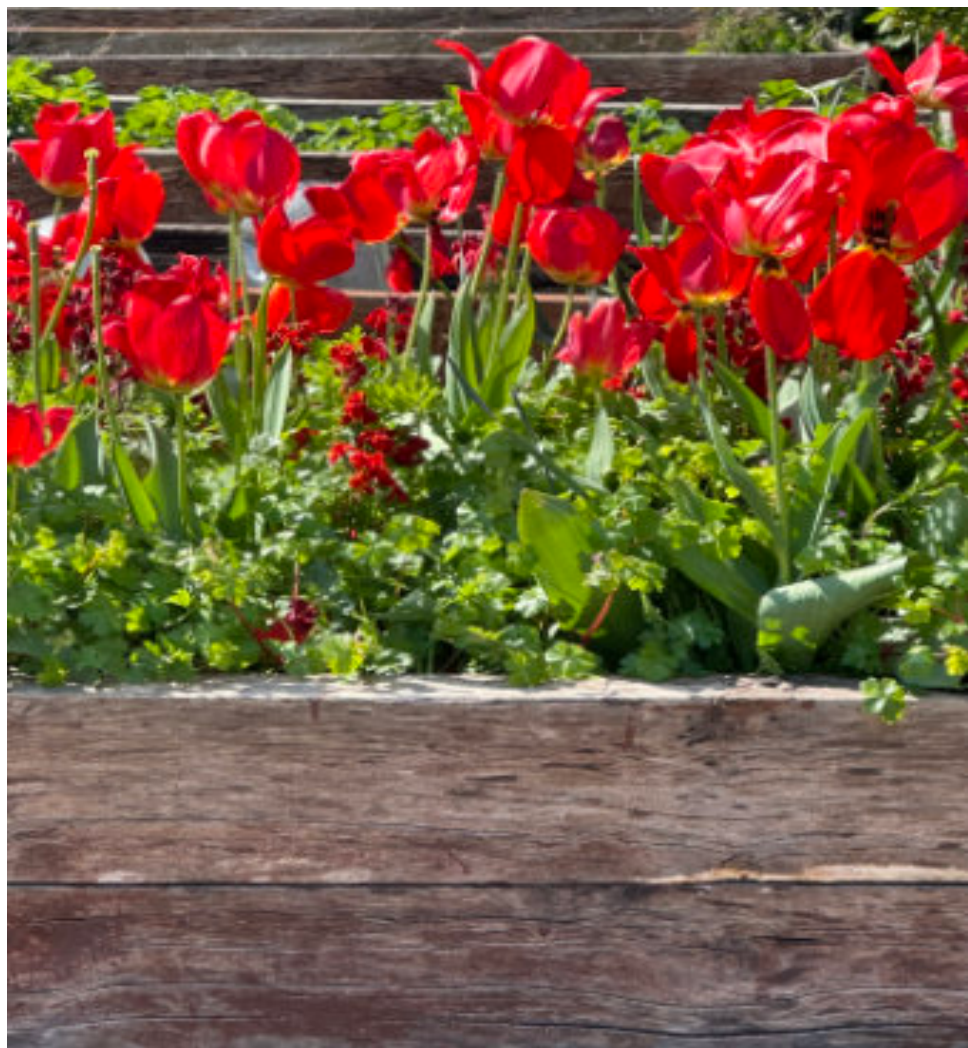


# Comberbach Village News

Community updates and events - May/June 2026

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*School tulips*

# Parish Council

*An informal update from your parish councillors*

## Notes from the Chair/Vice Chair

### Recreation Area

The new infants' play equipment was installed just before the Easter holidays and is already getting lots of use. As part of the Parish Council's bid for funding we are required to provide Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWAC) with an impact assessment to provide evidence of the value of the project. So, any feedback you can give on the new equipment would be really helpful – please get in touch with any Parish Councillor or the Parish Clerk. Our contact details are in the listing towards the end of the newsletter.

### New Parish Councillor

After the resignation of Bob Holt from the Council we were not required to hold an election and have co-opted Jenny Washburn. We are delighted that Jenny has joined us and we offer her a warm welcome and look forward to working with her.

### Community Policing

We have yet to meet PC Dan Vinton who will provide community policing in the village following Diana Wiggins redundancy but we are hoping he will be able to attend the May meeting of the Parish Council. The letter from Alison Ross (the Assistant Chief Constable for Neighbourhood Policing) on 18th December 2025 promised that Leeroy Moss (the Local Policing Unit Chief Inspector) would be in touch in the new year to provide further details of the new arrangements and answer any questions. So far, we have not heard anything so the Parish Council will follow this up.

### Speeding

In the last newsletter I explained that the Parish Council has limited powers to act on speeding, traffic volumes etc as CWAC Highways department is the authority, but that didn't stop us actively raising issues with them. We have funded a traffic survey on Gibb Hill/The Avenue and Marbury Road with financial support from the Marbury Ward Councillors' members' budget and the results will be discussed at the May meeting.

### Gulleys and grids

The Parish Council has formally complained to CWAC about the scheduling and execution of gully cleaning which represents an increased

risk of flooding to the village. This has been an ongoing issue for a long time and we are pursuing the issue with the support of our Ward Councillors.

### Report It

Please do use the Report It function on the CWAC website if you see any issues requiring attention e.g. potholes, blocked grids etc. The link is [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/contact-us/report-it](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/contact-us/report-it).

### Your Bus (Community Transport)

From 1st April 2026 the Dial-a-Ride service is being replaced by a CWAC wide service called Your Bus which will provide a fleet of 8 fully accessible minibuses with space for wheelchair users. The service is designed to help people stay connected and independent. There are eligibility criteria for the service and these are listed on the CWAC website, [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/transport-and-roads/public-transport/community-transport](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/transport-and-roads/public-transport/community-transport). You can also call them on 01606 784100 for more information.

There is an Evening Safe Transport pre bookable transport service for the Northwich area which will operate on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Details of how this will operate are also available on the above website and phone number.

### Parish Council Meetings

Please remember the Parish Council is always keen to hear your views and suggestions for improving life in the village so do come along to our meetings. We'll be delighted to see you.

Our next meeting which will include the Annual Parish Meeting and the Parish Council Annual Meeting will be on 19th May 2026. If you do want to raise an issue please let the Parish Clerk [clerk@comberbach-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@comberbach-pc.gov.uk) know 3 days in advance so we can do any research necessary.

*Jill Johnston  
Comberbach Parish Council Chair*

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## Comberbach Chapel

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Our Lite Bite Season came to an end on the 26 March with a full house once again. Many Birthdays have been celebrated, including two of our oldest members, Marjorie Tomsett and John Hardy, and lots of Quizzes have been pondered over. We hope to restart on Thursday 8 October when we will be celebrating twenty years of Comberbach Lite Bites.

On Mothering Sunday, we were very pleased to welcome back Hannah Daniels to lead our Service. Hannah was brought up in the Village and spoke fondly of her time in the Sunday School and the Choir. An impromptu, "Choir sing" took place after the Service with many past Choir Members, who were in the Congregation, taking part. This has now led to a Reunion Choir Afternoon being arranged, followed by an informal evening performance of their favourite songs, on Saturday 31 October. Any past Choir Members who would like to join in, please contact Alan!

Our Easter Sunday Celebration was led by Rev Graham Wassell, once a local Minister, but who now, in retirement, lives in Sheffield. The Service included some wonderful Easter Hymns and

items by the Choir and during the Service the wooden cross was decorated with sprigs of flowers brought by the Congregation, which was displayed on the steps for a few days afterwards. Coffee and Hot Cross Buns were enjoyed following the Service.

The week before Easter, Year 3 from School visited the Chapel one afternoon. They were given a little tour by Deacon Tim and Alan told them all about the Organ and how it works. Following on from this they sent us a display of their decorated crosses for us to share with the Congregation on Easter Sunday.

We look forward to taking part in the Village Fete once again, by hosting our Chapel Games Gazebo and then welcoming the Village Queen to our special Family Service on Sunday 12 July at 11am. A warm welcome to everyone. Refreshments will be served after the Service.

### Diary Dates:

July

12

Rose Queen Family Service - 11am





At our March meeting we welcomed Gillain Biggs and Lynda Khalifa who led us in a workshop to make a sugar craft teddy cake decoration. Despite reticence from some members who has never indulged in this craft before, everyone succeeded. The teddies were delightful and each was unique. Congratulations to Margaret Jefferson who won the prize.

Later than usual due to Easter, our April Meeting was a jolly affair which celebrated our 76th birthday with beautiful individual cakes made by our Treasurer Louise Pendlebury, together with a glass of prosecco. Our speaker, Dr Karen Castle, gave an enthralling talk on how, after qualifying as a nurse and working at Leighton Hospital for several years, applied and was accepted into the Prison Service. Her time in the Service was ground-breaking and ultimately led to a third career change when she pursued a degree in clinical psychology. Following her talk, Karen read out Limericks written by members on the

prison theme. Congratulations went to Alison Horton for the winning limerick.

A number of our members also enjoyed a 1940s themed evening of entertainment organised by our WI Group. Everyone got into the spirit, dressing for the occasion in suitable tea dresses or Land Girl uniforms. There was 1940s music, a 1940s quiz, a jolly good dance and of course cake!

Looking forward we have an interesting programme for our spring and early summer Meetings. In May we will welcome Miss Pitchy Patchy to tell us about fashion on the home front. This promises to be both informative and entertaining. In June we have a talk entitled "Boarding School Knickers" which will be given by Alison Long, we will see where that one goes. July will be a complete change of tempo when we welcome Pete Turner who will give a talk entitled "Through the eyes of a magician".

In addition to our monthly meetings, the Book Club, Walking Group and Craft Group have continued their activities. We are also looking at outings, especially over the warmer months and have trips to see "We Will Rock You" at the Brio Centre and a production of "My Fair Lady" at the Garrick in Altrincham.

Our quiz team has entered the annual Cheshire Federation Competition. As usual, we will make a valiant effort to reach the final. In the meantime, the team members are binging on episodes of The Chase, Impossible, Mastermind and University Challenge.

As you can see, we have a varied and interesting programme and lots of organised activities. Come along and join us in the Memorial Hall, you will be most welcome. Our Meetings over the next three months are on Monday 11 May, Monday 1 June and Monday 6 July, all at 7.30 pm.

*Rosie Rowe, President*

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## Comberbach Fete Committee

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### Saddle Up, Comberbach - The Fete is Back!

The Fete Committee is delighted to announce that this year's village fete returns to the school on Saturday 27 June - and the Wild West is coming with it. So polish your spurs, strap on your holsters, tip your Stetsons and get ready to mosey on down for a cracking day out for all ages. This year's activities include shooting galleries, a bucking bronco, country dancing, live entertainment, and plenty more besides.

Back by popular demand following last year's success, the afternoon games return, including horseshoes and lassoing, alongside bingo, tombola, and a grand draw with some great prizes up for grabs in our Grand Prize Draw. Our traditional bake sale will be there too, along with stalls supporting other community groups, so it's well worth coming with your pockets full. Cash is king on the day, though tickets can also be purchased by card. Please note that not all stalls will accept card payments.

Refreshments will be available at the BBQ, tea stand and bar.

After a successful trial last year, the retinue will follow last year's route around the village, meaning no road closures, and will be arriving at the school at 1pm, so get there early, grab your tickets, and claim your seat.

And it wouldn't be the Wild West without some critters. Folks young and old alike can look forward to meeting some very special animal guests up close. Final schedules will land through your door in early June, along with details of how to donate to the tombola.

### Want to get involved?

This event is only possible due to the dedication of the community. Whether you can spare an hour the evening before or the morning after, every pair of hands makes a difference. There'll be something to suit whatever time and skills you can offer. Donations towards the grand prize draw, personal or from your workplace, are always warmly welcomed too. To volunteer or contribute, email [chriscook75@gmail.com](mailto:chriscook75@gmail.com) or text 07415 104470.

We look forward to seeing you there!  
Yeee-Haaaaaw!

### Return of...Sundowner

8 May will see the return of the popular Sundowner event.

Held in Marbury Park and organised by Comberbach Village Fete Committee, Sundowner is a family-friendly evening social event incorporating a 5k run for adults and a 1k fun run for children.

The aim of the event is to continue the long-standing village fun run tradition, raise money for charity and stage an enjoyable, relaxed, early summer event for the local community. As well as the usual running races, there is a licensed bar, BBQ, cake stall and background music - so plenty of entertainment for runners and non-runners alike.

Sundowner takes place on Friday 8 May, kicking off at 5pm. The under 8s run first at 6:15pm, followed by the under 12s at 6:30pm, and the main 5k race at 7pm. The race will follow the usual route on the paths and trails of Marbury Country Park.

Visit <https://sundownerfunrun.niftyentries.com> to enter online.

Advance entries are £9 for adults and £6 for children and there are no entries on the night. Last year's event was a sell-out, attracting 250 entries, so be sure to secure your places early. Every finisher receives a medal and there are trophies for the winners of each race as well as the coveted 'family prize'.

All funds raised will be donated to the Rose Queen's nominated charity, The Stroke Association.

Thanks as ever to those who have volunteered to marshal, time, run the bar, give water to finishers, be on hand as first aiders, man the registration desk etc.

We can always use more help, so if you would like to get involved, please make yourself known to a member of the Fete Committee.

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## Comberbach Primary School

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Whilst Comberbach Primary School Garden has a long history, the current incarnation started at the end of lock down. A group of parent volunteers has taken it on and run garden club sessions for all school pupils throughout the year. They've also started to use the polytunnel - brilliant for when it's raining.

The school are keen to share this asset amongst the wider village community and therefore everyone is invited to a garden party on Friday 22 May 2pm till 3pm where year 6 will be available to serve cakes and give people a tour of the beds.

But we need help so we will also be hosting garden sessions on the 3rd Sunday of the month 3pm - 4.30pm starting Sunday 17 May through to Sunday 20 September. The parents can't really keep on top of the maintenance (and weeds) and there are a few jobs that are difficult for the children to do (we also run out of time - the children are only in 2 hours a week). We're asking for a bit of help where people can (we know looking after your own garden is time consuming).

Please contact Helen Gardner on 07989 425346 if you are interested in attending the garden party of any of the gardening sessions.

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## Great Budworth Tennis Club

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Well, April has certainly been a mixed month, weather wise! We have had everything – brilliant sunshine, when we were convinced Spring had sprung; hail storms; high winds and storms and quite a lot of rain in between. Unfortunately, this has affected play. ☹ However, as we move into May, let's hope for some better weather so we can make the most of the extended daylight hours.

We are delighted to support Great Budworth C of E Primary school in their delivery of tennis lessons in the summer term to the older pupils. The school is using the court each week as part of their P.E provision. It is so nice to see the next generation of tennis players starting to develop their skills.

We do now have several junior members in the club and there is always a section in each of the tournaments for them to compete. We welcome junior members of any level – why not contact us to come and join us?

Social play, walking tennis and coaching sessions will continue throughout the year. The court is a fantastic community facility and there for all to enjoy. If you fancy joining us, contact our membership secretary Richard Chandler 07933087560 to have a chat about membership and coaching sessions. For existing members, a reminder that your membership fees are now due. If booking the court as a guest, you will be given the combination code to gain access to the court.



### MICHAEL SAVILLE – MIKE 21st February 2026

I would like to thank everyone for the sympathy shown to me following the death of my beloved husband, Mike. The cards, letters, phone calls, flowers, and kindness, were greatly appreciated during this very sad time.

We made our home in the village when we married, in 1970, and Mike always said that it was one of the best things we ever did.

Anne Saville

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## Comberbach Art Group

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This year the art group celebrates its 25th anniversary and Our AGM in March confirmed that our on line Art Auction in late 2025, raised £260 in aid of St Luke's Hospice. Our thanks to all who contributed.

Gillian Naylor, one of the founding members in 2001, advertised a meeting and the Comberbach Art Group was formed. Originally a twice weekly meeting took place on a Monday and Thursday in the Methodist Church and an exhibition was arranged for later that year.

In 2002 the annual exhibition moved to its present home in the Memorial Hall, and with a successful lottery bid, new display boards and equipment were added.

John Deering's estate (illustrator on the film of Roald Dahls Big Friendly Giant) also supported the Art Group. The exhibition in 2002 was memorable not only for its art works but also for the weather. A mini hurricane/tornado swept through the area, bringing down trees and flying debris. Fortunately, the weather improved and the exhibition was still subsequently well attended.

The annual Exhibition continues to attract visiting artists and exhibitors from all over Cheshire and our next Exhibition is now arranged for Sunday 18 October 2026 at the Memorial Hall

We continue to meet weekly on a Monday morning, and in the last year we've been joined by four new members, all of us

creating new paintings ,sharing knowledge and skills.

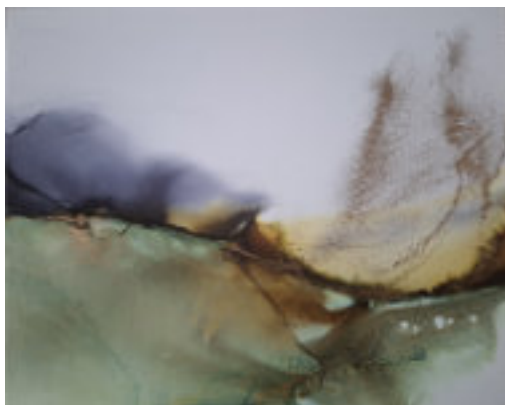
Over the next few articles we will share our Art in Action with you, displaying paintings along with techniques used.

HN, who was inspired to take up art after visiting a Monet Exhibition is our contributor this month.

As Charles Monet said

"I must have flowers, always and always " and "I would like to paint the way a bird sings"

The paintings below are two examples of her home-made paints in action and also using alcoholic inks on tile



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## Great Budworth Cricket Club

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The club AGM took place at the Cock O Budworth on Tuesday 3 March.

Club Chairman Richard Kershaw gave his annual report, reflecting on what had been another successful season. The club had played against a number of stronger teams which was reflected in the results, but steady development had continued.

The 2026 season would be Great Budworth Cricket Clubs 20th anniversary, and a number of initiatives are planned to recognise the milestone.

On Sunday 5 July a fixture would be held for the Peter McAndrew Cup. Friends and spectators will be very welcome, with refreshments planned for during the day.

Looking ahead to the end of the season, the awards night will take place this year at Great Budworth Village Hall on Friday 25th September.

A new club kit to recognise the anniversary is also going to be available.

Richard acknowledged the efforts of three individuals who after long service to GBCC have stepped down from their roles:

Iain Ritchie & Mike Barker have spent many hours over the years helping with maintenance of the ground at Arley.

Likewise, Alec Brown has “retired” from his role as fixture secretary, handing his little book of phone numbers on to Stewart Whitlow.

The efforts of these three gentlemen were acknowledged and each were presented with an engraved tankard.

Club captain Pete Taylor added his thanks during his own report.

Work has started on the square to get ready for the season, with the first two cuts having been completed. Exciting news as we have recently bought a replacement square mower and, weather permitting, we will get started on rolling the square very soon...

### Stop Press

The concrete base for the long-awaited practice net has now been laid so work is now continuing to finalise the build, ready for the beginning of the season.

The provisional fixture list for the summer is below and will be included in regular bulletins during the year. More details of the club's activities can be found on our Facebook page:

GBCC Facebook lol

For membership or sponsorship enquiries contact the secretary at [gbccnewplayers@outlook.com](mailto:gbccnewplayers@outlook.com)



## Great Budworth Cricket Club *continued*

### **2026 proposed fixtures – Great Budworth Cricket Club**

#### **April**

|             |                   |      |             |
|-------------|-------------------|------|-------------|
| Sunday 19th | Tattenhall        | Away | 13:00 start |
| Weds 29th   | Barnton over 40's | Home | 18:00 start |

#### **May**

|            |           |      |             |
|------------|-----------|------|-------------|
| Wed 6th    | Lymm      | Away | 18:00 start |
| Sun 17h    | TBC       |      |             |
| Thurs 28th | Economist | Away | 18:00 start |
| Sun 31st   | Kingsley  | Home | 13:00 start |

#### **June**

|            |                     |      |             |
|------------|---------------------|------|-------------|
| Sun 7th    | TBC                 |      |             |
| Wed 10th   | Toft                | Home | 18:00 start |
| Sun 14th   | Manchester Racquets | Home | 13:00 start |
| Thurs 18th | Reynolds            | Home | 18:00 start |
| Sun 21st   | TBC                 |      |             |
| Wed 24th   | Lymm                | Home | 18:00 start |
| Sun 28th   | Ash Tree            | Home | 14:00 start |

#### **July**

|            |                     |      |             |
|------------|---------------------|------|-------------|
| Wed 1st    | Barnton             | Home | 18:00 start |
| July 5th   | Peter McCandrew Cup | Home | 13:00 start |
| Sun 12th   | TBC                 |      |             |
| Wed 16th   | Lymm                | Home | 18:00 start |
| Sun 19th   | TBC                 |      |             |
| Weds 22nd  | Economist           | Home | 18:00 start |
| Sun 26th   | Gregsons            | Home | 13:00 start |
| Thurs 30th | Reynolds (Ashley)   | Away | 18:00 start |

#### **August**

|             |                          |      |             |
|-------------|--------------------------|------|-------------|
| Sun 2nd     | Ash Tree (Pott Shrigley) | Away | 14:00 start |
| Wed 5th     | TBC                      |      |             |
| Sun 9th     | TBC                      |      |             |
| Wed 12th    | Lymm                     | Away | 18:00 start |
| Sunday 16th | Kingsley                 | Away | 13:00 start |
| Sunday 23rd | Rowland Flower XI        | Home | 11:00 start |
| Sun 30th    | Tattenhall               | Home | 13:00 start |

#### **September**

|          |                                 |      |             |
|----------|---------------------------------|------|-------------|
| Sun 6th  | Rupert Foster's X1              | Home | 13:00 start |
| Sun 13th | Rowland Flower XI – reserve day | Home | 11:00 start |

### Soporific Flic

Flic is soporific when she sits on my knee  
Her warmth and contentment enveloping me  
She purrs as I stroke her neck softly  
Her head looking round and back fondly  
Tufty ears sitting proudly upright  
She stirs, repositions, that's alright

A pigeon flies into the window pane  
Flic dashes across but all in vane  
Peering out of the patio doors  
Tail wagging, sat on all fours  
Looking up at the sky  
No more birds going by

After a while she's had enough  
Time to lick her fur, fluff  
First near her tail, then a paw  
Washing her face as before  
Then her foot, a quick scratch  
Lying down to wash another patch

Settled down, ear twitching  
Up again, legs licking  
This grooming business can take a while  
Flic's fastidiousness makes me smile  
Sits on the flexible tunnel, going flat  
Settling down again, contented cat.

EMP

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### Cubs and Scouts

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1st Antrobus and Comberbach Scouting have continued to have a jam packed agenda. The cubs kicked off the New Year learning about Lohri (a Hindu festival) and have had a session of pickleball (thanks Joan), done more science experiments, learned how to tie knots in strawberry shoe laces, been swimming, made crumble, done a night hike, play wide games in the dark in Marbury and more.

The Scouts have done (amongst other activities) a Lego challenge, been outdoors on an observation hike around Northwich and another in Delamere, navigation skills in Sandiway sand quarry and practiced fire lighting.

There are spaces in Beavers (aged 6-8) and Cubs (aged 8-10.5), boys and girls all welcome. Use the contact details at the back to get on a waiting list or find out more.

*1st Antrobus and Comberbach Scouts.*

### Fields of green

The rolling hills and fields of green  
flash past in scene after scene  
from the windows of the train,  
and all is for once clear and sunny and bright  
with little cloud and no rain;  
Though on either side of the track

large ponds and smaller pools of water  
can be seen in many a field along the way,  
with geese and ducks and the occasional  
pheasant  
making the most of this glorious day;  
And as we speed onwards towards the south  
I give thanks once more,  
with notebook and pen in hand,  
for this green and very pleasant land.

© *The Revd Alec Brown*  
*Staffordshire, 10 March, 2026.*



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## Great Budworth Garden Club

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Spring has most definitely sprung! Our April meeting featured an aptly themed and thoroughly enjoyable talk from Samantha Hopes of Hopes Garden Nursery in Shropshire. It proved a real treat and has certainly inspired us all to start planning for early summer planting. With the evenings stretching out, there's more time to sow a few seeds, potter in the garden, or simply pause and enjoy this uplifting season.

The daffodils in my garden seem taller than ever this year, and many have lasted remarkably well too—no small feat given the mixed bag of sunshine, sleet and blustery winds they've endured. If you're lucky enough to have a magnolia nearby, you'll know just how spectacular they've been. The pale varieties are just beginning to fade, while the deeper pinks are now coming into their own, bringing both colour and a lovely scent. I love all the fruit and ornamental tree, furry pussy willow and dangly catkin blossom that appears in hedges, parks and gardens at this time of year. Like many in Cheshire, I also have a few damson trees, currently covered in delicate white blossom. Against a clear blue sky, they really are a beautiful sight—and, with luck and no late frosts, we can look forward to another bumper crop for jams and chutneys later in the year.

On that note, the club recently ventured out to host a stall at the Antrobus Makers Market—our first time taking part. We shared space with the Cheshire Jam Man, who offered an impressive selection of homemade preserves in support of Lymphoma Action. Our own table was filled with plants and produce generously donated by members. Tomato plants and bundles of rhubarb proved especially popular, and we were delighted to raise over £100. It was a pleasure to meet so many friendly faces, chat about gardening, and spread the word about the club. Free samples of wild garlic pesto may also have helped! Despite some rather unkind weather, the market was very busy throughout the day and a great success overall, raising valuable funds for the village hall

and a new school roof. We were very pleased to be part of it and may well look at other events in the months ahead.

A big thank you goes to Committee member Victoria and her husband Alister (the Cheshire Jam Man) for organising the event and our stall, to Sarah for producing some excellent club flyers for us to hand out, and to Jan, Sandra and Dawn for helping run the stand and keeping our supply of plants topped up. Special thanks too to Jean, our former Chair of 25 years, who not only kept us going with wonderful bacon sandwiches but also went home with a few plants herself!

We are fortunate to have such an enthusiastic and supportive group of members and committee—it really does make all the difference.

Looking ahead, we're delighted to welcome Coral and John Bebbington to our May meeting. This engaging husband-and-wife team will present "A Year in the Vegetable Garden." With an impressive track record on the show bench—particularly their giant onions and cabbages—they bring a wealth of experience, from their home in Crewe and their award-winning allotment. Regular exhibitors at RHS Tatton Park, they promise an informative, inspiring and passionate talk. Vegetable plants will also be available to buy, so do arrive early to avoid missing out.

For the latest updates on meetings and events, do take a look at our new Facebook page by searching for Great Budworth Garden Club. Members will, of course, continue to receive the club newsletter—soon to be relaunched with a fresh new look and name.

Wishing you all a wonderful spring!

*Julie Treharne Bush, Chairlady*  
07792108549/julie.treharne1@btinternet.com



### So Many Siskins

The annual RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch took place at the end of January, and as expected the birds stayed away in droves! I could not tick off the provided list; collared dove, greenfinch, magpie, or long-tailed tit. There were plenty of other birds though, and no real lulls. I managed to save a bit of face, by adding song thrush, and great spotted woodpecker. It is a shame it did not take place a month later, because our garden played host to a flock of at least a dozen siskins. There may well have been a few more, because we were sharing the flock with my neighbour. They are tiny finches, very dainty, but feisty, and more than able to hold their place on the bird feeders. They are very scarce breeders in Cheshire, and are probably moving back up the country, from their overwintering territories, to their breeding sites in Cumbria, Northumbria and Scotland. There were still a few around in early April, obviously the easy feeding opportunities we gave them.

### Low Spotted Woodpecker

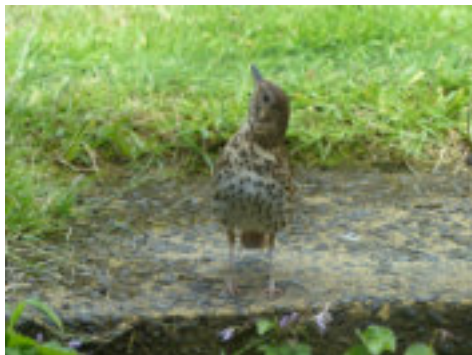
Our tiny, resident goldcrest was busy attacking his reflection down the garden, as he actively set about defending his breeding territory from other birds, and even himself it seemed! The first chiffchaff was heard, always a sign of spring to me. I also saw early peacock, and comma butterflies, and unusually, saw a female great spotted woodpecker happily feeding on the floor

seed tray. Tree loving birds like these, and nuthatch, and treecreepers, always look very peculiar when you see them on the ground, and you do a double take just in case it is not something rarer.

### Passing Peregrine

The bittern proved elusive for me at Marbury Park, but as usual the scenery was beautiful, with plenty of other birds to see, including a flock of 18, mainly male pochard, and nice people to chat with while I waited. There were reports of very early chiffchaffs and sand martins around, and over the mere this year, a sign of good early spring weather. I also had another peregrine falcon encounter back home. I was walking towards the old phone box, when I heard a large flock of jackdaws making a terrible racket behind me. Looking back, I saw they were flying low, and in a tight ball. With very good reason, because they were being shadowed by a large, female peregrine falcon! She was obviously checking to see if there were any easy meals to be had. Her curiosity satisfied, she gained height, and flew to the left of the post office, towards the estates. She had a left-wing feather missing, so hopefully I will be able to pick her out again in future. It is a beautiful time of the year, so please make the most of it, as it goes by nearly as fast as that falcon did!

JB



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## St Mary and All Saints Church, Great Budworth, Diary Dates

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### Services and Events for May

#### Sunday 3

8am Holy Communion BCP  
10.30am All Age Worship

#### Wednesday 6

10.30am Holy Communion Common Worship  
followed by coffee

#### Thursday 7

7pm Celtic Evening Prayer

#### Saturday 9 Start of Christian Aid Week

#### Sunday 10

10.30am ROGATION SUNDAY Service with  
short walk around the Churchyard/  
village

#### Monday 11

7.30pm Friends of Great Budworth Committee  
Meeting, The Old School

#### Wednesday 13

10.30am Craft & Natter, The Old School, all  
welcome

#### Thursday 14

1.30pm Play and Praise in church TBC

7.30pm ASCENSION DAY Holy Communion  
Common Worship

#### Saturday 16

9.15am BOYD WALK, starting at St Mark's  
Church, Antrobus – all welcome

#### Sunday 17

8am Holy Communion BCP  
10.30am Holy Communion Common Worship  
6.30pm Evening Prayer at Arley Chapel

#### Monday 18

7pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting plus  
Meeting to elect Churchwardens  
In the Old School

#### Sunday 24

10.30am PENTECOST Holy Communion  
Common Worship  
2.30pm Forest Church – venue tbc

#### Wednesday 27

10.30am Craft & Natter, The Old School

#### Thursday 28

1.30pm Play & Praise TBC

#### Sunday 31

8am TRINITY SUNDAY Holy Communion  
BCP  
10.30am Holy Communion Common Worship

### Church Teas 2026

Teas got off to a good start on 6 April, and  
continue on each Sunday and Bank Holiday  
Monday until 4 October. Thank you to all our  
wonderful volunteers, your support is much  
appreciated.

If you would like to help with teas, please speak  
to Margaret Cross 07732324001 or Maggie Earl  
07970 927161 We have 3 dates to fill: Sun 30  
and Mon 31 Aug, Sun 27 Sept.

### The Boyd Walk

Join us on our annual Boyd Walk around  
Antrobus – The Rev Alec Brown will be leading  
the group. Meet at St. Mark's Church, Antrobus –  
9.15am and we will finish back at St. Mark's,  
where you can enjoy a cup of tea or coffee.  
Sturdy shoes or walking boots advised, it can be  
muddy if wet, part of the walk is across fields,  
some stiles to cross. Usually takes around 2 .5  
hours. Info: Rev Alec Brown 01606 891324

### Services and events for June

#### Wednesday 3

10.30am Holy Communion, followed by  
refreshments

#### Thursday 4

7pm Celtic Evening Prayer

#### Sunday 7

8am Holy Communion 10.30am All Age  
Service

#### Thursday 11

1.30pm Play and Praise (tbc)

#### Sunday 14

10.30am Mattins (Book of Common Prayer)  
6.30pm Holy Communion

#### Monday 15

7.30pm Opening Service, Royal Cheshire  
Show

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## St Mary and All Saints Church, Great Budworth, Diary Dates *continued*

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### Thursday 18

7.30pm Archdeacon's Visitation Service, All Saints Church, Daresbury

### Saturday 20

3pm Church Summer Fair (tbc)

### Sunday 21

8.am and

10.30am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evensong at Arley Chapel

### Tuesday 23

7pm Safeguarding Service, Chester Cathedral

### Thursday 25

1.30pm Play and Praise (tbc)

### Sunday 28

10.30am Confirmation Service with the Bishop of Birkenhead 2.30pm Forest Church – venue tbc.

Royal Cheshire Show – Tues 16 and Wed 17 June. If you're visiting the Show please drop in at the Church Tent for rest and refreshments. Services on both days at 8am and 2pm.

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## Friends of Anderton and Marbury (FoAM)

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### Up and coming events taking place during May and June

#### Saturday 9 May

##### Dawn Chorus Walk, Marbury Country Park

FoAM's birding experts will again lead this popular event for everyone interested in birds.

Meet: 5 am at the Rangers' Cabin/Marbury Lodge

For information contact: Joanne Redley email: [jarhillcliffe223@aol.com](mailto:jarhillcliffe223@aol.com)

#### Monday 18 May

##### FoAM's AGM, Quiz and Supper

Meet: 7.45 pm Comberbach Memorial Hall. There will be a charge for supper, payable in advance.

To book for the Quiz and Supper contact: Joanne Redley email: [jarhillcliffe223@aol.com](mailto:jarhillcliffe223@aol.com)

#### Friday 19 June

##### Folk in the Park

Northwich Folk Club invite you to an informal evening of home-spun, open-air music – all welcome to listen, join in or perform!

Venue: Marbury Lodge Time: 7 pm – 9 pm

Booking: n/a All welcome

Contact: Brenda Yates 07941 710791

#### Saturday 27 June

##### Wildflower Walk in Anderton Nature Park

A guided walk to view the many summer wildflowers, led by Lizzy Hynes.

Meet: 10 am, Anderton Nature Park car park

For information contact: Joanne Redley email: [jarhillcliffe223@aol.com](mailto:jarhillcliffe223@aol.com)



## Parish Councillor information and meeting dates

All Parish Council meetings are held on a Tuesday starting at 6.30pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend and can speak during the Open Forum at the start of the meeting

Meetings are held at Comberbach Memorial Hall  
Agendas and minutes are published on the

noticeboards at Gibb Hill, Post Office and on the Parish Council website.

Contact the Parish Council as below:

*Parish Clerk – Denise French*

*clerk@comberbach-pc.gov.uk 07759 212449*

| <b>Name</b>                   | <b>Address</b>                                                     | <b>Tel numbers</b>            | <b>Contact point for</b>                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cllr. John Ryder              | 26 Burgamot Lane,<br>Comberbach<br>CW9 6BU                         | 07526501891                   | Barrymore Crescent,<br>Burgamot Lane,<br>Goosebrook Close,<br>Reedsmere Walk                              |
| Jill Johnston<br>(Chair)      | 6 Barrymore Crescent<br>Comberbach<br>CW9 6PA                      | 01606 892 121                 |                                                                                                           |
| Bill Briggs                   | Moss Gables,<br>The Moss<br>Marbury Road,<br>Comberbach<br>CW9 6AX | 07776314026                   | Senna Lane (lower to<br>Mather Drive)<br>Marbury Road<br>The Moss,<br>Poplar Cottages                     |
| Sandy Cameron<br>(Vice Chair) | 17 Goosebrook Close<br>Comberbach<br>CW9 6BX                       | 07887450803                   | Brookfield Road,<br>Chapel Close, Chapel<br>Houses, Mather Drive<br>Spinner Crescent                      |
| Richard Chandler              | Crows Nest House<br>Crows Nest Lane<br>Comberbach<br>CW9 6HY       | 01606 892 157<br>07933 087560 | The Avenue (to the<br>Spinner), Warrington<br>Road (from the<br>Spinner), Budworth<br>Lane, Crownest Lane |
| John Darwin                   | Brook Cottage<br>Cogshall Lane<br>Comberbach<br>CW9 6BS            | 077888 27933                  | Cogshall Lane,<br>Outer Cogshall                                                                          |
| Jenny Washburn                | 25 Senna Lane<br>Comberbach<br>CW9 6BQ                             | 07921824792                   | Mather Drive<br>Meadow Lane<br>Senna Lane (upper:<br>from Mather Drive)                                   |
| Val McDermott                 | 14 Cogshall Lane<br>Comberbach<br>CW9 6BS                          | 01606 891075<br>077939 17490  | Bracken Way & Kennel<br>Wood & Fox Lea &<br>Freshfields,<br>Broadacre                                     |
| Parish Clerk                  | Denise French<br>clerk@comberbach-pc.gov.uk                        | 07759 212449                  |                                                                                                           |

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## Report from the Meetings of Comberbach Parish Council held on Tuesday 10 March 2026 at Comberbach Memorial Hall

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### New councillor

The parish council has co-opted Jenny Washburn to fill the recent vacancy. We look forward to working with Jenny.

### Resilience Plan

The parish council has worked for some months to develop a Resilience Plan which will contain information about how the council can respond should there be an emergency that affects the village, such as severe weather. The plan will identify local resources and services along with contact details and will be available on the website. The council will also obtain some emergency supplies to be stored at the Memorial Hall.

### Recreation Area

The new multi play unit has now been installed; we hope younger residents and visitors will enjoy the new and enhanced facilities.

### Highways

A traffic survey has been carried out using monitors located at The Avenue/Gibb Hill and Marbury Road. The results will be considered at the next parish council meeting.

Residents are encouraged to use the 'Report It' function on CWAC website to raise any issues:

Report it | Cheshire West and Chester Council

Residents can also find out live, interactive updates on all planned and emergency works, including works by the Council, utilities, and third-party contractors by accessing the link below:

Live roadworks | Cheshire West and Chester Council

Parish council minutes are available on the noticeboard at the Post Office and on the parish council website:

[www.comberbach-pc.gov.uk](http://www.comberbach-pc.gov.uk)

The next meetings of Comberbach Parish Council will be on Tuesday 19 May 2026:

Annual Parish Meeting at 6pm – residents are welcome to come along and raise any issues about Comberbach.

The Annual Meeting at 6.30pm.

Both meetings are in Comberbach Memorial Hall.

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the parish council. If anyone wishes to raise a topic at a meeting they are requested to notify the Clerk three days in advance of the meeting date to enable any research to be carried out.

Any queries please contact the Clerk, Denise French: [clerk@comberbach-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@comberbach-pc.gov.uk)



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## Some Useful Telephone Numbers/ Web/ email addresses

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### Police

Police Non-Emergency and PCSO 101

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

### NHS

NHS 111

### Utilities

Scottish Power/ electricity. 0800 0015400.

United Utilities/ water. 0345 6723723

### Village services

Comberbach Nursery and Primary School. 01606 891336

Spinner and Bergamot 01606 891307

Comberbach Post Office 01606 891316

Comberbach Memorial Hall bookings

07721501181 Mon-Fri 2pm - 6.30 pm

comberbachmemorialhallbookins@gmail.com

### Marbury Ward Councillors

Councillor Lynn Gibbon

lynn.gibbon@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Councillor Phil Marshall

phil.marshall@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Councillor Norman Wright

norman.wright@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

### Local authority

Cheshire West & Chester Council 0300 1238123

www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

You can report Highways and StreetCare issues online at:

www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/  
contact-us/report-it or 0300 1237036

### MP for Tatton

Esther McVey:

officeofesthermcveymp@parliament.uk  
(01565 632181)

### FOAM

The Friends of Anderton and Marbury:

www.foam.merseyforest.org.uk

### Comberbach websites

Comberbach websites providing information about the village, contact details, groups and organisations, events, past copies of newsletters, council meetings and links to Facebook pages.

comberbach.com

comberbach-pc.gov.uk



### Facebook groups

If you are on Facebook there are 3 relevant village groups:

Comberbach Community Support  
(admins - Helen Joan / Ann Barr)

Comberbach Memories  
(admins - Wayne Garnett / Kevin Goulding)

Comberbach Village Buy/ Sell/ FTGH  
(admins - Ali Brennan / Lynda Bignmore / Louise White)

They are 'private' groups, easy to join but are strictly for people with present or past connections to the village. The relevant groups have an 'about' section giving an outline of conditions.

The Support group just requires a couple of questions to be answered and the Buy/Sell group requires an 'invite' from another member. They are interesting and can be useful in providing current information.

There are also Facebook pages to visit:  
Friends of Comberbach School  
Comberbach Fete.

The contact details of parish councillors, village groups and meetings at the Memorial Hall and Chapel can be found on the back pages.

## Local Businesses

connect with the community

**To advertise here  
costs only £10**

Your advert could be seen by over  
400 homes in Comberbach

For more details contact [newsletter@comberbach.com](mailto:newsletter@comberbach.com)  
and see how we can support  
your business



**Fred Moores & Son Ltd**  
Building & Joinery Contractors

**Mr John Moores**

Tel: 01606 892055

Mobile: 07899 651669

Email: [fredmooresbuilders@gmail.com](mailto:fredmooresbuilders@gmail.com)

11 Senna Lane

Comberbach

Northwich

CW9 6BD

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Northwich Cheshire CW9 6BD

**Tel: 01606 891286 Mobile: 07984 038789**

Email: [nigelmoores1@gmail.com](mailto:nigelmoores1@gmail.com)

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- All aspects of garage services
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**Tel: 01606 352461**  
199-203 Witton Street, Northwich  
CW9 5LP

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

### Memorial Hall

|                                         |                        |                        |                                                    |                              |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| WI                                      | 1st Mon each month     | 7.30pm                 | Sian Chandler                                      | 07770863170                  |
| Ladies Club                             | 3rd Mon each month     | Different Venues       | Helena O'Byrne                                     | 01606 891755/07702693206     |
| Well heeled puppies<br>well heeled dogs | Wed<br>Wed<br>Thursday | 6.30-8.30pm<br>8 - 9pm | Mike Flannery<br>mike@thedogclub.co.uk             |                              |
| Karate                                  | Monday<br>Sunday       | 6 - 7pm<br>4.30 - 6pm  | Andrew Wilson<br>cheshire.shitoryu@gmail.com       | 07388 869985                 |
| Wild Apple Yoga                         | Thursday               | 10-11am                | Kelly Appleton                                     | wildappleyoga@outlook.com    |
| Calligraphy                             | Thursday               | 1.30 - 3.30pm          | Tom Bebbington                                     | Tom.bebb37@gmail.com         |
| Cheerleading                            | Friday<br>Saturday     | 5 - 8pm<br>10am - 6pm  | Megan Berry                                        | apexcheer@outlook.com        |
| Choir                                   | Tuesday                | 7.30 - 9.30pm          | Liz Cook                                           | 077766745785                 |
| Turnle Tots                             | Thursday               | 9-3pm                  | Laura Barr                                         | tumbletotsmidchesh@gmail.com |
| Northwich Dance Co.                     | Wednesday              | 7.45-9.45pm            | Amanda Kirby<br>amanda@northwichdancecompany.co.uk |                              |
| Yoga                                    | Thursday               | 9.30am                 | October to April                                   |                              |

### Chapel

|                |                     |                   |                  |               |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Brownies (2nd) | Wednesday           | 6 - 7.20pm        | Lynda Flynn      | 891571        |
| Guides         | Wednesday           | 7.30 - 9.00pm     | Anne O'May       | 891156        |
| Rangers        | Wednesday           | 8 - 9.30pm        | Anne O'May       | 891156        |
| Art Group      | Mondays             | 10 - 12.30 pm     | Midge Broadhurst | 01925 266798  |
| Sunday School  | Sunday              | 11am - 12 noon    | Ian Woodcock     | 01925 266 798 |
| Yoga           | Mondays<br>Thursday | 6.30 pm<br>9.30am | April to October |               |

### Comberbach Primary School Hall

|          |           |               |                 |                        |
|----------|-----------|---------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Rainbows | Monday    | 6 - 7.15pm    | Cherise Hilton  | www.girlguiding.org.uk |
| Scouts   | Friday    | 7.30 - 9pm    | Paul Underwood  | 07725 150 928          |
| Cubs     | Tuesday   | 6.30 - 8pm    | Ailsa Underwood | 07875 777095           |
| Beavers  | Wednesday | 6.15 - 7.15pm | Janet Warburton | 854014                 |

Please send contributions to the newsletter to: [newsletter@comberbach.com](mailto:newsletter@comberbach.com)

**Deadline for next newsletter is 12 April (Before if possible)**

Articles for the newsletter can also be submitted to the Editor either on paper or by e-mail

### Useful contacts:

|                                  |                                                                                                                                                            |                            |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Village web site                 | <a href="http://www.comberbach.com">www.comberbach.com</a>                                                                                                 |                            |
| Marbury Park Rangers             | <a href="mailto:marbury@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk">marbury@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk</a>                                                           |                            |
| Homewatch                        |                                                                                                                                                            | 892568                     |
| Village Memorial Hall - bookings | 07771638324 / 07721501181 (Liz/Nikki)<br>or <a href="mailto:comberbachmemorialhallbookings@gmail.com">comberbachmemorialhallbookings@gmail.com</a>         |                            |
| Clerk to the Parish Council      | <a href="mailto:clerk@comberbach-pc.gov.uk">clerk@comberbach-pc.gov.uk</a>                                                                                 |                            |
| Pre-school website               | <a href="https://www.comberbach.cheshire.sch.uk">https://www.comberbach.cheshire.sch.uk</a>                                                                |                            |
| Sunday School Room Hire          | Alan Woodcock                                                                                                                                              | 891248                     |
| Fete Committee                   | Lynda Bignmore <a href="mailto:fete@comberbach.com">fete@comberbach.com</a><br>Rebecca Matzen <a href="mailto:fete@comberbach.com">fete@comberbach.com</a> | 07725954349<br>07725954349 |
| Great Budworth Parish Church     | Rev A Brown                                                                                                                                                | 891324                     |

## Dates for your Diary (see individual articles for details of event)

### May

- 8 Sundowner Annual Fun Run, Marbury Park, 5pm
- 9 FoAM, Dawn Chorus Walk, Marbury Park, 5am
- 13 WI Meeting, Comberbach Memorial Hall, 7.30pm
- 16 Annual Boyd Walk around Antrobus, 9.15am, St Mark's Church, Antrobus
- 17 Comberbach Primary School Gardening Session, 3pm-4.30pm
- 18 FoAM's AGM, Quiz and Supper, Comberbach Memorial Hall, 7.45pm
- 22 Comberbach Primary School Garden Party, 2pm-3pm

### June

- 1 WI Meeting, Comberbach Memorial Hall, 7.30pm
- 16/17 Royal Cheshire Show, Tabley Show Ground
- 21 Comberbach Primary School Gardening Session, 3pm-4.30pm
- 27 Comberbach Fete, 1pm

**Deadline for next newsletter – 15 June 2026**



**WI**  
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

# Comberbach WI

## April to June Events 2026



**Monday April 13th**  
How I ended up in Prison  
Dr Karen Castle



**Monday 11th May**  
Fashion on the Home Front  
Miss Pitchy Patchy



**Monday 1st June**  
Boarding School Knickers  
Alison Long

7.30 pm Comberbach Memorial Hall  
sianrc@hotmail.co.uk