

The Parish Magazine

& Community News

St Nicholas' Church, Burton-in-Wirral October November 2020

AUTUMN EDITION 2020

IN THIS EDITION OF THE PARISH MAGAZINE

Church Services of Remembrance & Armistice Day Pumpkin Festival & GVH Community Events Burton's Historic Market Charter

Growing & Thriving With God in Our Community

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Rev Cathy Helm

The Vicar Writes...



It can be quite interesting to watch how people wait. We're having to do more of it now as we wait to enter shops safely. You can tell those who are quite happy to relax and wait until it's their turn, there are those who keep checking their watch, then there are the fidgets and of course the ones whose sole focus is their phone!

We are having to get used to waiting on a whole new scale as we wait with hope for a vaccine which will allow us some degree of normality again. That's the hope. In a world of instant news, instant coffee and even instant potato (not recommended!) we expect things to move more quickly, to be ready when we want.

Animals seem to have waiting sorted. Think of the patience of a spider or a cat which may watch for hours before

pouncing. My experience is more with dogs and this one is obviously patient and may watch and wait for



many hours for the return of its loved owner, unlike my dog Pippin who would howl, whinge or go to sleep rather than just wait patiently. There can be great joy in waiting, like waiting for the wonderful baking that will emerge from the oven. But for now, waiting is really hard. Not seeing our family and friends, waiting to be able to go out safely, waiting to be able to go back to church, waiting for the news that we don't want to hear, waiting to get an appointment, even at the hairdressers! There's not much fun at times if we're honest, just waiting.

Abraham waited until he was over 100 before he saw the fulfilment of God's promise to him. Joseph waited for nearly 20 years in Egypt before being reconciled with his family.

Also, the people of Israel waited for 40 years, wandering in the wilderness,



before entering the Promised land. There is a deep understanding in the Bible of what it is to wait.

Those who kept their focus on the goodness and sovereignty of God found they could learn more and more of the depth of God's faithfulness and love. The Israelites found as they waited, the faithfulness of God who promised,

'I will never leave you or forsake you.'

(Deuteronomy 31:6)

So, how do we wait?

We may fill our time with distractions, or sit and worry, or be purposeful and creative in filling the time. Along with baking and walking the dogs, I have found filling my heart and mind with the promises of God rather than continuous worrying about what might or might not be, keeps my soul calm, my heart strong and my faith still alight. It can be so easy to be discouraged as we wait. Here are some of my current favourite promises.

'Wait for the Lord, be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.'

Psalm 27, 14

'Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for his compassion never fails. They are new every morning, great is your faithfulness.'

Lamentations 3, 22-23

'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.'

Hebrews 12, 2

As we wait, I'd encourage you to take time to fill up on those wonderful promises and find some that are special to you too.

Cathy

As we wait for the next phase of Covid-19 ...

A Prayer for One Another

God of heaven and earth, in these times of isolation for so many, for those apart from loved ones, for those distant from friends and away from neighbours, thank you that there is nothing in all of creation, not even the existence of the Covid-19 virus, that is able to separate us from your love.

And, may your love that never fails continue to be shared through the kindness of strangers. Help us to look out for one another and for our neighbours near and far recognising our shared vulnerability. May we be grateful for every breath we take and the gift of a full and healthy life.

Keep us all in your care.

Amen.

We plough the fields, and scatter the good seed on the land, but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand; he sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain, the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.



A Time to Remember

Every year at St Nicholas' Church, on the Sunday nearest to All Souls Day - 2 November, we take 'Time to Remember' all those we have loved and lost . It may be that a bereavement is recent or many years ago, but it is still important to take time to give thanks to God for the person, to continue to seek the comfort we need and to remind ourselves that in Jesus, our hope in life everlasting is secure.

This year there are a number of ways in which we can do this even whilst facing restrictions on numbers in church.

WAYS TO HELP US REMEMBER ...

- From Sunday 25 October there will be a large wooden cross outside church. You can place a small stone with the name of your loved one written on it at any time throughout the week.
 You can decorate it or just simply place it there to remember someone.
- The names of loved ones will all be read out at the *'Time to Remember'* service on Sunday 1 November at 3.00pm.
- Church will be open on Saturday 31 October from 10.00am to 12 noon if you
 would like to come into church to be quiet, to say a prayer or to light a candle in
 memory of your loved ones. Copies of the Sunday service will also be available
 which can used at home.
- You can light a candle at home in memory of your loved ones at 3.00pm on Sunday 1 November and join in with one of the special set prayers.
- You can request a 'Forget Me Not' prayer card which I can either email or post to you for you to use at home.
- You can attend the 'Time to Remember' service in church at which the names of loved ones will be read out and remembered.

To attend the 'Time to Remember' service you will need to reserve a place. Tel: 07471 890827 or revc.helm@burtonchurch.org.uk

Current restrictions mean there can be no more than six people in one family group and we are limited to a maximum total of 30 people attending. The usual social distancing, track and trace requirements and mask-wearing regulations will apply. You will need to dress in warm clothes as we are required to ensure that windows and doors remain open.

The Daily Hope telephone prayer line is available 24/7 where you can ring to listen to prayers, hymns and reflections.





Remembrance 2020



"Lest we forget"



Remembrance this year will be a challenge but not one that can't be overcome. There are several ways in which we can take part either at home or in church.

We will be holding two different services this year in church.

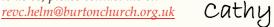
- A Service of Remembrance will be held on Sunday 8 November at 10.30am which will be a shortened service ending with the two minute silence at 11.00am. Two people from the uniformed groups will be in church and numbers are limited to a maximum of 30.
- On Wednesday 11 November Armistice Day, there will be a shortened Communion service at 10.30am which will end with a two minute silence at 11.00am.

The usual social distancing measures will operate including the wearing of face masks and mandatory track and trace requirements will apply for both services. Please wear warm clothing as church has to be ventilated with doors and windows open.

A 'Poppy Card' will be available with prayers to use at home which can be emailed or posted to you.

There will be services broadcast from the Cenotaph in London on the Sunday morning along with other Acts of Remembrance.

Our Sunday Service of Remembrance will also be emailed to people as usual. If you do not currently receive the weekly services via email and would like to do so, please contact me on





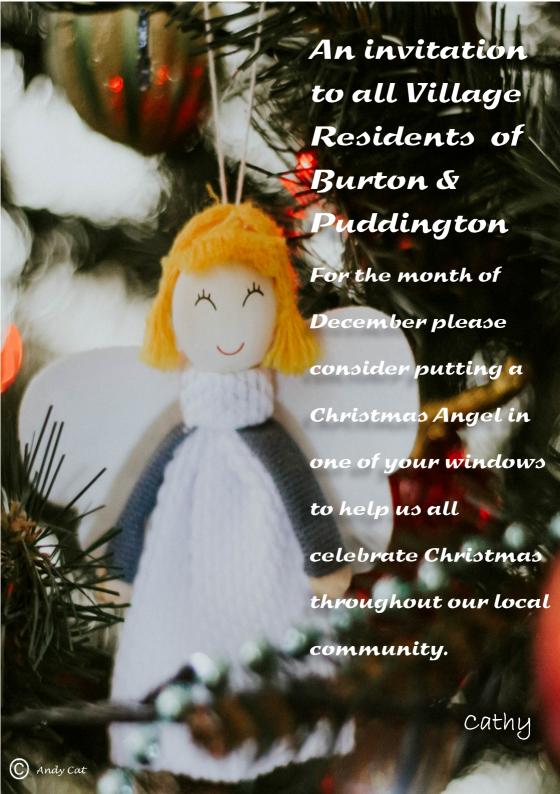
Christmas 2020 In the Villages of Burton & Puddington

A Host of Angels

This year would have been when we arranged the Advent Windows again as we alternate with the Christmas Tree festival. As socialising may still be proving to be difficult come December time, we would like everyone in both villages, if possible, to take part by putting a Christmas angel in a window. It can be big, small, handmade, bought, or even edible!

Let's fill both villages with a host of angels who bring the good news that God is with us, not just for Christmas, but for all time. If we start on December 1, we can look out as we're out and about for all the different angels.

Do not be afraid, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people'



THE BEATITUDES - WHAT ARE THEY?

The beatitudes are 'blessed sayings' that come from the opening verses of the famous Sermon on the Mount delivered by Jesus Christ and recorded in Matthew's gospel. Here Jesus stated several blessings, each beginning with the phrase, 'Blessed are ...'

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

BEATITUDES

FOR A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO STAY INDOORS



FOR THEY HAVE
PROTECTED OTHERS

BLESSED ARE THE UNEMPLOYED AND THE SELF-EMPLOYED



FOR THEIR NEED OF GOD IS GREAT



BLESSED ARE THE CORNER SHOPKEEPERS



FOR THEY ARE THE PURVEYORS OF SCARCE THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE CHECKOUT WORKERS



FOR THEY HAVE PATIENCE AND FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF OVERWORK AND FRUSTRATION

BLESSED ARE THE REFUSE COLLECTORS



FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD DESPITE THE MOUNTAINS OF WASTE

BLESSED ARE THE TEACHERS



FOR THEY REMAIN
STEADFAST AND
CONSTANT IN
DISTURBING TIMES

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ALONE,



FOR THEY ARE CHILDREN OF GOD AND WITH HIM THEY WILL NEVER BE LONELY

BLESSED ARE THE BEREAVED,



FOR WHOM THE WORST HAS ALREADY HAPPENED. THEY SHALL BE COMFORTED

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE ISOLATED WITH THEIR ABUSERS



FOR ONE DAY-WE PRAY-THEY WILL KNOW SAFETY

BLESSED ARE THE DELIVERY DRIVERS AND THE POSTAL



FOR THEY ARE THE BRINGERS OF ESSENTIAL THINGS

BLESSED ARE THE HOSPITAL WORKERS, THE AMBULANCE CREWS, THE DOCTORS, THE NURSES, THE CARE ASSISTANTS, AND THE CLEANERS



ETWEEN US AN

FOR THEY STAND BETWEEN US AND THE GRAVE, AND THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS SURELY THEIRS

BLESSED ARE THE SINGLE PARENTS,



FOR THEY ARE COPING ALONE WITH THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND THERE IS NO RESPITE

BLESSED ARE THE CHURCH WORKERS; THE DEACONS, PRIESTS AND BISHOPS





FOR THEY ARE A COMFORTING PRESENCE IN A HURTING WORLD AS THEY CONTINUE TO SIGNPOST TOWARDS GOD

BLESSED ARE ALL DURING THIS TIME WHO HAVE PURE HEARTS: ALL WHO STILL HUNGER AND THIRST FOR JUSTICE; ALL WHO WORK FOR PEACE AND WHO MODEL MERCY

















MAY YOU KNOW COMFORT. MAY YOU KNOW CALM. AND MAY THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, BE WITH US ALL. AMEN

TEXT: JAYNE MANFRED! CartoonChurch.com

The Story of Pilgrim Biagio Conte's Mission of Hope and Charity - Palermo, Sicily

Today, Biagio Conte is on a pilgrimage: a pilgrimage of hope and charity and recently his journey brought him and his companion to Burton Village. However, his story started many years ago. It is Palermo in the 1980s. Biagio is a restless young man born into the middle classes. He is tired, disillusioned, perhaps disgusted by crime, by moral breakdown, by the mafia killings of those defending justice. He decides to leave everything and make his way alone to Assisi, crossing Sicily's mountainous interior then travelling up through Italy along the Apennines. Like St Francis, who was the son of a rich merchant, Biagio casts off en route all the material comforts we generally hide behind, rediscovering the essence of things, rediscovering simplicity and humility. "I understood in my heart that I needed to become a missionary" he declares.

In 1991 he returns home, but not home to his parents. The prodigal son chooses to live at the central station, among the railway carriages and the waiting rooms: home to people we would call tramps or beggars and whom Biagio Conte calls 'brothers', treated with the utmost indifference by passers-by.

In the evening when the gates of the station close everyone gets thrown out onto the street unceremoniously. Biggio notices a large derelict government building near the station, in via Archirafi. Biagio asks permission of the authorities to enter it with his 'brothers'. The answer is a curt 'no'. He begins a fast in front of the gates - silent, but determined. Days pass and on day twelve he succeeds. The gates are opened and the poor people enter the rubble-filled building. Brother Biggio's family are in the construction trade, and on his travels he met Brother Giovanni, a master builder. It all started from there: in time the building was rebuilt and repaired, and the garden was reclaimed. So many people saw what was happening and gave donations. It was the same with the women's mission in the old convent of Santa Caterina, and with the building in via Decollati. Continued ...



MISSION OF HOPE & CHARITY PALERMO



The Mission in 1992



The Mission in 2020



An overnight stop in Burton for the pilgrims en route to Holyhead and Ireland

The pattern was always the same: an initial 'No' from the authorities, Biagio's fast, the generous response of the public and the hard work to create a new place from practically nothing. With all the people who ask for help, there are many mouths to feed every day. The Hope and Charity Mission also runs agricultural projects which provide food for everyone.

And so this outpost of humanity grows day by day.

Pope Francis set his seal on the Mission by calling in

for lunch during his visit to Palermo in 2018.

"He threw his arms around Brother Biagio, who was for him a true missionary; he ate lunch with the world's poor, 40 at his table, another 100 in the hall and 1200 in the Citadel of



Pope Francis & Brother Biagio - Palermo 2018

the Poor and of Hope: It was a simple meal of chicken and couscous caponatina – a local dish of aubergines, cheese and olives. No speeches, just hugs and an opportunity to listen to people's stories.

This was the turning-point for the visibility of the Mission: so many Palermitans had given their help, but most were unaware of its development and sheer regenerative power.

While his army of angels is in action, Brother Biagio is not idle. He is on a pilgrimage which has already taken him to France, Santiago de Compostela and Portugal and far beyond. He always asks for free board and lodging, which is sometimes refused so he sleeps out of doors, just like he did 30 years ago at Palermo Station.

www.pacesperanza.org/copia-di-home-francais-1

And on to Burton 2020 ...

Brother Biagio Conte and companion Brother Davide arrived in Burton in August on a five-year mission to walk through as many European countries as possible, talking to people and spreading a 'message of hope'.

They refuse to accept lifts and carry no money, relying on the hospitality of strangers they meet along the way. Dressed in traditional pilgrims' robes, they fast as they walk, drinking only water during the day. Speaking through his companion as a translator, Brother Biagio said:

"We are on a pilgrimage. We are trying to talk to as many people as possible and to tell them that there is hope, that there can be a better world. That hope comes from God.

"We tell people to respond to evil with good actions and that we must stand together as a human race."



After leaving Burton the pilgrims reach Wales

Brother Biagio reached London at the end of last year, but the Coronavirus pandemic has made his pilgrimage difficult.

In Italy, he is known as a social justice campaigner, having set up The Mission of Hope and Charity in Palermo, Sicily, to help the homeless, people with addictions and more recently refugees.



Members' Event

In July it was hoped to hold a Garden Afternoon at the home of Ann Rudd, Branch Leader of the Mothers' Union. Sadly, this was not to be because of the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions.

Nevertheless, it was thought that MU members and others might like to see a photo of the garden as it was at that time.



Following in the Footsteps of Mary Sumner

The Mothers' Union movement began in 1876.



Mary Sumner, the wife of a rector in Hampshire, set up a group to support mothers of all kinds in bringing up their children. After delivering a speech in 1885 to churchgoing women at the Portsmouth Church Congress, she inspired many of them to go back to their parishes and set up similar groups.

Over time the groups who met as Mothers' Union became embedded in their communities. They forged strong links with local people and the Anglican Church. They worked to support one another and give a voice to disadvantaged women while addressing wider societal issues.

Mothers' Union is a movement that will always walk in the footsteps of its founder Mary Sumner.

Mary's legacy continues to invigorate and inspire members today as they serve communities and spread hope and encouragement. Mary Sumner Day was on 9 August this year, in the midst of a global pandemic, but her very words give us pause to reflect on our achievements. She herself remarked:

'A true home should be a lighthouse, shedding its beams far and wide'.

As members continue their essential work across Britain and Ireland, and around the world, they are demonstrating that Mothers' Union is a movement that provides relief to those in need. Despite the huge difficulties presented by the current circumstance, Mothers' Union is still working against violence, poverty, and injustice as well as working towards a better life.

Click here to join the Mothers' Union.

Mothers' Union Prison Work

Across the UK and Ireland members of the movement support families caught up in the prison system. Its work varies from prison to prison and is largely dependent on what the Prison Governor permits and relations with the Prison Chaplain.

Like many things, the members' involvement with the prisons has been limited by the Covid-19 pandemic, but as soon as things return to normal, they will continue this worthwhile endeavour.





The Executive Head Teacher's Message

In September we were absolutely delighted to have the children back in to school and it was lovely to see them all so excited about coming back. Since then they have shown how ready and eager they are to learn and engage in lots of fun activities with their friends.

During September we welcomed 5 new children to our school, as well as the 8 children who joined us in Reception. If you know families looking for a school place for the next academic year, please do encourage them to get in touch with the school so we can introduce ourselves.

As you come past school you will see the smart new fencing that we have around the school now. We're hoping to extend this to include the second car park gate. We are delighted with the improvement it has made. We also still have our 'lockdown rock snake' which everyone is welcome to contribute to (painted rocks!) and this snake inspired us to sponsor a Reticulated Python at Chester Zoo.

Prior to 'lockdown' we secured some funding to introduce the No Outsiders project as part of our curriculum. The programme is based on some beautiful children's stories and promotes equality, inclusion and celebrates all our similarities and differences. As a Church of England school, we can see how the programme reflects our values and ethos.

Over the last year we have reviewed our curriculum and it is now based on four main things that we want all our children to be – 'We are communicators, explorers, readers, and believers'. These are four qualities, alongside all other age-related expectations, that we want all of our children to develop.

Since September two governors have finished their term 'in office'. As a school community we would like to express our many thanks to Caroline Hayden and Jenny Davies for all they have done in their time at Bishop Wilson. Being a governor is a volunteer role and we are grateful for all the time the Governors give to this position.

Best wishes,

Mrs Helen Friend



AROUND THE WORLD SATURDAY 15 AUGUST MARKED 'VJ DAY' - THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF VICTORY OVER JAPAN IN WW II

Europe celebrated the surrender of German forces on VE Day - 8 May 1945, but thousands of British, Commonwealth and Allied Armed Forces personnel were still involved in bitter fighting in the Far East. This only came to an end after two atomic bombs were dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. On 15 August 1945, Japanese forces surrendered.

Visit the Royal British Legion website to learn more.

BURTON RESIDENT, ALAN HUDSON (94), RECALLS HIS MEMORY OF VJ DAY

"I was an Officer Cadet, age 18, seconded to the Indian Army, in training at the Military Academy in Pakistan, the equivalent of Sandhurst when the news came through that the war against Japan had ended.

There was a great relief all round, as we knew, as junior officers, that our chances of survival in the battlefield were, at best, three to one. It meant we now had a reasonable chance of returning home to England. On receipt of this news there was great relief and hilarity all round and a fabulous party ensued!"

Musing on Colour

Jenny Schwarz considers how colour impacts on our lives

Apparently, people have been commenting on how blue the sky has been during lockdown. It is something I have pondered on myself, particularly in thinking about the blue of the sky and how to describe the exact shade. Psychologists use colour charts like the Munsell colour chart for research purposes. Apparently, there are 50 words to describe the colour of snow so the shades of blue could fill many a column and can be a matter of perception.

Another reason for my interest is that my walking group members are adding the mileage of our daily walks to travel virtually the Camino route and write a few illustrated words about the experience. One week the Chief Pilgrim added a challenge to include wildlife and/or the colour purple. But what is the colour purple? When does deep pink have enough blue to become mauve and when does blue have enough red to become a darker shade best described as purple?

This led to my thinking about the use of colour in everyday life in advertising and marketing and how we are unwittingly influenced by it. Colours speak a language that words can't replicate; they communicate with us on an emotional level and are thus more effective at persuasion. Colours send these emotions subconsciously without our even recognising it and the chemical reaction in our brain will affect our choices.

A study done by YouGov has concluded that blue is the most universally favoured colour. It is the preferred colour of men and is associated with calmness, tranquillity, stability, peace, responsibility, relaxation. Red is the second most preferred colour to blue and is associated with passion, high energy, love, warmth, danger, and confidence. It is attention grabbing and signifies action. It quickens the pulse rate and increases appetite.

Orange is also commonly used as it combines the energy of red with the happiness of yellow. It represents enthusiasm, creativity, determination, success, encouragement and stimulation. Many sports teams use orange in their uniform. It is often used to draw attention such as in life jackets

Back to purple where we started; this is mystical, mysterious and sensual and not a colour we see often in nature. It is associated with royalty, luxury, intrigue, magic, wealth and spirituality. It is used for premium products and services and search engines for example.

What's your favourite colour?



Blue or Purple?



Has the rhododendron crossed the line from pink to mauve ?

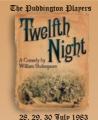


What do you think of as purple? Is it a deeper colour like royal purple or the colour of liturgical garments seen at Advent like this example or even the colour of sloe gin?



Philip Hillman

Recalls Three Performances of Twelfth Night at Puddington Old Hall in 1983



Puddington Old Hall was the family home of Michael and Suzanna Gayford. Their son, Christopher Gayford and I had been friends since our school days at Kingsmead in Hoylake. In 1982 Christopher (or 'Bumble' as he is affectionately known) and his family moved from West Kirby to Puddington Old Hall. He was studying at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, while I was at The University of Reading - not doing much studying, as it happened.

Around Easter time in 1982, Christopher called and said he and his sister Nicola, together with a few friends, had decided they wanted to put on a play at Puddington Old Hall that summer - and would I like to be involved? They'd chosen Twelfth Night and he asked if I would play the part of Sir Toby Belch. "Of course" I replied – desperately trying to remember if that involved learning lots of lines. I loved acting, but I hated learning lines. And so we started our preparations for a three-night run of Twelfth Night in July 1983.

Rehearsals were a hoot. The cast members were mostly on summer holidays from college studies and there were some larger than life characters. We rehearsed hard but always enjoyed a glass or two afterwards.

Suzanna Gayford graciously allowed us all to traipse around her house over that early summer (with much persuasion from Nicola and Christopher) as we rehearsed for the production which was held outdoors in the courtyard between Puddington Old Hall and the Priest's House, also taking advantage of the Juliet balcony where a harpsichord was placed which accompanied the songs of Feste, the court joker.

I remember at one rehearsal I was leaning over the balcony and I lent on a bit of the stage set. It gave way, falling to the ground, me almost following it headfirst. This was unfortunately seen by a shocked Suzanna who famously cried "My wisteria!". I do hope the wisteria has recovered. Continued ...

Amazingly, despite unsettled weather beforehand, the weather on the three nights of the production was perfect. We had obtained period costumes and a stage was built painted with black and white squares and some stage lights were put in place.

It looked perfect in the fabulous setting of The Old Hall, with the noise of doves & the sight of swallows swooping above the stage, as we delivered our lines (or most of them, but not necessarily in the r

we delivered our lines (or most of them, but not necessarily in the right order) to a sell-out local audience for three nights, seated on chairs in the courtyard.

Playing the part of Sir Toby Belch, at the time it was felt I needed a little 'extra padding' around the waist as I looked somewhat skinny for the role. Now, having moved back to the area some 37 years later, the irony is that I wouldn't need that padding, were I to reprise the role!

The cast included:

Orsino - Simon Appleton

Olivia - Katherine Priestly

Sebastian - Simon Flemington

Viola - Nicky Jenkinson

Andrew Aquecheek - Christopher Gayford

Feste - Nicola Gayford

Maria - Sarah Hindhaugh

Malvolio - Robin Perry

Fabien - Johnny Cochran

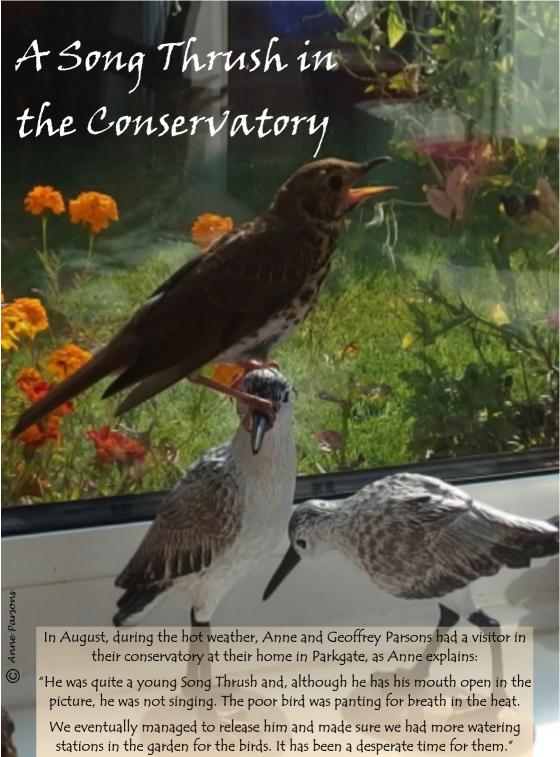
The Harpsichord - Sophie Yates

The McBurney brothers also helped out

The Duddington Players



The cast held a party overnight, intentionally marooned on Hilbre Island, watching an amazing sunrise across the Dee, and wondering just how on earth we managed to pull off such a successful production. As far as I know, it was the one and only production of *The Puddington Players*.



We were amused to see where he had chosen to land!

Love yourvillage



Most residents of Burton and Puddington take great pride in the upkeep of our two villages. For many years Puddington Village has organised village 'Tidy Up' weekends and for more than a decade a local couple have taken responsibility for picking up litter and reporting fly-tipping along local lanes and byways from the top of Puddington Lane at the A540 to its junction at Burton Village, a distance of some three miles.



All kinds of detritus

Now a Burton resident, Susan Samuel, has taken up a similar challenge and has started working as a volunteer for the

'Love your Street' campaign which is being promoted by Cheshire West and Chester Council. The campaign aims to empower local communities improve the areas in which they live.

As a consequence a community clean up day was organised for the area around Gladstone Village Hall. The area was tidied up by a team of volunteers that retrieved enough rubbish to fill a flat-bed lorry. The rubbish was then removed by the council. The old bus stop has been repainted and the bench near to the junction of Dunstan Lane and Mudhouse Lane is being refurbished as are the benches behind the cricket club. The seat inside the old bus stop has also been repaired and refurbished



Refurbished bus stop

With the support of the council a series of pop-up shops has been organised in the old bus stop which have been very well received by the local community, breathing new life into this forgotten place at the heart of Burton Village. The small fee paid by the pop-up shops will be put towards further small-scale improvements such as bulb planting.

For more information visit the Facebook page for The Old Bus Stop Burton

Coupled with these visible improvements, six large refuse bags of rubbish were recently collected from Mudhouse Lane. The debris was made up predominantly of empty beer cans, mainly distinctive white Carling cans, which are clearly being dropped by people who drive through the area regularly. Exactly the same picture has been reported by those who pick up litter in Puddington Lane.



Pop-up stall in the bus stop



Bags of rubbish collected

It would be great if there were more volunteers to increase the area of litter picking and work on other village improvements etc.

Visit We Love Burton on Facebook for more information and to sign up.

BURTON & PUDDINGTON GVH

FARMERS' MARKET

A Farmers' Market was held at the Burton and

Puddington GVH on Saturday 19 September and it

was a great success. There was a really good turn out

and people are already asking when the next market will be!





Special thanks go to Mary Walton, whose idea this was, and who worked tirelessly to make it all happen. Also thanks to all the volunteers and to Wirral Farmers' Market, for their help during preparations and in

making the day go smoothly.

WHAT PEOPLE SAID ABOUT THE FARMERS' MARKET:

"Just home from this brilliant event. Managed to buy loads of scrumptious cake, some local honey, shortbread, fruit, cheese, sausages and meat balls. It would have been rude not to indulge in a tasty sausage and bacon batch all swilled down with a frothy coffee."





"Popped along this morning - great stalls and great produce."

"What a fabulous event to volunteer to help with the car park. Chatted to some lovely people, everyone seemed to be impressed with what the stalls were selling."

A BIG 'THANK YOU' TO THE ORGANISERS, THE STALL HOLDERS WHO SUPPORTED
THE EVENT AND TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED

GVH Autumn Programme of Events

GLADSTONE VILLAGE HALL BURTON

ANNUAL PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

With your help, we'll be bringing back the Pumpkin Festival again! The event creates such excitement and a wonderful feeling of togetherness, much needed, especially now.

So, from the 17 October, we're asking for households in Burton and Puddington to decorate space outside their house. It could be a simple pumpkin, a carved pumpkin or a more creative scene involving pumpkins! Let your imagination run wild!

On Sunday 25 October and Saturday 31 October, if Covid-19 regulations allow, we'll be hosting our pumpkin teas and a pumpkin treasure trail.

In previous years, we've supported the Charles Thompson Mission and they desperately need our help now more than ever. We ask that anyone enjoying the festival consider donating to this worthy cause.

We'd love to hear from anyone willing to make one of our public pumpkins to start the festival and jazz up our community areas.

Info@gladstonevillagehall.org

BONFIRE NIGHT

After much consideration, sadly we've decided to cancel this year's Bonfire Night. We think this is the first time this has happened since it began over 30 years ago! The safety of our two villages was at the heart of this decision. We hope you'll support our other fundraising efforts in the months to come.

Art Exhibition 21 & 22 November - Free entry

Applications are invited from local artists and priority will be given to Puddington and Burton residents.

We hope to host a ticketed preview night on the evening of Friday 21 November, depending on Covid-19 guidance. A percentage of the sales will go towards supporting the Village Hall. For an application form or more details contact:

<u>info@gladstonevillagehall.org or</u> Pat on 0151 336 2256 or Nicky on 0151 665 0870 or check our Facebook page or <u>www.gladstonevillagehall.org</u>



GVH Regular Classes This Autumn



For up to the minute information on classes, contact info@gladstonevillagehall.org

yoga

Chair Yoga on Mondays from 9.30am to 10.30am Mat Yoga on Tuesdays from 5.40pm to 6.40pm and 7.00pm to 8.30pm For full details call Lorraine on 07513 155168

Popcats

Music and movement sessions for children aged 0-5yrs, Tuesday mornings. For more information, visit www.popcats.co.uk

Tai Chi Chuan, Fan, Sword and Stick Classes

From October on Tuesday afternoons. For more details visit www.trusthealthservice.com

Karate

Willaston Karate Club has established a new children's karate academy in Burton, suitable for ages 7-12 years. Classes are on Mondays and Wednesday evenings. For more information call 07795 325889

Sound Bath

Relaxation, recovery and healing with Stan's Sound Healing Bath and Meditation. Thursday evenings (temporary slot). For more information call 07973 838686.

Pilates

Thursdays 6.00 to 7.00pm, a six-week course with Chester Physio Pilates to improve strength, flexibility, balance and digestion.

For more information call 07906 058279

Meditation

Sunday evenings, fortnightly These one hour classes are suitable for all levels of experience and will help you switch off and relax. For more information call 07873 351095

11+ Tutoring

Sessions covering all essentials for success with the 11+ and catch up sessions in English and Maths for years 5 and 6, working towards SATS.

For more information email cando11pluswirral@outlook.com

Autumn Tales from the Wirral Foodbank

It's mid-September and there is some consistency to foodbank activities now.

The e-vouchers, pre-bagged food, one-way systems at the distribution centres and so on are working smoothly. Luckily, we had a relatively quiet period to establish the process and get at least one distribution centre open every weekday while the Wirral Council was still distributing supermarket vouchers (even after the Emergency Food Hub closed its operations).

There are now 4 distribution centres open - two in central Birkenhead, one in Wallasey and one in Eastham. And the agencies that issue the food vouchers are being trained on the evoucher system - biggest users first (the top 4 issue about 75% of all vouchers).

In early September, the Wirral Council's supermarket voucher scheme stopped and we've seen an increase in the number of clients at the foodbank. We're up about 50% on the number of vouchers processed compared to last year - a steady increase from 25% only a few weeks ago.

Trussell Trust (a national foodbank organisation) has just published the results of research by Heriot Watt University that forecasts that the

number of clients needing foodbanks this winter will be more than 60% higher than last winter. They also believe that there will be a higher percentage of families in the mix i.e. much more than a 60% increase in food needed. More at: https://www.trusselltrust.org/heriotwatt-research-2020/

The Wirral foodbank is in quite good shape to deal with this ... but only with your continued help!



The coming months will doubtless see more demand for foodbanks as general government support for jobs reduces. As always, we will rely on your generosity, both for food/money and as volunteers.

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

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

VOLUNTEER & DONATE

DONATE MONEY

Big or small, every gift you give helps transform lives.

wirral.foodbank.org.uk



THE FOODBA

WAYS YOU CAN HELP IN 2020



(ETC)



FIND OUT WHAT IS NEEDED



PICK UP EXTRA ITEMS WHEN YOU SHOP



SORTING



DONATE

MONEY



FUNDRAISE

HAVE TO BE ONLINE Now



VOLUNTEER (REALLY IMPORTANT AS MANY VOLUNTEERS OVER 65 AND NOW SELF-ISOLATING)









ASK PEOPLE FOR FOODBANK DONATIONS RATHER THAN PRESENTS



LIKE THE SOCIAL MEDIA PAGE

THEY DO A GREAT JOB AT THE FOODBANK

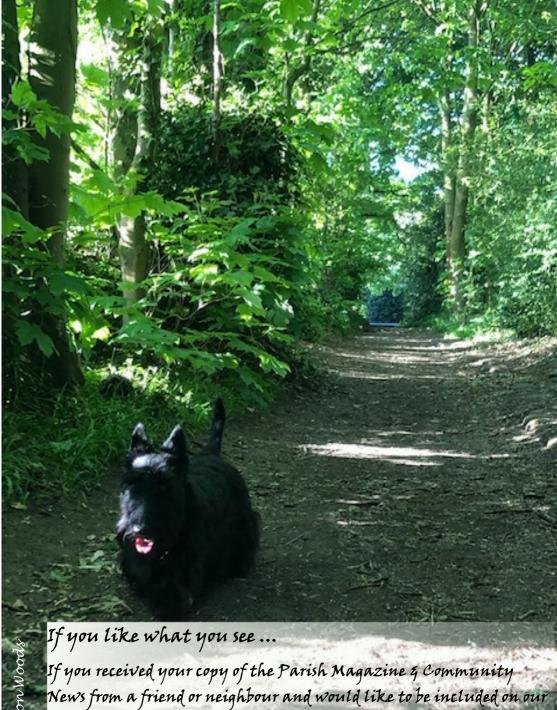


GOSSIP POSITIVELY

WHY IS THE NEED FOR **FOODBANKS** INCREASING?



ASK AWKWARD QUESTIONS



If you received your copy of the Parish Magazine & Community
News from a friend or neighbour and would like to be included on our
mailing list for future editions, please email us at:
burtonchurchcoms@btinternet.com

© Kate Smith

Times Past

& Its Historic Market Charter

Burton & Neston History Society

Just over seven hundred years ago, Burton was a small but prosperous town and port with some fifty timber-framed, thatchedroofed cottages dotted along the main road and where the Manor now stands. Most of the surrounding lands were common fields, most sown with corn, but some lying fallow, the animals grazing on the stubble after harvest.

Several important routes crossed at this spot – a natural place for trade to flourish. The main route from Lancashire to North Wales crossed the Dee by ferry here and two roads from north-west Wirral to Chester both passed through Burton. Ships trading into the Dee from Ireland and Gascony in France could off-load here onto smaller vessels or packhorses to go to Chester and other towns. The customs collectors were stationed at Denhall.

In 1299, Edward 1 granted a charter to the Bishop of Lichfield, Burton's absentee landlord, allowing him to hold a market every Thursday and a three-day annual fair at the time of the 'Festival of St James the Apostle' in July each year. And so, Burton gained a new status and became a town rather than simply a manor.

People from all over the Wirral came to the market to buy and sell produce, exchange local gossip and hear important news from afar. The fair in July would attract people from even farther afield to this important event where they could look forward to a good price for their produce and a friendly social gathering. The fair also brought an increase in crime and disorderly behaviour to the town, by now the main town in Wirral.

Burton, like many other towns, suffered a decline in the fourteenth century- bad harvests for several years after 1317 and the notorious Black Death in 1349, when possibly a third of the population died. The hey-day of Burton's market and fairs passed, and they probably disappeared in the second half of the fourteenth century.

Both Burton and Puddington were first documented in the Domesday Book. The villages were on the route which travellers would typically take from London to Birkenhead and to the ports on Wirral's west coast.

Owing to its location on trade routes, Burton in particular developed significantly. Indeed, during the fourteenth century trade and travel allowed Burton to flourish, standing as it did near the site of embarkation for the ferries to North Wales and Ireland as well as its proximity to the city of Chester. However, the build up of silt in the River Dee led to a decrease in shipping trade and Burton's prosperity took a downturn when the river course was diverted in the eighteenth century.

Victoria's Sandwich

business - 'Victoria's Sandwich'.

A new local artisan bakery is now in business supplying freshly baked bread and cakes ... and a whole lot more.



Local proprietor, Hannah Victoria Batson explained how this all came about.

'Hello, my name is Hannah and I'm 22 years old I run a local artisan bakery called Victoria's Sandwich, based in Willaston. I have always loved cooking, from the moment my grandmother taught me how to make my first cake when I was 5, I knew I wanted to become a Chef. After I finished School, I took a job in France, working as a Second Chef, where I learnt so much and found my passion for making artisan breads. After I left France I started working at a 5 Star Michelin Hotel in Chester. I gained so much experience from working there, being taught by some amazing Chefs. This gave me the confidence and skills I needed to realise my dream of running my own

Victoria's Sandwich supplies freshly baked artisan bread using organic flour. We also bake a range of pastries, doughnuts, birthday cakes, teatime cakes, cookies, brownies, scones, sausage rolls and much more. Everything is homemade, using the finest ingredients. So, using all my past knowledge and experience, I am able to bring the most delicious treats to our local area for you to enjoy.'

Those who have already sampled Hannah's remarkable baking skills have been truly delighted. She operates from Willaston and her new advertisement and contact details can be found on page 43 of the magazine. She takes telephone and online orders for deliveries and she operates at Burton's 'pop-up' shop in the bus shelter.

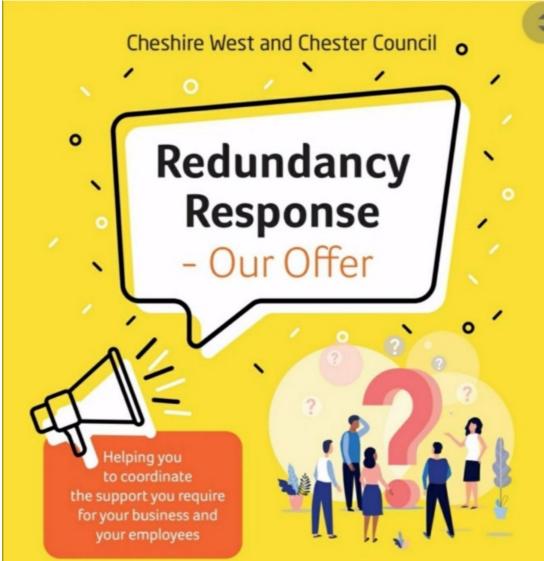
Life During the Covid-19 Pandemic for Hardy Perennials

As friends who normally meet fairly regularly over lunch, the Hardy Perennials haven't been able to get together as a group at Pollards Inn since last March. For many, this lack of contact during the Covid-19 pandemic and the need to 'stay safe', has undoubtedly been extremely difficult. Nevertheless, individually we have been able to keep in contact with one another, largely by telephone or the occasional meeting outdoors or, for some, at a church service. So while matters remain difficult we will try to stay in touch with as many people as possible who normally meet as 'Hardy Perennials'. Stay well and stay safe! Linda & Viv



Tel: Vivienne 336 7435

Tel: Linda 336 5017



We provide responsive and sensitive support at point of need to both businesses and individuals facing issues related to redundancy or downsizing.

Our **Redundancy Action Support Team (RAST)** offer advice and guidance services to employers addressing redundancy issues in Cheshire West. The wider team comprises professional, private and public sector organisations, whose aim is to increase awareness of the advice available and broker the right support for your business.





Homes for Wildlife

Please keep checking our website https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/ness-gardens/ and social media channels for updates.



We have all ended up spending much more time at home than usual over the past few months, so I thought it would be good to tell you something about the wildlife homes we have in the gardens. One of our aims is to make Ness Gardens as wildlife friendly as possible, so, in order to encourage more animals to take up residence with us, we have provided additional accommodation by making an assortment of specialised shelters. Man-made structures are needed because natural sheltering places for many animals are in short supply. Throughout the UK there are fewer woods and hedgerows, fewer standing dead trees, smaller gardens with fewer plants within them and fewer uncultivated spaces.

Our bird boxes are all the same design and size and usually occupied by Great Tits and Blue Tits. Last March we put up two boxes specifically designed for treecreepers which are seen regularly in the garden and we hope that some might be tempted to use the special narrow boxes. The new boxes do look a bit strange, but they mimic the narrow crevices in trees or gaps under tree bark where the treecreepers would normally nest. Bat boxes have also been installed.

We also have structures in the garden that have been specifically built to help invertebrates. Many of you will have seen our lovely Bee Hotel. The drilled logs and hollow bamboo canes held within the oak frame provide nesting tunnels for solitary bees. *Continued*



The Bee Hotel



Putting on the Roof



Installing Bat Boxes

Solitary bees are very important pollinators and, like all bee species, they need all the help they can get at the moment due to an array of adverse factors that have resulted in dramatic bee population declines. The Bee Hotel is in a very sunny spot, with lots of plants that are good pollen sources nearby.

Over the past couple of years, we have also created two other hotel structures. We have made one in the Permaculture Garden and one by the Wildlife Pond in the Spinney. These are general purpose 'Bug' Hotels and they provide shelter for an array of animals such as ladybirds, beetles, centipedes, spiders and woodlice.

We could not have created any of these homes without our amazing volunteers. This year all the replacement boxes have been tied back on to trees, instead of fixing them on using nails, so that we avoid injuring the tree trunks. In the light of new information about solitary bee care, our plan is to be more rigorous in maintaining the bee nesting materials too. We intend to change the drilled logs and bamboos each year. This should help avoid diseases and parasites and make sure the nest tunnels are in optimum condition. The wildlife volunteer group made an impressive amount of new bee nesting material during the winter, and we managed to replace the old logs and canes before lockdown. All the old nesting material was placed under protective covers to be left through spring and summer, so that any bees that were over-wintering could emerge safely.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_PvNwIUQvvEmVUD9lZqiw





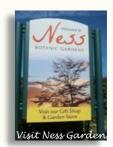
The Bee Bank



The Bug Hotel



Making Drilled Logs for Bee Nesting



BURTON MERE WETLANDS

An Exciting Autumn Ahead

Despite the obvious challenges, we enjoyed another vibrant wildlife-filled summer, shared with a steadily growing number of visitors. We were gradually able to open more of the visitor facilities, including an impressive raised viewpoint just a short walk from the visitor centre (which is still closed) and one of our three hides, allowing excellent views of the growing flocks of birds on the main scrape.

Last time, we reported the marsh harriers still feeding young in the nest, and in late July we were delighted to see two juveniles fledge, with frequent entertaining flights over the wetlands. Another highlight in August was the appearance of three spotted crakes, a scarce UK breeder related to the more common water rail; an adult and two juveniles was a strong suggestion that they nested on the reserve here again this year.

Another summer star of recent years, the spoonbill, has been largely absent from Burton Mere Wetlands, but visitors to Parkgate have been able to enjoy a flock of eight regularly seen feeding in Boathouse flash at the north end of The Parade since July.

Autumn is an exciting time of year for wildlife spectacles on an estuary, with skeins of geese being the more obvious arrivals but an array of waders on migration too; curlew sandpiper and little stint being the most sought after, but ruff, greenshank and spotted redshank also noteworthy staples.





Marsh Harrier



Spotted Crake



Curlew Sandpiper

Pictures Courtesy of RSPB



Boathouse Flash



RSPB Main Hide



Providing Safe Access



Inside a Hide

This autumn there is excitement of another kind, in the shape of some much-anticipated infrastructure work that sees the culmination of a five-year project. The reserve's original hide, lovingly known to some as 'Inner Marsh Farm', is approaching its fourth decade and not in keeping with the modern facilities opened in 2011. A replacement hide will be installed and the path to reach it is being made fully accessible and will include a sizeable length of new boardwalk.

Some of this work is already underway and will continue into November but all being well the new hide will be unveiled before the worst of the winter weather sets in. Inevitably there will be strict Covid-safe measures to follow throughout the reserve as there already are in the Bunker hide which is open for visitors. Similarly, we're working hard behind the scenes on planning how to safely reinstate visitor access to the other hides and critically, the visitor centre with its panoramic windows and cosy wood pellet stove.

We are hopeful of resuming our mail order shop service by October, which works just the same as ordering from our online shop except you are supporting nature conservation on your doorstep.

It's likely the rest of the visitor centre will be used to provide limited seating for visitors to enjoy our light refreshments with some shelter from the weather but no less of a view than outdoors, and again we anticipate being able to offer this before the end of autumn.

For full details and news, check our website blog at rspb.org.uk/burtonmerewetlands and you can follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

We hope to see you down on the Reserve soon.

Find out
what's been
going on
down the
Garden Path

Autumn Tints

There was such a blaze of colour both in the front and rear gardens. The roses are

in full bloom
again and the
sea hollies have
turned into
wonderful blue
'blooms' as
well as the
stalks – perfect
for flower
arranging.



However, as the year moves on, so the colours in the garden change.

The leaves on the cornus are turning into bright red, the rowans are heavy with lovely red berries and the holly has masses of green berries. Unfortunately, this bush will have to be pruned as it is growing out of control!

To date, the sweet peas are still in bloom, but the perfume is not so strong, and many plants are dying.

The gladioli finally flowered and were lovely. They were mostly white and peach, but a dark peach/yellow also appeared.



Some hydrangeas
– a dark blue,
mauve, blue and
pink lacecaps –
have more florets
than the others.
The dahlias have



been beautiful and should continue to bloom until frosts blacken the leaves, when they will be cut down and covered with grass cuttings hopefully to survive the winter. This method has worked in the past so fingers crossed!

The camellias and rhododendrons continue to be well watered and the former have regular cold tea treatment. This seems to work well as camellias are part of the tea family.

Mr and Mrs Bullfinch no longer visit the garden, but there are plenty of gold/greenfinches, 6 long-tailed tits, great/blue tits, Robbie Robin and Jenny Wren, who is always heard, but not seen.

Tasks to be getting on with in your garden:

- Keep dead heading flowers to continue new growth
- Plant Spring-flowering bulbs
- Prune tall roses by one-third to prevent wind rock

Stay safe and enjoy the garden! Most of all, enjoy the garden.

Florí Bunda

The NHS COVID-19 app helps protect your loved ones and community faster by:



Quickly alerting you if you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for Coronavirus.



Anonymously notifying anyone you have been in contact with if you enter a positive Coronavirus test result.



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Allowing you to check in to venues using a QR scanner, so you can be notified quickly and anonymously if there's an outbreak.

Live life safely.

All together)

NHS

Protect your loved ones. Get the app.







NESTON LIBRARY





Libraries Week will take place between the 5 and 10 October, celebrating libraries and their vital role in the UK's book culture Libraries Week

Look out for book recommendations throughout the week via <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>. Why not encourage others to sign up for the library and discover a world of reading? We've thousands of eBooks, audio downloads and eMagazines for you to borrow.

Click here to join online

Email <u>libraries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk</u> for queries or assistance.

Telephone: 0151 337 4670





Coronavirus

Be aware of refund scams. If you receive a text or email from HMRC offering you a tax refund, it's a scam.

yvernment has taken iger eps to list coronavirus as a no. Ne disease in law As a precautic easure against COVID-19 in co. ation with National Insurance National Health Servic be overnment established tax and programme for deals to ronavirus outbreak in it

You are eligible to get a tax refund (rebate) of 128.34 GBP.



LOCAL PCSO LINDA CONWAY

I am writing this on a glorious September afternoon. It feels like summer and on my patrols around Burton, Puddington & Shotwick today I have seen plenty of walkers, cyclists and horse riders enjoying the great weather.



Please remember how vulnerable these road users are and always show them consideration, especially on the rural roads which often have no pavements or streetlights. Rural roads are usually

narrow and there may well be extra hazards such as bends, hills, and hidden driveways. Only pass cyclists and horse riders when you have a clear view of the road ahead, slow down and give them extra room.

As a guide, leave a space of 2 metres between your vehicle and them and pass at speeds of around 15 mph.



Before we know it, the darker mornings and evenings will be here so if you are out walking or riding please ensure you are wearing high-viz/reflective clothing and that your bike has working lights both front and rear.

The Little Neston and Burton area now has an additional Police Officer assigned to it, PC Jeremy Frankel.

PC Frankel has attended at one of the recent PCSO Drop-In Surgeries which are usually held at Ness Village Hall. We are there to answer any of your queries. Check for upcoming dates on the Neston & Parkgate Police Facebook page.



From the Parish Registers

Funeral

31 July

- Guy Simon Taunton
- 23 September
- Hilda Bond





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publication

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Beginners and returners are all welcome and equipment can be provided











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andrewcollin@btinternet.com



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Community & Society Information

Due to the Government's Covid-19 restriction most Societies are unable to hold meetings at the moment but when the restrictions are lifted eventually they are sure to want to offer interesting and informative programmes of events

THE BURTON SOCIETY

For information please contact Janey Griffiths 0151 336 3621

THE PUDDINGTON SOCIETY

For 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 of Burton An annual charge of £5 per household is payable from April burtonresidentsassociation.co.uk

BURTON AND NESTON HISTORY SOCIETY

For information please contact Robert Thrift on 0151 336 1771

BURTON WALKING GROUP

For information please contact John Nuttall on 0151 336 7178

BURTON BRIDGE CLUB

For information please contact Hazel Huxley 0151 336 2288.

FRIENDS OF BURTON MANOR GARDENS

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

LOCAL POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER (PCSO) LINDA CONWAY

You can contact Linda by emailing linda.conway@cheshire.pnn.police.uk or by calling her Police Mobile Number 07824 609048.

You can also reach Linda at: www.cheshire.police.uk/little-neston-and-burton
Facebook: Little Neston and Burton Police
Twitter: LilNestonBurPol In an emergency, dial 999.
For general enquires and non-urgent assistance, dial 101.

The deadline for the next edition for copy & advertisers is 13 November Magazine Administrator - sue@suebirch.com The Parish Magazine is published by the PCC of St Nicholas' Church, Burton-in-Wirral,

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The PCC 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

This magazine is published bi-monthly, six times a year. It is distributed to residents in the villages of Burton and Puddington and to others. In addition the magazine is available on the St Nicholas' Church website

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