

## SCHOOL 100+ CLUB

Thank you to everyone who joined this year's 100+ Club.

The winners for October are:-

★ 1st prize -79 - Thel Burridge (£25)

2nd prize - 54 - Dave Hiatt (£10)

Thanks to everyone who donated to the recycling bags for school funds. We raised £104.40.



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external  
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### Important Notice About the Defibrillator

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# BUDWORTH BULLETIN

December 2020—January 2021



Bakery Cottage, High Street, Christmas 2019

*Wishing all our readers a very happy  
Great Budworth Christmas*

## CHURCH NEWS

### Advent and Christmas Service

The Ministry Team met in late November to discuss and plan for the Advent and Christmas Services this year which, because of the current Covid restrictions, will necessarily be different from those we are all used to. I'm sorry about this but I'm sure that everyone will understand. We look forward to welcoming as many people as we safely can over this period.



Depending upon the Government's review of the current temporary lockdown, we hope that services will resume on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December (8am Holy Communion and 10.30am All Age Service) – but that is entirely out of our hands, of course!

We will publicise the Services as soon as possible via the Weekly Sheets, Parish Magazine and other local publications, as well as via the Church website.

We envisage that the Advent and Christmas services will be a mixture of in-church and online services. Because of the Covid19 restrictions, we will not be able to accommodate as many people in Church for these services as we would normally be able to. Please, therefore, ensure that you book your seat for services in good time with Mrs Pauline Ridgway, Churchwarden – thank you. Best wishes for a happy, peaceful and safe Christmas!

The Rev'd Alec Brown.



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of you who prefer browsing on paper, rather than in front of a computer screen, we will be hand delivering to each home in the area, just before the auction goes live, a leaflet giving details of all the lots, as well as some helpful guidance on how to go about bidding online.

### When is the Auction?

The auction will start at 7.30pm on Friday 8th January and will run 24 hours a day until 7.30pm on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2021.

Our website is: [fundraising-auctions.bid/greatbudworthrestoration](https://fundraising-auctions.bid/greatbudworthrestoration). This will just be a blank screen until the auction is officially opened by our own Nick Hopkinson MBE DL, High Sheriff of Cheshire, near the village stocks. He will formally close the auction at 7.30pm on Saturday 23rd January.

Happy Christmas and an enjoyable and healthy 2021.

Jim Martin

Chairman, Great Budworth Church Restoration Committee

## CHRISTMAS DOOR WREATHS—UPDATE

Owing to the new Covid restrictions, all the Christmas workshops have now been cancelled, unfortunately. All those who booked have been informed.

Still, maybe you could make your own wreath at home with the DIY kit? (£15 per kit)

Or simply order a bespoke one delivered and hung straight on your door. Perhaps you feel Christmas shopping may be daunting this year. If so, why not send fresh flowers, or a 'pot au fleur' all seasonally wrapped (and delivered free within a 5 mile radius).

Please ring me for more details.

Maggie 01565 777 262 or 07970 927 161

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# Save the date!

## ONLINE AUCTION TO RAISE FUNDS FOR GREAT BUDWORTH CHURCH RESTORATION

8<sup>TH</sup> - 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2021

### What are we raising funds for?

Our Church is the centrepiece of our village and the role of the Church Restoration Committee is to raise funds to pay the large bills for this fine old building. The condition of the Church is assessed every five years by an independent architect who decides on the work that needs to be recommended to the Church PCC. There is no Government support available for us, so local events need to be organised to raise cash to cover the costs.



### Why are we having an auction?

We had hoped to start fundraising in July with a party and auction in Lesley and Nick Hopkinson's garden, but Covid stopped this in its tracks, along with our annual Burns Night, which was to be held next month. It has been a major setback for us as we had hoped to raise around £50,000 at these events.

Instead, we are holding an online village auction which will be full of exciting prizes, all generously donated by folks in the village. There will be around 100 prizes, including a sports car for the day, a food hamper, breaks at a choice of homes in London, Cumbria, Salcombe and Anglesey, as well as lunches and afternoon teas or dinners - even the Church bells can be rung to mark a birthday, anniversary or christening in the family.

### How will the Auction Work?

It will just be like an ordinary online auction (as with eBay, with which many of you will be familiar). You can participate in your own home on your laptop, computer or iPad. There will be easy to follow instructions on our website, which will tell you how to make a bid and you can be bidding on as many lots as you like at the same time. If someone places a higher bid, you will receive an email/text immediately to let you know, so that you have the chance to go back and raise your bid. The winner of each lot will be the person who has placed the highest bid when the auction closes.

Payment is to be made shortly afterwards to our bank account: you will never be asked to disclose any of your bank details. This will be followed by an email confirmation from us, detailing the item(s) you have bought and how you go about arranging to collect them.

### How can I view the Lots?

You can view all the lots at our website from the start of the auction. For those



At the November meeting we were delighted that our own member, Tanya Taylor, told us how her career in law had taken her through many of the courts of the North West. Tanya is now a judge - and I hope that none of you will meet her in court, but if you do she will certainly give you a very fair trial !!

The next meeting is in December (another year gone!!) when we have Kathy Reynolds as a guest. Her talk is entitled 'Tis the Season to be Jolly!! So she has a challenge there. Still, we always enjoy meeting and chatting, even via Zoom. The link will be sent to members a few days before the meeting. If you are still unsure how to get online, Sue Ritchie will help you. The date of the meeting is Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7.30pm, but please log in from 7.15pm and just pour a little Christmas tippie beside your laptop to jolly the occasion.

In January we should be bringing out a new programme for 2021 and subscriptions would normally be due, but these have now been delayed until April 2021. During the present situation we are working a month at a time and waiting to see how the new year evolves. We have a speaker for another Zoom meeting on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January, when Chris Wood will come and give a talk. Chris is the brother of the late Victoria Wood, who was such a talented lady. I wonder if he is like his sister? We will send the links a few days before the meeting.

The ramblers can only ramble in twos, so we are meeting in pairs and enjoying local walks. The book club meet by Zoom and are reading 'The Gustav Sonata' by Rose Tremain. We stoically carry on and hope the new vaccines will be the answer to our prayers.

Have a good Christmas, everyone, take care and keep safe. We look forward to 2021.

June Wilkinson 891534

*Paul and Ruth Parker wish all their friends  
and neighbours in the village a very happy  
Christmas and a healthy 2021.*



## ***Your Christmas Cheer***

*Christmas is coming and the geese are getting fat, but what wines would we like to be drinking in the coming weeks? I believe that these wines are particularly good value, provide some seasonal comfort and will not break the bank.*

### **Champagne**

I am not a great champagne enthusiast, although I am happy to drink it on suitable occasions. Good Housekeeping recently had a blind tasting of the supermarket champagnes - the **Waitrose Blanc de Noirs Brut NV** came first at around £23.99 (when not on offer) - it was said to have a baked green apple yeasty aroma with a crisp refreshing flavour - supersmooth. The runner-up, beating significantly more expensive champagnes, was **Veuve Monsigny Champagne Brut from Aldi** at £12.99 a bottle (sometimes reduced a little at Christmas) which was a real crowd pleaser with fresh lemon and apple aromas, refreshing fruity and floral flavours and smooth balance.

### **Interesting white wines**

**Tres Mares Albarino 2019** - this grape is extensively grown in the Rias Baixas in northern Spain and makes delicious wines. Loyal Waitrose customers often get a discount on shopping and this has recently been on offer at £7.49 down from £9.99. Herby, citrus and with hints of apricots, especially good and for “woke” or vegetarian readers it is also vegan.

**Definition White Burgundy 2018** - The Majestic Definition range can be particularly good and with a mix 6 price of £9.99, this is good value Burgundy, competing with the Wine Society own label bottle that I like! Stone fruits, creamy, balanced, and smooth - a nice mouthful that would go with turkey.

**Exquisite Clare Valley Riesling 2018** - Aldi buy wine very well and at £6.99 this is great value giving the characteristic green apple, lime and grapefruit flavours expected from the grape plus some minerality - it is long and dry. It would match an onion tart, seafood, spicy chicken etc.

### **Interesting red wines**

**Portuguese Dao 2018** - another bargain from Aldi at £5.99, a full red wine with flavours of mulberries and blackberries, which would go well with a rich stew. It is made from indigenous Portuguese grape varieties - Touriga Nacional, Alfrocheiro and Tinta Roriz - and would probably improve with time, but why wait?

**Tesco Finest Trilogy Malbec 2017** - Argentina, Mendoza - according to the website on offer until 7<sup>th</sup> December at £8.00, dark purple/violet colour, spicy nose, black fruit flavour with vanilla and pepper, sensible long finish. It is rather good and improves with decanting/air.

## **PARISH FIELD update**



Progress has been made in improving the parking surface on the Parish Field. Heavyweight plastic netting has been laid and ‘stapled’ into place. This was then covered with a light layer of stone. It’s thought that a second layer of stone may be required in due course, once the newly laid stone and the ground have settled - it was very wet and muddy. While it looks a little ‘raw’ at present, it is already starting to blend in with the falling autumnal leaves. In due course, grass should be able to bind the whole surface together.

Thank you to the working team involved, who maintained an element of social distance! Bob Wilkinson, Bill Anderson, Dave Hiatt, Malcolm Torrance, Johnny Williamson and

Don Hammond all provided the brute force labour and Bob Wilkinson supplied the transport for the stone, heavyweight roller and the like.



## **PARISH HALL update**

Many thanks to Janet Hiatt for all her hard work in clearing the vegetation round the edge of the newly paved patio area. It looks considerably better. She also worked to clear the drains, which is never pleasant. Great job! The Charity Commission has received and is processing the proposal to reorganize the existing Parish Hall Committee charity, technically known as the Village Club and Bowling Green Charity (number 236036) into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) to be known as the Great Budworth Parish Hall Charity. This is the more modern charitable structure, and the name should be less confusing. Once the CIO is established there will need to be meetings to transfer the assets and undertaking to the new organisation. It has all taken rather longer than we expected. In part this is due to the present Covid restrictions which have changed many business systems and discouraged meetings.

In the summer months the Hall Wi-Fi system was upgraded. It is both faster and cheaper than the old system. For anyone logging onto the SHELL network, the new password is GBPH2020, and there is a note on the noticeboard.

Don Hammond

Chairman, Parish Hall Committee



## SCHOOL NEWS

After 10 years as the Head of Great Budworth School, Mrs Finney has announced that she will be taking early retirement at the end of this academic year. When she took over as Head in January 2010, we had just 31 pupils and two classes: now the school finds itself in its current healthy and stable position. There will be plenty of time before Mrs Finney leaves for us all to reflect on her time at the school and the journey she and the school have been on under her leadership.

Miss Bratherton has completed her assessment week for the Forest School qualification and we offer her huge congratulations and look forward to more forest school experiences which we know all the children enjoy.

Following the half term break all the classes continued with their topics for the term.

Classes 1 & 2 have been very arty this half term, making Catherine wheels for bonfire night, hand printed poppies for Remembrance Day and Pudsey ears for Children in Need.

Class 3 studied electricity in their Science class and designed electrical circuits, which included a switch so that they could see how the flow of electricity works.

Class 4 have been reading *The Selfish Giant*, a story by Oscar Wilde. In the story the giant builds a fence to stop the children playing in his garden on their way home from school. I'm sure there may be some villagers who can relate to this story! As well as reading the story, the children have had to write a letter to the giant asking him to let them back in his garden to play.

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November each child donated £1 so that they could come to school dressed in anything spotty, stripey or yellow to raise money for Children in Need.

The week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> November was Anti-bullying Week and, as part of this, all the children wore odd socks to show that we are all unique and that being different from everyone else is fine.

At this time of year the school is usually preparing itself for the Christmas festivities. This year, however, there will be no school Christmas fair or parents/carers attending nativity plays. Nevertheless, the children will still be able to do some fun activities, such as Christmas Jumper Day on the 11<sup>th</sup> December for Save the Children; and they'll still have a Christmas lunch and continue to look for ways to use technology to help them celebrate Christmas together.

The caretaker, Mr Jim Southern, is still recovering from his illness and isn't quite ready to return to work, so Mr John Ward has kindly agreed to continue working as caretaker for a little bit longer.

Thanks to everyone who donated bags of clothing for the Recycle4School fundraiser event that FoTS arranged. It raised £102 for the school.

We wish you all a safe merry Christmas & happy new year.

Richard Elias – Governor



**Chateau Reverdi, Bordeaux 2016** - the house claret of the Manchester Tennis and Racquets Club, which we import directly from the Château. I can supply a few bottles at about £12.50 per bottle for anyone interested. A great Cru Bourgeois wine from a good year made from a typical Bordeaux blend of grapes but rather more Petit Verdot than one would expect. It has won numerous awards. If you come for dinner, I may well serve it.

**M&S Classics Pinotage 2020** - Pinotage is a grape indigenous to South Africa and this wine is made by a particularly good young winemaker in Swartland - it has fruity flavours of blackcurrant and black cherry with a hint of complexity from oak barrels. At £8 it is good value. In addition, the grapes are all "Fair trade" certified.

### Sweet wine

**Specialty Selected Sauternes 2016** half bottle £6.99 from Aldi! Friends in the Commanderie de Bordeaux recommended this as excellent value - luscious, balanced acid with flavours of sweet grape-fruit marmalade. One could pay more but get a lot less.

*À votre santé !*

Don Hammond





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## 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 requirements/needs, please give me a call.



Emma: tel 01606 891 229;  
07704 074 979

## Dear Villagers,

**T**he Parish Council has been unable to meet in the Parish Hall since the start of lockdown in March. We understand that this will be frustrating for some in the community. We are obliged, however, to follow guidelines as set out by CHALC (Cheshire Association of Local Councils). Members of the public can ask to join a meeting remotely or table any issues in advance for the next agenda by contacting the Clerk, Gill Ayres on 07907 456037 or emailing her at: [greatbudworthparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:greatbudworthparishclerk@gmail.com).



We have undertaken remedial maintenance work to the lower pump house which has taken considerably longer than expected. It has been delayed in part owing to Covid, but also because of a leak in the incoming main. We are hoping this work will be finished in the very near future.

We continue to have meetings with Highways and to raise continuing issues with poor road surfaces, traffic volume/speed on the A559 and safe cycle/pedestrian access between villages. Unfortunately, our concerns are met with limited support for any action on the part of the Authority. Issues can be raised directly via the CWAC website (see item on page 11) so please don't hesitate to make your voice heard!

Work continues on the parish trees, as identified in the survey carried out earlier this year.

Finally, I'm sure I speak on behalf of everyone when I extend a big thank you to Jane Robbins for the work she has carried out in tidying the lower pump house and painting the railings.

Rob Collier  
Chairman, Parish Council



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## NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBOURS IN WINCHAM

**W**e're sure that, like us, you're curious about what is happening on the Black Greyhound site on the A559 in Wincham (*pictured*).



There have been a number of Planning Applications by housing developer Emery. The last application included a three-storey apartment block on the site of the old pub, with houses on the rest of the site, but this was seen by the developer as not financially viable.

New plans include five detached houses and eight apartments. This new plan extends into Green Belt land, which has been an issue in the past.

### Land to the east of New Warrington Road, Wincham

This is the road that many of us take on our way into Northwich. Some years ago Planning Permission was given for 950 houses on this land, but over time plans have changed. Thor Chemicals bought some of the land, thus reducing the potential building area. Russell Homes are now applying for permission to build 98 houses, but Wincham Council are concerned about the volume of traffic on New Warrington Road, school capacity and water supply issues.



Have you ever noticed that each year at Christmas time the lamp posts throughout the village are garlanded with seasonal decorations? Up to now it's been done by a single individual at her own expense. Well, this year, she'd like some help.

It would be lovely if those living near a lamp post got their heads together with their neighbours and decorate it with a suitable festive theme. No prizes for the best—except a glow of satisfaction!

Come on, villagers, let's see if your collective efforts can be as good as the single-handed work of our benefactor in previous years.

## New Report it App from Cheshire West & Chester Council

**I**f you have a mobile device, there's a new, easy way to report potholes, full bins and broken street lamps to the Council! Go to the Apple App Store or Google Play Store and enter 'Cheshire West & Chester', where you will find 'Report It!' listed.

For further information on how to use the app, enter 'Cheshire West and Chester Report It App' in your search engine, where you'll find guidance.



## Modest Will Blows His Trumpet

This year was the 18<sup>th</sup> year that I have played the Last Post at Great Budworth's Remembrance Service. My role in the service began in 2002, when I was encouraged by Norman Baker, the church organist. Norman was a great inspiration, as he always encouraged me to play on Armistice Day, and at Christmas and Easter Services, as well as playing at weddings. I would always meet up with Norman the day before Armistice Day to practise the Last Post in the church - and every year I feel the same level of nerves as I did on that first day in 2002.



I learnt to play the cornet/trumpet in 2000 at County High School, Leftwich. The school has a strong music department led by Jo Curry and Claire Powlson. Their brass group was where I would spend most of my lunch times, playing along with more than 20 other players. There, I was introduced to the brass band environment and, on leaving school, I went on to play for Roberts Bakery Band, where I played for many successful years. Brass bands have given me the opportunity to play at some amazing venues, such as the Royal Albert Hall, London, and The Sage, Gateshead.

Playing outdoors is routine when you're playing in a brass band, as every year you have the Whit Friday marches in Tameside and Saddleworth. We would visit as many villages as possible to play a contest march, to the accompaniment of Britain's unpredictable weather, so that you get soaking wet one year and sunburnt the next!

Playing the Last Post, though, is always a challenge, given that it is in November, so it's guaranteed to be chilly. I suppose that's the downside of playing a brass instrument, as the metal mouthpiece seems to attract the cold: when it meets your lips after the two minutes' silence it's always a bit of a shock! Adding to the pressure is the size of the audience: almost everyone from the village comes together to pay their respects.

Every year, Jean Harding reads the names of the fallen just before the two minutes' silence. Jean is like clockwork and finishes literally just before the clock strikes eleven. To me this is the most nerve racking part of the Armistice Service as it is so important to hear the name of each and every person who gave their life. I am privileged to be able to play on Armistice Day at Great Budworth Lych gate and it will always be a proud day as I am able to show my own respects through my playing.

In recent years, when not playing the Last Post, I've followed my keen interest in genres such as jazz, funk, soul and reggae, to name a few. For the past five years I have played in a nine-piece funk and soul band called the Plimp Souls. 2020 has been a tough year for us as the Coronavirus pandemic has meant that we haven't played live together for over eight months. It's worrying, too, as there's the risk of people giving up playing and pursuing a new interest or hobby. The Plimp Souls did, though, try to make the most of downtime by (warning: shameless plug follows!) recording a 'lockdown' single and video, which is available to stream on Spotify and YouTube etc. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=59U1AWveO1E>

**Will Earl**  
07817 412979

## GREAT BUDWORTH'S REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 8th November

This year's Remembrance Sunday took place in the churchyard, owing to the current Covid restrictions. However, it was none the worse for that for, despite the need for social distancing, many people managed to attend, both in the churchyard and in the surrounding areas.

The service was led by the Rev'd Alec Brown and, following opening prayers and hymns, the names of all the fallen from Great Budworth and Marbury villages were read out by Jean Harding (pictured, right). With perfect timing, the final name was read out just as the church bells began to toll the eleventh hour. This was followed by trumpeter, Will Earl, playing the Last Post. His playing was immaculate (quite an achievement, given the inherent difficulties of playing a brass instrument in cold, damp weather). There can't be many communities where the Last Post is not only played live, but performed so superbly. (See page 10 for Will's own reflections on his task).



Margaret Cross and Karen Hammond read the familiar pieces by Laurence Binyon ("At the going down of the sun ...") and John Edmonds ("... for your tomorrow, we gave our today") and our own High Sheriff of Cheshire, Nick Hopkinson, (pictured, left) and two local children laid wreaths in the Lych Gate. It was a very moving service.



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## SEASON'S GREETINGS from your Showbiz Correspondent

The company I worked for—Polygram—owned 15-20 record labels and, as head office staff, we were expected to attend all their Christmas functions. So, December was always a bit of a blur, but I do remember one or two events. Artistes used to attend: sometimes to entertain, but often just to mingle.

I recall in the early '70s a new[ish] and young[ish] Billy Joel tinkling away on the piano whilst we chomped on our beef Wellington. Another time, at the Lee Valley Sports arena (it wasn't always in the West End!) Peters & Lee ('Welcome Home' and 'There's a Rainbow in the Sky', etc.) sang for the manufacturing staff. Lenny (Peters), who was blind, explained that he had had the wheels on his Rolls painted white to warn other drivers of his disability ...

A most embarrassing event happened in the Stanhope Place recording studio of Philips Records. Jessye Norman, distinguished US opera singer of statuesque proportions, was chatting to me when a manager from the distribution centre sank to his knees in front of her and asked her to sing 'Mammy' for him. The few seconds that followed felt like an hour as she stared down at him, ferociously weighing up her options. I thought she was going to kick him where it would hurt most. Instead, she belted out, in full operatic mode: "I'd walk a million miles for one of your smiles", then turned her back and left him crouched on the floor.

Finally, a unique and unrecorded event. This was at the newly opened St. Katharine's Dock, in the Dickens Inn which we took over for the night. A new band, Dire Straits, was performing, when Status Quo decided to join them on the stage and jam together for a while. I turned to my neighbour and bellowed, "It's rather loud!" He shouted back that I should be careful what I said as I was looking at company assets worth getting on for £4 million!

Alan Freemantle



*The magnificent Jessye Norman*



### *Get well soon, Jean!*

We wish Jean Davies, whose Garden Club piece is on the opposite page, a speedy recovery from her recent urgent appendectomy operation. Jean was just coming round from the operation, which took place whilst she and husband Peter were staying with relatives in London, when she remembered the Bulletin copy deadline—and promptly composed and sent us her copy from her hospital bed! Truly, the woman is a trooper!

## GARDEN CLUB

We have encountered the hardest year that we could ever expect. It is unprecedented and, of course, not over yet. As we end the latest lockdown in early December, we will be given guidance on what we can do. There is the hope of a vaccine to counteract this dreadful coronavirus disease. We all hope and pray that it will be successful and we will be back to normal. Our gardens have been a lifesaver this year. The weather was good, which greatly helped, but now winter is upon us, and it is much harder to bear.



*Winter cheer—schlumbergera*

Our plan to start the Garden Club by February is still on hold: it depends on the situation and guidance on the number of people allowed in any hall. After the government's next update (which will be around the time you receive this Bulletin), we shall make some decisions and inform all our members, with our own Keeping in Touch Newsletter.

In the meantime, thank you for all your friendships and contacts and good wishes. May we wish you all the best for Christmas and the New Year. That means keeping well and being with your loved ones.

Thinking of you all,  
Jean and Peter Davies  
01606 892383 / 07899 937683

## Christmas Post



The coming Christmas seems likely to be rather different from the usual convivial occasion here in the village, but a small band of volunteers is offering to act as 'posties'.

The Budworth Christmas Post will deliver cards to the village nucleus, along with Heath Lane and Budworth Heath. We're sorry, but we can't extend this service to our Arley readers - but perhaps you'll set up your own!

Your post can be left at the Bowmans' at 33 Westage Lane, or the Kordels', The Hollies, High Street, by Friday 17th December.

We usually ask for a donation, which in the past has been given to organisations in the village. This year we are conscious that some Cheshire folk are going to find Christmas financially difficult because of the pandemic, so we have decided the money raised will be given to the Mid Cheshire Foodbank. Please donate 25p per card.