

## Hitting the High Notes



It was very much a case of Up, Up and Away for our Secretary Phil Mason recently when he got to experience a lifetime ambition to 'fly like a bird' either in a glider or even a hang glider. When he saw the opportunity in an experience voucher, the temptation proved too great and he signed up for a one day gliding experience. So he went to North Wales Glider Club in Llandegla, and was the number two pilot in a type K13 glider. The weather was less than ideal with few thermals to give uplift, but he still managed to get a handful of short flights with Frank, his instructor, and he described the experience as great fun, and in fact the take-off and landing were the most exciting bits! So much so that Phil became a member of the North Wales Gliding Club for the next two months, and can fly again probably in the summer months with warmer weather and better thermals. Let's hope he doesn't start coming to band in this new mode of transport, the Churton Village Hall car park won't be nearly big enough!

## New Committee Additions



This year's AGM was held at our bandroom, Churton Village Hall at the end of May. A number of band issues were covered, and one of the main issues highlighted was the need to involve more band members in the various tasks of running the band. Two areas which needed to be looked at were minutes secretary, and the vacancy for a new Vice Chairman. We were very fortunate to have two members offer their services for these posts in advance of the meeting, and both were unanimously voted in on the evening. Rev. Christopher Deakin, below right, offered to transfer from his current position on the committee which he has held for a couple of years, to fill the new vacancy as Vice Chairman. Amy Leather, below left, who joined the band when she moved into the area a couple of years ago, offered to take the minutes at our bi-monthly committee meetings and help with some admin tasks. The next AGM will be on 24th May 2018.



An independent family business trading since 1878. We offer a unique shopping experience and pride ourselves on our team of friendly staff.  
Located between Chester and Wrexham.

Open Monday to Saturday 9am to 6pm and  
Sunday 11am to 5pm.







## St. Paul's Welcomes Farndon Band



On one of the nicest days of the year so far, Farndon & District Brass Band opened their programme of events for the new year when they returned to St. Paul's Church in Helsby to play a concert for Ellesmere Port & District Lions. Possibly because of the very fine weather, the event was very well supported. Pictured left, the band and audience in St. Paul's church. Above St. Paul's church in the evening sunshine. Below the Helsby event was the first chance we had to use our new banners in the Band's summer maroon colours.

## Picnic & Proms in the Sunshine



Bellis Brothers Farm Shop and Garden Centre hosted the annual Picnic and Proms event in aid of the Nightingale House Hospice last month. As ever the Farndon & District Brass Band featured, but this year were supported by a relatively new choir, the newly formed Holt Village Voices. The weather for this year's event for a change was kind, and when the clouds cleared the large numbers of people supporting the event enjoyed a very pleasant sunny evening. Luke McDonald, an Area Fundraiser for the Nightingale House Hospice said that the event had been a fantastic success with over 200 people turning up to listen to some classic proms songs from Farndon Brass Band and Holt Village Voices. Nightingale House Hospice wanted to thank everyone involved including Roger and Joan Bellis and all of the staff at Bellis Brothers, and that without the help and support help of the fabulous local community, they would not be able to provide the excellent care that they have become renowned for in the area.





# Happy Days Are Here Again



If ever there was a summer event with the perfect name it must surely be the Hargrave & Huxley Happy Days event! This year their programme ran from the 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> June and was held as usual on the church field at Hargrave and was, as ever, very well



supported by people from the surrounding area. Even though road closures in the area meant diversions for many people who attended, mention has to be made of the excellent home made signs for the event that were placed at important road junctions and were invaluable for those from outside the area. Once again the Farndon & District Brass Band were there to support the event on the Saturday, and marched down the lane and onto the church field leading the parade to open the event. A wonderful marquee was provided for the band to protect players and equipment, but the weather was very kind on the day.



During the day the band played several spots to link the various events and were very well received. Pictured left the band playing their first spot inside the marquee. Above one of the banners promoting the event and one of the very helpful road signs. Below left, the sign for St. Peter's church, Hargrave complete with bunting. Pictured bottom of the page the band passing the vicarage at the head of the parade of floats for the opening of the event on Saturday.

## Junior Band at Tattenhall



On Saturday 10th June, supported by several members of the full band, the Junior Band played once again at the popular Worm Fest Tattenhall in the park adjacent to the Village Primary School. Janet Barraclough is pictured above with the juniors.

## Calling all readers!

Remember this is your newsletter.



Please send us any letters, comments, pictures or ideas for articles to our chairman at [tony.pugh@outlook.com](mailto:tony.pugh@outlook.com).



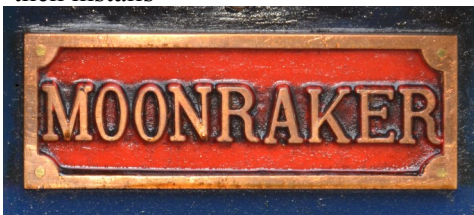


## Arial West, pleased to meet you



It seemed fairly a straightforward task when I arranged to meet Arial West for the 'Pleased To Meet You' item for this issue. He had suggested we meet up at his shed and head to the pub for a bit of lunch, but it turned out to involve a bit more effort when his preferred mode of transport is an eight and a half ton steam tractor! Also the term shed was also slightly misleading, his version on the traditional mancave or shed turned out to be a massive 10,000 square foot workshop which included every possible tool and machine.

During the day Arial works as a poultry engineer, a job which takes him all over the country and even Ireland on occasions. He tells me that once the huge sheds are built, he then installs



*Pictured top Arial in his familiar bowler hat. Above the name plate from the 1925 Marshall Compound Tractor. Right Arial takes a moment to polish the brass work before our trip to the pub.*

every single item to do with keeping chickens. Predictably the job involves very long hours indeed and requires him to live in a caravan during the week. His only golden rule is that he has to be back home from wherever he is working in the country, in time for band rehearsals on Thursday evening, often having to return hundreds of miles the following day to finish off the job! His love of music is not a surprise given his musical family background, and wife Catherine also plays flugelhorn. Although most often seen playing trombone, by his own admission he can play "anything brass" and he can often be found filling in where required. But it is his contribution as assistant musical director that possibly gives him the most satisfaction, and future plans to see him increase his 'time in the middle' will be a most welcome transition for him. When he gets some much earned time off he can usually be found with his pride and joy, and our transport for the day, Moonraker, his 1925 Marshall Compound Tractor. A great way to go to the pub indeed!



## 100 Club Results

Our sixth monthly roll up draw of this year's 100 club season, took place at the Churton Village Hall on the 30th March and was drawn by Anne Reay. In total eighty numbers held by 52 members of the 100 club, were entered in this draw and the winners were as follows.

The first prize of £120.00 went to number 81 which was held by Michelle Cupit. The second prize of £40.00 went to Roland Twydell who held number 25. Finally the third prize of £16.00 went to number 73 which was held by Rhys Lloyd.

April saw the seventh monthly draw which took place at the Churton Village Hall on the 27th of the month. Drawn this time by Stephen Jones, again 80 numbers held by 52 members of the 100 club went into the bag, and the lucky winners were as follows. Gaynor Pugh was first drawn, and her number 17 scooped the first prize of £80.00. Another long-time supporter of the band, John Reeves, was lucky when his number 38 was drawn to win him the second prize of £40.00. And finally the third prize of £16 went to Deb Mason for her number 39.

Our eighth monthly draw of the season took place in the break at the rehearsal at Churton Village Hall on the 25th May, and were kindly drawn by Katrina Moulton. Again for the third month 80 numbers held by 52 members of the 100 club were entered. The lucky winners were as follows. First prize went to number 2 held by Roland Twydell which won £80.00. The second prize of £40 went to Gill Wayne from Saltney, and her 'lucky' number 13. The last number to be drawn belonged to Paul Ivison, from Upton and won a third prize £16.

Finally don't forget, the maximum £50 'Roll-Up' every six months either (paid out in proportion to the receipts, but only when a member has been subscribing for the preceding six months), will be drawn in September. Once again many thanks for your continuing support.

