

Traditional fun at Beeston Fête

St. Boniface Church Fête went ahead as usual on August Bank Holiday Monday despite dreadful weather during the morning. By lunchtime the rain was stopping: the customers started to come out and numbers increased dramatically with the sunshine in the afternoon. The committee and organisers would like to thank everyone who helped to make the day a tremendous success, especially those working so hard behind the scenes (more pictures on page 7). Nigel Mulliss, Committee Chair, is pleased to announce that the figure raised is probably in excess of £3,500.

Pictured here are the Queen and Knave of Hearts on the junior tombola

(the tireless Wendy Slack and Teri Williams). Their next project will be producing the YCs Annual Panto, this year 'Cinderella'. More photos on page 7.



Bunbury School at Stretton Water Mill

At the start of the new term at Bunbury School each class was lucky enough to be taken on a visit to Stretton Water Mill near Carden Park. A Year 6 pupil writes:

"We were one of the first classes to visit the Mill. We thoroughly enjoyed it and learnt lots about our topic, cogs and gears. We had a tour of the Mill which dates back to 1351 and even had a go at making flour."



Susannah and Bethan at the Mill

Enjoying some autumn sunshine: the miller demonstrates the sluice gate to Year 6, below



Ridgway Window near completion

The new window for the St. Boniface Ridley Chapel in memory of Canon Maurice Ridgway is finally under construction and is due to be installed in the church in November. Many thanks to all those who have generously contributed to the £35,000 cost. 90% of the cost has been raised but contributions are still welcome. This project has been efficiently driven by churchwarden Walter Done and we look forward to seeing the results in place at Christmas.

Mast latest

During September the application for the O2 mast on the church tower has been under 28 days' public notice for objection and you may have seen notices displayed around the village. The period for objection finishes in early October. If you have any questions please contact the churchwardens (numbers on page 2).

Neville

Calveley lay reader Neville Edgley has recently undergone major abdominal surgery and as we go to print is seriously ill in the high dependency unit at Leighton Hospital. Our thoughts and prayers go to Neville and wife Pat, also a Lay Reader, as they go through this difficult time.

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16th October - Don't miss the Bishop of Birkenhead at St.Judes

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

Ospreys near Porthmadog

Whilst in Wales in August, we were told that the RSPB were holding an Open Day and we could view an osprey's nest. This sounded very exciting and we turned up at the viewing site not really expecting to see an osprey close up but we were in for a treat. We saw the male circling overhead being carried up on the thermals. He had been fishing and was carrying a fish in his talons headfirst into the wind. We were able to see him, by way of a camera placed in the nest, drop the mullet in the nest for the chick to eat. The fish was still alive and wiggled and squirmed and the chick, which by this time was nearly full size, had difficulty coping with it. Maybe it was too well fed. Ospreys had become extinct in the UK by the early 20th century but returned to breed in Scotland in 1954. For the first time last year a pair of

ospreys chose to nest near Porthmadog. Unfortunately shortly after the chicks had hatched, there was a storm which destroyed the nest and the chicks were killed. The RSPB rebuilt the nest incorporating a camera and amazingly enough the pair returned. The male bird was rather indignant on arrival and started to rearrange the sticks but it was soon made acceptable and 3 eggs were laid from which 2 hatched and these are now fully grown. The choice of site enables the osprey to catch freshwater trout and also mullet from the sea. An osprey making a kill is a spectacular sight. It pauses in mid-flight and hovers momentarily, then turns with half-closed wings and plummets to the



water, entering feet first with a large splash and often completely submerging for a moment or two. On surfacing after a successful dive with a fish in its talons, it shakes its plumage violently to remove the water and carries the fish which can be up to about 2 kg back to its nest. The talons are needle-sharp with spiny scales on its toes which enable it to grip its slippery prey. The female osprey had started to go off and fish for herself in preparation for the long flight to Africa. She will go first and the father will stay a while to teach the chicks to fish. When they are strong enough they will fly together and join the mother in Africa. The male and female will then hopefully return next year but the chicks will stay in Africa for two more years.

Liz Jones

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
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Forgiveness

'We are most like animals when we kill;
we are most like humans when we judge;
and most like God when we forgive.'

I have to confess that true and absolute forgiveness is not something that comes easily to me. There was a stage in my life when I could forgive and I often found myself apologising even when it was I who had been wronged. I did this because I could not bear the separation that arose through conflict. I'd rather ignore my hurt for the sake of peace and I guess there were times when this was probably the right thing to do.

There was a couple, you might know them, who seemed to be having a lot of arguments. But they really wanted their marriage to work. So they agreed that for one month they would drop notes into "fault boxes", each to contain the others daily irritations - not listening, not caring, always flicking channels - you know what I mean.

At the end of the month they sat in together on the sofa; they exchanged boxes. The wife read her notes and reflected on all her wrongs. Then he opened his box, admittedly with a bit of a smirk, because she clearly had more notes than he. He began reading: the notes were all the same. They simply read, "I love you".

Forgiveness is so complex. Should one forgive out of love or compassion? Sounds good but is it true forgiveness?

What about forgiveness even if it is not wanted or if it is not deserved? Should forgiveness be so cheaply given by a child

whose parent harms them? Should habitual violence or abuse be forgiven? I believe that Jesus encourages in us a desire to forgive, providing there is some form of acknowledgement of wrong, and where the harmed party can confront and say how hurt they are.

For me, my forgiveness is very precious. Very special indeed. It's not cheap, it costs me to forgive. If I've been hurt or damaged in some way and am given the opportunity to forgive I can do so, willingly, as I give a precious gift. I have to set aside my hurt so that I can accept an apology and give forgiveness. An unwillingness or inability to forgive binds and suffocates us. Often, it is far more healthy for us to forgive and to be forgiven than to keep returning to that hurt. The giving and receiving of forgiveness liberates us.

Peter asks Jesus, 'How many times shall I forgive my brother Andrew?' Jesus seems disappointed: it is as if Peter had asked 'How many times should I love my children?' Forgiveness, true forgiveness, is about our maturity and it comes from the emotions not from law. Forgiveness is an indicator of our ability to love. Love always perseveres and keeps no record of wrongs. God is always willing to forgive us, but it always requires two to restore a broken relationship. The moment we turn to God He is always there ready, pleased to forgive us.

Rick

Trust

'For as the rain and snow come down from heaven, and do not return until they have watered the earth, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth: it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.'
(Isaiah 55, 10-11)

This is a promise, an encouragement and a challenge, all rolled into one. God is saying, in effect, 'I've given you my word, I've made it known to you, I have faith in you, that you will return my investment with a good rate of interest.'

God has given us the gift of life here and hereafter - and his word to keep us going. He's done his part, investing life in us, and *he's* trusting *us* to make something of it.

We probably don't often take time to reflect on how much we trust *God* already. The promise of God, in Isaiah, talking about the rain and snow watering the earth, reminds us of the promise God gave to Noah, that 'As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.' (Genesis 8, 22). However subconsciously, each day we take these things from God *on trust*.

Noah had that precious thing called 'trust' in abundance. God calls us to trust him in all things, always and whatever comes in our way.

Eric Wallington

Making a new start

Best of luck to all those local youngsters who have left school and are now moving on, whether starting a new college course, moving away to university, taking up an apprenticeship or starting a job. And well done to their parents who have supported and encouraged them through their school careers. Good luck, too, to those students going abroad for a 'gap year' or as part of their course.

Jane Stephenson - who's she?

I'm that sometimes slightly bewildered person who occasionally arrives in a dog-collar to take part in a service and who confusingly lives at "that other Tilston, the one near Malpas". Part-time curate, full-time teacher, what they call a Minister in Secular Employment I believe. Brought up as a Methodist, poached by the Anglicans for ten shillings a week (50p to younger readers!) to sing in a choir in London, I never really left after that, although the Church has never increased my pay.

Now here I am, married to Tom, who comes for the "fun" services and with three children (and three sets of tuition fees!): John, Jenny and Sally, all aged over 18 and therefore not often in this neck of the woods. You'll get to know more about me I'm sure, as I get to know you, but let me simply say that I am blessed to be attached to your three churches and look forward to deepening my love of God with you all.

**Jane Stephenson 01829 250249
stephenson256@btinternet.com**

Johnny says 'Asante sana!'

It was another successful year at the Holiday Club. 75 children came to a church transformed into a jungle for this year's Prayer Safari entitled 'The Kingdom of the Son'. Surrounded by columns hung with huge green leaves and an enormous waterfall backdrop, the children enjoyed a week of songs, crafts, drama and games as they learnt more and more about the Lord's Prayer. They also picked up some Swahili along the way! (eg. 'asante sana' meaning *thank-you very much*).

Many thanks to the parents who offered help at the last minute and to all those on the team who attended the whole week. Joy Parker and Helen Jones led some fantastic craft projects again this year and a banner celebrating the week can be seen in the church.

Some twenty young people were involved in many ways over the holidays as the youth Task Force. Focusing on the Holiday

Club, they cut out hundreds of leaves, designed the jungle decor, painted pictures and backdrops, donated monkeys, performed dramas, led the action songs, operated the DVD and PA, led the games and helped out with each team of children. A big 'heko' (Swahili: *well done*) to all those on the Task Force.

'Drama in Narnia' was a quieter week after all the rumbles in the jungle. However, those children who came along thoroughly enjoyed exploring the story of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. The children did a fantastic job in creating their own scenes to tell the story and showed much excitement over their costumes. For many parents it was a wonder to how it see it all come together for the final performance.

Johnny Gillett 260680



You are wanted!

Able-bodied people are urgently needed to help keep the Kingdom Kids rooms tidy. After their Sunday meeting the rooms are left very untidy, the number of ladies who clean the Church is depleting, and don't have time to keep the Church as we would like visitors to see it. We need help, one hour every 2 weeks would make a big difference. We need the church, and the church needs us. Men, women or teenagers could do this.

Barbara Croley 260344

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Real Cricket news

Forget the Ashes, on Sunday 24th July the Church and Cricket Club met for their annual match after the outdoor service. Sadly for the first time in recent memory the match was rained off after about an hour, thereby preserving both teams' honour.

The Cricket Club hosted a more successful battle in August when a team from St. Albans paid a visit, bringing their own Caribbean-style sound system which played loudly throughout the match and sets of dominoes to while away the time off the field. Diana Kinsey enjoyed the whole spectacle so much she hopes they come back next year!

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Bunbury in the Spotlight

The North Manchester Photographic Society paid a visit to Bunbury and St. Boniface on a beautiful Sunday in May, with the aim of photographing an 'unknown village'. They have kindly offered to show us the fruits of their labours: from October 8th St Boniface will house an exhibition of photographs taken that day and submitted to the society's annual competition - they are well worth a look. We are hoping that some of the photos may be suitable to reprint as postcards.



By strange coincidence, Kath Collinge experienced a 'blast from the past' when she got chatting to one of the photographer's wives: with the question 'Do you mind me asking how old you are?' they soon worked out that they had been classmates at Leigh Street Secondary School almost 50 years ago. The classmate before marriage had the uniquely memorable name of Barbara Shonutt.

Photos by Mr Madders, N.M.P.S.



Sunnyside Down - a local memoir

A book of memoirs with a particular interest for Bunbury people is published in October. 'Sunnyside Down', subtitled 'Growing up in `50s Britain', is based on the childhood experiences of Ken Blakemore, who was born in Bunbury in 1948 and grew up in 'Sunnyside' on School Lane. Since leaving the area in 1967, Ken became an academic. He has recently taken early retirement from Swansea University. Although Ken's mother Beryl White was a local girl - her family came from Spurstow - Ken has no family left in the area, though both parents are buried at St Boniface. Some of our older readers may remember Ken or perhaps his twin brothers Fred and Henry who are nine years older. Ken remembers our own Burrows Butchers, but was amazed at the changes he saw in Tarporley on a recent visit.

The Nantwich Bookshop will be holding a book signing for Sunnyside Down on October 1st at 11.00am. It is published by Sutton Publishing at £14.99

Bangers and Blowers

This music group for children aged 7 plus has recently restarted after the summer break. We meet on Saturday mornings at 9.30 and need more members to sing, play instruments and perform at the carol service - and eat sweets and have fun! We are also planning our annual, subsidised visit to the Camelot theme park. Contact George Robey on 260081 if you would like more details.

Oh the joys of summer in Wales! Several Bunbury families met up on a camp site in Anglesey at the end of last term, but after one night some were driven home by the torrential rain. As you can see these ladies kept smiling and some even returned after a trip back to Bunbury for dry clothes!



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Gardening Club Annual Show

Bunbury's annual Gardening Club Show was held on Saturday 27th August and as usual there was a magnificent display of flowers, fruit and vegetables as well as jam, pies and cakes. There was also a pleasing number of children's entries. The Chairman's cup went to Margaret Bourne who swept the board of floral prizes. If you are interested in joining this popular club please contact Chariman Roger Fairweather 261015.



Rob, Adrian and Jack keep an eye on proceedings



Above: Meg in charge of the raffle tickets. Dennis wins with these begonias, below.



Above: Ann with her prize-winning photograph. Below: an impressive display of garden produce.




Above: Morag with her magnificent geranium. Below: Johnny Walker knows his onions! He has been contributing plants to the Beeston Fete plant stall for about 55 years.



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Beeston Fete behind the scenes



Above: Sarah and Barbara busy in the tea tent.

Top right: Alex and Joy washing up.

Right: Kate and Margaret on the plant stall.

(Next year we'll picture the chaps!)



The success of Beeston Fete depends on all those beavering away behind the scenes, both on the day and in the weeks and months before.



Quality copies of all our photographs in colour or black and white are available to buy for a £5 contribution to church funds. Contact Lucy or Jill.

Moses speaks

A burglar broke into a house one night. He shone his flashlight around, looking for valuables, and when he picked up a CD player to place in his sack, a strange, disembodied voice echoed from the dark saying, "Jesus is watching you." He nearly jumped out of his skin, clicked his flashlight off, and froze.

When he heard nothing more after a bit, he shook his head, promised himself a vacation after the next big score, then clicked the light on and began searching for more valuables. Just as he pulled the stereo out so he could disconnect the wires, clear as a bell he heard, "Jesus is watching you."

Freaked out, he shone his light around frantically, looking for the source of the voice. Finally, in the corner of the room, his flashlight beam came to rest on a parrot. Did you say that?" he hissed at the parrot. "Yep," the parrot confessed, then squawked, "I'm just trying to warn you." The burglar relaxed. "Warn me, huh? Who in the world are you?" "Moses," replied the bird.

"Moses?" the burglar laughed.. "What kind of people would name a bird Moses?"

"The kind of people that would name a Rottweiler Jesus." Said the parrot.

Caroline White

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Competition winner

Congratulations to the winner of Walter's Bible Wordsearch in the last issue of the Link. Mrs P. Jackson of Newcastle-under-Lyme has written to thank us for her prize of a fiver. She really enjoyed doing this competition. Thanks to Walter Williamson for providing this puzzle which proved very popular. We look forward to publishing another one soon.

Evensong

Evensong takes place every second Sunday in the month at 6.30pm. It is a wonderful short service (about half an hour) taken from the Book of Common Prayer. During the summer our congregation was down to four and without support this historic and peaceful service may be discontinued. So please come along and join us. Transport can be arranged if needed. Contact Barbara Croley (260344) for more details.

Imperial War Graves

Tucked away in the lower burial ground at St. Boniface are three Imperial War Graves. The church receives funding from the Imperial War Graves Commission to maintain them. They are currently in need of some tidying and a volunteer or volunteers are needed to adopt one, two or all of them and take responsibility for their upkeep. If you are able to help please contact Ernest Croley on 260344.



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Crewing for Sir Ranulf Fiennes

"I am a Year 6 pupil at Bunbury Primary School. During the summer holidays I went to stay with an old school friend, Alex Millington, who now lives in Somerset with his mum and Sir Ranulph Fiennes; the well known explorer and author, who married at St.Boniface in March. While I was there they invited me to join them on a trip to France where Ran was going to take part in a 36-hour marathon around Mont Blanc. I was very excited when we flew from Bristol to Geneva Airport one Thursday lunchtime. On arrival we hired a car and drove to France where we stayed the first night in a hotel at the foot of Mont Blanc. We could see the peak of this high mountain disappearing into the clouds from our hotel window. The race started the following evening at 7pm. There were 3,000 people running in the race. When Ran set off we got into the car with Alex's mum, Louise, and looked at the map which was marked with stopping points where we could

meet up with Ran and give him food and drink. This is called "crewing" for the runner. We travelled for 2 nights and 1 day following Ran around Mont Blanc, through the Mont Blanc Tunnel and crossing the border into Italy before returning to France and the finishing point. I hardly got any sleep, but Ran kept running and we kept on trying to make all the stopping points before he arrived so we could hand him special drinks and food. Ran finished the race in a very good time and came in 346th out of 3000 runners. When we got back to Somerset I was really tired and slept for a very long time that night. I had a fabulous and very exciting time during my stay with Alex, Louise and Ranulph and I will never forget the trip around Mont Blanc."

Michael Noonan

Rick one year on.....

Almost exactly a year ago, I was diagnosed with cancer. I preached a sermon believing that it would probably be my last. I tried to give as well as receive comfort from my last words. I needed to say, as much to myself as to my listeners that Sunday morning, "God's in charge. Don't worry". I was fearful that should I die, those praying for my recovery would feel that their prayers had been ignored. The fact is that I was ready to die. My sense of being with Jesus was so very real it felt like a real healing. My one great sadness was the

prospect of leaving Lin, Russ, Anna, Rachel, Ben and Jobie – and all my wonderful grandchildren – and that awful sense of loneliness as I felt myself leaving this world.

A year on, our last visit to Christies Hospital brings my chemotherapy to an end – a cause for celebration? That's what we were hoping and praying I would be able to write. To choose coloured inks and a wonderful typeface, and fire off those excited e-mails! We were hoping that by now I would have been discharged by Christies and that we would be able to live an ordinary life once more, between occasional hospital checkups. For cancer not to be at the forefront of our minds, to be able close that chapter.

We know that with cancer, they don't talk of 'cure' – but it would be good to be able to speak of 'remission'. Sadly, the doctors have found another shadow: a scan at the end of

September, and appointment in October, may tell us more, but in the meantime it is difficult to find the patience to wait. You'd think we might be full of wisdom and understanding at this stage, after this year's long journey, but the truth is, the uncertainty still hurts.

Rick

Rick and Lin were delighted to attend the wedding of his younger daughter Rachel in August, Rick resplendent in kilt. This was a day that at one time it seemed he would be unlikely to enjoy.

Rick is now undertaking as many of his normal duties as he feels able. He looks very well but don't be fooled, there are many days when he feels unwell or very tired. Lin is keen that he doesn't overdo it but it is a great pleasure to see him back in the swing of church life.



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Beijing to Bunbury by Bike

Last month we mentioned in our community section the epic fundraising journey that Andy Clapperton was planning from China to Cheshire. Here he gives us more details:

"I will be travelling with a friend from university, and the aim is to raise money for Diabetes UK, a charity which, amongst other things, helps people deal with the problems caused by diabetes. I was diagnosed as an insulin-dependent diabetic in 1994, and have since relied on injections to keep my sugar levels relatively stable. Though this may sound like a major problem, and one which would seriously limit such an adventurous lifestyle, in actual fact, with a bit of care, it doesn't stop me from doing anything I set my heart on. Consequently, one of the things we hope to achieve with this epic journey is to promote the ethos that, with a little planning, there's no reason why any diabetic shouldn't fulfill any dream they may happen to have.

We will be riding purpose-built touring bikes and heading through a number of lesser-travelled regions, such as Inner Mongolia, the Taklakaman Desert, along the Black Sea, and across Albania. We will be camping wherever possible, especially in Europe, when things will get more expensive, and staying in cheap hostels elsewhere. We have set up our own comprehensive website – www.cyclehome.net – which has photos, maps, updates of where we are and our latest news, personal details, and information about donations and sponsorship. We also aim to keep you posted of our progress over the coming months.

We're aiming to raise an ambitious £10,000 between us for Diabetes UK, so please make a donation. You can either do this online from our website direct to Diabetes UK, or send cash or cheques (made payable to 'Cyclehome') to Dave Clapperton, at



5, The Hawthorns, Bunbury, Tarporley, Cheshire, CW6 9SJ."

Andy is also hoping to cover his travel costs. Please contact Andy on andy@cyclehome.net or Dave Clapperton on 261218 – any help would be greatly appreciated!

News from St.Jude's

As anyone who is passing St Jude's may notice, the frontage of the Church is currently undergoing something of a spring clean, or perhaps a late summer tidy. The notice board has been freshly painted and a new sign purchased to inform us of services and Bob and a trusty team of helpers are currently painting the gates and railings. The whole church looks a lot better for these jobs being undertaken. Thanks to Bob for organising and anyone who has helped and a particular thank you to Bernard Byrd who has worked hard extending our car park.

For the last 12 months or so I have been sponsoring a young girl in Bangladesh. Her name is Sompa and she is 7 years old. She lives with her parents, 2 brothers and 2 sisters. Her father is a boatman and her mother a housewife. They live on a diet of rice and lentils supplemented by fish they may catch. I have just received her end of year progress report and it makes me realise just how much we have in our country. Even though she is 7 she has only just completed her first year in school. She studies Maths, English and Bangla. Her hobby is swimming and she likes to play with her doll. Her home duty is cleaning. She wants to be a teacher when she grows up. I have also been sent a Christmas card that I may like to send to her. It asks for just £4.00 to supply a present, a far cry from the £400.00 or more that will probably be spent on children here.

For the relatively small amount I give each month, which goes to support the whole community in which Sompa lives, it is very worthwhile to follow her progress and know that we can actually do something about world poverty in our own individual way.

Linda Downey

The Alpha Course comes to St Jude's on Tuesday October 4th. Our exploration of the Christian faith will begin informally over a meal, followed by a DVD and discussion. It will be held at Gables Cottage, School Lane, Bunbury between 7-30 and 9-30 and is open to anyone – from any area. Enquiries to Joy Parker Tel: 260032.

St Jude's Beavers have bounced back from the summer break and straight into working on their Discovery Challenge badge. So far we have tasted foods which are good and not so good for us, done a discovery trail and built tall towers. We shall be finding out how musical instruments work and trying them out, looking at new born chicks and trying tie-dyeing.

Joy Parker

We were very sorry to lose a long time Alpraham resident, Erik Konieczny. Sadly he died so soon after his wife, Doris. May they rest in peace.

Does anyone know where the funeral-attending grey cat lives? At two funerals I have attended at St.Boniface, when everyone goes to the graveyard across the road, a very important grey cat suddenly appears and walks very sedately along the path with the mourners, sits at the graveside like a wise and knowing person, then slips away just as quietly as it came. Somehow its presence is very cheering and comforting.

Dates for your diary: St.Jude's Harvest Supper on Saturday 1st October. Tickets are £10.00 per head available from Ann Latham 260488, food by Mrs Harvey. All are very welcome, not just people from St.Jude's. Our Harvest Festival Service will take place on Sunday 2nd October. Tinned and dry goods to go to Plas Bellin.

Ann Latham

Erik Konieczny remembered

The following is taken from the address given at Erik's funeral in August.

"I met Erik for the first time only very recently when we talked together at the Tollemache Arms after his wife Doris's funeral. Erik was sitting on his very own bar stool, presented for his 80th birthday last year. I was struck then by his obvious strength of character, his sense of humour and his love of life. His family and those who enjoyed his company at the Tollemache Arms will all miss him very much.

"Erik's is a remarkable life story. He was born in Poland, in a village near Katowice. His father was employed by a German family who bred and trained horses and Erik, from an early age, was involved in cleaning the tack and the saddlery and later looked after the ponies belonging to the sons of the German family. Sadly, as relations between Poland and Germany deteriorated, the German family slipped away, leaving Erik's family in financial difficulty. When he was just ten, Erik was taken by the German military forces to work on the land: he never saw his mother again. At sixteen he was forced at gunpoint to join the German Army, and was placed in the transport division. Once, when he was out driving a military vehicle, he briefly saw his father once more, but never again.

"When he was seventeen, he broke a leg and, as a result, avoided action on the Russian Front, recuperating instead in a prison hospital: along with several other Polish, French, American and English men he managed to escape and after 12 months avoiding capture, they managed to join up with the allies. After trekking through France, and eventually into Yugoslavia, they were picked up by the local partisans, who got them out of Europe via Italy, rowing them across the Mediterranean to North Africa.

"Later the Americans transported Erik and the other Poles to Uzbekistan where they joined the Free Polish Army with whom he went into Italy to fight alongside the Allies. When the War ended, the Polish troops were offered free tickets to England, Canada or America: Erik chose England as the nearest to Poland.

"Erik embraced English life, though he always retained his Polish citizenship. He met Doris at local dances, and she taught him English. He worked in the mines in Castleford and

then moved to Stoke to be nearer home. During this time he also mended shoes and made leather bags to supplement his income. Later he worked on local farms and drove for Cheshire Farms and then for the United Daries at Calveley. Then he went to Offley brothers delivering carbon black, but soon swapped to delivering for Holland's Cheese as the cleaner option! A bad accident resulted in a transfer to the warehouse, where he worked until retirement, though even when retired, he stayed active and worked alongside Robert in his car business.

"Erik touched the lives of many. He was always there' with a friendly word and a helping hand, having experienced difficulties, anxieties and loneliness at times in his own life. And in turn, he appreciated to the full anything anyone else did for him. He was small in frame but very strong, and he had a big heart. Those who knew him will miss him, not least for his wicked sense of humour and his truly unique turn of phrase."

Eric Wallington

Good news from Bunbury, Australia

Two years ago Judith Newing who lives in Bunbury, Australia, contacted us with the sad news of her liver cancer. We included Judith, whom some of us have met on visits to Australia, in our prayers at St. Boniface. She went on to have 60% of her liver removed following chemotherapy to shrink the tumour which had previously been inoperable. That was two years ago last month. She wrote to us in September: "I had a scan recently that showed my liver has fully regrown and is lovely and healthy. What more could one ask? The prayers and love and support of so many were of huge benefit to me and some of the people I didn't even know, but I sensed the love and peace".

It is lovely to know that so many people across the world are in contact with Bunbury, UK and how the power of prayer brings the world community closer together.

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Community news

Many congratulations to **Barbara Jones** who gave birth to baby **Elizabeth Mary Rose** (pictured below) on 12th September. Barbara, baby and husband **Chris** are all doing very well!



Ten month old **Freya Millie Gow**, daughter of **Simon and Linda** was baptised on July 24th at St.Judes. On July 31st nine year old **Pippa Eleanor Bindin**, daughter of **Peter and Elizabeth**, was baptised also at St.Judes. Pippa read beautifully from Mark 10 and chose her favourite hymn, Colours of Day.

The baptisms of **Charlotte Elizabeth Garnett-Clewes**, daughter of **Nicola and Jason**, and **Samantha Jade Johnson** (pictured below), daughter of **Louise and Mark** and sister of Jack, aged 5, took place on 14th and 21st



August respectively, both at St.Boniface.

Katie Mason was baptised on Saturday 3rd September at St. Boniface – Katie is looking forward to being confirmed with daughter **Becky** later in the year.

Two brothers were baptised on 18th September: **Ted George** (1) and **Seth Charles** (2) sons of **Jonathan and Helen Worboys** of Alpraham and **Lorna Leeanne Potts** of Liverpool was baptised on 20th September, all at St.Boniface.

Congratulations to the following couples who married this summer at St.Boniface: **Vicky Bishop and Phillip Kaye**, **Gemma Pearce and Stefan de Necker**, **Stephanie Pendergast and Paul Dolan**, **Lizzie Dutton and Ben Sharples**, **Leanora Halstead and Carl Holder**.

Congratulations to **Jane Brown and Vanessa Greenbury** who have recently turned 40 .

We are sorry to have to report the death on 22nd August of **Mrs Mary Lathom**. Mary once lived at Rookery Farm, Haughton, and regularly attended 8 o'clock communion.

On 25th August **Eric Konieczny** died, soon after his wife Mary (p 10).

Also, on 9th September, **Mrs Vera Armstrong** died. Although readers may not know the name, many will remember the lady who walked the village with her little King Charles spaniel. For many years Vera was cook at Spurstow School, and was a member of the onetime Methodist Church there.

George Vernon, a well known Cheshire man and proud of it, sadly died on 12th September. He and his wife Mary lived in Spurstow, with their five daughters, and only recently moved to Tattenhall, to help with the farm work on his son-in-law's farm, until illness overtook.

Our sympathies also to **Mairi Harris** and **Chris Mann** who both recently lost their fathers to illness.

The best of luck to **Mirja Crump**, due to undergo knee surgery in October.

On 26th September there was a gathering at the Dysart for the handing over of the profits from the **Bootleg Abba** event in May to the Pavilion, Scouts, Guides, Earlybirds and the Cricket Club.

On Friday 21st October **St.Luke's Hospice** have organised a fundraising shopping event inside **Cholmondeley Castle**. Strictly ticket only, available from the Hospice 01606 551246, £5.00 including refreshments. (Sorry, no children.) Sponsorship raised from the Midnight Hike now stands at over £80,000.

Church notices

Please continue to pray for Rick, Neville Edgley, Benjamin Thomas, Claudia McLaughlin, Camilla Broster, Peter Overy, Elizabeth Barry and give thanks for the healing of James Bartlett and Tom Phillips.

Ernest Croley is once again looking for sponsorship of the church floodlights during the dark months ahead. A week's sponsorship costs £10. Please contact Ernest on 260344.

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Diary

October

1		St Jude's Harvest Supper	St Jude's Church Hall
2	8.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
	9.30am	Harvest	St Jude
	10.00am	Family Worship	St Boniface
	6.30pm	Harvest	Calveley
5	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
8		Photographic Exhibition	St Boniface
9	9.30am	Morning Service	St Jude
	10.00am	Family Communion	St Boniface
	6.30pm	Evensong	St Boniface
		Circus	Bunbury School
12	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
14		Tarporley School Quiz	
16	8.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
	9.30am	Bishop of Birkenhead	St Jude
	10.00am	Family Worship	St Boniface
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Calveley
19	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
		Haberdashers Deputation Day	
21		St.Luke's retail event	Cholmondeley Castle
23	9.30am	Morning Service	St Jude
	10.00am	Family Communion	St Boniface
26	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
30	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Jude
	10.00am	Family Communion	St Boniface

November

2	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
6	8.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Jude
	11.00am	Family Worship	St Boniface
	11.00am	Matins	Calveley

Looking ahead

November

24-26th	YC's Panto "Cinderella"	Bunbury Village Hall
26th	St.Judes Christmas Fair	St.Judes Church Hall
	Tarporley School Christmas Fair	

December

3rd	Bunbury School Christmas Fair	
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May 2006

13th	Tarporley School Ball	Chester Town Hall
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Link is edited by Lucy Munro (tel. 260487) and Jill Robey (tel. 260081). We welcome all your comments and contributions. Our deadline for the November edition is Friday 14th October. Please send material to lucykmunro@hotmail.com, or to Heath Cottage, School Lane, Bunbury.

www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk