

My Village News

MARCH 2026



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Hello and a warm welcome to the March 2026 edition of My Village News. This month's front cover photo is of the Brassey Green pond near The Shady Oak and was provided by Carol Wallace of Bunbury Photography Club.

On page 7 we also have a photo of the snowdrops currently growing outside Coddington Church provided by MVN reader Debra Thomas.

In the words of the late Tony Hart, we cannot promise to feature every photo sent in but please do keep sending them, (ideally as high resolution as possible and in portrait).

On page 49 we have a great article by David Hayns about Beeston's parish boundaries. And on page 61 (in amongst Holt news) we have an interesting piece by Chris Matthews of Holt Local History Society.

And as ever we have news and updates from clubs and societies, including the WI, towards the back of the magazine.

See you when we are out and about.

Ann, John, Adam and our delivery teams.

DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL ISSUE IS WEDNESDAY 11TH OF MARCH

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'My Village News' is edited and produced by;

Advertising - Ann Davidson, Production - John Davidson

Willow Bank, Mill View Close, Bulkeley, Malpas SY14 8DB

Tel: 01829 720509, Email: ann@myvillagenews.co.uk

www.myvillagenews.co.uk

Disclaimer

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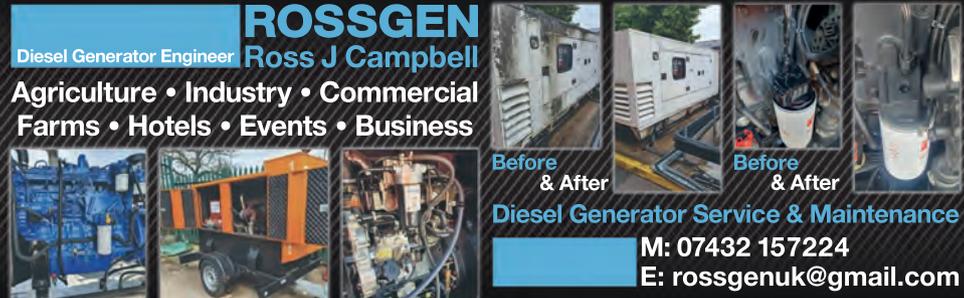
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2026 Calendar

Date	Return	Tour	Days	Hotel	Price	Single Supplement
Fri 13 Feb	Sun 15 Feb	Abba Voyage Greenwich & London	3	Novotel (Greenwich)	£399.50	£100.00
Sun 22 Feb	Thu 26 Feb	"Llandlubbers" Mock Cruise	5	Tynedale (Llandudno)	£549.50	-
Fri 27 Mar	Mon 30 Mar	"Showtime" in Torbay	4	Derwent (Torquay)	£279.50	£60
Fri 10 Apr	Tue 14 Apr	Stunning Sidmouth	5	Royal York & Faulkner	£549.50	-
Fri 17 Apr	Tue 21 Apr	Springtime Splendours of the Lake District	5	Cumbria Grand (Grange-over-Sands)	£549.50	£65
Fri 24 Apr	Wed 29 Apr	Highlights of Holland - Bulfields River Cruise	6	MS l'Europe	From £1349.50	TBA Enquiry
Sat 2 May	Fri 8 May	Gems of Southern Ireland - Killarney	7	Brandon House (New Ross) Killarney Towers (Killarney)	£899.50	£195
Sat 9 May	Sat 16 May	Lake Annecy & The French Alps	8	Novotel Tiqueux (Reims) Saint Gervais Hotel & Spa	£1350.00	£160
Sun 17 May	Fri 22 May	Newquay - Spring into Cornwall	6	Esplanade (Newquay)	£749.50	£100.00
Sun 24 May	Thu 28 May	Wells - Delights of Somerset	5	The Swan Hotel (Wells)	£699.50	£100.00
Sun 31 May	Thu 4 Jun	Highlights of Kent "Call the Midwife to the Garden of England"	5	Bridgewood Manor (Chatham)	£659.50	£100.00
Sun 7 Jun	Fri 12 Jun	Edinburgh, Stirling & The Trossachs	6	Stirling Highland (Stirling)	£699.50	£150.00
Sun 14 Jun	Thu 18 Jun	All about Yorkshire!	5	Crowne Plaza (Harrogate)	£629.50	£150.00
Sun 21 Jun	Thu 25 Jun	"Geordie Land" & North East Top Attractions	5	Holiday Inn (Newcastle Jesmond)	£599.50	£140.00
Wed 1 Jul	Fri 10 Jul	Portugal Pleasures	10	Hotel Cristal (Vieira Praia)	£1999.50	£395.00
Fri 17 Jul	Wed 22 Jul	Sidmouth & The Jurassic Coast	6	Royal York & Faulkner (Sidmouth)	£719.50	-
Sat 25 Jul	Sat 1 Aug	Jersey	8	Durley Dean (Bournemouth) Norfolk Lodge (Jersey)	£995.00	£120.00
Mon 3 Aug	Fri 7 Aug	Summer Charms of England	5	Norton Park Hotel & Spa (Winchester)	£629.50	£140.00
Mon 10 Aug	Fri 14 Aug	Famous Palaces & Gardens	5	The Bull Hotel (Gerrards Cross)	£649.50	£140.00



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Sat 15 Aug	Thu 20 Aug	Isle of Wight	6	The Channel View (Shanklin)	£699.50	-
Fri 21 Aug	Tue 25 Aug	Kynren (Show) Newcastle & North East Coast	5	Holiday Inn (Newcastle Jesmond)	£599.50	£140.00
Mon 31 Aug	Sat 5 Sep	Tenby & South West Wales	6	Clarence House Hotel (Tenby)	£650.00	-
Sun 6 Sep	Sat 12 Sep	Ayrshire Coastal Delights Troon, Dumfries House, Isle of Arran or Bute	7	South Beach (Troon)	£799.50	£100.00
Sun 13 Sep	Sat 19 Sep	Ireland's Bantry Bay	7	Seven Oaks (Carlow outbound) Maritime Hotel (Bantry)	£899.50	£195.00
Sun 20 Sep	Thu 24 Sep	Delights of Devon	5	Langstone Cliff (Dawlish)	£699.50	£92.00
Fri 25 Sep	Wed 30 Sep	Isle of Man	6	Empress Hotel (Douglas)	£749.50	£75.00
Thu 1 Oct	Mon 5 Oct	Exmoor the Experience!	5	Yarn Market Hotel (Dunster)	£689.50	£80.00
Thu 8 Oct	Fri 16 Oct	Autumn in Austria	9	Fischerwirt Hotel (Achenkirch)	£1299.50	£100.00
Sun 18 Oct	Sat 24 Oct	Scottish Autumn Tints	7	Royal Hotel (Oban)	£699.50	£96.00
Wed 28 Oct	Sun 1 Nov	Historic Portsmouth & South Downs	5	The Langstone Hotel (Hayling Island)	£649.50	£125.00
Thursford Christmas Spectacular						
Mon 9 Nov	Wed 11 Nov	Thursford - Norfolk	3	4* Wensum Valley	£389.50	£55.00
Thu 12 Nov	Sat 14 Nov	Thursford - Norfolk	3	4* Wensum Valley	£389.50	£55.00
Mon 16 Nov	Wed 18 Nov	Thursford - Norfolk	3	4* Wensum Valley	£389.50	£55.00
Thu 26 Nov	Sat 28 Nov	Thursford - Norfolk	3	4* Wensum Valley	£389.50	£55.00
Sat 12 Dec	Mon 14 Dec	Thursford - Norfolk	3	4* Wensum Valley	£389.50	£55.00
Festive Season Tours						
Sat 21 Nov	Wed 25 Nov	Llandudno "Holly & Mistletoe"	5	Tynedale Hotel (Llandudno)	£549.50	-
Mon 30 Nov	Fri 4 Dec	Palatial Christmas Crackers	5	Bridgewood Manor (Chatham)	£549.50	£80.00
Mon 7 Dec	Fri 11 Dec	Turkey & Tinsel at The Auckland	5	Auckland Hotel (Morecambe)	£489.50	£80.00
Fri 18 Dec	Sun 20 Dec	Christmas at the Royal Albert Hall	3	Holiday Inn (Heathrow)	£429.50	£75.00
Wed 23 Dec	Sun 27 Dec	Christmas on the Fylde Coast	5	Doric Hotel (Blackpool)	£715.00	£80.00
Wed 30 Dec	Sat 2 Jan	New Year in Torquay	4	Toorak Hotel (Torquay)	£524.50	£75.00

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At a glance

- Changes in the ISA and savings allowances announced in the recent Budget may affect your tax liability in future – and investment planning.
- The economic outlook remains uncertain, so it's still vital to make the most of all the allowances and exemptions you're entitled to.
- A financial adviser can help you ensure you are investing tax efficiently in these changing times.

Taxes are the government's biggest single source of revenue. And the Autumn Budget was certainly a tax-raising one. Taxes are set to rise £26 billion, as the Chancellor seeks to balance the books and build in some fiscal headroom over the next five years.

These were the Budget headlines:

While the overall ISA allowance remains at £20,000, from April 2027, those under the age of 65 will be able to invest a maximum of £12,000 in a cash ISA.

Dividend tax rates will increase for basic and higher rate taxpayers from April 2026 to 10.75% and 35.75% respectively. The additional rate will remain at 39.35%.

From April 2027, savings and property income tax will rise by 2%. Basic rate taxpayers will pay 22%, higher rate taxpayers will pay 42% and additional rate taxpayers will pay 47%, impacting both savers and property owners.

Those who use salary sacrifice to contribute to a pension scheme may also lose some of the benefits. From 2029, only the first £2,000 each year contributed via salary sacrifice will be exempt from national insurance (NI) both on the individual and the employer.

With widespread changes ahead, knowing what action you can or should take to lower your tax bill and protect your assets is key.

Here, we summarise what should be on your 2026 tax checklist.

How can I pay less income tax or national insurance?

Apart from the dividend rates, taxes on income remain unchanged in 2026. Your personal allowance, which is the amount of income you can earn before you start paying income tax, is still £12,570 and the basic rate of tax is still 20%. The 40% higher rate threshold is still £50,270, and the additional rate tax threshold, at which you pay 45%, remains at £125,140.

However, the big sting in the tail is that these bands will now remain frozen until 2031. This means many more people may find themselves pulled into a higher tax bracket. Those with income between £100,000 and £125,140 could be caught in so-called the 60% tax trap.

There are things that you can do to pay less income tax in 2026, such as paying into a pension. Or, if you move your investments or savings into a tax-efficient wrapper such as an ISA, interest and dividends are tax free. This can help reduce your overall income subject to tax.

Have any of my tax allowances changed?

Your personal savings allowance is still £1,000 for 2026/27. However, this falls to £500 for higher rate taxpayers and £0 for additional rate tax payers - another reason to keep below a tax threshold if possible.

While the annual cash ISA allowance will reduce for those under 65 from 2027, topping up, or even opening a stocks and shares ISA if you don't have one, is a highly tax efficient way to save up

to the full £20,000 annual allowance in 2026.

If you're saving into a mix of cash and stocks and shares ISAs as well as savings accounts, now is a good time to review which ones are performing best for you. You still have plenty of time to make changes ahead of the end of the tax year in April.

Topping up your pensions

Paying spare money into your pension at tax year end is a tried and tested way to lower the overall tax you pay. From April 2027, it will no longer be possible to pass on any unused pension funds without paying inheritance tax (IHT), which means it may be prudent to look at other ways of passing money on tax efficiently, such as gifting.

However, pension contributions remain an extremely tax efficient form of long-term saving.

Tax relief is limited on your personal contributions is limited to the higher of 100% of your earnings in the tax year and £3,600, but that's still a great tax incentive. The real bonus is you will receive tax relief at your highest rate of tax. When paying into a personal pension, the scheme will claim 20% tax relief on your behalf. You can then claim the extra 20% or 25% (depending on your rate of tax) from HMRC, reducing the cost of the contribution overall.

The annual allowance covers contributions you make yourself, and any your employer or third parties make for you. This currently stands at £60,000 for most people. It may be tapered for those with income in excess of £200,000, to a low at £10,000. Restrictions will also apply when you have started drawing certain types of pension income.

In addition, unused annual allowance can usually be carried forward for up to three years, although the tax relief on personal contributions will still be restricted by earnings in the current year.

Your 2026 tax checklist

- Put as much as you can into your ISAs
- Review the performance of your pensions, ISAs and other assets
- Maximise your pension contributions before tax year end
- Consider making more gifts or helping others out from your excess income
- Talk to your financial adviser about minimising any possible capital gains tax liabilities.

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Jonathan Byrd and James Challenor

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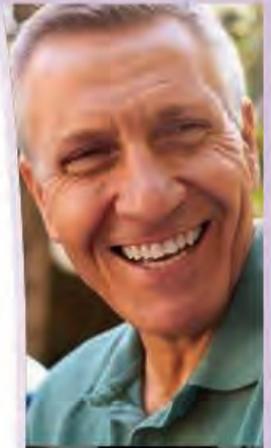
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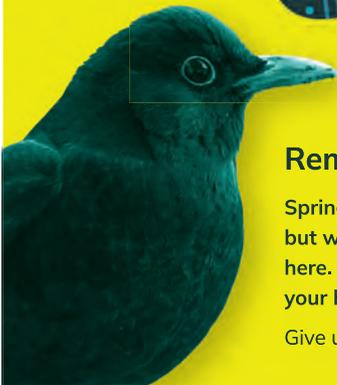
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EXTENDING THE KNOWLEDGE OF OUR BOUNDARIES

David Hayns

When I was working at the Beeston Outdoor Education Centre in the 1970s Reverend Timothy Atkins, the Vicar of Bunbury, phoned one day to ask if I would be willing to read one of the Bible passages for the annual Bunbury 'Rogationtide and Walking the Bounds' celebration. This was an occasion for marking the boundaries of the parish, of which Beeston is one of the townships, and for blessing the crops in hope of a good harvest. This very ancient custom was all new to me, who had grown up on the edge of a town where there were very few crops to bless! The present day boundaries of parishes and townships in our part of England are probably very close to the boundaries of the manors which evolved in the centuries before the Norman Conquest of 1066. Detailed knowledge of these boundaries continued to be important up to the 19th century, in order to ascertain which households actually lay within the parish or township. The knowledge was necessary for a variety of reasons, including determining which householders were liable for the payment of local rates, and which residents were entitled to benefits such as poor relief. Poor relief was financed entirely out of the local parish or township rates until the passing of the Poor Law Amendment Act in 1834.

Before the advent of Ordnance Survey maps in the later 19th century, knowledge of the limits of each parish was handed down through the annual parish perambulation, often known as 'beating the bounds'. Beating the bounds is a centuries old tradition. During Rogationtide, the fifth week after Easter, villagers would walk the parish boundaries, usually accompanied by the incumbent who would use this as an opportunity to bless the crops. The party would include older residents as well as younger children, who sometimes carried willow wands with which to beat the boundary markers (these were either natural features or specially erected stones). The older men would 'bump' the children's bottoms on the stones to imprint their locations firmly in the youngsters' memories so that they, in their turn, could pass the knowledge on to their children. The Shocklach Churchwardens' Accounts record that in 1745 on Ascension Day (the Thursday which falls 40 days after Easter Day) eleven shillings (55p) was 'Pd for Meate and Drink ... walking the Bounds of the parish', with similar amounts spent in 1746 and 1763. For 1832 the accounts book has a list of the names of all those who walked the bounds that year. The party of 24 (all male) included 6 boys aged between 7 and 11 years; 10 men aged between 18 and 72 years; and 8 whose ages are not recorded.

. A similar list of names appears in the account of the Tattenhall boundary walk which took place over two days in May 1885. The account is reproduced in Frank Senar's very informative book on St Alban's Church (2008). On the first day the party comprised 18 men, 21 boys, and 11 women and girls. This was quite an epic walk, involving among other exploits walking over the roof of a lean-to building; using a tub as a boat to cross a farm pit; and crawling through a culvert under the railway!

Continued overleaf

Where possible, natural features such as roads, hedgerows, prominent trees, and water courses were used to define the boundaries, often with marker stones erected at the points where the boundaries changed direction. On Larkton Hill there is a standing stone with its top carved into two opposing diagonal faces, one bearing the letter 'D' for Duckington township, the other the letter 'L' for Larkton township. Further along the boundary is a similar stone, with the added feature of the date 1839. In the Cheshire Record Office I came across a receipted invoice dated April 1839, from a Duckington stone mason. He had charged Squire Drake, the landowner, ten shillings (50p) for '5 land marks between Duckington, Larkton and Bickerton'. The date of 1839 suggests that the Squire was making sure that his boundaries were clearly marked, in preparation for the visits of the surveyors responsible for drawing up the Tithe Maps for those three townships.

Another substantial example of a township boundary stone, marking the division between Beeston and Peckforton, stands in Horsley Lane by the gateway where the Sandstone Trail leaves the lane to follow the bridleway to Burwardsley. Although at one time it was frequently hidden by an overgrowth of ivy and brambles, the public-spirited owner of the cottage on the other side of Horsley Lane now keeps it clear of vegetation.

Sadly the modern 1:25,000 Ordnance Survey Explorer maps no longer mark all the parish and township boundaries. In these days of satellite surveying and GPS navigation, knowledge of such features is fast disappearing but it can still be fascinating and instructive to seek them out, on older maps and on the ground. If you would like to know more, the Wikipedia article on-line about 'Beating the Bounds' is very informative.

davidhayns.123@btinternet.com



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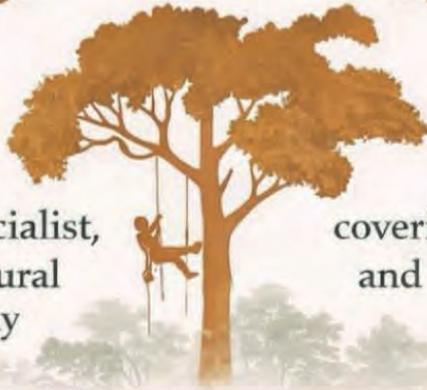
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Farndon Community Club Our website also has details of regular classes and other activities currently held including Art Classes, Pilates, Karate, StreetVibes, Dog Handling, and Walking Netball.

If you are looking for a venue, we have a large Main Hall with stage, plus a large studio. Both rooms are suitable for parties and other activities, and both are served by a bar and have access to the kitchen if required. They 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 via the website which has a booking request form, by email: contactfcc2024@gmail.com by phone on 07393 601292 or text/phone Hilary Williams on 07966 428673.

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Sign up at yoheyoga.co.uk £15 per person. Hope to see you there.

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 01829 270116 for further details.



The Farndon Memorial Hall Prize Bingo night Wednesday 28th January doors open at 7pm eyes down 7.30pm. £5 for 10 games including refreshments, cash only,

Jazz in the Village, Ian Millar and Dominic Spencer (www.millarandspencer.co.uk) Friday 6th February 8pm, tickets £15, accompanied under 16s free, bring your own drink.

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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

Holt Local History Society At its meeting on 22nd January, Holt Local History Society welcomed Wrexham-based author Dave McCall who is known to many by his pen name, David Ebsworth. Dave gave a fascinating presentation on Wrexham's 'Year of Wonder', 1876.

A number of notable events took place in that year. The city's link with football is not new; 1876 saw the establishment of The Football Association of Wales with Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn (popularly known as 'the Prince in Wales') as its president. The Church of St Giles celebrated the centenary of the installation of its bells by incorporating a new device, the Ellacombe, which in the spirit of the time used mechanical aid to make the task of bell-ringing much easier. Civic facilities were enhanced: a new tram system running from Johnstown; a new garden cemetery and, with leisure in mind, a new roller-skating rink. Sadly, of these three only the cemetery remains. The jewel in the crown of Wrexham's 'Year of Wonder', however, was its 'Art Treasures Exhibition'. Conceived on a grand scale and managed by 'the estimable William Chaffers' (whose descriptor seems to have been well-deserved), the exhibition was housed in a huge pavilion with a purpose-built pipe organ.. Open seven days a week from 10am to 10pm for four months, it had 80,000 recorded visitors.

Although there were artifacts from far and wide, including three contributed by Holt, the main purpose of the exhibition was to put Welsh culture back on the map and, in tune with late Victorian ethos, to 'educate the masses'

Continued on page 73

TATTENHALL

Events at the Barbour Institute, Tattenhall.

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Regular Classes at the Barbour Spring 2026

Monday 09.15 – 10.15 Queen Bee Fit with Urska Wall

18.00-19.00 Tai Chi with Prem Dunford

19.30-21.00 Iyengar Yoga with Julia Chandler

Tuesday 10.00-12.00 Drop-in Coffee Morning

10.00-12.00 U3A Discussion Group (alternate Tuesdays)

20.00-21.30 Tattenhall Singers

Wednesday 6.00-7.00 Yoga with Lynn Owen

Thursday 09.30-10.30 RAK Pilates with Rachel Kidd

14.00-15.30 Circle Dancing (last Thurs of the month)

14.00-16.00 TOFS (1st Thurs of the month)

West Cheshire Rural u3a On March 19th the speaker at West Cheshire Rural u3a is Colin Penny with his talk “Cuthbert the Bad and the Lancashire Witches”. The trials of the Lancashire Witches that took place at Lancaster Castle in 1612 are amongst the most famous and infamous in English History. The talk will reveal the real instigator of the trials and his motive
Join us at the Barbour Institute Tattenhall from 2pm. with the speaker slot starting at 2.30 pm. For more information on u3a membership contact our membership secretary at membershipwrcru3a@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. 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. Visit our Tattenhall Singers Facebook page, or alternatively email tattenhallsingers@gmail.com or 07710720850.

Circle Dancing We are a newish group of friendly dancers who meet the 4th Thursday afternoon of each month 2 – 3.30 pm. Circle dancing, as its name implies, means we dance holding hands in a circle to a wide variety of music. All dances are taught and newcomers are welcome. Circle dancing is great for your body, mind and spirit. Sessions are £10 and your first time is free Contact Helen Newton at soullife12@gmail.com if you'd like to give it a try.



TATTENHALL VILLAGE MARKET is now at the flacca sports club Tattenhall. We are open every Friday morning 10am till 12pm selling an array of products and lovely coffee in a beautiful setting .

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.

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Tuesday 11am and Thursday 2pm at The Studio, Glow, Tattenhall CH3 9AH
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MALPAS

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

BINGO 25th March. Jubilee Hall, Malpas.

7pm doors open. 7.30pm eyes down.

Lots of lovely prizes, including meals. £1 entrance.

Refreshments available. Raffle. Money raised is for the Malpas minibus.

Money raised for Claire House Children's Hospice from the Christmas Bingo was £705. This brought money raised for the Hospice so far to £8205.

Thanks to all

Malpas Parish Council now meets on the last Thursday of the month at 7pm We are now back in the Jubilee Hall At least one Parish Councillor will be available for a surgery to meet any parishioner to discuss any local

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

St Oswald's, Malpas

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

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

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

Wednesday 10:00am Holy Communion (traditional BCP service 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)

Malpas Backgammon Group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7pm at The Lion at Malpas. 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

Play Bridge Learn, improve, and enjoy playing Chicago on Tuesday afternoon 1.30 to 4.00 with Whitchurch u3a Bar Gate Hall

Regular beginners courses

Contact John 07803 234005

Play competitive duplicate Bridge at Malpas Bridge club Jubilee Hall on Wednesday evenings 6.30 to 10 pm contact bill 07695 181208



One Achord Choir One Achord Choir have recently moved their weekly practices to The Lion at Malpas. We are a friendly, sociable group of ladies all sharing a love of singing. Why not come and join us? Practices are held 7:15 to 9:15pm on Tuesday evenings during school term time, performing several concerts and various other engagements throughout the year. Find out more or get in touch through our Facebook page, website oneachord.org or call Krista on 07522 882874

Malpas Amateur Gardeners. March 12th 2026.

Our next Speaker Razvan Chizu grew up in Transylvania, graduated in horticulture and became a self employed plantsman initially in Romania and now in the UK. He is an active member of RHS, Hardy Plant Society, Alpine Garden Society and Plant Heritage in Cheshire. He writes in gardening magazines , runs plant hunting tours and runs his own gardening and consultancy business. His topic on March 12th is 'Confessions of a Plantaholic' a subject which will resonate with one or two of us in the Audience.

We meet in our new venue, The Young Person's Centre behind the Fire Station at 7.00. Parking is available at the Allport Primary School just opposite the Fire Station, with entrance from that direction also.

Malpas & Friends Chess Club continue to meet on Thursdays at The Lion in Malpas 6pm to 7pm. The chess element is completely free and open to all abilities and ages, although obviously, as it is a licensed premise, under 18s must be supervised by a parent or guardian at all times. There is a monthly club championship and there usually a theme to the other meetings, such as "How good is your chess?" "Tactical Exercises" etc.

Also Charles Higgie takes on all comers every four weeks in an online simultaneous match on the chess site "lichess". The next one is on Tuesday March 10 at 7.30pm.

There are three Malpas & Friends online team. For those who like to take things slow there is an online correspondence team on the "Gameknot" site. On the "lichess" site there is a Malpas & Friends side in the online 4NCL. They have won their opening games of the year 4-0 and 3.5-0.5 and are currently 3rd in the league. On Chess.com there is a rapid play Malpas & Friends team who have reached the last 16 of the World Chess League.

For further details on any of this contact Charles on 01948 860083, higgiecharles@gmail.com or Charles Chessman Higgie on Facebook.

Malpas Flower Club March is shaping up to be a busy and exciting month for our Flower Club! We begin with a special “Day Event” on Monday 7th March, featuring lunch and a guest speaker. A lovely way to spend the day surrounded by flowers and friends.

Our monthly meeting has been rescheduled to Monday 23rd March when we will be delighted to welcome Leanne Williams from Welshpool. Leanne will present her demonstrated titled “Floral Travels” which promises to inspire with beautiful arrangements and creative ideas.

If you are free from 2pm do come along and join us at the Jubilee Hall for an enjoyable afternoon of flowers, friendly chat and a nice cup of tea.

See our facebook page for details or contact our Chairman, Janet Blake on 01948 860359

SHOCKLACH

Shocklach Gardening Group

Our next meeting is on 16 March 2026 when we shall be welcoming back a speaker many of you will remember from a few years ago. Razvan Chisu, who delighted us with his 'Plants and Castles of Transylvania' in 2019 and again a year later with, 'Walking on Flowers, Spring in the Peloponnese'. Razvan 's subject this time is 'Confessions of a Plantaholic - plants I wouldn't be without.

Razvan brings such knowledge and experience to enhance any talk, and we shall be delighted to welcome friends / partners who wish to hear him again. We meet for a 7:30 pm start at the Chorlton and Cuddington W.I hall on Chorlton lane, SY14 7EP and look forward to seeing you there.

Information: Wendy Gilpin 01829 250413

CODDINGTON, ALDERSEY & CLUTTON

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

WHIST & BINGO Whist and Bingo at Coddington Parish Room
Whist Drive 7th & 21st March
Bingo 2nd & 23rd March



TILSTON

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 War Memorial Hall The AGM will be held in the hall on 25th March at 6pm. Come along to hear what we have been up to and our plans for the coming year.

Find out how you could get involved. Refreshments available.

The hall committee are holding a Ladies pop-up shop and fun Fashion Show on 20th March 7 for 7.30pm. Tickets are £7.50 or 3 for £20 Available from bookings@tilstonvillagehall.com or 01829 250471

ALDFORD

Aldford Village Hall is located in the charming village of Aldford on the Eaton Estate. The well equipped and well maintained Hall is available for one-off and regular bookings. Please email with enquiries to info@aldfordvillagehall.co.uk.

Aldford Bowls Club is situated in the scenic village of Aldford.

We are a friendly, non-league, social club where new members, of all ages, are always welcome.

From October to the end of March, we meet at 7pm on Tuesday evenings to play indoor carpet bowls in Aldford Village Hall.

If you've never played indoor bowls before why not give it a try, it's great fun.

We also play outdoors on our Crown Green from April to mid September.

Interested in joining us? For further information please contact Gordon Wright on 01829 770176 or Julie Binnersley on 07484882043.

WHITCHURCH

In St John's Whitchurch each Monday 12 to 4 meet to keep warm, chat with tea and toast soup if you like and tea /coffee and biscuits. All made very welcome come and join us for try if in Whitchurch



Aldersey & Coddington WI at Coddington Village Hall, we meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.15 pm
Spring show Tuesday 3rd March. There will be no speakers at this event.
Monday 9th March, we gather at 10.0am for coffee at Bellis' Country Market.
For more information please call Linda Harrison on 07990 774866

Broxton and Bickerton WI: Our meetings are normally held on the last Wednesday of the month in the Bickerton Village Hall at 7.30 pm. On March 25th Vanessa Nuttall will give a talk, "My Life in Sound Effects for the Archers". 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 847 220

Bunbury WI meets on the second Thursday of the month at Bunbury Playing Fields Pavilion at 7:30pm. At our Meeting on 12 March Peter Holloway will present a talk 'Retail Thinking' and our April Meeting will be a Social and Quiz. New members and visitors are warmly welcome. For further information contact Lynda Davies 01829 863781.

Chorlton & Cuddington WI. February we enjoyed an entertaining talk by Anne Keane who spoke about her life and travels from teacher to entrepreneur.

Our next meeting is at 2pm on March 4th when Nina Olsen will be talking about sledging with a snow dog in the WI

hall on Chorlton Lane, guests are most welcome

For further information contact Maggie Low 07958 876043.

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





Farndon & District W.I. To get us up and running for a year of pictures, Farndon & District WI will enjoy a tutoring session led by Marc Byram (Photography) on “How to get the most out of your mobile phone” So, if you’d like to find out how to create even better visual memories using your phone camera, this is the one for you! There will of course be time for a chat, cake and a cuppa! We meet in Farndon Memorial Hall, Church Lane, Farndon on the last Tuesday of each month. For more information, please contact Sarah Scott 01829 270692 or look at our website: <https://farndonwi.weebly.com/>

Holt WI We meet on the 2nd Tuesday every month at 7.30 in the Kenyon Hall on the Cross Holt. Our meeting on 10th March will be a talk on researching your family history by Kathryn Burtinshaw. Visitors are very welcome and free for the first visit.

Huxley & Hargrave WI .

The February meeting the .Speaker Dr.Karen Castle gave talk title ‘How I ended up in Prison ‘!! Excellent speaker .

Our March speaker will be talking about Scam Awareness .

Meetings are the 2 nd Wednesday in the month . October to March. 2 pm at Huxley village Hall and April to September 7.30 p.m. Hargrave Church Hall .

Visitors always welcome

Contacts - Trish 07866262500

Connie 01829781298

Marbury WI meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 1.30 from October to March and 7.30 from April to September in Marbury Village Hall. Guests are most welcome. For further information contact Janet Wheeler on 07713 811636.

March 10th 1.30pm (Afternoon)

David Burness A day in the life of a Paramedic

Competition Old First Aid Item

As this is an Open Meeting, visitors are very welcome.

There is a £5 charge for visitors

SPURSTOW

Spurstow Parish Council 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 matters.

TIVERTON & TARPORLEY

Tiverton Bridge Club Monday evenings 6.15pm play 6.30pm
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..

Tarporley and District u3a March 2026

The monthly meeting is held at Tarporley Community Hall.

Doors open at 09.45 and there is time for tea, coffee, biscuits and a chat before the meeting begins at about 10.15 with a few announcements, followed by the talk at about 10.20 and questions to the speaker at about 11.15. The meeting closes around 11.30

On Thursday 26 March 2026

Roger Browne and his jazz piano and maybe

'The History of the Jazz Piano' or the 'Sacred and Secular' or 'Gershwin' – let's see

Ron is a raconteur, writer, director and pianist who has appeared on cruises and in jazz clubs and at jazz festivals across Europe and North America and has provided piano accompaniment to national and international legends including Humphrey Lyttleton and George Melly.

His talks are very entertaining and illustrated with live piano playing and provide a mix of hilarious anecdotes and fascinating historical facts.

Should be fun

You can find out more from the u3a website – <https://tarporleyanddistrict.u3asite.uk> - where the monthly newsletter is available, as is information on how to join the u3a.



BUNBURY

Absolute beginner line dancing on Mondays 2.30-3.30pm at the Pavilion, £5. Contact Faye, email bickertonbootscooters@gmail.com for more info.

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.

Photography Club in Bunbury. If you enjoy taking photos with a camera or phone and want to meet other enthusiasts in a 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.

BUNBURY GARDENING CLUB meeting at Bunbury village hall on Tuesday the 17th of March 7:30 PM guest speaker George Pilkington subject garden birds and their behaviour advanced date for your diary annual show Saturday the 5th of September new members are always welcome to attend meetings contact Margaret Bourne telephone 01829 260 944 or e-mail mjbourne249@tiscali.co.uk Facebook users: join our Bunbury gardening club page

HUXLEY

Hargrave and Huxley Historical Society

Our next meeting will be held on Monday 13th April at Huxley Village Hall, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Clare Dudman will be giving us a talk titled John Bradshaw and the witches. Non members are very welcome £3.00. Light refreshments to follow. Contact: denisecheetham@hotmail.co.uk.

Huxley Film Night Friday 13th March 7.00 for 7.30

Huxley Village Hall Huxley lane CH39BG

Entrance £5

“Sometimes Always Never”

Beer/wine/tea/coffee/ice cream on sale

BICKERTON

Bickerton Village Hall Website: bickertonvillagehall.com & on Facebook or bickvillagehall@outlook.com

Further information on all regular classes can be found on our website.

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

Beginners Line dancing Thursdays 6.30pm £5 (stay as long as you like, tea break & improver dances after 7.30, All welcome In Bickerton village hall.
Email bickertonbootscooters@gmail.com for info!

Bickerton and Egerton Parish Council.
website is www.bickertonandegertonpc.org

Bickerton Tennis Club@ Bickerton Village Hall Thank you to the Bickerton Tennis Club team for a fun and enjoyable Line dancing evening on Friday 23rd January 2026.

A great success with a delicious meal and dancing.
£975.00 raised towards a new surface for the tennis courts
Come along and have a game of tennis
Contact Jackie Bourne jackiebourne2756@gmail.com
or Georgia Morris georgia.morris@dtmlegal.com for membership details

Holly Trinity Church Bickerton. Good Friday service a quiet reflection at 10am 3rd April. Join us for our service on Bickerton Hill. Gather at church at 6am, leave church at 6:15am, to make our way up the hill to celebrate Holy Communion at sunrise. All are welcome. The service will be followed by breakfast at church no charge. Bank holiday Monday join us for our pop up café for family fun. 10:30 to 3pm there will be an Easter egg hunt, a treasure hunt and a quiz.

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.bulkeleyandridley.pc.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
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

Feb 22nd: There will be no service at Brown Knowl but all will be welcome to join us at St John's Whitchurch for a Mission area service at 10.30am
March 15th Mothering Sunday service 10.45am followed by tea and coffee
March 29th Palm Sunday 10.45am

Holt Local History Society Continued from page 61

The National Eisteddfod of Wales was held in Wrexham for the first time, which may have helped prompt the exhibition project.

This celebration of Welsh culture included an acknowledgement of local industry in the industrial annexe. Pride of place went to The Wonder Quilt of Wrexham' which had been painstakingly made over many years by local master tailor, James Williams. Products of the Cambrian Ironworks were on show and names still familiar, such as Gerrards, were featured along with products now lost to history, such as the famous and lauded Wrexham Sauce, Wrexham Pie and Wrexham Gingerbread. Although the first of these is truly lost because its closely guarded recipe died with its inventor, the current year's events celebrating the anniversary of the Year of Wonder includes a competition to recreate the second two.

Dave's talk not only alerted the Society to the range of events arranged by local organisations in the coming year but his enthusiasm and engaging presentation has also undoubtedly spurred members to think about becoming involved themselves as Wrexham prepares its bid for 2029 City of Culture.

Date of next meeting: Thursday, March 26 7.30 at Holt Community Centre, Chapel St, LL13 9DJ

Basingwerk Abbey and Croxton's Field

Chris Matthews

BEESTON & PECKFORTON

Beeston Parish Council

Meets quarterly, all residents welcome. See parish council website www.beestonparishcouncil.co.uk

for dates and agendas, also for regular information affecting local residents

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 pvhcommittee@gmail.com

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT THE HALL: Sunday 29 March PIT STOP CAFE – tea, coffee and bacon butties on sale from 10.30 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).

Church of England Services at Marbury, Tushingham, Whitewell and Bickley.

Sunday March 1 St David's Day, Lent 2

Marbury 4pm Evening Prayer Whitewell 11am Holy Communion

Tushingham 11am Morning Prayer Bickley 9am Holy Communion

Sunday March 8 3rd Sunday of Lent

Marbury 11am Sunday Worship Whitewell 11am Sunday Worship

Tushingham 9am Holy Communion Bickley 11am Morning Prayer

Sunday March 15 Mothering Sunday

Marbury 11am Sunday Worship Whitewell 11am Sunday Worship

Tushingham 11am Service for Mothering Sunday Bickley 11am Holy Communion

Sunday March 22 5th Sunday of Lent

Marbury 11am Holy Communion Whitewell 11am Sunday Worship

Tushingham 9am Holy Communion

Bickley 11am Sunday Worship

Sunday March 29 United Service for all four Churches at St Michael's Marbury.

Traditional procession and reading of the Passion Narrative. Meet at 10.45am at the Oak Tree on The Green opposite The Swan.

Service to start about 11am and will include Holy Communion.



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