

West Buckland Community News

March 2019

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS MAY 2019

The Parish Council elections will be held on Thursday 2nd May and West Buckland Parish Council is looking for people who are passionate about their community to stand for election.

Some of the current councillors will be standing down and this is an opportunity for new people to come forward and get involved.

Parish Councils are led by democratically elected councillors from the local community. Parish councillors decide on what services and projects the council will deliver or get involved in. As representatives of the first tier of local government and the closest to their communities, parish councillors are best placed to engage with their residents and find out what the real local issues are and how to overcome them.

Meetings are held at 7.30pm on the last Tuesday of the month, except December, at West Buckland Village Hall. There is usually some reading in preparation for the meetings which are generally a maximum of two hours in length but often less. Councillors can volunteer to take on some other duties, such as representing the Parish Council at other meetings or helping with looking after the playing field, but this is not compulsory. Training will be provided.

Getting elected

To stand for election you must:

- Be a UK or Commonwealth citizen; or be a citizen of the Republic of Ireland; or be a citizen of another Member State of the European Union
- Be at least 18 years old
- Be an elector of the parish council; or in the past 12 months occupied land or other premises in the area parish council serves (as owner or tenant); or work in the area local council serves (as your principal or only place of work); or live within three miles of the local council boundary.

How to find out more

Look at the Elections page on the parish website and view the resources

<http://www.westbuckland.org/west-buckland-parish-council/elections/>

Contact the Clerk, Mrs Jill Larcombe: email westbucklandclerk@gmail.com or phone 01884 252647

Attend a briefing session before the next Parish Council meeting. The Chair, Clerk and some councillors will be available to answer questions between 7pm and 7.30pm on Tuesday 26th February in the Committee Room, West Buckland Village Hall. You are welcome to attend the Parish Council meeting afterwards.

Nomination forms will be available from the Clerk or from Taunton Deane Borough Council

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

A new Church Electoral Roll has to be compiled this year therefore all existing members who wish to remain on the roll MUST complete a new application form. We also wish to welcome new members. Application forms, which must be returned by 17th March, are available from the church and churchwardens. Colin Rayson 07753 146191

CHURCH APCM

The church's annual meeting will be on Thursday, 14th March, 7pm in the village hall. Colin Rayson 07753 146191

2019	3rd March	10th March	17th March	24th March
READINGS on pew sheets	OT Exodus 34. 29-35 NT 2 Corinthians 3. 12-4.2 Gospel Luke 9. 28-36, (37-43)	OT Deuteronomy 26. 1-11 NT Romans 10. 8b-13 Gospel Luke 4 1-13	OT Genesis 15 1-12. 17-18 NT Philippians 3. 17-4.1 Gospel Luke 13. 31-35	OT Isaiah 55. 1-9 NT 1 Corinthians 10. 1-13 Gospel Luke 13. 1-9
West Buckland	9am BCP HC	10am Parish Praise	9am HC	10am Morning Worship
Bradford On Tone	10am Morning Worship	10am Morning Worship	10.30 am HC	10am Morning Worship
Runnington	10.30am Parish Praise	<i>Join Langford Budville</i>	6pm BCP HC	9.15am Joint HC
Langford Budville	10.30am HC	9.15am Joint HC	No Service	<i>Join Runnington</i>
Nynehead Court	10.30am Non HC	10.45am HC	<i>Join others</i>	10.45am HC

OTHER SERVICES

7th March East Group Midweek BCP HC Service 9.45am, followed by refreshments in village hall with coffee morning group.

31st March Joint East Group 10.30am HC service at Runnington Church
Readings: OT Joshua 5 9-12 NT 2 Corinthians 5. 16-21 Gospel Luke 15- 1-3. 11b-32

The East Group Ash Wednesday Service of HC with Imposition of Ashes is to be held at West Buckland church at 1030am on 6th March.

The East Group 5th Sunday Mothering Sunday HC service on 31st March at 10.30am is to be held at **Nynehead** church NOT Runnington.

Bradford on Tone's A. P. C. M 5 pm in church Monday 11th March.
West Buckland's A. P. C. M. 7 pm in village hall Thursday 14th March.
Nynehead's A.P.C.M 2nd April 2.15 in church.
Runnington's A. P. C. M 2nd April 7pm in church.
Langford Budville's A. P. C. M 7th April after 10.30am service.

DON'T FORGET, FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS HAPPENING IN YOUR CHURCHES! (East Group)

FOOD BANK Clare Lucker, M: 07979 694 931

Churches together: The World Day of Prayer is at St John the Baptist Church, Wellington at 2.00pm on Friday 1st March. All are welcome to stay for refreshments afterwards. The Service is prepared by the Christian women from Slovenia on the theme 'Come everything is ready!'

And as the diocese seeks to embed creation, care in the life, ministry and mission of our churches and congregations, we invite you also to come along to one of our Eco Church day conferences. The next two are:
'God's planet – our problem?' Saturday 30th March, 9.30am – 3.30pm, St Thomas Church, Wells.
& Eco Fair Day – Saturday 25 May, 10am – 4pm, Holy Trinity Church, Yeovil. *We look forward to joining with you to explore how we can live well in God's world in Lent and beyond.* Bishop Ruth.

Information about Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals Contact:

Rev. Alan Ellacott Tel: 01823 669824 email rev.aellacott1969@btinternet.com

Wellington & District Team Ministry website: www.Wellingtonteamchurches.org.uk

LENT COURSE

Do you encounter mystery in your life and faith? The theme of the 2019 Lent Courses 'The Mystery of God'. We shall delve more deeply into the mystery of Good and Evil, Suffering and Hope, Relationships and Reconciliation, Love and Sacrifice, Joy and Salvation.

Do join us as we follow Jesus through the Lenten readings, allowing Him to draw us, in Love and wonder, into the mystery of God's plan of salvation.

The course will be held in St Johns church Wellington Hall on Wednesday mornings 13th, 20th & 27th March, 3rd & 10th April starting 10.30am with coffee from 10am.

LETTER FROM THE RIGHT REVEREND RUTH WORSLEY, BISHOP OF TAUNTON MARCH 2019

Let Him look at you

The other day, somebody was speaking about visiting with her elderly mum. She was telling us that whenever she visited she would offer to do any jobs that might be needed and beyond her mum's reach.

Her mum's response was to say: "**Just sit down and let me look at you**". I've been thinking about that conversation ever since. What a wonderful thing to say to your child. "**Just sit down and let me look at you.**"

She was sharing this vignette, a year after her mum's death. There are no more opportunities for her mum to 'sit and look at her'. How glad she is that she took the time while her mum was alive.

I wonder if I can say the same. Have I made time for the things that really matter or am I so focused on the tasks at hand that I forget the need for space to develop relationship? I have a sense that this isn't just about people who matter to me but also that it may be Jesus speaking to me as well. "**Just sit down and let me look at you**".

The story of Mary and Martha opening up their home to Jesus in hospitality perhaps reminds us most of the priority of spending time in the presence of Jesus. Martha complains as Mary's lack of support in helping with the household jobs. Jesus response is to suggest that Martha has become so distracted with the 'tasks' of hospitality that she has missed the point of what welcome and relationship is.

We often think of this story as being about Mary and Martha's priorities. Which is of greater significance? Our attitude of service or that of Spiritual exploration? However I'm wondering if Jesus was saying something more. "**Just sit down and let me look at you**". What would Jesus see if He looked at you? How does He look at you?

March 8th is international women's day, often an opportunity to remind us that society's way of looking at women has changed over the years. The Me Too movement has revealed some of the ways in which women have been objectified resulting in forms of abuse. Alongside that growing realisation we are increasingly aware that many woman and men feel a sense of dissatisfaction with how they look and can find mental health affected as a result. Many of us find another person looking at us, uncomfortable.

I'd like to suggest that we might hear these words, "**Just sit down and let me look at you**". As an invitation from Jesus to spend time under his gaze this week. Not as a means of incurring shame but rather to receive the look of love that he so wants us to see.

LOCAL EXPERIENCED GARDENER AVAILABLE

Local experienced Gardener available for any gardening jobs - no job too small! Long or short term and own tools available if required. £12 - 15 per hour.

Contact Andrew Perry for more information or to book on 01823 660294 or mobile 07527887620. References available if required.

WEST BUCKLAND WI – FEBRUARY MEETING

West Buckland WI holds their members meetings on the second Tuesday of the month. The meeting takes place at 7.30pm and is held in West Buckland Village Hall.

On the 12th February the members had the opportunity to unleash their artistic traits. Our guest speaker was the very talented artist and driftwood sculptor, Emma Duke. Working alongside Emma and though her expert tuition some members were able to make very stylish and tactile decorative mobiles. These were made from driftwood and shells that Emma has sourced from scouring our local beaches. After the successful completion of the mobiles members had an opportunity to purchase cards that Emma has printed of her paintings of owls and her sculptures. Emma was thanked for the very informative session. She is clearly very knowledgeable and passionate about her work.

The members were also advised of one or two forthcoming events whilst sharing supper. On 5th March a few members would be supporting the children of West Buckland School in their pancake race. Anyone is welcome to watch the race and it starts at 2pm.

At the next members meeting on March 12th there will be another opportunity for members to get creative and explore any hidden artistic talents. Whilst sharing in a good social event, different arts and crafts would be available for anyone to have a go. A good taster session to try new things. From card making with various mediums and styles, to painting and lino cuts and much more! New members are always welcome if anyone wants to join us on this vey crafty night.

WEST BUCKLAND FRIENDSHIP CLUB – FEBRUARY MEETING

After the usual Chairman's welcome and the distribution of February birthday cards, the minutes from the January meeting were read, agreed and signed, then followed by the Treasurer's report. Members were encouraged to support the West Somerset Lottery, in turn benefitting the club, and asked to pay for their March outing to the Plymouth Gin Factory. The name badge competition was extended until the March meeting. The Chairman reviewed January's successful Anniversary party, thanking those who had helped baking etc.

The speaker was Gerald Toghill who gave a fascinating, humorous and highly entertaining account of his time in the Royal Navy starting as an Able Seaman on HMS Daring, posted to the Med. His easy time in Malta was interrupted by first the Suez crisis, when he was captain of a Bofa anti-aircraft gun crew, and then the problems in Cyprus, when initially he was in charge of a rarely-active boarding party. Then the Master at Arms sent him and a colleague to be bodyguards for the C in C of the Middle East in his open-topped Austin Princes in war-torn Nicosia – a terrifying 18 months. On their return to the UK both men joined the Regulating Branch and were sent to Malta as bodyguards for VIP's. Back in the UK after two and a half years, they were assigned to guard various members of the Royal family, including the Duke of Edinburgh, resulting in more humorous episodes before Gerald eventually returned to the less stressful life being an "ordinary sailor". Oliver Vance thanked Gerald on behalf of the club members.

Our next meeting will be on 7th March when coffee is served from 9.45am and then Philip Hoyland will be presenting "Benefits, Brass and the Girstest, Grandest Day".

POLICE BEAT SURGERY

The next beat surgery is between 5.00 pm and 5 .30 pm in the Village Hall on Thursday, 21st March.

This newsletter is also on the parish website - www.westbuckland.org/parish-magazine/

It is also available by e-mail – send an e-mail indicating your wish to westbucklandnews@hotmail.com and you will be added to the mailing list. You may need to add this address to your contacts to ensure receipt.

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

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