

Comberbach Village News

Community updates and events - Mar 2019



Spring is bursting out all around Comberbach

Parish Council

An informal update from your parish council chairman

Notes from the Chair

My Chairman's comments focus on several items of importance over the coming months.

Parish Council Elections

The Parish Council elections are nearly upon us, and it is likely that there will be several vacancies arising, and we do require additional members to maintain the status quo.

The village needs to have "new blood" installed into the Parish Council and other committees so as we can continue to provide amenities to what the residents want.

Could you be available; -

- To give some of your time to assist with Parish Council business and are available to attend meetings on just 7 Tuesday evenings per year.
- Willing to speak up for the residents of Comberbach.
- Help to maintain and improve the quality of life in the village.

If so, please get in touch with the Parish Clerk in the first instance.

Recreation Area

As many of you are aware the wet pour soft play surface in the children's play area needs refurbishment. Last year we obtained quotes for a full overlay and resurface with the costs around £22,000 excluding vat. The PC decided that we would

spend monies for a full resurface from funds in Reserves and try to obtain grants towards the cost. I am pleased to advise that we have received a few grants which will contribute a significant amount towards the cost.

Awards for All (The big lottery fund) have awarded us a grant of £10,000, Manchester Airport Community Relations £3,000 and the Marbury Ward Councilors £1,500. This funding is very welcome towards the overall cost of the project, and I would like to thank the Parish Clerk Denise French, and the Responsible Financial Officer Steve Penwill for their contribution in completing all the documentation necessary to obtain the grants awarded.

We anticipate the work being completed in May before the school holidays and the area will be closed for approximately 6 days for the work to be completed.

Help!!!!!!

Before the work is completed there are a few coloured pencil posts which have become rotten and require replacement. If anyone has the skills to know how to extract the existing rotten posts below the surface, please get in touch with the Parish Clerk or myself.

Precept

The Parish Council has approved a precept for 2019/20 of £21,895 which is the same as the precept amount set for the previous year. However, there is a small increase in the amount payable (1.2%) which is due to a reduction in the parish tax base (on average, houses either subject to a new discount based on occupancy or being revalued at a lower Council Tax band offset by any new properties being lived in). Whilst we have over the last few years built up a healthy reserve, monies will be shortly spent on the recreation area, and new signage for the village. Taking into account the amount we receive from the precept nearly 90% is allocated on costs projected for the forthcoming year with the balance being transferred to Reserves to cover the costs associated with new projects over the coming years.

Newsletter

Congratulations to the Newsletter Team for the new formatted Village News which I think is very welcome across the readers.

*John Ryder,
Chair, Comberbach Parish
Council*

Community Transport

In the recent village questionnaire, the provision of local bus services was mentioned by some respondents. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has been working with Cheshire Community Trust and would like to highlight two transport options that this charity runs which may be of benefit to some residents.

The Dial-a-Ride scheme is a wheelchair accessible door to door transport scheme for people who find using public transport difficult and covers most of the areas surrounding Northwich. To use Dial-a-Ride

you must complete a membership form and become a registered user. You can complete an application form online or you can request one to be sent to you by phoning 01606 784 100. It operates Tuesday to Friday 8.45 - 16.30, with an additional Northwich service on the second Saturday of every month. There is a standard fare of £5 return to Northwich and you book your journey the day before you wish to travel.

The Rural Rider service operates a door-to-door mini-bus service to provide key transport links to Northwich. It is available

to anyone (children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult) and is wheelchair accessible. To use the service, you must register your details with the transport team on 01606 784 100, by email at transport@cheshirecdt.org.uk or via the online contact form.

The service is available from Comberbach on a Thursday, pick up at 10:00 and return at 13.30, with bookings made the day before. It is free for those holding an older person's bus pass and £5.20 return for those without a bus pass.

Cheshire Community Action

Cheshire Community Action organisation have been commissioned by the Cheshire West Integrated Care Partnership (CWICP) to carry out consultation with people, or their carer, who manage a long-term health conditions. The long term conditions include diabetes, COPD, heart conditions, epilepsy, arthritis, chronic pain, neuromuscular conditions and some long term

mental health problems. The aim is to enable more support to be provided in people's homes and in the local community. You can take part electronically by visiting www.cheshireaction.org.uk/community-conversations or phoning Chris Davenport on 01244 400222 to talk to a team member.

Neighbourhood Plan Survey

The results are in...

With your autumn village newsletter you received a sheet of bright yellow paper. On it was a questionnaire asking for your opinions on how you see our village evolving over the next 5, 10, 15 years.

Your opinions were sought to help to create a vision for the village, via a **Neighbourhood Plan**.

Whether you wanted a drive through Starbucks at the garage, or to protect a particular view or wildlife habitat, **We wanted to know!!**

The results have been analysed and we would like to present them to you at a **Village Meeting** in the Memorial hall on 21 March at 7:30pm.

Please come along to hear what the village had to say, and find out next steps for the Neighbourhood plan committee, made up of: *Myself (Liz Cook); Sally Gray; Margaret Boydell; Anne Orde; Anne Saville; Mike Saville; Jim Bradley; and Bill Jones.*

M&S Northwich

For those of you who don't want to lose the M&S in town there are two petitions you can sign:

1. Mike Amesbury, Labour MP for Weaver Vale has a petition on www.change.org/p/marks-and-spencer-petition-for-m-s-to-stay-in-northwich

2. Cheshire West Conservative group on www.cheshirewest-conservatives.org.uk/campaigns/petition-ms-stay

Methodist Church and Sunday School

Our 140th Chapel Anniversary was celebrated at a Family Service on 10 February, when the Service was led by Mrs Ruth Pritchard. During the Service, everyone in the Congregation was asked to put their fingerprint onto a large drawing of the Chapel, to represent us being "One Family". The Choir took part, singing four Songs including Amazing Grace combined with Pachelbel's Canon.

A Display of photographs and memorabilia in the Sunday School, proved to be a very popular event. One of the original silver trowels, presented to Thomas Woodcock at the stone-laying ceremony on 14 August 1879, was on display along with a silver chalice which is inscribed with the opening date - 12 August 1880 - just twelve months to completion - an amazing feat.

There were photos of the people whose memorials are in the Chapel, past Sunday School Anniversaries, the earliest being 1939, wonderful examples from 1982, right through to the present. There was a display of Organ photos, now 121 years old, showing the inside

workings and also the name M Jones which was carved into the wood next to the manual pump handle, used before the days of electricity! The Display also included a wonderful painting of the Chapel recently donated by Mr Ron Stephens.

The next Family Service will be on Mothering Sunday when the Service will be led by Mrs Cath Speed and all the Ladies attending the Service will receive posies. This will be followed by the Easter Sunday Family Service on 21 April. The next few weeks after that, will be taken up with Practices for the Sunday School Anniversary, which will be held on Sunday 19th May at 11.00am with an Evening Choir Celebration at 6.30pm.

A six-week Lent Course is now underway, meeting at Ida's home each Thursday at 7.30pm. This is in conjunction with the friends of Great Budworth Church.

The Guild Members have recently enjoyed a Favourites Evening, when everyone brought with them items to share - these items included

the Story of Susannah Wesley, Rudyard Kipling's Poem "The Glory of the Garden", Vivaldi's "Spring", Thomas Woodcock's Chapel Poem from 1894, Judith's Reading from her "Hope" Book, Maureen's Remembrance Poem, the Hymn Great is Thy Faithfulness and a Poem by Ida based on it, plus several other old Methodist Hymns.

Our Lite Bite Luncheon Sessions have continued with many happy customers. Year 6 from the School have continued to help with the waiting-on each time, which always seems to brighten the atmosphere, with the older people really enjoying their company. It is such a good inter-action with the School. We will be finishing for the Summer Break on the 21st March.

A Date for your Diary is Saturday 6 April at 7pm, when we will be hosting a Spring Concert given by the Weaver Valley WI Choir. Conductor - Louise Dickinson, Accompanist Alan Woodcock. Tickets are £8, including Refreshments and are available from several members including Robert (891771) and Ida (892117). Proceeds in aid of the Refurbishment Fund.

On Wednesday 13 March.

Our oldest Chapel Member,

Mrs Mary Woodcock,

will be celebrating her

100th Birthday

Congratulations from

all Members and Friends.

**Comberbach Methodist Church
Refurbishment Fund**

Spring Concert

Given by

The Weaver Valley WI Choir

Saturday 6 April 2019 - 7pm

Tickets £8 including refreshments

Comberbach Open Golf Championship

I am writing this article as we have just had the warmest day in February ...ever...which I hope doesn't mean a horrible March or summer. Fingers crossed.

Which brings me nicely to thinking and planning ahead into 2019 and the world famous Comberbach Open Golf Championship.

The date for our great golf championship is co-ordinated with the date of a smaller professional event, the so-called Open...we usually arrange our date to be on the Sunday morning of the smaller Open so that their players can see and learn from us, to improve their game in the afternoon. This year we have been asked to change our date so they are guaranteed better viewing numbers...not really but it sounds good!

So, the next Comberbach Open will take place on the morning of Sunday 14 July 2019, a week earlier than normal.

It will be held at Antrobus Golf Club, with tee times from 8am.

Their Secretary is already looking forward to seeing us again. Much fun is had every year, and we try to adjust handicaps to get a different winner...

So, all you Comberbach golfers put the date – Sunday 14 July – into your diaries, and watch out for further updates on how to enter in the Village News in the coming months. You know you want to...

*Ian Philps,
Organising Committee, Chairperson*



Message from PCSO Diana Wiggins

There has been an increase regarding theft from vehicles. Please make sure that you lock your vehicle at all times and remove any valuables from sight. The latest incidents occurred during the early hours. Please contact us by ringing 999 if you see anything untoward.

Can I also ask that you keep an eye on your neighbours who are elderly in and around the village. If you have not seen them for a few days or have concerns then please contact us as soon as possible. Being a good neighbour goes along way.

I hold regular surgeries at Comberbach post office from 9-10am.

Dates are as follows:

15 March

5 April

15 April

26 April

Marbury Park – Play Improvement Project – Community Consultation

Cheshire West and Chester Council are consulting on proposals to move the location of the play area in Marbury Park, Northwich, and improve the play facilities on offer, to provide better play opportunities for infants, juniors and early teens.

We have developed an online survey which highlights the proposals for the play area at Marbury Park and asks questions to gather your views on

them. What you tell us will be used to inform the development of these proposals and a funding bid to apply for money to pay for the new play area.

Please click on the link below to access the online survey:

www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/marburyparkplay

1st Comberbach Guides

Now that most of us have a new badge book - thanks to the Fete Committee for your help - we've been working on the 'Know Myself' theme. We started by looking what Guides did during World War 2. We made air raid shelters and entertained another Patrol in the shelter during an 'air raid'. We had a go at putting our arms in slings, bandaging wounds and transporting injured people without a stretcher. The best

bit was putting fires out - using a syringe to squirt water at tea lights.

We have been on mini hikes around Anderton and Barn-ton, learning how to read and follow a map. One night we had a penny hike around the village. Talk about going round in circles!

In addition to trying various crafts, we've been thinking

about what we'd like to achieve in our lifetime, and how what we do may be changed by advances in technology.

We really enjoy Guides - we play lots of games, meet new people, but most of all we have fun. Come and try us.

The Guides

Senior Section Guides

We're writing this just before we hold our annual 24hr event on 8 and 9 March. This year we decided the theme will be music. We've planned a junior disco, campfire, music workshops and a session making our own instruments. We'll end the event by watching The Greatest Showman musical. If you came to see us - thanks for your support. Thanks also to the Methodist Church for allowing us to use the church hall.

Planning, organising and running this event has helped us gain our Lead Stage 6 badges, which is part of the Skills for My Future theme in the new programme. Thanks to the Fete Committee for helping with the purchase of books. We have also done some DIY, checked out the Guide tents, whilst of course having lots of fun, tea and cakes. In Marbury Park we had a campfire, toasted marshmallows and made hot chocolate.

Now exams are looming, which probably means we can't meet as often. When we do, we hope to be outdoors working on the 'Have Adventures' theme. More of that next time.

We would welcome more members, so please come and join us.
Senior Section

Thank You

Thank you to the Fete Committee for their kind donation towards our new badge books. With your help and our own fundraising efforts, we are all now able to begin our new Guiding programme.

Comberbach Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section Guides

Comberbach Rainbows

We are the Comberbach Rainbows and we meet every Monday at the church hall on Senna Lane during school term time. Our aim is to have fun. We learn by making crafts, art work and getting involved in the community. This year we are having a sleepover at our guiding site in Sandiway, which is in our lodge situated within woodlands. We

try to make this event as exciting as we possibly can. The area is fenced in making it very secure for our youngsters.

If you have a daughter between the ages of 5 years to 7 years old why not get your name down at Girlguiding UK and state you wish to join 1st Comberbach Rainbows. I will pick up

your information and let you know how soon you can join us. We do have spaces now.

If you are looking to have a fun evening we can offer you this.
Sue Greenwood.AKA Brownowl.

Fete

The Greatest Show

The Fete Committee are very pleased to confirm that the theme for this years' fete will be 'The Greatest Show', so get your thinking caps on for your fancy dress! Whether you will be a juggler, a clown, a dancer, a unicyclist or maybe even a stilt walker, everyone is welcome to come and join in the fun of the Fete and the preceding village parade.

The committee are working extremely hard to put on 'The greatest show' with artists and acts booked and polishing up their performances ready for your enjoyment on what is sure to be a fabulous day in line with our motto of 'entertainment for all ages'.

As ever, fete day will be the last Saturday in June, which this year falls on the 29th. Timings for the day will be the same as last year with the parade forming in Senna Lane and floats judged from 12:00. The procession will depart at 12:30 and then arrive at the show ground at 13:00 for the Fete opening shortly after.

All contributions and offers of help before, during and after (take-down) fete day are gratefully received so if you are able to volunteer to help set up, tend a stall or the gate, bake a cake, bring sandwiches for the teas tent, help to marshal the parade, or you are a dab hand at taking down gazebos, then please just drop us a line via our Facebook page www.facebook.com/comberbach-fete or let our chairman, Steve (your local postmaster), know at Comberbach Post office.

Sundowner A New Era for The Village Fun Run

The village fun run has been a much loved tradition for many years. However, increasing demands on people's time and the advent of initiatives like Parkrun had led to dwindling numbers in recent years. Indeed in our previous article we advised that Fete Committee was considering switching attention towards other entertainment and fund raising options for this year, but then we thought again and said 'what the heck', let's do both including a change and a refresh of the fun run.

Friday 10 May

Therefore, for 2019, we've decided to relaunch the fun run in a new format, as an early evening event with a BBQ, a bar and maybe also some music. The 'Sundowner' will take place on Friday 10 May, kicking off with the children's' 1km run at 6:30pm, followed by the main 5km race at 7pm. The race will follow the usual route on the paths and trails of Marbury Country Park. Please arrive in plenty of time to sign-in and get your race numbers etc.

Also new for this year is the facility to pre-enter online for a discounted rate. Visit <https://sundownerfunrun.niftyentries.com/Sundowner-Fun-Run-1K-5K>. Advance entries are £4 for adults and £2 for children (on the day entries will be £5 for adults and £3 for children). Entries only went live a week ago and already, nearly 60 people have signed up, so we are pleased that the 'Sundowner' seems to be hitting the spot!

The 2019 Rose Queen's Charity

All funds raised will be donated to the 2019 Rose Queen's nominated charity, which will be announced after the Rose Queen is selected by random draw at the School Spring Disco on the 14 March.

As ever, we will need volunteers for the Sun Downer, to marshal, time, man the bar, give water to finishers etc. So if you can't or don't want to run but would like to help out, please make yourself known to a member of the Fete Committee or contact us in the ways described above. October Event in the Pipeline.

Watch this space!

Finally, we are also in the early stages of planning an October evening event with food and entertainment. It will be something new and a little bit different, but something that we are sure will appeal to many. Watch this space for more details!!

Saturday 16 March, 10 - 4pm
Photographic Exhibition

Monday 18 March, 7.45 pm
20th Anniversary Celebration
Talk

Sunday 14 April, 10 - 12noon
Spring Time Decorations

Saturday 27 April, 10- 12noon
Spring Time in Marbury Park

Monday 29 April, 10 - 12noon
Wildlife Walk

Saturday 11 May, 5am
Dawn Chorus Walk

FUN RUN



BOTTLE BAR | CAKES | MUSIC | REFRESHMENTS | BBQ



VILLAGE FETE
 Commencement des 100 ans



** Long term conditions include diabetes, COPD, heart conditions, epilepsy, arthritis, chronic pain, neuromuscular conditions and some long term men-tal health problems.*

Comberbach WI

the WI

INSPIRING WOMEN

Big Joint Burns Night Bash

On Friday 25 of January twenty members of Comberbach W.I. joined other members of the Vale Royal Group for the Burns Night Celebration. Members entered into the spirit of the event dressing in various forms of traditional Scottish attire.

A traditional Burns Supper was served followed by Scottish dancing and indoor Curling, which was a great success. The table quiz, featuring all things Scottish, was a fun challenge - and it was surprising how many facts there were not to know about Robbie Burns in the 20 questions relating to him. Later on to finish the evening perfectly, there was a beautiful rendition of Scottish music on the bagpipes.

The meeting held on 4 February was attended by 44 members. The business addressed included the announcement of ballot on the WI Groups Resolution with "Don't Fear The Smear" achieving a majority vote, which will now be passed onto the CFWI. An educational bursary was announced with all interested members asked to submit their interest before the March meeting. Food and toiletries were collected and will be sent to the Mid Cheshire Food-bank. Details of the trip to the



Hat Museum in Stockport were finalised, with many members looking forward to this interesting outing. Future plans for a Darts Night, Bowling Match and Quiz Night were shared with the members. Activity reports were shared from The Rambling group, Around the World Dining group and the Book Club. The craft group have a meeting scheduled for the coming week. Once the business was concluded members turned their attention to the Beetle Drive which was a great success. There was enthusiastic throwing of the dice

and some great beetles were drawn. The prize winner of the night was Judith Buckley.

New members and visitors are always welcome. Please contact The Secretary for more information.

Further details about the Comberbach WI are available on: www.comberbachwi.org.uk and on the newly created Facebook Comberbach WI.

Friends of Comberbach School: raising funds for school resources



Comberbach kids - Bear Grylls has nothing on you!

Step aside Bear Grylls, Comberbach's school children are brushing up on their outdoor survival skills...

In a previous issue we reported that the school pumpkin competition and autumn disco collectively raised £400. This money has now been spent on cooking and fire-making equipment for Forest School, an educational programme that gives children the opportunity to learn in an outdoor environment.

The school now has everything it needs to make fires and cook outside, and the children are very excited about the arrival of this new kit, which includes a fire pit, campfire grill, griddle, cast iron pans, cooking utensils, food prep and serving equipment, flint and everything we need for fire safety.

Burn's Night: £1000 raised

Many local residents turned out on a drizzly January evening for our ever popular Burn's Night quiz & supper in January, hosted by our lovely and unflappable quiz mistress, Nikki Lord. The collective brain power of Nicola and Grant Ashbrook, Niki and Dan Newton, Keith Jones and Claire Powlson triumphed, whilst a packed hall and well stocked bar meant the evening raised a whopping £1000.

Friends of Comberbach School (FoCS) has further events planned throughout the school year and hopes to raise somewhere in the region of £4000, which will be spent on improving the school's outdoor recreational space. Our biggest fundraiser is expected to be weekend music festival Comb-erfest (Saturday 18 May).

Two little ducks...

Next on the calendar is family bingo, which takes place on Saturday 23 March in the school hall (4-7pm). Hosted by our resident caller Bex Miller, this afternoon event is a fun activity for all ages, with loads of prizes, a licensed bar and reasonably priced food (chilli, hotdogs, pizza, ice cream etc) - so you don't even have to cook when you get home! Tickets are a bargain at £3 (£2 for kids), including two books. This is an event for the whole community - not just for people with links to the school - so please come along and join in the fun.

Also in March is the spring disco (14 March), when the 2019 Rose Queen and her retinue are announced. We are also running a spring mini garden competition. Entries will be displayed in the school garden in the run-up to the disco.

Lynda Bigmore,
Friends of Comberbach School
T: 01606 892439;
E: lynda@clevercopy.co.uk

Comberbach Primary School

We welcome everybody back to school and trust we have all had a lovely break. We launch into spring with the threat of winter still hanging around, but, whatever the weather throws our way we are all set for a very busy term.

Facebook and Twitter

We regularly post on both Facebook and Twitter. We use social media to celebrate the wider achievements of the children in school and share some of the exciting activities and events that take place. Occasionally we will advertise future events. You can find us on Facebook or Twitter by searching for 'Comberbach Nursery & Primary School'.

Friends raise funds

'Friends of Comberbach School' FoCs have been busy raising money to support our school. Funds raised last year will be used to finance the construction of a new polytunnel for the school garden. Fruit and vegetables grown will not only allow classes to learn outdoor but the fruits of our labour will be available for the community of Comberbach residents to reap the benefits too.

The children continue to enjoy 'Forest School'. Forest School is an inspirational process that offers the children regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in woodland or natural environment with trees.



Our Aspirational young children!

New equipment

The support from FoCS has enabled us to purchase new equipment recently. Mrs Green our class 5 teacher and lead for Forest Schools has said the children cannot wait to start using their new equipment.

Aspirations Day

Thursday 31 January was Aspirations Day. The children were invited to come into school dressed in what they aspire to be when they are older.

There was such a diverse range of responses. We thanked Parents, carers, friends and family who were able to come into school to inspire the children.

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A birds eye view

Betwixt and Between

Not unexpectedly, the majority of our garden birds managed to avoid the annual RSPB 'Big Garden Bird Watch' back in January. We were not helped by the hooligan wind that battered the garden during the census.

We had the usual visitors but in much smaller numbers than normal, although the resident house sparrows obviously had a good breeding season last summer as I counted 28 of them. Whether birds are absent or present though, the information given to the RSPB is invaluable and the results can be viewed via their website.

This winter's weather has been very mixed so far and this has meant that we have not had large influxes of birds like wax wings, lesser redpolls and siskins. This is good news for the birds as it probably means the weather in their own regions is not too severe and they are not suffering from food shortages.

Pink Bills and Belly Bars

From a birder's perspective it means you have to cast your net a bit wider during these times. Hence, in early January we had a trip out to Frodsham Marsh in search of 4 white-fronted geese. The first visit

involved a long walk and no geese; the second one still had the long walk but this time 4 fantastic geese as well.

They are true wild geese and thus very flighty. We were lucky not to spook them as we almost stumble across them. There are 2 types, those that originate from Greenland and the much rarer European race that comes from the Arctic and north east Russia.

The pink bills proved they were the latter, 4 of only about 2000 in the country at the time. They have brownish heads and necks, with grey-brown flanks and orange feet. Apart from the beak, the key identification features are the white blaze on the forehead above the beak that gives them their name, and the dark bars across their bellies.

There seemed to be an adult and 3 juveniles, a small family group. They were seen in the area for over 3 weeks and seemed untroubled as they fed on the rich grass in the large fields that surround the marsh.

Curling Curlews

Back on home-ground I had the pleasure of seeing 200+ curlew land on the ice on a

near frozen Neumann's Flash in early February. Half of them left very quickly after realising the situation. Food is indeed hard to life come by at this time of year, life itself is a constant struggle be it for geese from the Arctic or house sparrows from Comberbach.

If you can spare the time and effort, any food and water you put out now will make a difference come the spring when our garden birds will still be here and in good condition to breed.

What is better than 1 bittern? Yes that is right 2 bitterns, and in January / February I was lucky enough to get a number of sightings of them in the Coward reed bed at Marbury Park.

I have come to the conclusion that they do not like each other! I have watched them posturing to one another until one gives in and flies to the other side of the reed bed. At dusk they use their beaks and feet to fold over and hold down the reeds they perch on top of, making themselves a platform to roost on through the cold winter nights.....roll on spring!

JB



Great Budworth Parish Church St Mary and All Saints

Sat 2 March

9am - 11am Coffee Morning in church to set rota for Church Teas.

Sun 3 March

10.30am All Age Worship

Wed 6 March

10.30am Holy Communion followed by coffee and chat. All welcome
7.30pm Ash Wednesday Service of Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes

Thur 7 March

7.30pm Celtic Evening Prayer for Lent

Sun 17 March

6.30pm Evensong at Arley Chapel

Sun 24 March

11.45am PCC Accounts meeting in church

Mon 25 March

Art Exhibition arrives in church 'Journey into Light' Prisoners artwork.

Sun 31 March

10.30am Mothering Sunday Service
(Summer Time begins - clocks forward)

All other services as normal (back of Parish Magazine)

Thursday 14, 21, 28 March & 4, 11 April

7pm Compline/Evening Prayer for Lent, followed by Lent discussion group at 7.30pm.

All are welcome to join us either at the Evening Prayer, or the discussion group, or why not be daring and attend both! A great evening of fellowship and friendship.

Exhibition of prisoner artwork comes to Great Budworth

An exhibition of prisoner artwork will go on public display at St Mary's Great Budworth from 25 March to the 8 of April.

Titled, Journey into Light, the aim of the exhibition is to demonstrate to a visitor that behind every prisoner's conviction and sentence is a personal story of love, hope and loss. The exhibition is made up of more than 40 individual pieces of art produced by prisoners from HMP Styal and HMP Thorn Cross, Cheshire.

Prisoners are often viewed as "the other" yet they live in our midst, are a part of our communities and contribute to our societies. The Bible has much to say about the plight of prisoners, and the Christian faith recognises that every person is made in the image of God and is valued despite our individual mistakes and regrets.

The Journey into Light exhibition allows us the opportunity to better understand the lived experiences of prisoners in Cheshire.

Debbie Dalby, Director of Social Responsibility at the Diocese of Chester, says: "We want people to view the exhibition and leave with a greater

sense of empathy and awareness of prisoner experience. There is life beyond prison and we want to celebrate renewal and restoration and the hope of a brighter, more optimistic future."

The exhibition is inspired by the work of David Ashbrook who discovered an extraordinary gift for painting whilst serving a life sentence. He painted the signature artwork used for the exhibition.

On his release, David focused upon hope and renewal and was starting to share this message of love through his artwork when his life was tragically cut short in a car accident in 2008. The exhibition is a partnership between St Mary's, the Diocese of Chester and chaplains from HMP Styal and HMP Thorn Cross who have worked with the prisoners to produce the pieces of art.

The exhibits differ in style from large acrylic paintings, abstract landscapes, and self-portraits. The launch of the exhibition at Chester Cathedral in October 2018 attracted thousands of visitors. It is hoped that thousands more will see the artwork as it travels to 33 parishes in the Diocese of Chester between now and October 2019.

Report from Comberbach Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 22 January 2019

Car park safety and security

The new car park barrier is now in place at the entrance to the car park. Replacement bulbs have been installed in the lighting columns.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will hold its next meeting in March to consider the results from the initial consultation and agree the next steps to progress the Plan.

If anyone wishes to be involved with the Group please contact the Parish Clerk.

Recreation Area

The Parish Council has agreed to continue its contract with Northwich Town Council for a quarterly inspection of the Recreation Area to ensure play equipment is kept in good order and is safe to use. The Council has also asked Northwich Town Council to jet wash the Wet Pour surfacing.

Parish Council Minutes are available on the noticeboard by the village store and on Comberbach.com website.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Tuesday 12 March commencing at 7.15pm at Comberbach Memorial Hall. All are welcome.

Great Budworth Garden Club

Colourful spring flowers

As we start the new year, our gardens are full of colour from spring flowers, and our enthusiasm is coming back after winter, to prepare for a wonderful year ahead. We held a very successful AGM where the committee were re-elected en bloc, the treasurer showed a good balance on the books, and the new events card was given to all members paying their subscriptions. We hope that the few outstanding payments will be made by the March meeting please.

A copy of the club's constitution was available for members to read, as were minutes of last year's AGM.

Sterling work

The chair, Jean Davies, thanked the committee individually for their sterling work over the last year. Everyone plays their part with enthusiasm, and it is so appreciated, everyone goes the extra mile to help. The success of the club is down to every single one of you, she said, and thanked members for all their support.

Wollerton Old Hall

The meeting following on was chaired by Henri Giller. The speaker was Phil Smith, head gardener of Wollerton Old Hall, a favourite venue of all of us.

He spoke about the garden through the seasons, with his own photographs to illustrate the talk. He answered any questions and proved to be a very educated, professional man, with a lovely personality. He was thanked by Heather Bailey, who gave him some of her own snowdrops.

Primulas

Our life members and kind benefactors, Eddie and Margaret Horrigan, gave everybody a primula to start their garden with colour. We are so appreciative of this, and members were delighted.

Agapanthus, nerines and tulbaghia.

The next meeting is on 12 March at the Parish Hall at the new time of 7.30, when Colin Hickman will talk about agapanthus, nerines and tulbaghia.

The second holiday payment is due that night.

Guests are welcome to this meeting.

Spring bulbs

Remember to tend your pot of spring bulbs for our competition in April, let's try to fill the hall with perfume and colour!

Any other information needed, please contact me in the first instance.

Jean Davies.

mrsjeandavies@gmail.com

01606 892383 / 0789993 7683



Friends of Anderton and Marbury

Forthcoming FoAM Events

Photographic Exhibition

Come and see the Exhibition of Photographs submitted for FoAM's Competition in 2018 in Comberbach Memorial Hall between 10am and 4pm on Saturday 16 March.

For information contact:

Jim Jeeves 01606 77688

20th Anniversary Celebration Talk

FoAM is now 20 years old. This illustrated talk will celebrate the achievements of the group. Tea/coffee and cake will be provided.

7.45 pm on Monday 18 March in Comberbach Memorial Hall

For information contact:

Alan Redley 01606 44728

Spring Time Decorations

Join us at Marbury Rangers' Cabin to make some Easter arrangements and wreaths using fresh spring materials between 10am and 12noon on Sunday 14 April.

Booking is essential. For information contact:

Joanne Redley 01606 44728

Spring Time in Marbury Park

A guided 2 hour walk at this wonderful time in the park to see the early woodland flowers starting at 10 am on Saturday 27th April from Marbury Lodge/ Rangers' Cabin.

For information contact:

Mary Jeeves 01606 77688



Wildlife Walk

In conjunction with the Workers' Educational Association, the 2 hour walk will take patient wildlife enthusiasts to look at flora and fauna in Northwich Woodlands. It will start at 10 am on Monday 29 April from Marbury Lodge/Rangers' Cabin.

For information contact

Dave James: 01606 77741

or email david.james@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Dawn Chorus Walk

FoAM's experienced birding enthusiasts will again lead this popular event for everyone interested in birds. The early start of 5am on Saturday 11 May gives the opportunity to try and identify the individual calls setting off from Marbury Lodge/ Rangers' Cabin.

For information contact:

David Bullock 01606 781981

Textiles in the Park

A group of local contemporary Textile Artists are holding their second exhibition entitled Flora. The exhibition will be held at the Rangers' Meeting Room, Marbury Park, Northwich, Cheshire, CW9 6AT on Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 March 2019 between 10am and 4pm each day.

Flora will showcase the Textile Art that has been influenced and inspired by flowers, fruit and trees; subject matter that is all around them when the group meet weekly at Marbury.

Textiles in the Park was established in February 2017 to meet the need for a creative group that would bring together like-minded artists. The regular weekly meetings provide support, inspiration and motivation for the thirteen current members who come from a variety of back-



grounds but who all have a common love of textiles.

The group hold their meetings in the Rangers' Meeting room at Marbury Park which is part of Northwich Woodlands and The Mersey Forest.

The artists have been influenced and inspired by the nature all around them, leading to the choice of Flora as the exhibition title. Ten per cent of monies from any sales of work will be donated to the friends of Anderton and Marbury (FoAM) to contribute towards funding events for the local community.

The exhibition, which is free to enter, will have on display over forty pieces of 2-D and 3-D Textile Art and will include Eco-Printing, Mixed Media, Free Machine Embroidery, Needle felting, Hand Embroidery, Wet felting, Wirework, Weaving and Bead-ing.

For further information contact:

Lorraine Fitches on Textilesin-thePark@btinternet.com

Or

Sheila Hetherington on 07412 941065

Ladies Club

The Ladies Club had a great night in December at Helena O'Byrne's. Everybody contributed drinks, nibbles and wore Christmas hats. This was a great way to start Christmas week.

Our Christmas meal was in January, this year at the George and Dragon in Great Budworth. Another good evening with a wonderful meal. In February we all met at the Cock o' Budworth for a drink and to plan this year's programme.

We will be in the village hall in March for a 'Tropic' body products evening and again in April for the 'antiques road show'.

18 March	Tropics body products	M.H.
15 April	Antiques road show	M.H.
20 May	Walk/meal	T.B.A.
17 June	Afternoon tea	T.B.A.
15 July	Supper party	T.B.A.

A request from Full Fat TV

The following is a message from a Casting Researcher of Full Fat TV:

'I'm messaging from a UK TV Production Company, Full Fat TV (like the milk!), where we're casting for our new TV series. I was raised in a small village in Warwickshire, so I'm passionate about finding participants and stories from villages and rural areas.

The series will be for Quest Red, a branch of the Discovery Network, and will see an award-winning dermatologist helping people across the country with their skin. From small and cosmetic issues to huge, debilitating conditions, she'll be able to offer world-class help to those who are selected to take part. I hope you see this is an excellent opportunity for anyone who has struggled to find help, has not known where to get help or knows someone who could really benefit from this help.

The email for people to contact is skin@fullfattv.co.uk or to call me, Sam Matwiejew, on 0121 272 5844 or 07472 559 411.'

FRIENDS OF COMBERBACH SCHOOL PRESENTS



Saturday 23rd March

Comberbach Primary School

4pm-7pm

TICKETS £3 ADULT, £2 CHILD (INCLUDES 2 BOOKS)
BOTTLE BAR | CHILLI, HOT DOGS & PIZZA | PRIZES

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Parish Councillor contact details

Name	Address	Tel numbers	Contact point for
Cllr. John Ryder (Chairman)	26 Burgamot Lane, Comberbach CW9 6BU	01606 891 827	
Cllr. Jim E Bradley	3 Bracken Way, Comberbach CW9 6QF	01606 891 005 07708 633458	Bracken Way, Kennelwood Road, Fox Lea, Freshfields,
Cllr. Rena Bradley	3 Bracken Way, Comberbach CW9 6QF	01606 891005	Bracken Way, Kennelwood Road, Fox Lea, Freshfields, Broadacre
Cllr. Daniel Clegg	28 Burgamot Lane Comberbach CW9 6BU	07740 366683	Mather Drive, Meadw Lane, Senna Lane (upper from Mather Drive)
Cllr. Kevin Goulding	9 Barrymore Crescent, Comberbach CW9 6PA	0845 660 7960	Barrymore Crescent, Burgamot Lane, The Avenue (up to the Spinner), Budworth Lane, Crownest Lane,
Cllr. Steven Hornby	Sunny Bank, Marbury Road Comberbach CW9 6AU	07970 499227	Cogshall Lane, Outer Cogshall
Cllr. Jill Johnston	6 Barrymore Crescent Comberbach CW9 6PA	01606 892 121	Goosebrook Close, Brookfield Road, Spinner Crescent, Chapel Close, Reedsmere Walk
Cllr. Bob Holt	8 Cogshall Lane Comberbach CW9 6BS	07739 046775	Senna Lane (lower to Mather Drive), Warrington Road (from the Spinner), Marbury Road, The Moss,
Denise French, Clerk		07759 212449	parishclerk@comberbach.com

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What's going on...when, and how to contact the right people

Memorial Hall

Brownies (1st Comberbach)	Thursday	6 - 7.25pm	Zoe Jones	783634 07513229863
WI	1st Mon each month	7.30pm	Rosie Rowe	784858
Ladies Club	3rd Mon each month	Different Venues	Ursula Ryder	01606 891827
Love to Dance	Mon, Tues, Wed	4pm		
	Tues, Tots and Seniors		Zoe	07527 514810
Dog Training	Thursday	8pm		
Yoga	Wednesday	8-9:30pm	Beginners and Intermediate	
	Gary Lucas on 07757 547692 :email garylucas365@gmail.com or Facebook at 'gary lucas yoga'.			
AH Maths Tuition	Tuesday & Wednesday	5:30 - 6:20pm	Alex Hornby	07960 882068
Indoor Bowling	Wednesday	1 - 3pm	Rena Bradley	891 005

Chapel

Brownies (2nd)	Wednesday	6 - 7.20pm	Lynda Flynn	891571
Guides	Wednesday	7.30 - 9.00pm	Anne O'May	891156
Rainbows	Monday	6 - 7.15pm	Sue Greenwood	76408
Marbury Senior Section	Monday	8 - 9.30pm	Anne O'May	891156
Sunday School	Sunday	11am - 12.00pm	Ian Woodcock	782655
Art Group	Mondays	10 - 1.pm	Midge Broadhurst	01925 266 798
French Language Lessons	Thursday	7-9pm	Nathalie Poutineau	892741

Comberbach Primary School Hall

Toddler Group	Wednesdays	9.30 - 11.30am	Lauren Burke	07411 670663
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Anderton Village Hall

Scouts	Friday	7.30 - 9.00pm	Paul Underwood Rob Doel	07725 150 928 891789 07526 723516
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Antrobus School Hall

Cubs	Tuesday	6.30 - 8.00pm	Rachel Cameron	01606 891023
Beavers	Wednesday	6.15 - 7.15pm	Janet Warburton	854014

Please send contributions to the newsletter to: newsletter@comberbach.com

Articles for the newsletter can also be made to any of the team below either on paper or by e-mail

Kath Wharfe	18 Burgamot Lane	891540	kathwharfe@hotmail.co.uk
Angela Austin			ang.austin@hotmail.co.uk

Useful contacts:

Village web site	www.comberbach.com		
Marbury Park Rangers			77741
Homewatch			892568
Village Memorial Hall - bookings	07511302081	Between 2pm & 6.30pm Mon - Fri	
Clerk to the Parish Council	parishclerk@comberbach.com		
Pre-school website	www.comberbachpreschool.co.uk		
Comberbach Methodist Church	Rev Tim Simms		01606 301588
Sunday School Room Hire	Ian Barron		891579
Great Budworth Parish Church	Rev A Brown		891324
Fete Committee	Steve Howard		01606 891316

Dates for your diary

Mar	12	Gt Budworth Garden Club. Colin Hickman talk	Gt Budworth Parish Hall
	14	FoCS Spring Disco	
	15	PCSO Surgery 9-10 am	Post Office
	16	FOAM Photographic Exhibition 10am- 4pm	Memorial Hall
	16	Messy Church, 4.30 - 6pm	Chapel
	17	Evensong	Arley Chapel
	18	FOAM 20th Anniversary Celebration Talk, 7.45pm	Memorial Hall
	18	Ladies Club Tropics Body Products	
	21	Neighbourhood Plan Survey Results Meeting 7.30pm	Memorial Hall
	21	Lite Bite Luncheon 12-1.30pm	Chapel
	23	Textiles in the Park 10am -4pm	Marbury Park
	23	FoCS Family Bingo 4pm - 7pm	School Hall
	24	Textiles in the Park 10am - 4pm	Marbury Park
	25	Art Exhibition ' Journey into Light' (till 6 April)	Gt Budworth Church
	26	Gt Budworth Garden Club Trip to Ashwood Nurseries	
	31	Mothering Sunday Service, 11am	Chapel
	31	Mothering Sunday Service, 10.30.am	Gt Budworth Church
Apr	1	W I The Bee Man	Memorial Hall
	5	PCSG Surgery, 9-10 am	Post Office
	6	Comberbach Clean Up, 10am	Memorial Hall
	6	Spring Concert. Weaver Valley W I Choir, 7pm	Chapel
	7	Communion Service 6.30.pm	Chapel
	14	FOAM Spring Time Decorations 10-12pm	Marbury Park
	15	PCSO Surgery 9-10am	Post Office
	15	Ladies Club Antiques Road Show	Memorial Hall
	19	Good Friday Service, 2pm	Chapel
	21	Easter Sunday Family Service, 11am	Chapel
	26	PCSG Surgery, 9-10am	Post Office
	27	FOAM Spring Time in Marbury Park, 10-12 pm	Marbury Park
	27	Messy Church, 4.30 - 6pm	Chapel
	29	FOAM Wildlife Walk, 10-12pm	Marbury Park
May	3	Village News Deadline	
	11	FOAM Dawn Chorus Walk, 5am	Marbury Park
	18	FoCS Comberfest Music Festival	
	18	Messy Church, 4.30 - 6pm	Chapel
	19	Chapel Sunday School Anniversary 11am & 6.30.pm	Chapel
	20	Ladies Club Walk & Meal	

The Newsletter team

We hope you like the new style newsletter, the changeover was excellently managed by Ron Stephens, who has the difficult task of planning the layout of all the items.

As mentioned in the last edition, Norma Greatorex has left the village. She was the main organiser and editor of the newsletter for many years and we thank Norma for her dedication and hard work.

We welcome a new member to the team, Angela Austin, who is already on board and assisting. If anyone else wishes to help please contact us, details inside the back page.