

## DIARY DATES FOR JULY & AUGUST

*Details of Church services and events are on the front cover and pages 2 & 3*

### July

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

**Sunday 6th, 12.00 noon—4.00pm.** NGS garden opening: Parm Place, High Street

**Monday 7th, 7.00pm.** Parish Hall, Parish Council meeting. All welcome

**Tuesday 8th, 10.00am.** Parish Hall (start). WI Ramblers

**Tuesday 8th, 7.30pm.** Parish Hall, Garden Club meeting

**Thursday 17th, 12.30pm.** Ladies' lunch: Bear's Paw, High Legh

**Friday, Saturday & Sunday, 11th, 12th & 13th, various times.** Parish Church, various events at various times: Church Flower Festival

**Thursday 24th, 1.30pm.** Parish Church, Great Budworth C.of E. Primary School leavers' service. All welcome.

### August

**Wednesday 6th, 7.00pm.** Hartford Golf Club. WI Pitch & Putt evening

**Thursday 21st, 12.30pm.** Ladies' lunch: Hayhurst Arms

*For advertising and editorial queries, please contact Anna Lee on 07584 252 825 or at [annalee1@btinternet.com](mailto:annalee1@btinternet.com)*



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# BUDWORTH BULLETIN

July-August 2025

St Mary & All Saints Church

Great Budworth

## Flower Festival

'The Joys of a Rural Parish'

11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Each of the floral exhibits will be inspired by a different hymn: they are to be created by various local groups, reflecting the vibrancy and diversity of this beautiful parish.

### Friday 11<sup>th</sup>

10.00am to 4.00pm floral displays in Church

### Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>

10.00am to 4.00pm floral displays in Church

7.00pm 'Music @ St. Mary's' Concert

Local artists performing – fundraising for:  
St. Luke's Hospice and Save Ukraine.

Entry is free, but we ask for a donation please.

### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>

10.30am Songs of Praise service

1.00pm to 4.00pm floral displays in Church

### Over the weekend:

Art Exhibition – Local artists in the Old School

History Display – 'Great Budworth through time' in the Old School

Tea and cake served in the Parish Hall, Friday, Saturday & Sunday 1.00-4.00pm

Special Festival Ploughman's Lunch available at the George and Dragon.

Trips up the church tower Saturday and Sunday: £5/person (min. age 8yrs)

See page 3 for details of times of trips

*There'll be no entry charge to the Flower Festival, but donations will be very welcome.*

# ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS

## Services in July and August

### July

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>** 10.30am Holy Communion CW followed by coffee  
**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>** 7.00pm Celtic Evening Prayer  
**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>** 8.00am Holy Communion  
 10.30am All Age Worship  
**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>** 10.00am setting up for Flower Festival  
**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>** 10.00am setting up for Flower Festival  
**Friday 11<sup>th</sup>** 10.00am – 4.00pm Flower Festival  
**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>** 10.00am – 4.00pm Flower Festival  
 7.00pm – 9.30pm Music @ St. Marys Concert – local artists  
**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>** 10.30am Songs of Praise service  
 1.00pm – 4.00pm Flower Festival  
 6.30pm Holy Communion  
**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>** 8.00am Holy Communion  
 10.30am Parish Communion  
 12.15pm Baptism – welcoming Harriet Gardener  
 5.00pm Deanery ‘bring your own’ picnic at Arley Chapel  
 6.30pm Deanery Service at Arley Chapel after the picnic  
*(All are welcome to attend both Deanery events, above)*  
**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>** 10.30am Craft & Natter in the Old School  
**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>** 1.30pm Great Budworth School Leavers’ Service  
**Friday 26<sup>th</sup>** (Time TBA) Wedding in church  
**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>** 10.30am Parish Communion  
 12.15pm Baptism – welcoming Faith Barthorpe  
 2.30pm Forest Church venue tbc

### August

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>** 8.00am Holy Communion  
 10.30am All Age Worship for Lammas  
**Monday 4<sup>th</sup>** 7.00pm PCC meeting Old School  
**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>** 10.30am Holy Communion, followed by coffee  
**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>** 7.00pm Celtic Evening Prayer  
**Friday 8<sup>th</sup>** 1.00pm Wedding in church  
**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>** 10.30am Matins  
 6.30pm Holy Communion  
**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>** 10.30am Craft & Natter in the Old School TBC  
**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>** 1.30pm Play and Praise TBC  
**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>** 8.00am Holy Communion  
 10.30am Parish Communion  
 6.30pm Evening Prayer at Arley Chapel

(Cont'd on next page)

# TENNIS CLUB

For any tennis fans the summer months are the best! With the HSBC Championships at The Queen’s Club in London, closely followed by Wimbledon, if we are not playing tennis then we are watching it! Hopefully it will inspire more to come and join us here at the Tennis Club. Everybody is welcome.



The Cussons Shield, which is a mixed doubles tournament taking place over the summer months, is now under way with partners drawn. There are two leagues competing to have their names on the trophy.

Our next event will be our additional tournament on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September at the tennis court, which is an opportunity for all to come along and meet us. The Tennis Club will again share this day with the Bowling Club Day, so there will be action on the court and on the green. All we then need is the sun to shine to make the perfect village day. Lunch will be served under the gazebos in ‘Courtside Corner’. Everybody is most welcome to join us for lunch – it would be great to see you. Hopefully Great Budworth Ice Cream Farm will be there again too.

With the ongoing nice weather, play continues on the court, with Walking Tennis, social play and coaching all taking place. If you fancy joining us, contact our membership secretary, Richard Chandler, 07933087560 to have a chat about membership. The court is also available to hire for a visitor’s fee, if you have guests or 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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***Villager Nicola Ashbrook has just had her first novel published through Alien Buddha Press***

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With a range of discussion points, quirky characters and an unusual concept, The Dispensary is ideal for book clubs. If any local book clubs would like to read it, Nicola would love to hear from you. She can provide a list of questions to structure your discussion or could even come along and join in!

The Dispensary is currently available to purchase on Amazon or upstairs in Abda's Café in Northwich.

Nicola\_bartley@hotmail.com  
@NicolaAWrites Insta

*"Like the prescriptions of the Dispensary itself, this book es exactly what so many people need; treat yourself by picking up a copy."* Kirsten Loesch, author. *The Porcelain Doll.*

*"The Dispensary is gritty, funny, magical, real, heart rending and comforting in equal measure. I was changed by reading it."* Amazon review



*(Cont'd from previous page)*

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> 1.00pm Wedding in church  
 Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Parish Communion  
 2.30pm Forest Church TBC due to holidays.  
 Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> 8.00am Holy Communion  
 10.30am Parish Communion

**Please join us for our Flower Festival in the church and churchyard – dates: 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> July. See details on front cover of this issue.**



**Don't miss the vintage tractor that will be on display outside the church throughout the Festival!**  
*(The pic here is for illustrative purposes only.)*

**Trips up the Church Tower Times :**  
**Saturday: 11am—2.30pm**  
**Sunday: 1.30pm—3.30pm**

**Further details from any of the following links:**

Great Budworth Church    maggie@maggieearl.co.uk  
 www.greatbudworthchurch.co.uk    07970 927 161

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**M**y Life at Harrods was the subject of Maxine Jaeger's talk about the years she has spent working for Harrods and Mohammed Al Fayed when he became the owner. His meticulous attention to detail put the department store on the world map and the opulence of the building was an attraction to all the rich and famous.

Maxine gave us an insight



into the bridal gift section and the things that the brides put on their wedding lists. Although she never had a problem with Al Fayed it was an unwritten rule never to get into the lift with him.

She was a clear articulate speaker and entertained us with style. Members enjoyed tea and cakes after the meeting.

The WI are looking forward to decorating the pulpit for the Church Flower Festival and hopefully the Church will look magnificent in all its splendour.

The meeting on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July will be held in the garden at Southbank House, with many thanks to Nid who has welcomed us for the evening. We hope to be able to sit in the garden and listen to our speaker, Barbara Hughes, who won Wales Woman Farmer of the Year and now farms in Malpas. We don't always have a warm balmy night so dress accordingly and Nid will provide shelter if needed. The meeting starts at 7pm and guests are welcome but please let me know if you want to bring a friend.

We look forward to strawberries and shortbread served by Jo, Tanya & Mary.

The meeting on Wednesday 6th August is a pitch and putt evening again at the Hartford Golf Club when we have a go on the Alice in Wonderland themed crazy golf

*(Continued on next page)*

## *Congratulations, Viscount Ashbrook!*

*Our hearty congratulations go to our own Lord Ashbrook, who has been awarded an MBE in the King's Birthday Honours. The award is in recognition of Lord Ashbrook's "services to charity and the community in Cheshire". A well-deserved honour!*



## *Ladies' lunches in July and August*



The July ladies' lunch will take place at the Bear's Paw, Warrington Road, High Legh on Thursday, 17th July at 12.30pm. The August ladies' lunch will take place at the Hayhurst Arms, Bostock Green on 21st August at 12.30pm.



Do come and join our very friendly group and enjoy a relaxed lunch.

If you'd like to join us, just call me on 01606 891908 to let me know.

*Hazel Forwood*

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## SCHOOL NEWS

We welcomed the children back to school after the half term break on 9<sup>th</sup> June and now the countdown to the end of the school year has begun. We have had a busy June with Sports week, which included sports day and an orienteering event. Our year 5 and 6 pupils attended the Crucial Crew event at Brio Northwich and learnt about keeping safe and healthy as they grow and become more independent.



Our last Open Morning of the year was well-attended and all the children enjoyed another visit from Northwich Hedgehog Rescue & a Huladaze Circus skills workshop. We also held our first Taster session for our new pupils who are starting Reception this September and they are looking forward to returning for a Teddy Bears' Picnic in July.

Science week at the end of June saw all the Great Budworth children spend two days at Antrobus St Marks CofE primary school for a series of fun science workshops and a performance by the B Tales Theatre Company.

July will start with an Art theme week and lots of fun with creative activities, including preparing props and scenery for our end of year production of Aladdin. There will be lots of rehearsals and singing going on as well. Gardening Club will be busy preparing for the Church Flower Festival and Class 2 have a clarinet performance for their parents, to celebrate the completion of their ten weeks of music lessons.

The Federation of Antrobus St Marks & Great Budworth will join together again for a grand day out to Gulliver's World for all our children. What an exciting day that will be! The Year 6 children from both schools will be joining together for a day in Chester, to attend the Diocese Leavers' Service at Chester Cathedral. We will then end the year with our own Leavers' Service at Church in Great Budworth on Thursday 24 July at 1.30pm. All are welcome to attend. School closes for the Summer holidays on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July and re-opens on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

Have a lovely Summer!

**Ceri Gratton Berry, Administrator**

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*(Continued from previous page)*

course. The winners from last year, Margaret & Siobhan, will see if they can retain the title. Booking for this is essential: the start time is 7pm. There will be a small charge for the evening. Please let Lesley or me know if you are coming.

The WI were so sad to hear of the death of Chris Wise. He was a great friend of Great Budworth WI. His home, Providence House, was where the first meetings were held in 1932 and Chris kindly invited us back to celebrate our 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Chris's garden was a credit to him: he turned the end of his garden from a wilderness to a manicured lawn and the formal part of his garden was a delight to see. RIP Chris.

Summer will be nearing an end by Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September when we are back in the Parish Hall with Miss Pitchy Patchy, who will tell us about 'Fashion on the Home Front'. Have a good summer and enjoy it.

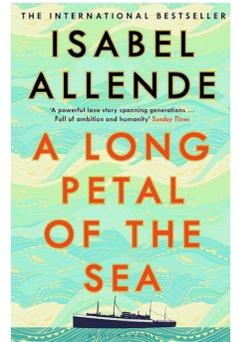
### BOOK CLUB

The book club are reading 'A Long Petal of the Sea', by Isobel Allende. This is a much acclaimed book by a much acclaimed author. I think Isobel Allende has written a book our Book Club has previously read, so this one has to be a recommendation.

### RAMBLERS

A walk around the woodlands in Plumley was the trail for the walking group. It ended with lunch at Plumleys Garden Centre on Plumley Moor Road. The walk in July will be on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July, leaving the Parish Hall at 10.00am.

**June Wilkinson 891534**



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## GARDEN CLUB

We are in the best part of summer now, and finally we did have some rain. Everything is lush, but that includes the weeds!



1

We had a wonderful holiday to Yorkshire: a full coach of 50 people enjoyed some fabulous gardens and stately homes, a good hotel in Harrogate, plus friendship and social time. Warm thanks go to Julie Treharne (right), who organised it all brilliantly. See photos below.



1. Goldsborough Hall
2. Scampston Hall
3. Refreshments in Rewels Cottage



2

4. Mark Waller, head gardener of Goldsborough Hall, self-confessed hippy and our guide
5. Breezy Knees garden



3



4



5



6

(Continued on next page)

## GREAT BUDWORTH CRICKET CLUB

After the excitement of the drawn match against Lymm CC in May and the further disappointment of a cancelled game against Kingsley CC, the fixture against a side from Toft CC was eagerly anticipated.

With Toft batting first, an excellent opening bowling attack from Rick Ford and Swiss Whitlow made early inroads, well supported by the first change bowlers of Andrew Philips and James Dutton. The bowlers were well supported by some excellent fielding, and with Doug Toy and his son, Billy, bowling some miserly middle overs, Toft were restricted to 96 in their 20 overs. In reply, an unusually sticky start by Gt Budworth's top of the innings batsmen had the home side struggling, particularly after Captain Taylor's first ball duck!

Despite the challenge of needing 50 runs from the final 6 overs, cavalier batting from James Dutton and Swiss Whitlow brought the win with just five balls remaining! Swiss's innings, following his performance with the ball, justifiably earned him the Man of the Match award.

On Sunday 8th June we hosted our friends from Gregsons CC, a touring side based in Lancaster. Despite a questionable weather forecast, both sides were keen to play - a move which paid off with a nice day and no rain interruptions! Winning the toss and electing to bat first (possibly after hearing that our star bowler, Swiss, was carrying a hamstring injury into the game) Gregsons probably regretted their decision, being unable to break out of the tight opening spells from Rick Ford and James Dutton. Whenever the Gregson players tried to accelerate, wickets fell and it was only their opening batsman who dug in for an innings of any length. Whether or not his score of 12 in 25 overs did his team any favours might be debatable, but at least it prolonged the day!



The undoubted highlight of the Gregson innings was the screaming catch taken by Spencer Osborne at deep mid-wicket to dismiss the visitors' last recognised batsman. Struck like an Exocet and travelling horizontally towards the fielder, it was going to be either a trip to A&E or glory - fortunately the latter! Gregsons finally struggled to 109 all out, a total which was never going to be enough to trouble Great Budworth's deep batting line up.

A stubborn 31 not out from Mark Hankey, supported by strong knocks from Pete Taylor and a 'hamstring recovered' Swiss Whitlow, brought a win by 6 wickets in 25 overs.

For the catch and his bowling spell of 8 overs, 2 wickets for 30 runs, Spencer (pictured) was unanimously awarded the Man of the Match award. He also received an award of a club badge from the Gregson CC team.

Simon Batey

## Norman Duncalf



Norman (smiling!) in his greenhouse

**N**orman Duncalf has been a friend of mine since the 1970s, and I know he will be missed by many in Great Budworth.

Norman was born in 1948 in the house where he lived all his life. The family had been tenants of Arley for many years, but Norman's Uncle Tom bought the house when properties in the village were sold by the Arley Estate in 1948, and Norman inherited it from his parents.

Norman attended the Primary School in the village and passed the 11+ exam to go on to Sir John Deane's Grammar School. ICI Winnington awarded him an Electrical Apprenticeship and he stayed with ICI for the whole of his career, being given increasingly senior roles, including as Chief Shop Steward.

In his school years Norman was an amateur Radio Ham and used to broadcast on local radio from Great Budworth. Whilst working at ICI Norman bought a whole series of Capri cars, regarded as 'lady pullers' at the time, but Norman remained single. He took camping holidays in Scotland and Wales but never had use for a passport. Cats were always part of Norman's life, and he had great pride in his tractors, with gardening as a hobby. During Norman's illness a group of his friends kept his garden going, for which he was very grateful.

Norman became a regular at the George & Dragon from the time when Jack Curtin was the landlord and I would always find him in his regular seat when I entered the pub. One evening, many years ago, after walking to the George & Dragon and finding it shut, he rang the brewery next day to complain and to demand to know why it was closed early. He was a shrewd man who enjoyed sharing his views on local issues and politics, both national and international.

Norman was a dear friend and will be much missed by all his friends.

**John Williamson**

***WE'RE BOWLED OVER!***

***Our sincere thanks to Great Budworth Cricket Club for their generous donation to the Budworth Bulletin.***

***Cheers!***

***From the Bulletin team***

*(Continued from previous page)*

The June meeting was our Flower Show - the Produce Show is in September. It was a fine evening, with entries displayed outside under the awning and, whilst judging was taking place, we had a Gardeners' Question Time (GQT,) with four of our expert members on the panel.



Our panel of GQT experts, pictured left were: (from left), Sylvia Godber, Liz Wathen, Kate Edwell (Chair) and Jane Fairclough.

Pictured below are the Flower judge, Brenda Wilkinson (on the left) and the organiser of the Flower Show, Dawn Freeman.

Thanks to you all for entering and taking part.

Flower Show winners were as follows:

Single rose - Joan Broughton

Six perennials - Jean Davies

Three of the same flower - Janet Bashford.

Wild flowers from your garden - Jo Munnery

Flower from a lily bulb - Sue Quick.

Photo of your own garden - Victor Wood.

Our meeting on 8th July will be a members' party to celebrate the Club's 25<sup>th</sup> birthday. Great Budworth Garden Club was formed in the Millennium, by Sandra Parker, Peter Davies and me. Peter and I are retiring at Christmas and the Committee are planning a wonderful surprise for us at this party. We can't wait!

Over the coming months, coach trips are planned to the following places: the new RHS show in Yorkshire (instead of Tatton); the Southport Flower Show; Gresgarth Hall, and a Japanese garden in September. Please contact Julie for details on 07792 10849.

The church in Great Budworth is hosting a Flower Festival in July (see details elsewhere in this issue) and we have been asked to decorate the font. Jane Ford has agreed to be the organiser and we hope you will come to see it, on the 11th, 12th and 13th July.

We do not have a meeting in August but have a trip. The next meeting is on Tuesday 9th September, when we have the Produce Show, plus a speaker: Sarah Hopps, who will talk about Gardens of Britain and their surprises. It is sure to be another great night.

Enjoy your summer. We have already had the longest day, and another year is flying by! Let's all slow down and relax.

Best wishes, Jean Davies 07899 937 683



## SUMMARY OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 12TH MAY 2025

### Public Forum

- **High Street Resurfacing:** Resident sought information about planned resurfacing. While work relating to 20 kerbstones and potholes was previously mentioned, current CW&C plans don't list High Street. Ward Cllr. Lynn Gibbon (LG) is seeking clarity. Residents are encouraged to report potholes via the 'Report It' app.
- **Community Store:** A suggestion was made to use funds to open a community store/café. Parish councillor Dave Wilkinson noted it's unlikely owing to the reliance on volunteers to run it.
- **Street Cleanliness:** The issue of overgrown weeds and unswept leaves on High Street was raised. The Parish Clerk will report to CW&C.
- **Lower Pumphouse Roof:** The contractor has been delayed. If the work is not started within a week, an alternative contractor will be contacted.
- **Streetlight Issue:** the light near the Parish Hall is still out owing to an issue with Scottish Power. LG to chase.
- **Flooding:** A resident raised concerns about flooding caused by blocked gulleys. There is no clear timeline for clearance from CW&C. Mapping and reporting of the issue will be initiated by the clerk.



**Minutes of previous meeting** held 03/03/25: these were approved.

### Action Updates

- Various administrative actions completed (e.g. communications with Bulletin editor, insurance, tree surgeon quotes).
- CW&C have stated that flooding at Little Dene is a landowner issue, and therefore not within Highways' jurisdiction. Parish Councillor Karen Williams will contact the landowner again to see if anything more can be done.

The parish councillor vacancy remains unfilled.

### Ward Councillor Reports:

- National Planning Framework: there are concerns about rural development and infrastructure impact.
- Devolution: CW&C supports; Cheshire East may not.
- Highways: Continuing work by utility companies.
- Planning: Objection raised to Winnington Lime Bed Solar Park appeal.
- Northwich Regeneration: projects are underway (market, library, artificial pitch).

*(Continued from previous page)*

Chris absolutely loved living here in Great Budworth. He loved his imposing house with its intriguing history, his beautiful garden and his prized collection of cars. He had been a Parish Councillor since 2023. Chris's untimely death has deprived all of us who live in Great Budworth of a good friend and a dependable neighbour.

**Lesley Hopkinson**

## Big Boys' Trafalgar Night

18th October

6.30pm for a 7pm sit down

Join us for a shipshape evening of food, drink and entertainment. Bar cash or card payments accepted.

Three-course dinner, welcome drink and entertainment. All for only £25 per person

For tickets contact:

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*[More details to follow in September's Bulletin]*



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## CHRIS WISE

It's really difficult to write about Chris Wise in the past tense as it seems impossible to believe that he has gone so suddenly from village life.

Chris was a successful businessman - a self-made man. He was born in Dartford but brought up in Slough and attended Slough Grammar School, where he did very well both academically and on the sporting field.

He gained a place at Liverpool University to study architecture, but quickly realised once there that architecture was not for him, so he changed to social sciences. Once he graduated and started work he took his accountancy exams and qualified as an accountant. He still spent time keeping super fit: running marathons in several countries and playing basketball and tennis.

Various jobs followed, working in financial director roles across the country, but he missed the North West and eventually settled in Liverpool, reuniting with friends and making new ones. He was a great socialiser – he loved the night life and even tried his hand at owning and running a night club there! This, however, was not a great investment and he sensibly returned to what he knew best, eventually setting up his own consultancy business. He became an expert in the design and implementation of Microsoft systems into businesses.

This work took him away on projects across the world and he was very successful and respected in this field. Financial rewards followed and he moved from Liverpool to Mere and eventually settled in Great Budworth 25 years ago. He loved Providence House and spent years restoring and renovating it, working away during the week and then returning to a building site at the weekends.

Chris was then able to indulge in the spoils of his success: he loved his cars, driving on track days and going on driving trips with friends. Always fastidious about his appearance, he kept himself fit and enjoyed playing tennis to a good level - he was fiercely competitive! He was obsessive about keeping in shape and could not bear the thought of becoming old and infirm. He loved a party and was never happier than when Providence House was filled with people.

Chris was very generous, sharing his home with the village on many occasions, including the funeral wake of Wilma Heyes, the WI AGM and the Coronation celebrations, amongst many. He always offered to host his legendary 'Afternoon Tea' as an auction prize for the Church Restoration Fund.

A keen tennis player, Chris was Membership Secretary at his beloved Stockton Heath Tennis Club.

*(Continued on the next page)*



- Funding: Member budgets are now open for applications.

### Progress Reports Summary

- Lower Pump House: Awaiting overdue roof repair.
- 50 Church Street: Objection to unauthorised works carried out and that proposed changes are not in keeping with village aesthetics. Draft objection being prepared.
- Tree Management: Two quotes were discussed. Lower quote from Nick Bowman (£520) preferred. New quote to be sought in summer.
- Parish Hall Insurance: Monthly payment agreed with Parish Hall CIO to cover building insurance. Quotes to be obtained from NFU, Zurich and current provider.

### Finance Summary

- Bank Balances (as of 30/04/25):
  - Current: £19,059.26
  - 95-Day Account: £20,564.46
  - Reserve: £1,809.96
- New Bank Account: Lloyds account opened; NatWest accounts being closed.
- Exemption: PC qualifies for external audit exemption.
- Internal Audit Findings:
  - Missing support documents for £5,000 land sale (copy being requested).
  - Clarification needed on asset valuation and reserve disclosures.
- Payments Approved: Clerk salary, internal audit, membership fees, insurance contribution, etc.
- Receipts: Precept (£11,508.31) and rent (£10) from sports clubs.
- VAT reclaim: Submitted for £560.74.

Next meeting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July, at 7.00pm.

Full minutes can be found on the website at [greatbudworth.com](http://greatbudworth.com)

### NGS GARDEN OPENING

#### Parm Place

High Street, Great Budworth, CW9 6HF

Sunday, 6th July 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.*



***LET'S NOT FORGET VJ80 THIS YEAR!***

After the recent widespread celebrations of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE day, which took place on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1945, we are now due to celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VJ Day, 15<sup>th</sup> August 1945. It was this event that finally signalled the end of WW2.



The war in the Far East was precipitated by the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor (see pic, left) on 7<sup>th</sup> December 1941. At that stage the US was not a combatant in WW2, and it was folly indeed for the Japanese to attack such a powerful nation, which of course then joined the war.

The Far Eastern war was largely conducted by the US, with its large numbers of fighting troops.

Many of the British forces in the Far East were taken prisoner during the Japanese invasion of Singapore, Malaya and Burma. Altogether there were some 140,000 PoWs in the Far East. There was a 20% casualty rate among British prisoners, owing mainly to the way in which they were treated, which led to widespread malnutrition and disease.

The US had an enormous area of the Far East to overcome, stretching as it did from Burma in the west to the numerous Pacific islands of the east. Nevertheless, Japan was defeated by August 1945.

The US forces, numbering some 1,250,000 men, were commanded by General Douglas  
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MacArthur, a veteran of WW1. US losses were high, numbering some 72,000. The Philippine forces were also large, 30,000 in all, and suffered an unknown number of losses. The Japanese suffered huge losses, estimated to exceed 2.5 million men across all battle fronts, the costliest being their fight against the US in the Philippines.



By the end of July 1945 the Japanese navy was incapable of conducting major operations and an Allied invasion of Japan was imminent. On 6<sup>th</sup> August 1945 the US dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima and three days later another on Nagasaki. After several more days of behind-the-scenes negotiations and a failed coup d'état by hardliners in the Japanese military, Emperor Hirohito gave a radio address across the

Empire on 15<sup>th</sup> August announcing the effective surrender of Japan to the Allies\*.

The official signing of Japan's surrender took place on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1945 aboard the US navy battleship USS Missouri (pictured right), the signatory for the Allies being General MacArthur (pictured above, wading ashore during initial landings in the island of Leyte), whilst Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu signed on behalf of Japan.



Surrender was anathema to the Japanese culture (which was one of the main reasons why our PoWs were treated so badly). As a result, many Japanese soldiers, scattered among the numerous islands of the Philippines, did not surrender, but instead continued to hide and live in the jungles for months, even years, before ultimately surrendering.

**Julian Beavan**

*\*However, in his broadcast Emperor Hirohito didn't use the word 'surrender'. He said, "The war situation has developed not necessarily to Japan's advantage", which perhaps qualifies as history's greatest ever understatement. Ed.*