

DIARY DATES FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY

Details of Church services and events are on pages 8 & 9

Wednesday 4th, Parish Hall, 7.30pm. WI meeting

Friday 6th, Parish Church, 1.30pm. Christingle

Monday 9th, Great Budworth School, 9.00-12.00noon. Open Morning

Tuesday 10th, Parish Hall, meet at 10.00am. WI walk

Thursday 19th, Hayhurst Arms, 12.30pm. Ladies lunch

Thursday 19th, Parish Church, 6.00pm. School carol concert

Friday 20th, Cock o' Budworth. Pre-Christmas dinner

Diary dates for January

Monday 6th, Parish Hall, 7.00pm. Parish Council meeting. All welcome to attend.

Wednesday 8th, Parish Hall 7.30pm. WI meeting

Tuesday 14th, TBA WI walk

Thursday 16th, George & Dragon, 12.30pm. Ladies lunch



I am a local self-employed PA/Carer with over 18 years' experience of working in care. I cover all aspects of care, including: personal care; laundry & ironing; preparing meals, house cleaning & tidying, errands, medication and companionship. Whatever your needs, please feel free to contact me as I now have some limited availability owing to a care package ending. Donna Thompson, 07825 704 183



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BUDWORTH BULLETIN

December '24—January '25

WISHING ALL OUR
READERS A VERY
HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND NEW YEAR



GARDEN CLUB

As we approach Christmas, the winter is really upon us and all our plants are protected. Daffodils are already showing their greenery. All too quickly it will be spring and another year is here. How privileged we are to be able to enjoy the seasons.

Formed 25 years ago, the Garden Club has much to celebrate next year, so we shall mark the occasion with many treats for members.

At our last meeting we welcomed Judy Popley (pictured right, between June Wilkinson and me). Judy has worked at Arley and Tatton, organising events and schools history interpretations. She now has her own business creating Power Flower Fayres in stately homes all over the country, and she talked about the trials and tribulations of this work. She was thanked by June Wilkinson who, along with me, had previously worked with Judy at Tatton on the Schools Living History workshops.



We don't have a meeting in January, so the next meeting is the AGM on 11th February at the Parish Hall at 7.30pm, when membership subs are due, and members will receive their new Events Card for the year. There will also be a speaker to entertain us that evening: Simon Tetlow, head gardener at Tatton Park. We hope to see you there!

We wish you all a very happy Christmas and a green-fingered New Year, with calm and reasonable weather in 2025.

If you have any questions, please contact me in the first instance,

Jean Davies (07899 937 683)
mrsjeandavies@gmail.com

Ladies' lunches in December & January



December's lunch is on **Thursday 19th at The Hayhurst Arms at 12.30pm.** January's lunch will be at the **George & Dragon at 12.30pm on January 16th.** Do let me know if you'd like to join us. Hazel Forwood (01606 891908).

On behalf of Great Budworth, a sincere

Thank You!

... to all the villagers who undertook the long-overdue task of clearing weeds

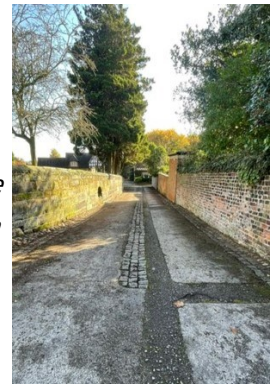


Southbank before ...

and other detritus from Southbank and Westage Lane. It would be invidious to name them, because we couldn't be certain of including everyone on the task force (and we're sure they wouldn't want to be named anyway), but we understand there were about 15 of them toiling on Southbank and another five or so on Westage Lane. An awful lot of green waste was accumulated by the end of the session (two front-loaders-worth from Southbank alone,

we understand). Says PC Chairman, Dave Wilkinson, "The turnout was gratifying and we hope to hold another such event before Christmas, weather permitting."

It's good to see that our community spirit is alive and well !



... and after

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That Halloween Quiz

Maggie Blower and I were enjoying a bite of lunch a couple of months ago and generally putting the world to rights, when we realised that we hadn't been to a village quiz for quite some time – and decided that maybe we should put that right! And that's how the Halloween Quiz was born. After enlisting Ros Barclay and Steven Jennings as our loyal lieutenants, we got to work. Writing the quiz questions wasn't going to be too difficult – I'd done it before - but what were we going to feed the hungry quizzers during the break? We settled upon a cheese platter, with biscuits, dates, grapes and celery sticks which, in the event, went down extremely well. We did, though, have umpteen butter pats left over, so we're donating them to the Church's Cheese and Wine on 12th December (see p8). We had the usual array of questions on topics such as food and drink (unsurprisingly, high marks all round), history, and sport (which generated murmurs of complaint from the hearties present that the questions weren't sporty enough!). In the end there were around 50 quizzers, who all seemed to have had a good time. And here's the lesson for the future: if you want to be on a winning team, follow the Church, as the winning team was led by the Rev. Christina Westwell, who took home this gloriously gaudy trophy, and the runners up were Margaret Cross and family! The team with the lowest score (blaming it on their lack of familiarity with film theme music) were rewarded with a handsome bottle of champagne: so there are compensations for not winning quizzes - and didn't St. Matthew say that those who are last shall come first?



Anna Lee



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November arrived and it was AGM time. Whoever invented the AGM? Nevertheless, we have an excellent formula: we get through the formal bits, then follow with a hot supper of fish pie or cottage pie, with pickles and garnishes, followed by desserts with ice cream, all accompanied by jolly conversation and a quiz from Alan and Heather to widen our horizons. Lots of fun, laughter and a good time was had by all.

The WI now have 'learning Zooms' so you can watch and learn in the comfort of your own home. Informative lectures on exploring nutrition, craft workshops, painting, cooking, travel and history.

December's meeting, on Wednesday 4th at 7.30pm, is a demonstration of Bollywood dancing by Lalita Sivakumar who has recently performed in Chester. Lalita will show us the moves and then, should anyone have a desire to have a go and is wearing suitable shoes and comfortable clothing, the floor is yours to tick the Bollywood box! The evening will be enhanced with a glass of sparkle or other refreshing festive drink, along with Christmas treats, and we shall raise a toast to Christmas. Visitors are most welcome: the entrance is £5.

The New Year celebrations will be upon us and the first Wednesday is too early in 2025 so our first meeting in the new year will be on Wednesday 8th January at 7.30pm. We have John Stirling from Manchester, who has a talk entitled "From Toytown to Buckingham Palace". He did start work on the Noddy & Big Ears programme (that must be the Toytown bit) so his journey on TV must have taken him to higher things. He comes highly recommended so we look forward to a good evening and you are most welcome to join us: entrance for non-members is £5. Have a great Christmas.

Ramblers

The walk in November was from the Little Manor at Thelwall along the Trans Pennine Trail (pictured), and back along the canal towpath. A tasty lunch was enjoyed at the Little Manor.



We shall, we hope, be walking on Tuesday 10th December, leaving the Parish Hall at 10am, with a further walk planned for Tuesday 14th January 2025. The destinations are still to be arranged.

Book Club

The book being read this month is "Homecoming" by Kate Morton, a novel based in Australia and spanning the generations.

June Wilkinson



Christmas teasers

Test your Noel-knowledge!

Answers on page 10

1. Christmas appears in two of Shakespeare's plays. One of them is Love's Labour's Lost. What's the other one?
2. What were the names of the three wise men?
3. Which member of the British royal family made Christmas trees popular?
4. Which of Santa's reindeers is named after the German word for 'thunder'?
5. In Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' what was Scrooge's first name?
6. The film 'Miracle on 34th Street' is based on a real life New York department store. Which one?
7. In the film 'Home Alone' where are the McCallisters going on holiday when they leave Kevin behind?
8. According to the song, what did my true love give to me on the eighth day of Christmas?
9. The Romans introduced Christmas to replace what pagan celebration?
10. What is the most popular food eaten in Japan on Christmas Day?

SCHOOL 100 CLUB DRAW

October
Winners

1st: No. 90 Tamsin Marshall
2nd: No. 53 Kevin Davies

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(cont'd from previous page)

Our Christmas Fair was a big success. Thank you to everyone who came along to support us.

In December, we will be taking part in the Arley Christmas Tree challenge. The children have been busy making decorations on a 'hedgehogs' theme as we continue to raise funds for Northwich Hedgehog Rescue. We are grateful to Dianne Green and Jane Robins for their help in making decorations. Do please attend the event and vote for our tree.

The children are looking forward to a trip to see the pantomime at Brio Leisure Centre and a performance about the Christmas message by The B Tales touring company.

Our school Christingle service will be on Friday 6th December at 1.30pm in church. Come and join us as we celebrate Jesus, Light of the World. The last week of term includes our popular Elf days, making crafts and the sponsored Elf dash around the field. We'll also enjoy our Christmas lunch and party.

The Federation of Antrobus St Marks & Great Budworth CofE Primary schools Carol Service will be at 6pm on Thursday 19th December 2024 in church. Our FOTS will be providing mulled wine and mince pies afterwards. All are very welcome.

Wishing you a very happy and peaceful Christmas from us all.

*Sincere thanks to Nid Peters for her kind donation
to the Budworth Bulletin. Thank you, Nid!*

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SCHOOL NEWS

What a very busy term we are having here at Great Budworth! We have been celebrating the excellent inspection report we've received from SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican & Methodist Schools) which reflects the hard work and dedication of our staff, families and Friends of the School (FOTS).



We held a very busy Open morning on the 16th October and are grateful to Helen Gill from Northwich Hedgehog Rescue for bringing three baby hedgehogs for our children and visiting families to meet. A big thank you as well to all those who donated cat food to help Helen keep them all fed.

The next Open morning is on **Monday 9th December from 9am until 12noon**. This event will have a Christmas theme, with some circus skills fun included. If you know anyone looking for a nursery or school place, either full time or as part of our new flexi-school option (for home educators and children who struggle in larger schools), then please let them know. Here at Great Budworth we believe every day is an Open Day, so please just contact the office to arrange an individual visit as well.

Our Macmillan afternoon tea raised £135 and was lots of fun. The children entertained our guests with their favourite poems as well as some they had written themselves, to celebrate National Poetry Week. We welcomed the community to our Harvest Service and thanked everyone for their contributions to the local food bank. The children enjoyed our Autumn Lights Trail, a new event organised by FOTS, which turned our school field and garden into a magical wonderland with a treasure trail, crafts, hot dogs and marshmallow toasting (see pic, right). I think the grown-ups enjoyed it as well.



The second half of the autumn term sees us planning for our many Christmas activities and some exciting fundraising events organised by FOTS. The children had a non-uniform day for Children in Need on Friday 15th November, with a cake sale organised by the School Council and Pudsey pancakes as a treat at breaktime. This raised over £60.

(cont'd on next page)

GEORGE & DRAGON GOLF SOCIETY

Sunday 22nd September 2024 saw the concluding round of The George & Dragon Golf Society Order of Merit. No, not at St Andrews, as the photo may suggest, but Worsley Golf Club (pictured here).



Three players had swung their way into contention for the Order of Merit's Keiran Peters Trophy: Ian Mulholland, Steve Cartwright, and Barry Monks. Subsidiary trophies were up for grabs also. So, how did the game play out? Well, Steve Cartwright was in strong form all season and held his nerve to eclipse the other two contenders. Well done, Steve!

The other honours for the year went to:

President's Shield (at Helsby GC in June) – Steve Cartwright

Nid Peters Trophy (for the best Stableford score in the year) – Pete Wood (38pts at Romiley GC)

KO Competition – Dan Nicholson (beating Adam Demaine in the final)

Lowest gross score of the season – Chris Brennan (plus 9 shots at Worsley GC)

Another event worthy of note was our Society annual weekend away. New for this season was a format change, in which the Society is split into two teams: Villagers and Outsiders, based solely on home post codes. Three games were played in a Ryder Cup format in North Wales. It was a great weekend, with intense rivalry. Unfortunately, the Outsiders saw us off! Revenge plans are afoot for our 2025 Lakes trip.

The excellent G&D staff will be looking after us as we celebrate the season at our annual awards dinner on Thursday 28th November.

As always, we welcome anyone wanting to join our Society for 2025. Please enquire at the George & Dragon for further information.

Nick Hughes (2024 Captain, 2025 President)

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A meeting of Great Budworth Parish Council took place on Monday 4th November. The following is a summary of the key matters discussed. Full minutes of the meeting can be seen at www.greatbudworth.com/document-category/minutes.



Bob Wilkinson wished to update the Council with progress on the Parish Hall refurbishment. Two further quotations had been sent to the clerk for the kitchen floor replacement and the Parish Hall committee thanked the Council for paying the deposit to Topfloors, whom they had commissioned to replace the flooring. The project was going according to plan and they hoped to start the refurbishment during the first week of December. He also advised that initial checks highlighted an issue with the electricity supply, which is insufficient for the new cooker. The fuse box is therefore to be upgraded.

He also wished to raise the issue of storage of Parish Council chairs and tables, which are currently stored at his farm and argued that it would be more sensible to store the items close to where they are generally used, i.e. the parish hall/school field. There had been discussion in the past of placing a container on the parish field to store community assets, such as the tables and chairs, but objections had been raised. One solution would be to erect a shed alongside the rear boundary of the parish hall car park. The parish hall trustees would like to garner thoughts from the Parish Council as property owners. All Councillors were in agreement that it made more sense to store them closer to where they would be needed. Further discussions will be had at the next parish hall trustees' meeting and Bob Wilkinson will report back to the Council.

Cllr. Williams updated the council on flooding problems at Little Dene on Warrington Road. She summarised the problems with run-off from the field behind the property. She had met with the landowner, who promised to make changes, including diverting the flow of water. CW&C had cleared and repaired some drains/grids but Cllr Williams noticed that some actions had not yet been completed. She contacted the landowner, who advised that now the crops had been removed, a seed bed would be sown and a furrow ploughed along the boundary, parallel with the A559 and the resident's property. This would help bind the soil and stop any run-off. He did, however, feel that a major part of the problem is that some drains/grids remain blocked. The situation will be monitored.

Further concerns were raised over the work at 50 Church Street ('Ring O Bells') which appears to be progressing without planning permission or listed buildings consent. Councillors visited the property and spoke with the owners, who advised that they had contacted the Conservation Officer, who advised that they could carry out remedial works to make the buildings safe/water-tight. However, councillors believe that the work that has been done, including roof lights, should require full planning consent. *(cont'd on next page)*

TENNIS CLUB

The last tournament of the year, The Shepherdson Shield, was played at Hartford Tennis Club on Sunday 27th October and we were blessed with autumn sunshine. This was a different format from the other tournaments we play during the year as we had a men's doubles competition and a ladies' doubles competition. It was a great afternoon with



some fantastic matches being fiercely contended. Congratulations to the ladies winners, Lynn and Seona and men's winners Grant and Stephen. Both winning pairs are pictured here. Afternoon tea followed and glasses were raised to the end of the 2024 season of tournaments.

The winter nights have now reduced court time, but social play and coaching will continue during the winter months. If you would like to come and play over the winter months, please contact our membership secretary, Richard Chandler 07933 087 560 to have a chat about membership. The court is also available to hire, if you have guests or fancy a game, for a visitor's fee. It is a fantastic village facility and one which is there to be appreciated by all.

Joan Deakin

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ANSWERS TO SEASONAL QUIZ ON PAGE 5

1. The Taming of the Shrew
2. Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar
3. Prince Albert
4. Donner
5. Ebenezer
6. Macy's
7. Paris
8. Eight maids a-milking
9. Saturnalia (the raucous pagan celebration of the days getting longer after the winter solstice!)
10. Fried chicken



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(cont'd from previous page)

The Clerk is to draft a letter to the owners.

The parish council recently commissioned a tree survey, which has now been completed and delivered. Any remedial work will be assessed and reported upon at the next parish council meeting.

Full minutes can be seen at www.greatbudworth.com/document-category/minutes

THE HIGH STREET POTHOLES

CW&C Cllr Lynn Gibbon was unable to attend the Council meeting, but instead contacted our Parish Clerk, Caroline Constable, to report the outcome of a meeting she had held in the village with representatives from CW&C's Highways.

I walked them the full length of High Street (see pic.) and the outcome is as follows:

- all potholes will be filled;
- in the new financial year, the road will be covered with Rejuvopatch, a 'once done' road patching and road repair product designed either as an immediate repair solution or as a surface treatment solution that apparently it makes the road surface look like new;
- The broken edging stones/strips - about 20 in all - will be replaced. These are halfway down on the left-hand side near the old post office. This will make a big difference and restore the original appearance.



PRE-CHRISTMAS DINNER

I have booked the Stable room at the Cock o' Budworth for a pre-Christmas Dinner on Friday 20th December. This is open to anyone who wants to make an early start to the Christmas weekend.

Excluding drinks, the cost is £26 for 2 courses, or £30 for 3 courses.

It should be an excellent get together just before Christmas.

We are limited to 30 or 40, so please book early.

Please send an email to Alan Bailey at baileyalan4@gmail.com or phone 01606 891149 for full details.



ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS

December events and services

Sunday 1st	8.00am Holy Communion BCP
	10.30am All Age Worship Toy Service
Wednesday 4th	10.30am Holy Communion <i>Common Worship</i> followed by coffee
	2.00pm Christmas Wreath Workshop with Maggie Earl, in church.
Thursday 5th	7.00pm Compline in the Lady Chapel
Sunday 8th	10.30am Matins BCP
	4.00pm Holy Communion <i>Common Worship</i>
Wednesday 11th	7.00pm Compline in the Lady Chapel
Thursday 12th	1.30pm Play and Praise in church
	7.30pm Festive Cheese & Wine in church
Sunday 15th	8.00am Holy Communion BCP
	0.30am Parish Communion <i>Common worship</i>
	6.30pm Nine Lessons & Carols at Arley Chapel
Tuesday 17th	7.30pm Equali Choir Concert in church
Thursday 19th	AM Cransley Senior School in church
	6.00pm Great Budworth & Antrobus schools joint Carol Service in church
	7.30pm Compline in church
Sunday 22nd	10.30am Parish Communion <i>Common Worship</i>
	4.00pm Nine Lessons & Carols at St. Mary's
Christmas Eve	4.00pm Crib and Christingle Service
	11.30pm Midnight Mass
Christmas Day	8.00am Holy Communion BCP
	10.30am Family Communion <i>Common Worship</i>
Sunday 29th	10.30am Parish Communion <i>Common Worship</i> (No 8.00am service)

Everybody is welcome to any of the services or events. Please phone either of the churchwardens for more information: Margaret at 07732324001 or Pauline at 01565 733494.

Notes:

December 4th 2.00pm – 4.00pm **Christmas Wreath Workshop** with Maggie Earl

In church – mulled wine, mince pies, tea/coffee - Tickets £45/person.

Book in with Margaret 07732324001 or Maggie 07970927161

Raising funds for a flower festival we are holding in church in July 2025.

December 12th 7.30pm - **Festive Cheese and Wine**, raffle. £20/ticket.

Please join us for a social evening in the surroundings of our beautiful, medieval church.

Raising funds for the running of the church. All welcome. Tickets from Margaret, Maggie or Pauline – numbers above.

Church services and events in January

Wednesday 1st	No 10.30am Holy Communion <i>Common Worship</i>
Thursday 2nd	No Celtic Evening Prayer
Sunday 5th	8.00am Holy Communion BCP
	10.30am All Age Worship for Epiphany
Wednesday 8th	10.30am Holy Communion followed by coffee
Thursday 9th	1.30pm Play and Praise
	7.00pm Celtic Evening Prayer
Sunday 12th	10.30am Plough Service
	4.00pm Holy Communion <i>Common Worship</i>
Sunday 19th	8.00am Holy Communion BCP
	10.30am Parish Communion <i>Common Worship</i>
	6.30pm Evening Prayer at Arley Chapel
Thursday 23rd	1.30pm Play and Praise
Sunday 26th	10.30am Parish Communion <i>Common Worship</i>
	2.30pm Forest Church (venue TBC)

Finally, a huge thank you to everybody who sponsored our sleepout team in October. Through your generosity, we managed to raise £1950.

The Ministry Team wishes you all a happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

x