



My Village News

MAY 2026

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Hello and a warm welcome to the May issue of My Village News

We have some lovely events coming our way: -

Malpas Fabric Arts Group are holding their Biennial Exhibition of work at The Watergate Centre, 5 Watergate Street, Whitchurch SY13 1DW on Saturday 2nd May 2026 between 10am – 4pm.

St Boniface Church Fete at Beeston Castle Bank Holiday Monday 4th May 11.00 until 4.00 pm, a great family day out.

Marbury Merry Days on Saturday 9th May and Sunday 10th May 2026 A real treat for all ages. Our front-page photograph shows the event from a previous year.

Chester Folk Festival 22 -25th May held in Kelsall a fabulous weekend of music and dance.

Congratulations to Marbury WI who are celebrating their 99th birthday.

See you when we are out and about

Ann John Adam and our delivery team

DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE IS 6th MAY

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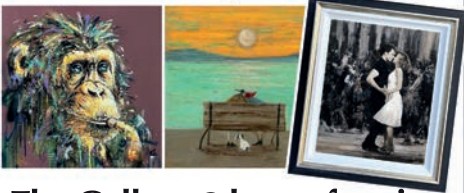


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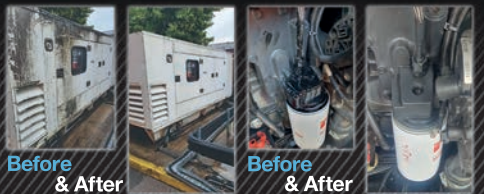
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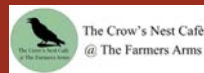
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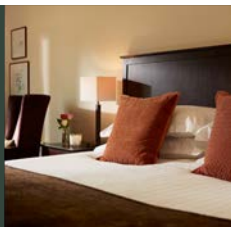
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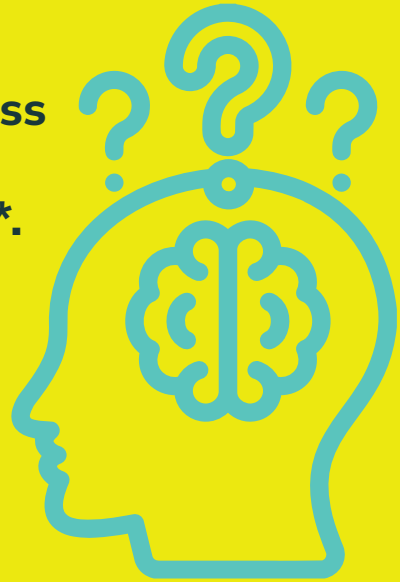


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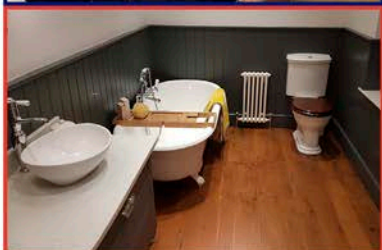
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Marbury Merry Days returns for 45th year with weekend of family fun

Marbury Merry Days will return this spring for its 45th year, promising a lively weekend of traditional entertainment, living history and family activities.

The popular country fair will take place on Saturday 9th May and Sunday 10th May 2026 in a picturesque field in the village of Marbury (SY13 4LN), next to St. Michael & All Angels Parish Church and the scenic Marbury Big Mere. Located just three miles from Whitchurch, the event attracts visitors from across the region each year.

Gates open at 12.30pm, with a packed programme of displays, activities and classic country fair attractions designed to entertain visitors of all ages.

One of the major highlights this year will be appearances by members of The Sealed Knot, the UK's oldest historical re-enactment society and the largest in Europe.

Their dramatic performances will bring the era of the English Civil War vividly to life through drill displays, skirmishes and an immersive living history camp. Saturday's programme will feature battlefield action complete with cannon and musket fire, while Sunday will include marching displays, a children's army and further skirmishes.

Beyond the main arena and camp, visitors can enjoy a wide range of attractions including performances from Pinxton Puppets, a model flying display, classic car and vintage tractor exhibitions, and music from the Wirral Pipe Band.

Traditional fairground favourites will also be on offer, including coconut shy, splat-the-rat, golf putting and a straw bale maze. Families can explore a bouncy castle, craft tent, tea tent, bric-a-brac and book stalls, tombola and trade stands, while the church will host a display of floral arrangements.

Saturday's entertainment will include colourful Maypole dancing by pupils from Wrenbury School, alongside performances from Glo*s Dance Troupe and the Stafford Morris Dancers. On Sunday, visitors can also enter their pets into a fun dog show, with entries taken on the day, before the weekend concludes with the Grand Draw on Sunday afternoon.

Weather and aircraft availability permitting, organisers are also hoping for spectacular flypasts from the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, featuring the mighty Avro Lancaster on Saturday and the legendary Supermarine Spitfire on Sunday.

A spokesperson for Marbury Merry Days said: "Marbury Merry Days has been bringing people together for generations, and we're thrilled to be celebrating our 45th year. It's a wonderful community event filled with tradition, laughter and entertainment, and we can't wait to welcome families from near and far for another fantastic weekend in the beautiful Marbury countryside."

Entry costs £7.50 for adults, while children under 16 pay just £1 – or enter free when accompanied by an adult. Parking is free for all attendees.

All proceeds from the event go towards the upkeep of St. Michael & All Angels



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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 Tinquieux (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 (Carlton 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 Fyde 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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**Bunbury Village Day 2026 presents... Wild Bunbury
Celebrating the wildlife, countryside and community of Cheshire**

On Saturday 13 June, the village will come alive with Wild Bunbury – a celebration of the incredible wildlife, countryside and community spirit that make Cheshire such a special place to live.

Building on the much-loved traditions of Bunbury Village Day, this year's event adds a fresh and exciting nature-inspired theme. Visitors can expect all the familiar highlights – the parade through the village, Rose Queen celebrations, an array of stalls, BBQ and Bar, live music, brass band, Morris dancers and family entertainment – alongside a host of wildlife experiences for all ages.

We're delighted to welcome a growing number of fantastic organisations bringing the "wild" to Bunbury:

Gauntlet Birds of Prey will deliver breathtaking flying displays (with bird species to be revealed soon)

Cheshire Wildlife Trust protecting wildlife across the county, and how we can all play a part locally

The Creepy Crawly Show will introduce visitors to an amazing range of creatures including snakes, tarantulas, scorpions, lizards, giant African snails and even hissing cockroaches

Let's Farm sharing inspiring work at their community farm supporting young people with learning disabilities

Mid-Cheshire Beekeepers Association will be offering insight into the fascinating world of beekeeping

Northwich Hedgehog Rescue will provide advice on how to support hedgehogs in our own gardens

Bunbury Gardening Club will highlight local planting and wildlife-friendly gardening

Bunbury Mill, our beautiful Grade II listed watermill, will be sharing information about the rich wildlife that surrounds it

Sadlers Wells Community Woodland will be on hand to share how we can all enjoy and care for this ancient wood on the outskirts of our village

And this is just the beginning – many more wildlife organisations and activities are still to be announced.

Wild Bunbury is not just about showcasing wildlife, but about bringing the community together – inspiring costumes for the parade, sparking creativity in decorations, and creating memorable, hands-on experiences throughout the day.

Whether you come for the tradition, the wildlife, or simply the atmosphere, Bunbury Village Day 2026 promises to be a fantastic day out for all ages.

Location: Bunbury Jubilee Playing Fields, Hurst Close, Bunbury, CW6 9QX.

Unfortunately, NO DOGS are allowed on Bunbury Jubilee Playing Fields

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Tax year-end checklist

It's not too late to take full advantage of the reliefs and allowances available to you before the end of this tax year on 5 April. Here's a checklist of the key opportunities to consider before the deadline.

Put as much money as you can into your ISAs – the allowance is still £20,000.

Check your spouse or partner has also maximised their own ISA allowance. That could mean as much as £40,000 invested tax efficiently.

Put up to £9,000 per child or grandchild into Junior ISAs. It's a great way to pass money to the next generation, tax efficiently. A parent or guardian will be required to set up the Junior ISA, but anyone can contribute to the investment.

If you're at the point in your life where you're increasing your pension contributions, consider whether you can pay in the full annual allowance. You may also be able to carry unused allowances over from the last three tax years. It's worth checking whether you used your full allowances each year, from 2022/23 onwards.

If you're coming up to retirement and thinking of making a large pension withdrawal, talk to your adviser about spreading the withdrawal over two or more tax years. This could help minimise your Income Tax liability.

Take advantage of your Capital Gains Tax (CGT) annual exempt amount. Your CGT annual exempt amount is £3,000.

If you're a high earner, you may be able to bring your taxable income down by putting more money into your pension or making charitable donations. These can:

- Extend the threshold above which you start to pay additional rate tax, which starts at £125,140.
- Help you preserve your Personal Allowance, which is gradually withdrawn once you earn over £100,000.
- Help you hold on to your Child Benefit, which is gradually withdrawn if one parent in the household earns more than £60,000.

Use this tax year as an opportunity to make use of your annual IHT exemption of £3,000. The annual IHT exemption can be carried forward for one tax year so if you didn't use it in 2024/25, you could gift up to £6,000 before 6 April 2026 and the amount gifted will leave your estate immediately and so won't be liable for Inheritance Tax.

If you own a business, consider taking dividend income instead of or in addition to salary. In this tax year the first £500 of dividend income is tax free and dividend income above the dividend allowance is taxed at lower income tax rates than salary. You may also be able to minimise National Insurance contributions (NICs) too. It is however important to note that dividends are payable out of post-corporation tax profits so professional advice will be essential to determine the best remuneration strategy to optimise tax-efficiency overall.

Undertake a tax health check to ensure that you're taking full advantage of your tax reliefs and allowances.

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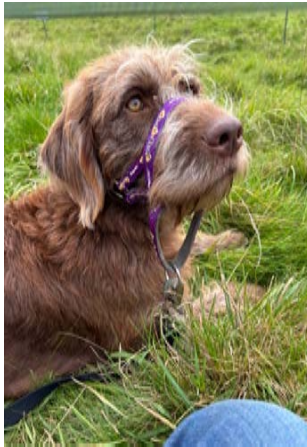
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REMINDERS OF MEDIEVAL MNASTICISM

David Hayns

All bodies, or 'orders', of monks and nuns organised their lives in line with a 'rule' which governed their daily life and work. The most widely practised was the Rule of Saint Benedict, named after the man who first wrote it in the sixth century. Later there were various reformations of the Benedictine order, giving rise to new orders including two founded in France: the Cluniacs (founded at Cluny in AD 910) and the Cistercians (founded at Citeaux in AD 1098). The monks or nuns were housed in monasteries, nunneries or abbeys or where numbers were smaller (up to about twelve) in priories.

Vale Royal Abbey was a medieval abbey near Whitegate, close to Northwich. The original building was founded around 1270 by the Lord Edward, later to become King Edward I, for Cistercian monks. Edward intended the structure to be on a grand scale and had it been completed it would have been the largest Cistercian monastery in the whole country but his ambitions were frustrated by recurring financial difficulties. Unlike counties like Yorkshire, where the great abbeys and monasteries such as Fountains and Rievaulx owed their prosperity to sheep farming and wool production from the county's broad acres, medieval Cheshire did not have many monastic foundations. However, around twelve miles from the My Village News area, between Whitchurch and Nantwich, lies Combermere Abbey, the country house named after the Cistercian abbey founded there in 1133. During the next twenty years the Combermere monks established a daughter house at Poulton, two miles across the River Dee from Churton. Churton is a two-part village divided by Hobb Lane between the parishes of Aldford (in the north) and Farndon. Churton-by-Aldford developed from a monastic grange (an outlying farm) which belonged to the short-lived medieval abbey at Poulton. Poulton Abbey was founded between 1153 and 1158 but moved in 1214 to a site near Leek in Staffordshire. However, Churton-by-Aldford's former status is remembered in the name of the still active Grange Farm. Another monastic grange, this one belonging to Chester's Abbey of Saint Werburgh, was at Saighton near Aldford and is now the site of Abbey Gate College, named after the surviving magnificent monastic gatehouse. Older historic writers claimed that Malpas was the site of a small Cluniac monastic cell, although the location of this was unknown. A monastic cell would have been just a small company of monks dependent on a larger monastic house. For our Malpas, the nearest Cluniac house was on the edge of the Shropshire town of Much Wenlock, nearly forty miles away. Further research confirms that the 'Malpas' referred to by earlier historians was actually the Malpas near Newport in Monmouthshire, where there was a cell dependent upon the Cluniac monastery of Montacute in Somerset. In the My Village News area there have been other monastic type institutions over the centuries,. During the 14th century Sir Hugh Calveley left considerable funds to Saint Boniface church in Bunbury both to enlarge the church and to endow a 'college' of canons. The canons were to live in a building separate from the church, in what is still called College Lane although the building no longer survives. Each canon had his own altar in a chapel called a 'chantry' within the church, where he was paid to say regular prayers for the souls of the deceased prominent persons for whom his particular altar had been dedicated. The whole system of chantries was abolished in 1548, not long after King Henry VIII had dismantled the monastic system in the late 1530s. A later version of the monastic rule survived in Malpas from 1946 to 2013, when the Roman Catholic order known as the Sacred Heart Fathers occupied the large 19th century house called The Beeches and adapted it to be a training college for Catholic priests. It was known as 'Saint Joseph's' and during its time in Malpas it became a much appreciated part of the local community. The Roman Catholic fathers and brothers who lived and worked there were governed by a form of monastic rule, adapted from the sixth century Rule of Saint Benedict.

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FARNDON

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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.

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.'

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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.

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www.crewebyfarndonmethodistchapel.org or contact Roland Twydell on 01829 270116 for further details.



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, For general enquiries and bookings, please phone Mrs Pat Van Beek, Bookings Secretary, on 01829 270067.

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Holt Local History Society £15 annual membership. Visitors £5.
Talks: Community Hall, Chapel Street, Holt LI13 9DJ, Fourth Thursday in the Month. Contact for further information: briansue.payne@btinternet.com

Date for your Diary

ART – in all its forms – will be brought to life at St Boniface Church.

For three days in June, the church will be full of paintings, ceramics, jewellery, photography, textiles, metalwork, and woodwork – most of which will also be for sale.

“St Boniface is such a fantastic space for an exhibition,” said Elaine Crotty.

This year Inspire 26 hopes to inspire even more people to visit the church which will be decorated with flowers from June 26 to 28.

For the first time, there will also be a garden created by villagers outside the church. All money raised at the art and flower show will go towards the upkeep of St Boniface Church, a designated Grade I listed building which dates mainly from the 14th century.

Anyone can apply to exhibit their works of art but must do so before the May 19 deadline.

To apply, log on to <https://form.jotform.com/260133504093346> or email inspire26art@gmail.com for more details.

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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 At the West Cheshire Rural u3a meeting on May 21st 2026 Author David Ebsworth tells the stranger than fiction stories behind his recent novel, “A Betrayal Of Heroes”, set in Casablanca and Brazzaville during the Second World War.

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 membershipwcu3a@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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Malpas Parish Council now meets on the last Thursday of the month at 7pm in the Jubilee Hall. There will be an "Open Forum" where any parishioner can raise any issue. Also at least one Parish Councillor will be available for a surgery to meet any parishioner to discuss any local at The Old Fire Station, 3-4pm on the first Saturday of the month,

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

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)

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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. Our next meeting is on May 14th . Our speaker is Richard Lewis, who taught at Northop College for 24 years and at Glyndwr University. Richard is talking to us about Erlas Victorian Walled Garden in Wrexham. He is a Director and Vice Chairman of the charity that runs the garden. In 2025 Erlas Victorian Walled Garden was voted the UK's Best Community Garden for Health and Wellbeing at the Royal Horticultural Society Community Awards. The Garden is a haven for disadvantaged people and has been restored.

On 22 March the World Chess League, **Malpas & Friends Chess** Team won their Round of 16 match against SD Gornja Radgona from Slovenia, fronted by a FIDE Master from Serbia on 1 and a Women's FIDE Master on 2. The M and F team was fronted by Frederick Rhine, an American National Master on 1 and Paul Littlewood, a British International Master on 2. Turkish Candidate Master Mehmet Altonsoy was on 3. Tim McMahan, the former Cheshire Junior Champion from Malpas was on 4. Dan Avery from America was on 5 and Captain Charles Higgle from Malpas on 6. In a closely fought match M & F won 6.5 to 5.5 and will progress to the Quarter final on 11th July. If successful the semi final, final and 3rd and 4th play off are the next day.

Full match results. <https://www.chess.com/club/matches/live/malpas-and-friends/3060391>

The Malpas & Friends Chess Club @The Lion @Malpas has moved from a Thur to a Tue 5.45pm to 7pm. The chess element is free. It is open to all, all abilities and all ages although as it is a licensed premise under 18s must be supervised at all time. There is normally a theme to each session, such as "The Club Championship", with the winner taking home a trophy for a month, "How Good is Your Chess" or "Tactical Exercises". For keener players there is the opportunity to play for a variety of online teams. There is also a chance to play in an online simultaneous match on the third Thursday of the month, so the next will be on Thursday May 21 at 7.30pm on the Internet site Lichess. For more details about any of this information please contact Charles Higgle on 01948 860083, email higglecharles@gmail.com or Charles Chessman Higgle on Facebook.

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

Malpas Flower Club This May, we are delighted to welcome Sara Barrow from Preston, who will present her beautiful floral demonstration, "Colours of a Rainbow". If you are free on Monday 18th May, do come along and join us for an enjoyable afternoon filled with fun and flowers. Feel free to bring a friend, everyone will receive a warm welcome. The demonstration commences at 2pm in the Jubilee Hall, Malpas. See our facebook page for details or contact our Chairman, Janet Blake on 01948 860359

SHOCKLACH

Shocklach Gardening Group

Our next meeting is will be on Monday 18 May 2026 when Margaret Herbert will return for another of her fascinating talks. This time her subject is, 'The best things in life are free , and judging by her two previous talks, I know this one will be full of ideas to make us think.

We meet for a 7:30 pm start in the Chorlton and Cuddington W.I Hall on Chorlton Lane, SY14 7EP and look forward to welcoming everyone 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 at Coddington Parish Room

Whist Drive 2nd, 16th & 30th May

Bingo 18th & 25th May



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

“ Save the date ! “ The Tilston Garden Trail is back this year
the weekend of June 20th & 21st.

Flowers and village gardens - a warm welcome and lots to see, with refreshments in the gardens. In aid of St Mary's Church “

BRADLEY

Bradley Independent Congregational Chapel SY13 4QY, celebrates its 135th Anniversary on Sunday 11th May 2026 at 2.30pm.

A service will be led by Rev. Jon Chesworth & Rev. Frances Biseker. The service will be followed by refreshments. Services take place on the 2nd Sunday of every month.

Contact Pastor Brian Faulkner 01948 664898; email brianfaulkner@

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.

Bingo Mon 11th May 19:30 - 21:30

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.

Club members play regularly on Saturday mornings and Tuesday evenings from mid-April to mid-September. Members also have unlimited access to the green and pavilion during the summer season.

If you have never tried Crown Green bowling why not give it a go? Tuition can be arranged, and bowls can be borrowed from the club.

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



Aldersey & Coddington WI Aldersey and Coddington WI meets on the first Tuesday of the month at Coddington village Hall (next to the church). At our meeting on Tuesday 5th May Marc Byram will be visiting to present “ Photography, taking better photos on phone. We gather the following Monday after our meeting at Bellis’ Country market at 10.00am for a drink and a chat. The next catch up will be Monday 11th May. For more information on joining our group please call Linda Harrison 07990 774866.

Broxton and Bickerton WI Our meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month in the Bickerton Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

On the 27th May Janet Blake will talk on Knickers through the ages other WI members are welcome to join us for this. 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 Bunbury WI meets on the second Thursday of the month at Bunbury Playing Fields Pavilion at 7:30. Our May meeting is Linda Barton and Richard Slater who will demonstrate use of defibrillator, CPR and basic first aid . In June Hen Johnson will speak on ‘The WI in Wartime’. Bunbury WI warmly welcomes visitors and new members. For further information contact Lynda Davies 01829 863781..

Chorlton & Cuddington WI. At our meeting in March we enjoyed a very entertaining talk by Nina Olsen who spoke about the challenges of sledging in Norway for charity with a small group of people and a team of huskies.

We take a break in May

We are in the WI hall on Chorlton Lane and guests are most welcome.

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 W.I.

This month Farndon & District WI will be joined by NatWest. They will be giving us an up-to-date insight into the latest financial scams and frauds, and how to avoid them to keep ourselves and our money safe. 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.

Next meeting is on 12th May at 7.30pm The meeting is about fundraising exploits for Nightingale House. At Kenyon Hall Holt LL13 9YL. Visitors welcome. Contact Ann on 07931905587 or agbowdler@gmail.com

Huxley & Hargrave WI .

Our members enjoyed a very interesting and informative talk about understanding and dealing with Scams .Our speaker explained and demonstrated to us how to use our mobile phones and I Pads to keep ourselves safe .

We are planning trips and events for the summer months at present . We meet from April to October at our summer venue . Hargrave Church Hall 7.30 pm Every second Wednesday in the month . Visitors always welcome . Contact Trish 07866262500 or 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.

12th May 7.30pm (Evening)

99th Birthday meeting with Peter Duncalfe - A Vet's Life

Competition - Animal Toy

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 May 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 28 May 2026 My Life as a River Mersey Pilot

Stuart Wood was a River Mersey pilot for many years and tells us the fascinating and varied stories of his lifetime as a Mersey Pilot.

Pilots guide shipping in to, and out of the River Mersey shipping system from the Bar Light Ship which is some miles out in the Irish Sea, all the way into the River Mersey itself, the docks on both banks and the Manchester Ship Canal. Stuart is also the President of the Daniel Adamson Preservation Society.

The Daniel Adamson is a remarkable survivor from the steam age, a powerful canal tug built in 1903 at Cammell Laird and originally named the 'Ralph Brocklebank'. Her history takes in World War One, the Royal Navy as an unarmed patrol boat, as a Mersey ferry, a tug bringing strings of barges from the inland industrial towns of Cheshire and Potteries to the great seaport of Liverpool and now having been saved from scrapping by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, is a tourist attraction.

This is a fascinating history of trade and life on and around the River Mersey. 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 Baby & Toddler Group

Every Wednesday 9.30-11.30am during term-time. All parents, carers, grandparents welcome.

£3 per child (50p extra per sibling). Toys for all ages (including a baby corner), snacks & refreshments provided for all.

Email us for more info: bunburytoddlergroup@gmail.com

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

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 Plant Sale, vintage stall and Coffee Morning supporting Christian Aid and St Boniface Church, 10 to 12 Thur 14th May at St Boniface Church .

BUNBURY GARDENING CLUB Come join us on our visit to STONEYFORD COTTAGE GARDEN on Tuesday 19th May 6:30pm at the property.

Opportunities to purchase plants at the well stocked nursery!

For further details contact Margaret Bourne on 01829 260944 or mjbourne249@tiscali.co.uk

Our annual show date is Saturday September 5th for you to consider exhibiting your flowers, plants, fruit, vegetables, art, craft, photography and baking. Schedules will be available in advance.

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

Bickerton Car Boot 9th May 9am -1 pm

Makers Market 11am - 3pm more information on

www.carbootandmarket.co.uk

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

Come along and have a game of tennis

Contact Jackie Bourne jackiebourne2756@gmail.com

or Georgia Morris georgia.morris@dtmlegal.com for membership details

Tuesdays from 7pm Club Night, Thursdays All age tuition.

Fridays 9:30pm with We Do Tennis Alex tuition

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
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

May Saturday 16th: Cantate Ladies Choir Time: 2.00pm. Tickets £12 or pay on the door including refreshments.

Contact: Brenda: 01829 782470 or Wendy: 01948 820568 Proceeds for the church. Dates for your diary. June 27th, July 25th and August 21st we will be holding our Afternoon teas.

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

Hollies Tennis club Tarporley Road. Is planning a 24hr Tennisathon.

On Saturday 20th June -21st June. 9am-9am. Supporting Cancer Research and DKMS (We Delete Blood Cancer) Join the DKMS Stem cell register.

Fun for all the family. Children's and Adult competitions. Exhibition matches.

Beat the Ball Machine. Silent Auction. BBQ and refreshment

For 24hrs. Justgiving.com/crowdfund/stephen-egerton-cancer-fundraiser.

Join in the fun. Tennis played like you have never seen before. Just drop in anytime. We will be there. For more information contact. hollies24hour@

MALPAS FABRIC ARTS GROUP

Malpas Fabric Arts Group are holding their Biennial Exhibition of work at The Watergate Centre, 5 Watergate Street, Whitchurch SY13 1DW on Saturday 2nd May 2026 between 10am – 4pm.

Visitors are welcome to browse the exhibits in the spacious and disabled-friendly Centre. Admission will be £3 per person which includes the opportunity to win an amazing quilt made by Members. Refreshments, raffle, tombola and sales table.

The Malpas Fabric Arts Group comprises around 35 Members from Cheshire, Shropshire and Wales. They enjoy sharing knowledge and showcasing what has been made. The Group meets on alternate Monday evenings during the months of March to December. If you need any further information about joining Malpas Fabric Arts Group or the forthcoming Exhibition, please contact: malpasfabricartsgroup@gmail.com

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.

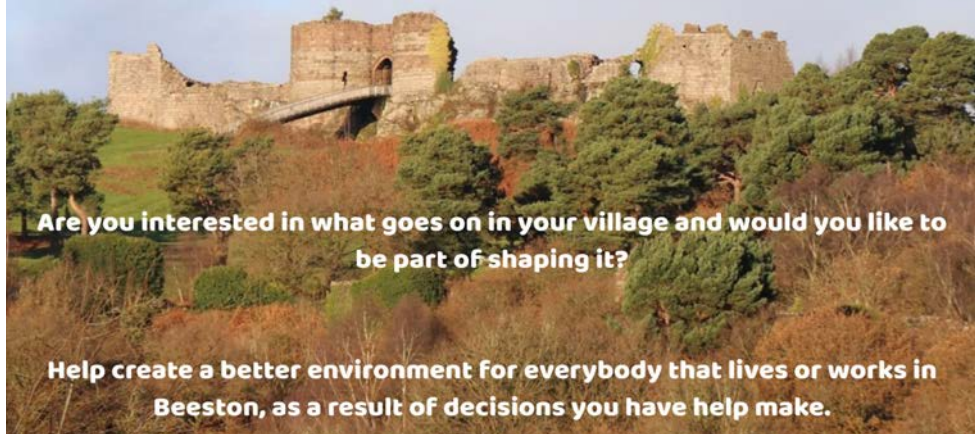
Contact pbvhcommittee@gmail.com

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT THE HALL: Sunday 26 April and 30 May. **PIT STOP CAFE** – tea, coffee, bacon butties and cake on sale from 10.30 am to 1pm. All welcome. Free admission. Friday 15th May **SPRING SOCIAL AND RACE NIGHT** come and enjoy a drink with your neighbours and a flutter on some pre-recorded races on a big screen. Bar, hot food and snacks. Please bring cash for betting from 7pm. 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 SoundBath sessions).

YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!

Ever thought of becoming a Parish Councillor for

BEESTON PARISH COUNCIL?



Are you interested in what goes on in your village and would you like to be part of shaping it?

Help create a better environment for everybody that lives or works in Beeston, as a result of decisions you have help make.

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

ELIGIBLE TO BE A PARISH COUNCILLOR?

To stand for election on a parish council, you must:

- be 18 years old or over
- and a UK, EU or Commonwealth Citizen,
- and have either worked or lived or been an owner or tenant of property in the Beeston Parish for 12 months.

WHAT DECISIONS DO PARISH COUNCILS MAKE?

Honestly, there are only limited powers to make decisions. However, the Parish Council are able to influence those other organisations who will make the final decisions. Recent representations have gone to CW&C on planning applications, United Utilities re: Pipeline works, Peckforton Estate, Cheshire Police, The Beeston & Tarpoley Station Reopening Group.

HOW MUCH TIME DOES IT TAKE UP BEING A COUNCILLOR?

There are four (evening) meetings a year each lasting for no more than 2 hours. Between these there may be some matters, due to a time pressures, dealt with by email.

Once elected a Councillor remains in office for 4 years, but may be re-elected.

Applicants or for more information please email: chairman@beestonparishcouncil.co.uk

HUXLEY

Hargrave and Huxley Historical Society Our next meeting will be held on Monday 11th May at Huxley Village Hall, commencing at 7.30 p.m. There will be a short AGM followed by a talk given by Tony Smith, on the subject of Chester Trams and restoration of the last remaining tram. Guests are very welcome £3.00, light refreshments will follow the talk. This will be the final talk of this season. We will recommence in September. Details to follow.
Contact: denisecheetham@hotmail.co.uk.

QRS
AUTO SERVICE



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

We can also service your car without compromising your manufactures warranty

Aiming to deliver excellent customer service driven by quality workmanship

A few things we specialise in:

- ◆ MOT Testing
- ◆ Diagnostics
- ◆ Servicing
- ◆ Wheel Alignment
- ◆ EV & Hybrids
- ◆ Tyres

Complimentary courtesy cars and collection & delivery also available

Get Road Trip Ready this
Spring



01829 771165



Tattenhall, Chester, CH3 9BD



mail@qrsport.com