

The Bell

Tushingham, Macefen & Bradley Parish Magazine



APRIL / MAY
2022

Welcome

Welcome to our Spring issue of *The Bell*. I am writing this on a beautiful sunny morning, and have fingers crossed that the good weather continues for the many events planned during April and May. There are Easter celebrations in store, as well as the return of the Open Garden Trail around No Man's Heath and the Bluebell Walk at Tushingham Hall (see 'What's On' page), and the School, Church and Chapels remain very busy on all fronts.

The Parish also has tentative plans for a Platinum Jubilee event if a venue can be found, so look out for posters and e-mails nearer the time.

Please send your articles, photographs, notices and advertorials for the next June/July issue, by 20th May. New ideas and contributions always welcome!

Best wishes -

Juliet

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Local contacts

Parish Chairman, John Oakden

01948 663940 / 07989 220468; john.oakden@hotmail.co.uk

Parish Clerk, Mike McKenzie

07932 007165; mckenziemikeac@aol.com

Ward Councillor, Rachel Williams

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

Eddisbury MP, Edward Timpson

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

Local police, PCSO Jon Hurst

Calls to 101 (non-urgent); jonathan.hurst@cheshire.pnn.police.uk



Cheshire West
and Chester

Report It

To report any Council-related issues 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:

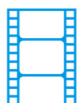
- 1) Pinpoint the location on the map;
- 2) Take a photo of the fault;
- 3) Select a category and provide more information;
- 4) Submit.



What's On?


Celebration of St Chad – Sunday 3rd April – Old St Chad's, 4.30 pm
All are welcome to come along and discover more about St Chad.

Songs of Praise – Sunday 10th April – Bradley Chapel, 2.30 pm
Join us for a 'real good sing'!



Film night – Monday 11th April – Bickerton Village Hall, 7.30 pm
Monthly film nights return, with a showing of 'Mrs Lowry & Son' starring Timothy Spall and Vanessa Redgrave. Tickets £5.

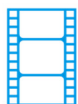
Easter Sunday service – Sunday 17th April – St Chad's Church, 9 am

Coffee and Shop – Saturday 23rd April – St Chad's Church, 10 am – 12 noon
 *Come and browse the gift, clothing, homeware and book stalls, and enjoy coffee/tea and excellent cake! There will also be an Easter Garden display by the children of Tushingham School with prizes to be won. If you have any items to donate, please contact Louise (01948 663743) or the church wardens, or bring them on Friday morning while we are setting up.*

Parish Meeting – Monday 25th April – Tushingham Primary School, 7 pm
All are encouraged to attend this community forum for discussion of local issues.


Bluebell Walk – Sunday 8th May – Tushingham Hall, 2–5 pm
Woodland and garden walk, dogs on leads welcome. Raffle and bric-a-brac stall with all proceeds to Tushingham Church and the Hospice of the Good Shepherd. Tickets £5 (children free), including tea and scone. See advert on back cover.

Whitchurch Walking Festival – Fri 13th to Sun 15th May – various times/locations
For more details, see: www.whitchurchwalkers.co.uk/festival.html



Film night – Monday 16th May – Bickerton Village Hall, 7.30 pm
Showing 'The Dig', a drama about the historic Sutton Hoo excavations, starring Carey Mulligan, Ralph Fiennes and Lily James. Tickets £5.

Open Garden Trail – Sunday 22nd May – around No Man's Heath, 1–5 pm
An afternoon for all the family, with plant and cake stalls, competitions, games and refreshments, plus an extra venue added this year! Single ticket entry 'on the gate' to cover all venues.



Parish Chairman's Notes

Tushingham, Macefen and Bradley Parish Meeting – 7th March 2022

The main items from the meeting were as follows:

1. **Defibrillator** – Getting costs for telephone box (£500) to house defibrillator; Ginette Hanson and John Oakden to meet to discuss positioning etc.
2. **Platinum Jubilee** – Bill Culshaw reported that nowhere had come forward as available for function. Anthony Mullock offered to speak to the Pumpkin Farm.
3. **Planning Applications**
 - a. **Blue Bell** Ginette Hanson spoke of the intention to re-open the Blue Bell Inn if the B&B plans made it viable. Meeting voted wholeheartedly in favour.
 - b. **Tushingham Arena** Several people spoke about the impact on traffic increase, and dangers at the A41 junction. Meeting voted strongly against.
 - c. **Chad's Solar Farm** This brought much heated opposition as the site is an area of outstanding natural beauty and the proposal would ruin the view from the church, cut across the Bishop Bennett Way and impose on the Sandstone Trail. Meeting voted against with only one dissenting voice.

Post-meeting note: The PR company associated with the Chad's Solar Farm application gave an online presentation to No Man's Heath Parish Council on 21st March. Stephen Roberts, a drainage engineer (who attended our Meeting) called out the information they were being given. He pointed out many erroneous things and was given inaccurate or false information. For example, they had rated the area as 'Low' vulnerability whereas the Environment Agency rated it as 'High'. The many points and objections raised will be sent to CWAC.

4. **Funding request** – £1,000 to upgrade church lighting to LED. Voted in favour. The date for the next meeting (end of financial year) was set at 25th April 2022.

John Oakden

Looking after our neighbourhood

Just a gentle reminder to all **dog walkers** to continue to be considerate when using the lanes and walkways around the Parish, and when passing private driveways. Please take all waste and bags home with you, and leave the area clean and safe for others to enjoy. Thank you.

Also, **thank you** to all those who litter pick around our area to help keep it tidy – it's an ongoing battle, but every little helps.



Police Community Support



PCSO for Tattenhall and Malpas
PCSO Jonathan Hurst
jonathan.hurst@cheshire.pnn.police.uk



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

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

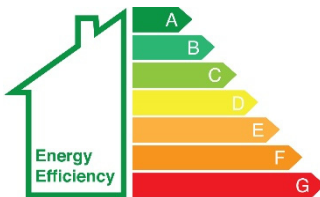
Dragon Hall Police Station, Whitchurch Road, Chowley, Tattenhall CH3 9DU

Tel: 101 (non-emergency); **Facebook:** Tattenhall & Malpas Police;

Twitter: @ThallMalpasPol; **Web:** cheshire.police.uk/a/your-area/cheshire/cheshire-west-and-chester/tattenhall-and-malpas/

Police surgeries at Malpas 2022

For dates of walk-in police surgeries in April and May at the Jubilee Hall and Old Fire Station Café in Malpas, please see social media sites (details above).



Green Homes Grant Scheme

Cheshire West and Chester Council is currently accepting applications to its Green Homes Grant scheme. Grants are fully funded with no contribution required from homeowners.

Residents who meet both eligibility criteria below are encouraged to apply:

1. Household income of £30,000 (gross) or less per year.
2. Property classed as energy inefficient, with an EPC rating of E, F or G. (Limited funding for D rated properties – we can check your rating.)

Apply online at www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/greenhomesgrant; by post (call 0300 123 8123 to request an application form); or in person at the council offices in Ellesmere Port (Tues) and Winsford (Weds) from 9 am–2 pm.

Funding is available for a wide range of measures including insulation, solar PV, clean heat technologies (e.g. air source heat pumps) and replacement doors and windows. Once we've carried out a survey of your property we will be able to advise what measures will be suitable





News from St Chad's

St Chad

Dear Friends – Our churches at Tushingham are dedicated to St Chad but what do we know about him?

St Chad, the Apostle of the Midlands, was born in Northumbria, one of four brothers, all of whom became priests. He was educated partly at Lindisfarne under St Aidan and partly in Ireland. He succeeded his brother St Cedd as Abbot of Lastingham in Yorkshire in 664.

He became Bishop of Mercia in 669 and Wulfhere, first Christian king of Mercia, gave him land to establish his see at Lichfield. Chad was outstanding for his humility and simplicity of life. He died of the plague on 2nd March 672.

St Chad was known for walking everywhere, for being a peaceful person and for being a good evangelist to the people of this area. I wonder if he ever walked near the site of Old St Chad's Chapel and whether he paused there and looked out over the Cheshire Plain?

This year the diocese of Lichfield is celebrating St Chad and although not part of that diocese we are still involved in a small way. In the Autumn, you may remember that some of the children planted bulbs beneath the statue of St Chad at the side of the church. Have you seen them? We hoped they would be in flower by the time we got to March 2022 and they are! That was one of our small celebrations.



Another is that Bishop Michael of Lichfield will be coming to Tushingham on April 3rd and will walk the path from New to Old St Chad's. Perhaps you will walk with him? Then at 4.30 pm on that day there will be a service where St Chad is celebrated.

Let me end with this special prayer dedicated to St Chad...

Almighty God, from the first fruits of the English nation who turned to Christ, you called your servant Chad to be an evangelist and bishop of this people: give us grace to follow his peaceable nature, humble spirit and prayerful life, that we may truly commend to others the faith which we ourselves profess, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Rev'd Karen

Services at St Chad's in April and May

Sunday 3 April	4.30 pm*	Evening prayer with St Chad commemoration at Old St Chad's
Palm Sunday 10 April	10.00 am	United Benefice Holy Communion with Bishop Julie at Marbury
Maundy Thursday 14 April	7.00 pm	Holy Communion at Whitewell and at Marbury
Good Friday 15 April	2-3 pm	Last hours readings and meditation
Easter Sunday 17 April	9.00 am	Holy Communion for Easter Day
Sunday 24 April	11.00 am	Service of the Word
Sunday 1 May	6.30 pm	Evening prayer / Rogation
Sunday 8 May	9.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 15 May	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 22 May	11.00 am	Service of the Word
Thursday 26 May	7.00 pm	Holy Communion, Ascension Day#
Sunday 29 May	11.00 am	United Benefice Service (St Chad's)
Every Tuesday	7.30 pm	Benefice Compline via Zoom

*Walk to Old St Chad's with Bishop Michael at 1 pm; #Venue to be confirmed

Church Wardens

Mr P Moore Dutton: 01948 664292 / 07970 47772; peter@moore-dutton.co.uk

Mr A Dawson: 01948 820305 / 07436 072278; a_i_dawson@hotmail.com

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



Prayers for Ukraine St Chad's Church Tushingham wants our Parish and community to know that prayers are said daily for the plight of all those involved in the war in Ukraine and that we pray for anyone offering help in any form to those involved in the crisis. We pray too for any in our area affected directly or indirectly with family or friends involved. Please know that our church is here to offer help in prayer or practical matters if we

can. Contact details for the Church Wardens are given above and our Sunday services are advertised here in *The Bell* and on the notice boards. Our arms are always open to welcome, comfort or help you.



Cheshire Wildlife Trust

Photography competition

Unleash your inner photographer!

Cheshire Wildlife Trust has launched a competition to find 12 stunning images for its 2023 calendar – and needs your photos of Cheshire’s wonderful wildlife and landscapes. From birds to butterflies and gardens to nature reserves, we’re looking for the special creatures, wild places and iconic views you can find in our fabulous region. We’ve also added an **under 18s category** for budding photographers this year! **Closing date for entries is Tuesday 31st May.**

Please visit our website for further details, and to upload your photos:
www.cheshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/photography_competition

Eco Church Award 2022

After achieving a Bronze Eco Church Award in October last year, the team at St Chad’s are working towards a Silver Award for 2022. Bird boxes have been put up in the churchyard, plans for a wildflower and bug friendly garden area are in progress, and **ink cartridges and stamps are being collected in church for recycling.**



Rural ramblings... with Grandpa

(and with thanks to Mr Bill Coffin of Malpas)

An article which appeared in *The Chester Courant* during 1861:

“On Sunday morning last, the Sexton of St Chad’s Church discovered that the bell had been stolen from the small tower of the church. It appears as if thieves had broken into the church in search of the communion plate, but it is kept at the Higher Rectory, Malpas, so they were disappointed. They then removed the bell from its place – which must have been a work of considerable difficulty, as it weighs about 3 cwt (~150 kg), and was well fastened – and made off with it. The clapper was broken away as not worth the carriage.

Soon after the discovery of its removal, the Hon E Kenyon, a magistrate for the county, whose residence stands at a short distance from the church, communicated information of the robbery to Sergeant Foster, of Malpas, and that active officer has been most indefatigable in his exertions to discover the perpetrators of the theft, but as yet without success.”

(A new bell was installed in 1861, inscribed ‘G Mears, Founders, London’)

Bradley Independent Congregational Chapel

Bradley Independent Congregational Chapel's local service **will continue**, thanks in no small part to the interest of *The Bell* together with support and involvement from this local community.



A traditional December Carols Service was a successful reopening, followed by a very popular Bradley Community Panto that raised a wonderful and much appreciated £300 for Chapel funds.

Future services

Sunday 10th April – Songs of Praise at 2.30 pm, for a real good sing!
(*Though for safety's sake, we will not risk after service refreshments*)

Sunday 12th June – Chapel Anniversary Service

Sunday 16th October – Harvest Service led by Rev'd Jane Stephenson

Sunday 4th December – Carols Service

Bradley Chapel is especially happy to welcome the recently opened Malpas Community Church, formed with URC support, at their super modern premises next to Prospect House. This is a wonderful opportunity in community service.

With so much uncertainty around the world, not least in Ukraine and Eastern Europe, may we all keep safe and secure.

Hon. Pastor Mike Valentine

mjvmeglwyswen@talktalk.net



Art & Craft Workshops at Bradley Hall Rural Escapes

If you fancy a few hours crafting come along to The Old Dairy at Bradley Hall Rural Escapes at a time/date (subject to availability) to suit you.

NEW FOR 2022

Workshops this year will be offered on a bespoke/request basis. This means that if you fancy trying a craft (whether you are staying at Bradley Hall Rural Escapes, or are local to us) you can book a couple of hours (or more) for a group of 2 or more. You can choose from the workshop description list on the website.

Private Party workshops can be arranged.

For more information and to book/arrange a date please see the timetable & description page or get in touch.

Email/text/phone Jo: 07921467290 / joindoha@hotmail.com. Payment must be made when booking please. all materials (except fabric for lampshade) and tuition included.



Spring has definitely arrived at **Tushingham Primary School**. Headteacher, Mrs Davies writes: *“It is wonderful that life in school is vibrant and exciting – there are lots of inspiring activities in every classroom which reflect the excellent teachers we have here at Tushingham who personalise and bring the National Curriculum to life.”*

The children have certainly been very busy on all fronts. The Easter production ‘Three Little Trees’ took place on 22nd March (with parents delighted to be back in the audience) and will be performed again for the other year groups to enjoy at the school’s Easter church service. The children will also be designing an Easter Garden display at St Chad’s, which will be on view at the *Coffee and Shop* morning on Saturday 23rd April.

Earlier in March, dancers from Tushingham performed at the ‘Gotta Dance’ showcase at Crewe Lyceum Theatre, directed by Chloë Hewitt. The whole school also took part in many exciting activities for Science Week, such as programming (with LEGO®) and scientific workshops, a planetarium dome, kite making, and creating scientific models out of recycled materials; they also attended the Science Fair at Bishop Heber High School.

In sport, Tushingham’s football team – *The Determinators* – has returned to action, representing the school at matches around the county. Showing excellent teamwork, they play with great spirit as their name suggests! The children have also been competing against other primary schools in other competitions at Bishop Heber.

Supporting nationwide initiatives, the children came in an amazing array of inventive costumes for World Book Day, joined in with enthusiasm on World Maths Day, and ‘painted the school red’ with their outfits to raise money on Red Nose Day. The School Council also led collective worships on sustainability, and ran a competition to make a piece of work on the theme of *Looking after our planet* or *Loving one another by loving God’s world*.

Further afield, Class 2 enjoyed their trip to Chirk Castle, and Class 3 are very excited about their upcoming (first ever) residential course after Easter. Watch out Anglesey!

Term ends on Friday 1st April and restarts on Tues 19th April.



Call out for children's magazines

Do you have past copies of **children's newspapers, magazines, comics** etc that you no longer need? Please bring them into Tushingham School, where they will be used to promote reading for pleasure, including at break and lunch times.

News from 'Friends of Tushingham'

With Spring well and truly sprung, the Friends of Tushingham have an exciting events' schedule planned over the coming months to raise funds for our school.

As our Christmas Fair unfortunately had to once again be cancelled, we'll instead be holding a mini Spring Fair on 22nd April with some of our favourite stalls including tombolas, craft stalls and refreshments.

Our annual Cholmondeley Bike Ride is always popular, when families and friends of the school can come to walk, ride, run or just relax and enjoy time together in the beautiful setting of Cholmondeley Castle. This will take place in May.

Children from all classes will also be taking on a sponsored spell and our courageous headteacher Mrs Davies will be taking part in her very own hair-raising challenge! More on this as well as photos from all of our Spring/Summer activities in the next edition. Thank you for your continued support!

Gemma Copping, Chair, Friends of Tushingham

Tushingham Toddlers

Tushingham Primary School, Tuesdays 9.30–11.30 am, during term time.

Join us for activities, songs, stories, crafts and snacks.

Parents/Carers all welcome. £2 entry (50p per additional child).



Joining in the virtual Ethos conference, litter picking around the school, and pancake making



HOSPICE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Registered Charity No 515516

Malpas Fundraising Support Group

Bluebell Walk



at Tushingam Hall, SY13 4QP
by kind permission of Mr & Mrs P Moore-Dutton

Sunday 8th May 2022

Starts 2pm till 5pm

£5 Admission includes Tea & Scone (CHILDREN FREE & DOGS ON LEADS WELCOME)

Raffle and bric-a-bac stall proceeds to
Tushingam Church and the Hospice of the Good Shepherd

Further details from Sarah Collard T 01948 860294



Help your local Hospice grow

Call our Fundraising Team on ☎ 01244 851811

email us at info@hospicegs.com



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