



Link

April 2019

We make a living by what we get, But we make a life by what we give Winston Churchill

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barrister, Caroline
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Fiona and Julia
Parker give us 2
minutes

A magazine for the parishes of
Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall

Holy Week & Easter Services



<p>Sunday 14th April Palm Sunday Service at 10:30am Family Communion with Murphy the Donkey, the parade leaves the Nags Head at 10:10am</p>	<p>Good Friday 19th April Outdoor Service 11am at Tillys Vigil Service 2pm at St Boniface</p>
<p>Maundy Thursday 18th April at 7pm Agape Meal at St Boniface with guest speaker, Archdeacon Mike Gilbertson</p>	<p>Easter Sunday 21st April Holy Communion 8am at St Boniface</p>
	<p>Easter Communion 9:30am St Jude's</p>
	<p>Family Communion 10:30am at St Boniface</p>
	<p>Easter Communion 6:00pm at Calveley Hall Chapel with St Boniface Church Choir</p>

Bunbury church fête 6 May



- Paws for Thought dog display
- Bunbury's Strictly Come Dancing display team and open lesson
- 146 Sqn Air cadet band
- Circus skills with James Bazerley
- Family dog competition
- BBQ, bar and tea tent

Who we are

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The Link

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

Community news

Congratulations to

Lucy O'Neill,

awarded her Gold
Duke of Edinburgh
Award on 26
February.

A massive **thank
you to Julie
Dunbobbin** who

has been delivering the Link in Calveley.

Julie is moving house and so we are
looking for a volunteer to deliver the Link
in The Chantry and Gowry Court.

£5 lunch at the Nag's Head every Tuesday
followed by social afternoon in the Nag's
Head 1.30-3pm. The **social afternoons** will
be held there rather than the surgery from
now on. Thank you to the Nag's Head for
hosting the social afternoons and the
surgery for the offer of a room.

The Link team wishes Sue Briggs Harris
every success with **'The Paper'** launched in
March.

Bunbury Gardening Club: The next
meeting will be a Talk on "Allergies" by
Barbara Wilkinson on Tuesday 16 April at
7.30pm in the Village Hall. New members
are welcome.

Margaret & Mike Bourne will be opening
their garden at Long Acre, Wyche Lane,
Bunbury CW6 9PS for charity under the
National Gardens Scheme on **Sunday 28
April** 2pm-5pm. Tea and cakes, plant stall.
Admission £5 for adults, children free.
Charities supported include Marie Curie,
Macmillan Cancer Support, Hospice UK and
the Carers' Trust. Last year the National
Garden Scheme as a whole donated
approximately £3.1m to nursing and health
charities and are trying to increase the
figure this year. Please lend your support.

Parish Pursuits - **The Parish Council** met
on 12 March with 9 Cllrs and our Ward Cllr
attending. A large number of people
expressed their objections to a planning
application on Wyche Lane, with three
residents speaking on behalf of their
neighbours. Parish and Cheshire East



Council elections are taking place on 2
May. 22 trees are due to be planted soon
on the land behind Tweddle Close. The
Council decided that dogs will not be
allowed on the land. And so
Bunbarians....these winds have ruined my
hair! **Leila Potter, Press Officer**

Ben Parslow (pictured) is fundraising for
Meningitis Research Foundation. As part of
this he is climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro in the
summer and completing the 24 hours

National 3
Peaks this
Easter. He is
currently
studying at
the University
of Exeter
studying
Biochemistry.

Every year
millions of
people are affected by meningitis, with
students being the most vulnerable age
group. The Meningitis Research Foundation
works globally to prevent, treat and
provide awareness about this disease with
an aim of defeating Meningitis by 2030.
He would be very grateful for support - the
fundraising link is: <https://exeter-kili-2019.everydayhero.com/uk/ben-s-kilimanjaro-climb>



Bunbury Bowling Club opens the green
for the start of the season on Monday 1
April. The club meets every Monday
afternoon at the green for social bowling
and practice. New members are always
welcome so come along and give it a try!
You will be surprised how easy it is. Any
further information please contact Dave
Evans 01829 262514

Gill Johnson has Bunbury Journals, three
per year, from 1987-2015 when it finished.
She would like to hand them over to
someone who would appreciate them or
they will be recycled. If anyone would give
them a good home, please contact Gill on
01829 260422; they can be delivered if
needed.

News from the editor

A month or so ago I was in a shop (not in Cheshire). We were buying plants and compost. We had a builder's trolley and my husband Tom had loaded up the compost. He asked me to hold two small items that would have blown away on the trolley. As I was also holding some plants I stupidly put the two small items in my pocket (I think you can all guess where this is going). Tom paid and went off with the trolley. I slowly wandered to the door which had a security system; as I walked through it went off. I was immediately asked to come in and an assistant came off the tills and stood with me and radioed to the back. I wasn't allowed to tell Tom what was going on and two members of staff walked me to the back of the shop to a small room, where there was a man (I assume he was the manager). I was told to show him that my pockets were empty. I did mention that we had just spent £60. He said shoplifting happened all the time and I was lucky he was there otherwise the staff would have been ringing the police. The amount I had to pay was £2.36.

I know I was in the wrong and that the store obviously has a zero tolerance policy towards shoplifting, but I did wonder what happens if someone has dementia. The moral of the story: whenever one goes into a shop always collect a basket. If I had had a basket it wouldn't have happened. It was something that I didn't enjoy.



TIM HAYWARD
Your Vicar

I want to take you back to the first Easter. Two people rose early, their sandalled feet covered in dust and strained by running. They went to the tomb to pay their last respects to Jesus and met there an angel, who broke open their whole world, saying 'He is not here: he is risen!'

Feel the intensity of their emotion. We're told they ran. They ran with fear and great joy. Can you picture them running with fear, with the hasty, gulping breath of fear? Can you picture them gurgling with joy, with the outstretched hands and billowing cloak and squealing yelps of joy.

Fear and great joy: at the heart of the Easter story and at the extremes of our lives today. So much to fear, so many reasons to be afraid. Fear for ourselves, that we'll experience disappointment, that our faith will turn to dust, that our hopes will be proved false. Fear for those we love. Fear that however much we love and however much we care, we will still have to face the awful moment of parting, of letting go, of aching loss and separation. And fear about the big issues way beyond our control. So much to fear.

Fear and joy

And yet also great joy. Joy of a spring lamb finding its rickety feet in a meadow. Joy of a baby discovering how to swallow. Joy of the song, when we have the words and God has the tune. The joy of friendship, of those we have known and loved through thick and thin. The joy of forgiveness, when bitterness and failure don't have the last word. The joy of creation, when we hear birds chirrup on a spring morning. The joy of the orchestra about to break into a thrilling crescendo. The joy of a craftsman perfecting his wood. Great joy. Great, great joy.

Fear and joy, the two poles, the two extremes of humanity. Fear and joy run with us throughout our lives, as constant reminders of Easter and the cost and promise of following Jesus. But there is a secret. It is a secret first revealed to those two early risers running from the tomb. It is a secret that we only glimpse at in this life, but will be revealed at the climax of our lives, a secret of the mystery of fear and joy. The secret is this: joy wins.

Dog fouling in Bunbury – a plea to be neighbourly


In Bunbury we are lucky to have many footpaths to enjoy, but whilst the majority of dog owners respect their surroundings, we would like to remind people of their responsibilities.

When walking across farmland, dogs - like their owners - should stay on the paths and not run wild. More important is the practice of cleaning up after your dog. The reasons for this are not cosmetic; the effects of dog excrement on farmland can be devastating for farmers. Dog waste can carry diseases such as neosporosis, which can cause abortions in farm animals. Local farmers have recently experienced several aborted calves from cows, which graze on land crossed by public footpaths.

Cheshire East council states, "It is illegal to fail to clear up after your dog if it fouls on any land which is open to the air and to which the public has access."

Michael and Pauline Edge

BUNBURY WI MEETING
A NIGHT WITH THE BIRDS

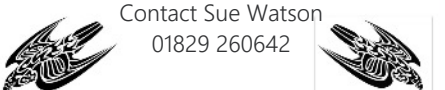


SHROPSHIRE FALCONRY
as seen on BBC Countryfile
Featuring: Lisa Scattergood.

Where: **THE PAVILION, HURST CLOSE, BUNBURY.**
When: **THURSDAY 11TH APRIL 7:30 pm**

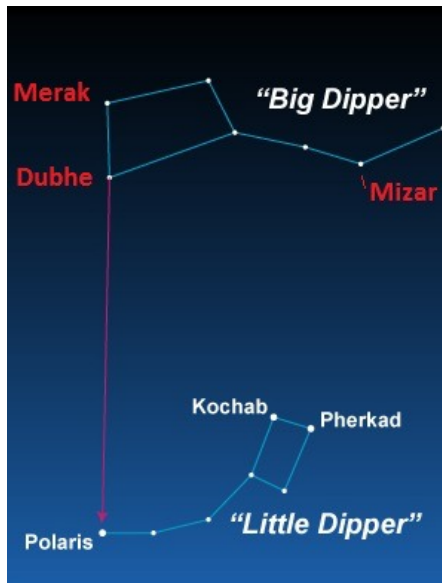
VISITORS WARMLY WELCOME £2.00 INCLUDING TEA AND CAKE

Contact Sue Watson
01829 260642



The copy deadline for the May issue of the Link is Sunday 14 April. The magazine should be in church on Friday 26 April.

Bunbury stargazer's sky notes for April



One of the best-known constellations is Ursa major, or the Great Bear. The brighter 7 stars form one of the most instantly recognisable groupings of stars known variously as 'the Big Dipper', 'the Plough' or 'the Saucepan'. On Spring evenings, the Plough is almost overhead. The two end-most stars, Merak and Dubhe, together are

called 'the Pointers', because they perform the very useful function of pointing towards the Pole Star. If you mentally draw a line through these two stars and extend it, as shown in the diagram, it will lead you directly to the Pole Star. Whilst not an especially bright star, for centuries navigators on ships and on land have relied on the Pole Star, or Polaris as it is properly called, because it marks the direction of true north. If you head towards Polaris, you are heading due north. Polaris was an aid to navigators in a further way. If you measure the angle of the star above the northern horizon, for example using an instrument called a theodolite, it tells you your latitude on Earth. In Bunbury this angle is about 53 degrees, because our latitude is 53 degrees North. At the Earth's North Pole, which is 90 degrees latitude, Polaris will be directly overhead, whereas at the Equator it will be on the horizon.

Polaris remains stationary in the night sky whilst all the constellations appear

to rotate around it (although it's actually the Earth's rotation that causes this effect!).

Polaris is in the constellation of the Little Bear, which contains a grouping commonly called the 'Little Dipper', or a scaled down version of the Plough.

Returning to the Plough itself, look for the star Mizar, which forms the bend in the Plough's handle. It is in fact a double-star with a close neighbour Alcor, which can easily be seen with the unaided eye. The ability to distinguish them is often quoted as having been an ancient sight test, though most people are able to do so. Mizar and Alcor were termed the "horse and rider" by the Arabs. Turn a small telescope to Mizar and it turns out to be double again, making up three stars. But it doesn't end there, as astronomers with powerful equipment have now discovered that all three stars are themselves doubles, so this is actually a six star system!

Down the lane...

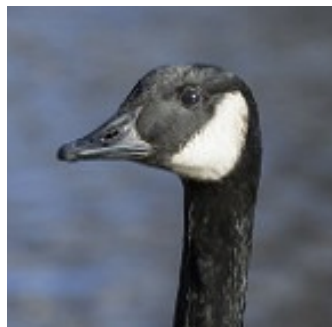
During the incredible spring weather of late February pairs of Canada geese arrived back on 5 of the 13 ponds, with much honking as they fought over prime nesting territory. The ponds are still not full as the winter has been so dry, I do wonder when nature will balance it up as it always does, we are due a lot of wet weather, but when? Perhaps while you are reading this.

Cheshire is referred to as The Pond Capital of Europe, having just over 20,000 ponds, down by nearly half in the last 40 years, many of these ponds were originally man made, marl (clay) being dug to improve land fertility, so as farmers we have always changed landscape and habitats. I am told the meres are a result of the ice age.

I'm not a huge fan of Canada geese, they are recent arrivals being a rare sight in my childhood, I'm afraid I regard them in a similar light to grey squirrels, dominating habitats at the expense of our native species. We have a favourite family picnic spot at one of our ponds, but they have made this almost unusable - I won't go into why! When the goslings first hatch they are however a great sight, the arrival of the geese is a welcome sign that winter is drawing to a close. I am spoilt, living and working in such a great place, taking it far

too much for granted, it was not until I arrived in London on a day trip that I was reminded just how blessed I was.

I started this winter short of two months feed for the cows, as a result of last summer's drought, but was fortunate to be able to buy silage from a local retiring farmer, adding considerably to his retirement funds, but leaving us working solely for pleasure not profit all winter. That's farming!



Since the New Year I have been busy calving, over one hundred and thirty born so far including thirty-five heifer calves, which will join the milking herd in two years time replacing older cows. I used to have purebred Holstein cows, but now crossbreed all our cows to get health benefits and hybrid vigour. I select what we regard as the best bulls in the world, in our case Swedish Reds and Montbelliards from their home countries buying straws of their semen to use by artificial Insemination (AI). This year I

bought well in advance along with a year's supply of vaccines, my only preparations for Brexit so far. Like everyone else I just wait to see what the future holds, Brexit is a bit like the weather, beyond my control, I just have to deal with whatever happens and make the most of it, but in farming I am well used to that.

A day in the life of...

Barrister, Caroline Briggs-Harris

I have worked as a barrister for 18 years. Every day, the unpredictable happens, and every day is a learning curve. I practise from Citadel Chambers in Birmingham, specialise in crime, and most of my work is publicly funded - whether prosecution or defence.

Barristers are (generally) self-employed and operate in strange set-ups called 'chambers'. Each set of chambers has a team of clerks - paid for out of barristers' fees - who administer the work and manage the diaries of the barristers.

My working day of Thursday 28 February began on the evening of the 27, when I was called at around 16:30 to say that I was off to Leamington Spa the next day to 'sit on a jury' for a colleague. Rather than plonking myself on anyone's lap, I was to stand in for a colleague whose jury were already in retirement on a manslaughter case. I duly booked my train ticket to Leamington, only to get a call a few minutes later to say there had been a change of plan and I was off to Hereford instead. At least I could use the Crewe-Birmingham leg of my train ticket (criminal barristers rarely get travel expenses).

So, I got home on Wednesday 27 at around 19:00 and then faced the prospect of about 600 pages of reading for the following day in Hereford - a complicated defence sentence brief that I had never seen before.

I got up at 04:30 to get the 06:19 to Birmingham. Once there, I met with my 'pupil' (a trainee barrister who is supervised for a period of time). The two of us travelled to Hereford.

At court, we signed into the digital 'clocking on' system, I put the fancy dress on, and we went to the cells to see our client. The hearing itself was delayed as one defendant had problems getting to court on time and Probation had yet to write reports for two others. We got on around midday. The case finished somewhere around 15:30. There was then some PR to do with my client's family. I then went back to the robing room and wrote the obligatory attendance note to say what had happened in the case. This goes to the instructing solicitor and to chambers to bill the case. Stereotypes regarding fat cat barristers do not apply to the vast majority at the criminal bar. My fee for that day will pay my train fare but won't stretch to the parking near the station.

On the long journey home, I got another call from the clerks. I was to go to Shrewsbury the next day with a couple of sentencing hearings for the prosecution. Each case was about 300 pages of reading. I downloaded and read some on the train before I got home at 10pm (16.5 hours after I had left). What happened in Shrewsbury? One defendant didn't turn up and the other hadn't bothered sorting a solicitor so his case was adjourned. My handcrafted case openings went unheard and my earnings were halved due to the defendants' behaviour.

As they say, 'crime doesn't pay.' However, to do this job remains a huge privilege, and not just because of the very stiff competition to get a foot on the ladder. We dip in and out of people's lives at their most difficult times, as part of a system steeped in history and intrigue. The criminal courts are charged with emotional and theatrical energy. My stomach still knots when the foreman of a jury stands to deliver a verdict. Curve balls are thrown at counsel each day, and whilst it is impossible to plan anything (all criminal barristers have missed holidays, funerals and other commitments due to the unexpected), the variety of the job - both in terms of workload and location - is immeasurable.

Every Tuesday Special

£5.00 Lunch at

The Nags Head, Bunbury.

Starting on Tuesday 2nd April
from 12.00 o'clock

Followed by a new regular
Social Afternoon

In the Nags Head, Bunbury.

1.30 - 3.00 P.M.

CHAT

TABLE GAMES

BINGO

Everyone Welcome!

**Absolute Beginners
Ballroom – Latin
And
Sequence Dancing**

**Join Alan and Dawn
At Bunbury Village Hall**

**CHA CHA
TANGO
RUMBA**



**WALTZ
QUICKSTEP
FOXTROT**

Starting Tuesday April 23rd

7:00 to 8:00 p.m - £2.00 p.p

Assumes no dance knowledge - Two left feet welcome

For more information

Call Dawn on 07846528245

E mail dawnwebb497@yahoo.co.uk



Campaign for safer parking



As you will be aware from previous articles we are working hard to improve the parking situation around the school area, particularly at the start and end of the day. The first stage has been to move the school buses off the zigzag lines and provide a safe place for children to alight. This has been provided by a coned area to the left of the school.

I would like to say a huge thanks to everyone who has supported our parking campaign at the beginning and end of the day. I have been outside since the start of term both morning and afternoon and am heartened by the support I have been given from parents and local residents. It was pleasing to see that the coned off area has remained clear so that I can load and unload children safely off the bus whilst also providing a clearer space

around school for children to cross. Whilst the start and end of the school day will always be a busy time of the day on School Lane it has been considerably calmer and safer over the past three weeks.

There have however remained a few instances of inconsiderate parking. These cars have been parking opposite the zig zag lines. This has not only caused congestion around the school but made visibility difficult. These two factors in combination are making it unsafe for our children and parents to cross. Please can I ask you that you keep this area clear for the safety of all our children.

Many thanks for your continued support with this.

Nic Badger

Farewell - and cheers! - Rev Vicky



It hardly seems possible that I have been in Bunbury for almost two years and now I am moving on to my first incumbency

at All Saints' Church, Thornton Hough. I am so grateful for the warm welcome, kindness and hospitality which I have received from so many people in the parish during that time.

I shall be instituted (a funny term, but slightly better than installed, which makes me sound like a fridge) as Vicar of All Saints at 7.30pm on Thursday 16 May.

The features which piqued my interest in being vicar at Thornton Hough were all based on my experiences here in our three wonderful churches and village life. Despite coming from a distinctly suburban background, life in Bunbury has helped me to respond to a call to rural ministry. The rich variety of services and music in our churches - different "dialects" within the one desire to worship God and to get to know him better - is also an ongoing project at Thornton Hough. I have loved the privilege of serving people here through the different "occasional offices" of baptisms, weddings, wedding blessings and funerals. I am looking forward to sharing these life events within my new parish. The biggest difference will be that

there is a single church within the parish, rather than three.

There have been so many "highs" during my curacy. Each season has brought new experiences and insights. Getting to know people - and their dogs - through conversations whilst out walking, or shopping, or being at Tilly's or one of our excellent pubs - as well as through church events, and many delicious meals has been a great joy. It has been wonderful to see so many of our Bunbury School pupils at their Ethos Group and hear their many wonderful ideas for making the school community a place which reflects Christian faith and Human Rights in action. Seeing the Youth Club grow and the huge confidence and team spirit created by the pantomime is another delight. And who could forget the 'Fridays at Tilly's' summer outings to Llandudno?

Being able to celebrate Holy Communion with you has been a particular pleasure, whether in a large parish service at St Boniface or smaller congregations at St Jude's and at Calveley chapel, or shared at home with people who are unable to come to church. We may not all share identical views on precisely what is happening when we take Communion, but there is a very powerful sense of God being present with

us and feeding us for our life journey together.

Sharing prayer with the Start the Week group on Mondays and in Morning Prayer on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and through the Contemplative Prayer group has been a great way of anchoring me spiritually. It is encouraging to see people exploring ways in which they can develop lifelong habits of prayer, for that is a foundation for our Christian walk both individually and as a church.

Whilst looking forward to the future on the Wirral, I confess that I am not looking forward to the actual move itself. My cowardly cat, Jazz, hates being put in his basket and finds it very stressful. Ensuring that everything is transferred smoothly from A to B is not easy; and I have been utterly spoilt by living in such a beautiful and well-appointed little cottage! Change is difficult; just as much as I know that I have chosen to make this move, it involves uprooting myself from such a lovely, happy, vibrant place where I feel known to one where there are so many unknowns. I don't want to say "goodbye", yet I know that I have to do so in order to make this move.

Thank you all for your good wishes.

On behalf of both parishes and all three churches, I would like to thank Vicky for all she has shared with us over the last two years, writes Rev Tim. It has been our privilege to see someone close up, dedicate their lives to God. I shall never forget Vicky jumping for joy last summer at her ordination and again following her first communion service and party at Calveley. Vicky, you will be missed, but we wish you every blessing for your future ministry and pray both Jazz and yourself soon settle into your new chapter on the Wirral.

Spotlight on Slovenia

What a difference a year makes! Last year snow was being shovelled from the paths around St. Boniface before the service. This year it was unseasonably warm weather! Inside the church was decorated with photos and the colours of Slovenia as sixty people were welcomed to the service.

This year the country focused on was Slovenia. The service with the theme "Come everything is ready" started with a Welcome Café at 10:45. The readers included 4 year six pupils from Bunbury Primary School. There was also a small choir, music group and recorder group providing wonderful music.

Rev Vicky then led a time of reflection on the theme, which also highlighted differences for women across the world. This was then followed by lunch, which included a choice of several different types of soup, bread and

cheese and a spread of desserts!

There were delicious decorated Slovenian honey biscuits made by Martina Phillips and apple cake

and lemon cake made by Joyce Buxton.

It was a lovely service. Many thanks to everyone who made soup and helped before, during and after the service and lunch.



April prayers

We continue to pray for **Hazel Wilkinson, Pam Hardy, Jean Wood** and **Eric Wallington**. We also pray for all who are mourning a loved one.

*Thank you, Lord,
for your Easter victory of love over hate.
Wherever people are sorrowing,
afraid, or hating,
bring your gifts of love, hope and peace
so that we too can share
in the joy of new life.
Amen*

School's AmaSing experience

As Headteacher of Bunbury I have had many occasions to feel proud, privileged and even humbled by the words, work and actions of our children, writes **Nic Badger**. This week I had the privilege of being part of another such event.



On Wednesday 13 March I had the pleasure of accompanying our school choir, Miss Stuart and Miss Young to AmaSing at Storyhouse in Chester.

AmaSing is an exciting community interest company based in Chester and has had huge success in its first year. AmaSing works collaboratively with educational establishments to develop and enhance children's well being, confidence and self-esteem. It also supports professional development for teachers.

I was incredibly proud of the children who sang and danced throughout the rehearsals and evening performance. Their behaviour was exemplary all day and their enthusiasm for the event infectious. I know the parents who joined us for the evening performance agreed that this was a very special and enjoyable experience for all.

We look forward to being part of AmaSing 2020.

SANDSTONE RIDGE FESTIVAL

2019



THURSDAY 16TH MAY
PECKFORTON, BEESTON & BUNBURY

1. 'A Journey back in time'- English Heritage Roundhouse Presentation - English Heritage is in the process of building a reconstruction of a Bronze Age Roundhouse at Beeston Castle; this informative talk by Carolyn Hicks will take you through the journey as the team try different experimental building methods using tools that may have been used by our ancestors to create a Bronze Age Home.

Venue: Peckforton Village Hall, Peckforton, CW6 9TW

Time: 11.00am | **Tickets:** £5.00

2. Conversation with Jasper Winn, author of 'Water Ways' - Jasper Winn writes about 'slow adventures', travelling by foot, bicycle, kayak and horse. Jasper lived for a year with a nomadic Berber tribe in north Africa, worked with cowboys across South America and Australia and sea-kayaked a thousand miles around the Irish coast for his book 'Paddle'. As writer in residence for the Canal and River Trust he has written Water Ways, about a thousand mile journey along Britain's canals, exploring their geography, wildlife, history and restoration for modern use.

Venue: Beeston Lockgate Cafe, Beeston, CW6 9NJ

Time: 2.30pm

Tickets: £10.00 to include refreshments

3. Songs of Summer - Whether you sing in a choir or simply enjoy raising the roof in happy harmony, join us with local choirs making music appropriate for Summer. After the performance we aim to arrange suppers for all who wish to participate at our local hostelrys in Bunbury and Cholmondeley. More information to be found on the website.

Venue: St. Boniface's Church, Bunbury, CW6 9PE

Time: 7.00pm – 8.15pm | **Tickets:** £5.00

Tickets available at:

Bunbury: Tilly's Coffee Shop, CW6 9QS

Tattenhall: The Post Office, CH3 9PX

Malpas: Barlows Electrical Shop, SY14, 8NN
(cash or cheques only)

or www.sandstoneridgefestival.co.uk

Fête help needed

Can you give up any time on the Spring bank holiday weekend?

What we most need now (apart from a cast iron guarantee of splendid weather) is the energy of some new volunteers to help on the day, May 6 Bank Holiday. Could you take on our famous second-hand book stall or serve in the tea tent? Or - best job in the world - help run the bar? Sell ice creams? Make a cake or run a cake stall? Help in the car park? We also need strong arms on Saturday 4 May to put up the gazebos and marquees. Please check your diaries: the Fête is a huge team effort and we appreciate any time you can offer, whether an hour or the whole day. Lucy Munro, 07580 066153.

All our yesterdays: The Boatmen of Calveley

Warehouses, cranes, barges, trains, horses and carts, workmen, livestock, noise and smoke, and bustling communities with merchants, shopkeepers and innkeepers. What a busy place it must have been all around Calveley and Barbridge in the canals heyday over 100 years ago. Coal, timber, cheese, bobbins and a multitude of other goods being unloaded or loaded for transport along the Shropshire Union Canal to connect with the extensive English and Welsh canal networks.

Today little evidence remains of these times. At Calveley the platform edges are still visible from the bridge over the railway line and the open space between the railway line and the old cheese warehouse would have been the heart of the transshipment area. By the slipway are the bases of long forgotten cranes that would have been used to transship goods between the canal and the roads and railway networks.

Just a short distance away at Barbridge there was once another large warehouse complex centred around Barbridge Canal Junction. The impressive canal house, Junction House, shows the typical style of those built by Thomas Telford.

The Baptism Register records at Calveley Chapel reflect in the various occupations. The many 'boatmen' such as Francis Thomas of Wardle, recorded in the later half of the nineteenth century, Henry Beardwood 'bobbin turner' of Calveley in 1870, James Wells 'flour miller' of Calveley 1871, the blacksmiths, the brickmakers, Frederick Greensill 'canal agent' of Wardle 1893, the timber merchants and the numerous 'labourers' In the 19th century all made their way along lanes, across fields and by footpaths to converge on Calveley Chapel with their families for children's baptisms and regular worship.

In the early 1900s the 'Canal-Side Mission Room' at Barbridge/Wardle was opened - but more about that and its connection with St Boniface Church and Calveley Chapel, another time.

Christian Aid Week: 'All mums should live'

It's that time of year when a small red envelope appears in the post asking for a donation of whatever you can afford to give. Have you ever wondered where the money goes? In addition to now raising for the DEC Cyclone Idai Appeal, here is a glimpse into another small part of the work of Christian Aid. Sierra Leone is the world's most dangerous place to become a mum. Every day ten women die from giving birth. In Sawula district, the community struggle with a clinic, which has no electricity and only two delivery beds.

Jebbeh (pictured right) is heavily pregnant but as her baby grows, it's not joy that fills her heart, but fear. When Jebbeh's sister Fatmata went in to labour, there were so few ambulances that Fatmata had no choice but to walk for three hours under the baking sun, to the nearest hospital. The journey was long and with every step Fatmata struggled to keep walking.

Jebbeh told us: "My sister died on the side of the road. She never gave birth."

This Christian Aid Week, together, we can make childbirth safe for mums and babies. Through our gifts and prayers, we can help give the world's poorest mums a chance to live.

A health centre for all

The community in Sawula dream of having a health centre that can meet their needs. The current health centre is the size of a

small bedroom.

Operations, deliveries and baby checkups all happen in one single room with only two delivery beds.

Nurse Judith works around the clock to meet the needs of mums and young children who come to the clinic. But the need is great, and sometimes she's forced to send people away.

When women come to the clinic at night, there's no light for Judith to use. So she has to ask her patients to bring a torch to see by.

In addition to this, there are often not enough drugs at the clinic. Judith sees diseases like malaria and typhoid, especially in children. She has to go on a motorbike or sometimes walk for three hours to collect drugs.

"I need help," nurse Judith says. "Women are dying from childbirth, children under five are dying, because of poverty. Please help us."

With your support today, we could work alongside Judith's community to build a bigger, better health centre to help more mums give birth safely.

Will you be a partner for change? If the collection in our community raised £1,200, it could help provide four new delivery beds in Sawula.



Christian Aid Week is 12-18 May. We are looking for volunteers to collect in certain parts of Bunbury. These areas are Wakes Meadow,

Darkie Meadow, Sadlers Wells and the new houses at the top, Queen Street, The Highlands, Wyche Road, Orchard Close and Church Row. People can do a one-stop collection. This is such a good cause. Please contact Elaine Crotty 01829 260648 if you are able to help and she will give your details to Joyce Buxton, the Christian Aid coordinator.

Christian Aid Coffee morning at Manor Cottage, School Lane, Monday 29 April 10.30am-12.30pm. Bring and Buy. All proceeds to Christian Aid.

Christian Aid Statement

Everyone is equal in the sight of God. Yet we live in a world where poverty still persists.

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Together we can create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

Our voices and actions are stronger together. And with your help, we can make an even bigger difference

Give us 2 minutes...

We are probably both best known as two thirds of 'The Triplets', write this month's interviewees, Fiona and Julia Parker (pictured left and centre).

We're both 20 years old and have lived in Bunbury since birth. Julia currently works in estate management, and Fiona works for The Proud Trust, as Cheshire West and Chester coordinator and training assistant.

If you had a motto what would it be?

Fiona - Be open to the good!

Julia - Only do, act and say kind things, there is no need for anything else.

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

We'd both prefer a cup of tea and some cake instead of a beer call. I (Fiona) would invite Sue Perkins, Ellen DeGeneres and footballing legend Kelly Smith.

For me, Julia, George Clarke, David Attenborough, James Hutton (a forward-thinking geologist) and Greta Thunberg, the girl who is tackling climate change - as they all have my best interests at heart.

What would you call your autobiography?

Julia - "How to be happy."

Fiona - "'Life isn't as serious as the mind makes it out to be.'" - Eckhart Tolle

What was your first job?

Julia - "My first proper job is as an estate manager, working across England and Wales. Making sure our sites are safe, presentable and the best they can be for local wildlife."

Fiona - My first job was as an apprenticeship as a chef.

What would you change about Bunbury if you could?

Julia - I'd like people to walk more, whether that's in the morning to take their children to school or just to go to the shops.

Fiona - I would like Bunbury to be more young person and activity friendly. A skate park, concrete court for ball sports and better signposting to sports groups would be wonderful.

Fiona & Julia Parker



What is the best book you have read to date?

J - I am torn between two books. One called 'Hedgerow and Wildlife' by Jane Eastoe, from the National Trust and 'The Book of the British Countryside.' They're my go to for a bedtime read and they help me ID plants whilst I am out on a walk.

F - The best book I have read to date is 'Things are what you make of them', which is made of tear-and-share letters aimed at creative people, but has inspiration, advice and warmth for anyone who reads it.

What is your biggest regret?

J - Not believing in myself when it came to learning, particularly with my maths. It doesn't matter what learning difficulties you have - you still can do it! You just have to find a different way.

F - Don't really focus on regrets, however a regret would be not learning to swim properly. I will never forget having to be pulled around the swimming pool in Y3,

by our teacher, whilst every other pupil was in the deep end.

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

J - Become a ranger, because I want to actively preserve, protect and enhance our delicate habitats whilst working directly with the public.

F - I'd like to see a killer whale in the wild.

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

J - I've been trying to learn Welsh, to impress my Cariad.

F - I play wheelchair basketball.

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

J - I want to continue to learn as much as I can about the countryside, various habitats and how to protect them. for when I become a ranger.

F - I want to continue putting time aside for myself and my family. Making time to explore over the weekends and be more efficient with the time I have.

What is your favourite place and why?

J - My favourite place is Lundy Island—it is genuinely the one place where you can leave everything behind and really enjoy everything that is around you!

F - My favourite place is Wales. It's got a lot of good memories, through DofE and residentials. I recently went to Barmouth for a few days to myself. The sunsets, beach and hill walks made me feel so warm and at peace.

How would you spend your ideal weekend?

J - My ideal weekend would be having a go at surfing, in Cornwall with my friends and some family.

F - Probably camping in Wales with some of my family. Enjoying beach days, hill climbs and surfing when possible.

School with a difference

John Ellis writes about his early life in Malta

The family moved to Malta from Cheshire in 1937. I had just started school when the war began. For two years Malta became the most bombed place on earth; at the height of the siege it received more tonnage of bombs per month than London got in the whole of its blitz. On the upside, I will forever be grateful to the unknown Stuka dive-bomber pilot who demolished the school on one of the first days. With others, I was shipped off to a convent, but I only lasted a week before the Reverend Mother called my mother to take me away. She considered me uncontrollable (a trait, which remained with me all my life!).

So no school, but teaching came in a slightly different guise. Reading and English generally was under my father's Maltese driver when he was not needed elsewhere. He taught me to read the Uncle Remus Stories of Brer Rabbit and Brer Fox. I can't hear them now without thinking of Gerald and hearing his gorgeous Maltese accent.

Maths came under the Petty Officer RN on the small 100ft wooden Motor Launch, a B ML Mine Sweeper, which moored below our house. Sums involved counting out the machine gun ammunition for loading carefully into the magazine drums. Elementary trigonometry was working out the distance and angle a paravane must trail behind the boat so that the cutting wire it supported cut the mine's anchor cable safely. It was all very serious work and one learnt fast to be reliable and react to what one was told, even as a youngster.

When I eventually re-started school again in late 1944 it really was very tame.

New Church Electoral Roll at Calveley and St Boniface - time to register

Every six years, across the country, old Church Electoral Rolls are deleted and new Rolls prepared. The next new Roll is going to be prepared this year. So what is the Electoral Roll? It's the ecclesiastical equivalent of the Register of Electors i.e. the register of all those qualified to vote at the elections at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting and to stand for election to the Parochial Church Council. Who should join? Every worshipping member of our churches over 16 should join the Electoral Roll. A person should be a regular worshipping member of the church for at least six months before they can apply for membership. Further details are on the application form.

If you wish to be included in this new electoral roll, please fill in an enrolment form available in the church or from Jeremy Shears. Forms need to be returned to Jeremy or to the box at the back of St Boniface provided for this purpose by 12 April. Please note that even if your name was on a previous Electoral Roll you need to reapply.

Some other points of possible interest: -

The three minesweepers had come to us from Gibraltar hugging the enemy held North African coast. One made the hazardous journey by flying the German Naval Ensign and was escorted for a while by German aircraft who had mistaken them at the distance for a German destroyer. Their task in Malta was to sweep the channel into port each night so that the submarines could return safely from patrol.

Food became very short as ships were mostly lost trying to replenish Malta. In 1942 the adult ration was 800 calories per day, a youngster like me received 400 cals. Fortunately for me being closely associated with our minesweepers the sailors used to slip me part of their meagre bread ration - with jam! Our family of four, mother, two sisters and me received $\frac{3}{4}$ of a baked bean sized can of stew once a day from the Victory Kitchen at the end of our creek. There were few cats to be seen and we always said it was because they were in the stew! The island was quietly starving to death. We were evidently close to surrendering when Churchill ordered a convoy to be forced through. 16 ships left Birkenhead, I was told, and four made it to Malta. Two sank on arrival and the other two were sunk at their moorings by the Luftwaffe. The Cheshire Regiment whilst under attack went into the flooded holds which were also mixed with fuel oil and salvaged what they could. In this operation the Royal Navy lost several ships including an aircraft carrier; a costly business.

Bunbury's Colin Stanyer gnashes his teeth in The Daily Telegraph!

As a practising dentist, it has always been my aim to prevent rather than treat dental disease. In the early 90s I was lucky enough to work with a professional football club. During that time I managed to persuade three first team players to wear a mouth guard.

I find the lack of protection worn in today's game quite extraordinary. Football is a contact sport and many teeth are lost or damaged as a result. I would like to see the wearing of mouth guards made compulsory for all contact sports from secondary school upwards. That generation would regard it as the norm, preventing many dental disasters

CA Stanyer, Bunbury Cheshire



Celia Smyth: Easter Rocky Road

At Easter we are always pleased to welcome the grandchildren to Bunbury. Whilst Wing Commander Smyth will insist on dressing up as an Easter Bunny, I usually stick to the more conventional pleasures in life after 40 days of abstinence and prepare this afternoon treat. It always goes down well - although they will keep for up to a week in an airtight container, my experience is that you won't keep them away from the children (or adults) for that long!

Ingredients

225g dark chocolate,
broken into pieces
100g unsalted butter,
cubed
2 tbsp cocoa powder
2 tbsp golden syrup
100g rich tea biscuits
50g mini marshmallows
75g dried cranberries
200g chocolate mini eggs

Line a 8in x 12in traybake tin with 2 sheets of cling film (in a criss-cross pattern). Put the chocolate and butter in a large bowl over a saucepan of gently simmering water, and melt it until it is smooth and glossy.

Remove from the heat and add the cocoa powder and golden syrup. Mix together until fully combined and then leave to cool at room temperature for about 15-20 mins.

Put the biscuits in a freezer bag and use a rolling pin to bash them, leaving some pieces chunkier than others. Stir into the cooled chocolate with the marshmallows, cranberries and approximately 150g of the mini eggs.

Pour the mix into the tin and press down with the back of a spoon. Scatter over the remaining mini eggs, pressing them in a little, and then leave to set in the fridge for 1 hour.

Remove from the tin and cut into bars to serve.



Pat Ellis - Reader Emeritus A prayer for Lent

(Or any time really)

Are you struggling with your Lent promises?

The odd glass of wine or bar of chocolate, breaking your fast?

Don't beat yourself up. We are only human.

Just start again.

A great inspiration for me is the life of Ignatius Loyola, who founded the Jesuits.

A soldier, he was wounded in battle when a cannon ball shattered his leg. During his long recovery, he had a great vision of the Mother of God, and started a painful quest to follow the Christian way of life. After many torments of the soul, he at last found peace, and wrote his Spiritual Exercises.

Not many of us could keep to his stringent lifestyle, but he wrote a daily "Examen", or spiritual routine, which we can still follow today.

Find a quiet time and:

Become aware of God's presence.

Review the day with gratitude.

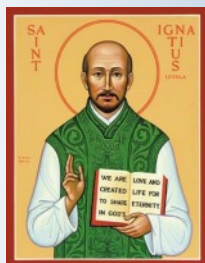
Pay attention to your emotions.

Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.

Look forward to tomorrow.

And his famous prayer:

Dearest Lord,
teach me to be generous;
teach me to serve You as You deserve;
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to ask for reward
save that of knowing I am doing
Your Will.



Mike Rogers writes...

On time or not?



It has always struck me as slightly bizarre that the date of the most important Christian festival, namely Easter, which we celebrate later this month, is established on the basis of a lunar cycle. As some of you will know, in the Western church the date of Easter is tied to the first Sunday in the Gregorian Calendar after the first Full Moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox although never on the day of the full moon itself. The Eastern church uses the same process but the actual date differs in that, unlike the Western church, the Eastern church still uses the Julian Calendar.

The vernal equinox occurs when the sun crosses the plane of the earth's equator, making night and day approximately equal length all over the earth and it occurs on or around 2 March. But because the date on which a full moon occurs after the equinox changes, the date of Easter is variable and thus, in the Western church, it may fall anywhere between 21 March and 25 April. This variation prompts all sorts of comment; one hears of complaints that

Easter is either 'early' or 'late' but I've yet to hear anyone say that Easter is 'on time'!

And from time-to-time the argument for making the date of Easter the same each year is rehearsed; it runs along the lines of helping in the planning of holidays, the academic year or, in the church, the number of Sundays after Trinity, but I have to admit, I am quite attracted to leaving things as they are.

The events of Easter rank as some of the most important in history. They have never been repeated and their significance for the Christian faith are immeasurable. Because of that, it seems right to me that our lives should be disturbed by them. The memory of what happened on that day nearly 2000 years ago should shake us from our complacency, for never before and never since has humankind been offered such a precious gift nor such an amazing promise.

So, Easter late? Easter early? Easter on time? I don't care. But I do care about what Easter offers.

Welcoming new youth worker, Beth Hayward



Manager Jeremy Shears puts new youth worker Beth on the spot.

Can you tell us a little about yourself?

My dad was a vicar so growing up we moved around a lot. I was born in

Liverpool, grew up in Rochdale and went to school in Yorkshire so would class myself as generally from the north-west. Tim and I were in the same class at school and started dating when we were 16. I went to Edinburgh University where I studied Theology and Philosophy and then went on to teach for ten years until I had my two girls Rose and Poppy.

You were the driving force behind the new Bunbury playground. What did you learn from the project?

I learned that my dyslexia and all the things that come along with it can be a positive thing - the playground project allowed me to focus on my strengths and find solutions to my areas of weakness. I loved being part of a team, so for me the best part of it was working together with people in our community and making new friendships.

What do you like doing in your spare time?

Wild swimming.

What do you enjoy most about working with young people?

I love getting to know them and helping them grow in confidence. It's nice to play a small part in a young person's journey into adulthood and think that you have made a positive impact.

You've been helping to run the Bunbury Youth Club. What activities have you been involved with?

After relaunching the Bunbury Youth Club we have done so many things: ice skating, laser quest, climbing, bake-offs, visiting artists and street dancing to name but a few. The church is transformed into a place where young people can play table football, pool, table tennis, Wii Dance or just hang out with their friends.

The St Boniface 3rd Sunday Brunch is now a regular feature in the church calendar. How have out youngsters been involved?

3rd Sunday brunch is a great time for young people to gain in confidence through actively taking part in a service. Every month the young people put on a drama (often very funny!) and we have also made several stop-motion animations and short films.

What future plans have you for our young people?

I'm really excited about the first project I will lead as youth worker: I will lead a committee of our older teenagers to put on an event to raise money and highlight issues of homelessness.

Church diary for April

Wednesday 3 April	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 7 April	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Communion & Sunday School 10.30am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley
Wednesday 10 April	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 14 April Palm Sunday	9.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface
Wednesday 17 April	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Thursday 18 April	7.00pm Agape meal	St Boniface
Friday 19 April	11.00am Outdoor vigil 2.00pm Vigil service	Tilly's St Boniface
Sunday 21 April Easter Sunday	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Easter Communion 10.00am Easter Communion 6.00pm Easter Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley
Wednesday 24 April	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 28 April	9.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Holy Communion	St Jude's St Boniface
Wednesday 1 May	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 5 May	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Communion & Sunday School 10.30am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley

March fun at Calveley School



Calveley Primary Academy

FROM SMALL ACORNS GROW MIGHTY OAKS

March has been a really busy month. There have been many exciting events at school and the children have enjoyed them all. World Book Day was a huge success; children thoroughly enjoyed a day dressing up as their favourite book characters. As part of World Book Day and to inspire children in their writing, a Quidditch Day has been organised, to be led by the official partner of Quidditch UK and the QPL (Quidditch Premier League), Enrich Education. It will be a great chance for the children to try out a sport that they

wouldn't ordinarily get the chance to. The school is also entering the 'Let's Dance' competition at Crewe Lyceum where, combined with pupils from Bridgemere CE Primary School, they will represent their schools in front of a live theatre audience.

This month is also the Robinwood residential trip at Maes-Y-Nant. Children will take part in a wide range of activities such as archery, caving, rock climbing and canoeing. It is an amazing opportunity for children to build their communication and teamwork skills.



New theme for 3rd Sunday brunch

One year since the third Sunday Brunch started, the theme of the Lord's Prayer has been finished and the new focus is parables. This Sunday featured the parable of the wise and foolish builders. A group of children from 3 years up made an animation in Lego, showing what happens if people build without foundations. The animation of the sea engulfing the house built on sand was amazing, while the house on the rock stood firm. The Youth Group then enacted the story (pictured below). As this was International Women's Week, this Sunday's interview was with Sandra Green, whose work involves empowering business women in what can often be a 'man's world'.

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Walking for Health "trip the light fantastic"



It must be that spring is in the air or the recent sunny weather. Or it may be that the Walking for Health people just have too much energy. Whatever the reason, on 20 February after the usual walk meeting the group descended on the village hall and enjoyed a one-off Dancing for Fun event. This was arranged

by one of the walk leaders and was sponsored in part thanks to arrangements made by Beth Hayward, the vicar's wife. The event included a display of ballroom dancing by a professional duo who also led the group in various types of dance including a couple of line dances. Tea, coffee and sandwiches were provided and a good time was had by all!

The past few weeks have seen some wonderfully sunny, dry days and despite the early morning frosts, the temperatures have been unseasonably high for February. This surprise weather has meant that the various footpaths around Bunbury have remained dry providing good walking conditions for all including the longer walks which often cross some of the surrounding fields and farmland. The popularity of the Walking for Health group continues to grow with more than 30 people taking part on a

number of occasions which is surprising for this time of year but again must be attributable in part to the lovely weather.

The Bunbury Walking for Health group meet at the Methodist Church every Wednesday morning with walks starting promptly at 10:30am. The walks cater for people of all abilities and are a great way of improving fitness, helping to lose weight, aiding recovery from medical treatments or simply seeing the beautiful countryside around the village whilst enjoying the company of others. There is no need for special equipment or clothing and it is all free! The walks generally last from 45 minutes to 90 minutes and tea and coffee are all provided.



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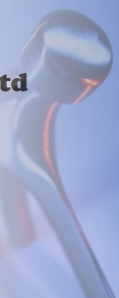
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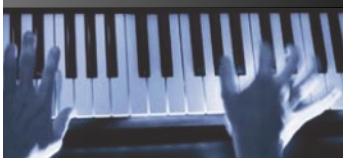
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