

Joan is a good neighbour - it's official

Bunbury resident Joan Cowap was nominated for a "Good Neighbour Award" and she, husband Arthur and two proud friends from Wettenhall attended a buffet reception at Nantwich Civic Hall on 18th February hosted by the Mayor of Crewe and Nantwich. The occasion was the Mayor's Oscars, compered by Janine Machin of Radio Stoke, and there were 19 award categories. The Good Neighbour Award is for someone who has shown selflessness and has been caring and helpful as a neighbour.

Joan did not win but her neighbours will know why the Parish Council nominated her. Since moving to Hurst Court in Bunbury 8 years ago after 41 years in Wettenhall she has helped out neighbours who cannot get out and

about by lighting fires, mopping floors, collecting pensions, shopping, ensuring meals are on the table, assisting with laundry, fetching medication and taking a neighbour to visit her husband in a home - not to mention delivering the Parish Link each month. Despite all this her own home is spotless too!

Our sources tell us that Joan is often there with a cup of tea for those cutting grass or hedges on the Jubilee Playing Fields near her home. Over the years Joan has been a tireless fundraiser and supporter of Tarporley Hospital, the Wednesday Club and Gardening Club and has connections with all three churches in our two parishes (she and husband Arthur were married at

St.Judes) as well as St.David's, Wettenhall. Joan's energy is truly amazing! One friend said: "Joan is like Superwoman with a heart of gold and is a true Samaritan."

Joan and Arthur are used to civic gatherings. In November 2002 they attended a reception and received a special edition plate from Crewe and Nantwich Council to commemorate their golden anniversary in the Queen's Golden Jubilee year.



One of three shortlisted from all over the Borough, Joan said it really felt like the Oscars. Congratulations and a very happy 80th birthday on 28th March!

Making room for Easter

The early Christians who set aside the weeks leading up to Easter for prayer and reflection had good reasons. They knew that life is busy and the days speed past, running into years before you know it. Time to take stock, to reassess the balance of your life and your priorities is hard to find.

Whether or not we share the same motivation as those early Christians, we can all benefit from a time to take stock. Easter is a time to clear away

the old and make room for the new. There may be things we would like to change or we may just want to "count our blessings". Once we stop to look around us there is still plenty in the world to be thankful for despite all that is evil and unjust.

Bishop David of Birkenhead will preach at St.Boniface on Easter Sunday and the service will include the baptism of Eve Dewson-Smyth.

Contents

- Mike Ridley 3
- Mothering Sunday 4
- Wildlife Sanctuary 4
- Life in Singapore 5
- Quiz answers 6
- Tilstone Fearnall 6
- Spring cleaning 7
- Silver for Beth 7
- Get me out of here! 9
- Scouting and School 10
- Diary - now extended

New Advertisers

A big welcome to all our new advertisers. We really appreciate the support of all our advertisers, new and old, and we hope they find their fee a worthwhile investment. Advertising makes a significant contribution to the production costs of the Link, and our new advertising has allowed us to increase the size of the magazine from 8 to 12 pages - still free to our readers.

Thanks too, to those who have taken the trouble to contact us for copies of photos we have published in the Link. As a result we have recently been able to contribute well over £50 to the youth fund.

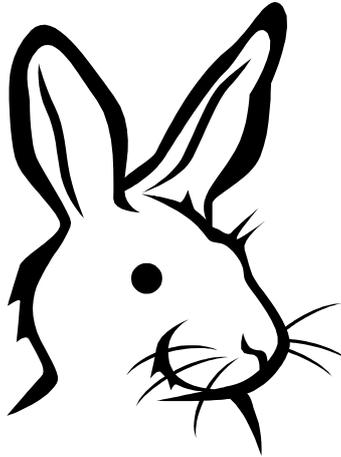
"Christ is Risen. He is risen indeed - Alleluia!"

March Hares

If one wished to nominate an "animal of the month" it would, in March, undoubtedly be the hare. Normally the hare is a very timid creature and if disturbed will remain frozen to the spot until the last possible moment and then dash away at high speed, twisting and doubling back to escape capture.

However, towards the end of March, the Mad March Hare throws caution to the wind and truly lives up to its nickname. Driven by the mating-urge, it is transformed into a zany character seized by a ferocious vertigo.

I was lucky enough to come upon a pair of males confronting each other. They eye-balled each other for some time sizing up the situation and then abruptly one made a move by leaping over his opponent and giving him a double kick in the ribs with his hind legs. The receiver of the kick sat back on his haunches and started to box. This turned into a madly ludicrous display that turned quite savage as they put all the strength of their tawny bodies into each punch. Eventually one punch was too much to bear and the loser skedaddled towards a hawthorn thicket to lick his wounds.



Their long legs enable them to swim well when necessary and to cover the ground fast and far, though they can be a handicap when travelling downhill. If you get a chance to watch a hare descending, you will find it usually goes diagonally across the contours.

Equally important to the hare's defence, however, is its eyesight. Its prominent eyes are so situated that it can look behind as efficiently as in front, giving it virtually all-round vision.

Country folk have long regarded the hare with suspicion and misgiving - even thinking it a witch in disguise. If a pregnant woman's path was crossed by a hare, she went in fear of her baby being born with a hare-lip.

Liz Jones

Show us your compost!

Saturday March 19th sees Bunbury's first-ever compost competition, held as part of the Borough Council's Recycling Initiative. Bring along a sample of your unsieved compost (about 4 handfuls) to the Village Hall between 10 and 12, and you could be a prizewinner. There will also be refreshments and free composting advice.

VICAR

The Reverend **RICK GATES** The Vicarage, Bunbury 01829 260991
 Peter and Kath Collinge (pastoral support) 260077
 Rick's e-mail: Rick@prayer.fsnet.co.uk

St Boniface

Churchwardens: Barbara Croley 01829 260344
 Walter Done 01244 332563
 Youth Worker Johnny Gillett 01829 260680
 Secretary Jill Robey 260081
 Flowers Margaret Bourne 260944

St. Jude's

Churchwardens: Bob Gardner 260555
 Ann Latham 260488
 Secretary Carolyn Johnson 260703
 Organist Ann Badrock 260343

Calveley

Churchwardens: Barbara Croley 260344
 Walter Done 01244 332563
 Organist John Batchelor 261056

Ian Bulkeley

Paving, walls, fencing,
 garden improvements,
 landscaping.



01270 780834 07778 358285

SOVEREIGN WINDOWS



TEL : PHILIP
STUBBS
01829
260166

**HIGH SECURITY INTERNALLY GLAZED
 WINDOWS OF QUALITY
 FULLY GUARANTEED FOR 10 YEARS**

Sovereign Windows Established 1984



Nicola Roberts, expert in
 curtains and soft furnishings

Tel: 01829 260033 07903 825837
 Ivy House, Alraham, Tarporley, Cheshire

Sally Sissons Garden Design

Anything from whole-garden
 designs to re-planning
 tired borders
 Reaseheath trained



Tel:01829 261412, Mobile: 07813 466547

Death overcome, hope reborn



As Easter approaches, my thoughts turn towards Poland and the christening of my first grand-child.

Poland, the scene of such horror and grief. Auschwitz, so recently remembered: the extermination camp.

Calvary...the hill of heartbreak, pain, and the crucifixion of the Son of God. And our own lives, by no means exempt from problems, pain and tragedy.

Today Poland is moving forward. It has overcome the suffering that has tarnished its soil, and the world has learned a terrible lesson. And as we look up to see that

God's never - ending mercies

'But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope. The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning: great is your faithfulness.'
(Lamentations 3, 21-23)

We can be in the deepest depths of worry, sorrow, tragedy, weakness. Yet so long as we 'call to mind' the faithfulness of God, that invisible bungee-cord of prayer can get us back to the surface once more.

The knowledge of that powerful faithfulness took Jesus safely from lower depths than we will ever know, to the right side of the tomb on Easter morning. That is some strength.

Sleep is, I believe, one of God's greatest gifts to us, and when God woke us this morning, he had our daily miracle on his mind – otherwise we would not be here. Every day is new, with new life, new hope, and new work, but all bending towards the mission for which Jesus lived, died and rose again: the saving of Mankind. New every morning is his love, our wakening and uprising proves.

Eric Wallington

James and Rick

As you may have seen from the picture on the front of the Chronicle recently, James Bartlett continues to make an amazing recovery after his surgery.

After a temporary setback last month, Rick is still undergoing his course of chemotherapy, not due to end until May. It is lovely to see him out and about but we should not be fooled by his cheerful appearance, his treatment is really taking its toll on him (and Lin).

Please pray for James, his family, Rick and Lin.

stark empty cross on the barren hillside, we know that Jesus has overcome suffering and death, and we have all learned a terrible, but glorious lesson: Jesus, willing to suffer and sacrifice for you and me, because He believes in us and because he loves us. Death overcome, hope re-born! Through the risen Lord Jesus, **we** can overcome our suffering, and despair, and the darker things that gnaw away at our lives and stop us from really making a difference.

I travel to Poland, remembering the sacrifices, celebrating the empty cross, claiming the Christian hope of salvation, and sharing the love of family....and especially grand-daughter, Charlotte Marie!

Mike Ridley

The King who rode a donkey

The donkey is usually thought of a slow, stubborn beast of burden which lacks the grace and intelligence of a horse. So why should Jesus have deliberately chosen a donkey to ride into Jerusalem? The answer is probably to do with people's expectations of the coming Messiah. For a long time the Jews had been living in hope of the Messiah coming, a king descended from David who would deliver them and bring in a new era for Israel.

In the Old Testament the coming of the future king is predicted in these words:

"He comes not triumphant and victorious but humble and riding on a donkey - on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

So Jesus was fulfilling the role of the Messiah by riding into Jerusalem on a colt. But he was also upsetting the expectations of many Jews. They saw the Messiah as a political figure, a nationalist leader who would overthrow the Romans and restore Israel to the Jews. By making his entry on a donkey, Jesus demonstrated that he was a king bringing a message of peace and not a rebel commander riding his horse into battle.



Mothering Sunday - did you know....?

These days Mothering Sunday is often known as Mothers' Day. In Britain, as in many European countries, the fourth Sunday in Lent is set aside as a special day to honour mothers. In England, Mothering Sunday originally had a different meaning. It was the day when churchgoers in outlying villages and hamlets would make the journey to the mother church of the parish taking their offerings. By the sixteenth century, Mothering Sunday had become a holiday when all the young girls working as servants were allowed a day's holiday to visit their families. To prove their newly-acquired skills in the kitchen they would bake a cake to present proudly to their mothers. It was called a simnel cake, probably from the Latin word simila, a fine wheaten flour. It had to last till Easter as it couldn't be eaten until after Lent had passed. (Is there anyone reading this who saves theirs till Easter?)

If a girl had a sweetheart, this was the day to bring him home for mother's approval. In this case it was the man's responsibility to provide the mothering cake.

In more modern times, Mothering Sunday was introduced and is still kept in America and Australia on the second Sunday in May. The idea is attributed to Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia, who in 1907 suggested an annual day for mothers should be kept. At a church service people were asked to wear a white carnation in honour of their mother. The custom soon became known and spread to other places.



St.Boniface Wildlife Sanctuary

Today in the February issue of the Link I read on the front page the brief article describing the area behind St Boniface – namely the lower burial ground – and the unforgettable sight of first the carpet of snowdrops, followed hopefully by 'a host of golden daffodils'. As I read it, I thought I'd like to take you back some years in time, to when that area was nothing but a wilderness and an eyesore to all who came across it.

At that time I was Chairman of the 'Best Kept Village Committee'.(In passing, we won the coveted plaque on three occasions.) The area behind the church was a big source of worry and a certainty to lose us valuable points, so I decided to consult a professional, whom I knew, for his valuable advice on what to do with our biggest headache. As he stood and viewed the spot, a quiet place of peace, he

suggested that we clear away the debris – nettles, bricks and various undergrowth – but on no account spray it with weedkiller, as it should be left permanently as a natural wildlife sanctuary.

We did as he suggested: we removed all the rubbish and surplus growth, planted bulbs, and left our wildlife area to the birds and animals for posterity.

So today it remains 'just so'. Naturally, it requires attention from time to time, to cut back the undergrowth, and keep tidy, but I do hope that people will, as you suggested, go and take a peep at our peaceful wild area, and get as much pleasure from seeing it, as we did creating it, so long ago, now.

Blanche Wilgose

TARPORLEY DENTAL PRACTICE

Established 1978

Mr J.E.Hopkins, B.D.S, Mrs T Banerjee, B.D.S, Mr G.P.E.S.Skilton, B.D.S, Mrs C.Stein, B.D.S, D.P.D.S

DENTAL CARE FOR ALL THE FAMILY

Ozone therapy - painless restorations without injection
Preventive Dentistry
Cosmetic Dentistry - crowns, bridges, veneers
White Fillings (mercury free)
Tooth Whitening

'Denelea'
13.Nantwich Road,
Tarporely, Cheshire
CW6 9UN

TELEPHONE:01829 732213 (24 Hours)

New patients welcome



NDM *Independent Limited* *Independent financial advisers*

The home of

www.myfinancialadviser.co.uk

We aim to meet all your financial needs

Visit our website or call 01829 731363

NDM Independent Limited, 29a, Forest Road,
Tarporely CW6 9NB



NDM Independent Limited is an appointed representative of Interdependence Ltd which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority

Our life in Singapore

Many of you will remember the de Bell family from their time in Bunbury. Here Greta reflects on their time in Singapore after their recent move to Australia:

When we arrived in Singapore I promised myself that I wouldn't get too used to 'expat' life because one day I would have to return to a 'normal' life again. That day has arrived and these are my reflections on 3 ½ years spent in Singapore.

Our time in Singapore started and ended with a major disaster which made world news. We moved into our new home on 9th September 2001, a date which will be remembered forever as 9/11. The repercussions spread far and wide with many people fearful of another attack. The most visible sign was the sudden presence of armed Ghurkas commissioned to guard the gates of the British school in Singapore. They remain to this day. My other main fear in the early days revolved around Esther (2 years old at the time) climbing over ledges at the top of 20+ storey buildings.

As part of my resolve to keep my feet firmly on the ground, and to help the children settle, I decided to manage the house on my own. After a year of clock watching, limiting the children's activities and limited socialising (no baby-sitting circles here!) my resolve was abandoned and we employed a live-in maid. With help at hand, I could work a little, study, take up a sport and give more help at school and church. Our home was not quite my own but I did have a freedom that made living in Singapore 'easy'.

In the early days, friendships were generally formed with other expats. Conversations ran along familiar and predictable lines and if you fell into the 'correct' boxes (same school, club, children of same age etc) then you had a fighting chance of continuing the acquaintance beyond the first meeting. Friendships developed after the initial barriers (above) had been broken down. As a result we leave behind some wonderful and valuable friends.

One of the great things about Singapore is the (peaceful) cultural mix and the opportunity to interact with people of different nationalities. This helped us develop a more tolerant attitude, and deeper appreciation of the diversity in our world today.

The overwhelming heat and high humidity (over 85%) take a

lot of time to get used to. Sport was energy-sapping, while walking was always taken at a slower pace. The seasons are 'hot dry' or 'hot wet'. Lightning storms are fantastic and sometimes frightening. Singapore experiences the highest rate of lightning strikes per square kilometer, as well as the highest incidence of human fatalities. After suffering one lost computer modem, a drenching (but hilarious) family bicycle ride, temporary deafness, due to a strike less than 400 metres away, as well as torrential storms felling trees, I was always cautious of the weather.

Unless you were into retail therapy, the smallness of Singapore became a bit claustrophobic at times. Fortunately, its location as a travel hub made it easy to escape to many exotic, beautiful, culturally-interesting, and eye-opening places. Flights on long weekends and school holidays were booked up well in advance.

I can't leave Singapore without saying something about the people of Singapore. The attributes which easily come to mind are: people who are gentle, non-aggressive, patient with children, helpful and efficient.

The Tsunami hit on Boxing Day 2004, just 3 weeks before we left. I was deeply affected by this disaster. We have sat on, and enjoyed, the beauty and tranquillity of the beaches that were hit by the waves. We have seen the frailty of the lives of the people that live near the resorts in this South East Asian region. There was no distinction on grounds of race, creed, or wealth. Our neighbours lost their diving partners; work colleagues lost their friends; and many children lost their parents. The Tsunami took everything they had away. The mental trauma will take years to heal, and life will never be the same again.

So how was Singapore? I had a wonderful time. We all got to do things we might not otherwise have done. Initially, it was hard to adjust; our friends were back in the UK and we needed to start new activities to become part of the community. Yet at the end it was hard to leave, the whole family has had so many fabulous experiences, and we have developed new friendships which we hope will stand the test of time.

Greta de Bell

Ski Apartment to let French Alps, near Morzine

Sleeps 6, located in small village with own ski station and ski school (English spoken), ideal for families
1½ hour drive from Geneva Airport

10 minute drive to slopes in Morzine, Avoriaz & Les Gets
Winter 2004/5 dates available

www.skiloads.com or contact Andrew &
Diana Caldwell: tel:260257

Holiday Apartment to let Begur, Costa Brava

35 minutes Gerona, 90 minutes Barcelona
House sleeps 6 and separate apartment for 3

Call Sally & Robert Sissons
Tel:01829 261412
Mobile 07813 466547



Calveley Coal Company

Not only...

Coal, smokeless fuel,
logs, kindling,
bottled gas,
spare parts



But also...

Garden mulch, peat, bark,
sand, gravel, cement etc.

Free Delivery or Collect

01829-261199 - day
01829-260009 - evening

bunburynet Internet Services

Wireless BroadBand

£12 per month
No fixed contract
Lowest setup charge

Telephone Peter
270819

Member of
NOMINET.UK

Member of
Netlocal
Neighbourhoods

Member of
the FSB

www.bunburynet.co.uk
Proprietor: PK Macgeorge, MA

Christmas Quiz

Thanks to Carolyn Johnson – not only was she bullied into handing over a fiver for what she thought was an unflattering photo (but the camera never lies, Carolyn!); she was also the only reader to remind us to give you the answers to our Christmas Quiz. It was so nice to know at least one reader noticed! Here they are, and thanks once again to 'Mr Quiz' himself, Bob Welch, who compiled all the sensible questions.

Round 1

1. Saint Boniface
2. JM Barrie
3. Sir Hugh Calveley
4. Wild Boar Hotel
5. Western Australia
6. The Elephant and Castle (Peckforton)
7. Holly Holy Day - Nantwich
8. The name Ridley
9. The Dysart Arms
10. Five
11. First Christmas Card
12. Clement Clarke Moore
13. Thomas Aldersey
14. The Sandstone Trail
15. Locks on the Canal at Beeston
16. Do They Know Its Christmas?
17. Prince Albert
18. Hark the Herald by Charles Wesley
19. Peckforton Castle
20. The Image house
21. Canon Ridgeway
22. Sir George Beeston
23. Gold (the others are the Incense and Myrrh)
24. Edward Burghall
25. Spurstow (emblem of the Earls of Crewe can be seen on the Yew Tree)
26. The Haberdashers Company
27. Oulton Park
28. Prague
29. Mistletoe
30. Matthew 1, 21

Round 2

1. The caterpillar ride at Camelot (where the St.Boniface Junior Choir go once a year).
2. Sean Everton
3. Vanessa Greenbury
4. Derek Burrows
5. Dame Tickle
6. Bob Harris
7. Bob Welch
8. Wendy Slack

Tie breaker:
Dude, Where's my Country - by Michael Moore

Tilstone Fearnall

1st St Judes Beaver Colony will have its first meeting at the beginning of March.

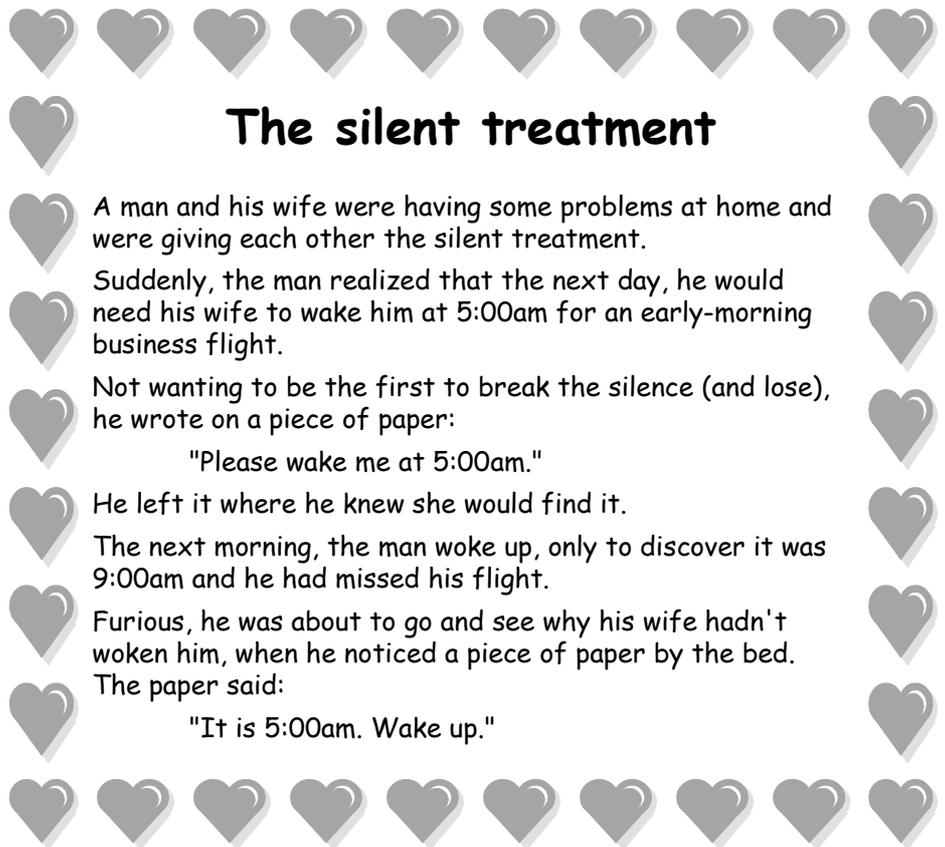
This is a very exciting venture for all involved, as it is a completely new Scout Group. Beaver Scouts is open to girls and boys and all enquiries are welcomed by Joy Parker on 01829 260032.

Looking ahead, a date for your diary - St Judes Summer Lunch will be on 5th June.

Linda Downey

Bunbury Singers look for new voices

We are a mixed voice community choir eager to add new members to our ranks. There are no auditions and the only requirement is a love of music and singing. We have a lot of fun at our Monday evening rehearsals in Bunbury School (8pm during term time). Our next concert is at St. Helen's Church, Tarporley on Saturday 23rd April. Information from Hilary Northern (01829) 260504 or Elizabeth Brereton (01829) 740664 See our website: www.bunburysingers.org.uk to see if you know anyone in our ranks.



The silent treatment

A man and his wife were having some problems at home and were giving each other the silent treatment.

Suddenly, the man realized that the next day, he would need his wife to wake him at 5:00am for an early-morning business flight.

Not wanting to be the first to break the silence (and lose), he wrote on a piece of paper:

"Please wake me at 5:00am."

He left it where he knew she would find it.

The next morning, the man woke up, only to discover it was 9:00am and he had missed his flight.

Furious, he was about to go and see why his wife hadn't woken him, when he noticed a piece of paper by the bed. The paper said:

"It is 5:00am. Wake up."

PMI Health Group Ltd

PMI Health is one of the leading employee healthcare solutions providers in the UK. With over 20 years' experience in health risk management we can create a bespoke solution to your business needs.

PMI Health Group Ltd.
The Courtyard
Hall Lane
Wincham
Cheshire CW9 6DG

Tel: 01606 352035

www.pmihealthgroup.co.uk



SMART STATIONS

Discovery Club 6-14 year olds

Maths and English skills developed using computers. A fun way to learn in a highly focussed setting.

Coffee Club — Over 15s

Discover what your computer can do to help you get back to work, chat with your grandchildren or just learn to surf the internet.

Tel: 01829 771967 (Tattenhall)
info@smart-stations.co.uk
www.smart-stations.co.uk

Silver for Beth



Pictured above is Beth Tweddle at the World Cup Final in December, where she won a silver medal for her routine on the asymmetric (uneven) bars. In the picture she is in the middle of a markelov which was part of her new combination - markelov straight into geinger. It was the first time she had performed that routine.

Reading our film review page last month, **Andrew Dean** would like to be sponsored to become our roving restaurant reviewer.

Dream on, Andrew!



GEOFF & NIGEL BURROWS, Dip.F.D. FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Complete Funeral Arrangements
Personal day and night service

Tel: 01270 524243

A.W.BURROWS & SON

Snowdrop Villa,
Swanley, Nantwich
CW5 8QB



DM AUTO SERVICES

New Cars

Selection of good used cars
always in stock or obtained to
your requirements
Full servicing facilities—all makes



Wardle Service Station
Calveley, Tarporley, Cheshire
Tel: 01829 260230/260811
Fax: 01829 261100

How clean is your house?

I received this book based on the Channel 4 television programme from my thoughtful husband for Christmas.

Authors Kim and Aggie look out at you rather accusingly/ smugly from the front cover dressed somewhat improbably in city suits, full make-up and rubber gloves trimmed with feathers and fur. I try in vain to find anything in the index about removal of biro marks from computer monitors, or indeed any inspiration they may have to offer as to their origin when every member of our family has access to paper. The book is more illuminating on the dust mite which feeds on human skin particles and leaves its excrement, which is harmful, all over your sheets. (Not what I wanted to read). It tells you how to avoid over-using strong chemical cleaners in favour of more natural products like vinegar and bicarbonate of soda - Bunbury Greenwatch would surely approve? I like the book but I also like my fridge magnet which says, "Cleaning your house when the kids are growing is like shovelling snow when it's still snowing"!

Joy Berill

Spring cleaning

Spring is definitely sprung: it's time to have a good clear out! Here are some suggestions as to where you can donate your unwanted items:

Christian Concern Crewe – will collect furniture for re-use
tel:01270 586186

Blacon Project, Chester - will collect furniture for re-use
tel:01244 390344.

Save the Family welcomes donations of good quality children's and women's clothing, toys, books and toiletries (do you have any unwanted gifts from Christmas?) Please contact Barbara Croley **260344**.

Old spectacles, obsolete UK and foreign coins and mobile phones can be dropped off in Celia Kinnersley's porch at 14 the Highlands and **stamps** can be left at the back of St.Boniface for recycling.

As a last resort **the council** will collect and dispose of unusable fridges and furniture for a small charge,
tel:0800 387491 .

The **council tips** are open every day over the Easter weekend, 8am-6pm.

The oldest established business in Hospital Street still under the control of its founder Frank Rogers, whose speciality is individually carved and designed motifs to commemorate the life of your loved one. As we are members of the National Association of Memorial Masons and abide by their codes of Business and Working Practices, we offer an unconditional six year guarantee on materials and workmanship.
Free quotations given for our competitively priced memorials

Rogers Masonry Services

73 Hospital Street,
Nantwich
Cheshire
CW5 5RL
Tel: 01270 624676

ANDREW P. DEAN
(Dip. N.T.C., C.G.L.I., A.V.C.M.)



**PIANO TUNING, REPAIRS
AND RESTORATION**
Tel: 01829 261222

Aura

Holistic Beauty Spa

Exotic facial & body treatments
Waxing, eyelash tinting,
Manicure & pedicure
Aromatherapy
Sports & remedial massage
Reflexology
Indian head massage
Reiki, Hopi ear candles
Bridal & evening make-up

Wyvern House
Bunbury Lane, Bunbury

Tel: 01829 260330

Ring us for special offers



Cheshire
Grandfather Clocks
Purveyors of Fine Quality Antique
Grandfather Clocks

- ◆ One of the largest selections of Grandfather Clocks in Cheshire
- ◆ Over 40 fully-restored clocks always on display
- ◆ Dial restoration service available
- ◆ Grandfather clocks purchased, any condition.

A. Wilson
Phone: 01829 733028
Mobile: 07974 957482

www.cheshiregrandfatherclocks.com
The Gables, Beeston Brook, Tiverton, Cheshire, CW6 9NH

Community cash

Have you heard of the **UK Villages Community Kitty?** Would your organisation like some cash for a community project? Cash is available for all sorts of initiatives, from playgrounds, environmental projects, and local heritage to fêtes and festivals, and for all types of organisations. Don't miss out – the deadline is April 10th. Contact www.ukvillages.co.uk or Margaret Oldman on 260114.

Broadband is here!

Exciting news for computer buffs. Bunbury moves into the 21st Century! This month's Link was sent to the printers for the first time using a Broadband connection!



The Good Companions
present their 21st
anniversary show

ENCORE

a light-hearted romp
through 21 years of songs,
dances and sketches from
all our shows.

March 10th, 11th and 12th
Bunbury Village Hall.

Tickets selling fast!
£6.00 -

Tickets from the Village
Greens

Crewe & Nantwich

Citizens Advice Bureau Service

**citizens
advice
bureau**

Did you know that the Citizens Advice Bureau runs a Rural Advice Service in Bunbury on Wednesday mornings?

The service is completely free and confidential. We have a vast information system covering all areas of individual law, including welfare benefits, debt, housing, consumer, family and employment issues. We can give advice, information, and practical help – including helping you to complete forms. If we don't know the answer we can usually point you in the right direction.

Please come and visit Lorraine or Sarah on the CAB van to find out your rights. You can also see if you are getting all the benefits that you are entitled to – last year we helped our clients to get £0.5million in unclaimed benefits.

We are at The **Nags Head Car Park** in Bunbury every **Wednesday** between 10.00am and 12.00pm.

Gill Mulliss and her family are familiar faces at St. Boniface and Gill is well-known for her wonderful cake-making skills. Here, she tells us about her experiences since she became teaching assistant at a school for young people with behavioural problems:

Help, get me out of here!

There have been times, over the last two years, when that has been my battle cry.

Basically, I accepted a job as a full-time teaching assistant, now a sessional (part time to the uninitiated) tutor specialising in education provision for young people between the ages of eleven and sixteen, with emotional and behavioural problems. I was about to embark on a non-stop learning curve. At times I would need nerves of steel, at others my sense of humour would be tested to its limit. Occasionally I would need access to a box of tissues, and day-to-day survival would be dependent upon unlimited access to a supply of caffeine.

My first lesson was truly enlightening. I had never before actually seen a plastic moulded chair projected across a room which such aplomb: I didn't even realise they could travel so well and or that my reflexes were so sharp. I listened in wonder as a whole new vocabulary unfolded. Contemporary in style, every sentence contained at least one word beginning with F.

As is usually the case for greener-than-green rookies, initiation rites are *de rigueur*, and I was treated to two little gems. In fact, and with hindsight, I think I got away quite lightly with my frame, clothes and pride largely unscathed.

The first was cunningly disguised as a 'hey miss.... Catch!' I reeled on the 'catch' to bag a raw egg. Later, as I basked in the glory of securing the egg intact, I gratefully thanked the colleague who had earlier confiscated a stash of rotten ones.

Determined not to be undone, another plot was hatched whilst I was left to stew, hopefully being lulled into thinking I had got away with it. The attempted *coup de grâce* followed a few weeks later, just as I was – admittedly - starting to relax a little. It was preceded by a curiously audible 'make sure she hears it' whisper of "Don't get her, she's ok".

I didn't know that a disposable rubber glove (misappropriated from the first aid kit) could hold so much water. With a technique reminiscent of hammer throwing, the glove was whirled around in front of me. With no immediate means of escape the only thought that entered my head was 'Did he fill it from the hot tap..... or the cold?' To my enormous relief I didn't find out...he did, as it spectacularly exploded before the payload could reach its intended target.

When I agreed to accept the job I was advised that during the standard probationary period I need only give one week of notice to quit. Why didn't I? Many far greater mortals have done just that. The thought just did not enter my head. Something – whatever it was - kept me going.

A cold, wet and dismal winter turned into a not much better spring, but our young people will still insist on hurtling around outside whether it's a howling gale, driving rain or three feet of snow. Whenever the students venture outside, so do the teaching staff, wrapped up like Scott of the Antarctic,

clutching mugs of hot coffee that rapidly turn into frappés.

Football was popular at the time, but not as we know it. It was a game of unique style, reminiscent of Aussie rules football, but with a significantly different twist. 'Sheilas' were press ganged into playing, especially when short of a goalie. Male or female, one cannot show any dread or terror when a youngster, the physique of a gladiator with the kicking abilities of Johnny Wilkinson, comes thundering towards you preceded by a guided missile. Frozen to the spot, the ball whistled past my ear, through the posts, over the wall and was eventually slowed by my car wing mirror. After one particular game it took forty eight hours for full sensation to return to my right hand, and I'm still waiting for the medal.

As my six-month probationary period came and went, it was decided that I was now ready to experience one-to-one tutoring, at a young person's place of residence. Fine, I thought, I'll have a go at that. This particular young person was developing his own *modus operandi* for letting tutors know his feelings about education. Flour, cooking oil or egg 'shampoos' were the latest craze. Some tutors scaled the dizzy heights of deserving all three at once. Oh well, in for a penny....

By a stroke of good fortune, I learned that our first encounter was also the young person's birthday. Armed only with a box full of edible goodies and a baking tin I set off into the abyss. I returned five hours later, unable to stop myself from smiling. No shampoo, or even a flat tyre, just a portion of gooey, sticky, sweetie covered cake, carefully cut and wrapped for me by the young person who had just made it.

At that point, I felt that there was something great and good unfolding. Despite the bruises, the palpitations, the aching limbs, the sheer exhaustion, I started to see life in a completely different and quite positive light. For me everyday problems became petty grumbles. The glass from a wing mirror really **is** easy to replace. Driving along in a vibrating mobile disco really is **not** that scary. The chairs, table legs, bricks, text books, saucepans, mugs, computer monitors and televisions were not really aimed at me – or my colleagues. They were directed with raw anger and frustration at whatever was the root cause of the young person's difficulties.

Some time ago I came across that old saying "Never judge a man until you have walked for at least three days in his shoes". I have learned to step back, to look beyond the behaviour, below the surface language and to see instead young people who are screaming inside for care, honesty, support and sincerity.

I didn't feel that I could offer any of these things, certainly not in the required quantities. What I can give, compared to what is needed, represents but a spit in the ocean, but by giving what I have – which is me - I have been able to give something real, and it has been accepted.

Gill Mulliss



Scouts seen in togas

Scouting in Bunbury goes from strength to strength these days. Not only do we now have a thriving Explorers group up and running, but our scout troop has also received a glowing accolade from a local scout official. A recent Friday evening meeting saw the scouts entertaining 60 parents and friends at a 'Greek Night' in the Pavilion. Some scouts were responsible for cooking moussaka and baklava, some for decorating the room and laying tables, still others for the waiting on and entertainment, which included that well-known duo 'Antos and Decos', various statuesque maidens in togas and some riotous Zorba dancing to finish the evening. Rosalind Smith, assistant district commissioner, congratulated the troop both for the wonderful evening's hospitality and for the general success of the group, which, she said, is now one of the best in the country. Well done to all the scouts and to their energetic leaders. Please send us a picture of this event for the April Link!

Cubs' attempt on world record



Bunbury cubs Sam Lawrence and Angus Andrew pictured during their attempt to get into the Guinness Book of Records with their mammoth Scalextric layout. Looks like you need more space, boys!

Spring at Bunbury School

Just before the half-term holiday, the whole school spent a week studying an Inuit folk tale called 'Tikkatoo's Journey' as part of an Arts Celebration Week. They all learnt much about the Inuits' lifestyle and how it has changed dramatically over the past 50 years.

The story tells how an ice spirit enters the heart of Nanook, the village's oldest and wisest man. Soon he is very ill. Only a flame of fire from the sun herself can save him. Tikkatoo, Nanook's young grandson is the only one brave enough to undertake the dangerous journey.

Children and teachers alike were inspired by the story to produce some wonderful works of art: batik, music, drama, dance and poetry, much of which is on display throughout the school.

Bunbury school pupils will also be busy during March collecting spare change to put in their Lenten Boxes. This is a tradition that sometimes catches new parents out. For the uninitiated, the children make and decorate special collecting boxes during Lent and the money is donated to a good cause at the School's Easter service this year on 24th March. Some of the boxes each year are spectacular models but a more modest tin or box does the job just as well! So don't be surprised if a Bunbury pupil asks you for cash, it is probably in a good cause!

Don't try this at home

Cub leader Andy Caldwell was commissioned to buy the ingredients for home-made play-dough. Andy was in a rush and couldn't find cream of tartar at his local supermarket, but the helpful girl on the checkout assured him that Tartare Sauce would do the job just as well. Andy, how did it work?

How to sabotage your organisation

This is based on an article first published in 1920. Thanks to Nigel Overy for supplying it.

Does any of this seem familiar?

1. Don't come to meetings.
2. But if you do come, come late.
3. If the weather doesn't suit you don't think of coming.
4. If you do attend a meeting, find fault with the work of the officers and other members.
5. Never accept an office, as it is easier to criticise than to do things.
6. Get annoyed if you are not appointed on a committee, but if you are, don't attend meetings.
7. Hold back your subscription as long as possible or don't pay at all.
8. Take all the organisation gives you but don't give back anything except hassle.
9. Don't bother about getting new members, let the secretary do it.
10. When the annual dinner is held, tell everybody money is being wasted.
11. When no annual dinner is held, say the association is dead and needs a kick up the backside.
12. Don't ask for a dinner ticket unless all are sold.
13. Then swear you have been cheated out of yours.
14. If you do get a ticket, don't pay.
15. If asked to sit at the speaker's table, modestly refuse.
16. If you are not asked, resign.
17. If you don't receive a bill for your subscription, don't pay.
18. If you receive a bill after you have paid, resign.
19. Don't tell the organisation how it can help you, but if it doesn't, resign.
20. If you can use the club without joining, don't bother joining.
21. Keep your eyes open for something wrong and when you find it, resign.
22. At every opportunity threaten to resign and then get your friends to resign.
23. When you attend a meeting, vote to do something and then go home and do the opposite.
24. Agree with everything said at the meeting and disagree with it outside.
25. When asked for information don't give it.
26. Criticise the organisation for the incompleteness of its information.
27. When everything else fails, criticise the secretary.



Bessie Woodward

We reported the death of Bessie Woodward last month. Here, her brother Frank tells us something of her life:

Bessie Stockton Woodward was born at Woodworth Green Farm, Bunbury, on January 25th 1934, the second daughter of Mr and Mrs A.S Woodward. Bessie was educated at Bunbury Girls' School, then Nantwich Secondary Modern. She was a founder member of the Bunbury Brownies, a Sunday School Teacher and bell ringer. Bessie also changed and looked after the altar frontals at St.Boniface, taking over this duty from her great aunts, including repairing some of the frontals that were damaged when the German land mine badly damaged the church.

Bessie moved to Nantwich in 1970 where she took an active part in many local organisations and regularly attended St Mary's Church. For many years she was a nurse at the Barony and Leighton Hospitals until she retired due to ill health 15 years ago.

Frank Woodward

David Evans

There was a typographical error in our piece about David Evans last month which should have read: "David and Mary met in 1964, married in 1965 and their son Peter was born in 1967."

Special prayers for: **Rick, Lin** and family; **Hanni Latham, James Bartlett**, and his parents, **Jane and Charles**; and **Benjamin Thomas**, and his parents, **Keith and Dawn**.

Please tell us if you know of anyone you would like us to mention here.



**A very happy and hopeful
Easter to all our readers**

Community news

We are sad to have to report the death on February 8th of **Enid Candy**. Many of the older Bunbury people will remember Mrs Candy, who lived at Beeston, but belonged to so many organisations in Beeston, Bunbury and Tarporley, Sadly her husband Jack died in July last year, and Mrs Candy went into Parkmount Care Home to be nearer to her family. At her death, Mrs Candy was 92 years old.

Mrs Joan Cowap will be 80 on 28th March. A very happy birthday, Joan.

Lucy Mundell of School Lane has broken her leg. Mum Jo has been seen pushing both Lucy and little brother, Johnny, along the road, sharing a wheelchair. Lucy, five, broke the leg

playing a 'jumping game' off her top bunk with some adventurous little friends. Hope you are jumping again soon Lucy!



Congratulations to the local '**mystery winner**' of the Lottery. News arrived on your editor's desk of a Bunbury Million Pound Winner (aren't Chinese whispers wonderful!). After exhaustive investigations on our readers' behalf, the truth turned out to be slightly less dramatic, but it's nevertheless a jolly nice story.

The **Norton** family of Darkie Meadow have moved to sunnier climes. They are all following mum, **Angela**, to a super new job in Cyprus as head of nursing. Best of luck to all the family.

General notices

Sandbach Voices and Middlewich Orchestra, conductor Martin Cook, are inviting all singers and choirs to join them at St. Boniface on Saturday, May 7th for a performance of Verdi's Requiem – more details to follow. For information please contact Sue Cook on 01270 766546.

Church notices

Womens' World Day of Prayer 4th March, 2.30pm, Bunbury Methodist Church, speaker Mary Street.

The **St.Boniface Agape** (an evening meal based on the Passover and Last Supper) will take place on Thursday 24th March at 7.00pm. After a short talk by **Simon Chesters**, the Diocesan Ministry Development Officer, Sarah Thompson will no doubt serve a feast as usual, accompanied by plenty of wine. Please sign the list at the back of St.Boniface to join in this enjoyable start to the Easter weekend. There are no tickets sold but there will be a retiring collection to cover costs.

On **Good Friday** St.Boniface will be open all day and between 12 and 3 there will be a prayer vigil. Why not drop in for 5 minutes' (or longer) quiet prayer and contemplation.

All singers & instrumentalists are invited to an **Open Monthly Music Rehearsal** in St.Boniface on the third Saturday every month from 4:30pm.

J&M Cars

(based at Wettenhall)
Private Hire/Taxi Service
4-8 seaters

Airport/Station, Business, Weddings,
Restaurants and all social occasions
Lady drivers available

Tel: 01270 528006 Mobile 07951 590 756

www.jandmcars.co.uk



SWP ELECTRICS

Tarporley

Sockets, lights, rewires
No job too small, we do them all
Portable appliance testing (PAT)
Prompt, reliable service
Free estimates
References available



Telephone 01829 761736 or 01928 740237
Common Lane, Duddon, Tarporley CW6 0HG



- **Cheshire's only direct supplier of DELL**
- Specialists in upgrades and repairs
- **Broadband provision**
- Internet & E-mail service providers
- **Full networking & cabling service**
- Virus removal & reconfiguration
- **Comprehensive web design & E-commerce solutions**
- Efficient personal service

dit

Digital information technology ltd

Kevin Thompson
01829 261685
M 07773 321779
kevin@ditnet.co.uk

Graham Rathbone & Sons

Electrical Contractors

NICEIC approved contractor

01829 732655



R.F. Burrows & Sons

Family butchers est.1924

Finest quality, locally-sourced, additive-free meat and poultry

Gold award-winning sausages

Good selection of cheeses

Bacon and cured meats



01829 260342

Diary

March

2	10.00am	Communion	St Boniface
4	2.30pm	Womens' World Day of Prayer	Methodist Church
6		Mothering Sunday	
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Jude
	10.00am	Family Worship	St Boniface
	11.00am	Family Worship	Calveley
9	10.00am	Communion	St Boniface
10,11&12		Good Companions Anniversary Show	
13	9.30am	Morning Service	St Jude
	10.00am	Family Communion	St Boniface
	6.30pm	Evensong	St Boniface
16	10.00am	Communion	St Boniface
19	4.30pm	Open Music Rehearsal	
20	8.00am	Communion	St Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Jude
	10.00am	Family Worship	St Boniface
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Calveley
23	10.00am	Communion	St.Boniface
24	7.00pm	End of School Term Agape Supper	St.Boniface
25	12-3.00pm	Good Friday Prayer Vigil	St.Boniface
27		Easter Sunday	
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St.Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Jude
	10.00am	Family Communion (with the Bishop of Birkenhead)	St Boniface
	6.30	Holy Communion	Calveley
30	10.00	Communion	St.Boniface
April			
3	8.00am	Holy Communion	St.Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St.Judes
	10.00am	Family Worship	St.Boniface
	11.00am	Matins	Calveley
6	10.00am	Communion	St.Boniface

Looking ahead

April

12th Start of Summer Term

Link is edited by Lucy Munro (tel. 260487) and Jill Robey (tel. 260081). We welcome all your comments and contributions. Our deadline for the April edition is Friday 18th March. Please send material to lucykmunro@hotmail.com, or to Heath Cottage, School Lane, Bunbury.

While your vicar, Rick Gates, is ill please ring Peter or Kath Collinge on 260077 in times of sickness, bereavement or any distress. They are co-ordinating a group of people who will be pleased to respond to your call.

www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk