

West Buckland Community Newsletter

May 2020

As you may have already anticipated we are currently unable to produce and deliver paper copies of the newsletter to the parish. This shortened version has been e-mailed to the small list of e-mail addresses that regularly receive a digital copy and will also be displayed on the various Church and village notice boards. Please do not hesitate to pass the message on to those who you feel probably don't receive it via e-mail and might miss their familiar regular paper copy.

It is likely that this situation may accelerate a change in the way that we produce and distribute Church and village news and notices from now on. Nothing has been decided yet but when time allows we will communicate what the new plan is and how you can keep yourself fully up to date.

WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Due to Coronavirus the Parish Council is not able to hold its regular monthly meetings at the Village Hall. Recent legislation now allows virtual meetings to be held instead and arrangements will be made to hold meetings in this way as and when required. Virtual meetings will be advertised on the parish website, Parish Council Facebook page and the notice board in the village.

Following Government advice the play area has been closed. The playing field can still be used for exercise as long as government guidelines are followed. Somerset West and Taunton Council has finally been able to cut the playing field grass and this will hopefully continue to be cut on a regular basis.

Please continue to contact the Parish Council if you have any issues by emailing or phoning the Clerk, Jill Larcombe, westbucklandclerk@gmail.com or 01884 252647

CORONAVIRUS SUPPORT

If anyone in the parish needs support with shopping etc please contact Jill Larcombe, Clerk to the Parish Council, 01884 252647 or westbucklandclerk@gmail.com. If anyone is able to offer help with shopping please also use the same contact details. Please contact your pharmacist if you need prescriptions delivered. The Wellington Corona Support Group has lots of useful information on its Facebook page.

PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG

Please can everyone pick up their dog's poo when they are walking them in the parish. There are 2 dog bins that can be used - one at the entrance to the playing field (next to the village hall) and one opposite Robinson's Smokehouse. We are living through strange times at the moment but please don't make life more unpleasant by being anti social and not picking up after your dog.

WELLINGTON & DISTRICT TEAM MINISTRY Including East Group

The Church has been through so many different phases in the past 2,000 years. In Ancient Rome Christians were persecuted and had to meet in secret, not knowing if any person they talked to might betray them leading to their arrest and death; at times everyone in most of Europe has automatically been part of 'the Church' whether they believed or not; at times everyone in this country was forced to attend Protestant worship on a Sunday or be fined.

And now we find ourselves in the very strange situation of not being allowed to meet together to worship at all: all church buildings have to be closed, to keep us safe from the corona virus. BUT we don't have to keep our Christian life and the love of God a secret, we can communicate as much as we like by telephone, by email, by social media; we can encourage one another, take care of one another, love one another so let's do just that. As St John wrote in his first epistle: 'And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them'.

Members of our churches have received some information from the Team clergy about how we are trying to make sure we keep in contact with everyone. Please don't hesitate to ring up if you want to talk to someone. If you have not received this, please contact the church office.

In the present worrying times, we need to keep well connected to God, who knows our worries, holds us and loves us, so our individual prayer life is particularly important. We can worship, on our own but we can also join in worship in a different sort of way – see below. The list of Bible readings for each Sunday is found below. That way you can use them at home. Various people who have been unable to go to church for some time do just that and find it very helpful. Here are other ways of making sure we are connected with fellow Christians in worship.

SUNDAY WORSHIP WHILE WE ARE IN LOCKDOWN

Local: 10Radio 10.00 a.m. 'The Home Service' bringing church worship to your front room. 105.3 FM With clergy and worship leaders from the Tone Deanery involved.

Very local: Sunday Worship podcast led by Tim Treanor and John Young. Available by audiofile on email, on our new church App if you have mobile phone or tablet and through a link on the front page of the Wellington & District website.

Communion: 9.30 a.m. Maria will be celebrating communion in her home with all the people of the Team on her heart. If you wish to join her spiritually, you are welcome to do so. If you want a copy of the service she is using please contact her so she can email it to you. Let her know if you want her to pray for you specifically at this time: 01884 256380 mariahearl@btinternet.com.

For families with children: 10 a.m. Katherine Lyddon, Tone Deanery Children and Families Pioneer, will be leading an on-line service with Bible stories etc. You join by 'Zoom'. If you would like to be part of this exciting venture contact Katherine Tel. 07974 528880. Email: katherinelyddon35@gmail.com

Thought for the Day from Martin Beaumont can be found daily on the Ashbrittle Parish News website <http://www.stash.org.uk>

Morning Prayer each day Provided by Tim Treanor, John Young and Ian Brierley. The podcast will be emailed to everyone on our database. It can also be accessed from our Team website.

SUNDAY READINGS FOR MAY 2020

2020 READINGS on pew sheets 3rd May Acts 2. 42-end 1 Peter 2. 19-end Gospel John 10 1-10 10th May Acts 7. 55-end 1 Peter 2. 2-10 Gospel John 14. 1-14 17th May Acts 17. 22-31 1 Peter 3. 13-end Gospel John 14. 15-21 24th May Acts 1. 6-14 1 Peter 4. 12-14, 5. 6-11 Gospel John 17. 1-11 31st May: Acts 2. 1-21; 1 Corinthians 12. 3b-13; Gospel: John 20 19-23.

PRACTICAL HELP WELLINGTON CORONA VIRUS COMMUNITY HELP

www.facebook.com/groups/3159877937378154

If you, or someone you know, is self-isolating and needs: shopping or a prescription picking up; a friendly phone call; posting letters; food/meal deliveries; animal care; anything else – please contact us. Tel. 07871 258048 wellingtoncommunitygroup@gmail.com. Facebook: WELLINGTON-CORONAVIRUS COMMUNITY GROUP. We'll do our best to help you for free (safely and in accordance with recommended guidelines).

CHURCH CONTACT

Do ring the parish office number: 01823 665254 and leave a message. Sharon (Tim's PA), Christine (Team Administrator) and Tim monitor it constantly and will get back to you. Or email stjohns.wellington@googlemail.com. Or phone Tim Treanor: 01823 662248, Alan Ellacott: 01823 669824, Martin Beaumont: 01823 400127, Maria Hearl: 01884 256380, Selina Garner: 01823 662227. Wellington & District Team Ministry website: www.Wellingtonteamchurches.org.uk

WELLINGTON TEAM CHURCHES YOUTUBE CHANNEL

This has a growing range of resources to support each other as we tackle the coronavirus by staying at home.

Look for the countryside prayers, a reflection from our new Village Chaplain for West Buckland Tracey Richbell, the prayer bag film (Selina has been preparing prayer bags for children and her film gives us all some interesting ideas about prayer) and our Easter service, if you missed it.

The prayer referral system in St John's is also available. If you would like to be prayed for contact Judith Dufour Judithadufour@gmail.com or telephone 01823 666633

Funerals A short video to show the additional support we can give for those unable to attend a funeral can be found at <https://youtu.be/l8tDdRtpfXs> Please pass on to relatives or friends. Do contact one of the Team priests to talk things through if you wish.

Open Door is a local charity providing a day centre for people who are homeless and sleeping rough, including those in our rural areas. The organisation was set up by local churches 20 years ago and retains a strong support from churches and schools in and around Taunton. Open door will shortly be needing a new honorary treasurer. If you have financial expertise and would be interested, please contact Jonathan Sladden, Chair of Trustees 01823 288973 or 07745 406419. <https://www.tauntonopendoor.org.uk/news/>

CIDERTHON POSTPONED TO THE 30TH AUGUST

Due to the current situation, we have had to reschedule the event to the 30th of August. New letters to residents on the Ciderthon route will be delivered once it is safe to do so, however, for the time being, please be advised of the postponement to the 30th of August.

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

NEWSLETTER E-MAIL ADDRESS: westbucklandnews@hotmail.com