



### Introducing the St.Boniface PCC



Ever wondered who makes the decisions about the running of St.Boniface? This picture shows Rick surrounded most of the current Parochial Church Council members at their recent brainstorming session at Wistaston Hall where subjects as diverse as floodlights, Saturday breakfasts and Songs of Praise (see p3) were discussed at length, as ways to move the church forward in the community. Three main new initiatives were agreed on for the year ahead: to establish a 'Welcome Ministry' and House Groups and to arrange a parish weekend away. Look out for more details in the coming months.

### Please help Ukranian orphans this Lent

In Senegal there are over 100 children who can now go to school because of your generosity last Lent. The money you saved in jars of grace and by giving up treats (maybe wine or cake?) totalled £650. This year we will again have the Big Purple Box at the back of church for your donations and I hope we can again make a significant contribution to an organisation so much more needy than ourselves. This year we have chosen to donate to a Ukranian orphanage with a school attached, desperately in need of funds. The staff, living in poverty themselves, nevertheless run a soup kitchen for destitute young adults. Through Judy Done, our contact with the orphanage, we will receive a breakdown of how our money is used.

The latest Gameboy or trainers may be a 'must' for our children: a hug or cuddle is just as important for these children.

**Barbara Croley**

Can we beat last year's total? Any contributions gratefully received.

#### Contents

- Counting the cost 3
- Avocado pancake? 3
- Youth News 4
- Giving Service and lunch 5
- Bob Mosford is 100 5
- Fangtastic! 6
- Project Rhino 8
- Is God a stone? 9
- Margaret Oldman 10

### The snows of 2007



How did you fare in the famous snows of February? Did you spot this suspicious white figure who appeared fleetingly at St.Boniface? Two DVD players went missing from church around the same time - could there any connection we wonder? Thanks to Andy Fairclough for the photo which may be used as evidence! More photos page 7.

For an early celebration of Mothering Sunday, Bunbury Guides invite friends to join them on a

(Ladies-only, sorry chaps!)

#### Crocus Walk

March 11<sup>th</sup>, starting from 11am Bunbury Scout Hut

Refreshments and raffle after the walk.

Any interested female walkers are most welcome. All walkers will be asked to make a small donation towards Breast Cancer Care

This is part of a national campaign.

### Mothering Sunday 18th March

## In like a lion and out like a lamb

March, says the old proverb, 'comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb'. There can be cold, even vicious, days any time during this month but these can be tolerated as we are conscious that spring really is on the way. Every new March day brings promise of far better things to come. The primroses are out and the first violets appear. Many a Welshman will pluck a fresh daffodil to wear as a buttonhole to celebrate St. Davids day on 1st March, a much welcomed tradition, as their forefathers were accustomed to wear a leek! The seasons are definitely changing and it is difficult to predict what will be flowering, as the winter continues to remain mild. Geraniums have been flowering outside all winter and some sheltered daffodils have been seen flowering in January. March also makes you think of the spring

lambs frolicking in the fields and the song of the skylark which sings to welcome the spring.

Many other birds also start to come into fuller song after the cold winter months. Whilst most birds are more evident in the spring, the starlings will become less noticeable. This is part of their natural cycle as they gradually start to migrate back north to their breeding areas. Most starlings are resident, but large numbers of migrants arrive from Scandinavia and Poland in late autumn boosting the winter population of starlings in the British Isles to many millions. I was told about a starling roosting site in Bathwood, Spurstow. Curious to see this gathering, I arrived before dusk and eagerly scanned the skies waiting for the birds to arrive. I never expected to witness

such a fantastic display, but as small flocks began to appear from all directions, they linked together and the flocks got larger and more numerous until a huge flock of thousands darkened the sky. I expect some of you will have watched the advert on ITV which was filmed for one of Bill Oddie's programmes showing the starlings in synchronised flight formation, swooping and creating spectacular shapes in the sky. The advert is impressive, but to see such a display in real life is ten times more exciting, although I did have to risk being bombed by droppings. The birds have an arrowhead profile and fly in tight formation fast and direct as if on an aerial avian race track. Round and round they circled until suddenly they all flew down to land in the leylandii like harrier aircraft. Starlings have the reputation for being one of the noisiest and most gregarious of birds and I could certainly see why, as the medley of twitters, clicks and whistles was fairly raucous before they all settled down. Although they all land together, they fly off singly or in small groups in the morning to spend the day searching for insects, worms, snails or berries.

**Liz Jones**

The Reverend <b>RICK GATES</b> The Vicarage, Bunbury			01829 260991
Rick's e-mail: Rick@prayer.fsnet.co.uk			
The Reverend Jane Stephenson (parish curate)			250249
Peter and Kath Collinge (pastoral support)			260077
<b>St. Boniface</b>			
Churchwardens:	Barbara Croley		260344
	Nick Sanders		262494
Youth Worker	Johnny Gillett	office	733563
		mobile	07843 428842
Secretary	Neil Dewson-Smyth		261680
Flowers	Margaret Bourne		260944
<b>St. Jude's</b>			
Churchwardens:	Bob Gardner		260555
	Linda Downey		732017
Secretary	Carolyn Johnson		260703
Organist	Ann Badrock		260343
<b>Calveley</b>			
Churchwardens:	Barbara Croley		260344
	Nick Sanders		262494
Organist	John Batchelor		261056
Secretary	Sue Woodward		01270 522822

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## Counting the cost

Jesus asked his disciples, "Which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' " (St Luke 14, 28-30)

'Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen nineteen-six, result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds ought and six, result misery.' That was the wisdom of Mr Micawber in 'David Copperfield'. It's believed that Charles Dickens based the character on his own father. Many of us today in this country in the black on this kind of balance sheet and know little of the struggle of those who live constantly in fear of going uncontrollably into the red. It was the same in the unequal society of Jesus's time; some people had to stand all day in the market place, waiting for someone to hire them; some could afford to build themselves expensive towers to protect

their property. But woe to the man who lived in the Micawber poverty-trap – the man who thought he could build a tower but ran out of cash when the tower was only half-built, because he'd failed to do his sums.

In Jesus's time, just like today, a person's value was measured by what he owned. There's nothing new in materialism. But people matter much more than things and relationships matter most of all – 'Money can't buy me love'! Jesus told the story of the half-finished tower to make us laugh at our own materialism, and then ask the question, 'What is the cost of Christian discipleship?'

How much does it cost us, not just in money, but in time and effort, to seek to follow Jesus? Jesus gave up everything to come to us, and it cost him his life. He calls us to follow him and he does warn us that this will mean taking up our cross. Maybe that won't mean dying for Jesus, but it'll certainly mean living for him.

**Eric Wallington**

## Agape meal at St.Boniface: an avocado pancake?

The first question which I suspect will cross your mind is 'What on earth is an Agape meal? Is it a sort of avocado pancake?' Well, no. Agape is an ancient Greek word meaning love. The term was used by the early Christians to refer to their special love for God and God's love for humanity, as well as the self-sacrificing love they believed all should have for each other.

Early Christians often combined worship with the sharing of a meal and a tradition developed of the Agape meal (or more literally 'Love Feast') as Christian fellowship meal recalling the meals Jesus shared with disciples during his ministry and expressing the community, sharing and fellowship enjoyed by the family of Christ.



**Pictured here is the impressive chalice and paten hand-turned and donated to St.Boniface by Ted Fowles.**

At St Boniface we have an Agape meal together on the evening of Maundy Thursday, the Thursday before Easter Day – this year on 5<sup>th</sup> April. It is a magical event held in the nave of the church itself, which is a bit like eating in the main dining hall of Hogwarts. There is a great sense of being together, doing something special, with plenty of delicious food and excellent company, culminating in a simple communion together for those who wish.

We would love more people to come and experience this really special event – there will be a notice at the back of the church about two weeks beforehand with more information, or just call Rick or one of the wardens.

**Nick Sanders**

## Songs of Praise - your chance to choose

Planning is now underway for our very own Songs of Praise at St Boniface. This is **your** chance to choose and sing your favourite hymns in our glorious parish church. We are hoping that this special service will take place in April so we would like to hear from you as soon as possible with your suggestions for your favourite hymn, traditional or modern.

You can e-mail your suggestions to **songsofpraise@btinternet.com**, give a list to Rick or the churchwardens at Sunday service, or drop a note in to:

Nick Sanders, Woodstock, Hill Close, Bunbury (off Bunbury Lane)

Please include your name and if possible a sentence or two about why you love your chosen hymns – perhaps you could also say if you would be interested in introducing your hymn at the Songs of Praise itself.

Full details of the service will be published in the next Link, but please get thinking about which hymns you would want included.

**Nick Sanders**

## Good job that man!



Many thanks to Ernest Croley for the clever reconstruction of the collecting box at St.Boniface, shattered by vandals on Christmas Day.

## What is 4TC?

This group started in 2004 when the young people who were being confirmed wanted to carry on meeting together. It was called 4TC to mean 'For the Confirmed', but that's about to change. Read on to see why and how.

Each year, new members join us in June to begin preparation for Confirmation and after that some stay on to continue meeting each week, discussing spiritual things following a six week theme - like the following:

- How do we cope with brothers and sisters?
- What does Genesis really say about the creation?
- What are Heaven and Hell?

And then there's our original ways of looking at Christmas. Ever thought about the Nativity as a way into discussing abortion or gender issues. All this using videos, playing games, and doing arts and drama activities.

So why the change of name?

We are now a group with young people who've been confirmed and others who've not, and some who are still uncertain about Christianity, but they all know their opinion will be valued and that no question will be ignored. We will still be linked to the Confirmation process, but we want to rename the group to show how we're open to any young person - especially if you want to ask questions about spiritual things and the difference Christ makes to it all.

Look out for the new name in April's Link!

For further information on 4TC or any group shown right, call Johnny Gillett on 01829 733563 (office), or 07843 428842 (mobile) or email [johnny@stbonya.org.uk](mailto:johnny@stbonya.org.uk)

See page 12 for Holy week activities.

## Weekly Diary

### Sunday: Kingdom Kids

10am Service at St Boniface

### Monday: Young Christians

7.30 to 9.00pm: at St Boniface

### Club 15

7.30 to 9.00pm in Bunbury Scout Hut

### Tuesday: D of E Award

5.00 to 6.00pm: at St Jude's Church Hall, Tilstone Fearnall

### Thursday: 4TC (see left)

7.30 to 8.30pm: St Boniface.

### And at Tarporley High School: The Cross

In Drama Dept (B2)

Year 7 Tues; Year 11: Thurs;  
Year 10: Fri

Also the new **Christian Union**:  
Wednesday lunchtimes in O3C

## YCs Karting Fun - a YC writes:



'A couple of weeks ago, Y.C's were lucky enough to visit the Go-Karting track at Deeside. We split into three groups, put on our gear, including gloves, some overall things and a very heavy helmet, and each group took it in turns to have a go in the karts. It was a bit scary at first, as when you put your foot gently on the accelerator, bursts of speed would come very suddenly. Going round the hairpin bends before the tunnel was probably the hardest bit, when skids were the most likely. It was very satisfying when we got our results and read them over some chips and sweets. I really enjoyed myself and I'm sure that everyone else did too.

## Burns night celebrated in style?

Burns Night was celebrated in a new way when the Explorers made their own haggis from authentic ingredients, which involved stuffing real sheep's stomachs with all sorts of minced meats (you can imagine what!) with their hands. From the photos, most seemed to take real delight in the exercise! Duncan Clifford's brother, Malcolm, kindly travelled from Preston to help the Explorers in their gruesome task. And a chef friend of his came all the way from Dumfries! The making was followed by a traditional Burns supper, though sadly the haggis for that had to be bought in. Many thanks to all the Explorer leaders and their friends for giving the group such an unrepeatable experience!

Bunbury Cricket Club also staged a celebration. 120 people sat down in the Village Hall to a four-course dinner with a real Scottish flavour, including poetry, songs and sword-dancing by Mairi and Rowena Harris.



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## Giving Service and lunch

The Giving Service and lunch at St Boniface on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb came as the finale to a series of services on the theme of gifts and giving (see Tom Crotty's piece in the last Link). Jane led the service, where we were encouraged to think about our own gifts, and what is precious to us as individuals. Then we all - children and adults alike - wrote down on a special gift label a promise to return something special to God, perhaps by using a particular talent or skill. The labels were hung at the front of the church. It was a useful exercise to spend time thinking about what we value, and what is of **real** worth.

The service was followed by a delicious curry lunch for over 60 people.

Well done to all those who have been involved in this thought-provoking series.



**Pictured left and right are some children enjoying their lunch and below, a very welcome contingent from Calveley Church**



Special birthday greetings to

**Bob Mosford**

long-time Houghton resident, who reaches his

**100th birthday**

on 25th February.



## Shakespeare in Schools Festival

On Friday 9th February we spent a very enjoyable evening at Crewe Lyceum watching three abridged Shakespeare plays performed by local schools. The Tempest and Much Ado about Nothing took us to the interval, but the performance of special interest to us was A Midsummer Night's Dream, staged by Tarporley Community High School as part of the nationwide Shakespeare in Schools Festival. So, our icecreams finished, we sat back to watch the lively performance imaginatively directed by Miss Griffiths, one of the school's drama teachers.

The whole cast worked exceedingly well together to give a fast paced but moving presentation. Of our own Bunbury young people, Jess Hardern made a suitably grave Egeus,

Hannah Munro and Rosie Quinn gave fantastically stropky performances as competing lovers and Jack Warburton did Shakespeare proud in his portrayal of Bottom. Krushika Paleja put a spell over the audience as a cheeky Puck. Esther Gillett and Kirsty Mason delighted us all as part of the comical fairy procession.

The three plays finished, the young actors were given a critique from a regional judge, and Tarporley High received some very favourable comments. For me, not only were they great ambassadors for the school but by far the best performance.

**Debs Gillett**

## Rainbows and Brownies have a "fang"tastic time!

February 5<sup>th</sup> was the last Rainbow meeting for Nikki Ryder who has been leading the 1<sup>st</sup> Bunbury Rainbows for the last 4½ years. She has now decided that it's time to hang up her badge and have a well-earned rest.

Both packs of Brownies and current Rainbows gathered together to say 'Goodbye and thank-you' to Nikki with a special visit from the popular 'animal man' from Corner Exotics who brought a variety of exotic creatures to handle. He started off with 'gentle' animals such as a chinchilla, hedgehog and tortoises and then brought out more fearsome ones such as spiders and cockroaches. The children enjoyed learning about each type of animal and well done to all the girls brave enough to handle even the animals that scared them. The grand finale was when the snakes were brought out. Thirty-six pounds of



snakes were wrapped round the shoulders of Amber Smith and Imogen Ryder, pictured below, right.

After the show a presentation was made to Nikki. Rainbows past and present and their parents thank Nikki

for all her hard work and wish her all the best for the future. We'll miss you!

**Debbie Shears**

Debbie Shears has taken over from Nikki Ryder as Unit Leader. Dawn Miller and Kathy Capper Moore will be joining the Unit.

Rainbows is for girls aged 5 to 7. For general enquiries about Rainbows, please contact Debbie Shears on 260707; to put your daughter's name down on the waiting list, please contact Dawn Miller (260307).



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## Girls collect for Charity

Well done to these two groups of local girls who took time to collect (and sell) for charity. First, the Bunbury Guides, pictured right, managed to collect an amazing 130 pairs of shoes for the Blue Peter Appeal in aid of Aids Orphans in Malawi (Sandra Cadman was particularly generous and thanks to Dave for carrying the sack!) Those 130 pairs will be sold to buy first aid kits.



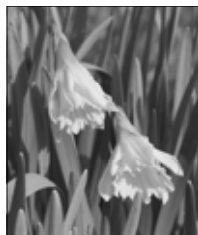
The other enterprising group of Bunbury School girls (pictured left) decided to sell unwanted toys and home made cakes in aid of the homeless outside Bunbury Co-op one Sunday morning and raised £126.



## Bunbury in February 2007



We have included these pictures to show the sheer diversity of our February weather! The children in shirtsleeves (right) are enjoying the sunshine and snowdrops in the churchyard, the wild daffodils below were spotted at the same time. The impressive "night snowman" was built just the week before in the Friday night blizzard. Snow is so rare these years that not surprisingly our children revelled in it and we hear that a group of teenagers were still out sledging at 4am!



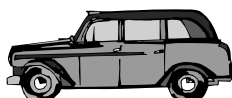
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## Children camp out at Bunbury School



Pictured above are some of the many Year 1 and 2 children who enjoyed a sponsored sleepover in the school hall last month. We hear all the young participants were asleep by 11pm and not awake again before 7am. Amazing! The event raised over £800 for school funds.

Governor Peter Crump reports on Education Sunday on 4th February: "We had a delightful service in church. Mrs Phillips gave a thought-provoking talk, the school choir sang two hymns -

Big Man and a superb arrangement of Seek ye First - and the children were a real credit to the school. The children led the prayers and chose all the hymns. It was nice to see so many parents and grand-parents in church.

We learnt from Mrs Phillips's talk that she was once a naughty girl - can you believe it? Luckily her mother was in church to confirm the story.

Thanks to Jane Stephenson (yet another teacher) who led the service. We truly have a Church School."

## Project Rhino - a link between Bunbury and Kenya

This time last year Bunbury Schoolchildren were hard at work earning money for the school's traditional Lenten Box collection. One of the two charities selected to benefit was Project Rhino. You may remember us mentioning it in the Link, and perhaps thought, 'Oh, an animal charity' if you had never heard of it before. Project Rhino is a charity which over the years has been a huge force for good in the town of Kiko in the Nakuru National Park in Kenya.

The charity was started in 1988 by Spencer and Janet Gelsthorpe, who live in Guernsey, and their story is truly inspirational, proving that individuals with enough passion and commitment really can make a difference.

Spencer writes, 'Originally, our work was to help the rhino, hence the name, but over the years our emphasis has changed. The local people were moved off the land when the national park was created and this put a strain on their relationship with the rhino, and poaching was still happening. Through our work we are helping to make things better for the local people, so they don't jeopardise the rhino population.'

As well as constant fundraising, each year the Gelsthorpes organise a group of unpaid volunteers from to travel to Kenya to help with construction projects. One early project was a clinic, then a primary school was built and most recently a nursery school, but the work is always at the mercy of the sometimes dramatic weather conditions. In bad weather the

roads can be washed away, making the transportation of materials almost impossible. As well as these large

construction projects, Project Rhino raises funds for school equipment and medicines. Their latest project has been the construction of a rudimentary sports field and running track: 'The sportsfield is not a lifesaver, like a clinic or a school, but it will be the first time these young people have something for themselves', says Spencer.

Continuing projects include the Helping Hand Fund which assists individuals with medical expenses and equipment including wheelchairs; support for tree nurseries to counter the devastating effects of deforestation, and support for local schools by providing teachers' salaries, desks, books and teaching materials. Project Rhino also sponsors students by providing fees for needy secondary school pupils and uniforms for primary children.

And the local connection? Janine Fairclough of Sadlers Wells, Bunbury, is the Gelsthorpe's daughter, and it was

she who suggested the Lenten Box donation. Although Janine herself has not visited the project in Kenya, she is a keen supporter of her parents' work and very proud of what they have achieved. It would be nice if Bunbury could support the connection again before too long.

E-mail: rhino2@cwgsy.net





## Is God a stone?

One day, an old professor of the School of Public Management in France, was invited to lecture on the topic of "Efficient Time Management" in front of a group of 15 executive managers representing the largest, most successful companies in America. Standing in front of this group of elite managers, the professor slowly met eyes with each manager, one by one, and finally said, 'We are going to conduct an experiment'.

From under the table that stood between the professor and the listeners, the professor pulled out a big glass jar and gently placed it in front of him. Next, he pulled out from under the table a bag of stones, each the size of a tennis ball, and placed the stones one by one in the jar. He did so until there was no room to add another stone in the jar. Lifting his gaze to the managers, the professor asked, 'Is the jar full?' The managers replied, 'Yes'. The professor paused for a moment, and replied, 'Really?'

Then once again, he reached under the table and pulled out a bag full of pebbles. Carefully, the professor poured the pebbles in and slightly rattled the jar, allowing the pebbles to slip through the larger stones, until they settled at the bottom.

Again, the professor lifted his gaze to his audience and asked, 'Is the jar full?' At this point, the managers began to understand his intentions. One replied, 'Apparently not!' 'Correct', replied the old professor, now pulling out a bag of sand from under the table. Cautiously, the professor poured the sand into the jar. The sand filled up the

spaces between the stones and the pebbles. Yet again, the professor asked, 'Is the jar full?' Without hesitation, the entire group of students replied in unison, 'No!' 'Correct', replied the professor. And as was expected by the students, the professor reached for the pitcher of water that was on the table, and poured water in the jar until it was absolutely full.

The professor now lifted his gaze once again and asked, 'What great truth can we surmise from this experiment?' One manager quickly replied, 'We learn that as full as our schedules may appear, if we only increase our effort, it is always possible to add more meetings and tasks.'

'No', replied the professor. 'The great truth that we can conclude from this experiment is:

**If we don't put all the larger stones in the jar first, we will never be able to fit them all in later.'**

**Paul Holbrook**

### London Marathon

Katie Mason is taking part in the Flora London Marathon in April to raise money for The Railway Children. Please sponsor her at : [www.justgiving.com/kmason](http://www.justgiving.com/kmason)

### Sandstone Run

The NSPCC is organising a 10k run along the sandstone trail starting and finishing at Beeston Market on 15th April. Start 10am, entry £10 Contact Andrea Beaumont on 732994 or e-mail [sandstonerun@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sandstonerun@yahoo.co.uk)

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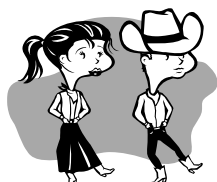
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# Remembering Margaret Oldman

As we announced on the front page of last month's Link our community sadly lost Margaret Oldman to cancer in January. Several friends spoke at her funeral on 31st January and here we quote from their tributes.

"Margaret was born in Cambridge in 1939 and that was where she spent her childhood and youth. Leaving school, she had already set her course by seeking a job at the National Institute of Agricultural Botany, taking an A Level in Botany at night school. She went on to train in London as a teacher. Back in Cambridge she met Richard, an academic, at a Graduate Society dance and they were married in July 1966. Richard won a research fellowship at the University of California in Santa Barbara and later in San Diego where Margaret taught at a nursery school, eventually becoming its director. Margaret and Richard both loved the outdoors and the environment and they joined the Sierra Club, one of the world's leading environmental organisations. When its then director left to set up Friends of the Earth Margaret and Richard's future involvement in environmental issues was set.

"In 1970 they returned to England (partly to avoid Richard's enforced draft to Vietnam) Richard to work at ICI and Margaret to teach. With their move to Cheshire they became successful gardeners and Margaret made an enthusiastic contribution to the Bunbury Journal and Gardening Club and became a speaker on the benefits of home grown food to

many groups including the WI. Margaret and Richard also became involved with the Cheshire Wildlife Trust and then in 1975 they became a family with the arrival of Karen.

"Margaret went on to lobby national and European Parliaments on the key environmental issues of the day. She was a practical person who made a difference, caring both for the Bunbury hedgerows and trees and for the world environment. She was a thinking person who always was bubbling with ideas, energy and enthusiasm."

"When Margaret was told "no" she heard "not yet". When she was told "cannot" she heard "will not". Then Margaret got on the case to change the "no" to "now" and the "will not" to "will do". Margaret gave unstintingly of her time for all local Friends of the Earth campaigns and events, backed quietly by Richard who regularly had to wait for meals as Margaret was out campaigning. Even though she was often unwell during the last year she never let her FOE colleagues down and attended all the events to help them deliver the Climate Change Bill in the 2006 Queen's Speech - a brilliant achievement for the team and for the environment. As a team we will find it hard to replace the knowledge and almost impossible to replace the enthusiasm that Margaret had to share that knowledge with others."

Margaret's sterling efforts on behalf of our local environment particularly Bunbury Greenwatch and the Sustainable Cheshire Forum will be sorely missed.

## A Prayer for Mothering Sunday.

From Pat Edgley



In the middle of Lent, we pause and think of our Mother Church and our earthly mothers.

Lord Jesus, you came to share our life here on earth, and made your home in Nazareth with Joseph and your Mother, Mary.

We thank you for our homes and families and especially today for our mothers, and for all they mean to us.

Hear our prayer for mothers everywhere, as they wrestle with too many jobs and too little time.

May we never take them for granted.

Be especially near to those who cannot bear to celebrate on Mothering Sunday, because they have lost a precious child, or will never know the joy of motherhood.

We thank you for our church family. May we find true happiness in loving and serving one another for your sake, Lord Jesus, our Saviour and our friend. Amen.

## Ladies Midnight Walk

This year the St.Luke's Hospice Midnight Walk will take place on 16th. If you are female and wanting to take part or willing to steward (gender not important!) contact Jane

Thompson on 01606 555888 or at  
jane\_thompson@stlukes-hospice.co.uk

More details on [www.midnightwalk.co.uk](http://www.midnightwalk.co.uk)



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## Community news

Welcome to **Eliza Grace Chesworth** of Alpraham, baptised at St. Boniface on 21st January, and to **Matthew John** and **William Thomas**, sons of **Mike** and **Caroline Gray** of School Lane, who were baptised on 10th February.

And congratulations to the ever youthful **Lesley Arrowsmith** who recently reached her half century. Lesley leads a team promoting adult education and their "Move On" programme has been particularly successful, being awarded a very high "2" grading by the adult learning inspectorate. (Thanks to colleague Helen Barrie for this news.)

Some readers may remember **Dr John Macgraw** who had a practice in Hartford. His widow, **Gladys Macgraw**, now living in Cotebrook, reaches her 100th birthday on 12th March. Many congratulations.

Our belated sympathies to Trish Thomas and family on the death of her father, **Harry Leonard** of The Highlands, Bunbury, shortly before Christmas.

After reading in the January Link that **Enid Jones** had celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, it is with regret that we announce the death of her husband **Tom** of Meadow House Park, Spurstow, on January 14<sup>th</sup> after suffering ill-health for some time. Tom and Enid moved here from Prestwich to be near their daughter **Gail**, who lives in Church Row. Donations given at Tom's funeral for Macmillan Nurses totalled £450.

In our announcement of **Mr Walley's** death in January we mistakenly said he was from Alpraham. In fact this unassuming and kindly man lived and farmed in Spurstow for 70 years, after coming to the area at the age of 11. He was a sidesman at St Boniface at the time of Timothy Atkins. At this sad time for the family, his daughter **Ruth Crank** and grandson **Mark** are also facing serious operations in the near future. Our very best wishes to both.

Commiserations to **Caryle Sinnott** of Sadlers Wells, Bunbury, who went with a group of Tarporley Students to the ice-rink (as first-aider!) and managed to break her wrist badly enough for a five-day hospital stay. We hope you make a swift recovery, Caryle.

## Church news

### 'Something for everyone'

Are you in need of some good conversation? Take up prayer for Lent.

If you like peace and quiet; or if you prefer laughter and discussion; why not join our Lent Course at St. Boniface?

If you would like to learn more about why and how to pray drop in to any of the sessions: all welcome.

**Wednesdays until 28th March at 8.15pm**

Ring Rick Gates or Jane Stephenson

01829 260991 or 01829 250249

### A compliment to us all?

**Peter Jones** has kindly passed on a message from a contact in Australia, who appreciated the St Boniface Christmas card he received: "Many thanks for the superb Christmas card you sent...most of the cards I received this Yuletide would have been appropriate for any secular festival. The significance of the first syllable of 'Christmas' has apparently been discarded in the name of 'political correctness'. Your parish church must have many good and wise communicants and other supporters in its community. That delightful, believable and radiant window will bring inspiration to countless people now and in the years to come." Quite a compliment!

The other card produced by **Target 1250** shows St Boniface in the spring and would make a superb Easter greetings card. We hope to make both cards available in church shortly, but in the meantime you can contact Lucy Munro on 261378. The cards cost 60p each or £3.00 for 6.

**Target 1250** are holding a **cake stall** at St. Boniface after the morning service on Mothering Sunday. Donations of cakes will be gratefully received on the day and plenty of purchasers will of course be needed. All profits to Target 1250 Fund for Church Restoration.

Johnny is planning special **Easter holiday workshops for children** on the mornings of April 2nd and 3rd. Watch out for further details.

## General news

The **Village Day** Committee have announced the theme for this year's event on June 16th. It is **Outer Space**. They are looking for more groups and individuals to take part in the parade, either on a float or walking.

They are also looking for tug of war teams to get in training for some serious competition on the day! Here's hoping for a sunny day!

**The Bunbury Singers** will be holding a **concert in aid of St. Jude's Church funds** on March 10th. Please contact Liz Brereton 740664 or June Gregory 733502 for tickets.

**Sandbach Voices** presents Felix Mendelssohn's major work **Elijah**. Conductor Martin Cook. Saturday 17th March at St Mary's Church, Sandbach, at 7.30 pm. Tickets £8, accompanied children under 16 free. Tickets available from: 01270 766546 or 01244 540511, or at the door.

There will be a performance of **Stainer's 'Crucifixion'** on Good Friday at St Boniface. Anyone who would like to take part as part of the choir is invited to rehearsals at Bunbury school on Monday evenings, starting at 8pm. Contact Andrew Dean for more information on 261592. The performance is an act of worship for soloists, choir and congregation starting at 2.30pm, no tickets needed.

A music night is planned on Friday June 15th to raise money for **Guide Dogs for the Blind** at Bunbury Village Hall. The band is **The Front Room** who performed to great acclaim at the Tarporley School Ball last May. Watch this space for details.

Apologies to the mysterious 'Debbie xx' whom the Link identified last month as Bunbury Practice Manager. We should have written **Debbie Bailey**.

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## Diary

### March

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
	7.30pm	Compline	St.Boniface
11	10.00am	Holy Communion	St.Jude's
	10.00am	Family Communion	St.Boniface
	4.30pm	Evensong	St.Boniface
		Crocus Walk (see p1)	Scout Hut
14	10.00am	Holy Communion	St.Boniface
	7.30pm	Compline	St.Boniface
18		<b>Mothering Sunday</b>	
	8.30am	Holy Communion	St.Boniface
	9.30am	Family Worship	St.Jude's
	10.00am	Family Worship	St.Boniface
		(and Target 1250 Cake Stall after the service)	
	11.00am	Matins	Calveley
21	10.00am	Holy Communion	St.Boniface
	7.30pm	Compline	St.Boniface
25	9.30am	Family Worship	St.Jude's
	10.00am	Family Communion	St.Boniface
28	10.00am	Holy Communion	St.Boniface
	7.30pm	Compline	St.Boniface

### April

1		<b>Palm Sunday</b>	
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St.Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St.Jude's
	10.00am	Family Worship	St.Boniface
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Calveley
5	7.00pm	Agape supper (p3)	St.Boniface
6	2.30pm	Stainers Crucifixion	St.Boniface
8		<b>Easter Sunday</b>	
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St.Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St.Jude's
	10.00am	Holy Communion	St.Boniface
	6.30pm	Holy Communion	Calveley

### Looking ahead

#### April

29		Annual Church Meeting	St.Boniface
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Link is edited by **Lucy Munro (tel. 260487)** and **Jill Robey (tel. 260081)**. We welcome all contributions. Our deadline for the April edition is Friday 16th March. Please send material to [lucykmunro@hotmail.com](mailto:lucykmunro@hotmail.com). Our vicar, **Rick Gates**, is always available in times of sickness, bereavement or any distress See p2 for phone numbers.

[www.stbonifacebunbury.org](http://www.stbonifacebunbury.org)



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