



Explorers win on the tables

On March 17th Bunbury Explorers group put on a fund-raising casino night in the Village Hall, after spending several meetings learning silver service and croupier skills. The event was a great success, with a gourmet supper and an auction which alone raised a much-needed £1000. Well done to all those involved, especially the leaders. As if that wasn't enough the next morning the Explorers were out packing bags in Nantwich



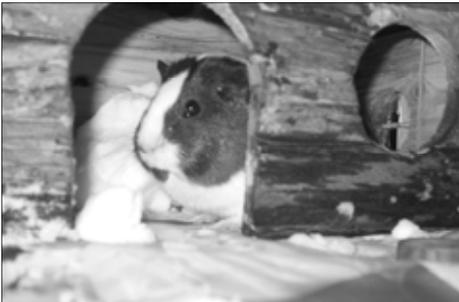
Sainsburys for which generous customers donated another £1000.



Happy Birthday Rick

Rick Gates, our vicar extraordinaire, celebrates his 60th birthday on 4th April. Many happy returns!

Cheshire surprised by March snow



Nibbles the guinea-pig surveys the snow outside her log cabin while hardy children make their way up the path to St.Judes Church



New Surgery started

The bulldozers finally moved into the new site on Vicarage Lane in mid-March to begin work on the long-awaited new doctors surgery. Work will take the best part of a year so it should be operational by next spring.

Sadlers Wells Wood takes shape

Following our report in last month's Link, two hundred metres of stock-proof fencing have been installed to mark the boundary of the new plantation. It consists of eight hundred native hardwood trees (well protected from bunnies) and nearly half of them are oaks grown from Bunbury acorns. The rest are ash, lime and wild cherry.

Contents

- Let in the light this Easter 3
- But why? - Johnny 4
- Easter workshops 4
- Bunbury School 5
- Reflections on a window 6
- Did Leonardo get it right? 7
- Charities and Chico 8
- St Judes 9
- Tribute to Dick Hallett 10

Tarporley School Ball

Saturday 13th May 2006

Chester Town Hall

Champagne reception and 4 course gourmet meal

Live music

Auction and raffle including 5 star holiday for 2 in the Bahamas

Tickets £40

Details: from Tarporley School
01829 732558

Tickets selling fast

Agape meal at St.Boniface Church - 13th April, 7pm

Parish Link is produced for all in the parishes of Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall

Nature notes from Cornwall.....

Sue Netherton, who used to write Nature Notes, has sent this account of the wildlife close to where she lives.

I am taking you on a short journey from Looe to my home two miles inland. Just now I'm overlooking the confluence of the East and West Looe rivers with the wooded hills behind which is a paradise for birds: among their notes those of the great tit, chiff-chaff, robin and wren are especially conspicuous. It is late afternoon and the tide is out, leaving the mud flats exposed and just the river channels with water. Apart from the black-backed and herring gulls, there are swans and many mallard ducks. On the far bank, a couple of herons stand like sentinels under the heronry in the oak trees. The cormorants will be back when the tide comes in. I'm hoping to spot a curlew but no luck today.

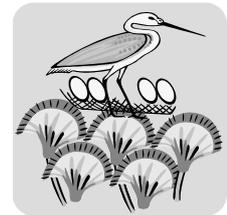
I'm travelling up the East Looe Valley. The river is tidal for quite a way and I can see many of the same birds but I've just spotted a couple of shell ducks. Two miles on and I've turned left to cross the East Looe via a causeway. This is a good place to view estuarine birds. There are little egrets, three in total, a small white heron-like bird that is firmly established in Cornwall with numbers increased even while

we've been here. There is also a heron and - yes! I've seen a redshank, a small wading bird.

I'm driving up a steep hill now along a narrow lane where in summer you can see yellowhammers in the open fields. The banks are covered with primroses - spring-time's harbinger. A cock pheasant sends out a warning cry and sets off the others in the valley. The visitors to the birdfeeders are similar to those seen in Bunbury but we'll see more greater spotted woodpeckers plus nuthatches, goldfinches and marsh tits. I have not seen a starling, siskin or a fieldfare at Polteana. Wrens here are numerous and I also see the occasional goldcrest and bullfinch. They are all getting very vocal now as they seek out a mate and are busy making nests and in some cases sitting on eggs.

The swallows should be arriving soon and I'll have to listen out for the first cuckoo.

Sue Netherton



The Reverend RICK GATES The Vicarage, Bunbury	01829 260991
Rick's e-mail: Rick@prayer.fsnet.co.uk	
The Reverend Jane Stephenson (parish curate)	250249
Peter and Kath Collinge (pastoral support)	260077
St Boniface	
Churchwardens:	Barbara Croley 260344
	Walter Done 01244 332563
Youth Worker	Johnny Gillett 260680
Secretary	Jill Robey 260081
Flowers	Margaret Bourne 260944
St. Jude's	
Churchwardens:	Bob Gardner 260555
	Ann Latham 260488
Secretary	Carolyn Johnson 260703
Organist	Ann Badrock 260343
Calveley	
Churchwardens:	Barbara Croley 260344
	Walter Done 01244 332563
Organist	John Batchelor 261056
Committee contact	Wendy Peacock 01270 214292

SWP ELECTRICS LTD

- SOCKET LIGHTS REWIRES •
- TESTING AND INSPECTION OF PROPERTIES •

NO JOB TOO SMALL, WE DO THEM ALL

- PROMPT RELIABLE SERVICE
- FREE ESTIMATES
- REFERENCES AVAILABLE

Tel **01829 781736** or **01928 740237**

Stephen Warburton
SWP Electrics
Common Lane, Duddon, Tarporley CW6 0HG



BSI PART P DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL INSTALLER APPROVED

SOVEREIGN WINDOWS



**TEL : PHILIP
STUBBS
01829
260166**

**HIGH SECURITY INTERNALLY GLAZED
WINDOWS OF QUALITY
FULLY GUARANTEED FOR 10 YEARS**

Sovereign Windows Established 1984



Nicola Roberts, expert in
curtains and soft furnishings

Tel: **01829 262464** or **07903 825837**
Ivy House, Alraham, Tarporley, Cheshire

**Delamere
Garden
Services**



01606 882708 or 07746 452154

Free advice, no obligation

Let the light in this Easter?

“Blessed are those who are cracked for they shall let in the light.”

You could struggle through the Bible trying to find where that particular text comes from - well it comes from 'The Book of 'T- Shirts', verse 7.

You see I was looking for a gift which was interesting but not too expensive so we decided upon a T- shirt.

Maybe a bit perverse, but at the time I was really thinking about Easter, and about the nature of gift that Easter brought me:

‘On the first day of the week just as day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to the tomb. Suddenly the earth reeled and rocked under their feet as God’s angel came down and stood where they were standing. The angel rolled back the huge stone that sealed the tomb. Shafts of lighting blazed from the angels clothes. The guards were scared to death and were literally petrified. Then the angel spoke. “There is nothing to fear, I know you are looking for Jesus, the one they nailed to the cross. He is not here, He was raised from the dead just as He said. Come and look at the place where He was placed”. Matthew 28 vs 1ff

Clearly what had happened here was that Jesus had been raised from the dead, which made it the first Easter morning. I know the story well: it was an event for which I am eternally grateful. But there was something new for me after all these years.

It was that the angel had apparently rolled the stone away from the tomb not to let Jesus **out**, but to allow the witnesses of the resurrection **in**. It was like a light, first dawning in the lives of the two Marys, then the guards, then the high priests who had posted the guards - the guards who were there to stop any rumour that Jesus could have ‘risen’ from the dead.

The guards, terrified, ran back to the high priests to report that the rumour had become reality - Jesus really had risen from the dead. What better evidence than that of the sceptical guards?

That’s the old story, but what has Easter and the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus to do with us today?

For me, it is that Jesus Christ died for me, personally. If I’d

been the only person in the world he would still have died for me. And now my ‘gift of a job’ is to tell others about Jesus Christ.

A few weeks ago in a sermon I talked about the awful dangers of changing the outside to heal the inside and used a slimming club as an example. I then read this which I have adapted from John Bell of the Iona Community.

“There was a slimming club which you could only join if you weighed over twenty stones. The rules were: abject honesty; the members would admit to eating when they should not have; they would try to arrive at their target weight within six months; and for every excess pound, offenders would pay a penalty of £1.

They started with great enthusiasm, but as the months went on, willpower began to wane. In the beginning all thirty of them had spoken seriously about their excesses, temptations and failures. As the months went on, although still admitting to their failures they began to take it more casually and even joked about their misdemeanours. Then the day of reckoning came. They all stood on the scales and discovered just how far or near they were from the ideal.

When all the excess pounds were added up, it was discovered that among them they would have to pay a penalty of £1,500. They stood around looking at one another wondering who would be first to write a cheque for their proportion of the penalty.

Then there came into the room a man they all knew of, but never expected to arrive in their midst. He was very thin, the thinnest man in the village. He knew them all and named them.

‘Ann, Walter, Margaret, Jane, Bob, Barbara.....’ and then, with sad eyes, said, ‘Have you no idea what you are doing to yourselves?’ And then he emptied his life savings of £2,000 into the kitty and went out. Some people laughed at this. Some called him a fool.

And some people gave up over-eating for the rest of their lives.”

I was “cracked” but I let the light into my life and it changed me for ever.

Rick

God does not deal in waste

‘Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, “Why this waste of perfume?” ..and they rebuked her harshly. “Leave her alone” said Jesus, “She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you...But you will not always have me”’. (St Mark 14, 4-7).

Many find it hard to come to terms with the reference of Jesus to the poor. He came to heal the sick, showing his concern for the physically handicapped. But how about the financially deprived? His answer to the disciples of John (St Matthew 11,5) was simply “The poor

have good news brought to them”. Would that put food on their table? Or clothes on their backs? No, but it would show them how to live.

God knows that we all need food, drink and clothing but he tells us all “Strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well”.

There is a glorious “irrespectiveness” in Christ’s good news. The Gospel knows no bounds; the poor need, as we all do, to take the step of belief, and the rich to take the step of giving richly to those in need.

In the book of Acts, we get a glimpse of how faithfully the Church put the Gospel of Jesus into practice. ‘All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all as any need’. A waste? By no means!

Eric Wallington



Easter Workshops

This year, the *Kingdom Kids* team of St Boniface Church is offering two mornings of workshops during Holy Week in the church.

Smaller than our annual Holiday Club, these workshops will be limited to 30 children each morning. Using craft activities and fun drama sessions - as well as video, games and snacks - the sessions will emphasise the suspense and joy of Easter.

Each of the mornings will explore one half of the Easter story. We therefore recommend that children attend both sessions, but, we do appreciate that the holidays are a busy time. Please indicate then which sessions your child will attend on the Registration Form.

Monday 10 April 2006 - "The End?"

Theme: Jesus' Last Days?

Wednesday 12 April 2006 - "The Beginning!"

Theme: A surprising new start on that first Easter Sunday

Again, our activities are completely free of charge to you, although we would like you to consider a contribution to cover our costs.

The Easter Workshops are open to all in Primary School - Reception up to and including Year 6 - on a strictly first come, first served basis.

We look forward to welcoming your child there!

But why?

This is a question many young people ask and it is not always welcome. But such a question can be positive. It makes us consider those things we've always taken for granted. It makes us consider uncomfortable things, suggesting we may have got it wrong!

I write this article after a week or two of young people asking why and then making a difference. The other day, I heard of a ten year old girl asking the FA and the government why girls and boys cannot play football together after twelve years of age. I also become aware of Pro-Test, a campaign in support of animal testing led by a sixteen year old young man. You may not agree with these causes, but you certainly cannot call these young people apathetic.

And what about here in Bunbury?

At 'The Cross', some Year 9 students and I mocked up a trial with God in the dock - talk about taking it to the top! This was in response to their questions on how a loving God could send The Flood and fail to answer the millions of prayers in the world. This did not, however, become a session that relegated God to the ranks of the Tooth-fairy and Santa. Instead, the group surprised me by deciding on their own that they were blaming the wrong person - that much of this world's evil can be linked to Humanity's actions instead.

Our two students, Anna Russell-Jones and Sarah Plummer have also been meeting with some Year 7 girls at Tarporley High School. Having seen the clubs I have set up for Year 9 and Year 10, these girls have asked to start their own lunchtime club. They are working on the details now and by the time you read this their club should be up and running.

Well done Bunbury Cubs!

Pictured below are Bunbury cub scouts Ralph Elsegood and Joseph Kelly, both aged 10, who, as we reported last month, have been awarded the Chief Scout's Silver Award, the highest award for cubs. Also pictured is Joe's dad, Shaun, one of the leaders.



Joe, Ralph and the other cubs put in a stunning team performance at the annual district swimming gala, which took place on Saturday 11th March in Crewe. Not only did the team win the overall prize as the highest scoring team, but also won the cup for the most improved performance! Complete with two items of silverware. Highlight of the night was first prize for the freestyle relay (Joe, Ralph, Ellie Meredith and Sophie Caldwell).

Club15 is a place to meet up and chill out between homework and revision. There have been lots of ball games and some pool, but, in between, discussion over the way the group should be run. From nowhere, discussions moved on to Ireland's religious divisions and what it means to be a Christian. It became clear that there's a strong desire to discuss spiritual issues.

Anna and Sarah have been meeting up with young people in a variety of venues as well. They have chatted about all sorts of things, but have heard about our teenagers' longing to discuss the choices and pressures they face in life.

It is tempting to think that young people only want fun things to do. And it is true that they do want to have laugh and enjoy being together. But that's not all. As the news has recently shown and looking at these young people in Bunbury and Tarporley, there is a strong desire to look deeper, take on responsibility, ask why and bring changes to our world.

Johnny

Sainsburys are again offering Active Kids vouchers which schools can collect and exchange for sports equipment. Please put these in the collecting box in your local school. The equipment received through this scheme last year has made a real difference to playtimes and PE lessons.

News from Bunbury School

Bunbury School has said goodbye to an old friend this month, as tree surgeons came to cut down the yew tree which stood at the school gate. Sadly, in a recent safety review it was judged to be potentially unsound. Though the tree was over 100 years old, at some point in the past it had been lopped, resulting in a number of stems rather than one strong trunk. It was certainly creaky in strong winds!

Parents will miss its shelter from rain and sun as they wait for the end of school – but a new tree has been promised to take its place.

Lenten Boxes are now being filled by the children in their annual charity collection. There were many suggestions for worthy charities but the winners will be Project Rhino Charitable Trust and the Oncology Unit at Alder Hey Children's Hospital with a contribution to WorldVision's uniform appeal (see page 8).

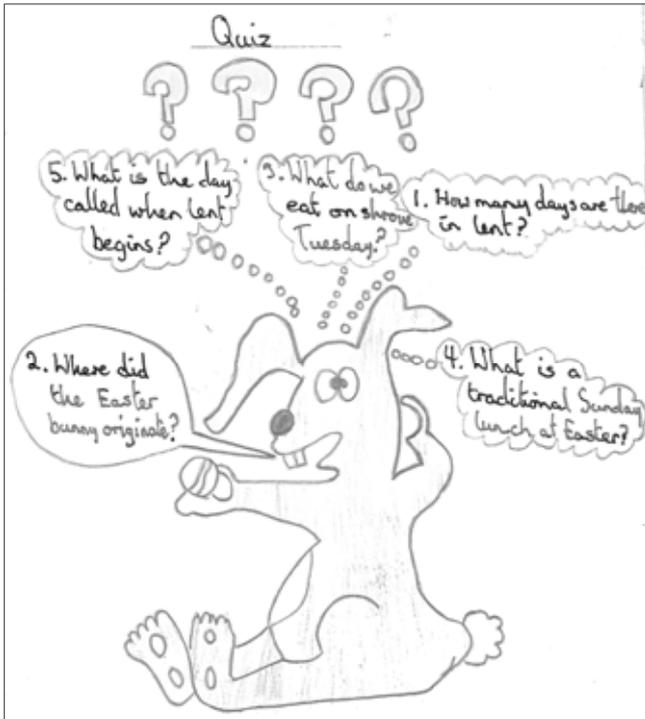
The photo shows Fiona, Imogen and Frances from year 2 enjoying World Book Day on March 2nd.

Copies of the Link magazine will now be available to pick up from the School library for any family which does not get a copy delivered.



Year 5 explores Easter traditions

Year 5 had a competition to produce the best booklet giving information and insights into Easter and its traditions. Richard Reeves won with his thoughtful Easter bunny quiz shown here.



Fun fact from Lorna, year 5:

According to Anglo-Saxon myth, Ostara, goddess of spring, wanting to delight some children one day, turned her pet bird into a rabbit. The rabbit proceeded to lay brightly decorated eggs.

Fun fact from Sara, year 5.

According to the Guinness book of records, the largest Easter egg was 8.32m high and weighed 1,950kg. 26 craftsmen worked for 525 hours to build the egg!

Joe (year 5) writes: "It is at Easter when Jesus was unfortunately nailed to the cross, but he did rise again".

Richard tells us:

The Easter bunny isn't a modern invention. The symbol originated in the pagan festival of Eastre. Eastre, the goddess, was worshipped by the Anglo-Saxons through her earthly symbol, the rabbit.

Sara tells us also that Easter lilies are used to decorate churches and homes. Large pure white blossoms remind Christians of the pure new life that comes to them through the resurrection of Jesus.

7 amazing days of fundraising

Christian Aid week (14-20 May 2006) is seven amazing days of fundraising, prayer and action against global poverty. Add your time, money and voice this week, and see them multiplied to make an impact throughout the world through Christian Aid. Christian Aid works in some of the world's poorest communities in more than 50 countries. They act where the need is greatest, regardless of religion, helping

people to tackle problems they face and build the life they deserve. At home and overseas, they campaign to change the structures that keep people poor, challenging inequality and injustice.

If you would like to help with this year's Christian Aid collection please contact Joyce Buxton on 01829 771182.

Skiing success for local girls

On the 28th January Alexa Clauson (pictured far right) and I (far left) went to Flaine in France to compete in the British Schoolgirls Ski Races. We competed in Slalom, Giant Slalom and Parallel Slalom. The latter is like a relay where two teams are on parallel slalom courses the first racer in each team starts and the second racer in each team can not start until the first person has crossed the line and the third racer can not start until the second person crosses the line. The winners are the ones who get all their team across the line first. Alexa went on behalf of the ski club Snowsports and I represented Abbey Gate College. 150 girls aged between 11 and 18 took part. Snowsports came 9th in the slalom but unfortunately a key member of the Abbey Gate team was ill so Abbey Gate College finished 23rd. I finished 6th in the slalom in my age group and 72nd overall. Alexa had never raced before but she finished 32nd in the slalom in her age group.

In the Giant Slalom I had a good first run finishing 12th in my age group but unfortunately fell on the second run and lost

about a minute recovering from the fall. Alexa completed both runs without falling and finished 38th in her age group. Snowsports finished a brilliant 17th but Abbey Gate did not do as well because two of our team members fell on the second run.



It was great fun for the adults supporting, as well as us competing. This is the second time I have been to the Races and both years have been equally impressive and enjoyable. So a big thank-you to all the parents who came to support us, without them it would have been impossible. Also thank-you to Snowsports ski club who train us on a Wednesday evening. Matthew Clauson, Sophie

Caldwell and Alex Caldwell are also part of Snowsports ski club so hopefully we can all carry on ski-racing as we all really enjoy it. Going to Flaine was a great experience and I hope that I can continue to compete there and at other places for a lot longer.

Georgina Gardner Stockley.

Reflections on a window

Have you seen the new Ridgeway window in the Ridley Chapel yet? At first glance, it shows Jesus ascending into heaven, surrounded by splashes of colour. A second glance reveals many small details – the splashes of colour are mini-rainbows, signifying the covenant made between man and God after Noah and the Flood, now overtaken by the new covenant wrought by Jesus' death. And what are the little balls, which Jesus seems to be juggling? Splashes of water, indicating baptism and new life? Glimpses into heaven? Glimpses through the window into the world outside the church perhaps, linking the divine with the everyday? The spiky black edges to the window remind us of the crown of thorns Jesus wore at his crucifixion, yet the lightness of the window testifies to his resurrection and ascension. What seems to be a simple picture is in fact a complex and meaningful one – just like Jesus himself, a simple man but a complex and meaningful one, a man who is also God and a whole world of love.

Alex Sanders

New All Age Service at St Boniface

The first new style All Age Service took place on 19th February (third Sunday in the month) and, true to its name, there was something for everyone.

Rick stood on a pew for his talk, there were lots of visual aids and chocolate! The children joined in where they could or attempted word searches and colouring sheets given out before the service with prizes for completed sheets at the end. The readings and prayers were led by families from the church and all enjoyed the hymns, some with actions. On March 19th the service was led by Jane and the talk by Johnny involved drama from a group of children.

Why not join us? Watch out for the next one in May - check notice boards for details. These are lovely, all-inclusive services which last about 45 minutes, after which why not stay for coffee, cakes and a chat?

Sue Melia

Bunbury Young Christians
Relive the excitement of
Cinderella 2005!
Double DVD in presentation case
Only £10

Special Offer - 2 copies for £15!
Orders to Teri Williams (260279)

Caroline White

**Contemporary
Wedding Photography**

07711 631171/01606 881807
online gallery:
www.carolinewhitphotography.co.uk

bunbournet
Internet Services

Wireless BroadBand

£12 per month
No fixed contract
Lowest setup charge

Telephone Peter
270819

Member of NOMINET.UK Member of Netlocal Neighbourhoods Member of the FSB

www.bunbournet.co.uk
Proprietor: PK MacGeorge, MA

St Judes Church Hall

Is available for hire
Telephone 01829 260555

Did Leonardo get it right?



I make no apologies for this picture, which comes from a 1993 German advertisement for jeans. You instantly knew what they were trying to represent. You may have been outraged.....whatever your reaction, you instantly recognised it as a pastiche of Leonardo da Vinci's *Last Supper*. The da Vinci mural is our instant reference point when we picture the Last Supper in our mind's eye. But, is it true to life?

The Last Supper was a Passover meal. Except for soldiers in time of war, it has throughout history been a family meal. It has to be a family meal because there has to be a 'youngest child' to ask the four questions, beginning with, "Why is this night different from all other nights?" This question sparks off the recounting of history of the Exodus and is a means of passing the history on to the children.

Where are the women and the children? Leonardo's *Last Supper* was painted as a devotional piece for a convent refectory and deliberately only includes Jesus and the twelve disciples, who are arranged in order of

importance. Like a Shakespeare play in modern dress, it depicts the disciples in a contemporary, Italianate room. Until recently, biblical paintings tended to be set in the time they were painted. Mark's Gospel tells us that, far from sitting upright around the table, the disciples were 'reclining at the table eating' (Mark 14:18). The biggest surprise comes when we look at what is on the table. The Passover meal would have unleavened bread, recalling the hastily-cooked meal of the first Passover, before the Israelites fled with Moses. The main dish would have been the Passover lamb, which, besides its Jewish necessity, allowed the link with Jesus being the Paschal Lamb. On Leonardo's table we find plumply-raised leavened bread and fish.

What is going on?

Leonardo is incorporating elements of the Feeding of the Five Thousand – a foreshadowing of Holy Communion - into his painting. It is more than a painting of a fixed event, Jesus' last Passover with his disciples, it is a call to faith with an emphasis on breaking

bread together in faith.

If you can't get to Santa Maria della Grazia, near Milan, to have a closer look, there is a large tapestry of Leonardo's painting on the south side of Bunbury church.

Joy Parker

Joe wants your vote!

My name is Joe Kelly and I love watching films and finding out film data. Although I am only 10 many of my top 10 films were made in the 60's and 70's such as *The Great Escape* and *Jaws*. I am doing a survey on Bunbury's favourite films to get the top 50 and I would like your help. All you have to do is e-mail me your favourite to shaun@shaunkellyconsulting.com.

I want to hear from people of all ages so please just tell me your favourite film and I will see which film gets the most votes. I am hoping to publish the results soon in the Link and the Bunbury Journal. Thank you and please vote.

Holiday Villa

Kalkan, Turkey

- Private pool, air conditioning, sleeps 4 plus guest suite
- Breathtaking views, 5 minutes walk to sea



Contact Lynn Hedgecoe
Tel: 01829 260725

North York Moors National Park

Three newly-converted barns available for holidays and short breaks

Explore the moors: no roads or traffic, ideal for horseriding, hiking and mountain biking. Many local attractions, shops and pubs 1 mile

Contact LynneWhite
01751 476835

www.prospectfarmcottages.co.uk

ROGERS MASONRY SERVICES

- Member of the National Association of Memorial Masons
- Individually designed and carved motifs
- Free quotations given



73 Hospital Street, Nantwich
Tel: 01270 624676

Church charities

St Boniface PCC have recently made the decision to give 10% of their income before tax to three charities. This means that this year the Bridge Pastoral Foundation, Save the Family and the Railway Children will be sent £1,000 each.

The Railway Children is familiar to many Link readers: the charity supports destitute children, particularly in India, who have run away from home and live near railways. They are given food, shelter and care and a rudimentary education. The charity has recently been in the news when the English test cricket team played a game in the streets near their luxurious Bombay hotel. One lad produced a fast delivery that bounced off a hole in the tarmac and bowled Flintoff.

The Bridge Pastoral Foundation may be less familiar. Formerly known as the Clinical Theology Association, it is an educational and training charity with a Christian foundation. It has a network of over 300 members and authorised tutors spread throughout the UK. It provides high quality training in pastoral care and counselling skills which contribute to the individual's spiritual journey.

Save the Family, another charity you will have read about here before, aims to give hope to homeless and hurting people: people who have suffered violence silently because in some cases "people like us don't talk about it", and then

there are those who cannot take any more and have nowhere to go. That is when STF picks them up tends them carefully and gives them hope. Barbara Croley, an old friend of Save the Family, writes, "I am so pleased that some of the church's giving this year is going to Save the Family. I understand that this cash will be put towards the completion of the new multi-use building which will also include a Chapel for all denominations. Debbie and Steve, along with their team are always pleased to come to Bunbury, because they know that whatever is given from us is given with love and understanding for those facing difficulties beyond our imagination."

These are the charities chosen for this year but the decision will be reviews annually and nominations for suitable charities are always welcome.

During Lent, members of St Boniface have been collecting cash for WorldVision's fund for school uniforms in Africa. Access to education is the key for children to escape lives of abject poverty in so many African countries, but without the proper uniform they are not allowed to attend. Each full uniform costs £10 – and you can be sure it will be treasured – let's hope our Lenten collection makes a real difference for a few African youngsters.

Mark Lewis
**General garden
maintenance and all
those DIY jobs you
don't have time for.**



Enquiries welcome.
07792 550151 or
01829 260962

My evening with Chico



We went to the X Factor concert in Birmingham and went backstage before the show started to meet

Kirsty Mason

everyone. They are all very friendly and funny, especially Chico who pulled silly faces behind our backs as we had our photo taken. We got all their autographs and had our photo taken with everyone. The show was really good and there were lots of exciting effects including Shane being lifted up on a high platform with confetti flying over the audience.



Aura
Holistic Beauty Spa



Exotic facial & body treatments
Waxing, eyelash tinting,
Manicure & pedicure
Aromatherapy
Sports & remedial massage
Reflexology
Indian head massage
Reiki, Hopi ear candles
Bridal & evening make-up

Wyvern House
Bunbury Lane, Bunbury

Tel: 01829 260330

Ring for current offers

Tarporley Dental Practice

established 1978

Dental care for all the family

- Ozone therapy - painless restorations without injection
- Preventive dentistry
- Cosmetic dentistry - crowns, bridges, veneers
- White fillings (mercury free)
- Tooth whitening

New patients welcome

Denelea, Nantwich Road, Tarporley Telephone: 01829 732213 (24 Hours)



St Judes

St Jude's hosted the interdenominational Women's World Day of Prayer service this year. It was led by Ann Latham and the talk was given by Joy Parker. Worldwide, the service was as planned by the Christian women of South Africa. This is a huge achievement, as South Africa is still a very patriarchal society. White women have very little influence on the church, coloured women less and black women virtually none. It is changing, but slowly. Parts of the service were quite harrowing, but also very moving.... Afterwards, afternoon tea was served in the parish hall and a good chat was had by all.

Linda Downey

The Beavers completed their Creative Badge by cooking chocolate chip buns, which were eaten warm from the oven. They received their badges, and also celebratory badges for 20 years of Beaver Scouts on 16th March, when 3 new Beavers were invested. Sandra Whalley was also invested as a Scout and as Assistant Beaver Leader.



Beaver Bun Recipe

Ingredients

150g margarine
150g caster sugar
140g flour
10g cocoa
100g milk chocolate
3 eggs
Dessert spoon water

Method (Preheat oven to 190C)

- 1 Break the chocolate into small pieces.
- 2 Combine all ingredients, beating well.
- 3 Divide the mixture into about 18 bun cases.
- 4 Bake for about 10 minutes – check the oven frequently.

These are delicious eaten warm, before the chocolate chips set!

SPRINGTIME

Martin Cook leads
the Bunbury Singers
in a lively mixed programme of choral
music on May 13th
at St. Boniface Church

Tickets available shortly from choir
members and from St. Boniface. contact
Elizabeth Brereton 01829 740664.

Fancy Dress Hire

Over 400 adults' and
kids' costumes
Wigs, hats & party products.

Charlie Vegas: **262470**

Visit our new website:

www.charlievegas.co.uk



Holiday Apartment to let

Begur, Costa Brava

35 minutes Gerona, 90 minutes Barcelona
House sleeps 6 and separate apartment for 3

Call Sally & Robert Sissons
Tel: 01829 261412
Mobile 07813 466547



Sally Sissons Garden Design

Anything from whole-garden
designs to re-planning
tired borders

Reaseheath trained

Tel: 01829 261412, Mobile: 07813 466547



Andrew Dean

(Dip. N.T.C., C.G.L.I., A.V.C.M.)



Piano tuning, repairs

And restoration

Tel: 01829 261222

DM AUTO SERVICES

Your local independent garage
Servicing all makes and models.

M.O.T. Testing Station

Bodywork repairs

Free collection and delivery

within 10 mile radius

Courtesy cars available



Wardle Service Station
Calveley, Tarporley, Cheshire
Tel: 01829 260230/260811
Fax: 01829 261100

Calveley Coal Company

Not only...

Coal, smokeless fuel,
logs, kindling,
bottled gas,
spare parts



But also...

Garden mulch, peat, bark.
sand, gravel, cement etc.

Free Delivery or Collect

01829-261199 - day

01829-260009 - evening

A tribute to Dick Hallett, blacksmith

With the death of Dick Hallett, for so long a familiar figure working at his Spurstow smithy, we lose another of the old guard. Dick died unexpectedly in hospital aged 79 on March 2nd preparing to undergo a replacement hip operation. His funeral was held at Crewe Crematorium on March 16th. The following is taken from the funeral address, much of it written by Dick's son, Matthew.

Born in 1926 in Hampshire, Dick was the third of seven children. A great influence on him as he grew up was his maternal grandfather, a man of great stature and a powerful personality; a blacksmith, to whom Dick was apprenticed.

He and Marion met up at the local youth club when she was nearly fifteen, and four years later they were married. A measure of his affection was the very large box of chocolates he bought her – and remember, chocolates were scarce and rationed then – which Marion unfortunately left in the hallway for a time, and which got eaten by the dog!

As an apprentice, Dick was exempted from wartime military service, but he nevertheless volunteered as an air gunner – only to be turned down because of slight deafness. This was to become increasingly troublesome in later years, especially as he didn't like using his hearing aid, but it was never an obstacle to his entertaining storytelling. He had a fund of anecdotes, especially from the time when he and Marion lived on the estate of the Countess of Brecknock, where he worked as a farrier, but also had to act as a chauffeur, one day a week, to the Countess's mother who was in her nineties. It was while he was there that he made a pair of decorative gates for Lord Mountbatten as a memorial to his wife.

Matthew and Mark were born at Wherwell but while the boys were still small the family moved up to the house and smithy at Spurstow. The boys were used to waking up to the sound of hammer on anvil, knowing that their dad would have started work at six and that he'd continue all day, returning to the workshop after his evening meal. But that didn't mean he didn't have time for the boys, or indeed for other youngsters who came by to watch him work. Dad liked children and he was never too busy to stop and show them something or help them make a simple item for themselves.

So Matthew and Mark were introduced to the art and science of blacksmithing but beyond that they learned much more from their dad: they learned to love the countryside as he did – to respect its dangers and opportunities; they learned to appreciate to appreciate the beauty and functionality of the work of past craftsmen – a well-made hinge here, or a difficult fireweld there; and they learned to care for animals. Over the years the family looked after geese, ducks, goats, a donkey and the pigs he especially liked – and of course there were horses.

Dick bought ponies for the children, and he liked nothing better than a trip to the races himself and a regular bet. He'd visit the betting shop on a Saturday morning and the afternoon would be spent watching the racing on the television. One day, after a good win, he was able to fulfil one of his longstanding wishes – to have a horse and trap just as he'd had as a youngster when he'd run errands for his family and friends in it.

And there were plenty of people to enjoy outings with Dick. His family was expanding. He became almost a second father

to Bobby, Marion's sister, after their father died, and definitely a grandad to her two children, Amber and Alexis. Then Alison and Linda joined the family and grandsons Michael, Fletcher and Rafe got to know and love their grandad. He was interested and supportive in all they did and they really enjoyed being around him.

Over the years the nature of the blacksmith's job changed. At first, all of Dick's time was spent shoeing horses and repairing agricultural equipment. He boasted that he once made the shoes for, and then went to a stables and shod, eleven horses in a day. But changing times meant that increasingly it was towards the decorative side of iron-work that Dick was turning. And it suited him, for he was an instinctive artist and could respond creatively to people's ideas, making everything from garden benches to the symbolic eagle that graces Barclay's Bank in Nantwich.

Then, on a more prosaic level, he would make and mend if anything was needed around the house: he made a new boiler for the Rayburn feeling, as he always did, that if someone could do the job then he could probably do it just as well. Sometimes this was true! He could certainly build a marvellous shed from a collection of bits of wood and corrugated iron, and helped out his sons with these skills on many occasions. He was also a great vegetable-gardener, and as a strong and active man, a great eater of the results of his labours.

In order to publicise his metalwork, Dick made himself a mobile stand to tow to local agricultural shows and, though there was a lot of hard work involved in preparing the items to take, the family enjoyed those times. And, again typically, Matthew and Mark remember once when their dad was working all hours to finish an item for a show, he willingly broke off to help them wash the bantams they kept, sharing in their delight later when they won a prize.

They liked too, going to farm sales, where Dick might find an old piece of iron-work to renovate and sell, or they might be able to add to the collection of pottery pieces he and Marion had been collecting at sales and markets over the years. In later times he'd go along to car-boot sales too; he always loved a bargain!

Matthew joined his father at the smithy in 1980 and promised to try to pull his dad out of the 19th and into the 20th century, especially in terms of his business practices. (Matthew reckons they ended up about 1920!) Dick couldn't get on with modern technology and detested paperwork, but his enthusiasm for life and work never wavered. He had times of enforced idleness through accident or illness, but he always returned to his work, making a set of forged leaves for Matthew just a week before he died, and planning on having a chair to work from if he couldn't have the operation he needed on his hip.

It must have been a real satisfaction to Dick to know that Matthew was continuing in the tradition of his dad and great grandfather – still using the same anvil and carrying forward an appreciation of some of the qualities and virtues of past times which were embodied in Dick himself and which were perhaps symbolised by the country accent he carried through his life.

For his warmth, his self-deprecating humour and his simple common-sense, Dick will be long remembered.

Community news

Lots of babies have been baptised at St Boniface in recent weeks: on 5th March **Luke**, son of **Keri and Andrew Boaz** of Calveley; on 12th March **Elizabeth**, daughter of **Barbara and Chris Jones** of Spurstow and also **Henry**, son of **Joanne and Mark Greenwood** of Alraham and **Luke**, son of **Sarah and Craig Parker** of Kelsall; on 19th March **Jack**, son of **Sara and Simon Gardner** of Bunbury; and as we go to print we look forward to the baptism on 26th March (Mothering Sunday) of **Ella**, daughter of **Melissa (nee Slack) and Christopher Pople** from America.

Congratulations to **Joanna McLaughlin** who celebrates her 21st birthday at the end of March.

Congratulations to **John Mason** on his new job as Diocesan Secretary (effectively the business manager of the Diocese of Chester). John takes up his new post in the summer.

Easter Soccer Schools for boys and girls aged 5-12 will take place at Tarporley High School 18th-21st April. Contact 0151 328 0648.

Don't miss **Medieval Courtly Combat** at **Beeston Castle** on 22nd and 23rd April when armoured knights show their fighting skills in combat. Starts 11.30am.

Please continue to pray for Benjamin Thomas, Neville Edgeley, Rob Williams, Mary Cruikshank, Claudia McLaughlin, Camilla Broster, Peter Overy, and Maxine Sweeting.

Church notices

Martina Phillips reminds us that the **Childrens Society** boxes will be opened in April. Boxes can be left in church, or taken to Whitegates, Wyche Lane.

Target 1250

Many thanks to those who responded to the Target 1250 appeal in the last two magazines. Over £400 has been received in contributions towards the replacement of the Victorian heating system. As we go to print plans are in hand for a cake stall in St. Boniface on Mothering Sunday. We are hoping for lots of support for this.

The Target 1250 team have lots of fundraising ideas but they are always keen for more. So they are offering a **prize for the best fundraising ideas** from a child under 16 or an adult. An M&S token goes to the two best ideas - we don't promise to carry them out straight away!

Gaynor needs help

A reminder that Gaynor MacGregor is travelling to Kosovo over Easter with **Hope and Aid Direct**, a small charity that helps refugees - in Bosnia, Croatia and Kosovo. She needs your donations of groceries:

Pasta, spaghetti, packet spaghetti sauce, cornflakes, dried milk, dried mixed fruit, toilet rolls, rice, biscuits, teabags, coffee, sugar, cooking oil and packet soup.

Please contact her on 262402

Dru Yoga

Peckforton Village Hall
Tuesday mornings 9.30 – 11.30
Contact Julie Markman
01829 260989
Suitable for all ages and abilities

General notices

Bunbury's Rose Queen this year will be **Chloe Stratton** whose name was drawn out of a hat from many other hopefuls. There were around 60 names in the draw for the Queen and her attendants.

Various local properties have organised **Easter egg hunts** including Dunham Massey on 17th April from 11am, Little Moreton Hall 14th-17th April 11.30-4.00pm, Lyme Park 16th -17th April 11-4.00pm. Beeston Castle is open 10-6.00pm (Easter egg hunt to be confirmed). Also at Lyme Park will be the **Easter morning sunrise service** at 6.00am (details 01663 762023).



J&M Cars

(based at Wettenhall)
Private Hire/Taxi Service
4-16 seaters

Airport/Station, Business, Weddings,
Restaurants and all social occasions
Lady drivers available

Tel: 01270 528006 or 629788
Mobile 07951 590 756

www.jandmcars.co.uk



Geoff and Nigel Burrows
Dip. F.D.

Funeral Directors

- Complete funeral arrangements
- Personal day and night service

Tel: 01270 524243

A.W.Burrows & Son
Snowdrop Villa,
Swanley, Nantwich
CW5 8QB



- **Cheshire's only direct supplier of DELL**
- Specialists in upgrades and repairs
- **Broadband provision**
- Internet & E-mail service providers
- **Full networking and cabling service**
- Virus removal & reconfiguration
- **Comprehensive web design & E-commerce solutions**
- Efficient personal service

Kevin Thompson
01829 261685
M 07773 321779
kevin@ditnet.co.uk



Digital information technology ltd

Ian Bulkeley

Paving, walls, fencing,
 garden improvements,
 landscaping.



01270 780834 07778 358285

Graham Rathbone & Sons

**Electrical
 Contractors**

NICEIC approved contractor
01829 261174



**R.F. Burrows
 & Sons**

Family butchers est.1924

Finest quality, locally-sourced,
 additive-free meat and poultry

Gold award-winning sausages

Good selection of cheeses

Bacon and cured meats



01829 260342

Diary

April

2	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude St Boniface Calveley
5	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
9	9.30am 10.00am 6.30pm	Palm Sunday Morning Service Family Communion Evensong	St Jude St Boniface St Boniface
12	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
13	7.00pm	Agape	St Boniface
14	10.00am 12-3.00pm	Good Friday Morning Prayer BCP Vigil	St Boniface St Boniface
16	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 6.30pm	Easter Sunday Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Communion Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude St Boniface Calveley
19	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
23	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am	Holy Communion Morning Service Morning Service	St Boniface St.Jude
		followed by Annual Parish Meeting	St Boniface
26	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
30	9.30 10.00	Holy Communion Family Communion	St Jude St Boniface

May

3	10.00	Holy Communion	St.Boniface
7	8.00 9.30 10.00 11.00	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Holy Communion	St Boniface St Judes Bunbury Calveley

Looking ahead

May

13th	Bunbury School Association family bingo Bunbury Singers Concert In aid of Target 1250 St.Boniface
------	---

**Christian
 Aid Week**
 14-20 May 06



Link is edited by Lucy Munro (tel. 260487) and Jill Robey (tel. 260081). We welcome all contributions. Our deadline for the May edition is Thursday 20th April. Please send material to lucykmunro@hotmail.com.

Our vicar, **Rick Gates**, is back at work and always available in times of sickness, bereavement or any distress (see p 2 for phone numbers).

www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk