



# Link

February 2023

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A haven at Wesley Church in Chester



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**New Parish Administrator for St Boniface**

A magazine for the parishes of Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall

## Bunbury Youth Club is ready for 2023



Bunbury Youth Club had a great 2022, full of fun activities and the unfailing success that is the Christmas Pantomime. See pages 4 and 6 for more.



Follow Bunbury Church on Facebook

# Who we are

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### Churchwardens

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## The Link

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

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

# Community news

Congratulations to **Charlotte Johnson** and **Daniel Hendry**, married on 29 December at St Boniface.

Also congratulations to **David Wright** and **Babsi Vyse**, married at St Jude's Tilstone Fearnall on 25 November, in the photo with their children.



Bunbury PCC are proud to announce the new **National Charity** we will be supporting over the next 3 years is **Mind**. From the Mind website we know that even though 1 in 4 people have mental health problems, most of us don't get the help we need. This has to change. Mind is a brilliant charity here to fight mental health. Their aim is to change minds across England and Wales by making mental health an everyday priority, and by standing up to the injustices – in healthcare, in work, in law – which make life harder for those of us with mental health problems. They offer help whenever you might need it through information, advice and local services. Here is a link to a video by their President Stephen Fry:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Opxhtzrwxx8t>

### St Boniface has a new Parish Administrator.

She is Kay Carson, who lives in Alpraham with her family. They moved into the village in 1997, and have been part of this parish's life since then. Kay is married to Jasper and together they have raised four children who are now grown up. Following her

appointment Kay told The Link: "We were very lucky at St Boniface church to have had Vicki Riley and Lucy Oates carry out this role before me. It is a privilege to support Rev Tim and the many people who make up Bunbury Church to better help bring the love of God to our communities. To do it in a more formal way now is a new experience for me, but one that I am enjoying a lot."

**The Modified Neighbourhood Plan for Bunbury.** A copy of our draft Modified Neighbourhood Plan will be coming to every address in Bunbury in the next few weeks. Please look out for it and take time to read it and give the Steering Group your comments. This is important for the future of Bunbury. Opportunities to meet the Steering Group, if you have any queries, are also being planned.

The February meeting of **Bunbury Gardening Club** will be a talk on "Vegetable Growing for Show" by John Bebbington on Tuesday 21 February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. New members and visitors are very welcome.

The next **WI** meeting will be on the 9 February at 7.30pm at the Pavillion in Bunbury on traditional handmade preserves by Melanie Latham of Holly Cottage Preserves. All welcome. Contact [lyndadavies296@btinternet.com](mailto:lyndadavies296@btinternet.com).



**Foodbank news** — Anne James followed the Bunbury food collections from the Winsford drop off depot to discover what happened to them. The

## A word from the editor

Many many thanks to Jo Mason who has worked so hard on the layout and production of the Link over the last 11 years. We are very grateful to Kay Carson who is taking on the role.

The church now has heat. Thank you to all those who braved the cold over Christmas. A very special thank you to David Cox and the church wardens who care for the fabric of the church and quietly serve all of us week in week out.

Sadly, we have lost a number of friends in the community and we could not fit in all their tributes. We will remember John Dook in our next issue.

food arrives at the main Northwich distribution centre it is sorted and expiry dates recorded. Following the NHS dietary daily intake guidelines, bags of 5 days supply are compiled for single people, couples and families. Then fresh fruit vegetables, bread, milk, eggs etc are added before distribution to clients. To provide fresh produce the foodbank uses any money donated to them to pay for the goods using local contacts who offer very good discounts. (Roberts offer free bread).

If people are busy and find it difficult to pop donations in the box outside the village hall, a financial donation can be made online to the Mid Cheshire Foodbank at [midcheshire.foodbank.co.uk](http://midcheshire.foodbank.co.uk) and it will be used to buy the fresh food that is added to the dry goods.

Moya Reynolds wishes to thank Gwyneth Burrows (and, of course, her husband Tony) for being our **Meals on Wheels** co-ordinator for the past 22 years. Thank you also to the numerous volunteers for giving their time to ensure we always got our meals whatever the weather.

## Church diary for February

Sunday 5 February	8.00am BCP Communion 9.30am Family Worship 10.30am Holy Communion & Forest Church 11.30am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley
Wednesday 8 February	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 12 February	9.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Worship	St Jude's St Boniface
Wednesday 15 February	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 19 February	9.30am BCP Communion 10.30am Sunday brunch 6.00pm Evensong	St Jude's St Boniface St Boniface
Tuesday 21 February	2.30pm & 7.30pm Contemplative prayer	St Boniface
Wednesday 22 February	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 26 February	9.30am Family Worship 10.30am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface



TIM HAYWARD

Your Vicar

# Winter

It is about this time during winter when we long for it to be over. We generally have had enough of dreary cold days. Our soul and spirit long for better weather and feelings of new birth. We have experienced enough of winter to last us for a while.

I love the variation of the seasons. If you've ever lived in a town or city, you don't always get to experience the fullness of the seasons, and can easily miss the flow of nature, something God created to demonstrate his wisdom and love.

Science reveals that the earth needs the rest. The soil and plants recuperate during this time. They literally are being prepared to handle another trip around the sun.

When spring comes our outlook grows like the seeds that have been in the ground and spring forth as the sun and the warmth increase. Like the Easter lilies that spring up the earliest of flowers, we spring up in our hopes for the new season. The birds sing of the glory of God in spring and the new birth happening in every corner of nature. And as new hopes are planted in us, we begin to sow seeds in gardens, and flower beds in anticipation of a plentiful harvest.

But here we are still in winter. Like the ground rests from all its work and suffering, perhaps so should we. I like to think of winter and the turning of the year as a time of reflection. Time to look and examine the path and direction of our lives. Maybe we need to also look at the areas we are sowing in our life. Do I need to rethink where I am planting? Is it time to rotate the crops in my life, and the priorities in my life?

In Jeremiah we read: "Even the stork in the sky knows her appointed seasons, and the dove, the swift and the thrush observe the time of their migration. But my people do not know the requirements of the Lord."

Winter gives us time to look and reflect. Just like the Jewish people practiced a weekly Sabbath rest and God instituted a Sabbath year also. God put reflection in the system so we would examine what is important. So, as we look at our lives let us reflect and then imagine what should happen in our lives. Because hang on in there, there is good news: Spring is coming.

**The copy deadline for the March issue is Friday 3 February. The magazine should be delivered from Saturday 25 February. Notices to [parishlinkeditor@gmail.com](mailto:parishlinkeditor@gmail.com)**

# Claire Wilson

“Good news...”



Have you ever had an earworm that just won't stop? That you seem to sing in the most inappropriate places, like the supermarket; it keeps rumbling on for days on end! We are well past the 25 December and yet I find myself humming and breaking out into song, a rather catchy and repetitive song from the seasonal movie, *Nativity*, “Good News...”

I'm so conscious that we allocate different events to certain times of the year and seasons. They help us to mark occasions and the passage of time. There's nothing that causes us to groan more than seeing an Easter egg in the shops on Boxing



Day or a Valentine's card on 1st January. Everything has its time and place. We love having Christmas decorations up but are equally happy when we box them up and put them back in the loft, to await dusting off the next year. That's why my earworm has been irritating me. Yet it has also made me think. At Christmas, we celebrate the greatest story, the birth of the Christ-child, when God became fully human, one of us. And this God-baby experiences life as many people do, born to a

teenage mum, fleeing to Egypt as a refugee, struggles to be accepted as he's a bright, intelligent poor boy not from the elite class. He challenges the status quo, calls out injustice, champions the marginalised and suffers rejection, betrayal and is brutally murdered. He understands our pain and struggles and offers in the midst of it peace, hope, love, joy, and the promise of life in its fullness. And through his death and resurrection we receive the gift of eternal life. Good news indeed! But do we often put Jesus back in the box, along with the decorations, waiting to dust him off next year? How can we celebrate this good news throughout the year?



# Mike Rogers

Follow that



There is a wonderful story (which only appears in Luke's Gospel) of Jesus meeting ten lepers and being asked by them for mercy. (Luke 17:11-19).

Jesus responds to their plea by healing them and having done so, he sends the ten to see the priests in the Temple so that they could be certified as free from the disease; a disease that would have kept them isolated from the rest of the community.

Remarkably, of the ten, only one, a Samaritan, went back to thank Jesus for what he had done; the other nine presumably returned to living a normal life with never a thought about thanking the person who had made it possible for them to do so.

At one level, the story stands as a reminder of our need to say 'thank you', something I've written about before, and something we so often fail to do. But there is another angle to the tale. I often wonder how Jesus felt about this profound lack of gratitude from the nine.

Sadly, the Gospel account gives us no clue.

However, following this episode, we may read of Jesus healing a blind beggar near Jericho, so it is not as if Jesus said, 'Right, that's it. If I can't be thanked for what I've done, I'll not heal anyone else' which might well have been his response. No, he sets any hurt to one side and carries on as before.

I suspect none of us is a stranger to having done something, perhaps unasked, to help someone else and whatever we have done then being taken for granted by the recipient who offers no word of gratitude. It has certainly happened to me. It's irksome when it happens and we might rightly feel quite indignant. Indeed, we may even refuse to help again. And that prompts me to ask, how should we react to not being thanked? The example is there for us all to see.

The question is, can we follow it?

## Our prayers for February

Dear God,  
Thank you for your love for us,  
every day, all the time,  
now and for ever.  
Amen

**Bunbury Youth Club Panto 2022** - Another great success!  
You can re-watch **The Wizard of Oz** at Bunbury Church Online:  
<https://m.youtube.com/@bunburychurchonline8870/featured>

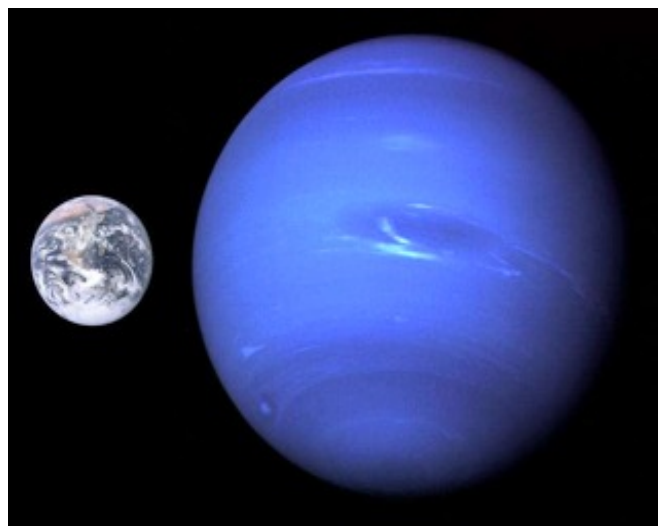
# Sky notes: February

## Spectacular Venus and an Ice Giant

Evening skies are dominated by Venus this month. It is a spectacularly bright object in the western sky at sunset, setting about 8pm. During the month it moves further east towards another bright planet: Jupiter. On the evening of February 22, there is a wonderful site in the west at sunset. The crescent Moon lies between the two planets. The following evening, February 22, the crescent Moon is just above Jupiter, with Venus being lower down.

On February 15 you have a chance to spot Neptune for on this evening Venus passes very close to the remote planet. You'll find Neptune to the lower right of Venus. You'll need binoculars to spot Neptune as it is not visible to the naked eye. Neptune is the faintest planet, which is close to the brightest, Venus, by some 60,000 times.

Neptune and its neighbour, Uranus, are called ice giants because they are smaller and have a composition different from Jupiter and Saturn, which are known as the gas giants. Jupiter and Saturn are composed of mostly hydrogen and helium, with large mantles of metallic hydrogen (which acts like a metal, due to the pressure and temperature within these planets) and only small cores of rock and ice. Uranus and Neptune are composed of some hydrogen and helium, but they also contain heavier elements such as oxygen, carbon, nitrogen, and sulphur. Beneath their relatively thin outer shells of hydrogen and helium, these planets are largely made of compressed, slushy water and ammonia. The ice giants' rocky, icy cores are also proportionally larger than the amount of gas they contain, unlike the gas giants. This is why Uranus and Neptune are called ice giants.



Mars also continues to put on a good show this month. It lies in the constellation of Taurus, to the left of the tiny star cluster known as the Pleiades, or Seven Sisters. On February 27 the first quarter Moon lies close to Mars. Looking south on February evenings you will see the bright winter constellation of Orion, the Hunter. Most people are familiar with the three stars that make up Orion's Belt. Follow the line of the belt down to the left and you will encounter the brightest star in the sky, Sirius. Going the other way you will encounter Aldebaran, the brightest star in Taurus. Aldebaran is a reddish colour – try comparing its colour with the nearby deep red Mars.

Clear skies!

*Bunbury Stargazer*

## A Warm Hub for pensioners in the centre of the village

The **ALIVE** project working with the St Boniface Pastoral Team have organised **A WARM HUB** in Bunbury for village pensioners. It is open from 10am onwards every weekday. If you would like to spend time in a WARM friendly environment during the winter months you can pop into the NAGS HEAD and enjoy a FREE cup of tea or coffee.

No need to book!



# Bunbury School

## news

### Our partnership school in Cape Verde

As a Rights Respecting Silver school and with the increasing importance of global learning, it is vital that our children are provided with opportunities to learn about life in a different culture. One way to ensure this happens is through creating a link with a school in a foreign country.

As a result, Bunbury has worked to establish an exciting link with a partner school in Cape Verde (located off the west coast of Africa). Bunbury Aldersey will be working in partnership with the school head teacher, Elias Cabral, to strengthen the link between the two schools so that the children from both countries benefit mutually from the relationship.



The front of Castelao Primary School

Castelao Primary School, in Cape Verde, was founded in 1990. It is a small school of a maximum of 280 pupils aged between

6 and 11 years old. The school comprises years 1 to year 4 and has 8 teachers including a School Manager. After completing year 4, pupils are distributed across schools in other areas. This can often be problematic and not all pupils progress any further. The school is named after the local area of Castelao, which is one of the poorest and deprived suburbs around the Capital City of Cape Verde, Praia. Despite high levels of poverty and deprivation, Castelao is a vibrant and colourful community, home to talented musicians and dancers. The official language spoken is Portuguese however the majority of the population also speak Creole.

Bunbury Aldersey has received a video of Castelao Primary School and in return has also sent a video tour of Bunbury School to get an insight into the similarities and differences between the two schools. Year 6 have posted work to them, on a 'day in the life', to enable the children at Castelao to see the school's daily routines. Bunbury Aldersey are also currently planning a 'Cape Verde Day' where the children will learn about the culture through traditional dance and music, geography and language activities.



Our display in school

## Bunbury Youth Club news

The Bunbury Youth Club, of panto fame (see page 4), is a group of 25 young people that meet on Mondays at St Boniface Church. There is currently a waiting list, but anyone (Y7 and older) interested in joining should get in touch with Beth Hayward or Rev Tim as they would love to see new people join as spaces become available. Some **highlights from 2022** were trips to Aqua Park at Delamere, Battlefield Live at Knutsford, wall climbing, ice-skating and Lazer Quest.



# Wesley Church Centre Chester

**The Link Editor always pops in for a cup of coffee during the Christmas period; it is a haven from the bustle of the town centre. She asked Kate, who runs the centre, to introduce it to Bunbury.**

Wesley is a Methodist Church in the heart of Chester city centre. Over 30 years ago, it was decided to make the building accessible throughout the week. The 'open door' ethos has led us to discover and become a part of a rich and varied community and to become a place where people can meet and find fellowship.

Affectionately known as 'Wes' or 'the Wesley', a variety of groups make use of our building. Our worship area was re-



developed in 2017, the pews were taken out and replaced with chairs and the lighter, more flexible space has become a fantastic venue for worship, concerts, plays and more! Every Tuesday we hold a concert between 12.45pm and 1.35pm and have welcomed some incredible musicians including the students of Chetham's School of Music. The centre is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10am to 2pm and our centre cafe serves a range of reasonably priced food and drinks during this time. You can buy cakes and scones made

fresh on the premises by our cafe manager Linda and deputy manager June and homemade soup that's also prepared onsite. One of the groups held in the church are the Bread Together team, a community baking group established at Wesley in 2010.

They run baking courses for people with a wide range of abilities and regularly meet on a Monday. We have toddler sessions in our upstairs creche area which run from 10.30 to 12.00 during term time, Wesley Toddlers on Wednesdays, and Creche on Thursdays and Fridays.

We're committed to being a diverse and inclusive community here at Wesley and we are a registered member of Inclusive Church. Since 2017 we have marched in the Chester Pride parade and established an Open Table community which holds monthly services for those in the LGBTQIA community and their allies.

In our worship area we have recently established a community library and learning space where there are books on various topics available to borrow. Here people can access resources that help them explore their faith alongside themes such as social justice, sexuality and disability.

Wesley is proud to be the home of a fabulous Fair Trade shop. It started up in 1999 and is staffed by a team of volunteers. The shop sells biscuits, tea, coffee, chocolate, cards, jewellery and other craft and gift items.

You can find out more on our website [wesleychester.co.uk](http://wesleychester.co.uk)



## A letter of thanks from the British Legion 2022

On behalf of the members of the Bunbury branch of the Royal British Legion, I would just like to take this opportunity to thank the residents and businesses of Bunbury once again for their generosity and support during the 2022 Poppy Appeal.

As a village we donated a total of £4,164.63. This included a door-to-door collection (apologies if we didn't catch you in and many thanks to those who helped to collect!), a street collection by Bunbury Scouts one Saturday morning outside the Co-op and the Church collection on Remembrance Sunday.

It also included several independent donations and the money raised through the sale of Poppy wreaths for the various organisations in the village and laid at the War Memorial on the Church gates on Remembrance Sunday. This amount has been sent to the National HQ of the RBL and will help to provide important, life-changing support for individuals and families in our Armed Forces Community. Thank you once again for your invaluable support. Mairi Harris, Poppy Appeal Organiser, RBL Bunbury branch.

# Bunbury Medical

## Practice news: February

As this is the first edition of the year, may we take this opportunity of wishing you a healthy and happy 2023.

### Staff Update

In mid-January, Dr Caroline Hickley returned to Bunbury Medical Practice following her maternity leave, whilst Dr Ruth Pollard started her maternity leave with her baby due this month.

Our nursing team has been joined by Nurse Practitioner, Ruth Thomas. Ruth previously worked as community matron with our local Community Care Team and continues to work with Hospital at Home.

We have a new receptionist; Caroline McAvoy has joined our team in reception.

### February is National Heart Month

NHS England are offering patients who have been identified as having heart problems, the opportunity to attend a healthy heart clinic, which is to be held locally at the Barbour Institute in Tattenhall. This is a 12 week exercise intervention programme with classes each Tuesday at 10.30am for one hour. The class is free and run by Healthbox; sessions are delivered by experienced instructors from the British Association for Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation

Patients who are eligible will receive a letter or text from Bunbury Medical Practice. The letter or text will include instructions on how to book a place; there is no need to contact the surgery.

It is hoped that this programme, which is delivered in a relaxed setting will help patients to become fitter and healthier, as well as providing an opportunity to meet new people.

### Triage Update

Every week day, triage appointments are available for acute medical problems which require a same day appointment. An acute medical problem is a sudden onset of symptoms, for example an unwell child, chest infection, urinary tract infection and cellulitis, to name a few.

We have extended the time slot for when patients can call the surgery for a triage appointment, to between 8am and 11am.

If you are calling after 11am, our reception staff will give you options for alternative urgent care.

Please be aware that the A&E departments at our two local hospitals (Countess of Chester and Leighton) are phenomenally busy and both hospitals have requested that patients do not attend unless a problem is life-threatening.

### Musculoskeletal Problems

We have two First Contact Physiotherapists working at Bunbury, over five half days per week.

Ruth Court and Helen Thompson are musculoskeletal experts who will help patients who are experiencing pain affecting bones, muscles, ligaments and tendons. They will assess issues and can refer on for further investigations, such as x-ray/MRI, or an orthopaedic opinion as appropriate.

Patients can book appointments directly with Ruth or Helen without the need to speak to one of our GPs.

As it is National Heart Month, we thought it would be relevant to provide a reminder of where defibrillators are situated around the village.

There is one in the surgery, but if the surgery is shut, defibrillators are located:

- On the wall of the Village Hall, Bunbury
- On the wall of Pavilion building, Bunbury

Both of these are registered with The Circuit which is the British Heart Foundation's defibrillator network and linked to the ambulance service, so if calling 999, the ambulance service will be able to inform callers of their nearest defibrillator.

There is also a defibrillator located inside The Dysart Arms but this one is only available during pub opening times.

The British Heart Foundation is trying to raise awareness of how to provide basic intervention if someone collapses; this includes how to use a defibrillator. Videos and resources can be accessed by visiting their website at [www.bhf.org.uk](http://www.bhf.org.uk)



# Bob Beese

Bob Beese lived in School Lane with his mother Jessie. Jessie died at the age of 104 and sadly Bob died very soon after. They were an indomitable pair. Bob was a huge character and will be missed by all those who knew him.

Life began for Robert Beese in February 1941 in Stockton on Tees, to mum Jessie and dad Norman, becoming an older brother to Pat.

After school Bob worked in a paint factory for about a year before he enrolled with the Fleet Air Arm in September 1965, serving in Singapore, Hong Kong and other locations until 1972. His service experience served Bob well for he went on to later become a commercial airline pilot for Dan Air.

Bob was always passionate about flying, even taking to the skies in his micro-light at the grand age of 78, just 3 years ago. Whilst Bob was an incredibly skilled pilot, he was also very humble, never bragging about his ability to drop a fighter jet onto an aircraft carrier. Bob will always be remembered by his neighbours Mike and Janet Thomas for wearing his blue baseball cap acquired during his time seconded to the US Navy with the United States Aircraft Carrier logo on.

Bob loved classical music, owning multiple copies of the same piece of music played by different orchestras with different conductors. He was also passionate about motorbikes and loved making the annual trips to the Isle of Man for the TT Races - something he did for nearly thirty years. Neighbours Anne and Neil remember that Bob's packing list for the trip ran to 12 pages and it took him weeks to get everything into the van...made particularly troublesome the year he left his bike in gear! Bob was also a huge fan of reading, interested in a wide and diverse range of subjects and always well informed when it came to politics or current affairs. This of course led to some incredibly diverse and interesting conversations with friends and family.

Outside of his family and his hobbies, Bob was also incredibly sociable and had a huge circle of friends whom he enjoyed spending time with – friends who were equally fond of him and his company. Bob always appreciated the many Christmas cards he received every year and always thought that because people had gone to the kindness of sending them, he should leave them up all year to show his appreciation.

Bob had also made good friends with the neighbours he and Jessie lived so happily alongside for many years. They all enjoyed just chatting together, especially the outdoor "committee meetings" around a blazing brazier during dark, cold covid nights. Bob enjoyed many years spent living with his mum and they cared for each other incredibly well, taking themselves out for a walk almost every day, sometimes in the car, even if they could only manage a few hundred yards.

Bob was an absolute one off, someone who was a real individual and wasn't ever interested in what other people thought of him. Bob was incredibly loyal, to the family he loved and the friends who meant so much to him, someone you could depend on and trust. He had the courage to just be himself, unashamedly unique, but caring and kind, as well as engaging and interesting. He was so much fun, but also someone who could have the most passionate and meaningful conversations. He was in short, a man who was quite unlike anyone else, and he will be very sadly missed by everyone who shared his life with him.

Her will be greatly missed by his daughter Jane and the rest of the family.



# Eileen Rogers

Eileen was born on June 4th 1933, at The Steps, the black and white house at the heart of Bunbury, when it was still three small cottages. She was the second of four children of Joe and Edith Vickers, after her older sister Diana and followed by brother Miles and youngest sister Doris. Eileen loved her childhood in Bunbury and always spoke of her mum and dad with great pride. Joe was an engine driver on steam trains, and he would cycle to work at Crewe every day, while Edith was at home looking after the children. Her mum kept the house immaculate, and Eileen always vowed never to be that house proud - she wasn't! To the very end there was no place like Bunbury for her, and although she spent 66 years married and living in Haughton she has always talked about wanting to move back home. She would frequently say that the best thing about Haughton was the road to Bunbury!

After leaving Bunbury girls school Eileen took a job working in the Co-op (now Tilly's cafe) which was perfect for her as she always loved meeting people. It was here that her head was turned by a handsome young tearaway who would ride his motorbike flat out through the village; Derek Rogers, the milkman's son from Haughton. Eileen always loved music, especially going to the dances in the village hall, and despite Derek being much less keen on dancing their romance blossomed and they were married in 1956 at Bunbury church. After a short honeymoon in Rhyl she "emigrated" to Haughton where they bought St Elmo, next door to Derek's parents, and lived there for their entire married life.

In the early days at St Elmo they were joined by Tom and Margaret Dawson who were also newly married, and they remained lifelong friends. It wasn't long before they had their son David, followed by their three daughters Ann, Hazel and Linda. And just in case there is anyone here who she forgot to tell, Linda was only 2lb2oz when she was born and went below 2lb! Eileen would push the children in the pram to Bunbury to see her parents, and in later years would dress them up to take part in the village day parades even though they were not always keen on the idea! She was a loving mum and her children always knew that if they needed her day or night she would be there, even at 2am if they needed picking up from a party! In later life Eileen loved spending time with her 6 grandchildren and was a wonderful nana to them all. For her, family came before anything, and she would have given her last penny to any of them. Their house was always open to visitors, and whether she knew you or not, nobody ever came to St Elmo without being offered a cup of tea or a bacon butty.

Married life was very busy for Derek and Eileen, who were always a very hard working couple. Alongside the haulage

business they ran a milk round for many years, which Eileen loved working on, especially getting to speak to so many people. In the early days she helped looking after the animals and it's hard to imagine, but she would even drive the van and trailer to Beeston Market when they were selling pigs.

When they sold the milk round, Eileen took a job working at Mrs Harper's paper shop in Tattenhall and later worked in the paper shop in Bunbury, and finally the Co-op in its current location. Again, she loved these jobs as she got to talk to lots of people she knew. Even after she retired, and until just a few years ago, she would still drive to Bunbury up to four times a day to visit the Co-op for bits of shopping - but mainly just to see who was around for a chat!

Derek and Eileen were lucky to have a lot of good friends, and Eileen was known to enjoy the occasional whisky and lemonade at the Crewe Arms or the Nag's at Haughton with many of them. Eileen loved to go away on holiday, and she and Derek enjoyed many happy times with Mick and Val touring the southwest coast after visiting the Dorset Steam fair, where she once ended up on stage with Acker Bilk, playing the monkey stick! Her love of music led Eileen to buy a drum kit in her mid 60s which only tended to see use at some of the legendary parties at St Elmo. Most memorably she joined the band at their golden wedding anniversary to play the drums but managed to fall backwards off the stool halfway through playing!

In her final years Eileen suffered with dementia, which took away some of her true identity, but we will all remember her from before her illness. She was a loving and loyal wife and mother, sister and nana, auntie and friend to us all. Eileen was without doubt one of the kindest and most generous people you would ever meet. May she rest in peace.



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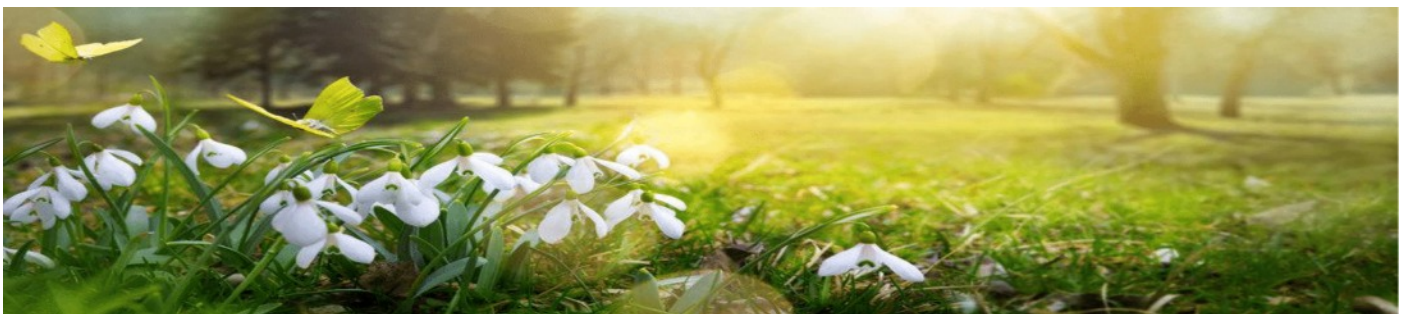
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