-raising events, we also run our annual Lucky Numbers Club, the 50+ Club and Whist Nights (with the help of parish volunteers). Also, to support our efforts, we rely heavily on the Parish Council for an annual grant (this contribution paid to us indirectly via your Council Tax Bill). Historically, we have been granted £1,000pa (1/3rd of our annual running costs) which equates to each household contributing approximately £7.00pa. We would ask our parishioners to kindly support this much needed annual grant request into the future. Finally, we would like to thank all those who regularly offer their kind help and support in keeping 'the show on the road', it is very much appreciated.

**Kind Regards, Tim, Brian, Caroline, Sue, Helen, Phil & Rachael**

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**Tuesday 9th                      Wednesday 10th                      Tuesday 16th**

For those who work or can't attend in the early afternoon there are evening sessions from **6pm – 8pm on Thursday 11th October and Wednesday 17th October.**

**There is no need to make an appointment.** Just turn up on one of the above dates. If you can't make any of them there will be other dates in November.



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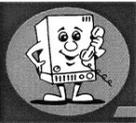
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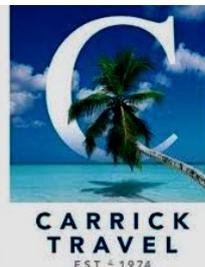
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**01386 750203**  
canonsusan@btinternet.com

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Vicar of Eckington with Defford and Besford, Rural Dean of Pershore

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**01386 710394**  
davidlewis648@btinternet.com

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	Kieran Whelan	01242 620763
Secretary	Nicholas Bentley	01242 620292
Treasurer	Mike Wignall	01242 620031
Flowers:		
Teddington	Caroline Marsh	01242 621139
Alstone	Jane Rogers	01242 620592
Organist	Matthew Birch	01386 881980

## **Transport Co-ordinators**

Overbury	Faith Hallett	01386 725206
Teddington	Rosie Atkin	01242 620565
Alstone	Betty Beckman	01242 620289
Ashton	vacant	
Beckford	Roger Palmer	01386 881746

## **Minibus**

Andrew Barnett	01386 881145
Paul Stephenson	01386 882052
(backup co-ordinator)	ashtonbeckford@gmail.com

## **Disability Awareness Officer**

Pat Chambers	01386 750358
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## **Parish Safeguarding Officer**

Amanda Bath - see Parish Secretary above for contact details

## **Magazine**

### **Editor**

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### **Advertising**

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### **Treasurer**

Laurence Alexander	01386 881814
The Old Police Station, Beckford, GL20 7AD	

### **News Team**

Beckford	Jessie Alexander	01386 881814
Chapelries	Bill & Anne Kyle	01242 620351
Overbury	Ros Long	01386 725111
Ashton	Alastair Humphrey	01386 881479

## **Web Site**

[www.bredonhillgroup.org](http://www.bredonhillgroup.org)



4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th

	Meditation Thursday, Committee Rm, Beckford Village Hall	6:00pm
2nd	Annual Parish Tea - see page 5 for details	
	Ashton W.I. 'The Royal Florist', Ashton Village Hall	7:30pm
5th	Ashton Lunch Club, Chapel Hall	12:30pm
7th	Farewell Service for Clive Parr at Elmley Castle	4:00pm
8th	Overbury & Conderton Parish Council, Overbury Village Hall	7:00pm
	Beckford W.I. 'Confessions of a Morris Dancer', Beckford V.H.	7:30pm
9th	Simply Soup, Beckford Village Hall	12:30pm
13th	Teddington & Alstone Village Hall Harvest Supper - see page 11 for details	
16th	<b><i>Deadline for magazine entries for November</i></b>	
19th	Beckford Nature Reserve AGM, Beckford Village Hall	7:30pm
21st	Friends of St Faith's AGM - see page 14 for details	
24th	Beckford Gardening Club 'Beyond the Garden Gate', Beckford V.H.	7:30pm
26th	Parish Minibus Shopping Trip to The Valley, Twyford, Evesham	
	Beckford Coffee Morning in the Church Chancel	10:30am
	Teddington Village Hall 50+ Club, Teddington V.H.	2:30pm
27th	Alstone Spooky Night- see page 11 for details	
28th	United Parish Worship for Bible Sunday at Teddington	10:00am

**Advertisement: The Parish Magazine takes no responsibility for goods or services advertised.**

**Fruit Tree in Your Garden?**  
Professional Fruit Tree Pruner

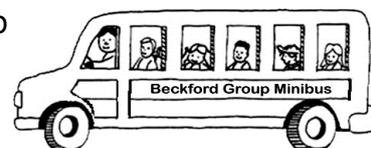
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**Parish Minibus Shopping Trips in October**

For this year, due to a reduced demand for the Worcester trip every fortnight, we now vary the destination on the fourth Friday each month.

- 5th & 19th to **Bishops Cleeve**
- 12th to **Worcester**
- 26th to **The Valley (Twyford, Evesham)**



**Picks up from all villages on request. Call Andrew Barnett on 01386 881145**