

# St Mary's Redlynch Church in the Hall Newsletter May 2017



I wonder how many of you, on first reading this, recognised the picture and its relevance for today?.....or just thought that I had uploaded the wrong image. Well, no prizes this time - it is a cuckoo, and, as I write this, it is the annual Downton Cuckoo Fair. This year is the 38<sup>th</sup> Fair in its current format but fairs in Downton can be tracked back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. In 1289 a fair was claimed on

the "eve, day and morrow" of St Laurence (9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> April). The parish church of Downton is of course St Laurence's which gives us a loose connection with the church although the Church of England, as we know it today, was not formed until the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. History lesson over! We now look forward to May and the coming of summer which is not officially until June. At the moment we seem to have gone backwards weather wise with a frost this week - all very confusing for the plants, animals and birds except for the cuckoo who I have heard on a number of occasions!

It was great to see such a full church on Easter Sunday and the children enjoying an Easter Egg Hunt afterwards. *Church in the Hall* is back on its normal first and third Sundays and the planning group have met to plan the two in May on 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> - **usual time 9.45 am for breakfast.**



On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May our theme will be "*Being known by name*" and our text is John 10: 1-10. This is the passage where Jesus likens himself to the Shepherd who looks after his sheep and protects them. They know him, and he knows them, by name. Some interesting activities will help us to understand how Jesus knows each and every one of us.

On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May we stay with John for our text and this time Chapter 14. 15-21 where Jesus promises his disciples that the Holy Spirit will come and be their guide. A relevant text as we approach Whit Sunday on 4<sup>th</sup> June. Our theme for activities will be.....

*"Knowing and Loving"*





Every year the three local churches support Christian Aid Week which this year runs from 14<sup>th</sup>- 20<sup>th</sup> May. This involves delivering Christian Aid envelopes to all households in our community and any help you could offer by delivering envelopes over the weekend 14/15 May would be much appreciated. It doesn't take long to pop the envelopes through letterboxes and you are not asked to collect

them as there are collection points for people to hand them in. By spreading the load in this way it is really helpful and the envelopes will be available to collect at *Church in the Hall* on 7<sup>th</sup> May so may I thank you in anticipation of your help again this year.

There is another way you can support this worthy cause and that is by joining us for the "Big Brekkie" on **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May** between 8.00 am and 11.00 am at Woodfalls Methodist Hall. Anita and Graham organised this last year on behalf of the three churches and it was a great success, boosting our collection for Christian Aid by over £350, so they have agreed to do it again. All you have to do is enjoy a great breakfast in exchange for a donation! Full details can be found on the posters around the villages, in the Parish Magazine, and on the "What's on" pages of Redlynch ONLINE at [www.redlynch.org.uk](http://www.redlynch.org.uk).



If you would be willing to be involved helping on the day please contact me - contact details below.

### **Dates for the Diary – May & June**

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May - *Church in the Hall at 9.45 for 10.00 am*

14<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> May - *Christian Aid Week*

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May - *The Big Brekkie in Methodists Church Hall 8.00 am - 11.00 am*

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May - *Church in the Hall at 9.45 for 10.00 am*

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June - *Church in the Hall at 9.45 for 10.00 am*

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June - *Church in the Hall at 9.45 for 10.00 am*

### **Dates for the Diary – later in the year**

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July - *Lover Country Fayre*

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August - *annual BBQ at Cedar Lodge*

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December - *Chiristingle*

**With very best wishes and see you on 7<sup>th</sup> May,**

**PETER BISHOP**

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