



Link

November 2020

My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together. *Desmond Tutu*

Also in this issue...

Six emergency food parcels every minute
 expected to be provided by food banks in the Trussell Trust network this winter.

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Foodbank calls for Christmas donations



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Pam Brookfield gives us two minutes



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A day in the life of Jeannie France-Hayhurst

A magazine for the parishes of Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall

Handmade poppies adorn church altar



The **Bunbury 700 knitters group** has knitted poppies for what would have been the flower festival in July. To make sure that



they are used the poppies are now being put together for an altar frontal for Remembrance Day.



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

Community news

Congratulations to **Fiona Parker**, awarded the Chairman's Cup by the parish council for her community voluntary work during lockdown.



We were sad to hear about the death of **John Barlow**, an amazing gentleman – we will all miss his sense of humour.



Elsie, Paula and their families would like to say thank you to everyone for their kind messages, cards and condolences on the sad occasion of **Richard Taylor's** passing. Richard was a most wonderful husband, dad and grandad and will be greatly missed.



The Link thanks **Eileen Wood** for delivering the Link into her 90s and to

Anne Ashton for taking over the round.

Our retired postman **Ian Mullock** is also a superstar, driving from Tarporley to deliver 40+ copies along the A49. Give him a smile if you see him.

Special thanks to **Carolyn Johnson** who puts so much time into organising the distribution and to **Sue Watson** who helps pack them in church. To all our **distributors**: we are very grateful. People are very pleased that the magazine is being delivered again.

A big thank you to **Vicki Riley** who will retire as parish administrator at the end of this month.

Send your Christmas messages for the December Link by 13 November. This year's collection will support Shelter, which helps people struggling with bad

housing or homelessness through advice, support, and legal services, and campaigns towards a day when no one will have to turn to them for help. The free emergency helpline is open 365 days a year. <https://england.shelter.org.uk/donate>

Helpline: 0300 330 1234

This year it is important that elderly neighbours receive a Christmas card and, if possible, a socially distanced visit at the front door especially if they live alone.

If anyone has **knitted poppies** that have not been handed in, please contact Elaine Crotty on 01829 260648.

Apologies to **Leila Potter**: in the October Parish Pursuits it should read Leila Potter Press Officer.

Tarporley Rotary wants your change

Over £150 million of old pound coins are still in circulation – your change can make a difference!

Donate your UK and foreign banknotes and coins – any currency, any quantity, from any time – to support the Knysna Education Trust South Africa.

WANTED:

Any UK banknotes and coins
All foreign banknotes and coins
Obsolete currencies

What have you accumulated around the house over the years? Don't let it lie worthless where it is. We'll pool it and realise some value to support the Knysna Education Trust.

Donations are being coordinated by David Kendrick and can be posted through the letterbox of 43 High Street, Tarporley (corner of Millfield Lane) or, if necessary, they can be collected.
Tel. 01829 733254

A word from the editor

St Boniface is one of many organisations suffering financially at the moment. If you are able to help, please contact church Treasurer John Mason email bunburycptreasurer@gmail.com

I wrote about Storyhouse in the last issue. Two of its leaders, former chair Geoff Clinton and Chief Executive Andrew

Bentley, were given much deserved awards in the Queen's birthday honours list. Storyhouse is really struggling financially – one way of helping is to become a member. It's £4 a month. I have no formal connection with Storyhouse, but feel it's a fantastic local facility.



Sadly **St Luke's Hospice** cannot hold their Christmas tree sale in the village this year. Their **Christmas tree collection service** will continue, so look out for details in the December issue. St Luke's Hospice Christmas cards are now in stock and available for people to buy online <https://www.slhospice.co.uk/product-category/christmas-cards/> and will be in St Luke's shops. See p12 for details of the **St Luke's Great Pudding Day** on 13 December and do sign up!

Due to COVID restrictions there will be no Christmas Card shop in the Tarporley Chapel. You can find **Cards for Good Causes** in the Grosvenor Shopping Centre or cards can be bought on line at www.cardsforcharity.co.uk

Calveley Chapel's first service since March was for harvest on 4 October. 16 people took part, and enjoyed meeting curate Claire Wilson. The chapel was beautifully decorated with flowers by Kath Roden and food which went with the weekly offering to the Nantwich and Crewe foodbanks. There will be another service in December.

On 30 September **St Jude's** held its harvest service with the church decorated beautifully. The autumn colours looked stunning. The harvest songs reminded us of all we have to be thankful for. Thanks to all who cleaned the church and to Ian Mullock for his hard work in the churchyard – it has never looked so good.

The copy deadline for the December–January issue is Friday 13 November. The magazine should be delivered starting Saturday 28 November. Notices to bunburyparishoffice@gmail.com



TIM HAYWARD

Your Vicar



At the going down of the sun and in the morning. We will remember them.

Every year the nation unites on Remembrance Sunday to make sure that no-one is forgotten and to remember and honour those who have sacrificed themselves to secure and protect our freedom.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic and in light of the risks posed, many of the national events such as the March Past the Cenotaph will not take place this year. The public has been asked not to gather. The Royal Family and politicians will be there, but for the first time ever it will be a closed event. This will be deeply disappointing for all, especially as this year marks one hundred years

since the Cenotaph was installed, but the public are urged to pay their respects at home instead.

Likewise, here in Bunbury, we have taken the difficult decision to limit the numbers on Remembrance Sunday, in line with national guidance. The Royal British Legion and local politicians and representatives of our

Uniformed Organisations will be there, but for the first time ever it will be a ticketed event.

We are asking the parish not to gather but would invite you to pay your respects at home instead.

There will be a special Remembrance Sunday service on Sunday 8 November 10.45am online on our YouTube Channel: Bunbury Church Online.

We would like to thank you for your understanding - we know this is an important service every year for so many of our local community and we do hope you will be able to join us online.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning. We will remember them.

NOVEMBER SERVICES

1st November | All Saints Family Communion
9.30am St Judes | 10.30am St Boniface
All Souls Memorial Service
4pm St Boniface

8th November | Remembrance Sunday
9.30am St Judes | 10.45am St Boniface (invite only)

15th November | Vocations Sunday
9.30am St Judes | 10.30am St Boniface

22nd November | Christ The King
9.30am St Judes | 10.30am St Boniface

29th November | Advent Sunday
9.30am St Judes | 10.30am St Boniface

Christmas is coming... early for the foodbanks

It's going to be a strange Christmas this year no doubt, but it's still Christmas! If you would like to spread a little Christmas cheer around, please consider making a donation or two to the local foodbanks. The time to start is NOW, as they have asked that all Christmas donations be given before 30 November. Here's the list of suggested items - any one of these would be much appreciated by those struggling this Christmastide. Thank you.



Food stuff

Tinned gammon
Tinned salmon
Rice pudding
Custard
Washing powder
Washing-up liquid
Coffee
Christmas cake
Christmas pudding

Small box chocolates
Fancy biscuits
Cheesy snack tub
Crackers (to pull)
Chocolate coins
Mince pies (*with sell by date after 25/12/20*)
Tubes of sweets
Long-life juice
Tinned fruit
Sponge puddings

Gifts - unwrapped please

Gift for child 1-4
Gift for child 4-8
Gift for child 8-12
Gift for teenager
Toiletry gift set

Donations should be left in the large green box outside the Village Hall.

Notice: Invitation to apply for grants

The trustees of Bunbury Parochial Charities (charity number 216368) invite applications for a limited number of grants, which will be awarded once a year in December, from residents and organisations of the following parishes:

Alraham, Beeston, Bunbury, Burwardsley, Calveley, Haughton, Peckforton, Ridley, Spurstow, Tilstone Fearnall, Tiverton & Wardle.

An application may be made by the proposed beneficiary, or by a trustee or other person on their behalf. In considering applications the trustees will take into account the following guidelines:

1. The proposed recipient should normally be resident in one of the constituent parishes or be an organisation active in providing benefit

for the residents of one or more of the constituent parishes.

2. A grant may be made to a recipient who is in financial difficulties, particularly where the difficulties are adversely affecting a child or elderly person.

3. A grant may be made to assist the education of a child who is being hindered by financial difficulties.

4. A grant may be made to support a resident, particularly a child, in an activity deemed to be a worthy use of the charity - for example to help the recipient undertake an extracurricular educational project, to participate in a charitable project or to learn skills to assist that resident in finding work.

5. A grant may be made to support an organisation providing support within the constituent parishes, for example providing

clubs/group activity for the young and the elderly, support groups for the elderly, assistance for the disabled or disadvantaged, and groups providing hospital transport, respite care and home support.

Applications must be in writing on our formal application form and sent to David Ellis, Ivy Cottage, Wyche Lane, Bunbury CW6 9PS preferably by email to dwellis7.de@gmail.com. Completed applications to be returned by 12.00 noon on Wednesday 11 November for consideration at the trustee meeting on Wednesday 2 December when the awards will be made at the complete discretion of the trustees whose decision will be final. Application forms can be obtained from the clerk at the above address/email or by telephone on 01829 261898.

Sky notes – October

Mars is still putting on a fine display this month: the bright "star" due south and halfway up the sky as night falls. Notable for its ruddy colour even to the naked eye, this colour is even more obvious through binoculars or a small telescope. Mars won't be this bright for another couple of years, so do take the opportunity to see it while you can.

If we are blessed with clear skies on the night of November 17/18, you might be able to see some meteors, or "shooting stars". This night is the maximum of the Leonid meteor shower, so called because they appear to be coming from the constellation of Leo. We may not expect a dazzling show this year (roughly every 33 years they put on a spectacular show), but these swift meteors often produce pretty greenish trails, with maximum occurring in the small hours of November 18. The peak of activity is generally very narrow, at around 4 or 5 am. We are fortunate in that the Moon will not interfere this year, being three days old.

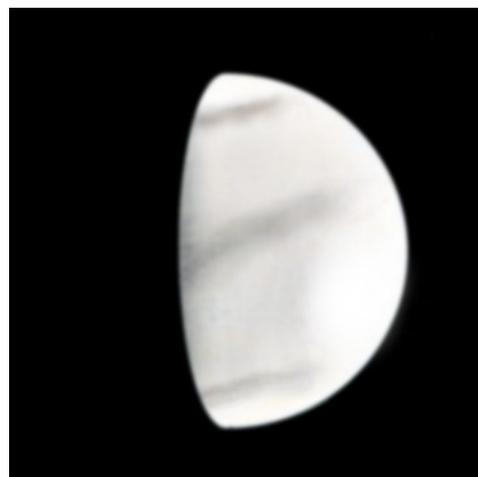
On a clear dark night, with no Moon or streetlights to drown it out, you should be able to see the Milky Way which runs west to east directly overhead. It looks like a faint patchy band of cloud, but in reality is comprised of thousands and thousands of stars which make up part of our galaxy. If you scan the Milky Way with binoculars you will see many of these stars and star clusters.

Glorious Venus is rising in the east at around 4 am and shining very brightly indeed. Through a telescope, Venus shows phases like the Moon's. Last month, there was some very exciting news about Venus: a team of astronomers led by Professor Jane

Greaves at Cardiff University announced that they had detected significant amounts of a chemical called phosphine in the atmosphere of Venus. The team used two telescopes; the James Clerk Maxwell Telescope in Hawaii and the ALMA radio telescope in Chile's Atacama Desert.

On Earth, phosphine is a product of biological decay, and so one possible explanation for its presence in the atmosphere of Venus is that it is being produced by some form of life.

So, have we finally got real evidence for the existence of life beyond the Earth, or is the phosphine the product of some bizarre and exotic chemistry which occurs only in the upper atmosphere of Venus? Further investigation is required and new missions to Venus are already under discussion. However, I would not be surprised if further investigations reveal the phosphine to be the result of some unusual chemical process not involving life. But that would be an interesting finding, too!



Venus drawn by Paul Abel on 21 September 2020

Bunbury school news

On 2 October Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary held its virtual Zoom Harvest Festival in school. Our Zoom Harvest service was attended by over 97 parents/carers and grandparents including Rev Tim who joined us in worship and



closing prayers. The children from each class performed either a poem, song or shared some work around the theme of thankfulness. It was testament to the staff of the school that, despite the physical divide of the pandemic, we were able to still be very much one community online. Technology was not always on our side and the voices of 170 children was sometimes too much for Zoom to handle however as always the Bunbury school children were a credit to their school. I think the most used phrase of whole service may well be: 'You can unmute now'!



All donations went to the Nantwich Foodbank.

We are now planning our next Zoom extravaganza for the Christmas celebrations with a Zoom Nativity and Candlelit Carol Service.

Recipe for October: Vegan Rainbow Dhansak



For those we love and those we miss

Bunbury Tree of Lights 2020



To sponsor a light on the tree at St Boniface this Christmas in aid of our church building please fill in the form or contact Lucy Munro on 07580 06615 lucymunro@hotmail.com

I would like a light on the tree to celebrate: (please give details)

.....
.....

I would like to donate £..... (£5 min)

If you would like to gift aid this donation to Bunbury PCC (Charity No 1133106) tick box*

*By ticking this box you acknowledge that: you are a UK taxpayer and understand that if you pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all your donations it is your responsibility to pay any difference.

Full name.....

Address.....
.....
.....

Postcode.....

Signature.....

Date:

Tick this box for an entry in the Book of Lights

Borrowed from Jack Monroe's website, this recipe can cost as little as 31p per person to make! Jack Monroe is an award-winning food writer and bestselling author. She works with Oxfam, the Trussell Trust, Child Poverty Action Group, food banks, schools and children's centres, teaching people to cook and eat well on a low income. **More recipes at: <https://cookingonabootstrap.com/>**

Ingredients

150g red lentils	1 tbsp curry powder
1l cold water	A pinch of chilli
1 tbsp cooking oil	1 stock cube or generous pinch of salt
280g onion	800ml water
4 fat cloves of garlic	400g chopped tomatoes
1 rounded tbsp minced ginger	1-2 tsp bottled lemon juice
2 tbsp garam masala	600g bag of stir fry veg

Method

First thoroughly rinse your lentils in a sieve under cold running water, then pop them into a medium saucepan.

Cover with a litre of water and bring to the boil, then reduce to a simmer for 20 minutes until swollen and softened. If you cover the pan with a lid, foil, robust plate or even a larger pan balanced on top, it will retain the heat and cook them more efficiently.

Measure the oil into your largest nonstick pan and set on a medium hob ring. Don't turn it on just yet or you might stress yourself out trying to chop your onions in the time it takes for the oil to warm! Peel and chop your onions into a medium dice or fine slice, whatever you prefer. Peel and slice your garlic, and grate or finely mince your ginger.

Now warm the oil in the pan and add the onion, ginger and garlic. Wait a beat, or more accurately, two minutes, then add the garam masala, curry powder, and chilli.

Check your lentils and turn them down a little if needed.

Crumble the stock cube over the onions, ginger and garlic, if using, or scatter the salt in if you'd prefer that instead. Some

people are a bit aghast at me using stock cubes in curries, but some Indian recipe writers and blogs also recommend it, so I think this, although strictly perhaps not entirely traditional in all circles, is a matter of personal preference. I like the flavourful undertones it gives, but if it really gives you the willies, salt is just fine.

Add 500ml of the 800ml water, the tomatoes and the lemon juice. Bring to the boil briefly, and then reduce to a simmer until the lentils are cooked in the other pan.

Drain the lentils and rinse thoroughly to get rid of the foam (also known as 'scum' but in a polarised and increasingly political world I find that term strangely aggressive for a wee pan of little orange pulses) and then transfer the lentils to the base pan. Add the remaining water as needed, cooking for a further 20 minutes to really soften the lentils and reduce and thicken the base.

When the curry is almost cooked to perfection, tip in the bag of veg and stir into the hot sauce. Cook for a further 5-7 minutes until the veg is softened, and serve piping hot.

Give us 2 minutes

Pam Brookfield, a familiar face to all who frequent Tilly's, originates from Liverpool, but her family moved into Cheshire when she was quite small. She is a retired Senior Nurse Manager/ Specialist Nurse, having worked in the NHS for over 42 years. She completed her paediatric training at Alder Hey Children's Hospital and General at Broadgreen Hospital, and returned to Liverpool again some years later to complete her Nurse Teacher training. She is married to Peter, and they came to the village as Peter was one of the original Village Police Officers. They have many fond memories of the time spent at the Police House, both funny times and sad. Having lived here for over 40 years, although city people, they feel very much "part of village life".



Pam Brookfield

8am until 6pm (then there was all the cleaning, so regularly didn't get out until 7pm) this was all for £1:50p a day). I always looked on the bright side that every couple of weeks I could buy a dress in Top Shop!

What would you change about Bunbury if you could?

To see another business become established in the village, a patisserie/bakery would be lovely.

What is the best book you have read to date?

This is a difficult question for me to answer as I have always been an avid reader. I have read such a lot of books from Birds of Paradise by Diana Abu-Jaber, to books by Amanda Prowse. My last book is special until I read the next one.

If you had a motto what would it be?

Tomorrow is another day!

It's a celebrity beer call – who would you invite (socially distanced of course)?

I would invite Luther Vandross, Nile Rodgers with Jools Holland, but would include my best friend Jan Crompton – then we can dance.

What was your abiding memory of lockdown (good and bad)?

The original good weather, having the opportunity to be able to walk in all that lovely sunshine!

The Good: carrying out community shopping, it has been a pleasure. I have renewed friendships and made new ones. Recently it's been lovely to just have a cup of tea and a chat with certain people who have not had any visitors as they continue to stay indoors. It's the community feeling that has been created for our village. I've also achieved a garden full of flowers, in the borders and on the bank in front of the house, which can be clearly seen from the lane.

The Bad: this has to be the isolating, not seeing our families, not being able to give people a hug when you know they really need one.

What would you call your autobiography?

Tries her best.

What was your first job?

I worked on a Saturday from the age of 14 in a very small grocer's shop. I had to walk two miles each Saturday morning to get there, as there was no bus for that direction. I started at

What is your biggest regret?

I don't have any regrets as life is too short.

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

I think it has to be, that in the current pandemic situation that a vaccine is produced sooner rather than later.

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

I have trekked in the Himalayas, where we camped the first night at 17,500 feet which is higher than Base Camp of Everest, also completing the Inca Trail in Peru and exploring the Lost City.

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

Maintain our current good health and level of fitness. To see September 2021 when Peter and I will have been together for 50 years!!

What is your favourite place and why?

I have two places: in the UK it is the Lake District for walking, particularly a place called Levens (it is magical, and quite breath-taking walking along the River); and Portugal, especially a fishing port called Olhão because it feels like going back in time.

How would you spend your ideal weekend?

In an ideal world it would be to see our daughter. I would like to walk with my husband Peter maybe up over towards Burwardsley and Rawhead, then enjoy a meal in one of the several pubs in the area. To complete the weekend would be to complete some gardening followed by a nice "glass of something".

From our bookshelf

Where the crawdads sing, by Delia Owens

A review by regular contributor, Margi Nalia

The desolate marshlands of the North Carolina coast and their astonishing natural world are beautifully evoked in this debut novel by Delia Owens. The novel, which combines both a murder-mystery and coming of age narrative is compelling. From the start you will feel the marsh's moist breath, smell the salt air and hear the gull-song.

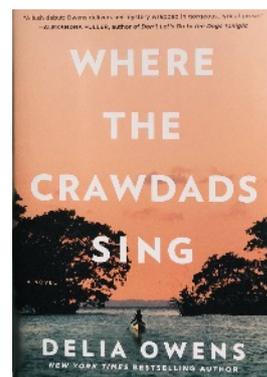
You will meet six-year-old Kya as she waits on the porch for the return of her mother, the sound of footsteps being drowned out by the croaking frogs. Abandoned by her family, you will feel the relentless loneliness of the "marsh girl" who learns to trust no one until she grows up and yearns to belong.

When you have no one, you find companionship in what is around you. For Kya her friends are the gulls and her lessons are in the sand. Kya learns from the wildlife around her. Her observation that mother animals and birds always return to their young leads her poignantly to believe that

her childhood solitude will be temporary.

Her chance meeting with the eleven year old Tate on a solo trip out towards the ocean in her Pa's boat is the beginning of a fateful acquaintance that provides one of the threads through the narrative. The boat is essential to her survival. She catches mussels and fish to sell to Jumpin who runs the wharf in colored town. Jumpin and his wife Mabel become the only adults she feels she can trust. And the years go by avoiding school and social services until she attracts the attention of Chase an arrogant jock from town. This is the other thread that skillfully ties together the narrative.

"Where the Crawdads Sing" is a story of loss and loneliness, but also hope, endurance and love. The writing is sublime and even without the two narrative threads this book will stay with you long after you have left the swamp behind.



Parish pursuits

The Parish Council met on 14 October, another audio conference meeting. We welcomed members of the public who raised the issue of the trees to the rear of the Play Area, they asked to keep the tree with the low hanging branches as a climbing tree for the younger children and not to be pruned in such a way that they could no longer do this. This item was considered during the meeting in light of this & reports of anti-social behaviour earlier in the year. It was decided to take the advice of a local tree surgeon who recommended only light pruning to maintain the health of the tree but leave the tree as something younger children can still enjoy climbing. All the trees will now be regularly inspected to ensure they are healthy and we continue to work with the local police to ensure the play area and fields are a safe space for both visiting families and our neighbours.

Planning for Remembrance Sunday and Fireworks events were discussed along with a plan to plant daffodil bulbs around the playing fields ready for next spring. Cllr Joan Gillon has resigned due to work commitments and we thanked her for her work on the Parish Council. The vacancy will be posted shortly and we welcome applications from residents.

Keep safe!

Bunbury Parish Council, Leila Potter, Press Officer

Bunbury Fireworks 2020 Thursday - November 5

The annual Bunbury Fireworks are a popular event but this year it will not be possible to welcome thousands of people to the Jubilee Playing Fields. We didn't want to cancel the event and have come up with an alternative that we hope will enable us to come together for an enjoyable and safe celebration. Usually we welcome visitors from across Cheshire but this year the display is intended only for residents who can view it from home in Bunbury.

The Socially Distanced Display

Lightech will use their mortar fireworks that rise to 600ft and will be visible across the village. We will close the playing fields from 6.00pm and have a display that people will be able to enjoy only from the safety of their own gardens.

The Garden Fireworks BBQ

Inspired by the VE Day celebrations we are asking you to stay at home and have a BBQ in your gardens or just watch with a drink and sparklers! Streets can arrange their own celebrations but you must respect Covid guidelines.

Burrows & the Co-op will be offering BBQ deals and depending on Covid regulations at the time Tilly's, The Village Chippy, The Nags Head, The Yew Tree and The Dysart will be joining in. Please check with them nearer the time.

Photo Competition

Please submit a photo from the evening. There will be 3 prizes:
Junior: Ages up to 11 - Youth: 11-18 - Adult: 19 and above
Send all entries to fireworks@bunburyvillage.info

Bunbury Community Support

The scheme is still available for anyone who needs help, please email bunburycommunity@gmail.com or call 07823 490 425 anytime.

Fund raising with profits to Tarporley Hospital

We do need to raise funds and this year we will donate any profits to Tarporley Hospital - you can donate in 2 ways:

Online:
www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/bunbury-fireworks

Buckets will be available around the village the week before.

Perhaps donate what you would normally pay at the gate or more!!

Schedule
Thursday 5 November.
7.00pm: Firework Display
We expect it to last 10-12 minutes.

7.12pm: Close.

Any questions please email fireworks@bunburyvillage.info

Thank you in advance for your support!
Bunbury Parish Council

A day in the life of...

I've always believed that a busy, useful and helpful life brings enormous satisfaction: one of the real hardships of the current Coronavirus situation is that for many of us this is more difficult to achieve.

As a barrister, there were years when I was racing off to courts all over the North West and North Wales with early morning starts, managing (just) to sort out the house, family and animals. I'd often welcome the hour or two's commuting as a time to sort out my thoughts and reflect on the day ahead. Cases in child protection were always sensitive and, the truth being invariably in the detail, it meant late nights poring over briefs. Late afternoons and early evenings were, as much as possible, family time - an absolute priority - and working into the early hours allowed that.

Transitioning into retirement was always something I'd worried about, but I've managed to serve as a director and trustee our wonderful Alder Hey

... retired barrister, Jeannie France-Hayhurst

Children's Hospital (more early starts and masses of paperwork) but what a privilege. Oddly, more opportunities came along: I chaired the Governing Council at Moreton Hall School and I now serve on the boards of Chester University and Cheshire Community Foundation. Somehow, my focus on children and young people has always bubbled through unbidden and it's always an honour to add to the debate on how the next generation is going to meet the challenges ahead and how important it is that they are supported.

Regular Zoom meetings and the telephone are a good, productive use of time but I miss face-to-face contact and the chance to read faces and to understand what people are really saying and feeling. Otherwise, to keep up with 2020, I'm a director of the family property development business and enjoy assisting in the creation of new homes and spaces for families, especially those starting out on the housing ladder. My "brief" has been a) risk assessment, b) PR, and c) dressing show houses - try to find any sensible link between those three... but it's good and constructive stuff and keeps us on our toes.

When I have any spare time (not much - ten grandchildren under the age of nine...) I garden, do Pilates, swim, walk the dogs and entertain (not at the moment though, a shame as the family



loves a good party). Reading is invariably still a late-night guilty pleasure: old habits die hard. Travelling has hit the buffers this year. Good times will come again, I'm sure.

My daily round of rattling around the country has been recently replaced by different ways of keeping in contact with friends and colleagues and I'm sure I'm not alone in looking forward to a more sociable future with more freedom and less fear. Living in Bunbury, as we have done for the past 25 years, slowly improving our house and garden and watching the family grow, is as good as life can possibly get. It's a glorious part of the county with an amazing church and a terrific community. There's such beauty around us, whatever the season and whatever the weather.

We're always very aware of our great good fortune and still believe that every single day must be a full and happy one.

QR code for church giving

There is a new way to make donations to the church using the QR code below and your mobile phone. Give it a try!





Pat Ellis – Reader Emeritus
Saved by a bear

In these strange times, unfortunate and unexpected things keep on happening in our lives.

Here is a story, told by Pope John Paul I, about St. Romedio, of Austria, a 4th Century heir to a fortune, who felt called to give up his possessions, go to Italy and lead a life dedicated to God.

But, according to the legend, a very unfortunate situation occurred.

'On his way back from a pilgrimage, Romedio stopped to rest with his two faithful companions, Abraham and David.

After a while he said to David: "It's time to get back onto the road. Go and fetch our horses in the field." David went off, then came back terrified: a bear was eating Romedio's horse.

Romedio rushed into the field, saw what was happening, and said quite calmly ... "Bear. Obviously you're hungry as you're eating my horse. That's all very well, but I can't walk home, you know, so you'll have to be my horse."

And he put the saddle, bridle and reins of the horse on to the bear and climbed on his back as if he was the most peaceable mule in the world, and set off for home.'

When circumstances are beyond our control, we often see them in the worst



possible light. We respond by acting like a bear, whether it be in a burst of anger or a rush of helpless despair. We forget that in God's mercy and power, all things can work for good.

Thankfully, God can help us to see things in perspective and turn them around.

We must let God tame our inner bear and our hearts, and put it to work for good.

At the end of the story John Paul I left this short little prayer.

Tame me, Lord! Make me more helpful and less of a bear.

Mike Rogers writes...

A turning point?



November is a month of contrasts. In the church's calendar it starts with the joyful celebration of All Saints Day which is immediately followed by the sombre reflection of All Souls' Day a time when we bring to mind all those whom we have loved but see no more. Then comes Remembrance Sunday with its overtones of memory, sacrifice and thanksgiving. But no sooner have we placed the wreaths and poppies, than the pendulum swings again as we move toward a crescendo of celebration with the feast of Christ the King, a time when we think of Christ's all-embracing authority. Yet amidst these swings in mood, the day-to-day life of our churches continues and before we know where we are, Advent is upon us and the run up to Christmas starts.

It might sound as though I am wishing my life away and worse still that I am one of those harbingers of doom who continually remind us of the number of shopping days left before Christmas, but that is not my intention.

Rather, I am trying to say that November is a month that has the ability to prompt us to stop and to think about the past, the present and the

future. The past is represented by the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls and by Remembrance Sunday, each of which might cause us to dwell on how we feel about who and what has formed and shaped us. By contrast, the imminence of Advent, which means 'coming' leads us to think about what lies ahead and the significance of Christmas. Nothing, not even COVID can be allowed to dampen the joy that is wrapped up in the coming of the Christ child. And yet we cannot ignore the present.

As I write, the world is still grappling with the COVID pandemic and we are trying to understand the implications of a plethora of 'local lockdowns'. The Presidential election campaign in America is one of the most extraordinary we have ever seen and we are all wondering how we might celebrate Christmas this year. It is a time of great uncertainty.

So, whilst we might greet November with a certain amount of trepidation, looking upon it as the harbinger of winter with its cold and the damp, that is only the weather. If you look upon it as a turning point, even with all the uncertainty, it just might take on a very different feel.

Our prayers for November

We pray for all those who are mourning a loved one at this difficult time, remembering especially the families and friends of **Glenys Worsley, Brian Jenkins and John Barlow.**

*Lord God,
As we travel into this time of remembering –remembering those we love and no longer see, and remembering those who died for their country – reassure us that those who have died are now with you, in the peace and love of your eternal home.
Amen*

John Bownes

Dot Walker



On Monday 31 August, John Bownes sadly passed away in Leighton Hospital. He was 81 years old.

John lived at Heath Villa with his wife Ethel, who unfortunately had to go into care in July.

John was the founder of John Bownes Ltd which changed its name for E H Bownes & son in 1979 when the company

became limited.

His father and grandfather were general dealers based at Whitegate originally supplying general farm supplies; they started trading in farm machinery and equipment in the 1940s.

John bought his first tractor in 1955 aged 16.

The editor writes:

Dot Walker died during lockdown. The Link wanted to remember her. Her daughters, Dot Wainwright and Susan Ackerley, sent us this piece.

The end of an era

John and Dot Walker came to live in the White House bungalow on Christmas Eve 1949. They made many friends by joining clubs in the village, some of which they were founding members.

John died in March 2018 and Dot in April 2020.

The bungalow looks very lonely and sad and is to be no more. Many of the people in the village who have stopped to look over the gate in the spring to see all the tulips will no longer take their ease and enjoy the view.

They are both very fondly remembered and greatly missed by their family.



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In the afternoon join us for a complimentary Christmas quiz on Facebook live.

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Who's in? More detail from www.slhospice.co.uk/pudding

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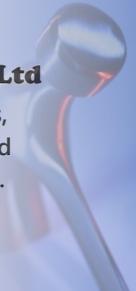
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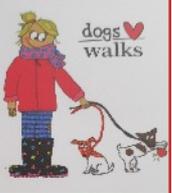
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In such unprecedented times we wish to emphasise the thoughts of the nation in thanking our NHS doctors, nurses & staff, paramedics, all carers in our community and care homes and the long list of keyworkers keeping our country functioning. Our best wishes to everyone, stay safe.



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