

Churches full for Easter celebrations

Local churches were full for many of the services over Easter, including the traditional end-of-term service for Bunbury School when the children, with Johnny and Rick's help, retold the Easter story through song, mime, dance and readings.

Pupils also brought along some superb models including hedgehogs, ballet shoes and birds' nests - Why? These were some of the Lenten Boxes in which the children had collected donations during Lent and which raised in total almost £1,000 to be shared between the Railway Children and St Luke's Hospice.

Well done to all those children who volunteered for extra jobs at home to earn money for their boxes.



Toby and Harvey, both aged 6, as Jesus and his donkey in the Bunbury School Easter service

Chris and Chrissie weather Atlantic

Congratulations to Chris and Chrissie Latter of Birds Lane, Bunbury, who, together with daughter Becs and old friend John Harris have completed the "Arc 2007" transatlantic boat race from Gran Canaria to St Lucia. They had to overcome several storms and Chris and John had to use all their engineering skills to repair a leak in the boat at the start of the race. After finishing the race in time for



Christmas they have spent the rest of the winter cruising the Caribbean and are expected to arrive back in Bunbury at the end of March. If you want to read more (and feel sea sick at the same time) a detailed account is contained in Becs' blog at www.gullvika.com.

Chris is a founder member of the Bunbury Wheelers. While he has been away during the winter, his fellow pedallers have kept in training, hoping that they can keep up with Chris when he gets back on the bike!

For more on Bunbury Wheelers see p2.

Enjoy 'secret' view from Stanner Nab

Don't miss St. Boniface's traditional Ascension Day walk up to Stanner Nab in the Peckforton Hills. This is an annual celebration taking the form of a fairly easy walk interspersed with a few stops for singing and Bible readings and up to the spectacular view point.

Walkers of all ages are invited to meet in the car park at Peckforton Castle at 7.00pm on Thursday 1st May. The route we take is not normally accessible to the public, and we are allowed there on this day by kind permission of Peckforton Estate. Remember Ascension Day is very early this year, so put this date in your diary.

Say farewell to Tony Hoy

Bunbury bids a fond farewell to long serving local GP Tony Hoy at a presentation at Bunbury Village Hall at 6.30pm on Saturday 5th April .

Everyone is most welcome to come along to thank him for his service to our community and to wish him all the best in his retirement.

Contents

• Community	2
• Canine Corner	4
• Obituaries	8-11
• St. Jude's	11
• Diary	15

Community news

Welcome to **Connor Henry** and **Thomas James Mansell**, sons of **Thomas and Sarah Mansell** and to **Gwilym George Edward Davis**, son of **Timothy and Nicola Davis**, all baptised at St. Boniface on 16th March.

Congratulations to **Sue Johnson** who celebrates her 40th birthday this month.

Congratulations to **Michaela McLaughlan** who celebrated her 21st with a party last month.

Commiserations to **Jeremy Shears** who has been laid low for some months with a virus. Hope you are on the mend soon, Jeremy.

We were sorry to hear about the broken hip recently suffered by **Tilly Crotty**, Tom Crotty's mother who lives in London. Get better soon Tilly.

Sadly there have been a number of local deaths in the past month including **Bertha Wilkinson** of Haughton on March 19th. See pages 8 to 11 for other obituaries.

May Cruikshank, mother of **Teri Williams**, has died aged 92 at the nursing home in Crewe where she has lived for some years. Commiserations to Teri who visited her weekly by train from her new home near Bishop's Stortford.

Best of luck to **Johnny Gillett** in his latest venture, a story telling and drama workshop for schools, churches and youth centres called "Sneaky Stories". Contact him at info@thejourneyman.org.uk.

Good luck also to PCC member **Paul Holbrook** whose new job will take him to work in Scotland during the week, and to all those who have had a change of job in the past months.

Remember **Tarporley School Quiz night** on 25th April.

Ladies interested in being part of this year's **Midnight Walk** in aid of **St. Luke's Hospice** on 28th June, visit www.stlukes-hospice.co.uk or ring the fund-raising office on 01606 555687.

Please support the team of 12 attempting the **Three Peaks** by train in July to raise money for the Railway Children. Their website is www.justgiving.com/susiwaddington

Did we really read in the Crewe Chronicle that Wulvern Housing were called out to repair a chimney in Hurst Court following the **recent earthquake**?

Welcome back to the **MacDonald family** of Haughton after almost exactly 4 years away in Germany. Isabel and Eloise have returned to Bunbury School and Alex has rejoined his old friends who are now at Tarporley.

Pilot **Andy Fairclough** of Sadlers Wells, though no longer flying long haul, is still able to arrange for donated children's clothes to be delivered to an **orphanage in Mexico**. Sports kit and outgrown trainers are particularly welcomed though Andy will take anything of reasonable quality. Please contact Andy on 260240.

Governors have appointed a new head teacher for Bunbury School to take over from **Alison Phillips** when she retires in the summer. Alyson Thacker is currently head at Crowton School near Kingsley and lives near Farndon. She has been to school to meet the children and is looking forward to joining them in September.

Bunbury Wheelers is a group of keen cyclists who meet on Tuesday evenings in the summer months. Anyone interested in finding out more please ring Richard Munro 260487.

"One a penny two a penny?" Nowadays we hear from Peter Crump that the rhyme should be "one for 48d, two for 48d etc"! Rampant inflation.

Second Bunbury Brownies have painted and filled several large flower pots with spring flowers. You can see them at the church and at the bungalows on Bunbury Lane.

A **Spring Coffee Morning** will be held at Bunbury Pavilion on Friday 18th April 10.00am till 12.00 noon, all welcome, proceeds towards Early Birds Pre School.

Are you interested in expanding your vocabulary? **Peter Gordon** has contacted us with information about www.wordsmith.org If you subscribe to this website you are sent an interesting or unusual word and its definition every day, but beware Americanisms - ed.

Church news

Children's Society boxes from both Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall will be opened in April. They can be left at St. Boniface or St. Jude's church or can be given to **Bob Gardner** or **Martina Phillips**.

You may have noticed the six strange black objects hanging from the roof of the aisles of St. Boniface. Yes, the **new sound system** has finally arrived and these are the speakers. Thanks to Walter Done and the Fabric Committee who have seen this project through.

The Agape at St. Boniface with speaker **Revd Richard Burton**, Parish Mission Development Officer was well supported by over 50 people. Sadly despite appeals for help, organisers **Fiona Holbrook** and **Sarah Thompson** had to arrange all the tables and move pews by themselves as well as providing the meal. More help next year please!

This month please pray especially for Claudia McLaughlan and Suzanne Swann. And please pray for all those mourning the death of a loved one or who are troubled in body, mind or spirit and for those who care for them.

The **May edition** of the magazine will be available in St. Boniface from Saturday 26th April.

Photos needed

As mentioned last month, Target 1250 is hoping to publish a fundraising calendar for 2009, with photos of local scenes or village life. Neil Dewson-Smyth is putting it together and is appealing for good quality pictures. Digital photos should be in as large a format as possible (ideally left 'raw' or the largest possible jpeg file size your camera can do) and mailed to neil@d-s.demon.co.uk Any questions to Neil on 261680.

Resourcing the vision

Giving is one of the most sensitive issues in church life. As one writer puts it “[Talking about] money can stir up congregations like an intruder in an ants nest.” However, talking about giving does not have to start arguments. Giving is also an exciting subject to talk about when we talk about it in the context of a vision for the furtherance of God’s work in our communities.

In the March edition of the ‘Link’ Rick Gates wrote about his vision for growth – “a vision that every Sunday at St. Boniface could be like Christmas”.

Towards the end of last year, the Parochial Church Council stated that it shares a vision for growth of a church in Bunbury which includes funded staff working with youth and children. In order to resource the vision for growth properly, the PCC has resolved to undertake a Christian Giving Initiative in the parish. Through the Giving Initiative the PCC seeks to build on the already strong financial base of the parish to ensure that the vision for growth is fully resourced in the years ahead.

A Christian Giving Initiative is not about telling people how much to give. Instead, it aims to help church members to a deeper understanding of the principles of Christian giving, why they give and what for. A Giving Initiative seeks to help and encourage church members to think and pray about their giving to resource the vision

for God’s work in their community.

Christian giving is not just about the giving of money, it is about responding to God’s love.

God in his love has given all of himself to us in Jesus. “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son..” (John 3:16). A response to God’s love is a thankful response that consists of giving:

Ourselves - in worship, Bible reading and prayer

Our time - in meeting the needs of others

Our skills - for God’s purposes

Our money - through our local church to resource his work

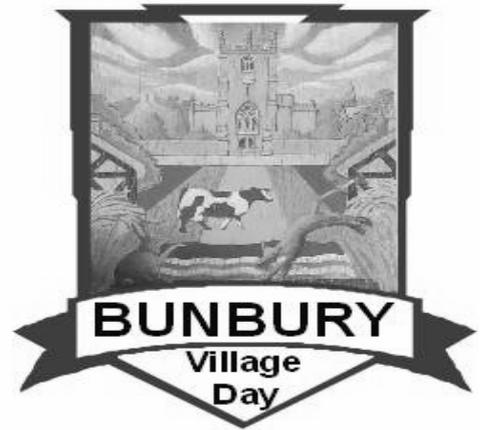
The giving of ourselves, our time, our abilities and our money to resource God’s work is an essential part of our Christian discipleship.

Later this month, all who belong to St. Boniface will receive a leaflet containing further information about the Initiative. This has been produced to help church members to think and pray about their giving of time, abilities and money to resource the vision for God’s work.

Please pray for the work which God has given to his church in Bunbury. Ask God how he wants you to respond in resourcing this work.

Martin Smith

Diocesan Adviser in Christian Giving.



Bunbury Village Day is on Saturday 21st June with the parade starting at the new time of 12.30pm from St. Boniface Church.

Our theme this year is inspired by our beautiful rural location and we invite you all to come and join us “Down on the Farm” and sample the delights of country living.

Each year the committee aim to bring you new attractions and activities whilst retaining the old favourites. All information and regular updates will be posted on the new web site. www.bunburyvillageday.co.uk There are plenty of opportunities for you to support your community and be part of Village Day. We particularly would like to see more entries in the parade. Your entry can be a float or simply a walking group. You don’t have to belong to a local club and association to enter, a group of friends or neighbours can dress up and join in. If you would like to take part but need some inspiration please call **Frances Lawford on 260848.**

The very best shepherd

‘Jesus said, ‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.’ (St. John 10, 11)

Most of us have no personal experience of shepherding today, but many, I’m sure, have watched sheepdog trials on television, or perhaps on a country road we’ve stopped to marvel at the skill of a shepherd with his dogs driving the flock from one field to another. Some today still have to spend nights in the fields in the lambing season – it’s no easy job!

In many of the hilly countries around the Mediterranean you can still see a shepherd, or perhaps a shepherd boy, leading a flock from the front, and spending all day long with them, and probably nights too. The sheep recognise the shepherd’s voice; the shepherds in turn know each sheep by name and are prepared to risk their lives for the flock.

So when Jesus said, ‘I am the good shepherd’, he was effectively recalling the words of King David in Psalm 23 who said that God will defend us – ‘Your rod and your staff, they

comfort me’ – and Jesus was claiming to be the son of David and the rightful king of Israel. But also, he was claiming to be the Son of God, ‘I am’ being the name of the Lord God.

And so Jesus today is our shepherd, our guide, our companion, our defender, our provider. He goes in front of us to show us how to live. Jesus is surely the best shepherd ever, who gave his life on the cross and rose again from death to lead forward all who are prepared to follow him. And as we follow, we can say unhesitatingly, ‘The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want’.

Eric Wallington



What grows where nothing else will?

Whilst holidaying in the French Alps in early March I became fascinated by the amount of lichen adorning the trees, rocks, walls and buildings. In fact lichen will attach itself to any structure that has been in place for at least 2 years.

The amount of different lichen appearing here in such abundance is due to the pureness of the air, as many lichens show a remarkable sensitivity to air quality. Some forms will grow almost anywhere, whilst others cannot tolerate the smallest amount of pollution. For many ecologists, lichens are an accurate monitor of air quality since they derive their water and essential nutrients from the atmosphere.

Lichen is commonly seen but often overlooked, because the colours of the alpine flowers outshine the lichen's dull tones. It is not the colour that is attractive but rather the remarkable unusual shapes it forms, some even three-dimensional. They are as beautiful as the most intricate patterned filigree or fine lacework.

Structurally lichens are among the most bizarre of all forms of life on this planet. They are not a single organism like plants, animals or fungi. Instead they are the result of two or more

separate organisms living permanently together and both benefiting from this union which is known as mutualism.

One species of organism is a kind of fungus and usually the other is an algae. In this amazing association the fungus benefits from the algae because fungi having no chlorophyll can't photosynthesize their own food. A lichen's fungal part is thus 'fed' by its photosynthesizing algae part. The algae benefit from the association because the fungus is better able to find, soak up and retain water and nutrients than the algae. Also the fungus gives the resulting lichen shape and provides the reproductive structures.

Lichens first appeared about 400 million years ago so they have been around for a very long time. Ecologically they are important because they occupy niches that are so dry, hot or sterile that nothing else will grow there. They will collect minerals and organic fragments and moisture which when it freezes will expand and over the years break down fragments of rock to make soil. Eventually other more complex plants such as mosses, ferns and even some forms of flowering plant will take root in the modest soil and replace the crustose lichen.

Remember that if you dislodge a patch of lichen from a rock with the heel of your boot you could well be undoing the patient work of centuries.

Liz Jones

Bob at Crufts

Bob the Labrador and his owners Billy and Sarah Marsh were invited to spend the weekend at Crufts this year in recognition of the work they do for the charity Pets As Therapy, which exists to bring comfort and companionship to sick or elderly people in all sorts of hospitals, hospices and residential and nursing homes. Billy and Sarah regularly take Bob to a day centre in Crewe, where they sit and chat with the old people who like stroking him. Bob really enjoys all the attention. Billy and Sarah enjoy the visits too as they are given chocolate. They enjoy listening to the residents' stories about dogs they used to own and stories about life during the war. Bob also accompanied Billy to the top of Snowdon when they joined some 3 Peaks entrants on a training run recently.



Thanks to all those who took part in Bunbury Guides Crocus Walk and lunch on 9th March. Lots of dogs brought their owners including Alfie, pictured left enjoying a well-earned rest. The event was a great success and raised around £500 for Breast Cancer Care. Well done to all the Guides who made many of the delicious cakes and waited on their guests.

The good shepherd

The fields are full of lambs, tails a – quivering, leaping for joy in the sunshine.

Shepherds are weary, after early morning lambing, and coaxing orphans to feed from a bottle.

Jesus, our Good Shepherd, never gets tired, he never leaves us.

Heavenly Father,
We thank you for our Good Shepherd, Jesus.

He finds us when we are lost,
He comforts us in our sad times,
And rejoices with us when we are happy.

He provides us with everything we need.

When our path seems long and difficult

He is always at our side.

He carries on his shoulders
All our worries, guilt and fear,
And he loves us to the end,
Our risen and living Saviour,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Pat Edgley

Jambo Everyone!

You may recognise Rachel (pictured below) from the long hours she worked in Bunbury Co-op. Here she tells us what she is doing for the rest of her gap year.

"I have always known I have wanted to go to Africa. I wanted to experience the unknown, to break away from my comfort and submerge myself in another culture. Now one month into my gap year experience, I am sitting in the Tanzanian dusk trying to find words that will capture this amazing country.

"To say the people are welcoming is an understatement. The people here have nothing: no electricity, no water, no money, but there is one thing they do have in abundance, they have love. Tanzanians are amongst the warmest, friendliest people I have ever met. They have nothing but are willing to give you everything. For example, on our second day in the village we decided to go for a walk to familiarise ourselves with our new surroundings. People of all ages greeted us and welcomed us into their community. Their "doors" opened to allow complete strangers into their homes.

Now one month on this has not changed.

"I am teaching English in a primary school called Lambo Extended. The pupils are unbelievable; they are so enthusiastic and so eager to learn. In Tanzania there is only one way for people to earn good money and progress and this is solely through education. If the pupils don't achieve in Primary School they can't go to High School, their education stops for them at this point.

"They are so keen to participate. I planned to take a PE lesson with 80

pupils but as I say, that was the plan. Armed with two footballs I watched as 300 eager pupils gathered on the field to join in with the PE lesson. Football was quickly scrapped in favour of the children running a relay, to try and control the over exuberant. That was certainly a PE lesson I will never forget!

"I have merely scraped the surface of my experience; there is so much to write about and not enough words to express my love for this country and the people within it; Africa is in my heart!



"I would like to thank everyone who has supported me in my gap year. The cards, presents and the lovely messages I continue to receive through my family, have been fantastic and have meant so much to me. I really appreciate your support and encouragement, thank you.

"On a final note, to people who have thought about visiting Africa as a holiday destination or for a gap year experience.... I say **just do it!** There is one thing I can guarantee.. You will **not** regret it!"

Rachel Barrie



Explorers Band Night

Well over 100 parents and friends were royally entertained by Bunbury Explorers group at a fundraising dinner dance staged at the Village Hall on March 15th. The youngsters had been trained as waiters and a superb four-course dinner was served to their guests with military precision. At the same time, some really impressive entertainment was provided in the form of various musical groups from amongst the Explorers themselves. An amazing £4,500 was raised by the event, which included an auction of goods and days out provided by generous local businesses – surely this must be one of the highest figures ever raised at the Village Hall. Much of the money is needed to fund the group's

participation in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and this year a record (28) Explorers will be taking part, with practice overnight expeditions starting in early April. The success of the evening is down to the Explorer leaders and their spouses, and especially to Neil Dyer (pictured left with two of the waitresses) who has spent many months organising sponsorship and auction lots, and to the superb catering team of Sarah-Jane Stockman, Susi Waddington, Tina 'n Liz, Judy Wheatland, Jan Clifford and Lesley Dyer assisted by kitchen porters Tim Wheatland and David Stockman. The meticulous planning really paid off. Thanks to you all for a lovely evening.

The Battle of Bunbury



J. CAVALLIER, TOOK OF CHARLES II.

Some of you may, and possibly more of you may not, have heard of The Peace of Bunbury, a part of English history which took part in our village. With apologies to those who know much more about it than me, and with thanks to D. J. Brownsword-Hulland whose book *Civil War in Cheshire; The King's Divided Palatine*, is published by Guildmaster Books, Welsh Row, Nantwich, here is an attempt at a shortened history of the 'Peace of Bunbury'.

The English Civil War, between the Royalists and

the Parliamentarians (or Cavaliers and Roundheads) was in its very early stages in 1642. In early December, the Royalist Earl of Derby entered Cheshire from his native Lancashire to join up with Lord Cholmondeley, a local Royalist commander. Jointly, they planned to attack the home of the Parliamentary commander, Colonel Mainwaring. However, Colonel Mainwaring had advance warning of the attack and gathered a force to fight off the intruders. On hearing of this, Lord Derby decided to return home to Lancashire. Mainwaring, however, intercepted the less-fortunate Lord Cholmondeley at Northwich, captured his men and took their equipment and horses.

Shortly after this, the Royalist Colonel Thomas Legh of Adlington attempted to enter Macclesfield for the King but was displaced there, again by the ubiquitous Colonel Mainwaring and his forces. It is reported that Legh escaped dressed as a common soldier but lost several of his men. Following this defeat, Lord Cholmondeley and other Royalist commanders took refuge in Chester. Colonel Mainwaring took the opportunity to attack Legh's home at Adlington, and following other raids on Royalist garrisons on the Staffordshire borders - he arrived with a large Parliamentary force at Nantwich on 16 December 1642.

At this point the four Royalist Commanders in the area (Earl Rivers, Lord Cholmondeley, Thomas Savage, and Viscount Kilmorrey) had gathered their forces in Chester. They sent word to Nantwich that they wished to have a conference (or a 'parlay', to use the parlance of the 'Pirates of the Caribbean') with the Parliamentary forces. It was common at this time that most of the fighting was done in the summer and early autumn because of weather conditions and the problems of transport on muddy roads. A meeting was therefore arranged for 23 December at Bunbury between Colonel Henry Mainwaring and Mr. Marbury for the Parliamentarians and Lord Kilmorrey and Orlando Bridgeman (the son of the Bishop of Chester) for the Royalists.

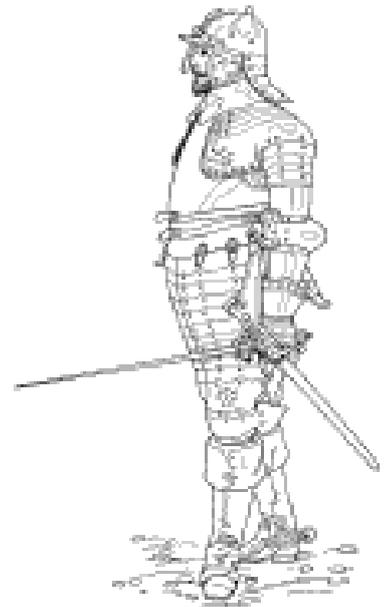
Amazingly, these four agreed the radical and wide-reaching **Peace of Bunbury** under which fighting would cease in Cheshire. They agreed that they would work together to

escort any forces from elsewhere out of the county and would not let other forces pass through the county. All prisoners were to be released and fortifications removed at Chester, Nantwich, Stockport, Knutsford and Northwich. Material taken during the conflict was to be returned to its owners and losses were to be compensated by a tax on both sides. Both sides agreed not to raise further troops, to seek the permission of their national commanders for their actions and to urge peace on them.

The Peace did not last long. Chester was important to both sides because of its strategic position as the gateway to North Wales and it was also a port where troops from Ireland could be landed. Sir William Brereton of Handforth Hall, one of the leading Parliamentarians in Cheshire, was in London at this time and was incensed by the news of the peace treaty. Both he and Colonel George Booth, of Dunham Massey, another leading Parliamentarian and head of the Cheshire Militia, were sent north by Parliament on 9 January 1643 to take control of the Parliamentary forces in Cheshire and put paid to the Peace of Bunbury.

Sir William Brereton despatched an advance party of dragoons to Nantwich, and they arrived early on Saturday 28 January 1643. They repulsed an attack by Royalists under Colonel Ashton later that day. Ashton then set out to ambush Sir William Brereton and his main force near Willaston. Sir William was warned in advance and, although outnumbered, his forces attacked and dispersed the attacking Royalist forces, went forward to Nantwich and relieved the town from the Royalist attack (the First Battle of Nantwich). In under five weeks. The Peace of Bunbury, which could have changed English history, was effectively dead and buried. The rest, as they say, is history

Nick Sanders

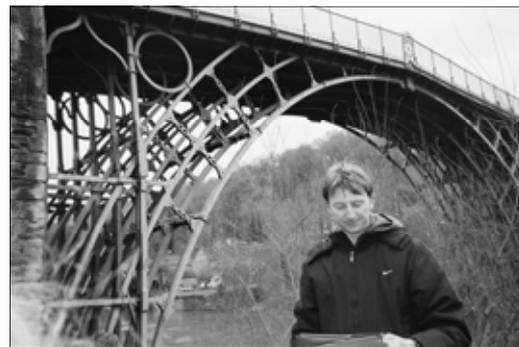


Record hits on website

The St.Boniface website goes from strength to strength. www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk is becoming increasingly popular amongst web users and it is a useful way to keep the community in touch with the church. In fact the site has had visitors from every one of the world's continents, with around 100,000 "visits" over the past year. Each month the Link is downloaded more than 1,000 times, and in the last year the volume of data downloaded increased from about 1.3Gb to nearly 2Gb per month. Why not visit it or pass on the address to distant friends?

Gorgeous apple crumble

Bunbury School Year 5 pupils spent 3 days visiting Ironbridge, the cradle of the industrial revolution in arctic conditions in March. Staying in Coalport Youth Hostel, one of the highlights was said to have been the “gorgeous apple crumble” served on the first evening. This was deputy head teacher Richard Harley’s first experience of this annual trip which for many pupils is one of the most memorable experiences of their primary school years. Visits were made to the iron bridge itself and to Ironbridge Gorge Museum and Blists Hill where various Victorian businesses have been recreated including a doctor’s surgery, a bakers and a sweet shop where the children can spend Victorian pennies on traditional sweets.



Kitty Worrall - determined to reach 100

I first met Kitty on a sunny day in July 1996, when she came to The Old Hall to have lunch with her old friend Marjorie Bellis. Kitty soon made herself at home, chatting with the residents and staff. She thanked us for a lovely lunch, and commented on how well Marjorie looked and said she wouldn't mind coming to be looked after at The Old Hall too. Enquiring if we had a room, Kitty was shown Room 6, a sunny room at the back of the house, whose window overlooks the garden and the distant view of the Shropshire hills.

For Kitty that clinched it, and she promptly announced she would take the room and moved in straight away, only to remember she had no belongings with her. In true Kitty style, she asked if anyone could lend her a night-dress and toothbrush - and so with that mischievous introduction, Kitty's time at The Old Hall had begun.

We soon learned that Kitty had a great love for life, and always tried to live it to the full. She was someone who had the ability to add merriment - and occasionally a little mischief - to any situation. She enjoyed her walks in the village and visited the local shops. On one occasion she even called in at the local fire-station, and asked if they could shorten her walking stick, which they did without question.

Kitty was happy in the company of the other residents but, equally happy with her own company, she loved to spend time in the garden, collecting flowers and leaves, which she artfully pressed into lovely arrangements. She was fascinated by all aspects of nature, especially the sky, if there was a particularly spectacular sun rise, she would go and find anyone she could to come and watch it with her

Boxing Day, when the hunt meet in Malpas, was one of Kitty's favourite days of the year. Her excitement was infectious, and inevitably she'd persuade one of us to go with her to join the crowds outside. It was quite a task getting her to come home.

When Kitty celebrated her 99th birthday last year we said, "Next year's the Big One, Kitty", to which she replied, "You'd better look after me very well for the next 12 months, to make sure I get there!" Although she had not been so well recently, she was determined to get to a hundred, and true to form she did this in great style in early March, with a party for family and friends. I said to her in the week that followed, when she was very tired, "Kitty, I think all that partying has nearly done you in", to which she replied, "But it was a jolly good party, wasn't it! If you make a hundred, you might as well do it in style. I wouldn't have missed it for the world."

Phil Dean - a friend to many

Phil Dean was a rare man in addition to being a very special husband to his wife Margaret. He was a devoted father to his sons Michael and Andrew and a considerate and caring grandfather to Stephanie, Natalie, Ashleigh and Matthew. He was father-in-law to Sharon and Helen and a valued friend to so many.

Phil, born on 18th March 1928 in Duddon, experienced a varied life serving in the RAF and as the proprietor of Astons Tarporley Ltd., until retirement in 1989.

My first encounter with my future father-in-law was in 1986 in the Swan in Tarporley where he was with a group of people whom I later discovered were his very closest friends. These faithful friends continued to meet most Friday evenings in Tarporley. My most vivid memory of these regular gatherings was seeing Phil standing at the bottom of Park Road deep in discussion until they all went their separate ways home! These gatherings became such a cornerstone and landmark of his life that even the grandchildren knew where to locate him on a Friday evening!

Phil was a tireless member of many local organisations. Frequently involved

in raising money for charities, he was always more than keen to help out in any way he could. He was a man always



concerned with and for the welfare of others. He was always busy, whether transporting people to hospital, working for Age Concern, selling Christmas cards for charity or undertaking the many duties of a dedicated grandfather. If ever I needed help there was never a hesitation as to whom I could ask: his response was always swift and practical. He was a constant source of help and never judgmental - a very distinctive and rare quality from an exceptional man.

Key memories include him holding his grandchildren for the first time, the look on his face one of intense inward pleasure. I'm not so sure the nappy changing times had the same effect! And, as the children grew up, the times when chickenpox appeared to take over the Dean household, the parties, the trips to hospital, working in the garden with Andrew's latest craze and the car crashes! Phil and Margaret were always the first to be informed whenever their grandchildren heard good news - whether it was winning at the point-to-point (he was responsible for teaching me how to place bets) or exam successes.

His Christian faith was the central core and constant guide to his way of life. He regularly attended church at St Jude's, Tilstone Fearnall and joined Andrew for Evensong at St Boniface, which was usually followed by a drink in the Dysart where Andrew shared his latest collection of jokes! I believe that a particularly proud moment for him was to see Stephanie, Natalie and Ashleigh christened and then confirmed.

Phil Dean - a modest man who listened and cared unreservedly for all those around him.

Sharon Dean

Edna Matthews - could always be relied upon

A woman who was proud to be known as a wife and mother has died aged 90.

Edna Matthews' kitchen was her domain - and hers alone. "Woe betide husband or child who through initiative or otherwise who decided to prepare food themselves", said son William.

She was born in Brown Knowl, Broxton. Her father, William, was killed in France during the First World War when she was just a few months old. Her mother Mable eventually remarried and she and husband Stanley Warburton had five more daughters - Freda, Nora, Joan, Nesta and Brenda.

Edna grew up in a very loving and caring family environment and her stepfather bestowed love and affection upon her, equally as he did upon his own daughters, so much so that Edna never regarded him as anything other than her father.

When she herself became a mother, she named her first son William Stanley, in joint memory of her father and stepfather.

After leaving school Edna went into service at Cholmondeley Castle and later told many stories of her work upstairs and downstairs and along the dimly-lit corridors of the castle.

When she was still relatively young, the family moved to Bunbury. It was there she met, fell in love with and married Tom Matthews. Together they had four children, William, Hazel, Maureen, who sadly died in infancy, and Maurice.

Although Edna was devoted to her family she always found time to take an active part in village life. She belonged to the WI, the drama group, Wednesday club and also enjoyed whist and bingo. "She was also one of the band of village ladies who could be relied upon to help

at any event," said William, "and she would usually be one of the first to be asked, in the knowledge she would never refuse."

But mostly she loved her place in the kitchen. She was very proud of her job as housewife and mother and loved cooking and knitting.

For most of their married life Edna and Tom lived and raised their family at Tom's family home in Wyche Lane. In 1981 they moved to Hurst Court where they were two of the first residents.

Although Tom had had to retire early they still enjoyed coaching and caravan holidays, spending many happy times on the Welsh coast.

Like most married couples with children, though, they loved spending time with them, and later their grandchildren.

Taken from Edna's funeral address.



Give us two minutes - Mark Burrows

Mark is a true Bunburian, born at home in Wyche Lane in 1969. He went to Bunbury Primary School and then Tarporley High School. He and wife Claire recently moved into the Old Post Office, (attached to the butchers) where he lived as a child. Mark started in the family butchers business when he was 16 and has already clocked up over 20

years serving the people of Bunbury as a butcher and in recent years has also been active on various local committees. The couple celebrate 10 years of marriage in July (and he says that any contributions to his Barbados wish fund will be gratefully received!). Their three children, Scott (6), Evie (3) and baby Charlie, ensure life is busy. When he gets a chance he enjoys following the successes of Manchester United (are there any? Ed.), and he tries to emulate Wayne Rooney when he plays 5-a-side.

If you had a motto, what would it be?

Appreciate and enjoy all that makes your life rich instead of envying material riches of others.

It's a celebrity beer call. Where is it and who do you invite?

Alex Ferguson, Martin Gilbert and Winston Churchill at Munich Beer Festival.

What would the title of your biography be called?

'Pleased to meat you, meat to please you!'

What was your first job?

I was a paper boy at Hickies when I was 13.

Who would you make Prime Minister?

Somebody we can trust and believe in – or, Peter Kay!

Where did you meet your partner?

At Warwick University, Claire was friends with my brother Phil.

What is your biggest regret in life?

No major regrets really - apart from missing Man Utd. beating Barcelona 3-0 in March 1983 as I was in hospital. Dad had my ticket and has never let me forget what a fantastic match it was!

If you could change something about Bunbury, what would it be?

No vegetarians within 10 miles! Or, on a more serious note, improvements to the road through Bunbury to accommodate the pedestrians better and to improve roads to cope with the increasing number of cars.

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

As an avid Man Utd. Fan, having to live with the stigma of being born in a house called Anfield!

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

For our business to continue to serve our current customers to the best of our abilities and to be able to attract more new customers to our shop.

Where and how would you spend your ideal weekend?

In Barbados with Claire, relaxing on a beach with a rum punch.

And finally, if you were granted one wish, what would it be?

To be in Barbados with Claire, relaxing on a beach with a rum punch!

Nick Sanders

A new look for an old friend



If you haven't climbed up to Beeston Castle for a while you're in for a big surprise. English Heritage have undertaken the huge task of landscaping and clearing the lower slopes and felling many of the trees and saplings which had grown up inside the outer walls. The result is some fantastic new views

both towards the bridge as you climb the hill, and across the outer bailey when looking from above. You can spot the scale of the work even from a distance. The whole scheme, including some new footpaths around the hill, is due to be finished by May.

Alick Clarke - a job well done

Alick was a man who was good with his hands. He was artistic and got great satisfaction from working with wood. His home, Chapel Cottage, is full of the evidence of his skill as a carpenter - a skill which the RAF clearly made full use of when he helped to repair damaged aircraft and especially wooden aircraft such as the Mosquito during his wartime service, much of it spent in India. In peace time he could often be found making wooden toys as gifts, especially for the Bunbury Church Fete at Beeston. He maintained throughout his life his keen interest in sport, particularly football and horse racing although in later times that was inevitably limited to viewing them on television. More recently his poor

hearing demanded that the volume was turned to maximum. Somehow Maureen managed to keep going through the barrage of TV sound.

Maureen was keen to stress that Alick was a good Christian man who was always looking to be of help to others. What a wonderful epitaph for him. Alick will I am sure be much missed by Maureen and Cathy, all the family and all who have known him over the years. Maureen was particularly keen that his funeral service, held at Crewe Crematorium on 11th March should be in happy remembrance of a job well done.

Eric Wallington

Professor Rudolph Shaffer

We mentioned last month the sad death of Katie Mason's father, Rudolph Shaffer. A tribute to this very eminent developmental psychologist appeared in the Glasgow Herald on March 12th and we feel sure that many Link readers would be interested to know more about Professor Shaffer's remarkable story and career.

Rudolph Shaffer was born into a Jewish family in Berlin in 1926 and experienced during his early years the growing horror of Nazism and anti-Semitism. In May 1939 his parents managed to secure him a place on the Kindertransport and he escaped to England, only 13 years old and with very little English. He was sent to Ackworth, a Quaker boarding school in Yorkshire, spending holidays as a guest of a Hertfordshire family. When it was found out that he never spent his pocket money, he explained that he was saving up to bring his parents over to England after the war. But he was never to see his parents again: his father died of pneumonia at the Therisienstadt camp and his mother was gassed at Auschwitz.

Rudolph went on initially to Liverpool University, to study architecture, but was not enthusiastic, and eventually enrolled at Birkbeck College to study psychology in the evenings after his day job in a glass exporting company. In the early fifties he worked in the Tavistock Clinic under John Bowlby, the famous

psychoanalyst who had done so much to draw attention to the emotional difficulties faced by deprived and separated children. Rudolph's particular interest in the significance of early relationships was established and continued for his entire career. Shaffer never spoke openly about his early life experiences. For a young boy who lost his own parents in such dreadful circumstances it is remarkable but understandable that his early psychological research focussed on children's attachments and fear of separation.

He became, over time, an 'esteemed and iconic figure in child psychology, in Britain and internationally, particularly in the U.S., and a source of inspiration to his colleagues at Strathclyde University.' and his work continued well beyond official retirement in 1992. With the establishment of the journal Social Development Professor Shaffer ensured a lasting monument to his life's work.

Rudolph Shaffer was a kind, courteous and modest family man with a truly international reputation. Katie remembers her father's sense of humour - a very human tribute in itself.

St. Judes latest

What is a church? As we have said many times before it has always been our firm intention to maintain St Judes as a fully functioning church. To do this we need to maintain our weekly pattern of services on Sundays at 9.30am.

A church is not just the building, however beautiful it might be. The true meaning is a place where a group of people meet together for an act of Christian worship. However it can a great disappointment to those faithful people who attend the church every week to find that some people only attend on a casual basis, for whatever their reason. It must be understood that it is essential that we maintain as full a congregation as possible so that we can show that the parish is behind us as we battle to retain St. Judes as a living church, serving the people of Tilstone Fearnall as it has done for the last 180 years.

A very good friend of St Jude's is Carolyn Johnson, who organised and ran a very successful Coffee Morning at her home, to raise money for the purchase of decorating material for our next big project painting the church hall. Thank you Carolyn. You can put on the first lick of paint I promise!

The date for the choral concert with the Wistaston Singers, directed by Frank Woodward, has been arranged for the 14th May. The concert will be held in church, more details to follow.

All at St Jude's were very sad to hear of the death of our friend Phillip Dean. Phillip was a long time member of our church, a thoroughly nice man, who had a gentle sense of humour. It is a sad fact that as we proceed through life we lose more and more of our good friends. Our sympathy goes out to Margaret and the rest of the family.

On another sad note we have to report the deaths of Mary Thompson, and William(Bill) Morris.

Bob Gardner

Janet Seery - devoted mother, daughter and sister

Janet's mother, Margaret Hawksworth recalls:

"Janet's kind, gentle and caring nature was evident from the early years when she loved being a second mother to Alison, her little sister. I have many happy memories of those days, teaching Janet to swim and enjoying her pleasure at becoming so proficient. And then there were the sunny holidays in Brittany. The milestones in her adult life were her marriage to Marc and the birth of Emily. Emily was the light of her life and those were good times. Sadly that

was not to last. In recent years Janet fought for the strength to overcome the pain of losing her father and parting from her husband. The love and care she received from me and many others and all the professional help offered, could not pull her through the dark days of depression. Occasionally there were times when the sun shone through to give us hope. Janet tried so hard to find the peace she so badly needed. I know she would have stayed with us if she could, but now she has finally found peace. I am privileged to have had such a lovely daughter. Sister Alison adds: as

children I always looked up to Jan. I wanted so much to be like her. I was devoted to her and everything she did was the right way in my eyes. Holidays were always a special time for us and after a few years of searching for a suitable holiday spot with Dad we found a gem with Minorca. As we moved into adulthood our lives often crossed. Jan settled in London and was blessed with her daughter Emily whom she adored. She always tried to do the right thing to help others. Dad's death had a major effect on her life. May she now rest in peace with her beloved father."

Jeffrey Clarke - a sincere friend

With the end of my National Service in June 1949 I joined the many commuters travelling each day on the Crewe to Chester train which in those days of course stopped to pick up passengers at Beeston station. It was there that I first set eyes on a rather debonair young man who boarded the train each morning. On the return journey he was one of a group of lads regularly travelling in the same compartment as me and it was then that I got to know Jeff Clarke. It was a friendship that was to last nearly 60 years.

Jeff was born on the 8th February 1932 to Tom and Alice Clarke at the Sketh, Spurstow. He was the eldest brother of Lenny (who died in infancy in 1933), Barbara and Brenda. He attended Nantwich and Acton Grammar School from 1943 to 1948. When he left, his headmaster said, 'I can recommend him with confidence for any position open to a youth of his qualifications...he will do reliable and conscientious work.'

When we first met he was working as a financial officer with the NHS but National Service intervened and in 1950 he joined the RAF. There was a lot of banter on the train about long delays that servicemen had to endure at Crewe Station when returning to their units. I suggested that whenever he had a long wait at Crewe he could come to my home for supper instead of hanging around on a bleak station. This offer duly accepted, my Sunday routine was to meet Jeff at Crewe station, take him home to supper with the family, then walk- with him back to the station for the 1.00am train.

Returning to the NHS in 1952 and resuming his life in Bunbury, he joined in many village activities especially the drama group. It was then he met up with Jennifer Mills, his future wife. In 1959 he left the NHS and Bunbury to become an innkeeper at The Vine, at Hannington in Hampshire. In August 1962 he and Jennifer celebrated their engagement at the Egerton Arms and a month later he began a three-year course of study at Blackpool Technical College where he gained a National Diploma in Hotel-keeping and catering. He became chairman of the Blackpool Hotel and Catering Students' Society.

Just a few months into his course of study he returned to Cheshire for his marriage, which took place at Kelsall on the 10th April 1963. I was privileged to officiate at their wedding.

He did have a stag night, held, if my memory is correct, at the Stork Hotel in Liverpool, and it was only for the privileged few - the groom, the best man and the parson. He could not resist telling the hotel staff just what part his guests would be taking at the following day's wedding.

They set up home in Blackpool and Julian was born in 1964. Jeffrey spent the 1965 season at The Gleneagles Hotel as the Sommelier. Following this, he went to Garnett College, Roehampton - gaining a University of London Certificate of Education in 1966. The family then moved to Worcester where he became a lecturer in the Catering department of Worcester Technical College. This was the start of a career at the college which saw several promotions in recognition of his abilities. He was to remain at Worcester College of Technology until very recent times - running evening lecture courses and invigilating examinations until just before Christmas.

In the last decade he organised many trips to the wine-producing areas of Europe. Principally they were for connoisseurs of fine wines - mainly members of some evening classes the College had held for lovers of wine - but I was lucky to be able to share in several of these enjoyable events, which of course provided plenty of opportunities for wine tasting.

Once truly settled in Worcester, the family increased with the arrival of Melanie in 1968, Alastair in 1972, Adrian in 1982, and Timothy in 1987. In addition to his work at the College and the demands of an expanding family, Jeffrey and Jennifer became the proprietors of The Park House Hotel, Worcester, a business they ran together for 5 years.

He was very interested in all sport and was particularly keen on his local football club. Jeffrey was also the author of 'Table and Bar', a definitive text-book published in 1987.

He worshipped at Claines Church and I joined him many times for the sacrament - and we were usually accompanied by Melanie. He had his faith and there is no doubt that the words of his former headmaster rang very true throughout his life: he was always a reliable and conscientious worker, as well as a sincere and wonderful friend.

Rev Gordon Dickenson.

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April Diary

2	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
6	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Worship	St. Boniface
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Calveley
8	7.00pm	Vestry & Annual Meeting	St. Jude's
9	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
13	9.30am	Morning Service	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Short Communion	St. Boniface
		Followed by Vestry & Annual Meeting	St. Boniface
	6.00pm	Evensong	St. Boniface
16	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
20	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Worship	St. Boniface
	11.00am	Family Worship	Calveley
23		St. George's Day	
	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
25		Tarporley School Anniversary Quiz Night	
27	9.30am	Morning Service	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Communion	St. Boniface
30	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
May			
4	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Worship	St. Boniface
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Calveley
7	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface

Looking ahead

June 21	Village Day
July 5th	Bunbury School Summer Barbeque
August Bank Holiday	- Beeston Castle Fete
September 13	Foreign correspondent Martin Bell at St. Boniface
October 4	Tarporley School 50th Anniversary Event

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Other church contacts:

The Reverend Jane Stephenson (parish curate)	250249
Peter and Kath Collinge (pastoral support)	260077

St. Boniface

Churchwardens:	Barbara Croley	260344
	Walter Done	01244 332563
Secretary	Neil Dewson-Smyth	261680
Flowers	Margaret Bourne	260944

St. Jude's

Churchwardens:	Bob Gardner	260555
	Linda Downey	732017
Secretary	Ann Posnett	260251
Organist	Ann Badrock	260343

Calveley

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Secretary	Sue Woodward	01270 522822

Link is edited by **Lucy Munro (tel. 260487)** and **Jill Robey (tel. 260081)**. We welcome all contributions. Our deadline for the May edition is 15th April. Please send material to lucykmunro@hotmail.com.

Visit the St. Boniface website for pictures of recent weddings and the Link on-line.

www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk

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