



# The Parish Magazine

*& Community News*

St Nicholas' Church, Burton-in-Wirral

April & May 2021

EASTER EDITION

*In This Edition*

*Easter Services Taking Place at St Nicholas' Church*

*Justin Welby's Reflection on the Covid-19 Crisis*

*Fascinating History of Burton's Water Supply*

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*Growing & Thriving With God  
in Our Community*

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## ***The Story of Easter (abridged)***

Jesus had many enemies who wanted to be rid of him.

Jesus knew that he had only a short time left. The

Thursday before he died, Jesus invited the disciples to have supper with him. It was their last meal together.

"Remember me," Jesus told them, "when you eat the bread and drink the wine. I am going to live with my Father in heaven, but I will be with you wherever you go."

On Friday, soldiers arrested Jesus and nailed him to a cross. Jesus said to God: "Father, forgive them. They know not what they do." When Jesus died, his friends placed his body in a cave and covered the cave entrance with a rock.

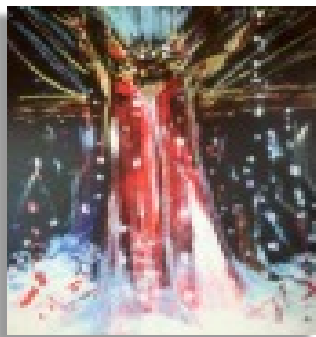
On Sunday, a friend of Jesus named Mary Magdalene went to the cave. The rock had been rolled away! The cave was empty! An angel appeared and said: "Peace be with you. Jesus is risen from the dead!"

Jesus came back to visit his friends. He told them to teach about God's love. "Tell the people," said Jesus, "to believe in me even if they can't see me." And then Jesus went up to heaven to live with his Father.

***For the full account - [Click Here](#)***

Rev Cathy Helm

## *The Vicar Writes . . .*



### *‘Are you sitting comfortably?’*

I would imagine that most of you have completed the sentence in your mind with ‘and now shall we begin?’ along with the memories of Jackanory or story times in years gone by. Storytelling has long been part of the human experience.

For thousands of years, stories have been told, collected, and passed on through subsequent generations. Through stories we can begin to explore who we are and where we might go, they help us to learn from the past so we can hopefully step into a better future.

The ancient Celts loved their stories and had an old tradition known as ‘passing the harp’ where communities would gather and tell their stories around the fire with food and drink flowing. Sounds wonderful! The way we tell stories has largely moved away from the oral tradition into books, movies, TV dramas and now in digital platforms, but however expressed, stories are important.

This Easter, can we make the time to sit and read again the full story of Jesus, who through his death and resurrection is now able to be part of our story too?

### *Tell me the old, old story*

*Tell me the old, old story  
Of unseen things above  
Of Jesus and His glory,  
Of Jesus and His love.  
Tell me the story simply,  
As to a little child;  
For I am weak and weary,  
And helpless and defiled.*

*Tell me the story slowly,  
That I may take it in –  
That wonderful redemption,  
God’s remedy for sin.  
Tell me the story often,  
For I forget so soon;  
The early dew of morning  
Has passed away at noon.*

Continued ...



Have a read of John's account Chapters 18, 19 and 20. Where would you place yourself within that story? How would you feel, hearing the voices, sounds, emotions, and fear as the events unfold through the arrest, crucifixion and the joy and amazement of the resurrection? Would you be in the crowd watching on the side lines or sobbing at the foot of the cross?

I believe this is the greatest story ever told, this story shows how much Almighty God has loved the people he created.

***'God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.'*** John 3:16

This story tells us that Jesus loved us enough to stretch out his arms in love and take upon himself all the wrong we have ever done and will ever do. This story resonates with us as it includes the failures, the mistakes, and the fear.

As the disciples tell their account of what they have seen to be true about their friend Jesus, the story continues as it transforms their lives and turns their fear into hope, their grief into joy and their confusion into certainty.

... Continued

*Tell me the same old story,  
When you have cause to fear  
That this world's empty glory  
Is costing me too dear;  
And when the Lord's bright glory  
Is dawning on my soul,  
Tell me the old, old story:  
"Christ Jesus makes thee whole."*

*Katherine Hankey*

In the years ahead, we may well be asked for our story of 2020-21, our Lockdown story. What sustained us, what was it like and how did we cope? We will all have our own story to tell. Have we been sitting comfortably or is our experience anything but? Or both? Will we be able to say how our faith has sustained us or perhaps the reality is more how it has felt like being in a desert, where God has felt distant, and loneliness crippling?

Whatever our story, both now and in the future, this Easter we can still ask Jesus to be part of it. When we do, we will experience all the riches of his grace, forgiveness for our mistakes, and a new life with purpose and hope.

And, wherever our story takes us next, Jesus promises to be with us, always!

*Cathy*

*'There must be always remaining in every life, someplace for the singing of the angels, some place for that which in itself is breathless and beautiful'.*

Lord, Lord, open unto me.

Open unto me, light for my darkness.

Open unto me, courage for my fear.

Open unto me, hope for my despair.

Open unto me, peace for my turmoil.

Open unto me, joy for my sorrow.

Open unto me, strength for my weakness.

Open unto me, wisdom for my confusion.

Open unto me, forgiveness for my sins.

Open unto me, tenderness for my toughness.

Open unto me, love for my hates.

Open unto me, Thy self for myself.

Lord, Lord, open unto me.

*Howard Thurman from Meditations of the Heart.*

## **PSALM 78:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> My people, listen to my teaching.

Pay attention to what I say.

<sup>2</sup> I will open my mouth and tell a story. I will speak about things that were hidden.

They happened a long time ago.

<sup>3</sup> We have heard about them and we know them. Our people who lived before us have told us about them.

<sup>4</sup> We won't hide them from our children. We will tell them to those who live after us.

We will tell them what the Lord has done that is worthy of praise.

We will talk about his power and the wonderful things he has done.

LOOK TO THE LORD  
AND HIS STRENGTH;  
SEEK HIS FACE  
ALWAYS.

1 Chronicles 16:11

## ***From the Parish Registers***

**Funeral**

***17 February***

**- Brian John Totty**

***23 March***

**- Mary Letitia Clarke**

***25 March***

**- Gary John Gorman**

## **Church Services at Easter**

As we are now able to hold services in church for those able to attend, the services for Holy week will be a mixture of Zoom, email and in church. Services for Easter Sunday will be at 10.00am in Burton and at 11.30am in Shotwick.

Once again it will not be possible to hold a Walk of Witness on Good Friday 2 April so St Nicholas' Church in Burton and St Michael's Church in Shotwick will each hold a Good Friday service at 2.00pm. As usual all the services will be available via email and the Zoom links will also be sent out for the Maundy Thursday service as well as the Easter Sunday Evensong service.

# JUSTIN WELBY

Archbishop of Canterbury  
BBC Thought for the Day

Tuesday 23 March 2021

## COVID-19 CRISIS

NATIONAL DAY OF REFLECTION



A year ago we went into lockdown. We measure the losses since in deaths. We measure them also in so many other ways. Lost days at school. Lost contacts with friends and families. Lost opportunities to hug, to touch, to say hello, to say farewell. The losses in the economy that affect our lives and futures. The losses of sport and other great occasions, of festivals and mass gatherings in the arts and music. The loss of choices.

Covid has touched everything and everyone. Unconnected events have been changed. Weddings, funerals, birth celebrations, falling in love, dating, mourning and celebrating... Going to work, going to friends, going for a walk, going shopping. Everything we do has been different.

One of the great songs of lament to God in the bible begins "by the rivers of Babylon we sat down and wept." An anniversary is a time to lament, to mourn, to sit and weep for what could have been and is not. Pause for a while today, remember what has been lost, above all who has been lost. Lament - for to do so is to honour and treasure.

*Continued ...*



# JUSTIN WELBY

Archbishop of Canterbury  
BBC Thought for the Day

Tuesday 23 March 2021

## COVID-19 CRISIS

NATIONAL DAY OF REFLECTION



*... Continued*

As a Christian I follow and love Jesus Christ who loved and mourned his friends, his country, suffering.

Anniversaries are also moments of new beginnings. It is just a day. But it is also a moment. And one of the signs of being human - of being spiritual as well as material - is that we make moments that pass into moments of significance.

The anniversary calls on us to ask, where we are going?

Shortly Christians will celebrate Easter, when we believe Jesus Christ rose from the dead and showed the victory of God's life. Jews will celebrate Passover, the liberation from slavery in Egypt, and next month Muslims will observe the holy month of Ramadan.

What do we want to build as a society? Surely it is a living memorial to loss - and an expression of what we long for. Imagine it; then let us strive for a society that is just and good, that speaks of the victory of life and hope.

To hear the broadcast [Click Here](#)

As this is the second year in which Mothers' Union has been unable to meet for its usual Lenten Meditation, Geoffrey Parsons prepared one on the theme of 'Reflections'.

Members were each sent a hard copy to use in their own time at home. *Thank you, Geoffrey.*



Mothers' Union members were all saddened to hear that Gary Gorman died very suddenly on 27 February. This was a huge shock, and his wife Sue and the family are constantly in our prayers.

## THE POWER OF PRAYER

Mothers' Union members each have a Prayer Diary and the reflection for April – June is written by Kathleen Snow (MU Trustee for South America, USA, Canada, and the West Indies).

She begins:

The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." (James 5:16)

One blessing during the COVID-19 pandemic was how our Mothers' Union members came together worldwide through prayer. We prayed for one another on WhatsApp, on Zoom, during Midday Prayers on Facebook and when able to in person, physically distancing and wearing masks. We did what we do best – when we are faced with trials, we pray.

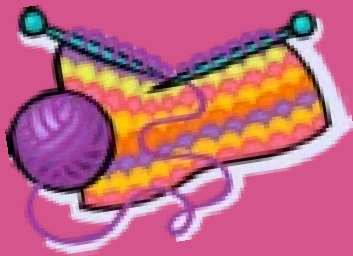
Our prayers do make a difference – God never lets us down. He answers our prayers in his time and in his way. He hears our prayers as we pull our lives together. But we can become distracted from focusing on Jesus when our lives are in turmoil. Peter became distracted when Jesus invited him to walk on water to meet him. We need to keep our focus and cry 'help!' when we are drowning.

Jon, a priest and friend shared with me, 'It's all about Jesus. Jesus is large and in charge and he hasn't left the building'. He reminded me of three things we can do:

1. *Pray for direction.*
2. *Wait for direction.*
3. *Follow direction.*

*And leave the rest to Jesus.*

# Knitted Blankets by the Ladies of St Nicholas' Church



We had an amazing number of knitted blankets to donate to the homeless this year.

Due to the Covid-19 crisis, the blankets couldn't be given out in the usual way, so they were taken to the Share Shop in Chester. This is an organisation that operates specifically to help the homeless by providing services and fundraising.

As the blankets were being given out individually, a note was included with each one.

The most important thing about the blankets is that they represent a labour of love and show our care for those less fortunate.

A huge thanks to all the ladies who have knitted diligently as well as the ladies who have been responsible for piecing them together. And special thanks to Janey Griffiths, without whose organisational skills this project wouldn't have got off the ground.



**Bishop Wilson Church of England Primary**  
"The joy of the Lord is your strength" Nehemiah 8:10



## EVERYONE HAS RISEN TO THE OCCASION!

It was not the start to the year that we had hoped for in school, but as ever our wonderful children, staff and parents have risen to the occasion.

Everyone has had to learn new ways of doing things and there have been a few hiccups along the way, but everyone has adapted very quickly. There have been class Zoom meetings at the beginning and the end of each day to answer any questions about online learning that has been set; read stories; and keep everyone at home and in school connected. There has been online worship (a special thank you to Cathy Helm for being involved with her wonderful videos). There have been daily online learning tasks delivering all of the lessons that would normally happen, albeit with some adaptations. All of the work has been uploaded on to Teams and marking and feedback has been electronic.



There has been a huge amount of work undertaken by the children (and staff) and some wonderful work submitted. One of my personal favourites involved a photo of a full party spread prepared and shared with family. This was in response to a task about Luke 14: 15-24. How would you feel if your friends wouldn't come to your party?

Another favourite was a video clip of an adapted curling activity on a kitchen floor for PE. The family found better items to curl with than my suggestions and there was a very good score.

There have been a few superstars who have 'gone above and beyond' but everyone has done fantastically well as each family has faced their own different set of challenges during this time. Well done to everyone involved!

It was so lovely to welcome the children back on 8 March and to see so many happy faces delighted to be back with us. Our Easter activities planned for church will now be taking place in school. We are still in class bubbles, practising social distancing and regularly washing hands, but we are back and looking forward to getting back to something more normal.

Best Wishes,

*Suzanne Roberts*

**Head of School**

**& Everyone at Bishop Wilson C of E Primary School**





# Children and Families Worker

Ruth Abbott, Lay Reader at St Nicholas' Church, writes



As part of its plan for the future of the church and as we hopefully come out of lockdown, we intend to focus our efforts on the possibility of employing a Children and Families worker.

Some of the key issues recently identified by the church included:

- a lack of family connection with older community members, who may feel lonely; and
- working parent families, who feel separated from their wider family over distance.

Also, we have several families with children who have additional needs and we want to be able to support them as best we can. Although our volunteers are dedicated and supportive individuals, we lack the appropriate expertise. In particular we can no longer run a much-needed mother and toddler group as our volunteers lack the capacity to undertake the role.

We know that for our church family to grow and still serve the community in ten years' time, we need to grow our work supporting children and families in the parish. Funding has been applied for, but it is very important at this stage that the whole church starts thinking and praying for this person, and for ways in which we can support the project as this will have benefits for all ages in the congregation.

## 'Standing together against the climate crisis'.



Climate chaos is one of the greatest injustices the world's poor face, with droughts becoming more frequent in third world countries. Millions of people are struggling to get enough food and water, whilst elsewhere floods threaten the lives and livelihoods of millions more.

Christian Aid Week arrives in the very near future, with once again the difficulties that wretched Covid creates for money-raising. It rules out personal distribution of envelopes for you to make your very thoughtful contributions to the wonderful work of Christian Aid. Instead, we will be appealing to you to kindly donate something *online* to this hugely worthwhile charity. It's very easy to do, and details will be circulated at the beginning of May. There will also be some envelopes at the back of church for contributions from internet haters!

Our locally produced recipe book '*Favourite Lunches and Munches*' is full of useful and tasty recipes and it has already been enjoyed by quite a number of you. Word gets around and it brought requests for more copies! It's free, with an optional (hopefully generous!) donation to Christian Aid.



I have collected a few extra copies, so just give me a ring on 336 3621 if you would like one. You will benefit from good recipes, and those who have no food at all will benefit even more.

Thank you to everyone for your ongoing support for Christian Aid, and please look out for details of Christian Aid Week.

Janey Griffiths

# Tales from the Wirral Foodbank

In late March, as the lockdown started to lift, the Wirral Foodbank re-opened seven distribution centres and the Wirral Council closed its emergency food hub. In central Birkenhead there are two centres (open six days a week between them), and other centres in Eastham, New Ferry, North Birkenhead, Wallasey and Moreton.

Both the rates of food donation and distribution are a few percent higher than a year ago (pre-lockdown) and the Foodbank has added a second Citizens Advice Bureau counsellor to the Foodbank Plus programme. The aim of the programme is to resolve the cause of hunger. Although there's a tiny number of people we see repeatedly, for the majority our paths cross fleetingly. The counsellors' assistance in getting people the help they need is invaluable.

Donation levels of food and cash at supermarkets and from churches and workplaces continue to meet the demand – as always thanks to you. It's rather early to predict how the rest of the year will pan out. Many foodbank volunteers hope that we'll be able to get back to the more social process we used in what seems the deep and distant past.

For some clients, the opportunity to chat about their life makes a huge difference on its own. We're much less able to do that

WIRRAL FOODBANK  
**EMERGENCY FOOD  
FOR LOCAL PEOPLE  
IN CRISIS**

at the moment (although we sometimes cheat a little – don't tell the boss). Perhaps by the next issue of the magazine we'll be planning to take that step.

*As always, many thanks for your support, which makes all the difference to too many people.*

**EVERY  
DONATION  
MAKES A  
DIFFERENCE.**



*Pictures - Wirral Foodbank*

**VOLUNTEER & DONATE**

**DONATE MONEY**

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

[wirral.foodbank.org.uk](http://wirral.foodbank.org.uk)



# Burton Village & Its Historic Water Supply

**John Roe**

Following on from Jenny Schwarz's interesting and informative article on Hampston's Well (Station Road, Burton) in the Christmas edition of the magazine, John Roe brings the story up to date ...

Originally, Neston District Council sank boreholes off Lees Lane, Little Neston to provide water. This filled an underground storage reservoir which was pumped to a water tower on Willaston Road above the Hinderton crossroads' traffic lights.

By 1900, this supplied piped water to Burton. The Manor and some of the larger houses were connected, and standpipe taps were provided for the villagers. They were sited opposite The Croft against the Manor wall (about where the new gateway is) and on the side of the road beside the steps up to Rock Cottage.

The Gladstone Village Hall was connected for the kitchens, and two flush toilets, a new experience for most villagers.

By the time that the second pair of 'New Gladstone Cottages' were built, the Gladstones decided that water should be piped inside Bank and Hawthorne Cottages, and into the first pair.



This decision came about after Mrs Alf Kemp from Woodside, the first cottage after the Hall, was carrying water home from the standpipe at Rock Cottage and met Lady Maude Gladstone. Mrs Kemp, who was pregnant at the time, told Lady Maude that she thought that by this time [1908] water should be piped at least to the back door of the cottages. After some consideration, Lady Maude decided that water should be piped right inside the cottages, with sinks and drains also provided.

Until sometime in the late 1950s, we continued to have water supplied from Neston, which was from a limestone source. Consequently the water was very hard and the kettles furred up easily and required descaling at regular intervals. It was however most palatable, and had several health benefits.

Because the piped water was hard, rainwater butts were valued for the soft water they provided.

This was used for hair washing or other tasks when 'a good lather' was required.

Today we have much softer water which I believe is extracted from the upper reaches of the River Dee.



# Friends of Hampstons Well

A community group, The Friends of Hampstons Well, has been formed to maintain and appreciate this special place. The Friends are working in partnership with

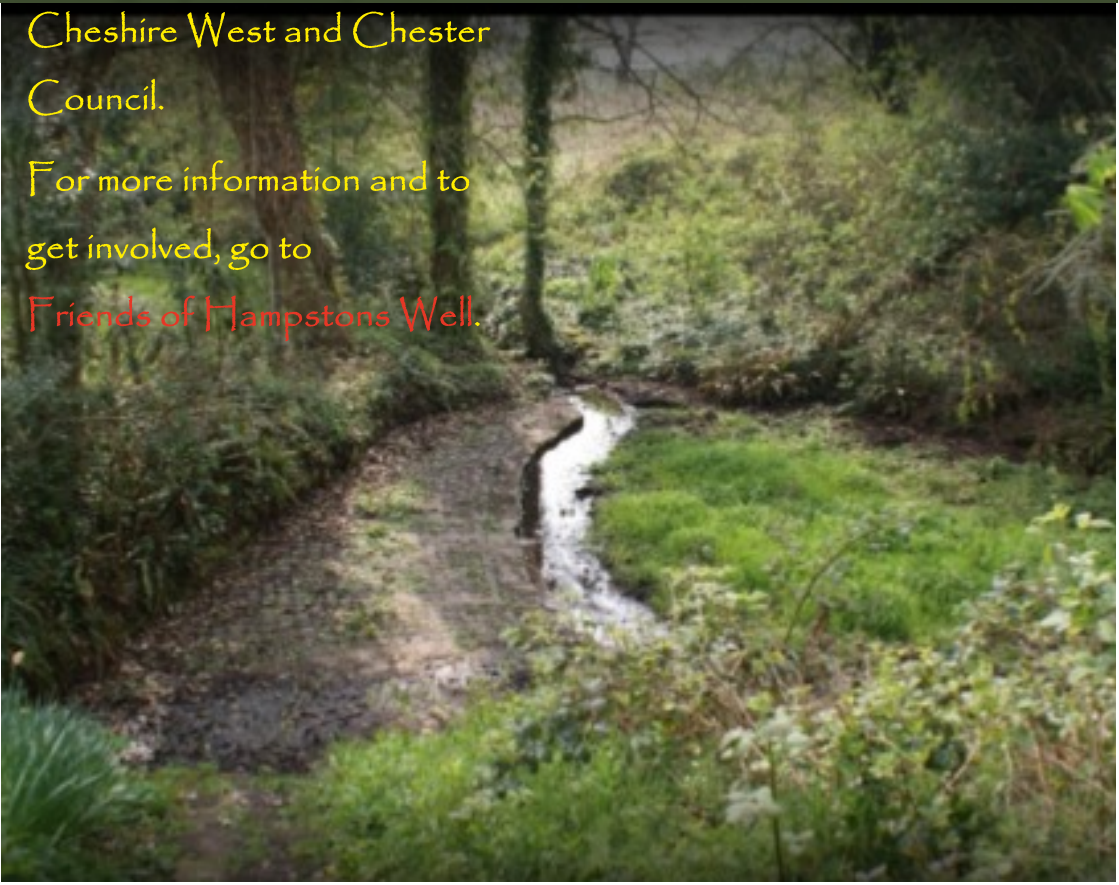
Cheshire West and Chester Council.

For more information and to get involved, go to

Friends of Hampstons Well.



Inscription referencing 1602  
and the origins of the well







*If you like what you see ...*

*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:*

*[burtonchurchcomms@btinternet.com](mailto:burtonchurchcomms@btinternet.com)*

# ***PARKING WARS***

***ERUPT IN BURTON !***

© John Nuttall

**FAKE NEWS**

**READ ON ...**

## Filming in Burton

There was much excitement in Burton on 6 March when a crew descended on the village to film scenes for a new TV adaptation of *The Ipcress File*.

Shooting took place by Burton Manor and the Rake (renamed Hill Street for the day). Traffic was held for takes, but the village was completely shut down late in the afternoon so they could 'blow up' a car! Of course, it was not a real explosion, but a controlled simulation involving a special effect. Those of us who heard the 'big bang' and saw the plume of smoke can confirm it seemed real enough!

*The Ipcress File*, by Len Deighton, introduces the iconic British spy Harry Palmer and is set against the backdrop of the Cold War. The novel has sold 10 million copies worldwide since it was first published in 1962.

It has been adapted by Oscar nominated and BAFTA award winning writer John Hodge into a six-part television series produced by Altitude Television for ITV. Starring Joe Cole as Harry Palmer alongside Lucy Boynton as Jean and the BAFTA award winning actor, Tom Hollander as Dalby, it's being directed by Emmy award-winner James Watkins.

Coming to an ITV screen later this year. Keep an eye out for it!



Credit: ITV

Lucy Boynton and her co-star Joe Cole were spotted filming a new six-part adaptation of *The Ipcress File*



Credit: Colin Kerrigan





*Burton & Puddington*

# *Gladstone Village Hall*



## **Hopes Grow for Social Events ...**

### *If and When the Covid-19 Crisis Eventually Subsides*

As Spring returns life is also beginning to slowly flow back to our hall and we have hope of being able to gather once again in social groups.

Once again, we can show folks what a special place our Village Hall is for Vintage Weddings or Christening celebrations, or for family groups wanting to reunite or for special birthday celebrations.



And for residents of Puddington and Burton our Village Hall is nothing without its community. Farmers markets, treasure hunts, a summer social and a community cafe are just some ideas we have planned. We await with anticipation the return of our much-loved clubs (Bowls, Tennis, Cricket, Snooker, Walking) and other group activities such as Karate, Yoga, Pilates, Bridge, Popcats, Messy Church and a lot more besides.

To arrange to hire the hall or for more information call 0151 665 0870 or email [info@gladstonevillagehall.org](mailto:info@gladstonevillagehall.org). And, don't forget that Puddington and Burton residents receive a discount when hiring the hall.

## **Gardening Club**

Can you spare as little as a couple of hours a month to join our friendly new gardening club? There'll be some planting, pruning and weeding to do as well as drinking of tea!

To get involved call us on 0151 665 0870 or email [info@gladstonevillagehall.org](mailto:info@gladstonevillagehall.org)



# Congratulations go to the Gift Café at Puddington!



*Daffodils in Puddington*

The Café has been awarded a grant from Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner David Keane's Community Police Fund.

They worked with our local policing team to develop the bid to ensure it addressed local community safety issues including Covid-19 and specifically inclusion for all. The grant will cover the purchase of a marquee style, outdoor area with flooring to help bring people together to enjoy activities outdoors and which are all dementia inclusive. The structure will be located in the grounds of the Café.



Service Development Manager, Caroline Hutton said:

"We can't wait to get going! First things first, we will be shopping for an appropriate structure and flooring to ensure the recent weather we have witnessed does not prohibit its use. Add some tables and chairs (socially distanced!) and activities from physical activity, bird watching, singing and anything else you

can think of and we will be able to do our part in re-building people's confidence and outlook, whether they are affected by dementia or not. We look forward to welcoming you all when the time is right!"

They will be using the marquee for Admiral Nurse drop-in sessions where people caring for someone living with dementia can come along and receive support. They will also be reinstating their Memory Cafes - a chance to chat, make new friends in a relaxed environment. It is a great place to come for those living with dementia, their friends, family and carers. You can get updates on activities and opening times on the Gift Café Puddington [Facebook](#) page or on their website. [Click Here](#).

THE COMMUNITY POLICE FUND links directly to the recently launched initiative to increase police visibility in every community in Cheshire by providing a dedicated Police Constable (PC) and Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for all 122 policing communities. The fund has been developed using money seized under the Proceeds of Crime Act (PoCA) 2002 to send a clear message to criminals that crime doesn't pay. To find out more [Click Here](#).

# FANTASTIC FOOD Right On Your Doorstep

When you live in Burton or Puddington, you don't have to travel far to get wonderful food! Here's a run-down of what's available on our doorstep.

The café in the grounds of Burton Manor is currently open Monday - Saturday 9.30am - 1.30pm for takeaway food and drinks. As of 12 April, the outside area will re-open. More information at [Burtons at the Manor](#)



## Fresh Local Produce at the Burton Farmers' Market

After last year's successful event, the Farmers' Market will be returning to GVH on 5 June with wonderful artisan stalls selling fresh produce, including rare meat, locally grown veg, the best homemade cakes and much more. The market will be set up on the field and Covid-19 guidelines will be followed.

Check [Gladstone Village Hall](#) for updates.



# FANTASTIC FOOD Right On Your Doorstep

## Dough & Go - Traditional Stone-Baked Pizzas.

Served from their mobile pizzeria in the GVH car park, on Wednesdays, 4:30pm to 8.00pm. All the pizzas are made to order using fresh locally sourced ingredients. Menus and more information at [Dough & Go](#). This service has been operating since last November and is extremely popular, and they advise that you pre order to avoid disappointment.



1. Send a WhatsApp message or text message with your order and preferred collection time. You can also pre order over the phone on 07483 888091 (if you do, move straight to step 4).
2. You'll receive a reply confirming your order and collection time.
3. Send a confirmation that you are happy with the available time slot.
4. Pay on collection.



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## GIFT CAFÉ, PUDDINGTON

*During the most recent lockdown, the Gift Café has been open on Sundays (11.00am to 4.00pm) for takeaway food only. They have also been doing special afternoon teas (sweet and savoury) for special occasions!*

*As guidelines change, they hope to step up trade and open the gardens. More information and updates at [Gift Café Puddington](#).*



# FANTASTIC FOOD Right On Your Doorstep

## The Celtic Arms

The 'Heat @ Home Sunday Lunch' takeaway is available for collection from Gladstone Village Hall on Sunday mornings.

More information and the weekly menu is available at [CelticArms.com](http://CelticArms.com).

Ordering is simple:

1. Email your choices to [info@thecelticarms.co.uk](mailto:info@thecelticarms.co.uk) (please include your telephone number).
2. A member of staff will contact you to confirm your order and collect payment.
3. You will be allocated a collection time on Sunday morning from GVH.



**Jones Farm Shop** is a family-run business selling fresh produce from their farm on Heath Lane in Childer Thornton.

They offer a range of fresh vegetable, fruit, and salad boxes, delivered to your home. You can also add local wildflower honey, Cheshire eggs, black garlic and much more.

Open Thursday to Saturday - For more information and to order visit [jonesfarmshop.co.uk](http://jonesfarmshop.co.uk)



# FANTASTIC FOOD Right On Your Doorstep

Victoria's Sandwich bakes a wide selection of fresh breads, signature sausage rolls, quiches and other savouries, as well as danish pastries, signature donuts, cakes, brownies, cookies and lots more. They use fresh high-quality ingredients including Organic Royal Warrant flours from Shipton Mill and local eggs from Raby Eggs. All available from their artisan bakery in Willaston Village, opposite the green, and for home delivery every Friday.



Delivery menus and details of how to order available at [Victoria's Sandwich](#). Bakery opening hours are: -

Tuesdays: 10.00am ~ 2.30pm

Thursdays: 10.00am ~ 2.30pm

Sundays: 9.30am ~ 12 noon

Tel 07437 823 890 [nextdoor](#)



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## The Old Bus Stop in Burton

*It no longer has buses stopping and is now a book exchange, sitting area and pop-up shop. Funds raised are used to improve the village street scene.*

*Regular food pop-up shops include Green Hearts Plant Based Kitchen, Sweet & Delicious, Sakinah's Malaysian Curry Pastes and Japanese Cakes by Sugarsalt Bakery. More information, and dates and times of pop-up shops at: [The Old Bus Stop, Burton](#).*





*To keep up to date with library news and be the first to know about upcoming events and activities, follow us on **Facebook** @cwaclibrary and Twitter @cwaclibraries.*

## ORDER & COLLECT SERVICE

Our Order & Collect service is still available at Neston Library, Monday 10.00am to 1.00pm, Thursday 2.00pm to 5.00pm and Saturday 10.00am to 1.00pm. For more information or to place an order visit the **Order and Collect** web page or telephone the library (0151 337 4670) during the above times.

## LOANS

Loans have been extended until 30 April 2021, and overdue charges suspended. You can check items on loan by **logging in to your account** or by calling 0300 123 7739 (24 hour line).

## READING FRIENDS

We have successfully received funding from the Reading Agency to deliver Reading Friends, a reading befriending programme that helps to start conversations and connect people who are vulnerable, isolated and at risk of loneliness. Reading Friends brings people together to read, share stories, meet new friends, and have fun, tackling the big life challenge of social isolation.

## NOT A READING GROUP

Not a Reading Group is not a book group as you know it. They meet informally every Friday at 11.00am currently on Zoom. There is no required reading and they don't discuss a specific title. Instead, they talk about the books they have read, those that they've enjoyed and those they would recommend to others. They believe escaping into the world of books is a very good way to spend an hour. Email [libraryevents@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:libraryevents@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk) for the Zoom details.

# Libraries

## ONLINE ELEVENSES

Join our online coffee morning every Thursday at 11.00am on Zoom with OPAL (Older People Active Lives). A chance to have a cuppa and chat and make new friends. There will also be guest speakers.

Email [libraryevents@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:libraryevents@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk) for the Zoom details

## CRAFT AND CHAT GROUP

We've had a great response to our first Craft and Chat sessions - the group meets every Wednesday at 10.30am to make fun projects and share ideas.

If you're interested in joining, then please email [libraryevents@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:libraryevents@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk) for the Zoom details and information about upcoming projects.

## MY CHESHIRE

Do you have somewhere in Cheshire that means a lot to you?

We've been working with the Museums service on a joint photography project sharing favourite local places. Share a photograph with us plus a few words to explain why and have a look at all the wonderful images already shared at <http://westcheshiremuseums.co.uk/my-cheshire/>.

Images can be from anywhere that used to be within the old historical boundaries of Cheshire (including the Wirral, Halton, Warrington, and Stockport).

Full details can be found through the link above.

# Spring at Ness Gardens

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

## Time to Spring into Action !

by Phil Kay (Head Gardener at Ness Botanic Gardens)

Warm sunshine, heavy dews, maybe a light frost, bulbs emerging, new shoots coming through, birds searching for nesting materials, the garden is waking up and it is time to get down to work. Phil Kay offers his list to get started this spring.

- Think about the year ahead and how you would like your garden to look, in terms of its flowering and shape and design. A simple relocation of planting or a new shape to your lawn.
- If you are thinking of carrying out any new planting then you will still have time before buds break, although it is too late for bare rooted plants.
- Don't rush right into clearing all of last year's debris although it's a job to come shortly. Many insects will still be benefitting from this shelter before the season ahead as they emerge.
- If you have spotted any plants that have become over-grown and are in need of being split then you still have time for this, again as early as you can before we hit late spring into summer.





# Spring at Ness Gardens

- You can carry out a select amount of pruning now. Some shrubs/ trees require this to be done in early spring and others later in spring after they have flowered. If you are not sure, research your plant and its pruning times.
- Many ornamental grasses can now be cut back and tidied up too. Some require a thorough prune others just a light raking through.
- Ensure your lawn mower and hand tools are in good order for the season ahead. Give your lawn mower a good service and also give your secateurs some TLC.
- If you are wanting to grow vegetables and fruit this year, ensure the beds are prepared and your bed plans are set. If you haven't already done so, sort through your existing seeds to check their condition and order any new ones you need.
- Take a good walk through your garden and if you can see any emerging perennial weeds start on the right foot and get them under control now before they run amok.

Also take the time to wonder at your emerging garden - it's a magnificent and exciting time of year.





# BURTON MERE WETLANDS

## *New Beginnings on the Horizon*

As outlined in the last edition, Burton Mere Wetlands was able to stay open for essential daily exercise for locals like yourselves. If you have been able to visit since the turn of the year, we hope you have enjoyed the natural therapy of the bustling wetlands and woodland. The reserve staff have been working hard throughout, both continuing the usual winter work on the land as well as ensuring the trails and toilets are kept to our usual standards of cleanliness.

Of recent interest was one of the rare male hen harriers that spent the winter on the Dee Estuary and was photographed with an identification ring on its leg. From this, it was identified as a Dutch bird that was ringed as a chick in May 2019; very important and interesting information to understand more about how these birds move around and help us in their protection and survival, and whilst we've occasionally been able to trace Scottish and Welsh hen harriers to the Dee, this is the first known record of a continental bird here.

Another symbol of winter here are the pink-footed geese; we recently counted a new record of more than 25,000 on the estuary, as they gather from further south on their northward migration to their breeding grounds in Iceland.

It's been another unsettled season. Heavy rainfall in mid-January led to the highest water levels ever seen on the reserve, and we had to close for a few days as some paths were completely flooded. February's repeat of the Beast from the East left much of the wetlands frozen solid for days. It delayed the return of the iconic avocets, one of our most special migratory breeding birds, by around ten days.



*Burton Mere Early Spring*



*Male Hen Harrier*



*Pink Footed Goose*

*Pictures Courtesy of RSPB*



Redshank



Wheatear



Bluebells on the Reserve



Come and visit

They're back in force now – more than 70 at the time of writing – and as the weather improves through March they waste no time in pairing up ready for nesting. The signs of spring are well and truly showing here, with fresh green shoots emerging, increased birdsong and a flurry of gathering nesting material. The sterling efforts by the warden team this winter, working incredibly hard to get the wader breeding habitat ready for the breeding season has really done the job. Lapwings and Redshanks are now showing encouraging signs claiming their breeding territories on the wet grassland.

We'll soon be welcoming back migrants like House Martins and Swallows, Wheatears, and an array of warblers, not to mention the site bursting into colour and life. One fantastic sight that we all missed last year was the incredible carpet of bluebells that covers our Gorse Covert every year. By mid-April they should be getting some colour, peaking in early May. Plus, April is the best time to see herons and egrets on their treetop nests before the trees come into leaf.

As the lockdown restrictions are slowly eased over the coming months, we can start gradually, as guidelines permit, welcoming more visitors back to the reserve. Our staffed welcome point outside the visitor centre is up and running again along with serving takeaway refreshments. All being well, by mid-April we should be able to reopen our mail order shop and hides and finally open for the first time the new, wheelchair-accessible Border hide. We can't wait to share all the improvements we have made and show off the wildlife we work so hard to protect through the donations of all our supporters.

For full details and news, check our website blog at [rspb.org.uk/burtonmerewetlands](https://rspb.org.uk/burtonmerewetlands) and you can follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) or call us on 0151 353 2720

# In the Garden with Flori Bunda



***It's mid March and it's such a wonderful time of the year!***

There's new growth everywhere and the garden ready to explode with colour.

The snowdrops, *Galanthus nivalis*, *Flore Pleno*, *Elwesii* and a new edition, namely *Beluga*, have been truly wonderful.



Camellias *Felice Harris* and *Lady Macon* are yet to come into full bloom. The hellebores are stunning, and the original primroses are so lovely.

Harry Lauder's *Walking Stick* has masses of catkins and the *Salix Kilmarnock*, a weeping variety of willow, has masses of 'pussy willows'.

The daffodils are not yet fully in bloom – *King Alfred*, *Tête-à-tête*, *Cheerfulness*, *Minnow*, *Thalia* and *Rip Van Winkle*, to name a few.

As the Spring holiday has been cancelled, the plan is to sow more seeds. So far, the varieties are *Annual Flower mix*, *Cosmos Seashells Mix*, and *Larkspur*.



A new dahlia (*El Paso*), and *Astrantia major* (both pink) have been planted in pots to grow prior to planting out.

The brown florets on the hydrangeas are to be trimmed off, and after the bulbs have ceased flowering, will be removed from various tubs to await the summer bedding.

The *Buddleia davidii* have been pruned hard back. When in bloom, they are a haven for bees and butterflies. The holly bush has grown out of control so it is to be reduced drastically!

A variety of feathered friends have visited the garden – long tailed/great tits, a few blue tits, gold/greenfinches, blackbirds, nuthatch and an actual sighting of Jenny Wren!



*Blackbird*

## **Tasks to be getting on with ...**

- Prepare greenhouse.
- Sow seeds.
- Remove brown florets off hydrangeas.
- Keep weeds under control.

**Happy Gardening**

*Flori Bunda*

A close-up photograph of a purple orchid flower in bloom. A bee is perched on the center of the flower, its body partially obscured by the petals. The flower has a vibrant purple color with a yellow and brown patterned center. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting a garden setting. The text "Enjoy Your Garden & Open Spaces" is overlaid in a yellow, cursive font in the upper right quadrant.

*Enjoy Your Garden  
& Open Spaces*



# Time to make a difference in Burton Village



A Community Projects  
Volunteer Group

Nature has had a hard time due to human activity since the Industrial Revolution and the pace of habitat destruction has increased massively in the last century. It is arguable that the natural world has been pushed up to, and possibly beyond, the point where it can recover.

Arguably, it is the responsibility of us all to do what we can to slow down the pace of decline and give nature a helping hand. After all, if the ecosystem shifts too much further, then the future of all life on earth could be called into question. Locally, Burton has an important role to play in redressing the balance. The village is a valuable oasis in an increasingly over-developed region and there is so much more that can and should be done. We cannot solve all the problems of the world, but inaction is no longer an option.

Susan Samuel, a village resident, has already made a start on trying to improve village biodiversity. To support this initiative money has been raised through the popular pop-up shops in the Old Bus Stop in Burton. This has enabled several nest boxes and roosting pouches to be purchased and erected around Burton as well as in the grounds behind Gladstone Village Hall. In addition bird feeders and a bug hotel have been created. There are also plans to site hedgehog houses in the area in which hedgehogs will be able to hibernate and it is hoped that bat boxes will be installed and wildlife friendly planting undertaken in future.



Nest Boxes



Bug Hotel

A very generous donation has been received from Gill Nicholson on behalf of Gordale Garden Centre to help provide a home for nature within Burton Village. To this end, 'We Love Burton' plan to meet with the RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands manager with a view to developing a biodiversity plan for Burton. Centred initially around Gladstone Village Hall it is hoped that the initiative will be rolled out to the wider area as and when funds and volunteers allow.

The 'We Love Burton' group would be delighted to hear from like minded volunteers who would be willing to work together to make lasting changes and make Burton Village an even better place to live - not just for our human residents, but for the vital wildlife that surrounds us, which all too often we take for granted, or even persecute.

Please take the time to get involved in this worthwhile and valuable project.

For more information please contact organiser Susan Samuel on:

0794 115 4073, or by emailing [susanjsamuel@aol.com](mailto:susanjsamuel@aol.com) or by 'liking' the Facebook page 'WeloveBurton'.

# COMMUNITY POLICING

Recently, I have received numerous reports about scam phone calls and emails, involving fraudsters trying to obtain personal information from you or trying to access your bank account.



The callers will usually pretend to be a well-known organisation or authority such as HMRC, DVLA, Amazon, Royal Mail etc.

They may use tactics such as threatening you with a fine if you do not comply.

If you feel under pressure or just feel that something isn't right, terminate the call and report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or online at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

The Little Book of Big Scams from Cheshire Police is designed to raise awareness of the varied ways in which fraudsters may seek to target you. It provides practical ways to protect yourself from falling prey to their crimes.



To see a copy online or to download a PDF version [Click Here](#)

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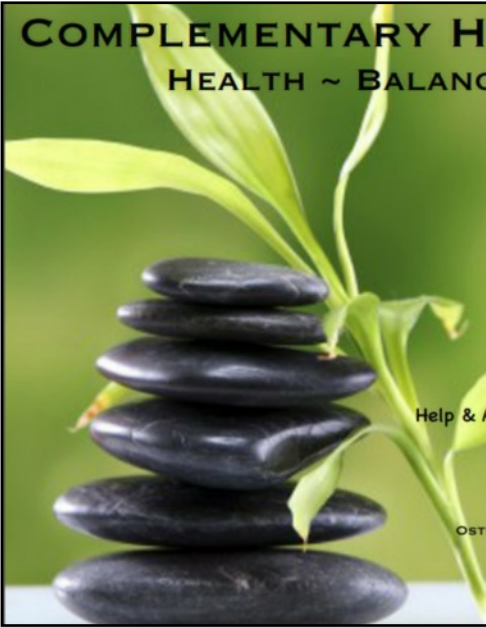
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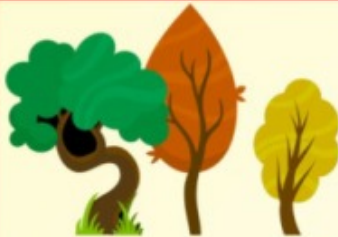
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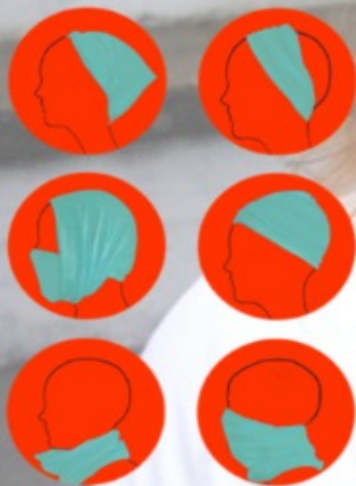
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## YOGA CLASSES

Classes are held on Tuesdays at Gladstone Village Hall, Burton 7.00pm to 8.30pm. - Hatha Yoga

Also on Mondays & Thursdays at the Burton Sports and Social Club - Chair Yoga 9.30 am to 10:30am

Beginners and returners are all welcome and equipment can be provided



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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](http://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**

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### **LOCAL POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER (PCSO) LINDA CONWAY**

You can contact Linda by emailing [linda.conway@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:linda.conway@cheshire.pnn.police.uk) or by calling her  
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You can also reach Linda at: [www.cheshire.police.uk/little-neston-and-burton](http://www.cheshire.police.uk/little-neston-and-burton)

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For general enquires and non-urgent assistance, dial 101.

***The deadline for the next edition for copy & advertisers is 18 May 2021  
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