

BUCKLAND ST. MARY CHURCH NEWS

July 2016

'Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you' **Ephesians 4:32**

Celebrations to mark the Queen's Official 90th Birthday Weekend –3 days of fun, food and friendship! If this weekend is anything to go by, then roll on celebrating the Queen's 65th year on the throne in 2017.

The weekend started with a fun disco for the children at the school. On Saturday, we raised £994.50 at the Community Fete and a lovely day was had by all in Anthony and Christina Norton's beautiful grounds – and the rain held off too. Thank you to all the Tea Ladies for providing a delicious tea; to Pam Hull for collecting the tea money; to all the stall holders for running their stalls; and to FOBS for their huge support and input in entertaining the children.

The day was rounded off by the extremely enjoyable evening party, sponsored by the Parish Council, with Hog Roast (and desserts) and with music provided by a quartet of Jazz Musicians from the Royal Academy of Music. Thanks to Angela Every and Linda Doble for being on hand to dish up the desserts and to those providing the bar and hog roast.

The success of the weekend was down to so many people pulling together including all those who helped in erecting gazebos, setting up and moving stalls and doing all the behind the scenes hard work which enables these events to happen – true community spirit! Also thanks to those who then took it all down again!

Once again, our especial grateful thanks to Anthony and Christina Norton for allowing us to use their lovely house and grounds to mark the Queen's special celebrations.

Finally, the weekend was brought to a close with a well-supported Songs of Praise Service on Sunday evening led by Revd Jim Fallon and with Roy Harkness as the Presenter. Roy introduced each of the 9 hymns, giving a potted history of the authorship of the words and music of each. The evening ended with 'God save the Queen' and was followed by refreshments. Many thanks to Jenny and Rick Pym for organising the teas and coffees and the delicious selection of home-made biscuits.

Community Coffee Morning –on Saturday the 9th July from 10.30 till 12.00 at Buckland St Mary Church including the sale of flower baskets by the Flower Ladies.

Sunday, 10th July @6.30pm - Choral Evensong at Corfe Church - featuring the choir of St Mary Magdalene Church in Taunton, under their Director Miles Quick. Wine will be served after the service

Special Cream Tea Benefice Service at Birchwood – 31st July 2016 at 10.30 am. Birchwood Church is hosting the monthly Benefice service – where all the 6 churches of the Blackdown Benefice worship together – to mark its importance in the Benefice family of churches. We also want to ensure that as many people as possible enjoy one of the loveliest and most unusual churches in Somerset. The service will be followed by cream tea refreshments. The post code is TA20 3QQ or contact the Churchwarden for directions if you are unsure.

Children's Holiday Club (with Cheryl Govier, the Church Youth Worker) in **Buckland St Mary Parish Hall - 10.00am till 3pm on Tues 2nd August and Weds 3rd August** – please contact Cheryl for more details – youthworker@live.co.uk or 01823 480339

Visits to those in the Parish – do let the Benefice office, the Rector or the Churchwarden know if someone would benefit from a visit from the Rector or other church member. We understand the isolation that living in a rural community can bring and we want to offer support to those going through difficulties or who need someone to chat to (whether a churchgoer or not) so please make us aware. If you would like to help us make such visits do please let us know too.

The Benefice Office is open from 9.15am till 1pm, each Monday, and can be found at Churchinford Village Hall. Please contact Jayne with any queries, enquiries or to give feedback on church matters. The phone number is 01823 601488.

Taunton Food Bank - Donations of food in tins or packets or long life cartons (within date please) are still needed as are 'Bags for Life' in which to distribute the items. Toiletries and sanitary products also needed. Donations can be left in the basket in the church.

The new **Benefice website** www.blackdownbenefice.org has details of services and other events and activities taking place in the Benefice. N.B. please do not add 'uk' to the end of the address otherwise you will be taken to the old redundant website.

Lynda Creek, Churchwarden

Dates for your diary

Saturday 13th August - Community Coffee Morning in Buckland St Mary Parish Church from 10.30 till 12.00 in aid of Samaritans Taunton Branch

Saturday 3rd September – Quiz - 7.30pm start - Buckland St Mary Parish Hall —more details to follow – contact Lynda Creek 07845870450 if you would like a table.

Saturday 10th September - Community Coffee Morning – in Buckland St Mary Parish Church from 10.30 till 12.00 in aid of the Air Ambulance

Wednesday 14th September @ 3pm – Cream Teas at Gibbs (the home of Ann Jeffery), Corfe TA3 7DG - in aid of cancer research UK

Sat. 8th October - Community Coffee Morning - in Buckland St Mary Parish Church from 10.30 till 12.00 in aid of FOBS

Saturday 8th October @7.30pm - Puddings Evening at Churchinford – details to follow.

Sunday 9th October – Pitminster Church Harvest Festival @ 10.45am with refreshments to follow – Please come along and view the pumpkin spectacular (plus marrows, squashes, apples etc) decorating the church.

Saturday 26th November – Coffee Morning at Churchinford – details to follow

Saturday 3rd December - Buckland Bazaar — **Please note change of date** – in Buckland St Mary Village Hall – more details to follow

Saturday 20th May 2017 – Male voice Choir (and friends) Concert in Buckland St Mary Church – details to follow