



## From infant pupil to Chairman of Governors

Bunbury School has a new Chair of Governors. Walter Done has taken over from long-serving chairman Mike Thomas. Walter really has come full circle: born in Bunbury's Church Row during the War, he was himself a pupil at the school from 1946 to 1951.

He went on to have a distinguished career in Cheshire's Education Department. Walter recalls, 'The school age range then was seven to fourteen and it was a much smaller school than today. In the main hall seven year groups were taught by two teachers, one of whom was the Head, Tom Steventon.' Now living in Waverton, Walter has kept firm links with Bunbury, particularly through St. Boniface where he is a church warden and chorister and manages restoration projects.



Walter writes, 'I am delighted to be appointed Chair of Governors at my old primary school, to round off a long career in educational administration and management (53 years for far). Bunbury has always been a good



Church school and what better now than to work with the Head, staff, parents, governors and parish church to achieve an 'excellent school' outcome at the next Ofsted inspection. A good first task for us all will be to raise funds and make a really good job of

the planned project to replace the mobile classrooms with a new building.'

### Thanks to Mike

Governor Geoff Vickers, writes: 'Few people are aware of the responsibility the Chairman of School Governors carries. It requires at least weekly meetings with the Headteacher, to offer vital support and advice. Mike Thomas's able skills and jovial nature as chairman for 8 years have made the role of all his fellow Governors a rewarding and enjoyable experience, and Mike's smiling face is very familiar to pupils and staff. Primary School management has changed markedly during his chairmanship and Mike has been a key to Bunbury School's ongoing success. The whole community owes Mike a huge vote of thanks as he returns to 'the back benches'.

His contribution to our school was recognised by the Haberdashers last year when he was made a Freeman of the Haberdashers Company and granted the Freedom of the City of London.'



Join us at one  
of our special  
Christmas  
services  
See page 2

**Pictured left at their dress rehearsal are the cast of Bunbury YCs panto, The Perils of Peter Pan. Despite various unforeseen difficulties, the cast rose to the challenge and a sell-out audience enjoyed the cheesy jokes, inspired music, colourful costumes and youthful enthusiasm we have come to expect.**

## Community news

Congratulations to **Mark and Claire Burrows** on the birth of **Oliver Jack** on 28th October, new baby brother to **Scott, Evie and Charlie** (below).



Congratulations to **Carolyn and Guy Johnson** whose son **Charles**, and his wife, **Lorna**, had a baby son, **Tobias Samuel Trehearne (Toby)** on the 27th October (below).



Welcome to **Oscar Joseph Riley**, son of **Graeme and Stephanie** of Little Budworth who was baptised at St. Boniface on 14th November

Congratulations to local couple **Emma Roden and Phil Latham** who were married at St. Boniface on 28th November.



Diamond Wedding congratulations to **Blanche and George Wilgose** School Lane, Bunbury.

A very happy 'big' birthday to **Neil Dyer**, born January 8th at the end of the 50s and congratulations to his daughters **Emily and Hannah** who reach their 18th on 27th December.

**Emma Bruce and Hannah Munro** also celebrate their 18th during the Christmas holidays. Happy Birthday!

We wish **Derek Burrows** a swift recovery after recent surgery and all the best to **Dennis Burrows**, who is making good progress with his replacement knee.

Our best wishes to **John Mason and family**. John is facing major surgery before Christmas.

**Dennis Kirkham and family** would like to thank all for their kindness and support after the sudden death of **Marjorie**. The lovely cards and flowers were greatly appreciated (see p4).

We are sad to report the death of long time resident **Cynthia Paterson** of Oaklands, Spurstow - see p5, and of **Elizabeth Walley**, formerly of Alraham, who died on Nov 18th (more details in the next issue).

**Kay Cowin** has written to tell us that **Bunbury Gardening Club** are introducing a craft class in their **Annual Show** for the following : embroidery, cross-stitch, knitting and painting. "Classes are open to everyone, not just members, and we're hoping that during the winter months people will get creative and share their talents next summer."

**Bunbury Medical Practice** will be closed Fri 25th to Mon 28th Dec inclusive. They will also be closed on the afternoon of 8th Dec for staff training. You can order repeat medication by email on **bunbury.dispensary@nhs.net** The last date for ordering repeat medication is Friday 18th December.

**You are very welcome at all our churches. Come to one of our special services over Christmas -**

**13th December** St. Jude's  
9.30am Carol Service

**20th December** St. Boniface,  
10am Nativity,  
6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

**Christmas Eve** St. Boniface  
4.30pm Crib Service  
11.30pm Midnight Communion

**Christmas Eve** Calveley  
6.30pm Communion by extension.

**Christmas Day** St. Jude's  
9.30 Family Communion

**Christmas Day** St. Boniface  
10.00am Family Communion



Well done to **Sophie Caldwell**, pictured above left, selected to represent England in the World Schools Skiing Championships in March. Sophie is pictured with team mate **Georgina Stockley-Gardner**, also from Bunbury at the British Schools Championships at Pontypool.

This month please pray especially for **John Mason, Paul Rathbone, Claire Dickens and Brenda Miller**.

We pray also for the families of **Marjorie Kirkham, Cynthia Patterson, Elizabeth Walley** and for all those recently bereaved.

If you would like us to pray for you or someone you know, please write in the book you will find in the side chapel by the pulpit at St. Boniface, or email **pat.edgley@tiscali.co.uk**

**What weighs almost 10 kilos**, is worth £200 and will change a child's life for ever? It's the sack of pennies, tuppences and other change donated by generous Link readers for the **Smile Train**. Thanks to all who took the trouble to collect and donate their loose change.

**Interested in Confirmation classes?** A new course is planned for spring. Please contact Rick for details 260991.

The **February** Link will be published on Sunday 31st January. Contributions by Fri 15th Jan please.

**Ski Apartment to let**  
Near Morzine/Avoriaz  
in the French Alps  
1 ½ hours from Geneva  
Also available for short breaks  
Contact Diana Caldwell  
260257 / 07855 216074



## Rick's Christmas greetings

*You may have come across the saying that "People come into our lives for a reason, a season or a lifetime". In wishing you all a very happy Christmas and many blessings through out the coming year, we're conscious of wanting to consider the past months and all the things we have been through together. The fun and laughter we have shared, the grief and shock we have experienced, the conflicts and differences we have got through.*

*We are grateful for all you have been and will continue to be to us. I am singularly grateful to have met with you all, just as you are, in those unique moments, just for a reason, or just for this season, and some for a whole lifetime.*

*We look backwards with affection and forward with hope. May God bless and hold you throughout the years to come. We wish you Peace this Christmas and a Happy and content New Year.*

*Rick and Lin*



## Sing round the Christmas tree

Why not join in the **community carol singing around the tree** in Bunbury Village Centre at 6.30pm on Christmas Eve, and don't forget the Good Companions will be serving mulled wine and mince pies in the Bunbury Village Hall afterwards.

## Tree of Lights

Many thanks to those who have sponsored a light on the Tree of Lights this Christmas raising nearly £700 for the St. Boniface building. All the messages of celebration and remembrance have been written in the book on show in St Boniface. Further messages can be added: contact **Jill Robey, 260081**.

## The Power of the Spirit

I'm sitting here at my computer on a wet and windy November day worrying about Christmas. There's just so much to do! Last minute panics for the Young Christians' pantomime, a Christingle service to plan and then the Carol Service. Then there are the Christmas cards to write and the Christmas shopping to sort out. Juggling my work Christmas party and Elaine's - it's all so stressful and it is all so wonderful. No matter what the pre Christmas pressure is like, I'm still like a five year old at this time of year - getting excited about the great festivity.

What makes me so excited isn't the thought of the presents, or the food, or the family time - all of which are a joy, but it's the redemptive nature of our great Christian celebration that renews me and fills me each year. It's the reminder of God made man in Bethlehem, the greatest gift that came to us 2,000 years ago - Jesus Christ as God among us to lead us into salvation and eternal life. In Betjeman's famous words,

"No love that in a family dwells,  
No carolling in frosty air,  
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells  
Can with this single Truth compare -  
That God was man in Palestine  
And lives today in Bread and Wine"

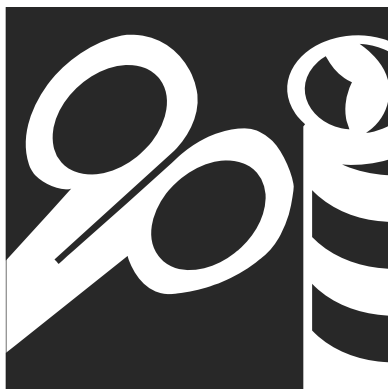
But there are people out there who wish for a Christmas without this wonder, a Christmas without the Christ. Apparently the British Humanist Association is gearing up for its annual billboard campaign to persuade us all of the folly of our faith. You remember the British Humanist Association?

Their wonderfully successful campaign last year used London Buses to proclaim "There's probably no God. Now stop worrying and enjoy your life" Probably? Probably? How certain are they of their position?

So what's their plan for this year? A picture of some children each with a label reading "Christian Child", "Muslim Child" and so on, and a tag line that reads "Let me grow up and decide for myself". Christmas is obviously a great source of concern for them as we Christians get geared up for our annual cycle of childhood brainwashing around the crib! All of us have been children and many of us have had children and one thing that life teaches you is that you can't force your children to think. They develop their own opinions and form their own views and those views are often entirely contrary to their parents'.

If the children of Christian homes grow up and live in the faith of Christ, it has nothing to do with the brainwashing skills of their parents or pastors and everything to do with the power of the Holy Spirit drawing them to the eternal truth of scripture. The wonder of the Christmas story; the story of Mary's faith and Joseph's faithfulness, the story of the shepherds' wonder and the Wise Men's humility, the story of God's ultimate gift of His Son for each one of us. That story fills me with faith anew each year and that story may bring our children to a life of commitment to Christ. I feel a bit sorry for The British Humanist Association if I'm honest because they really aren't fighting the established churches. They're actually fighting against the power of the Spirit working in people's lives and that's just not a fair fight.

**Tom Crotty**



# The Salon

Bunbury Lane  
(above the old Huckleberry's)

Mon-Wed 9am-5pm  
Thurs-Fri 9am-7pm  
Saturday 9am-5pm

All hair services -  
ladies, gents, and children

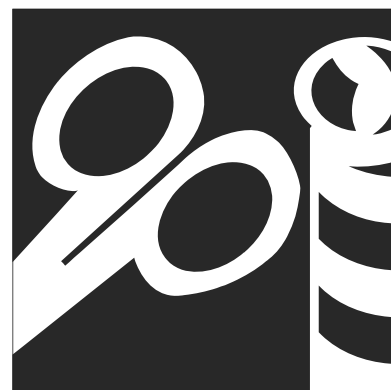
Fully qualified stylists

25% discount for over-50s and students  
on Mondays and Tuesdays

We look forward to seeing you!

Contact Suzanne on 262638

Christmas  
appointments still  
available  
(open Christmas Eve)



## Marjorie Kirkham - so many friends

'We are all devastated by Marjorie's sudden death. She was a very special person, always so kind and thoughtful, and such good company. We all have our own special memories of Marge, especially how she cared for our Mum (with a great deal of help from Dennis, who was marvellous). After Mum's death they moved to Queen Street and somehow Marge took over Mum's role. Her Queen Street home became the meeting place for all of us. Weather permitting, we sat in the garden laughing and chatting over cups of tea and home-made cakes - she always made everyone welcome.

Marge loved shopping, especially for clothes. I remember on one occasion she bought a new top, the second in a fortnight. 'Are we showing this to Dennis?' I asked. 'No,' she said, 'it's going in the wardrobe. I'll wear it in a few weeks' time. When Dennis asks, I'll say I've had it for ages.'

When she eventually wore it, Dennis gave a knowing smile. 'Is that new?' he asked. Marge replied, 'What, this old thing? I've had it for ages!'

We will miss Marjorie so much and will always cherish the memories of such a lovely sister and dear friend'.

**Margaret, Joan and Sheila**

Son in law **Graham Edge** shares some memories: 'Christmas was always special. Marge insisted on cooking Christmas dinner for us all, just as she had always done, even when she wasn't well, and those cakes just kept on coming! Even Stu's flatmates in Glasgow had sampled those cakes - the chocolate was a particular favourite.

Wendy saw her mum every day. 'Are Craig and Stu alright?' was always her first question - she loved her grandsons. They would always get a 'goody bag' whenever they visited and some money if they were going somewhere special. It was the same for us: 'I've just got you a few things while I was out shopping' she'd say. That was Marge. She loved children and many friends and neighbours will cherish memories of how their children loved to go and see her.

Marge would pop down to the Co-op for a loaf and would return two hours later. Dennis would wind her up: 'What took you so long? I thought you'd got lost!' 'Oh, I just met so and so and stopped for a chat.' Marge had so many friends.

Marge was Wendy's mum and best friend, a devoted wife to Dennis, Nan to Craig and Stu and like a mum to me. She will be sadly missed by us all.'



**Wendy's favourite photo of her mum**

# Christmas at St. Jude's

It was great to welcome back Margaret Colley after a bout of poor health, including eye surgery. Margaret now claims that her vision is so improved that she can see round corners but I think that is a bit of an exaggeration!

On 15th November we welcomed into the family of the church Master Edward John Wright, son of David & Babsi. This service was unique because of the part that Master Edward played at his service of welcome, which was loud and vocal! That boy has the finest pair of lungs ever seen on a child of 9 months! On that day we welcomed an old friend of St Jude's, Alan Mumford. It was great to see him looking fit and healthy. He now uses a stick, but I'm sure that it is only for effect and just to make sure that things are done correctly. Our more recent friend, Rev John Whitehouse was on hand to help with the welcome of John Edward.

More news of another of our invalids, Frank Latham, who is making slow and steady progress. He is convalescing in the Old Hall, Malpas. If you are that way why not pop in and say hello to Frank.

We start the Christmas celebrations at St. Jude's with our carol service on 13th December at 9.30am. We will have the old favourites and some new ones, so why not come along and make a joyful noise with us. The newly-formed Alpraham Choir is joining us for the carol service. They are looking out for new members.

It is with great sadness that we have to announce the death of Mr Keefe. Mrs Betty Keefe has been a regular worshipper at St. Jude's since moving to the area just two years ago. All our thoughts are with Mrs Keefe at this difficult time.

**Bob Gardner**

# Our loved ones remembered

'Doors opened for me that I thought would be closed for ever.'

'I felt I was the only one grieving and feeling guilty.'

These are just two of the comments I heard at the St. Boniface Memorial Service on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Many of those who came were glad to have this special opportunity to sit quietly, think and reflect. After the service some people prayed together in the Ridley Chapel then we gathered for afternoon tea and talk of happier times. This service is not only for those who have suffered a recent bereavement, but also for people like me who still feel the loss of my brother David, who died just before Christmas 1986. I hope that those who could not be with us this time will think about coming along next year.

**Barbara Croley**

## Cynthia Paterson - from Ranikhet to Spurstow

My mother was born in 1920 in a goat shed near Ranikhet in Northern India. At the time, her father was commanding the 2nd Battalion, the Royal Welch Fusiliers, based in Lucknow. Her mother was trying to reach the safer conditions in Lucknow when she gave birth. It was typical of both her and my mother's toughness that they both survived.

She grew up in Monmouthshire, before my grandparents moved back to Marchwiel in the 1930s. When the War came she joined the VAD, driving ambulances. She rarely talked about this afterwards: for a young woman, driving horrifically injured young men, in grinding along in convoy on interminable journeys, this must have been a harrowing experience. She injured her back doing maintenance work during these years and rarely rode again. However, she made some strong and lasting friendships; as late as this October she travelled to South Wales to the funeral of one of her wartime friends.

She married my father in 1949 and they moved to the Oaklands in the late 50s. He ran the family business and the farm, while she looked after us (Vanda, John and me) and ran the house and garden, which remains a lasting

memorial to her skill. There were always horses and lots of dogs around, often abandoned strays and mongrels, who became totally loyal and protective of her. In the 1970s, she inherited a number of national hunt racehorses from her uncle, which my father trained. Her racing colours were white, gold sash and orange cap.

Like many intelligent women of her generation, she did not go to university and was effectively self-taught. She read voraciously, particularly history and biographies; she took a great interest in current affairs.

She was happily married for over 50 years, but not everything was easy. She rarely showed it, but the death of my sister Vanda in 1997 and then Vanda's elder son Nick in 2007 affected her deeply. She badly missed John and his children Mack and Georgina, when they emigrated to Australia.

She visited my family at Ellesmere frequently; one day, she hit a tree on the way home and was injured, probably because she refused to wear a seatbelt, which she described as a "panic strap". After no fewer than 147 days in various hospitals, MRSA and a spinal infection, she emerged, having been told that she would never walk

again. Helped by dedicated carers and through sheer determination, she got back on her feet.

Last year she went with her carer and close friend Claudine Murray on frequent trips all over Wales, looking up family houses and churches. In July, she was diagnosed with multiple cancers; her reaction was to go to Greece for two weeks. Later, with winter approaching, she took the Eurostar to Bruges.

On her last weekend, she went to see the Wynnstay hounds meet Sunday, then attended Remembrance Day in Bunbury Church, insisting on standing for every hymn. On Monday, she was admitted to Hospital and she died on Sunday 15th November aged 89.

**Owen Paterson**





# Bunbury School catch-up

There's always plenty to report from Bunbury School and this month is no exception. As I write, teachers and pupils are recovering from the annual maelstrom that hits the school at this time of year – yes, the Christmas Fair! Well done to the PTA for their organization of this popular event which raised



about several thousand pounds for school funds, some of which will be used for the whole school visit to the Theatre in Hanley to see "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" in December.

Pictured above are the budding journalists from the school's newspaper, the 'Little Link'. Your editor went to talk to them a few weeks ago and it seems we all share the same problems – tight deadlines and unreliable contributors! The Little Link is a wonderful snapshot of school life – well done.

Also pictured is a group of young pupils planting daffodils for naturalizing on the school field. The whole school planted one bulb each – fortunately Mrs Sissons had the use of an ingenious bulb-planter to make the holes! – so we look forward to a lovely display in the spring. We don't think too many went in upside-down.....

Finally, the photo here shows two of the four lovely blankets we were able to make following the appeal through school and then in the Link for knitted squares. The final blanket is still being finished off but very shortly they will be on their way to an African orphanage. Once again, thanks to all who contributed, and especially to Helen Jones and Kay Everton (in Droitwich) who sewed these two together so beautifully – a harder task than you might think.



**Pupils hard at work**



## Remembrance parade well supported by young people

Remembrance Day had a particular poignancy this year with so many young people involved in conflict abroad and with the passing of the final veterans from the First World War.

George Potter, speaking on behalf of the Bunbury British Legion, congratulated the many members of Brownies, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers who turned out in full uniform to take part in the Remembrance Day parade.

## Well done Katie



**Congratulations to Katie Everton, former Explorer and now a medical student, who collected her Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award from St. James' Palace in October.**

# Who are you?

'This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?"' (St. John 1,19)

The mystery man pops up in fairy stories, novels, plays and films. 'The Man in the Iron Mask', a novel by Alexandre Dumas, and the subject of a compelling film, was based on historical events, but the character never takes his mask off and his identity is never revealed. The Scarlet Pimpernel is a master of disguise so that nobody recognizes him. In these and other stories about a mystery man, people are effectively whispering in the background, 'Who is he? Do you recognize him?' 'Who can he possibly be?'

John the Baptist was something of a mystery man. He suddenly appeared in the wilderness and nobody really knew where he had come from. He spoke like the Old Testament prophets but everyone thought that way of speaking had died out long before. He proclaimed a challenging message,

telling people to make a fresh start. 'Don't rely on having been born a Jew,' he said, in effect. 'Repent – change your attitude; be baptized – begin your life again as a child in the family of God.' Then he warned them to make up their minds before it was too late. Who was he? Who gave John the Baptist the authority to say such things? Who is this mystery man?

Jews knew their Old Testament. And so they asked him, 'Who are you? Are you the promised Messiah? Are you Elijah come back to us from the dead? Are you the special prophet promised by Moses long ago?' John the Baptist's answer to all their questions was a very definite 'No'.

He claimed rather to be a forerunner. In the days when processions travelled at walking pace, a king would send someone running ahead to tell the people he was coming. 'Get ready!' the forerunner would cry, 'The king's coming, only about an hour's travel away!' And in the same way, John said he was a forerunner for Jesus. 'Jesus is

coming' he cried out, 'I'm just a voice telling you to get ready. Hurry up, there's not much time before he comes!' So the mystery man was revealed: he was 'just a voice' – but what a voice!

So perhaps we've largely got it wrong about Christmas. What have we done to get ready? Shopped until we've dropped? Spent a lot on presents and decorations? Bought more food than is good for us? Of course if we believe that the Son of God came down to earth at Christmas, to give his life for us, then we've really got something to celebrate, and giving gifts is a pretty good way of doing it.

But spiritual preparation and readiness is vitally important. What is John the Baptist saying to people today? 'Make a fresh start. Don't rely on having been born a Christian. Begin your life again as a child in the family of God. Make up your mind before it's too late.' That, surely, is the vital way to get ready for Christmas.

**Eric Wallington**

## Our Vicar is Rick Gates

**He is always available in times of sickness, bereavement or any distress.**

**Contact him at The Vicarage, Vicarage Lane, Bunbury, or on 01829 260991 or [rick@prayer.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:rick@prayer.fsnet.co.uk)**

### Other church contacts:

Peter and Kath Collinge (pastoral support) 260077

#### St.Boniface

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

#### St.Jude's

Churchwardens:	Brigid Sayce	260865
	David Wright	260467
Secretary	Ann Posnett	261154
Organist	Ann Badrock	260343

#### Calveley

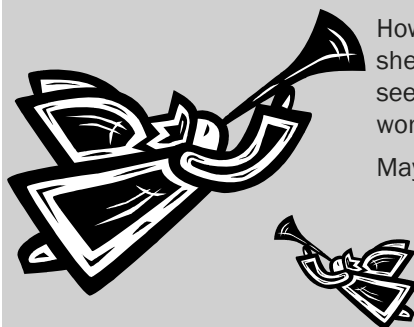
Churchwardens:	Barbara Croley	260344
	Walter Done	01244 332563
Organist	John Batchelor	261056
Secretary	Sue Woodward	01270 522822

The Link is edited by **Lucy Munro 260487**, email [lucykmunro@hotmail.com](mailto:lucykmunro@hotmail.com) and **Jill Robey 260081**.

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

## Angels

It must be fun to be a messenger angel, to be able to move through time and space, especially if like Gabriel, you brought the good news to Mary that she was to give birth to Jesus.



How amazing for those shepherds in the fields, seeing and hearing that wonderful angelic choir.

Maybe, if we listen hard, we will be able to hear the song of the angels with their messages of peace and love.

Dear God,

May the season of goodwill bring to our world a time of peace.

May we listen to the song of the angels breaking through our darkness.

As the seasons of the year come full circle, may we rejoice with childlike wonder, ever more and more in your love.

As we hear again the story of Jesus, who came to earth as a little child to be with us, may we ever praise and glorify you, who are beyond all times and seasons, beyond creation itself.

**Amen.**

**Pat Edgley**



# Guides at 100 go from strength to strength

Girlguiding UK, as it is now known, is the largest voluntary organisation for girls in the UK . It has 80,000 adult volunteers and 500,000 girls. Half of the women in the UK have been

involved at some point in their lives. This year the movement celebrates its 100th Birthday.

Here in Bunbury the unit is thriving. It was founded in 1940 so we are also celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> birthday! We currently have 30

girls and 5 leaders and are hoping to mark the centenary in a memorable fashion. The year started with a fantastic weekend of challenging activities at the PGL centre at Borreaton Park. We have since welcomed 8 new girls who soon got involved in our cooking competition. They planned, cooked, presented and served a two course healthy meal costing no more than £1.50 a head for their group .Quite a challenge on table-top camping cookers in the Scout hut! Thank you to Maureen and her colleagues at the Co-op for allowing the girls to visit the store and research their menus and costings.



The Guides said a big 'ThankYou' to Liz Mulcahy and Tina Everton who have retired from Guiding after years of service, to help with Explorer Scouts .Thank you to all who

contributed to their gifts. We have been lucky enough to have 4 volunteers come forward to take their place: Sue Melia, Judy Wheatland, Sue Devonport and Cathy Dewson-Smyth (all pictured here).

Tina writes: "A big thank you to the guide leaders, guides and everyone involved in our lovely leaving party. We understand past and present guides were all part of the surprise and we were very touched by everyone's kindness. We have had lots of fun over the years and have seen Bunbury Guides go from strength to strength. Best wishes for the future and enjoy the centenary year. **Liz and Tina**"

## Were you a Guide?

We would like to find out more about Guiding in Bunbury over the years . If you have any stories, photos or other memorabilia from your experiences of Bunbury Guides since their formation in 1940, we would love to hear from you. We would also like to hear about experiences from further afield and as far back in the 100 year history as possible. Please contact **Jackie Bruce (261305)** if you can help and please join us for our Thinking Day celebration on 21<sup>st</sup> February.

## R F Burrows & Sons

*Family Butchers established 1924*

*Let us supply you with all that you need for your Christmas celebrations:*

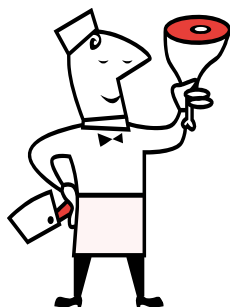
*Turkeys (prices fixed at 2008 levels): Choose from our local, free range Cheshire Turkeys or our Copas Bronze free range Turkeys, geese, ducks, Capons, beef and ham joints, variety of sausages:- chipolatas; pork & leek; pork & herb; Cumberland, sausagemeat, bacon, stuffings.*

*Items from the delicatessen:- olives; cooked meats – chorizo, salami, parma ham, pancetta; pork pies and a wide variety of cheeses.*

*Condiments:- cranberry sauce, Mrs Darlington's preserves and chutneys.*

*Chatwins Christmas puddings and mince pies, Lindy's cakes and much, much more ....*

*We pride ourselves on providing a personal service. Please pop in for a Christmas order form so we can prepare your Christmas fayre to your specific requirements.*



*Last date for ordering turkeys is Sat 19th Dec*

*Members of the Q Guild of Butchers 260342*

Invitation to all  
**Guides and Brownies past and present**  
(whatever your age!)  
join us for our Centenary celebration  
At St Boniface Church,  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February  
10am  
followed by refreshments.



Thanks to Ian Whittingham for this picture taken in Wyche Lane



# BOB'S FIENDISH CHRISTMAS QUIZ

1. What is the name of the important Christian festival celebrated on January 6th or Twelfth Day?
2. Which Saint's day is celebrated on December 26<sup>th</sup>?
3. Which American state's name is a Spanish word meaning snow-clad?
4. By what other common name is the fish hawk generally known?
5. What is the capital of Minorca?
6. In cookery, the term 'Lyonnaise' indicates that a particular vegetable is used in a dish: What vegetable?
7. And what did Bing Crosby hear on Christmas day in 1956?
8. On the eve of 'Kings Day', the 6th of January, what do children in Argentina leave under their beds in the hope they will be filled with small gifts and sweets?
9. In the United States, the natural geyser called Old Faithful is in which National Park?
10. The evergreen perennial plant Helleborus niger bears white flowers in winter or early spring; what is its common name?
11. In AD 563, St Columba founded a monastery on which island?
12. Whose café was the meeting place for refugees in Casablanca?
13. How many pipers were piping in "The 12 days of Christmas"?
14. Which 19th-century French author wrote 'The Count of Monte Christo'?
15. According to the Christmas song, who had "a jolly happy soul"?
16. Complete the title of each of the following Christmas films.
  - a. Holiday
  - b. We're no
  - c. Bad
  - d. The Bells of
  - e. The Polar
  - f. It's a wonderful
  - g. Tim Burtons The Night
  - h. Santa Claus conquers the
17. The name of which herb is used as a magic word in a well known Christmas pantomime?
18. Who had the number one hit with "Saviour's Day" in Christmas 1990?



Answers in the February issue.

## Join the St. Boniface Nativity

St. Boniface Nativity takes place at 10am on Sunday 20th December and all children are welcome to come along and take part. Costumes will be provided. There is a rehearsal on Sunday 13th December straight after the 10am service. If you can't make

the rehearsal don't worry, you can still be involved; just come along. Pictured below are some of last year's cast.

On the day please arrive at 9.30am so that we can get you into your costume.

**Sarah Tomlins (730814), Fiona Holbrook (770567).**



## ST. BONIFACE CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Anybody wishing to join the St. Boniface Christmas Choir for the Carol Service on Sunday December 20<sup>th</sup> is cordially invited to rehearsals in church on Thursdays 3<sup>rd</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm prompt.

## Can we help?

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# Give us 2 minutes - Mr S. Claus

We are delighted that Santa (aka Father Christmas) has agreed to be interviewed for this Christmas edition of the Link, to promote a happy and peaceful Christmas - (well, people normally use this feature to promote their latest project - ed)

Santa couldn't tell us much about his upbringing, as he has been an old man with a white beard. He lives at the North Pole and is married to Chrissie, and spends most of the year slimming after too many mince pies.

**If you had a motto, what would it be?** Ho ho ho! (of course).

**It's a celebrity beer call. Where is it, who do you invite and why?** In the Elf Club House, I'd invite Buzz Lightyear, Pinnocchio and comedian Michael MacIntyre, because Buzz and I both enjoy long distance travel, I love Pinnocchio's tall stories (surely lies? - ed) and

Michael is always so hyper, like a child at Christmas).

**What would the title of your biography be?** "Twas the Night Before Christmas". (Did you really need to ask?)

**What was your first job?** I've always done this job, I'm lucky that I've never been made redundant, there is a lot of demand for my products although it's seasonal.



**Who would you make Prime Minister?** Wallace, because I like to imagine those inventions being installed in Downing Street (especially the toaster) and I know he would make Gromit Home Secretary.

**Where did you meet your partner?** At the North Pole radio station where we were both guests on a chat show.

**What's your biggest regret in life?** That every day isn't Christmas Day.

**And what is your biggest success?** My toy factory and my teams of elves and reindeer. I am always winning awards especially for the almost faultless distribution side of my business.

**If you could change something about Bunbury, what would it be?** Bigger chimneys. And remember to put your fire out.

**What would you like to achieve most in the next 12 months?** Christmas 2010. But it's difficult to think beyond Christmas 2009 right now.

**If you were granted one wish, what would it be?** A more varied wardrobe. Even I get bored with red. (If permitted another wish it would be a Happy Christmas).

**Where is your favourite place, and why?** Mrs Claus' lovely warm kitchen when she is cooking Christmas dinner.

**Where and how would you spend your ideal weekend?** Maybe in Cheshire - I've heard the Vicar in Bunbury is a good laugh. Maybe I'd take Mrs Claus for a ride in a fast car at Oulton Park, and Rudolf wants to visit his cousins at the Zoo.

## Trouble at t'mill?

United Utilities have announced that they are to close their education division. This means that Bunbury Water Mill is under threat for the second time. It was scheduled for demolition when the sewerage scheme

was first installed and only saved after a vigorous campaign. We hear that there are discussions about a second rescue. More details as soon as the situation becomes clear.

**Ernest Croley**



## OCC thanks

Thanks to all who supported the OCC Shoebox appeal this year - there was a good response. After many years as the local OCC organiser, Nicola Elsegood is looking for a volunteer to take over. It is a relatively small workload, with all the work done by early November. Contact Nicola if you can help **260507**.



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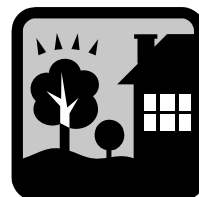
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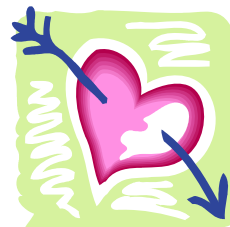
# An unmissable Valentine date

The Duchess of Westminster has very generously offered the farm buildings at Cotton Edmunds to Save the Family. The charity has until the end of February to raise a large sum of money, for renovation works, a task which at the moment is quite daunting.

St. Boniface has decided to help the campaign by organising a hot pot lunch at church, on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2010 (St.Valentine's Day). Barbara Croley jokes: "I know this date is a long way off but if I give you lots of time you can decide who you would like to bring

as your valentine on this romantic date."

The children will be entertained by a Treasure Hunt or film so please bring everyone along. The help you give to Save the Family is invaluable. Thanks to all those who left goods for the collection at the beginning of December.



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## December Diary

5		St. Jude's Christmas Fair	St. Jude's Parish Hall
6	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Holy Communion	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley
9	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
13	9.30am 10.00am 4.30pm	Carol Service Family Communion Evensong	St. Jude's St. Boniface St. Boniface
16	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
20	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship and Nativity Carol Service	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface St. Boniface
23	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
24	4.30pm 6.30pm 11.30pm	Crib Service Communion by extension Midnight Mass	St. Boniface Calveley St. Boniface
25	9.30am 10.00am	Christmas Day Holy Communion Holy Communion	St. Jude's St. Boniface
27	10.00am	no service at St. Jude's Family Communion	St. Boniface
30	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface

## January Diary

3	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Holy Communion	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley
6	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
10	9.30am 10.00am 4.30pm	Morning Service Family Communion Evensong	St. Jude's St. Boniface St. Boniface
13	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
17	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Family Worship	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley
20	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
24	9.30am 10.00am	Holy Communion Family Communion	St. Jude's St. Boniface
27	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
31	9.30am 10.00am	Holy Communion Family Communion	St. Jude's St. Boniface
3	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface

## Christmas greetings

We wish you a happy Christmas and a peaceful and happy New Year, Best wishes **Ernest and Barbara**

Happy Christmas love from **Jill, Lorna, Annie and Georgia Robey.**

Best wishes for a very happy Christmas and a good new year to all our friends, **Andy, Lucy, Sam and Kate Lawrence.**

Wishing all our friends in Bunbury a wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy new year. **Dennis and Betty Clauson.**

**The Rathbone family** say thank you all for your prayers, good wishes, care and support. Seasons Greetings, with love.

A joyful Christmas and peaceful New Year to all in Bunbury, Calveley and Tilstone Fearnall. With love, **Pat.**

**Kathy and Peter Collinge** wish all their friends peace and joy for Christmas and the New Year.

Wishing our Bunbury friends a Merry Christmas filled with happiness, love and good cheer. **Kate & Roger**

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from everyone who works at **Bunbury School.**

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the **Crotty family.**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our Bunbury friends, with love from **Chris and Andy Moore and family xx**

A very happy Christmas and best wishes for 2010 from **the Munro family.**

**Roger and Megan Fairweather** wish all their friends and neighbours a very happy Christmas and New Year

Happy Christmas to all our great friends in Bunbury from **Andy, Janine, Harry, James, Thomas and Edward. x**

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year, love **Paul, Fiona, Katrina and Andy.**

Wishing all in the village Season's Greetings at Christmas and good wishes for 2010

**Anne James**

To everyone we know, with our very best wishes this Christmas, **Graham, Sue, James, Rachel and Jonathan Melia.**

Enjoy! **Peter, Helen, Rob, Claire and Coco.**

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