



Welcome to our Parish Newsletter - November / December 2020

As we near the end of 2020 we are reflecting over a year that has been most extraordinary for everyone in our parish and for our families and friends. Our newsletter first went to print in February and we have delivered throughout the year to all homes in the parish despite all the complications that Covid has sent our way, and we hope that you have all enjoyed the letter coming through your door with local updates

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Healthy Christmas whichever way our celebrations take us and we wish you all the very best for 2021 when we hope to see the light at the end of the tunnel with the return of some normality.

Very best wishes from the Editors

News from St Mary's Church

We still live through unprecedented times, and winter is close at hand, and winter brings its own fears. The national mood is one of anxiety, and it's not only our concerns about the coldest months – it's also worry that this year Christmas will be taken from us. At St.Mary's Church on Sunday December 13th at the Family Service at 9.45am we will hear the Christmas hope in carols, sung by a small, socially distanced choir formed for the occasion. On Christmas Eve the Family Service with the Blessing of the Christmas Nativity Scene will be at 3.00pm. On Christmas Day Holy Communion will be celebrated at 9.45am.

As things stand, the church congregation cannot sing because it can spread Coronavirus. At all services, numbers that can be accommodated in the church are restricted to the number that can be seated with social distancing. Services at Christmas will be shorter than usual to minimise the risks of virus transmission. Doors will be kept ajar to ensure an air flow through the church. There is something very deep, and deeper than words, about Christmas, which is why music is so important. But this year, the profound nature of Christmas will be in our very presence together in the house of worship – or standing outside at the door if all seats have been taken.



Geoff Beeby
Just finished and ready for a brew

The Parish Council had many things planned for VE Day, but due to the pandemic conditions celebrations had to be cancelled. However, one part of the plans remained intact - to dedicate a memorial to that day.

Now anyone walking past the old Chestnut tree at the junction of Congleton Road and Sand Lane will have noticed that the old bench had fallen into a poor state, and in need of attention, so what better than to revive one of the most iconic features of the Parish?

Local builder and craftsman, Geoff Beeby was called in, and soon had the bench returned to its former glory, and just waiting to be treated with the commemorative plaque to be added.

Let's slow it down!

Far from an aspiring journalist or someone used to being overly vocal, I've accepted the kind invitation to write this news-letter article because it's a topic that I'm passionate about and quite frankly as a father scares me, and that's road safety. But it is something I believe we can, if we work together, help to improve. We are very fortunate in Nether Alderley to have a network of country lanes that beyond getting us from A to B in our cars, are enjoyed by walkers, horse riders, joggers and cyclists. I expect many of you reading this will in fact, like me, live directly on one of these routes, including Welsh Row, Artists Lane, Sand Lane, Sossmoss Lane and Nursery Lane. It has always seemed counter intuitive to me that from a 40mph larger road with pavements & clear visibility such as Congleton Road you can then turn onto anyone of the afore mentioned lanes and be confronted with a 'national' 60mph limit sign inviting motorists to legally accelerate down narrow lanes with no pavements, blind driveways, no lighting and many road users beyond cars.

With Cheshire Police very recently warning that the number of people who have lost their lives on Cheshire's roads in 2020 is double vs. 2019, I fear that Nether Alderley may soon add to that statistic unless we act now. Alarmingly one resident has been forced off the road twice whilst walking her dog by a motorist and my family and I have all witnessed cars swerving erratically to avoid collisions on multiple occasions. For me this is not simply about 'speeding', nor is it intend to be an action against motorists (I'm a driver too!), but rather a plea for the driving to appropriate for the condition of the roads and its other users.



I recently approached the Parish Council and proposed that we take action as a community. Whilst there are various options we could explore one jumps out at me and that's the idea to see these roads designated as 'Quiet Lanes'.

What are Quiet Lanes? - "They are minor rural roads, typically C or unclassified routes, which have been designated by local highway authorities to pay special attention to the needs of walkers, cyclists, horse riders and other vulnerable road users, and to offer protection from speeding traffic"

Read more at https://www.cpre.org.uk/resources/cpres-guide-to-guiet-lanes/

So, what am I asking of you: 1: If you agree, raise your concerns & support of the idea to our Town & Parish councillors, Community Policing Team and MP. 2: If you're driving on one of our lanes, please slow it down and encourage others to do so. 3: Please spread the word and help lead a change!

Rob) Nether Alderley Resident





Dave Clarke Parish Councillor

Not CNN, but close!

The three key purposes of a Parish notice board are to **communicate** to Parish resident's key information on what's happening in their area, to engender a sense of **Community** by bringing people together and to disseminate **News**.

So not quite CNN but CCN.

We hope the new addition of brand spanking shiny new Parish Notice Board will do just that, maybe not as many viewers as the US cable station CNN but maybe not far off eh?

The new Notice Board pictured here is a new entrant on the street scene of Alderley Park on the edge of Nether Alderley and has recently been donated by Alderley Park Ltd.

Situated right in front of the new Churchill Tree public house owned by the Cheshire Pub Company, it is hoped that it will become a key element in providing a community focus for Nether Alderley Parish information in the coming months and years.

Nether Alderley Parish Council has been liaising with Alderley Park Ltd for some time since they acquired the site from AstraZeneca, however it was agreed that the best position for it was outside the new public house and therefore everyone has been eagerly awaiting the pub's completion which is now imminent, hence the installation.

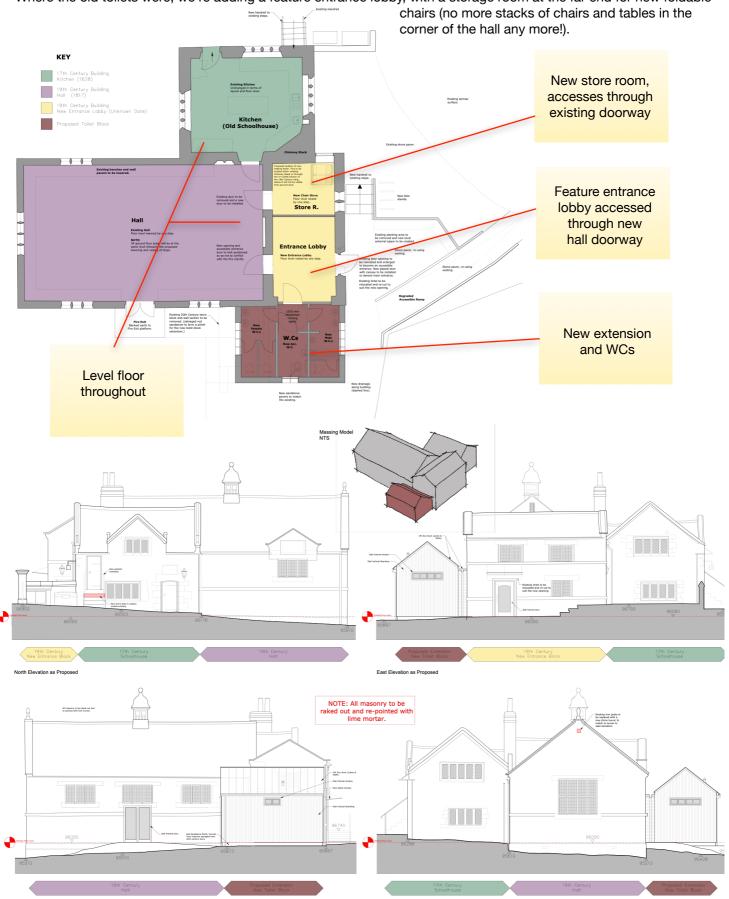


The sign sits in front of the pub alongside the main road that threads through the site, and adjacent to the bus stop. Just to the left of the sign is the 'Churchill Tree' itself, after which the pub is named and which was planted by Sir Winston Churchill in the early part of the 20th century when he visited the Manor house now alas, long since gone.

Parish Hall Latest!

In our last issue we let you know more about our Planning Application that is now with Cheshire East Council, and provided a link to their website so you could take a look for yourself. However, for those without internet access, and to help explain what's what, we thought it would be nice to expand on our plans for you.

As well as general maintenance, we're making major upgrades to our heating system, as well as introducing level flooring throughout - which will bring the entire ground floor up to disabled access standards. The current "bothy" is to be demolished (it was unsafe anyway) and a new toilet block added in its place (male, female and unisex disabled). Where the old toilets were, we're adding a feature entrance lobby, with a storage room at the far end for new foldable



Support Your Local Business

It's vital to our local economy that we support businesses in the area - especially in these extraordinary times. Let us know if you'd like us to feature you in our newsletter, but hurry - it's only FREE for a limited period!







A Christmas message to anyone affected by lockdown over the Festive period.

If you're feeling vulnerable, alone, or even just need a prescription picking up from the pharmacy, Nether Alderley Parish council, plus volunteers are at the end of a phone to try to help you. Here is a list of helpers along with the part of Nether Alderley closest to them:

Jenny Shufflebottom: 07966 224453 (Bollington Lane) ■ Dave Clarke 07920 710143 (Alderley Park) ■ Yvonne Bentley: 07786 397803 (Welsh Row) ■ Angela Farrell: 07493 107400 (Nursery

Lane) ■ Norman Howick: 07740 081353 (Sand Lane) ■ Sue Joseph: 07947 000134 (Monks Heath) ■ Simon Lewis: 07798 807267 (Bradford Lane) Jacqui Wilkinson: 07860 323441

Emma Lane: 07824 442355 (Bollington Lane) ■ Katie Roche: 07974 666041



We welcome other ideas to enhance our newsletter for the benefit of all residents. Please send any ideas / wishes / articles to: netheralderley.news@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you

Essential Contact Details

Nether Alderley Parish Council: clerk.napc@gmail.com 07717 244537

Parish Hall Bookings: Keith Farrell keithfarrell50@gmail.com 07939 671344

St. Mary's Church: Rev. Jon Hale alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com 01625 585440

Disclaimer

The editor - <u>netheralderley.news@gmail.com</u> - reserves the right to reduce articles of length written for publication. The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editor.





