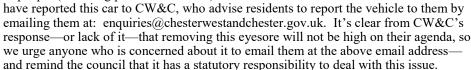
#### THAT EYESORE AT THE END OF SCHOOL LANE

any residents will have spotted the unsightly wreck of a car at the end of School

Lane, at the entrance to The Avenue. What can be done about it? According to the government's own website, local authorities have a duty to remove abandoned vehicles, even if they are parked on the owner's land, and according to the government's website, a vehicle is considered abandoned if it's significantly damaged, run down or unroadworthy (for example has flat tyres, missing wheels or broken windows) or a number plate is missing.

(www.gov.uk/guidance/abandonedvehicles-council-responsibilities)

The car satisfies these criteria. A number of people (including parish councillors)





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SONORTH BUILLIANS



Staff at Great Budworth Primary School speak on behalf of us all!



W e continue in Lockdown so nothing is happening on the WI front, but our dear member, Mib Byram, continues to send every member a birthday card on the due date, which is a lovely way of keeping in touch - and we are all looking out for each other.

It is time for reflection and utilising our talents to do new things. Some bake, knit or paint. We were delighted to receive the delicious cakes dropped off on our doorsteps on VE Day

and enjoyed them at our lockdown afternoon tea with our neighbour, Vernon James. We have two war veterans in the village: Mr James and Mr Hunt. They are very special people and it was good to share our socially distancing VE Day with them. I hope I haven't forgotten anyone else!!

I have taken another look at the minutes of 1941 to 1945 and thought I would give another account of the WI activities during the war years.

Meetings continued on the first afternoon of the month at 2.30pm at Providence House. Demonstrations were given of various skills, including: the rearing of poultry, how to dress a chicken, cure a rabbit skin, make a pair of gloves or crochet a pair of gloves. A WI-organised savings group scheme asked members to invest in a Spitfire fund for "Wings for Victory": we raised £457.10s.0d for the fund. Spitfires cost £5.000 at that time.

In February 1944 there were eight visitors to the meeting from the US Army. I presume they were female, but the minutes didn't say. They heard a talk by Lady Haworth on her visit to Russia. Another meeting followed and a talk was given on America & Americans. Tickets for this evening meeting at Providence House included a Bring & Buy stall and a White Elephant stall. The proceeds went towards a piano, which was purchased for £60.

The new piano arrived in July '44 and was insured for fire and war damage and would be tuned three times per year - and four times if necessary!

The WI borrowed a canning machine from Knutsford and spent days canning fruit for the winter season. They also had a supply of sugar for canning and bottling fruit, so I have it on good authority that Great Budworth did not go short of sugar during war time.



They bought Suttons seeds - or collected and shared seeds from the garden to aid the growing of vegetables for the home. Last month I told you of the Foxglove-picking parties: well now, Rose Hip picking-parties were needed, as every village was asked to pick 56lbs to get the county 12 tons of rose hips to be turned into rosehip syrup (pictured). They are the greatest form of VitaminC for a healthy life so volunteers were needed and the rose hips were taken to Knutsford to a collection point.

There was a cookery demonstration at Electricity House in Northwich, so members were invited to see the wonders of Electricity. To get there WI members met at the Cock Inn to catch the 2.10pm service bus, returning later in the day. When members knitted comforts for soldiers the wool was provided by headquarters, so Great Budworth ordered 23 lbs of wool to keep the knitters busy.

Awards were given to two senior pupils and two junior pupils of Great Budworth School, each year, to encourage citizenship.

These minutes are a valuable history of village life as I am sure that the Bulletins will be in the future and it's good to have a look back occasionally.

June Wilkinson

#### **MORE OF THE KORDEL HISTORY**

Many readers, fascinated by Wojtek Kordel's account of his father's war in May's Bulletin will be interested to learn more of his father's early years.

y father, Franciszek Kordel (pictured, right), died some 30 years ago, so our children only knew him when they were young - and no doubt remember him as a trifle grumpy - and English was a language that he never fully mastered.

He was born in 1902 in a rural community, one of five in the centre of Poland, in a town called Pincow. At the time it was part of Tzarist Russia: Poland was partitioned and effectively did not exist between the reigns of the Tzar, Austro Hungarian Emperor Franz Joseph, and Kaiser Wilhelm II of Prussia.



The name 'Kordel' is not Polish: rumour has it that we are descended from Charlotte Corday, who famously murdered Jean-Paul Marat—the prominent radical Revolutionary journalist, during the French Revolution—in his bath! Charlotte was guillotined four days later. Part of the Corday family then escaped to Poland, a friendly country, and the Corday name evolved eventually to Kordel.

My father's first memory, as a very young child, was the funeral of his Grandfather, Balthazar Kordel, who lived to a ripe old age. As a young man, he had been press-ganged by the Russian Army whilst working in his veggie patch, only returning home some 20 years later as a full captain of the Tzar's Army, a promotion due, so it was said, to his having sunk a British frigate during the Crimean War. His funeral, all those years later, was interrupted by the arrival of a troop of Russian cavalry. The officer leading the troop leant down from his horse and with one sweep removed the medals from the coffin lid, uttering "He will not be requiring these any more" and galloped off!

After World War I and the collapse of Prussia and the Austro-Hungarian Empire, as well as the removal of the Tsar by the Bolsheviks, Poland emerged as an independent entity. My father joined the new Army as an untrained teenager and got a bullet through his foot for his troubles whilst fighting the Bolshevik Army in 1920 during the relief of Lvow. He further upset his parents, who wanted him to study as a dentist, when he enlisted permanently in the Army to start officer training. Sadly, he had no contact for four years with his parents until they unexpectedly turned up at his commissioning ceremony.

## Wojtek Kordel

And if you want to know what happened next, please refer to last month's Bulletin!

# **SCHOOL NEWS**

he school remains closed to all children, except those of key workers and until further clarification from the Department of Education - the staff continue to support this via a two-week rota whilst also working hard to support the children and parents whilst they are home schooling. This includes setting weekly school work via the school website and online learning platforms; providing fun activities to do on their daily walk, such as a plants and flowers hunt sheet; and ensuring the children are learning and are safe and well via weekly check in calls. The children were also set activities as part of the VE Day celebrations and National Nurses' Day. The school and children are embracing technology to keep in touch, with the children posting updates via Twitter and classes taking it in turns each week to have a class Zoom meeting. It never stops amazing me how easily children adapt to using technology whilst the rest of us struggle!

Inspired by the baking that children have been doing whilst at home, staff have organised their own competition: 'The Great Budworth Bake off'. There have been some exceptional entries each week, with Mrs Lawton being Star Baker in Week 1, with her Chocolate Tiffin, and Mrs Gould winning Star Baker in Week 2 for her lattice apple pie. Week 3 produced another amazing selection, with Miss Bratherton taking Star Baker with her Chocolate Fudge cake, even though I voted for Vicky's Crunchie Cheesecake. The question is: where are you all getting your flour from!?

Mrs Finney and the governors are now working through the recovery plan following the government's announcement that schools will begin a phased reopening, where it's safe to do so, from the 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Please all stay safe and well.

Richard Elias - Governor



APRIL winners were chosen by a number generator, watched on video by the committee.

1st Prize (£25) No 85 Stuart Gaylard-Rees

2nd Prize (£10) No. 25
Pauline Power
Lee Isherwood

All winnings will be handed out in due time!



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# GARDEN CLUB

he continuing wonderful weather has made this pandemic at least bearable, especially if you have a garden and are not ill, of course. We Garden Club members have been busy doing what we do best, sowing and mowing, planting and harvesting, as the photos here show. We'll all have a tidy garden, but sadly no one will see it.

All meetings and visits have been cancelled up until and including July and the next months will be considered by the committee nearer the time.

The biggest problem to overcome, if we continue to have to be two metres apart, is the fact that the parish hall is unable to accommodate the large numbers of members attending meetings.



Planting out tomatoes and lettuce



The garden at Bakery Cottage, home of members Leslev & Bill Anderson

There is a lot to discuss as we go along. The year is basically cancelled for most events now but we'll see what happens.

The Garden Club holiday to Dorset in June/July, planned by Henri and Lynda Giller, has been postponed until next year. We know that they have worked very hard to come to the best conclusion, but it is impossible to go ahead in 2020. Still, at least we have something to look forward to again at a different time.

Our local nurseries have helped us through this period, offering to deliver compost and anything else we need. And now we can go out in the car to garden centres, distancing of course, to buy whatever we like.

We are getting through this ordeal, and at the beginning of June there is another

curbishleys roses

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update of rules and, if all has gone well, there will be more easing of the lockdown.

We send all our sympathy to Jane Fairclough on the sad loss of her husband, Peter, who had been a member since the club's beginning.

We wish you all good health and all being well, we will get through this, and meet again soon.

Jean & Peter Davies

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## PETER FAIRCLOUGH

t is with great sadness that we record the death of Peter Fairclough, of High Street.

Peter and his wife, Jane, moved to Great Budworth in 1988 and settled in very quickly, greatly enjoying the life of the village.

After retiring Peter joined the Parish Council as Clerk, a position he held for some years. He was always keen to participate in other local activities and, as Jane was a keen member of the Garden Club, he was only too willing to take on the role of auditing the accounts and creating a club calendar, with pictures submitted by garden club mem-



bers. He was also Jane's right hand man in the garden, especially on the days when their garden was open for the National Garden Scheme.

Both Peter and Jane had grown up with a love of the Swiss Alps and enjoyed many adventures there, both skiing and mountaineering, including several peaks in the Alps. They also enjoyed trips to Kilimanjaro and the Grand Canyon, which was a spectacular experience. Peter's biggest thrill was fast skiing and for twelve years he participated in an amateur ski race in Murren, Switzerland, taking part in his final race at the age of 75 - an amazing feat at that age!

He has left very many happy memories and we hope he is now at peace enjoying those memories.



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#### (cont'd from page 12)

We are grateful to Ruth Southern for the information about the Budworth Bridewell. Ruth was born and brought up at 23 High Street. Her parents were tenants of the Arley Estate and when the house was sold by the Estate it was bought by Mr. Walton Senior, who lived at The Poplars on the opposite side of High Street. Ruth became his tenant and she is now in her third house in Great Budworth, having moved to a house in Westage Lane in 1983 and now living in a bungalow there.

Ruth would love to find out more about the Bridewell – maybe some readers will be able to add to the story.

If you have interesting information about Budworth perhaps you would like to share it with the editors (contact details are on the back page).

Jenny Bowman

### **PAULINE JORDAN**

t is with sadness we report the death of Pauline at The Barns, Davenham Hall, on 10th May after a short illness.

Pauline was the first to occupy 37 Westage Lane and lived there for 34 years until her move to The Barns at Davenham Hall a year ago.

Pauline loved her garden and had many friends in the village. She will be greatly missed by her daughter and two sons, and by her grandchildren.

Alec Brown will conduct an Interment of Ashes at St Mary and All Saints Church at a later date, following the lifting of social distancing regulations. We will report this date in the Bulletin in due course.



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# DID YOU KNOW THERE WAS A BRIDEWELL IN GREAT BUDWORTH?

he name Bridewell comes from Bridewell Palace, which was built for King Henry VIII. It was built on the banks of the Fleet River, between Fleet Street and the River Thames. The King lived there for eight years early in his reign, and after his death it became an orphanage, and then a jail.



Now take a look at 23 High Street, nowadays named Peelers Cottage (pictured, left). We don't know how long there has been a property on this site, but we do know that it was once a Bridewell. It's thought that 22 and 23 High Street were formerly one house, because both had police cells behind them once upon a time!

There is still a cell at No. 23. It's attached to the house in the yard at the rear. It has very thick walls, a flag floor and a large thick door with a pull down flap, so that the policeman could check on the prisoner. At the

top of the cell is a window with steel bars.

There were two more cells at the back of No.22, one specifically for ladies, but these became part of the property when the Bridewell was split into two houses. Up until the late1940s almost all the houses in Great Budworth were part of the Arley Estate, and the agent for the Estate would make changes to adjoining houses according to the needs of the tenants. Examples of this are evident in School Lane and Church Street, too. A porch was built at the side of 22 High Street when it became a separate property.

So why did Great Budworth need a Bridewell? Well, Budworth Parish used to be very much larger than it is today. People would travel long distances on foot, horseback, cart or carriage to attend christenings, weddings and funerals. All would need refreshments, hence the large number of pubs in the village – the George, the White Hart, the Ring o' Bells and the Saracens Head.

Drunkenness was not unknown and, even into the early years of the 20th century, fights between labourers were reported in the yard of the George on a Sunday afternoon. Offenders would be put in the cells overnight before being transferred to the Court in Northwich. We know the names of two of the Constables at 23 High Street: Constable Charles Livesey lived there in 1914, possibly succeeded by Constable Mellor.



View of The Bridewell in the 19th century

# **CHURCH NEWS**

#### Coronavirus update

By the time the Magazine and Bulletin are distributed, things may have changed, in which case any changes will be available on the Church's website and via the weekly Sunday Sheet, which continues to be distributed electronically.

Both the national Church, and the Diocese, are planning currently for the gradual easing of lockdown and the lifting of restrictions. Working groups of the House of Bishops are looking at various subjects, such as recovery, vision and strate-



gy and so on, and the Diocese has formed a group consisting of the two Archdeacons and some Rural Deans from each Archdeaconry to look at a range of issues concerned not only with the gradual re-opening of churches but also with the future, including worship, the use of technology, finances and so on.

For the time being, however, life continues as per lockdown-normal! Sadly this still means no public worship and no occasional offices (weddings, baptisms and funerals) in church and, at the time of writing (22<sup>nd</sup> May), churches still closed (but please watch out for announcements in this regard!). The PCC will be discussing some of these issues as well in the coming weeks, and preparing for what we hope will be a gradual re-opening of the church.

#### The locked down Church

When will the Church be open again Vicar and can't you speak with that nice new Bishop and see if he can get it done any quicker?

We know you go in now every day to ring the bell and to say a prayer but the fact is there's no-one there apart, of course, from God; even so it does still seem rather odd, when all we want is to sit and think and pray, but we know we'll be back one day, and we might be able to give each other a hug, or at least a wave from across the pew as once again we give thanks together to God and, with no mute or fast forward, we listen again to you!

© The Revd Alec Brown

#### **POST-WAR MEMORIES**

My first trip abroad was at the age of 15. With a friend I cycled to Paris and back. Heaven knows what possessed my parents to sign the passport application. The trip cost £25 and lasted three weeks. My father told me that he was near Dieppe just prior to VE Day and asked me to look for Madame X in Village Y (names forgotten) located on the descent into Dieppe, on the road from Paris. He told me to tell her who I was and to thank her because she had been so very kind to him. Alas, there was no trace of Madame X, so maybe I got the village wrong. Thinking back, by the look on my father's face, it wasn't just a matter of coffee and croissants, but at that age I didn't have the gumption to cross-examine.

He also told me, whenever Vera Lynn (pictured below) appeared on our new black and white TV, that when she was announced on radio during his wartime service, a shudder/groan went through the mess/NAAFI/barracks. No-one wanted to be reminded of home every five minutes.

Which brings me to my second reminiscence.

In the seventies, I worked in what was then called the recorded music industry. My office in Hanover Square was next to the Chairman's. He dealt with contractual matters with all sorts of 'artistes', both pop and classical.



One day I heard the most tremendous row through the wall – raised voices wouldn't begin to describe it: items were hurled about. This wasn't unusual in that environment: it wasn't an accountancy office, after all.

It turned out that Vera Lynn's manager – her husband, Harry – was complaining that her career had stalled because the company wouldn't allow her to record more up to date material. This was in the days of heavy metal, psychedelia and general drug and drink-fuelled abandon. What fun we had!

We visualised VL togged out like Suzi Quatro (she was a big star at the time), belting out rock 'n' roll in skin tight leather, but it never came to pass! All sorts of nonsense went on in

that building behind Chappell's recording studio. It certainly wasn't a normal office environment, but it beat working down the mines!

Alan Freemantle

# Will there be a July-August issue of the Bulletin?

Over to you!

We didn't expect to publish a May issue—but the 75th anniversary of VE Day ensured that we did!

We certainly didn't expect to have any material for a June issue—but here we are with a 16-page issue!

So the answer to the question in the headline is that it's entirely up to you, our readers. If we receive material that's publishable—by which we mean readable and likely to be of interest to at least some of our readers—then do send it to us (our email addresses are on the back page). We'd love to hear from you!

the earlier evacuations at Boulogne and Calais and we had plenty of ammunition. It was a great relief to be able to fire back."

On their final trip they brought back, amongst other people, General Alexander, Commander of the First Infantry Division, together with General Percival and their respective staffs, who had waited until the end. The Generals were put in the Captain's cabin. It subsequently transpired that the Generals nearly had to swim for it. Backing out of Dunkirk stern first, with nearly 1,400 troops on board, it made the destroyer top heavy and unstable. They had to stop and rearrange the troops in different parts of the ship. My Father said this took a good 15 minutes and when they resumed they put on their navigation lights as the entrance to the harbour was very congested.

The Captain had not slept for a week and failed to spot a large blacked out ship approaching on a collision course. While the Captain's First Lieutenant shouted "hard a starboard" the Captain realised their stern would

Lt. Peter Kershaw RNVR

swing round and hit her so ordered 'hard a port' and they slid by 20 yards apart. According to PK a string of profanities rang out from the other ship and the First Lieutenant's blistering response even impressed the nearby troops. Afterwards my Father was faced with reporting the bad news to the Captain that as General Alexander had hopped on to his bed with his spurs on he had ripped a hole in his eiderdown.

The Venomous was subject to a fair bit of bombardment and damage on that last trip. The Captain agreed that the damage was sufficient to support a plausible story that, as a result, a cask of rum had spilt in the spirit room. It was then suggested that, as they could not repair it, they would issue an extra tot of rum to all the crew by writing it off. 'Up spirits' was therefore piped again on the Bosun's whistle. It was a fitting end to the five trips they made to Dunkirk and one of the reasons that my Father always enjoyed - when he wasn't drinking a beer - a tot of dark rum to remind him of his naval days.

Richard Kershaw

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#### A DUNKIRK EXPERIENCE

I happily worked with my Father, Peter Kershaw (PK) for 20 years running Joseph Holt and he would often refer to his naval days. For instance, of anyone who had not worked for us for very long, he would say they hadn't been with us for 'a dog watch'. This is a naval term which referred to the shortest watch for the enemy, which was in the early hours of the morning.

My Father spent the Second World War predominantly in destroyers. The ship that he principally served on was HMS Venomous, which had a history written of its war time exploits, to which my Father contributed.

The Venomous played a key part in the evacuation of Dunkirk and, because of this and what PK told me specifically about that time, I wanted to share it with you. PK always said that it was incredibly lucky that for the four days and nights the troops were evacuated from Dunkirk, the weather was remarkably good and in particular there was very little wind which made a lot of the operations possible and led to over 300,000 troops being brought home.

The author of the book was very excited when PK told him he kept a diary throughout war. However, due to the full on nature of Dunkirk, his diaries in 1940 over the evacuation were a bit of a let-down. He wrote:

May 29<sup>th</sup> – one trip to Dunkirk

May 30<sup>th</sup> – one trip to Dunkirk

May 31<sup>st</sup> – My birthday. Two trips to Dunkirk

In total the Venomous made five trips to Dunkirk, rescuing 4,410 troops. PK told me all the docks had been destroyed and there were not enough small ships to ferry the troops off the beach. The Venomous therefore evacuated troops from the concrete breakwater (also known as the Mole) which stuck out on the north side of Dunkirk. It was never intended for ships to berth alongside it, especially as it often had a strong tide running and was even higher than the deck of a destroyer.

PK later explained that it was his job "to climb onto the breakwater and push the soldiers on board. It was a 6



Venomous and sister ships wait to berth at Dover after the last trip to Dunkirk

to 8 foot drop and they were very tired. We of course did not want to stay any longer than we had to. For some reason we had quite a lot of grapeshot fired at us, which we heard go whistling by." He also went on to say that during the five trips, "We were understandably subject to a good deal of air attack and although our 4.7 inch guns were not generally able to elevate high enough for aircraft we did manage one direct hit. Many of us had our own machine guns which we had taken off the army after

Cont'd ...

# A CHILD'S MEMORY OF WWII

If y father, C. S. Stubbs, throughout a life well-lived, was often known as 'Stubby', which he was not. He disliked his first name, Cyril, meaning 'lordly', which he was not. He was, however, tall and slim, with a dimpled smile.

His wartime unit was RAF Bomber Command, in Yeovil, Somerset and in Lincolnshire, with Spitfires and Lancasters.

During rare home leave, one or two young airmen would look over my cot-rail to glimpse home life a little. They possibly flew away forever. A Battle of Britain pilot called David was shot down and tragically drowned in a ditch, in Operation Chastise.

A bomb shelter for my mother and me was our very solid English oak dining table. Apparently, I spent much time there, anticipating the guttural sound of enemy aircraft, en route to Liverpool and

HAY QUEN ELIZABETH II
QUINTELENHI PRODIAL
DEPTH MAJO PHE BIRGORD HILLIE
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The RAF Bomber Command Memorial in Green Park, London

ICI, following river valleys. Our house overlooked the river valley, downstream from Vale Royal Abbey.

"When you hear that sound, hide under the table!", said my amazingly inventive mother, who was an engineer-draughtswoman with ICI and an Olympic contender. As a high-diver she sought out the highest cliffs in Cornwall. In the event, the Berlin Olympics were, of course, cancelled.

In 1945, my father came home. I hugged the knees of this tall stranger, standing in the hall in his RAF blue greatcoat and cap, which he threw (accurately!) onto a coat hook. He patted the top of my head, awkwardly and theatrically.

However, in his kit-bag was a small brass cherub, his name for me. Cherub now hangs on the front door of 46 Church Street.

Thus began a wonderful father-daughter bond, lasting a lifetime. 'Oh mio babbino caro'.

Jane Finch

The Ice Cream Farm are currently serving ice cream cones and tubs, as well as one-litre cartons, from their van on the drive Friday, Saturday and Sunday 12 noon—4pm.





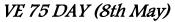












We couldn't have the big party that was planned, but here are some memories from a day on which people nevertheless found ways to celebrate.













