

The Bell

Tushingam, Macefen & Bradley Parish Magazine



DECEMBER / JANUARY
2019–2020

Welcome

Time flies, and here we are at issue no. 2 – and one which will take us into the New Year of 2020. We have gone to press a little early, hoping that we can reach homes before the many events advertised for early December.

Thanks to all those who have shown interest in this new venture, sending in a great variety of content for these winter pages and showing what a diverse and active community we are. Thanks also to the many distributors of *The Bell*, who braved rain and floods to reach the 120+ letterboxes of TM&B.

Our next issue will be for February/March (any contributions by 15th January, please), and don't forget the Parish Meeting on 3rd February, when you can have your say on the future of the magazine, as well as the Meeting itself.

Warm wishes, 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, Antoinette Sandbach
01606 861300; antoinette.sandbach.mp@parliament.uk

Local police, PCSO Jon Hurst
Calls to 101 (non-urgent); jonathan.hurst@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

NHS Out-of-hours 111
For out-of-hours medical attention, call 111 (NHS Freephone); lines open 24/7



Cheshire West
and Chester

Report It

To report any Council-related issues directly (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



What's on?

November

- 30 **Tushingham Christmas Market, St Chad's Church**
Saturday, 10 am–3 pm; Free entry
Local craft stalls, hot food, children's school choir, and Father Christmas!

December

- 1 **Christingle Service, St Chad's Church**
Sunday, 5pm
All are welcome to this family event
- 1 **'Carols and Lessons', Bradley Chapel**
Sunday, 2.30 pm
Led by Bradley Hon Pastor, Mike Valentine; Soprano soloist, Rachel Tuft
- 6 **Christmas Fair, Tushingham Primary School**
Friday, 3.15–5 pm.
Stalls, refreshments, raffle, tombola and Father Christmas!
All are welcome.
- 9 **Malpas Parish Council Meeting, Jubilee Hall, Malpas**
Monday, 7 pm
- 22 **Carol Service, St Chad's Church**
Sunday, 4 pm
Followed by mince pies and tea/coffee
- 24 **Crib Service, St Chad's Church**
Tuesday, 3 pm

February

- 3 **Tushingham, Macefen & Bradley Parish Meeting, Bradley Chapel**
Monday, 7 pm
Everyone welcome



TM&B Parish Meeting

I hope you are finding *The Bell* a useful vehicle to share news amongst our community. The intention is for the Parish to continue funding the costs of its printing (to be voted on at the next meeting) and I am extremely grateful to Juliet and the team of distributors for giving their time to it so generously. For those of you with businesses within the Parish boundaries we would be delighted to hear from you with free advertorials that are primarily informative about your sector with a gentle sell of your goods or services.

As far as Parish business is concerned the main ongoing unresolved issue is the one of **better broadband**. I am sad to report that we have still not secured viable numbers for the full scheme with ITS to go ahead, so I am not pursuing this line of development any further. Despite my call to action earlier this year and a further marketing push by ITS over the summer months, it transpires that only 11 of the orders actually have line of sight to their potential mast site – and ITS needed this to be nearer 25! ITS now say that they will try to deliver as many of these orders as they can by collaborating on an existing mast site provided by another company called Airband, and they intend to communicate directly with these 11 households. I have found this whole process extremely frustrating and rather unimpressive. I will keep up the pressure with the Connecting Cheshire programme but I suspect that securing public funding for a full fibre deployment is the only way forward.

On the political front, the national saga continues as we prepare for another general election, which I hope will end the parliamentary chaos. At the local level our MP, Antoinette Sandbach, has suffered a vote of no-confidence from her Conservative Party, and has surprisingly decided to represent us now as a Liberal Democrat. At the dizzy Parish level, sadly, our Treasurer Brad Beazley is leaving the County, so all three posts of Chairman, Treasurer and Clerk now need filling. If you want the Meeting to continue in its current format, volunteers are still needed as replacements. **The next meeting is on 3rd February at Bradley Chapel**, so please let me know if you have any issues to discuss. In the meantime, I hope you all have a fabulous festive season.

David Young OBE, Chairman
01948 861461

Police Community Support



Our local Police Community Support Officer
PCSO 20398 Jonathan Hurst

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

Tel: 101 (non-emergency number)

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

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

Web: www.cheshire.police.uk/tattenhall-malpas

After nearly 5 years as Beat Manager, PC Ged Gigg has moved to join the newly formed Rural Crime Unit, part of which will be based at Dragon Hall.

***PC Steve Gardner** is taking his place, joining the rural team as **Beat Manager Rural South**. PC Gardner has over 24 years of policing experience, with the past 6 years being with Cheshire Police. He has worked in Widnes, Chester and most recently as Beat Manager in Frodsham and Helsby.*

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



Local Police Surgeries

3 December, 11 am–12 pm, *Old Fire Station Café, Malpas*

6 December, 2–3 pm, *Dragon Hall Police Station, Chowley*

9 December, 7 pm, *Jubilee Hall, Malpas (Parish Council Meeting)*

14 December, 4–5 pm, *Dragon Hall Police Station, Chowley*

19 & 30 December, 3–4 pm, *Dragon Hall Police Station, Chowley*



Home Watch

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

Be Alert: please take extra care with home security following the continued theft of equipment from outbuildings, as well as central heating oil from home storage tanks (an arrest has been made).



St Chad's Church newsletter

A December love story...

Two thousand years ago, we are told, a star appeared in the East. Certain wise men understood this to mean that a baby had been born who was to be King over all the world. What was that star? Was it a comet? We don't know, but stars then and today, have always been considered lights to steer by...

The story goes that these wise men were guided to Bethlehem, to one who was to be called the Light of the World. A wealth of myths and legends, songs and stories have grown around this biblical narrative – the majority of us grow up with its images; in fact the story leading up to the birth of the child and his revelation to the world, from Advent to Epiphany, are a kind of super-history.

Whatever the precise historic details of what happened all those centuries ago, and however much scholars, believers or agnostics vary in their opinions, this story still speaks powerfully and truthfully to us today. Saints, poets and great thinkers from age to age have expressed their insights for us to explore and think on; inspiring us as we tell the exquisite story of God's love for his people.

'There appeared a man named John, sent from God; he came as a witness to testify to the Light, that all might become believers through him. John was not the light; he came to bear witness to the Light. The real Light, which enlightens every man, was coming into the world. He was in the world, but the world, though it owed its being to him, did not recognise him. He entered his own realm, and his own would not receive him. But to all who did, to those, he gave the right to become Children of God. So the Word became flesh, he came to dwell among us, and we saw his glory, such befits the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.' (based on John 1: 6-14)

This tale of the past unlocks the meaning of now... and the future.
A story of love, worth telling again and again.

Christmas Blessings to one and all.

Rev Veronica x

Rev Veronica Green The Vicarage, Marbury
Tel: 01948 663758; e-mail: Veronicarom838@aol.com
Please try to avoid contacting Veronica on Mondays. Thank you.

Services at St Chad's

Sunday 1 December (Advent)	5.00 pm	<i>Christingle Service</i>
Sunday 8 December	9.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 15 December	9.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 22 December	4.00 pm	<i>Carol Service</i>
<i>Christmas Eve</i>	3.00 pm	<i>Crib Service</i>
<i>Christmas Day</i>	9.00 am	Family Christmas Communion
Sunday 29 December	11.00 am	United Songs of Praise

Sunday 5 January	7.00 pm	'Worship @ 7'
Sunday 12 January	9.00 am	Service of the Word
Sunday 19 January	9.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 26 January	11.00 am	Service of the Word, <i>Jeremy Hunns</i>
More details to follow...	4.30-6 pm	Crazy Church @ Chads

In memory of... The autumn season saw once again the passing of two wonderful ladies from our community, Mrs Joan Ackerley and Mrs Anne Lowe. Anne was once caretaker of Tushingham School and lived for a short time in School House, eventually residing at Bell Farm. Joan of course was the sub-Postmistress at No Man's Heath, serving the local community in the Post Office and newsagents for 27 years. Both will be so sadly missed by family, community and church. May they both rest in peace...x

Baptismal blessings to Jacob Derek Davies baptised at St Chad's on 24 November. *'May the Light of Christ shine in your life, Jacob'.*

Church Wardens

Mr P Moore Dutton

Tel: 1948 664292 / 07970417772

E-mail: peter@moore-dutton.co.uk

Mr A Dawson

Tel: 01948 820305 / 07436072278

E-mail: a_l_dawson@hotmail.com

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



Bradley Independent Congregational Chapel

CAROLS and LESSONS

SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER 2019

AFTERNOON SERVICE AT 2.30PM

Led by Bradley Hon. Pastor
MIKE VALENTINE

Organist: GWEN REEVES

Soprano soloist: RACHEL TUFT

Rural ramblings... from Grandpa

"I hate Macefen!"

"What?! You hate the area?"

"Oh no! It's a superb spot – on the top of the ridge. The views are spectacular – 30 miles across the Cheshire Plain to the Pennines, 30 miles across the Dee Valley to the Berwyns and south across Shropshire to the Wrekin. Magnificent views."

"So what do you hate about Macefen then?"

"It's the name. Well not really the name – it's the spelling."

"M-A-C-E-F-E-N – what's so bad about that?"

"Over the years I've been asked by strangers to direct them to addresses in Mac-eefen, Mac-aafen, Maccy-fen... You see it's really a Welsh word, Maesfen, that sadly has been anglicised. 'Maes' is a field, and 'fen' or 'ffin' means border or boundary. Some historians believe that in Saxon times the English/Welsh border ran in a line that passed through Maesffin to Terrffin (Tarvin). I think Maesfen is great but Macefen is awful. It just mithers me, that's all!"

"Pardon?"

Yoga, Karma, & Action for Everyone...

I am a Nurse who lives in Bradley and works in the NHS in Whitchurch. I'm also a Yoga Teacher, so I just wanted to write a little piece about the benefits of Yoga for our minds and bodies in the 21st Century.

As many of you will realise, when the body and mind are constantly overworked, their natural efficiency diminishes. With our modern social lives, the processed food we eat, our work and even entertainment (screens!) make it difficult for people to relax. Many have forgotten that nature's way of recharging and healing are rest and relaxation.

Even when trying to rest, the average person still expends a lot of physical and mental energy through tension. Yoga will help you learn how to rest and relax properly and not only for the body but also for the mind and soul. It will help to relieve this tension.

Yoga involves Pranayama (the science of breath control) and Asanas (physical Yoga postures). Asanas and Pranayama are tools for gaining control of your mind via proper breathing.

Some of the simple Yoga poses are easy and perfect for giving the body essential daily exercise and strength. With simple Yogic breathing exercises our lungs are given an essential workout too without going for a five-mile run!

Regular Yoga practice creates mental clarity and calmness; increases body awareness; relieves chronic stress patterns as well as relaxing the mind and sharpening the concentration. Metabolism can often be improved and some postures stimulate literally every cell in the whole body.

Many of the stretches done in Yoga relieve stress held in the shoulder and neck area of the body. Yoga stimulates the Lymphatic System and can improve your memory, relieve stress and pain in your back and joints and help with anxiety as well as help with digestion or indigestion.

Many parts of Yoga can be practiced at home on a daily basis once you have a few simple ways of knowing how. There are many easy Yoga postures as well as complicated ones.

Yoga is for Everyone. Please do call me if you would like to know more.

Nicola Dickson: 07764 855353



Now well into the second half of the Autumn term, the School is full of preparations for Christmas – with the Nativity plays to look forward to, as well as the Christmas Fair (see below), and the Carol Service at St Chad’s. Sadly, the annual trip to the pantomime has been a casualty of the closure for the General Election (a true pantomime villain – boo!), but happily the trip is only postponed, and will be enjoyed to the full in January instead. In other news, new School Bursar Mrs Jan Williams was welcomed to Tushingham in early November, and everyone wishes her well. For more information, including Mrs Shephard’s monthly newsletter, please visit the school website: www.tushingham.cheshire.dbprimary.com

Latest news from ‘Friends of Tushingham’ Chairman, Hayley Alldridge:

“Since the last update, The Friends of Tushingham held a bingo fundraiser to continue to support the school, which raised £550. We have a meeting planned with Mrs Shephard at the end of November to agree how we spend some of the recent money raised on improving the outdoor equipment and facilities for the children.

The next big event on our calendar is the **Christmas Fair** which takes place from 3.15–5 pm on Friday 6th December. There are a number of stalls, refreshments, a raffle, tombolas and a chance to meet Father Christmas. We’d welcome you all to attend this event and hope to see you there.

Stalls are still available and can be booked via Hayley on 07968 410067. They are £10 each.”



Tushingham Toddlers

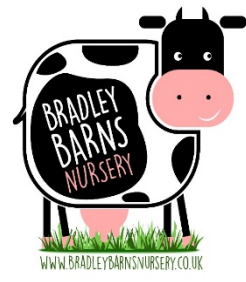
Tushingham Primary School, Tuesdays 9.30–11.30 am, during term time



Join us for play, music and snacks.
Mums, Dads, Grandparents and carers all welcome
(tea and biscuits for grown-ups!). £1 entry



News from Bradley Barns



Bradley Barns Nursery is now in its third year and is continuing to grow from strength to strength. Having recently achieved a **'Good' Ofsted rating** under the new framework, it is an ideal place for children to learn and thrive. We have also newly introduced the **Forest School** element to the setting, which allows the children to further expand their experiences within an outdoor environment. With the on-site farm as well, the children get a good sense of all living things and taking care of animals. Owners, Vicky and Matt Hollins, are both fully involved with the day-to-day management of the Nursery, promoting the family feel of the setting. Parents are also updated of their child's daily activities using an app which sends information to them throughout the whole of the day.

Other recent news:

☆ A team of parents and management recently completed the **3 Peaks Challenge** in 24 hours raising over £2,000 for local charity 'The Wingate Centre'.

☆ With Christmas just around the corner we are looking forward to our annual **Nativity** at Bickley Coronation Hall in December.



If you would like to contact us then please see our website or Facebook page for details or call us on 01948 838321.

Tushingam 125

2019 marks the 125th anniversary of the present Tushingam Primary School (and School House), which was established as a new National School on the current site in 1894. Formerly situated across the road as *Macefen Church of England School*, the new school consisted of a 'small room' and a 'large room' (now the library and Class 2), and remained in that same general configuration until extensions were built in the 1980s. Much fascinating information has been sent in about the school's history, and will be featured in future issues.



Cheshire

Wildlife Trust

Walking in a Wildlife Wonderland!

When you think of Christmas and wildlife, it's easy to think the only species you are likely to see in the countryside is a robin. It is suggested that a robin was present in the manger when Jesus was born and that it tended the fire as the young Christ slept. The embers suddenly sparked, lighting up the breast of the bird and giving it the red hue we see today. Whether you choose to believe that or not, robins are inextricably linked with Christmas time.



Keeping with the red theme, redwings will be well and truly here by now. These migrant birds come to the UK in large numbers over winter from their Scandinavian breeding grounds – drawn here by our milder winters and by the vast amount of berries on offer. Now is also the time to see flocks of starlings coming together as part of a murmuration – huge groups that dance in the sky each night, before going to roost. The swirling balls of birds gather to give each individual protection from

predators. These were once common across the county but are now restricted to just a few sites.

If not reindeer, then red deer are a common sight across many parts of the county. Trentabank reservoir near Macclesfield provides an excellent chance to see red deer in all their glory. The stags will still be the proud owners of their antlers so they cut a stunning shape set against a snowy backdrop at this time of year.



The aptly named December moth is another sure-fire sign that Santa is on his way. These gorgeous little critters emerge from October and will be around until late December. They have a fluffy cream-coloured scarf over their shoulders, all wrapped up and ready for the mercury dropping.

So, wherever you go to escape the Yuletide stress, take the time to discover the wildlife on offer.