

Link

October 2024

Also in this issue...



7

Morris dancing fun



25TH SOUTH-WEST CHESHIRE
BUNBURY & DISTRICT

8

Beavers, Cubs
and Scouts
autumn update



Please give to St Boniface
to maintain this beautiful
church building

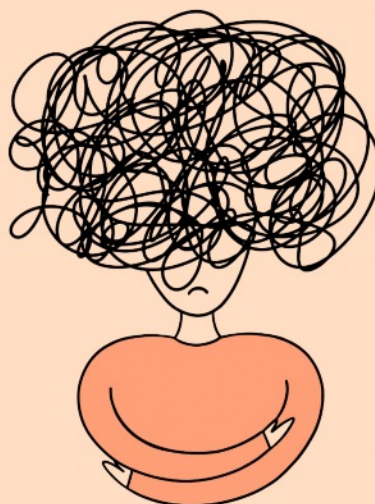
A magazine for the parishes of
Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall



Follow Bunbury Church on Facebook

Join us at St Boniface for Mental Health Sunday

**BY SPECIAL INVITATION
OUR SPEAKER WILL BE
REVD PETER MCKRIELL
HEAD OF COUNSELLING SERVICES AND PASTORAL
SUPERVISION COORDINATOR AT THE DIOCESE OF
CHESTER**



**SUNDAY 13 OCTOBER
ST BONIFACE CHURCH
10:30AM**

**MENTAL HEALTH
SUNDAY**

On Mental Health Sunday there will be a special service to reflect on how we might support one another with the challenges we face with our mental health and we'll be signposting services that are dedicated to offering practical help and advice.

Who we are

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The Link

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

Community news

Mental Health Sunday will be on Sunday 13 October at 10:30am at **St Boniface**. Our speaker will be Rev Peter McKriell, a thoughtful and experienced counsellor, as well as Head of Counselling Services at the Diocese of Chester.



After some very kind legacies and much fundraising a new sign was put in place at **St Jude** and dedicated by Rev Tim on Monday 1 September

The next fundraiser for St Jude will be Harvest Supper on Saturday 28 September at 7:30pm. Tickets are £20 and available from Heather or Mike Lightfoot on 07526396212.



Calveley Chapel will celebrate Harvest Communion on 6 October at 11:30am.

Bunbury WI meets on the second Thursday of the month at Bunbury Playing Fields Pavilion at 7:30pm. New members and guests are warmly welcomed.

On 8 August members enjoyed a Pimms and Puds Social Evening. In September our Speaker was Clare Emerton of Tropic Skincare. There is a Hot Pot Lunch planned for 3 October and the Speaker at our October Meeting is Rachel Davies "How textiles tell stories"

Bunbury Gardening Club On Tuesday 15 October at 7:30pm there will be a Flower Workshop at the Village Hall.

Come along to enjoy this mindful pastime of flower arranging, learn some tips, simple ideas and techniques to make the most of the flowers you grow or receive as a gift.

On Tuesday 19 November at 7:30pm at the Village Hall



A word from the editor

Welcome back to all our readers after the summer break. Please remember to consider sending us articles about your passions and events that are taking place in the village. The Cricket Club Ball was a huge success — well done to the organisers!

We had so many weddings and baptisms over the summer that we have provided a double spread for them on pages 4 and 5.

Please send your submissions to
parishlinkeditor@stbonifacebunbury.org

there will be a homemade two-course supper for members and the AGM. This will be that last social event of the 2024 club calendar.

See the Bunbury Gardening Club FACEBOOK page for further details or contact our membership secretary mjbourne249@tiscali.co.uk

Alpraham and Calveley Village Hall The brand new village hall will be open for coffee and chat between 10:00am and 12:00pm on Wednesday 16 October, 13 November and 11 December. All are welcome. acvillagehall.co.uk

Just Sing On Saturday 19 October the choir will hold a concert, Songs for Autumn, at the Tarporley Baptist and Methodist Chapel at 7:30pm in aid of the MS Society. Tickets are £10 and available from The Sheds in Bunbury, the Hair Academy in Tarporley, Ginger and Pickles in Tarporley or on the door, subject to availability. More details on page 11. Justsingbunbury.co.uk

ALIVE the Bunbury village group for over 50s had a visit from Citizens Advice to advise them on ways to avoid being taken in by telephone, text and email scams. See page 10 for a summary of what the group learned.

Pub Crawl Thinking about the big issues of life over a pint with Rev Tim. Thursdays at 7:30pm at The Nags in Bunbury on 3 October, The Yew Tree on 7 November and at The Swan on 5 December.

The copy deadline for the October issue is Friday 11 October. The magazine should be delivered from Saturday 26 October. Please send notices to
parishlinkeditor@stbonifacebunbury.org



Harvest

In a recent poll, 67 per cent of parents, from all faiths and none, expressed warm memories of taking part in Christian harvest festivals, saying that they wanted their children to do the same. At Harvest, we give thanks for the good things in our lives, teach children where their food comes from and show generosity to people in need.

Our churches and chapels are lovingly decorated with flowers and fruit. All ages belt out well-loved hymns: We Plough the Fields and Scatter, or All Things Bright And Beautiful, as well as modern school hits like Conkers, Big Red Combine Harvester and Harvest Samba. School children bring harvest gifts, destined for our local food bank.

Harvest is more than a nostalgia trip for traditionalists. We recognise the cyclical nature of human existence — “for everything there is a season” (Ecclesiastes, 3.1). And after the last few years, our human vulnerability to challenges such as disease, weather problems and disruptions to supply chains, feels more relevant than ever.

The popular TV series “Clarkson’s Farm” has recently engendered a wider respect for farmers and a more sympathetic understanding of the problems that they face every year. Their livelihood is dependent almost entirely on the weather and other factors beyond their control. No prayer is perhaps more heartfelt than a farmer’s prayer for rain — or for it to stop raining.

Our harvest supper provides the opportunity to hear stories from our local farmers about the challenges and joys they experience on a daily basis. Harvest invites us to look not inwards but upwards and outwards, with gratitude for all the good gifts around us. Harvest conveys a feeling of handing on the baton to the next generation. A generation who appear far more appreciative and respectful of the world around them and the environment they want their children and our grandchildren to inherit.

A Harvest Prayer:

*Bless to us O God
The sun that shines above us;
The rain that falls upon us;
The earth that sustains us;
The air that surrounds us;
And the love that binds us.
Amen.*

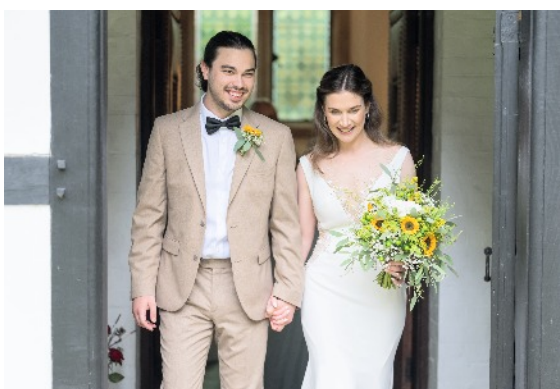
Congratulations to all the St Boniface and Calveley Chapel wedding couples and baptism families



Congratulations to Kayla Omsberg and Ralph Elsegood whose recent wedding was blessed at St Boniface Church on 6 July.



Congratulations to Lucy Cope and Harry Cox who were married on 2 August at St Boniface Church.



Congratulations to Jade Easter and Jack Walton who were married on 20 July at Calveley Chapel.



Congratulations to Emma Heidenreich and Matthew Pearce who were married on 24 August at St Boniface Church.



Congratulations to Charlotte Greenbury and Celestino Ingrao who were married on 27 July at St Boniface Church.



Congratulations to Francesca Burrows and Carl Britten who were married on 31 August at St Boniface Church.

It is a great privilege for the two churches in the parish of Bunbury to be part of the joy that people share with family and friends at pivotal moments in their life, especially on their wedding day and in gratitude for the birth of their children. We have had so many happy days this year that we decided to dedicate two pages to these special families. Thank you to all of them for sharing their photos with us.



Three generations of the Jobsons family rang for Francesca and Carl's wedding: Andy, Richard and Annie Rose in the photo.



Congratulations to Saskia and Miles Taitt on the baptism of their son Atlas Grey on 21 July at St Boniface Church.



Congratulations to Gary and Kathryn Thomson on the baptism of their son Rhys on 8 September at St Boniface Church..



Congratulations to Richard and Lucy-Rose Winrow on the baptism of their daughter Autumn-Belle on 21 July at St Boniface Church.



Congratulations to Katrina and Stephen Young on the baptism of their sons Barney and Vincent on 7 September at St Boniface Church.



Congratulations to William and Helen Whittaker on the baptism of their sons George and Monty on 8 September at St Boniface Church.



There were more baptisms over the summer — congratulations to those families too! If you would like us to publish a photo of the day, please email Kay at parishadmin@stbonifacebunbury.org

Amber Middlemiss

A prayer for the autumn



Dear God,

As the days shorten help us to be aware of the changes and seasons in our own lives.

May the falling leaves remind us that loss and decay are a part of life, and to trust that in time new life will be born from them, as they are in nature. Help us to be compassionate towards those who are struggling or failing; who are ill, or lonely, or afraid, and to not be cast into despair ourselves when times are hard.

May the fruits of the season speak to us of hope and your providence; the ones we have cultivated and worked for, and those which come to us spontaneously, unbidden. May they remind us that just as they are hidden for most of the year, so is your work going on in us and in others, even when we cannot perceive it. Help us to see that even those things which are not useful to us may provide some vital sustenance for other people or creatures, and that all of your creation is good and necessary, and needs our respect and care.

May the migrating birds remind us of other parts of the world where things are different; climate, prosperity, peace or lack of it, and to appreciate what we have whilst praying and working for change where it is needed. Let us trust in your abundance and care as we enter the time when growth slows, and warmth and light lessen; and to join the rhythms of the earth by allowing ourselves time for rest and regeneration before the inevitable coming of the spring with all its promises.

Amen

Church diary for October

Wednesday 2 October	10:00am BCP Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 6 October	8:00am BCP Communion 9:30am Morning Worship 10:30am Holy Communion and Forest Church 11:30am Harvest Communion	St Boniface St Jude St Boniface Calveley
Wednesday 9 October	10:00am BCP Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 13 October	09:30am BCP Communion 10:30am Morning Worship - Mental Health Sunday	St Jude St Boniface
Tuesday 15 October	2:30 and 7:30pm Contemplative Prayer	St Boniface
Wednesday 16 October	10:00am BCP Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 20 October	9:30am Holy Communion 10:30am Third Sunday Brunch 6:00pm Evensong	St Jude St Boniface St Boniface
Wednesday 23 October	10:00am BCP Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 27 October	9:30am Morning Worship 10:30am Holy Communion	St Jude St Boniface
Wednesday 30 October	10:00am BCP Communion	St Boniface

Repair and restoration of church kneelers — can you help?

There is a project to rehang the kneelers on the pews in St Boniface church in time for the Christmas services. Many are in good condition and, with a clean, are ready to be rehung. Some, however, are in need of some form of repair. This might be replacing the D rings that allow the kneelers to be hung again, a few need a little more attention with backing replacement. There have been offers from people who are prepared to help by collecting a few kneelers to replace the rings at home and return them to church, while a few others are happy to undertake the replacement of backing and more extensive repairs.

The aim is to clean them in November to rehang them at the end of November in time for the Christmas services. If sewing is not your forte but you are handy with a drill please watch this space as there will be a plea later for help with replacing the cup hooks ready for the rehangng. If this is something you would like to be involved with please contact me on anne.james55@hotmail.co.uk or 07891852272



Share your passion — Morris Dancing

This is a new passion for me, having only started last October, but having secretly wanted to try it for years. Since discovering that a group rehearses locally I was out of excuses, and when a friend confessed a similar desire it was sealed. We have had such a lot of laughter trying to learn the dances, and have exceeded our step counts effortlessly on those evenings. Our fellow dancers couldn't be more friendly, and Sue, the foreman, is an excellent and patient instructor. The 'side' is blessed with several talented musicians who play the melodeon, recorder, tin pipe, violin and banjo so we always have live music to dance to.

The history of Morris Dancing is obscure; Wikipedia says that it has roots as far back as 1448. The name is believed to be derived from 'moorish' meaning foreign or exotic in its widest sense, and Morris dances were performed in royal courts from this time; it is thought that in the 16th century they imported significant Italian influences. From the restoration of the crown in the mid 17th century the peasantry embraced Morris dancing as the springtime festivals were restored, and it continued as a vigorous tradition until the Industrial Revolution. By the late 19th century it was largely a memory in most places, so several English folklorists began a revival movement in the early 20th century which saw an explosion of new groups in the 1960s. Early groups tended to be all male but history shows that back in the 1500s many women danced Morris, so women's and mixed sides have been reinstated across the country.



There are several different traditions or styles within Morris; my group — Green Man Morris — is part of the Border tradition, which is located along the England/Wales border and has a looser and more vigorous style than some; we (men and women!) wear 'tatter-jackets' which are waistcoats decorated with strips of ribbon or fabric, a black hat with feathers, and bells on leg garters. We tend to colour our faces for performance, though full blackface has rightly been prohibited since the Black Lives Matter movement. We use sticks in our dances, whereas some traditions use swords, handkerchiefs or other implements, and some wear baldrics, braces, clogs or other traditional gear.

I love the fact that we are keeping alive one of our few national traditions, and that it involves music and dance, and is all about teamwork, community and having fun. I also really like the link to nature and the countryside, especially with the Green Man element of our side, though I would not class myself as a neopagan! And I have loved making the costume and individualising it with seasonal greenery and flowers for 'dance-outs'.

Summer involves many opportunities to dance out at local fairs, carnivals and pubs, and we rehearse on Tuesday evenings year round at the Goodwill Hall in Faddiley, and the Scout Hut in Claypit St, Whitchurch. New dancers are always welcome; no experience needed. Contact david.dunn1969@gmail.com for more information.

Bunbury School news

Bunbury School Fest 2024



On Tuesday 3 September Bunbury Aldersey Primary School opened its doors for our 200 pupils to return after their summer break. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces running into school that morning — even on day one!

We extended a very warm welcome to our new reception children who joined us at Bunbury for their very first day at school. We have been joined by a new teacher at Bunbury this school year. Mr Joe Clark will be delivering Forest School and teaching Year 4 on a Friday.

The first few weeks in school have been as inspirational as ever; it has been fantastic to once again hear our corridors and classrooms filled with the buzz and excitement of learning. Thanks to the planning of the school's dedicated teachers.

Despite only being back in school for 10 days, Year 3 and Year 4 have visited St Boniface Church on Wednesday 11 September. This was the first in a series of visits throughout the school year for children in all year groups to continue to enhance our RE curriculum. During their visit Year 3 and Year 4 experienced what a baptism service was like. As always throughout our school year we have a number of enrichment opportunities planned for the children and I look forward to being able to share their experiences in future Link publications.

If you would like your child to join Bunbury Aldersey School, Open Days are planned for our Reception 2024 starters.



Open Days for Reception 2025

During the autumn term open days will be held for those children who are due to start school in September 2025. Individual appointments can be booked throughout the day. Mrs Badger will provide a school tour, answering any queries you may have.

Dates available are:

Wednesday 2 October 9:30am — 2:30pm

Wednesday 9 October 9:30am — 2.30pm



Saturday 9 November 2:00pm — 5:00pm

Nic Badger
Principal




Autumn Update from Bunbury Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

Bunbury Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and their leaders (who are all amazing volunteers) have planned a packed Autumn term. Activities will include preparing for and attending a camp at Milldale (an amazing 28-acre site near Nantwich), cooking, map-making, and astronomy as well as lots of seasonal activities around Halloween, Remembrance and Christmas, and of course lots of fun and games! Starting on Monday 16 September, sessions will be held from 6:00pm to 7:00pm for Beavers (age 6 to 8) and from 6:30pm to 8:00pm for Cubs (age 8 to 10) and Scouts (age 10.5 to 14). Autumn term sessions will take place on 16 September, 23 September, 30 September (Beavers only), 7 October, 14 October, 21 October, 4 November, 11 November, 18 November, 25 November, 2 December, 9 December.

If your son or daughter would like to give it a try and find out what Scouting is all about just send a text or WhatsApp message to Group Scout Leader, Andrew Fairclough on 07976 363 056 Bunbury Scout HQ, Jubilee Playing Fields, Hurst Close, Bunbury CW6 9QP #Bunbury #Scouts #Fun #Skills #Challenges #Friends



Bunbury Beavers, Cubs & Scouts
Autumn 2024 - Monday Evenings
6 – 7pm Beavers (age 6-8)
6.30 – 8pm Cubs (age 8-10) & Scouts (age 10.5-14)
Bunbury Scout Hut
Jubilee Playing Fields Hurst Close, Bunbury



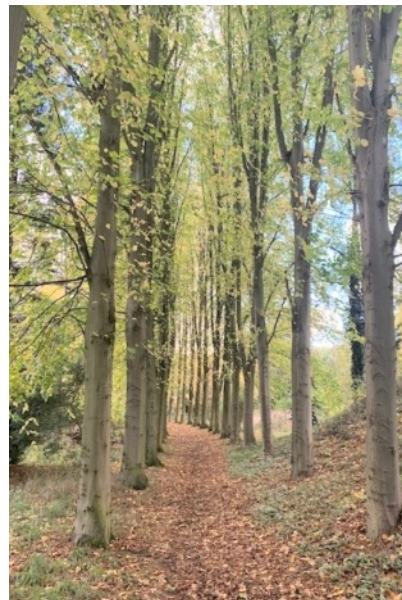
An astronomical day out in Cheshire

One of the most iconic astronomical sights in this country surely must be the Lovell Telescope at Jodrell Bank, which dominates the Cheshire Plain. It was the world's largest steerable dish radio telescope, 76.2 metres (250 ft) in diameter, when it was first deployed in 1957; the leadership and tenacity of its founder, Sir Bernard Lovell (1913-2012), are legendary. The Jodrell Bank Observatory was adopted as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2019. It is operated by the University of Manchester and remains at the cutting edge of astronomy.



Jodrell Bank's wonderful new visitor centre, the First Light Pavilion, was opened in June 2022 and built at a cost of £21 million. It is well worth a visit and to say that I was impressed is an understatement! The building itself, though partially hidden under an earth mound, is the same diameter as the telescope, and is an inspiring place. With a nod to ancient sites such as Stonehenge, a slim vertical window in the centre of the building allows the sun to shine forming a finger of light that moves across the entrance foyer as the day goes on, acting as a giant sundial. The exhibition tells the story of the observatory, intertwined with the story of Sir Bernard.

There is plenty to see and do for all ages. In a nod to history and heritage, interactive videos are projected onto screens some of which are actually segments of the skin of the Lovell Telescope, salvaged from an earlier refurbishment and resurfacing of the dish. The exhibition includes all kinds of artefacts from earlier days, from valve-based electronics to the more mundane: typical 1950s filing cabinets where data and chart recorder traces were stored. Elsewhere on site there is a planetarium (the Space Dome) and a lecture room where topical talks (by real people!) are presented throughout the day. But for me, strolling around the grounds on a sunny day with a backdrop of the



Lovell telescope and its smaller brethren, as well as huts from the original observatory, was equally enjoyable. The new global HQ of the Square Kilometre Array, an international radio telescope project being built in Australia and South Africa on the adjacent site, points towards future discoveries in astronomy.

An astronomical day out in rural Cheshire needn't stop at Jodrell. In the nearby hamlet of Swettenham there is the Lovell Quinta Arboretum, lovingly built by Sir Bernard and Lady Lovell. The beautiful 28-acre site, next to their former home called the Quinta, is now owned by Tatton Garden Society. Autumn is the perfect time to enjoy the colours of the leaves. Different parts of the arboretum were planted to commemorate important events in his life. For example, Reith Avenue was planted with red twigged limes to celebrate Sir Bernard's BBC Reith Lectures in 1958. Nearby is St Peter's Church where he played the organ until very late in life. Finally, across the fields from the observatory, in the neighbouring village of Goostrey, is the Space Invader Pub, which features Sir Bernard and the Lovell Telescope on its sign – and the walls are adorned with pictures of the dish under



construction. An ideal spot to end the day and contemplate the astronomical heritage of this part of Cheshire, whilst thinking about what exciting discoveries will emanate from there in the future.

Bunbury Stargazer

Bunbury Medical Practice

October news

What3Words

Many of our patients will have received a text regarding the What3Words App. What3Words is a faster way of finding out where a person is when it is needed the most, be that at home, or out and about. It is used by the police, ambulance and fire services so that a person's location can be identified as quickly as possible. What3Words works by dividing the globe into three-metre squares, each of which is given three unique words to navigate the user to their precise location. For us, it means that a healthcare professional will be able to find where a patient is as quickly as possible. For example, when an ambulance is called or when a GP or District Nurse needs to make a home visit. Being in the rural community, it can sometimes be challenging to find a remote address. What3Words will guide us to your front door. For more information please visit:

<https://what3words.com/news/emergency/uk-emergency-services-rollout-what3words-in-control-rooms-to-save-resources-time-and-lives>.

A patient's What3Words at their home address, will be added to their medical record. This can then be accessed by anyone who already has permission to access that medical record. Who can access a patient's record will not be changed in any way by adding your What3Words. If you have any questions, please contact the surgery and we will aim to answer any queries. Any patients who would like the What3Words for their home adding to their patient record, should email the surgery accordingly. We feel that this is an excellent addition to patient care, ensuring that help arrives as soon as possible.

Pharmacy News

Some of our patients collect their medication from Rowlands Pharmacy. Until recently, Rowlands would collect patient prescriptions from our dispensary on behalf of patients. Unfortunately, Rowlands have taken the business decision to stop this service.

Rowlands patients now have a choice: they can collect their paper prescription in person from our dispensary, or they can provide us with stamped, self-addressed envelopes and we will post the paper prescription out to the patient.

Training Days

The surgery will close on Wednesday, 16 October at 1:00pm and not reopen until the following morning. All Training Days for 2024 can be seen on our website

Flu Vaccinations

As mentioned in last month's Link, flu vaccination appointments will be available from early October; please look out for invites to attend, which will be sent out by text or post.

The first flu clinic will be on Saturday, 5 October. Patients who have not received an invite by 4 October are welcome to call surgery to book an appointment.

All patients aged over 65 are eligible to receive a flu vaccination.

Some patients under 65 are also eligible; please contact the surgery if you are unsure.

ALIVE update: beat the scammers

Scams are becoming more and more sophisticated these days. These three basic rules will help you avoid being caught out.

Telephone calls and texts

STOP. Is this a cold call or an unexpected text? This may sound genuine, reporting to be from your bank, mobile phone company or Amazon. They often want you to act quickly and supply personal details or even download an app, which will actually enable the scammers to have access to all your details including your bank accounts. DO NOT ENGAGE — PUT THE PHONE DOWN.

THINK. Why would this organisation be ringing me? You can telephone any company using their official telephone number to check if the call was genuine. However, you should never be asked to give your passwords or personal information out over the telephone or online.

PROTECT. If you think you have had a scam call, wait five minutes, (the scammer will stay on the line hoping you will pick

your phone up again) then dial 159 this connects you directly to your bank's fraud department. All the major banks have signed up to this. This may help to prevent further scams. You can also report incidents directly to Cheshire Police on 101.

Emails

All the above applies. You may be told you have missed a delivery and asked to press one to reschedule. This is a SCAM. It will allow the scammers into your accounts. The latest scam shows a message from the government to say you are entitled to apply for a cost of living or fuel allowance. These messages look genuine with official government headings but they are SCAMS.

So don't forget the golden rules. If something doesn't look or feel right it probably isn't! Never be rushed into doing something. Never give out any personal details or passwords.

Stay Safe

"Just one thing" for a healthier life

We have chosen to continue with this series of articles based on the popular podcast by the late Dr Michael Mosley as testament to his life's work and passion for educating and helping people, which is what we believe he would have wanted.



Clean your teeth

Most of us probably clean our teeth regularly but apparently one in four adults in the UK don't brush twice a day, and amongst men it is one in three. Much recent research shows that cleaning our teeth before breakfast, and before bed (at least an hour after you last eat), has hugely beneficial effects on many aspects of our health, not just preventing tooth decay.

One study of 10,000 Scottish people showed significantly less heart disease in those that cleaned their teeth twice a day compared with those who did so once a day or less. An Egyptian study following 300 people recovering from Covid found that those with healthy gums were less severely affected, three times less likely to be hospitalised in ICU, and nine times less likely to die from Covid.

Yet another study found that more than 80% of stroke patients had oral bacteria present in the blood clots in their brains, and another found that severe periodontal (gum) disease is connected with a higher risk of Alzheimer's disease, with oral bacteria being found in Alzheimer's brains post-mortem but not in other brains.

It seems that pockets of food, and hence bacteria, build up in pockets between the gums and the teeth, eroding the soft and hard tissues which allows the bacteria to enter the bloodstream; over time this leakage causes chronic inflammation which damages the heart and the lining of blood vessels, causing fatty build-up and reduced blood flow to vital organs. This in turn increases the likelihood of diabetes, arthritis, cardiovascular disease and stroke — the so-called 'mouth-brain' connection.

The recommendation is to brush twice a day as above, using fluoride toothpaste, and to use floss or interdental brushes once a day; ideally before you brush your teeth in the evening. Happy brushing!

Lift some weights

Lifting any kind of weight builds muscle, and a US study following 3,000 men and women aged 50 plus over a decade found that muscle mass is one of the strongest predictors of longevity — better than just bodyweight or BMI (body mass index). Two studies of people aged 65 and above, with or without pre-existing cognitive decline, found that both groups experienced improvements in cognitive function, especially associative memory (e.g. putting names to faces) and executive function (decision-making) after several months of strength training. New research is investigating the role of muscles as secretory organs; exercise causes them to release various myokines including neurotrophic factors which encourage the growth, survival and differentiation of new neurons (nerve cells); they cross into the brain and act directly and indirectly on cells there. Myokines also affect many other tissues, having beneficial effects on metabolism, lowering blood sugars and reducing the risk of diabetes, heart disease and obesity; on bone health; and on the immune system, by boosting the number of circulating neutrophils, a first line of defence.

The good news is that you don't have to have specialist equipment or go to a gym; bicep curls can be done with a weight such as a large bottle of milk; calf raises by holding a work-top and lifting yourself slowly onto your toes and back again; squats can be weighted using books in a backpack — do three sets of ten each to really make yourself work. Any resistance training of this nature will produce benefits, so now we have no excuses for not incorporating some aspect of strength training into our lives!

Just Sing!

SONGS FOR AUTUMN

WITH VIOLIN SOLOIST
KATE SPIERS

SATURDAY 19TH OCTOBER
Tarporey Baptist & Methodist Chapel
7.30pm

In aid of the Multiple Sclerosis Society

TICKETS £10 - includes refreshments

Available from:-
The Sheds at Bunbury
Hair Acedemy - Tarporey
Ginger & Pickles Tea Room
Or on the door (if still available)

MS Society

www.justsingbunbury.co.uk

Liv Weller

The Village Garden Club Annual Show

On 7 September the village's gardeners held their annual show at the Village Hall. Keith Blackwood reports on the day.

Exhibitors are queuing at the village hall laden down with plants, flowers, vegetables, baking, paintings and all sorts of other handicrafts. Yes, it's the Garden Club's annual show. In the room it is buzzing (not the bees but with Peter Styles displaying everything to do with bees). Exhibitors finding where to place their massive onion, craft, scones and cakes.



You can feel the excitement of exhibiting something they have grown, baked, painted, photographed or made into beautiful flower arrangements. The room settles down and the judges arrive to appraise the entries with their expert eyes.

The kitchen café is ready with willing helpers and a magnificent selection of homemade cakes. The doors open. The exhibitors are anxious to see if their entry has won a certificate or find a red first class in front of their entry. There were 289 entries this year over eighty visitors to view the wonderful displays and then sit down to tea and cake

At the end of the afternoon it is time to present the winners' trophies.



Len Davies — Fruit and vegetables
Janie Money and Linda Davies — Baking
Helen Bennett — Helen Martyn cup: best Victoria sponge
Mike Stewart — Handicrafts
Barry Smith — Dahlias and Chrysanthemum
Peter Jones — Photography
Joanne Scally — Basket of garden produce
Martha Bennett — Children's entry: sponge cake
Anita Williams — Karen Gill cup for pot plants and the flower arrangement trophy bowl
Mike Stewart — Chairman's shield: Painting
Alison Dentith — The judges trophy for tomatoes

A huge "thank you" to all the organisers of the show. It was a great day for the villagers who took part and their friends. This time next year come and give it a try, you will love it!

Caring for our churchyard

Andrea Gilpin, Ecologist and Communications Manager at Caring for God's Acre shares the beauty of lichen

Have you noticed the intricate patterns decorating the stonework in churchyards and cemeteries? These are lichens (generally pronounced 'likens'). Of the 2,000 UK lichen species, over 700 have been found in burial grounds, many of which are seldom found elsewhere. Lichens are particularly striking in winter when other wildlife fades into the background.

Churchyards and cemeteries are rich in lichens for several reasons. First, they contain old, exposed stone, often dating back to the 1700s. These ancient stones, including gravestones and boundary walls, are ideal for lichen growth. Second, the variety of stone types, from local sandstone to imported marble, provides diverse habitats for different lichen species. The stone's texture, water retention, and pH all influence which lichens thrive. Lastly, the positioning of stones affects lichen distribution; lichens on shaded stones differ from those in sunny spots, creating a diverse lichen community.

The identification of lichen species can be quite tricky. The colour of many lichens can change depending on

whether they are wet or dry, in the sun or shade, or the surface they are growing on! Lichens produce a wide range of pigments, giving them their vibrant colours including greens, yellows, oranges, and blues. These pigments can protect them from UV radiation and have been used to make wool and fabric dyes since ancient times and are still used today.

Lichens are found in many different habitats, including temperate and tropical rainforests, deserts, mountains, the tundra, snowy and icy areas, and along coastlines. Next time you walk through a churchyard or cemetery, have a look for these fascinating organisms.

Andrea

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St Boniface's Gothic architectural history

Prof. Taj Nathan, who lives in Spurstow, has researched the architectural history of St Boniface and asked to share his findings with us. His daughter, Sadie, has drawn the beautiful illustrations accompanying the text.

St Boniface is a Gothic church. The abundance of pointed arches is a defining motif of this predominant style of late medieval English ecclesiastical architecture. However, hidden in plain sight, the distinctive features of its windows are an architectural record of the societal and cultural effects of one of the most calamitous events in human history.



Romanesque and Gothic arches, north transept, Chester Cathedral

Gothic architecture was introduced to England from France in the late 12th century. The French innovations meant that the strength of the building was no longer so dependent on the thickness of the walls. The pointed arches of Gothic churches were more efficient at bearing weight than the previous rounded Romanesque ones. Extra support was offered by flying buttresses. Gothic remained the style of choice for cathedrals and churches into the 16th century, when it was eventually superseded by classically influenced designs. Even then it was not the end of England's fascination with Gothic style. Revived by the Victorians, the characteristic pointed arches and tracery designs can also be seen in many 19th century buildings including the local examples of Bunbury's Aldersey primary school, the

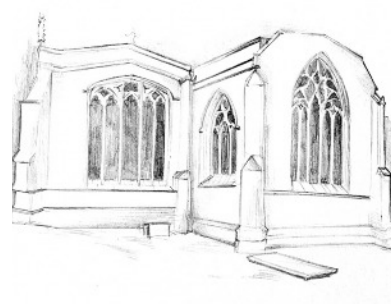
entrance lodge to Peckforton Castle, and a former school in the nearby hamlet of Spurstow.

While the present-day St Boniface church as a whole conforms to the Gothic tradition, differences between the east window, above Sir Hugh Calveley's alabaster effigy, and most of the other windows reveal a major change in the way this tradition was expressed in late medieval England. The east window is in the style that was dominant in the late

13th and early 14th centuries. There are vertical partitions in the lower two thirds of the arched space. If you follow these mullions upwards you can see how each unfurls into three branches which continue to flow and branch out. It is a good example of the relatively short-lived Curvilinear Decorated phase of Gothic design. Characteristic elements of this style first appeared on the twelve crosses that King Edward I commissioned in memory of his wife who died in 1290.

The difference in the later Gothic style is clearly seen by comparing St Boniface's main east window with the adjacent east facing window of the later Ridley chapel. Gone are the extravagant upper tracery patterns. Some of the mullions — the two central ones in the east window of the chapel — are stretched continuously right to the top of the arch. The windows running on either side of St Boniface's nave display another key feature of the new style. Each of these windows is traversed by a horizontal bar, or transom, producing a grid effect, which accounts for the name of this style: Perpendicular. By the mid-14th century Perpendicular became the predominant variant of Gothic architecture. The preference for this less flamboyant design has been attributed in part to an event that decimated the world's population. The Victorian visionary, William Morris, bemoaned that "in the years that immediately followed the Great Pest," Gothic

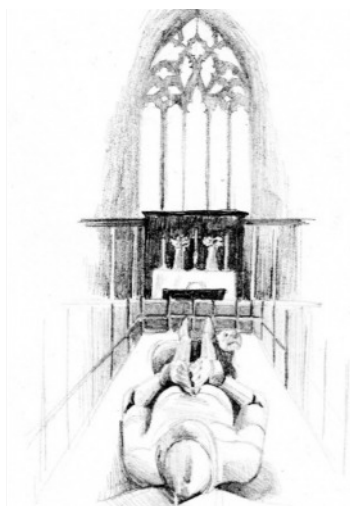
Architecture began to "suffer a diminution in the generous wealth of beauty which it gave us in its heyday." In 1348, when the Black Death arrived on English shores, up to half of the population was wiped out and further deadly waves of the



East elevation of St Boniface church

disease returned in subsequent decades. Consequently, labour was in short supply, the cost of materials rose, and the grave economic situation promoted a mood that favoured the more austere Perpendicular style.

The reasons for what became a uniquely English manifestation of Gothic architecture are complex. Nonetheless, the windows of St Boniface Church offer a lasting physical testimony to the changing English aesthetic in the tumultuous fourteenth century.



Sir Hugh Calveley's effigy and the east window

God vs. decimalisation — the godless florin of 1849



In the late 1830s, Great Britain was the only European country not to have adopted a decimal system for its coinage. The pound would be divided by one hundred, instead of two hundred and forty, with a new coin valued at ten to the pound. This coin was to be introduced first, by way of introducing the new coinage to the population, and was given the name "florin".

By 1849 these new florins were ready to be issued for circulation. But here the trouble began. From early medieval times, and continuing to the present day, the monarch's titles include Dei Gratia King or Queen and, from 1521, Fidei Defensor, when Pope Leo X granted the title to King Henry VIII — so in plain English: by the Grace of God (King or Queen) and Defender of the Faith.

The new florin, although beautiful in design and portraiture, simply read "VICTORIA REGINA 1849". The reverse legend pointed out its new decimal denomination: "ONE FLORIN — ONE TENTH OF A POUND". The short obverse legend, lacking any divine reference, was immediately condemned by parliament, clergy, and the public at large. An outbreak of cholera was attributed to an outraged deity, famine in Ireland also, and the unfortunate Master of the Mint, himself a Roman Catholic, lost his position shortly thereafter.



Production of the offending florin ceased and the denomination did not reappear until 1851, of a larger size, different design and displaying all the required religious and secular legends. Oh — and the decimalisation of our currency was put on the back burner for another 120 years.

Jonathan Morris



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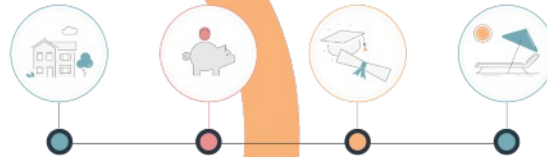
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