

The Bell

Tushingam, Macefen & Bradley Parish Magazine



JUNE / JULY
2020

Welcome

Hello everyone. Here comes summer! Not quite the one we all had planned, but I hope you are keeping safe and well, and enjoying the fresh air if and when you can. Thank you to those who have contributed items for this current issue of *The Bell*, and to the team of volunteers who safely and carefully delivered our April/May magazine to your letterboxes. Our community is full of caring folk, and now is a time that we appreciate this more than ever.

Looking ahead, if you have any ideas for our August/September issue, please send them in by 17th July – interesting news, articles, photos, poems or stories (from adults or children) are always very welcome.

Take care, Juliet

01948 820343; juliethelen@yahoo.com

Local contacts

Parish Chairman, David Young OBE

01948 861461; young.dn@btinternet.com

Ward Councillor, Rachel Williams

01948 860627; rachel.williams@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Eddisbury MP, Edward Timpson

01829 733243; edward.timpson.mp@parliament.uk

Local police, PCSO Jon Hurst

Calls to 101 (non-urgent); jonathan.hurst@cheshire.pnn.police.uk



Cheshire West
and Chester

Report It

To report any Council-related issues (e.g., potholes, litter, highways), and receive an enquiry number to track progress, visit:

www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/contact-us/report-it/report-it.aspx

Alternatively, you can use the reporting App, and log a report in four simple steps:

- 1) Pinpoint the location on the map;
- 2) Take a photo of the fault;
- 3) Select a category and provide more information;
- 4) Submit

Search for 'Cheshire West and Chester' in your Apple/android app store.

News and information

NHS 111 online coronavirus service: 111.nhs.uk/covid-19/

The NHS 111 online coronavirus service allows people to check if they have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). Anyone can visit 111.nhs.uk/COVID-19/, answer a few questions about their symptoms, and find out what to do next. Only **call 111** if you cannot get help online.

Information from digital.NHS.uk (12 May 2020)

Council launches support helpline – 0300 123 7031

An emergency response line for people living in West Cheshire has been launched to support those vulnerable groups at higher risk from serious complications as a result of COVID-19 infection.

The dedicated helpline runs 7 days a week from 8 am to 7 pm, providing advice and support and, where necessary, arranging food, medicines and social contact. You can also email: enquiries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk.

Mental health helpline – 0300 303 3972

Local NHS Trust, Cheshire and Wirral Partnership (CWP), has launched a new mental health helpline for residents of Cheshire West, Cheshire East and Wirral. Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, it is available to people of all ages who need urgent mental health support, including children and young people.

'Live Well' website

Live Well is a dynamic website that is the central point for the collation of all services and community organisations and groups in Cheshire West, providing vital information to people during this challenging time.

<https://livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/Categories/4854>

Cheshire and Warrington Growth Hub is working to supporting businesses in a range of ways. Find out more about the grants available to businesses impacted by COVID-19 at: <http://candwgrowthhub.co.uk/covid-19/>

The Parish has also been made aware of many financial schemes for community organisations currently undergoing hardship. If you would like details forwarded, please e-mail me at juliethelen@yahoo.com.

TM&B Parish Meeting

Unsurprisingly there is nothing to report in lockdown from the Parish. All Council highways works have been temporarily postponed and I presume that this includes the clearing of the asbestos roofing (reported by me) that some idiot fly-tipped on the Bradley Lane layby weeks ago. No news either from the Golden Jubilee Committee. I presume by now that everyone has established a lockdown rhythm and I hope that you are all remaining sane, but, if anyone is struggling and needs help, please just ask.

David Young OBE, Chairman

01948 861461

The **Malpas Community Links** operation is well established with 90 registered volunteers delivering food parcels across the whole of the Malpas Ward to residents who are self-isolating and have asked for help. In partnership with other local groups (including No Man's Heath), they are collecting / delivering medical prescriptions to residents from Malpas Surgery and Well Pharmacy.

Tel: Cathy (07808 772215), Chris (01948 860333), Rachel (01948 860627)
E-mail: editor@malpascheshire.org; Web: <https://www.malpascheshire.org/community-links/coronavirus-covid19-information-malpas-community-links.html>



Home Watch To join our local community scheme, please visit cheshire.ourwatch.org.uk or contact coordinator Steve Egan to register for selected updates: steven.egan@bentley.co.uk.

A message from Steve, *“There have been a number of public offences a little too close to our Parish for comfort (in particular, criminal damage at Cheshire Wildlife Trust in Bickley). Please stay vigilant, report anything suspicious and do reach out if you or someone you know needs neighbourly support during this very challenging period. Please stay safe, and stay in touch if you need anything.”*

SCAM ALERT! Action Fraud reports are up compared to the same period last year. It is very important to remain in control of your finances and be on guard in relation to scams / scammers, online or otherwise.

Locally, there have been reports of a male in a white Citroen van falsely distributing and collecting Age UK bags (Age UK are not collecting at present). If you know of any such activity in your area, please report it to the police.

Police Community Support



Police Community Support Officer for Tattenhall and Malpas

PCSO 20398 Jonathan Hurst

E-mail: jonathan.hurst@cheshire.pnn.police.uk



Beat Manager Rural South

PC 5744 Steve Gardner

E-mail: stephen.gardner@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Dragon Hall Police Station, Whitchurch Road, Chowley, Tattenhall CH3 9DU

Facebook: Tattenhall & Malpas Police; **Twitter:** ThallMalpasPol

Web: www.cheshire.police.uk/tattenhall-malpas; **Tel:** 101 (non-emergency)

We want our local communities to know that we are here to help. Are you self-isolating? Do you know of an elderly/vulnerable person? Please do not hesitate to call your local PCSO, Jon Hurst, on **07989 653 144**, 8 am–8 pm.



A message from our local policing teams

It is very much business as usual for the Dragon Hall Team, albeit in a different form. Due to social distancing, much of what we would have done face-to-face is now being carried out by phone or e-mail. High visibility patrolling continues to be carried out around the Farndon, Tattenhall and Malpas Wards.

For the most up-to-date advice on the daily changing situation log on to the GOV.UK website. Keep safe and follow the advice given.

Surgeries and meetings

Due to COVID-19, pre-scheduled police surgeries and meetings in Farndon, Tattenhall and Malpas have been cancelled for the foreseeable future.

However, we understand that there are times when you would appreciate being able to report directly at a police station. Officers from Chester LPU will be available to speak about local issues from 4–5 pm, Monday to Friday at Dragon Hall Police Station.

At all other times you can contact your local PC and PCSO by e-mail, online at <https://www.cheshire.police.uk>, by leaving a message on the 101 non-emergency number (999 for emergencies only); or direct mobile (see above).

There are also weekly live Twitter sessions where you can chat to an officer who can deal with enquiries and arrange for them to be actioned.



St Chad's Church news

Whilst all churches remain shut, you may wish to join in with the online services from Bunbury. Including hymns, readings and prayers, the 30-min services are broadcast on **YouTube** at 10.30 am each Sunday; or can be viewed at any later time. There is also a 10-min Kid's Church broadcast.

Search 'Bunbury Church Online' or 'Kid's Bunbury Online'

Wednesday Wave of Prayer

Revd Helen Molesworth (curate at St Oswald's, Malpas) has been in touch about a new prayer initiative, the 'Wednesday Wave of Prayer'. She says, "On Wednesday morning we pause in our homes for a time of prayer from 10–10.30 am. There is an optional Order of Service that can be followed, and a suggested Bible reading and matters for prayer each week. People may also send in prayer requests. Although we spend this time individually in our own homes, there is a wonderful spirit of unity and fellowship in knowing that others are praying alongside us at the same time. To take part, or send in a prayer request, please e-mail: revdhelenmolesworth@gmail.com".

A note from The Treasurer at St Chad's, Tushingham

We have now had eight Sundays without a service at St Chad's, and no services over Easter. Added to that, we have lost our fundraising events like the Bluebell Walk and our 'Coffee and Shops'. The Church finances are taking a knock as we still have to pay our dues to the Diocese, who in turn fund our clergy's salaries.

I thought that I would give out the Bank details of our St Chad's Church, Tushingham, so that those who feel so motivated could send a donation either direct to our Church account or to myself. This would help us at this difficult time, and would be gratefully received. Alternatively, if anyone feels that they would like to complete a Standing Order in favour of our Church, I will be happy to send the form to complete (either by e-mail or post).

The Bank details are : Tushingham PCC; sort code 55-81-16; a/c no. 01366084

Many thanks, keep well,

Andrew Dawson (Tushingham PCC Treasurer)

Bickley Wood, Malpas, SY14 8EE; Tel. 01948 820305 / 0743 607 2278

Letter from Revd Canon Ian Davenport, Rural Dean of Malpas

Dear All,

The weeks are going by in the very sad times that we are all living in. So many are hurting and anxious and my prayers are with you all. Out of the tragedy that has touched the whole world there have been so many stories of hope and new life, none more so than the wonderful sense of community spirit that shines through again and again. This was all brought together for me in the special walk all round his garden of Captain, now Hon Colonel, Tom. What a tremendous gift to us all not only in the wonderful amount of money raised to help others but also in the encouragement and inspiration to us in these dark days. He was just like a bright light of hope moving around his garden and, for that, everyone could join in and thank him as he celebrated his 100th birthday. So many are lighting up others' lives with so many kind acts of care and concern.

One of my beacons of light and hope is the Bible. I have been using Psalm 46 as my main guide in these days. It begins with "God is our strength and refuge a very present help in trouble". The key words for me are strength and refuge. I hope that you find, like me, that inner strength and fortitude not only in the help of others but in prayer and quiet times which we can all have in our homes and, if we are fortunate enough to be able to go out, in the fresh air of our lovely part of Cheshire. This is the Good News of The Gospel.

For all of us in Chester Diocese we have good news to celebrate in the appointment of Bishop Mark Tanner (at present Bishop of Berwick in Newcastle Diocese and one time curate of St Mary's Upton, Wirral) as the next Bishop of Chester. Please do pray for Bishop Mark and Lindsay his wife and their family as they prepare to move to Chester. We are not sure when Bishop Mark will start his ministry with us but we hope that it will not be too long.

I bring this letter to you with dear Revd Veronica and Nigel and their family in our prayers. May God bless them and you all.

In His Name and His service,

Ian

Church Wardens

Mr P Moore Dutton

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Marbury, Tushingam and Whitewell benefice website: www.parishmag.org

Bradley Independent Congregational Chapel

A Little History. Part 1.

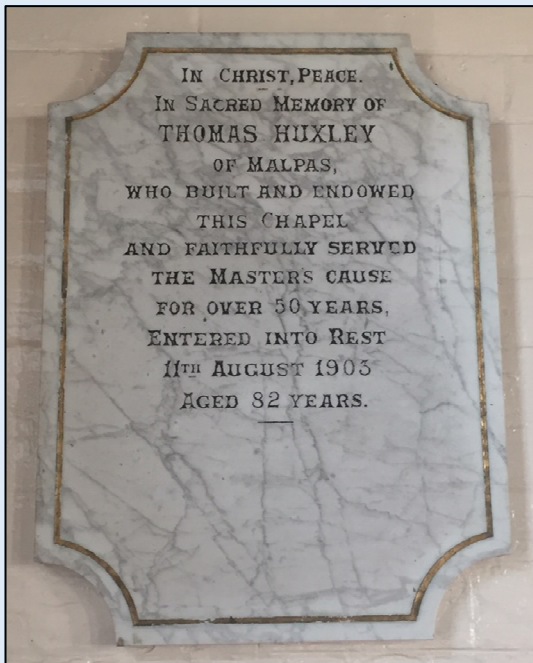
During the nineteenth century, as John and Charles Wesley's Methodism continued to increase in popularity, there was a corresponding growth in the building of Chapels throughout England and Wales.

The appeal of Methodism lay in its unstructured approach to worship, together with inspirational hymn-singing.

A Congregational Chapel was built in Malpas in 1862, followed by the Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist Chapels in 1892 and 1894.

By the 1870s, Bradley had a sizeable group of worshippers who met at Brook House, the home of Thomas and Jane Crump (my great-great-grandparents), so when an offer came from Thomas Huxley, a Malpas builder, to fund the building of a Chapel in Bradley, it was gratefully accepted.

He had already built chapels in Norbury, Wollerton, Whixall, Thrapwood, Hampton Heath, Barton, Farndon and Lavister and Bradley, his last, was opened in 1891. Following his death in 1903, a Memorial Plaque was installed in chapel.



Liz Jones

01948 860079

jones@bradley.f9.co.uk

Next time: Acquiring land to build the Chapel.

A letter from Mike Valentine, Hon. Pastor, Bradley Chapel

As with all other Chapels and Churches, Bradley Chapel has had to suspend all services with as yet no clear idea of when we can reopen.

The similarity with 1939 has not been lost, especially in the build-up to the Commemoration of VE Day. Across our United Kingdom an overwhelming majority of all people have pulled together, determined to defeat the common enemy.



And yes, as usually happens in wartime, there are always some who either think that regulations apply to everyone else but themselves – or that they can be exploited – or both! One thought shared with me is that in this area especially, whilst all age-groups have cared well for each other, our younger people have been seen to set a superb example to most of us older folk.

So have we all learnt from this lockdown experience? PERHAPS the real test is yet to come! With a thought of John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, we all may well have climbed the 'Long and winding road' to reach Coronavirus Peak – but what happens when self interests begin to compete in the scramble downwards? How together will we be in some hoped-for semblance of 'normality' – whatever that may become?

Our hope has to be that kindness, help and support, shared across our neighbourhood through these difficult times, have built upon a lasting flame of community spirit. Are we prepared to make sure that this bright light still shines in the times ahead?

Go well.

*"Life is mostly froth and bubble.
Two things stand like stone.
Kindness in another's trouble
and courage in your own."*



From Mrs Shephard's April/May newsletters:

I hope you and your family and friends are all keeping well and positive in these challenging times. We have received so many messages of gratitude for the packs sent home with children when School closed, and for the continuing home-learning activities prepared for each child by their teacher. Almost every child has accessed the home learning activities planned by their class teachers. I know you will have followed the recent announcements about schools reopening, and will be anxious to know how this will happen at Tushingham. Details will be communicated in due course, however we ask that you bear with us as there is a huge amount of planning and preparation to do. The health and welfare of all our School community is our highest priority. In the meantime, I send my very best wishes and sincere thanks for your messages of support and kind words.

To read all newsletters in full visit: www.tushingham.cheshire.dbprimary.com

Rural ramblings... with Grandpa

Has anything really exciting ever happened around here?

Why, yes, of course. In July, a few years ago, probably one of the greatest disappearing acts of all time.

REALLY? I bet it was that magician, Paul Daniels...

Well, no, the year was 1657, Oliver Cromwell was still ruling the country. It was Wednesday the 8th July, a perfectly ordinary summer afternoon. At about 3 o' clock, there was, without any warning, "a roar like thunder or well-laden cannon-fire". For a while no one could understand what could have been responsible for such a noise.

In the corner of a field, on the boundary between Tushingham and Bickley, there stood a small hill. "On this rise of land stood several goodly oaks which were 10 yards high on the body before you come to the branch". This hill and its oak trees had simply 'disappeared'. All that remained was a huge hole in the ground.

No one dared approach this chasm. Maybe it was the work of the Devil down there in the depths of hell. Eventually people did venture closer. What they saw was "so deep a water that even the tops of the oaks are not to be seen".

For quite some time after the incident, people came from far and wide to see what has become known as, Barrel Fall or Barhill Fall.



Cheshire Wildlife Trust

Announcing a new patron

Cheshire Wildlife Trust is delighted to announce that Richard Walker, Managing Director of Iceland Foods, is the new patron of the charity.

Iceland is one of the UK's leading food retailers, with protecting the environment at the heart of its values.

Charlotte Harris, Chief Executive of Cheshire Wildlife Trust says, "We're really pleased to welcome Richard as our new Patron for the Trust. It's really exciting to have somebody with a high profile who can help us achieve our objectives and is passionate about nature and the environment."



Richard Walker says "I was thrilled to receive the invitation to become Patron of Cheshire Wildlife Trust, and absolutely delighted to accept it. It is clearly a great honour to be offered a position previously held by the late Duke of Westminster, and I realise that I have very big shoes to fill.

"I am passionate about protecting the natural world and naturally feel a particular attachment to the wonderful Cheshire countryside and wildlife on my own doorstep. My family and I spend as much time outdoors as we can, and we have seen for ourselves and fully appreciate the great work that the Trust is doing.

"I look forward to supporting the Trust in furthering its Mission and I hope to be able to contribute to its important work not just as a figurehead and ambassador, but by offering real practical help to advance its agenda. I very much look forward to getting to know and working with the whole of the Cheshire Wildlife Trust team."

Top tip from a local lady...



As we have all been doing so much walking and gardening, perhaps it is the time for a manicure and a pedicure? Take in the palm of your hand a few drops of olive oil and ¼ teaspoon of coarse sugar. Rub this in both hands for 5 minutes, after which your skin will feel like silk. Repeat the process for your feet.