

ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH, BURTON & ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, SHOTWICK



Vicar: Revd John Coyne
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The Village, Burton, CH64 5AB

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SERVICES AT ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH, BURTON www.burtonchurch.org.uk

WEEKLY - SUNDAYS

10:00AM WORSHIP FOR ALL AGES

WEEKLY - WEDNESDAYS
10:15AM HOLY COMMUNION

1 ST SUNDAY OF MONTH
6:30PM EVENSONG (APRIL ONLY AND
3RD SUNDAY FROM MAY)

3RD SUNDAY OF MONTH

8.45AM HOLY COMMUNION (APRIL ONLY
AND 1ST SUNDAY FROM MAY)





SERVICES AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, SHOTWICK www.shotwick.org.uk

1st Sunday of Month 11:30am Morning Praise

2ND SUNDAY OF MONTH 11:30AM HOLY COMMUNION CW

3RD SUNDAY OF MONTH

1 1:30am Morning Prayer BCP

4TH SUNDAY OF MONTH
11:30 HOLY COMMUNION BCP

5TH SUNDAY OF MONTH
11.30AM HOLY COMMUNION BCP

Welcome to the Easter Edition of the Parish Magazine & Community News



Join us on Good Friday & Easter Day St Nicholas' Church, Burton & St Michael's Church, Shotwick



Church Services at St Nicholas' Burton

April

- Palm Sunday
 9:45am Burton Manor Palm
 Sunday Procession
 10:00 am All Age Worship
 6:30 pm Evensong
- 5 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 7 Good Friday4:00pm Walk of WitnessService (Shotwick 2:00pm)
- 9 Easter Day 10:00 am Holy Communion for Easter Day - Celebratory Service for All Generations
- 12 No Holy Communion Service
- 16 Second Sunday of Easter8:45 am Holy Communion(Traditional Service)10:00 am Holy Communionfor all ages
- 19 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 23 Third Sunday of Easter 10:00 am Morning Worship
- 26 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 30 Fourth Sunday of Easter 10:00 am Morning Worship

May

- 3 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 7 Fifth Sunday of Easter
 8:45 am Holy Communion
 (Traditional Service)
 10:00 am All Age Worship
- 10 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 14 Sixth Sunday of Easter10:00 am Morning Worship
- 17 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 21 Seventh Sunday of Easter
 10:00 am Holy Communion
 for all ages
 Annual Parochial Church
 Meeting at 11.15 am
 Joint Evensong Service at
 Shotwick at 4.00pm
- 24 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 28 Pentecost 10:00 am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
- 31 10:15 am Holy Communion

June

4 Trinity Sunday 8:45 am Holy Communion (Traditional Service) 10:00 am All Age Worship



Church Services at St Michael's Shotwick

April

- Palm Sunday11:30 am Morning Praise forPalm Sunday
- 7 Good Friday 2:00pm Walk of Witness Service
- 9 Easter Sunday



11:30 am Holy Communion for Easter Day - Celebratory Service for All Generations

- 16 Second Sunday of Easter11:30 am Morning Prayer
- 23 Third Sunday of Easter 11:30 am Holy Communion BCP service
- 30 Fourth Sunday of Easter 11:30 am Holy Communion BCP service



May

- 7 Fifth Sunday of Easter11:30 am Morning Praise
- 14 Sixth Sunday of Easter11:30 am Holy CommunionCommon Worship
- 21 Seventh Sunday of EasterNo Morning ServiceJoint Evensong Service withBurton at Shotwick 4.00pm
- 28 Pentecost

 11:30 am Holy Communion

 BCP service

June

2 Trinity Sunday11:30 am Morning Praise



SCRIBO



AN EASTER FAITH & A NEWLY CROWNED MONARCH

REVD JOHN COYNE

In the two months covered by this edition of our magazine there are two very significant events. Firstly, on 9 April Christians will be celebrating Easter and secondly on the first weekend of May, King Charles will be crowned in Westminster Abbey on 6 May. As I anticipate both events, I am so aware of the way in which our late Queen Elizabeth spoke of her own Christian faith on occasions and in particular, referencing the importance of Easter.

In her 2000 Christmas broadcast, for example, she said of Jesus: "In his early thirties, He was arrested, tortured, and crucified with two criminals. His death might have been the end of the story, but then came the resurrection and with it the foundation of the Christian faith." This was not an insipid portrayal of Jesus as a nice man who said good things. The Queen stated quite clearly her belief in the bodily resurrection of Jesus. This was brave, moving, and noble.

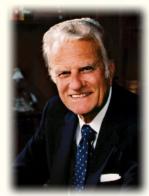


During 2011, Queen Elizabeth declared the following: "Although we are capable of great acts of kindness, history teaches us that we sometimes need saving from ourselves — from our recklessness or our greed. God sent into the world a unique person — neither a philosopher nor a general, important though they are, but a Saviour, with the power to forgive ... It is my prayer that we might all find room in our lives for both the message of the angels at Christmas and for the sacrificial love of God through Christ our Lord."

Then, in her first ever Easter message, given at the height of the Coronavirus pandemic in 2020, the Queen encouraged all Britons to remember what the celebration was truly about. "The discovery of the risen Christ on the first Easter Day gave his followers new hope and fresh purpose, and we can all take heart from this."

The late evangelist Dr Billy Graham wrote of the Queen in his autobiography: "Her official position ... prevented her from openly endorsing our Crusade meetings.

But by welcoming us and having me preach on several occasions to the royal family at Windsor and Sandringham, she went out of her way to be quietly supportive of our mission." More recently the Archbishop of York said in his tribute to the Queen last year: "The Queen was not shy in speaking of her faith and the hope and strength she found in Jesus Christ. At the heart of the good news of God is that through the death and resurrection of his son Jesus, the promise of new and eternal life is offered to us all."



The Archbishop, Stephen Cottrell, continued: "This belief, this hope, sustained our Queen and as she rejoices in that promise fulfilled so we too can draw comfort and hope from it."

I am delighted to recall these references to the Queen's personal faith as a way of offering our parishioners a clear explanation of what Easter is all about. It is the very heart of the Christian faith and for those who truly embrace Christ who gave his life for the world and conquered death at his resurrection, knowing and

following him is life changing. Come and join us in our Easter worship, you will be most welcome.

As for the coronation of King Charles each of our villages plan to mark the historic event locally and I hope that you will join in those local celebrations. We shall be praying for our new King as he prepares to be



crowned and continue to do so in the years to come, that, as our Monarch he will in no way mimic his late mother's faith but discover its grace and power in greater abundance for himself and so grow in stature. God save the King. .

God bless,

John

<')))><

A Personal Memory of the last Coronation in 1953

John Roe

In 1953 Burton village was a much smaller place than it is today, and only aexcess of one ton. few of the post-war bungalows had been built: two at the far end of Dunstan Lane, and one on Neston Road. Most of the children attending the school lived in Puddington where there were many more agricultural workers in tied cottages as well as some Camp' Nissan huts in Chapel House Lane.

There was of course a school holiday on the day and for local residents the Gladstone Village Hall was at the centre of village celebrations.

At this time the drive in ramp was almost new having been cut with spades, picks, and shovels. Earth removal involved a tractor and trailer and the difficult part had been the loading and removal of one huge pebble-like boulder which was said to be well in

The Committee had hired three nine inch televisions [black and white only] which were put in the Hall corners, and the original wooden seats arranged around them. The whole of the BBC coronation transmission was shown, and villagers were free to come and go, viewing as their daily work routine temporary residents in the 'Home Farm allowed. Some of the old folk were there all day although refreshments did not feature until late afternoon.



This was very exciting as there were only three or four households with televisions installed at this time, and a few houses still did not have electricity.



Courtesy of Ruth Chesworth

Flags were flown at the Church, School, and GVH, and any householder who had flags hung them out of the bedroom windows.

There was also some improvisation such as my mother's red, white, and blue rag pendants stitched onto a tape which reached from the front bedroom window down to the front garden fence, and back up to next door's front bedroom window.

There were coloured picture posters in four of the five shop windows and some house windows displayed magazine cover coronation pictures especially produced for this purpose.

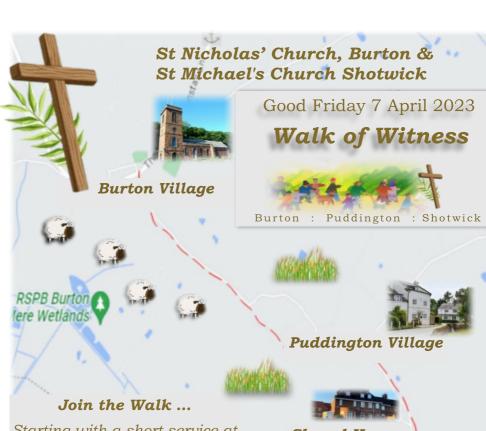
There were salad, cheese and tomato, and meat paste sandwiches, jelly and blancmange followed by an iced celebration cake with red white and blue decoration. We drank orange squash from coronation mugs which we took home afterwards.

We had some sports races for children, but I do not remember any parents' races on this occasion.

Later there was a sit down tea for the older grown ups in the GVH. The televisions had gone and the long trestle tables had been set up by 'strong men', and the younger ladies waited upon 'their seniors'. Vicar Tyndale presided and cut their cake.

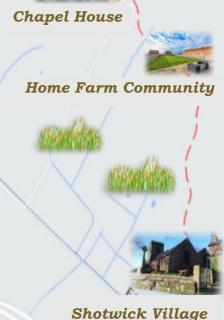
By today's standards these celebrations would be judged 'frugal and drab' with some food and clothing rationing still in force, and post war austerity still remembered. Nevertheless, it was a most joyful, happy, and memorable occasion.

In the afternoon there were school teaparties held at whichever school you attended. 'Burton Church of England Endowed School', as it was then called had not long become a junior school only, Mr H Kempton having been the recently appointed headmaster.



Starting with a short service at St Michael's Church at 2:00pm and walking through Shotwick Village and then across the fields to pick up the lane to take in the Home Farm Community and Chapel House, passing through Puddington Village then along the footpaths and lanes on to Burton Village, culminating with refreshments and a short service at St Nicholas' Church at 4:00pm

Meet at St Michael's Church in Shotwick at 1:45pm



FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Burton

Funeral 17 March

Keith Dodman

Interment of Ashes
11 February

Rita Eleanor Watkins

26 February Anthony Ronald Price

Shotwick

Funeral

2 March

Bettine Peachey Lowe

14 March

Joanna Margaret Brookes





Christian Aid Week 14 - 20 May

We are looking forward to our fundraising week which runs this year from 14-20 May.

During the week envelopes will be in church for donations to this humanitarian charity.

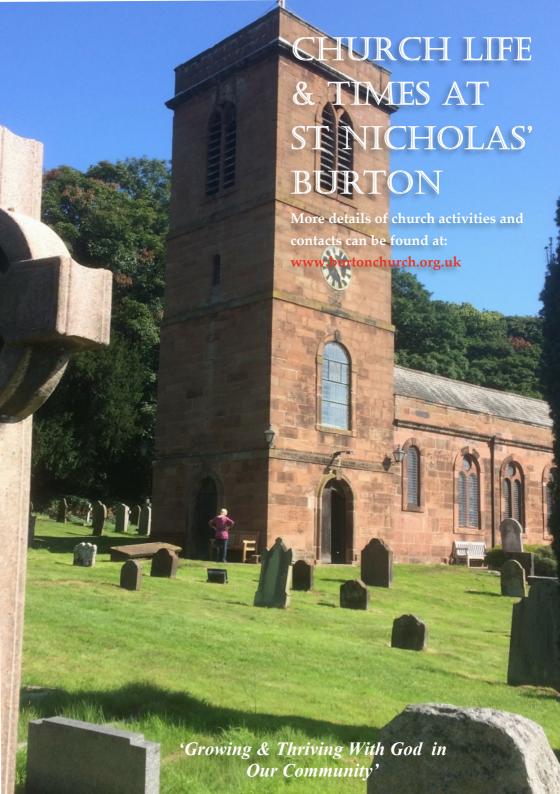
Funds are raised for emergency relief and for ongoing projects.

In the most recent emergency Christian Aid was already working in the earthquake zone in Syria so extra funds were available immediately to help those without shelter, food, and clothing. St Nicholas; Church raised £380 for this appeal.

An example of an ongoing project is the Big Pea Challenge. In Malawi farmers are transforming their livelihoods with the help of Christian Aid, by using the humble but mighty pigeon pea. This pea is a drought resistant, soil revitalising, high protein delicious crop. In Malawi food, fuel, fertiliser, and school fees have doubled in price in the last 12 months, add this to the climate crisis which has brought droughts, floods and storms, farmers are struggling.

Anything you could give to Christian Aid will be very much appreciated by those who have so little.

Thank You



A lot has been happening at Bishop Wilson CE Primary School

Just before half term our children in years 5 and 6 went to Loggerheads on residential where they did non-stop activities such as abseiling, night line, rocket building and caving!

Everyone had a fabulous time and came back ready for a week off school to recover from being so busy!

Our youngest children in Robins have been learning about travel and have been on lots of exciting experiences – they went to watch the Beluga take off, they had a trip on a plane at South Cheshire college, and they had a pilot who came in to talk to them.

We attended Church for our Mothers' Day service, and we are looking forward to the PTA Easter Egg Hunt!!!

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with what we are doing! Click Here

Suzanne Roberts

Head of School







St Nicholas' Church Major Initiative Appointment of a Children & Families Worker



Why do we need such a person?

There are a growing number of young families here, and we are all now very conscious of an increasingly troubled and fractious world, of which many children as well as adults are starting to despair. It is becoming increasingly important to have somewhere for our young children to get together and make friends, have fun, and at the same time learn the eternal value of kindness, love and hope. If we as a church don't take this initiative gladly, who else will?

Part of an Ongoing Programme

We already visit local schools each month with 'Open the Book' in which we act out bible stories at school assembly. These are greatly enjoyed by the children, as are the Messy Church meetings in the GVH. We urgently need regular help to develop these and similar events into a nucleus of parents and children who can enjoy getting together fairly regularly. This can then increase and become a valuable asset to the life of young families in our villages.

Financial Support From Church Members & Community Will Be Crucial

In money terms, the budget for someone to work about one and a half days a week, (with associated costs), is likely to be around £9,000 in each of the next three years. Thanks to the generosity of a number of people in our congregation, together with grants from two charities, over £6,000 a year has already been promised. This is wonderful, and very encouraging.

Please give serious consideration to the very important objective of the venture, and join those who are already contributing, so that we reach, or even exceed, the target. Please don't feel daunted; smaller contributions are as welcome as larger ones. They all add up and show your support.

At this stage, we are simply looking for promises of donations that we can rely on, so please contact myself or Bryan Blakeman, after you have had a chance to give it thought. (Donations can be boosted by 25% thanks to Gift Aid if you are a taxpayer.)

Just as importantly, please be sure to make the new families feel welcome, and if you can also spare a little time to help now and again, that would be really valuable.

Contact: Nigel Griffiths 0151 336 3621



Mothers' Union is a global Christian movement working with people of all faiths and none to develop communities, strengthen families and advocate for change.

We are a loving organisation open to anyone, and supportive of everyone. You don't have to have children, be married, be a woman, or be a churchgoer to join us. There are different ways to belong depending on what works best for you.

Find out more: Click Here

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 19 April at 2:00pm Members' Afternoon "Bring And Share A Favourite Memory"

Wednesday 17 May
Luncheon Outing.
(Time and venue to be arranged)

All Mothers' Union meetings are held in the Burton & Puddington Sports and Social Club unless otherwise stated. Please let us know in good time if you require transport to any of the meetings. For more information

Contact: Ann Rudd, Branch Leader 0151 336 6 1513

A personal message of 'thanks' from Geoffrey & Anne Parsons

Geoffrey and Anne wish to thank everyone for their kind thoughts and prayers which have given them so much comfort and strength recently during a difficult time.





I'm a Mothers'
Union member because it's a
grassroots organisation with
a global vision"

The Puddington Society

A Cheshire Village Community

Puddington: Burton: Shotwick: & Friends

Sunday 7 May - Puddington Village Green
Celebrating the Coronation of

King Charles III



Puddington Village has a long-standing tradition of celebrating Royal occasions and this year's coronation of HM King Charles III will be no exception.

On Sunday 7 May between 2pm and 6pm the village will be celebrating the occasion with a beautifully prepared buffet meal and live entertainment on the Village Green

Most Importantly ... Everyone is Invited!

For more information please contact Hazel Huxley 0151 336 2288



Local Area Amateur Photographs Wanted

Burton - Puddington - Shotwick

Some time ago we invited people to send in photographs that they had taken around the local area for use in the Parish Magazine and Community News, depicting the life and times of our villages.

We received some stunning photographs taken by several different people. It would be true to say that there is no lack of subject matter around the area to attract the interest of local photographers.

The photographs that we have on file have been used extensively in supporting articles covered in the magazine and we do try to use 'season appropriate' images to help illustrate various topics.

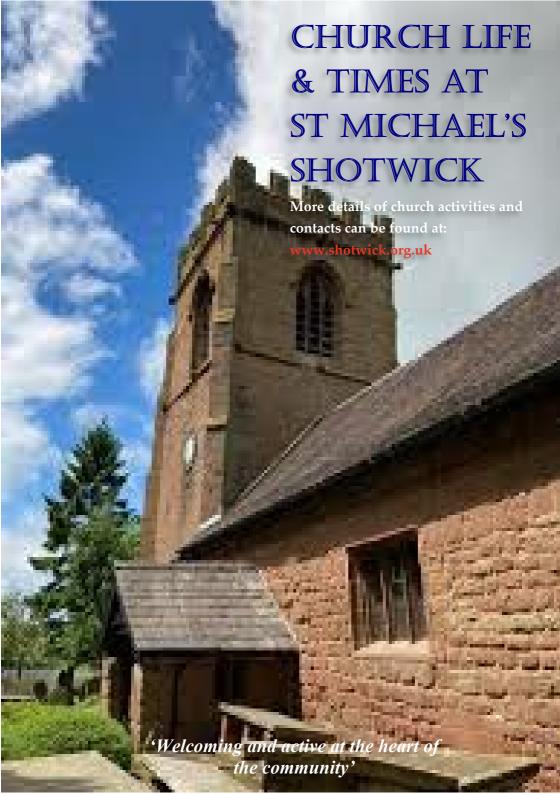
Now we would like a few more!

most welcome.

The magazine reaches nearly 400 individuals (and is passed on to quite a few more) and we would like to have a few more photographs from which to choose for inclusion in future editions. In particular, photographs that capture the essence of the landscape between Shotwick, Puddington and Burton would be

We can't promise to use every photograph sent in but we really would appreciate any shots that you may have, or would like to seek out, for possible inclusion.

Please send digital photographs via email to: burtonchurchcomms@btinternet.com





St Michael's Shotwick

Art & Craft Exhibition

19 - 21 May

In Shotwick we live in a beautiful and varied part of the world surrounded by amazing Countryside.

The Shotwick art and craft exhibition on 19-21 May provides an opportunity for local artists to exhibit and sell their paintings, photographs and crafts. This year's theme is Centred around the theme 'Small is Beautiful'. The maximum size for paintings is 40cm x 40cm Including the frame.



Julie Homer our 'Artist in Residence' will be with us and she will be arranging drawing classes for children.

The church and its exhibition will be open daily from Friday evening 19 May through to Sunday afternoon 21 May. Come along and view the exhibition, browse the works of art and enjoy refreshments of tea and home-made cakes.

There will be an Evensong Service in church at 4:00pm on Sunday 21 May.

If you would like to submit an entry for the exhibition or if you would like more details about the event please contact Jenny Sneddon.

icsned@gmail.com

Mid-Summer Concert

Harp Recital

Making a special return visit to Shotwick

Wednesday 21 June 7.30pm.

An evening Harp Recital by award winning harpist Bethan Griffiths.

Flintshire born Bethan, who has performed at venues in the UK, Europe and the USA, will present a delightful range of classical, traditional and popular music

Tickets £10 and on sale from Monday 10 April.

Book Early!

Contact Rosemary Taylor 07762 605126

St Michael's Shotwick





Friends of St Michael's Church Shotwick



Many people, either living in the parish or beyond, have a strong connection with St Michael's Church. Such people often have fond memories of services attended – weddings, funerals, or school events. Others, as visitors, have been enchanted by the quiet simplicity of the building, its history and its surroundings. It is a church for everyone, but the costs associated with its maintenance are considerable.

It is, therefore, becoming increasingly difficult for parishioners alone to shoulder the responsibility of maintaining the church. Costs include light and heat, building maintenance, the upkeep of the churchyard and repairing the sandstone walls. Simply keeping the church open and accessible for all who wish to see St Michael's continue to exist as a landmark and focal point on the local landscape is expensive.

'Friends of St Michael's Church' is a community of people who support St Michael's PCC in its wish to see the church preserved for the benefit of all who live and work in the parish. All funds raised by 'The Friends' are devoted to the maintenance, repair and upkeep of the fabric of the building and its churchyard. Any donation made in support of this cause will be very much appreciated. In order to make an impact on the cost of maintaining the church within what is a relatively small parish either a single annual gift of £50 or whatever you would like to give and/or a regular monthly donation of £5 or £10 might be a reasonable guide.

Continued...Friends of St Michael's Church Shotwick

Would You Like to Join 'The Friends'?

There are many benefits of being a 'Friend of St Michael's Church'.

Most importantly your generosity will help to keep the church building open and accessible for future generations.

Continued open daily access for visitors as well as the availability of the church for quiet reflection, weddings, and funerals.

- As a 'Friend' you will receive regular newsletters to keep you informed about the church building, its maintenance and upkeep as well as future fund-raising activities.
- Invitations to events organised by St Michael's Church including historic talks and visits to other places of interest.
- Invitation to attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to discuss your ongoing support for this historic building and churchyard.

If you would like to become a Friend of St Michael's' please send your details to:

The Friends Administrator
5 Burton Manor Gardens,
The Village, Burton,
Neston CH64 5AB
Or email jcsned@gmail.com

- Your Name
- Address
- Postcode
- Email Address



St Michael's Church Flower Decorations

St Michael's Shotwick



When everyone was in lockdown during the pandemic, St Michael's Church was only permitted to open twice a week for private prayer.

The normal altar flower rota was put on hold, and we used artificial silk flowers instead. As only essential shopping was deemed acceptable, this avoided the need to go out and look for fresh flowers at a time when they were very scarce and expensive. We also had to consider the fact that some of our arrangers were 'shielding' and therefore unable to come down to the Church.

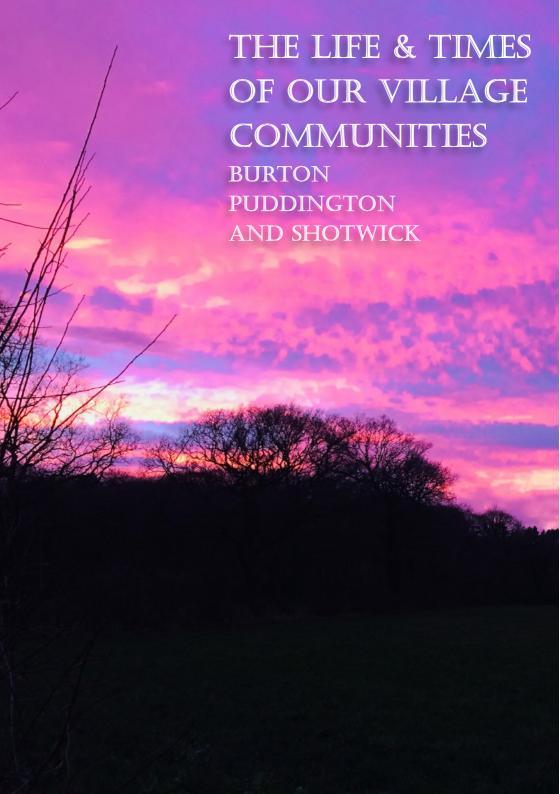


From this experience came the idea that if we had a selection of artificial arrangements, these could be used as an 'emergency back-up' at times when, through unforeseen circumstances, we would have been without fresh altar flowers. The arrangements have also been used to enhance other floral decorations in different parts of the Church, especially the windows and the font. This has helped to keep costs down.

Now, if anyone on our flower rota is unable to take their turn, even at short notice, they can contact the wardens who will make sure the altar is suitably decorated using the artificial arrangements. Although in no way are they considered to be a permanent replacement for the traditional fresh flowers, they



can provide a very cost-effective short-term solution. The flowers have been donated to the Church and chosen and arranged to reflect different seasons. It is planned to create additional displays as the year progresses.



Burton Residents' Association



RESPONSE TO BURTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION SURVEY

We had a wonderful response to our neighbourhood survey that we delivered over the Christmas period and we would like to say

Thank You to everyone who returned one and share with you a flavour of the responses.

It was lovely to see that one of the most frequent answers to "What do you like about Burton" was that people appreciate the friendly, neighbourly atmosphere here and the quiet location and countryside. The woods were the most mentioned rural asset. GVH, the social club, the children's playground, the bus stop book exchange and Hampstons Well were all mentioned. For a large number of people the Church is an important part

of living in Burton. Many remarked on the historic nature of the village and the local architecture and how important it is that they are maintained. There was also an appreciation of PCSO Linda Conway – and well deserved!

Not surprisingly the main dislike is traffic volume and speed, together with parking difficulties. This was mentioned in 65% of replies and even residents who have not been here for long mentioned how much things have deteriorated in this regard in recent years.



Other dislikes included the lack of a shop or bus route and no pavements.

Some are unhappy about influx of dog walkers who park selfishly and leave poo bags around.

Top of the list for "improving the quality of life" was dealing with the traffic and parking. Other wishes were for a shop, improved safety walking around the village through better lighting and pavements and an increase in social activities and general interactions between neighbours. Many feel that the youngsters of the village could do with more support and things to do.

The ideas for future development of Burton village mainly comprised dealing with the traffic and parking and restricting further development in the village, not just in terms of new housing but trying to ensure that modifications to houses are in keeping with the surroundings.

There was also a whole range of interesting and helpful suggestions, such as litter picking groups, maintenance of the verges, increase in volunteer groups, more social events and other ways for neighbours to meet up.

Please keep sending in your thoughts and ideas and please encouraging others to send us their contact details

Look out for our new notice board which is sited at the back of GVH.

http://burtonresidentsassociation.co.uk/index.html

If you have any queries or comments, please feel free to contact us on: chairman@burtonresidentsassociation.co.uk

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH – YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!

One of the key concerns from neighbours in our recent survey was the speed and volume of traffic through the village and so we have been in touch with our PCSO Linda Conway to see if we can increase the speed checks via the Community Speed Watch (CSW) scheme.

She has kindly offered to train up new recruits to CSW and would like any potential new volunteers to contact her directly either by email or her police mobile.

Linda.conway@cheshire.police.uk Mobile: 07824 609048



Briarfield

The Rake, Burton, Neston, CH64 5TL

Sunday 16 April 1 - 5pm

Adults £5 Children free



More information at ngs.org.uk







BRIARFIELD GARDENS

We would like to thank everyone who came along to the snowdrop festival and plant sales throughout February

We managed to beat our record and raise an amazing £3,673 for the National Garden Scheme charities with 471 visitors.

Thanks to all who made this possible. We really do appreciate it.

Our plant sale will be back Friday 7 April and our next open day is Sunday 16 April.

For more information Click Here

Ness Botanic Gardens 2023 Marks a Double Anniversary



2023 marks a very significant year. On 25 July, Ness turns 125 years old. The gardens were founded by plantsman Arthur Kilpin Bulley. The second important date and person in the gardens' history is Mr Bulley's daughter, Agnes Lois Bulley, who bequeathed the gardens to the University of Liverpool. The 26 November 2023 marks the 75th anniversary of Ness as a University botanic garden.



Our website gives a brief introduction to the history of Ness as:

"Arthur Kilpin Bulley, one of the greatest sponsors of plant collectors in the twentieth century, not only laid the foundations of Ness Botanic Gardens but changed the face of British gardening.

Born in 1861, Bulley developed an ardent fascination with plants particularly the hardier varieties and Alpine species. In 1898, Bulley bought farmland in Ness which he would go on to develop into a house and



gardens. The house still exists to this day as Mickwell Brow and now houses office spaces.

In 1948, Agnes Lois or just Lois as she preferred to be called, daughter of Arthur Bulley gifted the entire site to the University of Liverpool, after Arthur passed away peacefully in 1942."

If you would like to read a fuller history of Ness Gardens Click Here

As part of the celebrations, we will offer various events for both Members and non-members to enjoy through the year – visitors can look forward to free guided walks giving the perfect introduction to the gardens, the seasonal highlights and its history.

We are also planning a lecture covering the 125 year history of Ness Botanic Gardens in April and our very own Flower Show (with 6 categories to enter) in August. You will find further information and booking details as we release events **Click Here**

Friends of Hampstons Well

A very big **Thank You** to the Burton Residents' Association for the generous donation of £200 to aid the restoration work of the Friends group.

The chairman of BRA, Mark Watts, presented the chairman of FHW, Emlyn Jones, with a cheque on Saturday 4 March and commented:

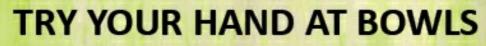
"It is a valuable amenity for the people of the village and beyond, it provides a link to the past and a place of peace and tranquillity for the present and future ... it needs continuing upkeep and work to maintain it ... it should be preserved for posterity."

FHW have regular community volunteer sessions on 1st Saturday and 3rd Thursday of each month 8.30 am until 12.30 pm (weather permitting) to carry out maintenance and restoration work.

If you would like to become involved with FHW or require further information please contact Barbara at:

friends of hamps to nswell burton@gmail.com





Sunday 23 April 2023

No Obligation Taster Session

1pm - Intro & Free Lesson

We'll supply all the equipment Please wear closed, flat-soled shoes

No sandals

2pm - Social Bowl

REGISTER

bowls@gladstonevillagehall.org or call 07597 051048

BURTON & PUDDINGTON BOWLS CLUB

At the Sports & Social Club behind Gladstone Village Hall in Burton

bowls.gladstonevillagehall.org or Facebook (BPBowls)





It's March at the food bank. The level of need for emergency food remains high but what's changing is the number of clients with entrenched financial problems. Perhaps this isn't surprising given the high rate of inflation that matches what many of us last saw in the 1980s.

For the less well off the headline rate of consumer price inflation of 10.1% is a fraction of what they see:

Food price inflation is running at 16.8% year according to the ONS. Food bank clients were typically already buying the cheapest food they could find, so have no scope to move down.

Energy price inflation is running at 26.8% per year even with the "£2500" Energy Price Guarantee. We see clients who have not been able to use their heating this winter.

Rents are rising as landlords pass on mortgage payment increases. I can't say what the inflation rate is at the lower end of the housing market, but a landlord's mortgage payments would increase by about 22% if they had to renew now, so that may give an idea of where rents are going.

These three costs form the bulk of lower income households' spending, while the ONS reports that average annual wage growth to January '23 is less than 6%.

Clearly these cold figures would lead Mr Micawber (Charles Dickens' 'David Copperfield') to declare a result more drastic than "misery", and they are driving more working families into the social safety net to supplement their income.

Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen six, result happiness.
Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds ought and six, result misery.

While the Spring 2023 budget increased the minimum wage and Universal Credit payments by about 10% in line with headline inflation the Jacob Rowntree Foundation calculates that the new social safety net falls short of the cost of essentials by at least 20%.

The Foundation and the Trussell Trust have started a campaign calling for an Essentials Guarantee within Universal Credit. You can read more about their research and the campaign at

https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/guarantee-ouressentials and at https://www.trusselltrust.org/getinvolved/campaigns/quarantee-our-essentials/ respectively.

The Foundation's research shows that 72% of the public support such a quarantee to alleviate in-work poverty. The campaign urges that majority to call on the UK Government to make that guarantee.

'I skip meals. The kids don't Sarah - a UK mother in 2020 #14millionPeople are living in poverty in the UK and struggle to afford to eat

This has been an unusual 'Tales From The

Foodbank' - less about food than about the causes of the need. This aligns with the foodbank's core value - we believe that there should be no need for foodbanks. This has driven the provision of the non-food services you've read about before like fuel vouchers and support from Citizen's Advice. But these services struggle to tackle the widened gap between income and expenditure.

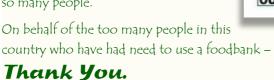
While your donations of food at most big supermarkets and food and money at

https://wirral.foodbank.org.uk/ https://westcheshire.foodbank.org.uk/

are needed as much as ever, your support for the campaign to Guarantee Our Essentials is also crucial.

https://www.trusselltrust.org/getinvolved/campaigns/guarantee-ouressentials/

As always, thank you for your support, especially when times are also difficult for so many people.





When

children are going without adequate food and clothing...

It's time to

GUARANTEE OUR ESSENTIALS



BURTON MERE WETLANDS It's starting to feel like Spring ...

This winter has been moderately dry and just as it seemed to be getting milder and the first avocets had arrived, on 23 February, we had yet another cold snap with snow and freezing conditions.

Temperatures seem to be on the up and we have enjoyed some sunnier days since.

So, it is starting to feel like Spring and our fabulous avocets are at a whopping 82 individuals so far! Their numbers are steadily increasing, and it won't be long before they have tiny fluffy chicks running around. Come and watch them from our cosy Visitor centre with a hot brew.

We have had record numbers of pink-footed geese at Burton Mere Wetlands with counts over 10,000 on the wet grassland. Sadly, the same cannot be said for the hen harrier and short-eared owls, with only 2/3 individuals seen of both around the Parkgate area on the saltmarsh.

Our marsh harrier pair are back and have been seen bringing nesting material into the reedbed and strangely on the exact same day as last year our first report of bittern came in on 8 March, photographed by a visitor from our Marsh Covert hide looking into the reedbed.

The wardens team as ever has been hard at it with a fantastic, dedicated team of volunteers including our current residential volunteer Bronwen, who will soon be tasked with warding the little tern area at our Point of Ayr site.

The team have been prepping for what we hope will be a busy breeding season. Maintaining the predator fence, prepping the lapwing nesting area, cutting back vegetation and we can't forget the great job the Welsh ponies did this year. They are used as a great conservation tool and for grazing the vegetation.





Avocet



Marsh Harrier



Bittern



Coltsfoot



Peacock Butterfly



Family Quiz Trail



Bínoculars & Telescopes Open Day 16 Apríl

The first signs of colour have appeared recently with keen visitors showing us photos of Coltsfoot, Creeping Buttercup and Lesser Celandine from around the reserve. These first flowering blooms are crucial in feeding those early insects that have just emerged. Some other sleeping beauties that have just started to emerge but not flowering yet are our bluebells. Around late April they will be a glorious purple haze across our Gorse Covert Woodland and usually a bit later to appear, they'll be up at the far end of the reserve on Burton Point.

Around the same time butterflies such as the peacock, small tortoiseshell, comma will emerge from hibernation, and we look forward to getting back to moth trapping. We hope to run our third National Moth trapping event in July after the last two years successes. The first butterfly of the season was spotted on 18 March, a brimstone.

There have been a few bumps in the road with our new café, but we have a new delivery date of 4 April. In the meantime we still offer a great range of sandwiches, sweet treats, hot drinks and with the warming weather a variety of tempting ice creams.

April will bring the Easter holidays so be sure to look out for our Family Quiz Trail. Don't forget we have binoculars to hire for the kids and adults along with a great range to purchase on the day with us.

If you're in need of help with new bird feeders, or nest boxes we can help. You will get free delivery when you order for home delivery and be helping your local reserve. We also have a 'Binoculars and Telescopes' open day coming up on 16 April.

For full details of our events see:

events.rspb.org.uk/deeestuary and to keep up to date with our blogs see rspb.org.uk/burtonmerewetlands.

Alternatively call us on 0151 353 2720.

Pictures courtesy of RSPB

In the Garden with Flori Bunda

Is Spring on Its Way?

At the time of writing - heavy snow fall. The scene is really beautiful. The various species of snowdrops were lovely, and the daffodils eagerly awaited. However, the Ribes (flowering currant) is flowering.



The white camellia is not showing any buds, but a lovely pink one is heavily in bud. So, with a minus temperature expected, it was 'fleeced'. Heavy snow was on top of the fleece so two people, suitably clad, removed same.

Hyacinths, previously in pots indoors, were subsequently planted in the border. They have survived the snow and their various colours are so pretty.

The brown hydrangea heads will be removed, and roses given a further light prune. The winter jasmine, after flowering, will also be pruned.



Some rhododendrons are still suffering following last summer's heat. A feed will be tried and they will be kept well-watered.

The sweet pea germination was superb and large seedlings are currently in the greenhouse. The seed trays have had a further clean and been filled with compost to warm prior to seeds being sown.

There have been many varieties of our feathered friends - blue, great, longtailed tits, one pied wagtail, blackbirds, a pair of nuthatches, Mrs Bullfinch, green/gold finches, a greater spotted woodpecker. No list would be complete without Robbie and Rosemary Robin!

Tasks to be getting on with in the weeks ahead:

- Take brown florets off hydrangeas
- Sow some seeds
- Prune Roses

Happy Gardening *Flori Bunda*



Car Theft... Don't Let Thieves Get an Easy Ride!

Follow these simple rules to help protect your vehicle.

Lock your vehicle

Locking your vehicle, even when filling up or parked on your drive, greatly reduces the possibility of it being targeted by an opportunist thief. Even if you have locked your vehicle, check you haven't left any windows or the sunroof open.

Keep your keys safe

Vehicles today are by and large more difficult to steal than ever unless the thief can access your key or fob to clone them. Keep your keys safe, out of view when at home, and away from your front door. It's not uncommon for car keys to be stolen from inside your home by thieves fishing for them with a stick and hook through the letterbox.

Keyless entry

Cars with keyless entry unlock automatically when the key comes within a short distance of the car.

Thieves only need to be within a few metres of your car key to capture the signal, even if it's inside your home. This means that even if your car and home are secure, thieves can still unlock, start, and steal your car.

How to protect your keyless entry car

- When at home keep your car key (and the spare) well away from the car
- Put the keys in a screened or signal-blocking pouch, such as a Faraday Bag
- Re-programme your keys if you buy a second-hand car
- Turn off wireless signals on your fob when it's not being used

Park responsibly

It's always advisable to avoid parking in dark and secluded areas. It's worth an extra five or ten-minute walk if it means your vehicle is left in a well-lit and busier street.

And if possible, always try to park in illuminated and staffed car parks or those with a Park Mark safer parking award.

PCSO Linda.conway@cheshire.police.uk Mobile: 07824



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Are You Having
Problems Getting to
Appointments?



Here's a Local Transport Solution

Ellesmere Port and Neston Community Transport (EP&N) provide affordable transport for the community including those with mobility problems.

Car Scheme

EP&N operates a 'door-to-door' service under the banner of Community Car Scheme in which volunteer drivers can drive EP&N adapted cars to transport clients from their homes to medical appointments, shopping, hairdressers, social appointments and then take them home again.

Locations

CH65, CH64, CH66

Journeys are not restricted to the Ellesmere Port and Neston areas, but are for Ellesmere Port and Neston area residents.

Contact 0151 355 3739 www.epncta.btck.co.uk

Several local residents have already used the service and one said:

"I have used them twice so far and payment is roughly the cost of the petrol. My return trip to Arrowe Park hospital was roughly £17.50 and when I asked if I could leave a tip it was declined but "if I wished to round it up" it would be gratefully received as any surplus would go into a general operation fund - my £20 was a fraction of the cost of a taxi."

Gladstone Village Hall Regular Groups & Societies



The Burton Society

1st Thursday of month, September – May 7.30pm

The Burton and Neston **Historical Society**

2nd Thurs of month, September – May 7.30pm

Theatre4all

Sundays 3pm-6pm Resident friendly community theatre group 11+ tuition for Year 4 children. 07969 040767

Burton Bridge Club

Mondays 7pm Hazel Huxley 0151 336 2288

The Mersey Morris Men

Practice sword dancing Wednesdays monthly at the Hall. No experience necessary and swords provided! Alan 01513 423615

Willaston Karate Club

Mondays (kids 6yrs+) and Wednesdays (kids & adults) 6.15pm Traditional JKA Shotokan Club 07903 743405

Yoga with Lorraine

Learn how to quieten your mind & improve strength, balance & flexibility Evening yoga - Tuesdays 07513 156168 Lorraineyoga@outlook.com

Chester Physio Pilates with Heather

Thursdays 7pm 07746 256786

Popcats with Claire

Tuesday Mornings Music and movement classes for 0-5s 07805 152842

Can-Do 11+

Tailor made structured programme to develop early study habits candollpluswirral@gmail.com

Meditation with Lesley of **Rebalance and Recharge**

Sundays 7.30-8.30pm 07873 351095

The Wooden Spoonful Cookery

Children's cookery sessions with Siobhan 4-11yrs 'baking treats, learning skills, and making friends' 07773 563885

Baby Bloom with Laura

A multi- sensory class for babies 6mth + Thursday morning sessions 07967 626345

Holistic therapy with Beth

Chair yoga for seniors - Monday Mornings She practices lomi lomi, no hands massage, aromatherapy, deep tissue reflexology, reiki and more 07799 155573

Gladstone Village Hall Regular Groups & Societies



CALL FOR SINGERS & MUSICIANS

Theatre4all

Nikki Ruscoe, the theatre's multi-talented musical director, is interested in starting up some new groups in our village hall on a weekday afternoon.

Are you a budding singer and over 50, and would like to join our choir?

Do you play an instrument and would want to join a village concert band?

Please get in touch via email at info@gladstonevillagehall.org

Events at Gladstone Village Hall

Tennis Open Day

Saturday 22 March 10:00am-noon

Bowls Taster Session

Sunday 23 April at 1:00pm

Coronation Big Picnic

Sunday 7 May

Burton Village Farmers Market and Dog Show

Saturday 3 June at 10am On the field Free entry

Meet the Neighbours

Friday 9 June at 6pm Joint event by Burton Residents' Association and GVH

Quiz Night

Third Friday of month 7.30pm 'til late In the Sports & Social Club £2 entry

Folk, Blues and Beyond

Last Friday of month 7.30pm 'til late In the Sports & Social Club £2 entry







DOG SHOW



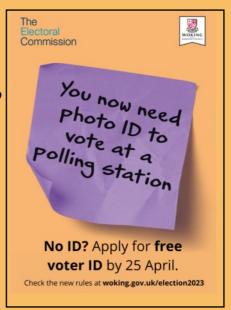


Elections - You'll Need VOTER ID

The UK Government has introduced a requirement for voters to show photo ID when voting at a polling station at some elections.

This new requirement will apply for the first time in England at the local elections on Thursday 4 May 2023. For accepted forms of ID Click Here.

If you don't already have an accepted form of photo ID, you can apply for a free voter ID document, known as a Voter Authority Certificate.



You can apply for this at voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk

or Click Here

Alternatively, you can complete a paper application form and send this to the electoral services team at your local council.

If you need any help with applying for a Voter Authority Certificate or want to request an application form, contact Democratic Services either by email: elreg@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Or by telephone, please call 01244 977084



LIBRARY NEWS

Did you know you can now borrow an iPad from your local library? We've just launched LiBS – our new Library iPad Borrowing Scheme. If you want to try out a tablet before buying one yourself or need it for job searching, learning new digital skills or keeping in touch with family and friends, we've got you covered.

You can borrow an iPad for six weeks, and they all come with data so you can get online even if you don't have internet at home. Each device comes with guides to help you get started, as well as a selection of our recommended





apps and websites. All you need to borrow one is your library card and a form of ID.

Ask at your local library to find out more.

Neston Library *Click Here*Parkgate Road, Neston, CH64 6QE
Monday, Thursday, and Friday:
10am - 1pm, 2pm - 5pm
Tuesday: 2pm - 6pm

Wednesday & Saturday: 10am - 1pm



Contact

email: libraries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Telephone: 0151 337 4670

Disabled access guide for Neston Library

Click Here

Autism friendly guide to joining and using Neston Library Click Here

Cheshire West & Chester Mobile Library

THE MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS BOTH **BURTON AND PUDDINGTON**

Cheshire West Mobile Library will be in Puddington from 10:40am to 11:00am and at the GVH in Burton from 11:10am to 11:50 oam on the following dates:

Friday 21 April

Friday 12 May

Friday 2 June



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To raise money for the Burton and Puddington Gladstone Village Hall, Guy Tilby is collecting large empty inkjet cartridges for recycling e.g. HP302 or similar. For each cartridge donated the GVH will receive €1.

Contact Guy at tilbyjohn349@qmail.com or call 0151 336 2339.





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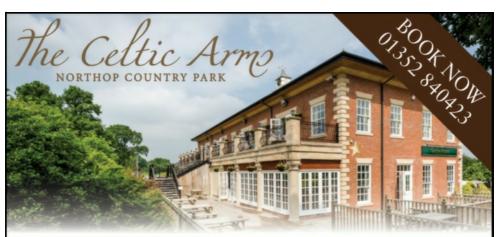
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Community & Society Information

THE PUDDINGTON SOCIETY

Sunday 7 May 2:00pm to 6:00pm -Village Green -King Charles III Coronation Celebration Lunch For more information please contact Hazel Huxley on 0151 336 2288

THE BURTON SOCIETY

Thursday 6 April The High Sheriff of Cheshire, Jeannie France-Hayhurst is coming to talk about her role.

This is the oldest secular office in the UK after the crown, dating from Saxon times Contact Renee Syme on 336-5852

BURTON & NESTON HISTORY SOCIETY

Thursday 13 April - 'The Rise of Tranmere'. Speaker: Mary Ward Thursday 11 May - 'The Pubs of Oxton'. Speaker: Robert Knowles. Gladstone Village Hall. Doors open from 7.45 pm, talks start at 8pm. If you haven't been to one of our meetings before, it is free on the first occasion. For more information please contact Robert Thrift on 0151 335 1771

BURTON WALKING GROUP

For more information please contact Gilly Mansfield 0151 336 4297

BURTON BRIDGE CLUB

Burton Bridge Club meets on Monday Evenings Gladstone Village Hall at 7:15pm to play Duplicate Bridge New experienced players always welcome, partners not always necessary For more information please contact Hazel Huxley on 0151 336 2288

BURTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Promoting & protecting the interest of Burton Village. Membership is open to all residents.

burtonresidentsassociation.co.uk

FRIENDS OF HAMPSTONS WELL

Friends of Hampstons Well brings together a community of people who care for and maintain this ancient site

For more information, please contact the Secretary at friendsofhampstonswellburton@gmail.com

FRIENDS OF BURTON MANOR GARDENS

For more information please contact 0151 336 6154 or email burtonmanorgardens@gmail.com

The Parish Magazine is published by the PCCs of St Nicholas' Church, Burton-in-Wirral. and St Michael's Church, Shotwick.

Publication is made possible through the contributions and donations of members of both churches, Friends of St Nicholas' Church, and Friends of St Michael's Church, as well as residents, advertisers and other members of the public. Neither PCC is responsible for the content or claims of advertisers nor do they warrant or endorse any such content. Consequently no warranties or endorsements should be inferred. The PCCs and editorial team retain the right to edit items submitted for publication. The editorial team's decision is final.

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

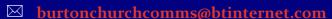
This magazine is published bi-monthly, six times a year.

It is distributed to residents in the villages of Burton, Shotwick and Puddington and to others.

In addition the magazine is available on the St Nicholas' Church and St Michael:s Church websites

To discuss opportunities to advertise here contact





St Nicholas' Church, Burton-in-Wirral is a Registered Charity No. 1184831 St Michael's Church also has charitable status as part of the Church of England

