

Link

For the parishes of Bunbury & Tilstone Fearnall



August-
September
2015

Often the best way to win is to forget to keep score

Mariane Epinosa Murphy



Blessing our pets - of all shapes and sizes!

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You can also read **The Link** online at:
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Community news

We welcome **Reuben John Manson** (right), son of **John** and



Angela, christened on Sunday 21 June and **Sophie Eden Rose Burrows**, daughter of **David** and **Katie**, christened on Sunday 12 July.



St Matt's Church, Tunbridge Wells, welcomed **Mabel Bunny Harrowing**, daughter of **Antonia** and **Mike** and

granddaughter of Nick and Joy Parker, at her Thanksgiving on 5 July.

We congratulate the wedding couples married at St Boniface: **Robert Baxter** and **Susan Deas** (right), married on 3 July;



William Du Randt and **Victoria Coe** (left), married on 4 July;

Rory Little and **Elle Rozario** (right), married on 11 July and **David Williams** and **Rebecca Rawlings**, married on 16 July.



We are pleased to announce the appointment of our Curate, the **Revd**

Veronica Green, as the Priest-in-Charge of Marbury, Tushingam and Whitewell. The appointment is subject to the completion of formalities. She will be much missed, but our loss is Marbury's great gain.

Congratulations to **Fiona Parker**, presented with the Under 18 Girls' Players' Player shield at Deva Handball Club presentation evening.



Be transported back to the **English Civil War** on 1-2 August at **Beeston Castle's** living history encampment and smell the smoke rising from the muskets, or join their 'no holds barred' **Clash of Knights** on 22-23 August.

Bunbury WI will have a talk by Dianne Hall on *Jacob's Sheep and Alpacas* on 13 August and by Margaret Bourne on *Organising a Flower Festival* on 10 September.

Meg and Roger Fairweather are hosting a tea afternoon in aid of **McMillan Cancer Research** on 17 August 2-4pm at The Chase, Bowes Gate Road admission £1. Everyone welcome. Tel 01829 261015

Bunbury Gardening Club dates for your diary: 18 August visit to Hannets Cottage, Kidnal, Malpas; 29 August Annual Show at The Village Hall; 15 September Bunbury Garden Trail.

Support **patient care at St Luke's Hospice** at a **Gala Concert** at St Mary's Church, Nantwich on 5 September. The Rhos Orpheus Male Choir, recognised as the finest male voice choir in Wales and the Roberts Bakery Band will be performing. Guests will be served a glass of fizz and canapés, and all the money raised from the event goes directly towards patient

care at the hospice. Tickets, £15, are available from www.stlukes-hospice.co.uk as well as at the hospice shop (Swirly Whirllys, 6 Pillory Street) and at St Mary's Church, Nantwich. Further information Catherine_moore@stlukes-hospice.co.uk or 01606 555 826.

Tiverton Methodist Chapel Harvest Festival Service will be held on Friday 11 September at 2.30pm. The Preacher will be John Bell. **Bunbury Methodist Chapel Harvest Festival Service** will be held on Sunday 20 September at 2.30pm. Rev. Denise Harding will lead the service. All are welcome to the Chapels - and there will be refreshments after the services.

The Grove Singers will give a concert at **Calveley Hall Chapel** on Friday 25 September at 7pm.

Anyone can play - soon! Work has started on the 'Anyone can play' playground and is due to be completed in October. Congratulations to Beth and her committee for this amazing project.



Johnny Gillett and The Journey Man Theatre congratulate all their students (many at Bunbury School) on another round of excellent Speech & Drama exam results. Out of the 58 entries, everyone passed - 24% with Merit and 74% with Distinction. Well done to the hard-working students, and thank you



to their supportive parents. We would also like to thank our partner schools who have such encouraging and accommodating staff. It's a real team effort.

Jack Parr and Chloe Johnson (pictured below) left for **Borneo** on Sunday 12 July, part of a team from Tarporley High School and Sixth Form

College. The nine students and **Tina Everton** (also of Bunbury, and Sixth form pastoral teacher) embarked on a 28-day trip focused on sustainable community, conservational and



environmental projects. They will be working on construction projects, teaching, helping with regeneration of the jungle, cleaning the polluted beaches and sea, and learning about conservation of the orangutans. They have both worked hard to raise nearly £5,000 to fund their trips; thanks to local businesses, friends and family and Bunbury Parochial Charities that have been so generous in supporting them not just financially but also with time and encouragement.

Many thanks to everyone who sponsored **Bethany Shears** for the **Three Peaks Challenge**. The peaks of Ben Nevis (still snow on the top!), Scafell Pike and Snowden were conquered within the 24-hour time limit, raising over £400 for the **Anthony Nolan** blood cancer charity.

Houghton Pop-up Café raised over £750 which will be shared between



Kidneys for Life and Alder Hey Children's Kidney Fund. They would like to thank all the helpers, bakers and customers (including two passing cyclists from Northwich). Sandra Green won the Harrods Hamper and Jonathan Middlemiss was the winner of the 'Marble plant pot challenge', runners up being Ian Whittingham and Amber Middlemiss.

Connecting Cheshire say access to **high-speed broadband** is currently available to 70,000 homes and businesses in the county and **Bunbury** should be connected this summer. Customers in Bulkeley, Malpas and Farndon now experience ten times faster broadband.

The Sunday Club is looking for an administrator – if you are interested in doing this important work please speak to Amber Middlemiss.

Tarporley Hospital Vintage Charity Shop will be closed for August. It reopens in September to restock with vintage items, books, ornaments and small pieces of furniture. Tues-Fri 9am-4.30pm, Sat 10am-2pm.

The **copy deadline** for October Link is **Friday 11 September**. The magazine will be available for distribution from **Friday 25 September**.

BUNBURY FARMERS' MARKET & ARTISAN CRAFT FAIR



THE
YEW TREE INN
Bunbury

EVERY THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

From 10 a.m.—2 p.m.

For further details contact Tom Morrison of Berry Fresh Bakery on 01948 662822 or info@berryfreshbakery.co.uk






Eric Wallington Reader Emeritus Talent

Sir Ralph Richardson was probably one of the greatest Shakespearean actors of his time. In 1952, he played Macbeth at Stratford-upon-Avon. The following morning he was savaged by the critics who called him 'untalented'. The next evening there was a cast meeting before they went on stage and Sir Ralph was heard to ask, "Has anyone seen a talent? Not a very big one, but I seem to have mislaid it."

It was probably the best answer he could have given to his critics, because a talent is clearly something you either have or you haven't. It is a gift. If you have a talent, you may sometimes not make full use of it, by not applying the talent to the task in hand. And, of course, talents do come as a gift from God.

Faith, too, is a gift from God. We can never boast of our faith, any more than an actor can boast about his or her talent: we can only be grateful for what we have been given.

In St Matthew's Gospel, we read of a foreign woman who asked Jesus to heal her sick daughter. But Jesus had not by then recruited sufficient disciples to staff an international mission, so he turned her down! Yet, she got what she asked for, in part at least because of her witty reply. She believed that Jesus could heal her daughter if he wanted to. Impressed, Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you, as you wish!" And her daughter was healed.

Bunbury Mill reopens for summer events



The Bunbury Watermill Trust's third season of full operation is going well, with well over 500 visitors from April to June. The new catering organisation is proving highly popular.

Nigel Harris, author of *Watermills and Stone-ground Flour Milling* came to Bunbury Mill and tried his hand on the 100-year old winnowing machine. South Cheshire Amateur Radio Society (SCARS) set up a temporary radio station GB4BM in the visitor centre, and were able to speak to similar stations in other mills here and abroad. The 21st Century Technology & Camera Group came to the mill to experiment with

photographing the mill machinery. Also, the popular Folk-Rock group Merry Hell (pictured) used Bunbury mill as the setting for a track *The Bakers Daughter*, in their new album *The Ghost in our House*. Several school groups have visited the mill to learn about Victorian life and technology, food production, and wildlife in the millpond.

Bunbury Mill is open Sunday and Bank Holiday afternoons 1-5pm.

The **Bunbury Neighbourhood Plan** is nearing completion. The plan will be considered for approval at an Extraordinary Meeting of Bunbury Parish Council on Wednesday 19 August, 7pm at The Playing Fields Pavilion. Providing the Parish Council approves the plan it will be sent to Cheshire East Council, after which a further period of six weeks' statutory consultation will take place. It will also be posted on the group's website (www.bunburynpg.org). The next stages, examination by a Planning Inspector and a local referendum, giving Bunbury residents an opportunity to vote on the plan, will follow as soon as they can be arranged.



Pat Edgley Ellis Reader A well-grilled Saint

As we bite into our burgers at this barbecue season, we do well to remember St. Lawrence.

He was Archdeacon of Rome and entrusted with the treasury and riches of the Church and distribution of alms to the poor.

A new Prefect of Rome demanded that the Church wealth be handed over to the Empire. Lawrence asked for three days to gather it together. During this time he swiftly distributed as much as possible to the needy.

When asked to hand over the wealth, he presented the poor, the blind and the suffering, saying, "These are the true Treasures of the Church."

This did not go down too well and he was martyred on 10 August 258 AD.

Legend has it that he was laid on a gridiron over hot coals. After some time, he cheerfully remarked, "I am well done. Turn me over!" He is often depicted carrying a gridiron, believed to be in a shrine in Rome to this day.

The Perseid meteor shower around this time of year is known as St. Lawrence's tears.

*Lord, we may not suffer a martyr's death,
But let us remember those courageous people
Who gave their lives for love of you.*

*May we always remember that your
treasures are
The poor, the sick and the needy, and in
them
We see your face.*

*We have enough and more.
May we share what we have
And be always be thankful
For the wonderful blessings you
Shower upon us every day.*



Give us two minutes... Frank Woodward



Frank was born in 1933 at Woodworth Green Farm, the third of eight children.

Family memories go back to great-grandfather Woodward, who lived in the 19th century and the great aunts, who lived at The Hollies in College Lane.

Initially, he went to school at the Girls' School in College Lane. At seven he moved up to Bunbury Aldersey School. At the age of eight, he joined St Boniface church choir. He was sometimes asked to 'blow' the organ (turn it by hand - there was no electricity). He and a friend once had great fun winding it up high and then running out. Of course, the organ wound down, made a dreadful sound, and the boys got their ears boxed.

At nine, he started piano lessons with Miss Armstrong and this led to learning the organ. In 1956 he became organist at Calveley; then at St Jude's in 1964, where there were two services on a Sunday. From there, he went to St Barnabas, Crewe, in 1972 and to St John's, Over, in 1977. In 1981 the Vicar of Bunbury, the Revd Timothy Atkins, asked him to return as organist and choir master, which was a great delight to him as his family were very involved in St Boniface.

He saw Doreen, a farmer's daughter, fleetingly once and was later delighted to find himself sitting next to her at a party. There was no dancing that night; Doreen had her foot in plaster, her father having dropped a baler on it. They shared a love of music and were soon married. They had five children: John, Alan, David, Ian and Rosemary. Doreen was a huge strength and support to Frank.

At the end of the 1970s Doreen was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, with which she had a 30-year battle, although she never complained and said there were 'many worse off'.

Frank formed and directed the Bunbury Singers from 1988-1998, then Wistaston Singers from 2000-2009. He is still the Royal Society

of Church Music representative for Malpas Deanery. He was presented with the RSCM Certificate of Special Service to Church Music in Chester Cathedral in 2001 - the first person in NW England to receive this worldwide award, of which only six are awarded each year. Amidst all this music, Frank was a farmer all his working life and always had to do the milking before he went to church to play for services.

If you had a motto, what would it be?

Always try to do your best and treat people as you would wish to be treated.

What would you call your autobiography?

I am writing one: My Life in Farming and Music.

What was your first job?

Working for my father on the farm. (They had no mains water, at that time it was pumped next to Bunbury Mill, and no mains electricity until 1949).

What would you change about Bunbury, if you could?

I would want to keep its character.

What is the best book you have read to date?

Betty Boothroyd's autobiography.

What is your biggest regret?

When I was at school, during the war, you were let out to help with the harvest and the potatoes, so you didn't get as much education as you should have had.

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

To have good health and live another ten years.

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

I did not have organ lessons until 2008. I learned piano with Miss Armstrong from 1942, but the organ I learned by ear. (The editor was surprised to learn that Frank has a three manual organ at home and was delighted to hear him play part of the Hallelujah Chorus.)

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

I'd like to continue playing my three manual organ.

How would you spend your ideal weekend?

Relaxing and going on holiday with my partner, Marjorie.

Musical debut for Bunbury students

Year 4's budding musicians were invited, with other Church of England schools, to Bridgewater Hall on Thursday 2 July to perform with the Hallé Orchestra. The event was organised by Love Music Trust.



A letter of thanks to friends and parishioners



In early December 2013 I had been sent home from The Christie for a month and made my way to church. I was very weak and only came for half of the morning service. On arrival I was just making a quick prayer before joining in the service when Tim mentioned me in his morning prayers. I was truly bowled over, humbled and held back a tear as you all prayed for me.

In the subsequent weeks and months in hospital I was always in my mind at St Boniface on Sundays and thinking of you all and the support you were giving me.

I was diagnosed with Leukemia (AML) in September 2013. I only had one plan, it was called Plan A - that was to get better, there was no Plan B. After six weeks of chemotherapy in an isolation room, I was offered a stem cell transplant which would give me an 80% chance of survival and remission, without this my outlook was pretty bleak. We took the chance.

The transplant anonymous donor was a 33 year old man from Seattle USA, who gave of his time and blood to save my life... I call this the gift of Human Spirit. The transplant was at the end of January 2014. I was lucky I had coped with the chemo pretty well, however the two drugs given for two days before the transplant were pretty horrific.

The transplant was proving to be a success but I was warned that I would be on "The Christie Roller coaster" i.e. expect many downs as well as ups for two years. This proved to be true: my underlying progress was steady but I was rocked by two illnesses, one was a life- threatening infection and the other was PLTD, a type of secondary cancer. The PLTD chemo was very serious as the treatment for this could have completely compromised my transplant and I would be back to square one and a second transplant would not be possible.

Plan A included me carrying on working, which gave me focus during the time in hospital. It included losing weight, getting fitter, trusting my physicians and having a positive outlook and never complaining.

20 months later, Plan A has been achieved. I am in complete remission; in layman's terms I am cured and can expect to live a normal life. I have lost that weight, started cycling again and have a personal trainer at the gym every week. I am now helping The Antony Nolan Trust to recruit more transplant donors.

All this could not have been achieved without the love and help of my (now) wife Sue, my two boys, the family, the best doctors and nurses in The Christie.

Again many thanks to you all for support and prayers, Robert Baxter

Church diary for August and September

Sunday 2 August	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Communion 10.30am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley	Wednesday 2 September	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 5 August	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Sunday 6 September	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Communion 10.30am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley
Sunday 9 August	9.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface	Wednesday 9 September	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 12 August	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Sunday 13 September	9.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface
Sunday 16 August	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Worship 10.30am Family Worship 11.00am Matins 6.00pm Evensong	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley St Boniface	Wednesday 16 September	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 19 August	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Sunday 20 September	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Worship 10.30am Family Worship 11.00am Matins 6.00pm Evensong	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley St Boniface
Sunday 23 August	9.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface	Wednesday 23 September	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 26 August	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Sunday 27 September	9.00am Harvest Communion 10.30am Harvest Communion	St Jude's St Boniface
Sunday 30 August	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Communion with Methodist Chapel	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface	Wednesday 30 September	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
			Sunday 4 October	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Communion 10.30am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley

St Jude's News



Sunday 5 July started as a glorious day, with the marquee re-erected, tables laden with food, the bar charged and the guests enjoying the wonderful garden and great company. The food was, as ever, delicious and all was going to plan, that is until the cows appeared at speed in the neighbouring field obviously spooked by something! A quick look at the sky revealed the reason, dark ominous clouds were speeding in our direction with the accompanying rumble of thunder. Rev Tim managed to complete the raffle in record time, just as the squall arrived lifting the marquee into the air for the second time in as many days! As a result the day ended with a mad dash through the puddles to the car park, however it will not be forgotten in a hurry and at least we can all laugh about it now.

Many thanks to Mr and Mrs Lea for so kindly hosting the event in their beautiful garden, thanks also to the St Jude's Ladies for arranging the delicious food, the kind folk who helped set up and those who courageously battled the elements, and got soaked in the process, to help save the marquees. Lastly to all to those who attended the event, and whose continued support for St Jude's is very much appreciated, hopefully the weather won't have dampened your enthusiasm for future functions!

Well what a well-attended and memorable summer lunch that turned out to be! The Saturday morning, the traditional set up day, went without a hitch, the marquees went up and the tables and chairs positioned, that was until the wind arrived. On our return from a dash home for additional ground anchors we were greeted with the sight of a flying 12 by 6 metre marquee!



TIM HAYWARD
Your Vicar



The Atrocious Mathematics of the Gospel

A few years ago there was an article published “The Atrocious Mathematics of the Gospel” and it caused a bit of a stir. The author had taken four stories, one from each of the four gospels, and with tongue obviously in cheek, pointed out the absurdity of the maths involved.

First of all, there is the story in Luke of a shepherd who had left his flock of ninety-nine and plunged into darkness to search for one lost sheep. A noble deed, to be sure, but reflect for a moment on the underlying arithmetic. Jesus says the shepherd left the 99 sheep ‘in the country’, which presumably means vulnerable to rustlers, wolves, or a feral desire to bolt free. How would the shepherd feel if he returned with the one lost lamb slung across his shoulders only to find 23 others now missing?

Then there is a scene recounted in John’s gospel of a woman named Mary who took a pint of exotic perfume, a year’s worth of wages, and poured it on Jesus’ feet. Think of the wastefulness. Would not an ounce of perfume accomplish the same purpose? Even Judas could see the absurdity: the treasure now running in fragrant rivers across the dirty floor.

Mark records a third scene. After watching a widow drop two puny coins into the temple collection plate, Jesus belittled more hefty contributions. “I tell you the truth” he said, “this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others.” One suspects major donors would not have appreciated such a comparison.

And finally, a fourth story from Matthew, where Jesus tells of a farmer who hired people to work his vineyards. Some clocked in at sunrise, some at morning break, some at lunchtime, some at afternoon tea, and finally some an hour before the end of the working day. Everybody seemed content until the pay slips were handed out. The stalwarts who had worked twelve hours under a blazing sun learned that the sweat-less upstarts who had put in barely an hour’s work would receive the same pay. The boss’s action contradicted everything known about employee motivation and fair compensation. It was atrocious economics, plain and simple. And yet, that was the point. Jesus was giving us a parable

about grace, which cannot be counted like a day’s wages. Grace is not about finishing last or first; it is about not counting.

We’re told one of Jesus’ disciples - Peter - asks him how many times he should forgive the person who keeps on wronging him. Peter, erring on the side of caution, suggests seven times – note, the rabbis in his day would have suggested three as the maximum number of times one might be expected to forgive. But notice Jesus’ response, ‘not seven times, but seventy times seven.’ Some manuscripts have ‘seventy seven times’, but it hardly matters whether Jesus meant 77 or 490: the point is that forgiveness, like grace, is not something you count. It is about not counting.

So what is your image of God? It is not uncommon to grow up with an image of a mathematical God – counting, weighing up our good and bad deeds on a set of scales. After all we desire justice. And with the parable of the prodigal son, it is not uncommon to relate to the elder brother. We recognise the unfairness of the situation. Why should the prodigal son be treated so well? He doesn’t deserve it! And yet, we risk missing the point: God’s love is a gift - not to be counted - it’s not a reward. It is freely given. There is nothing we can do to make God love us more – in the elder brother’s case; and there is nothing we can do to make God love us less – in the case of the prodigal.

Sociologists have a theory of the looking-glass self: you become what the most important person in your life thinks you are. It could be your mother or father, your husband or wife, perhaps even your boss. How they see you, how they treat you, their expectations for you all have an impact upon the person you become. And I suspect as Christians, we too will be shaped by how we imagine God thinks about us. And so may we allow ourselves to believe and be truly embraced by the God Jesus speaks of: a God of grace and tender love, a God of forgiveness, a God whose maths doesn’t add up!



To celebrate Veronica's ordination as a priest, Tim presented her with a travelling case containing a home communion set. She will use it throughout her ministry to take Holy Communion to the sick.



Our prayers for August

We pray for all who are ill, including those known only to God, and especially for **Hilda Elsworth**. We also pray for all who are mourning a loved one, including the family of **George Wilgose**. We also pray for our Curate, the Revd **Veronica Green**, as she prepares for her new role as Priest-in-Charge of Marbury, Tushingham and Whitewell.

Church v Cricket Club match

Great fun was had by all at the church v cricket club match, following this year's pet service. The weather was kind, the BBQ was good, and the cricket even better. The church won the toss and put the club into bat. The cricket club set a competitive target: hitting 114 runs off 20 overs, losing just 9 wickets. The church then followed: 115 runs off 20 overs, losing all 13 wickets! The purists might argue: 'It just ain't cricket!' fielding

more than 11 players, but the spirit in which the game was played is what cricket is all about. The cricket club were fantastic hosts and generous sports. Rev Tim thanked Bob Harris for organising the match and received the Challenge Shield, a little sheepishly, on behalf of the church. Mairi Harris was also applauded for keeping score - there weren't enough rows or columns for the church's innings!



Pat Ellis reports on a recent visit: Is this the face of Christ?



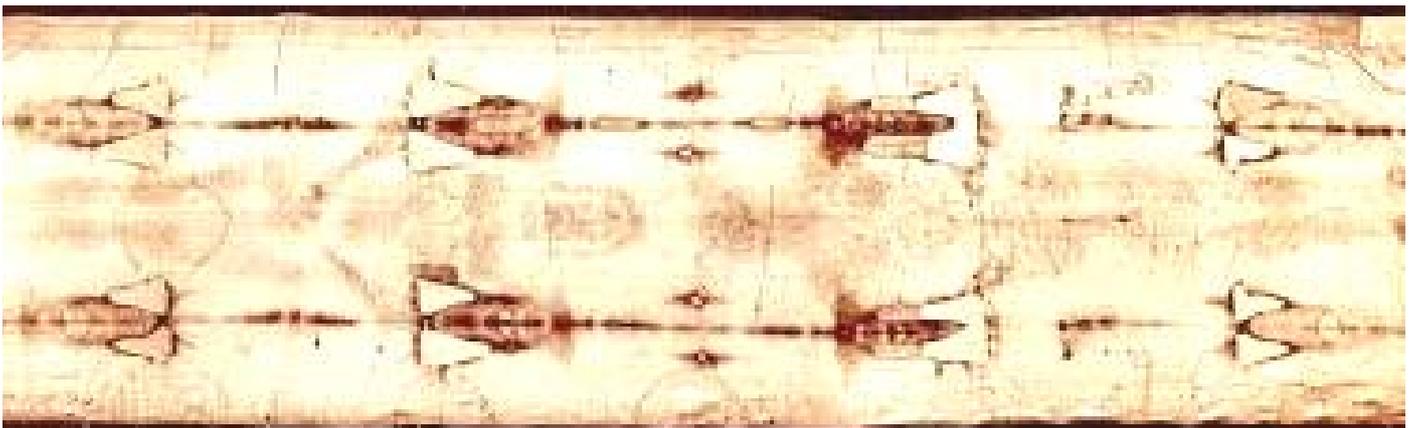
Many believe that this negative photographic image from the Shroud of Turin is the imprint of the face of Christ from the burial cloth of Jesus himself. Could this be true? The Shroud is revered as a significant Holy Relic, very old, very fragile, and rarely on display. We were privileged to get tickets for the latest exposition in its chapel in Turin, and joined the throng of pilgrims to find out. A crowd of excited people of all ages and conditions, including a sprinkling of

Anglican priests, gathered at the start of the Pilgrim Path at the entrance to the Palace gardens, and together we merged into the covered walkway which snaked for 850 metres through the gardens. Priority was given to families with children and 'the Suffering' - what a lovely term for the disabled- who had their own roped off fast track accommodating buggies and wheelchairs and plenty of places to rest. Volunteer Paramedics were much in evidence. We filed past long tables with explanatory leaflets in six languages, and on round the corner to where the path opened out into a large security marquee, complete with body scanners and x ray machines for our bags. From there we continued our gentle uphill walk aided by numerous volunteer stewards. We Pilgrims were settling into a peaceful rhythm of walking at an easy pace to our next "Station" an open hall replete with vending machines for hot and cold drinks and snacks, and seats to rest. All along the route were plenty of loos. The light levels became lower as we progressed up the next section and we all became much quieter. We were counted into a darkened room for a video presentation of the Shroud with subtitles, again in six languages.

The Shroud is an ancient burial cloth of ivory coloured linen, in a herringbone weave, 4½ metres long and just over a metre wide. The body was laid on its back with the head towards the centre, and the rest of the cloth was folded over the body, covering it completely. It is imprinted with the impression of a crucified man, on the left, the front, and on the right, the back. There are visible wounds and bloodstains, which when enlarged, clearly show that The Man of the

Shroud was beaten, scourged and nailed to a cross. Forensic pathology determines that on the head are three blood trails consistent with a cap of thorns piercing the forehead. The face is bruised and swollen, the nose fractured. On the shoulders are two large abrasions from carrying the cross beam to which he was afterwards nailed. A nail wound is clear on the wrist by the pulse, not on the palm of the hand; this would cause maximum nerve damage and pain; and similarly, a single nail print penetrating both feet, the left over the right. The chest of the Man of the Shroud has a large oval wound on the right, caused by a lance penetrating the ribs after death. The fluids round this wound are both blood and serum, showing the blood was already separating. On the back are numerous flail wounds inflicted by a many- thonged scourge of the Roman type, with lead weights at the ends, on a bent, naked back. The blood has been analysed as type AB, and no traces of dye or paint pigment have been found. Dust was found on the knees and feet. So we know that Man of the Shroud was tortured, beaten and crucified. But was this Christ? Radio carbon dating of a minute sample of the linen shows it to be 1260 -1390 AD. However, scholars still debate whether contamination over centuries of dust, and water damage from a fire, have caused unreliable results. Later, samples of pollens local to the Jerusalem area were found on the fibres. Crucified bodies would have been left to the wild animals or dumped in a mass grave. This person was buried in a shroud. A wealthy burial as the cloth was fine and rare. The burial was hurried, without the usual washing of the body. The impression on the cloth would occur within 24 hours of death, but after two or three days decomposition would destroy the image. We know Jesus was in the tomb for three days. Mark's gospel tells us that Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent Council member, went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Pilate was surprised to learn that Jesus was already dead. "Summoning the centurion, he asked him if Jesus had already died. When he learned that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph. So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen and placed it in a tomb cut out of the rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance to the tomb." Joseph was a wealthy man, and would have been able to source such a rare fine linen cloth.

Now our shocked and silent group moves slowly on to the presence of the actual shroud. I found myself at eye level with the impression of the face of the crucified Man and was moved to tears. Whether you believe you are revering an ancient icon for prayer and contemplation; or in the presence of the very image of Jesus himself ' L'Amore più Grande' - 'No Greater Love' penetrates the soul into the realisation that Jesus himself suffered all that just for me. I felt there an enormous presence, a huge sense of peace, a feeling of utter wretchedness yet at the same time overwhelming joy. I stood there and asked His forgiveness, then went out into the sunshine in radiant thankfulness.



Bunbury Royal British Legion supports good causes far and near



A Gurkha Welfare Trust medic delivering aid

In response to the recent tragic effects of the earthquake in Nepal, members of the local branch of the Legion decided to make a donation direct to the Gurkha Welfare Trust Earthquake Appeal. Many of the Gurkhas who serve and have served in the British Army come from villages devastated by the quake. More is still needed so

do look at www.gwt.org.uk/news/earthquake-appeal to donate, or just see what is being done to help.

£500 was also donated from funds that the Bunbury branch has raised locally to support the Tarporley War Memorial Hospital, which touches all our lives in one way or another. Pictured below are Mrs Claire Teasdale - Matron, Bunbury RBL Treasurer - Roger Fairweather, Anthony Gorman - Hospital Manager and James Walton, BRBL Chairman, during the handover of the big cheque. Please be aware that the donation does NOT come from the Poppy Appeal which is collected locally but goes into the RBL central Poppy Appeal Fund.



Success at 'Friday Night Bash' for Nepal



"I'm sorry but the holiday-relief vicar not tailoring his sermon to fit in with the parking restrictions isn't a valid excuse."

The 'Friday Night Bash' to raise funds to help rebuild a school in earthquake-ravaged Nepal was a great success, with over 100 people dancing the night away to 'Reflections' disco and enjoying the home-made chilli. The evening raised an amazing £2,320 and this money will go a long way to help the project. Thanks all who attended (especially the many members of BUMS who helped behind the scenes!), everyone who generously gave donations and to Alan, who provided the disco at no cost. Thanks also to Henry and Steve from The Nag's Head for donating the beer, the Village Hall Committee for their assistance, and to The Yew Tree and Tilly's for kindly donating prizes. The project to rebuild Shree Mahogany Primary School is being co-ordinated by Mountain Monarch Trekking Company, based in Kathmandu. The school has 109 pupils on roll and is situated in the Dolakha district of Nepal, east of Kathmandu, the home of many of the guides and porters used by Mountain Monarch. During the present monsoon period 'school' is in temporary tents. As soon as the rains end and the roads are open again, materials can be transported and the rebuilding will start. Mairi Harris will keep us updated.



George Wilgose - a man of skill, patience and generosity



George was born in Sheffield in 1916, the third of seven sons; there were also two sisters! They had a tough upbringing, in a very challenging area of Sheffield, and times were hard. Although he left Sheffield almost 80 years ago, he never lost his Yorkshire accent. George left school at 14 and spent 5 years as an

apprentice butcher. Once qualified, the shop couldn't afford to pay him full wages, so he found himself out of a job.

He then moved to Burton on Trent where he was involved in dairy farming, for about six years before moving to a dairy farm in Stoke-on-Trent where they made cheese and supplied dairy produce to retailers at nearby Newcastle, but he had various jobs on the side, to "earn a shilling or two". One of these jobs was hand operating the glitter ball at the local ballroom dance studios, owned by a famous couple who were British, European and World Champion ballroom dancers. George always maintained that he had lessons from them and learnt to dance, but his children think he watched them giving lessons to others whilst operating the glitter ball, and picked up the dance steps from them.

As he was engaged in food production, during the war he had to remain in farming, until the controls were lifted in 1947. This was a great disappointment to him as he felt that his friends were able to be a part of the war effort. He did however join the Fire Service, which did night-time duty on enemy plane watch.

Blanche and George met at a local dance. She was recently asked if it was love at first sight that attracted her to George. She replied, "No, he was such a good dancer!" They married in 1949 when

Blanche was 25 and George was 33 and celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary last October. In 1952 along came Jackie, followed by Paul in 1956.

George was now specializing in production of cheese. He obtained qualifications in cheese production and dairying at Reaseheath College of Agriculture. He moved around the country, but always managed to reside in the Cheshire area. He became one of the most respected cheese graders in the country. On his retirement in 1980 he was presented with an engraved silver cheese iron to remind him of his days spent in cheese grading.

His hobby was wood, and he would go into exclusive furniture shops and draw items of furniture and come home and make them from reclaimed wood. Many of these pieces are proudly displayed in their home today, where they have lived for fifty years, and hopefully will be passed down as treasured remembrances to his children and grandchildren in the future. He also loved the outdoors and spent hours in his garden tending his plants and vegetables.

George loved children and especially his grandchildren. Paul and Nina, and their two boys, Simon and Andrew lived close to George and Blanche, so he got to spend precious time with them, and was a good babysitter! Jackie's two children, Charlotte and Jeremy, lived in the Midlands but came to stay in the school holidays where they were treated to trips out and introduced to the delights of the countryside.

George was always a very clean and smart man and even towards the end would always wear a collar and tie and a nice cardigan. He had endless patience and was such a caring man. He would give away anything he had, which made him such a very special person.

Sadly George spent the last six weeks of his life in hospital following a fall where he broke two vertebrae in his neck and had to wear a neck brace. He did however pass away peacefully and without pain. He will be sadly missed by all his family.

Bunbury School news

Sheila Loughlin, Chair of Bunbury School's Interim Executive Board has written to the children's parents to say that since Mrs Thacker has been unwell for some time, she has decided to take early retirement and her term of office will finish at the end of this term. The Executive board thanks her for her many years of service and wishes her a long and happy retirement. We are fortunate that St Oswald's School, Worleston have agreed to allow Mrs Todd to continue in her role as executive head teacher until Christmas.

Mrs James has generously agreed to delay her retirement for another term.

The Interim Executive Board will keep people informed of future plans and developments.

Amber's Pastoral Worker training



As part of Amber's Pastoral Worker training she has to complete a Parish Project this year. She has elected to set up a Pastoral Visiting Team, a group of people willing to visit people within the parish who may be sick, housebound or lonely. "I have already been approached by several people who are interested

in doing this," writes Amber, "but there is room for more if you feel you would like to be part of this project." Most of those involved will attend a Listening module which will run in October and November on Tuesday evenings at Church House in Daresbury (the Diocesan headquarters). There may be room for more people to join the course so if you are interested, please email Amber on midrook@btinternet.com to discuss it.

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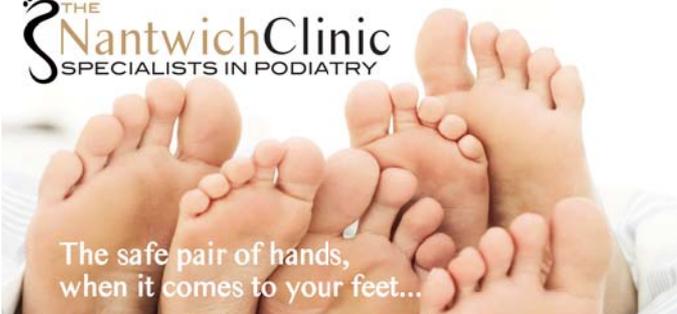


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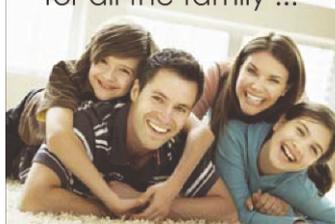
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