



# Plumley Village Newsletter Including Toft and Bexton

December 2020

Welcome to the latest edition of the Newsletter.

As well as editions of the Newsletter all the latest information and news can be found on our website,



Produced by Plumley with Toft and Bexton Parish Council

## Christmas message from the Parish Council

When unpacking the Christmas tree decorations a few days ago, I was reflecting on the fact that it only felt like a few weeks since I had packed them away. Besides the thought that I am therefore definitely getting old quickly, it also occurred to me that there are going to be many for whom 2020 has seemed to pass very slowly and perhaps with great anguish or sadness.

For the many families who have lost loved ones to this pandemic, the reality is that they now face their first Christmas without them and the anguish and sorrow that brings. Others may have lost jobs or be struggling in business with the restrictions we still face.

So where does the joy of Christmas stand against this backdrop? That is a difficult question and there are many better placed to answer it than me. That said, I also feel that part of the strength of this nation is an ability to press on and through testing times, the "stiff upper lip" if you will. A determination that despite everything we are going to enjoy the festive season and are still jolly well going to wish our friends and neighbours a traditional and heart felt Merry Christmas.

However, while doing so, perhaps this year we should be especially conscious of those around us in our community or parish who may need our support. Even when its not requested, perhaps we can be proactive in contacting those in our community we know to be vulnerable.

During the first lockdown the parish council organised a help and response team who could provide support for anyone who needed it. I am very proud of the number of volunteers who registered as a helper. Even though their services were thankfully seldom needed, on behalf of the PC and our community I would like to thank everyone who stepped forward.

As we now approach the Christmas season, that facility is still there for anyone who may need it. So please, don't be alone or in need at this special time. If you need help, please contact Cllr Steve Jones or Cllr David Nichols who will be happy to hear from you whos' details are on the back page .

Over the last few weeks Cllr Ged Coates, Cllr Stephen Wharfe and local resident Roger Turner have been working behind the scenes to get a Christmas tree erected on the grass in front of the stores. We now have a dedicated power supply in place for the lights with the kind cooperation of Jonathan Royle, to whom I would like to pass my heart felt thanks. Thanks to Ged, Stephen and Roger for their time and effort on this project. I also want to thank the rest of the Parish Council members. Much of what we do is not seen but often involves considerable amounts of time spent for the benefit of our Parish.

So, on behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year in the sincere hope that 2021 is a much brighter year for us all.

**Cllr Tony Gabbott Chairman**



<p><b>Copy date for the next edition will be 20th January 2021</b></p> <p><b>All items to be sent to :David McGifford Phone - 07968 603811 or E-mail clerk@plumley-toft-bexton-pc.co.uk</b></p>	<p><b>Parish Councillors areas of responsibility</b></p>		<p><b>The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday the 13th January 2021 starting at 7.30pm via zoom</b></p> <p><b>Meeting ID: 874 8950 2513</b> <b>Passcode: 168956</b></p>
	<p>Tony Gabbott</p> <p>Ged Coates</p> <p>David Nichols</p> <p>John Wright</p> <p>A Shaw / V L Roxby</p> <p>TBA</p> <p>S Crossman / V L Roxby</p>	<p>Chairman.</p> <p>Vice Chair &amp; Highways</p> <p>Village Hall</p> <p>Planning.</p> <p>Footpaths</p> <p>Comm Resilience</p> <p>Police Liaison</p>	

## Cheshire Best Kept Stations 2020 - a unique event



The Cheshire Best Kept Stations Awards held its virtual 18th Awards Evening because of the pandemic. The 30 minute video, which was launched on YouTube on Tuesday 24 November 2020 was introduced by Jools Townsend, the chief executive of Community Network, hosted by Cheshire Best Kept Stations chair Mark Barker and concluded with a salutary

thank you by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire, David Briggs.

Filmed at Hadlow Road, a preserved Cheshire station now on the Wirral Way, 18 awards were made with 10 commendations. **Plumley was awarded one of the 2020 Special Awards**

On introducing the Awards, Jools Townsend said: "The awards are all about recognising the huge amount of work, passion and enthusiasm that you all put into your stations. "

"It is much more than brightening up stations: It is about bringing people together. It is about health and wellbeing. It is about social inclusion and community cohesion. It is about bringing stations into the heart of their community and creating a sense of familiarity, positivity and ownership towards the railway."

"All of this is doubly important at the moment as we come through this great challenge we are facing through the pandemic as we are seeking to help our communities and railway to recover and build back better."

On announcing the awards, Mark Barker, chair of Cheshire Best Kept Stations said: "Despite all the changes that we have all had to make this year, some things have not changed: The work that Station Friends and Community Groups do to make their stations welcoming gateways is brilliant. Yes, their work was disrupted, but they carried on doing what they could, keeping in touch with each and their communities, and planning for the future.

"Their energy and enthusiasm has continued despite the difficulties of the year. We were determined that we would celebrate, promote, and honour their work, as we have done for eighteen years. So we had to go virtual.

"We have given 18 Awards and 10 Highly Commended in one category, the 2020 Special Award. We have not announced an overall Winner as normal, because in this difficult year, every station friends group and station is a winner, whether they received an award or not.

"Our sincere thanks go to all volunteers and railway staff for their achievements in these challenging times and look forward to better in 2021."

Mr David Briggs, the Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire on closing the awards said: "It is always a pleasure to attend the Cheshire Best Kept Station Awards for two reasons.

"Firstly, it allows me to thank all those volunteers who keep our stations fit for purpose and pleasing places to visit remembering all volunteering is investing in our future.

"Secondly, it is only night of the year in our county when Cheshire returns to its ancient boundaries and Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and the Wirral come back to their old Cheshire roots.

"Our country would be a very different place if was not for the goodwill of thousands of volunteers and station groups are members of that truly wonderful team and never have you been so important as this year when links into our community are of the utmost importance."

***A big thank you to all the volunteers involved in maintaining our station to such a high standard***



**Plumley Village Hall** **New Vicar for St Oswald’s Church**

On behalf of everyone on the Village Hall Management Committee we wish you a very Happy Christmas & hope that we will soon be welcoming you again to the Village Hall.

Very best wishes.  
Pam Arnfield



The churches of Lower Peover and Over Peover welcome the Reverend Murray Aldridge-Collins as the new vicar . He was instituted by the Bishop of Birkenhead in a service by Zoom on Thursday 16th July at 7.30pm. Mr Aldridge-Collins was previously Assistant Curate in the Benefice of Ilfracombe (Holy Trinity) (St Peter), Lee, Woolacombe, Bittadon and Morteheo in the Diocese of Exeter. His letter to the parish introducing himself can be found on St Oswald’s website [peoverchurches.org.uk](http://peoverchurches.org.uk) along with more details of the service of institution.



**Plumley Methodist Church**



At the end of July, Plumley said goodbye to their minister Rev Rob Cotton as he and his wife Carol move to take up a new station in the Wakefield Circuit. Rob is also the minister at Knutsford Methodist Church and is the Superintendent for the Alderley Edge & Knutsford Circuit and both he and Carol will be missed. Rob has previously served in Arnold, Nottingham and Ingol, Preston. He is known as being passionate about mobilising the church to meet needs within local communities and to bring hope into the lives of individuals. His book ‘Hope in the Main Street’ tells the stories of where he has seen churches reaching out to bring hope to people. Rob took over pastoral care of Plumley Methodist Church four years ago and attended events such as the monthly coffee mornings and other social activities as well as regularly leading church services there. James Eaton, the Senior Steward at Plumley, has this to say, “Rob has led our worship and meetings in a most faithful, spiritual and prayerful way, always sharing with us the Good News of God, and our Christian faith has been enriched by this. it’s been not only a joy but a privilege to have Rob as our minister and we have all benefited from Rob’s commitment to our church and community. We are sad to be saying goodbye and we will miss you, but we wish you well on your move to your new Circuit with all its challenges and opportunities.”

Rev Sue Swires will be taking over pastoral care of Plumley Methodist Church. Rev Sue and her husband Will joined the Circuit three years ago and are looking forward to continuing the ministry and work at Plumley. Sue also has pastoral oversight of the Mottram St Andrew Methodist Church and is involved in the work at The Welcome in Longridge.

***Please note that for this years Christmas services there are limited places due to covid. The times of the services are: 24th December at 6pm and the 25th December at 11.00 am—To book please contact Elizabeth Hall 01565 722271***



**Licensing of Rev Tom Hollingsbee as Associate Vicar of St Johns Knutsford and Toft**

September 16<sup>th</sup> 2020 was the Licensing of Rev Tom Hollingsbee as Associate Vicar of St Johns Knutsford and Toft by the Bishop of Birkenhead, Keith Sinclair and Archdeacon of Macclesfield, Ian Bishop Tom is married to Ann and they have three children. Originally from the Wirral, Tom went to Sheffield University where he studied Biochemistry and Microbiology. He was Curate at St Clements, Higher Openshaw, Manchester.

Tom will be ministering across both the Parishes of St Johns Knutsford and Toft I’m sure we wish him a fulfilling and happy time in our Parish



<b>Contacts and Groups</b>			
<b>Local Key contacts/organisations</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Email / additional nformation</b>
Parish Council Chairman	Cllr Tony Gabbott	01565 722767	
Parish Council Help and Response Team	Cllr David Nichols Cllr Steve Jones	01565 723837 07887 506861	David.james.nichols2@gmail.com SMJones1@sky.com
Village Hall Committee Chairman Village Hall Bookings	Pam Arnfield Jill James	01565 722262 07709 884568	chair@plumleyvillagehall.co.uk bookings@plumleyvillagehall.co.uk
Tennis Courts & Play Area	Penny Allen	01565 722259	
Plumley Stores/Post Office	Jonathan Royle	01565 722277	
Toft Church Hall	Valerie Brooker	01565 650374	Mobile 07973 290756
Cheshire East Council	Reception	0300 123 5500	
Flexible Transport Service	Reception	0845 0779110	9.30 –12-30 Monday to Friday
Cheshire West & Chester Rural Rider	Reception	01606 784100	
Plumley Chapel	James Eaton	01565 722271	
Halle	Isobel Nicholson	01606 888890	
Livery— Holly Tree Equestrian	Gloria Robinson	01565 722188	hollytree.ec@gmail.com
Lower Peover Kids Club 4-14 years	Kathy Mcintyre	07977 653181	kathy.mcintyre@btinternet.com
Mums and Tots Plumley VH			Tuesday morning (term time)
Plumley WI	Sandra Youngson	01565 723220.	Plumley VH 1st Monday in month
<b>Events at Toft Hall</b>			
U3A Drawing and Painting	Mrs Berry Northen	01565 873053	Monday 10.00 am –12.00 noon
Art Group	Wendy Ramsay	01565 632362	Wednesday 10.00 am -12.00 noon
2nd Toft Brownies	Ann Liggett		6.00pm - 7.30pm E-mail : liggett@avaya.com
Toft Quilters	Veronica Walton	01565 651507	1st Wed month 1.00pm -3.00pm
The Callanetics Group	Carol Gunter	01565 651038	Thursday 9.00am -10.00am
Toft mothers Union	Veronica Walton Pam Willocks	01565 651507 01565 722501	1st Thursday 2.00pm-4.00pm
<b>Margaret Wilcox School of Speech and Drama</b>		<b>Police Contact Numbers</b>	
<p>Sessions are being held every week at Plumley Village Hall (during term time) on Mondays and Tuesdays, 4 -5.pm and 5 - 6pm for 5-11 year olds and from 6.00-7.00pm for 11-18 year olds.</p> <p>Pre-School Drama Class, rising 2's to 4 year olds—contact Sam Marsden for details, phone - 07887 778 822 email -mwsd@hotmail.co.uk</p>		<p>To contact the Police for important but non emergency issues dial 101.</p> <p>The 999 number is still reserved for Police Emergencies and the other Emergency Ser- vices.</p>	
		<p><b>CHESHIRE EAST WARD COUNCILLOR</b> <b>marc.asquith@cheshireeast.gov.uk</b> <b>01625 860446</b></p> 	