

Link

For the parishes of Bunbury & Tilstone Fearnall



June
2018

One of the most time consuming things is to have an enemy *EB White*



Calveley Chapel is celebrating its 180th anniversary!

The congregation invites you to visit their "chapel with a difference" for their traditional Spring Fayre. Located only two miles from Bunbury - directions (see p3) will be signposted on the day so it will be easy to find. There is no admission charge and ample free parking will be available.

Also in this issue...



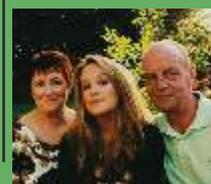
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Who we are



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**You can also read The Link online at:
www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk**

Community news

Could you be the Link editor?

Joy Parker is moving on to exciting new adventures! If you love reading the Link - or have ideas to improve it - contact Revd Tim Hayward on 261511 to find out more.

Congratulations to **Oliver Warriner**, son of **Richard and Lucy**, baptised at St Boniface on Sunday 29 April, and to twins **Nina and Finley Burrows**, children of **David and Katie**, baptised at St Boniface on Sunday 29 April. We also welcome **Finn Lloyd Wright**, son of **Jeremy and Lynda**, baptised at St Boniface on Sunday 6 May, and **Lenny Briscoe**, son of **Nathan and Gemma**, baptised at St Boniface on Sunday 13 May. Congratulations also to **Nieve Moxley**, daughter of **Stephen and Helen**, baptised at St Boniface on Sunday 13 May.

Congratulations to **Rose Hayward** and **Lucy Mackay**, confirmed by Bishop Libby Lane on 29 April (see p.10).

Congratulations to **Edward Griffith** and **Joanna Bowen**, married at St Boniface on Saturday 12 May, and to **Neil Shields** and **Kelly Cheetham**, married at St Boniface on Saturday 19 May.

Lizzie Sanders, younger daughter of **Nick and Alex Sanders** of Sadlers Wells, will be marrying Josh Philpott at Christ Church Harrogate on 2 June at 12.30pm.

Our Curate, **Vicky Barrett**, will be ordained Priest on 2 June in **Chester Cathedral**.

Elaine Crotty would like to thank all the people who have sent her their best wishes, cards and flowers following her recent illness. It means a lot.

"Did you know?" During the Great War Calveley Hall became a Red Cross hospital and our Calveley Chapel was turned into a hospital ward full of wounded soldiers. Mrs de Knoop, tenant of Calveley Hall, was the hospital superintendent and she was at the forefront of establishing the Tarporley War Memorial Hospital after the war.

The next meeting of **Bunbury Gardening Club** will be a visit to Foxdale, Vicarage Road, Bunbury on Tuesday 19 June by kind permission of Mrs Leila Potter. Meet at the property at 6.30pm. Admission: donation for Tarporley Hospital Details from Margaret Bourne 01829-260944. New members and guests are welcome but please make yourselves known to Committee members.

Margaret & Mike Bourne will again be opening their garden at **Long Acre**, Wyche Lane, Bunbury CW6 9PS for charity under the **National Gardens Scheme** on Sunday 17 June 2-5pm. The garden is a plantswoman's garden of approx one acre with unusual and rare plants and trees including Kentucky coffee tree, scadiopitys, kalapanax picta and others, pool garden, lilies and roses in summer, exotic conservatory with bananas, anthuriums and medinilla, greenhouses with clivia in spring and disa orchids in summer. Tea and cakes, plant stall. Admission £5 adults, children free. Charities supported include Marie Curie, Macmillan Cancer Support, Hospice UK and the Carers Trust.

Bunbury WI will have a talk by local author **Phil Allcock** on 14 June.

The Pet Service and Third Sunday Brunch will

start at 10am on Sunday 17 June on the Cricket Field, followed by a **BBQ and cricket**

match. Come and enjoy - last month's Sunday Brunch was a huge success.

The Jigsaw Club, which has funding from Bunbury Parochial Charities, has over 340 Jigsaws to suit all interests and anyone from 3 to 103. It costs nothing and you may borrow jigsaws for as long as you need. Either call Ruth Tilston on 07837 261523 or visit her in Tilly's between 10.00-11.30am on a Friday.



BUNBURY VILLAGE DAY 23 JUNE 2018



Summer is fast approaching and Bunbury's Jubilee playing fields will be transformed again for this year's Village Day. 2018 is the year of the Bunbury Superhero.

Who's your all-time favourite Superhero? Superman, Batman, Spider-Man, Thor, Wonder Women, Captain America? Whoever it is, we hope to see you there all dressed up (or incognito!) and ready for a wonderful day. We're expecting all sorts of heroes to be in attendance, new and old!

No Bunbury Village Day would be complete without all the traditional attractions of this great summer event including a well-stocked bar and BBQ, funfair, parade, stalls, arena activities, WI café, puppet show, vehicle display - the list goes on!

The parade starts at 12.30pm from St Boniface church. Gates open at 1pm at the Jubilee Playing Fields. Adults £2.50, children free. For more info visit

www.bunburyvillage.info or look at our Facebook page: 'Bunbury Village Day'. If you have questions, send us a Facebook message.

If you're not familiar with the village, the address is Jubilee Playing Fields, Bunbury, Tarporley CW6 9QX. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday 23 June.

The copy deadline for the July edition of the Link is Friday 15 June. The magazine should be in church: Friday 29 June.

TIM HAYWARD Your Vicar



Who's your favourite Superhero?

Imagine four persons in a room...

The first is a powerful dictator. You might think of someone like Putin, Assad, maybe even Trump?

His word commands armies and his shifting moods intimidate subordinates. He wields a brutal power. The 1st person.

Next to him sits a gifted athlete at the peak of their physical prowess, whose speed and strength have few equals. Someone like Usain Bolt, Mo Farah or Jessica Ennis. Their skills are a graceful power for which they are much admired and envied. The 2nd person.

The third is a pop star whose music and charisma electrify audiences and fill a room with a soulful energy. Their face is on billboards and they are a household name: Elvis Presley, Beyoncé or Harry Styles. Theirs is another kind of power.

Finally, we have in the room a fourth person - a newborn baby, lying in its crib, seemingly without any power or strength, unable even to ask for what it needs.

Which of the four do you think is ultimately the most powerful?

In Greek, we find three words for power or authority. We easily recognise the first two: *energy* and *dynamic*. There is a power in energy, in physical health and muscle, just as there is a power in being dynamic, in having the power to generate energy. But when the Gospels speak of Jesus as "having great power", they do not use the words energetic or dynamic. They use a third word, *exousia*, which might be best rendered as vulnerability. Jesus' real power was rooted in a certain vulnerability, like the powerlessness of a child.

This isn't an easy concept to grasp since our idea of power is normally rooted in the opposite: the notion that power lies in the ability to overwhelm others, not underwhelm. The power of a superhero. And yet we understand this - somewhat - in our experience of babies, who can overpower us precisely by their powerlessness. Around a baby, as most every mother and father has learned, we watch our language and try not to have bitter arguments, we try to be better, more loving persons. Our lives are changed forever. A baby has the power to transform like no other.

The irony is that the baby ultimately wields the greatest power. The athlete could crush it, the dictator could kill it, and the pop star could out-glow it in sheer dynamism, but the baby has a different kind of power. It can touch hearts and change lives in a way that a dictator, an athlete, or a pop star cannot. It can transform a room and a heart in a way that guns, muscle, and charisma cannot.

And this is the way we find and experience God's power here on earth, sometimes to our great frustration, and this is the way that Jesus was deemed powerful during his lifetime. The entire Gospels make this clear, from beginning to end. In the beginning, Jesus was born as a powerless baby, and at the end he died hanging helplessly on a cross with bystanders mocking his powerlessness. Yet both his birth and his death manifest the kind of power upon which we can ultimately build our lives. Love that is willing to suffer is greater than power that is forced to coerce. True religion is love, not power.

Directions to Calveley Chapel

Calveley Chapel is located ~200m up a private road off Calveley Hall Lane. From the A51, take the turning to Wettenhall (Long Lane), then first right into Calveley Hall Lane, then the private road to the chapel is located approximately 500m on the left.

Our prayers for June

We continue to pray for **Hazel Wilkinson, Pam Hardy, Donald Marr, and Elaine Crotty**. We also pray for all who are mourning a loved one especially the families and friends of **Dorothy Stockton, Reginald Farrall and Jillian Wilson**.

Church diary for June

Sunday 3 June	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Communion & Sunday School 10.30am No service 11.00am Holy Communion joint service St Boniface & Calveley	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley	Wednesday 20 June	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 6 June	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Sunday 24 June	9.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface
Sunday 10 June	9.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface	Wednesday 27 June	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 13 June	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Sunday 1 July	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Communion & Sunday School 10.30am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley
Sunday 17 June	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Worship 10.00am Pet service 11.00am Morning Worship 6.00pm Evensong	St Boniface St Jude's Cricket field Calveley St Boniface	Wednesday 4 July	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface



Pat Ellis - Reader Emeritus Bawming the Thorn

Midsummer is a time of magic and spirituality, bringing traditional festivals and celebrations, many based on pagan sun worship.

Christians throughout the ages have adopted and adapted these rituals to bring to the people a message and reminder about the power and love of God and his presence everywhere with us.

Most of them have died out, but one near to us is the "Bawming (decorating) of the Thorn" with music and dancing at Appleton Thorn on the Saturday nearest Midsummer's Day.

The thorn tree by the Church is said to be a branch of the Thorn brought to Glastonbury by Joseph of Arimathea, a trader, believed by some to be the uncle of Jesus. There is a legend that he brought Jesus with him to England as a boy.

Joseph later risked his life to bring the body of our crucified Lord to a dignified burial in his own tomb.

O Lord our God,
You are Love, living and dancing through creation;
You are Light, challenging and purifying our hearts;
You are Peace, deep and unfathomable,
Working through our pain and conflict.

We praise you for the gift of life itself;
For Human love and laughter;
We praise you for the sheer joy of celebration,
For pilgrimage and ancient places of prayer,
Where lives have been touched
Commitments made
And where your Spirit of renewal and steadfastness
Shines through.



Mike Rogers writes... Certainties

Without wishing to be political, for me, one of the key features of Brexit is the uncertainty it generates.

But uncertainty seems to be part of today's world - none of us are strangers to it - the future is unknown and despite the best efforts of astrologers and the like, we are unable to either predict or control our destiny or indeed, the weather. And as Benjamin Franklin, said, '...in this world, nothing can be said to be certain except death and taxes.' And so uncertainty endures. It has become a part of our way of life and our culture.

So how do we cope?

The answer is faith, simply because if we had certainty, we would not need faith.

But what is faith? Now there's a tricky question. My dictionary defines it thus: 'faith is a belief, especially in a revealed religion; or, it is trust or reliance'

But setting religion aside, how do you build that trust and reliance? Neither is won easily; both need to be earned.

Trust, especially between people, is only built up over a period of time and it can be destroyed in a moment and once destroyed, it is difficult to

re-build. But how about our trust in and our reliance on God?

This is a difficult one. Those who seemingly have no faith in God appear to prosper. On the surface, their life looks to be as comfortable as anyone else's and they do as well in their careers as the next person. So, where's the catch? Why do we need faith and faith in God in particular?

Surprisingly, the answer is certainty.

I am convinced that we may trust God completely. His love for us will never fail. He will always be there, ready to welcome us with open arms. There are many examples of this in the bible, with the parable of the Prodigal Son perhaps being the most famous - you may find it in Luke's Gospel, Chapter 15. And the most remarkable thing about this story is that the father does not greet his returning son at the door of the house - he runs to meet him whilst he is still a long way off.

So it is with God. He is ready to run to meet us if we so wish. We may be certain of that and in an uncertain world I find that to be a very comforting thought.

The Midnight Walk



This year it will be 10 years since Claudia McLaughlan passed away, and to mark the occasion a group of ladies are taking part in the midnight walk in her memory.

Back in 2005 Claudia, who was a patient at St Luke's Hospice, had planned to do the Moon Walk in London but did not get

selected. She suggested that St Luke's create its own fundraising event closer to home so that she could take part, and the Midnight Walk was born.

Sadly, Claudia became too ill to take part in the Midnight Walk but her legacy was a ladies-only walk that has already raised over £2.5 million for St Luke's Hospice, and inspired over 100 hospices to create night walks.

This event, and the hospice, was very important to Claudia. She would have been so proud, and would have loved to see the vibrant event that the Midnight Walk has become, knowing that it supports the care of patients and their families at St Luke's.

Her family and friends are coming together to do the midnight walk and celebrate her life. It is taking place on Saturday 30th June and is either 6 or 13 miles around the streets of Crewe and Nantwich, starting from Reaseheath College.

It's not too late to register to take part, and for more information on the Midnight Walk, details can be found at www.stlukes-hospice.co.uk/midnightwalk

Bunbury School Begins 'Love on the Rocks'!



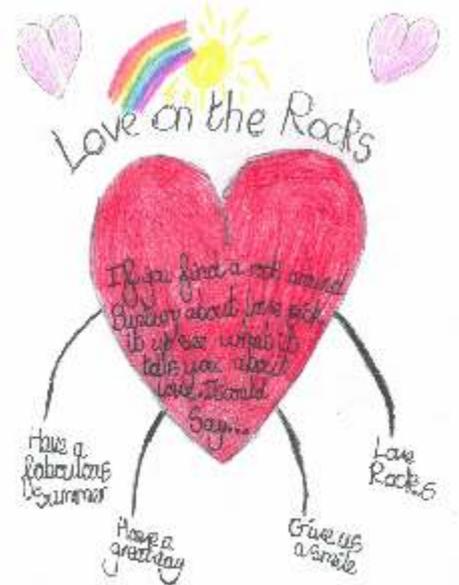
As you may have heard, Bunbury School have decided to spread a smile by participating in an event called 'Love on the Rocks'.

This occasion is where you paint a rock and write a kind message on before hiding it around the village for someone to find.

If you find one of these unique rocks you can keep it for yourself. If you can, please take a picture of it and tweet it to @BunburyACE. You can always paint your own rock and hide it around the village of Bunbury for someone else to find.

You will see them around the village from 30 May.

Bunbury School Council



Bunbury Village Hall has reopened

A big thank you to all involved in the repair work



Following the disastrous damage the hall suffered from a burst pipe on 2nd March, which resulted in it being closed for just over two months, the Trustees want to thank everyone who has helped to get the hall back on its feet again.

Firstly we must thank our various hirers for their patience whilst the repair work was being carried out and for finding alternative accommodation during that time and special thanks to the Jubilee Playing Field Committee for finding room in the Pavilion for a number of our hirers and also the Scout hut for helping out as well.

The repair work was carried out extremely quickly in spite of the huge amount of damage caused by the burst pipe in the roof of the building and this could not have been achieved without the help of our marvellous local tradesmen who did everything they could to get us up and running again. To this end we would like

to thank Tim and Mark Johnson of Johnson Building Contractors and their team for carrying out the major part of the work, Matt Barber of MB Electrical Ltd for dealing with all of the electricity problems, Dave Ackerley Plumbing and Heating for coming to our rescue on the night of the burst and for repairing the actual leak and Glyn Jones of Signature Ceilings who replaced the suspended ceilings he had only just put up a few days before the leak! Finally the ladies, Gill Johnson, Gill Cadman and Margaret Ellis, who gave the whole place a spring clean to make it ready for letting again.

Finally a special thanks to the insurance assessor, Stephen Blain, of Quadra Claims who worked with us throughout the crisis to ensure everything went smoothly and dealt swiftly with the claim to our insurance company.

The hall reopened on 5 May with a big 40th birthday party when we used, for the first time, the new bespoke bar provided by the Nags Head Bunbury for which we thank them.

David Ellis - Treasurer/Trustee



Bunbury Aldersey executive headteacher chosen for key school support role

The executive headteacher, principal and staff at Bunbury Aldersey CE School have been selected for top roles supporting schools in challenging circumstances and training new teachers.

Fiona Todd is one of more than 50 headteachers to be appointed to the role of national leader of education in the latest recruitment round.

National leaders of education along with staff in their school - appointed as national support schools - use their knowledge and experience to provide additional leadership capability in other schools in need of support.

The type of support provided is flexible and tailored to meet the needs of each individual school. National leaders of education also have responsibility for developing the next generation of NLEs and national support schools.

Fiona Todd, said: "I am delighted to have been selected in the recent round of appointments to the next generation of National Leaders. Bunbury Aldersey Primary school is an

exceptional school where children develop a life long love of learning. The commitment and dedication of the staff has meant that the school has been able to make rapid and sustainable developments creating a rich environment for learning"

The Department for Education (DfE) has responsibility for the appointment of NLEs and the quality of the NLE programme. There are now over 1,250 NLEs across England.

Lord Agnew, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the School System, said:

"I'd like to congratulate Fiona Todd and Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary School on being appointed as a national leader of education and national support school. They should be very proud of this achievement.

"National leaders of education are supporting other schools and developing the next generation of leaders."

Successful headteachers will be invited to attend a regional induction event.

BIG lottery funded Fun Run a great success

Organisers Beth Hayward and Gemma McGrillis from the 'Anyone Can Play' committee were delighted that 260 runners of all different ages and abilities took part in the Fun Runs this year. The 1k and 2k races used the track around the playing fields, and a new 5k road race was added this year, expertly marshalled by a team of volunteers led by Revd Vicky Barrett. It was great to see residents on Wyche Lane and Birds Lane coming out to cheer the runners on!

The support given by Bunbury Alderney School was fantastic. It was lovely to see teachers at the finish line handing out the



medals. Many of the children used the Fun Run as an opportunity to raise sponsorship money for new school books.

One brave high school student, Scott Burrows, shaved his head in

front of the watching crowds to raise awareness and money for Myeloma UK.

The 'Anyone Can Play' projects aim is to bring the whole community together and encourage healthy lifestyles. This year's Fun Run certainly achieved that!



Stairway to heaven



The annual Ascension Day walkers to Stanner Nab were treated to the most beautiful weather. The visibility was perfect and the views were stunning. We are very grateful to the Peckforton Estate for allowing us access once a year to this remote beauty spot - it is a real privilege.

Parish council pursuits

The Parish Council AGM and Ordinary meeting for May were held on 9 May at the Pavilion. Nine Councillors and three residents attended. The following officers were appointed: Chairman Ron Pulford, Vice Chairman Mark Ireland Jones, Playing Fields Committee Chairman Nick Parker, Footpaths and Police Liaison Pam Brookfield, Tree Warden and Saddlers Wells Woodland Rep. Ron Pulford, Local Press Officer: Leila Potter.

It was agreed that meetings for the following 12 months to May 2019 would take place on the second Wednesday of each month.

Annual reports were presented by the Chairman and Playing Fields Committee Chairman. Cheshire East's Local Plan 'Site Allocations and

Development Policy' (for housing) was discussed, and local consultation will take place later this year. The impact of additional housing in Bunbury and nearby villages, on our highways and infrastructure was discussed, and the Highways Committee will consider this further. Councillor Mark Ireland Jones is working with Bunbury School on safe and sustainable travel for pupils to and from school. A grant of £200 was made to Bunbury British Legion to assist with WWI 100 years anniversary commemorations.

Do come to our meetings, we work for YOU with a smile!

Cllr Leila Potter, PC Press Officer

Pete on the Beat



Well, 40 years ago this summer my wife, Pam, and I moved to the area into the Police House at Spurstow as I had taken up the post of local police officer. Pam was a nurse, no surprise there. Our journey here began 24 years earlier, when I was born in Chester and Pam in Liverpool. How did we meet, you may ask, having started life in two different cities? Simple really: both our fathers gained employment at Shell refinery in Ellesmere Port, so our families moved there and that's where we were both raised and educated.

At 19 years of age, I joined Cheshire Constabulary and was initially stationed at Crewe. At this time Pam was following in her mother's footsteps training as a nurse in Liverpool at Alder Hey, Mill Road and Broadgreen hospitals. We were an item at this stage.

Crewe, during the 70s, like most places, was a vibrant town. The majority of the population were in employment, with thousands working at both Rolls (now Bentley) and Crewe Works - now, sadly, not there.

After my initial two years of walking the beat, I became a detective on the local CID, a job I always wanted to do and, yes, it really was 'Life on Mars'.

In 1976, Pam and I married and lived in Crewe, Pam having qualified as a nurse and managed to transfer to Leighton Hospital, where she became senior sister in charge of the children's unit.

Two years later, I accidentally stumbled across Bunbury, whilst pursuing an 'out of area' burglar, who was targeting surrounding areas. I immediately fell in love with the place. (By the way, we did catch him eventually.)

Months later, the position of local officer became available, I applied for the job, my fellow detectives couldn't understand why. They said, "It's too quiet, nothing happens there and there's no social life". They didn't know Bunbury and rural life in general. Little did they know they were soon to find out.

The day we moved into the police house was, in fact, Village Day. We did not attend, as we were moving furniture etc. Upon finishing, we visited the Crewe Arms (now Yew Tree), where we were made very welcome. Upon our return 'home', slightly worse for wear, the police phone was ringing in the office. The caller stated that the marquee on the playing field had been set on fire and was burning down! Welcome.

The story behind that is another article in itself.

In my first six months, there were numerous road accidents, mainly on the A49, a number of which were fatal, sadly involving local people which had a devastating effect within the community as, yes, it is true, people here did know everyone. Today, the A49 is a safer road than then.

Thursday evening was youth club night in the village hall. On one occasion the landlord of the Nag's had to rush there as there was trouble. I had only just finished duty, when I had to go back on to discover he had been stabbed, the offenders had made off leaving him seriously injured. Happily, he made a full recovery. All fourteen offenders were traced and given custodial sentences.

A couple of weeks after that, there was a suspicious death in Bunbury, which was initially treated as murder, with all that goes with it. That, eventually, turned out to be natural causes.

'Quiet', my former colleagues said. For this period, they were never out of the village. The trade in local pubs increased, as well.

It is not just Bunbury that I was responsible for, but other parishes as far down as Cholmondeley, including Peckforton and Bickerton, then from there through to Burland, including Ridley, Faddiley and Haughton. In those days, most of these areas had a school, post office, shop, pub and church, which were all a huge source of information - not just for policing matters, but for life in general. In addition to these premises, I also had 365 farms to look after, numerous businesses and two castles. Peckforton Castle was then home to the commanding officer of US Air Force base at Burtonwood, which was still fully operational. Cholmondeley Castle regularly entertained royalty.

We liked the area so much, that after nearly three years, we bought a house in the village, where we still live today. Unfortunately, because of this, I had to relinquish the position of local officer. I eventually returned to the CID, where I had a very enjoyable and successful career. Having said that, I still say the best years were spent policing this beautiful part of Cheshire.

Our daughter, Pip, was born and raised here, attending Bunbury and Tarporley schools, before university. She is now living and working in Manchester, having carved out a successful career within the fashion industry, making us both very proud of her achievements. She loves coming 'home' to visit us and reliving her favourite walks, but she is a city girl now.

When I first came here, there was a perceived problem with teenagers, I didn't have one; many of them have grown to become good friends. Also, at that time, the area was awash with characters, every parish had at least one; Bunbury had quite a few, some of whom are still alive and kicking. Sadly, many have since passed on and are missed greatly, but tales of their exploits are not forgotten, still bringing smiles to those who knew them and those who didn't.

Since retirement, Pam is an active member of the Parish Council; she can also be found, on a regular basis, in Tilly's coffee shop. I am just enjoying life in general, more so in summer, when it's cricket season.

We have not named individuals in this memoir, as the list would be endless, but we would like to thank those past and present, for helping our life in Bunbury be as pleasant as it is.

On the subject of change, change nothing - Bunbury will do that all by itself. Enjoy it like we have.

Pam and Pete Brookfield

Another successful Beeston fête



This year's annual Beeston Castle fête was a great success. With the castle bathed in beautiful bank holiday sunshine, almost 1,500 people came to enjoy the festivities.

In addition to the usual fun of the dog show, dog competition, circus artist, tea tent, BBQ, book stall, face painting and other stalls, the fête committee teamed up with dedicated father of two boys, Peter (above right), who had been diagnosed with myeloma, a form of cancer, in March 2017. Peter's only chance for a longer healthy life is a blood stem cell donation. With no family match found, fête revellers queued to do the simple mouth swab to see if they could be a match.

The fête committee, made up entirely of volunteers, has done another incredible job this year, raising over £9,000 for church funds.



Visit a roof with a view Saturday 30th June



Climb to the top of Bunbury Church Tower Anytime 4:00pm to 6:30pm

A unique opportunity to climb up to the church tower roof to experience the magnificent panoramic views of Bunbury and the Cheshire countryside. On the way up you can take a look at our bells and see how they are rung.

Everyone able to climb a spiral staircase is welcome to join us for this event. * Just come to the church anytime between 4:00pm and 6:30pm on Saturday, 30th June and our guides will take you to the top of the tower roof.

*Please Note: access all the way to the roof will be subject to weather conditions and restricted to those aged 16 and over. Under 16's are welcome to climb up to the ringing room and to see the bells. Last ascent will start at 6:30pm

A memory to treasure



Rose Hayward, Bishop Libby Lane and Lucy Mackay with families

Dear Diary,

Today I got confirmed and this is what Bishop Libby (the first woman bishop) said:

"You didn't choose God, God chose you"

"Don't let anyone stop you from believing in God because you are younger"

"Don't let anyone stop you from believing in God because you're a girl"

"God wanted me to be a bishop to show my faith, but you could be anything God wants you to be"

Love Rose xx

Tributes

Barbara Spencer

Barbara, one of three daughters, was born in Raby, on the Wirral, on 8th October 1927. Her father worked on a farm looking after the horses. The family moved to a small holding in Kelsall and her childhood was very happy - a wonderful country life on the top of the hill at Summer Bank, Willington.

After school Barbara worked as an assistant in various departments at Browns of Chester. With her natural flair and love of clothes she became a buyer for the business. She used to get previews of all the latest fashions and would love to socialise with friends at the local dances in these beautiful outfits. It was at the dances that Barbara met Ray who lived in Tattenhall. It must have been love as he would cycle or roller-skate the nine miles to see her after work and it was hard going getting up to Willington, known in those days as Little Switzerland.

They married in June 1950 and moved to their family home Westview, with views of Movanna and the Peckforton Hills. Family life was busy with their children, Graham and Sue, and Barbara's menagerie of pets: tropical fish, rabbits, guinea pigs, doves, ducks and the myna bird Charlie. Barbara's house wasn't posh but filled with God's creatures and friends - the door was always open and she wasn't even cross when Sue brought a pony into the kitchen because it was raining. During Graham and Sue's teenage years Barbara was an agony aunt to their friends, always ready to listen and not to judge. In later life Barbara was a devoted grandmother; she had endless patience and loved cooking for everyone, often whilst listening to her favourites, Daniel O'Donnell or Glenn Miller.

Barbara truly valued her family and friends and her caring and loving nature will always be remembered.

Jill Wilson

Jill was born in Chester in 1939, just a couple of weeks before war broke out. The family moved to Hilbre Bank at Alpraham and Jill went first to Bunbury School before moving onto Tilstone School. School days were a happy time for her and after school Jill went to secretarial college in Chester. Initially she worked for the Gas Board as a typist at the showrooms before moving onto Dewhurst, a clothing factory.

Jill first met David, her future husband, as childhood sweethearts when they were seven. They were married in March 1959 at Tilstone Fearnall and, remarkably, they celebrated their fifty ninth wedding anniversary this March with a family meal at The Dysart. The arrival of children, Sue and Simon, made family life a busy time. Jill's focus was the family, they always came first. She was able to combine caring for the family with working at the central kitchens in Nantwich cooking school dinners that were distributed to various schools and later she cooked at a number of schools in the area.

Brilliant family holidays were taken up and down the country: the Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Isle of Wight, Scotland and Cornwall. Jill and David didn't just see these holidays as quality family time but felt they provided the children with a good education and appreciation of the beautiful country they lived in. After the children left home, Ireland became a favourite destination as well as trips out to numerous National Trust properties. Jill loved to go out walking with David and the dogs. Jill had three schnauzers, all wonderful companions and very dear to Jill.

Jill was a good, loyal friend and she is greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Irene Hickie



Irene was born on 25 January 1918 and enjoyed an amazing hundred years of a life well lived.

Her early life was spent in Liverpool and like so many people of her generation her youth was affected by the war. Irene was very fashion conscious and glamorous, so even when out in Liverpool one evening in 1941 doing voluntary work, she was all dressed up. On her way home a bomb landed close knocking her off her feet. When she arrived home late and in tears, the tears were not of pain or fear but for the hole in her black suede gloves.

Irene married James and they had two sons, James and Peter. For herself, she tried hard and aimed high whether it be cooking,

cleaning, gardening or looking after the family. She was an awesome cook, baking legendary rhubarb and gooseberry pies and mince pies. When Peter moved to Australia mince pies were despatched every Christmas and, after having travelled for two months, were duly eaten whatever their state.

In 1972 they moved from Merseyside to Bunbury to take over the village newsagent which was then opposite The Nag's Head. Irene had great self-belief and worked very hard to navigate through the transition from home maker to working full time and establishing a new life in Bunbury. She made many lifelong friends here who she valued dearly. In 1985 they retired from the shop and it was around this time her two grandchildren were born. They have happy memories of gran sitting on her walker, shrieking with laughter whilst they whizzed her along Llandudno pier.

Irene was very smart with an amazing memory and she wasn't afraid to learn and keep on learning. She read the paper daily, incredibly still able to read without glasses at the age of 100. She had confidence that she could master most things, including using a computer, taught recently by her grandson, Joe.

After James (her husband) died, the support of family and friends in the village, and always keeping busy, helped her through. Her inherent optimism and determination combined with the support from James (her son), her many friends, carers and meals on wheels made living at home to such a grand age possible. She will be remembered for her positive attitude to life and for the love and inspiration she gave to family and friends.

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