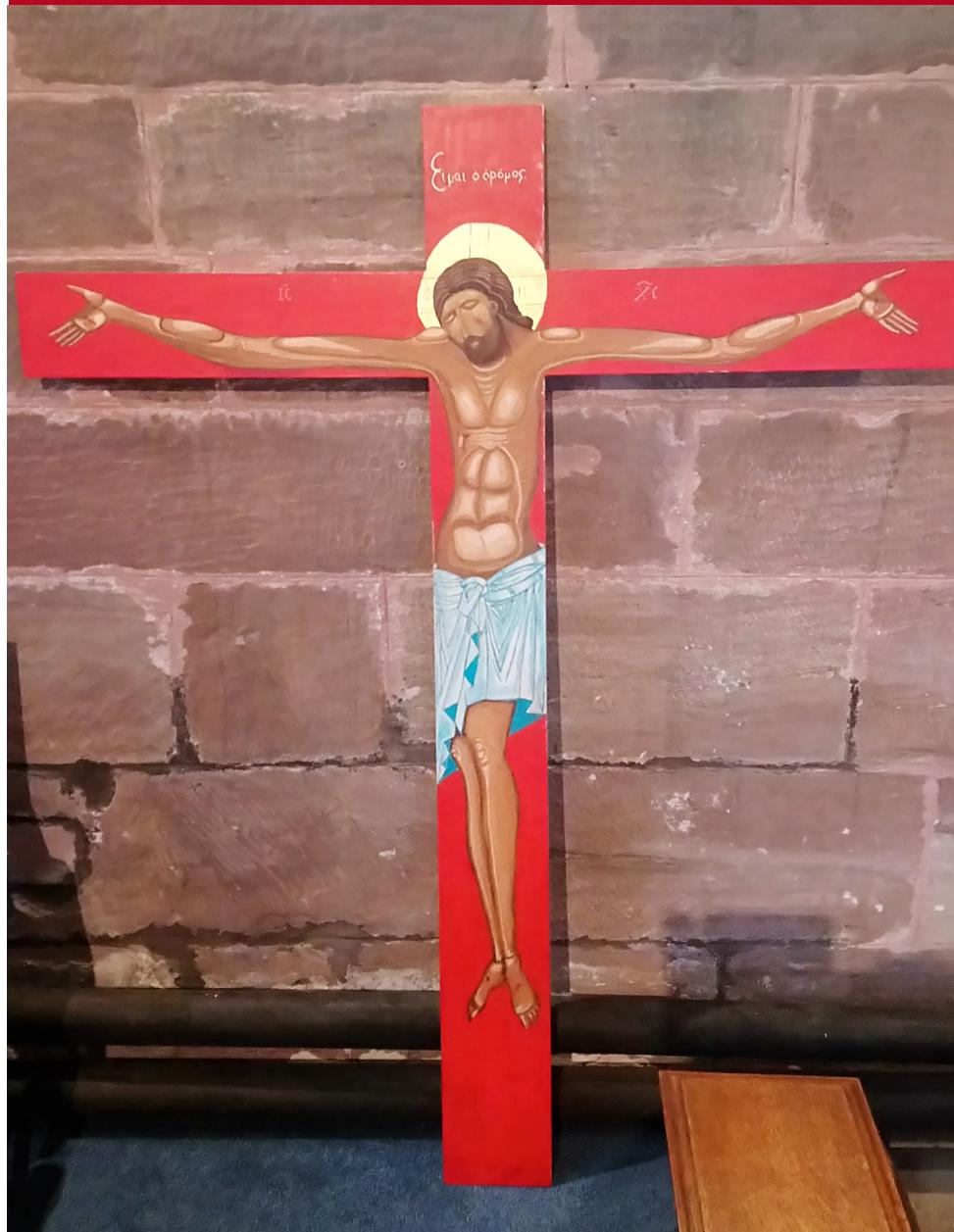


TARVIN & DUDDON



GRAPEVINE

April 2021

50p

## From the Vicar...

From the Vicar.....

Easter, the season of the Risen Lord. A time of joy as we celebrate our own freedom and the promise of 'Eternal Life' in heaven, given to us as a gift, through Jesus' suffering and resurrection. It is also all about the egg. Which one have you had, or are expecting (depending on if you read this before or after Easter). I am defiantly writing this before, so I can be blunt about my expectations. I am hoping the Easter Bunny brings me a Milk Chocolate Cadbury's Large Egg. I like my egg's empty, nothing in them as for me that is the best bit. (not that I would object to extra chocolate, but on the side in the bottom of the box, rather than inside the egg). The 'Empty Egg' for me and many others represents the empty tomb. The empty egg is a symbol of new life of the risen lord. So may all you Easter Egg's be empty. (Although I am partial to a crème egg too, and they are definitely not empty.)

Is that the end of the Easter story? No, it is far more serious than that, and it is much more than chocolate, but most of you will know that. It is about a gateway. Gates are great things as they enable us to get through a wall, be that a brick, straw or wooded fence. The 'gate' is the way in an out of somewhere. On walks around the village and indeed the surrounding area we will be used to gates and to styles and we climb over them. We are told, through the bible that Peter has the keys to kingdom. We imagine, maybe that he is the gatekeeper, keeping it closed and letting us in. So what enables the gate to be open? The amount of theologians that have written many books about this is enormous. Here is my opinion, my understanding in connection with my faith.

Jesus is the gate and the gateway, he paid the price on the cross in agony for our sins, thus we are saved. The crunch comes as to our response to the gift that we have. Yes, we can all get excited by seeing a large chocolate egg, the same is not true when we see Jesus on the cross, and Good Friday always is a sombre service. Yet the clue is in the name, 'Good'. The whole story has to be in place for the gate to work for us. Christmas and the birth of Jesus, to the betrayal, the sacrifice made on the cross and the risen Jesus from the empty tomb. This is his and our story. Our response to this is.....

Well by doing nothing, does not mean our faith in God is null and void, and would not, in my humble opinion, stop us from going through the

gate of eternal life. However, using the gift we have been given to do good for others, following Jesus' example of servanthood is surely an urge we have, even if we struggle knowing how to put it in to practice.

A good friend of mine recently was asked why he wasn't a Christian or a person of faith, because all the actions they did, was evidence that they cared for other human beings. So you don't have to be a Christian to do good, but what if you are? If you stand up and say I believe and I want to follow then we have to respond to the gift Jesus has given us. We use the gift of eternal life given to us, in order to make this world more bearable for everyone.

#### Story - 'A Rich man enters Heaven'

There is the story of a rich man who died and went to heaven. He was met at the entrance of the City's gates by his guide.

"Welcome to heaven" the guide greeted the rich man

"Thank you" the rich man replied.

"I am your guide and I will show you where you will be living." The rich man got excited. Surely he was going to be living in the best of mansions on the biggest of properties. After all he was a very wealthy and powerful man on earth. Heaven would be no different he mused. They passed by a castle that was by far greater and more glorious than any he had seen on earth,

"Who lives here" the rich man asked. "Surely he must have been rich and famous on earth."

"No, this woman took care of the elderly most of her adult life and was very poor as far as earthly standards go" said the guide. As they weaved their way through the sub-divisions of mansions and houses that were fit for kings the guide gave a short run down on each owner. None of whom the rich man knew or expected to be living in such luxury. If these unheralded nobodies could find themselves living under such beautiful of circumstances then what would be in store for me, he thought. They soon entered into a very poor looking area with rundown and even incomplete houses. Some without roofs, unfinished walls, missing windows and doors.

The rich man was taken back. "Why are you taking me through these poor areas the rich man demanded."

"None of these are yours" said the guide.

"I would think not" the rich man replied What seemed like an eternity walking past some of the most horrible housing projects he had ever seen or experienced the guide stopped in front of piece of land.

"Here we are" the guide said with a smile. "This is your new dwelling."

The rich man was speechless. Standing in front of a house that was without roof, missing windows and no door with a porch that appeared to missing floor boards the rich man turned to the guide.

"This cannot be my house" the rich man screamed. "There must be some mistake. I was a very wealthy and powerful man, I had companies that employed thousands of people, I went to church every week, I gave ten percent of my income regularly. I said my prayers in church, I was a good man and a good Christian."

"There is no mistake. This is all the materials you sent for us to use to build your house." the guide said calmly. "I don't understand" said the rich man. The guide took a deep breath before he continued. "As much as God appreciated how much good you did, how you kept the commandments and the law, how you presented yourself to the world you may have missed an important virtue. And I say this with all due respect, as your unfinished, run down shack speaks for itself. You failed to do the most important thing that would have given you enough materials to build the mansion you feel you so rightly deserve."

"And what is that" the rich man asked with folded arms.

"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.' With every act of kindness and love toward another human being no matter how big or small would ensure all the necessary materials needed to build your mansion. But you failed to do this."

The rich man looked into the eyes of his guide. In an instant he understood that his whole life of building wealth on earth meant nothing in Heaven. Let us learn from the rich man what is most important in God's eyes. To love Him with all your heart, all your soul and all your mind add loving your neighbour, those you come into contact with each day, as yourself and you have a recipe for success. Here and in Heaven.

Adam

## Floodlighting fund

"With fond birthday memories of Neville.      Much loved and remembered always.      From Edna and all the family."

In memory of Ian Griffith on his birthday on 14th April  
Fondest Memories from all the family

## Church Services

The PCC recently and feel that the COVID cases within the countess have decreased and the local infection rate for the ward of Tarvin and Kelsall is extremely low in comparison to Cheshire West and Chester as a whole.

The problem we have is related to the current situation at St Andrew's which means we are unable to hold any services in there at this time.

**From the 7th March we will be holding services at St Peter's Church in Duddon, this we be as follows: 8am Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer; 9.30am and 10.45am Family Communion using Common Worship.**

We have a limited number of seats in order to remain COVID safe and keep the 2metre distance in accordance with the government guidelines. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COME TO THE 9.30AM or 10.45AM SERVICE YOU WILL NEED TO BOOK A SEAT. If you have not booked a seat we may not be able to accommodate you. (currently we are not asking those coming to 8am to book a seat in advance)

To book a seat please contact Sandra Turner on 01829749310 or email her on [sandraturner1234@btinternet.com](mailto:sandraturner1234@btinternet.com).

We look forward to welcoming those who want to come back to public worship, if you feel that this is not for you at this time, that is fine. Our service will remain on Facebook and YouTube at 10.15am on a Sunday morning and through the Telephone service on 01829708989. The service will also be available through the email system.

Thank you for your patience at this time and we look forward to being together and sharing in worship together."

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## Curates Corner

### **Reasons to be cheerful.**

Easter eggs, essential chocolate, still needed, but the future is brighter.

Warmer weather, blossom, new leaves uncurling eggs hatching in nests.

The hair dressers can open! England submerged by a mountain of hair!

We can meet with other people...outside... we can emerge...but still carefully

### **Staying afloat.**

Spring maintenance and cleaning, scrubbing the decks, mending the sails, overhaul the engine.

Are we ready for a cautious normality to begin?

How do we feel?

Can we cope with people without seeing them on a screen?

Will we know what to talk about?

Many may have to take time for adjustment, so patience and tolerance will be needed.

### **Bobbin' along.**

We still have to be careful. But look how far we have come? A whole year ... a lot has changed and nothing has changed. We have been stretched to our limits with all that has been thrown at us, so still be gentle with yourself.

There has been laughter - over toilet rolls;  
encouragement - clapping for our splendid NHS, rainbows and hearts;

support - prayer, foodbanks, good neighbours and friends;  
tears - those who have not survived, those still poorly, those we were not able to visit in hospital;

extra smiles - out on walks, over fences, hidden by face masks;

technology - "You're on mute!" "Can you see me?"

and the splendid rollout of the vaccinations! So many kind volunteers to help and guide.

### **Will your anchor hold?**

We have pulled together. We must continue to stay strong.

Healing power of Jesus Christ, fall afresh on me,

Healing power of Jesus Christ, fall afresh on me.

Touch me, stir me, unfold me love me.

Healing power of Jesus Christ, fall afresh on me

Keep safe.,

Love and prayers,

Barbara

## Duddon St Peter's CE Primary School

What a start to the year it has been! All the children, parents and staff have worked really hard to support both the children that have been in school and the ones who have been home schooling. It has been a challenge for everyone and it is impressive how we have all managed to adapt, but especially the children, under the circumstances and keep up the excellent learning throughout the term. I think it is fair to say that we have all breathed a sigh of relief as school opened again and we can return to a more normal routine again. It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school we all hope that this will be the last of lockdown. We look forward to keeping you all updated with the school news as the year progresses.

On the PTA front it has been a very difficult year for fundraising and this will undoubtedly affect what we will be able to achieve over the coming years. However, if you would like to support us we are a registered charity and have signed up to corporate fundraising schemes such as Amazon Smile and Easy Fundraising. These are both great ways that we can raise funds with no extra cost to you. If you would like to support us via Easy Fundraising the following link will take you to our page. It really is easy, sorry bad pun!

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/duddonstpeterspta/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_content=cpl](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/duddonstpeterspta/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=cpl)

For Amazon Smile you just have to search for **Duddon Saint Peter'S School PTA** and you will be able to add us as your charity of choice.

I can't stress the benefit that the funds provided by the PTA have on school life. Over the last few years we have been able to update our outside spaces in Treetops and the main school, and we have provided books, computers, trips and experiences for the children to enjoy. The impact really is profound and I hope that if we can continue to raise small amounts that we will still be able to add into the richness of school life.



## Weekly reflections

### Week 1 (Easter 2)

Risen Christ,  
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:  
open the doors of our hearts,  
that we may seek the good of others  
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,  
to the praise of God the Father. Amen

#### Bible Reading Acts 4 32-35

Verse "They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need"

I often watched Star Trek as I was growing up, the ones where it was obvious the CGI had not yet been invented, and someone had the star ship enterprise on stick as it went through the stars! What always struck me was that in this future for humanity, it wasn't the ships, the costumes or indeed the realisation that we were not alone in the universe that struck a chord with me, it was the fact that money did not play a part in life. People had all their needs provided for, accommodation, food, drink, schools, medical and so much more. In exchange they worked doing what was of interest to them and fulfilling their potential by contributing to the community they lived in. This was a humanity that I saw and I liked, no one pricing someone else out of accommodation, no one going without food, no greed, no envy, it seems so idyllic. This passage from Acts puts that ambition at the forefront of the beginning of Christianity. The idea we have our needs looked after rather than what we believe we want. I am sure every parent has said that to their children too 'we cannot have everything that we want'. We still manage to give children more than they need. I wonder though, that in the future, maybe we all have what we need, depending on the stage of life we are at, a bigger place to live and more food, if we need to sustain a family. Imagine if you could work doing exactly what your 'heart's desire' was, with the inner (sometimes hidden) skills and talents that you have. All the things you needed given to you as everyone worked for the good of all.

#### Prayers Week 1

Thank you Lord for Easter duck and Easter chick,  
Easter eggs with chocolate thick.  
Easter hope for one and all.  
Will the Easter bunny call?  
I pray your Happy Easter brings.  
Such a lot of lovely things!

## **Week 2 (Easter 3)**

Risen Christ,  
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:  
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life  
and fill us with your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father. Amen

### **Bible Reading Acts 3 12-19**

Verse "Repent, therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out"

If you have ever tried to clean grout that has gone yellow and stained as it hasn't been cleaned for a while, you may reach a point where it is easier to take all the tiles off, put new ones in with new grouting of course. You can read the words 'wiped out' in so many ways, cleaned up, or even taken away and replaced with new. This is the offer on the table from God. To wipe away our sins. This is the catch, it is about living our lives, by walking in faith. It depends on our perspective as to how easy or hard that can be. If we truly like sinning, then it is hard to change, if we are walking a path that doesn't then it will be easier. Shared on facebook, in connection with faith there was a glass that had water in, up to the middle. The slogan was, 'some say the glass is half full, some say it is half empty, Jesus says it is refillable.' It is the same with our sins being wiped out. Although our sins do hurt Jesus each time we fall into them, it is by his death on the cross that they can be 'wiped' away.

### **Prayers Week 2**

Christ our life, you are alive, in the beauty of the earth, in the rhythm of the seasons, in the mystery of time and space. Alleluia!  
Christ our life, you are alive, in the tenderness of touch, in the heartbeat of intimacy, in the insights of solitude. Alleluia!  
Christ our life, you are alive, in the creative possibility of the dullest conversation, the dreariest task, the most threatening event. Alleluia!  
Christ our life, you are alive, to offer re-creation to every unhealed hurt, to every deadened place, to every damaged heart. Alleluia!  
You have set before us a great choice. Therefore we choose life, the dance of creation soars and surges through the whole creation.  
It sets gifts of bread and wine upon our table.  
This is grace, dying we live.  
So let us live. (Kathy Galloway, Iona Community)

### **Week 3 St. George**

God our redeemer,  
whose Church was strengthened  
by the blood of your martyr George:  
so bind us, in life and death, to Christ's sacrifice  
that our lives, broken and offered with his,  
may carry his death and proclaim his resurrection in the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

#### **Bible Reading Revelation 12 7-12**

Verse "The Dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated"

St George's story is an exciting one, the legend has it that he fell in love with a village girl, after giving up by a knight. The village sacrificed a young girl to the dragon, and in came to the turn of the person that George had fallen in love with. He slayed the dragon. In our reading from revelation, alas we have no George, nor a sacrifice of a person. We have the Archangel Michael and all the heavenly army. The 'dragon' in this story is the Devil, the fallen angel, the one who has questioned God in so many ways. The fight is phenomenal, and the dragon is defeated and thrown down to earth with all his angels. It isn't a great end to the story for the devil or for us. Knowing that the evil one, and his angels, prowl around the earth seeking victims to keep the wheels of evil turning is awful. When I was on a ministry placement in Frankland Prison in Durham, there was evil in some of the people there, but I also found stories of 'falling in with the wrong crowd', the temptations overwhelming the ability not to fall into sin. Part of me could not help but feel for some of the men, who had committed a crime, knowing that the evil one had corrupted their mind. Our prayer is to walk in a path that leads us out of sin, out of contact with the devil and only in the footsteps of Christ, that lead to the glory of God.

#### **Prayers Week 3**

May the spirit of hope that Easter brings,  
Help you find contentment in little things,  
And restore your faith in the Lord above,  
Who gave His life for the ones He loves

## **Week 4 (Easter 4)**

Risen Christ,  
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:  
teach us to hear your voice  
and to follow your command,  
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,  
to the glory of God the Father. Amen

### **Bible Reading Acts 4 5-12**

Verse "this Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone"

When you buy something, do you ever look for imperfections in the item, a scratch under the surface maybe, or a more obvious dent on the corner. In the summer we had a writing desk delivered, and the item when it was delivered was almost thrown onto the doorway, upside down! Well there was obvious damage and this had also caused the whole thing to be lop sided. Yes, it did have to go back and a new one ordered. The key part of the story that related to the reading from Acts, is that it was the handling of others that created the item to be sent back, I am sure the writing desk, when it left storage was in perfect usable condition. How we handle Jesus is vital to our faith. He was rejected by people of faith and authority at the time, and still now Jesus is rejected and we can see the state of the world we live in because of that. Jesus has no imperfections, or dented corners, but he does have the ability to knock us into shape. The catch is that as well living a life with Jesus, through prayer talking with God, we also need to read the instruction manual first. Reading the bible regularly and reminding ourselves how we should be living is crucial in living a life of faith. It is a bit like reading the instructions as we play a board game to make sure we are doing it right. So take some time to reclaim Jesus as the corner stone, the bed rock of your life, let him in again, read about him again, and follow him in faith.

### **Prayers Week 4**

May the glory of our living Lord  
renew you hopes, your faith, your joy. Have a blessed Easter Season.

## Community Centre News

Like many others, the Committee at the Community Centre is waiting with great anticipation for the relaxing of the lockdown rules and for the chance to open and provide space for community activities to get going again. It has been a long, quiet wait but we are still not quite there yet.

There will be no indoor activities until April 12<sup>th</sup> when certain children's activities will be allowed, albeit with a restriction on numbers. It will not be until May 17<sup>th</sup> that a wider range of activities can restart, including indoor exercise classes., though again there will still be restrictions on some numbers and with social distancing having to be observed. We have not yet had word about the return of any library services but if a mobile service starts again, so will the Library Café (and those brownies) If all goes well, June 21<sup>st</sup> will see the lifting of restrictions and normality, or perhaps a new version of it, will return.

There are several events being cautiously planned. A film night at the end of May, with a limited audience numbers is planned, and a weekend of celebration linked to the Fete in July is a distinct possibility. The George Heath Foundation has boldly booked for a Quiz and Bingo night in the autumn. Ashton Hayes Theatre Club are planning to put on their much postponed show "Madame Bovary" in September.

Bookings for children's parties are starting to trickle in, it might be a good idea to get your date booked soon.

During the lockdown the Centre has retained the services of Chris Leavy, the Caretaker, so the place is newly decorated and spotless. The Hall floor is a beauty to behold! Hygiene standards are excellent and Covid precautions, Track and Trace, hand sanitising etc. will remain in place for as long as they are needed.

If you are thinking of holding a party or starting a class, then please do contact the Booking Secretary on [booking@tarvincommunitycentre.org](mailto:booking@tarvincommunitycentre.org) or call Sue on 01829 741962. Every effort will be made to ensure that you can hold your event safely and within whatever guidelines are in place at the time. If cancellations must be made for Covid reasons, no charge will be made.

Go to [www.tarvincommunitycentre.org](http://www.tarvincommunitycentre.org) [www.facebook.com/tarvinctc](http://www.facebook.com/tarvinctc) or [www.tarvinonline.org](http://www.tarvinonline.org) for more details

See you all soon.

## Christian Aid—Coronavirus Appeal

As more of our family, friends, and neighbours receive their COVID vaccinations, we rejoice and are glad that our loved ones are protected. We give thanks for all the NHS staff and key workers who continue to save lives across the UK.

For the poorest and most vulnerable communities across the world, there is little hope of a vaccine rollout. These people already face a lack of water, food, and healthcare.

Some are homeless. Some are living with underlying health issues such as HIV.

Christian Aid is already on the ground, helping keep people safe from coronavirus with practical support – but with your gift of thanks we can do more.

Have you or your loved ones had your vaccine?

Please give thanks with a donation to help protect our global neighbours while the vaccine is out of reach.

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/coronavirus-emergency-appeal>





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## **St Peter's CE School, Duddon.**

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The school motto is:  
**"Be the Best you can be"**

The School has a nursery which is part of the Foundation Unit and Reception is taught alongside the nursery unit.

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Copy deadline for the May edition is Saturday 20th April.  
Please send any news items, articles, events, diary entries to  
[tarvingrapevine@gmail.com](mailto:tarvingrapevine@gmail.com)

The Parish Calendar is available on the parish website  
[www.tarvinparish.com](http://www.tarvinparish.com)

We are also making this Grapevine available in digital format as  
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## **Community Newsround**

### **Ashton Hayes and Tarvin Flower Club:**

Do you like flowers and enjoy meeting people? Why not join us for an evening of entertainment as you watch a skilled flower arranger demonstrate their art. All arrangements are raffled so you may even take one home with you! We usually meet in Tarvin Community Centre, on the second Wednesday of every month at 7.30 p.m., (except August and December) and you would be assured of a friendly welcome. During the Covid lockdowns more Information from 01829 740832 or 01829 740473

### **Tarvin Women's Institute**

Tarvin WI are still unable to hold our regular monthly meetings but we are learning to navigate our way around the virtual world of Zoom and taking part in the various talks organised by the Cheshire Federation of WIs.

If you are interested and would like further details please contact Margaret Matthews telephone 01829 741081 - we would love to hear from you.

### **Tarvin Meeting Point.**

A group of lively minded women who meet fortnightly in members homes to discuss a wide variety of topics, both serious and light-hearted. Keep your mind buzzing! For Further information during the current lockdowns contact Sue Hardacre on 01829 741962

### **Ash-worth Time bank**

If you are either over 60, a carer, have recently suffered bereavement, are a single parent or maybe have been made redundant, you are welcome to attend our free therapy sessions which include For details Caroline or Sue on 01829 751398. [www.ash-worthtime.org.uk](http://www.ash-worthtime.org.uk) or email ashworthtime@hotmail.co.uk

## Woodland Notes — March

The Trustees, members and volunteers of Tarvin Community Woodland Trust send to everyone in Tarvin their greetings and very best wishes at Eastertide.

### When is a dead hedge a good hedge?

With the "official" life of the Trust very definitely taking a break, I am faced with the question of what to write about each month. For the time being, I am unable to keep you abreast of the multiplicity of the jobs being done by our volunteers as they beaver away because there is only one job that is being undertaken during the Covid19 social distancing regime: the construction of a 'dead hedge' just inside the chestnut paling fence on two sides of the area being wilded. Hedges, of course, provide boundaries and on farms they are usually made by planting thorn bushes - both hawthorn and blackthorn can be used - and they are shaped by encouraging the growth of the bushes so as to thicken and strengthen the hedge. A dead hedge, on the other hand, does not grow. It is made by knocking in two parallel lines of posts and laying the branches of felled trees between the rows. These are then interwoven for strength and all the other brash and trimmings can thereafter be used to fill gaps and to fasten the components together.

Such a hedge will, of course, have a limited life but, for us, it will provide a number of advantages: it will strengthen the boundary fence, it provides us with a way of disposing all of the brash that results from the occasional felled tree and, perhaps most importantly, it immediately provides shelter for small creatures. It has the additional advantage that it does not all need doing at once - it can be extended as additional material becomes available and it can easily be repaired and rejuvenated when its contents begin to settle and decay. We haven't been converted away from living hedges - ALL of the historic field boundaries within the woodland have living hedges and these are maintained each year. But this different type of hedge, with a very different structure, has a completely different job to do and, for what we want in the wilding area, a dead hedge is definitely a good hedge!

### Spectacles galore!

These are not the optical devices sported by our visitors, (although it is likely that a good proportion of them might be bespectacled!) but rather it is the wonderful sights which our plants and trees are able to offer us during each year. For whatever reason, this has been a very special year for snowdrops, with the tiny white flowers collectively producing a really wonderful display. Now that they are dying down, all eyes are turned instead to some of our trees: the blackthorns, which, as I write, are covered in a mass of luminous, snowy-white blossom that, in the sunshine, becomes almost blinding. Because the time of the blackthorn flowering coincides with what is often a cold snap, this apparent coating of snow was described in country lore as a "blackthorn winter".

Mostly, the blackthorn is an unremarked (and, truthfully, unremarkable) tree. Its fruit are the tiny, sour, plum-like sloes beloved of liqueur-makers and they are so small that most folk do not even notice them. However, the blackthorn blossom is truly spectacular! Less breath-taking but none-the-less beautiful have been the little clumps of bright yellow primroses. These have taken a little finding but have been well-worth the search - especially when the sun catches them.

The next flowers to look out for in April will be the celandines. These tiny yellow flowers seem to have succeeded in bottling sunshine, for they glow brilliantly, even on the dullest days. Often mistaken for buttercups, they are actually a different family of plant and I have known gardeners root them out as pernicious weeds. They are safe in our woodland, where they are definitely NOT "plants out of place" - the definition of a weed. At about the same time as the celandines, we will begin to see the beautiful wood anemones - probably my favourite of all the wild flowers. Once established, they will produce drifts of lovely white flowers and possibly the best place to see them is in the woodland behind Crossfields, amongst the trees that are just beyond the grass on the slope up to the bridleway and the A51. And then later still, amongst the trees close to Hockenhull Lane, there will appear the bluebells - the wild flower which every user of the woodland does notice. They seem to epitomise a British spring - even though most (if not all) of our bluebells will have hybridised with the Spanish bluebells that are to be found in so many Tarvin gardens. If you know where to look, there will be cowslips, fritillaries, violets, and many other flowers as the spring progresses, not to mention tree blossom!

We hope that you enjoy our wild flowers and blossoms as they appear - and can enjoy looking for them as you take your walks. Your walks will become more interesting and our hope is that there will always be something different, some new flower or tree, bird or creature for you to enjoy. That is our understanding of a community woodland!

#### Pruning our orchard.

What better place for a community orchard than in a community woodland? The initial gift of apple trees came from the (now sadly defunct) Cheshire Landscape Trust and these were all apple trees which have an association with Cheshire. The orchard has been added to over the years with donations of additional apple, pear, plum and damson trees, so that the edges of the open area on which we hold the apple pressing days now has a really good collection of fruit trees. In order to encourage these trees to develop a good, open shape and begin to produce increasing amounts of fruit, the trees need to be pruned and we are fortunate to have fruit-tree expert (and former Director of Cheshire Landscape Trust) Katie Tongue as a member of the Trust. With a couple of Trustees to help, she recently undertook the pruning - now becoming a lengthier exercise as the trees become larger - and the trees look much smarter for it. Soon we can enjoy the blossom and thereafter the fruits themselves. You will be welcome to enjoy the fruit but please remember - take only enough for yourself and leave some for others to be able to enjoy, too!

**Our website.**

Everything that is going on in the woodland is well documented on our very extensive (and frequently updated - especially in pandemics!) website. Do 'visit' us at:- [www.tarvincommunitywoodland.org](http://www.tarvincommunitywoodland.org)

***Charles Bradley***

*4, Andrew's Close, Tarvin, Chester.  
CH3 8LN. (01829) 741172*



Vicar	Parish Website: <a href="http://www.tarvinparish.com">www.tarvinparish.com</a> Revd Adam Friend, 01829 740354 or 07984003665 The Vicarage, Church Street, Tarvin, CH3 8EB Email address: tarvinparish@gmail.com		
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Women's Group	Rev Barbara King		
Grapevine	Paul Mercer	tarvingrapevine@gmail.com	309306
Gift Aid	David Caddell		
Z Team (Churchyard)	John Plant		740057

Tarvin Parish, St Andrew's and St Peter's takes its duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's robust procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at [www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding](http://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding). If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues of a safeguarding matter then you can find useful contact information at [www.chester.anglican.org/social-responsibility/safeguarding](http://www.chester.anglican.org/social-responsibility/safeguarding)

## TALES FROM THE GRAVEYARD MARCH 2021



March is the time when nature starts to rear its head and the shoots and flowers start to show. Whilst there are only a few places in the Graveyard where flowers do grow naturally, it is a delight to see how many have adorned the graves of their loved ones with the colourful flowers

shown in our picture above. The first couple of cuts of the grass have taken place and the whole area looks neat and tidy.

Equally, the Remembrance Garden at the north-east end of the graveyard is looking particularly colourful, and peaceful, with the potted flowers and some wreaths still in place.

March does really signify that the yearly cycle of keeping the whole area neat and tidy starts again, and the whole team are in

action once



more with mowing and strimming around the graves. The first two months of the year generally include the maintenance of both the equipment and fabric of the church and grounds. The photo on the left shows Bill Turner refurbishing a bench for use in the graveyard. This bench was destined to be dumped, but thanks to the skills of both Bill and John Plant, it is now ready for re-use once again.

