

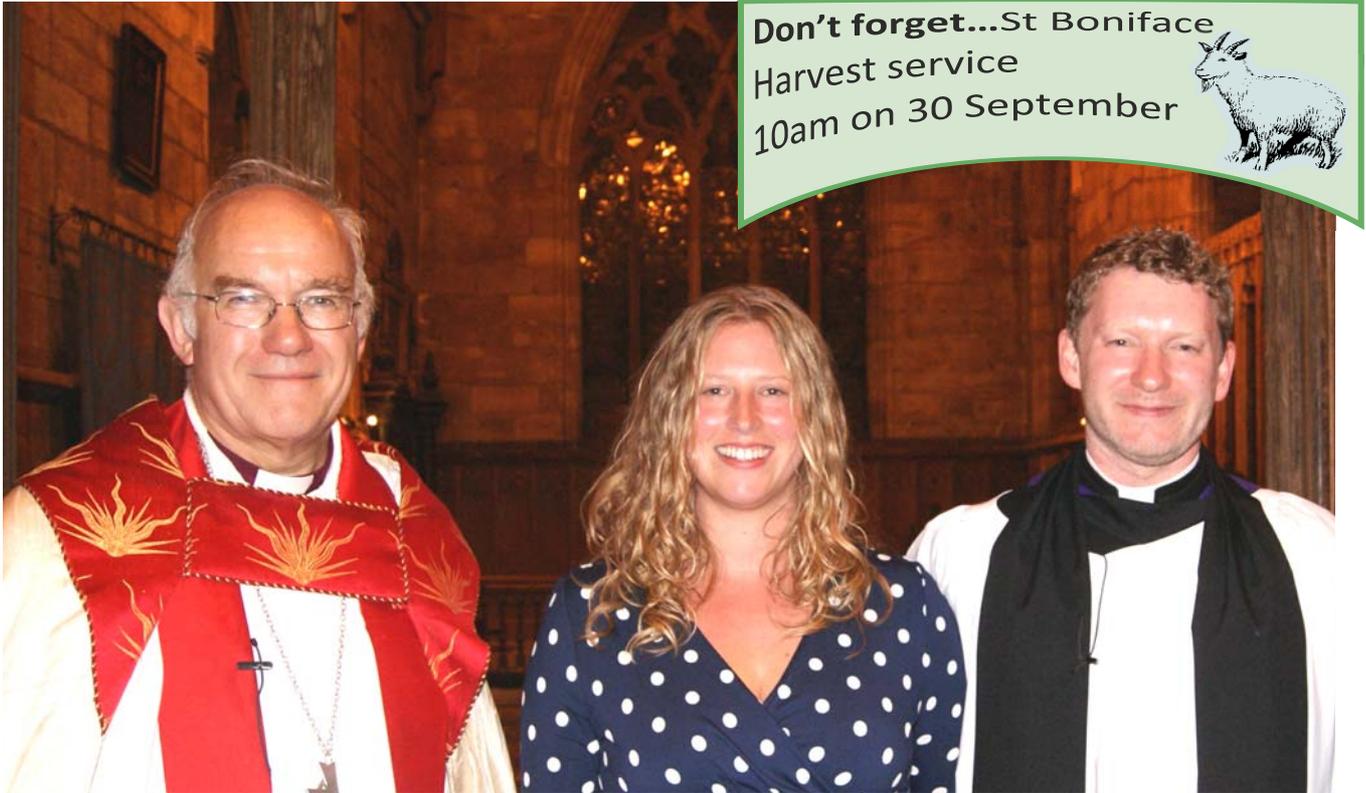
# Link

For the parishes of Bunbury & Tilstone Fearnall



October  
2012

*We may pray most when we say least, and we may pray least when we say most* Augustine



**Don't forget...St Boniface  
Harvest service  
10am on 30 September**



## Welcome to Bunbury, Tim & Beth!

The parishes of Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall were delighted to celebrate the Institution of our new vicar, Tim Hayward, by the Bishop of Chester, the Rt Revd Dr Peter Forster.

*Full report and more photos on pages 8-9*



Bunbury also celebrated the return home of gymnast and Olympic bronze medalist Beth Tweddle. Hundreds of villagers turned out to welcome her home and congratulate her on her achievement. Read Beth's reaction on page 3 and see more photos of the homecoming on page 11.

### Also in this issue...



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Nick Sanders in the  
2-minute hot seat



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All the fun of the  
Beeston Castle fete



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Halloween -  
harmless fun or not?

# Who we are



**TIM HAYWARD**

Vicar  
St Boniface  
St Jude's  
Calveley

t: 01829 261511

m: 07988 994481

e: [revtimhayward@gmail.com](mailto:revtimhayward@gmail.com)

Alternatively please call readers Peter & Kath Collinge on 260077

## St Boniface

### Churchwardens

Neil Dewson-Smyth 261680  
Jill Robey 260081

### Youth Worker

Kim Beswick 07526 251408

### Secretary

Vacancy

### Organist

Andrew Dean 261222

### Treasurer

John Mason 733971

### Flowers

Margaret Bourne 260944

## St Jude's

### Churchwardens

Brigid Sayce 260865  
Elizabeth Marren 01270 528556

### Secretary

Vacancy

### Organist

Ann Badrock 260343

## Calveley

### Churchwardens

Neil Dewson-Smyth 261680  
Jill Robey 260081

### Secretary

Yvonne Wood 01270 528442

### Organist

John Batchelor 261056

## The Link

Please contact us if you would like to advertise your business or if you wish to send us your news, views and pictures.

Advertising: [parishlinkads@gmail.com](mailto:parishlinkads@gmail.com)

Editorial: Jo Mason

t: 01829 733971

e: [parishlinkeditor@gmail.com](mailto:parishlinkeditor@gmail.com)

### Community News

e: [charlellen@hotmail.com](mailto:charlellen@hotmail.com)

You can also read The Link online at: [www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk](http://www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk)

# Community news

Neil Dewson-Smyth has written a thank you message (page 2) to the many people who maintained 'church as usual' over the nine month vacancy period. Most of all, **our grateful thanks are due to Neil** himself, who worked so hard throughout! Bunbury is very lucky to have had such dedicated and caring officers during the interregnum.



We welcome **Austin William Prince** (left), son of **Karl and Kate Prince** of the Nags Head of Haughton,

baptised at St Boniface on 5 August,

and **Matilda**

**Penelope Murray** (right), daughter of **Robert and Holly Murray**, baptised on 26 August.



We also welcome **Ruby Ellis**, baptised on 9 September, surrounded by family, friends and parents **Gemma and Simon Ellis**.



Also baptised that day was **Nathan Peter Hall** (left), son of **Kate and Simon Hall**.

A warm welcome to **Charlotte Elizabeth Catherall** (right), daughter of **Kate and Mark Catherall**, baptised by the Revd Alex Sanders on 16 September.



On 16 October, the **Bunbury Gardening Club** is holding a night titled "Friend or Foe Part 2", led by Dr Richmond Dutton in the Village Hall at 8:00pm. For further information please contact Adrian Caine at [ruffield@sky.com](mailto:ruffield@sky.com) or tel 261163.

**Box leaflets for Operation Christmas Child** will be in the primary school in October. Please fill a shoe box with small gifts and toiletries for children in deprived countries. The shoe boxes will be collected in early November. For more information, contact Jane Overy on 260294.

**Monday Prayers** have once again begun, consisting of ten minutes of quiet prayer and reflection. Prayer requests can be placed in the book near the altar.

A difficult year for gardeners, but the pot plants and dahlias at the **Annual Gardening Show** were



impressive. Visitors enjoyed the photography, Jubilee and Olympic themed floral art, cookery and children's classes.

**The Bunbury Village Day group** is looking for volunteers to help with the organisation of the next village day, to be held on Saturday 15 June 2013. Please contact Steve Mort on 262473.

**David Mollart is seeking information** about his paternal grandmother, **Zena Ann Lewis** (buried in St Boniface churchyard) and her family. Her parents were Edward and Jennie Lewis. If you have lived here for at least the last 70 years and could shed some light on this family, please contact [d.mollart@staffordshirefire.gov.uk](mailto:d.mollart@staffordshirefire.gov.uk)

Police are investigating a **break-in at the Pavilion** during the summer. Nothing was stolen but the burglars left a trail of damage. Anyone who witnessed anything suspicious at the Pavilion on the evening of 26 July should contact the parish council.

**Congratulations to the Dysart Arms** on being voted Cheshire Dining Pub of the Year 2013 by The Good Pub Guide.

**The Link team needs help.** If you could help liaise with **advertisers**, please contact Jo or John Mason on 733971. The team is looking for a volunteer to deliver to those who distribute in **The Highlands** and **The Hawthorns**. If you are able to help, please contact Barbara Croley on 260344.

The **copy deadline** for the November issue of the Link is **Friday 12 October**. The magazine should be in church for delivery on **Friday 26 October**.

## Our prayers for October

We pray for all who are ill, including **Danny Jones, Walter and Mary Williamson, Joyce Nancarrow, Bill Corn and Betty Clauson**.

We pray for everyone mourning a loved one, including the families of **Jean Healey** and **Jessie Peers**.

We pray for our new vicar **Tim Hayward**, his wife **Beth** and their children, **Rose and Poppy**. We pray too for **Alex and Nick Sanders** as Alex prepares to take up her new role in Mellor. We pray for all the **young people** who have started or soon start new schools, colleges or training.

# Wedding fever at St Boniface

Many congratulations to all of the couples who celebrated their marriage at St Boniface over the summer, including:



Jenna Louise Taylor and Tony Baird, married on 18 August



Sophie Porter and Ryan Baxter, married on 11 August



Corrie Topliffe and Ryan Wiik, married on 6 September



Laura Tattershall-Walker and Christopher Hayhurst, married on 29 July

Congratulations also to **Anne Jolley and Matthew Broadbent**, married on 20 July, **Clare Forsyth and Henry Buckley**, married on 21 July, **Jess Beamont and Michael Scott**, married on 11 August and **Jo Jolley and Richard Spooner**, married on 1 September. We wish all these couples long and happy unions.

## A message of thanks

The institution service was wonderful - the congregation raised the roof with their singing! So many people came both from our villages and Tim's previous parish to support him for his institution. Friday night was the culmination of a collaboration of talents, skills and time of many people for almost 12 months. I would like to thank some people who have been instrumental in making our vacancy flow smoothly. Walter Done has been a rock, maintaining all but one service and coordinating vicars for countless services throughout the vacancy. Jill Robey also stepped into her new role with vigour and has been invaluable as we progressed toward the induction service.

The PCCs of Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall must be thanked for their cooperation and support; I hope this continues. Thanks are also due to Peter Crump, who provided support and produced the parish profile, guiding us on the technical aspects of the vacancy. I would also like to thank everybody who helped at the induction itself: sides persons, readers, bell ringers, choir and the team who produced such a wonderful reception for us all at the school.

Finally I would like to thank my fellow selection panel members. Bishop Keith and Alison Murdoch from the Haberdashers Company provided advice and guidance. Most of all, I would like to thank John Mason, Brigid Sayce and Hamilton Smith. It has been a journey we made together, a challenge I was honoured to accept and thoroughly enjoyed. We created a good team and the fruit of our efforts stands before us today. (I would also say that if everything goes wrong it was all Hamilton's idea!)

We stand at the beginning of a new era for our parishes and I am excited about the future we have together as a benefice.

*Neil Dewson-Smyth*

## Beth Tweddle says thank you



"I just wanted to thank everyone for the wonderful homecoming," writes Beth Tweddle. "I was really touched to see so many people at the playing fields. I have had a wonderful summer and it is lovely to know I have so much support in my home area. I hope everyone enjoyed the Olympics as much as I did.

"I would also like to thank everyone who has given me so many cards and gifts. I am completely overwhelmed by everyone's kindness. I apologize if I do not get round to thanking individuals for all the lovely flowers, drawings and cards. I would like to say a special thank you to Jo Mundell and the Parish Council and everyone who made the homecoming so special - a day I will never forget!"

A raffle was held at the homecoming and the winners were surprised to receive a personal call from Beth to announce their prizes, which were:

- A visor - for David Reading from Stoke
- A T-shirt - for Jules Richards from Wrexham
- A signed photo - for Jake Kitchen from Peckforton

£200 was raised from the raffle and profits from the books, £100 of which was donated to the playing fields and £100 to North West Air Ambulance (one of Beth's charities).

*More photos of Beth's homecoming celebration are on page 11*

# St Boniface's moment of fame

On Friday 7 September a cast including Joanna Lumley (Absolutely Fabulous) was brought to St Boniface as location scenes were shot in the church for a forthcoming TV drama, "The Making of a Lady", based on a novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett.

Set in the 1890s, the novel tells the story of the well-born, educated but penniless Emily who grew up hoping she would marry for love but realises that her priority must be survival.

A number of scenes had already been filmed at Dorfold Hall, near Nantwich. Location manager James Muirhead said, "We needed a church near to Dorfold Hall and away from a main road. St Boniface was perfect, in particular because we were able to use the chancel to create an 1890s family chapel. The rood screen and effigy of Sir Hugh Calveley lend real character to the setting." He added that he had been made to feel very welcome at Bunbury and, now that he had found the church, hoped he might use it again in other productions.

Starring Joanna Lumley and Linus Roache, the two hour drama will be shown on ITV1 on Boxing Day.

It was a long day waiting for any action as the schedule slipped during the day, but eventually churchwarden Jill Robey enjoyed being a fly on the wall during the filming, and one or two others dropped in to observe the scene as the final touches were made to make-up, hair and costumes.

As well as Joanna Lumley the cast included a large number of soldiers in red uniform circa 1896 with some impressive swords and of course a Vicar whose uniform has changed little since then! New Vicar Tim almost introduced himself to his 1896 style counterpart but sadly the meeting never took place as the actor was called to the altar to marry the heroine and her fiancé. Modern music equipment and a fridge were hastily removed from view so that the newly married couple could emerge from the south porch to a guard of honour. Walter Done had offered to remove old cobwebs from the south door but was told these were very authentic! (Maybe some of our cobwebs even date back to the nineteenth century?)

We have been promised some official photos of the filming which will appear in the Link nearer Christmas.

## The Two-Minute Interview... Nick Sanders finally has his say!



**Nick Sanders has lived in Bunbury for eight years, moving here on returning to the UK after a three year spell as Senior Magistrate and HM Coroner for the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, the South Sandwich Islands and British Antarctic Territory. He is married to Alex, who was ordained in 2009 and is shortly to**

**become Vicar of Mellor, a parish on the edge of the Peak District. Nick is training to be an Anglican Reader, and tells us that his interests include Association Croquet, canal boats, anything with a motor, and beer.**

**It's a celebrity beer call. Whom would you like to invite?**

I really don't do celebrities. I would much rather go with a group of friends. I have always thought it would be interesting to have met Lords Nelson and Denning, but I fear they might not be good drinking companions.

**What would you call your autobiography?**

The more laws, the less justice (a quote from Cicero)

**What was your first job?**

A petrol pump attendant (remember them?) on the A38 just out of Exeter. It was at the top of a steep hill, and cars used to come in with their radiators boiling.

**What is the best book you've read to date?**

I am a fan of English detective novels: my favourites are by Reginald Hill and Peter Robinson.

**What would you change about Bunbury, if you could?**

Move it closer to Mellor...

**What is your biggest regret?**

Not knowing then what I know now. Life would be so much easier.

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

I was a morris dancer for over ten years - I still have my clogs somewhere. In fact, nearly all my hobbies and interests involve dressing up: I guess that must mean something! I have rather a liking for folk music, but can't sing (perhaps that is the point?)



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

To get settled in Mellor with Alex, and to keep in touch with friends.

**What is your favourite place and why?**

North West Arm, at the bottom end of East Falkland, about 100 miles south of Stanley. It is a remote farmhouse, about 25 miles from the nearest other person, with the cleanest air, bluest sky and greatest silence that I have ever experienced.

**How would you spend your ideal weekend?**

Probably on a canal boat somewhere, but not too far from a pub with friends.

# As Fete would have it...

## How it should have been...

August Bank Holiday Monday dawned as usual sunny and calm. Sarah Thompson, in charge of the Beeston Fete, woke with a smile on her face and the air of serene certainty that the day would as usual be an enormous success. The numerous tents and marquees were up – there had even been time for a picnic in the warm sunshine for the hordes of happy helpers. Every raffle ticket had been sold in advance and many local people had come forward with offers of goods to sell, raffle prizes and help.

## Reality was rather different...

The Fete went ahead as usual because of the dedicated support of the Fete Committee and many willing volunteers. The wind blew, the rain rained and people were in very short supply. But everyone who did come enjoyed the great attractions – the birds of prey, children's circus workshop, fun dog show – all they lacked was an audience. Our Church Fete takes huge amounts of time, planning and manpower to stage, come wind or shine, and the money raised is vital for the running of Bunbury's beautiful and historic church.

Please don't let the weather put you off next year. Pull on your wellies and sou'wester and come along. We promise you a good time (and the sun is bound to shine...)



Guess who?





**Eric Wallington**  
Reader Emeritus  
**Thought of the month**

A song about friendship by Cole Porter begins, 'If you're ever in a jam, here I am'. And of course true friendship involves making yourself available to help each other, whenever help is needed.

True friendship is an enduring, intimate and trusting relationship between two people who may well be very different. It's all the more remarkable then that Jesus wants to count us as his close friends. And yes, that includes you and me! Listen to what he had to say about friendship: "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you...This is my commandment that you love one another as I have loved you. You are my friends if you do what I command you."

Have you sometimes kept your distance from real friendship with Jesus? When someone offers you their friendship, you may at first hold back a little. After all friendship might possibly be a little demanding - but not with Jesus. What he offers quite simply is deep, personal love, and all he seeks in response is that we love him in return. Once we can recognise fully how much Jesus loves us - enough to die for us - nothing is really too much to do for the greatest pal in the world!

And it's the friendship of Jesus which teaches us and enables us to manage - and enjoy to the full - all our other friendships.



## The Great Debate: Trick or Treat - should Christians participate in Halloween?

Halloween has become such a major event in modern society, to the extent that once the 'Back to School' sales have finished in August the shops are flooded with pumpkins, witch costumes and bumper offers of large boxes of Quality Street. However, do we really know what Halloween is all about, and, as Christians, should we celebrate it?

Although it might seem a bit of fun, Halloween is in fact a serious issue, born from a pagan tradition that originated over 2,000 years ago in Great Britain and Ireland, called variously 'All Saints Eve', 'All Hallows Eve' or 'All Souls Day'. The festival was held to honour the Samhain, the so called "Lord of Death". It was believed that on this day Samhain summoned wicked spirits that had been condemned to live as animals to return

to their original homes and be entertained with offerings of food – if these demands were not met the spirits would cast spells that wreaked havoc on those who had failed them.

In modern Satanism and witchcraft covens, 31 October is when Satan comes to have 'fellowship' with his followers. Over the years the festival has changed and morphed into the modern phenomenon 'Halloween', however the main principle of giving offerings to avoid the 'Trick' of the visiting spirits remains even now.

How long can we participate in a celebration that is so deeply rooted in the worship of 'evil' and 'darkness' and opposed to Our Saviour, and truly call ourselves devoted Christians? When Gary Grant, owner of the children's toy store, 'The Entertainer',

became a Christian in 1991, he destroyed all Halloween-related merchandise.

Some churches try to offer fun alternatives to focusing on witches and ghouls. Some throw "All Saints and Superheroes" fancy dress parties on Halloween, for which kids come dressed as angels and Bible characters. Others have pumpkin parties during which they carve letters instead of ghoulish faces, so the pumpkins spell out Bible verses.

Are you happy that your school or the organisations to which your children belong celebrate something associated with the occult?

***If you are in favour of celebrating Halloween, email the editor with your views for the next issue at: parishlinkeditor@gmail.com***



**Pat Edgley**  
Reader  
**Where could I go to escape from you?**

**"Where could I get away from your presence?" (Psalm 139)**

Our children are safely back at school, our young people settled at college or starting their first jobs. But sometimes this is not the case, and each year many vulnerable youngsters run away from care homes or chaotic families, ending up on the streets, abused and exploited. They desperately need a safe haven and someone to listen to them.

We remember them and those who rescue them in our prayers.

We pray for our society  
where children are not always kept safe  
and teenagers are feared and ignored;  
where many are lured into danger,  
and do not escape abuse.

We pray for all children who run away;  
Those who feel unloved and worthless,

Who believe they can cope alone,  
Who do not know whom to trust.

We have put stumbling blocks in their way;  
We have not listened to them;  
We have dishonoured their trust  
And failed to convince them  
That they are known and loved.

We pray for those who work to keep children safe;  
Social workers and police;  
Youth leaders and all who offer support.  
Give them courage and hope in their demanding work.

Forgive us, Lord, where we have failed.  
Give us the courage and humility to protect our children  
as you have commanded us.

*Adapted from Janet Morley / The Children's Society*

TIM HAYWARD  
Your Vicar



## The kingdom of God is like WiFi

Let me explain. Having recently moved into the village and having to rely on my mobile because BT reconnected my neighbours line instead of ours, I've become rather fond of my smartphone if a little frustrated with it at times.

Is it just me, or do you find yourself hanging out of a bedroom window or walking to the bottom of the garden to get any signal?

I went to the 3 store in Chester and asked the sales assistant if there was anything that could be done to boost the reception. He asked for my postcode and, after typing it in to his computer, he chuckled and said, "Let me show you something." He proceeded to show me a map of our villages and said, "Therein lies the problem- there are very few masts!"

I was left feeling rather isolated and disconnected - missing out on the daily fix of emails, texts and Facebook friends.

But thank God for WiFi! And thank God for those offering free WiFi in the village.

Not only can you enjoy a smoothie or pint with friends, but you can stay connected and keep in touch with the outside world.

It's one of those things that amazes me. I can be in a coffee shop in Bunbury and yet be connected to a friend and colleague in Finland.

It is mysterious, it is brilliant, it is free ... bringing people together ... a bit like the Kingdom of God.

## A Harvest message

October means Harvest, a time to give thanks. Here is a beautiful description of this rich time of the year: "You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance. The hills are clothed with gladness. The meadows are filled with flocks and the valleys are mantled with corn; they shout for joy and sing." (Ps 65:11-13)

A beautiful picture of harvest, of blessing as the year begins to draw to a close.

At this time of year, we pray especially for our local farmers - whose hard work produces so much. God bless the work of their hands!

For the rest of us, who may not be in farming, we will still have 'sown' things this year: maybe new relationships or friendships, new jobs or work projects, or just trying new things or learning new skills. Now is a good time to review them. No doubt some will have gone well, others may have fallen by the wayside, and others may not be doing so well. Thank God that whatever our circumstances in life, He is always there for us, ready to bless us with his presence and his peace.

In our churches, we will be supporting Save the Family this Harvest, so please come along and find out how in a very simple and small way, you can sow a little happiness to those whose lives are beset with difficulties.

## News from St Jude's



Kim and Hamilton Smith celebrate Georgia's baptism

This coming month will be like the start of a new year with the advent of our new vicar, Tim Hayward. We at St Jude's hope that this will be the start of a new relationship with St Boniface, not that there have been major differences between the good folk of both parishes. We offer a warm welcome to the Revd Tim Hayward and his family.

All too soon Christmas will be upon us, a busy time for all. The date of our Christmas Fair is Saturday 24 November

at 2pm. This is the time of the year when we need to raise lots of cash to maintain the fabric of the church and hall, and for the usual housekeeping costs, heating, lighting etc. We need the support of all friends of St Jude's, so do come along and enjoy all the fun of the fair.

Great news: we have a new member of the church! Miss Georgia Rae Flo Smith, the new daughter of the vice chairman of the PCC Hamilton and his wife Kim. So a very warm welcome to Georgia (and a little sympathy for Hamilton living in a house with four women!).

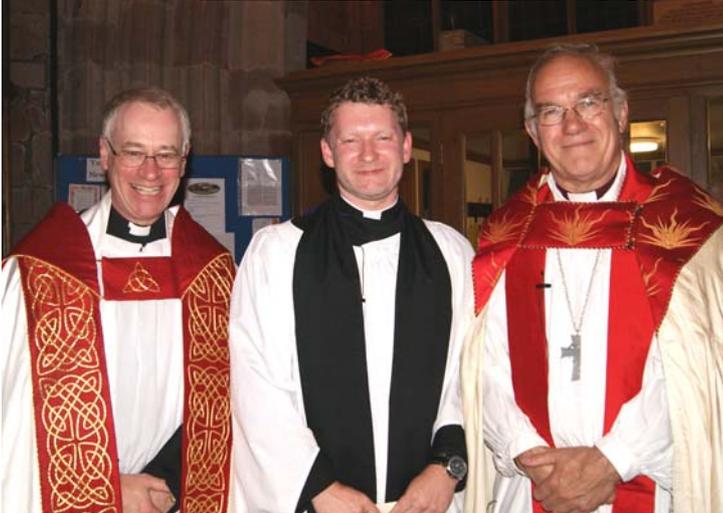
Bob Gardner

## Church diary for October

Wednesday 3 October	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 7 October	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Worship 6.30pm Harvest Festival	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley
Wednesday 10 October	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 14 October	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Communion 4.30pm Evensong	St Jude's St Boniface St Boniface
Wednesday 17 October	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 21 October	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Morning prayer 10.00am Family worship 11.00am Family worship	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley
Wednesday 24 October	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 28 October	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface
Wednesday 31 October	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 4 November	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley
Wednesday 7 November	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface

## The Institution of Tim Hayward

On Friday 14 September, the parishes of Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall gathered for the Institution of our new vicar, Tim Hayward. The service was conducted by the Bishop of Chester, the Rt Revd Dr Peter Forster and the Archdeacon of Chester, Dr Mike Gilbertson. Welcomed by representatives of the Haberdashers Company, the school, the Diocese of Chester, Malpas Deanery, the Parish Council and local MP, Stephen O'Brien, and supported by a coachload of parishioners from their old parish of Buckden and the Offords, Tim and Beth can be in no doubt of the delight at their arrival in Bunbury.



# “It’s good, Lord, to be here!”

Hello! It is good to be here, finally installed and inducted as your new vicar. Thank you to so many of you who came to my Institution service and/or First Communion at St Boniface. Beth and I were so impressed by the welcome we received and the number of people who turned up to take part and to check us out! We've been really touched by the many cards, letters and gifts we have received since. Thank you for your prayers and support. It is truly humbling, and we would ask for your continued love and care.

Both services were joyful occasions, if a little terrifying! A friend who came to support me at the Institution service said, "Tim you look so small in such a large and majestic church", and I do confess I did feel like my young daughter Rose at times, who started school this last month, wearing a cardigan that is two sizes too big for her. But that's OK! Just as Rose will grow into her school uniform and flourish, I pray too that I will grow, adapt and flourish in the role of vicar.

Please bear with me over the next few weeks and months, as I try to remember your names. I intend to work my way through the electoral roll and visit folk for a chat and a cup of tea, so if your surname begins with an 'A', expect a phone call soon! Or if you're out and about in one of our shops or pubs, please do say hello. It would be good to meet you and put a face to a name.

Over the next few months, I'm keen to find out from the people of Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall what their hopes and dreams are for the churches and villages in which they live, work and worship. Whatever your age, and however long you have lived here, I'm keen to hear from you. Please don't hesitate to get in touch. My contact details are on page 2.

But for now, my hope and prayer for us all, is that whatever our stage in life, we might grow in faith, hope and love.

Tim Hayward



## New faces on the Parish Council

Bunbury Parish Council has been through a turbulent time but things seem to be on track again. After a number of resignations, new councillors have now been appointed. At a recent meeting members were told that the Jubilee Day had made a £1,000 loss this year, but the council was hoping to recoup money with a new-style Bonfire Night.

Newly-appointed parish council chairman Jo Mundell said she was keen to work closely with villagers. "Their views are important to us," she said. She appealed to anyone interested in serving on the Playing Fields Committee or the Parish Council to get in touch. "We want to take the Parish Council into a new era of cohesive progressive governance to deliver what the village wants," she said.

## Have you booked your flu jab?

Bunbury Medical Practice starts flu vaccination clinics in the first week in October. If you are 65 or over, pregnant or a carer, or suffer from one of the following, contact the surgery for an appointment:

Chronic lung disease

Diabetes

Heart disease

Liver or kidney disease

Lowered immunity

Neurological disease

Please contact your local practice on 260218 to make an appointment with the practice nurse.

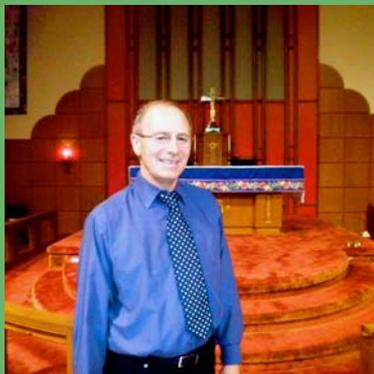
## Save the Family is back on track

The past year has been traumatic for Save the Family, a charity supported by Bunbury for many years. "There have been many willing workers pulling in different ways," explained Barbara Croley. "The division of Cheshire into West and East caused many problems, as neither Council could give the financial help given in the past. Guarantees were no longer available to support homeless families. This meant we could not accommodate any more families because we were uncertain of having the longstanding support needed until they were ready to go it alone." Now, however, Save the Family's position has improved. Founder Edna Speed has been made lifelong Chairperson, with many others taking on the roles Edna undertook in the past.

Harvest gifts from St Boniface will go to Save the Family this year as before. Donations of household and domestic items and clothes are gratefully received; alternatively, £1.00 will go a long way to helping with the expense of bringing the collection van to Bunbury.

St Boniface will again collect toys and small gifts at Christmas time. Having a facedcloth and soap means a great deal to someone who has nothing. Please look out for a list later in the year of items required. "Finally," writes Barbara, "I need someone to work with me with a view to taking over my role. It is not onerous and it would be good to know that our link with Save the Family is secure." If you can help, please contact Barbara Croley on 260344.

## Martin Cook's Letter from America



It is now three years since I left the shores of the green and pleasant land to pursue a dream in America, writes former organist and Bunbury resident, **Martin Cook**.

For the last three years, I have been at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, studying for a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Choral Conducting. I completed this in May.

Designed to produce experts in the field of choral conducting, the course entailed two years of conducting master classes and seminar classes in choral literature, a course in diction requiring a knowledge of Latin, English, French, German, Italian and the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet, a seminar in performance practice, a college teaching course, and elective courses in history and theory plus a doctoral history seminar course – in my case this was a study of the late Mozart operas. I also had to organise, rehearse and perform three recitals of choral music selected from the Renaissance period to the present day. Other electives included piano, singing and orchestral conducting lessons. My thesis is on "The sacred choral-orchestral works of Sir Henry Walford Davies," so I am now the world's expert on this subject. You can read all 300+ pages if you google *unl.digitalcommons* and type in the title. Alternatively, you can visit the Royal College of Music Library in London, where you will find a copy!

I wasn't quite ready to come home after surviving this ordeal so decided to apply for jobs. Basically, there were two job options: university or church positions. As visa restrictions put a time limit on

my eligibility to stay in the country, I applied for everything that looked attractive and decided to accept the first position offered. I had three interviews and was offered a position at Christ Episcopal Church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. I feel very fortunate to have secured a position so quickly and started here on 1 August.

Christ Church has been without a Director of Music since May, so there is some rebuilding to do - a good position to be in! My official title is Director of Music Ministries and Youth Choir(s). Working with me is an excellent organist, Betty Debban and a Bell choir director, Janice Cummings. The church also supports two office managers, a communications officer, part-time accountant, sexton, a curate, volunteer children's church workers and a host of other volunteers. Many churches in the US are able to support full-time and part-time positions, as 60% of Americans go to church.

The church buildings consist of a large sanctuary and a complex of rooms including offices, teaching rooms, a devotional chapel, library and lounge. In the basement there is a large parish hall, storage rooms and a choir room.

There are two Communion services on Sunday morning: Rite I at 8:00am and Rite II at 10:30am, along with Communion at 5:30pm on Saturday night and special services during the week as required. About 400 families attend the church. My role is to organise and oversee all musical activities, but my main duties are to rehearse the chancel choir, the youth choirs, choose all the hymns and choral settings for the services and prepare music for special occasions. The Chancel choir sings at the 10:30 services.

Our Rector, the Revd Martha Rogers, is very supportive and shares my vision for high quality music in the church as does our Curate, the Revd Dr Renny Martin.

Wouldn't it be lovely to build a link between St Boniface, Bunbury and Christ Church, Cedar Rapids – the possibilities are limitless.

## Marking the Two Saints Way

Many thanks to David Potts, Jill Robey and Amber Middlemiss, who braved the elements to put up signage marking the route for the Two Saints Way through Bunbury.



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## Cheers for Beth Tweddle on her homecoming



Beth Tweddle was given a hero's welcome home after becoming the first ever British woman gymnast to win an Olympic medal. Hundreds of well-wishers and members of the press were in Bunbury to celebrate Beth's London 2012 success in style. Jo Mundell, chairman of Bunbury Parish Council, said it was a wonderful occasion. "We were incredibly proud to have this opportunity and it put our lovely village firmly on the map," she said.

Beth, whose parents Ann and Jerry live in School Lane, arrived at the Pavilion in the Bentley of the Cheshire East Council mayor, George Walton. Cllr Walton announced that Beth was to be awarded the freedom of the borough and Michael



Jones, Leader of the Council, revealed that a road in Bunbury was to be named 'Beth Tweddle Close' in her honour. Beth won a Bronze medal at London 2012 in the uneven bars final after performing one of the most difficult routines of her life. During the event at the Pavilion, Beth answered questions and signed copies of her book.

"I would like to thank Cllr Michael Jones for all his support in helping me to achieve such a successful day for Beth," said Jo. "Thanks also go to the WI, Burrows Butchers, Johnny Gillett, Tattenhall Ice Cream Farm and The Yew Tree for hosting a fabulous private reception for Beth."



## Jean Healey – a life of faith and service to Bunbury



On Friday 31 August we said goodbye to Jean with an early morning Requiem Communion conducted by her cousin, the Very Revd Edward Shorter (retired Dean of Rochester), followed by a service in the afternoon attended by a large congregation of family and friends.

Jean Catterall was born in 1929 in Crosby Liverpool

where she attended school with her younger sister Beryl. In 1938 the family moved to Middlewich and Jean became a pupil at Verdin Grammar School, Winsford. Even as a teenager Jean enthusiastically joined the Guides, Church bell ringers and the amateur dramatic society. She grew up during the Second World War and throughout her life retained the values of duty and service to others instilled at this time.

Jean read English at Manchester University and then obtained a teaching diploma at Nottingham. Her education career began at Staveley Grammar school in Derbyshire followed by appointments at Nantwich and Acton Grammar school and The Grange School, Hartford.

Jean married Brian Healey in 1955 at Middlewich Church where she had been confirmed and been a bell ringer. Margaret was born to them in 1956 and Ann, Thomas, Alison and Patrick followed. In 1968 the family moved to Bunbury and moved into the home they had built near Saddlers Wood. Jean put her energies into providing the children and the wider family with a sense of emotional and practical stability whilst encouraging them to achieve their potential at school and then through career choices. She remained the heart of the family providing care and comfort.

Jean spent the second half of her life in Bunbury and applied her drive and enthusiasm to many village projects. She founded and ran the first Bunbury playgroup, and was involved in many activities including Village Day, Bunbury Society, Saddlers Wells Wood, Bunbury Mill, Bunbury Journal and Art and Exhibitions - and always in the life of the church. Her speciality flapjacks were served up at many meetings.

She lived her life in the spirit of love and gave to others, with her home being a safe haven to friends, family and animals alike.



## Evelyn Harding - always put others first



Many gathered in St Boniface to say a loving goodbye to Evelyn Doris Harding, who passed away peacefully on 5 August, aged 89 years. She was born in Utkinton and spent her earlier years around farming life. At the tender age of 14, Evelyn had the strength and capability to go into service to support her family financially. Her caring and selfless character proved she would do anything to look after her

family throughout her life.

Whilst working at Haughton Hall she met her husband-to-be, Peter, and they had five children. Not only would she work hard to look after her children, but she would also help Peter out on the farm whenever she could.

Her energy and spirit shone at all times; she worked hard all her life. Always busy, she would race across the green to work, and in so doing created her own pathway. The local children soon named this 'Mrs Harding's path'.

Sadly at the age of 52 she was widowed, but her strong character helped her and her children to get through this difficult time.

Evelyn's attitude was summed up in her comment: "If you do someone a good turn, you do it from the goodness of your heart and you don't hold out your hand for a reward". This epitomises the values by which she lived, always putting others before herself. She touched the lives of many and will never be forgotten for her good heart.

## Jacqui Ingram - loved by all

Jaqueline Ann Lockley Ingram, or "Jacqui" as she was known, was laid to rest on Wednesday 8 August in St Boniface churchyard, having passed away at home aged 70 years.

She had an enchanting character that enriched many of the lives around her; she was down-to-earth, forthright and honest. She was unique and lived her life the way she wanted to live it, rather than conforming to any regulations. Her conversation was wise and stimulating, reflecting her finishing school at The Sorbonne in Paris and her innate intelligence. She had an ear for language, and was able to speak fluent French, Italian and German. She adored animals, particularly horses and her dogs.

Her family paid tribute to her being not only a brilliant wife but also a fantastic mother to two children, Chris and Louis. She came to be a grandmother of three: Sebastian, Phoebe and Alexander. She has left them with precious and enchanting memories to cherish.

No one could deny that she lived her life to the full; when asked she admitted, "I would change nothing. I have been thoroughly selfish, but I have adored and been adored by John and my children". Jacqui was proud of her life and of achieving the greatest achievement that anyone can: that of being dearly and endlessly loved by her family.

## Ron Done - the best of company



Ron Done, who died on 23 July aged 67, was the seventh of ten children born to Alfred and Bessie Done of Bunbury.

At the time Ron was born the family lived in Mayfield Cottage. Ron attended school locally and, like his brothers Richard, Michael and Walter, sang in St Boniface choir.

On leaving school, Ron worked for the roads and railways, settling in Crewe. He married and had a daughter Tracey, and then spent some years in Cleethorpes before returning to the Bunbury area.

Ron had a difficult period in his middle years, but was supported constantly by his late sister Edie Dutton. In particular Edie helped and encouraged him to return to Bunbury, and he lived happily, though in poor health, in The Bungalows on Bunbury Lane, for the last seven years of his life. As he became housebound he was looked after with great devotion by his neighbour Pam, his youngest sister Valerie and her daughter Nicky.

Ron was sociable and popular and excellent company. After his sister Edie's death, his bungalow became the "hub" of the Done family and the place to catch up on the news.

Ron was pre-deceased by brothers Edwin and Michael and sisters Edie and Sheila. He is much missed by family and friends. His funeral took place at St Boniface on 2 August.

## Mary Wilson - one strong lady



A memorial service was held at St Boniface on 20 August to celebrate the life of Mary Wilson.

Mary was born in Carlisle on Valentines Day into the heart of a large, close-knit family. Mary's father was a civil engineer based in Tanzania, working on the construction of the port at Dar es Salaam. At 14, Mary made the first of many trips to Africa, a trip which then required five flights with lengthy refuelling stops along the way.

In 1942, aged 19, Mary fell in love with and married Ron after a whirlwind romance, most of which was conducted by letter. Mary was a true 'war bride'; the whole family saved their coupons to buy her dress. She worked at the air ministry during the war and, at the end of the war, she and Ron returned to Africa. Living between Nairobi and Dar es Salaam for almost 20 years, their daughter Anne was born in Africa. They returned to England in 1961, and Mary spent many happy years in Worcester. She and Ron planned to retire back up in Carlisle and, despite Ron's sad death, Mary moved to the bungalow that they had chosen. Her immediate family expanded as she became a grandmother to Alex and Nick, moving to Lancashire and then to Bunbury to be close to them. She always placed her family first and had a close relationship with her nephew, Sean. She was delighted to watch Alex get married in St Boniface last year. The family are heartened that she was able to meet her first great grandchild, William, earlier this year.

Mary took a close interest in the world, reading *The Times* every day and doing the crossword. She was a great character who always had an opinion and would never shrink from expressing it. You never got shades of grey from Mary – if it wasn't black then it had to be white!

## Tim lights up his first service



At his first Communion Service in Bunbury - a joint service for Bunbury, Tilstone Fearnall and Calveley - Tim outlined the three strands of his vision for his mission here: worship and welcome; growth in faith, hope and love; and community involvement and pastoral care.

During the service, Tim asked the many children who were attending to write their hopes and dreams on prayer lanterns, which at the end of the service, were lit outside the church to float upward towards heaven. This proved very popular with children (young and old) but more difficult to achieve than intended due to the windy conditions. Nevertheless it seems that some of the

dreams wished for have come true!



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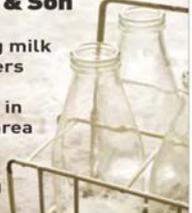
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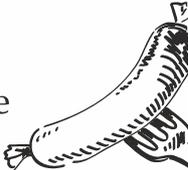
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