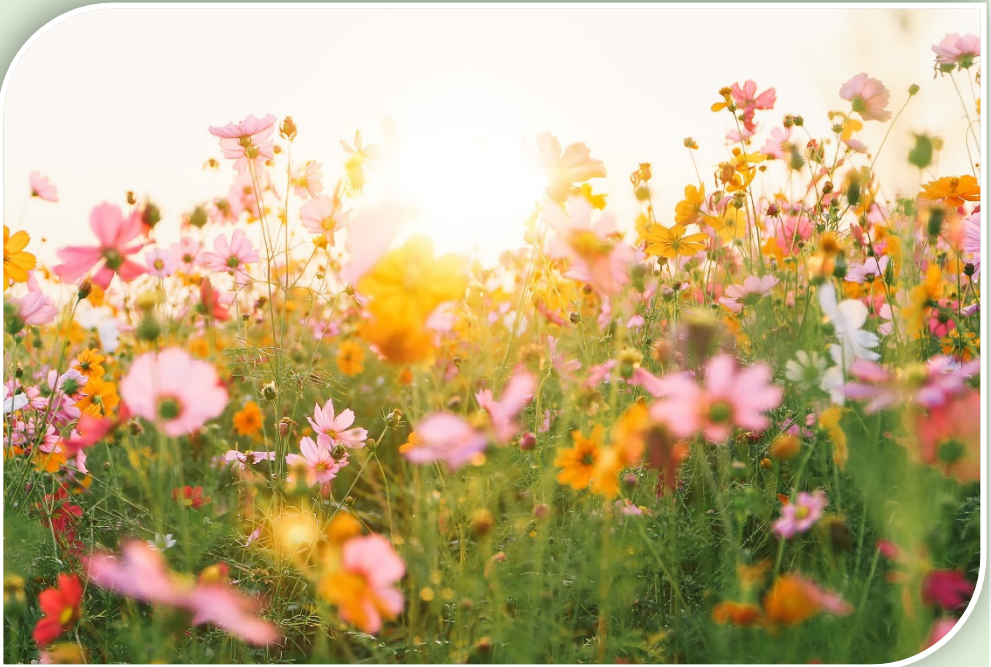


# The Bell

*Tushingam, Macefen & Bradley Parish Magazine*



AUGUST / SEPTEMBER  
2020

## Welcome

Issuing *The Bell* every two months tends to condense the passage of time and highlight change – and on this occasion it is good to report the first careful steps towards normality being taken in our community. Although now closed for the holidays, Tushingam School has been open to some pupils since June, and it's lovely to be able to list a few dates for church services again.

Thank you to those who have continued to send in items for the magazine, whether it be helping with community safety, passing on thanks, or giving fascinating insights into the rich local history of TM&B.

Please keep the interesting articles, stories and photographs coming! The deadline for contributions to the October/November issue is 18<sup>th</sup> September.

Stay safe, 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](http://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/](https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/)

Call 111 if you cannot get help online.

Anyone who currently has symptoms of coronavirus can get a free test to check if they have the virus. The test can be ordered online, and can either be delivered to your home, or you can visit a test site.

[www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test](https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test)

**Malpas Community Links:** Call Cathy (07808 772215), Chris (01948 860333), or Rachel (01948 860627); E-mail: [editor@malpascheshire.org](mailto:editor@malpascheshire.org)

## **Council-run resources:**

*Mental health helpline* – 0300 303 3972

*Support helpline* for vulnerable groups – 0300 123 7031

*Live Well website*, hub for community help, information and services  
– [livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/Categories/4854](https://livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/Categories/4854)

## **North West Ambulance Service**

***“If you live in the North West and you’re worried we might not find your property when you call 999, tell us so we can ensure you’re on the map”***

The **Point Taken** initiative from North West Ambulance gives residents who live in difficult-to-find locations, the chance to add their own personal note or ‘route marker’ to help direct emergency services to their address should they ever call 999. For example, a note could be, “Not located by SatNav: after passing bridge, turn left onto unmarked road.”

If this service could help you, go to the North West Ambulance website ([www.nwas.nhs.uk](http://www.nwas.nhs.uk)), click ‘Contact us’ and then ‘Point taken’. Fill in the online form, including the route note request, which will be reviewed.

The ‘What Three Words’ App is another approach that has been used by emergency services in the past. This free App allocates every 3 sq metres of the country a unique combination of three words, which can be used to guide others to your exact location – whether at home, or out and about.

# TM&B Parish Meeting

As life starts returning to some form of normality and the economy starts to shake itself out of the lockdown mentality, I am afraid that none of the outstanding Parish issues have yet been resolved. Despite my regular prompting there has been no action from the Council on our signage issues and the Golden Jubilee Committee is meeting next month to consider our funding request from the last meeting.

I will be holding the next Parish Meeting on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 7 pm at St Chad's. This will be our AGM, so we will approve the accounts then and I also hope that we can approve the next Parish Clerk, for which Wendy Kay has kindly volunteered her services. I will also update you on all the ongoing business and would be delighted to hear from you about any other local issues that you might want to raise. In the meantime, I hope you can enjoy the rest of the summer.

**David Young OBE, Chairman**

01948 861461



## Home Watch

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

The police have made us aware of a recent spate of break-ins locally, so please continue to be vigilant and ensure your outbuildings, and farm and horse-riding equipment, are safe and secure, as it seems these are prime targets for burglary and theft.

In Tushingam sometime between 27 and 29 June during the hours of darkness, a paddock shed was broken into and a large amount of brand new saddlery items were taken. In Tattenhall there was another burglary where some expensive farm equipment was stolen. On previous occasions, farm outbuildings have been targeted and livestock stolen.

Our local community policing team (see next page) are constantly patrolling and working to keep our rural communities safe. If you see any suspicious vehicles / persons, please report this on the 101 non-emergency number or, in an emergency, 999.



# Police Community Support



Police Community Support Officer for Tattenhall and Malpas  
PCSO 20398 **Jonathan Hurst**

E-mail: [jonathan.hurst@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:jonathan.hurst@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)

Beat Manager Rural South

PC 5744 **Steve Gardner**

E-mail: [stephen.gardner@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto: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](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/tattenhall-malpas); **Tel:** 101 (non-emergency)

**We are here to help our local communities. 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.**

## Police surgeries

PSCO Hurst has started pop-up meetings in Malpas and Tattenhall. All future dates will be posted on social media (see Facebook/Twitter above). Until further notice there will be no surgeries held at Dragon Hall Police Station.

**Outside Barbour Institute, Tattenhall:** 11<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August (11–12 am)

**High Street car park, Malpas:** 13<sup>th</sup> August (11–12 am); 24<sup>th</sup> August (3–4 pm)

## **Cheshire Police alert: Track and Trace fraud**

● The scammers are already active and trying to trick money out of people through the Government Track and Trace application. Please be vigilant and report any suspicious contact to Action Fraud on 0300 1232040.

Contact tracers will never ask you:

- To dial a premium rate number
- For bank details, or to make a payment or purchase a product
- For social media identities or login details
- For any passwords or PINs, or ask you to set them up over the phone
- To download any software or hand over control of your phone/computer
- To access any website that does not belong to the Government or NHS.



## St Chad's Church News

**Thanks are extended from St Chad's to everybody who kindly made donations after our appeal for funds in the last magazine. Your support is greatly appreciated.**

The good news is that St Chad's is now permitted to open for services, and has been able to welcome congregations on several Sundays in July. Dates and times are currently being arranged for the return to a more usual routine in the coming months – while, of course, respecting all current safety measures.

There will be a service each at St Chad's each Sunday throughout August and September; please contact the church wardens or see the board outside church for details of times as they are confirmed. In the meantime, plans for the traditional **Rushbearing Service** at Old St Chad's on **2<sup>nd</sup> August**, and the annual **Harvest Service** are already in place (see opposite page for details).

*All services will comply with social distancing requirements and meet current health and safety measures. There will be no communion or singing of hymns, and service sheets will be issued singly, for disposal after the service.*

In addition, the date for the annual **Harvest Sale** is proposed as **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September** at 7.30 pm at the Coronation Hall, Bickley.



### Coffee and Shop



The popular 'Coffee and Shop' event will not now return to St Chad's until 2021. This usually takes place on the first Tuesday of each month from April to September, and is a chance for people to browse the pop-up stalls, while meeting friends and enjoying the delicious cake on offer!

If you can, please hold onto any items that you would like to donate for sale (good quality clothes and gifts, household items and books) – and if you have any queries, please contact Louise: 01948 663743.

**Thank you:** Judy Peake would like to thank all those ladies from the Parish who helped her by providing hot meals both before and during lockdown.

## A letter from Revd Canon Ian Davenport, Rural Dean of Malpas

Dear All,

So many have had to spend more time at home and in their gardens in these weeks, and just the other day it was a treat to be introduced to some household hens and to receive some newly laid eggs.

Firstly, I am reminded again and again of the importance of gardens in Our Lord's life and how He often withdrew into the quiet of the countryside that He may receive new strength and insights. It was in the peace of the Garden of Gethsemane that Jesus was able to find the strength that He needed to face all that was to happen on the first Good Friday. Secondly, I suggest that it is often as we pause in the peace of our gardens that we find strength and courage. We all need that in these days of coronavirus. It was in the peace of an Easter Day that Jesus came to new life, a life He gives to all of us as we journey on in His presence in this world and beyond. Thirdly, I suggest that just as I received those eggs as a gift, so we give gifts to each other to show we care. This summer is going to be different in many ways but I hope that you too will find peace, strength and courage and give that to others in the Lord's Name.

We continue to pray for Revd Veronica, Nigel and their family.

With all good wishes, thoughts and prayers,

Ian

### Services at St Chad's

**Sunday 2 August**                      **6.30 pm**    **Rushbearing Service**, Old St Chad's

**Sunday 9, 16, 23 & 30 August**    *To be confirmed*

**Sunday 6 September**                **6.30 pm**    Evening prayer, Old St Chad's

**Sunday 13 & 20 September**        *To be confirmed*

**Sunday 27 September**                **11.00 am**    **Harvest Service**, St Chad's

### **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\_i\_dawson@hotmail.com

Marbury, Tushingam and Whitewell benefice website: [www.parishmag.org](http://www.parishmag.org)



Having provided support for key worker/priority children during lockdown, on June 22<sup>nd</sup> Tushingham school opened more fully to welcome children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6, in line with Local Authority guidance. Children at school were taught in class ‘bubbles’ with much teaching done outside in the open air, and the safety of staff and children remaining the highest priority. Throughout lockdown,

teachers planned learning activities for all children, and Mrs Shephard commented, “I am incredibly proud of the way teachers and teaching assistants adapted so quickly to set learning activities for children at home and those in school – they have done an amazing job.”

There are even awards to report! All children in Class 4 successfully achieved *The Archbishop of York Youth Trust KS2 Young Leaders Award* in which children are empowered to ‘Be the Change you want to see’, by serving others in their community through different challenges. In addition, Tushingham School successfully gained the *Rainbow Flag Award* in May, after Mrs Hunt and Miss Smalls completed the full training programme for ‘Including LGBT+ pupils and challenging LGBT+ phobia in primary schools’.

School life has also had its usual comings and goings. Mrs Jane Owen, a respected and much-loved teaching assistant, retired at the end of the summer term; Mr Dave Partington, the school caretaker and cleaner retired in May; and Miss Barnett will join the school as a teaching assistant in September to support children in Class 3. Last but not least... although missing their traditional goodbyes, the Year 6 leavers were given a fond farewell with an open-air service held in front of their parents in the school grounds at the end of term. Best of luck in your new schools Year 6!

To read Mrs Shephard’s newsletters in full, please visit the new website at: <https://www.tushingham.cheshire.sch.uk>







The Wildlife Trusts have published a new report ‘Reversing the decline of insects’ which shows how people in every part of society can take action to bring back insects. The report comes at a critical time for insects given that 41% of insect species are expected to become extinct if trends continue.

Campaigns Officer, James Melling commented: “With many people noticing the environmental benefits that have arisen from the lockdown, it’s important we start reinforcing these positive changes with action from leaders, communities and individuals. Strong environmental standards will be the cornerstone for a wilder Cheshire.”

Earlier this year, Cheshire Wildlife Trust began discussions with local Councils, regarding their use of pesticides and management of open spaces and verges. Plans were delayed with the onset of lockdown, but now the debate can restart. The Trust is also encouraging individuals to take action at home, for example, by leaving parts of the garden to grow wild, planting insect friendly plants, or building log pile houses and bug hotels. Other ideas can be found in the free Wildlife Trust guide available at [www.wildlifetrusts.org/take-action-insects](http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/take-action-insects).



### How to create a mini pond

A pond needn’t be big to attract wildlife such as dragonflies, frogs and newts. A washing-up bowl, large plant pot or even an old sink could all be repurposed.

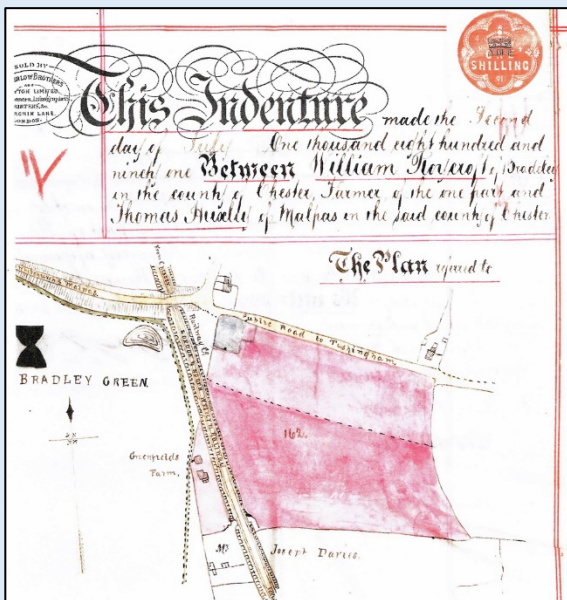
1. Choose a spot that is light, but is not in full sunlight all day. You can dig a hole and sink your container, or just have it sitting on top.
2. If the container isn’t watertight, add a piece of pond liner.
3. Add a layer of gravel and rocks. Use logs or stones to create a range of depths and a slope for creatures to climb in and out.
4. Fill your pond with rainwater (tap water contains chemicals).
5. Start planting! You only need one or two plants. Good plants for small ponds include miniature waterlily, lesser spearwort, starwort, and flowering rush.
6. Now watch and wait! Wildlife will come to your pond of its own accord. Don’t bring frogs, fish or water from another pond as this can spread disease.

# Bradley Independent Congregational Chapel

## A Little History. Part 2: Acquiring land to build the Chapel

Copies of the Indentures (conveyance documents) held by the Congregational Federation give details of the purchase of the land by Thomas Huxley in 1891 to build Bradley Chapel (see picture). It is possible that the site was selected because of its proximity to the junction of lanes leading to Malpas, Macefen and Tushingham, which geographically is the centre of Bradley.

In 1891, Greenfields Farm, now owned by Dave and Pat Adams and family, was the property of William Roycroft. However, census records show the Adams family were living in Bradley at that time, with no mention of Mr Roycroft living at the farm. The land for the Chapel was bought by Thomas Huxley from Mr Roycroft for £6, and measured 250 sq yds.



Fifteen years later in 1906, the thriving chapel, headed by a board of Trustees, decided to build a coach house and stable to accommodate the carriages of visiting preachers.

By this time, ownership of Greenfields Farm had passed to Mr Albert Blake, who was farming at Millmoor, now owned by Dave and Sally-Ann Chesters. This piece of land measured 50 sq yds, and was bought from Mr Blake for £4 10s.

It is sad that builder Thomas Huxley could not oversee the construction of this 'extension'. Following his death in 1903 his son George took over the building business, and is named as contractor on the conveyance document.

Liz Jones

01948 860079; jones@bradley.fg.co.uk

Next time: The Opening of the Chapel.

## Then and now

The photographs here show how much has changed in our area – but as Bradley resident Margaret Barker points out, some things are not new...

*Almost 400 years ago, Bradley was at the mercy of another pandemic. The plague was unwittingly brought from London to Bradley, in 1625, by Raffe Dawson, and subsequently devastated his household.*

*That same year, the Will of Raffe's father Thomas Dawson gives an insight into farming life at Bradley during that time, listing amongst his 'Goodes and Chattells':*

- + Hay in the barne
- + Barley in the barne
- + Rie, wheate and muncorne in the barne
- + Oates pease and fitches
- + Hemp and flaxe
- + One mare and coult
- + One nag and two twinter coltes
- + One od oxe
- + Seaven kine
- + Three twinters  
bease
- + Three yearling  
bease
- + Four calves
- + Hens
- + Fifteene sheepe
- + Three swine
- + Eleaven geese
- + Mucke and fuell



Road past Bishop Heber School, Malpas  
(with thanks to John Hollins)



The Old Smithy, Macefen (formerly at the A41/Bradley junction)



**Ogilby's road map of 1675, showing 'Mason' (Macefen) 'Bellowhill' and 'Willowmore'**

(with thanks to Peter Moore Dutton)

