

BURTON : PUDDINGTON : SHOTWICK



PARISH MAGAZINE & COMMUNITY NEWS

SUMMER EDITION 2025

IN THIS EDITION
JOHN COYNE - COMMUNITY, FAITH & PIONEERS
PIMM'S & HYMNS COMMUNITY EVENT

***THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF
ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH, BURTON CH64 5TG
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, SHOTWICK CH1 6HX***



SCRIBO



PIONEERS ON THE LOOSE & VERY WELCOME

REVD JOHN COYNE

If you were looking for people who had an instinct and desire to be pioneers would you imagine that you might find them in the Church? Today pioneering ministry, alongside more conventional church life, has become the norm in many areas. This is happening because the landscape of the Church in the United Kingdom has been changing rapidly, with less than 50% of the population now identifying as Christians. In response to this shift, ministry leaders are 'pioneering' new ways of building community and discipleship, outside traditional church contexts.

As a curate back in 1980, I was linked with a group of young-adult Christians who moved from their comfortable Manchester suburb to live on a vast local authority housing estate. They experimented and pioneered new ways of connecting with younger people, who were totally distanced from any church. This was not a gimmick: it involved the hard graft of community ministry and schools work. For some of those who were reached, this ministry proved so transformational that the wider community became a better place to live in and crime plummeted. So dramatic was the pioneering approach that the police offered funding for this new model of church to continue to develop. It has done so and now become an international movement.



During my career, I have been involved in training ordained and lay ministers who themselves have developed a passion and a set of skills for this sort of ministry. They have started Church among sports people; met with those whose interest in cars led to the formation of a congregation called REVS.

One congregation began on a narrowboat on the Thames and attracted mostly business-people working in the City of London. It meets during the week rather than on Sunday.



Here in Burton, St Nicholas Church has run Messy Church for some years and attracted parents, grandparents and young children who meet on a Saturday afternoon doing crafts, plus sharing food and a short worship time. It has waxed and waned over the years but continues. Over recent months we have started a carer and toddler group called St Nic's Nippers, which meets on Monday mornings in the GVH and is led by our Families and Children's worker, Sheila Dennison. It does not pretend or intend to be a congregation but a community initiative that builds links with parents at a significant time of life both for them and their little ones. Occasionally conversations about faith arise naturally and that is welcomed but never forced. First steps perhaps ...

In September, Sheila will start a weekly lunch-time group for pupils at Bishop Wilson School. Crafts, activity and brief elements of Christian worship will develop and enhance the children's opportunity to explore the Christian faith. Given the beautiful outdoors environment that surrounds our community, we are also looking into starting a Forest Church – meeting outdoors in all seasons and discovering more of God in Creation.

Pioneering ministry involves having a go (and possibly risking failure with some initiatives) because at heart we believe that God blesses the courage and imagination of individuals to develop simple expressions of Church which connect with a wider cross-section of the community. If you are curious and want to know more, why not contact Sheila (sheila@stnics.com) and ask to be kept up to date with these pioneering approaches?

I for one wish I was able to be around longer to see these ideas flourish, alongside more familiar approaches to church life and ministry.

Yours with longing

John

<)))><

ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH, BURTON & ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, SHOTWICK



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5 Burton Manor Gardens,
The Village, Burton, CH64 5AB
Tel: 07471 890 827
email: johncoyne.bps@gmail.com

SERVICES AT ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH, BURTON

www.burtonchurch.org.uk

WEEKLY - SUNDAYS

10:00AM MORNING WORSHIP

WEEKLY - WEDNESDAYS

10:15AM HOLY COMMUNION BCP

1ST SUNDAY OF MONTH

8:45AM HOLY COMMUNION BCP

3RD SUNDAY OF MONTH

10:00AM HOLY COMMUNION CW

6:30PM EVENSONG



SERVICES AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, SHOTWICK

www.shotwick.org.uk

1ST SUNDAY OF MONTH

11:30AM MORNING PRAISE

2ND SUNDAY OF MONTH

11:30AM HOLY COMMUNION CW

3RD SUNDAY OF MONTH

11:30AM MORNING PRAYER BCP

4TH SUNDAY OF MONTH

11:30AM HOLY COMMUNION BCP

5TH SUNDAY OF MONTH

11:30AM HOLY COMMUNION BCP





FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Burton

Funerals

6 May

Eleanor Alvina Braceland

6 June

John Edward Roberts

Interment Of Ashes

7 June

Geoffrey Fairbanks Parsons

16 June

Eleanor and Don Braceland

Shotwick

Baptisms

18 May

Louie Harold Lacy

25 May

Marcy Rae Schumacker

St Nicholas' Church

Burton & Puddington

News



Christian Aid Week

A big thank you to everyone for their help and generosity during Christian Aid week. Together we raised a total of £1,415 in the Parish.

Nigel Griffiths 3° West Walk In Aid of Foodbanks

Nigel's challenging charity walk along the 3° meridian from the Channel coast of England through Wales and Scotland and up to Orkney, is in aid of Foodbanks.

Nigel has now progressed through the Scottish Borders and will soon be continuing northwards.



Ruth Abbott

Ruth Abbott was ordained Deacon in a ceremony at Chester Cathedral on 29 June. Ruth will be taking up the position of Curate at St Bridget's Church in West Kirby to complete her training.



Watch Services Online

To watch Sunday morning services online, either live or recorded, simply go to:

youtube.com/@stnicholasburton

St Nic's Nippers

St Nicholas' Church runs a weekly pre-school group for young children and their families. St Nic's Nippers is an informal stay and play session for parents & carers with their little ones.

If you have responsibility for looking after a child or children please come along to meet others.

Every Monday

10.30am to 12 noon

Gladstone Village Hall, Burton Village



No need to book, just come along!

Run by the St Nicholas' Church Children's Team

Contact sheilad.stnics@gmail.com



John Edward Roberts

Carole Roberts and her family wish to thank the villagers of Burton and Puddington for all the sympathy cards they received and for the lovely anecdotes concerning John's friendly and kind ways that were mentioned on the many cards and messages.

1938 - 2025

St Michael's Church

Shotwick

News



Visit By Frodsham & District History Society

On the afternoon of Wednesday 18 June, 24 members of the Frodsham & District History Society gathered in St Michael's Church. The weather was perfect, bright and sunny but not too hot.

Following a short talk about the Church there was time to look round and to learn about the main features of this historic building.

There was also demonstration of bell ringing and guided walks around the village.

Ten members of the group took the opportunity to climb up to the top of the tower for lovely views of the surrounding countryside.

Homemade refreshments served during the visit were much appreciated and added to the success of the afternoon.

An entry in the visitors book reads "Members of the Frodsham and

District History Society have enjoyed a day at Shotwick Church and village and were treated royally by members of the church and villagers on a beautiful afternoon. Thank you for your kind hospitality."



Christenings

In May, there were two Shotwick Village Christenings. On both occasions, there were over 120 in attendance.

18 May: Louie Harold

25 May: Marcy Rae

Pipe Organ Overhaul

Fifty years of dirt and grime cleared, including specimens of tiny bats and a baby wren which are now resting in the graveyard ivy.

Philip and Scott (who previously was a HGV driver with a dream of building pipe organs!) of Cartwright & Cartwright worked four days nonstop. Even Karen Cartwright, Philip's wife, was part of the team. They were refreshed daily with a supply of tea & crumpets as they worked tirelessly on our much loved ancient instrument which, according to the booklet 'The Church at the Ford' by Lavinia Whitfield, was secondhand when it was gifted and installed in 1909!

For Pipe Organ buffs, according to Philip Cartwright, the organ was either rebuilt or brought to the Church, possibly by Whiteley of Chester or Jardine of Manchester in 1909 (nameplate has been removed).

Philip further explained to me that the organ case, actions and bellows are certainly from that period but the 'organ within' is much older, evidenced by many factors including the soundboards which are c1850!

A massive thank you to all involved.

Rosemary Taylor
Churchwarden





Bishop Wilson Church of England Primary

"The joy of the Lord is your strength" Nehemiah 8:10

It has been another busy term at Bishop Wilson. The children have been focused on their learning throughout the year but at this particular time - the assessment window - it is reassuring to see the children's conscientious and autonomous attitude to their own learning journey.



To bring the curriculum to life, the staff organised a visit to the Chester Islam Centre, followed by an afternoon of art and crafts linked to Islam.

We have been involved in an art workshop at Willaston Primary School and have visits to Neston High School planned, to engage with curriculum enrichment activities.

It was lovely to welcome some of the younger members of the village to the Teddy Bear's Picnic on Saturday 7 June. It was a shame about the weather, but the atmosphere inside school was lovely.



At the end of term, we will be saying goodbye to two of our long serving members of staff, who will be retiring. We send them both all our good wishes for the future and hope to hear news about their retirement adventures and term-time holidays, when they drop in to visit us in the future. While it is always sad to say goodbye to people, it is also a time to celebrate the promotion of Mr Orford to Head of School from September and welcome two new teachers to the staff team.

We are making plans with the PTA to develop a gardening area in the school grounds and would welcome any help or advice from any of the expert gardeners and growers who live in the village. Please contact school if this is something that you would like to get involved in.

Wishing you all a lovely summer from everyone at Bishop Wilson!



Mothers' Union is a global Christian movement working with people of all faiths and none to develop communities, strengthen families and advocate for change.

We are a loving organisation open to anyone, and supportive of everyone. You don't have to have children, be married, be a woman, or be a churchgoer to join us.

There are different ways to belong to Mothers' Union depending on what works best for each person. To find out more: ***Click Here***

Theme for 2025:

Join Us and Join In

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 16 July at 2:00pm

The Annual Garden Meeting will take place at Leawood, Mudhouse Lane, Burton. Tickets are £8 for non-members.

Wednesday 17 September at 2:00pm

Our Annual Money Raising Event will be a 'Beetle Drive' to be held in the Sports and Social Club, Burton. Tickets are £10.

For more information, contact:

Valerie Lyon vallyon@btinternet.com

St Nicholas' Church Burton &
St Michael's Church Shotwick

*A Free
Community
Event*

Burton : Puddington : Shotwick



COMMUNITY

PIMM'S & HYMNS

Sunday 31 August

St Nicholas' Church, Burton 3:00pm

All Your Favourite Hymns

*Enjoy a Glass or Two of PIMM'S
Or Soft Drink*

Puddington Village Summer Event

DOUGH BROS

Pizza on the green!



Saturday 12th July

4.30pm - 8pm

Family friendly

Quiz & Raffle

No tickets required - all welcome!

CELEBRATING NATURE DAY

Ness
BOTANIC GARDENS

Wednesday 13 August 2025
10:00am – 3:00pm

Our popular Celebrating Nature Day is back!

We'll have lots of activities for the whole family to enjoy.

These will include:

- Bird ringing demonstrations
- Wildlife identification
- Nature Yoga session
- Poison Plant activities
- Herbarium craft activity
- Interactive activities with local wildlife organisations



www.freepik.com



www.freepik.com

While our usual ticket prices will apply to enter the gardens, all of the Celebrating Nature Day activities are included in your admission and are otherwise free to take part in.

We look forward to celebrating nature with you this summer!

www.liverpool.ac.uk/ness-gardens/

Down the Garden Path

with Flori Bunda

High Summer

After a glorious week of sunshine up North, settling down on return was going to be difficult.

However, seedlings, pots etc were in perfect order as our neighbour took care of house and garden during our absence.

Russell Lupins have been wonderful and the seeds collected. Roses have been beautiful, not least Rosa Mundi – this rose is spreading through various shrubs. Buff Beauty needed some attention as there was lots of dead wood.



Absent Friends is a lovely rose and has a perfume. It is growing happily in a large pot. Alec's Red is a truly beautiful rose – dark red with a lovely perfume.

'Harry Lauder' (Twisted Hazel) again has had a serious 'prune', and the Lilacs (mauve/white) have also been pruned – hopefully to flower next year.

With success there is always failure. The Zinnias matured into strong seedlings, but Larkspur failed to germinate.

The Sweet Peas are wonderful. The eagerly awaited Misty Mountains is in flower – long stems, four florets, mauve fading to white – just as it's description.

The vases are filled with Sweet Peas almost daily. Hopefully, it will be as good for August showing. They are fed once weekly and all tendrils removed which means they need to be tied up almost daily.

The garden looks so lovely – do not look at overgrown areas – more about them next time!

There was a successful hatching of blue/great tits as these youngsters raided the bird feeder. Two immature blackbirds have appeared, one robin, gold/green finches and three greater spotted woodpeckers. Jenny Wren can only be heard!

Tasks to be getting on with:

- Water pots when dry
- Dead head flowers as necessary
- Remove weeds
- Sit in the garden (if possible)

Happy
Gardening!

Flori Bunda



It's June at the Foodbank. As previously noted the number of clients served has reduced from a post-pandemic high to about what it was pre-pandemic. Donations have also declined over the last year or so. It's not totally clear why this is, but it's likely that the cost of living increases from 2022 onwards are the main cause.



In Wirral, even though things are getting tighter, we're still able to serve all our clients and continue to fund the Foodbank Plus advisors who are an important way to make sure that clients see us temporarily and are then back on their feet. Other Foodbanks are struggling more. It remains the case that far too many people are unable to get by without food support.

New Community Organiser

Recently Wirral Foodbank has had the benefit of a community organiser funded by Trussell Trust. She's been talking with clients and others to see how they can better be served. One of the items that was often mentioned is the need for a face-to-face advice service. The council's One Stop Shop used to provide this but moved to a phone-only service during the pandemic and, despite pressure, has never moved back into the community – primarily because of cost pressures.

But now Wirral Foodbank is proud to have helped set up a Community Advice Hub staffed by the Foodbank, Citizens Advice Bureau, Involve Northwest, Energy Projects Plus, Wirral Change and CAP Wirral. The hub, located in central Birkenhead, will be open on Thursday mornings from 3 July.

Wirral Foodbank has always seen its mission as eliminating the need for foodbanks, and providing emergency food while this is still necessary. This is another step in that mission. While Foodbank Plus (CAB support for Foodbank clients) helps to get clients back on their feet this hub will be preventive and avoid people needing emergency food in the first place.

Some Good News

The Chancellor has just delivered a spending review. There are a couple of items of good news in it for Foodbank clients.

- Free School Meals eligibility has been expanded to include everyone in England receiving Universal Credit. This is a big benefit to families who did not previously receive it.
- The Household Support Fund, which has provided critical support since the pandemic, but which was subject to a nail-biting annual review, has been replaced with the Crisis and Resilience Fund of £1 billion per year each year until 2029. Local councils have had the discretion to use this money to support those in need. It's good to see a long-term commitment.



Your donations of food and money continue to provide a lifeline to our neighbours, for which we and they are very grateful. Food donations can be made at many supermarkets. The Wirral Foodbank is looking for rice pudding, tinned potatoes, tinned meat, jam and tinned fruit, while the West Cheshire Foodbank is looking for tinned puddings, tinned potatoes, long life juice, biscuits and jam.

Both Foodbanks also accept monetary donations which they use to bulk buy food as needed and to provide other services to Foodbank clients. Regular donations especially help with financial planning.

<https://wirral.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

<https://westcheshire.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

Thank you again for your care and support for your neighbours in Wirral and West Cheshire.

Ian Birch, Volunteer, Wirral Foodbank

Burton Mere Wetlands

Summer Is Here!

Here at Burton Mere Wetlands the pools are alive with young birds. The main scrape has many **Avocet** chicks some of which are now nearly as big as their parents, and every island is alive with fluffy **Black-headed Gull** chicks.

On the water **Shelduck** babies follow their parents and several families of **Canada Geese** and **Greylag Geese** can be seen. The great news, though, comes from the **Heronry**, where in addition to the **Grey Herons** and **Little Egrets** we also have breeding pairs of **Great White Egret**, **Spoonbills** and **Cattle Egret**. We look forward to seeing the 'Teaspoons' (baby Spoonbills) come down from their nest and show themselves on one of the pools.

The **Raptors** are showing well, with **Sparrowhawk**, **Hobby** and our resident **Marsh Harriers** passing food in mid-air.

Our insect lovers have been seeing many species of **Damselfly** and **Dragonfly**, **Butterfly** (including the **Broad-Bodied Chaser** and **Skipper**), **Moths**, particularly a **Hummingbird Hawk Moth** and **Scarlet Tiger Moth**.



Spoonbill



Broad-Bodied Chaser



Large Skipper

June was peak wild orchid season with fabulous Bee Orchids, dainty Pyramidal, Common Spotted, abundant Marsh Orchids and shade loving Broad-leaved Helleborine. You can see all five species along the path from the visitor centre to bunker hide or ask our friendly volunteers to point you in the right direction.



Pyramidal Orchid

July will see all the chicks growing up and learning to fly, and we will see the Arctic breeding birds beginning to return. Spotted Redshanks in their black breeding plumage are often among the early returners.



Spotted Redshank

The café at Burton Mere has now re-opened and is open Monday, Tuesday, Friday and at weekends. For opening times updates please check [Facebook](#).

There are plenty of events on throughout the summer including Summer Wildlife Wanders, Birdwatching for Beginners and a Binocular and Telescope Open Day. Please visit our events website to book <https://events.rspb.org.uk/deeestuary>

For regular updates, sightings information and news about the reserve, check our website at: www.rspb.org.uk/days-out/reserves/dee-estuary-burton-mere-wetlands and follow us on Facebook and Twitter (search RSPB Burton Mere).

We hope to welcome you here soon.

All photos: John Hewitt

Out & About In Burton

Bus services are back!

A new service called the '22A' now passes through the village every two hours to either Chester or West Kirby via Neston. The service goes via Dunstan Lane to reach the High Road when going to and returning from Chester.

See the **timetable** for more information.



It may be that this is a trial to see how much it is used so in the time honoured exhortation: "Use it or Lose it!"



Passionate About The Village?

The **Burton Residents' Association** (BRA) is looking for a new Chair to take over in October.

It requires no previous experience of the BRA Committee or indeed any other committee work and even if you are a new arrival to the village, this is no barrier to taking up the post - in fact quite the reverse. There is an experienced Committee supporting you and all that we need is somebody with a degree of enthusiasm, commitment to the cause and ideally some new ideas and ways of looking at the issues we face.

If you would be prepared to consider taking up the role of Chair or even just joining our Committee, then please feel free to contact Mark Watts at brachairman@btinternet.co.uk if you would like to have more details of exactly what is involved.

Cheshire West & Chester Libraries

Summer Reading Challenge 2025



From animal handling to moon-rock handling, stone-arrow making to facepainting, the Story Garden Summer Reading Challenge events will provide plenty of opportunities for children to explore their imagination through the power of reading, experiencing the magical connection between storytelling and nature.

Children from 4 to 12 years can join the Summer Reading Challenge at their local library or online from “Sign-Up Saturday”, Saturday 5 July, and get a collector’s pack, by visiting:

[Summer Reading Challenge](#)

Children joining the Challenge will be given free entry to Hayrack Church Farm and discounts to Climbing Hut and the Deva Roman Experience. The first people to join the Challenge will also be given Brio family swimming passes while stocks last.

As well as the medal and certificate, children who complete the Challenge will be entered into a prize draw (of one per library) for a bug hotel and the book “50 things to do before you’re 11 ¾”. Under 4s will be entered into a draw for a plush Gruffalo toy.

Cheshire West & Chester Libraries

Summer Reading Challenge 2025

Adults Read Two (13+ years)



Celebrate your love of books and reading this summer and join our reading challenge for adults and teens online and in libraries.

Entrants just need to read two books between 5 July and 7 September.

Choose from a library book, eBook or eAudiobook, to be in with a chance to win £50 of book vouchers through our prize draw [here](#) or pick up a flyer from your nearest library.

There are two prize draws - one for young people aged between 13 and 17, and one for 18+. Winners will be chosen at random. Under 16s need parental permission to take part. We also have Brio Leisure 7-day adult passes to give away.

Cheshire West & Chester Mobile Library

THE MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS BURTON AND PUDDINGTON VILLAGES

Puddington from 10:40am to 11:00am
GVH in Burton from 11:10am to 11:50am
on the following dates:

Fridays: 18 July - 8 August - 19 September



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🌐 www.wirralwildlifelandscaping.com

Community & Local Society Contact Information

THE PUDDINGTON SOCIETY

For information on activities & events please contact puddingtonsociety@gmail.com

BURTON & NESTON HISTORY SOCIETY

Church Hall, Parkgate & Neston United Reformed Church,

More information at: <https://sites.google.com/site/burtonnestonhistory/home>

BURTON BRIDGE CLUB

Burton Bridge Club meets on Monday Evenings

Gladstone Village Hall at 7:15pm to play Duplicate Bridge

For more information please contact Hazel Huxley on 0151 336 2288

BURTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Promoting & protecting the interest of Burton Village. Membership is open to all residents.

burtonresidentsassociation.co.uk

FRIENDS OF HAMPSTON'S WELL

Friends of Hampstons Well brings together a community of people who care for and maintain this ancient site

For more information, please contact the Secretary at

friendsofhampstonswellburton@gmail.com

FRIENDS OF BURTON MANOR GARDENS

For more information please contact 0151 336 6154 or email burtonmanorgardens@gmail.com

GLADSTONE VILLAGE HALL

Information and to sign up for the GVH Newsletter

info@gladstonevillagehall.org

Magazine Administrator - sue@suebirch.com

*The Parish Magazine is published by the PCCs of
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*The PCCs and editorial team retain the right to edit items
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Copies of this magazine can be found at

www.burtonchurch.org.uk

www.shotwick.org.uk

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and Puddington and to others.*

*In addition the magazine is available on the St Nicholas' Church
and St Michael's Church websites*

To discuss opportunities to advertise here contact



0151 271 4278 or 07597 051 048



burtonchurchcomms@btinternet.com

*St Nicholas' Church, Burton-in-Wirral is a Registered Charity No. 1184831
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