



Dear all,

I couldn't begin this month without a special mention of David Webb who we sadly lost last month. David was well known and well respected in Beckingham and had lived here for many years. He was a character and I know will be missed by so many of us. It was very moving to see so many, despite, the limit in numbers being allowed in the church, out to pay their respects to him on the day of his funeral, as well as the wonderful classic car procession which followed the hearse around the village. I know this gave Elizabeth, James and Matthew great comfort. We continue to hold them all in our prayers as they try to adjust to life without their loved one. RIP and Rise in Glory David.

And that will be true at some stage, life will feel more normal, we will be able to hug our grandchildren, our elderly parents, our friends. We will be able to go out without masks, without sanitiser, able to see each other smile again. But for now it's important that we follow the guidelines and keep safe. If anyone would like a chat about anything in total confidence please know I am always here for you. It seems an age ago that we were all celebrating Adam and Ruth's wedding but they have just celebrated their first anniversary – Happy Anniversary guys!

Our churches across the group are now open once a week as below for individual private prayer so I invite you to 'come' and spend some quiet time with God and allow Him to give you that rest, peace and comfort that he offers and just time to 'be'.

For us as a church moving forward we are continuing to run our services via Zoom but are also adding in a few physical services on Sundays so if you would like to join either please give me a call and I can let you know the details.

Our Harvest celebrations this year will be different and at this moment in time we are looking at a Zoom service at 1030am on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October with the emphasis this year on 'thanking our farmers' and the vital role they play in providing the food we eat. We do, subject to the guidelines at the time, hope to have an outdoor, socially distanced remembrance day service and more information will be available nearer the time.

We are beginning bible study groups on Wednesday evenings at 6pm, beginning on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September where we will be looking at the letter to the Ephesians plus I am hoping to begin one in particular for adult baptism, confirmation or even just those of you who may be investigating a possible faith so if that's you please get in touch.

Please be assured of my prayers always

Rev Chris

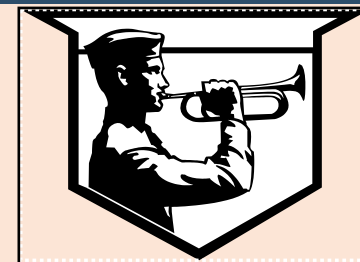
All contributions for the next Beckingham Bugle welcome  
News....Adverts....Articles.....Jokes.....Announcements

The deadline for the next December 2020 issue is November 14<sup>th</sup> 2020  
Email all your news items and events to [clerkpc@beckinghamvillage.co.uk](mailto:clerkpc@beckinghamvillage.co.uk)

# The Beckingham & Sutton Bugle

September 2020

Beckingham and Sutton Village News and Information



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It is with profound regret we record the passing of David Webb, a lifelong resident, and owner of the village garage. David was a real character as those who knew him will confirm. He had an inexhaustible supply of stories about the village and its history as well as an unsurpassed knowledge of motor vehicles and classic cars in particular. His ability to diagnose and resolve mechanical problems was uncanny as many customers of the garage will testify. He also had a keen sense of humour and will be remembered with great affection. He is a very sad loss and our whole hearted sympathy goes out to Liz, his wife and sons James and Matthew.

For more village news and to stay up to date with the latest Parish Council business visit  
the Village website at:  
[beckinghamvillage.co.uk](http://beckinghamvillage.co.uk)

## PLAYING FIELD NEWS

The Parish Council has recently commissioned a full day survey of the flora and fauna by botanists from Hill Holt and the results are very rewarding for a project still in its early days.

The survey found evidence of :

- 32 types of herbs and wildflowers
- 5 types of grasses
- 13 different varieties of trees and shrubs
- 16 bird species
- 10 butterfly species
- 28 other examples of invertebrates.

In addition it noted many other species that potentially could access the site Meadow Pipit and Skylark to nest and also the hedgerows should hold Chaffinch, Robin, Great Tit, Coal tit, Long-tailed tit, Blackbird, Song thrush, Blackcap, Bullfinch, Jay, Magpie, Goldfinch, Chiffchaff, Reed Bunting, Goldcrest, Greenfinch, Linnet and Yellowhammer.

And for the future it suggested:

The creation of a small pond or scrape on the naturally wet part of the eastern area of the site could provide benefit

Create a Bug hotel on the site as it is a good project for local residents, particularly children.

Planting an area with a Seed mix for winter birds, such as teasels, Sunflowers etc.



Lady's Bedstraw



Common Blue Butterfly



Small Copper Butterfly

## Social Club News –September 2020

Following the relaxing of the COVID-19 restrictions, the Social Club was able to reopen on Saturday 15 August. The Parish Council had undertaken a risk assessment of the village hall taking account of the various coronavirus requirements on social distancing and sanitizing. With the help and support of the Village Hall management committee, all the requirements have been met and the club needs to continue to comply with them to ensure the safety of members. In the circumstances it has been agreed that we should only open once a week on a Saturday from 6 pm until 10.30 pm. It is too early to say how successful these arrangements will be and special events are difficult to plan with these restrictions in place. The Management Committee (MC) is carefully monitoring the situation and will respond appropriately to any changes.

**The Club AGM** took place on 2<sup>nd</sup> September at which the Chair, Phil Wells presented his review of the of the Club's third year of operation. He said the year was looking to be as successful as the first two, until the lockdown was imposed on March 20 following the outbreak of the coronavirus. The club in common with all providers of non-essential services had to shut down immediately and was still closed at the end of the club's financial year on 31 May. Consequently income for the financial year was reduced by 20% However we were able to agree with the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) that no rental would be payable during the period the village hall was not being used by the club. Sky was also sympathetic and agreed to suspend the club's monthly subscription until we requested re-instatement. The only outgoings have been the annual licence fee and TV licence. This has not inhibited the Club's contribution to charities including £555 for the air ambulance and over £200 to food banks through donations of short dated stock. A full version of the review and the Annual Accounts are available on the village website. Others matters considered by the AGM were:

**Membership:** Current membership stands at 132, an increase of 12 from last year. Whilst we have lost a few members, we have gained more new ones, particularly from new village residents. This is a trend that we hope will continue as it is clear that the club provides an important community focus for those who live in Beckingham

**Membership Fees for 2020/21:** Agreed that because of the lockdown and the one night a week opening, current membership should be extended to 31 December. Renewal subscriptions will then become due on 1<sup>st</sup> January for the ensuing 12 months. The annual fees will continue at the same level, i.e. £10 per person to include children who were already enrolled under family membership. Children who had been previously enrolled under family membership could continue as members upon attaining the age of 18 for the same fee of £10. New members will be offered initial membership to 31 December 2021 for £25 per person or £40 for joint family membership to include two children.

**Election of Club Officers and the Management Committee for 2020/21:** The current officers and members of the management committee were unanimously re-elected for a further year.

**Charity for the current year:** It was agreed that the club should continue to support the Lincs. and Notts. Air Ambulance supplemented with the MacMillan Cancer UK Charity box on the bar.

### Future Events:

**3 October - Snakes and Ladders Quiz Night** . Admission by ticket £1 available from the bar (Numbers will be restricted because of the social distancing requirements)

**Strictly Come Dancing Sweepstake** – tickets £5. Available from the bar

**Open the box.** This will re-commence as soon as the COVID restrictions are lifted - watch this space.

**Christmas arrangements** The MC will be meeting in November to consider these, taking account of the COVID-19 requirements at the time.



## ***Hello Beckingham and Greetings from the very hot and sunny sands of Qatar....***

No I haven't taken an extreme Covid avoidance holiday or run away from endless grass cutting (frankly at the moment I pay to see some grass), I am here at her Majesty's pleasure pretending to work.

After an arduous 14 days in quarantine where the tension of trying to choose your next Netflix got to be so much you often had to turn the air conditioning on full just to cool your brain, I am finally out and trying to work out what it is I'm supposed to be doing! It wasn't all work work work in our little quarantine compound though.

One evening we decided to show the Americans what a real sport was and played a game of cricket. Having no ball, wickets or bat proved no match for some of the resourceful inmates and Lords would struggle to have hosted a more competitive game. We had to play in the evening as the temperature I was ranging from 38-45 degrees so there we were under the flood lights (well security lights) playing what could well be Qatar's first floodlit match (played without a Pimms in sight as we are currently on no alcohol at all.

The accommodation isn't quite up to 5 star but it is pretty much 5 star military...that is to say I get my own room but have to walk 100 meters to the ablutions (and when your my age that's a lot of walking...especially at night)!!!

I had forgotten just how much sand is surrounding us so as you all head towards the winter months enjoy the last of the glorious Lincolnshire countryside.....because let me tell you you can go off the colour beige very quickly when that's all you can see!!!

Toodle Pip!  
Scottie



## **Thoughts on Lincolnshire.....**

October the first, which is Lincolnshire Day, has come around again and no doubt you all celebrate the day in your own way. For those of you who are ignorant of the place in history that the greatest County in England has, I shall inform you. Lincolnshire Day celebrates the "Lincolnshire Rising" that took place in 1536, as Roman Catholics objected to the creation of the Church of England by the then monarch, Henry VIII for his own ends. As history records the rising was a failure and The C of E is still the official religion of the country.

However this is not the only claim to fame for Lincolnshire as any Yellow Belly will tell you. Yellow Belly? The Royal Regiment of Lincolnshire came into being in 1685 and part of the uniform was a yellow waistcoat. Mustard was a crop grown in Lincolnshire and during harvest the bellies of farm workers became covered in yellow powder from the crop, so ingrained in the Lincolnshire rural scene that it became part of the uniform and the Yellow Belly name became the word for a true born of the County. The regiment spread the word across the world, fighting in the American civil war, Napoleonic War as well as WW1 and WW2.

The County has a full set of animals, Lincoln Red Cattle, Lincoln Curly Coat pig, Lincolnshire Buff chicken, Lincoln Longwool Sheep and the Shire Horse has, according to how biased you are, it's origins in the County. More significant attributes are to be found in Lincoln Castle, one of the four surviving copies of the Magna Carta along with the Charter of the Forest, dating from 1215/1217 respectively. The castle located a stone's throw from the great Cathedral, which was for nearly 250 years the tallest building in the world.

Victorian times saw Lincolnshire as a major industrial area with at least 8 companies making traction engines. A Grantham company patented a form of steerable track for a vehicle, the patent was eventually sold to the Holt Company in America who called it the Caterpillar Track. During WW1 a Lincoln company was approached to see if they could design a vehicle that could travel across No Mans Land and enemy trenches. After a month in a room at the White Hart Hotel, a Water Carrier for Mesopotamia (present day Iraq) was finalised. A secret project, it became shortened to water carrier, water tank and finally Tank. The man in charge was William Tritton, hence Tritton Road in Lincoln. One of these is on show at the Museum of Lincolnshire Life.

## THE BECKINGHAM BUGLE

Issue 1

September 2002

This is our first Newsletter which is being sent out earlier than planned because we want to let everyone know our good news.

As Judith, our Parish Clerk, gets familiar with the production of the Newsletter, the lay-out will no doubt improve in due course!

Playing Field: The good news is that our application for a grant for the children's play equipment has been successful and we have been awarded the maximum grant of 75% of the total cost. Some of you saw the presentation in the Village Hall in August, those who didn't see the artist's impression by the Playground company, the following equipment will be provided:

3-seat Swing  
Junior Slide  
Roundabout  
Horizon (climbing frame)

More Parish Council news will be sent to you in the next publication, and we hope this information fulfils an obligation to the residents of Beckingham.

On behalf of the Beckingham Parish Council,

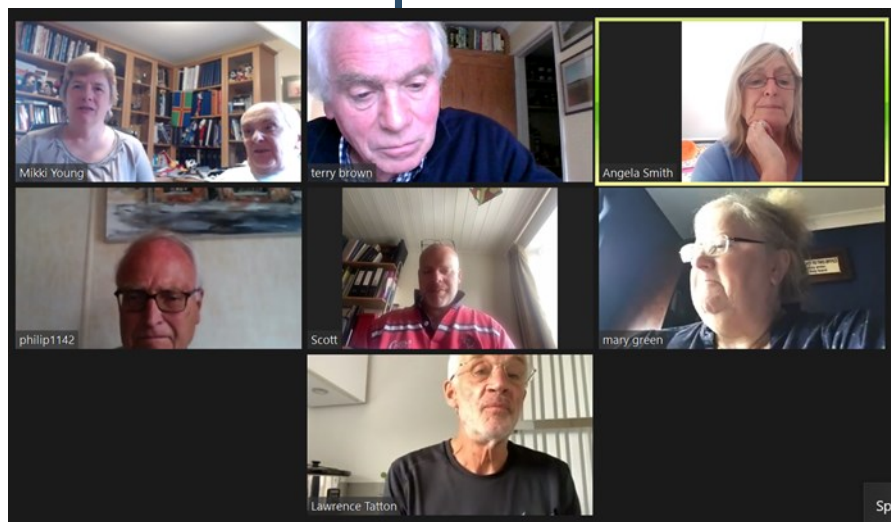
Joan Craddock,  
Chairman.

Even though at present Parish Council meetings are held by videoconferencing. They remain public meetings and therefore any member of the public can "attend".

In addition the meetings still follow the normal practice of providing the first fifteen minutes of the meeting as Public Time. All the agendas and minutes are to be found on the website at <http://beckinghamvillage.co.uk/optAM.php> and the agenda will give details of how members of the public can access the meeting.

At the time of publication of this Bugle the next Parish Council will be held on the 18th November at 7.00 pm through Zoom.

**See you there!!**



## All Saints' Beckingham Clock

Many people from the village are aware that David Webb's family have requested that part of the donations made at his funeral should be given to a restoration fund for the church clock. It seemed a good idea to give you some information about the clock and the possibility of its restoration.

There are two clock mechanisms in the tower. The oldest of these probably dates from around 1660. It is a mechanism to strike the bell on the hour. There was no clock face and no hands to tell the time. The second mechanism probably dates from between 1800 and 1840 and chimed the bell and moved the hands on the clock face. We do not know the maker's name. This second mechanism was converted to mains electric drive by Hartshorne of Daventry in the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. That conversion was a poorly done job. When the nave roof was replaced about twelve years ago and scaffolding was up, a clock maker took the opportunity to restore the clock face but we did not have the funds available for more work then.

A restoration of the 19<sup>th</sup> century mechanism would not be very satisfactory and would simply return the clock to its poorly converted state. Clock makers from whom we have estimates suggest that the best thing to do is to fit a modern radio-controlled electric mechanism; this would also be the cheapest option. We shall need permission from the diocesan authorities for this work. At the present time it is unlikely that we could restore the chiming of the bell because of the condition of the bells and bell frame. We propose that the old clock mechanisms would be kept in the tower as museum pieces. They do need a bit of cleaning!

That is a summary of the state of the church clock. We do not have a current estimate for the restoration but based on the old quotes it will probably be about £2000. We have not at the moment got sufficient funds to get the work done but we are very grateful to the Webb family for their contribution.

If those of you who want to see the clock working again would like to make a donation towards the job we shall be very grateful.

Please get in touch with me

Vic Rampton, Treasurer of All Saints'.

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