

West Buckland Community News

August 2016

LETTER FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

What with the EU Referendum and the Queens 90th Birthday, it made me think of the decisions we make and the experiences in life that help choose them.

In our personal lives too we're asked to make decisions affecting other people. Our children's education, buying your first car, choosing a career, giving our opinions to friends. The Queen over her long reign has made some huge decisions and I wonder if she had sleepless nights worrying about them.

The problem with choosing the right decision is an endless stream of advice, positive or negative, what should I do? I guess through her Majesty's experience the years have given her unparalleled wisdom and faith.

In the Bible many different characters like Moses, Abraham and King David through their age and wisdom made some very important decisions, but not on their own. Why not say a little prayer to our Lord when you don't know what to do. All sorts of people ask for God's help.

I've seen 'Dog the Bounty Hunter' and his family on TV. A muscle bound real life action bounty hunter pursuing people on the wrong side of the law in America, before they go off on another pursuit they hold hands and pray together for the right results.

Who knows what decisions you'll have to make this week. I pray for you that it will be the best one but in case you're not sure, why not try praying too. Alan (East Group vicar)

Wellington and District Team Ministry Christianity: a Journey (Baptism/ Confirmation Programme for Adults)

Have you never been baptised but think that perhaps you might like to be and would like to find out more?

Were you baptised as a child, when your parents made promises on your behalf? If so, would you like to make those promises for yourself? Have you had your children baptised and made promises on their behalf? If so, would you like to make those promises for yourself (and learn more to help you bring up your children to follow Jesus)?

When? Monday evenings 7.30 – 9.00 p.m. starting August 8th Where? The Lang Room – behind All Saints church at Rockwell Green. What will happen? Discussion, activities, some handouts, suggestions for further reading and hopefully lots of fun.

More information on poster in your church and please contact: Revd. Maria Hearl 01884 256380 or email mariahearl@btinternet.com ASAP.

Deanery Confirmation Service has been set for Wednesday 12th October.

CHURCH FUNDRAISING

Thank you to Hilary and John for hosting a very enjoyable strawberry tea, to all the people who very generously supported us and all who worked so hard to make the afternoon a success. A magnificent £420 was raised to help to pay for the restoration work being done in the Church. Thank you again. West Buckland PCC.

NEWSLETTER FUNDS – A THANK YOU

West Buckland PCC express grateful thanks to the Friendship Club for their generous donation towards the cost of producing the newsletter. It is much appreciated.

Don't forget the Newsletter is available directly to your e-mail inbox – simply send an e-mail indicating your wish to **westbucklandnews@hotmail.com** and you will be added to the mailing list.

The deadline for next month's edition is, as usual, the 20th of the month preceding.

REMINDER OF NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR ARTICLES: westbucklandnews@hotmail.com

EAST GROUP SERVICE ROTA

August	7 th August	14 th August	21 st August	28 th August
READINGS on pew sheets provided. <i>The Revised Common Lectionary</i>	OT Genesis 15. 1-6 NT Hebrews 11. 1-3. 8-16 Gospel Luke 12. 32-40	OT Jeremiah 23. 23-29 NT Hebrews 11. 29-12.2 Gospel: Luke 12. 49-56	OT Isaiah 58. 9-14 NT Hebrews 12. 18-29 Gospel: Luke 13. 10-17	OT Ecclesiasticus 10. 12-18 NT Hebrews 13. 1-8. 15-16 Gospel Luke 14. 1. 7-14
West Buckland	8.30am BCP HC	10am Parish Praise	9am HC	9am Morning Worship
Bradford On Tone	10am Morning Worship	10am Morning Worship	10.30 am HC	6pm Special request Songs of Praise
Runnington	10.30 am Parish Praise	<i>Join Langford Budville A great chance to meet up !</i>	6pm BCP HC	9.15am HC
Langford Budville	10am HC	9.15am HC joint service	10am Morning Worship	<i>Join Runnington A great chance to meet up!</i>
Nynehead	10.30am Court Non HC	10.45am HC	<i>Join others. A chance to share together!</i>	10.45am HC

OTHER SERVICES

Thursday 4th August East Group midweek BCP HC Service 9.45am at St. Giles Bradford on Tone. All welcome, Refreshment after the service in the village hall.

NOTE:

In September East Groups midweek 9.45am BCP HC Service at Bradford on Tone will be on the 4th Thursday of the month -**Thursday 22nd September.**

DATE	SIDESPERSONS	READERS
August 7	CHURCHWARDENS	M ROSE
August 14	CHURCHWARDENS	
August 21	D STAGG & P FORD	J MORRISH
August 28	D & S FASEY	
September 4	CHURCHWARDENS	C RAYSON

SMILE AT ST JOHNS CHURCH IN WELLINGTON

This takes place between 3.15pm and 4.30pm, after school on the first Wednesday of every month.

Smile is for children under 12 accompanied by an adult. Please do join us in praying for the children and families we seek to serve and share God's love with. If you're interested in getting involved as part of the Smile team, do get in touch: More details contact Andy Levett on 07595 311183.

The Big Tent 2016 Thursday 8th August 2016 10am- 3pm at Wellesley Park Primary School sports field, Wellington. For children currently in school Year R to year 6 Cost £16 per child for the 3 days. For more information on this get in touch with Karen at Wellington Baptist Church office on 01823 663713.

Information about Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals Contact: Revd. Alan Ellacott Tel: 01823 669824 email rev.aellacott1969@btinternet.com

WEST BUCKLAND SCHOOL PTFA AGM

West Buckland Community School PTFA AGM to be held in the school main hall on Thursday 22nd September at 7.30pm.

Our school is an ever growing and integral part of the village, playing a huge role in welcoming new families to our community and working to support fellow organisations. We are always seeking new initiatives and/or new members to PTFA to support in either the organising or delivery of our fundraising events.

So if you are new or old, can bake a cake or sell one on a stall, or indeed would be happy to help in any way you can we would love to see you. Please join us for a glass of wine and a chat and see how easy it could be to help- thank you.

WEST BUCKLAND WI JULY MEETING

The evening meeting commenced with the welcoming of several new members. Reports were given and arrangements made for lots of exciting things coming up including the County Quiz that is being hosted by the Group, an Abba tribute evening and even a group meeting featuring belly dancing followed by tiffin and tea!

Thanks were given for all the cakes made that were sent to the highly successful and now famous WI stand at the Glastonbury Festival. Reports from the many clubs included the Lunch Club and their enjoyable lunch at The Green Dragon in Wellington and their forthcoming visit to Barrington Court

Plans are now well underway for the 80th Birthday Party in August. The West Buckland WI was set up in 1936 by local philanthropist Grizelda Fox. The speaker for the evening was Mr Clarke with a talk 'Shoe to Film' covering his long career with Clarks Shoes. He hastened to add the 'e' on the end of his name denoted he was not a family member! He gave lots of insights into the ups and downs of the local company and how it survived the technological age. Eventually he turned his career to his love of making films. The competition for the evening for the Most Unusual Socks or Tights was won by Marion Upton with her mother's silk wedding stockings from 1928. After a delicious tea of sandwiches, nibbles and cakes the speaker was thanked and an update given on the forthcoming sponsored church tower abseiling event that several members are taking part in. A most enjoyable evening was had by all.

WEST BUCKLAND FRIENDSHIP CLUB JULY MEETING

The July meeting started on a sad note by holding a minute silence to remember Liz Henley, a member of our club for several years. The morning then continued with a recap on the most enjoyable outing to Exeter Canal and Quay when the weather, although slightly damp at the beginning did improve as the day progressed.

On the first Saturday in July we participated in the Village Fete and quickly sold out of raspberries and strawberries thus helping make it successful afternoon for all the village organisations. Transport arrangements were made for the forthcoming July outing to Salisbury Cathedral and Arundells (the home of former Prime Minister Edward Heath) and everyone who had signed up for the August trip to Crowcombe Court were asked to make a firm commitment to this outing as the club had to send a cheque well in advance.

Members were advised that it appears very unlikely that we will be able to recoup our payment to Webber Bus according to the administrators in Bristol. Despite several phone calls it seems we will have to stand the loss of the money. To finish the morning on a high note our speaker for the morning Spence Kingdon gave a most amusing insight into "The Black Stuff". This was recollections of his early life told in a very light hearted way and as usual Spence did not disappoint. A vote of thanks was given by Edward Broom.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday August 4th when arrangements will be made for the trip to Crowcombe Court and payments will be due for the Exmoor Safari outing. Our speaker for the morning will be Mike Bolton and the topic will be "Transport of Delight".

POLICE BEAT SURGERY

The next Beat Surgery will take place on Thursday 18th August between 5pm and 5.30 pm outside West Buckland Village Hall.

PARISH COUNCIL AUGUST MEETING

The July meeting of the Parish Council takes place at the Village Hall on Tuesday 30th August at 7.30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

BUS SERVICE: Thank you to everyone who completed the Bus Survey. Somerset County Council has now informed the Council about its new arrangements:

From Monday 25 July 2016 the No 20 Stagecoach South West bus service will no longer include West Buckland. Instead West Buckland will be served by a combination of scheduled bus service journeys and Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) services both at peak times for travel to/from Taunton and off peak times for travel to/from Taunton and Wellington.

Somerset County Council has laid on a morning and evening service between Taunton and West Buckland to mirror as closely as possible what happens now with service 20 as they were advised by Stagecoach South West, the current bus operator that there are passengers to and from West Buckland on all current journeys although numbers are low and use varies from day to day.

In addition to this SCC is also looking to ensure access to work/education in Taunton but if there is very little or no use of these journeys then they will review this provision after a short period. The 22B bus will leave West Buckland War Memorial at 8.15; Somerset College at 8.26 and should arrive at Taunton, Castle Way at 8.30. The return service leaves Taunton Bus Station at 17.40, Wellington Road, opposite Somerset College 17.44 and should arrive at West Buckland War Memorial at 17.55.

The DRT service otherwise known as a Slinky Bus is not a conventional bus service and as such it does not have a fixed timetable as it works on the basis of demand. It runs in a given area, in this case between Milverton, Wellington and Taunton but only calls at stops and pick up points if a booking has been made and therefore the journey times can vary depending on the number of passengers booked and the pick-up points being served. The bus drops passengers in the centre of both Taunton and Wellington and in the case of West Buckland the pick-up point will be the existing bus stop by the War Memorial.

When people register to use the service a number of details are taken including confirming the pick-up point for the individual and it is explained to the people registering exactly how the service works. When they actually book a journey a check is made to ensure there is space and they are given an approximate pick up time which can vary slightly depending on the number of passengers and the number of pick-ups needed to be made on the day.

SCC has adjusted the current workings of Slinky Bus that operates between Milverton, Langford Budville, Wellington, Nynehead and Taunton to include West Buckland and an indication of when the bus will operate through West Buckland each day (when bookings are made) is as follows:

To Taunton:	0815 (22B bus), 0940 (Slinky), 1330 (Slinky), 1510 (Slinky)
From Taunton:	1130 (Slinky), 1400 (Slinky), 1530 (Slinky), 1740 (22B Bus)
To Wellington:	1050 (Slinky), 1150 (Slinky), 1420 (Slinky), 1550 (Slinky)
From Wellington:	0930 (Slinky), 1330 (Slinky), 1500 (Slinky)

Please bear in mind the Slinky times are approximate and passengers will be advised of times when making their bookings. Passengers can use a combination of Slinky and 22B bus service journeys if they wish and can purchase a return ticket on either service which will be accepted on the other and English National Concessionary Bus Passes are valid for free travel on all of these journeys except the 0815 22B.

The Slinky service is constantly evolving and one of the advantages of a demand responsive bus service is that it is much easier to monitor use and demand and easier to make adjustments as there is no registered timetable. Another advantage is that when people book their journeys they can provide feedback on the service which helps SCC to make adjustments although it has to be recognised that the service provides transport to a number of communities that have no alternative services and we need to take account of all the users of the service when making any changes.

TRAFFIC ISSUES: due to the level of concern about traffic issues in West Buckland the Council has decided to carry out an audit of all the issues to see what improvements can be made. These issues include vehicles speeding in the village, parking around the school at the start and end of the school day, lack of pavements for children walking to and from school and parking generally. Somerset County Council, who has a responsibility for highways, has been asked to provide guidance and advice.

THE COUNCIL'S ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR 2015-2016: Annual Governance Statement and the Internal Audit Report are all published on the parish website, visit the Parish Council – Transparency Code page.

RURAL BROADBAND: Gigaclear plc is planning to deliver its ultrafast fibre to the premises (FTTP) broadband service to homes and businesses across 2,000 properties in the Blackdown Hills, this includes some properties in the parish. They will need to assess the demand before they commit to building and investing in the area and have recently held two meetings (one at Hemyock and one at Upottery) to introduce themselves and to gain some local knowledge of how best to communicate within the area. They also want to start the process of understanding local land ownership to help identify major landowners with a view to negotiating wayleaves to install the trunk fibres along the edges of private land rather than in the highway to reduce local traffic disruption, speed up deployment and reduce the build cost. There are more details on the parish website and www.gigaclear.com.