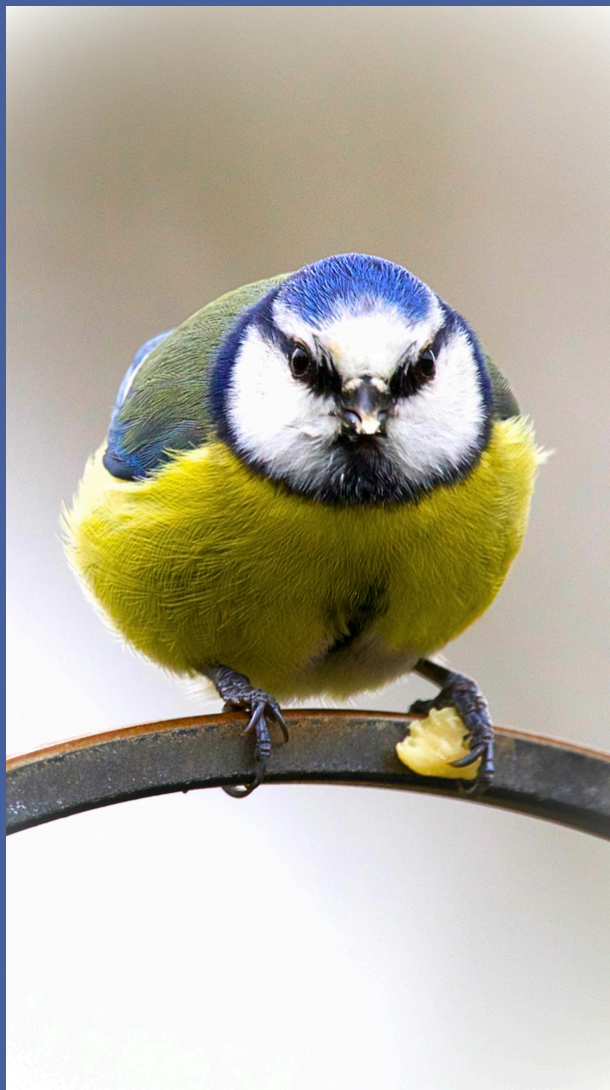


# KINGSLEY NEWS

THE NEWS AND VOICE OF YOUR COMMUNITY

M A Y 2 0 2 5



## Newsletter Highlights

Commemorating VE Day

When will it stop Raining?

Kingsley Walkers

Kingsley Players  
'The Importance of Being Earnest'

Kingsley WI - dates for the diary

The Runcorn and Helsby by-election

Kingsley Gardening Club

Around Cheshire in 100 poems



KINGSLEY  
COMMUNITY  
ASSOCIATION

Online edition at  
[www.kingsleyvillage.co.uk](http://www.kingsleyvillage.co.uk)

A registered charity  
Charity number: 503072

## Kingsley Community Association - Committee Members

<i>Chairman</i>	Elizabeth Batey - Tel: 788788
<i>Vice Chairman/Kingsley News Editor</i>	Steve Easton - kingsleynewseditor@gmail.com
<i>Treasurer</i>	Heather Jones - Tel: 788104
<i>Bookings/Secretary</i>	Heather Hayes - Tel: 07955 648670
<i>Council Members elected</i>	Vic Wodhams, Carol Rowlands, Anne Kavanagh (In addition, one representative from each affiliated group supports the committee)
<i>Printing: Simon Batey; Printing Support: Jane Wodhams; Distribution Co-ordinator: Carol Rowlands</i>	

## Kingsley Community Centre: Regular Weekly Classes

Tai Chi	Monday	10.30am to 11.30am	liverpooltaichi@gmail.com
Gentle Yoga	Monday	6.15pm to 7.30pm	helenjanetwoodcock@gmail.com
Pilates	Tuesday	12pm to 1pm	dickienad@yahoo.co.uk
Karate	Tuesday	6pm to 7pm	dan@kenshinryu.co.uk
Yoga	Tuesday	7.30pm to 8.30pm	bjerkan@hotmail.co.uk
Gentle Exercise	Wednesday	11am to 12noon	helenjanetwoodcock@gmail.com
Yoga	Wednesday	7.30pm to 8.30pm	will@yogaandhealingcheshire.co.uk
HiiT	Thursday	6.30pm to 7.30pm	info@alutottraining.com

<b>Community Centre Standard Hire Charges</b>	<b>Whole Centre</b>	<b>The Hall</b>	<b>Club Room</b>	<b>Green Room</b>
Friday or Saturday Evening 6pm to 11pm	£90	£50	£45	£45
Sunday to Thursday Evening 6pm to 11pm	£60	£40	£30	£30
Sunday to Friday 8am to 12 pm or 1pm to 5pm	£45	£30	£20	£20
Saturday 8am to 12pm or 1pm to 5pm	£50	£35	£25	£25
8:00am to 11pm (All Day)	£150	£90	£75	£75

Rooms can be hired for an hourly rate of £15 per hour.

There is a standard charge of £35 per session for the provision of the bar.

# FROM THE EDITOR

## *Welcome* to the May 25 edition of Kingsley News,

A warm welcome again from the team at Kingsley News to our bumper 32 page May edition

Well I do hope you are all looking forward to May.

It kicks off on May 1<sup>st</sup> with our by-election. 15 Candidates to choose from, but it wouldn't be for me to influence your decision! Then nationally on May 8<sup>th</sup> we celebrate VE Day 80. More locally, there is the Weaver Words Literature Festival (May 3<sup>rd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>), The Hurst Methodist Church hosting another Soup Lunch (May 8<sup>th</sup>) and Kingsley Players production of 'The Importance of Being Earnest' (May 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>).

Many thanks must go to Sonny Pembleton for his contribution authoring this month's 'Did You Know' and also for all the wonderful work he is doing volunteering as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Check out his photographs too included in this edition.

And hopefully we have the perfect balance of sunshine and showers for the crops and our gardens ... or will we be asking again, 'when will it ever stop raining'!

Best Wishes

Steve

*I hope you continue to enjoy reading this edition and please do give feedback too. Please, don't forget that Kingsley News is also available in digital format on the Kingsley village website, [www.kingsleyvillage.co.uk](http://www.kingsleyvillage.co.uk).*

*Photos/Articles/Adverts for the newsletter to be sent to the Editor at*

*[kingsleynewseditor@gmail.com](mailto:kingsleynewseditor@gmail.com)*

*Copy deadline the 21st of the month.*



### Advertising Costs

Advert size (A5)	Colour	Black & White
Full page	£40	£24
1/2 page	£20	£12
1/4 page	n/a	£6

## **KINGSLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

### ***ROLE OF TREASURER***

**A vacancy has arisen for the role of  
Treasurer of the Kingsley Community  
Association.**

The Treasurer is responsible for handling all receipts and payments, using online banking, reporting on the Association's financial position to fellow Trustees and preparing accounts for independent examination and submission to KCA's annual general meeting and to the Charity Commission. The Treasurer works within the team of volunteers who run the Community Centre and KCA's other activities within the village.

The role is fulfilling and gives a real sense of contributing to the community. The current financial position of KCA is sound and offers the Treasurer a great opportunity to work with the team in the further development of KCA's activities.

Simon Batey, KCA's previous long-standing Treasurer, is willing to provide guidance and will fully support whomever comes forward to join the KCA team as Treasurer, so taking on this role will not be difficult.

Kingsley Community Centre is a wonderful village asset that relies on volunteers for its day to day running. Please do come and join us, as Treasurer or as a member of the management team.

**For further information, contact Elizabeth Batey, Chair, email: [embatey@msn.com](mailto:embatey@msn.com) tel: 01928 788788, or Steve Easton, Vice Chair, email: [eastonfamily4@me.com](mailto:eastonfamily4@me.com).**

***Thank you.***

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**FRIENDS' 2025-2026 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Adult and Student members of Kingsley & Newton Village Institute become a 'Friend of KNVI': **all membership fees now include the Friends' donation of £20. Junior membership includes the requirement for Parent/Guardian to become a Friend of KNVI. The £20 may be Gift Aided to KNVI if the member is a UK taxpayer.**

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES** (Membership runs from 1 May 2025 – 30 April 2026)

**FRIEND:** 'Stand alone' supporter of the Institute and its activities: **£20**

**BOWLS:** Adult **£55**; Junior **£25**.

**TENNIS:** Adult **£70**; Junior (under 18 yrs) **£30**; Family **£140**; Student (in full time education): **£30**

**\*\*SNOOKER\*\*:** PLEASE NOTE NEW CATEGORY: Adult **£40**

Cheques payable to KNVI; BACS Transfer Details: A/C name KNVI, Sort Code 089299, A/C no 67203086 (if KNVI is rejected as a/c name, please try Kingsley and Newton Village Institute instead).

**PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:**

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY** \_\_\_\_\_ **COST £** \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s)

.....  
.....

Address .....

.....Postcode .....

Telephone: ..... Email address .....

**If your donation is Gift Aided, it provides valuable extra income for us.**

**Gift Aid Declaration – Kingsley and Newton Village Institute**

Please treat the sum of (£20 per adult) total: ..... as a Gift Aid donation.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature:.....Date.....

Please return form to Martin Conduit, KNVI Treasurer, 3 Hurst Mews, The Hurst, Kingsley, Frodsham, WA6 8BB. The form may alternatively be emailed to [mconduit2@gmail.com](mailto:mconduit2@gmail.com)

# Soup Lunch



**Thursday May 8th at 12 Noon**

**OPEN TO ALL**

Cost £5:00 for soup, pudding,  
and tea or coffee

**The Hurst Methodist Church, The Hurst,  
Kingsley, WA6 8BB**

**in aid of Camp International**

DID YOU  
KNOW ?

## ..... about The Hurst Methodist Church Soup Lunch to Benefit Charity?

For over 16 years, the Hurst Methodist Church has hosted its beloved Soup Lunch, a heartwarming community event organized by a dedicated group known as "The Souperstars."

This village gathering brings people together over bowls of delicious homemade soup, all while raising funds for a worthy charity. The next event will take place on **May 8th at 12:00 pm** at the church, and it promises to be as wonderful as ever.

The Souperstars, a group of volunteers from the church, have been the driving force behind the event's success. They prepare a variety of soups, ranging from classic favourites to more adventurous options, offering something for everyone. The lunch is not just about food; it's about community spirit, making it a perfect occasion to catch up with old friends and meet new ones.

Proceeds from the event will go toward supporting a charity, furthering the church's mission of giving back to those in need. Whether you're a long-time attendee or new to the community, the Soup Lunch is a fantastic way to enjoy good food and make a positive impact. Don't miss out on this fantastic event — mark your calendars for May 8th! Funds raised on this occasion will support voluntary work for Camps International. By volunteering with Camps International participants contribute to projects such as building schools, creating clean water supplies and conserving biodiversity in vulnerable regions of some of the most disadvantaged areas of the world.

## Combined Car Boot & Craft SALE

**Kingsley Community Centre**

**Sat 7<sup>th</sup> June 8.30am till 1pm**

**Supporting The Hurst Church**

**Clear the decks & make  
yourself some money!**

Bookings only contact Anne 01928 618113

2 Brow Cottages, Kingsley WA6 8EZ

DID ALSO YOU  
KNOW?

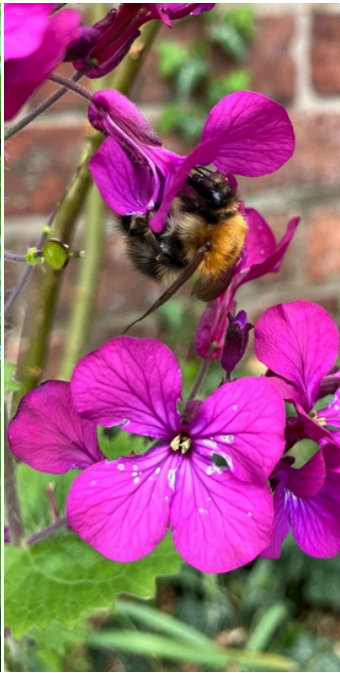
.... the 'Did You Know' article this month was written by Sonny Pembleton, as part of his Duke of Edinburgh activities. His voluntary work is for The Hurst Church.

*Sonny has also been working to weed, replace and tidy the Community Peace Garden at The Hurst and there have been some treasure-finds!*

***Have a look at his photos on the next page ....***

***Thank you Sonny for your contribution and for your hard work when volunteering .***





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*stage Oscar Wilde's classic comedy*

# ***The Importance of Being Earnest***

**21– 24 May, 2025**



Award-winning Kingsley Players are back on stage in May with Oscar Wilde's much-loved, brilliantly witty play **'The Importance of Being Earnest'**.

A cast of nine talented actors will perform the farcical comedy following the tangled affairs of two young men about town, who lead double lives in a complicated charade to avoid unwanted social obligations.

First performed in 1895, it was Wilde's final play before he was imprisoned in Reading Gaol for 'gross indecency'. It was revived in 1909 and has now come to be regarded as one of the greatest stage comedies of all time.

Director Carole Shinkfield, who is a regular director and actor with Frodsham Players, is making her first appearance in Kingsley after gaining an MA in directing at Manchester's Arden Theatre School.

She explained: "I decided to set the play during the 1930s, as it was a period of great change for the upper classes. Although the play's main characters are the 'bright young things' who lived through the Roaring Twenties, the rumblings in Europe are still at the outer reaches of their vision.

"Wilde cleverly mocks the hypocrisy, superficiality and trivial concerns of the privileged gentry, illustrated in the beautifully crafted character of Lady Bracknell. Despite the numerous productions that have been around over the last year, I hope we can still bring something new to Wilde's extraordinary piece of writing."

**'The Importance of Being Earnest' will be on stage at Kingsley Theatre in Kingsley Community Centre, from Wednesday 21 to Saturday 24 May 2025, nightly at 7.30pm.**

**Tickets cost £12, with £8 tickets available for students/children. These can be booked online at [www.kingsleyplayers.co.uk](http://www.kingsleyplayers.co.uk) or by ringing the box office on 07724 892154.**

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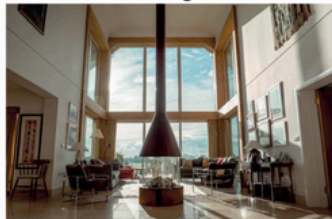
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SCAN ME

# Kingsley WI

**All meetings are the first Wednesday of the month  
at 7.30pm in the Community Centre**

**Programme from June 4th 2025 - March 4th 2026**

June 4th **Making Tiger Muffin Soaps**

Matthew Lepp

July 2nd **Finding the Poetry in Your Life**

John Lindley, Cheshire's Poet Laureate

Sept 3rd **My Life at Harrods**

Maxine Jaeger

Oct 1st **A Night with Lostock Ukuleles**

Leader Graham Edgeley

Nov 5th **AGM and Social Evening**

Dec 3rd **Christmas Crafts**

Jan 7th **Making a Wildlife Friendly Garden**

Heather Hulse from Reaseheath

Feb 4th **Meeting Ghosts in Chester**

Tom Jones

March 4th **Changing Children's Lives through the Adventure**

**Farm** Hannah Grahame (from C.A F.T.)

***New members are always welcome***

For further information email [janetlesleyfletcher@gmail.com](mailto:janetlesleyfletcher@gmail.com)



# **KINGSLEY**

## **GARDEN CLUB**



Our next meeting 12th May 2025 and our speaker will be Cliff Booker. Cliff is a Gold medal winner, author of "Mountain Flowers", photographer, alpine plant expert and tour leader. He will be talking to us about "An introduction to alpinism".

Please note, this will be the last meeting of our 2024/25 programme while we pause meetings for the summer break; meetings will start again in September 2025.

Visitors are always welcome at our meetings and it costs £5 per meeting.

**We look forward to seeing you at The Community Centre on 12th May at 8pm.**

Any questions, please contact us via email at [kingsleygardening@gmail.com](mailto:kingsleygardening@gmail.com).



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# **CHURCH NEWS**

## **St John the Evangelist, Kingsley**

We are part of the United Benefice of  
Norley, Crowton and Kingsley  
with Alvanley and Manley

### **Services in May 2025**

#### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May**

10.00 am Family Holy Communion at Norley  
6.30 pm Sacred Space at Crowton

#### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

10.00am Holy Communion at Crowton  
6.00pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday @ 6 at NCK Centre,  
Norley

#### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

10.00am Holy Communion at Kingsley

#### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

8.30am Holy Communion at Crowton  
10.00am Holy Communion at Alvanley  
4.00pm 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 4 – NCK Centre Norley

### **Mid-week Holy Communion all at 10.00 am**

1<sup>st</sup> May at Kingsley 15<sup>th</sup> May at Norley  
22<sup>nd</sup> May at Crowton 29<sup>th</sup> May at Kingsley

#### **8<sup>th</sup> May Service to Commemorate**

#### **VE Day 80**

10.00am at Alvanley Church

Associate Minister Revd. Hilary Merrington

Tel: 01928 788087

Email: [hilary.merrington@btinternet.com](mailto:hilary.merrington@btinternet.com)

Church website [www.nck.org.uk](http://www.nck.org.uk)

## **Worship at The Hurst Methodist Church**

### **May 2025**

#### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May**

8.30am Holy Communion  
led by Revd G Gresswell  
10am Morning Worship  
led by Mr P Wilks

#### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

10am Morning Worship  
led by Mr P Martin

#### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

10am Holy Communion  
led by Revd I Rigby

#### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

10am Morning Worship  
led by Mr A Ellams

We are anxious the most vulnerable of our  
community feel safe, so ask that you  
please do not attend if you have cold or flu  
symptoms.

Feel free to wear a mask if you wish.

**Church Open .....** St John's is open on Tuesday Mornings from 10am to 12noon  
for those who wish to take some quiet time out or for private prayer

**KINGSLEY  
PRAYER DIARY**



***Each week of the year*** Christians in Kingsley pray specially for people in a different area of the village and its surroundings. During May we think of, and pray for people living in: -

***W/c May 4th Chapel Lane***

***W/c May 14th Westbrook Road***

***W/c May 18th Church View***

***W/c May 25th Smithy Lane***

**Coffee and Chat**

Please come and join us each  
**Tuesday morn 10am** at the Hurst  
Methodist Church

For 'Coffee and Chat', meet old  
friends and new.

***You will be most welcome***

**Men's Brunch**

*Friday, 30th May at 10.30am in  
The Hurst meeting room for  
bacon/sausage bap.*

***Please come and join us.***

## The "In-Between" Time

Already we are in the month of May and Easter seems as far away as ever. This month is busy with VE Day 80 on the 8<sup>th</sup> and Christian Aid week 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> May. Then at the end of the month we celebrate Ascension Day.

On the first Ascension Day the disciples find themselves bereft of the one who has captivated them, given their lives significance, meaning and purpose and stimulated within them a passion for the Kingdom of God.

They feel like abandoned orphans, as their beloved Lord evaporates from their sight into the great, blue yonder. They are at a loss to know what to do next. For the moment they are caught in what might be called the 'in-between' time. They're caught between the Ascension and Pentecost - between loss and promise.

There are times when we find ourselves in a situation not dissimilar to that of the disciples, between things we have lost and things that have not yet unfolded.

This is not dissimilar to the situation as a Benefice we find ourselves in. We are relieved on one hand that the vacancy for an incumbent is soon to be advertised but on the other hand perhaps a little apprehensive, a fear of the unknown.

There is something comforting about putting our trust in God as we pray that he has this, let us be patient and remember we are in God's time and not our own.

'Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build labour in vain' Psalm 127:1

Love and prayers

Rev'd. Hilary



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# RUNCORN & HELSBY

## BY-ELECTION - 1 MAY 2025



On Thursday, 1 May 2025, the Runcorn and Helsby constituency in Cheshire will hold a parliamentary by-election to elect a new Member of Parliament. This by-election was triggered by the resignation of Mike Amesbury, who stepped down following a suspended sentence for assault.

### A Crowded Field of Candidates

Fifteen candidates are contesting the seat, reflecting a diverse political landscape:

- Labour Party: Karen Shore, Deputy Leader of Cheshire West and Chester Council, aims to retain the seat for Labour.
- Reform UK: Sarah Pochin, a former Conservative councillor and mayor of Cheshire East, represents Reform UK. Her candidacy is central to Reform UK's strategy to gain a parliamentary foothold.
- Conservative Party: Sean Houlston is the Conservative candidate.
- Liberal Democrats: Paul Duffy stands for the Liberal Democrats.
- Green Party: Chris Copeman is the Green Party candidate.

Other Parties and Independents: Candidates include Catherine Blaiklock (English Democrat), Peter Ford (Workers Party), Danny Clarke (Liberal Party), Howling Loud Hope (Monster Raving Loony), Jason Philip Hughes (Vot), Alan McKie and Michael Williams (Independents), Graham Harry Moore (English Constitution), Paul Andrew Murphy (SDP), and John Stevens (Rejoin EU).

### Political Significance

This by-election is significant as it tests the popularity of the major parties and the rising influence of smaller parties like Reform UK. Labour's performance will be closely watched, given the circumstances leading to the by-election. Reform UK's campaign, led by Nigel Farage, aims to capitalize on voter dissatisfaction with traditional parties.

### Voting Information

Polling will take place on Thursday, 1 May 2025, from 7 am to 10 pm. The Polling Station for Kingsley residents will be held at Kingsley Community Centre. Voters are reminded to bring valid photo ID, as required under current electoral regulations.

*As the KCA is a non-political organisation we approached ChatGPT to write this article on our behalf!*



## VE Day 2025: Marking 80 Years Since Victory in Europe

On May 8, the world marks the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day — the day Nazi Germany surrendered to Allied forces in 1945, ending World War II in Europe. This year carries special weight as a milestone, prompting reflection on the war's immense human cost and the hard-won peace that followed.

Across Europe and North America, commemorations will honor the millions who fought and the countless civilians who endured the conflict. Ceremonies, veteran tributes, and moments of silence will take place in major cities, with particular attention paid to those who are now among the last living witnesses of that era.

VE Day isn't just about looking back — it's about remembering why peace matters, and recognizing the fragility of democracy and freedom. In a time of rising global tensions and political polarization, the lessons of 1945 are as relevant as ever.

*Eighty years on, VE Day serves as both a tribute and a warning: peace is precious, and it must be protected.*

### VE Day 2025: National Commemorations

The UK government has announced extended pub hours on 8 May, allowing establishments in England and Wales to remain open until 1am on 9 May. This initiative is part of a broader four-day celebration that includes a military procession, an RAF flypast in central London, the lighting of 2,500 beacons across the UK, and a televised party at Horse Guards Parade on 8 May.

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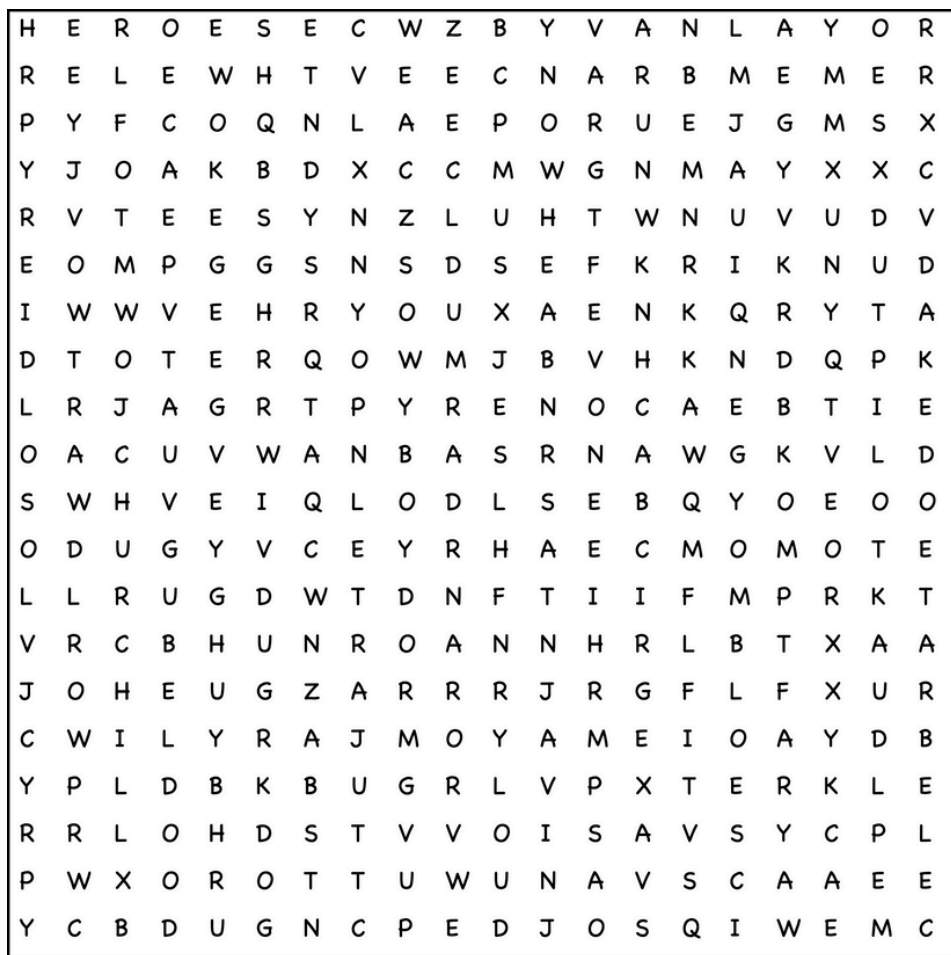


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# KINGSLEY WALKERS

(herding cats)



In the past our normal routine of countryside walks has been punctuated by the odd walking tours of towns and cities. We have visited Manchester and Liverpool, learning about history, culture and landmarks, combining that with healthy exercise. In the autumn a visit to Shrewsbury (Shroesbury, Shroosbury, choose your pronunciation) had been planned and then hurriedly substituted with Chester as most of the planned route was submerged under Severn feet of Storm Bert flood water at the time.

The spring has brought some fine weather and March 25th was no exception. Shrewsbury Park and Ride scheme was used with the intention of reducing the stress of driving and parking in a city centre. It is however amazing how quickly members of a group can disperse to supermarket toilets and cash machines if they think they have a few minutes before the bus.

The highlights of our walk were:-

- Shrewsbury Castle - with lovely gardens and elevated views over the city.
- The Church of St Mary - with stained glass windows from various ages and with informative church volunteers to hand.
- The riverside gardens and The Dingle ponds and flowerbeds, a fitting tribute, even more than the blue plaque, to Percy Thrower, who became the youngest ever city Superintendent of Parks and Gardens at the age of 32 in 1946.
- A lunch opposite the memorial to Charles Darwin who had attended the famous city school.
- A looping walk around the cricket ground and grassed areas of Mountfields.
- The public school, placed high above the city and affording great views but not affordable for many.
- The Abbey, founded in 1083 but with some Saxon antecedents containing various forms of architectural feature from its varied history but which had suffered under Henry the Eighth, well known for his dissolution.

The river was our constant companion and we crossed it four times by the Welsh Bridge (x2), Kingsland Bridge, the English Bridge and finally Castle Walk Footbridge before passing under the railway bridge as we came to the end. I am optimistic that we retained many of our original participants despite the distractions of the city, our groping down narrow lanes, the lure of cafes, the need for comfort breaks, 3 brothers catching up with each other but not always the group and the many other directional and conversational tangents. In all, it was an excellent day.

On April 8th, we enjoyed glorious weather, a 5 mile walk through some country parks on the Wirral and fabulous views from Thurstaston Hill over Liverpool and Wales. This was despite the best efforts of the group leader to lose himself on the local motorway system en route to the walk start. It was rounded off with an enjoyable pub lunch at the Irby Mill.

*Kingsley Walkers have two walks per month, new members are very welcome, please email on [kingsleywalkerswa6@gmail.com](mailto:kingsleywalkerswa6@gmail.com).*

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How things change!

In March 2025, rainfall across the Northwest has been 21% of the long-term average, in line with the statistic for the England and Wales as a whole, though in Cheshire we may have had somewhat more than this: the driest parts of the Northwest being in Cumbria. Other parts of the country have been drier, with the Southeast and Southwest having only 11% of the long-term average.

River flows have been variable: in the River Weaver, water flow is currently normal, but in the River Dee, water flows are exceptionally low.

The brightest weather news is sunshine! March 2025 was England’s sunniest and Northern England’s third sunniest March since records began in 2010 with 59% more sunshine than the long-term average.



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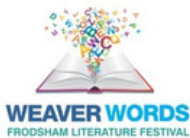
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YEARS







# Weaver Words Literature Festival

Comedy legend Jenny Eclair, BBC TV presenter Louise Minchin and poet Lemn Sissay head an impressive line-up of talks, events, workshops and writing competitions at Cheshire's seventh Weaver Words Literature Festival, based at Frodsham Community Centre, **Saturday 3 - Sunday 11 May 2025.**

Gerald Dickens, great great grandson of the famous author Charles Dickens, returns to give a stunning one man show telling the story of his famous relative's novel, Nicholas Nickleby. We will explore the 'Future of the Media' with four experts from social media, print, broadcast and academia leading a fascinating debate into the recent impact of artificial intelligence, fake news and the digital Wild West.

The theme this year is 'A Celebration of Cheshire', with a focus on great Cestrian literary connections, from Lewis Carroll to Elizabeth Gaskell, plus new Cheshire writers aiming to make their mark. Weaver Words patron Tim Firth will be guest speaker at a literary dinner in Frodsham's Main Street Kitchen restaurant, as well as providing musical entertainment at the Gala Evening, with poet Lynn Pegler, before the announcement of the Flash Fiction Competition winners.

For young children (aged 4-8), there's a chance to enjoy fantastic cartoon stories and games with award-winning authors Natalie Reeves Billing and Jude Lennon in Animates Action Stations! And for adults there will again be an array of creative workshops on offer, from poetry writing with Jean Atkin aboard the impressive Danny Steamship, moored at the Anderton Boat Lift, to sessions on flash fiction with David Gaffney, journal writing with Julia McGuinness and children's picture books with Iryna Garkusha (Ira Bova).

Festival manager Lynn Pegler said: "We're delighted to have assembled a fantastic line-up for Frodsham's seventh literature festival. "Our theme of 'Celebrating Cheshire' has provided inspiration for several wonderful events, including a tour to Lewis Carroll's birthplace in Daresbury, afternoon tea in the company of Mrs Elizabeth Gaskell and author Nell Stevens, and a fascinating look at the county's role in the English Civil War and how this plays into historical fiction. "We are grateful to all our sponsors and partners for their kind support and to the dedicated volunteers who give their time and expertise to bring Weaver Words to life."

*A free Weaver Words brochure is available to collect from Frodsham Community Centre and publicity points around the area.*

**For more details see the festival website [www.weaverwords.org.uk](http://www.weaverwords.org.uk).**

**Tickets can be purchased online or through the box office  
telephone 0333 666 3366.**

# Around Cheshire in 100 Poems and Pictures

by Lynn Pegler

*with additional photos by Claudia Wild*



## **CHESHIRE INSPIRES EXCITING NEW BOOK OF POEMS AND IMAGES**

Cheshire's inspiring landmarks and intriguing history come under the spotlight in an exciting new collection of poems and images by local writer Lynn Pegler.

Around Cheshire in 100 Poems and Pictures takes readers on a visual and literary journey of discovery, exploring familiar features and hidden corners from a fresh perspective.

Anderton Boat Lift, Jodrell Bank, Hack Green Cold War Bunker, Northwich's salt mine subsidence, Oulton Park racetrack, Norton Priory and beavers in Delamere Forest are just a few of the fascinating places explored in the poetic behind-the-scenes tour. With a journalistic eye, Lynn's collection of poetic reportage combines lively monologues from real and imaginary people with more reflective verse to present a delightful portrait of a 'special' county.

Lynn, who lives in Crowton near Northwich, serves as one of Cheshire's Deputy Lieutenants, is an award-winning playwright, poet, journalist and runs PR consultancy Pegler Communications.

She said: "Cheshire is an amazing and special county. After living here for several decades, I thought I was well-acquainted with its history and geography, but research for this collection has taken me on a wonderful journey of discovery.

"I've jumped inside the heads of Quarry Bank mill workers, Roman soldier tour guides and Nantwich Civil War generals as well as grumpy teenage walkers and an exasperated Cheshire Oaks shopper.



*“When I was writing the poems, I always envisaged them sitting side by side with illustrations. I hope the new images of the county, alongside the evocative old black and white photos, help to embellish the words with enhanced emotion.”*

*The book features a wide range of new illustrations by the author, supplemented with extra photos by Claudia Wild, Patricia Rugg and a map of modern Cheshire by Runcorn artist Ali Draws.*

***The book will be launched with a multi-media performance of selected poems at the Weaver Words Literature Festival in Frodsham on Sunday 4 May. The Gala Celebration Evening, which starts at 8pm, also features musical entertainment from festival patron and playwright/musician Tim Firth.***

*Around Cheshire in 100 Poems and Pictures is published by Blurb and is available online and at selected book and gift shops. Tickets for the Gala Evening, comedian Jenny Éclair, poet Lemn Sissay, BBC presenter Louise Minchin and other Weaver Words events (3-11 May) are available online at [www.weaverwords.org.uk](http://www.weaverwords.org.uk) or box office 0333 666 3366.*



**Lynn can also be found performing at Norton Priory’s ‘Summer of Stories’ in a special event devoted to readings from Around Cheshire in 100 Poems and Pictures on Thursday 31 July.**

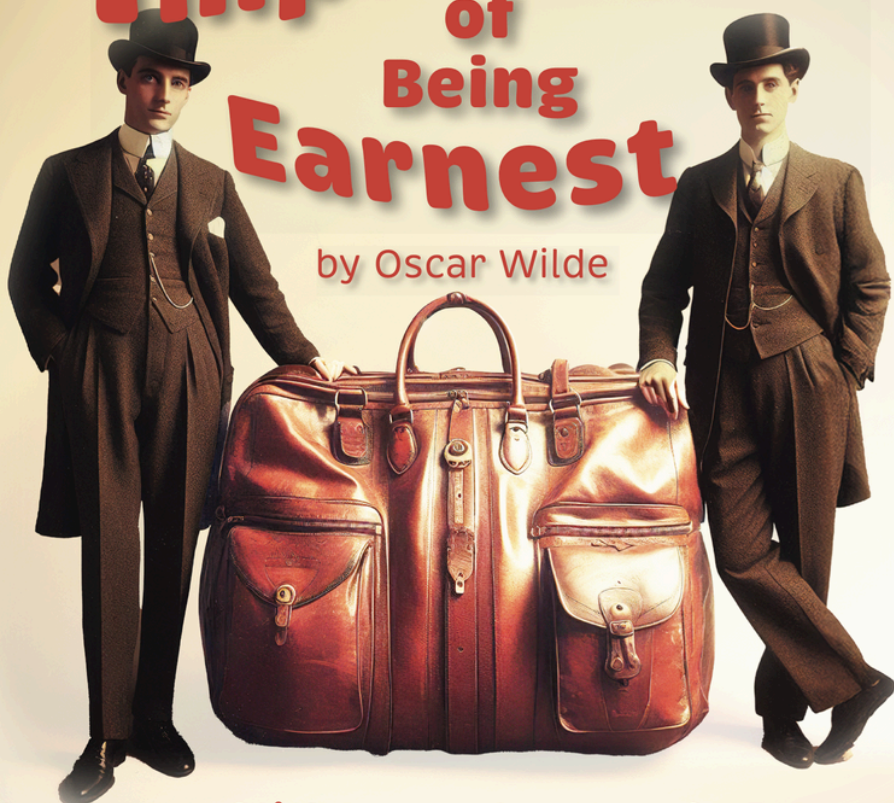
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