



The Parish Magazine

St Nicholas' Church, Burton-in-Wirral

December 2017 & January 2018

www.burtonchurch.org.uk



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR EDITION



IN THIS ISSUE OF THE MAGAZINE

Christmas Services & Village Events Throughout the Parish

Liverpool's 'Renaissance Singers' Choral Concert

Supporting People in Need at Christmas

The magazine is also available at www.burtonchurch.org.uk

GROWING & THRIVING WITH GOD IN OUR COMMUNITY

CHURCH DIRECTORY



| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|----------------------|
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**FESTIVE
SERVICES
FOR BURTON
PUDDINGTON &
SHOTWICK**

*Why do we
decorate our
Christmas
Trees?*



The Christmas tree became popular in England around 1840 when Queen Victoria's husband Prince Albert brought a tree over from Germany and put it up at Windsor Castle. The Royal couple were captured in a newspaper standing around the tree with their family and ever since the practice became fashionable and a great tradition.

Christmas trees were first decorated with candles to remind people of the stars in the sky at the time of Jesus' birth. With the advent of electricity, coloured lights replaced the candles. Trees were also decorated with sweets hung by ribbons. The first tree ornaments went on sale at Woolworths in 1880.

And today we still like to place an Angel on the top of the tree as a reminder of the Angel that brought the shepherds glad tidings of the birth of Jesus.

CAROLS & SINGING

SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER 4.00PM
IN CHURCH - BURTON
'CHRISTINGLE & SCHOOL CHOIR'

SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER 7.00PM
CHORAL CONCERT IN CHURCH - BURTON
'THE RENAISSANCE SINGERS'

THURSDAY 14 DECEMBER 2.00PM
IN CHURCH - BURTON
'SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE'

SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER 4.00PM
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH SHOTWICK
'NINE LESSONS & CAROLS'

SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER 7.00PM
ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH BURTON
'NINE LESSONS & CAROLS'

SATURDAY 23 DECEMBER 6.00PM
PUDDINGTON VILLAGE
'CAROLS ON THE GREEN'

SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER
4.00PM 'CAROLS ROUND THE TREE'
11.15PM HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

MONDAY 25 DECEMBER 9.30AM
ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH BURTON
'CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE'

MONDAY 25 DECEMBER 11.00AM
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH SHOTWICK
'CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE'

THE VICAR WRITES



When I first suggested to my mum that I was thinking about what could be done for a 'blue Christmas' she

was really quite shocked, until I explained that 'blue' meant feeling sad or down and not something rude!

I love Christmas and New Year, the family traditions, carols, mince pies and people coming together to celebrate the birth of a tiny baby boy born to poor parents in a Palestinian backwater. A birth which should have gone unnoticed; but a birth which has changed history and the lives of countless people.

For some people, Christmas can be lonely or something to just get through. For others, the absence of loved ones is often felt more keenly and the thought of a New Year just brings dread.

Perhaps for Mary and Joseph, at that first Christmas, their feelings were pretty much the same - they were far from home, surrounded by the scent of scandal. Not welcomed by the people of Bethlehem, they probably just wanted to get through this time safely and without any fuss. Mary must have been terrified to be away from her family at such a vulnerable time, as she gave birth in an animal shelter.

It was in their vulnerability that God gave them signs and assurances of his blessing and love. Shepherds came to visit them with news of angels - all because their baby was the promised Messiah.

Rev. Cathy Helm



For some people, Christmas can be lonely...for others, the absence of loved ones is often felt more keenly.

Centuries of traditions and celebrations have meant we've lost touch with the rawness of Mary and Joseph's situation. The excitement of waiting to see what the John Lewis advert will be has eclipsed the way God reached down amongst the poorest of humanity and blessed them with a baby whose name means 'God with us'. Jesus brings hope into our lives, especially at Christmas. He gives us the assurance that we don't have to begin the New Year alone if we trust in Him.

God is with us whether we're feeling fine or simply can't wait for the year to end.



The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.



[John 1:5]

Are there practical things we can do to help those for whom Christmas may be 'blue'? A friendly invite, an offer of company, a promise to pray or an offer to just listen and 'be with'.

Thinking of those who will be wondering how they can feed their family over Christmas perhaps check out the Christmas wish list for the Foodbank and donate extra.

Bring a present for a child to the '**Carols Round the Tree**' service on Christmas eve which go to the Charles Thompson Mission in Birkenhead.

May I wish you a Christmas where you know God's presence in the gift of his Son and that the light he brings will journey with you into the New Year.

Cathy



*May the Lord bless you
and keep you; the Lord
make his face to shine
upon you and be
gracious unto you; the
Lord lift up his
countenance upon you,
and give you peace, both
now and
forever more.*

Amen.



A Prayer

*For those
who find
Christmas
and New
Year a
difficult
time.*



*No one can change what I'm going
through.*

*There are no words to make a difference:
No answers or solutions,
To make things easier for me.*

*Help me not to resent those who want to
say they care.*

*Help me to know that even when I am
lonely, I am not alone.*

*Give me companions for this journey,
Supporting me,
Cheering me,
Praying for me,
For whatever I need.*

*For so long as it takes.....
And maybe I can learn to lean on that
love.*

(Andy Raine)

BISHOP WILSON SCHOOL



Bishop Wilson Church of England Primary
"The joy of The Lord is your strength" Nehemiah 8:10



The children in Years 2, 3 & 4 at Bishop Wilson CE Primary school enjoyed making Indian Dream Catchers recently. This work will complement their Literacy topic next half-term on 'The Gift Horse'.

Our Robins Class (Reception and Year 1) now have a fantastic refurbished outdoor play area which has been funded from a Lottery Grant. The children are now able to access this covered area in all weathers.



The Year 2, 3 and 4 children recently enjoyed an exciting day at Weaver Hall Museum where they stepped into the world of the Vikings.



They discovered the fearsome weapons used and learned how to form a shield wall. They listened to tales of Viking adventures and their invasions. They even discovered the remains of a Viking warrior's grave. Everyone had a super day.



THE ADVENT SLEEPOUT CHALLENGE 2017

WE'RE TAKING PART IN THE
ADVENT SLEEPOUT
CHALLENGE!

Why would we give up our warm beds for the night in the middle of December?

A small group of excited and willing young people from our church groups will be taking up the challenge on Friday 8 December from 7.00pm - **and will be seeking sponsors for this worthwhile cause.**

We will be having a big 'sleepover' in church, some fun and games and hopefully some sleep! Funds raised will be distributed via the Church Urban Fund.

**CHURCH
URBAN
FUND** 
CHANGING LIVES AND
COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

The scheme offers help and support to people in England who need it the most. They may be struggling with debt, homelessness, isolation, addiction, abuse or violence.

Whatever challenges they face, the '**Advent Sleepout Challenge**' will help us reach out to even more people, offering practical solutions to help transform lives locally.

It's not an attempt to recreate the desperate conditions many will find themselves in this Christmas, but a fun way to raise awareness and money to help those who need it.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO OUR GOAL OF £500 THEN PLEASE FOLLOW THE LINK BELOW OR THERE WILL BE SPONSORSHIP FORMS FOR YOU TO FILL IN AT THE BACK OF CHURCH.

<https://sleepoutchallenge2017.everydayhero.com/uk/st-nicholas-sleepover>

**If you're interested in being involved please contact
Cathy Helm ☎ 07471 890 827**

Family Games Night &
Fish 'n' Chips Supper



Saturday 27 January
In Church - 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Ludo, Top Trumps,
Othello and many more



Come along and
brighten up a dark winter's
evening. Everybody welcome!



When talking to clients at the Foodbank recently, I have been embarrassed to realise that providing them with three days' emergency food supply was ignoring their main needs. Of course, knowing that you will be able to eat for the next few days is very important, but it was obvious that these people needed someone to advise them on how to apply for financial help, to speak on their behalf to officials, or to guide them on ways of reducing their debts. Like most Foodbank volunteers, I had neither the experience nor the training to give them this kind of help. Unfortunately, I also had very little idea of where to suggest they looked for the advice and support they needed.

What we call 'sign-posting' has rightly become an increasingly important part of what we do as Foodbank volunteers, but whereas some volunteers have a good knowledge of where to point people to find the help they need, many of us do not.



So the Trustees have now decided that we will concentrate on sign-posting to three organisations: Energy Project Plus, Citizens Advice Wirral and Involve Northwest.

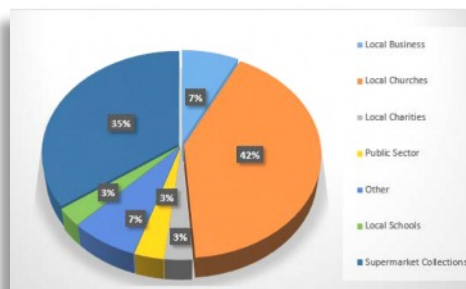
Posters and leaflets giving the contact details for these organisations will soon be made available to all Distribution Centres. Even though the help we ourselves give is short-term and limited, we will also be able to point people in the right direction to get more long-term guidance and help in handling the difficulties they face. This will bring us closer to fulfilling our vision of ending hunger and poverty in our area.



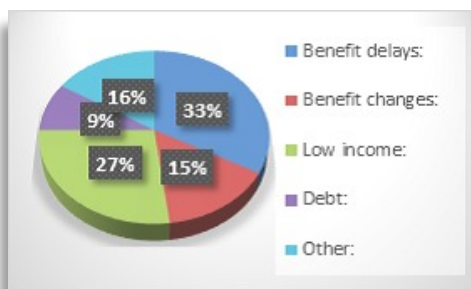
Rev Colin Hart
Chairman of Trustees

In 2016 between January and October, Wirral Foodbank fed and supported 9,849 people, including 3,275 children. This was an increase of 18% on the previous year.

42% of all food donated to Wirral Foodbank comes from local Churches – its biggest contributor!



There are a variety of reasons why people use the foodbank.



The chair of the all-party House of Commons Work and Pensions Committee, Frank Field, MP for Birkenhead, recently highlighted the plight of families waiting to receive the new universal benefit.

An extra 15 tonnes of supplies is required to enable Wirral Foodbank to manage the expected explosion in demand in the run up to Christmas

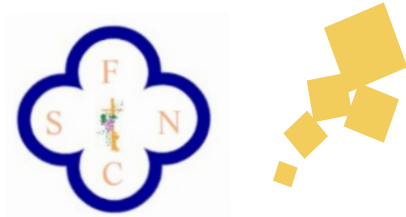
He said that the waiting time for the new benefit would push many families 'to the brink of destitution' in the run-up to Christmas.

Frank Field went on to say in a recent Commons debate that the main foodbank in Birkenhead was looking to acquire an extra 15 tonnes of supplies to enable it to manage the expected explosion in demand in the run up to Christmas.

Wirral Foodbank wish to thank all at St Nicholas' Church for its continued support.

If you're able to donate to the Foodbank at Church please do so by Sunday 10 December

'THE FRIENDS'



The '*Friends of St. Nicholas' Church*' exists to help raise funds from across the local community in order to support the maintenance of this historic church and the preservation of its ancient churchyard.

The most recent fund-raising event was a wine tasting evening followed by a gourmet supper held at the Gladstone Village Hall on Saturday 28 October raising over £300. Thanks to the exceptional efforts of Robin Cowan and his team some forty people were fortunate enough to enjoy a tasting from a selection of nine wines ranging from the '*Irresistible*' sparkling wines, to dry whites and reds, to a sweet wine from the Loire. These were expertly presented by *Tom Innes of Fingal-Rock Wine Shippers and Merchants*. Everyone who attended is now an expert at what to look for!

“ *I have already ordered my supply for Christmas and New Year!* ”

Said Gill Miles, Administrator of the Friends of St Nicholas' Church.



Ancient Historic Church

The tasting was followed by a three course dinner comprising Parkgate Shrimps, Boeuf Bourguignon with new potatoes and salad, followed by a very rich chocolate mousse or a raspberry meringue gâteau. The meal concluded with cafetiere coffee and '*After Eight*' chocolates after which many guests took the opportunity to purchase further supplies of wine.



Thanks must go to all those who helped make the occasion such a success including the chefs who prepared the food, the kitchen organisers who were so efficient, the many '*washers and clearers up*' who were so essential and those who provided the wonderful table decorations.

Why not join us for our next social event? If you are not already a member you can join at any time by completing one of the application forms which can be found at the back of the church or by contacting:

Gill Miles - Administrator ☎ 336 4972

ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH, BURTON-IN-WIRRAL

Christmas Choral
Concert



LIVERPOOL RENAISSANCE SINGERS

IN CONCERT PERFORMING SPANISH RENAISSANCE MUSIC

Mary's Rose

With Mary, Joseph and the Nativity at the Centre



SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER
ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH
BURTON
7.00PM
TICKETS £10
INCLUDING
MULLED WINE
CHRISTMAS CAKE
TEA & COFFEE
IN AID OF CHURCH FUNDS




'Liverpool Renaissance Singers' is an 'Early Music' choir of about 30 singers, originally formed in 1965. The choir performs music of the Renaissance and early Baroque periods, usually unaccompanied. The choir's voices include soprano, alto, tenor and bass ranges, as well as counter-tenors and female tenors.

The Liverpool Renaissance Singers regularly give recitals in the Lady Chapel of Liverpool Cathedral, typically in December and March. They also make a number of other appearances, within local churches and other secular venues in the North West as well as farther afield. Only between eight and ten recitals are given each year so the parish is very fortunate to welcome them back for a return visit.

An event not to be missed...so bring along friends and family!

Tickets from:

Linda Jones
Sarah Curnow
Cathy Helm

 **0151 336 5017**
 **0151 336 8210**
 **07471 890 827**

*'Jesus told his disciples
about ... their need to pray
always and not to lose
heart.'*

Advent, Christmas and New Year are upon us and it is always an extremely busy time. Rowland Crook (former Chairman of the Retired Clergy Association) has written eloquently about the need to make space for a 'Quiet Time' to spend with God alone:

'As I give thanks for my friends and family, and for my Church ... I have found that the God who speaks in Scripture inspires my thoughts.'

'Quiet Time' is so important and something in which we can all share, especially those who are our Indoor Members.

The October Mothers' Union meeting was well attended. The Rev. Jacky Bellfield delivered an entertaining and thought-provoking talk about her experiences as a Methodist Minister.

FUTURE DATES

Saturday 2 December

Village Christmas Fayre
Please support the MU Stall

Wednesday 13 December

Christmas Gathering 2.00pm in Church

Wednesday 17 January

AGM 2.00pm in the Sports Pavilion

Ann Rudd, Anne Parsons and the Mothers' Union Committee wish all their members and parishioners a very Happy Christmas. For more information contact:

Ann Rudd ☎ 336 1513

HARDY PERENNIALS



*Hardy Perennials are a group of ladies
who live largely independently.*

*Along with friends they meet most months
at Pollard's Inn in Willaston for lunch
(two courses plus coffee for £13) and to
share each other's company.*

Next lunch dates are:



Monday - 11 December

Monday - 15 January

Monday - 19 February

Monday - 26 March

Monday - 30 April

Monday - 11 June

Monday - 30 July

Monday - 10 September

Monday - 29 October

Monday - 10 December

** * * * **

*If you normally attend Hardy
Perennial lunches and would like to
bring a friend, please
feel free to do so.*

Booking essential

Pollards Inn, Willaston

12.30pm for 1.00pm

☎ Vivienne 336 7435

☎ Linda 336 5017

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church is for all ages from toddlers and young children as well as parents, grandparents and carers. It is packed with lots of fun activities that everyone can join in.



It normally takes place around tea time on a Saturday afternoon once a month. There is always a time of worship and for people to get to know God better before everybody shares a meal together.

The next Messy Church events are:

Friday 22 December

6.30pm to 7.30pm in Church

'Christmas Book at Bedtime'



Saturday 13 January

4.00pm to 6.00pm in Gladstone Village Hall

Messy Church

Everybody welcome... including any helpers!

For more details contact:

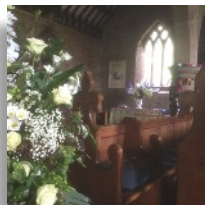
Cathy Helm ☎ 07471 890 827

From the Registers

Weddings

7 October

*Emily Brookes and
Craig Rogers*



Funerals

15 September

Patricia Henshaw

10 October

Clive Frith

12 October

Rodney Lyon

25 October

Sybil Short

2 November

Stuart Joynson

3 November

George Griffiths



A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

May I express my sincere thanks to the many people from the Parish who have given me so much support in the past few weeks after the sudden death of my younger brother, Stuart Joynson.

Like me and my sister Valerie, all three of us were born and bred at Manor Farm, Burton – and shared a wonderful childhood enjoying a village community.

The help and support given to all his family has been overwhelming and on behalf of his widow Jill and family, Val and myself we wanted to say a very big 'thank you'.

Shirley Reade



December

- 3 Advent Sunday
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Family Worship
6:30 pm Evensong
- 6 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 10 Second Sunday of Advent
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Morning Worship
and Baptism
- 13 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 17 Third Sunday of Advent
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Family Communion
7.00 pm Nine Lessons & Carols
- 20 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 24 Christmas Eve
8:45 am Holy Communion
4:00 pm Carols by the tree
11:15 pm Holy Communion
- 25 Christmas Day
9:30 am Family Communion
- 27 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 31 First Sunday of Christmas
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Morning Worship

2-8 December
Christmas Tree
Festival in Church

2 December 4.00pm
Carols & Christingle
in Church

6 December 7.00pm
Community Film Night
in Church

8 December
Advent Sleepover
Challenge in Church

10 December 7.00pm
'Renaissance Singers'
Concert in Church

11 December 12.30pm
Hardy Perennials
Christmas Lunch

13 December 2.00pm
MU Christmas
Gathering in Church



14 December 2.30pm
School Carol Service
in Church

17 December 7.00pm
Nine Lessons & Carols
in Church

18 December 10.30am
Coffee Morning
in Church

22 December 6.30pm
Book at Bedtime
in Church

23 December 6.00pm
'Carols on the Green'
Puddington

24 December
4.00pm Carols by the Tree
11.15pm Holy Communion

25 December 9.30am
Christmas Day Service
in Church

January

- 7 Epiphany Sunday
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Family Worship
6:30 pm Evensong
- 10 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 14 Second Sunday of Epiphany
Baptism of Christ
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Morning Worship
- 17 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 21 Third Sunday of Epiphany
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Family Communion
- 24 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 28 Fourth Sunday of Epiphany
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Morning Worship
- 31 10:15 am Holy Communion

St Michael's Church Shotwick

- 9 December at 10.00am
Decorating the Church
- 17 December at 4.00pm
Nine Lessons & Carols Service
- 21 December at 6.30pm
Christmas Bedtime Story
- 24 December at 11.30
Sunday Communion Service
- 25 December at 11.00am
Christmas Day Communion
- 7 January at 11.30am
'Plough Sunday' Service

HYMN STORIES

*Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!*

*Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled!*

*Joyful, all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!*

*Christ, by highest heaven adored
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late of time behold him come
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel!*

*Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!*

*Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die.
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings
Light and life to all he brings
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!*



One of Charles Wesley's most famous hymns, the carol was written in 1738.

Charles Wesley, brother to cleric John Wesley and together with fellow cleric George Whitefield founded the Methodist movement. It was John Wesley's sermons that swayed the minds of people in England – but today it is the hymns of Charles that are sung throughout the land.

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" is a Christmas carol that first appeared in 1739 in the collection *Hymns and Sacred Poems*, Wesley had requested and received slow and solemn music for his lyrics, not the joyful tune expected today. Moreover, Wesley's original opening couplet was:

*Hark! How all the welkin rings,
Glory to the King of Kings*

The popular modern version is the result of alterations made by various hands, notably by Wesley's co-worker George Whitefield who changed the opening couplet to the familiar one we know today and by Felix Mendelssohn.

In 1840—a hundred years after the publication of *Hymns and Sacred Poems*—Mendelssohn composed a cantata to Gutenberg's invention of the printing press. It is music from this cantata, adapted by the English musician William Cummings to fit the lyrics of 'Hark! The Herald Angels Sing', which forms the words and music of the carol we know today.

UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

Coffee Morning

Everyone Welcome



Monday 18 December

10.00am to 12 o'clock

*Please come along and support
this fund-raising event and enjoy excellent
coffee and cake!*

(donations of cake would be very welcome)

*For more information
Contact Linda Jones ☎ 336 5017*

CAFÉ CHAT

An informal and relaxed opportunity to
chat with
friends.

It's held
on the last
Thursday
of the
month
at the



Elephant Lounge & Bar

at Parkgate,
meeting at 8.00pm.

Contact:

Ruth Abbott

☎ 0151 342 5032



HOLY COMMUNION & LUNCH

Burton Sports & Social Club

Monday 4 December at 11.30am

Monday 8 January at 11.30am

Contact

Basil Keys ☎ 936 1403

Jen Williams ☎ 328 1006



Christmas Book at Bedtime

**Christmas
Stories
for
Bedtime**



**Friday 22 December
6.30pm in Church**

**Bedtime Stories
Hot Chocolate & Biscuits**

**Come dressed ready for bed
in pyjamas and bring a
favourite teddy or rabbit**

Carols 'Round the Tree'

**Christmas Eve Church Service
4.00pm**

*Children are encouraged to come
dressed as a character from the
nativity story*

Christmas Craft Fayre

GLADSTONE VILLAGE HALL

The Christmas Fayre at Gladstone Hall on Saturday 2 December has attracted a lot of interest from a wide variety of local crafts people.

Says organiser Connie Draper:

“There promises to be a bigger than ever opportunity for local people to pick up some last minute gifts – ranging from handmade jewellery to tempting fudge, gorgeous cakes and Burton’s own award winning beer!”

Local Artist Pat Waller will be displaying several paintings of local scenes – and will be taking commissions on the day – so she is the person to see if you would like your property captured on canvas and beautifully framed.

**For more information or to exhibit at the Fayre please contact:
Connie Draper ☎ 226 3679**

Celebrating St Nicholas’ Day



Local Community
Film Night



It’s a Wonderful Life

Wednesday 6 December 7.00pm

In Church



***Plus
Mince Pies
& Mulled Wine***

***For maximum comfort
bring a cushion!***

Cathy Helm ☎ 07471 890 827

FLORI BUNDA

THE ONSET OF WINTER

Dodging showers and gales were the norm whilst attempting to prepare the garden for winter.

All the tubs and pots have now been stripped out and replanted with spring flowering bulbs. There is a small border at the rear of the greenhouse which was in great need of attention. A large Rosemary bush was removed together with masses of Lily-of-the-Valley which have now been planted in different parts of the garden.

Compost was added to the border and this was planted up with spring flowering bulbs. The small short path was also much neglected and the same has been cleaned (husbands can be very useful!) .

The Sedum Maximum and Skimmia are now flowering and add colour to the garden. So too do the Hydrangea

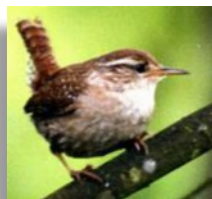
heads which have donned their autumn colours. These will soon make lovely arrangements and decorations indoors.

The geraniums will shortly be brought indoors so that they will hopefully survive the winter months.



Any tall roses have been reduced by one-third to save any wind rock affecting their roots. Buff Beauty and Rosa Mundi have been slightly trimmed as they were both growing wild.

Many birds have returned to the garden feeders: Blue, Great and Long-tailed Tits; Robins; sometimes a lone Jay in early morning; and of course Jenny Wren, often heard and less frequently seen!



Tasks to be getting on with:

- ❑ Divide congested clumps of herbaceous perennials
- ❑ Finish planting spring flowering bulbs
- ❑ Clear fallen leaves off flower beds if conditions are wet
- ❑ Check any bulbs, corms, tubers and bare root plants for damage or rot.
- ❑ Start eating those stored vegetables and think about planting more winter squash next year.

Good Gardening

Flori Bunda



Burton Mere Wetlands

Wildfowl and wading birds in winter, warblers in spring, vast panoramas and a fascinating history are just some of the highlights from Burton Mere Wetlands.

The RSPB has confirmed that from 2018 Dan Trotman, the Visitor Experience Manager at Burton Mere will be contributing a regular article to the Parish Magazine to keep readers informed of sightings and developments at the reserve.



Future events include:

Sunday 14 January 2018

8:00am – 10:00am

Big Farmland Bird Walk

£10 per person

£8 RSPB members

(Booking Essential!)

Contact

 0151 353 8478

 decestuary@rspb.org.uk

BURTON PLAY AREA

Fundraising Update

Regrettably, our recent application for Community Award funding was not successful. We received 251 votes so 'thank you' to all those who supported us. The winner in our category was a junior school in Somerset for the installation of an outdoor gymnasium.

So once again funds are sought to restore and reopen an excellent safe play area by next Spring to enable children to run, play and climb in clean fresh air. Working together and with a concentrated effort we can surely raise the money! All our children deserve the best.

Please contact:

John Nuttall  336 7178 or

Nicky Dorman  07731324630 or

 playarea@gladstonevillagehall.org.



New Library Times

Cheshire West and Chester Mobile Library will be at Gladstone Village Hall, Burton on the following dates:

15 December & 5 January

The library will be in the Car Park from 11.30am to 12.25pm.

It will be in Puddington adjacent to the Village Green on the same dates from 11.00am until 11.20am.

Please make a note of the new times!

CHURCH CLEANING

St Nicholas' Church is looking for a few extra volunteers to help clean the church.



Currently we have six volunteer teams of three people. Each team takes on the weekly task for two specific months of the year. This way the duties are spread between the teams over the full year and are hopefully not too onerous.

So far these teams have done an amazing job and we are very grateful. However, several members of the three teams are no longer able to continue and it's too big a job for just the remaining helpers. But, with a few extra people spread out amongst the six teams, it would be quite manageable.

Could you, or even you and a friend volunteer to join a team and help maintain our beautiful church?

If you wish to volunteer, please contact

Beth Crossley ☎ 336 4770

Cathy Helm ☎ 07471 890 827

START THE WEEK IN PRAYER

Monday morning at 9.00am in Church is a quiet time at the beginning of each week when people meet to pray for the needs of our church, our local community, our country and the world.

You do not need to pray aloud; many who attend choose to pray silently.

St Nicholas' Church



To help those who wish to know their Bibles better, especially the more difficult bits, in September we started ***The Bible Book Club*** based upon the resources from the **Bible Society** beginning with the Book of Ruth from the Old Testament.



The idea is that we each read an agreed book of the Bible individually or even listen to a podcast of it (various apps are available online). The background resources will be available at the back of church to help people appreciate the context of the book being studied. It won't always be a whole book as most of them are too long.

Two parallel ***Book Club*** meetings are running each month. Anyone can come along and talk about what they've read and share in the discussion and questions. For those who would just like to do this at home, the questions are on the resource sheet.

Whichever way you choose to do it the resources are there to help us all engage with and learn more about some amazing people in the Bible and of God's ongoing story.

The Book Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 2.00pm (venues alternate) or on the third Tuesday at 8.00pm at the Vicarage

Ref: biblesociety.org.uk/biblebookclub

Cathy Helm ☎ 07471 890 827

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*The Parish Magazine is widely read.
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Puddington and others in the
surrounding areas. It is also
circulated to people via
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Lucy ☎ 07421 721 035

✉ **wirralkeycomputing@gmail.com**

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YOGA CLASSES

Classes are held on Tuesdays at
Gladstone Village Hall, Burton
7.00pm to 8.30pm. - Hatha Yoga

Also on Mondays & Thursdays
at the Burton Sports and Social
Club - Chair Yoga

9.30 am to 10:30am

Beginners and
returners are
all welcome and
equipment can be
provided



Contact Andrew Collin

☎ 0780 273 7258

✉ andrewcollin@btinternet.com

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COMMUNITY & SOCIETY INFORMATION

THE BURTON SOCIETY

Meetings at Gladstone Village Hall

Next meetings: 7 December - 'An Alternative Christmas' - Festive Evening
4 January - 'A Walk Around Wales' - Nigel Griffith

THE PUDDINGTON SOCIETY

Saturday 23 December - 'Carols on the Green' at 6.00pm

For more information about events call Hazel Huxley on 0151 336 2288

BURTON AND NESTON HISTORY SOCIETY

Every second Thursday of each month at 8:00pm in the Gladstone Village Hall. For more information please contact Clive Edwards on 336 1190

BURTON WALKING GROUP

For more information please contact John Nuttall on 336 7178

BURTON BRIDGE CLUB

Burton Bridge Club meets every Monday evening at 7.15pm
in the Gladstone Village Hall

Experienced players most welcome for duplicate bridge.

For further information please contact Hazel Huxley 0151- 336- 2288.

MANOR GATEHOUSE CLUB

A club for the retired or partially retired that welcomes new members
and meets monthly with an invited speaker.

Various interest groups include history, music, painting, literature, travel etc.

All meetings are at 2.30 pm in Gladstone Village Hall unless stated

For information see www.manorgatehouse.info

BURTON MANOR GARDENS

For more information call 345 1107 or email, burtonmanorgardens@gmail.com

Next issue deadline for copy and advertisers 8 January 2018

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The PCC and editorial team retain the right to edit items submitted for publication. The editor's decision is final.

*Copies of this magazine can be found at
www.burtonchurch.org.uk*

