

My Village News

APRIL 2025

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Hello and a warm welcome to April My Village News

Bunbury Mill opens to visitors on the 30th of March, just in time for Mothering Sunday, you can read inside, about the work that has been taking place over the winter months.

Barry Grain, formerly head gardener at Cholmondeley Castle Gardens, has now branched out to his own business; Rosemeade Nurseries near Holt - not yet open, however Barry has kindly agreed to continue writing his Gardening Tips. 113 years ago, April 1912 RMS Titanic sank; Keith Crump from Noman's Heath has written a poem "The Berg" plus another poem, "April" for us to read and enjoy.

Chris Warriner from Spurstow is raising funds for MacMillan Cancer Support by signing up for a wing walk and loop the loop at the age of 82 you can read his story on page 42

Local historian David Hayns has written Borderline Cases, as always a very informative read.

Our Front page photograph taken this month at Cholmondeley Castle Gardens by Christine Whitehurst.

See you when we are out and about

Ann & John

DEADLINE FOR THE MAY ISSUE IS 7TH APRIL

Our village News pages can be found at the back of the magazine with local information, what's on and clubs and local information. Let us know of forthcoming events in your village ann@myvillagenews.co.uk

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'My Village News' is edited and produced by;

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www.myvillagenews.co.uk

Disclaimer

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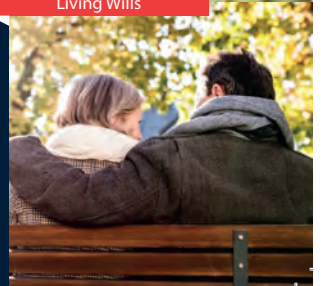
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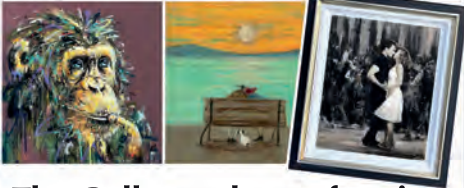


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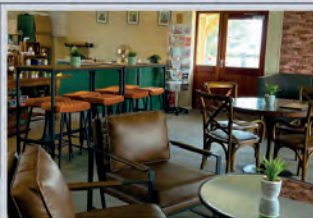
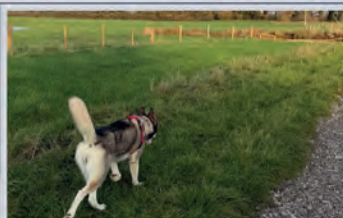
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Selling your Business?

The SME market in the UK in 2025 will likely face a complex and evolving legal environment. SMEs will need to stay agile and informed to navigate changes including; tax policy, labour law, data protection, environmental regulation, and access to finance.

Here we examine some key market drivers and succession or exit options for businesses who want to take action:

- Business Asset Disposal Relief (BADR)
- Capital Gains Tax (CGT)
- Exit Options

Business Asset Disposal Relief and Capital Gains Tax

The government maintaining the £1 million lifetime allowance for BADR means that many small business owners will still benefit from CGT relief on the sale of their businesses, but those with higher gains will face increased tax liabilities once they exceed this threshold. You could argue that this could result in fewer business owners opting to sell at higher valuations, thus potentially reducing Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) activity.

What it should do is reinforce the leaders focus to not make tax the driver for realising value but there needs driven by the business strategic intent.

Ultimately, the £1 million cap could create a more complex and cautious M&A environment, especially for SMEs, but also may prompt innovative deal-making and tax planning strategies.

The October budget announcement of an increase in the rate of BADR from 10% to 14% as of April 2025 and again to 18% in April 2026, will have a significant. The immediate effect might be a rush of deals before the tax change, followed by a potential cooling of M&A activity as business owners adjust their expectations. Buyers could also adjust their offer prices or deal structures to account for the higher tax liabilities, potentially making M&A deals more complex and less frequent.

While the increase in CGT might discourage some sellers and create challenges for dealmakers, it could also lead to more creative deal structuring, including the use of deferred payments, asset sales, and tax-efficient financing arrangements. However, the overall effect would likely be a slower M&A market, with more caution from both buyers and sellers in the short to medium term.

Exit options – Management Buyout and Employee Owned Trusts

Both Management Buyouts (MBOs) and Employee Owned Trusts (EOTs) allow owners to sell their businesses while potentially benefiting from lower CGT rates. A MBO does not have special tax treatment, just the EOT, as long as they meet the relevant tax relief conditions. However, the specific structuring of the transaction is key to ensuring these preferential tax rates are utilised. Both are relative quick and potentially elegant, more amicable exit solutions.

A MBO in the UK occurs when a company's management team acquires the business they operate, typically with the help of external financing. The management team, led by senior executives, takes control of the company, often purchasing shares from the existing owners or investors. MBOs are common in

privately held firms and are used as a strategy for succession planning, corporate restructuring, or to gain more control over the business's direction. Financing for MBOs typically comes from a mix of debt and equity, often facilitated by private equity firms or banks.

An EOT is a model in the UK where a trust owns a company on behalf of its employees. The company's shares are transferred to the trust, which holds them for the benefit of all employees, often providing a share in the company's success through dividends or potential capital growth. EOTs are typically used as a succession planning tool, allowing business owners to sell their company while ensuring employees benefit from ownership. The model offers tax advantages, including exemption from capital gains tax for the selling owners, making it an attractive option for business transition.

Why is success planning crucial in family-owned businesses?

Succession planning in family-owned businesses ensures the continuity of operations, preserves family legacy, and mitigates risks associated with leadership transitions. Without a clear succession plan, businesses may face instability, confusion, or even failure as family dynamics and competing interests can create conflicts. Proper succession planning helps identify and prepare the next generation of leaders, ensuring they are equipped with the skills and experience necessary for the role.

A well-executed succession plan not only protects the family business but also strengthens its position in the market, as it allows for strategic planning and the continuity of relationships with customers, suppliers, and stakeholders. Furthermore, it can enhance the business's ability to adapt to changes in the market, economy, or industry by planning for both internal leadership transitions and potential external challenges.

We're here to help

Doing nothing in a competitive market will put your future and the business at risk. But with this high level of complexity and volatility, it can be overwhelming for a business owner, and can be difficult to make sense of. If you need help assessing your business to plan for a successful exit, reach out for expert advice

The levels and bases of taxation and reliefs from taxation can change at any time. Tax relief is dependent on individual circumstances.

Exit Strategies may include the referral to a service that is separate and distinct to those offered by St. James's Place.

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We work in conjunction with an extensive network of external growth advisers and SME specialists, such as Elephants Child, who have been carefully selected by St. James's Place. The services provided by these specialists are separate and distinct to the services carried out by St. James's Place and include advice on how to grow your business and prepare your business for sale. Where the opinions of third parties are offered, these may not necessarily reflect those of St. James's Place.

Jonathan Byrd and James Challenor

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SJP Approved 4/3/2025



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Date	Return	Tour	Days	Hotel	Price	Single Supplement
Fri 14 Mar	Mon 17 Mar	Soul & Motown on the English Riviera	4	Derwent (Torquay)	£249.50	£80.00
Mon 24 Mar	Fri 28 Mar	Bournemouth (The New Forest & National Trust Delights)	5	Durley Dean	£469.50	Nil
Mon 31 Mar	Fri 4 Apr	Springtime in the Lakes & Dales	5	Auckland	£469.50	Nil
Sat 5 Apr	Wed 9 Apr	Sidmouth	5	Royal York & Faulkner	£529.50	Nil
Fri 18 Apr	Tue 22 Apr	Easter in Paignton Sun, Sand, Sea & Steam	5	Queens Hotel (Paignton)	£469.50	Nil
Thu 24 Apr	Tue 29 Apr	Dutch Bulbfield Delights Sail & Rail amongst Tulips & Windmills	6	Van Der Valk De Bilt (Utrecht)	£849.50	£150.00
Thu 1 May	Mon 5 May	Eastbourne Springtime Special Magnificent Motors & Bluebell Steam Railway	5	Haddon Hall (Eastbourne)	£499.50	Nil
Fri 9 May	Tue 13 May	Llandudno The Queen of Welsh Seaside Resorts (inc Bodnant Gardens)	5	Tynedale	£549.50	Nil
Wed 14 May	Sat 17 May	Yorkshire's All Features Great & Small	4	The Crown (Harrogate)	£449.50	£85.00
Sun 18 May	Fri 23 May	Spring into Cornwall Newquay	6	Fistral Beach (Newquay)	£729.50	£100.00
Sat 24 May	Fri 30 May	Ireland's Coastal Causeway	7	Inishowen Gateway	£849.50	£175.00
Mon 2 Jun	Tue 10 Jun	Scotland's North Coast 500 & Royal Castles	9	Various	£1450.00	£100.00
Wed 11 Jun	Sun 15 Jun	Isle of Wight - The Diamond Isle	5	The Brunswick	£549.50	Nil
Mon 16 Jun	Fri 20 Jun	Constable Country & Suffolk Explorer	5	Stoke By Nayland Golf & Spa (Colchester)	£629.50	£100.00
Sun 22 Jun	Fri 27 Jun	County Mayo & Galway Delights	6	Castlecourt (Westport)	£779.50	£150.00
Tue 1 Jul	Sat 5 Jul	Isle of Man	5	Rutland	£629.50	£50.00
Sun 6 Jul	Sat 12 Jul	Tenby & South West Wales	7	Clarence House	£749.50	Nil
Sun 13 Jul	Thu 17 Jul	Highlights of Kent "Call the Midwife" to the Garden of England	5	Bridgewood Manor	£629.50	£100.00
Sun 20 Jul	Thu 24 Jul	Co. Durham & The Auckland Project	5	Radisson Blu (Durham)	£575.00	£100.00



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Date	Return	Tour	Days	Hotel	Price	Single Supplement
Fri 25 Jul	Thu 31 Jul	Killarney "Gems of Southern Ireland"	7	Killarney Towers	£879.50	£175.00
Sun 3 Aug	Thu 7 Aug	Scenic Rails of Mid Wales	5	Metropole (Llandrindod Wells)	£629.50	£50.00
Sat 9 Aug	Thu 14 Aug	Eastbourne & Sussex Delights	6	Haddon Hall	£609.50	Nil
Thu 21 Aug	Sun 24 Aug	Edinburgh Tattoo The Falkirk Wheel & The Kelpies	4	Golden Jubilee (Glasgow)	£589.50	£90.00
Tue 26 Aug	Sat 30 Aug	Delights of Norfolk	5	Wensum Valley	£549.50	£100.00
Sun 31 Aug	Sat 6 Sep	Northern Ireland Delights & Antrim Coast	7	Stormont (Belfast)	£959.50	£200.00
Sun 7 Sep	Sat 13 Sep	Ayrshire Coastal Delights & Dumfries House & Isle of Arran	7	South Beach (Troon)	£774.50	£100.00
Thu 18 Sep	Mon 29 Sep	A Taste of Norway	12	Straand Hotel (Vraadal) + overnight hotels	£1975.00	£250.00
Thu 2 Oct	Mon 6 Oct	Sidmouth	5	Royal York & Faulkner	£549.50	Nil
Tue 7 Oct	Sat 12 Oct	West Country Rail & Sail	5	Tiverton Hotel	£569.50	£100.00
Mon 13 Oct	Fri 17 Oct	Northern Explorer inc. Settle/Carlisle Railway Journey	5	Auckland (Morecambe)	£479.50	Nil
Mon 20 Oct	Fri 24 Oct	Lincolnshire's Dambusters & Bomber Command Country	5	Petwood (Woodhall Spa)	£589.50	£60.00
Sun 26 Oct	Fri 31 Oct	Isle of Wight inc. Osborne House	6	The Channel View	£599.50	Nil
Festive Season Tours						
Mon 10 Nov	Fri 14 Nov	Eastbourne Turkey & Tinsel	5	Haddon Hall	£499.50	Nil
Mon 17 Nov	Fri 21 Nov	Paignton Turkey & Tinsel	5	Queens Hotel	£449.50	Nil
Mon 24 Nov	Fri 28 Nov	York and Castle Howard	5	Mercure York	£499.50	£100.00
Mon 1 Dec	Sun 7 Dec	German/Belgian Christmas Markets	7	Felsenkeller (Rüdesheim) + Overnight hotels	£949.50	£250.00
Sat 13 Dec	Mon 15 Dec	Royal Albert Hall Xmas Carols	3	Radisson Blu Heathrow	£419.50	£65.00
Tue 23 Dec	Sat 27 Dec	Christmas on the Fylde Coast	5	Doric Hotel	£689.50	Nil
Tue 30 Dec	Fri 2 Jan	New Year in Torquay	4	Victoria Hotel	£524.50	£70.00
Thursford Christmas Spectacular						
Fri 7 Nov	Sun 9 Nov	Thursford - Norfolk	3	4* Wensum Valley	£369.50	£40.00
Tue 9 Dec	Thu 11 Dec	Thursford - Norfolk	3	4* Wensum Valley	£369.50	£40.00
Wed 17 Dec	Fri 19 Dec	Thursford - Norfolk	3	4* Wensum Valley	£369.50	£40.00

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Through his strength and determination, and the amazing support of Macmillan (who we owe so much to), he went through major surgery and chemotherapy and is now back to his former self.

Chris announced during a family meal that he wants to wing walk (including a 'loop the loop') at the age of 82, all in aid of Macmillan, and he's going to do this on the **15th May 2025.**

The cost of the wing walk has already been covered, so all donations received will go to Macmillan. Thank you for anything you donate!



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Bunbury Mill reopens on Mother's Day, Sunday 30th Mar 2025 1-5pm
(and is open every Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday until end Oct)

Another busy winter for the volunteers down at the Mill.



Apart from the maintenance, lubrication and cleaning of the actual Mill and its machinery the outdoors team have upgraded the area for picnics with a new set of steps and an accessible ramp up into the Woodland area. It is now possible to get all the way round and see the work being done to encourage wildlife into the Pond and bog garden areas without using any steps.

A very noticeable upgrade has also been the addition of a fabulous Duck House on the Mill pond. Made by one of our volunteers it bobs about in the middle and,



hopefully, will be a refuge for ducks and ducklings in the coming nesting season.

We open on Sunday the 30th March, which is Mother's Day so why not treat your Mum (or your Gran) to a delicious tea and cake down here and we will give her a lovely potted primula as a free gift.



The younger visitors can feed the ducks and there are lots of hands-on activities in the Mill for children and adults alike.

As a charitable trust we have to raise all monies needed for the upkeep and improvement of the building, machinery, grounds and visitor's centre. So, for the coming season we have revised our pricing for tours to £7.00 per adult but

entry for accompanied children (under 15) will now be free of charge.

For more information and a full history of our Mill go to <https://www.bunburymill.com> As a charitable trust we have to raise all monies needed for the upkeep and improvement of the building, machinery, grounds and visitor's centre. So, for the coming season we have revised our pricing for tours to £7.00 per adult but entry for accompanied children (under 15) will now be free of charge.

For more information and a full history of our Mill go to <https://www.bunburymill.com>

A colorful illustration for an egg hunt. It features a large magnifying glass on the left, focusing on a pink and purple striped Easter egg in a grassy field. In the background, there's a green tree, a pink and green striped egg, and a white cloud. The title 'EGG HUNT' is in large, bold, purple letters inside a white cloud-like shape, with 'HAPPY EASTER' on an orange banner below it. Text describes the hunt as an adventure with clues and hints. The date and time are given in white boxes with calendar and clock icons. At the bottom are logos for Enigma Healthcare, INSTINCT GYM AND WELLBEING, and Enigma Wellness, followed by a tagline.

EGG HUNT

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BORDERLINE CASES David Hayns

I remember learning, when I was a young boy, what would no doubt be considered today to be a 'politically incorrect', perhaps even racist, rhyme which ran: 'Taffy was a Welshman/ Taffy was a thief/ Taffy came to my house/ And stole a leg of beef'. To a child such as myself, growing up in the south-east of England, the words meant little. Since I came to live over fifty years ago in the part of Cheshire which borders onto Wales, I have come to understand their significance. Folk memory of early cross-border conflict is preserved in the local legend surrounding the Iron Age hill fort of Maiden Castle on the crest of the Bickerton Hills. The people who are thought to have lived there would have belonged to the Celtic people known as the Cornovii, whose tribal headquarters were originally on the Wrekin in Shropshire. The name Maiden Castle is popularly thought to hark back to a time when the men of the community were away and the women feared that an attack was imminent from the wild tribes who lived west of the Dee. The quick-thinking women dressed themselves in bright red cloaks and paraded themselves on the crest of the hill. From a distance, the marauding Welshmen thought that they were the men of the hill fort, dressed in their battle robes. Considering the opposition to be too strong for them the attackers turned tail and fled back home. The real explanation for the name is rather less exciting and it is thought to mean 'an unused castle', dating from after the time when Maiden Castle had been abandoned. However, another intriguing explanation for the name suggests that it means 'old fortification offering a privacy where maidens may indulge their fancy'!

Cheshire communities like Malpas which lay right in the Welsh Marches or borderlands (the term 'march' is derived from the old word 'mere', meaning a boundary) were particularly aware of the 'Welshmen at the gate'. Following the Norman Conquest of 1066, it was in exchange for keeping the Marches under control that local Norman lords were permitted to build castles for themselves, such as those at Malpas, Shocklach and Aldford. Around the year 1320 the people of Cholmondeley drew up a petition requesting that their chapel, four miles east from Malpas parish church, might be fully licensed for burials, baptisms and other rites. They claimed that: '... the Dead in time of war are buried in the fields because Malpas Church is so near Wales that part of the parish belongs to the Welsh and part to the English, wherefore the English dare not go to the Church in war-time.'

The actual border seems to have moved around considerably since Saxon times. It has been suggested that at one time, perhaps as late as the 7th century, the border actually ran along the River Gowy, on the far side of the mid-Cheshire Ridge, and through Maesfen (the name is Welsh for 'field at the boundary') on the east side of Malpas parish. The original Celtic name for the Gowy was Terfyn, also Welsh and meaning 'boundary' (literally 'land at the end'), giving its name to the village of Tarvin, near which the river runs. (continued on page 61)

Congratulations to Jane owner of Salon Vie Hairdressing in Nantwich

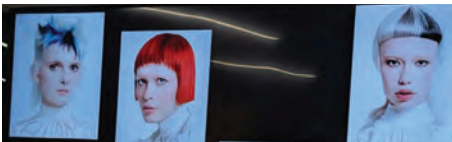
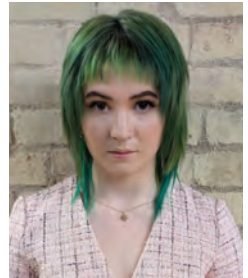
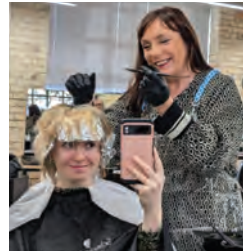
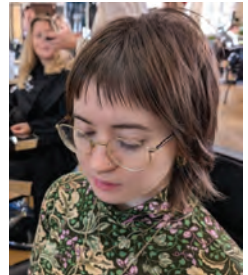
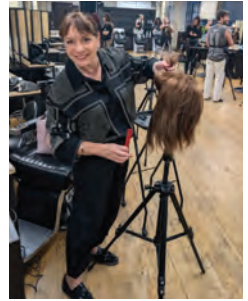
Jane has completed the ultimate in colour education which has taken her skills to the next level, on completing her final exam, she has now been awarded the Schwarzkopf Professional Master of Colour; this was at The Hunter Collective Academy in London.

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Jane has gained multiple awards for her talent throughout her career and is still very passionate about hairdressing, she was delighted to hear the good news and is excited to share her knowledge with the rest of her team.

The pictures show Jane's journey in becoming a Colour Master.



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THE BERG

It was Mother Nature gave it birth
a snowflake falling through the air
growing in the oceans cold
resisting sunshine's dazzling glare

Millenniums passing as it grew
waiting for the time to leave
to break away and drift alone
floating into northern seas.

Was it destiny that took it to its limits?
to wait in ambush for its prey
as it floats in gentle waters
waiting for that fateful day.

Under Aprils moonless sky
It defined man's intervention
perhaps by chance it played its part
as the Iron Maiden left its mark.

Bruised by the blow
Atlantean waters now guide it on to die
Its blood red stain declares to all
a mark to testify.

Alone once more in daylight screaming
light
no blame attached no fault to find
now starts its new direction
it leaves behind those empty lives
once filled with misconception.

KJ Crump

APRIL

Hello my name is April
I have just said goodbye to March
today is my first all fool's day.
I can be cruel,
I can fool you into thinking winter is
over,
Warm you with sun, make you think
you are in clover.

Sting you with hail, shower you with
snow,
Drench you with rain, make you wish I
would go.
Blow you with wind that slows down
new growth.
Cause new leaves to quiver, when
blackthorns in flower.
I can make people shiver.

But I can be kind as I get older.
As I make my departure with some
reservations,
Painting a picture of great
expectations,
Bluebells are waiting, so make
preparations.
But I'm still in charge at the end of the
day,
A late frost is likely, but May's on its
way.

KJ Crump

Church Services and events

St Oswald's, Malpas

Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion (BCP service with no hymns)

11:00am Parish Communion service with hymns, a sermon, and refreshments afterwards)

5:00pm Evening Prayer short BCP service no hymns or sermon

Wednesday 10:00am Holy Communion (traditional BCP service with no hymns)

10:30am - 12:00pm Welcome Cafe

St John's, Threapwood

1st and 3rd Sunday of the month

9:30am Holy Communion (BCP with hymns and a sermon)

Holy Trinity, Bickerton

9:30am Parish Communion

(service with hymns, a sermon, and refreshments afterwards)



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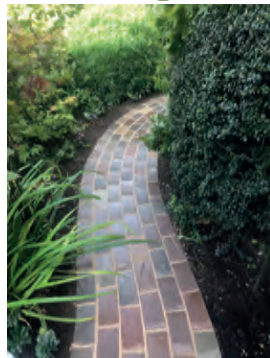
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Gardening Tips with Barry Grain

April is a very busy month at Rosemeade, with potting, sowing and the first batches of softwood cuttings being taken. There are a few tricks to seed sowing to ensure good germination, and we always follow these steps. 1. Whether you prefer a pot or a seed tray first loosely fill it and level the top with your hand. 2. Consolidate the compost by pressing down gently on the surface, we either use a piece of made-to-measure plywood or put the same size pot or tray on top and firm. 3. Even sowing is really important to help prevent damping off, so try putting small seeds into the palm of your hand and tap the side of that hand opposite to your thumb. This allows seeds to drop onto the soil gradually and is far easier to control than using your fingers. 4. Top with compost or vermiculite and lightly water. Over in the garden we are now cutting back overwintering growth on Penstemons and Salvias now that young shoots can be seen, and the hardest frosts now behind us. Summer plant supports get placed towards the end of the month before plants get too large to handle. Above all April is one of the very best months to be in your garden, make sure you savour it.

(BORDERLINE CASES continued from page 48)

Later the border may have migrated far to the west and been marked by the construction around AD.700 of Wat's Dyke, the earthworks of which can still be clearly traced running from Wynnstay Park to Erddigg, most visibly from the public footpath in the fields just east of the A.483 road. It may have moved even further west with the construction of King Offa's great Dyke in the late 8th century. This wandering around of the border has made its mark in the names of local villages. On the present Welsh side of the border we have places with the distinctly Anglo-Saxon place-name endings of 'ton' and 'ley': Overton, Sutton, Wallington, Sontley, Rid-ley, Althrey. On the English side we have names of Welsh origin: Crewe (by Farndon), Maesfen, Tarvin, Iscoyd. It was not until the early 10th century that Cheshire's boundaries started to be fixed, with the River Dee presenting itself as an obvious natural border line.

davidhayns.123@btinternet.com

TATTENHALL

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West Cheshire Rural u3a The talk at West Cheshire Rural u3a meeting on April 17th is titled Venice Carnevale “Masks, Myths and Mystique”. Originating in 1162, the Venice Carnevale has always been a time of excitement and merriment, the last fling before Ash Wednesday and the rigours of Lent. This talk reveals the history and Myths behind the great festival tradition of Venice, illustrating spectacular Carnevale masks and costumes set against the backdrop of the stunning buildings and ravishing vistas.

Join us at the Barbour Institute Tattenhall from 2pm with the speaker slot starting at 2.30 pm. For more information of u3a membership contact our membership secretary Dorothy Turpy at membershipwrcu3a@gmail.com

Tattenhall Singers We are a friendly and diverse group of people who share one important thing in common....our love of singing! We meet once a week on Tuesday evening from 08.00-9.30pm at the Barbour Institute, Tattenhall. There is a fee of £5 per session. Under the talented, enthusiastic and patient leadership of our Musical Director we have fun learning a wide variety of musical pieces. No previous experience is required and the ability to read music is not necessary. The only entry qualification is that you ‘enjoy a good warble’. We are always looking to welcome new members. If you are interested, please visit our Tattenhall Singers Facebook page, or alternatively email tattenhallsingers@gmail.com or 07710720850.

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Thursday 6-7pm beginners/intermediate yoga

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THE TATTENHALL AND DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

The Probus Club of Tattenhall and District meets for lunch (normally followed by a speaker), at Gifford Lea, Tattenhall on the second Thursday each month. Although it is a luncheon club for retired PROfessional and BUSiness men, being a rural community members are also from other disciplines. Wives (Partners) are invited to other activities including a Coffee morning on the fourth Thursday and regular social gatherings, for example a Walking group, days out to places of interest. There are also Spring and Christmas special lunches in a different location also including Wives(Partners).

We are seeking new members and if you would like to find out more please contact John Mann on 01829782286 or John.Mann100@gmail.

"Tattenhall Runners run club runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with groups of different speeds and distances suitable for all runners. Winter runs are on runs and summer runs are on the trails. We would love to welcome you to join us. Full information is on our facebook page, website, or by emailing info@tattenhallrunners.com

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DO YOU HAVE ANY NEWS OR EVENTS COMING SOON IN YOUR VILLAGE OR PERHAPS A SEASONAL PHOTOGRAPH SUITABLE FOR A FRONT PAGE.

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OUR NEXT ISSUE WILL BE MAY PLEASE LET US HAVE YOUR NOTICES BY 7TH APRIL

MALPAS

Easter Bingo at Malpas Jubilee Hall.

16th April. Doors open 7pm, for drinks and cake, eyes down 7.30pm.

Lots of great prizes.

Proceeds going to the Malpas junior and youth football teams.

Yoga Class Tuesdays, 6.30-7.30 in the upstairs room of Malpas High Street

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Second hour includes concentration, meditation, breathing exercises to calm the nervous system and a short discussion on yoga philosophy

Suitable for beginners and advanced Mondays 7:15 to 9:15 pm at Oak Croft Gardens Cross O the Hill contact Mehr Fardoonji 01948 860213.

It has been lovely to welcome new members to One Achord Choir recently.

We still have a few spaces so if you are interested in singing, get in touch. We meet at 7:15pm on Tuesday evenings (term-time) at the Malpas Community Church. For more information call Krista on 07522 882874, visit www.oneachord.org or find us on Facebook

Malpas Parish Council now meets on the last Thursday of the month at 7pm in Malpas Community Church, High Street Malpas.

At least one Parish Councillor will be available for a surgery to meet any parishioner to discuss any local government issue on the first Saturday of the month 10am to 11am at The Old Fire Station. If a private discussion is needed, provision can be made.

Malpas Flower Club - If you are interested in flowers and fauna come and join us at our monthly meeting held on the 3rd Monday of every month in the Jubilee Hall, Malpas at 2pm. Join us for an afternoon of fun, friendship and a nice cup of tea. We arrange visits to the theatre, gardens and much more. There is a small £8 charge for visitors but only £45 for the whole membership year. If you would like more details contact our Chairman Janet Blake on 01948 860359

Malpas Chess Club meets 5.50 to 6.50pm at the Library at the Bishop Heber High School. There is normally a small group of us, a few adults, a few teenagers and some younger children. It is completely free. As well as playing there are a number of training sessions which I tend to do with the adults and teenagers. We meet every Thursday, although I personally will not be present on February 21 or 28 as I will be playing for the England 65+ 3rd team in Prague. For further details about Malpas Chess Club, please contact me, Charles Higgle on higglecharles@gmail.com or 01948 860083 or Charles Chessman Higgle on Facebook.



Malpas Bridge Club Wednesday evenings at the Jubilee Hall, Malpas from 6.15pm for a 6.45pm start. For further information please contact Bill Stevenson 07495 181208

Malpas Amateur Gardeners. - If you are interested in an afternoon of flowers come and join us at our monthly meetings to be held on the 3rd Monday of every month. Visitors will be made most welcome for a small fee of £8 but you can also join for the remaining year so you will be able to get the most out of your membership and join us for trips to the Theatre, Gardens and much more. If you feel you would like to have a try at arranging your own flowers, there are various classes throughout the year for you to have a go. For further details of these events please call our Chairman, Janet Blake on 01948 860359.

Malpas Backgammon Group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7pm at The Lion at Malpas. MBG group celebrated its first anniversary with a celebratory dinner at The Lion on Tuesday January 28. Presentations were made to three players, Rebecca, Paul B and Tara and Tara's husband on guitar led the after dinner singalong. On Tuesday February 4 there was a special open evening where there was discussion about how the club will develop over the next 12 months. All experience levels are welcome to join at any time. Tuition is provided to those who need or want it. For further information contact Graeme Campbell by email: geesea2@gmail.com

Cllr Charles Higgle gives a personal account of the work of Malpas Parish Council.

"I have been a member of Malpas Parish Council on and off since 1983. I have to say that in the last 6 months or so, Malpas Parish Council has acted with far more unity than any time I have known. We are working together for the benefit of Malpas. The long awaited extension to the High Street car park will take place. A virtual history tour of Malpas is being planned to help people appreciate the history of our community. There is a committee set up provide a regular programme of events throughout the year. We have councillors looking at community safety and the appearance of Malpas. Two key committees of Malpas - Malpas Joint Burial Board and Malpas Recreation Ground Committee have been reformed with a large input from Malpas Parish Council. It is hoped to continue the renovation of the Chapel of Rest at Malpas Cemetery and to have new play equipment on Malpas Recreation Ground. Several local councillors are also involved with Malpas Jubilee Hall Committee. Most of the vacancies on Malpas Parish Council have been, with the exception of one post which will be shortly filled by a by-election. As well as working for Malpas as a group, we also give a lot individually, for instance I recently helped a local resident obtain social housing.

(Continued on page 75)

PROPOSED COMMUNITY CAR PARK **FOR TILSTON WAR MEMORIAL HALL**

A Community Car Park facility has been proposed for the Village Hall by Tilston Parish Council to complete the building erected nearly 50 years ago. This has already been designed, approved and fully costed to provide 26 parking spaces including disabled and bicycle spaces as well as EV charging facilities. It will greatly improve access and use of the Hall as well as the new Hill Field nature area behind.



Proposals will not only provide a valuable and much needed asset for the whole community but will also reduce congestion and parking on Malpas Road to improve road safety. It will provide a community area that will encourage greater use of the hall but will also be free for use by all including visitors to The Carden Arms, Tilston School, Tilston Playing Fields, The Wakes and all local residents.

The design has been prepared following appropriate arboricultural and ecological surveys to protect all existing flora & fauna and incorporates sustainable drainage provisions to maximise environmental benefits. Proposed EV charging facilities may also be included once suitable infrastructure becomes available.

It is proposed that all works will be paid for by grants and fund raising efforts incurring no direct cost to local residents. However, to help grant applications we need to show that these proposals have full community support. All village groups, businesses & associations as well as local Councillors and our MP have already endorsed proposals and local residents are now being asked to show their support for this valuable community project by signing one of the petitions in The Carden Arms or The Village Shop, or liking/posting support on the Facebook page you can find at “Tilston Community Car Park” or via the QR code below.

Public fund raising events are planned in the next few months to discover if ‘Tilston’s Got Talent!’ and regular updates on progress will be posted in My Village News, The Tilston Reporter & on line.

If anyone has any queries about these proposals, wants further information or wishes to make pledges of support or donations please contact the Car Park Action Group via Facebook or Tilston Parish Council direct.



Please provide your Support for this Valuable Community Project



TILSTON

Guides

1st Tilston Guides invites girls aged 10-14 to join our Guides unit, where they'll explore, learn, and create amazing memories together. Are you ready for fun, friendship, and new experiences? Although based in Tilston we welcome girls from anywhere in the local area willing to travel into Tilston for our sessions on Monday evenings from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm during term time. We also do various trips and activities at other times.

If your daughter is interested in joining or if you have any questions, please contact Claire and Sarah at tilstonguides@gmail.com

Tilston 10K and children's races Sunday 29th June 2025

- Raising money for the Tilston Playing Field
- Children's races for all children up to and including school Year 9: medal and prize for all children
- Fully closed roads, supported by a wonderful community
- <https://niftyentries.com/Tilston10k>

BICKLEY & WHITCHURCH

"The Friends of St Wenefrede's will be the recipient of money raised at the monthly charity quiz in Reubens, Whitchurch on the evening of Sunday the 27th of April.

Doors open at 6pm. Food at 7.00 pm and then the quiz. Evening finished by 10pm.

Tickets are £10 and include something to eat (pulled pork/beef brisket/veggie bap served with fries) and entry to the quiz. There will also be a raffle and a game of Play your Cards Right.

Teams of up to 6 people.

Bookings need to be made directly with Reubens from the beginning of April, in person at 7 Pepper Street, Whitchurch, SY13 1BG (check opening times before visiting) or on the phone 01948 258030."

SHOCKLACH

Shocklach Gardening Group We meet for a 7:30 pm start in the Chorlton and Cuddington W.I hall on Chorlton Lane SY14 7EP. Do join us, visitors are always welcome. Information: Wendy Gilpin 01829 250413

TUSHINGHAM

St Chad's Church will be holding a Coffee and Shop morning on Saturday 5th April from 10.00 am - 12 noon. All welcome



Aldersey & Coddington W I at Coddington Village Hall

1st April meeting with Beverley Edwards “Why Polar Bears don’t eat Penguins” We are a mixed group, do come along, we meet 1st Tues. of the month 7.15 pm Contact Mrs. Liz Macphee 01829 782692

Broxton and Bickerton WI: Broxton and Bickerton WI: Our meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month in the Bickerton Village Hall at 7.30 pm. There is an open meeting on 30th April where Tullis Matson will talk on “Genetic preservation & Nature’s safe”. Our Coffee Morning, is on the first Wednesday of the month at the Bickerton Poacher. We have two monthly Walking Groups and many other activities. Guests are very welcome. Check our website, broxtonbickertonwi.org.uk or phone Jenny Jones on 01829 847

Bunbury WI. meets on the second Thursday of the month at Bunbury Playing Fields Pavilion at 7:30pm. We will have a Quiz Evening on 11 April and a Social Evening is planned for 8 May. We warmly welcome new members and guests.

For further information contact Lynda Davies 01829 863781.

Chorlton & Cuddington WI Our speaker for March was Paul Wood whose talk entitled “Stories in Stone ” was about the creation of Overleigh cemetery in Chester in the mid 19th century, how it developed and some of the interesting gravestones and folk buried there.

Our next meeting is at 2pm on Wednesday 2nd April as we celebrate a special birthday for our President Sue Pickering with an afternoon tea for our members.

Eaton W I Regular groups such as Learning to Crochet; Art and a Lunch Group continue to prove successful. Eaton WI welcomes visitors to meetings: we meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7.30p.m. The full programme can be seen on the noticeboard in the Jessie Hughes Village Hall and on the Village noticeboard. Should you require any further information please contact Dianne Ouseley (President) on 01829 733639.

Farndon & District WI On Tuesday 29th April Natalie Cumming will be joining us to tell the tale of her father’s fiddle. The fiddle featured in an episode of The Repair Shop. We meet in Farndon Memorial Hall, Church Lane, Farndon on the last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 for 8:00pm.

For more information, please contact Sarah Scott 01829 270692 or look at our website: <https://farndonwi.weebly.com/>





Huxley & Hargrave WI This small but vibrant group meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 2pm in Huxley Village Hall from October to March, and at 7.30pm at Hargrave Church Hall from April to September.

Some tempting speakers already booked April 9th 'Get ahead, Get a hat', May 14th "Needles-Sparkles".

Visitors are very welcome to join us for any of the meetings with varied speakers, or join our interesting outings, or just come for a friendly chat.

Contact 01829 781298 / 078662 62500 for further details.

Marbury WI meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 1.30 from November to December and 7.30 from April to October in Marbury Village Hall. 8th April 7.30pm Stephen Shakeshaft "Chester Uncovered part 2" Competition - Horse related item.

Visitors are very welcome - we are a very friendly Group.

For further information please contact Janet Wheeler 01948 665981

Whitchurch WALKERS

BEV'S MID WEEK WALK

Wednesday 9th April 9.30am - 6 miles

This dog friendly stroll takes us amongst the Shropshire countryside and we may see the bluebells. We then detour around Brown Moss Nature reserve where we will have our lunch. After this we will then head back to the White Lion for refreshments. 2 dog friendly stiles

APEDALE, BATESWOOD & SILVERDALE

Sunday 13th April 10am

We walk through three country parks near to Newcastle Under Lyme, former coal mining areas. It is an undulating area with some lovely views. There are about 3 stiles and one steep climb. Near the end of the walk we will call in at Apedale Heritage area for a cup of tea/ coffee.

MARBURY CIRCULAR VIA LARDER WOOD

Wednesday 23rd April Meet at Sherrymill 9.30am - 6.5 miles

The walk starts out of Marbury where we get spectacular views of the Cheshire countryside. Then in Larder Wood there will hopefully see the usual abundance of Bluebells. We then head back via Ossmere for lunch at The Swan.

BUNBURY TO BEESTON CIRCULAR

Sunday 26th April 1.00pm - 6 miles

An approximately 6-mile walk through the Cheshire plain

For all events see www.whitchurchwalkers.co.uk

TIVERTON & TARPORLEY

Tiverton Bridge Club Monday evenings 6.15pm play 6.30pm
Wednesday 1.15 for 1.30pm Contact Barbara Davies 01829 720368

Tiverton Garden Club On the 1st Tuesday of every month at 19.30 in Tiverton Village Hall Huxley Lane Tiverton.

£2 members non-members £3

All welcome membership £10 includes 10% discount card for Oakells Garden Centre

Membership enquiries: Email jeanette.devine.jd@gmail.com..

Easter Egg Hunt in Tarporley Saturdday 19th April from 10 am

Tarporley U3a The monthly meeting is held at Tarporley Community Hall. Doors open at 09.45 time for a chat before the meeting begins at about 10.15 with a few announcements, followed by the talk at about 10.30 and questions to the speaker at about 11.15. The meeting closes around 11.30. On Thursday 24 April 2025 the talk is My MasterChef Journey. Chris Harbour was - a dentist in real life - is an amateur chef - and as he says he - 'has had a great time'.

This is the story of a hopeful chef from Middlewich, who loves food and applied for and was successful when competing in the BBC's MasterChef programme - to reach the quarter finals.

This was the 'Critic's Test Challenge' - his own interpretation of the classic Full English Breakfast prepared in 90 minutes.

You can find out more from the u3a website at: <https://tarporleyanddistrict.u3asite.uk/>

where the monthly newsletter is available, as is information on how to join the u3a.

SPURSTOW

Spurstow Parish Council now have a website www.spurstow-pc.gov.uk
Please visit us for all items such as Agendas, Minutes of Parish Meetings, Council Governance, Councillor contact details and other parish related



BUNBURY

Bunbury Website For more news about what is happening in Bunbury please visit www.bunburyvillage.info. This site is run by volunteers and is intended as a resource for visitors and anyone living in the village or surrounding area. Information includes regular events in the Pavilion and Village Hall, the latest Parish Council news and the annual village day. You can send requests to post news but we do not publish opinion pieces

Bunbury Gardening Club next meeting is at the Village Hall 7:30pm on Tuesday 15th April. It is a Q&A GARDENERS QUESTION TIME come along to solve that nagging garden problem that's been 'bugging' you!

Please submit your questions asap to

Keith Blackwood on Keith.651@yahoo.com for his panel if experts.

Free RHS magazines to take away for all attendees.

New members welcome to visit

See Bunbury Gardening Club FACEBOOK page or contact Margaret Bourne on 01829 260944 or email: mjbourne249@tiscali.co.uk

New Photography Club in Bunbury.

If you enjoy taking photos with a camera or your phone and want to meet other photo enthusiasts in a very relaxed fun environment with no membership fees or committees please get in touch. Everyone's welcome with all levels of experience from Bunbury and surrounding villages.

As its a new club meeting day still tbc. It could be daytime or evening!

Please contact me for further information and to register your interest.

Carol Wallace 07789668044 or cwallace0910@gmail.com.

The Bunbury Village Day team are delighted to share the news that this year's event will take place on Saturday 14 June. The team are already busy with bookings and plans to weave together a fabulous day.

Every year we host a super selection of stalls, including crafts, clothing, jewellery, toys, cakes, toiletries as well as charities, local groups and associations. If you would be interested in booking a pitch for a stall then drop us a line at bunburyvillagedaystalls@gmail.com

You can keep up to date with all our plans as they are announced by following us on social media; we have pages on Facebook, Instagram and X. You can also keep in touch via the village website: www.bunburyvillage.info/village-day

This will be the event's 56th year and the team are excited to create a great day including, Chester Brass Band, the Rose Queen & King, a well-stocked bar, a mouth-watering BBQ, a myriad of stalls, the classic WI café, thrilling fairground rides and live music.

Be sure to mark 14 June, Bunbury Village Day, on your calendar!

BICKERTON

Bickerton Village Hall Website: bickertonvillagehall.com & on Facebook or bickvillagehall@outlook.com Quiz Night on Friday 22nd

Film Night "Conclave" Monday the 28th April . Doors & Bar open at 7pm

Film starts at 7.30pm

Car Boot Sale on Sat 5th followed by a "Farmers' Market" on Sun 6th. And the Monday Club are having a jumble sale at the Hall on Sat 12th.

There is now a clothes bank in the car park at Bickerton Village Hall.

It has been provided by "Leukaemia & Myeloma Research UK" and all proceeds from clothes & shoes collected will go to that charity.

I hope you will bear the clothes bank in mind when parting with your unwanted

New Pilates Class Bickerton Village Hall Tuesdays 10:00 am

All abilities welcome please contact Estelle to book your place

07957 413 887 e-mail Estellebatty@gmail.com

Bickerton and Egerton Parish Council.

website is www.bickertonandegertonpc.org

Facebook page is Bickerton and Egerton Parish Council.

BULKELEY AND RIDLEY

The Bulkeley and Ridley Parish Council website is now fully functioning. It contains all the latest accounts, minutes of meetings and other relevant information.

Bulkeley and Ridley Parish Council have a new Facebook Page.

Please visit and 'Like us' at: <https://www.facebook.com/bulkeleyandridleyparishcouncil>

You may access the website through www.bulkeleyandridleypc.org.uk. Your feed back would be appreciated via the email address given on the website.

BROWN KNOWL

Brown Knowl Methodist Church Minister – the Rev Donna Broadbent-Kelly.
Contact Number 01948 664369

You are welcome to join us for worship on Sunday Mornings at 10.45am followed by Coffee and biscuits. For any further information please phone or see our website. Details below or contact 01244 535231 for general information.

Website: www.brownknowlmethodist.com

March 30th: Mothering Sunday Service.

Our Preacher for this service will be the Rev'd Jane Stephenson

April 14th: Palm Sunday service April 20th: Easter Sunday service



CODDINGTON & ALDERSEY

WHIST & BINGO at Coddington Parish Room

Whist Drive 5th & 19th April Bingo 21st & 28th April.

Coddington and District Parish Council: Please visit our website for all items such as Agendas, Minutes, Council Governance, Councillor contact details and other Parish related matters. www.cheshireparishcouncils.co.uk

The Coddington Parish Council has recently installed a further defibrillator outside The Parish Room in Coddington (next to St Mary's Church) which is accessible to the public 24/7.

BEESTON & PECKFORTON

Peckforton Parish

For any Parish enquiries please contact

Chair: Neil Dyer (Peckfortonparishchair@gmail.com)

Clerk: Chris Jones (Peckfortonparishclerk@gmail.com)

Peckforton and Beeston Village Hall, Hill Lane, Peckforton CW6 9TW

Available for hire by the hour, day or half day at reasonable rates. Fully equipped kitchen including glasses and crockery, spacious enclosed garden and ample parking. Ideal for parties, meetings, classes and private events. Contact pbvhcommittee@gmail.com

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT THE HALL:

Saturday 15 March - QUIZ NIGHT – come and pit your wits against your neighbours. Prizes, bar and snacks.

Sunday 30 March - PIT STOP CAFE – tea, coffee and bacon butties on sale from 10 am to 1pm. All welcome. Free admission.

Visit www.peckfortonparish.org.uk/PBVH or the PBVH Facebook page for more information on all events including our regular Peckforton Pit-Stop Cafes (last Sunday of month), Craft and Chat (every Weds) and health and wellness classes (Pilates, Tai Chi, Restorative Movement and Sound Bath sessions).

WHITEWELL

Whitewell Parish Rooms

Gentle Seated Chair Yoga with the options to sit or stand. Improve your flexibility, strength, brain function, balance and spinal mobility - Mondays 2 - 3pm, Refreshments after class.

FARNDON

Farndon Country Market Wednesday mornings at Rock Chapel 9:00 am to 11:30 am selling pies, chutneys, meats, eggs, and when available crafts and plants for ers, please ring 01244 456024

The Farndon Memorial Hall Farndon Memorial Hall is run for the benefit of the village and is an important part of life in Farndon. The Hall is available to book by anybody, not just village residents, and is ideal for social gatherings, meetings, clubs, dances, parties and quizzes. The facility comprises a main hall (complete with a stage and a sprung wooden floor with badminton court markings) as well as a separate lounge and snooker room and a fully-equipped kitchen. Each can be booked separately and are available 7 days a week. For general enquiries and bookings, please phone Mrs Pat Van Beek, Bookings Secretary, on 01829 270067.

Farndon Community Club Our website www.farndoncommunityclub has details of regular classes and other activities currently held including Art Classes, Pilates, Karate, StreetVibes, and Dog Handling.

We have a large studio room suitable for parties and other activities (where the above classes are held) plus a lounge suitable for smaller groups or meetings etc. Both rooms are served by a bar and a separate kitchen if required, and are available for private hire at very reasonable rates. So if you have a party or other celebration coming up, or you have an activity you'd like to promote, we'd love to hear from you. You can contact us by email: contactfcc2024@gmail.com, by phone on 07393 601292 or text/phone Hilary Williams on 07966 428673

In addition, outside our floodlit Multi-Use Games Area has an all weather pitch suitable for 5-a-side football or football training plus a hard court equipped for netball or tennis. There is also a full size football pitch (changing rooms and showers available). If you would like to book any of these facilities this can be done via our website as above.'

Crewe by Farndon Methodist Chapel

hold Church 4 All family services every Sunday at 4pm.

The Butterflies toddler group meet Fridays 09.15 to 10.45am at Shocklach school.

Our Family Fun group meet at the Chapel Fridays 5pm to 6.30pm with crafts, ukelele music and refreshments, everyone welcome.

Please see our website for details www.crewebyfarndonmethodistchapel.org or contact Roland Twydell on 01829270116 for further details.



HOLT

Kenyon Hall Holt The Kenyon Hall is a traditional village hall and is an ideal venue for clubs, groups, exercise classes, children's and family parties to hold

Spring Craft Fair Saturday 12th April 11 - 4

Refreshments available in Hall cafe. Entrance free

Free parking in the village car park.

Holt Local History Society - all lectures at 7.30 p.m.

at Holt Community Centre, Chapel St, LL13 9DJ

Membership is £15 p.p.a - Lectures are free to members - Visitors £5

For BACS payments: Holt Local History Society 20-25-69 33199592

(letting me know you have done this by email to briansue.payne@btinternet.net.)

HUXLEY

Hargrave and Huxley History Group The next meeting on Monday 14th April will be held in Huxley Village Hall (CH3 9BG), starting at 7.30pm.

Alan Crosby will be giving a talk on Gerald of Wales.

Non members very welcome £3.

Light refreshments will follow the talk.

For further information please contact denisecheetham@hotmail.co.uk.

(Report continued from page 65) Another councillor is a great benefactor of the community, donating to several good local causes. Some councillors were involved with bulb planting last Autumn, the results of which we are beginning to see around Malpas. We all enjoy a very good working relationship with the Borough Councillors and she plays her part too. At the January meeting we agreed to set the precept at the same level as last year. As the number of houses in Malpas is growing, due to new development, so more people are contributing, the actual amount of Council Tax everyone in Malpas Parish contributes to the parish precept will actually slightly fall. While there are threats of new developments in various places in Malpas, Malpas Parish Council is committed to opposing widespread greenfield, especially in some of the less suitable areas which have been suggested. We consider and comment on all planning applications in the parish. We meet on the last Thursday of the month at 7pm in Malpas Community Church and there is an Open Forum at the start of every meeting when members of the public can have their say. You can also meet us at our surgeries at The Old Fire Station on the first Saturday of the month at 10am. We hope to see you sometime!"

QRS

AUTO SERVICE




Did you know that QRS Auto Service has been established in Tattenhall for more than 20 years?


Here are some other points you should know about us


We aim to deliver excellent customer service driven by quality workmanship


We can service your car without compromising your manufactures warranty


Complimentary courtesy cars and collection + delivery available


 MOT Testing


 EV Servicing


 Batteries


 Diagnostics


 ECU Programming


 Bulbs


 Servicing

 Wiper Blades

 Air Conditioning

 Four Wheel Alignment

 Tyres

 Plus much more



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On presentation of this advert

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