The breezes taste of apple peel.
The air is full of smells to feel-
Ripe fruit, old footballs, burning brush,
new books, erasers, chalk, and such.
The bee, his hive, well-honeyed hum, and Mother cuts chrysanthemums.
Like plates washed clean with suds, the days are polished with a morning haze.

September by John Updike
### Schedule of Services for The Parish of Overbury with Teddington, Alstone and Little Washbourne, with Beckford and Ashton under Hill.

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<tr>
<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
<th>Ashton</th>
<th>Beckford</th>
<th>Overbury</th>
<th>Alstone</th>
<th>Teddington</th>
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<td>13th Sunday</td>
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<td>United Parish Worship at Ashton</td>
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**OCTOBER**

| 6th October | | | | |
| 16th Sunday | 10:30am | 9:00am | | |
| after Trinity | Harvest Festival | BCP HC | | |
| | Village Worship | L Burn | | |
| | Church Team | | | |
| | | | 9:00am |
| | | | CW HC  |
| | | | D Lewis |

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clergy:</th>
<th>Revd David Lewis</th>
<th>Revd Allison Davies</th>
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<td>Revd Rick Tett (Curate)</td>
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**Parish Office:** You can contact Lynne Wilkinson, the new Parish Secretary on the following days and times:

**Tuesday mornings:** Bredon Parish Office, 9am to 12noon: 01684 772398

**Thursday mornings:** Beckford Village Hall, 9am to 12 noon:01386 881349

or parishsecretarybbg@outlook.com
Broken For You

September, and a new school term begins, with the prospect of those long autumnal months leading eventually to Christmas. A season for mists, mellow fruitfulness and homework, as the evenings draw in. And no doubt many of us will have our own memories of school dinners. Some of those memories are likely to be bad ones.

At my secondary school some of the dinners were ok. Most were pretty awful. The most popular item on offer each day was chips. The problem was that only limited numbers of chips were available. So the people at the front of the dinner queue got chips, whilst those further back had to make do with some kind of reconstituted mashed potato.

The consequence of this was entirely predictable. Every day when the school bell rang for lunchtime there was a stampede. Boys poured out of the school buildings and ran across 30 yards of open space to the dining hall which was a separate building, and access to it was gained through a set of swing doors.

One day something dreadful happened. The bell rang. The stampede began. But on this particular day the cooking staff had not yet unlocked the swing doors. The first boy to sprint across to the dining hall ran headlong into the doors and broke both of his arms. A few moments later the doors were at last unlocked, and the kid with the broken arms lay on the ground screaming whilst his friends ran past him, and over him, to get to the chips.

A horrible incident – but one that tells us quite a lot about human nature and that of human society. A memorable illustration of selfishness and stupidity. Two broken arms making a statement about the brokenness of this world.

It says in John’s gospel that Jesus “knew what was in the heart of man.” (John 2 v 25). Jesus of Nazareth had no illusions about human nature, or about the brokenness of the world. At the Last Supper he knew that one of his disciples was about to betray him, and that another one would deny him. He knew that the rest of his friends would desert him and run away. Everything was crumbling around him, and a fearful ordeal lay ahead. And it was at this very moment that he took a piece of bread and spoke to them about brokenness – “tonight broken bread, to be followed tomorrow by a broken body.” Broken bread for a broken world.

When we come to the Eucharist there is nothing we can bring to it except ourselves, with our own brokenness. We come with our need for mercy and forgiveness, for grace and healing. And here we encounter Jesus. “On the night when he was betrayed he took bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it and said “this is my body, which is broken for you.” (1 Corinthians 11 v 23-24).

David Lewis
Service Schedule for September:
Below are the designated clergy-led Sunday services for each church around the Bredon Hill Group during September. Services at churches in the Beckford Group are in bold. A full list of services in the Beckford Group is on the inside cover.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
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<td>Besford - A Davies</td>
<td>Little Comberton - R Tett</td>
<td>Bredon - D Lewis</td>
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<td>11th Sunday</td>
<td>Teddington - D Lewis</td>
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<td>8th September</td>
<td>Bricklehampton - D Lewis</td>
<td>Eckington - R Tett</td>
<td>Overbury - A Davies</td>
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<td>12th Sunday</td>
<td>Bredon’s Norton - A Davies</td>
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<td>15th September</td>
<td>Eckington - A Davies</td>
<td>Bredon - R Tett</td>
<td>Alstone - R Tett</td>
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<td>13th Sunday</td>
<td>Beckford - D Lewis</td>
<td>Elmley Castle - D Lewis</td>
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<td>after Trinity</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd September</td>
<td>Great Comberton - A Davies</td>
<td>Defford -R Tett</td>
<td>Ashton - D Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th Sunday</td>
<td>Bredon’s Norton - D Lewis</td>
<td>Beckford Group</td>
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<td>after Trinity</td>
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<td>United Service</td>
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Vacancy for Rector of Bredon and Vicar in the Beckford Group: a progress report

For some time a panel of representatives of the PCCs of Bredon and of the Beckford Group has been working on producing the Parish Profile, which is a document that is an essential part of the advertising process as we seek a new incumbent. It has been a complex task as we strive to include information on the various churches and villages and of course there are many different points of view to consider in this comprehensive report. The text has now been completed and, at the time of writing, a meeting – the so-called Final Vacancy Meeting - has been set for 21st August, when it will be submitted to the combined PCCs for approval. At this same meeting, two lay members from each PCC will be appointed to be part of the selection process. The Archdeacon has indicated his intention of advertising the post on 6th September with a closing date for applications of 27th September. Short-listing will follow on the afternoon of 21st October, giving time for references to be taken up, and interviews will be scheduled for Thursday 31st October.

Advertising

I am pleased to announce that Jean Croft has very kindly volunteered to take on the role of Magazine Advertising Administrator, replacing Be Collins. Her contact details are on the Directory page at the back of the magazine. We welcome her to our small team.

May I take this opportunity to thank Be Collins for her sterling work over the last three years.

          Chris Godfrey, Editor
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, BECKFORD & ASHTON UNDER HILL BRANCH

Visit to the National Memorial Arboretum
There are still six places available for the visit to the National Memorial Arboretum on Wednesday 16th October. The price should not exceed £20 a head (and will get cheaper with each additional place taken up!) to include transportation, coffee and biscuits on arrival and a train ride with commentary. This is open to non-members. Please contact Faith Hallett on 01386 725206 or faith.hallett1@gmail.com if you are interested.

IMPORTANT: Deadline for Copy for the October Issue of the Parish Magazine

Please note that the deadline for copy for the October magazine has been brought forward to Friday 13th September. I'm afraid that anything received after this date will not be included.

Chris Godfrey, Editor

ANNUAL PARISH TEA
The annual parish tea will be held on Tuesday 1st October at 3:00pm in Beckford Village Hall. All welcome!
Come and join us for a cup of tea, with cake and sandwiches, also a seasonal mini raffle. A good occasion to meet up with friends from around the Beckford group parishes.

Offers of help and cakes to Judith Hunter 01386 882087.
If you can, please let your church warden know if you are coming or if you need a lift.

Tewkesbury Foodbank News

The Foodbank has been supporting many families over the summer with the School Meals project with nearly 80 children helped. The Foodbank provided lunch during the holidays to reduce the stress and worry for vulnerable families over the long weeks without school lunches. Money was raised selling interval drinks at the Cheltenham Music Festival and the Three Choirs Festival events at Tewkesbury Abbey. I volunteered at one of these events and saw behind the scenes - the funds raised will mainly be used for the School Meals Project. Many volunteers are involved, putting up gazebos, chilling bottles of wine, creating posters and signage, putting out the glasses, washing up, serving drinks, telling people about the work of the foodbank and of course taking the money!
In June 72 adults and 40 children were supported, and in July 69 adults and 37 children were helped, with over 2000 meals supplied. Our local foodbank is run by volunteers and supported by the Trussell Trust. For information, in 2018/19, The Trussell Trust’s Foodbank Network provided 1,583,668 three-day emergency food supplies and support to UK people in crisis. Of these, 577,618 went to children. The objective is to help people in food crisis who are referred by professional referral agencies such as health centres, citizen's advice bureaux and the local Council.
The Foodbank is really short of the following items:

- Soup (cans)        - Long life milk
- Hot dogs (canned)  - Pasta sauces
- Biscuits

If you are able to donate any of the above, or any other non-perishable foodstuffs such as tinned fish or meat, please drop food off at the collection points in Alstone or Teddington church. We have a rota to deliver the food to the Foodbank to save them the cost of having to come and collect it.

Thank you, Mary James
News From Beckford

From the Beckford Registers:
Interment of Ashes
27th July 2019: Margaret Patricia LODGE (died 13th November 2018)

Wedding
3rd August 2019: Jeremy Mark JONES to Roxanna Jane HANDS

Summertime in Beckford, 20th July – a success story!
In spite of a distinctly alarming weather forecast threatening heavy rain and thunderstorms, we pressed ahead with setting up the gazebos, tables and chairs and were rewarded by a pleasant, dry, evening during which the sun made an appearance and which was comfortably warm enough to encourage a relaxed and happy atmosphere throughout.
Over 90 tickets were sold – a significant increase on previous years – and generous donors had provided an amazing 14 quality raffle prizes, so sale of tickets was brisk. The Bellini Strings quartet entertained us for two magical hours with music from their light classical repertoire and from favourite musicals and it was easy to understand their popularity, which made this the third time they’ve been an essential ingredient of our evening garden parties.
During the evening, a constant and prodigious supply of the most tempting canapés issued from the kitchen under Bryony’s masterly direction and it was a delight to have Megan and David Baynes handing them around. We are all very happy and grateful that the Baynes family remains an intrinsic and much-loved part of Beckford village life.
Once the initial supplies of Pimms were exhausted, the excellently-stocked bar did a roaring trade and the several bartenders were kept extremely busy! It was fortunate that Jane had had the sense to apply for a drinks licence beyond the planned basic two hours as happy guests lingered well after that time!
Sheltered by its high surrounding walls (it was once the walled garden of Beckford Hall), Jane and Mark’s lovely garden was an ideal – and immaculate - setting for the event and, as twilight drew on and the candles were lit on the tables, it took on an even lovelier character.

We were very blessed in that an anonymous donor offered to underwrite the cost of hiring the quartet so, with this advantage and with the increased sale of tickets and consequent higher demand for drinks and raffle tickets, we made an astonishing profit, for the church, of £2,100!*

*Footnote: This is very opportune as it now transpires that the bell ropes in the Beckford tower need replacement, so, aided by the success of the garden party, the church committee is able to fund this expense of almost £1,000 to ensure the safety of our dedicated bellringers who do so much to maintain our bells by their own efforts.
BECKFORD W.I. - August Report

There was no meeting during August.
The next meeting is on Monday 9th September at 7:30pm. Sue Brown will speak about ‘The First UK Military Operational Female Pilot’ All welcome.

Clare Henderson, Meeting Secretary

Beckford Macmillan Coffee Morning - 27th September

In tune with the national fund-raising effort for this highly-regarded and valued charity, Beckford’s September Coffee Morning will be held in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.
Please come and support the event on Friday 27th September in Beckford church chancel from 10.30am to 12 noon.
Whilst our basic charge for coffee or tea (free refills) and a choice of home-made cakes, remains at £2.50 we are happy to accept more and we invite you to open your purses and wallets and give generously to this very worthwhile cause!
If you are unable to attend on the day but would like to contribute, please give your donation to David Carvill (882002) or to Pam Grice, church treasurer, (882514).
It would be wonderful if we could beat the remarkable £228.50 which we collected in 2018. The result will be published in the November issue of the magazine.

AGM
You are invited to join the Trustees at the Annual General Meeting of Beckford Nature Reserve to be held at The Stabling, Court Farm Lane, Beckford on Wednesday 9th October at 7.30pm.
Wine and light refreshments provided. This is an open meeting to which all are welcome.

Beckford Nature Reserve 200 Club
A reminder that the new season’s subscriptions to the 200 Club will be due soon.
Annual subscription £25 per ticket.
The draw takes place monthly and the number of prizes will be 4 or more depending upon the number of tickets sold.
New members always welcome.
Contact Jayne and Dave Allchurch
Tel: 01386 881282 or email: dandjallchurch@gmail.com
Charity Number 1119366
Beckford Community Village Hall Ltd

Our insurance claim for the recent vandalism was accepted, and the Committee Room now has ten new blue chairs. The armchair is being upholstered, and we are awaiting the decorator. Seven of the paint-splashed chairs need to be taken away - they remain very comfortable and we would be happy to dispose of them for £10 each: any offers?

We are awaiting the results of a professional survey of the Social Club premises, and we have had them viewed by a commercial property agent in order to assess the kind of rent we could expect if they are re-let. These premises are a resource belonging to the whole village, and we would like to draw people's attention to their potential. The Tennis Club used them on July 7th for hospitality during a tournament, and they served that purpose extremely well. We are having an open 'Tea and Cakes' afternoon on September 8th - see below.

To progress our refurbishment programme, we are breaking down the work needed into financially manageable chunks and will apply each calendar year to Awards For All, with whom we have registered, for £10,000. We have received some promising quotes from builders which could be used in making our first application.

Meanwhile, fund-raising on a smaller scale continues: a bike ride or similar event will be organised on a Sunday afternoon in September. See below for details on the Barn Dance and South American Supper.

We will soon be able to provide free Wifi in the hall, as the church has offered access to this service (used by the Parish Office) for a modest payment. The signal strength around the hall has been found to be adequate. Hall rental charges have been unchanged since August 2017, and it has been decided that, from January 1st 2020, the hourly rate for the main hall and kitchen will be raised from £9 to £10 for Beckford residents and groups and from £11 to £12 for non-Beckford and commercial/profit making groups. Hourly rates for the Committee and Ashbridge Rooms (£5) will not change.

Graham Galer, Secretary BCVH Ltd

Sunday 8th September, 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm - Tea & Cakes Afternoon

Beckford Village Hall Committee warmly invite all Beckford Parish Residents to an Open House at the Village Hall where you can see what the Hall has to offer and enjoy complimentary tea and cakes! You can also explore the old Social Club premises and contribute ideas as to its future use.

Beckford Village Hall Committee are holding a fund raising Barn Dance on Saturday 28th September, 7:30pm till exhaustion, in Beckford Village Hall.

So, put on your dancing shoes and come and support us for a fun evening. We have a band and caller, food is included in the ticket price and there will be a bar.

Tickets, £12.00 adult, under 16’s £6.00, will be available in the village shop or from Anne Worrall (01386 881508)

South American Supper in Beckford
Saturday October 5th, Beckford Village Hall

Enjoy a hot supper of Chilli con Carne (veggie option) followed by a fruit pudding, then journey with Nick Clark enthusing about three South American countries: Chile, Paraguay and Argentina. His slide shows are legendary and always interesting.

There will be a licensed bar, well stocked with Chilean red wine and other suitable drinks. Entry by £10 ticket only. Call Yo Yates (01386 881373) or Gill Kellett (01386 881784).

Village Hall doors open at 7:00pm for a 7.30 start.

Proceeds for Beckford Village Hall
NEWS FROM OVERBURY

We are very pleased to welcome Allison Davies as our new vicar. Allison’s installation at Eckington Church was a very happy occasion, and she was warmly welcomed to her new post and responsibilities. We look forward to her taking her first service at Overbury on September 8th at 10.30am. Looking ahead, Allison will also be taking our Family Harvest Festival on October 13th. Do join us to meet her on one or both of these occasions and share refreshments following the services.

In June, St Faith’s very much enjoyed hosting the happy wedding of Claire Creek and Byron Crook, both residents of Overbury. Our apologies for omitting to mention this event in last month’s magazine. We look forward to helping Anne-Marie Higgins and Christopher Fogarty celebrate their wedding in Overbury on September 21st.

We were delighted to welcome a group from Worcestershire Archeological Society who visited the church, led by Tim Bridges, Chair, Worcestershire & Dudley Historic Churches Trust, who gave a fascinating talk about the history of the church. Tim sits on the Diocesan Advisory Council and was very impressed by our new toilet and kitchen (he was involved in our Faculty application for the project), saying that the kitchen units, made so skilfully from old pews, were among the best, if not the best, he has seen. The new facility has already proved very useful and is a real asset to the church. The group generously left a £40 cheque for the Friends as well as buying booklets. It was a very happy visit.

Looking ahead: **A date for your diaries!**

**On Friday 13th December** the group **Excelsa Voces** returns to Overbury church for the third year running with their beautiful blend of vocals, cello and piano. The ethereal sound in this beautiful candlelit setting makes the evening an unmissable treat.

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**2019 Season**

As you all know, the weather has been really mixed throughout the summer. Our Fun Night, postponed from July, was held on 2nd August on a beautifully warm evening and was very well supported.

In August, for the second year running, we played a team of young Afghan refugees who are now based in London. It was a fine 20-over game, which the visitors won. After sharing a barbecue, we presented them with a commemorative shirt and caps.

The First Eleven, currently in the Premier Division of the Cotswold Hills League, hope to finish half way up the table. The Second Eleven need all the points they can muster to stay in Division Six, having faced strong opposition throughout the season. They are determined to keep in their present division! Youth training continued into August. After such a great season, with excellent support from children and parents, we look forward to seeing you all again in 2020!

We also look forward to our Awards Night Party in September, followed by the AGM in October.

*Dave Devereux, OCC Chairman
07949 648372 / 01684 850329 - www.overbury.play-cricket.com*
OVERBURY STREET MARKET RESULT

The success of this year’s Street Market event has resulted in the magnificent sum of £4,784 being available for distribution.

The Donations Committee meets in early November to consider applications from within the Parish for support from this fund. Please contact me for an application form at: aj@apsjohn.net (or telephone 01386 725229).

Andrew John – Event Organiser

News from Ashton under Hill

St. Barbara’s Church
Forthcoming Services

Sunday 8th September: Evensong with Rev David Lewis at 6:00pm
Sunday 22nd September: United Parish Holy Communion at 10:30am
Sunday 6th October: Harvest Festival with the Church team at 10:30am
This will be a Village Worship service with a speaker.
All welcome. Refreshments after the service.

Our second church picnic on 4th August was much enjoyed, and we thank Bruce and Philippa for hosting us in their garden. It was a perfect day. As well as our local residents, we were delighted to welcome friends from Herefordshire and visitors from the Netherlands. The latter was a family staying for a holiday in Ashton with their two daughters, who were very good company.

The collection of £102.70 will go toward our donation to Mzamhomle. In addition, the Parish summer walks raised a total of £116 for Mzamhomle. Thanks to all involved.

The funeral of John Huband, an Ashton resident, was held on 31st July. We send our condolences to Christine and the family.

DATES FOR THE DIARY:
Churchyard Tidy: Saturday 26th October from 9:30am to 12 noon
Christmas Fair: Saturday 23rd November from 2:00pm to 4:00pm
Details to be confirmed next month, but it’s never too soon to start sorting out donations.
Offers of help also appreciated. Many thanks.

Ashton Open Gardens 2020

The village produce stall – preserves and plants - was a great success at this summer’s event, and we are sure to repeat this in 2020. If you are making jam, taking cuttings or dividing plants in the autumn, please think of us for next year. Visitors love traditional garden plants as they are quite different from commercial offerings, and home-made jam or chutney always goes down well.

Thank you in advance. Reminders in the Spring!
Our garden meeting took place on 6th August, this year in the Village Hall. The traditional British weather gave us a wet morning but a sunny afternoon, not ideal for outside, but the hall was decorated with flowers and looked very Summery. We welcomed eight visitors from Ashton Keynes, our partner WI from near Cirencester. (I have to remind myself frequently that it is Milton ‘keens’ and Ashton ‘canes’ so I can get it right.) Ten of us had been there in July to their Garden Party so it was good to meet up again.
A large group of us had also enjoyed a cream tea at the Evesham Hotel at the end of July on the hottest afternoon of the year so we had not missed out on a garden event.

We had a glass of fruit cup to start with, and after a short business meeting, Doreen introduced David Barrie who gave us a talk on his experiences as a wine expert: “Confessions of a Wine Taster”. He gave us an amusing history of his work in the wine trade in his youth with Peter Dominic, when a bottle of whisky or gin cost 32s 6d, and “Babycham” was a roaring success both from both the marketing and sales angles.

Sophistication came in the 1960s when many people began to holiday in Europe, and demanded a wider range to buy than German Liebfraumilch, Mateus Rosé’ from Portugal and cheap reds from Spain. In one of his anecdotes he recalled working at quality control in Harlow, Essex, when a huge vat of Cinzano leaked and sticky liquid flowed all over the floor. Later as an independent wine buyer, David moved to Cheltenham. A favourite experience was running a competition for the arrival of ‘Beaujolais nouveau’ which he and his team won hands down. Broadcasting at peak time on local radio before their competitors got back meant that they sold caseloads. Another wonderful occasion was a champagne buyers’ lunch at a hotel in Cheltenham with samples at every course – lunch went on until 9 o’clock at night!
David then described the practical side to his profession. First one looks at the wine in the glass, sniffs the aroma and then sips it. The skill comes in rolling the liquid around the mouth and the taste buds. David described himself as having a “library of memories of taste” which might be well beyond the average consumer.
What did we learn? Gin botanicals are the new trend. Modern wines are higher percent proof than in the past. Most wine does improve with age and basically you do get what you pay for. You pay for the skill of matching grape to soil, climate, and the wine-maker.
We then had our own mini wine-tasting session with a white Chardonnay and a red Merlot, both a year old, and described as very drinkable by our expert. Wendy Sanger Davies gave the vote of thanks.
After this we needed food, so enjoyed an excellent tea of savouries and cakes provided by the members. The big summer raffle was organised by Pauline and Sharron.
The next meeting will be on **3rd September at 7.30 pm** in the village hall. The talk is on “**Weird and Wonderful Culinary Plants**”. All welcome.
News From Teddington and Alstone - The Chapelries

September Services

September 1st:  9:00am, Teddington - Holy Communion with David
September 15th: 6:00pm, Alstone - Evening Prayer with Rick
September 29th: 10:30am, Alstone - Chapelries Harvest Festival

Family Service with David

This is a very special Thanksgiving service for all the family so we do hope you’ll join us and bring your friends too. We will be decorating the church on Saturday, 28th September from 10:30am, and any produce may be put in the church by then or brought to the service itself. After the service the produce will be taken to St. Vincent’s day centre for the handicapped in Cheltenham, who are always very pleased with it. If you would like us to collect your produce then please phone Kieran on 620763 or Anne on 01242 620351.

Alstone Churchyard Tidy Up
We are having a churchyard tidy on Saturday 28th September from 10:00am, i.e. on the same morning the church is being decorated for the Harvest Festival. However, should it rain then the tidying will be held in October (make or break by the 31st, as the current mantra goes). Refreshment will be provided but please do bring tools, especially to prune trees and bushes, tidy the borders and entrance to the churchyard and to remove moss from the gulleys on the north side of the church.

Traditional Sports Day Fun & Picnic on Alstone Playing Field
Sunday 1st September, 2:30pm

Children, families & friends all welcome. Bring along a picnic, chairs/blanket and enjoy a fun Sunday afternoon.

More details on Alstone and Teddington village notice boards and on the Teddington & Alstone Village Hall Facebook Group page.

Teddington and Alstone Parish Council will be holding their next meeting on Tuesday 17th September in Teddington Village Hall.

Please note the earlier start time of 7:00pm as we hope to have a speaker from Alderton Parish Council about forming a Neighbourhood Plan and a representative from GRCC (Gloucestershire Rural Community Council) about future housing plans.

TEDDINGTON VILLAGE HALL 50+ CLUB

Friday 20th September 2:30pm – 4:30pm

Entrance fee of £4.00 includes a cup of tea/coffee & cake plus all activities for those wishing to take part

Family and friends most welcome.

For more information call Sue on 01242 620264, Brian on 01242 620898 or email susancarter1402@gmail.com
The Village Hall Committee invite you to our
HARVEST SUPPER on Saturday 12th October at 6.30 p.m.
in Teddington & Alstone Village Hall
♦ Delicious 2 Course Hot Supper
♦ Bring your own drinks
♦ Entertainment

Tickets: £10 per person. £5 for children under 11
From: Brian 01242 620898:
email: brianforeman@btinternet.com
or Caroline 01242 621139: email: cuckoo28@btinternet.com
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.

KEMERTON LECTURES AUTUMN 2019

The Autumn lecture series starts on Thursday 3rd October and will be given by
Dr Nicholas Herbert, a former editor of the Victoria History of Gloucestershire.
His subject, Georgian Gloucestershire, will cover the changes in villages and towns,
farming and industry, travel and transport in this significant Age of Improvement.

Lectures begin at 7.30 pm in the Victoria Hall, Kemerton,
and the entry fee is £5 per lecture.
Further details at kemerton.org.uk/lectures or from
Sue Bennett (rpbennet@waitrose.com, 01386 725 245).
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Table Top Sale in aid of Beckford Toddler Group
Saturday 12th October, 2:00pm – 4:00pm
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1:30pm set up ready for 2:00pm start
Please contact Sam Wing on 07837 853703
CATCH PROJECT
Below are extracts from a recent CATCH Newsletter - the charity in Mzamhomle supported throughout the Beckford Group.
If you would like to read the complete Newsletter please contact me on christine.godfrey@tiscali.co.uk.
£116 was collected during the recent Parish Walks and donated to the CATCH project. Thanks again to all the walkers.

Chris Godfrey, Editor

KONSTANZ UNIVERSITY
A team from Konstanz University in Germany visited CATCH in February. The students from this university always bless us not only with gifts but with much practical help. The students were a great help with the overflowing number of children in the clubs.

Ekhaya Lihle
Our foster home continues to provide love and care for 8 girls ages 9 to 18. All the girls have performed well at school. Every year Mama Phumla, the housemother, works miracles and gets another teenager into the good Gonubie High School over the road from CATCH.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT Project
75 teenagers met every Friday late afternoon for debates, dialogues, conversations around topics of their choice. Favourite topics are around relationships. A topic chosen recently was about step parenting and the challenges of family blending. Group leaders have also presented training on sexually transmitted diseases and drugs – two of the biggest challenges facing young people. The training on sexually transmitted diseases enabled one young lady to be immediately helped with a visit to the clinic for treatment.
Plum Traybake with Almonds
Delicious as a warm dessert or a teatime treat.

- 200g softened butter
- 200g golden caster sugar
- 3 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 250g self-raising flour
- 50g ground almonds
- 2 tbsp milk
- 6 plums - halved & stoned
- 25g flakes almonds
- 2 tsp icing sugar

Preheat oven to 180°C, gas mark 4. Line a rectangular tray (about 30cm x 20cm x 3cm) with baking paper.

Cream the butter and sugar until pale and fluffy. Beat in the egg a little at a time.

Sieve the flour into the mixture plus the ground almonds then fold in using a large metal spoon. Add the milk and mix gently until thoroughly combined and of a dropping consistency.

Spoon into the tray and level off. Press the plums into the top of the cake mixture in rows of three, cut side up. Scatter the flaked almonds over the top and bake for 40-45 minutes until risen and lightly golden - test that a skewer comes out clean when inserted into the cake.

Leave in the tin for 10 minutes before placing the cake on a cooling rack. Sift the icing sugar over to finish.

Plum and Oatmeal Madeira Cake

- 250g plums - halved, stoned and cut into chunks
- 100g softened butter
- Finely grated zest of an orange plus 3-4 tsp juice
- 100g castor sugar
- 2 medium eggs, beaten
- 125g self-raising flour
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 50g medium oatmeal
- 100g icing sugar

Preheat oven to 170°C, gas mark 3. Grease a 450g loaf tin and line with non-stick baking paper (at least 1cm above the rim).

Beat together the butter, sugar and orange zest in a large bowl until pale and creamy. Gradually add the egg, mixing well after each addition. Include a tablespoon of flour with the last of the egg. Sift the rest of the flour and baking powder into the bowl, add the oatmeal and gently stir in with a wooden spoon.

Stir in 2/3 of the plums and put the mixture into the loaf tin spreading it level with the back of a spoon. Scatter the rest of the plums over the surface.

Bake for about an hour or until the surface feels firm to the touch - test that a skewer comes out clean when inserted into the cake. Leave in the tin for 20 minutes then transfer to a cooling rack.

Beat together the icing sugar and enough orange juice to make a smooth paste. Drizzle over the cake.

Plums are abundant throughout September so why not try these two delicious recipes. If you have a favourite recipe you’d like to share please e-mail it to: christine.godfrey@tiscali.co.uk
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parishsecretarybbg@outlook.com
Tues 9 - 12, Bredon Parish Office
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Saint John The Baptist’s Church,
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Secretary Graham Galer 01386 882200
Treasurer Pam Grice 01386 882514
Organist Mike Sanger Davies 01386 881910
Flowers Doreen Byrd 01386 881360
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Saint Faith’s Church, Overbury
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Saint Barbara’s Church,
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Contacts for Alastair Humphrey 01386 881479
St. Barbara's David Hunter 01386 882087
Treasurer David Hunter 01386 882087
Organist Anthony Greenwood 01386 881278
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Transport Co-ordinators
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Parish Safeguarding Officer
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Overbury Ros Long 01386 725111
Ashton Alastair Humphrey 01386 881479
5th, 12th, 19th and 26th
Meditation Thursday, Committee Rm, Beckford Village Hall 6:00pm
3rd Ashton W.I. ‘Weird & Wonderful Culinary Plants’, Ashton Village Hall 7:30pm
6th Ashton Lunch Club, Chapel Hall 12:30pm
8th Beckford Village Hall Tea & Cakes Afternoon - see page 8 for details
9th Beckford W.I. ‘The First Military Operational Female Pilot’ Beckford V.H. 7:30pm
10th Simply Soup, Beckford Village Hall 12:30pm
13th Deadline for magazine entries for October
17th Teddington & Alstone Parish Council, Teddington V.H. 7:00pm
20th Teddington Village Hall 50+ Club, Village Hall 2:30pm - 4:30pm
22nd United Parish Worship at Ashton 10:30am
25th Beckford Gardening Club, Beckford V.H. ‘A Clutch of Charity Gardens’ 7:30pm
27th Parish Minibus Shopping Trip to St Peter’s Garden Centre, Worcester
Beckford Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Church Chancel 10:30am - 12noon
28th Alstone Churchyard Tidy Up - see page 12 for details
Beckford Village Hall Barn Dance - see page 8 for details

SEPTEMBER

September, the ninth month of the year, was the seventh month of the
Roman calendar. Hence its name is derived from the Latin septem, seven.
The Anglo-Saxons called it Gerstmonath (barley month), referring to the
harvest of that crop, the main ingredient of their favourite alcoholic
beverage. Some of the Celtic names of the month are also linked to the
harvest, though less specifically. The Welsh Medi means ‘reaping’ and the
Scottish-Gaelic Sultuine means ‘plenty’.

Parish Minibus Friday Shopping Trips in September

6th and 20th to Bishops Cleeve
13th to Worcester
27th to St Peter’s Garden Centre, Worcester

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