

DIARY DATES FOR NOVEMBER

Church Services are listed on pages 14 -15

Monday 1st, Parish Hall, 7.00pm: Parish Council meeting. All welcome.
Wednesday 3rd, Parish Hall, 7.30pm. WI meeting.
Thursday 4th, Comberbach Methodist Church, from 12 noon. Light lunches.
Tuesday 9th, Parish Hall, 7.30pm. Garden Club meeting.
Tuesday 9th, Arley Hall, 5.30-9.00pm. Shopping Spectacular.
Wednesday 10th, Arley Hall, 9.30am-3.30pm. Shopping Spectacular.
Monday 15th, Parish Hall, 7.30pm. Village meeting to discuss Platinum Jubilee celebrations 2022.
Tuesday 16th, Hayhurst Arms, 12.30pm. Ladies' lunch.
Thursday 18th, Comberbach Methodist Church, from 12 noon. Light lunches.

Ladies' lunch

December's Ladies' Lunch will take place at 12.30pm on Tuesday 16th, at The Hayhurst Arms. Please let me know if you'd like to join us as I shall be booking a table.

Hazel Forwood (01606 891908).



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BUDWORTH BULLETIN

November 2021

***How are we to celebrate the Queen's
Platinum Jubilee next June?***

***To share your ideas and to have your say,
come to a meeting on***

***Monday 15th November
at 7.30pm***

***in
the Parish Hall, Smithy Lane***

All welcome!

***Please bring your ideas, and suggestions for
ways of helping!***

*In honour of the Jubilee, a unique Great Budworth gin is
being developed. More details to follow!*

HIELD CLOSE PLAY AREA

At last! Some good news to report. As some readers know, I have campaigned persistently over the past four years or so for an adequate play area to suit all ages in Hield Close – and here I must express my gratitude for all the donations towards that end that I have received from various people. So it's with great pleasure that I can announce that, after a series of unsuccessful annual applications for new children's play equipment, I have now been advised that my latest application has been successful. Further details aren't available at the moment.



It's not only the play area that needs improving, but the Close as a whole. To that end, residents have helped by cleaning up the area and planting seeds in an effort to make it all look more attractive. Our Parish Council is also to provide us soon with daffodils for us to plant.

Ben Benson

You helped us raise

£525

**THANK YOU SO
MUCH FOR COMING**

*at our World's Biggest Coffee Morning
event on Friday 8th October.*

Thank you all so much!



Christmas door wreaths

Start your Christmas by making your own door wreath in the barn at Guide Post Farm, Aston by Budworth. Or you could try a door saw, holly ball, table decorations or garland. Come and have a go!

Mince pies and mulled wine will be served to help you along!

Starting **1st December to the 11th December** in small groups of eight, there's a choice of three daily sessions:-

9:30- 12midday : 1:30pm - 4pm : 6:30- 9pm

Cost: £40 including wreath frame and greenery.

Ring Maggie to book your place 07970 927 161 or 01565 777262

Maggie Earl

(Continued from previous page)

Quiz Night – Thank you to all who gathered a team together, or just came and joined a team on the night. A fun night was had by all, with 'The Campanologists' winning the quiz (Janet and Chris Rees, Rachel and Ian Winstanley and Marian and Rob Steele). The hotpot was excellent (thanks to the George and Dragon), and the Quiz Master's esoteric knowledge challenged us all (Rev Alec Brown).

Finally ... we would like to thank everybody who helped at the memorial for Nick 'Hoppy' Hopkinson: to all those who worked outside directing and parking the traffic and those who helped in church. It was a most moving, fitting service for such a 'giant' of a man. He will be greatly missed.

GREAT BUDWORTH TENNIS CLUB

As always, the sun shone on Finals Day of the Cussons Shield Tournament and we all enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon watching the semi-finals and finals. It was a pity that the first round could not be played between Coral Houston/Martin Dunkerley v Felicia Dykstra/Nigel Moorhouse as Coral has unfortunately fractured her ankle. We wish her a speedy recovery.

The semi-final was played between Jane Elliot/Rick Burgess v Jenny Baldwin/Chris Wise, in which Jenny and Chris were the victors. After lunch and refreshments in the pavilion, the finals were played between Jenny/Chris v Felicia/Nigel and the winners were..... Felicia and Nigel!

So, congratulations to them and to all the players who took part this year. Thanks to the many members who came along to watch and support, especially those who prepared the delicious food - we had quite a feast and we all enjoyed a good catch-up!

Karen Williams

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CHURCH NEWS

Services for November

Wednesday 3rd	10.30 am	Holy Communion, followed by coffee
Thursday 4th	7.30pm	Celtic Evening Prayer
Sunday 7th	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	All Age Worship
Sunday 14th	10.30am	Remembrance Sunday
	4.00pm	Holy Communion
Sunday 21st	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.30am	Parish Communion



Thank you:

Church Teas 2021 – a huge thank you to all who volunteered to host the teas in the village hall from 1st August to 26th September inclusive. It was a very short season but the visitors who came appreciated us being open. We had quite a few new visitors and it was great to welcome the cyclists back. Thank you to all our visitors and we look forward to seeing them back next year in April, all being well. We raised £1380.

Sponsored Sleepout to raise funds for Afghan Refugees: Thank you to all who sponsored us. We are still collecting money in but at the last count we had raised around £2000!! It was well worth sleeping out under the stars! Seven of us took part and we all slept outside. A huge thanks to the 'rough sleepers'.

Harvest Festival – Thank you to all who donated food and new underwear and stationery. Along with food donated by the school, we were able to send five boxes to Mid-Cheshire Food Bank and four boxes of food plus all the new underwear and stationery to Care UK for Afghan Refugees.

(Continued on next page)

GARDEN CLUB

As autumn takes hold there is a lot of work to do in the garden. How satisfying it is when you are able to clear the beds and tidy the greenhouse!

The Garden Club held a very good meeting last month when Harry Delaney, retired lecturer from Reaseheath, told us about plant vigour. He showed us how to increase the vigour of our shrubs and trees, by angling and tying the branches down, so that the nutrients do not all go back down to the soil but stay higher up to produce more fruit or flowers. I will definitely be trying this.

The club is going ahead with speakers and plans for next year and we look forward to welcoming members again, old and new. The long pandemic has changed many things, but gardening has been a life saver to us all and a great therapy.

We have co-opted two new members, Julie Treharne and Neil Harvey (pictured), to take committee roles for next year. Thank you both.



Peter Davies will retire as treasurer, and Henri Giller will retire as holiday planner. We are delighted to advise that Julie Treharne will take over the holidays, and Neil Harvey will take over as treasurer. Both will be supported by Peter and Henri.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 9th November in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm. This will be an excellent evening as Martin and Jill Fish will show us how to grow produce in the garden and Jill will cook some of it in front of us. The title is 'Gardening on the table'.

The evening will include the last Plant Stall of the year and tickets for the New Year Party on Tuesday 11th January will be on sale. The theme of the party is 'New year, new start' and it replaces the Xmas Party.

For further information about the club or items mentioned here, please contact me in the first instance.

Best wishes, Jean Davies

01606 792383 / 07899 937683 (mrsjeandavies@gmail.com)

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ARLEY HALL SHOPPING SPECTACULAR

5.30pm–9.00pm Tuesday 9th November &

9.30am–3.30pm Wednesday 10th November

The Arley Hall Shopping Spectacular returns this year on the 9th/10th November 2021 subject to Covid guidelines. The hugely popular Christmas Shopping event is held in the grounds of Arley Hall and is in aid of The Joshua Tree, a local charity



supporting families affected by childhood cancer.

The shopping event will include a glass of fizz to visitors on the evening of the

9th November. Visitors will be able to enjoy over 60 handpicked stalls from all over the UK offering a wide variety of stunning gifts and ideas for Christmas.

From **5:30pm until 9pm** on the evening of **Tuesday 9th November** there is Shopping Preview Evening. Tickets are £20, to include a glass of fizz.

The daytime event on **Wednesday 10th November** is from **9.30am until 3:30 pm**



and tickets are £10.

Tickets are limited for

both events so please buy your tickets in advance - there may not be any available on the door.

The entire cost of your ticket plus 10% of everything you spend at the Fair will go direct to the charity, so Christmas shopping can be enjoyed in the knowledge that it is supporting a fantastic cause.

For more information or to book tickets which are available online visit:

www.arleyhallshoppingspectacular.co.uk



SCHOOL NEWS

The autumn term has been going well in both schools (Great Budworth and Antrabus). The children have settled well into their new classrooms and routines and we have had a happy start to the term. It has been wonderful to be able to gather as a whole school to sing again and we have all enjoyed our daily worship activities together. Our theme this half term is thankfulness and we have been thinking about how to be a cheerful giver when sharing with others.



Children from both schools enjoyed national Bike to School Week and it was good to see an increase in the number of children riding their bikes and scooters to and from school.

On Thursday 8th October both schools celebrated National Poetry Day. The children and staff all learnt a poem off by heart to recite in front of the whole school. The children looked great, dressed up in costumes and outfits linked to their poems. The day was a great success and everyone had a real sense of achievement after they had performed their poems. A big thank you to the parents for helping the children to learn their poems and for providing the costumes and outfits.

The children have all been working hard to practise for the harvest festival. We are looking forward to welcoming the community into church to celebrate together. We have collected a tinned harvest that we'll be donating to the Mid Cheshire Food Bank.

Our new Road Safety Officers and School Councillors have now been appointed in both schools and we are sure that they will do a great job to lead and develop the schools. This is a great way for pupils to become involved and we are really looking forward to seeing their ideas develop across the year.

A big thank you to our village communities for all you do to support our schools. We hope to see you at upcoming events next half term.

Richard Elias, School Governor

Returning after an unwelcome break in 2020

Equali Ladies Choir

*will be singing again, with the Acceler8 Brass Band, on
Tuesday 21st December at 7.30pm in the Parish Church*

More details in December's Bulletin



Roger Devonside's greatest performance as a wing walker (see pic) was when he flew on the wings of a plane along the River Mersey for the Beatles tribute weekend. He flew over the Mersey ferries and along the waterfront, almost looking down on the Liver Bird. He shared memories of his finest moments with members at the October meeting and, although he kept telling us

how nervous he was during his feats, it did not stop him wing walking – until, that is, the authorities noticed he was too big and too tall !! He entertained us with his anecdotes and was a good speaker.

Some members attended a memorial in Marbury Park in memory of Liz Bentham, who was a tireless worker for the Friends of Marbury. Some of her paintings were on display. Liz frequently received the 'Best in Show' award for her artwork at the Cheshire Show.



The 2022 Cheshire Show will take place on 21st and 22nd June. This is planned as a 'Special Year', marking both the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the Cheshire Federation WI Centenary. We hopefully keep moving onward and forward from what we have all been through.

Next month we have our AGM, which is quick and slick and will be followed by supper. We have done this for a number of years and it has proved very popular. Members are asked to bring their own cutlery and drink, including a glass. The supper and plates will be provided and we have a simple quiz to enjoy to finish the evening.

This is on Wednesday 3rd November in the Parish Hall and the start time is 7.30pm. All are welcome, but there will be a charge for guests. Please let us know if you are bringing someone with you.

Book Club

The next book club meeting is at Jane Smallwood's house and the book is 'Hamnet' by Maggie O'Farrell.

WI Ramblers

The ramblers parked their cars at the Arts centre at Frodsham, then walked over the Frodsham marshes under a giant wind turbine. Lunch was taken at Main Street, a restaurant in Frodsham which is run by Lucy (Baldwin) Gelderhaus. Well worth a visit !!

June Wilkinson 01606 891534

GEORGE & DRAGON GOLF SOCIETY

The Society completed a full year of competition, thankfully with little disruption, with a trip to Helsby Golf Club in early October. Showers on the first tee soon lifted to allow a high turnout of 16 to enjoy this final round in glorious autumnal sunshine. With three trophies at stake it was an entertaining day, yet competition nerves meant that scoring was patchy. Honours on the day went to our President, Jeremy Lawton, with a score of 37 stableford points. Well played Jeremy, adding to the President's Shield he won at his home course, Knutsford, earlier in the year!

We were all very interested in who could catch our runaway leader Bryan Higgins, for both the Overall Order of Merit and the newly introduced Nid Peters Stableford Cup for best single score during the year. Peter Pearce and last year's champion, Ian Mulholland, remained in contention but Bryan comfortably held his nerve to add his name to the Order of Merit and his early season 46 at Chester proved unbeatable. Well done, Bryan, in your first year with the society. Elsewhere the Knockout Trophy has been keenly fought for throughout the season, with the final coming down to Peter Pearce and Anthony Furness. The more experienced Peter won through on the day, and it was a pleasure to enjoy their company through the round.



Overall, it's been a fantastic year with increased numbers and close competition. My thanks to everyone for their enthusiastic participation and especially to Ben, Steve, Chris and Jeremy for their hard work and support through the year.

We are always looking for new members, whether regular club golfers or occasional hackers, so if you are interested in joining our 25+ strong group, please drop Ben Colman (Society Secretary) a message at benccolman@gmail.com for more information.

Andy Heath



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Memories of Portmeirion—Part 3

It's funny how lives and families interconnect, particularly for such a creative one as the Williams-Ellis family. Clough Williams-Ellis, the architect and founder of Portmeirion, was the great uncle of David Williams-Ellis (pictured), a sculptor, who created the British Normandy Memorial, a bronze depicting three soldiers in Ver-sur-Mer, Normandy, overlooking Gold Beach, which was unveiled to great acclaim to commemorate the D-Day Landings.

David inherited a small manor house, Carregfelen, as part of the Portmeirion Estate. It is almost on the beach between Black Rock Sands and Criccieth. A 14th Century dwelling nestling in a very secluded spot, it was used by David's family mainly as a holiday home. He and his first wife, Serena, an antique dealer then later interior designer, had three children. They lived for twenty-five years in Cumbria whilst restoring a derelict farmhouse. After their divorce David married Nicola 'Nikki' Burrows, the mother of Edoardo 'Edo' Mapelli-Mozzi, who married Princess Beatrice in 2020. Nikki and David now live near to Chipping Norton in Oxfordshire where David has his studio.



Unfortunately, Portmeirion Hotel was gutted by a large fire in 1981. It took seven years to rebuild and was eventually fully restored in 1988. I was fortunate to be invited to the grand re-opening: it was a lovely sunny day with tables for eight on the lawn near the swimming pool. On the 'top table' was Robin Llywelyn, Clough's grandson and managing director of Portmeirion Estate, local dignitaries and Jan Morris, the author. Jan died in November 2020, aged 94, and her ashes were scattered in the River Dwyfor in Llanystumdwy, just below the monument where Lloyd George is buried and - going full circle - the monument designed by Clough Williams-Ellis.

Kay Bashford

Comberbach Methodist Church, Senna Lane, CW9 6BD

Lite Bite Dates - November-December



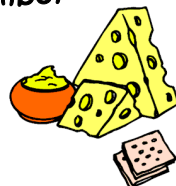
12 Noon - 1.30pm

4th November

18th November

2nd December

16th December



£4.00 for Soup and a Sweet or Cheese & Biscuits

A WARM WELCOME TO EVERYONE

(Continued from previous page)

- Total income for the year was £16,400. Total expenditure for the year was £16,100.

Public forum:

It was argued by local farmers and landowners that the proposal to make Budworth Lane one-way would make the A559 junction more, rather than less, dangerous. Farm machinery and caravans would all need to make right-hand turns across the traffic and up the hill on Budworth Lane. Cllr. Gibbons (CW&C) advised that the Northwich Strategy recognises the existing dangers at the crossroads but no feasible proposal had been put forward. The one-way proposal originated from discussions at Comberbach Parish Council about potential bids to create safer walking and cycling routes. Both Comberbach and Great Budworth Parish Councils were currently seeking the views of local residents. The comments made at the meeting would be taken into account.

OUR PARISH CLERK

Gill Ayres has carried out the role of Clerk to Great Budworth Parish Council since January 2019. Here, she describes how the much misunderstood role has changed over the years, thanks to new legislation.

The role of the Parish Clerk has changed a lot since the days when it just meant recording the minutes of meetings in long hand. That was before the arrival of the internet and electronic means of communication. For example, during the month of August, which is traditionally a quiet month, I dealt with close on 400 emails.



Issues I deal with range from queries about Parish Hall teas and historic buildings in the village to quotations for new defibrillator pads, and tree surgery, to the insurance of the Parish Hall. There were legal notices about advertising the vacant post on the Parish Council and then applications for co-option; returns to Cheshire West on Community Infrastructure Levy; dealings with them about water quality at the Dene Spring; consultations on planning applications; and attempts to get our Asset Report updated. There have been questions and comments about the introduction of yellow lines on High Street and proposals for Budworth Lane as well as requests for input on bus and waste strategies, a new heritage list and new funding streams, jubilee celebrations, Remembrance Day, and regular updates about the coronavirus pandemic.

Your Parish Clerk is also Responsible Financial Officer, so on top of the regular admin there are invoices to pay, VAT to reclaim and the preparation of a monthly budget update. And then in April / May there are documents to submit for internal and external audit, culminating in the Annual Governance and Accountability Review whereby the Parish Council must demonstrate it has conducted its business in accordance with the law, regulations and proper practices.

I hope this gives you a flavour of what a Parish Clerk does. Some people I speak with still think the job is something to do with the Church and are not aware that the Parish Council is a tier of local government. We have very limited resources, so much of what we do means negotiating with the next tier up, namely Cheshire West and Chester, but please do not hesitate to raise any issues that you think the Parish Council can help with. My email address is: greatbudworthparishclerk@gmail.com.

Report on Annual Parish Meeting

Great Budworth's Annual Parish Meeting was held on Monday 6th September. Many readers may wonder what the difference between this meeting and the Annual Parish Council Meeting is, so it's perhaps worth explaining. The Annual Parish Council Meeting is held in May and deals with those things that only need doing once a year. These include electing the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, appointing committees, appointing representatives to other bodies (e.g. the Parish Hall, Bowling Club, Heritage Society) and appointing individual councillors to lead on specific matters of business (e.g. Manchester Airport, HS2, Parish Council Website).

The Annual Parish Meeting is a legacy from the Middle Ages, before Parish Councils existed and when all local decision-making was carried out by meetings of the whole community. This meeting is open to all residents in the Parish, who have the right not only to attend but also to speak on any matter of local interest. This is in contrast to a Parish Council meeting, where electors who are not Councillors have no *automatic* right to speak (though here in Great Budworth our Parish Council agenda has a routine item allowing members of the public to raise issues or comment on any matter).

The full report of the Annual Parish Meeting is available on the Great Budworth website (under Great Budworth Parish Council/Documents). The following is a summary of the Chairman's report on the Council's business over the previous year:

Meetings with Highways continued regarding a number of issues (eg parking, HGV access, condition of roads and safety at the junction with A559).

- A survey of trees owned by the Parish was completed.
- Restoration work to the Lower Pumphouse was completed.
- The Parish Council received a payment of £750 for filming in the village.

(Continued on next page)



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Common treatments include: thickened nails, corn and callus removal, cracked heel treatment, and in-growing toenail relief.



CHILDREN'S SHORT STORY—THE RESULTS

We apologise for the long overdue results of this competition. But on the principle of better late than never we are very pleased to announce the following winners:

Aged 8-15 Winner: Ella Howarth for her story 'Back From the Brink'.

Ella's Prize: £25

Aged 16 and over Winner: Mib Byrom for her story 'Has Anyone Seen Cissie?'

Mib's Prize: £50

As none of the stories submitted was illustrated the prize for the best illustration was not awarded.

The similarities and the contrast between the two stories were striking: both concerned a young girl in a spot of bother. Ella's writing displayed a maturity that belied her 10 years; whilst Mib, being of somewhat (ahem) older years, managed beautifully to capture the raw energy and daring of a young girl of Ella's age. Both are worthy winners and we'll include their stories in a Bulletin issue in the new year.

Meanwhile, our congratulations go to both Ella and Mib!

Save the date!

*After a year's break, the New Year's Eve party will be back!
More information, bookings and cost will appear in
December's Bulletin.*

Dog Walking

If you are located in the Great Budworth area and are 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.



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NICK HOPKINSON MBE DL

The death of Nick Hopkinson ('Hoppy' to everyone in the village who knew him) on 2nd September came as a great shock to most of us for, although we knew he had battled cancer in the past, we assumed that his larger than life personality and physique had conquered that demon.

Nick was buried in Great Budworth Church on Wednesday 15th September and a memorial service took place on 13th October, attended by very many people from near and far and from all walks of life.

What follows hardly does justice to the multi-faceted man known by many - in the village, the county, the country and beyond, but it gives some idea of the man.

Nick was born in Bury, the middle son of three, into a family that embraced entrepreneurship but did not neglect the less well off. One of his first projects was his local Bolton Lads and Girls Club. It was a rundown youth centre in a dingy part of the town, but was rebuilt in the late 1980s, with impetus from Nick, to become a state-of-the-art model for others to copy around the country, with climbing walls, boxing and dance studios and a group of volunteer mentoring staff. Visited by David Cameron when he was prime minister, it led to the creation of the OnSide Network of Youth Zones, a nationwide string of 14 youth clubs that have helped 50,000 young people.

Having discovered his talent for fundraising, Nick went from strength to strength. He started with the odd fancy-dress party and an annual boxing competition with the army in the Albert Halls in Bolton and learnt to become a persuasive auctioneer.

His day job, meanwhile, was growing his business, Mark Two, selling kitchens and bathrooms to retail units in the high street. He started in 1986 with one lorry and a rented warehouse in Prestwich and within 15 years had a fleet of lorries, several depots around the country and a turnover of £100m. Nick sold Mark Two in the 2000s and in the past decade began to invest in the business ideas of his former employees.

A love of the outdoors, particularly walking, spurred Nick to organise sponsored walking trips for large groups. Never slow to challenge himself, he chose to climb Mount Kilimanjaro and reached the summit no fewer than nine times, earning the nickname 'Babu', or grandfather, among the Tanzanian porters. Some of the funds raised went towards the building of a Tanzanian orphanage.

For many years Nick was a party animal - and, at 6'4", a noticeable presence when he walked into a room. He had a distinctive sartorial style, preferring kilts (which, he reminded everyone, had been invented in Lancashire) in tweed, denim and linen, but never tartan.

A devoted family man, Nick met Lesley, his wife, whilst they were both at university. Together they raised three sons, all of whom run their own businesses. Max and Oliver



co-own Bind, a digital marketing company; Toby, the youngest, has an online marketing consultancy, Finley Growth.

At the age of 49 Nick was diagnosed with haemochromatosis, a hereditary condition of which he was previously unaware, in which the iron

levels in the body slowly build up over many years, leading to damage in parts of the body such as the liver, joints, pancreas and heart. He stopped drinking alcohol, concentrated on his fitness and cut out red meat and shellfish from his diet. He continued to raise money for charity, including the NHS and food banks during the pandemic as well as a brain scanner for the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital.

Last year he was appointed High Sheriff of Cheshire, an appointment that brought with it a velvet costume that amused him (see Bulletins of April and May 2020). Although the pandemic meant that he was unable to fulfil the role as fully as he had planned, in conjunction with the Lord Lieutenant, David Briggs, and Steve Morgan (founder of Redrow plc), he managed to raise an astonishing £1.3m hardship fund to help victims of the pandemic.

Whilst he was widely known beyond Cheshire for his charity and fundraising, here in the village Nick concentrated his efforts on supporting the Church Restoration Fund. Like most of us, Nick was enormously fond and proud of our Grade 1 listed 800-year old church. Built of Cheshire sandstone, it needs careful and expensive maintenance - which in turn requires dedicated fundraising. To this task Nick brought his considerable skills, playing a key role in raising £17,000 in 2020. Those of us attending an event at which he was auctioneer were in turn charmed, coaxed and chivvied into buying lots. Never a bully, though, he adapted his style to his audience. And he will be much missed on the Church Restoration Fund Committee, where his incisiveness and ability to get to the point at issue were so valued.

The list of charities that Nick supported and for which he raised funds is too long to include here: suffice to say that it would have filled the available space. Our community has lost a big-hearted man.

"This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognised by yourself as a mighty one; the being thoroughly worn out before you are thrown on the scrap heap; the being a force of Nature instead of a feverish selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy."

(from 'Splendid Torch', by George Bernard Shaw)