

The Bell

Tushingham, Macefen & Bradley Parish Magazine



JUNE / JULY
2022

Welcome

I hope that our first magazine of the summer finds you well, and looking forward to some relaxation and festivities over the Platinum Jubilee weekend. We've done our best to get *The Bell* printed and delivered to you ahead of the extended Bank Holiday, so fingers crossed this has worked out!

The facing page outlines the celebration timetable for Malpas, and the Parish Meeting report describes plans in our own Parish to renovate the area around the Sandstone Trail noticeboard and purchase a new bench in honour of the Jubilee. In other matters, please note the new PCSO police contact details.

Time flies, and our next issue will be for August/September. Please send articles, photos, notices and advertorials – or ideas for any other features – by 20th July.

All good 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 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

Platinum Jubilee events in Malpas – Bank Holiday weekend

Thursday 2nd June

Afternoon tea, Jubilee Hall, 3–5 pm (tickets £5, pre-book at *Wild Moss*)

Music from One Achord ladies choir, The Lion, 7.30 pm

Beacon Lantern Parade, 9.15 pm from fire station car park, leading to beacon lighting on Castle Hill at 9.45 pm

[A **beacon** will also be lit at **Whitchurch Rugby Club** at 9.30 pm]

Friday 3rd June

Service of Thanksgiving, St Oswald's Church, 6.30 pm – with dedication of tree and benches at 7.30 pm, and ringing of church bells at 7.45 pm

Saturday 4th June

Village parade, starting at midday from Well Meadow to Hughes Lane

Afternoon on the rec, including **costume parade** (1.30 pm), **vintage vehicles** (2 pm), **dog show** (3 pm), and **tug of war** (4.30 pm)

Band playing at the recreation ground from 7.30 pm, with cash bar, and ending with **fireworks** at 10 pm; adults £5, children £1

Sunday 5th June

Sunday on the rec, including **5K fun run** (10 am; £5 per entrant), **wizard chess** (11.45 am and 1.30 pm), bring-your-own **picnic** (12.15 pm), **walking treasure hunt** around the village (2 pm; 1- or 2-mile route; adults £2, families £5), and ending with tree dedication and raffle/draw (3.30 pm).

For all enquiries and further details,
e-mail: malpascommunitylinks70@gmail.com

Parish Chairman's Notes

The Parish Meeting held at the school on 25th April was well attended again and it felt that the community was coming together in wanting the Parish to look forward with confidence and pride. News was given on the installation of the defibrillator at The Blue Bell and we are waiting to hear whether we have been able to get hold of an old phone box to house it. There was also good news about the flooding problem on the A41. The Council have it on their programme for increasing the drainage capacity but they do not yet have a date for this.

The original proposal by David Young that we spend £1,000 on a new bench for the area opposite The Blue Bell was met with great enthusiasm and after much discussion on the possibility of further improvements to the area, Liz Playle asked why all improvements could not be done together now. The Meeting agreed that this was possible and a figure of £5,500 was arrived at to replace the tarmac area around the bench, move the village notice board to this area and upgrade it and to put a sign for 'Tushingam' there as well. The proposal was agreed unanimously and work will be starting shortly.

The problem of illicit use of the A41 underpass was again raised. It was agreed that we look into the possibility of placing some form of barrier such as concrete sleepers in place.

The subject of the frequency of Parish Meetings was raised by the Chair who asked whether we should revert back to 6-monthly or keep our new 3-monthly schedule. The Meeting agreed that we should keep it as 3-monthly and so the **next meeting will be on 25th July**. The venue to be arranged.

There will be no separate Platinum Jubilee events in the Parish but there are many events taking place in Malpas and Whitchurch to which all are invited. The Whitchurch Beacon will be lit at the Rugby Club at 9.30 pm on 2nd June.

John Oakden, Chairman



Film night – Monday 20th June – Bickerton Village Hall, 7.30 pm
Showing **'Belfast'**, Kenneth Branagh's account of his childhood in working-class Belfast during the tumultuous late 1960s. Stars Jamie Dornan, Judi Dench, and Ciaran Hinds. Tickets £5, refreshments available.

This is the last film of the 'season', but film night will return in September and October, with recent releases **'Death on the Nile'** and **'West Side Story'**.

Police Community Support



Malpas / Tattenhall (in absence of PCSO Hurst):
PCSO Rachael McKeivitt
rachael.mckevitt@cheshire.police.uk



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

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

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

You can also now report incidents via the Cheshire Police website
(*please do not report incidents via the Facebook page*)

Facebook: ThallMalpasPol **Website:** cheshire.police.uk/a/your-area/cheshire/cheshire-west-and-chester/tattenhall-and-malpas/

Police surgeries at Malpas

13th June, Jubilee Hall, 10 am–11 am; **23rd June**, Old Fire Station Café, 10 am–11 am
8th July, Jubilee Hall, 12–1 pm; **20th June**, Old Fire Station Café, 10 am–11 am



Cheshire
Wildlife Trust

Connect with nature

Wellbeing with Nature programmes

We all know that spending time in nature makes us happier and healthier. Being outdoors is linked to better health, reductions in stress and obesity and improved concentration. When we have nature on our doorstep, we are more active and mentally resilient. Our *Wellbeing with Nature* programmes use movement, volunteering, mindfulness and creativity to help build a connection with nature and improve wellbeing. Our upcoming sessions are:

- **Wistaston Woods and Scout Centre** (aka Joey the Swan), Crewe: Join us on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for 3 weeks to explore different habitats looking for wildlife in streams, woodlands and grasslands, and have a go at helping wildlife across the site. Tues 19 July – Weds 3 August, 10 am–3 pm.
- **Virtual programme** (by Zoom): Join us on Wednesday lunchtimes to build animal feeders and wildlife homes, and learn how to survey for wildlife. Weds 1 June – Weds 6 July, midday–1.30 pm.

To find out more, visit our website at www.cheshirewildlifetrust.org.uk or contact us by phone (01948 820728) or e-mail: wellbeing@cheshirewt.org.uk

News from St Chad's

Jubilate

One of the children's favourite songs they used to love singing in school assembly was the short chorus known as Jubilate:



**'Jubilate, everybody
serve the Lord in all your ways,
come before his presence singing;
enter now his courts with praise.
For the Lord our God is gracious and his
mercy everlasting,
Jubilate, jubilate, jubilate Deo!'**

This catchy little chorus has been adapted from Psalm 100 and is an expression of grateful praise to God for his faithfulness.

It seems fitting then that we take time this year to be 'jubilant' for the faithfulness and goodness of our Queen, Queen Elizabeth the Second. An incredible reign lasting 70 years that has carried us as a nation through war, recession, strikes, changes in technology (that no one could have dared to dream about), family tensions, a pandemic, political and social upheaval, and perhaps the worst of it all, the grief of losing her beloved husband, Philip.

Throughout her long life, Queen Elizabeth's faith has been a beacon to her subjects as we have witnessed time and time again her ability to express the Fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, perseverance and self control.

She has been and continues to be a faithful servant of God as she swore to be at her Coronation back in 1953 as she pledged herself to our service, throughout her life, and with all her heart, that she might be worthy of our trust. She spoke of a declaration of hopes for the future and for the years that she may, by God's grace and mercy, be given to reign and serve us all as Queen.

So, as we celebrate her amazing achievements in June, may we do so with gratitude and respect and ask God's blessing to favour her with good health, joy and lasting peace.

Jubilate, jubilate, jubilate Deo!

Rev'd Veronica

Services at St Chad's in June and July

Sunday 5 June	6.30 pm	Evening prayer <i>at Old St Chad's</i>
Sunday 12 June	9.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 19 June	9.00 am	Morning prayer
Sunday 26 June	11.00 am	Service of the Word
Sunday 3 July	6.30 pm	Evening prayer <i>at Old St Chad's</i>
Sunday 10 July	9.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 17 July	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 24 July	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 31 July	11.00 am	United Benefice Service (<i>venue TBC</i>)
	7.00 pm	Worship @7
Every Tuesday	7.30 pm	Benefice Compline <i>via Zoom</i>

Congratulations and memories

Our **Wedding Congratulations** to Charlotte and Michael Murphy who were married on May 8th at St Chad's. We wish them a lifetime of health, happiness and God's blessing.



In memory of... Susan Hine, loving Mum to Jayne, Jo and Claire. Brave, kind, generous and loved for all she was. We celebrated her life lived so well and fought so courageously on April 20th at St Chad's.

As the summer approaches, St Chad's says a fond farewell to Rev'd Karen. Her hard work and dedication after stepping in to support our Parish over the past year have been greatly appreciated – as have her thoughtful and interesting contributions to The Bell. Rev'd Karen will be missed by church, school and community alike and we hope that she will visit regularly, knowing that she will always be very welcome. We send her sincere thanks and every good wish.

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



St Chad Network and visit of Bishop Michael

The Network started as a lockdown project. I was interested in locating St Chad dedications and putting them on a 'Google Map'. This developed into researching various church histories.

The Dean supported the idea of establishing a network fellowship, linking all institutions with a dedication to, or association with, St Chad: from churches and schools to Universities and Cathedrals. This would enable the sharing of events, pilgrimages, and ideas to celebrate St Chad. Information about the dedication of Peter Walker's statue of St Chad at Lichfield Cathedral was the first event to be shared with the Network.

So far, we have 77 churches and schools in the Network of various denominations and spread around the world. We are in the process of creating dedicated web pages for the Network and St Chad. It is also hoped to establish a closed social media group which will enable members of the Network to communicate with each other directly.

I have been fortunate to visit and develop personal connections with some members of the Network. Last year I was able to visit both St Chad Churches in Tushingham. On my return, I spoke with Bishop Michael about Old St Chad's,

and he expressed a wish to visit should he be in the area. The opportunity presented itself in April when I was invited to attend the St Chad Walk between the churches. Bishop Michael was at a confirmation in Whitchurch that day and he was able to take part in the walk also.



It was a memorable day! We were shown such friendly and warm hospitality. Bishop Michael, I know, was pleased to have been introduced to the wonderful church that is Old St Chad's.

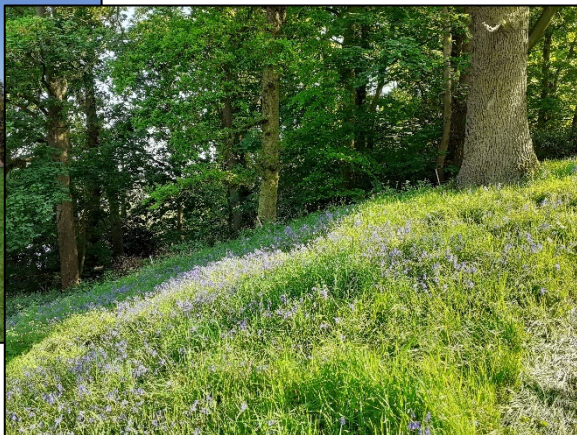
Peter Harris

Coordinator, St Chad Network



Bluebell Walk

On Sunday 8th May, the Bluebell Walk at Tushingham Hall brought the sun out as well as the bluebells – welcoming 220 visitors (plus dogs and children!), and raising a tremendous total of £2,115 for the Hospice and the Church. Thanks as ever to Mr & Mrs Moore Dutton for hosting the event, and all the volunteers who helped with stalls, parking, baking scones, and serving the delicious tea!



Open Garden Trail

The Open Garden and Farm Trail around No Man's Heath took place on Sunday 22nd May. There was a good turn-out of visitors who spent a lovely afternoon walking between the three beautiful gardens and one fascinating farm – enjoying everything from goat feeding and sheep shearing to Pimm's, tea and scones! Many thanks to all involved. More details and photos next time.

Bradley Independent Congregational Chapel

Bradley Independent Congregational Chapel is now open for services and, all being well, will hold its anniversary service as planned in June.

Sunday 12th June, 2.30 pm – Anniversary Service

Hon. Pastor Mike Valentine
mjvmeglwyswen@talktalk.net





At **Tushingham CE Primary School**, summer term is well underway and there is so much going on! Headteacher, Mrs Davies says: *“We endeavour to provide bespoke experiences for our children to engage them in their learning and also broaden their horizons and aspirations.”*

To this end, a new club ‘Exploring art through fun’, is being run by parent and talented artist and illustrator, Katie Faithfull, for children from Reception to Year 2; while Reception are also enjoying the intriguingly named ‘multiskills and parachute club’. More traditionally, football club has resumed for Years 3–6, and Year 5/6 boys and girls are relishing the newly established Friday netball club.

To enhance learning in the early years and KS1 stages, a captivating dinosaur workshop took place where a ‘real’ dinosaur visited school. The ‘dinosaur eggs’ that were nurtured by the children have now hatched so keep your eyes peeled in the local area as we are not sure where they have gone!



Further afield, Years 3 and 4 had a great time on their first residential trip to Anglesey in April. With a schedule of canoeing, bushcraft, nature walks, frisbee golf, batik painting, mask making and marshmallow toasting, they had little chance to miss home, especially since the sun shone down on them!

Looking ahead, a special picnic is planned as part of a Jubilee celebration day before half-term. Then, in July, a swimming pool arrives on site for the last 2 weeks of term, and the ‘Deanery Sports’ also takes place for the first time since 2019. Some local residents may remember taking part in this renowned athletics tournament back in ‘their day’...

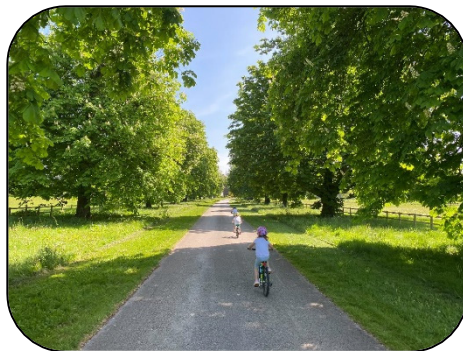
Amidst all this excitement there is also a sad farewell, as Head of School and Nursery/Reception teacher, Mrs Forshaw, retires this year. Her hard work and dedication have touched the lives of many children and families, and we all wish her well for the future. Class teachers Miss Smalls and Mrs Latham will take over as joint Heads of School, while recruitment is underway for a full-time teacher for Years 2/3.

After a wonderful year, term ends on Friday 22nd July.



News from 'Friends of Tushingham'

Saturday 14th May saw the ever popular annual Tushingham School Cholmondeley Bike Ride take place. The sun shone for us, the children and adults rode and walked their legs off in a stunning setting and we raised a fantastic £350 for the Friends of Tushingham school charity! A huge thank you to Iona and Tom Williams for putting on another great event, to the Cholmondeley Castle team for allowing us to use their beautiful grounds, and to everyone who came along.



Mrs Davies' Big Jump Showing immense bravery, on 28th May our intrepid Headteacher Mrs Davies will jump out of an aeroplane at 15,000 feet, taking in the beautiful Lancaster scenery and hopefully landing safely, to raise funds for the Friends of Tushingham. Our aim is to improve the outdoor facilities for all of our children, and there are many ideas from children, staff and parents which the School Council will co-ordinate into a plan. If you'd like to support her efforts you can do so here: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/Mrsdavesbigjump>

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).



Canoeing and campfires for Class 3 on Anglesey; and the girls' football team celebrate their 3–1 victory against Lache

Now and Then...

Summer fetes and celebrations have long been a traditional part of life in TM&B. The newspaper article below describes a village fete from over a century ago, including an eclectic mix of sporting events (donkeys AND potatoes...). Some ideas for future community gatherings perhaps!?

FETE AT MAESFEN, 3rd May 1905

A successful fete was held at Maesfen by permission of the Rev. the Hon. AR Parker, on Wednesday afternoon, in aid of the restoration fund of Malpas Church. On Wednesday morning, rain fell continuously and although the afternoon was fine, the uncertain state of the weather affected the attendance. Music was supplied by the Whixall Band. An interesting programme of sports was gone through. At intervals during the afternoon and evening, excellent entertainments were given by Professor Somerfield of Wolverhampton, while later in the evening Mr Walter Roberts of Wrexham and party contributed humorous songs. Several songs were also given by Mr Cassidy of Malpas. Dancing took place on the Maesfen cricket ground.

Results of the sports are appended:

100 yards boys' race – 1. A Growcott; 2. M Vernon; 3. B Battarbee; 4. F Wycherley (Master M Vernon did not accept the prize, and Battarbee and Wycherley took 2nd and 3rd prizes respectively)

100 yards girls' race – 1. A Growcott; 2. C Growcott

440 yards men's race – 1. R Cooke; 2. J Greenwood; 3. V Pearson

Donkey race – 1. J Allman; 2. S Davies; 3. Baden Blake

One mile bicycle (open) – 1. J Coffin; 2. T. Jones; 3. W Thompson

Egg and spoon race – 1. S Blake; 2. R Cooke; 3. V Pearson

Donkey and cart race – 1. S Davies; 2. H Caldecott; 3. J. Allman

Victoria Cross bicycle race* – 1. G Burrows; 2. T Maddocks

Potato setting competition (½ rood of potatoes)** –
1. H Gibbons (25 min); 2. D Adams (27 min); 3. G Cartwright (29 min)

*In a **Victoria Cross bicycle race** each rider carries a supposed 'wounded man' (over their shoulder) across a course to a hurdle at the end of the race;

** ½ a rood of potatoes is equivalent to an eighth of an acre