

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

For details of Church services and events see page 8

DECEMBER

Wednesday 6th: Parish Hall, 7.30pm. WI meeting: Chinese Experience.

Thursday 14th: Spinner & Bergamot pub, 12.30pm. Ladies' Christmas lunch.

Tuesday 19th: St. Mary's Church, 7.30pm. Equali Ladies' Choir Christmas Carol Concert.

Thursday 21st: Parish Church, 1.30pm. Great Budworth CofE School carol service.

Sunday 31st: Parish Hall, 7.30pm. New Year's Eve Dinner and Murder Mystery Evening.

JANUARY

Wednesday 3rd: Parish Hall, 7.30pm. WI meeting 'Oh What a Carry On'

Monday 8th: Parish Hall, 7.30pm Parish Council meeting. All welcome.

Tuesday 9th: Parish Hall, 7.45pm. Garden Club Christmas Party.

Thursday 19th: Red Lion, Pickmere, 12.30pm. Ladies' lunch.

Thursday 25th: George & Dragon, time t.b.a. Burns Night

Sunday 28th: Parish Hall, from 9.15am. Big Boys' Breakfast.

Your Parish Councillors

Hilary Brudenell	01606 892404	hilarykeithbrudenell@btinternet.com
Robert Collier	01606 891454	bobcol_98@yahoo.com
Hazel Forwood	01606 891908	hazelforwood2@gmail.com
Lesley Hopkinson	01606 891391	lesley@hoppyhome.co.uk
Marie Kershaw	07870 675342	mariedkershaw@hotmail.com
Anna Lee	01606 892352	annalee1@btinternet.com
Peter McAndrew	01606 891213	psmcandrew@btinternet.com
Malcolm Torrance	07606 892295	malcbudworth@gmail.com



At this time of year there is always an increase in the number of families needing help from the Mid Cheshire Foodbank. The box at the back of Church is emptied regularly.

Many thanks to those villagers who donate food or finance. Please could you add a little extra this month for some Christmas treats? These will be so very gratefully received.

Tony Flynn 891571



BULLETIN COMMITTEE

Jenny Bowman	891431	-----	jenny@fagitta.plus.com
Lesley Hopkinson	891391	-----	lesley@hoppyhome.co.uk
Anna Lee	892352	-----	annalee1@btinternet.com

BUDWORTH BULLETIN

December 2017
January 2018

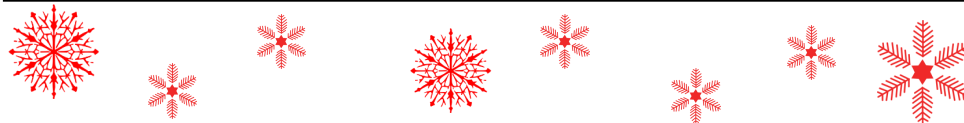


School News

A big thank you to everyone who supported our School Christmas Fair on 18th November. We were delighted to raise a wonderful £1400! All this money will be put towards enabling our pupils to go on many exciting trips, as well as buying equipment and other resources that will enhance their learning. We are particularly grateful to the many local small businesses who donated some fantastic prizes for the raffle. Pictured is Matilda at the 'Name the Teddy' and 'Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar' competitions. More photos can be found on the Friends of the School Facebook page, "Great Budworth FOTs".

You may have noticed that, when the children were delivering the invitations for the fair around the village, they were dressed in their pyjamas! This was the School Council's way of encouraging our pupils to support Children in Need. Even the staff came in their pyjamas, too!!

Coming up soon will be our school nativity plays, which we know will be wonderful opportunities for all the children to perform in retellings of the traditional Nativity. Following on from this, everyone in the village is invited to join us for our end of term Carol Service, in the church on Thursday 21st December at 1.30pm.



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EQUALI LADIES' CHOIR and THE CO-OPERATIVE FUNERALCARE BRASS BAND

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

Tuesday 19th December at 7.30pm

St Mary & All Saints Church
Great Budworth

Tickets: £5 (children free of charge)
includes mulled wine and festive nibbles!

For tickets, contact Martha Hine on 07854 011 805

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"OK. You see me when I'm sleeping. You know when I'm awake ... but no way you follow me on Twitter, right?"

Northwich Transport Plan Consultation

Cheshire West and Chester Council are currently consulting on a Northwich Transport Plan.

The strategy is being developed to address current traffic congestion issues and support the future housing and regeneration plans for the town and wider urban area. The plans and proposals are included in a 12 week public consultation, closing date 31 December 2017.

Public drop-in sessions took place during November as part of the consultation to consider draft recommendations and proposals.

Cllr. Lynn Gibbon informed the last Great Budworth Parish Council meeting that the Council had noted the inherent dangers of the junction of High Street and the A559.

An online survey is available at: www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/nts. Paper copies of the survey and leaflets are also available at the drop-in events, as well as at local libraries and information points. Exhibition boards will be on display throughout the consultation period at

Northwich Customer Service Centre.

The new transport strategy is scheduled to be completed in spring 2018.



Dog Walking

If you are located in the Great Budworth area and looking for a local caring dog walker I am available for daily walks,

toilet/feeding and general care and attention visits. For your dog's individual needs/requirements, please give me a call.

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A big 'thank you' to everyone who supported the village quiz. We all had a jolly evening and the hall was full. The 75 delicious mince pies (made by Kath Hickson) were enjoyed by all 74 people present. How's that for foresight?

The winners were the Greenway team and runners-up were the Village Medley. The team with the fewest points were delighted with their decorated spoons. There were 15 teams, lots of banter, lots of laughter - and some heckling, but we coped! We look forward

to the Church quiz in 2018.

The final meeting of the WI in December is a Chinese experience when Mai Pang is cooking a traditional Chinese supper for the ladies to enjoy. She is serving a two course Chinese meal - and you may use chopsticks if you prefer! The evening is open to non-members at a cost of £12 each, but booking is essential, so contact Gill Ponticelli (891751) or June Wilkinson (891534) to join us at the Parish Hall on Wednesday 6th December at 7.30pm for a super Oriental evening.

The next meeting - and the first of 2018 - is on Wednesday 3rd January at 7.30pm, when we have Fred Jones, a professional toastmaster, telling us all about his job. 'Oh What a Carry On' is the title of his talk. The competition is for an amusing wedding photograph (but aren't they all amusing after 45 years?).

We look forward to our new programme for the coming year. Subscriptions are due for 2018, so our treasurer will be in attendance. We have some exciting speakers next year, covering a wide variety of subjects, so there's sure to be something for everyone and new members are always welcome.

June Wilkinson



LADIES' LUNCH

The first Ladies' Lunch of 2018 will take place at 12.30pm on Thursday 18th January, at the Red Lion, in Pickmere. Newcomers are always welcome! Further information from Hazel on (01606) 891908.

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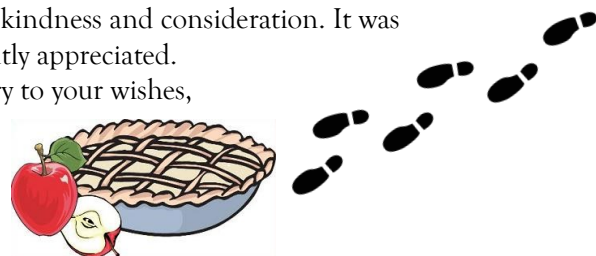
Some of you may recall my entreaty in last month's Bulletin for the creator of the magnificent apple pie, that I discovered on my doorstep, to reveal his/her identity. I eventually determined that it is a lady, but a very shy and retiring lady, considering her reluctance to claim the kudos for this sumptuous masterpiece. I devoted all my investigative powers over several weeks to identifying the donor, initially without success. This dearth of enlightenment had a most traumatic impact on my usually spirited disposition. After nearly half a century, cracks were starting to appear in my marriage: Nid was becoming increasingly suspicious that I was lusting after the culinary delights of another. She said I was ignoring her in the kitchen. I had almost insurmountable difficulty walking past a Greggs, the baker, without being drawn to marvel at the awesome array of confectionery on the other side of the window.

My life was in a mess. Then, out of the blue, and in an innocent conversation with Nid, the lady revealed her complicity. However, she was adamant that her identity should not be publicly revealed. This is doubtless the same modesty regarding her talents that impelled the Queen, a couple of years ago, to confer the MBE award upon her for outstanding services to the community and charities. I can also assume that her baking talents have been honed providing Sunday teas at the Church. It is such a sadness that the lady wishes to remain anonymous and that her kindness remains uncredited in the public domain. Let me simply refer to her as Shirley X.

Thank you Shirley X for your kindness and consideration. It was gratefully received and eminently appreciated.

To be honest, I would, contrary to your wishes, have revealed your surname but I wasn't sure if it was spelt 'Humphreys' or 'Humphries'.

Keiran Peters



No festive cards from the Flynns this year. Instead a donation to Maggies, Manchester, as they have been so supportive of us. We wish all our friends a Happy Christmas and Peaceful 2018, together with HUGE THANK YOUs for all the love, practical help and support we have received from you all in what has been a tricky year! Onward and upward!

Lynda and Tony

BIG BOYS' BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, 28th January 2018

in Great Budworth Parish Hall



Ladies: Please put the date in your diary. Bring your appetite and the children to watch the Budworth Big Boys exercise their gastronomic food preparation and presentational skills.

Gentlemen: Volunteers are required once again for this gourmet festival, to prepare and serve real food for our cultivated village patrons.

Open for food service 9.15 until about 12.00 noon

(Come early for maximum choice – when it's gone, it's gone!)

Cost: Just £12 for adults and £6 for little ones.

(No price increase – so real value)

For more details please contact:

Dave Hiett (891019) or Don Hammond (891397).

Fundraising for village causes.

NB MasterChef entries have been deferred once again.

WANTED — A GOOD HOME FOR AN OLD FRIEND

I have a digital piano identical to the one shown here (a Yamaha Clavinova CLP-120) and would like to find it a nice new home. If you know of someone — or some organisation — who would use it and appreciate it, please let me know.

Anna Lee (contact details on back page)



Ladies' Christmas Lunch

Thursday 14th December

12.30pm at the Spinner & Bergamot pub, Comberbach

2-course lunch costs £19

Book your place by contacting Hazel on 891509 & paying a £5 deposit.
Choose from the pub's Christmas menu below.

Starters

Roasted Red Pepper, Tomato & Goat's Cheese soup
Duck Liver & Pork Pate
Scottish Smoked Salmon
Confit Duck Leg
King Prawn, Garlic & Thyme Gratin

Main Courses

Roasted Cheshire Turkey
10oz Prime Rib Eye Steak (£3 supplement)
Slow Braised Pork Belly
Herb Crusted Salmon Fillet
Mediterranean Vegetable Lasagne

Desserts

Christmas Pudding
Chef's Festive Dessert of the Day

Welcome to a New Young Family

Eleanor and Tom Gorsuch moved into 22 Westage Lane in October this year, along with their daughters Cecily and Clara. The family had lived in Chorlton, Manchester but wanted to be nearer Eleanor's family in Kingsley. They moved to a rented house in Little Leigh while looking for a property to buy.

Tom travels to Manchester, where he is a doctor; Eleanor is not employed at present, but has previously worked in marketing and fundraising for various arts-related organisations. Cecily is five years old and attends Little Leigh Primary School. Clara is three years old and goes to a nursery there two days a week.

They are looking forward to getting to work in the garden, setting up a veggie patch and erecting a greenhouse. Tom sings with the Manchester Chamber Choir and the family are keen to become involved in local activities. We wish them every happiness in their new home!



Bert & Brenda Hunt send their best wishes for Christmas to all their friends and neighbours. They won't be sending cards this year but, in lieu of this, have sent a donation to the charity, Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Join friends and neighbours
at the Parish Hall

For A New Year's Eve Dinner and Murder Mystery Evening

The programme:

7.30pm : Drinks & canapés on arrival
(& an icebreaker)

9.00pm: Dinner

(two-course meal provided, but bring your own wine)

11.50pm : Adjourn to the village 'square' to join other
residents in singing Auld Lang Syne at midnight

(NOTE: Budding thespians sought to role-play the suspects!)

Tickets: £25

Contact: Jenny Bowman (891431)

or Hazel Forwood (891908)

NOTES FROM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 4th SEPTEMBER

The Parish Council met on 6 November and, as usual, discussed a number of local issues.

Highlights included:



An update on progress repairing the surface of Westage Lane: apparently the badger breeding season runs between November and June, so no permanent repairs can be done in the near future. Natural England has given permission to plate over the two large depressions within the road surface, so that the road can be returned to use soon – though a full repair will obviously take longer. The plates have been ordered and Cheshire East Council have promised that as soon as they are delivered they will be installed and the road reopened. They have to be manufactured, so no promises have been made as to when this will happen, but at least things are moving. The Parish Council has liaised with Cheshire East Council on our behalf and we are grateful to Cllr. Lynn Gibbon and CW&C Highways for their representations on our behalf.

Heath Lane wear and tear: we agreed to bring to the notice of CW&C Highways the damage being caused along Heath Lane, particularly to the verges, resulting from the increase in traffic along the lane as a direct consequence of the closure of Westage Lane. The Council also agreed that the health and safety risk to pedestrians walking on Heath Lane be emphasised.

Repairs to The Avenue: The Council have received a number of quotations to repair the surface of The Avenue. It was agreed that, in the first instance, the Council would focus on that part of the footpath between Farthing Lane and the end of School Lane. The Council agreed to apply for grant aid to tackle the repair and to seek contributions from other parties in the village. It was further agreed that a local community working party would undertake the clearance of the footpath in readiness for the contractor.

Dog fouling notices: The Council welcomed the information that notices, urging dog walkers to use the waste bins provided at each junction along The Avenue to dispose of dog poo, would be placed at strategic points along the length of the footpath. **[Update: All the notices (which were placed high enough to deter vandals) were removed during the afternoon of 16 November. They will all be replaced. Please, if any resident observes the new notices being vandalised let one of your Parish Councillors know - a photograph would be a real bonus. Dog poo represents a real health risk. The Avenue is a well-used safe route to school, as well as offering visitors and locals the opportunity to walk along our magnificent avenue of lime trees.]**



GREAT BUDWORTH CHURCH RESTORATION COMMITTEE

The last major fundraising event from the Restoration Committee was the Lunch and Talk at Arley Hall in April, hosted by Lord and Lady Ashbrook, which attracted 100 people and raised the magnificent sum of £8,750. There were no events this Summer until the Race Night, held on 13th November at the Cock@Budworth, which attracted a full house of 60 people and exceeded expectations by adding £5,500 to this year's fundraising. Thanks go to Michelle and her team at the Cock. Our appreciation also goes to Richard Kershaw and Joseph Holt Ltd for so generously hosting the event again.

Why not join us at the George and Dragon on Thursday 25th January 2018 for a traditional Burns Night, returning by popular request and at a ticket price of £30, which has been held at this figure for the last three years. Piper James Axon will be with us again to pipe in the haggis and Robert Fraser will deliver the traditional Toast.

Bookings for the evening can be made at the bar of the George and Dragon with a £20 deposit. Thank you to the George and Dragon for supporting this fundraising event now for the third year

Jim Martin,
Chairman, Church Restoration Appeal



GREAT BUDWORTH PARISH HALL COMMITTEE

Come and join this important Committee: a charity dedicated to promoting the use of the Great Budworth Parish Hall as a community resource.

Act as secretary to the Committee, taking responsibility (in consultation with the Chairman) for agendas, minutes, follow up action and keeping the Charity Commission website up to date.



The Committee meets twice a year, early in winter and late spring.

Interested? Then please contact the Chairman, Don Hammond (don-hammond@outlook.com), or the current Secretary, Hilary Brudenell (hilarykeithbrudenell@btinternet.com)

We look forward to hearing from you.

The Christmas Robin

A Gentle Seasonal Tale, by Hazel Torrance

The folk of 24 Holly Lane were busy preparing for Christmas Day festivities on the 'morrow. In a cupboard under the stairs was a large box, which was carried to the lounge by the children. Inside were carefully packed Christmas tree decorations from past years.

The little robin ornament felt the box tip, bump and then all was still.

The box lid was opened excitedly, accompanied by the sound of crackly sealing tape being snapped. To the bird's delight 'It' was happening: Christmas Eve, with the family gathered round. The time had come to dress the tree. The robin's jet black eyes twinkled as he gazed at the warm glow from the ceiling, already festooned with tinsel and Chinese lanterns in festive swags.

One by one, pretty baubles and ribbons were chosen from the wonderful confusion within the box and hung upon the tree by the children. Amongst the many ornaments, out came a camel with a coy smile, a wooden rocking horse, a star (once coated with golden glitter), a string of delicate snowflakes and an exquisite tiny bell.

Patently, the hopeful little bird awaited his turn to be chosen, but eventually the rustle of tissue wrapping paper ceased. "Oh no! Pick me, pick me!" He cried inside, desperately unhappy.

Then, a kindly voice cut through the quiet "Where's the Robin?"

"Oh yes!", replied the children. Welcome light shone into the Robin's darkness and a hand rummaged in the bottom of the Christmas box. Then, tenderly, fingers cradled the small red chested, glass bird and hung him on the tallest Christmas tree branch.

"That's pretty. He's always been my favourite" said the kindly voice.

The bird spun round and round on his cotton thread, happy and dizzy.

Presently, night fell down the lane and voices carolling "Silent Night" drifted on the frosty air. Then all was still as the villagers slept.



Christmas morning dawned and the first rays of sunshine shone through the window, then lit up the red robin. He felt pure exhilaration at the sun's welcoming warmth, bringing freedom to his wee voice. Oh, how he sang to all his friends on the Christmas tree: "Joy to the world, the Lord is come!"

Fields in Trust: Some time ago the Parish Council considered whether to designate the Parish Field as a Field in Trust. This is an initiative sponsored by the National Playing Fields Association which aims to designate green spaces as a memorial to those who fell in both World Wars. This was agreed in principle and work to complete this has continued for the past two years. The proposed contract was received a few months ago and has now been scrutinised. It has become apparent that to enter into this agreement commits the Parish Council (and thus the whole village and all future residents) to the restrictions set out in it in perpetuity. Some Councillors object to this, commenting that we already have a war memorial in the lych gate, a war memorial recognised and respected by all. The Parish Council is committed to reaching a final decision on this matter at its meeting in January. We would welcome any comment on this matter, either to one of your Councillors (listed on the back page of this Bulletin) prior to our next meeting, or by way of representations in person to the meeting in January.

Holm Oaks: The holm oaks by the George and Dragon are magnificent but are now getting too big. Those of you who have the doubtful pleasure of parking in one of the three parking spaces under the trees are only too aware of the damage to their cars, if parked there overnight, from the roosting birds. The Parish Council has decided to put a decoy bird of prey in the trees (tried and found to be effective in another spot in the village) and also to have them pruned by a reputable tree surgeon who has worked on the trees previously and understands their importance to the local environment.

Next meeting: do come and join us on the 8th January 2018, 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

I hope you all have a good Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Hilary Brudenell,
Chairman, Great Budworth Parish Council



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CHURCH NEWS

Christmas/New Year Services/Concerts

December

Sunday 3rd: 10.30am: All Age Toy Service

Sunday 10th: 6.30pm: Nine Lessons and Carols, Arley Chapel

Friday 15th: 10.00am: Cransley School Christmas Service

Sunday 17th: 4.00pm: Nine Lessons and Carols, Great Budworth Church

Tuesday 19th: 7.30pm: Equali Christmas Concert

Thursday 21st: 1.30pm Great Budworth Primary School Christmas Service

Christmas Eve: 4.00pm Christingle and Crib Service; 11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day: 8.00am Holy Communion; 10.30am Parish Communion

January

Sunday 7th: 10.30am: All Age Service for Epiphany

Sunday 14th: 10.30am: Plough Service – with Guest Preacher The Archdeacon of Chester

Sunday 21st: 6.30pm: Ecumenical Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Arley Chapel

Compline Services in Advent

Thursdays 7th, 14th and 21st December at 7.30pm in the Lady Chapel . All are very welcome to these short contemplative services.



GARDEN CLUB

Members were entertained by Matthew Smith, of Brighter Blooms, Preston (pictured), with the intriguing title 'Weeds: love or loathe?' He described many common, but also new and unusual, weeds to our country, such as Giant Hog Weed, and how to deal with them. He also mentioned some invasive garden perennials, such as the old variety of montbretia, or even verbenas bonariensis, which can take over a garden. It was an excellent talk and he was thanked with enthusiasm by Brenda Yates.



The members' Christmas party is on 9th January and a clip board seeking helpers was sent around. Thanks to everyone who was so willing to help. Tickets for this event were sold on the evening. If anyone else wants to come, please contact Jane Fairclough very soon, on 01606 891131, as tickets will be limited owing to the size of hall.

The AGM is on February 13th, which is one of the most important dates in our calendar. A newsletter will be sent out between Christmas and New Year, with all details of the party and AGM, so please read through it carefully.

For any other enquiries please contact me. May I thank all members for their wonderful support during the season, and wish everyone a happy Christmas and a 'green fingered' New Year.

Jean Davies
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Oktoberfest Results & Follow-up

The Big Boys are delighted to announce that after a number of donations the total raised by the Oktoberfest was £800. We are very pleased with the overall result following a most enjoyable evening.

The proceeds will be divided between a number of good causes, namely Great Budworth School (£200), Parish Hall Toilet Refurbishment (£300), replacement of the Lower Pump House waterspout by way of the Heritage Society (£150), the Budworth Bulletin (£50) (there is no suggestion that we are purchasing generous sponsorship or comments: please maintain a degree of editorial independence) and finally a one-off contribution for Christmas celebrations involving mince pies and mulled wine while singing Christmas carols around the Christmas tree (£100).

Thank you to all the Big Boys who worked so hard to make the Oktoberfest such a success. It was a brilliant effort. There are already thoughts about a follow-up in the autumn of 2018.



Eagle-eyed readers of the Court Circular announcements in our national press may have spotted the name of one of our residents as the nominated High Sheriff of Cheshire for the year 2020/21. He may have to swap his kilt for 'Court Dress', but we look forward to an exciting year during his term of office. Congratulations and good luck, Hoppy!

The Cock@Budworth



**Warrington Road, Great Budworth
01606 891287**

Michelle and the team wish you a warm welcome to The Cock @ Budworth. In addition to our home-cooked Sunday roast we offer locally sourced, home-cooked specials.

We cater for christenings, anniversaries, funerals, etc. You can choose from a buffet or 2/3 course menu options. Our superb beer garden awaits the long summer days. Bring your families and enjoy the superb views.



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Parking outside the Lych Gate

Following a discussion within the Parochial Church Council, I am asking for the co-operation of all residents and visitors to the village in not parking outside the Lych Gate. The PCC is very mindful, both of the general increase in vehicular traffic through the village and of the difficulty of parking within the village. It is conscious of its responsibilities for the management of traffic for events and services related to the Church, but is concerned that, despite the placing of traffic cones outside the Lych Gate, some drivers continue to park their vehicles on the cobbles directly in front of the Lych Gate. Not only does this obscure the view of the Lych Gate and the Church from those entering the village by way of the High Street, it also obstructs the main entrance to the church for deliveries, for workers, pedestrians, disabled drivers and so on.



The Lych Gate is also, of course, a War Memorial for the whole Parish of Great Budworth (which is why no floral decorations are allowed to be placed on it for weddings) and it is very regrettable that cars parked immediately outside the Gate detract from this important function. The use of fixed signs on the Grade II listed churchyard walls, has been discussed within the PCC, as has the use of detachable bollards, but the PCC is not in favour of either of these rather intrusive solutions (nor really of traffic cones, which are quite unsightly but which, at the moment, are the only way to try and prevent people from parking their vehicles outside the Lych Gate): hence this general appeal to all residents and visitors, which the PCC hopes will be taken in the right spirit and respected by all drivers.

The Revd Alec Brown.

Parish/Village Voices

Anyone interested in joining others to sing at both Christmas Carol Services this year is invited to attend rehearsals with Ian Chesworth in the Church on either Tuesday 28th or Thursday 30th November, from 7.15pm, and on Fridays 8th and 15th December, between 6.30 and 7.30pm.

With best wishes for a very happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas, and for the New Year.

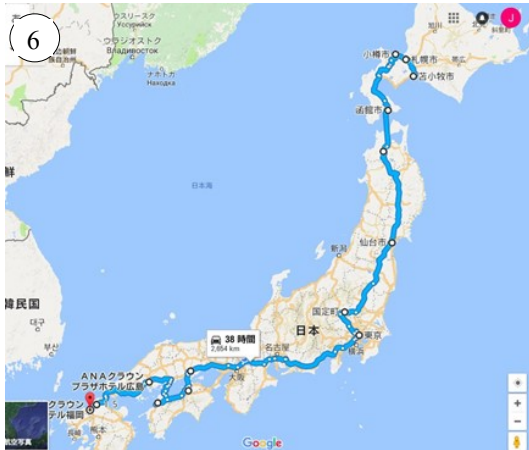
The Revd Alec Brown.



Top to Tail Japan

Thirty-five years ago Wojtek Kordel, of High Street, Great Budworth, began trading in Japan, dealing with warehouses - and their owners - the length and breadth of the country. Earlier this year he sold the business and thought it would be nice to embark on a farewell tour (in the manner of the Rolling Stones' final tour). Except that he'd undertake the trip in his 1932 Rolls Royce Phantom II Continental (bought from a defunct Austrian museum some ten years ago). Oh yes, and he'd invite Howard Bentham along for the ride. The trip, which began in late October, took three and a half weeks and those of us who were fortunate enough to be a part of their WhatsApp group were treated to a steady stream of photos and texts - mostly of food! Anyway, here is a very small selection of some of the non-gustatory images.

Wojtek describes the route (summarised in the map, below left) as follows: "Tomakamai is the nearest port to Sapporo, so that's where we started. From Sapporo to Hakodate Port - leaving Hokkaido Island - to the main Japanese island - Honshu via Port of Aomori - then beautiful Lake Towada - Sendai (to ride out Typhoon 1 - and the Police!) - Nikko (of 'three wise monkeys' fame) - Yokohama - Tokyo - Kyoto via Lake Hamana (where Typhoon 2 caught us) - Osaka - Kurashiki - via amazing bridge to Takamatsu Island and Matsujama - then back to Honshu Island and Hiroshima - then to Kyushu Island via another bridge - via Kamikaze Air Museum to Fukuoka Port - where the car left for the U.K. during the last week of November."



Pictures, clockwise from right:

1. Kyoto: a riverside walk dotted with static exercise equipment. This was a gentle back-stretching exercise. According to Howard, clothes conceal their washboard stomachs!
2. Looking ahead!
3. Kamikaze Air Museum.
4. Wearing yukata (a casual summer kimono usually made of cotton or synthetic fabric) before going down for breakfast.
5. On board the ferry from Hakodate Port to the main Japanese island; checking all's well with the old girl.
6. An outline map of the route taken.

If you'd like to hear more (and there is much more!) of Wojtek and Howard's Oriental adventure, do come along to the AGM of the Friends of Arley on Thursday 22nd March '18 at Arley Hall, when they will give a presentation based on their trip.



So, Wojtek, what's our next adventure going to be ?

Well, I've been thinking about that one, Howard. How about retracing the route of the Mille Miglia next year Start at Brescia but maybe do it in ten days, instead of Stirling Moss's ten hours

