

DIARY DATES FOR APRIL

Details of Church services and events are on p9

Wednesday 2nd, 7.30pm. Parish Hall. WI meeting

Thursday 3rd, 1.30pm. Parish Church. GB Primary School Easter service

Thursday 3rd, 5.30 for 6.00pm. GB Primary School Easter Bingo

Saturday 5th, 2.00pm—4.00pm. Parish Hall refurbished kitchen: official opening

Saturday 5th. Tennis Court, Smithy Lane. Parker Cup tournament

Sunday 6th, 12 noon—4.00pm. NGS garden opening: Parm Place, High Street

Sunday 6th, 2.00pm—4.00pm. Church Teas begin

Tuesday 8th, 7.30pm. Garden Club meeting

Thursday 17th, 12.30pm. Stretton Fox. Ladies' lunch.

Wednesday 23rd, 1.30pm—3.30pm. GB Primary School Open Event

Saturday 26th, 7.00pm for 8.00pm. RTA event: Robin Ince: The Universe and the Neurodiverse.

Wednesday 28th. WI Book Club meeting



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BUDWORTH BULLETIN

April 2025





The March meeting was a historical monologue given by Elizabeth Morris about the life of Sarah Smith. We were told of how Sarah's life led her down the 'wrong path' and how she ended up reading the wrong books and playing cards - considered sins in the 1780s and indulged in by Sarah until, that is, her conversion to Primitive Methodism, after which she changed her wicked ways. Elizabeth gave us an insight into Sarah's life in the 1790's. What would Sarah have thought about life today? What a big shock if she could see life in 2025 ! We enjoyed a cup of tea and delicious cakes, beautifully served from the new kitchen.

We are anticipating the forthcoming Jumble Sale on 29th April and hope it passes with a win-win for sellers and buyers alike and that all goes like clockwork. Thank you in advance to everyone for their jumble and for their help.

April brings lighter nights and the start of the bowling season, with the result that parking becomes more difficult. It takes consideration by everyone to park sensibly and neatly, using limited space.

Our speaker at the next meeting on Wednesday 2nd April in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm is Graham Stirrup, who is a favorite speaker of our WI. This time Graham will tell us about 'Women in World War One'. He is an excellent speaker and his pictures always tell a good story.

The Parish Hall now has a television, so that instead of projecting the slides onto the wall they can be shown on the TV screen. This is a new challenge for the groups who use the hall and takes some skill to understand the process, but hopefully it will prove a good asset to the hall.

RAMBLERS

Ten members enjoyed the March ramble around Little Budworth Country Park and we popped into the Oulton Park racing circuit to watch three flashy cars racing around at very great speed. We had lunch at the Fox & Barrel and it was delicious!!

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club have been reading 'The Outrun', by Amy Liptrot. This novel follows the titular character as she arrives back home in Orkney and tries to come to terms with the addictions that have swallowed up the last decade of her life. The book club will meet to discuss the novel on 28th April.

June Wilkinson 891534



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(cont'd on next page)

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 3rd April

Easter Service – 1.30pm in church. All welcome!

FOTS Easter Bingo - doors open 5.30pm for 6pm start. Easter egg donations are always appreciated. Everyone is welcome for this very popular and lively event.

Open Events for prospective nursery and school places will take place on **Wednesday 23rd April** from 1.30pm -3pm, and Thursday 19th June from 9.30am - 12noon.

We are continuing to grow in number and welcome new families into our Budworth School family. We are delighted that when people visit our school they recognise what a special place Great Budworth is.

Finally, our thanks you to everyone in the village who has joined our FOTS 100 club. Thanks also go to the couple in the village for their kind donation of a basketball net and stand, as well as their lovely gardeners for delivering and setting it up.



Ladies' lunch April

The next ladies' lunch will take place in the Stretton Fox on Thursday, 17th April at 12.30pm. Do come and join our very friendly group and enjoy a relaxed lunch. Call me on 01606 891908 to let me know you'd like to join us.

Hazel Forwood



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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Emma: 07704 074 979

emmaj1978@yahoo.co.uk



SCHOOL NEWS

What a fun and productive new year we have experienced and are grateful for! Some highlights have been: Forest School – where the children have been making bird tables and feeders out of wooden branches, twigs and string, whilst learning about the different birds and their feeding habits. Our year 5 and 6 children have been swimming as part of their PE curriculum, which will continue for the rest of Spring term. We have celebrated Chinese New Year and Valentine's Day, too.

On Thursday 6th February we came to school dressed in numbers to support NSPCC's Number Day. The children explored a 'number' of mathematical activities and number-based games throughout the day. Together our school raised £30 for the NSPCC.

We celebrated Children's Mental Health Week by taking part in an assembly with the School of Kindness (www.schoolofkindness.org). We learnt about what mental health is, and why it's important and the many different ways we can improve our mental health.

Class 1 enjoyed a class visit to 'Imagine That' in Liverpool (pictured, right), where they explored its different zones, strolled through the streets of the Imagination Village, got creative in Art Beatz and generally had a STEM-sational time in science!



Our thanks go to Mrs Phoenix and Mrs Gould for organising the Parents' Information meetings on reading. Both meetings were well attended and feedback proved valuable and worthwhile. Thank you to FOTS, whose fundraising helped support this valuable resource.

On Wednesday 5th March we were visited by local children's author Linda Whipp, who spent the day with our children, running some very creative activities and explaining how she writes her stories.

The next day, we all dressed up as our favourite book characters for World Book Day and our FOTS Family Beetle drive took place, raising over £270 for school. It was an event designed to appeal to our younger children and their families. Everyone enjoyed hot dogs for tea.

The following week, Year 1 & 2 children from Great Budworth and Antrobus enjoyed a one-night residential at Pettypool, with lots of fun activities focused on confidence-building and teamwork.

As we approach the Easter celebrations, our older children will be creating Egg Pun Dioramas. The little ones are making Easter bonnets ready for our Easter Service and are looking forward to their Easter holidays, which begin on the 4th April.

(cont'd on next page)



Robin Ince The Universe and Neurodiverse

Parish Hall

26th April, 7.00 for 8.00pm

From The Infinite Monkey Cage comes Robin Ince to Great Budworth Parish Hall. Warm, chatty and entertaining, Robin is enormously popular amongst audiences. This event is likely to be extremely popular and tickets will be much in demand, so we urge you to book without delay (rather than deciding nearer the time whether or not to attend, as Great Budworthians are liable to do!). Once this event appears on the Rural Touring Arts website, places are likely to be snapped up by people far and wide - and we wouldn't want you to miss out!

**Suitable for 14+
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GARDEN CLUB

Spring has finally arrived and the grey and bare soil is taking on colour and flowers and shrubs are opening every day. It's a wonderful sight. Our March meeting had a full room, and we were able to enjoy the new wall flat screen television in the Parish Hall. From now on, speakers will be able to present their talks and pictures in good colour in a modern style. This is a very good addition to the hall for all who use it.



Our speaker was Sharon Mayher (pictured, with her partner, Mike), who talked about the National Garden Scheme from its beginning. Most of us did not know that it was started to help charities supporting nurses returning from the Crimean War and it continues to support nursing charities. Sharon was excellent: she was a nurse herself before retirement, so knew exactly what she was talking about. She was thanked by Jan Bashforth who is the NGS Cheshire and Wirral county organiser.

We welcome new members: Kathryn Arlitt and Chris Maddock from Gt Budworth, Hollie Costigon of Comberbach, Ray and Polly Lowe from Weaverham, Susan Stitchcombe of Knutsford, and Jenny Wardley, Appleton.

Our next meeting on 8th April will be busy: there is a competition for flowers or blossom from members' own gardens, displayed in a jam jar. This will decorate the hall and look lovely. Prizes will be awarded for the most attractive displays.

The speaker will be David Matthewman, who will talk about Kew Gardens.

Also: Peter Davies is celebrating his 90th birthday in April and will give everyone a 'glass' with cake for a toast before the meeting starts. Julie Treharne-Bush will be chair for the meeting.

The holiday is full, as is the Sefton Palm House trip to Liverpool. Julie will have more information about other trips on the night.

Every month has interesting events for members, so there is a lot to look forward to and an exciting year ahead.

As some of us retire over the year, we would like a few new committee members, who have something to offer as deputies for each committee job.

Please see me if you are interested. It's a great club and a great committee, with 25 years' experience.

For any information about the club, please contact me.

Jean Davies

0789 993 7683

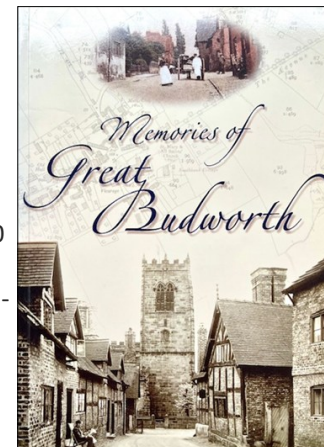
mrsjeandavies@gmail.com

Memories of Great Budworth

David Brewer, a member of Knutsford Rotary, has sent me this copy of Memories of Great Budworth. David offers it to anyone in Great Budworth in return for a donation to Knutsford Rotary. For anyone interested in the history of Great Budworth this is a 'must have'. Printed 25 years ago, it was edited by local historians Alan Bailey and Sue Ritchie. It's a paperback book of 160 pages, with plenty of black and white illustrations and describes itself as 'a collection of memories of Great Budworth by some long-standing residents'. It really is a gem. Contact me if you'd like to be its next owner.

Anna Lee (07584 252 825)

annalee1@btinternet.com



YOUR PARISH HALL NEEDS YOU!

Saturday 5th April 2025 from 2 pm to 4 pm

Please join us to view and officially open our newly refurbished kitchen. Refreshments of tea and cake will be available to help us appreciate the impressively improved facilities.

Remember our Parish Hall is a wonderful local venue for your parties and events, so don't hesitate to make a booking or enquiry.

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Great Budworth Parish Council

Applications are warmly invited to fill the vacant councillor position that has arisen on the Parish Council. Are you interested in being actively involved in local issues, planning matters and the built environment, the natural environment, communications, roads and transport? Basically, everything that impacts our local community. The role of a Parish Councillor is to represent the interests of the whole community whilst taking an active role in the decision-making process.

Applications should be made in writing to Caroline Constable, Parish Clerk, by email to greatbudworthparishclerk@gmail.com or in writing to The Parish Clerk, Parish Hall, Smithy Lane, Great Budworth, CW9 6HL.

Please provide a short overview in support of your application, such as the experience and knowledge that you can bring to the role. The Parish Council will consider all applications. Applicants will have the opportunity to give a short introduction to themselves if they wish to at the next Parish Council meeting scheduled for Monday 12th May.

The Small Print:

Applicants must be at least 18 years old and a British citizen, or an eligible citizen of the Commonwealth, the Republic of Ireland or the EU. They must also meet at least one of the following four qualifications:

- 1) be registered on the electoral roll;
- 2) have occupied, as owner or tenant, land or other premises in the parish during the whole of the past 12 months;
- 3) their main or only place of work during the past 12 months has been in the parish;
- 4) have lived in the parish or within three miles of it during the whole of the past 12 months.

[Please see the website of the Electoral Commission for precise details of all of the above.]

Tom Acton

19th February 1926 - 21st January 2025

Great Budworth Parish Church was overflowing on the 19th February with people saying goodbye to Tom Acton. It would have been Tom's 99th birthday had he lived a few more weeks. This was a celebration of a life well-lived and a tribute to a man loved and admired by so many in our community. Tom was brought up at the Old Shop, Feldy Green, in Aston by Budworth and at the age of 14 he became a gardener at Arley Hall, eventually rising to the position of Head Gardener. Initially working with the former Lady Ashbrook, Tom oversaw the transition of Arley Garden into its status as one of the finest gardens in Europe. Tom was a fount of knowledge about all things horticultural, continuing after retirement from Arley to teach at Workers Educational Association classes in Warrington and Manchester until he was 91. Readers of the Budworth Bulletin very much valued the articles Tom contributed monthly until 2016.



NGS GARDEN OPENING

Parm Place

High Street, Great Budworth, CW9 6HF
 Sunday, 6th April. 12.00 noon—4.00pm,
 Entry: Adults £5; children FREE

Well-stocked ½ acre plantswoman's garden with stunning views towards south Cheshire. Curving lawns, parterre, shrubs, colour coordinated herbaceous borders, roses, water features, rockery, gravel bed with some grasses. Fruit and vegetable plots. Large collection of bulbs and flowers, camellias, hellebores and blossom.

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TENNIS CLUB

On Sunday 9th March we played our first tournament of the season which was The Kay Cup. Twelve members played in a mixed doubles competition and the standard of play was fantastic! The sun shone and we had a most enjoyable afternoon, followed by a lavish afternoon tea. The winners of the Kay Cup for 2025 were Judith Edwards and Cheryl Clarke, pictured left with club chairman Ric Burgess, who presented the trophy.

The next tournament is The Parker Cup on Saturday 5th April.

Lunch will be served in the Bowling Club pavilion. All are welcome, so do pop along and enjoy the tennis. We will be watching the Grand National and having a sweepstake too.

We trialled a new initiative at the club this week – walking tennis! Yes, you read it right and it is just that: tennis played at a walk. The rules are very similar to the normal ones, but we play with softer tennis balls and one foot must remain on the ground at all times. No running or jumping! The first session was a great success and we will be holding more sessions. It is ideal for anybody recovering from an injury and wanting to get back on the court, or anyone who hasn't played for a while - or just feels that a slower pace of game would suit them. If you are interested contact Joany on 07484 714 321.

We have a full schedule of events planned for this year and social play and coaching are still continuing, with the court being enjoyed by many. If you would like to come and join us, do contact our membership secretary, Richard Chandler, on 07933 087 560 to have a chat about membership. The court is also available to hire for a visitor's fee, if you have guests or just fancy a game. It is a fantastic village facility and one which is there to be appreciated by all.

Joany Deakin



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(cont'd from previous page)

- 50 Church Street: the case has been forwarded to CWAC Enforcement after issues with the advice apparently given to the house owner by Cheshire East.
- Tree Management: KW could not identify the trees requiring work. The Clerk will get a quotation from a local tree surgeon to carry out a further inspection, based upon the findings from the latest Tree Management Survey.

Finance:

- Bank reconciliations were reviewed, showing the current account balance as £8,526.39, with the 95-day access account balance of £20,392.92, and the reserve balance of £1,804.50.
- The process to switch the current account to Lloyds is under way, and the Clerk will provide an update once it has been finalised.
- Payments made included Clerk's salary and reimbursements for various expenses.

Date of next meeting: 12th May, at 7.00pm, in the Parish Hall, at which the Annual Meeting will also take place. All are welcome to attend.

DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS UP TO ANNUAL MEETING 2026

12th May

7th July

1st September

3rd November

2nd March

11th May



Our thanks go to the Big Boys for their generous financial donation to the Budworth Bulletin, following their recent and very successful Big Boys' Breakfast.



A meeting of Great Budworth Parish Council took place on Monday 3rd March. The following is a summary of the key items that were discussed. Full [draft] minutes of the meeting are available on the village website.



Public Forum:

- Mr. Bob Wilkinson provided an update on the Parish Hall kitchen refurbishment. The kitchen was completed at a cost of £16,000, although the induction hob was recently damaged and needs replacing. Donations covered most of the expenses: a large donation via Karen Hammond in memory of her late husband, Don, was gratefully received.
- A new smart TV has been installed in the Parish Hall with funds from the Ward Members' Grant.
- The Bowling/Tennis Club peppercorn rent was discussed. The Clubs suggested increasing the rent to £5 each, with the Bowling Club covering £10 and reclaiming from the Tennis Club. The Clerk will send bank details for payment before March 31st. Land Registration for the lease was also discussed, with forms already submitted but processing is delayed.

Minutes of Last Meeting:

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting on 6th January were approved.

Action Points from Last Meeting:

- Several actions were completed, including the reporting of streetlight issues; sending emails regarding fingerpost cleaning; and pursuing various other issues such as tree management and the Precept request.

Parish Councillor Reports:

- Cllr. Karen Williams (KW) attended a filming workshop and discussed promoting the village.

Ward Councillor Reports:

- Ward Cllr Lynn Gibbon (LG) discussed issues such as flooding, council tax increases (4.99% increase), and devolution. She is pushing for a meeting to discuss flooding and has raised concerns about the lack of transparency in devolution consultations.
- LG reported on signage cleaning which she had helped to carry out and also discussed local policing concerns.

Progress Reports:

- The Lower Pump House Roof: work has still not been completed. Another contractor will be considered if no progress is made by May.
- Mission Statement: Adopted by the Council. [See page 7]
(cont'd on next page)



GREAT BUDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL — MISSION STATEMENT

Purpose: The Council aims to represent the best interests of the local community and serve the village of Great Budworth.

Aspiration: The vision for the village includes:



- A safe, healthy, and clean environment where people want to live and work.
- A friendly, caring community with a strong sense of spirit.
- A welcoming and enjoyable place for both residents and visitors.
- Pride in the village's historical, geographical, and natural assets.

Commitment to the Community:



- Represent the first tier of local government.
- Promote long-term wellbeing and prosperity.
- Collaborate with local government and partners to deliver services.
- Engage with the community to listen, improve decision-making, and connect with wider services and voluntary organizations.
- Act with integrity to serve the community's best interests.

Values: The council follows these core values:



- Selflessness
- Integrity
- Objectivity
- Accountability
- Openness
- Honesty

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OTHER CHURCH EVENTS & NEWS

CRAFT AND NATTER

Each 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month 10.30am in the Old School.

PLAY AND PRAISE

Each 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month (apart from school holidays)
in Church at 1.30pm.

FLOWER FESTIVAL 'THE JOYS OF A RURAL PARISH'

St. Mary And All Saints Church

11th to 13th July 2025

We would very much appreciate help for this event: we need stewards for each of the three days, in two-hour slots. We also need a team to host Church Teas on Sunday 13th July. Please contact Maggie 07970 927 161.

CELEBRATING 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

Thursday 8th May, 5.30pm—9.15pm

Churchyard and Church

Live music with local musicians. Food, bar, bell ringing and finishing with a special service in Church.

Tickets for food: £10 each

CHURCH TEAS 2025

Thank you so much to all who have volunteered to run Church Teas: it is so much appreciated.

There remain several dates which await volunteers. These are: 4th, 25th, and 26th May; 27th July and 31st August. Do please contact Margaret (details below) if you are able to help.

The Parish Hall will be open for tea, coffee and home-made cakes, every Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday, 2.00pm-4.00pm from Sunday 6th April, through to October.

Margaret 07732 324 001 Maggie 07970 927161

ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS

April services

Wednesday 2nd

10.30am Holy Communion followed by coffee

Sunday 6th Lent 5 Passion Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion BCP

10.30am All Age Worship – The Way of The Cross

Sunday 13th Palm Sunday

10.15am Procession from the Parish Hall

10.30am Liturgy of the Passion

6.30pm Holy Communion *Common Worship*

Thursday 17th Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Holy Communion *Common Worship*

8.30pm to 10pm Vigil in church

Friday 18th Good Friday

2.00pm Meditations at the foot of the Cross

3.00pm Short Evening Prayer

Sunday 20th Easter Day

8.00am Holy Communion BCP

10.30am Parish Communion *Common Worship*

No Evening Prayer at Arley Chapel

Sunday 27th Easter 2

10.30am Parish Communion *Common Worship*

2.30pm Forest Church – venue tbc

***Service of Compline each Thursday evening throughout Lent
7.00pm in the Lady Chapel.***