

NEW YEAR'S EVE 2021

Last New Year's Eve was the first time for more than 50 years that a celebration open to all villagers did not taken place in Great Budworth! The event has been celebrated in a great variety of ways over the years, usually in the Parish Hall, although at least once in the open on a frosty evening in Church Street. It has usually involved shared food and drinks, sometimes games, dancing, music - and frequently entertainment put on by those attending, but most recently by a magician.

In each of the past eight years volunteers from the village have organised food and drinks, decorations and activities for around 45 villagers every New Year's Eve in the Parish Hall. The organisers over those years have been five ladies, one in her 90s, two in their 80s and two in their 70s. Some of us think the time has come to hang up our boots!

So we are hoping that some maybe younger people will come forward to get involved in organizing the village's New Year's Eve celebration in 2021! We're looking for new ideas, enthusiasm and a willingness to join in the fun.

YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!

Contact a member of the Bulletin team (details below) for further details.

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BUDWORTH BULLETIN

February 2021



*It wasn't all bad!
The snow brought out
Great Budworth's
Master Snowmen
builders!*

*Pictured here are:
a magnific
ent (if short-sighted!)
farmer in the garden of
June and Bob Wilkinson
- and a very eye-
catching snowman with
his maker, Libby*



CHURCH NEWS

National lockdown 3 and the closure of Great Budworth Church (and Arley Chapel)

Unlike the first and second national lockdowns, during which churches and other places of worship had to close for public worship, this third lockdown has allowed choice, with an exemption for communal worship, funerals and weddings (the last under exceptional circumstances only).

However, after consultation with all members of the Ministry Team and the Standing Committee of the PCC, and following the Plough Service on Sunday 10th, which was attended by only a very few parishioners (and a couple of local visitors), we have decided to close the church for public worship for the time being, in line with many other churches locally and nationally.

In making this very difficult decision, we have been very conscious of the anxiety and concern of many regular parishioners and the worsening situation in the North West with regard to Covid-19 infections. We know this will be a disappointment to some, but we are very conscious of our responsibilities in terms of public health and adherence to the government's guidelines and advice.

We shall, of course, also be reviewing this situation after the next government announcements in mid-February. Online services will continue on a weekly basis from now on, as will the electronic distribution of the Sunday Sheet. And the church will remain open for private prayer on Sundays only, from 11am to 4pm, for parishioners and local visitors.

We have also made the decision to suspend communal worship at St Mary's Chapel, Arley Hall, for the time being. This will also be reviewed in February.

Please be assured of our continuing thoughts and prayers for you all at this very worrying and stressful time. If you'd like to speak to any of us please do not hesitate to contact us.

We want to thank everybody for your support during this difficult time, both with help in many ways and financially.

The Rev'd Alec Brown and the Ministry Team.



Welcome to Corinne Savill

Corinne became the new owner of 61 High Street in October last year, but was only able to move in during the Christmas period. With the impact of COVID-19, Corinne hasn't had much chance to get to know people in the village but hopes to put that right as soon as restrictions allow. Corinne has two daughters, one living in Knutsford, the other in London.

Corinne works for a pharmaceutical company, developing bio-technology for oncology. She's lucky in that she is able to work remotely from almost anywhere in the world. Currently she's working in Switzerland, but hopes to be home very soon.

Corinne has the company of her three border terriers when she travels as they all started life in France and have French Pet Passports!



VILLAGE CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERIES

It all seems a long time ago now, but thanks to the generosity of local people who used this service this Christmas, we were able to donate £75 to Mid Cheshire Foodbank.

It will help those in our area who are struggling to put food on their table. Please don't forget to drop some food off in the box at your supermarket or make a donation via their website: mid-cheshirefoodbank.org.uk.



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***The Parish Council met on Monday 18th January,
once again online, via Zoom***

A member of the public had asked the Council to request a police presence in the village to deter the many cyclists and sightseers visiting the village without masks, many lingering on the benches outside the pub. This was irresponsible during the current pandemic, especially given the vulnerability of some village residents. Councillors have been advised that this is not a matter over which they have control. The PCSO advised that she regularly visited the village and that Cheshire Police (who do have enforcement authority) had a policy of the Four Es (Engage, Explain, Encourage and Enforce).



Another member of the public asked that the Council consider felling Council-owned trees which were threatening the foundations of her property. Councillors agreed to approach the Tree Officer to take the matter further.

The Council's budget for 2021-22 was agreed and a Precept request to Cheshire West & Cheshire (CW&C) of £9,599 was agreed.

Parking Restriction outside Bakery Cottage, High Street

Highways have not received any objections to the proposal for yellow lines here, but they are unable to take the matter any further, owing to the pandemic.

Parish Field

The new surfacing of the parking area had been undertaken last autumn by a group of volunteers led by Cllr. Wilkinson. Thanks were extended to the team.

Trees

Works were in hand as recommended following the tree survey, but were delayed owing to the pandemic. It was agreed that the diseased pleached lime trees (on High Street) should be removed but replaced by some other planting that would make parking on the cobbles impossible.

Water Testing

The Parish Council will instruct CW&C to undertake the work to sample, test and risk assess the water quality at the Lower Pumphouse spring.

A request for a financial contribution towards the primary school's new play equipment had been received. Cllrs. agreed that the school's FoTS should be invited to make an application to the council using the Small Grants Application Form, available online.

The next meeting (also via Zoom) is scheduled for Monday, 1st March 2021. Please note that members of the public are welcome to 'attend' these virtual meetings, by emailing the Parish Clerk, Gill Ayres, on: greatbudworthparishclerk@gmail.com



It seems such a long time since the last Bulletin, when we enjoyed Kathy Reynolds' Jolly Christmas traditions; it was a trip to Christmas past, back to the days when we used to make all those paper chains.

The New Year brought Chris Foote Wood (pictured), brother of the wonderful Victoria Wood. He was a delight and told us of their

early childhood and how Victoria's career was progressing slowly until she met Julie Walters - and the rest is history. We were all great fans of Victoria and he did not disappoint us with his admiration of his younger sister. He has written a book on her life which he was modestly promoting.

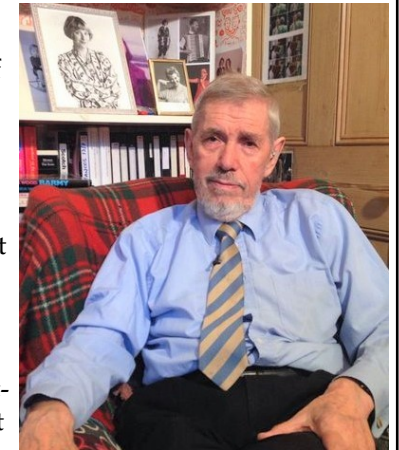
That evening we played Jerusalem from the Last Night of the Proms as a tribute to our dear friend Liz Bentham, who passed away recently. She will be missed.

The beginning of the year is the time for promoting our new programme of talks and events, but in the current situation we are taking things one month at a time. So we have another Zoom talk on Wednesday 3rd of February at 7.30pm, when Helen Taylor will be talking about gin. Unfortunately, we shall not be having tasters as this is logistically impossible (unless you provide your own), but we will at least be a little more savvy when buying Mother's ruin! We are most grateful to Sue Ritchie, who keeps us all online. Sue has suggested if any members would like to have an afternoon Zoom get together with three or four other ladies she can set this up for you. It will help to alleviate loneliness and stop us climbing up the walls in lockdown. You can let Sue, Liz Wathen or me know if you think this is a useful idea.

The book club are reading 'The Street', by Ann Petry. The walking group have stopped their rambles for the time being. If anyone has collected used stamps from their Christmas Cards they can be sent to: BCRT Stamp appeal, 20 Bowers Rd., Benfleet, Essex, SS7 5PZ for the Bone Cancer Research Trust.

We look forward to Zoom-ing again next month as it is a lifeline for keeping in touch, especially as we wonder how long this will go on. The advantage is we need not leave our homes on cold winter nights, but oh how we miss the banter and chat! Take care everyone.

June Wilkinson 891534



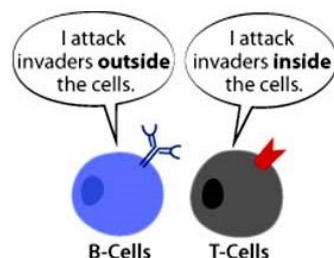
UNDERSTANDING HOW COVID 19 VACCINATIONS WORK

With the UK now having three vaccines approved from **Pfizer/BioNTech**, **Oxford/AstraZeneca** and, most recently, **Moderna**, it's useful to understand how these COVID-19 vaccines work.

How do our Bodies Fight Illness?

When viruses, such as the one that causes COVID-19, invade our bodies, they attack and multiply. This is what causes illness. Our immune system uses several tools to fight infection. Blood contains red cells, which carry oxygen to tissues and organs, and white - or immune - cells, which fight infection. Different types of white blood cells fight infection in different ways:

- **Macrophages** are white blood cells that swallow up and digest germs and dead or dying cells. The macrophages leave behind parts of the invading germs called antigens. The body identifies antigens as dangerous and stimulates antibodies to attack them.
- **B-lymphocytes** are defensive white blood cells. They produce antibodies that attack the pieces of the virus left behind by the macrophages.
- **T-lymphocytes** attack cells in the body that have already been infected.



The first time a person is infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, it can take several days or weeks for their body to make and use all the germ-fighting tools needed to get over the infection. After the infection, the person's immune system remembers what it learned about how to protect the body against that disease.

The body keeps a few T-lymphocytes, called memory cells, that go into action quickly if the body encounters the same virus again. When the familiar antigens are detected, B-lymphocytes produce antibodies to attack them. Experts are still learning how long these memory cells protect a person against the virus.

How COVID-19 Vaccines Work

COVID-19 vaccines help our bodies develop immunity to the COVID-19 virus without us having to get the illness. Different types of vaccines work in different ways to offer protection, but with all types of vaccines, the body is left with a supply of "memory" T-lymphocytes as well as B-lymphocytes that will remember how to fight that virus in the future.

It typically takes a few weeks for the body to produce these defensive white blood cells after vaccination. Therefore, it's possible that a person could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 just before or just after vaccination and then get sick because the vaccine did not have enough time to provide protection.

Sometimes the process of building immunity after vaccination can cause symptoms, such as fever. These symptoms are normal and are a sign that the body is building immunity.

Norman and there was a farm on the Mount where Sue Ormson lives. Horses did the heavy work. Along with a couple of pigs and a few hens, a living could be made.

Comberbach, Pickmere and Antrobus were dotted with mixed dairy farms (cows, plus other animals) but as many farm workers went to work at the Salt Works or ICI for better wages and as tractors replaced men, most farms became private houses and barn conversions. Farm cottages were sold off and the farms that remained grew bigger and more efficient. Now we have just one dairy farm in Antrobus (Gerrards), two in Comberbach (Wilkinsons and Woodcocks), along with Hilltop Farm (Shepherds), Budworth Heath Farm (Bates) and New Westage Farm (us).

The Arley estate built a new farm on Heath Lane, which is where we are today, and the village became more residential. Arley once had many more farms: New Farm, Arley Moss Farm, Lower Feldy Green Farm, Gorse Farm, Feldy Green Farm and The Gore (which has been in the Percival family for a very long time - and still is!). Brownslow Farm on the A559 has been in the Ford family for ages and Hield House Farm on Hield Lane was the Williamsons'. The farm at Four Lane Ends on the corner of Dark Lane, is currently for sale.

Financial pressures have driven the farming community to where it is today, with fewer but more intensive farms, unfortunately spoiling the country ambience which we once enjoyed.

June Wilkinson



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(Unfortunately, June didn't tell us the names of these cows! Ed.)

explaining why we farm the way we do. It was 27 years ago that we decided to diversify into ice cream using our own milk and selling the ice cream to the public. It was a brave venture, but we are still there and it works well. We are not on a busy road with passing traffic, but Great Budworth has always attracted visitors, so we thought a good quality ice cream, made traditionally with good ingredients, could be a winner. Ten years later we decided to

open a tea and coffee shop, which takes us to where we are today, running a real family business. Covid has proved a difficult challenge and I know that our loyal staff has been depleted but our outlets have sold lots of cartons of ice cream and we hope next year we will be back to a normal routine!

When Roger Wilkinson first came to Great Budworth he had two full time workmen, as well as his two sons, Peter and Bob. He also had casual staff. Today we farm 200 acres, half in the village and half in Antrobus. Our son, David, is the full-time farmer, with the help of two OAP's, Bob and Rachel's Dad, Dave Hankey. There are contractors to do the silaging, muck-spreading and hedge cutting and we have two relief milkers, Rob and Nic, who come in to do the milking two or three times a week. This gives David more time to deal with office work, A.I. and animal health matters, maintenance of machines, repair of fences, clearing of drains and ditches, etc.

We still send most of our milk to the dairy for sale through Meadow Foods. It goes for processing to Cadbury's and Nestle. The milk tanker arrives every day to pick the milk up. Incidentally, we drink our own unpasteurised milk and have done all our life. We have a pasteuriser to make the ice cream but choose to drink milk *au naturel* and it is delicious!

In Great Budworth there were at least six farms in the village alone, most with a small herd of cows (around ten). Bob was brought up at White Hart Farm, where the Hietts now live and the cows were milked alongside the house, where Kevin and Lyn live now. Goldmine Farm on Southbank was farmed by Tom Howard; Hough Farm on Church Street was farmed by the Jones and the Byre (shippon) was where Cath Davies lives. Saracens Head Farm, the Tours' home, was a working farm; Fred Renshaw was the farmer - and no doubt it was once a pub too. Westage Farm was last farmed by Arnold Ridgway and now it is a farm again, thanks to Rob and Cara! Norman Duncalf's Farm is still farmed by *Cont'd on next page*

Types of Vaccines Available

- **Pfizer/Biontec & Moderna are mRNA vaccines** that contain material from the COVID-19 virus that gives our cells instructions for how to make a harmless protein that is unique to the virus. After our cells make copies of the protein, they destroy the genetic material from the vaccine. Our bodies recognize that the protein should not be there and build T-lymphocytes and B-lymphocytes that will remember how to fight the COVID-19 virus if we are infected in the future.
- **Oxford/AstraZeneca is a Vector vaccine** that contain a weakened version of a live virus—a different virus from the one that causes COVID-19—that has genetic material from the COVID-19 virus inserted in it (this is called a viral vector). Once the viral vector is inside our cells, the genetic material gives cells instructions to make a protein that is unique to the virus that causes COVID-19. Using these instructions, our cells make copies of the protein. This prompts our bodies to build T-lymphocytes and B-lymphocytes that will remember how to fight that virus if we are infected in the future.

COVID-19 Vaccines require more than one shot. None of them can give you COVID-19.

There are other vaccines and treatments currently in clinical trials. These include Monoclonal antibodies which contain lab-made replicas of antibodies from COVID-19 patients chosen to be highly effective against the virus. These are intended to protect those people who have a weak immune system.

And the good news ...

Informal enquiries strongly suggest that all over 80s in the village have now been vaccinated. Reports from villagers, who are registered with different surgeries, tell us that they've been enormously impressed with the organisation, thoroughness and efficiency of the whole process.

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THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY: A QUESTION OF QUESTIONS

As President Joe Biden has been busy issuing Executive Orders to stamp his authority on the affairs of a troubled USA, there's one piece of business left over from the Trump era which could at last help to solve one of the greatest political mysteries of the last century: who killed JFK, and why? Donald Trump prevaricated on the release to the public of tens of thousands of relevant documents which are still classified and kept secret. Will Joe Biden grasp this nettle? Kay Bashford, of Southbank, writes:

There were, and still are, many theories as to who, 57 years ago on 22nd November 1963, fired the fatal shot that killed John Fitzgerald Kennedy, President of the USA.

In 1961 my husband, Vic, met David Reid, who was from New Orleans. David was a Research Chemist working on products made from cotton waste. He stayed with us for a few days whilst Vic took him to various sites involved in the North West cotton manufacturing industry.

In September 1963 Vic and I went to a Chemistry Conference in New York and then travelled on to Dallas, Houston, Baton Rouge and New Orleans, where we met up once again with David and his family.



Six weeks after our return to the UK, President Kennedy was shot. Two weeks later we had an air mail letter from David saying, "Do not believe that Lee Harvey Oswald shot Kennedy". The CIA had appointed a research unit, where David worked, to fire live bullets into bales of cotton, which was the nearest they had to a human skull. We were kept informed for many years on the progress of the various theories.

President Johnson appointed the Warren Commission, who were 'advised' they must bring in an unequivocal finding that Lee Harvey Oswald had been the sole assassin. Johnson said that if there was the slightest rumour that a Cuban or Russian had organised the shooting it could result in a nuclear war: the Cuban state had some war heads and 40 million Americans would die. Johnson knew it was essential that Lee Harvey Oswald did not go to trial: they could not risk him saying he had been recruited for the task. Maybe his fears were genuine?

Incidentally, years later, a woman who had been Johnson's mistress when he was Vice-President said in a TV interview that Johnson knew all about the planned assassination and did nothing to stop it. Now enter Jack Ruby. He shot and killed Oswald when he was being taken through a basement. Ruby had a clear shot; the Police were not trying very hard to protect their prisoner. Was there a deal with Ruby? He was a nightclub owner with terminal cancer and received the best treatment whilst in captivity, finally dying in 1967.

We do not rear our own replacements on this farm but buy in the dairy cows from people who rear young heifers until they are ready to give birth to their first calves. It is essential that the calves drink their mother's milk for a while to build up a natural immunity from disease. Our calves are sold at six weeks old, after they are weaned from the cow. Our cows are impregnated via artificial insemination (AI), with sperm from beef breeds, so they are sold to farms that provide beef animals. Bob has to journey to Leek market with his young calves about once a month to sell on to other farms which have more space and are less intensive so it's a happy life for them. He used to travel to Chelford Market until it closed, then to Beeston Market, which also closed, so now it is Leek Auction Mart. It is long journey for Bob and the calves, but very occasionally we manage to sell them privately to local beef farmers.

On the farm we also grow barley to sell for animal feed: the straw from the barley is used to provide bedding for our cows to lie on in the winter,

when they sleep indoors. Our cows can sleep outside in the summer months but as the weather changes they stay indoors.



*Three generations of Wilkinsons on the field opposite the farm.
From l: Roger, Stephen (who now farms at Gravestone Farm, Aston
Budworth, where the alpaca walking is), Stephen's Dad, Peter
(retired to Appleton), Bob, and son David, aged 7).*

They lie on fresh straw and have food and water ad lib. The muck is scraped out daily and rucked up to spread when the weather allows us to scatter it over the stubble ground after the barley has been harvested, or leave it piled in a field to rot down before spreading it when needed - and that is organic manure. When the field is ploughed it turns over the soil to bury the manure which enriches the earth and produces a good hearty crop next year. It is a cycle which evolves over the years. We have tried growing maize, but the weather is often poor in late October when this is chopped for cattle feed. It makes a mess and in very wet times we are not able to get it harvested.

It is quite hard to do a brief story of farming, keeping it simple for readers yet *Cont'd on next page*

A Year on New Westage Farm (better known as the Ice Cream Farm)

By June Wilkinson

New Westage Farm is a dairy farm that sits amidst a cluster of now fewer than four dairy farms in this area. Dairy farms are a now a rare breed and we are very lucky here to be surrounded by cows in the fields during the summer months - though some of you may not feel lucky when you cross a mucky road or suffer the smells when we are spreading the slurry, but that is an essential part of dairy farming.



The Wilkinsons' combine harvester in action on the farm

We milk more than 90 Holstein Friesian cows at New Westage Farm. Cows don't give milk at all until they give birth to a calf. Once the milk arrives, they are milked twice a day for about ten months when, hopefully, they'll be pregnant again and are rested before they give birth to their next calf. Like us humans, their pregnancy lasts nine months, and is a cycle that goes on until the cow is past it, a bit like me!

To produce milk, cows have to be cared for, well-fed and watered. This is easier in the summer, as the grass is encouraged to grow and the cows help themselves, as you can all see. During the summer we also grow and store grass as silage or as haylage to supplement their feed in the winter. You often see the big round plastic bales which store the haylage until it is brought in for their feed.



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There have been many other theories - including those involving the Mafia and shots heard from a grassy knoll - leaving the Kennedy case never officially closed. The latest theory, aired in recent years on television, was that one of Kennedy's FBI bodyguards, riding in the Presidential motorcade, shot him by accident. This might have led to another cover up by the US Government and the head of the FBI, J Edgar Hoover, to avoid the world knowing that Kennedy was shot by one of his own people, albeit in an accident. Who knows?

Questions will forever remain: for example, who set up Lee Harvey Oswald and how was he caught so quickly at his home? And what if the assassination attempt had failed? My view, for what it is worth, is that Johnson would never have become President if Jack Kennedy had served his full term in office. Instead, I think he would have been succeeded by his brother, Bobby.

Footnote: David Reid was part of the team that invented 'drip dry cotton' and the 'drip dry shirt'.

Kay Bashford, Southbank

Gilly de Ferranti

It is with great sadness that we report the death in January 2021 of Gilly de Ferranti, formerly of Henbury Hall, a neo-Palladian house near Macclesfield, built in the late 1980s by her husband, Sebastian, who pre-deceased her in 2015.

Gilly - then called Gilly Brown - was well-known to many of us, having been a resident of a cottage at Arley for some years, until she married Sebastian in 2011. She had recently sold Henbury Hall and at the time of her death was embarking on a new life in Malpas.



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SCHOOL NEWS

Well, just as we were about to get ready for the new school term another lockdown was announced. Thankfully, I hadn't yet polished the children's school shoes so that saved me a job! As soon as the news was announced, the staff worked hard to ensure that they were able to provide remote learning for the children whilst still remaining open for the children of critical workers and vulnerable children, as well as providing wraparound care for them as required.

The teachers have been using a variety of tools to deliver the remote learning, including Purple Mash, MyMath and Microsoft Teams to host the work, post video lessons, class meetings and a daily video story for the children, which they really enjoy. All of this work by the staff is providing the children with some learning structure, but they are all missing their friends, so hopefully it won't be too long until we are able to return to school safely.

They say things come in threes: following Mrs Finney's decision to retire at the end of this academic year, our bursar, Mrs Jill Murphy, left the school just before Christmas to take up a role within the NHS. We wish her the best of luck in her new job. At the start of the new term it was nice to be able to welcome Mrs Nicola Crampton who joins our admin team as the new Bursar. However, we then had the news that Mrs Jane Robins, of the admin team, would be leaving us as she has received a promotion at her other job and so we wish her well in this new role.

Richard Elias - Governor



Wishing you all a Happy New Year from Jenny aka The Reverend Vet

Happy New Year everyone. I am letting you know that as a developing social media influencer as The Reverend Vet, I'd appreciate your support in this new initiative through your liking of The Reverend Vet on the social media outputs as below.

To like and share my page please follow this link: <https://www.loom.com/share/2bb6cb3695ae4aacb9d238f36c0a0266>

Hopefully some radio and TV appearances to follow!



SCHOOL 100+ WINNERS

November

1st prize (no 82) Kath Hankey - £25

2nd prize (no 80) Shirley Foden - £10

Double winnings in December winners were:

1st prize (no 50) John Tours - £50

2nd prize (no 57) Peter Lloyd - £20

GARDEN CLUB

We are all caught up in this unprecedented world of coronavirus and lockdown. How to deal with it is very difficult and each of us will have our own way of getting through the coming months. The Garden Club has decided not to hold an AGM - because there is nothing to discuss!

The committee are holding a Zoom meeting soon and will discuss the possibility of having speakers for members, also on Zoom, and will see if all the costs justify that. All booked speakers will be contacted and we will inform members of the outcome as soon as possible. It is impossible to go ahead with any plans at the moment, but the next Bulletin will be more definitive. We have a wonderful members' Newsletter of our own, Keeping In Touch, which is distributed via email, and all information will be included there, as well as being updated continually, so please look out for it on your devices.

The weather has not been pleasant for gardening. In fact, up to the middle of January no gardening could be done at all. The appearance of frost and snow, that we have not had for a few years, have made it impossible to get outside. Nevertheless, snowdrops are appearing, the camellia has flowers and daffodils are breaking through! Nature is marvellous and takes no heed of pandemics. This will lighten our spirits, and hopefully warmer weather will give us all hope and contentment.

Jean Davies



Frozen fruit on a crab apple tree in the Davies's garden.

Liz Bentham

It is with great sadness that we report the untimely death of Liz Bentham, in Leighton Hospital, on 3rd January after an illness she had struggled with for many months.

Liz had many friends in the area and is sadly missed. She was a member of Great Budworth WI, the Art Group and also the Garden Club.

The funeral took place on 22nd January at 10.00am at the Birches, Lostock Green. Attendance was online only.

