



The Parish Magazine & Community News

St Nicholas' Church, Burton-in-Wirral

December & January

WINTER EDITION

In This Edition

Christmas Services and Events Throughout the Parish

Christmas Appeals for Foodbank and Local Mission

A Time for Everyone to Pause for Thought

*Growing & Thriving With God
in Our Community*

Church Directory

- who to contact ...



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CHURCH SERVICES



December 2021

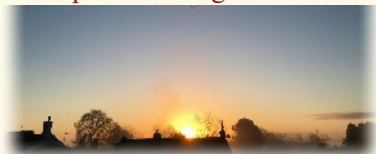
- 5 Second Sunday of Advent
10:00 am Holy Communion
4:00 pm Evensong
- 8 Wednesday
10:15 am Holy Communion
- 12 Third Sunday of Advent
10:00 am Morning Worship
- 15 Wednesday
10:15 am Holy Communion
- 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent
10:00 am Morning Worship
7:00 pm Nine Lessons & Carols
- 22 Wednesday
10:15 am Holy Communion
- 24 Christmas Eve
4:00 pm Carols round the tree
11:15 pm Midnight Holy Communion
- 25 Christmas Day
10:00 am Family Communion
- 26 First Sunday of Christmas
No Services
- 29 Wednesday
No Service

January 2022

- 2 Epiphany Sunday
10:00 am Morning Worship
4:00 pm Evensong
- 5 Wednesday
10:15 am Holy Communion
- 9 First Sunday of Epiphany
10:00 am Morning Worship
- 12 Wednesday
10:15 am Holy Communion
- 16 Second Sunday of Epiphany
8:45 am Holy Communion
(Traditional Service)
10:00 am Family Communion
- 19 Wednesday
10:15 am Holy Communion
- 23 Third Sunday of Epiphany
10:00 am Morning Worship
- 26 Wednesday
10:15 am Holy Communion
- 30 Fourth Sunday of Epiphany
10:00 am Morning Worship

February

- 2 Wednesday
10:15 am Holy Communion
- 6 Fifth Sunday of Epiphany
10:00 am Morning Worship
4:00 pm Evensong



The Winter Garden

Winter is here, and the garden lies dormant, hunkered down under decaying leaves, as if snuggled under a blanket and hoping for better things. Few plants dare show their faces, and those which do must run the gauntlet of the cold, and brave the icy touch of frost. Winter can be a harsh and unforgiving time – with shorter days, longer nights and serious challenges for many.

Those challenges are likely to be greater this year than ever. And yet, it has always been the role of the church of Jesus Christ to raise her voice amidst the chaos, to light her candle in the darkness.

Prayer:

Dear God, in the darkness of this season, we look for your light. In the cold, we look for the warmth of your near presence. Oh God, who turns the clock of the seasons in your hand, be near to us in every season of the soul, we pray. Just as you were there in the ebullience of the Spring, the sunshine of the Summer, and the golden glow of Autumn, may you be here now in our Winter too. May we worship you with heart and soul and mind and strength this day. Amen.



Sunday Worship 21/11/21



St Nicholas' Church is most grateful to lay readers and others for supporting church services during the current vacancy period prior to the appointment of a new vicar. In particular we appreciate the time and dedication of clergy from outside the parish who have agreed to assist at services. It has been a delight to welcome them to our church and to hear them preach.

**Ian
Urquhart**



**Alan
Leach**



**Alan
Dawson**



**Gordon
Welch**



Philip Hillman's Pause for Thought

A Personal Homily at Christmas Time



Philip Hillman

*Part of the Parish of Burton
Lay Readership Team*

Can we all please just take a breath !

We've struggled through lock downs, we are rightly worried sick about the planet, our fuel bills are rocketing and there is talk of a shortage of turkeys and Christmas items on the shelves due to global logistical problems

And another breath . . .

Once a year we try to come together as a community to celebrate Christmas. It's the time when we celebrate the birth of Jesus, 2,000 years or so ago, in a stable. No matter what your faith, if any, it is also a time when we are meant to pause and to think about what really matters to us. Our beliefs, our friends, our family, our village communities.

What Really Matters?

Yes, presents are nice, but it really is more fun choosing and then giving them. Of course, it's fun to over-indulge a little, to enjoy some lovely food and a tippie or two (and maybe a booster!) of whatever takes your fancy.

But this Christmas time, perhaps more than any before, we need to just pause and reflect on what really matters to us.

Maybe it is that little baby born in a humble stable - not a palace!

Maybe it is our families, maybe it's walking the dog or meeting our friends in the wider village communities.

Let's try to help those who might be alone and lonely. Let's ask ourselves how we can help those who are struggling financially, perhaps with the local foodbank.

But most of all, let's all just stop for a moment. Let's pause, breathe, and remember the things and the people that really matter to us. Don't lose sight of all that is really important in all the Christmas madness!

***From everyone at
St Nicholas' Church,
have a very
Happy Christmas!***



*From the
Parish Registers*

Weddings

2 October

**- Isobel Gwendoline Densem
& Bryan Lawrence McDonough**

Funerals

12 October

- Robert Edgar Pulford

Interment of Ashes

29 November

- Valerie Mavis Cooke

November 2021

To: ALL PARISHIONERS AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY



The appointment of a new Vicar takes a step closer . . .

As many people will be aware, the diocese were keen for Burton and Shotwick to share a vicar with Willaston. The alternative was for Burton and Shotwick to continue as at present, but with a part-time vicar instead of a full-time one, with Willaston similarly having their own part-time vicar.

Neither Shotwick nor we, nor (as we understand it) Willaston wanted to share a vicar, as their parish is very different in background, outlook, and aspirations from our two parishes. We also did not want our vicar to be based elsewhere.

After a lengthy deliberation, the diocese has now approved of Burton and Shotwick continuing as a separate benefice, with a part-time vicar. In addition, on this occasion, as when Cathy was recruited, the trustees of St. John's Lichfield (our centuries-old Patron) will be responsible for helping us find and interview suitable candidates. That is very good news, as not only are the trustees in Lichfield keen to become involved and will be very helpful, but it also relieves the pressure that our Archdeacon Mike Gilbertson is experiencing in assisting a large number of parishes with vacancies in this part of the diocese.

We will be advertising the post nationally. The selection and appointment will inevitably take some time and we are very grateful to our lay readers and to visiting clergy who are energetically leading services in both parishes during the vacancy. We have a vibrant and active church community, and we will look forward to building on this with our new vicar.

Nigel Griffiths
Churchwarden



Turning Christian Values Into Action

This year, due to the on-going situation with the pandemic, we held our harvest service in school.

Children at school are very aware that some families are facing great difficulties as a result of the pandemic and wanted to do something to help.

They decided that they would like to donate harvest food parcels to the West Cheshire Foodbank to help families in need.

The response from parents was fabulous and after our service I was able to take a car full of food items over to the foodbank. The staff there were very grateful for our donation and thrilled that the support had originated from our children's wishes.



The theme for the harvest this year was 'A harvest rainbow'. It was led by the ethos group with the assistance of some children from Robins class and we thought about the rainbow of colours in our foods and gave thanks for food we have to eat.

Our school also shared worship with St. Oswalds, Christchurch, and Capenhurst primary schools this half-term. The theme was 'The hands of Jesus' and for a week a leader from each one of the schools led the worship. I was assisted by younger members of our ethos group who led the actions to our welcome prayer; and a member of the Eagles class read our school prayer beautifully.

Our children are a credit to their parents and our school, leading the way in turning Christian values into actions.

Well done, children, we are very proud of you.

Suzanne Roberts

Head of School



MESSY CHURCH LIGHT PARTY

After a year of holding only virtual meet ups due to Coronavirus restrictions, on Friday 29 October St Nicholas' Church opened its doors to its messy church family once again to hold a 'Light Party' celebrating Jesus, the light of the world.

Great fun was had by all – ducking for apples in the Church porch, making fruit skewers to decorate the pumpkin and making lighthouses to show the importance of light in times of darkness.

Our messy church finished with glow stick dancing in the dark!

It was great fun and a lovely reminder of the joy our younger church family bring to us all.

***Our next event is the
'Book Before Bedtime'
on 17 December at
6.30pm in church.***





Christmas Book Before Bedtime



Parents, Grandparents, Carers, Friends & Relatives

Come and join us for our 'Christmas Book Before Bedtime' for our youngest church members

St Nicholas Church, Burton, Friday 17 December

6:30pm and finishing at 7:15pm

we have a story, sing a song and play a game and then finish with refreshments of (not too) hot chocolate, juice and a biscuit.

Come in your PJs, bring your teddy bear and join the fun!



For further details call

Sarah on

07527 848781

Tales From



November has been and gone and all the job and income support from the pandemic has tapered off. The foodbank is starting to see an increase in the number of people seeking help, which is normal for this time of year anyway. The new St Vincent's Centre in Birkenhead is open 5 days a week (with the nearby Salvation Army shop serving as a foodbank on Saturdays). Its convenience and central location is making it easily the most used distribution centre around, although the Seacombe centre is also busy.



Requests for fuel vouchers as well as food have risen sharply both as the weather turns colder along with the dramatic increase in energy prices. Although fuel vouchers are no longer provided by the foodbank directly it provides funds that it can access for this purpose to Wirral Council to disburse via its telephone One Stop Shop. This allows those in need to get help at any time and independently of an emergency food need.

Schools continue to play a more important role in getting food to families in need. Several schools in Wirral are supplied with food for students' families in need. And, recently, Pensby High School asked to start hosting a foodbank distribution centre one day a week. This school is far from the only one where staff are identifying families in need and using the foodbank's supplies to help.

The winter is always a difficult time for those in need and those on the borderline - the increased demand is usual, but still concerning.

Thank you.

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

<https://wirral.foodbank.org.uk/>
<https://westcheshire.foodbank.org.uk/>

As always, many thanks to those who support the Foodbank with food and cash donations which make all the difference to so many people.

**EVERY
DONATION
MAKES A
DIFFERENCE.**

VOLUNTEER & DONATE

DONATE MONEY

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

wirral.foodbank.org.uk

FOOD BANKS ARE
BRACED FOR THEIR
BUSIEST DECEMBER YET.
THIS ISN'T RIGHT.



St Nicholas' Church is once again collecting food and toiletries for Wirral Foodbank.

Collecting boxes are now located in the porch of the church.

YOU CAN GIVE NOW

Just place items in the appropriate box.

Thank You!



Christmas appeal



Toys and Christmas Presents Appeal

Donate in Church

What is needed?

Here are a few suggestions ...

0 to 3 Years

Musical Toys, Books, Puzzles, Bath Toys, Educational Toys

3 to 5 Years

Dolls, Action Figures, Cars, Books, Puzzles, Colouring Sets

5 to 9 Years

Educational Toys, Arts & Crafts, Books, Action Figures, Puzzles

9 to 12 Years

Games & Toys, Hair & Beauty, Books, Creative & Science Toys

12 to 16 Years

Gadgets, Makeup & Toiletries, Books, Teenage Puzzles

Items donated must be new, unused and unwrapped



Please place items you would like to donate in the boxes at the back of church no later than 12 December

A small gift from you will make a real difference to a child and their family this Christmas

The Burton Society



Established 1971

Welcome back!

Thursday, 6 January, 8:00pm Gladstone Village Hall

‘The Bidston Lighthouse’

*An illustrated talk about the history of this revolutionary Wirral landmark
by Dr Stephen Pickles*

* * *

Thursday, 3 February, 8:00pm Gladstone Village Hall

‘Chile: From Tropics to Icebergs’

*Nigel Griffiths describes with photos a journey through this
wonderfully improbable country*

* * *

***Please come only if you have been vaccinated and you will be required
to wear a mask when moving about***

*The Burton Society was formed in 1971 in order to provide a setting in which
local people could meet and enjoy a wide variety of talks to provide
interest, information and entertainment throughout the winter months. We meet
on the first Thursday of every month from October to April at 8pm in the
Gladstone Village Hall. After the talk, there are refreshments
and an opportunity to chat to other members.*

Membership: £5 for 4 meetings - Visitors: £2 per meeting

Contact Renee Syme on 336 5852

The Puddington Society
A Cheshire Village Community



Christmas 2021

Carols on the Green

Saturday 18 December 6.00pm

***Gather Round the
Christmas Tree***

***All Your Favourite
Christmas Carols***

***Mince Pies
& Mulled Wine***

***A Christmas
Message***

***A Collection for a
Local Charity***

***A Visit by Father
Christmas***

Children's Presents



This is a free event organised by the Puddington Society. It enables local people to gather and to share time together which enriches us all. Gathering enables us to share experiences, to learn from one another, to help each other and to consider what is important. Many lives have been affected by the pandemic and charities in particular have suffered. This year's collection, as before, will be in aid of Claire House Children's Hospice.



*A synopsis of Mothers' Union activities
by Anne Parsons & Ann Rudd:*

MYSTERY and WONDER

Eternal God, fill our hearts with wonder as we contemplate afresh the glorious mystery of Christ's coming to earth to bring us salvation; the fulfilment of your prophetic words uttered down the ages.

(MU Prayer Diary 12-18 December 2021)

It was with great joy that on 20 October eleven members were able to meet together in the Sport Pavilion. News of absent members was shared, and a short Bingo session appreciated by all. It is hoped that, beginning in January 2022, the regular monthly meetings will be able to continue.

The AGM and Diocesan Council 2021 was held on Saturday 20 November at St. John's Church Centre, Hartford. Only one delegate per Branch was invited to represent Burton and Puddington MU.

Forthcoming Events

There is to be a Church Coffee Morning on Monday, 6 December at 10.00am. The Mothers' Union plan to have a stall at this event, held in church. Everyone is most welcome to attend and help support this fundraising occasion.

The Mothers' Union Carol Service will be on Monday 13 December at 2.00pm in church. We invite anyone to come and join us for this special service.

Coffee Morning

Everyone Welcome



Monday 6 December

**CHRISTMAS COFFEE
MORNING**

in Church

10.00am to 12 noon

Coffee, Cakes, Christmas Crafts
& Produce Stall

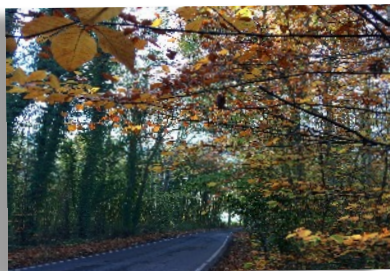
Friends of Hampstons Well  present 
A Victorian Festive Market
at
Burton's Gladstone Village Hall
on
Sunday 5th December
12 noon - 4pm
FREE ADMISSION  
*A selection of unique, artisan
products!*
Ideal for a perfect Christmas Gift!
*Prize for best dressed
Victorian attire*  
For more information contact:
Secretary—Bethan
Tel: 0151 336 6220
Email: friendsofhampstonswell@outlook.com  

In the Garden with Flori Bunda



The Arrival of Winter

Most trees have shed their leaves, but the dark branches against a dusk sky look wonderful.



Buff Beauty is the last rose to bloom. Any tall roses have been pruned by one third to save the roots from wind rock.

The hydrangeas are in winter plumage so together with sea holly their floats can make a lovely flower arrangement.

An area beneath the rhododendrons was cleared of ivy and weed and covered with bark (not by me, but husband!!).

A large pot, the outer rim planted with daffodils and an inner pot with crocus, was a feeding place for squirrels. Replanting was necessary and the pot, along with many others, has been covered with mesh until the bulbs show their leaves.

The sweet pea seeds gathered from this season's flowers are now sown in the pots on the windowsill. Will they germinate?

The holly bush (heavily cut back in the spring) has masses of berries, hopefully for Christmas decorations.

The path between the greenhouse and border beyond was cleared again. There is a young camellia at the end of same in need of tender care, especially if there is a risk of frost (old net curtains are used to cover same).

Robbie Robin has returned.

Blue/great tits, gold/green finches, nuthatch, occasionally blackbirds, visit and Jenny Wren has been sighted!

Tasks for the weeks ahead . . .

- Cover tender shrubs in frosty conditions to protect them
- Check pots and containers – and again protect from frost
- Plan next year's garden



Happy Gardening

Flori Bunda

Friends of Hampstons Well

Hampstons Well Community Garden is located on Station Road. The ancient well became unused from the 1920s and the site became derelict. It was redeveloped as a community garden in the 1970s but sadly the site fell into a state of neglect, becoming overgrown, inaccessible, and almost forgotten. Recently, it was rediscovered by local people who formed 'The Friends of Hampstons Well', with an aim of restoring and maintaining this site of special historical and ecological significance.

This determined group of individuals began to clear the site in early 2021 and the feedback from visitors to the site has been fantastic.

"A hidden Gem . . . A little oasis of calm in a busy world . . .

A little smidgen of paradise"

It has been a busy Summer and Autumn for The Friends of Hampstons Well

There have been regular volunteer sessions to continue the groundwork, on the 1st Sat and 3rd Thursday of the month.

A Big Dig event took place 14-16 October, when Friends and volunteers from the local community worked in partnership with CWAC Green Space Officer, Tim Lloyd, and volunteers from Quest/Engie to clear the Spring Pool. This event was aided by funding received via Cllr Myles Hogg.

ALL IS WELL

Regular volunteer sessions

1st Saturday and 3rd Thursday of the month

10.30 am 12.30 pm

(weather permitting—i.e dry and low wind)

Just turn up with your wellies/boots

Join the Facebook Page: Friends of Hampstons Well

(Burton)

Become a Member of FHW to receive regular updates

Donate items for raffle prizes



Friends of Hampstons Well Opportunity Knocks ...

... to Donate Funds & Volunteer

A Music and Poetry Night at Gladstone Village Hall on 9 October not only raised the roof but also raised essential funds that will help with further restoration work. *Special thanks to Helen Downey, Tony Wright's Trio, Cliff Carr, Paul Pike and Emlyn Jones who all volunteered their time and talents to help 'The Friends'.*



The event also launched the Friends' Crowd funding Campaign which ends on 11 December.

Have a look at their wonderful video and gallery on their Spacehive Page at www.spacehive.com/restore-the-ancient-well-of-burton.



There are a number of ways you can help and support 'The Friends'.

Make a Donation

Visit our Crowd-funding page: <https://www.spacehive.com/restore-the-ancient-well-of-burton> or contact Secretary, Bethan, to arrange a cash, cheque, or bank transfer.

Telephone: 0151 336 6220 or

Email: friendsofhampstonwell@outlook.com

Volunteer

Help is needed with gardening and restoration work—fresh air, exercise, meet new people and get involved in your community.



Events at Ness

Friday 3 December

Festive Gift Shop discount day. Members shopping in our gift shop will enjoy a 20% discount, please ensure you bring your membership card to claim your discount.

Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 December

Over this festive weekend, children can enjoy Story Time with Father Christmas – this activity will need to be booked via the Ness website, £5 per child. More fun for children can be enjoyed following the festive trail, free for Members, as well as joining in with free Children's Christmas Craft sessions which will need to be booked via our website.

A Christmas Market will be held on both the Saturday and Sunday from 11:00am to 4:00pm, the perfect opportunity for you to start your festive shopping. On Saturday 4 December 64 Nuke will be providing entertainment in the visitor centre, and on Sunday 5 December the entertainment will be provided by Hip & Harmony.

Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 December

Story time with Father Christmas as above, as well as the free children's festive trail.

Christmas Wreath Making will be available to book via our website, £25.00 per Member, £30.00 for non-members. A hot chocolate and mince pie refreshment are included in the price.

Bookings:

<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/ness-gardens/whats-on>

Winter Holiday Closure

The visitor centre will close for the winter holiday period on Thursday 23 December at 4:30pm.

Ness
BOTANIC GARDENS



Hedgehogs



Ness
BOTANIC GARDENS

Zoë Chapman,
University of Liverpool Hedgehog Champion

“The fox has many tricks. The hedgehog has but one. But that is the best of all.”
Ralph Waldo Emerson

The University of Liverpool's Hedgehog Friendly Campus group now comprises more than 50 staff members and students. We have undertaken a survey on the Leahurst Campus and for the first time we were able to view footage of some hedgehogs. This was thrilling to see, we even managed to capture two hedgehogs at the same time on one occasion! I am pleased to report that the Leahurst hedgehogs looked and sounded healthy and are a good weight for hibernation. We also worked with a Wirral nursery school, Auntie Jayne's House, to undertake a community survey in their grounds. The children were incredibly engaged and helped with the survey and they had a talk from Greer at Jackson's Animal Rescue. It was wonderful to see the next generation learning about our native wildlife.

Two members attended Ness Botanic Garden's half-term activity session and helped groups make colourful hedgehogs to take home. There was also a fundraising component to the day, in aid of the British Hedgehog Preservation Society. Special thanks to Dr Meriel G Jones for the kind donation of Pat Morris' Hedgehog book.

We continue to undertake remote meetings and talks with students, both at the University of Liverpool as well as at other universities, talking about what we have achieved as part of the project and how we can help hedgehogs. We are also in the process of designing additional information sheets to complement those we have produced over the last few years. These are available at Ness and also on our website, under the “things we love” section. One final note, if you feed hedgehogs at home, please continue to do so through the winter as they will rouse periodically, and a ready source of food and water will help tremendously.

Twitter feed: @LivUnitHedgehogs & Instagram: LivUnitHedgehogs

BURTON MERE WETLANDS

Wildfowl, Waders, and Wild Winter Walks with the RSPB

With the seasons well and truly changing, we watch as the leaves turn all the shades of autumn across the landscape. You can hear the crunch under foot of the fallen leaves and see the skeletons of the trees silhouetted in the beautiful sunsets.

Siskin, bullfinch, redwing, fieldfare, and stonechat are all little bundles of seasonal colour that come to visit us at this time of year. The far end of Burton Mere Wetlands near the railway bridge can often be a good area for these birds but it pays to stop in even the quieter areas, take note of the silence, embrace the quiet times of this season and if you're lucky enough something unexpected may just appear like a kingfisher or green woodpecker.

The ducks, some of the more colourful winter residents we find here, are pairing up ready for next breeding season and are in good numbers across the reserve. The most eye-catching are pintail with around 1000 seen recently close in on Burton Marsh. My favourite are wigeon, like little dumpy piglets, often seen grazing the islands and margins of the water, chattering away to each other as they waddle.

Waders like spotted redshank, ruff, snipe, greenshank, and even green sandpiper may stick around all winter. If you are lucky enough you may hear the haunting calls of the curlew, one of the UK's most endangered birds to which we're lucky the Dee Estuary offers such a safe winter home. Our lapwings and black-tailed godwits are here every day, and you could watch them for hours feeding away, or flinching at every passing crow or raptor.



Siskin



Pintail



Wigeon



Short-Eared Owl



Hen Harrier



Binocular & Telescope
Open Day



Thousands of pink-footed geese have travelled from Iceland to usher in winter. Hen harriers and short-eared owls are a favourite winter spectacle to see on the saltmarsh reserve from Burton to Parkgate and occasionally grace us with their presence at Burton Mere Wetlands. Marsh harrier numbers increase at this time of year and our top count to date is sixteen. We're currently enjoying our usual November starling murmuration, one to remember for next year as they tend to move on by December.

We're gearing up for a busy festive season, with an exciting new partnership with Aardman Animations and Netflix bringing exclusive Robin family activities to RSPB reserves from 24 November into early January.

All our facilities are open daily 9.30am-4.30pm including our mail-order shop, with a fantastic eco-conscious Christmas range. Order here and get free home delivery for any order over £15 with the profits coming back to support more nature conservation at the Dee Estuary reserve. On Sunday 12 December we will be holding another Binocular and Telescope Open Day, with expert knowledge and advice available, and ample time for delivery before Christmas if you're looking to treat yourself or a loved one.

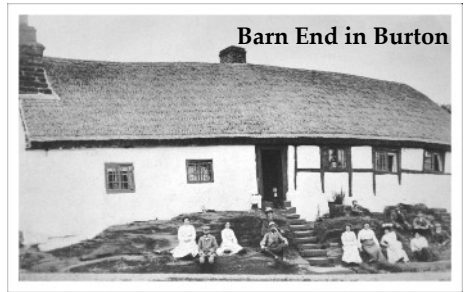
Our great selection of refreshments is available at the visitor centre. In January, the focus will be on our annual Big Garden Birdwatch on 28-30 January.

For regular updates, sightings information and news about the reserve, check our website blog at [rspb.org.uk/burtonmerewetlands](https://www.rspb.org.uk/burtonmerewetlands) follow us on *Facebook* and *Twitter* or call us on 0151 353 2720

The RSPB's events are now listed in one place, here: <https://events.rspb.org.uk/>

Pictures courtesy of RSPB

The Village Houses of Burton & Puddington



This is the second in a short series, 'Village Houses of Burton & Puddington', in which we explore the fascinating history of some of the buildings in our villages.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Mark Watts at markwattsburton@icloud.com

Barn End sits on a sandstone outcrop in the heart of Burton. Steps to the front door have been hewn out of the rock. The cottage has a timber cruck frame and wattle-and-daub walls. Between the timber frames of the external walls are panels filled more recently with brick, or nogging. The front windows are unusual horizontal sliding sashes with glazing bars.

Barn End, according to the council planning department, is probably 700 years old, built originally somewhere between 1280 and 1450. The Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough council document states, "By the thirteenth century Burton had become the most important town in Wirral. It was a small but prosperous town and port with 50 timber-framed thatched cottages dotted along the main road. The length of The Village, from The Smithy in the east to Greenwood Farm in the west, indicates the extent of the medieval settlement. Early Burton was probably built exclusively from timber framed buildings with wattle and daub and thatched roofs. Some of these buildings, such as Barn End and Church House, can still be clearly seen."



Originally comprising two cottages, the left hand one was inhabited by a couple of sisters, who lived there without electricity or running water until their deaths in the 1980s. A seat commemorating one of the sisters, Damaris Cliff, looks over towards the cottage from across the road by the side of St Nicholas House. The other cottage (to the right of the front door) was featured on the TV programme "Through the Keyhole" when it was owned by local businessman Paul Feather.

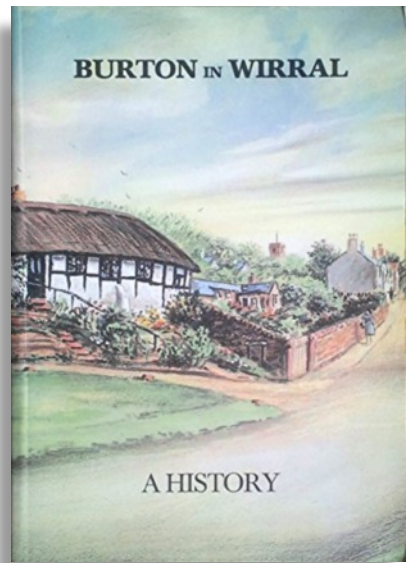
There is a cellar, cut into the sandstone, reputed to have given access to a smuggler's passage beneath the road to what became Burton Manor. The cellar was later used as a store for beer when Barn End was an ale house, originally called the Fisherman's Arms and later Noah's Ark.



Cruck Frame Interior of Barn End

Barn End cottage is frequently the object of attention by passing photographers and artists. This summer, the facade was filmed for a new series of Len Deighton's thriller, *The Ipcress File*, due to be shown on ITV. The thatched roof happily survived the filming of an exploding sports car, which burst into a sheet of flame 20 feet high opposite!

Many of you will have seen the book *Burton in Wirral*, which was produced by the Burton and South Wirral Local History Society and published in 1984.



The cover design, by David Scott, depicts Barn End and the public footpath to Burton Woods. Much of the information we have about Barn End has been gleaned from this invaluable local book, which states that the building's plan is typical of a mediaeval hall house. The 'hall' is now the living room, where an inglenook fireplace is framed by the massive 'A frame' of timbers which support the thatched roof. To the east, the bedroom and bathroom represent the mediaeval solar (or private) wing of the hall house, where the family would reside, away from the more public hall area.

When Barn End was an ale house, mainly during the seventeenth century, it was only one of many in Burton, including The Royal Oak (now Rake House), The Earth Stopper (now Pickerton Cottage) and The Stanley Arms (now Stanley House).

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Burton & Puddington Gladstone Village Hall



Bonfire Night

Burton Village Bonfire Night was epic, flames licking the dark sky and illuminating excited faces. Children watching were heard to say, "I want to stay here all night!" The fireworks received applause as they arched into the sky.

Due to a number of cancelled bonfire events in our area, at least twice as many people came. The atmosphere was electric, but our roads were inundated, and parking filled up quickly. We will be looking at how to remedy this in future.

We have to say an enormous thanks to our many many volunteers, our supportive villagers and to all who came. We raised an incredible £12,000, a great step towards our yearly upkeep costs.

Fancy joining the bar team at GVH?

It's good fun and you get to experience some lovely occasions. We're very flexible and we pay! We'd love to hear from anyone who's interested, but particularly anyone with experience. Contact Nicky on 0151 665 0875 or email ndorman@gladstonevillagehall.org



LIBRARY INFORMATION

You can now visit the library to borrow books and for pre-booked computer access. Our order collect service is still available. To ensure a safe and comfortable environment for everyone we are recommending the wearing of face covering and we are still maintaining social distancing and hand hygiene.

Neston Library

Parkgate Road, Neston, CH64 6QE

Monday, Thursday, and Friday: 10am - 1pm, 2pm - 5pm

Tuesday: 2pm - 6pm

Wednesday -Saturday: 10am - 1pm

Email: libraries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Telephone: 0151 337 4670

[Disabled access guide for Neston Library](#)

[Autism friendly guide to joining and using Neston Library](#)

Climate Champions

Is your child concerned about climate change? Literary Arts organisation Read Now Write Now has made a special pre-recorded course on how to write powerful and persuasive stories on the theme of climate change thanks to funding by Arts Council England. To access this free course simply go onto the following link and enrol: <https://read-now-write-now.teachable.com/p/climate-champions>.

New to libraries! Litter Picking Kits

We now have litter picking kits available to borrow from our libraries, so it's never been easier to help clean up your local area! You can borrow kits (kindly provided by Your Streets) from all larger libraries. Just ask a member of staff in your local library and they'll explain how it all works.

Community Collect

You can still pick up free Covid-19 home testing kits, for those without symptoms, from Ellesmere Port, Frodsham, Neston and Northwich libraries and also via the mobile library.



STOP SCAMS UK

A new emergency hotline has been launched for people to report and check financial scams as they happen.



The '159 Service' has been set up by banks and telephone companies that want to fight fraud and is backed by the organisation Stop Scams UK. The following banks are part of the pilot project:

- Barclays
- Lloyds (including Halifax and Bank of Scotland)
- NatWest (including Royal Bank of Scotland & Ulster Bank)
- Santander
- Starling Bank

When people call 159 they will be connected automatically to their bank's fraud prevention services. Although not all banks are currently participating it is hoped more will join in future.

If you think someone is trying to trick you into handing over money or personal details just stop, hang up, and call 159 to speak directly to your bank.

159 calls work in the same way as 101 calls to the police, or 111 for the NHS. It's a number you can trust to get you through to your bank, every time.

For more information visit: <https://orlo.uk/sInGb>

CHESHIRE POLICE PCSO LINDA CONWAY



Our local PCSO Linda Conway and her colleagues provide a welcome and reassuring level of support and vigilance throughout the village communities of Puddington, Shotwick, Burton and beyond.

The presence of our local PCSO and the advice that she provides both individually and on the pages of the Parish Magazine and Community News, is very much appreciated and never taken for granted. Although we don't normally include readers' letters in the magazine we believe that local resident Ann Hudson echoes the thoughts of many in asking for Linda Conway's contribution within the community to be acknowledged. Ann writes:

Please can you include in the next Parish Magazine, a tribute of thanks to our helpful Lady Policewoman, PCSO Linda Conway. She offers comfort and re-assurance by her presence within the community for her care and attention with social problems and our general safety. I believe I am expressing a general feeling of appreciation by ladies and others in our community.

Ann Hudson

Mudhouse Lane, Burton

Cheshire West & Chester Mobile Library

THE MOBILE LIBRARY IS BACK ON
THE ROAD!

Cheshire West Mobile Library will be in
the Car Park at Burton & Puddington's
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Friday 3 December

Dates for 2022 have yet
to be confirmed



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

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Contact Andrew Collin

Tel: 07802 73 258

✉ andrewcollin@btinternet.com



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Wednesday, 8 December,
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Annual 'Carols on the Green' Around the Christmas Tree

For information please contact Hazel Huxley on 0151 336 2288

THE BURTON SOCIETY

Thursday, 6 January, 8:00pm Gladstone Village Hall

'The Bidston Lighthouse'

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by Dr Stephen Pickles*

BURTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Promoting & protecting the interest of Burton Village. Membership is open to all residents.
burtonresidentsassociation.co.uk

BURTON & NESTON HISTORY SOCIETY

For more information please contact Robert Thrift on 0151 335 1771

BURTON WALKING GROUP

For information please contact Gilly Mansfield 0151 336 4297

BURTON BRIDGE CLUB

For information please contact Hazel Huxley 0151 336 2288.

FRIENDS OF HAMPSTONS WELL

Friends of Hampstons Well brings together a community of people who care for and maintain this ancient site

For more information, contact the Secretary on 0151 336 6220 or email
friendsofhampstonswell@outlook.com

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.

Magazine Administrator - sue@suebirch.com

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