

The Bell

Tushingam, Macefen & Bradley Parish Magazine



JUNE / JULY
2024

Welcome

It has been lovely to have so much going on in our locality across April and May, and June and July are equally busy. Look and listen out for films and fairs, as well as the D-Day commemoration from our bell ringers on 6th June. There is also the opportunity to bring new activities into the community through the potential re-ordering of St Chad's 'space' (as well as the school hall and field now being available for general hire). What would you like to see to benefit and enliven our neighbourhood? See the back cover for more details.

Also, a huge thank you goes out to all those who continue to work towards the installation of another defibrillator in our Parish at Bell o' th' Hill (see page 2).

Please send any articles, photos, notices or stories for our next issue by 18th July.

Enjoy the sunshine!

Juliet

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Local contacts

Parish Chairman, John Oakden

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Parish Clerk, Angela Culshaw

07802187833; angelaculshaw22@btinternet.com

Ward Councillor, Rachel Williams

01948 860627; rachel.williams@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Eddisbury MP, Edward Timpson

01829 733243; edward.timpson.mp@parliament.uk

Local police, PCSO Rachael McKevitt

Calls to 101 (non-urgent); rachael.mckevitt@cheshire.police.uk



Cheshire West
and Chester

Report It

To report any Council-related issues or to track progress, visit:

www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/contact-us/report-it/report-it.aspx

Alternatively, you can use the reporting App, and log a report in four simple steps:

- 1) Pinpoint the location on the map;
- 2) Take a photo of the fault;
- 3) Select a category and provide more information;
- 4) Submit.

What's On?

Film nights

Bickerton Village Hall



The Holdovers [15]

Monday 24th June, 7.30 pm

Comedy-drama. A grumpy boarding school teacher is forced to chaperone a handful of students with nowhere to go over the Christmas break.

Tickets £5, including snacks; refreshments on sale

No films in July and August – back in September!

Coming soon...

Dog training on

Tuesday evenings
at Tushingham School

See page 9 for more details



SUMMER COMMANDO CAMP AGES 5-12



LOCATION, DATES & TIMES:

Cholmondeley Coronation Hall,

St Wenefredes Lane, Bickley SY13 4JG

Monday 29th July - Friday 2nd August 2024 incl.

REGISTRATION: 8.30am - 9.00am

PICK UP: 3.00pm

HOW TO BOOK:

Coordinator: Ruth Shackleton

to request dates and a booking form

Tel: **01948 770 678**

Email: nomansheathanddistrictpc@hotmail.com

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6th June 2024 marks the 80th anniversary of D-Day, when Allied forces mounted the largest amphibious invasion the world has ever witnessed. In 1944, Operation Overlord saw over 5,000 ships and landing craft set down over 130,000 troops on five Normandy beaches in an action that would bring about the liberation of north-west Europe.

As part of this anniversary, bell towers will 'Ring Out for Peace' on 6th June at 6.30 pm. Tushingham bell ringers will be marking the occasion.

If you would like to try your hand at ringing our beautiful bells and joining the band please contact me on 07860496836.

Ann Johnson, Tower Captain

Parish Meeting – Monday 8th July, 7 pm at St Chad's Church

Parish Meeting

Chairman's Report

Good news all round. We now have secured the phone box for the defibrillator and this is being prepared for installation. The actual machine has been donated to us and the only cost will be for paediatric pads and installation. Mike from North West Ambulance is liaising with Matt Hollins to arrange training (free of charge) after installation.

Reverend Veronica Green is discussing with Church authorities the possibility of re-ordering the church so that the building can be used more as a community centre when not being used for its principal meaning as a church. I have already raised £250 towards this project from the closing fund for the Sandstone Trail Festival and I am arranging a further fund-raiser in July.

As a Parish, we are able to put names forward each year for a candidate to be awarded the OBE. If anyone feels strongly about this, please let me know and we can discuss at the next meeting on 8th July.

John

John Oakden, Chairman

**** Next meeting ****
Monday 8th July
St Chad's Church, 7 pm

john.oakden@hotmail.co.uk

07989 220468

THANK YOU...

... to all those – young and old – who volunteer their time and energy to collect litter around our Parish.

Whether it's a weekend litter pick by the children on Bradley Lane, gathering discarded cans on your daily walk, decluttering the A41 hedgerow, or tidying outside the church and school, you make our world a better place 😊



Police Community Support



PCSO for Malpas and Tattenhall
PCSO Rachael McKeivitt
rachael.mckeivitt@cheshire.police.uk



Beat Manager Rural South, **PC Steve Gardner**
stephen.gardner@cheshire.police.uk

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

Website: cheshire.police.uk; **Facebook:** [ThallMalpasPol](https://www.facebook.com/ThallMalpasPol)

Dial 999 in an emergency, 101 in a non-emergency

You can also report incidents via the Cheshire Police website
(Please do not report incidents via Facebook)

Police surgeries in June

Tues 4th (2–3 pm) at The Barber Institute, Tattenhall

Mon 10th (10–11 am) at High Street, Farndon

Weds 19th (2–3 pm) at Lily's Stores, Aldford

Weds 26th (10–11 am) at the Old Fire Station, Malpas

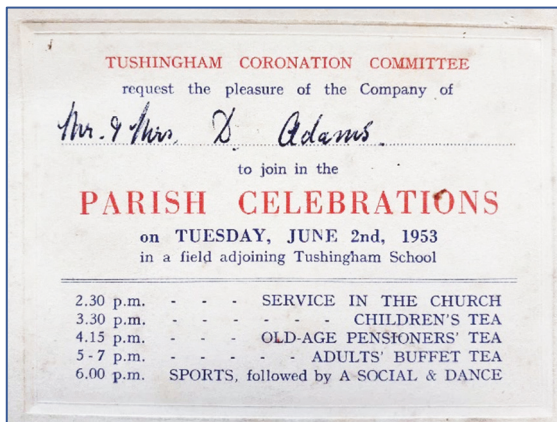
Police surgeries in July

Thurs 4th (10–11 am) at High Street, Farndon

Mon 8th (2–3 pm) at The Barber Institute, Tattenhall

Mon 15th (2–3 pm) at Lily's Stores, Aldford

Sat 27th (10–11 am) at the Old Fire Station, Malpas



A year on from the crowning of King Charles III, here's a local memento from 71 years ago and the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

It is interesting to see how the serving of tea was determined by age!

With thanks to David Adams



News from St Chad's

Where can I go?

Sometimes I just want to run away – from my responsibilities as a Parish Priest, from my worries, from myself, from the world! Sometimes I doubt all the things I've learned, all the things I want to hold steadfastly towards, and all that I see happening around me.

When Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane, I think he too felt the things I often feel. The longing to run away and the doubt in his heart, which brought Him to sweat drops of blood as He prayed to his Father, "Take this cup away from me," when He faced the Cross. Just knowing that I share these things with Jesus, the Son of God, gives me strength and encourages me to keep going. Before long the feelings subside and settle in the place they should.

If we were to live by our feelings alone, which I believe many of us do, then we live our lives like small boats tossed around on a mighty sea. God created us with so much more than just the ability to feel!

Author Dallas Willard says that one of our greatest characteristics as human beings is our will. "The will is the executive centre of the human self. From it the whole self is directed and organised." St Paul speaks about his desire to do his best but says quite candidly that he doesn't.

The Bible is an open book that draws humanity to a God who understands who we are, and why we are, the way we are. It is the only thing that makes sense to me in a world where little else does.

Where will your free will take you?

Choice is the way we exercise our will. We make hundreds of decisions every day, no matter if we feel as though we want to escape and run. God never forces us to do anything. Jesus is proof of that, for it was his own choice to walk to the Cross in an act of love for humankind and all creation.

At the end of my life, whenever that maybe, I would like to think that some of the choices I made, made a difference in a good way. Nothing I do will ever compare to the great act of love Jesus made, but my head, my heart, my will says, "Don't run away, stay, live each hour, each day, looking to something/ someone beyond myself and asking your will be done – not mine."

Veronica x

Rev Veronica Green
veronicarom838@aol.com
01948 663758; 07928 792337

Services at St Chad's in June and July

Sunday 2 June	6.30 pm	Celtic evening prayer at Old St Chad's
Sunday 9 June	9.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 16 June	9.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 23 June	11.00 am	Morning prayer
Sunday 30 June	11.00 am	United Benefice Service at St Mary's, Whitewell

Sunday 7 July	6.30 pm	Evening prayer at Old St Chad's
Sunday 14 July	9.00 am	Holy Communion, guest preacher, Mike Valentine
Sunday 21 July	9.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 28 July	11.00 am	Morning prayer

August 4th sees a special Rushbearing and Lammas Event at Old Chad with our friends from CPRE (The Countryside Charity). Join us as we walk across the fields from New Chad to Old and picnic in the pastures. More details in our next edition!



Welcome to...

We celebrated the baptism of Grayson Blake Thornton on 14th April.
Shine with the Light of Jesus, Grayson!

Church Wardens – a changing of the guard

Peter Moore Dutton has stepped down from the role of Church Warden this Spring. The Arch Deacon declared, “This is the end of an era,” and so it is, as we thank Peter for many, many years of service to the church in his role as Warden. Thankfully, Peter will still be an active and dedicated member at St Chad's, remaining on the PCC – continuing to bring his wisdom and gifts of hands-on practical skills and networking across Cheshire with him. Thank you Peter...

Stepping into the role, we are delighted to welcome Karen Kirk to serve the church as our new Warden alongside Andrew Dawson – thank you Karen!

Church Wardens

Andrew Dawson: 01948 820305 / 07436 072278; a78dawson@hotmail.com

Karen Kirk: 01948 860988; karenkirk45@gmail.com

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

Bradley Unaffiliated Independent Congregational Chapel



Back in April, extensive flooding caused considerable problems with the stable block, when hidden and blocked drains were out of action and Bradley Lane became a brook! Our thanks to Ward Councillor Rachel Williams whose involvement ensured prompt remedial action. That enabled a small Managing Trustee group to effect 'Operation Cleanup', allowing normal

services to continue. In addition, ahead of Autumnal weather we are reviewing potential heating upgrades. Our newly authorised team of Managing Trustees is certainly making a positive impact to ongoing life at Bradley.

We are also extremely thankful that, at no cost to Bradley, members of TM&B Parish Meeting have offered to supply our copies of *The Bell* for distribution beyond the Parish, not least to some no longer able to attend regular services.

Rev'd Veronica Green led a well-attended and much valued April *Songs of Praise* service, with comfort having been improved by Chapel's replacement of seat coverings and carpets. The service on 12th May, led by Pastor Brian Faulkner, reverted to our standard second Sunday format – which will continue.

Our **Chapel Anniversary Service on 9th June at 2.30 pm** will be led by Rev'd Frank Wroe and his wife Lynda – who both visit us from Oldham. Rev'd Frank is a long-term friend of Bradley, serving as Executive Officer of the Unaffiliated Congregational Churches Charities, which grant-funded £600 of our recent improvements. Anniversary Services can help us value the work and dedication of all those who came before us. At Bradley, as with many small Chapels, local farming families gave or part-financed the cost of land, whilst helping in both funding and taking part in actual construction work.

Significant dates for Bradley were land obtained in 1891; Chapel building works in 1891 & 1905; followed in 1906–7 by the stable block. Old title deeds included family names such as Blake, Wycherley, Furber, Penlington, Roycroft, Morgan, Crump and Huxley. Alongside the farming families were drapers, a saddle-maker and, not least, builder Thomas George Huxley. Most lived in or around Bradley, with only a few in the far-flung areas of Malpas or Whitchurch or – even more intrepid – the outer reaches of Chester. Today Bradley's Ecumenical Congregationalism continues, as ever, inclusive with a welcome for all.

Pastor Brian Faulkner
Pastor Mike Valentine

01948 664898; brianfaulkner@btinternet.com
07763168448; mjvmeglwyn@talktalk.net

The sun shone...

On Sunday 28th April, the weather went against (recent) type, and it stayed warm and dry for the traditional rural Rogation Day service, held this year at Millmoor Farm. Over 40 people gathered in this beautiful setting, moving round several 'stations' during the service, with a backdrop of pigs, calves, goats and donkeys! All this was followed by a great deal of cake and lively chat in the farmhouse. Many thanks to Sally Ann and David Chesters for hosting such a special afternoon.



The sun remained for the opening of Old St Chad's on 5th May, with a full Chapel for Celtic evening prayer, and some service-goers arriving on foot across the fields on this balmy evening. Later that week, members of the community retraced these steps for the Ascension Day walk from New to Old St Chad's in the late afternoon. Here's to more long summer days...



Farmer's daughter,
Rev'd Veronica



Cheshire
Wildlife Trust

30 Days Wild

The UK's biggest nature challenge

30 Days Wild is The Wildlife Trusts' annual challenge event, where everyone involved does one wild thing a day throughout the month of June. This year – on its 10th anniversary – the challenge not only has weekly themes, but also activity suggestions for each day, giving you a more mindful approach to nature and all its glory.

Sign up today and receive a FREE pack in the post, with options for family, business, school or care home. We can't wait to go on this journey with you!

www.wildlifetrusts.org/30dayswild



There has been great variety in the first half of summer term here at **Tushingham CE Primary School**, and the children amaze us every day with the quality of their work across all age groups.

At this time of year, it is wonderful to see the free learning in nursery and reception, with the children so imaginative and engrossed in their exploring. The imagination continues over in Class 3, where they have been making branching databases during computing lessons, and using freeze frames and magic microphones to depict different scenes from their class text in English. With SATs behind them, Class 4 are gearing up for their residential trip to Kingswood activity centre, and practising for their end-of-year musical, 'Pirates of the Curry Bean'!

Mr Parker has also been very busy teaching in Forest School, extending our curriculum outdoors and also planting fruit trees so that we can grow an orchard, benefiting the environment and providing shade in the summer.

Alongside this hard work, we have had some very exciting visitors.

In April, Ethan Chargois, an American basketball player with the *Cheshire Phoenix* club towered above us (see photo!) to give a hugely inspirational talk. The children were then invited to train with the team coaches and watch their play-off game at Cheshire Sport Village. Two of our children were even chosen to be mascots at the start of the game. They all had a wonderful time cheering (loudly) and pointing their foam fingers in the air!

The following week we welcomed Lord Mayor of Chester, Sheila Little, who was revisiting Tushingham having worked with some of our children many years ago. She talked and answered questions about her role, before enjoying cake and a tea party with children from each class.

On the sports' field, our football team played Shocklach away (5-3); and our newly established girls football club has also been a roaring success.

Coming up, we have an Olympic-themed STEM (**S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering, **M**aths) week, with many intriguing activities planned. Then, just before half-term we hold our annual Sports Day and Summer Fair.

Please do follow Tushingham Primary School on Facebook to keep up-to-date with what's going on; and to read Mrs Davies' newsletters in full, visit: <https://www.tushingham.cheshire.sch.uk>

School returns after half-term on Monday 3rd June, and summer term ends (with our Leavers' festivities) on Friday 19th July.

School hall and playing field for hire

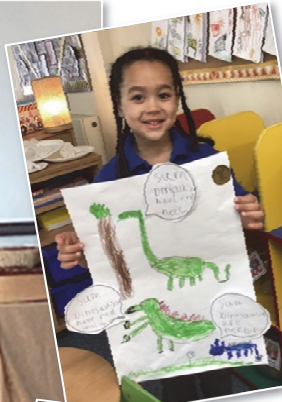
Tushingham School hall and field are available to hire. If you or any businesses you know may be interested, please contact the school office on 01948 820360 or admin@tushingham.cheshire.sch.uk



Coming soon... The Dogs Trust will be doing **dog training** for young dogs at the school on a Tuesday night, 6–8 pm. Look out for further details on their website: www.dogstrust.org.uk/dog-advice/dog-school/shropshire



On his first day, our youngest pupil meets our tallest ever visitor!



Go Cheshire Phoenix!



Welcoming the Lord Mayor of Chester



Keeping busy inside and outside the classroom



COMMUNITY Space

We've lost our pubs! We are a scattered community! We live in a world of social media where gathering together in person is becoming a rare thing!

Are you interested in doing something about the above?

We're currently having discussions about St Chad's Church building. It is a wonderful place that has served the community for well over 100 years and it still wants to do just that.

The diocese is fully behind our thoughts in this beautiful building becoming a 'community space' that serves the whole community and not just the church community.

You can help by telling us about your ideas for its use! What events, either regular or occasional, would you like to see taking place there?

If we can prove as a community that there is a viable use for St Chad's on a weekly or daily basis, we can look towards a re-ordering of the church so that the space is accommodating for the planned usage.

The central purpose of the building would remain the same as it always has; firstly, being a sacred place of Worship and Prayer, but we would hope to utilise the same space creatively to bring our community together.

Please respond to this request,
and share your ideas with one another and us!

We hope to place **Suggestion Boxes** in the shop at No Man's Heath and St Chad's Church itself – or contact Karen Kirk by e-mail at karenkirk45@gmail.com

Better Together...

Rev'd Veronica on behalf of St Chad's