

Link

For the parishes of Bunbury & Tilstone Fearnall



February
2017

One starts to get young at 60, then it's too late

Pablo Picasso

Winter in Bunbury

Will we see any snow this year?



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Who we are



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Community news

Congratulations to sisters **Esme** and **Mia Snape**, daughters of Sarah and Ben were baptised at St Boniface on Sunday 11 December.

Elliott

Conway, son of Simon and Cindy, flew all the way from Grand Cayman to be baptised at St Boniface on Sunday 18 December.



On 15 January, **Jack James Wilgose**, son of Simon and Amy, had a special



blessing at St Boniface, where his brother, daddy and grandfather were all baptised, having had his own christening at home in Australia.

John Etherington and Heather Murray were married at St Boniface on Friday 9th December.



All at St Jude's would like to thank those who took part in our first ever **Christmas Tree Festival** - it was a great success, many have said we must do it again. Fun was had by all those who decorated a tree - Bunbury WI, Calveley School, The

Tollemarche Arms, Alraham Social Committee, and the St Jude's Sunday school. A big thank you to those who sponsored a tree and/or came to the Carol Service with the Alraham Singers or the Christmas Cantata with the Grove Singers and Wybunbury School Choir. We've taken some lovely photos which will be made into Christmas cards and will go on sale next Christmas.



Bunbury Pudding Night is on Friday 17th February - tickets £10 for a two course meal including a tasting plate of 12 delicious puddings. Places limited to 80 tickets. Contact Lucy Munro for tickets 01829 260487. Cooks



keen to enter their favourite pudding in the Pudding Night Competition can contact Lucy. All entries are anonymous and you don't need to make 80 portions!

Art Journaling is a creative process using paints, stencils and other media to record our thoughts, feelings and experiences. Jo Whittall is holding an Art Journaling day on 4 March 10.00-4.00 St Philip's Church Lounge, Kelsall CW6 0SA. The theme will be prayer. Lunch of soup and bread is included. Contact Jo29@mackriell.me.uk Cost £15.

At last! We now have **high speed broadband** throughout the village.

Bunbury Gardening Club will have a talk on 'Bulbs' by Mike Cook on 21 February.



Home Fires News. Netflix have bought Home Fires, which ITV pulled the plug on. (We wonder what ITV did with all those jam jars that

irate viewers sent in?) PBS will be showing the second series in the USA in Spring, the first series having taken the USA by storm. Will Netflix commission more series?

Tilly's hosted a Christmas meal for the **Friday at Tilly's** group in December. They provided a fabulous three



course meal for 43 people, with mulled wine, matching staff Christmas T-shirts, a stand-up routine by John Barlow, and much good cheer. Kevin Baker was presented with a plaque acknowledging the group's gratitude to Tilly's for all it does for the older people in the community.

Bunbury WI will have a talk by Sue Leicester on Seven Ages of Woman on 9 February in the Pavilion at 7.30pm. Visitors are most welcome.

The next meeting of **The Card Making Group** will be at the church on Tuesday 7 February. To avoid darkness the revised time is 1pm to 3pm. It is free, with tea, coffee and biscuits. All are welcome. There are some lovely cards available for purchase in the church.

Congratulations and prayers for **Abby** (Youth Worker) and **Stephen Cooper's** new **baby girl**, born 22 January weighing 8lbs 5oz.



Our prayers for February

We pray for all who are ill, especially **Hazel Wilkinson, Jenny Brooks, and Judy Morris**. We also pray for all who are mourning a loved one, including the families of **Leslie Johnson, Mary Wright, Chris White** and **Phyllis Elizabeth Wilson**.

The copy deadline for the March edition of the Link is Friday 10 February. The magazine should be in church: Friday 24 February.

TIM HAYWARD Your Vicar



I expect you know the old joke about the difference between heaven and hell.

In heaven, all the police are British. All the cooks are French. All the technicians are German. The lovers are Italian. And the administrators are Swiss. But hell - now hell is another story. In hell, all the roles go to the wrong people. The police are German, the cooks are British, the technicians are French, the lovers are Swiss, and everything is run by the Italians.

And I expect a good number of you were once in a youth group. And if it's anything like any youth group I've ever known, one night the youth group leader got you to do the long-handled spoon exercise. You remember: you each tie a spoon to a broom handle, and then see how long it takes a table full of young people to work out how to eat the bowl of soup that's in front of them. The answer, of course, is that they can't, and everyone goes hungry. But what they can do is each feed the person opposite them across the table. And when they work that out, everyone gets a good meal. Then the youth leader steps up and says that hell is like everyone trying to feed themselves with a four-foot long spoon. Heaven is when we realise we can only eat if we feed each other.

Now old jokes and tired youth group exercises only get to be clichés because there's a lot of truth in them. The trouble with clichés is that we've heard them so many times we no longer feel the force of them, the poignancy, the personal touch.

Heaven and Hell - Christian Unity Week

But these two stories, clichéd as they are, do pretty well to sum up the unity and the diversity of the church. The biggest obstacle to sharing the good news of God's love for all isn't doctrinal impurity - it's uniformity: it's assuming we all have to be the same.

To make the most of our time on earth, we need to remember the joke about the Italians being the lovers and the French being the chefs. We need to be as diverse as the Holy Spirit, as rainbow as heaven. Because God's creation of humankind isn't just diverse in race and gender, it's diverse in personality and affection and in passion and in disposition. But we must hold onto the broom-handle spoon exercise too. We need each other. God has given us the diversity we need to reach a diverse world. But the good news of the gospel is that God has made a church that isn't full of people just like us. That's the gift and the call of ecumenism. Somehow to realise we can't get to heaven on our own.

There's one more story that you'll all know. It's about the Christians who went for a briefing at the pearly gates before entering into heaven. "Shhh. Don't disturb that lot of Christians over there," St Peter told them. "It's too painful to break their illusion. If they see you it'll spoil it for them. You see, they think they're the only ones here."

Lent 2017 - Gifts of the Passion

On the Wednesday evenings of Lent last year, Rev Mike Rogers led a series of reflections on the Lord's Prayer which included a period of silence for contemplative prayer and the saying of the ancient Office of Compline. We plan to do something very similar this year, using, as a topic the Gifts of the Passion.

We are all very familiar with the significance of the gifts presented by the Wise Men, the gold, the frankincense and the myrrh, but the significance of the gifts given during Holy Week, the Donkey, the Fragrant Oil, the Upper Room, the Cross and the Tomb is less obvious. In this year's

series of reflections, Mike will explore what these gifts have to say to us today.

As before, the sessions will last about half an hour and will be held in the various churches around Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall. You are most welcome to join us.

Lent Course dates

Wed 8th March, 7.30pm - St Boniface
Wed 15th March, 7.30pm - Calveley
Wed 22nd March, 7.30pm - Methodist Chapel
Wed 29th March, 7.30pm - St Jude's
Wed 5th April, 7.30pm - St Boniface



Eric Wallington

Reader Emeritus

What makes us human? Not ours to see!

The future is not generally ours to see, but I suppose that a lot of us spend quite a lot of time looking into it - sometimes in great anticipation, but probably more often with some foreboding. Don't do it!

Jesus is, for us, our shining example. He, more than anyone else had cause to worry, for he could see the future agony of the 'Passion'. Yet he went on, calmly, steadily accomplishing one day's work at a time - never hurrying, never worrying, but never wasting God-given time.

In the boat, one stormy night in Galilee, the Disciples woke Jesus, in terrible fear. Jesus calmed the storm - but there is no record of the bewildered crew thanking Jesus - rather, they worried all the more,

because Jesus had worked a miracle, but they didn't have a clue how he had done it!

Fear, as we know, helps to whiten the hair, tear the nerves to shreds - and keeps the cardiologists in business! And so we are encouraged to let God take the strain to offload the worry and fear, time after time.

Worry is like a pernicious weed that keeps re-growing. We pull up as much of it as we can, but, so often, a portion of the root remains. However, there seems little doubt that knocking the habit of worrying helps to make for an exciting life. St Matthew's gospel gives us the answer in chapter six - 'So, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own.' Today's trouble is enough for today!

Church diary for February

Wednesday 1 February	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Sunday 19 February	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Worship 10.30am Family Worship 11.00am Matins with choir 6.00pm Evensong	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley St Boniface
Sunday 5 February	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Communion (with Sunday school) 10.30am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley	Wednesday 22 February	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 8 February	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Sunday 26 February	9.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface
Sunday 12 February	9.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface	Wednesday 1 March	10.00am Ash Wednesday Holy Communion with Ashing	St Boniface
Wednesday 15 February	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Sunday 5 March	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Communion (with Sunday school) 10.30am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley



Pat Edgley Ellis

Reader

Show us the way to go home

Travelling by train, you can relax - the driver knows the way, there is a definite track to follow.

But by car it's a different matter.

It's so easy to miss the signs, to take a wrong turning.

Google maps and Sat Nav can let you down.

And on the mountain path, when the mist comes down, and the marker stones disappear, we could do with a guide to lead us safely back.

Our whole life is a journey of twists and turns and surprises, not all of them pleasant.

We can feel very much on our own, and vulnerable.

Who knows what the future holds?

But unlike the walker on the hills, or the Sat Nav follower, we do have a trustworthy guide, One who will walk with us, keep

us on track and support us wherever we go, and whatever life throws at us.

*Father, you lead us by ways we do not know,
Through joy and sorrow, by paths as yet untrodden,
Perils unknown, and events beyond our understanding.*

*Give us faith to go out with good courage,
Not knowing where we are going,
But only that your hand is leading us
And your love supporting us,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.*





Women's World Day of Prayer

We are inviting people of all ages to the Women's World Day of Prayer service at St. Boniface Church. It is a worldwide interdenominational service taking part on **Friday 3rd March**. Mums, please bring your toddlers, there will be activities for the toddlers. Men are very much welcome at the service and lunch.

The theme of this year's service is: "Am I being unfair to you?". The painting to the right is by Rowena Laxamana-Sta Rosa. Rowena says about her painting:

"God gave the Philippines abundant resources both human and material. God is the great provider and provision for all creation. This is God's display of economic justice in contrast to the economy where the strong and powerful take God's resources for themselves and their families. The kingdom of God provides for all even those who do not acknowledge it". However, the Philippines are subjected to a high incidence of typhoons and earthquakes, averaging 20 per year. There have been more severe typhoons in the last decade with Typhoon Haiyan hitting the islands in 2013. A category 5 super-typhoon, Haiyan



was the most severe storm ever recorded to hit land and it claimed thousands of lives.

It is a fascinating country and we will be able to gain an insight into how life is for these women as well as thinking more about the theme.

Filipino Mini Muffins with Coconut



INGREDIENTS

100g softened butter
100g caster sugar
2 eggs
Tin (397g) condensed milk
½ teaspoon vanilla extract
200g desiccated coconut
80g plain flour

This mixture makes approximately 48 mini (or 24 ordinary) muffins.

METHOD

Pre-heat oven to 350F (180C, gas 6).
Line a mini muffin tin with mini muffin paper cases. In a bowl, cream butter using a hand mixer on low speed. Add sugar and beat together until well blended and fluffy. Add eggs one at a time beating continuously. Add condensed milk and vanilla extract - mix well.

In a medium bowl, combine flour and desiccated coconut, then add to the egg mixture.

Mix all ingredients together. Scoop into the mini-muffin cases. Bake for 15 to 20 mins or until golden.

Please join us for (all or some) of the following:

10:45 am WELCOME CAFÉ with cakes from the Philippines

11:30 am Service lead by Rev. Christine Dutton (Methodist Minister)

Followed by bring and share lunch...soup, bread and cheese will be provided. Please bring some dessert or £2 donation.

For more information, please contact: Debbie Shears:

Tel: 01829 260707

Email: akaroanz@hotmail.com

Change at Calveley Coal



Graham Wilson writes: The owner of the business, my father Ken Wilson, sadly passed away last year and so the land at Calveley had to be sold. I made the decision to continue serving my customers, however, this meant that we had to relocate further afield. Calveley Coal will continue to trade with myself working hands-on

serving my customers on a daily basis with J Harrison and Sons. We have been operating from the Milton base (in Stoke) since October 2016, and so far it's going really well. The land has been sold to JS Bailey, the cheese factory that sits opposite the Coal Yard.

JS Bailey have kindly agreed to take on the full collection service, including: sealed bags of house coal and smokeless fuels, sticks and kiln dried logs, all at competitive prices.

Calveley Coal has been at Calveley Coal Yard since 1987. We provide a wide range of fuels from house coals, from Britain, and others that are imported from around the world; to smokeless fuels including the popular Excel. All fuels are delivered free of charge in either 20kg pre-packed sealed bags or the traditional 50kg open sack. We also stock a wide range of Multi fuel stoves, including DEFRA approved models, and all the replacement parts and fireside accessories.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my customers for standing by me during this period of change. Myself, and Harrisons, promise to maintain the high standard of service you have received from Calveley Coal. We wish you all the best for the upcoming year.

Bill Corn of Bunbury - now a Chevalier in the Ordre national de la Legion d'honneur

On Friday 20 January, friends, family and members of the Bunbury branch of the Royal British Legion gathered at the Dysart Arms to support and enjoy the appointment of Bill Corn as a Chevalier in the Ordre national de la Legion d'honneur, in recognition of the part he played in the liberation of France and particularly the D-Day landings in June 1944.

As soon as he was old enough, Bill volunteered to join the 8th Battalion of The Cheshire Regiment in May 1940 and he was based Harrowby Drill Hall in Birkenhead. Sadly, the 8th Battalion never got to full strength, so it was disbanded and Bill found himself in the Kings Liverpool Regiment and on a draft to go to the Far East.

A damaged knee not only frustrated his wish to join the Parachute Regiment, it also made him unfit for service in the Far East and although it must have been frustrating at the time, it probably saved his life, for many of his mates never made it back from that theatre.

As is the way with the Army, because he could drive, Bill was transferred from the Kings Liverpool to the Royal Army Service Corps and he spent the next few years ferrying supplies all over the United Kingdom.

June 1944 saw him ready to go ashore on Juno beach alongside the Canadians which, according to Bill was a bit of luck, because the Canadians had better food.

He actually went ashore on D-Day+4 and when Bill was talking about his experiences and surrounded by memorabilia, he outlined what it was actually like - lots of shouting and noise. Bill stayed with the Canadians until Caen was taken and he then spent the rest of the war driving with the advancing forces up through France and on into Germany, ending up in Stettin which was on the Baltic coast in the Russian Zone.

In the course of his travels, Bill saw some harrowing sights - he took part in transporting some of the inmates of the Ravensbruck women's concentration camp after the liberation of that awful place as well as inmates from the infamous Belsen concentration camp when he was attached to the Field Ambulance Service.

Bill came home in 1946 and a quick glance at his medals will show that he has the 1939-45 Star, the France and Germany Star, the Defence Medal, the War Medal and the Canadian Normandy Medal.

On the other side, Bill proudly wears his father's medal from the Boer War and in his pocket, is a treasured memento, the watch that he carried throughout his war service.

His appointment was carried out by Group Captain the Reverend Mike Rogers OBE RAF (retired), President of the Bunbury branch of the RBL Saying "And now Bill, it is a great honour for me, on behalf of the President of France and the people of France to be able to pin the Legion d' Honneur to your chest, as a mark of gratitude and in recognition of the part you played in France and the French nation regaining its freedom from oppression in the dark days of the 1940's."



Bunbury Christmas round-up



Calveley Christmas gift

The congregation at Calveley decided to make a contribution of food and special treats for Christmas to the Nantwich Foodbank. They had previously given generously at the Harvest Thanksgiving Service. The Foodbank covers Nantwich, Crewe and the surrounding area and is run by the Trussel Trust, helping many families especially on a short term basis, as it sometimes takes several weeks for the benefits to come through. At the first Service in December the church was beautifully festive with decorations made especially by Kath Roden and her team. The congregation made a great contribution of about 1cwt (50kg) of goods and treats for the festive season. Dorothy Donald took this to the Trust's depot, where the donation was received with genuine delight and followed up with a lovely letter of thanks from the Manager.



Boxing Day High Tea 2016

Following in the footsteps of Rev. Denise, the Pastoral Visiting Team organised a tea party on Boxing Day for those known to them to be on their own over Christmas. This was held in Bunbury Methodist Chapel. Eleven people attended and transport was arranged for those who needed it. The team provided endless cups of tea and coffee, seasonal finger food and a quiz (organised and hosted by Chris Green). The quiz produced plenty of laughs and the event was very enjoyable. We were also blessed with assistance of some family members bringing the total number of helpers to 11.

We would like to thank the Methodist Church for allowing us to use their facilities and for all those who donated food or helped in any way.



Bunbury Parish Council Highways Issues - Speeding

During the various surveys that were conducted for the Village Plan and the Neighbourhood Plan many residents expressed concern about speeding and the lack of parking in Bunbury. With both plans now fully adopted the Parish Council began to consider speeding and parking during the latter part of 2016. In order to gain some evidence about how much speeding there was, and at what level, we asked Cheshire East Council Highways Department to arrange for speed monitoring equipment to be installed on Bunbury Lane, Vicarage Lane and School Lane. We couldn't monitor the whole village but we were able to get a snapshot of speeding activity on our main through routes. The monitoring took place over a typical period of seven days, not during school holidays, when the village could be expected to be as busy as it ever gets. The results told us we don't have a big problem, but we do have a low level problem with a minority regularly ignoring the 30mph limit and with occasional higher levels of speed that could be considered dangerous. The overall average speed in the village during the seven-day period was 26.3mph, the highest average speeds were 36mph. Over the period the percentage of drivers exceeding 30mph on Bunbury Lane and School lane was 31% and on Vicarage Lane 18.2%. So in some places we have almost a third of drivers ignoring the speed limit albeit by about six miles per hour or less.

The more serious levels of speeding are fortunately much lower in frequency. On an average day on School Lane, 121 people drove at speeds between 35 and 40mph and 18 people drove at speeds between 40 and 45mph, from an average daily total of 1,885 vehicle trips, so 6% and 1% respectively. On Bunbury Lane 107 people drove at speeds between 35 and 40mph and 16 drove at speeds between 40 and 45 mph, from an average of 1,729 vehicle trips, 6% and 1% respectively. Vicarage Lane was better with 42 people driving between 35 and 40 and 7 between 40 and 45mph, from 1,314 vehicle trips, 3% and 0.5% respectively. On an average day six people drove in excess of 50mph on Bunbury Lane and four on School Lane. You can see a more detailed analysis of the results on the Village Website (<http://www.bunburyvillage.info>).

There are many ways to prevent and reduce speeding, including remodelling roads by introducing chicanes, narrowing roads with priority lanes, changing road surfaces and installing speed bumps. Other ways include using road side objects such as village gates or walls on verges, set at right angles to the road, to let people know they are entering a residential area. Additional signage can include vehicle operated speed signs, speed limit signs on posts and on the road surface and speed cameras, permanent or

temporary. The Parish Council believes that some of these methods would drastically alter the character of the village in the places where they were applied. So at this stage we are only considering the potential of vehicle operated signing, where the sign indicates your speed, and road side village gates on some verges near the entrances to the village. We have purchased a portable speed gun and Cheshire Police have agreed to train a small number of residents to operate it, so that we can run a community speed watch scheme. If you would like to volunteer as an operator contact the Parish Council Clerk (details below), or if you want to join in the debate on speeding or parking contact the clerk by email or letter with your views, or come along to a Parish Council meeting. These are usually held on every second Wednesday of the month and there is a public forum at the start of the meeting, at 7.20pm, where you can air your views. More on parking later in the year.

Please remember 30mph is not a target it's a maximum!

Parish Council Clerk contact details:

Marilyn Houston,
8 Brooklyn Street,
Crewe,
CW2 7JG
email: bunburyclerk@aol.com



Elena's Painting Class displays flying colours

Elena Maria Roman's watercolour painting class at the village hall enters its second term with flying colours and around 18 students. Having tackled a broad range of subjects last term, this year started with winter landscapes, shortly to be followed by London scenes and spring bulbs. Classes are held from 1-4pm on Thursday afternoons. If you are interested in joining the group contact Debbie Shears tel: 01829 260707 shearsdebbie@gmail.com or elenamariaroman@gmail.com For more information please visit www.elenamariaroman.co.uk



Give us two minutes... Lucy Oates



Lucy Oates originally hails from Londonderry in Northern Ireland, she moved to England to go to university in Bournemouth where she met her husband. After getting married they relocated to Manchester and lived there for seven years before deciding to take the plunge and leave the city in search of the country life. They stumbled across

Bunbury and fell in love with it instantly and have lived here for just under two years. Lucy is a PR consultant, mother to a lively one year old and has joined the Link's production team. She is also in the process of renovating the cottage in their garden into Bunbury's first Airbnb!

If you had a motto, what would it be?

Work hard and be nice to people.

It's a celebrity beer call - who would you like to invite?

James Corden, because he would make the night lots of fun, Kirstie Allsopp because she and I really should be best friends and Mary Berry so there would be lots of cake!

What would you call your autobiography?

'It'll be grand'

What was your first job?

Oh this is embarrassing...I was an elf at my local shopping centres' Santa Grotto!

What would you change about Bunbury, if you could?

Have better mobile phone reception.

What is the best book you have read to date?

The Chronicles of Narnia - The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe - I can't wait to read them with my son when he's old enough.

What is your biggest regret?

That I didn't learn the piano when I was a kid.

If you were granted one wish, what would it be?

That both my husband's and my families lived a bit closer.

What is one thing people would be surprised to learn about you?

Ha! That I was once (accidentally I must add) blacklisted from the USA!

What would you like to achieve most over the next 12 months?

Get Garden Cottage, our short-term holiday let and Airbnb, up and running. It's something I've always wanted to do, so it's exciting I finally now have the opportunity.

What is your favourite place and why?

Fanad Head in Donegal, off the North Coast of Ireland. My family have a holiday cottage there and to me it's the most beautiful place in the world, filled with magical childhood memories.

How would you spend your ideal weekend?

Start with a lie in and breakfast in bed followed by a long country walk with my little family, a pub lunch and then curled up in the evening in front of the fire with a glass of wine. (Mary Berry would also be there to provide cakes whenever needed!)

Parish Council News

Cllr Michael Jones attended the January meeting, advising on important legal matters etc. An inscribed tankard was sent to Brian Dykes, in December, marking his long service. The Bonfire night costs broke even. A decision was taken, in December, to use the old playground site for additional village parking. Planning for a development in Oak Gardens was refused by Cheshire East, as it did not comply with the Neighbourhood Plan. As we go to press, an Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting is being held on 25 January, in the Pavilion to discuss plans about the possible development of 12 houses adjacent to the Medical Centre. The village notice boards were renewed, at a cost of £820, with a large contribution from Village Day. Christmas Tree Carols raised £258.30 which was given to Tarporley Hospital. No other Village celebrates in this way. North West Air Ambulance were given a £100 donation, they responded to three emergencies in Bunbury last year. The Parish Council precept will be kept at the same level. High Speed Broad band is now installed in the village. Rev. Tim has found a matchstick model of the church, in the cellar, it is believed to be more than 100 years old. He will have it restored. The Parish Council recently interviewed resident, Chris Green, for the outstanding vacancy on the council. His application was approved, welcome on board Chris.

The Parish Council wishes you a Happy New Year!

Parish Council Press Officer (Leila Potter).

A date for your 2017 diary:

***Our Annual Sponsored Family Fun Run,
Walk or Cycle***

Track distance: 2.7 miles

How far can you go?

In aid of St Peter's Church, Little Budworth

At: Oulton Park Racing Circuit, CW6 9BW

Date: Sunday 19th February 2017

Times:

'Church in the Pits': 11am

Track open: 12 noon

Last start: 3.30pm



**Minimum sponsorship of £10 for adults
£5 for Under 12s**

A great day for all the family!

For more details and sponsorship forms visit:

www.stpeterslittlebudworth.co.uk

Tel: 01829 760 604

Christopher White – accountant and Bunbury Mill supporter



Christopher (Chris) was born in 1953 in Eastham on the Wirral. The family had moved up from Bristol, his father was an engineer and lecturer and his mother a ballet dancer. Chris had an elder sister, Susan, and theirs was a happy childhood. He went to school in Eastham and Neston and then moved on

to Wirral Grammar School. Chris was an all-rounder excelling both academically and as a sportsman.

After school Chris went to college to train as an accountant. He was excellent at his job, very thorough and trustworthy. Chris spent most of his

career working for an accountancy firm in Liverpool before becoming self-employed about ten years ago when he moved to Bunbury after his father died.

Chris loved football, a keen supporter of Everton, and when he lived at Port Sunlight he would regularly watch Tranmere Rovers.

Although a reserved and private person, Chris became actively involved in village life; as a volunteer at Bunbury Mill and in his role as treasurer for the Village Day Committee. His enthusiasm and support were greatly appreciated.

Chris was very knowledgeable about all kinds of things and he will be remembered as a good friend, a thoroughly nice man with an engaging dry sense of humour.

Lillian Mary Wright – a passion for horses

Lillian Mary Moss (Mary) was born 81 years ago. Whilst unbeknown to Mary, she met her future husband, Vernon Wright, when they were fellow pupils at school. Mary had “caught his eye”, not only at school but also at the local Pony Club competitions where they competed against each other. Mary was a great horsewoman and had a lifelong passion for horses.



In 1956 Mary married Vernon and moved to Yew Tree Farm, Haughton which became her family home for many years. Mary loved this part of Cheshire and often said, “you can go as far as you like, but as long as you can still see the castle!”

Alan and Susan were born in 1957 and 1959 and family life on the farm was busy. Many happy hours were spent cooking, baking cakes and making jam. Mary liked nothing more than to share these with her family and friends. She loved her role as Nan and was lucky to be able to share in the lives of both her grandchildren

and great grandchildren. Mary’s kindness will be remembered by many: she always had a smile and a brew for the workers on the farm and was often visiting her ladies in Haughton and further afield when they went to live in residential homes.

Mary had a strong determination and an iron will – whether it was on horseback, or pushing Vernon in his wheel chair, or surviving her brain haemorrhage in 2013. Her strength was a support and inspiration to all. She will be remembered for her positive attitude to life and for the love and inspiration she gave to family and friends.



Leslie Johnson – photographer and radio ham

Leslie was born on the Wirral and was any only child, as sadly his elder brother had died. After leaving school he worked in photography, in the days of black and white film.

Leslie married his first wife, Doreen, in his twenties, and then Patricia, his second wife, in 1987. Leslie met Patricia whilst they were both working as security officers at Manchester Airport. They spent their early years of married life living in Cheadle Hulme. They both loved to travel, visiting many places including Jerusalem, Egypt, Italy and Sicily.

New jobs brought them to Cheshire as Leslie worked for the Post Office in

charge of Quality Control at the Chester Sorting Office, and Patricia was housekeeper at Bolesworth. Sadly, after several years Leslie developed health problems and had to retire due to ill health. Then, on one cold, dark night Leslie and Patricia decided to move to Sicily; where they lived for three and a half years before moving back to the UK. Leslie's passion was as a Radio Ham - his call sign was "G4MX" - and he spoke to people all over the world. His love of the radio and interest in computers kept him going, but sadly ill health took over in the end.

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