



Women's
Institute

Welcome to the Village of
Church Minshull

www.churchminshull.org.uk

Acknowledgement



This booklet has been produced by Church Minshull W.I. members to celebrate their 60th Anniversary as part of the National Federation of Women's Institutes 'Community Challenge Project'.

Funded by an 'Awards for All' lottery grant in conjunction with the setting up of the Village Website – www.churchminshull.org.uk

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The information contained within this booklet is published in good faith. As a free guide, we cannot accept liability for any errors.

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Church Minshull

Introduction

This booklet is intended as a general guide for newcomers and existing residents of Church Minshull to draw to your attention the various local organisations and services available in the immediate area.

We hope the information contained herein will assist residents and newcomers alike, encouraging them to make use of the local opportunities, and we welcome any comments for future editions.

View from Church Tower



© Peter Barnard

“Old House” Junction of B5074 and B5076 in Church Minshall



© Peter Barnard

Old House

The Village

Church Minshull lies in the River Weaver Valley, 5 miles from Crewe on the B5076 and the B5074 Nantwich (South 6 miles) and Winsford (North 4 miles). The area is designated a Conservation Area.

It is a relatively small village. The 2001 Census listed **429 residents** in 204 residences - 65 homes being on Home Farm Park and 20 on Village Farm.

The village is surrounded by some of the most productive dairyland in the U.K. The soil on the higher ground is clay and in the valley is a rich sandy loam well known for its grass production. Church Minshull is made up of approximately 2285 acres of land including 32 acres of woodland.

The village has a public house called '**The Badger**'. At present it is closed, and is currently owned by Admiral Taverns Plc, who hope to re-open it in the near future.

There are many public footpaths throughout the village. In February 2006 Cheshire Countryside Management Services provided a new stile into '**Blue Bell Wood**' which runs parallel to the River Weaver – this can be reached just over the river bridge – a lovely walk especially when the bluebells are flowering in April.



The Badger

A Brief History

Church Minshull is mentioned in the Domesday Book as 'Maneshale', and has many black and white houses – Church Farm being one, which has a distinctive 'Magpie Porch'. At one time it was used as the Vicarage and is reputed to have been the residence of Elizabeth Minshull who later married the poet John Milton as his third wife.



© Peter Barnard

Church Farm House

It was recorded in November 1824 that many trades and crafts were carried out in the village – *Blacksmith, Wheelwright, Joiners, Cordwainer, Gamekeeper, Bricklayer, Weaver, Tailor, Carrier, Victualler, Laundry Woman and many domestic servants.* There was also a *Shopkeeper, Butcher, two School Mistresses and a School Master, Farmers and Farm workers, Paupers and Spinsters.*

The village had its own school from 1785 built in the churchyard. In 1858 a new school was built, a gift from Henry Brooke in memory of Mr C.B. Davies. The land on which the school stood formed part of the Church Minshull Estate and had been in the Brooke family for several generations. The school closed its door after 124 years on the 22nd July 1982 and the pupils transferred to Worleston School.

St Bartholomew's Church: The present building was built in 1702 – 1704 although prior to this there had been a wooden structure built about 1541 which was demolished as unsafe, and there was a church on this site even earlier than that. Money was raised by a 'local rate' – and a plea through the Bishop of Chester to Queen Anne to grant a 'Brief' which authorised the collection of a 'Bounty' throughout the country to help fund the building of the church in Church Minshull.

The tower has 1702 picked out in blue bricks either side of the clock – the church was completed two - three years later. When the tower was built five bells were installed in 1717 with space for a sixth – which was donated in 1982 by Doctor M. Parkes.

Electricity Supply to the village just over sixty years ago was generated by a water wheel at **The Mill**. A note in the W.I. Minute Book in 1947 records the cancellation of a meeting due to no electricity being available. Local people can remember clearly that the River Weaver being in flood meant no electricity on many occasions. Mrs Billinge was the somewhat eccentric miller in charge of the generator. Mains electricity from the National Grid finally arrived in the village in the late 1950's.

The W.I. further records the fact that in May 1947 they agreed to raise £10 over the course of the year to help fund the building of the **Village Hall**.

This is just a 'fraction' of the history of Church Minshull, there is much more to explore and learn about the area – a couple of local residents are at present researching and writing the full history of Church Minshull, which, when completed, we are sure will be enjoyed by old and new residents alike and any other people who have an interest in the Village.

Home Farm Park

Home Farm Park was started by Bob and Dorothy Challinor, tenant dairy farmers at Home Farm on the Ashbrook Estate. Mrs Challinor's parents later also ran a small shop on the site.

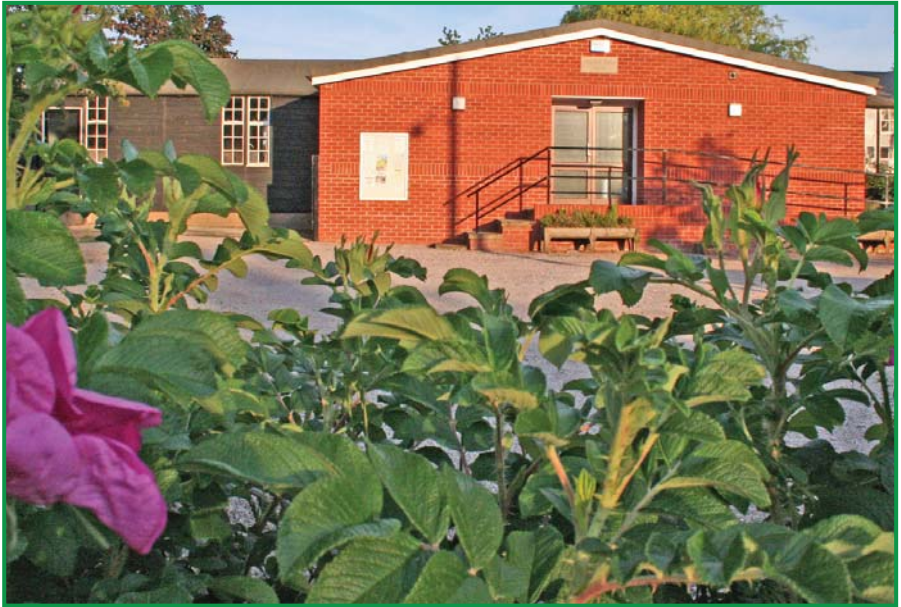
In about 1958 the first caravans arrived and a petrol station was also opened. The site was sold several times and greatly extended over the years to its present size of 65 plots. The shop and petrol station were sold off separately some time ago and ceased trading in the 1990's.

Village Farm



In 1989 Village Farm, home of the Parton Family, was sold to a developer and the old buildings and farm house were converted to eight houses and twelve new houses built on the site; these were finally occupied in 1999. This was the first major housing project in the Village.

The Village Hall



© Peter Barnard

At the inaugural meeting of the Village Hall Committee in May 1946 it was decided to commence fundraising towards the purchase of land and the provision of a building for village use.

In 1963 after many meetings and events, an ex-army hut (originally made in Canada and used at Prees Heath, Nr. Whitchurch to house our servicemen) was dismantled and reassembled by villagers in its present location where it is still serving the community today.

In recent years the hall has been considerably upgraded and new toilets and disabled facilities provided. It now offers comfortable accommodation for varied activities – from children’s parties to yoga and keep fit as well as the monthly W.I. meeting.



Bookings Secretary: Florence Beastall
Tel 01270 522677

Women's Institute



Church Minshull W.I. was started in August 1946 with 21 members, meetings were held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the School and the annual subscription was 2/6d. During 1946/7 several food parcels were received from The Country Women's Association of Murray Bridge, New South Wales, Australia.

The first **President** was Miss Amelia Brereton the village Post Mistress, **Secretary** Miss Upsom (a local headmistress) and Miss Kathleen Steele was appointed **Treasurer**.

The meetings moved to the Village Hall in 1963 when the villagers had finished erecting the new building.

Membership today (2006) is 30, the Institute meets on the **first Tuesday of each month** (except January) starting at 7.30 p.m, new members and visitors are always welcome.

The Annual General Meeting is held in November where the new Committee and Officers are elected, (President, Secretary and Treasurer serve for a three year term).

A range of activities takes place including walking, theatre and other visits and speakers on a wide variety of subjects. Courses of specific interest are organised from time to time.

A Produce Show takes place every 18 months and the December meeting is a dinner for members and guests. The W.I. plays a significant part in the social life of many villagers. Details of forthcoming events are displayed on the Church and Village Hall Notice Boards.

Women's Institute in the Community



1996 - New W.I. Cloth designed and worked by members for our 50th Anniversary.



W.I. Members on a Country Walk

Regular Events

Yoga

Village Hall

Each Monday 10.00 a.m. to 11.15 a.m

Anne Holroyd Tel :- 01270 619276

Women's Institute

Village Hall

1st Tuesday each month 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

See Church Notice Board for programme.

Bridge Club

Village Hall

General Club Each Tuesday (except first) 7.00 p.m. – 10.00 p.m.

Improvers Class – Lea Green Spinney, Paradise Lane

Each Friday Morning 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon

Beginners Class – Lea Green Spinney, Paradise Lane

Each Friday afternoon

John Owen Tel :- 01270 522654

Kevin and Christine Dawson Tel:- 01270 522253

Toddlers Group

Village Hall

Each Wednesday 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

Helen Whalley Tel :- 01270 528116

Sewing Group

Meets in members' homes – following a pub lunch

All Welcome

3rd Wednesday each month 12.00 noon to 4.00 p.m.

Audrey Colquhoun Tel :- 01270 255671

Regular Events

Cardio Strengthening

Village Hall
Wednesday except Parish Council Meeting
7.30 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. Fee payable
Amanda Morris Tel:- 01270 522451

Pilates

Village Hall
New course every 6 weeks
Wednesday 8.30 p.m.- 9.30 p.m.
Amanda Morris Tel :- 01270 522451

Parish Council

Village Hall
Wednesday Bi-monthly 7.30 p.m.
Parish Clerk Gwyn Griffiths Tel:- 01270 663832

Line Dancing

Village Hall
Every Thursday 7.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.
Florence Beastall Tel :- 01270 522677
Anne Hewitt Tel :- 01606 596056

Bell Ringing

St Bartholomew's Church
(Will restart when repairs to tower are complete)
Tower Captain Tel:- 01270 522390

You will be made very welcome at any of these activities.

Forthcoming Events

Flower Festival & Musical Entertainment

St Bartholomew's Church

7th – 10th June 2007

Contact Mr Jonathan Baldwin
01270 528487



© Peter Barnard

Places of Worship

St Bartholomew's Parish Church

(Church of England)

Vicar: Rev'd D. Brockbank
from November 5th 2006 in Interregnum
Parish Office Tel/Fax :- 01270 628864

Church Warden:

Brian Charlesworth
Tel:- 01270 522252

Full details and times of all services can be found on the Cross Country Website:
www.cross-country-group-anglican.org.uk
and St Bartholomew's Church Notice Board and the Parish Magazine.

St Peter's Church, Minshull Vernon

(on A530 Nantwich to Middlewich Road)
In Interregnum Tel :- 01270 522213

St Anne's Church, Pillory Street, Nantwich

(Roman Catholic)
Tel :- 01270 625494

Central Methodist Church, Hospital Street, Nantwich

Tel :- 01270 626340

Minshull United Reformed Church

Cross Lanes, Minshull Vernon (B5076)
Mrs Mim Ryder - Secretary
Tel :- 01270 585739

Medical Information

Doctors

Kiltearn Medical Centre, Hospital Street, Nantwich	01270 610200
Beam Street Medical Centre, Nantwich	01270 610181
Swanlow Medical Centre, Winsford	01606 862868
N.H.S. Direct	0845 4647
N.H.S. Central Cheshire Nights, Evenings and Weekends	01270 273666

Hospitals

Mid Cheshire NHS Trust, Leighton Hospital, Middlewich Road, Leighton, Crewe, CW1 4QJ	01270 255141
The South Cheshire Private Hospital, Middlewich Road, Leighton, Crewe, CW1 4QP	01270 500411 www.bmihealthcare.co.-uk/southcheshire

Dentist

A.J. Worrall, 1 Mill Street, Nantwich	01270 625742
F.D. Hollinshead, 1 Welsh Row, Nantwich	01270 627544
Globe Dental Practice, 53 Beam Street, Nantwich	01270 625069
Welsh Row Dental Practice, 127 Welsh Row, Nantwich	01270 619824
Dental Helpline	0845 0631188

Day Nurseries, Schools and Further Education

Children's Day Nurseries

Bridge Farm Day Nursery & Creche, Sydney Road, Crewe	01270 505686
Nyehome Nursery Schools Limited	
Nantwich – Barony Court	01270 629005
Sandbach – Vicarage Lane	01270 762172
Parklands Day Nursery	
First Dig Lane, Stapeley, Nantwich	01270 623032
Tinks Childrens Day Nursery Ltd	
Jubilee Avenue, Crewe	01270 560083
Woodlands Nursery	
London Road, Nantwich	01270 623974

Infant and Junior

Worleston C of E Controlled	01270 623826
Acton C of E Controlled	01270 625172
Calveley County Primary	01270 528624

High Schools

Brine Leas, Audlem Road, Nantwich	01270 625663
Malbank High, Welsh Row, Nantwich	01270 611009
St Thomas Moore R.C. Danebank Ave, Crewe	01270 568014
Tarporley Community High School	01829 732558
Cheshire County Council Transport for Schools	01244 603957

Private Schools

The Grange School, Bradburns Lane, Hartford, Northwich Junior, Senior and 6th Form	01606 74007
Private bus from Church Minshull Contact: Barratts Coaches, Nantwich	01270 625096
Kings School, Wrexham Road , Chester	01244 680026
Queens School, The City Walls Road, Chester	01244 312078

Colleges of Further Education & Universities

The South Cheshire College of Further Education, Dane Bank Avenue, Crewe	01270 654654
Mid Cheshire College of Further Education, Northwich and Verdin Centre Winsford	01606 724444
Reaseheath College of Agriculture Reaseheath, Nantwich	01270 625131
University of the 3rd Age	01270 611726
MMU Cheshire (Manchester Metropolitan University) Crewe Campus, Crewe Green, Crewe	0161 247 2000
University of Chester Parkgate Road Chester CH1 4BJ	01244 511000

(This is only a selection of local schools and medical services and does not imply any specific endorsement)

Local Businesses and Services

Post Office, Grocer and Family Baker

J. Hulse, Main Road, Worleston, Nantwich

01270 625706

Post Office and Shop

Swanlow Lane, Winsford

Reaseheath Garden Centre

01270 613283

Minshulls Nursery

Eardswick Lane, Minshull Vernon

01270 522482

Daily Doorstop Delivery of Milk and Newspapers etc.

F.E. Shone & Sons

01270 841480

Car Repairs/Petrol

Grensons Garage, Minshull Vernon

01270 522491

Florist/Gift Ideas

Dawn Charlesworth, Distinctive Designs

01270 522252

www.distinctivedesigns-florist.co.uk

Village Blacksmith, Mill Forge

David Freedman, Church Minshull

01270 522277

www.millforge.co.uk

The Old School, Church Minshull

Janet Halligan

Hand built Stoneware Ceramics, Trompe- l'oeil sculpture
such as bags, shoes, jugs etc.

01270 522416

Printing/Design

Inprint Colour Limited

01270 251589

www.inprint-online.co.uk

Shire Horses

Tony and Sandra Bull

The Willows, Minshull Lane

01270 522183

www.arclid-shires.de

Local Businesses and Services

Driving Instructor

Mary Charlesworth 01270 522252

Cardio Work Out

Amanda Morris 01270 522451

Yoga

Anne Holroyd 01270 619276

Farmhouse Bed and Breakfast

Higher Elms Farm, Church Minshull 01270 522252

The Outlanes, Church Minshull 01270 522284
(Also Trailer Hire) www.theoutlanes.com

Hopley House, Nantwich Rd,
Wimboldsley, Nr Middlewich 01270 526292

Farm Shop

Hopley House, Nantwich Rd
Wimboldsley 01270 526292

Police Station

Civic Centre, Crewe 01270 500222
Beam Street, Nantwich 01270 625144

Bus Service

To Winsford, Crewe via
Leighton Hospital and to Nantwich Tel 01270 505350

Citizens Advice Bureau

Nantwich – Beam Street 01270 625565
Crewe – Victoria Street 01270 251158

Mobile Library

Alternative Monday Mornings
in the Badger Car Park
Nantwich Library 01270 624867
Crewe Library 01270 505250

Local Businesses and Services

Nantwich Chronicle

Published each Wednesday

Office: 32-34 Victoria Street, Crewe, CW1 2JE

01270 214495

Crewe and Nantwich Guardian

Free paper once a week (not delivered in the Village)

Editorial: 42 High Street, Crewe, CW2 7BS

01270 507500

Parish Magazine

Monthly – delivered free to
each house in the four parishes

www.cross-country-group-anglican.org.uk

Veterinary Practices

Nantwich Veterinary Group,
Crewe Road, Nantwich

01270 610349

01270 610322

Hillside Veterinary Centre,
146 Crewe Road, Nantwich

01270 625310

Coal Merchant

T. Orme, 226 Swanlow Lane, Winsford

01606 592532

Refuse Collection

Municipal Buildings, Crewe

01270 537777

Household Waste – Tip
Pyms Lane, Middlewich Road
Leighton, Crewe

Household Collections

Each Friday morning
(except Good Friday and Christmas Day
if it falls on a Friday)

Water Services

United Utilities

Emergency out of Hours

0845 7462200

Local Government

Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council
Municipal Buildings
Earle Street
Crewe
Tel 01270 537777
Website: www.crewe-nantwich.gov.uk

Clerk to The Parish Council

Gwyn Griffiths
01270 663832

Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council **Minshull Ward**

Mrs Penny Butterill
01270 625575

Cheshire County Councillor **Cholmondeley Division**

Allan Richardson
01270 780532

Member of Parliament (Eddisbury Constituency)

Stephen O'Brien M.P. (Con)
Office: 4 Church Walk
Tarporley
CW6 0AJ
Tel 01829 733243

Member of Parliament (Crewe and Nantwich Constituency)

Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody MP (Lab)
154 Nantwich Road, Crewe
01270 258399

Liberal Democrat (North West Region, Manchester)

0161 236 5799

Notes

Church Minshull W.I. Chief Officers from 1946.

Year	President	Year	Secretary
1946 - 1948	Miss A. Brereton	1946 - 1949	Miss F. Upsom
1949 - 1953	Mrs M. Parton	1950 - 1951	Mrs C. Manual
1954 - 1955	Miss A. Potts	1952	Mrs A. Tomlinson
1956 - 1959	Mrs L. Cookson	1953	Mrs L. Cookson
1960 - 1970	Mrs F. Hollinshead	1954 - 1955	Mrs J. Burrow
1971 - 1972	Mrs A. Barnard	1956 - 1959	Mrs D. Lowe
1973 - 1977	Mrs P. Parton	1960 - 1962	Mrs M. Parton
1978 - 1980	Mrs J. Hesketh	1963 - 1966	Mrs P. Gutteridge
1981 - 1983	Mrs J. Birchall	1967 - 1968	Mrs B. Coppack
1984 - 1986	Mrs A. Colquhoun	1969 - 1971	Mrs M. Parton
1987 - 1989	Mrs E. Baldwin	1972	Mrs B. Birchall
1990 - 1992	Mrs C. Harper	1973 - 1979	Mrs B. Egerton
1993 - 1996	Mrs M. Charlesworth	1980 - 1981	Mrs H. Woodward
1997 - 1999	Miss C. Elsby	1982 - 1986	Mrs C. Harper
2000 - 2003	Mrs J. Mackay	1987	Mrs L. Edgerton
2004 - 2006	Mrs E. Baldwin	1988 - 1990	Mrs M. Seville
		1991	Mrs P. Parton
		1992 - 1993	Mrs M. Henderson
		1994	Mrs B. Shone/Mrs M. Park
		1995 - 1996	Miss C. Elsby
		1997	Mrs P. Parton
		1998 - 2002	Mrs J. Burrow
		2003 - 2004	Mrs M. Stanistreet
		2005 - 2006	Mrs J. Mackay

Year	Treasurer
1946 - 1951	Miss K. Steele
1952	Mrs A. Kinsey
1953 - 1959	Mrs F. Hollinshead
1960 - 1962	Mrs M. Pickering
1963 - 1972	Mrs J. Burrow
1973 - 1979	Mrs H. Woodward
1980 - 1983	Mrs A. Barnard
1984 - 1986	Mrs M. Park
1987 - 1988	Mrs A. Brooks
1989	Mrs M. Henderson
1990 - 1993	Mrs E. Allwood
1994	Mrs. A. Conyers
1995 - 2004	Mrs M. Guy
2005	Miss J. Rose
2006	Miss C. Elsby

