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***Oyez***

A house with a red roof

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**Village Website**:  **www.west-stafford.com**

**Introduction:** It is now almost 6 weeks since British Summer Time began and despite the much-welcomed longer evenings, we’ve yet to see much evidence of Summer! The forecast for this weekend’s King’s Coronation celebrations doesn’t look too great either but, as we all know living in Dorset, tomorrow’s forecast can change significantly from todays! Whatever your plans are this weekend, we hope you enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend and fingers crossed for some sun. Welcome to May’s newsletter!

**Recent events:**

**Knightsford Parish Council (KPC):** There was no KPC meeting in April due to the local villages holding their own Parish meetings. The next meeting will be in the West Stafford Village Hall on **Weds, 10th May.**

If there are any issues in the meantime, please contact you Councillors below:

Cllr Sandy Tubby (Tel: 07703 731007), Cllr Hannah Cooke (Tel: 0797 9061197) and Cllr Gordon Shaw (Tel: 261771).

**The West Stafford Annual Parish Meeting**: this took place on Friday 21st April with over 40 attendees Thank you to those who attended. At the meeting, a number of CIL funding proposals were approved. If you wish to find out more, the minutes of the meeting will be posted on the Village Website and details can also be obtained via Paul Thompson ([paulwarrenthompson@gmail.com*,*](mailto:information.paulwarrenthompson@gr.iail.com) (tel: 01305 261304 or mobile 07973627413).

**Future Events:**

**Sunday, 7th May - King’s Coronation Village Celebration:** we are looking forward to seeing you all to celebrate the King’s Coronation on Sunday 7th May. Just a reminder that all are invited to join us on the village green from 2:00pm, with the BBQ, for those who have booked, to be served from 3pm. Please bring with you chairs, blankets, snacks, drinks and anything else you wish to enjoy. Remember also to wear your crowns ready for judging. A Tug-of-War village challenge will also be run during the afternoon.

**Bockhampton and District Horticultural Association (BDHA):** The BDHA will be hosting two events in May:

**Saturday, 13th May -** All are invited to the BDHA’s Bring & Buy Plant Sale and Coffee morning on Saturday 13th May, at Talbothays Lodge, West Stafford, DT2 8AL. There will be lots of parking adjacent to the sale, but we ask you please not to bring dogs.

The sale starts 10.30am sharp, with coffee and homemade cakes available from 10.15am. Those who are donating plants to sell are also invited from 10:15am. A vast selection of generously priced annuals, perennials, shrubs, vegetables and herbs will be on offer, all of which have been grown and nurtured by BDHA members. All proceeds will go to the BDHA to help fund their events programme and annual shows.

**Thursday, 13th May -** This will be a tour of Kingston Maurward Gardens, guided by the Head Gardener, starting at 1.30pm. The meeting point will be at the front of the college building. This is a free event for BDHA members, but guests are very welcome for a charge of £2.00 per person, payable on the day.  No booking necessary.

If you would like to join or re-join the BDHA, the annual fee of £7.50 includes free admission to all events, together with other offers and discount buying. Please contact Linda, the membership secretary, on [01305 753639](tel:01305%20753639).

**Friday, 7th July - Champagne Musical Evening:** Tickets for this event are now available to purchase from The Wise Man Inn. By kind permission of Lord and Lady Fellowes, the event will be held in the Marquee at Stafford House. All proceeds to go to St Andrew’s Church. For details, please see the separate attachment to this Oyez. Any queries, please contact Janet (Secretary) at janet.ranger@yahoo.co.uk or on 07752 634773.

**Other news:**

**Removal of Chestnut Tree in the grounds of the Village Hall:** The works to remove the diseased tree in the village hall grounds will take place on 18th / 19th May. The wood will be cut into cord lengths and available to buy and collect on Saturday 20th May. Please register your interest for this to Jacquie Walton at jacquie.walton@outlook.com. A delivery can be arranged at a small additional cost.

**West Stafford Parish Meeting Clerk – Vacancy:** Would you like to help your fellow villagers by organising the bi-annual West Stafford Parish meetings? Dr Paul Thompson, the current clerk, will be retiring after this April's meeting. No experience required and Paul will be on hand to help and advise. Please contact Paul for more information:  [paulwarrenthompson@gmail.com,](mailto:information.paulwarrenthompson@gr.iail.com) (tel: 01305 261304 or mobile 07973627413).

**St Andrew’s Church news:**

**Friday, 7th July - Champagne Musical Evening:** As mentioned above, tickets for this event are now available to purchase from The Wise Man Inn. For details, please see the separate attachment with this Oyez. Any queries please contact Janet (Secretary) - janet.ranger@yahoo.co.uk or 07752 634773.

**May’s Services:**

Coffee will be from 10:45, with services starting 11:15.

* Sunday, 7th May – Matins to celebrate the King’s Coronation
* Sunday, 14th May – Holy Communion
* Sunday, 21st May – Matins
* Sunday, 28th – Holy Communion

**Coffee and Chat:** on **Saturday, 20th May** from 10:00am to noon. All welcome.

**Home Communion**: If you are unable to go to church and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact Rev. Cora Yarrien on 262421 or email revd.cora.yarrien@gmail.com

**Morning Prayer:** is every Tuesday at 9:30am. All are welcome.

**Private Prayer & Reflection**: the church is open every day from 10:00am – 4:00pm.

**Church Contacts:** Team Vicar - Rev. Cora Yarrien (Tel: 262421), Secretary – Janet Ranger (Tel: 849259)

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