

# Warden appeals for tidy graves

AN APPEAL has gone out to tidy up the old burial ground at St Boniface.

Churchwarden Barbara Croley is looking for a team of helpers to clear some of the overgrown vegetation in the graveyard.

"I know many people work all week and family time is precious, but I need to set these things in motion before I get too old to take part," she said.

Barbara said we could learn from the Portuguese.



"In the Algarve they are so proud of their ancestors," she said. "I've watched as families have scrubbed headstones and cut grass. These people and places are not to be forgotten even if there are no close family around".

She hoped that the extra daylight, which we are all enjoying, might encourage people in Bunbury to tackle the job of clearing up the old burial ground.

"I hope we can do something, and if we can perhaps we could do lunch and survey our good work," she said.

If you would like to help, please contact Barbara on 260344.



This view of St. Boniface was captured on Sunday 6th April and shows the only real snow of the Winter. Thanks to the photographer for getting up early.



Ian Langford delighted audiences over three evenings as Algernon in the Good Companions' production of Oscar Wilde's classic play "The Importance of Being Earnest". Review page 5



Les Dawson was a past master at mother-in-law jokes - see page 11

## Christian Aid week 11th-17th May

Please support the Christian Aid Week house to house collection, and thanks to Joyce Buxton for organising it, and all the local volunteers who are helping. Christian Aid.

Christian Aid works in over 50 countries and unites churches of all denominations across the world. It has been described as "a wonderful example of the churches not arguing about what we believe, but coming together in a common vision of trying to change the world".

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## Community news

Congratulations to **Jo and John Mason** on the arrival on April 1st of **Jenna Marie Robyn** (pictured right).

Welcome to **Charlie Jack Taylor**, son of **Robert Taylor and Laura Ryder** of Tarporley, who was baptised on 30th March, **Edie**, daughter of **David and Julie Corless-Smith** of Calveley, baptised on 5th April and **Jack Michael**, son of **Gary and Kelly Pepper** of Wistaston, baptised on 20th April, all at St. Boniface

Congratulations to **Julie and David Corless-Smith** whose marriage was blessed at St. Boniface on 5th April, followed by the Baptism of their daughter.

Congratulations also to **Robert Carson and Samantha Robinson** (pictured right) who were married at St. Boniface on 13th April, and **Richard Lewis and Rachael Morton** who were married on 18th April, also at St. Boniface.

Congratulations to **Anna Chow** who celebrates her 40th birthday this month.

Congratulations also to **Diana Kinsey** on the big birthday she celebrated at the end of April. Many of her friends clearly remember celebrating another big birthday with Diana – can it really be a decade ago?

Commiserations to **Esther Gillett** and to **Jack Parr** who have both been in hospital recently, and also **Joel Grimwood** who is in hospital as we go to print with suspected appendicitis. We hope you'll be better soon.

And we hear of two more mature members of our community who have been in the wars – here's hoping the nasty dog bite and broken finger suffered by **Chris Sakheardande** and **Phil Elsegood** respectively are both on the mend.

**Alma Chesters**, who recently suffered a fall at her home in Tiverton, breaking her hip, thanks everyone for their kind messages. St. Jude's are pleased to report that she is making steady progress.

Sadly there have been a number of local deaths in the past month including **Frances Moss** of Haughton. Obituaries of **Edie Dutton and Edith Chesters** are on pages 8 and 9.



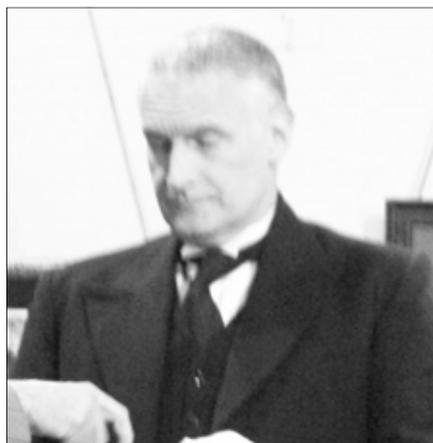
**Jenna Marie Robyn Mason**



**Robert and Samantha**

Thanks to all who have supported the Bunbury team attempting the **Three Peaks by train** in July to raise money for **the Railway Children**. They include **the Middlemisses, Tim Wheatland, the Waddingtons, the Sissons, Jill Robey, the Marshes and Andrew Simpson**. Their website is [www.justgiving.com/susiwaddington](http://www.justgiving.com/susiwaddington)

There was a large gathering of local people to wish Bunbury doctor, **Tony Hoy**, well in his retirement. He was presented with a lamp, some travel books and a cash gift. Tony Hoy has had a busy start to his retirement, giving a fine performance as Algenon's servant, Lane, alongside wife **Claire** as the governess in the GC's latest triumph (see review p 5).



## Church news

In a fantastic start to **Christian Aid Week** May 11th-18th, **Joyce Buxton and friends** have raised £250 from the Coffee Morning she held at her home in April. Congratulations to Joyce and thank you to all concerned.

**Christian Aid** is Christianity in action, raising awareness about such issues as HIV/AIDS, people-trafficking, debt and unfair trade, as well as providing emergency relief and long-term development, working with those in greatest need, of any faith or none, helping them find their own way out of poverty by empowering them to help themselves.

[www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk)

There will be **prayers** at St. Boniface every Friday morning at 9.30am from 2nd May.

Please contact **Margaret Bourne** if you would like to help with the **St. Boniface Church Flower Festival** to take place on 18th-20th July. A display based on the theme of "a thousand years of worship at St. Boniface" is planned and the event will require props, publicity, construction, costumes, guides, teas.....the list is endless. This is an undertaking by the whole community and all help will be greatly appreciated. Contact **Margaret Bourne 260944**.

**This month please pray especially for Claudia McLaughlan and Suzanne Swann. And please pray for all those mourning the death of a loved one or who are troubled in body, mind or spirit and for those who care for them.**

Don't miss the planned evening with former BBC war correspondent **Martin Bell** at St. Boniface on September 13th. Proceeds will go to the Target 1250 fund to finance maintenance and improvements to the St. Boniface church building.

The **June edition** of the magazine will be available in St. Boniface from Saturday 31st May.

I count my blessings every day. I am privileged to serve a congregation which embraces rather than condemns those who think differently. This congregation has warmly welcomed newcomers and it is often difficult to guess how many service sheets need printing as numbers in church can surprise us.

It is fantastic that, on average last year, 25 children attended church each Sunday and it is equally wonderful that there are many volunteers on hand to provide child-focused teachings during the more adult-focused parts of our services.

Many in the community strive to live faithfully by the Bible, which is a big responsibility. They put Jesus Christ at the heart of their work and their worship.

These people are very different to those who constantly strive to see the 'bad' in people and the negative side of any situation. Sometime, those people seek to profit from this.

It is strange that in South Africa, many spend years sifting through dirt and mud looking for diamonds, yet in richer societies many sift through the diamonds looking for dirt.

Enjoyable as my task is in Bunbury, things can always be improved. I am conscious that we are a time-poor community and recognise that time spent with family is valuable. This is one reason why I intend to phase out the traditional committee-style

# My vision for our church by Rick Gates

management of the past in favour of more focussed groups with specific tasks.

I am also keen to see a more pastoral side to our work. Comfortable as things appear on the surface in Bunbury, there are always those around us with personal difficulties. Perhaps they are bereaved, ill, or troubled in some other way.

It would be helpful to our community to have people specifically trained to help those in need. I would also be keen to see a palliative nurse minister to deliver a more holistic approach to the elderly and terminally ill.

One day, and it may be not in my time, I expect we will employ childrens' and youth workers, an administrator and a palliative care professional. Such appointments will be as much a part of church life as paying the oil & electricity bills....

In so many ways we are a successful,



growing and eclectic church, far more fortunate than many other churches in similar locations. However, we cannot get complacent. As with most things in life, there is always more which can be done and we should not sit back in our rather lovely comfort zone but try to think of new ways to bring some of that comfort to others.

Thank you for attending, thank you for caring, and thank you for being the people you are, which encourages me so often.

**Rick**

# A sense of awe before God's majesty

'One called to another and said, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole world is full of his glory"' (Isaiah 6,3)

When they were filming the biblical epic, 'The Greatest Story Ever Told', John Wayne, hero of so many western movies, played the centurion at the crucifixion. At the first take, he's reputed to have said his one and only line in a totally flat, emotionless tone of voice: "Truly - this - man - was - the - son - of - God."

"No, no, John," protested the director, "say it with awe". So in the next take the great actor obeyed the instruction: "Aw, truly - this - man - was - the - son - of - God."

What is awe, spelt AWE? The dictionary definition is 'solemn and reverential wonder, tinged with latent fear, inspired

by what is sublime and majestic in nature'. This may have been the first feeling of religious emotion that human beings ever knew. A man came to a gnarled and knotted tree in a clearing



and realised that it was very, very old - far older than he was, or any of his relatives. He stood still, transfixed with awe at the unimaginable length of time, and the brevity of his own life in comparison. He called it a holy place. Or he climbed to the top of a mountain

and gasped when he saw another valley beyond the one he lived in, and another and another. He sat down, wondering at the wideness of the world, and how little of it he knew. Those feelings of awe continue today. Awe before nature is, I'm sure, the beginning of sensing the holiness of God.

God made the whole universe, so he is far greater than the universe; greater than we can even begin to imagine. This sense of awe before God's majesty runs right through the Bible. When Isaiah received his call to be a prophet, he saw the invisible God high and lifted up, and heard the angels singing the praise of the Trinity. What an awe-inspiring experience it must have been for Isaiah. And the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ for you and me is surely even more awe-inspiring!

**Eric Wallington**

# My first year at Bunbury School



Bunbury has been making quite an impression on the school's "new" deputy head teacher, Richard Harley.

Over the past year he says he has been amazed at events - and the people - who continue to make Bunbury such a special place to live.

Mr Harley was appointed deputy head at Bunbury Primary School a year ago and says he has loved every minute. "I must be enjoying myself because I can't believe how quickly the weeks have

flown," he said.

He said first impressions had been good and he praised the work of Mrs Phillips.

"She's a wonderful role model and mentor, while my colleagues have been warm, friendly and full of fun," he said.

He said highlights of the past year had included Bunbury School's moving and memorable harvest, Christmas and Easter services at St Boniface Church.

"I was also fortunate to be a judge at Bunbury's Village Day," he said. "This was a great honour."

Deputation Day, he said, also stood out as another highlight and made Bunbury a very special place to be.

"I enjoyed meeting the Haberdashers in all their glory," he said.

Mr Harley said even the school's our World Book Day had its own individual Bunbury approach.

"I had never seen quite so many

creative (and in the case of a few boys in Years 5 and 6, rather outrageous) costumes," he said.

In March, Year 5 pupils enjoyed on a residential trip to Ironbridge where they learned a great deal about how Britain had changed since Victorian times.

"Although there was a considerable amount of sleep deprivation, we all enjoyed the walk out to Blists Hill and the children were thrilled when converting their 'English money' to Victorian currency," he said.

"We created queues of some length at the Victorian sweet shop."

Sarah-Jane Stockman and Vanessa Greenbury also joined the trip.

And what thrilled them most were the number of adults in and around Ironbridge who commented on the children's excellent behaviour.

# Alison Phillips given Haberdasher honour

Retiring Bunbury School headteacher Alison Phillips has been awarded a special honour by the Guild of Haberdashers, whose links with Bunbury continue as strongly as ever. To mark Alison's outstanding contribution to the school and our community, in April she was made a Freeman of the Company, and on the 26th of June given the additional honour of being clothed in the Livery at a ceremony at the Guildhall. We hope to

have a photo the occasion in a future issue.

Pictured here are Alison and Governors Liz Mulcahy and Tina Everton at Haberdashers' Hall, where they and the other Governors were invited for a formal dinner in mid April.



The floorboards were shaking, bodies falling to right and left - what on earth was happening? It was the return of Bunbury School's popular Ceilidh, music provided as always by Mac and the talented Usquebaugh band (and the slippery floor contributed to the carnage!) Sadly, this event was poorly supported, partly because of a clash with the GC's. Please, everyone, and especially parents, try to support us at future events. Everyone at the Ceilidh will tell you what a good night they had, and money raised goes to the best of causes: our village school. Thanks to Alison Smith, PTA chair, and her hardworking team.



**Helen and Peter Jones are walking the Coast to Coast path across the north of England in June to raise money for the British Heart Foundation. If you would like to support them their website is:-**  
[www.justgiving.com/peterandhelenjones](http://www.justgiving.com/peterandhelenjones)

## Ascension and power

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses.”

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

Two men in white stood beside them and said, “Why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way.”

Lord, it is so hard to say goodbye.

As we look up into the sky,  
watching for the last glimpse of you,  
Bring us back down to earth.

Help us to see that you are still with us,  
and now it is up to us to carry on  
your work.

Touch us with your holy fire,  
fill us with the breath of your power,  
and keep us in the warmth of your love.

May we be your hands and feet,  
Sharing your love with those around us;

A word, a smile, a listening ear,  
Not judging, but accepting.

With one voice and one song  
May we praise your name  
in joy and thanksgiving,  
Our ever present Saviour.

**Pat Edgley**

## Huckleberrys closes

Many people are sad that Huckleberrys'.shop has closed after such a short period of trading.

We hope another business will come to the village soon.

## Pictures wanted

We are still appealing for your photographs of Bunbury.

Target 1250 team are hoping to create a calendar for next year along the lines of the recent WI production.

Contributions will be selected by the Target 1250 group prior to going to print.

Any images should be emailed to [neil@d-s.demon.co.uk](mailto:neil@d-s.demon.co.uk)



**The cast and backstage crew relax before curtain-up**

## A Lesson in 'Bunburying' from The GCs

The world may have changed but human nature has not as The Good Companions demonstrated beautifully with three polished performances at Bunbury Village Hall.

Those who had splashed out on a ticket would not have been disappointed as the nine members of the cast turned on the charm by the bucket load in what is arguably Wilde's most successful play.

**“You could not fail to laugh out loud”**

Ian Langford, who played wealthy bachelor Algernon Moncrieff, could have brightened up the dullerest day with his impeccable delivery of every classic one-liner, of which there were many. Not to mention his wonderful facial expressions.

You could not fail to laugh out loud.

It is hard to believe that this Oscar Wilde masterpiece was first performed 113 years ago.

For within it, you can still spot people you know even today; folk seemingly more concerned with image over substance.

The story centres around the double lives of Algernon and Jack Worthing, two friends who believe they will win the objects of their affection more easily as men named Ernest.



**Denise Fisher as Lady Bracknell**

Jack was excellently played by Richard Hill, but all the characters, even those in the smallest role, had been exceptionally well cast in this clever farce.

My literary ignorance means that I do not know whether Oscar Wilde had ever visited Bunbury - to come up with such a refreshingly delightful term as 'bunburying' for pleasure - but it is one some of us might just use in the future if we need to escape the pressures of modern life.

As the play drew to its glorious end, The Good Companions proved once again that they are in fact, not only good companions, but also fantastic entertainers.

I don't know what they are planning next, but please, do reserve me a seat.

**Sue Briggs-Harris**

# Give us two minutes: Polly Booker

Polly's real name is Carolyn but she has been called Polly almost since birth; although she has had a more than a few opportunities to change it back, she has decided to keep it that way! Polly was born in Timperley and grew up in Lymm before going to University in Salford to study Electronics, where she met her husband Paul. After graduating, they moved to Chelmsford to work for Marconi but soon moved back up to Cheshire, finding a house in Bunbury in 1985, importantly with a very large garage! This was an important factor, as both Polly and Paul like to collect and (very slowly) 'do up' classic cars.

When their two boys started at Tarporley School they started a long association with motor sport and now they race karts and cars, travelling all around the country.

Polly states that she loves living in Bunbury and would find it hard to put down roots anywhere else. Amongst her interests, she is one of the bell ringers at St Boniface (and has been since 1985) and can be seen emerging from the tower on many weekends!

## **If you had a motto, what would it be?**

Onwards and upwards

## **It's a celebrity beer call. Where is it and who do you invite (and why)?**

The Swan in Tarporley, with Jeremy Clarkson, Nigel Mansell and my Husband, Paul. It would not be a conversation that I could actually



**Polly believes the telephone exchange, pictured right, would make a perfect a swimming pool.**

participate in much, but watching them would be highly entertaining.

## **What would the title of your biography be called?**

Round Tuit, because one day I will get there!

## **What was your first job?**

I was a graduate trainee at Marconi in Chelmsford. The first three months there were the best fun I have ever had at work, making tool boxes, aluminium castings and learning to weld.

## **Who would you make Prime Minister?**

Boris Johnson. I may not agree with everything he says but he is not your average politician. Most of them seem to fall out of the same mould these days.

## **Where did you meet your partner?**

I met Paul at University in Salford studying Biomedical Electronics. This was basically a degree course in



Electronics with some Medicine thrown in.

## **If you could change something about Bunbury, what would it be?**

I would put a swimming pool in the Telephone exchange building. Having taken a peek through the window it is mostly empty and a pool would be great for Bunbury, possibly a sauna as well? How about it BT?

## **What would you like to achieve most in the next 12 months?**

I would like to get the garden sorted and the Dining Room decorated. We have lived here for several years now and still not decorated the Dining Room. The poor garden takes a very poor last place behind all the other things we do.

## **Where and how would you spend your ideal weekend?**

With my family, at the British Grand Prix - which I am doing this year!

## **Thanks to Nick Sanders**

Have you heard about the new attractions coming to Village Day?

The main arena will be enlarged for an equestrian display, Wheelbarrow Display Team, and Morris Men and the traditional crafts marquee is now also larger to accommodate more demonstrations and we're also hoping for a larger attendance than ever before so come and join in the fun, enter some competitions and raise some funds for the village. The funds raised from Village Day are donated to the Village Hall, the playing fields and help fund next year's event.

Our new cake and flower arranging competitions are attracting entries from both young and 'not so young'. There are classes for adults and children



including a special class for "the worst baking disaster"!

We also have a bucking bronco, scarecrow contest, children's fun fair, live cookery demonstrations, lots of stalls; historic vehicles and we're still booking attractions so check the web site for further details.

## **[www.bunburyvillageday.co.uk](http://www.bunburyvillageday.co.uk)**

Please support Village Day, tickets now available from Burrows Butchers, and committee members.

**Frances Lawford 260848**

# How we can finance the Church's vision

In March's edition of LINK, Rick set out a vision for a growing church with workers supporting young and old people in the parish, whilst in April Martin Smith, the Diocesan giving advisor talked about giving not only money but time and gifts to achieve that vision. Some of you may be thinking, "That's all very well, but what are the numbers? How much does it cost simply to keep the church ticking over so it is there when we need it, let alone to realise the sort of vision that Rick set out? And isn't the church rich anyway? Why do we need more giving?" Hopefully this article will answer some of those questions.

At the recent Annual Church Meeting it was my job as Treasurer to present the accounts for the year 2007. This is not a job I relish: for five of the previous six years I stood up at the Annual Meeting to announce deficits (a total over the period of more than £10k). This year was better: we had made a surplus of about £6k on our general funds. (This article excludes the receipt and expenditure of restricted funds that may be gifted for a particular purpose such as to maintain the churchyard or provide new furniture.) How this was achieved is illustrated in Tables 1 and 2.

**Table 1: Expenditure in 2007**

Cost of ministry	£40k
Heating & electricity	£7k
Insurance	£5k
Maintenance and other running costs	£12k
Payment of fees	£7k
Other	£11k
Designated for future repair and maintenance	£8k
<b>Total</b>	<b>£90k</b>

Table 1 shows the expenditure breakdown. Keeping a medieval church in a state of good repair, well-heated and lit is clearly not cheap. In fact, together with insurance, the cost in 2007 was £24k. And this was a good year for maintenance: in other years the comparable figure could have been £30k or more. The other major cost is

associated with the ministry – providing for Rick, and maintaining the vicarage, as well as contributing to the Diocese (which, like the parish, receives no external funding of its own) for its charitable work and support to deprived areas. Fees paid for services such as bell-ringing at weddings are recovered from charges, and we prudently put aside some money each year for major building works that may be needed at any time. (We were fortunate in 2007 that a major project to repair the North Aisle Wall was nearly all met from grants.) There is very little 'discretionary' expenditure (the delivery of LINK to every household is, however, an example), so nearly all the expenditure is needed simply to retain a place of worship and a central focus for the parish of Bunbury community.

**Table 2: Sources of income in 2007**

Regular giving	£24k
Other giving	£24k
Fund-raising and fees	£28k
Tax recovered	£7k
Investment	£3k
Other	£10k
<b>Total</b>	<b>£96k</b>

The income is set out in Table 2. Almost half came either from church members who give regularly, or from giving through collection plates at services and one-off donations. A large part of the remainder arose from fund-raising efforts such as the Beeston Castle fete and Target 1250 events, from fees for using the church at, for example, weddings, and from income tax recovered as a result of Gift Aid. Our income from investments is rather modest – just 3% of the total income. Sadly we are not sitting on a large pile of money that can provide income, and much of the capital that we do have is endowment (which means we can use the income it generates but are not allowed to spend the fund itself).

So much for the upkeep of the church last year: what about the future? Before we start to think of financing, say, additional work with children, we have to worry about future reductions in Gift Aid, increases in the parish share

contribution and inflation. Together these will cost around £5k more per year. But to achieve the vision we need about £45k per year. How can we reach that? There are a number of ways: if we aim to break even we have a head start with the £5k surplus from this year. In addition the vision is of a growing church and that will result in more giving. Other measures such as grants, higher investment yields and some use of reserves will all help, but the 'bottom line' is the need for at least £30k more giving.

**Table 3: Expenditure per giver per week**

Cost of ministry	£10.99
Heating & electricity	£1.92
Insurance	£1.37
Maintenance and other running costs	£3.30

This is a challenge perhaps, but one the PCC thinks is achievable. A helpful way to see how is to think not in large sums but in terms of the amount given by a regular donor per week. Table 3 restates some of the Table 1 costs in this way. At present regular givers are providing on average £6.59 per week and this is matched by £1.92 recovered in income tax, a total of £8.51 per week per giver. This already represents considerable generosity from many people, and someone giving, say, £2 per week can also see they are providing what is needed on average to cover the heating and electricity. To provide another £30k would need a further £8 per week per giver. This may seem a tall order, but it could also be achieved with the same levels of giving and twice the number of givers. Does this sound familiar? In the vision that Rick set out, the church was packed every Sunday like Christmas and, if it were, we would have all the necessary givers – in fact there would be so many they wouldn't need to be all that generous - £2 per person per week would suffice. So perhaps it just needs a real belief in the vision and then ... who knows?

**John Mason (Treasurer, St.Boniface PCC)**

# Edie and Ron danced for 50 years

EDIE DUTTON was born on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1930 in the Valve House, Bunbury and went to the Bunbury Girls School (long since closed), just over the road.

Her brother, Walter (now church warden at St. Boniface) wonders if there was some free spirit, or the gipsy in Edie. He recalls that the Done family were then living in Old Church Row, which was bombed during the war. The same bomb gave Bunbury a wonderful light church, as it removed much of the dark stained glass which was replaced by clear glass. The family then moved to Thatched Cottage in Sadlers Wells, which then burnt down, so they moved back to the New Church Row. Walter seems to recall a degree of terror in the eyes of the residents as the Done family, which included 10 children,

moved back... wondering what would happen next!

During her early working life Edie cycled to Nantwich six days a week, to work at Chatwins the bakers where she learnt her legendary cake making skills...

One Saturday evening, she met Ron at the Village Hall dance in Bunbury and managed to wait three years to get married.. and became Edie Dutton. "It must have seemed a long wait for her to escape the crowded little house with 12 people and just two bedrooms, or maybe not!", said Walter.

## Edie gave a 'first' of something to each of her family

Walter thinks it was Ron who said that having met at the dance they carried on dancing together for another 50 years, celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary 6 years ago with a big party at the Wild Boar.

Edie really loved working for 25 years at the Doctors surgery in Bunbury.

Edie often told Walter that she had four wonderful children who cared for her in

her final illness. She also had four grandchildren: Oliver, Katy, Anna & Emma whom she adored.

Walter said, "Edie has been an amazing tower of strength to the whole family, including her children and her brothers and sisters. She was always there in times of need and always sharing in their successes".

Edie always somehow managed to give a "first" of something to each of her family. She gave Walter his first briefcase as he started work. She was fondly known as their "Queen Bee".

Edie and Ron moved back to Bunbury over 12 years ago now which she considered as a "coming home". She was delighted to be back in Bunbury, where she was happiest in the garden surrounded by friends and family.

Edie's was well-known for its "open door".

One of Walter's favourite memories of Edie was going to the house after a Sunday service to be greeted by the smell of roasting potatoes... "Edie is a fine lady I shall miss a great deal," said Walter.



## 42nd annual Scout Cheshire Hike

The Cheshire Hike is a major Scouting event. Participants are aged 11 to 18 organized in 4 sections and each team consists of two Scouts. The hike is spread across Saturday and Sunday with an overnight camp. There are several routes and the distance covered varies by section/age. Along the hike are observation signs for route finding and checkpoints where scouting

tasks are undertaken to gain much needed points. The Scouts carry all they need, but the weight is carefully checked so no one carries too much, and at the overnight camp the Scouts get points for their camping skills and cook their own meals.

Our juniors hiked 19km on Saturday and 11km on Sunday, the intermediate age group 26km on Saturday and 14km on Sunday, and the senior age group 29km on Saturday and 19 km on Sunday.

Our Junior Scouts (pictured) were Ralph Elsegood, Ali Coley, Oliver Church, Alex Ryder, Sara Chow, George Hutchins, Jacob Grace, Michael Griffiths, Matthew Brown and Joe Kelly.

Our intermediate Scouts were Harry Fernall, Oliver Mulgrew, Angus Andrew, Harry Fairclough, James Melia and Peter Mulcahy.

This was a fantastic weekend and a great achievement for all those who took part. Well done.

**Anna Chow**

## Scouts need new hut

Many Bunbury people will have heard of the Scout Group's plans to build a new scout hut in the village, the existing building on Bunbury Lane sadly no longer adequate for the activities of this ever-growing group of young people. In fact, the Bunbury Scout Group, with its 35 adult leaders and helpers, has been named the fastest-growing group in Cheshire for the past four years. The old hut has no parking, or space for storage, and nowhere for outdoor activities: the new building planned for a site next to the Tennis Club on the playing fields, would solve these problems and also provide a space for other groups to meet. The scouts are proposing plans to convert the original building for residential use, and for the proceeds of the sale to provide a significant portion of the funds needed for the new building. Watch this space for news on this development.

# Edith got involved in village life

EDITH CHESTERS was born in Crewe and came to Bunbury in 1939, when she married Frank, moving into the cottage in Wyche Road, where Frank's family had lived for 3 generations. She settled in quickly and soon became involved in many of the village activities, gathering a wide circle of friends. She could always be relied upon to bake cakes and scones for the organisations that she was involved with and never turned up on your doorstep without a home baked fruit loaf.

Edith was very much a family woman, proud of her husband and son and delighted when she became a grandmother in 1981. She doted on Adam and photographs of him could be found on any spare bit of wall or surface in her home.

One of her main pleasures was to go on holiday with Frank, to Blackpool, Torquay, Bournemouth or Eastbourne and after Frank retired from work, they went two or three times a year,

either in their own car, or on a coach holiday, and never failed to make new friends.

When Frank became ill, she nursed him until the end, refusing to let him spend his last days in hospital.

She loved every aspect of her life in the village and her family was very sad when it became clear that she needed full time care and she had to move away from her beloved home.

Edith will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

## Tips for women

During our work on this month's magazine, we came across an article published in April 1975 in the Bunbury Parish



News about wash day in the home.

Christobel Williams-Mitchell wrote: "Time is a major consideration for those with a job outside the home, and

it is worthwhile remembering Mrs Gaskell's advice to working wives 'If you soak the laundry overnight it does not take so long'.

"Soaking certainly can speed things up considerably, particularly with modern powders that contain enzymes to break down stains and dirt. Be sure to soak the whole article - not just the stain.

In our catarrhal climate handkerchiefs can be quite a problem. I have found the answer is to soak them in saltwater for a day before boiling them in fresh water with a generous helping of detergent.

"I keep an enamel saucepan specially for the purpose."

## Post Office goes from strength to strength

Unlike so many rural areas, we have been lucky in Bunbury that our post office has not been threatened in the latest round of post office closures. According to manager, Hazel, our branch performs well above targets in most areas, and, after the extension of the shop premises is now able to offer a much wider range of services. Did you know they always have Euros in stock, for example?

## Losing the plot...or not

In lectures to students, Sigmund Freud would often tell jokes to illustrate his more serious points. For instance, when he was trying to teach aspirant psychiatrists about the need to retain self control during sessions with patients, he told them a joke about an insurance agent on his death bed:

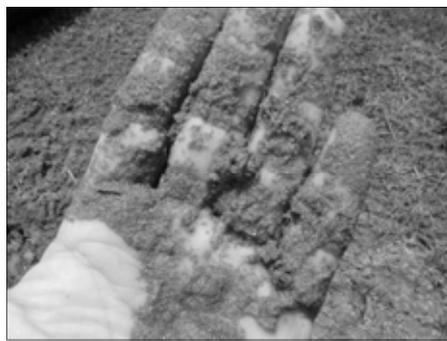
The insurance agent is a fierce atheist, but his family call in the vicar in the hope that he can make his peace with God before he dies. They wait anxiously outside the door, and the talk between the atheist insurance agent and the vicar goes on for such a long time that they begin to take heart. "At last the door of the sickroom opens", Freud concluded. "The unbeliever has not been converted - but the vicar goes away fully-insured!"



This is the team of children and adult and teenage helpers who attended the Easter holiday club at St. Boniface

# Green dreams but is the reality harder?

There always seems to be a 'but'? You might think that growing crops to produce bio fuels would be a huge breakthrough, making us less dependent on the Middle East for oil, and best of all cutting our increasing emissions of carbon dioxide. The 'but' is that to produce large amounts of corn which is the favoured plant at present, large doses of herbicides and nitrogen fertilizer are required which will cause massive soil erosion. Also the process of making ethanol gives off large amounts of carbon dioxide turning ethanol's 'green' label 'brown'. Corn (needed to feed ourselves and our animals) is now in short supply: prices have doubled in a few months and as the number of people on the planet rises to over 4 billion we are running short of food.



**Pond algae: the green fuel of the future?**

One answer might be to produce ethanol from sugar beet as unlike corn it doesn't need expensive enzymes added to help it ferment: the entire sugarcane stalk is already 20 per cent sugar and starts to ferment as soon as it is cut. Wait for it - 'but' most Brazilian cane is cut by hand. The fields are usually burnt before harvest to kill snakes and make the cane easier to be cut by hand. This fills the air with soot while releasing methane and nitrous oxide, two potent greenhouse gases, so whilst

the end product is clean fuel, its production is very dirty. Let's hope a solution is found soon.

Scientists have identified another plant that might solve our energy woes and cause less harm to the environment - algae - single-celled pond scum. This lives in waste water, even sea water, needing little more than sunlight and carbon dioxide.

Algae not only reduce a plant's global warming gases but also devour other pollutants. Some algae make starch which can be processed into ethanol whilst others produce tiny droplets of oil that can be brewed into biodiesel or even jet fuel. Best of all algae in the right conditions can double in mass within hours.

Ultimately supply, efficiency and most importantly price at the pump will determine the future of green fuels.

**Liz Jones**

# Salutary tale of a race-goer's luck

Mitch, a keen churchgoer, loved to go to the race track. One day he was there betting on the ponies and nearly losing his shirt when he noticed a priest who stepped out onto the track and blessed the forehead of one of the horses lining up for the 4<sup>th</sup> race. Lo and behold, this horse - a very long shot - won the race.

Mitch was most interested to see what the priest did before the next race. Sure enough, he watched the priest step out onto the track as the 5<sup>th</sup> race horses lined up, and placed another blessing on the forehead of one of the horses. Mitch made a beeline for the window and placed a small bet on the horse. Again, even though a very long shot, the horse the priest had blessed won the race. Mitch collected his winnings and anxiously waited to see which horse the priest bestowed his blessing on for the 6<sup>th</sup> race.

The priest appeared, blessed a horse, Mitch bet on it, and it won. Mitch was elated. As the day went on, the priest

continued blessing one of the horses, and it always came in first. Mitch began to pull in some serious money, and by the last race, he knew his wildest dreams were going to come true. He made a quick stop at the cash machine, withdrew big money and awaited the priest's blessing that would tell him which horse to bet on.

True to his pattern, the priest stepped out onto the track before the last race and this time blessed the forehead, eyes, ears, and hooves of one of the horses. Mitch bet every penny he had, and watched the horse come in last. Mitch was dumbfounded. He made his way to the track where he found the priest, and demanded, "What happened, Father? All day you blessed horses and they won. The last race, you blessed a horse and he lost. Now I've lost my savings, thanks to you."

The priest nodded wisely and said, "That's the problem with you Protestants...you can't tell the difference between a simple blessing and the Last Rites."



# Phil Dean's friend, Fred, remembers



Phil Dean's obituary in last month's Link brought back some fond memories for Wardle's Fred Dutton.

Fred and Phil were friends over 60 years ago when they both joined the RAF Air Training Corps on National Service in 1946, and were sent for training in South, Glamorgan in Wales. They both moved back to this area after their service, but lost touch.

Fred was shocked to see news of his old comrade's death. Shown here are Phil (left) and Fred on training in Wales.

When someone on the radio or television mentions their mother-in-law we all know what's coming – the inevitable 'mother-in-law' joke because the mother-in-law caricature has been a standard subject for ridicule since time immemorial. Les Dawson was a past master at this and I have to admit I found it hilariously funny – until, that is, I became a M-I-L myself.

The book of Ruth, however, paints a very different picture. Ruth truly loved her mother-in-law, Naomi. Her love was such that she begged to stay with this elderly, impoverished woman and was prepared to leave behind the country of her birth and follow wherever Naomi led. In heartfelt words Ruth said 'Your people will be my people and your God will be my God' (1:6). Naomi agreed and they travelled together to Bethlehem.

Though not much is said about Naomi, except that she loved and cared for the recently widowed Ruth, her own life was obviously a powerful witness to the

## Mother-in-law from Heaven?

reality of God. Ruth was drawn to her - and the God she worshipped. In the succeeding months and years, God led this young Moabite widow to a man named Boaz, whom she eventually married. As a result, she became the great-grandmother of David and an ancestor in the line of the Messiah. What a profound impact Naomi's life had on, not only Ruth's life – but also on each of our lives.

The book of Ruth is very short – only 4 chapters – but it teaches us many lessons, Ruth's faithfulness, kindness and loyalty to Naomi; Naomi's trust in God, and God's care and protection over both their lives and the blessings he bestowed upon them. They came to

Bethlehem as poor widows but soon became prosperous through Ruth's marriage to Boaz. Yet the greatest blessing they received was not money, the marriage or the child she bore; it was the quality of love and respect that existed between Ruth, Boaz and Naomi.

So mothers-in-law read this little book and be encouraged! God is at work in all our lives, wanting to use us as he used Naomi, to bring family and friends to him. No matter what our circumstances, we can love and respect the people God has brought into our lives. In so doing, we give and receive blessings – and the greatest blessing of all is love.

**Kate Reeves**

### With apologies to mothers-in law

"The wife's mother said, 'when you're dead, I'll dance on your grave'. I said, 'Good, I'm being buried at sea'."

(a Les Dawson joke).

## All change for St. Jude's wardens

It is all change at St. Judes. At our recent vestry meeting two volunteers stepped forward to be Church Warden.

Our heroes are Brigid Sayce and David Wright, and all of us in the church are most grateful to them for taking on this important job.

Michael Morgan-Wynne was re-appointed as Treasurer, and Ann Posnett as Secretary.

All of this quartet are vital to the continuation of St Jude's as a living church, and all attending the meeting expressed their strong determination to support this church with or without any outside help.

Tickets are now available for the concert on 14th May, and can be obtained from any member of the church.

Our next project is to turn the Church Hall into a veritable Sistine Chapel, well perhaps not quite to that standard but we are going to paint it. So it's paint brushes at the ready when we start after the concert.

**Bob Gardner**

## Church-going social climbers

Meg Fairweather kindly thought of The Link when she re-discovered an old newspaper cutting recently. She had found this poem amongst her late mother's belongings and in the '80s it was published in the Chronicle. The poem was written by the Rev J.S. Bouchier, but surely it doesn't still apply...

Some go to church just for a walk,  
Some go to stare, and laugh and talk,  
Some go there to meet a friend,  
Some their idle time to spend.  
Some for general observation,  
Some for private speculation,  
Some to seek or find a lover,  
Some a courtship to discover.  
Some go there to use their eyes  
And newest fashions criticise,  
Some to show their own smart dress,  
Some their neighbours to assess.  
Some to scan a robe or bonnet,  
Some to price the trimmings on it.  
Some to learn the latest news,  
That friends at home they might amuse.  
Some to gossip false and true,  
Safe hid within the sheltering pew,  
Some go to please the squire,  
Some his daughters to admire.  
Some because it's thought genteel,  
Some to vaunt their pious zeal,  
Some to show how sweet they sing,  
Some how loud their voices ring.  
Some the preacher go to hear,  
His style or voice, to praise or cheer,  
Some forgiveness to implore,  
Some their sins to varnish o'er,  
Some to sit, and doze and nod,  
But few to kneel and worship God.

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## May Diary

4	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Worship	St. Boniface
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Calveley
7	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
11	9.30am	Morning Service	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Communion	St. Boniface
	6.00pm	Evensong	St. Boniface
14	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
18	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Worship	St. Boniface
	11.00am	Matins	Calveley
21	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
25	9.30am	Morning Service	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Communion	St. Boniface
28	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface

### June

1	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Worship	St. Boniface
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Calveley
7	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface

### Looking ahead

June 21	Village Day
July 5th	Bunbury School Summer Barbeque
August Bank Holiday	- Beeston Castle Fete
September 13	Ex-BBC war reporter Martin Bell at St. Boniface
October 4	Tarporley School 50th Anniversary Event

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**Other church contacts:**

The Reverend Jane Stephenson (parish curate)	250249
Peter and Kath Collinge (pastoral support)	260077

**St. Boniface**

Churchwardens:	Barbara Croley	260344
	Walter Done	01244 332563
Secretary	Neil Dewson-Smyth	261680
Flowers	Margaret Bourne	260944

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	David Wright	260467
Secretary	Ann Posnett	260251
Organist	Ann Badrock	260343

**Calveley**

Churchwardens:	Barbara Croley	260344
	Walter Done	01244 332563
Organist	John Batchelor	261056
Secretary	Sue Woodward	01270 522822

Link is edited by **Lucy Munro (tel. 260487)** and **Jill Robey (tel. 260081)**. We welcome all contributions. Our deadline for the June edition is 16th May. Please send material to [lucykmunro@hotmail.com](mailto:lucykmunro@hotmail.com).

Visit the St. Boniface website for pictures of recent weddings and the Link on-line.

**[www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk](http://www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk)**

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