

Link

For the parishes of Bunbury & Tilstone Fearnall



May
2012

I prayed for twenty years but received no answer until I prayed with my legs Frederick Douglass

Young Christians explore Easter meaning



Over the past half term, YCs has been exploring the meaning of Easter, from Jesus' temptation in the wilderness through to his crucifixion and resurrection. By exploring what tempts them, they have shared communion and got very messy making hand print palm leaves! At each step of the journey, something artistic was created to add to a huge canvas shown here. The board will be in St Boniface for the next few weeks for anyone to take a closer look.



04

Churchwarden Walter
Done stands down



05

Bunbury gets the
keys to the Mill



07

The meaning of
Pentecost

Who we are

Until a new vicar is appointed, please call readers Peter & Kath Collinge for pastoral support on 01829 260077 or the churchwardens for all general enquiries (details below).

St Boniface

Churchwardens

Neil Dewson-Smyth 261680

Walter Done 01244 332563

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Kim Beswick 07847 608365

Secretary

Colin Stanyer 07791 869674

Organist

Andrew Dean 261222

Treasurer

John Mason 733971

Flowers

Margaret Bourne 260944

St Jude's

Churchwardens

Brigid Sayce 260865

Elizabeth Marren 01270 528556

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Vacancy

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Calveley

Churchwardens

Neil Dewson-Smyth 261680

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Organist

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The Link

We are always happy to get calls/ emails about The Link. Please contact us if you would like to advertise your business, or if you want to send us your news, views and pictures.

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You can also read The Link online by logging on to www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk

Community news

We welcome **James John Meddings**, son of **Susi and John Meddings**, baptised at St Boniface on Saturday 31 March.



Also welcomed into the church are **Charles Vincent Henry Every** (pictured below), son of **Adele and Jonathan Every**, baptised in a private service on Saturday 14 April,



and **Hayden James Bevan**, son of **Jacqui and Ian Bevan** (pictured right) baptised at St Boniface on Sunday 25 March.



The Revd **Timothy Atkins**, vicar of Bunbury from 1963-1987, celebrates his 90th birthday on 20 May. Now living in Lancashire, in spite of a stroke, he is still able to complete "The Times" crossword each day!

On Saturday 19 May the **Duchess of Sutherland** will pass through Bunbury on her way from Crewe to Holyhead. Sporting her new green livery, the engine will depart from Crewe at 10:55 and steam through Bunbury at around 11:05. Later on, the 'Welsh Dragon' will return to Crewe for 19:10, passing through Bunbury a second time at around 19:00.



This month at the **Gardening Club**, Jane Allison will be hosting a night dedicated to 'Variations on a theme'. The meeting will be held at the village hall at 8pm on Tuesday 15 May. For more details please call 01829 261163.

The **Haberdashers** will be visiting Bunbury School on Tuesday 22 May from London as part of their annual visit to the area.

Week beginning Monday 28 May, **Bunbury Primary School** will host a 'Commonwealth Week' in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in which they will look at the 60 years of her reign and study some of the Commonwealth countries, finishing with their very own street party on Friday 1 June.

Christian Aid Week is 13-19 May. Christian Aid is a charity dedicated to 'helping people living in poverty out of poverty'. Contributions can be made using the envelopes, given to Jill at 1 Manor Cottages, School Lane or made online at www.caweek.org.

The Ascension Day walk will be held on Thursday 17 May. Meet at 7pm in the Peckforton Castle car park.

Bunbury Singers' Celebration Concert to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee will be held on Friday 1 June at 7.30pm in the Jessie Hughes Village Hall at Eaton with as special guests the Eaton Primary School Choir.

Alex Staniforth, a sixth form student at Tarporley High School, will carry the Olympic Torch through Chester on the 29 May. Starting at 5.45pm, the torch will travel through the city before arriving at the Racecourse celebration at 6.50pm.

St Luke's Hospice are calling for midnight walkers as the number of registrations for their annual **Midnight Walk** have dropped by half, meaning the hospice could lose the £250,000 the walk brings in on average. This money is extremely important in offering treatment and improving the facilities of the hospice. If you wish to take part, the walk takes place on Saturday 9 June and registration is £15, which includes a T-shirt, breakfast, toilets and the cost of policing. More information is available at: www.midnightwalk.co.uk or by calling Jane Thompson on 01606 555688.

Congratulations to Tarporley High Sixth Form student **Ellie Carr**, who has been invited to interview for a place on this year's 'Young Apprentice'!

The **copy deadline** for the June issue of the Link is Wednesday 9 May and the magazine will be in church on Friday 25 May.

A few dates for your diary

Ascension Day walk to Stanner Nab - Peckforton Castle car park on Thursday 17 May at 7pm

Bunbury Singers concert - Jessie Hughes village hall, Eaton, Friday 1 June at 7.30pm

Beacon lighting - St Boniface church on Monday 4 June at 10pm

A family confirmation

Emily and Lizzie Sanders, daughters of Nick and Alex Sanders of Bunbury, were confirmed by the Rt Revd Geoffrey Turner at St Oswalds Malpas on Sunday 25 March. Both girls were prepared for confirmation and presented to the Bishop by Revd Alex, who is Curate at St Helens Tarporley, and officiating priest at St Oswalds Worleston.

Emily (pictured centre, just to the left of Bishop Geoffrey) works for Handpicked Hotels as their HR Assistant based at Rookery Hall and is getting married in September this year in Bunbury. Lizzie (pictured to the right, next to Alex) is her Chief Bridesmaid, and also works for Handpicked Hotels as one of their Wedding and Conference Co-ordinators at Wood Hall Hotel, in North Yorkshire. Both girls had a lovely day, and managed to persuade their parents to take them out for a celebration lunch after the service!



Church diary for May (and first week of June)

Wednesday 2 May	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	<div>Sunday 20 May</div> <div> 8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Morning Prayer 10.00am Family Worship 11.00am Family Worship </div> <div>St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley</div>
Sunday 6 May	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Jude's St Boniface Calveley	
Wednesday 9 May	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	
Sunday 13 May	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion 6.00pm Evensong	St Jude's St Boniface Calveley St Boniface	
Wednesday 16 May	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	
Wednesday 23 May	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	
Sunday 27 May Whit Sunday	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Holy Communion	St Jude's St Boniface	<div>Sunday 3 June</div> <div> 9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion </div> <div>St Jude's St Boniface Calveley</div>
Wednesday 30 May	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	

Our prayers for May

We pray for **Claire Edge** who is still being treated for multiple fractures after a road accident. We pray for her family and that it will soon be possible for her to come home. We continue to pray for Bunbury School Deputy Head **Nicola Badger** and **Nicola Howbrigg** (conductor of the Christmas choir) and anyone else who is unwell. We pray for everyone who is mourning a loved one. We pray for the application process that is underway for the post of vicar of this parish. We also send our prayers to all **students** who will be taking SATs, GCSEs and A-Levels this May and June.

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Major Cruttock's cookery page

Savoury cheese and mustard scones

With any luck winter is behind us and we can look forward to a warm and sunny few months. One of the many pleasures that the Major and I share is eating in the garden under the pergola. Whether it is lunch or tea, these savoury scones will tickle your fancy. They are lovely eaten slightly warm with a salad lunch, or with butter and a cup of tea later in the afternoon. The Major even likes them for breakfast with some fresh fruit juice and a poached egg.

Don't forget to
say Grace

Come Lord Jesus

Be our guest

Let this food to us be
blessed.

Amen

Ingredients

8oz plain flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon baking powder
1 tablespoon sugar
3 oz cold butter, cut into pieces
2 large eggs, beaten
2 1/2 oz cream or sour cream
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
4 oz grated strong cheddar cheese
3-5 spring/salad onions, chopped

How to prepare them

Preheat oven to 190°C.

Sift together the flour, salt, sugar, and baking powder. Rub in the butter with your fingers.

Mix together the eggs, cream, and mustard. Add this to the dry ingredients. Stir in the grated cheese and the salad onions. Mix just until combined. Liberally flour the work surface and your hands. Pat the dough to 1" thickness and cut dough with 2" biscuit cutter. (You can also shape these into traditional scone triangular shapes by patting the dough into a 6x9" rectangle, about 1" thick. Cut the rectangle into 6 smaller rectangles, and cut each smaller rectangle into two triangles, forming 12 triangular scones.) Place the scones on a well-greased, or parchment covered, baking sheet.

Bake for 12 minutes, or until nicely browned and a toothpick inserted into a scone comes out dry. Resist them if you can...!

A tribute to Walter Done as he stands down as churchwarden



Barbara Croley writes:

"Our paths first crossed when Walter said to me, 'You would be better off in the choir than the congregation'".

Several years later, when we both stood for election as Wardens, and we worked very well together.

It was often said: *what does Walter do?* Apart from at services, we hardly ever see him. My reply was always the same: I deal with the people as I live nearer to the church, and Walter deals with the doorstep. By that I mean the doorstep of

paperwork that goes with being a Churchwarden. Under Walter's steady hand, St Boniface has gained two new rooms for meetings and for the children's Sunday School, an inside toilet, a much better organised burial ground and a beautiful Baptistry. There are so many things that have been done in Walter's time, along with help from other members. Many may not have seen it Walter's way at first, but in truth all that has been done works well. He will be missed at Beeston with his Bottle Tombola.

Walter meets many of the 'officials' at Church House, but without the help of his devoted secretary (his wife Judy), email going to the Done household would be lost. I understand, however, he can now at least open the computer...

We wish you both a very happy retirement - believe me Walter and Judy...it's great!"



And the wine to go with them

As the Major has quite rightly highlighted, a cup of tea is often the right and proper accompaniment to a scone, however as this scone is of the savoury variety it does not mean we could not have a wee 'snifter' to wash it down.

I would almost certainly go for the like-for-like pairing of wine in this case, and there are plenty of whites and reds that exhibit savoury notes.

Looking first at the whites, an unoaked chardonnay or pinot grigio would be on the money or look out for a chenin blanc which originates in the Loire Valley, France but has found a fantastic second home in South Africa where a yeasty, more savoury and certainly more economical variety is widely available.

On the red front, both pinot noir and cabernet sauvignon, two of the great noble varieties can display savoury notes, but do read the label or ask in a wine shop as some will not be as suitable.

For something quite different but very British why not try a fino or Manzanilla sherry - I know my grandmother would have.

Cheers!

Greg Williams, Dysart Arms

Bunbury gets the keys to the mill



Celebrations have been underway in Bunbury at the completion of negotiations with United Utilities for the transfer of ownership of the Bunbury Mill to the Bunbury Watermill Trust.

The Grade II listed Bunbury Mill is believed to date back to 1844. The site has been used for corn milling since 1290 and the mill once supplied Chester with flour, delivered to bakeries in the city by horse and cart.

After being close to demolition in 1966, it was restored to working order by North West Water, now United Utilities, in 1977. Much of the equipment dates back to the mid nineteenth century.

Bunbury mill is one of the few remaining watermills in the region capable of grinding wheat to food standard flour. It later manufactured animal feedstuff until 1960 when it was destroyed by a flood.

The mill operated as a museum and educational facility with fully working machinery until 2010 when it was closed as a cost-saving measure. Volunteers continued to tend to the mill's grounds and keep the equipment in working order.



Standing (l-r): Ken Buchanan, Steve Coxsey, Tom Gilchrist, Chris Matthews, Peter Styles, Alison Black, David Kendrick, Michael Thomas.
Seated: Neil Brierley, Ernest Croley

Chris Matthews, head of sustainability at United Utilities, said: "We were always keen for the watermill to be preserved and it's a great honour to pass on the ownership of the mill to the very safe hands of the Bunbury Watermill Trust."

Ernest Croley, chairman of Bunbury Watermill Trust, said: "We believe the mill has important historic and educational value for both the immediate local community and the wider region. We will now be able to deliver lessons in the dedicated museum and classroom on the history of mills and breadmaking."

Bunbury Y8s exceed their charity target

Four former Bunbury School classmates have already passed the charity target they set themselves before Christmas. Zoe Green, Eilidh Bodfish, Rachel Overy and Frances Munro, all 13, decided to raise £1000 for the Whizzkids charity, which provides customised electric wheelchairs for disabled children. They were inspired by their friend Jenny, whose wheelchair was provided by the charity. The girls raised a fantastic £750 carol singing door-to-door and at a private party at Christmas, and in March they organised a cake sale at Bunbury Pavilion - enjoyed particularly by hungry Saturday morning footballers and their parents. The girls have also given talks to Bunbury cubs and Guides and are planning further fundraising to help them beat their new target of £1,500.



Pictured l-r: Eilidh Bodfish, Zoe Green, Rachel Overy and Frances Munro



Eric Wallington

Reader Emeritus

Thought of the month

In the 1914 War, so the story goes, an officer sent a message to the next army group: 'Send reinforcements, we're going to advance!' It was passed from soldier to soldier down the trenches and to the puzzlement of those who eventually received it, the message ended up: 'Send three and fourpence, we're going to a dance!'

Many of us have played 'Chinese Whispers', where you sit in a circle far enough apart not to be able to hear the person next to your immediate neighbour. The leader whispers to the person next to them a message and, in turn, this is whispered to the next person and so on. Once the message is misheard, absurd distortions can result by the time the last person completes the circle of transmission. The game illustrates the need for clarity when passing a message and, in

a game, messages are sometimes deliberately gabbled or distorted. I know - I've done it myself!

Jesus called his disciples to pass on the message of God's love to others. Being a Christian is rather like taking part in a worldwide game of Chinese Whispers, as we are called upon to pass on to others the message and truth of God's love - but we don't have to whisper!

Pentecost, the birthday of the church, which we celebrate later this month, is about the colossal growth of the Christian community around the world, especially in Africa, America and China. But it's also about you and me. We are called upon to gossip the gospel - the good news of the love of Jesus Christ. Like Chinese Whispers, the word will get around if we're willing to let God's spirit speak through us.



The Great Debate: Do church traditions enable or stifle our relationship with God? A response to last month's position

When Terry Waite was held hostage in Lebanon, he learned the value of tradition. He knew the communion service so well that he was able to conduct it without access to the prayer book he was denied. He told of the comfort and the power this gave him.

I suggest this is one of the best reasons for having formality and tradition within church services: once we become acquainted with a mode of worship we can find a comfort in its familiarity, we can be part of a universal experience, and (hopefully, as this is one of the main reasons for worship) we can sense God more directly. Through ritual we can connect to our spiritual side and leave behind our everyday trials and tribulations which can get in the way of our relationship with God.

I appreciate that it is unreasonable to expect everyone to get such an experience straight away: first you need to become acquainted with

what's going on and why. This should not come as a surprise: we see this in many, if not most, of our experiences – particularly those which, like worship, have depth and meaning to them. You may enjoy going to the theatre, a concert, or even a football match without understanding fully what is going on, but you can appreciate such events so much more when you understand the context, the musical styles or the laws of the game.

What churches must do is ensure that newcomers not yet accustomed to their services do not feel alienated but have the proceedings explained clearly. Churches should nurture an atmosphere in which it doesn't matter if you are standing when you should be sitting or vice versa. But what they should not do is throw out tradition in the hope of becoming more appealing to everyone. This would be seeking to make a church service like any other entertainment, which it's not: it's our opportunity to worship the Almighty.



Pat Edgley

Reader

Watering our land

A hosepipe ban is in force in some parts of the country.

The winter rains failed, aquifers are low and sparkling streams contracted into fetid pools where wild life struggles and dies, threatening to wipe out delicate aquatic species.

Farming is under pressure from drought, whilst each year more land is sold off for housing, and there are more mouths to feed.

In Cheshire we are usually blessed with enough water and more. But we must not take it for granted.

Now is the season of Rogation when farmers traditionally come to Church to ask God's blessing on their new crops and young

livestock in anticipation of the autumn harvest, all of which would be impossible without the life giving water supply.

Almighty God,

**By whose blessing the earth brings forth abundantly
All that is needful for the life of your people;**

**We ask your blessing on the sowing of the seed
and the labours of those who work on the land,**

**That the earth may yield its full harvest
And the needs of all the world may be supplied,**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Pentecost - the birthday of the church



Pentecost took place on the well established Jewish festival of Firstfruits (Shavu'ot), observed at the beginning of the wheat

harvest, 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told his apostles that something was going to happen, and that they were to wait in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for his apostles, but he knew they could not do the work without his help.

The apostles and disciples waited in Jerusalem, praying together for several days. One morning there was the sound of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues - to the astonishment of those who heard them.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the apostles and disciples of Jesus: and the

Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, he could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

St Jude's news

The spring season is the time for our annual Vestry and PCC meetings. It is pleasing to report that all members have agreed to continue in their present positions, the Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Church Wardens and PCC members for which the rest of the congregation are truly grateful. There was one sad note, however: our very efficient Secretary Ann Posnett feels that she cannot carry on as our Secretary due to a spot of poor health, so it's a big thank you Ann for all your hard work, and we all wish and pray that you will soon be fit and well again.



Looking back over the past year it has been a reasonably successful year thanks to the support and hard work of everybody involved with the church, as well as our wonderful support network of retired priests that enable the services to continue on a weekly basis. We hope that our new incumbent further supports and nurtures these relationships



enabling the continued warm welcome and fellowship that all visitors receive at St Jude's.

A notable first this year was the coffee morning that we held on behalf of the Children's Society. This, I am pleased to say, was a great success and everybody enjoyed themselves as you can see from the photographs here.

Congratulations are due to Celia Evens - Past Chairman, Treasurer and long (very) time member of Tilstone Fearnall WI - who has reached the venerable age of ?? (come now, you know a gentleman never reveals a lady's age). Many happy returns Celia!

Bob Gardner

A few messages received recently that show how St Boniface touches the lives of those who come into contact with us:

"We have had two lovely days visiting the church and the village. The children were enthralled with the church both inside and out. They were fascinated by so many things and asked some great questions. We had a pretend baptism and Lily and Kyle had a practise wedding! They loved matching the kneelers to the angels near the roof. We had a great time and quietly I think they learnt such a lot, especially as many of them had not visited a church before. Hope we can do it again next year." Anne James, Y1 primary school teacher in Crewe

"As a family, we would like to thank all church members who helped in any way on 30 November 2011 when we brought Norman [Woodward] home to rest. Everyone's love and care touched us all. Please accept this donation for the church organ fund in his memory. God bless you all." Heather Woodward & family

Forward to the ancient future

Ever thought about doing a pilgrimage? It's now possible to step on to a newly revived medieval pilgrimage route right here in Bunbury. The inaugural group of 12 pilgrims visited St Boniface on the first full day of the seven-day, 88-mile long route. Led by David Pott who has been the inspiration and organiser of the project, the pilgrims had walked along the canal from Waverton, visiting Beeston Castle on the way, and were very appreciative of Carolyn Johnson's parsnip soup and John Ellis's guided tour of the church. David had been inspired by the legend of a Mercian king, Wulphere, whose sons became Christians. He had had them put to death in a fit of pique and then in remorse erected a monument of stones over their burial place – for which Stone, David's home town, is named. Further research led him to set up the pilgrimage route and name it in honour of St Werburgh and St Chad, two Saxon saints who brought Christianity to Mercia from Northumbria in the seventh century, and for whom shrines are named in Chester (cathedral) and Lichfield respectively –



the two ends of the route, which can be walked in either direction. also passes through Stoke, Stafford and Stone.

Medieval pilgrims used to visit shrines for healing but today people make pilgrimages for diverse reasons, often encompassing wider spiritual themes or as a personal journey of discovery. The Two Saints Way is being marked with route markers and interpretation panels outside important monuments, and has Anglo-Saxon history as a strong theme. To finance the signage and project costs, people and organisations have been invited to sponsor-a-mile for £1,000, to reach the estimated total cost of £88,000 for the whole route – so far 37 miles have been sponsored.

Anyone can walk any part of the route at any time but those on the whole route will have resources available such as a meditation guide, or may be able to join a guided group such as this one. The 12 pilgrims and a few extras set off on their way towards Bunbury Mill and Nantwich after lunch, singing an African spiritual after a few moments in prayer in the bright sunshine outside St Boniface.

www.twosaintsaway.org.uk



God tweets!

A selection of 'tweets' relating to God, the church and faith:

"An inflated sense of self-importance deflects us from the inner peace and happiness we seek and affects those around us negatively." Dalai Lama

"Washed the feet of 12 people at York Minster service. Treated to hot cross buns afterwards!" Archbishop John Sentamu

"VAT petition hits 12,000. If just 10 people in each church sign, it will hit 125,000." Church of England

And a few anonymous ones...

"God is ready to accept us as we are; when we're ready to accept Him as He is. And He is able to make us what we should be."

"God doesn't give us the people we want, but the people we need. To teach, hurt, love and make us exactly the way we should be."

"God has no phone, but I still talk to him, God has no Facebook but he's still my friend, God has no Twitter, but I still follow him."

A new website for Bunbury's young people

Youth worker, Kim Beswick, has set up a new section on the St Boniface website covering Youth and Children's work. The site has a section describing all of the youth groups in Bunbury, and contains news and details of forthcoming events. To access the site, go to the website:

www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk and follow the link **Youth and Children's Work**.

Our Young Christians were also busy leading up to Easter designing and creating their Easter bonnets. Here you can see some of the fantastic results!



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