

DIARY DATES FOR FEBRUARY

Details of Church services and events are on p8

Wednesday 1st, Parish Hall, 7.30pm. WI Birthday Meeting.
Sunday 5th, Parish Hall, 9am. Big Boys' Breakfast
Monday 6th, Parish Hall, WI Book Club
Tuesday 7th, from Parish Hall at 10am, WI walk
Thursday 9th, Comberbach Methodist Church, 12.00noon - 1.30pm. Lite Bite lunches
Saturday 11th, Parish Church, 7pm. Concert: Dmitry Golubenko
Monday 13th, Bert Hunt's 99th birthday
Tuesday 14th, Parish Hall, 7.30pm (doors open 6.45). Garden Club AGM
Wednesday 15th, Kanya, Northwich, 12.30pm. WI lunch
Wednesday 15th, **COPY DEADLINE FOR MARCH BUDWORTH BULLETIN**
Thursday 16th, Antrobus Arms, 12.30pm. Ladies' lunch
Thursday 23rd, Comberbach Methodist Church, 12.00 - 1.30pm. Lite Bite lunches
Thursday 23rd, New Vic theatre, Newcastle-under-Lyme, 7.30pm. WI trip: 'Ladies' Day'
Saturday 25th Parish Church, 10am-11.30am. Church teas coffee morning

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BUDWORTH BULLETIN

February 2023



"Your Parish Council Needs YOU"

Would you like to help look after the village in which you live?

Thursday 4th May is Local Election Day, when we will have the opportunity to elect not just our representatives to sit on Cheshire West and Chester Council, but also eight new Parish Councillors.

Several of the current Parish Councillors are planning to stand down when their term of office ends in May. It's essential that people put themselves forward, otherwise we could end up without a Parish Council at all, like Anderton (now part of Marbury) and, more recently, Bostock (now part of Davenham).

Great Budworth is a very special place, which is partly due to its history and architecture, but also because of its people. Surely we won't sit back and see the care of our beautiful village handed over to another village?

Why not have a chat with a current PC member to find out more?

(See page 10 for further details.)

SLOW PROGRESS AT SOOT HILL—ANSWERS SOUGHT

At its meeting on 16th January, your Parish Councillors unanimously agreed to endorse a letter drafted by Comberbach Parish Council to CW&C concerning the repair/restoration of Soot Hill, which collapsed during a storm in 2021. The letter is also endorsed by other Parish Councils in the Marbury ward.

As readers will be aware, it is now over 12 months since the collapse of Soot Hill, which resulted in the closure of this well-used route. The letter stresses the adverse impact on local residents and businesses, but notes no visible signs of work at the site and poor quality of information on the CW&C website. It goes on to raise a number of complaints and questions, which can be summarised as follows:

Complaints concern the following:

- The lack of progress in the repair work
- The poor quality of information available
- The lack of transparency relating to the awarding of high value contracts

Questions raised include:

- What was the tendering process?
- How many contractors were considered for the work?
- What due diligence was carried out before the contract was awarded?
- Who, within CW&C, is accountable for managing the delivery of the contract?
- What is the realistic completion date for the whole project?
- What is the value of the contract awarded to Balfour Beatty?
- What is the latest estimate of the total cost of the project?
- What reassurance can CW&C give that public funds are being used effectively?

CW&C are requested to respond by 3rd February with a full reply to all these issues and questions. Your Parish Council will await CW&C's response to the letter and these will be reported in the Bulletin.



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A meeting of Great Budworth Parish Council was held on Monday 16th January in the Parish Hall. The following is a summary of the proceedings. The minutes will be published on the village website in due course.



There had been no significant expenditure since the last meeting and the overall expenditure in the year to date was significantly below that forecast owing to the fact that for much of the time the Council has had no clerk.

Various tree works had cost a total of c£6,000. It was decided unanimously that there should be no increase in the precept for the following year.

The Budworth Bulletin was awarded a grant of £400.

No progress had been made in respect of recruiting a new parish clerk.

It was noted that local elections were to take place on the 4th May. These elections will be for three councillors for the Marbury ward (of which Great Budworth is part) and eight councillors for Great Budworth Parish Council. See page 10 for further details.

Soot Hill Closure: The council unanimously supported a letter to CW&C drafted by Comberbach Parish Council which raised a series of substantial complaints and questions about the lack of progress in restoring the hill (see page 2 for further details).

Coronation of King Charles: the council supported the proposal to celebrate this event in some way, using the village field adjoining the school. It was suggested that a coordinator be found to work with local groups to plan the event. A number of village groups have expressed some interest in cooperating.

Great Budworth Primary School planning application: the council has been informed that (a) at present the application is on hold for a number of reasons, including: no tree survey has been carried out and the applicants have not formally consulted CW&C in its capacity as owner of the field, and (b) the Conservation Officer has some reservations about the scheme. It was once again agreed that the proposed fence was entirely inappropriate in a Conservation Area and that the need for such security measures was unproven.

Update from CW&C Councillor: Cllr Lynn Gibbon reported as follows: the Police Commissioner wishes to improve the monitoring of the speed volume and traffic noise on local main roads by the installation of sound monitors and acoustic cameras. However, CW&C have been slow to implement such measures.

The council raised the issue of the lack of road-sweeping in the village but, without prior notice, Cllr Gibbon was not able to comment.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 6th March at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

LOCAL ELECTIONS TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY 4th MAY

Have you thought of becoming a Parish Councillor?

Great Budworth Parish Council needs new people to become Parish Councillors. What's involved? The best way to find out is to talk to someone who's doing it now. Your current Parish Councillors are listed below, and the village has a website, great-budworth.com where you'll find the agendas and minutes of previous meetings which will give you a good idea of what the Council gets up to—and how it spends your money! See page 11 (opposite) for a summary of what happened at the last Parish Council meeting.



Our Parish Council meets every two months on a Monday in the Parish Hall, starting at 7.00pm and usually finishing by 8.30pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings. If you've not yet attended one, why not come to the next meeting on Monday, 6th March? We'd love to meet you!

Current Parish Councillors:

Don Hammond (Chairman)	891397
Bill Anderson (Vice Chairman)	891354
Steve Coppell	07734 945702
Justin Culver	07801 291653
John Gill	07980 431616
Anna Lee	892352
Malcolm Torrance	892295
Bob Wilkinson	891534



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Hilltop Farm, Aston-by-Budworth,



We have a New Year and we got off to a splendid start when Katie Percival brought a sample of her hats to give us tips on the choosing and wearing of hats for special occasions. Katie is the proprietor of Kinderton Hat hire in Byley. Members thoroughly enjoyed trying on the hats and fascinators after her talk.



A selection from Kinderton Hat Hire

We have the Birthday meeting on 1st February at 7.30pm, when Graham Stirrup will talk to us about life in the 1960's. It seems very apt to have a talk containing reminiscences on our 91st birthday, which I'm sure members will enjoy.

We have two more events in our birthday month: the first is a lunch at the Kanya restaurant in Northwich on Wednesday 15th at 12.30pm. It is situated on the ground floor of Water's Cross, the new apartments in the town centre. It is essential to pre-book with me on the number below.

The other event is a trip to the New Vic theatre-in-the-round in Newcastle-under-Lyme on Thursday 23rd at 7.30pm to see 'Ladies' Day', a play about four ladies who work in a factory gutting fish and who decide to have a day out at the races. It sounds a jolly play, full of fun. We are travelling by car, leaving the village at approximately 6pm. Please book with Lesley Anderson on 891354

The rambles were rained-off for the January walk, but still enjoyed a lunch at the Hatton Arms. The next walk will be on Tuesday 7th February, leaving the Parish Hall at 10am.

The book club are meeting on Monday 6th February and the book is 'Miss Benson's Beetle' by Rachel Joyce.

If you need any more information please contact me :-
June Wilkinson 891534



Sincere thanks to the following for their generous donations to the Budworth Bulletin:

The Big Boys: Thank you for remembering the Bulletin when distributing profits from your events to local organisations.

The Parish Council: thanks to our Parish Councillors for supporting the Bulletin by awarding what it calls a 'small' grant of £400 (but considered by us at the Bulletin to be 'large' relative to our annual costs!).

CHURCH TEAS 2023 – COFFEE MORNING TO SET ROTA FOR TEAS

in Church on Saturday 25th February 10.00am to 11.30am

We had a fantastic season of teas in 2022, raising the highest amount ever, £4500. A huge 'thank you' to everybody who helped out in whatever way.

This is one of our main fundraisers for the upkeep of the church, but as well as being a source of income for the church, it serves as a place for people to get together with friends and family to enjoy tea and cake and a catch-up. We have customers who have been coming along to church teas for many years, and who can't wait to hear we have re-opened for the season.



Church teas one Sunday afternoon during 2022

The season runs each Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday from Easter Sunday (9th April) to 15th October at 2.00pm to 4.30pm.

It would be great to have some new team members working alongside our present cohort, so if you would like to know more about joining in, please speak to Margaret Cross (07732 324 001) or Maggie Earl (01565 777 262).

OUR POLICE COMMISSIONER SEEKS YOUR VIEWS

John Dwyer, Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire (pictured), is currently turning his attention towards setting the police budget for the coming financial year. To that end he is keen for Cheshire residents to let him know their views and priorities in respect of the police precept. The survey can be completed via his website (www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk), then: Get involved -> Have your say -> Police Budget 2023-24).



Paper copies of the survey are available via the website or by contacting John Dwyer's office on 01606 364000.



Yoga classes by Julia Ford are due to start in February in the Parish Hall, taking place on Thursdays at 5pm

If you're interested, please contact Lesley Anderson on 891354

COMBERBACH METHODIST CHURCH

LITE BITE DATES 2023



Alternate Thursdays
12 noon - 1.30pm

12th January
26th January
9th February
23rd February
9th March

(891248 for more info and transport)



VILLAGE XMAS CARD DELIVERY

Thank you to all those who used this service to deliver cards in the village, and thank you for the generous donations.

We were able to send £51 to Mid Cheshire Food Bank. Very many thanks to Libby Elias for doing the deliveries, with the help of her mother Karen Elias.

NJ Garden Maintenance

Neil Jones, local gardener with an established Great Budworth and surrounding area clientele, now available for all types of garden work, from regular grass cutting to hedge maintenance and one-off garden tidy ups. Licensed to remove all your garden waste.

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SCHOOL 100 CLUB DRAW

January

Winners

1st: 9 - Martin Corless
2nd: 39 - Guy Potter

CHURCH NEWS

Services during February

Wednesday 1 st	10.30am Holy Communion CW followed by coffee
Thursday 2 nd	7.30pm Celtic Evening Prayer
Sunday 5 th	8.00am Holy Communion BCP 10.30am All Age Worship for Candlemas
Thursday 9 th	2.00pm Play and Praise
Sunday 12 th	10.30am Matins 4.00pm Holy Communion CW
Sunday 19 th	8.00am Holy Communion BCP 10.30am Parish Communion CW 6.30pm Evensong at Arley Chapel BCP
Wednesday 22 nd	7.30pm Ash Wednesday Service of Holy Communion
Thursday 23 rd	2.00pm Play and Praise 7.30pm Compline in Lent
Sunday 26 th	10.30am Parish Communion CW 3.00pm Forest Church – venue tbc



Future Dates for the diary:

Mothering Sunday: 19th March
Easter Sunday: 9th April

June 2nd in church – an evening concert with classical pianist Jill Crossland. More details in next edition.

Thank you to everybody who came along to the Advent and Christmas Services, and although a little late, we wish everyone a healthy, happy and blessed New Year.

Thank you to all who donated to the various charities we were raising funds for over the festive period:

CALM (a mental health charity), The Children's Society, The Booth Centre Manchester (helping the homeless) and UNICEF. £950 raised overall.

We also took a car full of warm clothes and hot water bottles to Warrington Food Bank for their Warm Winter Appeal; many thanks to all who donated the items for that.

Also for all the chocolate that went to the Ukraine appeal in conjunction with Comberbach Methodist Chapel and for the toys that went to local hospitals.

It all seems a long time ago now, but again, thank you to all who donated.

We are still collecting long-life food for Mid-Cheshire Food Bank: there are boxes at the back of church where food donations can be left.

GARDEN CLUB

The Garden Club starts again with a full programme and enthusiasm at the AGM to be held on Tuesday 14th February at 7.30 in the Parish Hall. Please pay your annual subscription for the new year, at a bargain rate of only £15 ! If you cannot attend, please send your money with someone else or put it through my door (at Primrose Bank, 21 Westage Lane, Great Budworth). The hall will be open early for payments from 6.45pm.

When you rejoin, you will be given your Events Card for the year, confirming some great speakers and trips and visits ahead. If you are not rejoining, no hard feelings, but please tell us, so that your place can be offered to someone else. As it is Valentine's night, just bring your Valentine with you: guests welcome for a small fee !

Also after the AGM we have a speaker, Joe Wainwright, a photographer who has great slides of wonderful gardens in Cheshire and beyond. Just the perfect entertainment for a cold winter's night, with good like-minded friends.

The first trip for 2023 is quite soon, on Friday 3rd March, by coach to Ashwood Nurseries in the West Midlands by coach. John Massey owns this specialist centre and garden: he has been to our meetings, and we have been there before, but not for a while. He is well known across the UK and you may have seen him on TV. He is famous for hellebores, but he also has many other plants for visitors to enjoy. We will have a guided tour of his polytunnels and greenhouses and his own fabulous garden. This is a canalside location, full of spring colours. There is a tea room serving coffee, lunch and afternoon tea.

The cost is £34 per person, which includes entrance fee, garden tours and coach trip, and you may bring a friend. The trip, which leaves the Ice Cream Farm at 9am, represents good value for a relaxed full day out. You will need to pay the full amount at the AGM, or else put it through my door, because we also have to pay upfront for everything in advance. If you have any questions please contact Julie on 07792 108540.

The recent frosts and snow surprised us, as we have had such mild winters since 2010/11. All our pots have been covered with fleece and duvets, but some look very sad.

It will soon be spring, and already snowdrops are opening everywhere, the first signs for the new year.

Wishing you a great gardening season and looking forward to seeing you all soon.

All the best from

Jean Davies, Club chair,

07899 937683 mrsjeandavies@gmail.com



Great Budworth in sunshine and snow. Photo courtesy of Garden Club member Jane Fairclough.

Many happy returns ...

... to Bert Hunt, who celebrates his 99th birthday on Monday 13th February.

With the help of his daughter Sally Ball, he is planning to celebrate over the weekend. Nothing too wild as Bert tires very quickly, but as you will from the photo, he continues to look very bright and handsome. Bert and Sally hope the weekend will give his family and friends the opportunity to call and wish him well. Congratulations to Bert!



and Congratulations ...

... to Mike Scanlan and Charlotte Gibney, whose second child, a boy, was born on 18 August 2022, weighing in at 7lbs 11oz. His name is Augustus Wolf Gibney-Scanlan and, according to Mum and Dad, is doing great and, er, finding his voice. Big brother Otto is very proud (now he's over the initial shock!).

Ladies' lunch in February

February's lunch will take place on Thursday, 16th at 12.30 at the Antrobus Arms. Please contact me if you'd like to join us as I shall need to book a table.

Hazel Forwood (01606 891908).



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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THE BIG BOYS' CELEBRATION BREAKFAST

Sunday 5 February 2023

20 years and still going strong!

Between 9 am and 12 noon (last orders)

Come along and enjoy a full, proper breakfast in the Parish Hall. This is a sumptuous breakfast feast of calorific content providing nutritious bacon, sausage, black pudding, haggis, baked beans, mushrooms, tomatoes, fried bread, sauté potatoes, devilled kidneys, and the like. Eggs Benedict and Eggs Florentine are offered as an option for pescatarians and vegetarians. Food allergies or intolerances - please ask and we may be able to cater for you. Sausages and some breads are provided gluten-free and we are not aware of nuts being used in the fried breakfast menu.



The cost is just £17.50 per person to include a glass of Bucks Fizz or Budworth Kir Royale (or non-alcoholic drink) to celebrate our survival, unless you are 13 years of age or under in which case breakfast is just £5.00 - without the option of the alcohol!

Profits normally go to local causes. This is traditionally the first major village social event of the New Year - it is not to be missed!

Tickets are available NOW from Dave Hiatt 891019, Richard Elias 892141, or John Tours 891432.

Music @ St Mary's Church — an informal concert

Saturday 11th February, 7.00 pm

The Golubenko family from Lviv have been part of our family since May of last year. Dmitry is a professional trumpet player and has agreed to play for us before he leaves to work elsewhere.

We would also like to invite anyone musical, who would like to perform, to join us. If you would like to take part, can you contact Christina on ckdjwestwell@tiscali.co.uk or 07870 687 304.

There will be refreshments provided and a collection at the door on departure for the Mid Cheshire Food Bank and Save Ukraine.

Save Ukraine is a Ukrainian Non Governmental Organisation which evacuates people from War Zones: it has set up a network of hubs for internationally displaced people, and provides food packages and modular houses. It also works with parents whose children have been deported to Russia.

It will take place two weeks before the Anniversary of the Invasion of Ukraine so it will be a time to remember.

Christina Westwell

