



Link

October 2022

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A magazine for the parishes of
Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall



1926–2022

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Evensong – turn to p11-12 for a
flavour of how Bunbury parish paid
tribute to HM Queen Elizabeth II.



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You can also read The Link online at:
www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk

Community news

Congratulations to all our recent baptisms and wedding couples!

Rose Elisabeth Humphreys (below), baptised on 22 May.



Andrew Nicholas Mann, son of Gareth and Catherine Mann, baptised on 24 July.

Juniper Peach Safron Sear, daughter of Joshua Sear and Lucy Barlow, baptised on 7 August.

James May and Jennifer Eyre (below), married on 1st September at St Boniface.



Grant Mason and Amy Carter (right), married at St Boniface on 3 September.



Many thanks to **the Arnold family** for delivering the Link in Calveley.

We are looking for two people to deliver in Calveley. If you are interested could you contact Carolyn Johnson or Elaine Crotty. We look forward to hearing from you. Carolyn's number? Elaine 07860 128427

A big thank you to **Anne James** for taking on the role of Foodbank Co-ordinator from Alex Sanders. Thank you also to our growing team of volunteers who take Bunbury village's donations to the food bank, and to all of you who continue to give these donations of food to help others. St Boniface would like to thank Alex for her time as foodbank coordinator – a very important role. Anne's mobile number is 07891 852272. The foodbank is currently in urgent need of: **Pasta sauce, soup, tinned meat, tinned vegetables.**

The **kitchen refurbishment of St Jude's hall** has been completed; thanks to members of the PCC and the local community who volunteered to help. Special thanks to Tiverton and Tilstone Fearnall Parish Council who donated money towards a new water heater and to ward councillor Mike Jones who donated £1000 from his ward budget. The church hall is available for hire – please contact Elizabeth Marren on 01270 528556.

On 20 August Bunbury WI hosted **Victory Belles WI** from Wednesbury West Midlands who are a WI of 1940s re-enactors. All visitors were dressed

A word from the editor

This month the obituaries of Dennis Potter, Leila Potter and Flo Cowap are featured, each of whom gave so much to the community and are mourned by their families.

We also remember the Queen who gave so much of herself to the nation in service and the world. She is also a great loss to everyone and to her family who have to mourn her so publicly.



in authentic 1940s clothes. Victory Belles had previously visited St Boniface in 2019. On arrival at the Church Victory Belles were welcomed by Reverend Claire and enjoyed coffee and homemade biscuits, courtesy of Alan and Mary Pendlebury, prior to a tour and talk on the history of St Boniface conducted by Bob Welch.

Just Sing, Bunbury's newly re-formed community choir, has begun rehearsing for the autumn term. We are holding another Open Evening for anyone interested in joining or just finding out what we do or how we sound at 7.30pm on 17 October in Bunbury school hall. Come along for a glass of wine and a singalong. We are currently practicing *Danny Boy* and other Irish melodies, *A Muppet Christmas Carol Medley*, *Flying Free*, and *I Am a Small Part of the World*. We also do pop songs, musicals and recently sang the theme to the Vicar of Dibley, so we are quite eclectic in our tastes. Many of us do not read music, and there are no auditions so come along for a friendly welcome with no obligation. Contact karen.grimwood60@gmail.com for more info or just come along on the night.

The copy deadline for the November issue is Friday 14 October. The magazine should be delivered on Saturday 29 October. Notices to bunburyparishoffice@gmail.com



TIM HAYWARD

Your Vicar

HM Queen Elizabeth II

She was always there for us

Few of us have experienced life without Elizabeth II being our queen. She's not only been on our banknotes and postage stamps. She's been in our lives. As a vicar I've countless times heard a grieving relative say of their loved one, 'She was always there for you.' Well Her Majesty the Queen has been like a member of each of our families. She was always there for us. She's symbolised and embodied every era of our changing lives and times. God has been always there for us; and so has the Queen. And now she's gone.

If there's one quality that we'd all recognise in the Queen, beyond duty, selflessness and dignity, it would be humility. It's paradoxical to speak of humility when describing a person who spent her life in palaces and grandeur, but the Queen never sought status, recognition, fame or celebrity for herself; she always held her office as a gift from God, and understood her role to being a blessing to all her people, not just in the UK, but around the Commonwealth. Few people have been better known: even fewer people have been more greatly admired for their clarity of purpose and sacrifice of self.

It's not too grand to say she modelled her life on that of Christ himself. As St Paul says, Christ did not regard his exalted status as something to be exploited, but emptied himself. The queen emptied herself into her role within the constitution, to be consulted to encourage and to warn. How many times over (nearly) 70 years have we as a nation and a world had reason to be proud and grateful for her calm head in troubled times. How few of us have ever truly known her opinions and inclinations, and what a testimony that is to her discretion and impartiality!

And yet one thing we all knew, because she repeated it explicitly each Christmas: her uncomplicated, humble faith in the God of Jesus Christ, guiding her embrace of all the kinds and conditions of people over whom she reigned. Has anyone ever grown old with such dignity as her? Has anyone ever borne more faithful witness to the constancy of God?

In the words of Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, ambassador to Washington during the First World War, in his famous poem describing what it means to love your country sacrificially - but also to hope for another country - the Queen certainly has given our nation 'entire and whole and perfect' the service of her love. But she's also looked to a future of which it could be said, 'And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase. And her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.'

Grateful thanks to Lucy Oates

Parish Administrator heads home

Lucy Oates was parish administrator for just over a year. She loved being part of the Bunbury community and getting to know people whose paths she wouldn't have crossed otherwise. She said there are so many great people working quietly behind the scenes to help with the day to day running of the church and to help it be the centre of the community.

Lucy and her husband Rob have moved to be closer to family. She's hoping to find a job once the family are settled, but the family also has potential plans for setting up a holiday lodge or a glamping site

Thank you for all your hard work Lucy – you will be greatly missed by the parish.



Church diary for October

Sunday 2 October	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Worship 10.30am Holy Communion & Forest Church 11.30am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley
Wednesday 5 October	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 9 October	9.30am Family Communion 10.30am Family Worship	St Jude's St Boniface
Wednesday 12 October	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 16 October	9.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Sunday brunch 6.00pm Evensong	St Jude's St Boniface St Boniface
Tuesday 18 October	2.30pm & 7.30pm Contemplative prayer	St Boniface
Wednesday 19 October	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 23 October	9.30am Family Worship 10.30am Family communion	St Jude's St Boniface
Wednesday 26 October	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 30 October	9.30am Family Worship 10.30am Family communion 4.00pm All Souls Service	St Jude's St Boniface St Boniface
Wednesday 2 November	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 6 November	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Worship 10.30am Holy Communion & Forest Church 11.30am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley
Wed 9 November	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 13 November	9.30am Remembrance 10.45am Remembrance	St Jude's St Boniface



Could you be our new Parish Administrator? See ad on p11

Sky notes: October

The two giant planets, Saturn and Jupiter, put on a good show this month.

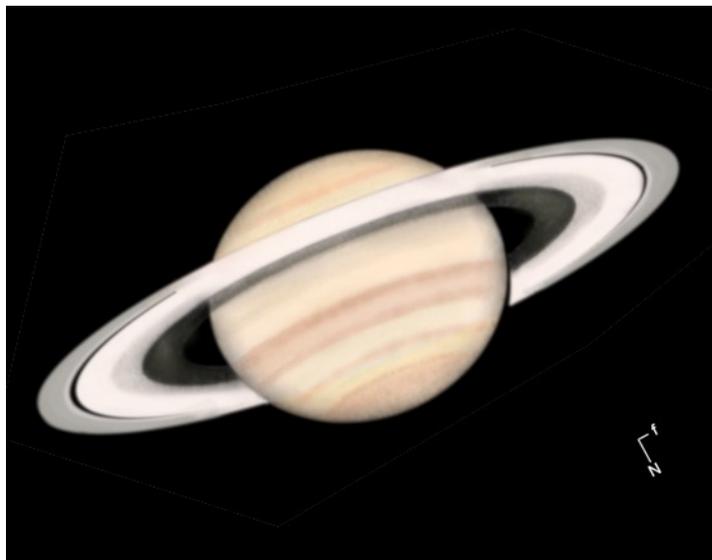
Saturn is in Capricornus and is visible low in the south as the sky darkens. On 5 October it lies just above the Moon. Turning a small telescope to the planet will reveal its rings. Binoculars, whilst not resolving the rings, will show the planet has lobes.

Jupiter is much brighter than Saturn and is visible all night long. Lying in Pisces, it is in the south-eastern sky at dusk. On 8 October the nearly full Moon passes just below Jupiter. Binoculars or a small telescope will reveal its four Galilean moons, named after their discoverer, Galileo Galilei, who spotted them when he first turned his "optic tube" to the planet in 1610.

The red planet, Mars, is also beginning to come into view this month. It rises in the east at around 8.30 pm

You might be lucky enough to spot some meteors on the night of 21/22 October (or even a couple of nights before and after). These are from the Orionid meteor shower and appear to emanate from the constellation of Orion. These are tiny particles of dust, debris left from Halley's Comet as it takes in 76-year orbit around the Sun. The best time is after midnight until the Moon rises at around 3.30 am.

British Summer Time ends at 2 am on Sunday 30 October, so don't forget to set your clocks back one hour before you go



Saturn and his rings drawn by Paul Abel on 19 August

to bed on Saturday night. Some people don't like the clocks going back, but I for one look forward to it as it means I can start stargazing 1 hour earlier in the evening!

Bunbury Stargazer

Meals on Wheels seeks new coordinator

Many thanks to Gwyneth Burrows, who steps down as Meals on Wheels coordinator after 22 years on 31 October.

The organisation was established post World War 2 and initially run by the

WRVS and Social services. In its present form it has been run by volunteers since 1974 who give their fuel and time to deliver meals to some of the community's most vulnerable. Many of whom who live alone, are house bound and who appreciate the social interaction.

The meals are provided by Harvey's Farmhouse caterers for a nominal charge each Monday Wednesday and Friday lunchtime and

delivered by a rota team of 30 people. The role involves organising the rota of drivers, co-ordinating the collection and delivery of meals, returning the payments and being one of the rota of drivers .

For more details please contact Gwyneth on 01829 261084.

Gwyneth said: "It is with pride that I express my sincere thanks and gratitude to all of the volunteers, past and present, who have given their time to support the community service."

Thank you Gwyneth for all that you have done for the elderly in the community. Can you help?

Our prayers for October

Dear Lord,

As the seasons change around us
we thank you for your many blessings to us,
especially our food;
and we thank you too for all those who bless us.

Amen

Bunbury Medical

Practice news: October

Staff Update

The last couple of months have brought a couple of changes to our team here at the practice.

At the beginning of August, Dr Jordan Russell completed her training with us and was successful in her final exams. Dr Russell has been replaced by our new registrar, Dr Hannah May Elmasry who will be with us until October 2023.

In September, Alan Courtenay, our practice manager, left Bunbury for a position much closer to home on the Wirral. With Alan's departure and taking the enormity of the position into consideration, we have decided to divide the practice manager's role into two and as such, Lisa Pywell, our former dispensary manager, will become deputy practice manager. We hope to be able to introduce our new practice manager in the November issue.

We are pleased to announce that we have a new delivery driver; Lynn Millward. As mentioned previously in The Link, we offer a delivery service to those patients who are housebound and live in Bunbury and the surrounding villages.

New Website

We have been aware for some time that our website has been out of date. We are therefore pleased to let you know that the new, up to date website is now available www.bunburymedicalcentre.nhs.uk; we hope you will find useful information regarding appointments, ordering medication and links to a variety of health information. We will endeavour to keep the website updated, for example with notifications of flu and Covid vaccination clinics.

Dispensary

We were recently asked if we could include here some background as to what happens when a particular drug is not available, and perhaps why.

Our dispensary has access to some of the largest pharmaceutical wholesalers. Unfortunately, from time to time, there may be delays in these wholesalers obtaining stock; this can be for a variety of reasons and we will always try to keep patients informed. We have the ability to put items on back order, this gives us priority access when stock becomes available. If we are ultimately unsuccessful in finding a specific drug, with the guidance of our GPs and pharmacist, we will seek an alternative, but this is not always possible. If this is the case, we can offer the script to the patient to take away for them to try and access that particular medication elsewhere on that occasion. We do try our utmost to seek a solution for our patients.

There is a list of unavailable medication on the display board behind the dispensary counter which is updated on a daily basis.

Armed Forces Veterans

We are pleased to be able to announce that Bunbury Medical Practice has been awarded a Certificate of Accreditation as an Armed Forces Veteran friendly GP practice. Being accredited by the Royal College of General Practitioners, means that we can better identify and treat veterans and refer them where appropriate to dedicated NHS services.

About 18,000 service people move back into civilian life every year and whilst most of these individuals have similar levels of health to the general population, around 2,000 leave on medical grounds. The top reasons for medical discharge are for issues relating to back, knees, mental health and hearing.

If you are a veteran, please let us know.

Smoking Cessation

There is now a service for everyone who wants to Go Smoke Free, meaning that all patients now have access to 12 weeks of free nicotine replacement therapy and unlimited behavioural support for as long as they feel they need it. One-to-one support is available in one of the 18 venues across Cheshire West. The service is run by Brio who can support patients via telephone, text or via their Facebook page.

Please contact the surgery if you would like to be referred to the Go Smoke Free service.

Daily 10-minute walk can extend life of the over 80s!

A recent study on more than 7,000 octogenarians found that those who did at least an hour's walking over the course of a week had mortality rates 40% lower than their more sedentary peers. The study had tracked elderly people for five years.

Participants were asked how much time they spent each week on walking at a slow pace, moderate activity such as cycling and brisk walking and vigorous activity such as running.

Regardless of age, adults are advised to do at least 150 minutes a week of moderate activity or 75 minutes a week of vigorous activity.

Researchers concluded that compared to inactive individuals, those elderly people who walked at least one hour per week had approximately 40% lower relative risks of all-cause and cardiovascular mortality.

The best laid plans of bees and man...

Readers may recall that in June I had harvested some very nice honey and was anticipating taking a good deal more, before leaving the ladies to their own devices to plan for what may be a much colder winter. Alas, again to fully quote Burns: the best laid plans of mice (bees) and man gang aft agley ... little did I know!



The bees were obviously climbing up into the roof perhaps because they were feeling a bit hot and crowded down below in the hive. They were also hanging outside the hive entrance in a



behaviour known as "bearding" for obvious reasons, but that didn't give me huge cause for concern as bees often do that if its warm.

I left the hive alone for the bees to settle back down after taking honey, but in early August I had some young visitors come round to see the bees and sample some honey. Once dressed in the full gear they came up to look at the hive with me. I went to open the roof to find that it was stuck; puzzled I used a bit of force and got it open to find that bees had built a huge amount of honey-comb, dripping with honey in the whole of the roof of the hive (see below) something I had never ever seen before and neither had most of the beekeeping folks on the web who I tried to consult!

It soon became apparent that the extremely hot weather had produced so much nectar and pollen and raised the activity levels of the bees that they couldn't find room for all their produce in the hive. I initially thought that I would cut it out and give the comb away to those aficionados who love it whole and consume it and then make some space, but the bees seemed perfectly happy with the situation and so I have left them to their own devices up to now (early September).



I am a great believer in the adage "if you don't know what to do the bees probably will"

The Hive down at the Mill was taking a much more leisurely approach probably because it is in the woods between the Mill race and the Gowy and much cooler.

So, as it comes to nearly the end of the beekeeping season, I am about to address the situation and probably take some of the honey, as, there is way, way more than they could possibly need for even an Arctic winter. They may not be of the same opinion as me and I am anticipating some resistance, but we shall see. There is never a dull moment and I may have chance to make a final report to you good folks on the outcome of that intention before we wrap up for the winter, literally and metaphorically.

So... as I also say, "BEE GOOD!"

The Bunbury beekeeper

Rural Church Schools Academy Trust seeks non-executive directors



The Directors of the Rural Church Schools Academy Trust (RCSAT) are seeking additional non-executive directors to augment the existing team of directors. The role will involve working at a strategic level across all three schools in the trust. The voluntary role is one of strategic leadership as well as planning for future growth.

The existing three schools are: Warmingham CE Primary; St Oswald's Worleston CE Primary; and Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary.

Meetings will be held once per term (November, March and July) with occasional additional meetings and some decisions being made via email. The meetings are held at Warmingham Village Hall.

We are looking for a variety of professional skills. This is an exciting opportunity to be involved with helping to develop primary childrens' education. As a trust, we seek to ensure that every child in our care receives the best possible opportunities. If you would like further information, please contact Nic Badger EHT@RCSAT.cheshire.sch.uk or Piers Bostock chair@RCSAT.cheshire.sch.uk.

School news

New term, new school year at Bunbury

It has been a genuine pleasure to welcome all the children and their families back into Bunbury Aldersey School for the start of the new academic year, writes Nic Badger. The teachers and children are all looking forward to developing our love for learning further over the next 12 months. The children are all happy to be back in class and there is a buzz and excitement in all the rooms. As I walk around the corridors, I am so encouraged seeing my colleagues doing what they do best - teaching the children of Bunbury. The teachers have had a fantastic few days seeing all children return and get back into their routines and re-connect with everyone. The children's behaviour has been exemplary and everyone has warmly welcomed our new pupils in reception and across the school.

Over the summer the school hall has had a lovely new oak floor (pictured right) and the classrooms have been cleared, tidied and are ready for the new school year ahead.

As always the Bunbury teachers are providing a rich and stimulating curriculum for the children which is inspiring the children to engage 100% with their learning. The Autumn term learning is centered around the book *Lots* by Marc Martin, with each class



exploring an area of the world. A quick browse of our class web pages shows the range of learning and experiences on offer.

<http://www.bunburyaldersey.cheshire.sch.uk/classes>

From our youngest learners in reception right up to year 6 we each have a different geography focus ranging from Africa to Australia to the Galapagos Islands.



Book review

Small Things Like These by Claire Keegan

The Booker prize shortlist was recently published and I approached it with great trepidation. I used to dutifully read all six of the entries but in recent years this has become quite a chore. The tendency for the judges to favour increasingly worthy literary novels meant that the readers task became an increasing chore, coping with streams of consciousness and a trendy disregard for punctuation. I am delighted to report that this year has seen a major change in direction towards the concept that a novel should be entertaining!

My first foray into the 2022 list was with the shortest book, more of a novella than a novel at only 116 pages; Claire Keegan's 'Small Things Like These' and it was a delight. Set in rural Ireland in the 1980s, it tackles the scandal and shame of the Magdalen Laundries in an understated way that makes it even more powerful. Bill Furlong is the coal and timber merchant in the small town of New Ross in County Waterford who finds himself at the centre of a dilemma when he finds a frightened young girl locked in the coal shed at the local convent when he arrives to deliver their pre Christmas fuel. The conspiracy of silence that surrounds these practices is

palpable. No one questions the church or the nuns in its service.

The difference for Bill is that he himself was a child born to a single mother and brought up in the house of his mother's kindly employer. The story pivots on Bill's conscience, torn between exposing the malpractice that he knows is going on and the risk that such exposure would bring to his family in this enclosed and conservative community.

Claire Keegan's talent is to immerse the reader in this community and allow us to see through the eyes of Bill Furlong. Our obvious 21st century condemnation of what we now know was a national scandal would have looked very different in 1980s rural Ireland.

If this is a true reflection of the quality of the rest of the 2022 Booker shortlist then I can't wait for the rest.



Paige Turner

An autumnal favourite full of readily pickable goodness

Apple and Blackberry Crumble



Ingredients

750g (about 2 large) bramley apples
400g (about 3) crisp eating apples, such as cox
250g blackberries
2-3 tsp cornflour
100-150g caster sugar, depending on the sweetness of the fruit
For the crumble topping
240g plain flour
150g butter, at room temperature, cut into small pieces
120g demerara sugar

Method

1. Heat the oven to 190°C/170°C fan/gas 5. For the crumble topping, sift the flour and a pinch of salt into a mixing bowl, add the butter and rub the mixture together with your fingertips until it resembles breadcrumbs, as for pastry. Continue rubbing in until the mixture begins to stick together to form small pea-size clumps. Stir in the demerara sugar.
2. Peel, quarter and core the bramley apples, then thinly slice them into a large mixing bowl. Peel, quarter and core the eating apples, then cut them into slightly thicker wedges. Add to the bramleys with the blackberries and mix together.
3. Mix the cornflour with the caster sugar, add to the bowl of fruit and toss together

- well. Set aside for a few minutes until the fruit juices begin to seep out and make the sugar damp, then toss everything together once more until the cornflour mixture clings to the outside of the fruit.
4. Spoon the fruity mixture into the baking dish, then pack it down into an even layer with your hands or the back of a spoon.
 5. Spoon the crumble mixture in an even layer over the top of the fruit. Bake for 45 minutes until the topping is richly golden brown and the fruit is bubbling hot and tender.
 6. Remove the crumble from the oven and leave to rest for 5-10 minutes. Serve hot with custard, crème fraîche, cream, ice cream or yogurt.



Christian Aid service celebration

On 21 August, St Boniface hosted a thanksgiving service for Joyce Buxton, who retired from volunteering as Bunbury's Christian Aid Representative after some 30 years. Andrew Binns, Church Engagement and Fundraising Officer for Cheshire, The Wirral and Staffordshire, thanked Joyce for her tireless fundraising efforts, which included coordinating the distribution and collection of the envelopes each year for Christian Aid Week and hosting the annual coffee morning, where Joyce's hospitality and baking skills were on display. He presented her with a beautiful orchid and framed long-service certificate. Joyce brought some Christian Aid memorabilia and her diaries which showed the longevity of her service.

With Joyce's standing down, there is a vacancy for a new Christian Aid Representative for Bunbury. To look at the job description and to express an interest, either speak to Rev Tim or Rev Claire.



Andrew Binns, Rev Claire Wilson and Joyce Buxton

Parishes pay tribute to HM the Queen

The rainbow that shone over London shortly after the Queens death had a deep impact on those who witnessed it.

A splash of colour in the form of ribbons was tied to the tree in the churchyard in memory of Queen Elizabeth at the Sunday Brunch service . Families were asked if they might like to say a prayer in memory of the Queen reflecting on what she meant to them.

That evening, a special Evensong was held. It was moving to see the youngest to the oldest members of our community come together, some in uniform, some wearing medals, all with sadness and love reflecting and giving thanks for the life and faith of Queen Elizabeth. Thanks especially to the High Sheriff for reading the lesson.



Bunbury's bells ring out for our late Queen

Over the 10 days of National Mourning for Queen Elizabeth II, Bunbury's bells were rung as part of national ringing requested by the Royal Household and the Church of England.

Initially the Tenor, our heaviest bell dating back to the early 1500s, was tolled for one hour on 9 September to mark the announcement of the death of the late Queen. Two days later the bells were rung in celebration of the proclamation of the accession of King Charles III.

During the remaining period of national mourning our bells, along with many other church bells around the country, were rung "fully muffled". This is where leather pads are attached to both sides of the bells' clappers to soften the sound each time the bells ring.

Ringing in this way with both sides of the clapper muffled is only done following the death of a monarch, so had not previously been heard in the UK since the death of George VI in 1952.

The photographs show the bells with their muffles attached, and the band of Bunbury ringers who rang our bells during the hour prior to the State Funeral on 19 September. A short video of some of that ringing can be viewed on the Bunbury Church Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/36051641738



Bunbury Gardening Club Annual Show



Tomatoes, tomatoes, tomatoes, an event where they stole the show. We were not expecting a very special show considering the mixed growing conditions that prevailed this year, however we gave it our best. I have never seen such a selection of tomatoes from cherry to extremely large, in a show before.

The growing conditions had been perfect.

There was plenty of other produce on show in the horticultural category. Large onions, red rhubarb and perfect potatoes, the trophy was won by James Lunt.

flower arrangements. Kath Roden won the cup for her displays, the enchanted forest and platinum jubilee.

There were colourful dahlias and pot plants plus a fine example of a pitcher plant. Kath Roden also won the trophy in the roses and other blooms category. A display of Dennis Burrows favourite begonias, our long standing garden club member, were displayed in his memory.

The Helen Martin trophy for the best cake was won by Annie Thomson for her coffee and walnut cake. The winner of the cookery rolling pin was Linda Gow.

In the craft section there were some fine necklaces and knitted items. The blue giraffe won by Sue Langley.

There were some lovely photographs of bugs and seascapes. The photography trophy went to Bronwen Kelly.

Children's entries

A trophy to Daniel Todd for the biggest weed. Emily and William Thrussel won a cup and the chairman's choice award went to William Thrussel.

The chairman's shield, went to Jane Overy for her exquisite dish of hedgerow fruits.

The Frank Matthews memorial trophy for a basket of produce went to Keith Blackwood and the Frank Forrest trophy, which is the judges choice also went to Keith Blackwood for his basket of fruit.

Tea and homemade cakes were served by members of the committee throughout the afternoon.

A great show for all our fellow gardeners.

A big thank you to all the helpers and exhibitors, without whom we would not have had a successful day.



Parish Administrator needed to help with the growth of the church – could it be you?!

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is looking to appoint a part-time Parish Administrator working a total of 15 hours (which could be split over a number of half-days) at an annualised salary level of £7,722. The PCC aims to align the hourly rate to the real living wage as determined by the Living Wage Foundation, which changes over time.

Rev Tim is involved in an ever-growing number of village, parish and diocesan activities which the PCC wants to encourage. To achieve this there is a need of administrative support. We are looking for someone with administrative and IT skills who will work with Tim and play a key role at the heart of the church and parish.

Job duties will include to:

- organise and maintain computerised and other records and filing systems for the vicar and parish

- manage diary appointments for the vicar and other officers
- manage correspondence for the vicar and PCC, organising (incoming and outgoing) mail, responding as necessary
- develop and update databases for the parish
- publish flyers or posters
- develop, print or photocopy items

For more information please contact Rev Tim or send CVs to the Vicarage.

Tel: 01829 261511 Email: revtimhayward@gmail.com

Closing date for applications: Friday 11 November 2022.

Provisional date for interviews: Friday 18 November 2022.

The successful candidate will hold responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all whom s/he has contact or for whom s/he is responsible and will need a DBS check.



Claire Wilson

Embracing our imperfections

Whilst walking along the canal the other morning, I came across three cygnets swimming along. They were doing what cygnets do, hissing at passing dogs, commanding the whole canal, ducking their heads under water and swimming effortlessly along, waiting for that day when they turn into graceful swans.



On closer inspection one of the cygnets had a rather pronounced curve in its neck which must make eating difficult. Often in nature, those creatures with an



abnormality are ostracised, rejected, or bullied. But this cygnet appeared to be the leader of the clutch; where it went, the others followed.

Throughout the Bible, we encounter folks that God chooses to work with and through, who are not perfect

but carry with them some form of impairment, character flaw or have an issue to contend with.

Starting with Abraham, who is often referred to as the father of the faith, as from him came God's promise to bless all the nations of the earth. Twice through cowardice, he allowed his wife to be taken away by other men.

Jacob, Abraham's grandson, stole a blessing intended for his brother Esau and later, after wrestling with an angel all night, ended up with a dislocated hip that meant he walked with a limp, but his name was changed to Israel, founding a great nation.

Moses, after committing murder and fleeing Egypt, was commanded by God to go back and tell Pharaoh to set the Israelites free, despite him having a speech impediment.

David, who was known as a man after God's own heart, committed adultery and murder.

Jesus's own mother, Mary, was an unmarried teenager.

Paul, who became an apostle to the early church, originally persecuted Christians.

God doesn't expect us to have it all sorted. He chooses us in our brokenness, ordinariness, and weakness to help those around us and to herald his kingdom in.

How refreshing that we don't have to keep up the charade of perfectionism. God says his strength is made perfect in our weakness, as his grace is enough for us.

Mike Rogers



A Sat Nav and God

I wonder if you, like me are old enough to remember those days when finding one's way on a car journey was done with the help of a road map (usually out-of-date!) and by following road signs. I can even recall the route planning service provided by both the AA and the RAC. All you had to do was tell them your start and finish point and they would produce a booklet of turn-by-turn directions.

It's not so nowadays. Many cars are come with a built in Satellite Navigation system, one's 'smart' phone is similarly equipped or dash and windscreen mounted devices are available.

So, gone are the days of looking at a map before setting out for a new destination; now the only preparation is putting the postcode into whatever style of Sat Nav you use and following its guidance. Whilst doing exactly that, it struck me that a Sat Nav is a wonderful metaphor for God.

Let me explain.

A Sat Nav is not fixed on one route and one route only. It adapts with changing situations. A good Sat Nav will even adapt the route to conditions ahead - road works, traffic jams, and road closures. They all prompt a recalibration of the best route to your destination. God's guidance in our lives is just the same. Sometimes things outside our control can make the route difficult, but whatever life throws at us, God's purposes remain, and if he has to change the route to get us there, he does just that.

A Sat Nav adapts to our mistakes. It doesn't matter how many missed junctions or wrong turns we make, it simply changes the route and carries on. Occasionally, it may have to resort to telling us to "Make a U-turn when safe to do so" but even then, it gets us back on track. God is the same. No matter how many mistakes we make, he is always ready to guide us back to the right route.

A Sat Nav is always patient. When we take a wrong turn, the Sat Nav's voice remains patient and calm. I have never heard a Sat Nav shout at anyone, swear at anyone, or lose its temper. So it is with God. He shows immense patience when we think we know better than him, when we change our minds, or simply decide to follow our own way.

And lastly, a Sat Nav never gives up. It always adapts, it always gently corrects and it always patiently guides us to our destination. In the same way, God never gives up on us either. He is always there, ready to guide us.

Now, has anyone got the postcode of Heaven?

Leila Potter 1930–2022

Memories of Leila by her daughter, Sarah, and the origin of the Bunbury Care Agency

Sadly, Leila, my mother, passed away peacefully on the day of the Summer Solstice, (also Prince William's birthday); she adored the royal family. She played such a significant role in the community and was always there to help and support good causes and local people. I remember in particular, coming home from boarding school and she was so excited she nearly forgot to collect me from the train. She had just managed to persuade the Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council to install hot running water and inside facilities for the old peoples' homes in the village. I didn't understand what all the fuss was about until she told me that they had to go in a shed in the back garden. Of course, I was horrified but immensely proud of what she had achieved.

As many know, she achieved a multitude of triumphs, supported by my father's amazing logistical skills, such as establishing 'Village Day' in the grounds of Foxdale. We had a giant marquee in the field for a barn dance in the evening. I think people staggered home well after midnight.

Huge thanks go to her carers who looked after over the years: Belinda, Michelle, Amanda, Sandra, Sharron, Megan, Carol, Rebecca & Nicky.

As her eldest daughter there is little more that I can say that many people don't already know. She had limitless energy and determination. She stood out in a crowd with her passion for fashion, not always the best time to be a daughter! She lived a long and fruitful life and definitely made her mark on Bunbury and beyond, as well as with her beloved friends and of course, her family.

On the start of the Bunbury Care Agency, Leila has written: *"I was having difficulty in finding the right person to look after my three children, Sarah, Lucy and Emily. I had become a local Councillor and suddenly my life had become rather hectic. When the Agency started, I wrote everything out by hand but after six months I needed a secretary. The Bunbury Domestic Agency as it was known then, was in business and our slogan was and still is 'Everybody needs Somebody'. Ten years later, I was employing three people and clients and staff were contacting us from all over the UK. As time went by, my mother needed a live-in companion housekeeper. We needed staff that had the skills and experience to look after older people and so I started our 'Rosy Rota' Care Service, so named because I love the colour pink!"*

Florence Cowap

Florence Mary Edge was born on 13 January 1926 in Ridley to Frank and Mary Edge. She had an older brother, Les, and three sisters, Phyllis, Joyce, and Grace.

On leaving school, she worked for Parton's Farm in Ridley as housekeeper. She met Oliver Cowap at a local dance at Bunbury and there followed a romance and wedding at this church on 7 April 1947.

After they were married, they moved to Bunbury and Flo began to work for the Churton family. During this time, she joined with many other ladies under Mrs Churton's watchful eye to sew the church kneelers. And I was delighted to hear that some of the kneelers contain letters inside.

Flo also worked for Harvey's catering in Ridley which she called her family. These jobs were always subsidiary to the work she loved best, raising her boys, Maurice and Brian and later being surrounded by her grandchildren, Paul, Alison, Simon and Trevor, her eight great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren and their loved ones.

Gardening was another passion of Flo's, who had amazing green fingers, making all that she touched flourish and grow. Feeding and watching the birds in her garden brought her great pleasure. And when she wasn't doing those, she could

be found knitting or on trips with the Wednesday Club. She had many happy holidays with Oliver, even going as far as America once to visit family over there. She was a member of St Boniface Church for many years until she became housebound.

Oliver sadly died on 3 September 1989 and Flo managed to stay at home for many years with the help of Tattenhall Homecare. She then moved to Wrenbury Care Home where she was cared for, for the last six months of her long and wonderful life. Despite having dementia, Flo remained a thoughtful and gentle soul, one of the staff commented that they wish they had 30 more Flo's in the home, as she was a joy to care for and each night when they turned off her bedrooms lights and shut the door, they would always hear a "thank you" from Flo. She also made a good friend called Dorothy and together they had fun. Brian recalls going in to find her wearing pretty bows in her hair and on one occasion she was waving her brightly coloured pink polished fingernails in the air, a rare and whimsical treat for hands that over the years were more familiar with being in water for scrubbing the front doorsteps.

But most of all Flo loved her family and they loved her back and will miss her so much.

Dennis Burrows

Dennis was born on 15 June 1933, the youngest of ten children in Highbury, London to James and Edith Burrows. His father and mother moved to London prior to the 1914 war due to shortage of work. His father was from Winsford and his mother was from Wettenhall. His father served in the Coldstream Guards and then joined the Metropolitan Police before retiring in 1939 when he and some of his family moved to Bunbury. At 7 years old Dennis joined Bunbury choir and was a bellringer and actually rang the bells for the Queen's Coronation in 1952.

After leaving school, he worked on the family small holding before doing his National Service from 1953 to 1955. In July 1955 he married Frances Hughes and in 1956 Denise was born. Tragically Frances died in 1957 and he and Denise went to live with his parents at Hill House Bunbury.

One-night Dennis asked Joan Hall if he could walk her home – it was all of 20 yards from the Nags Head to her house. They went on to marry in October 1959 and Alison was born in 1960 followed by David born in 1962. Dad worked for Davies Tyre House and then Firestone before starting his own business in Chester. David joined Dennis in the business, they later relocated to Calveley before moving to Nantwich where D&D Tyres was born and where they are today.

Dennis loved his garden. He grew many plants in his greenhouse and loved begonias which were famously entered in the Bunbury Gardening Club Flower Show. Many people knew Dennis for his friendly wave from his chair in the

window as they went past and his chats when he was out on his daily walks. Dennis and Joan loved their holidays, Canada, Llandudno, Guernsey to name but a few. They enjoyed many of these holidays with friends and family.

Dennis and Joan were avid Manchester United supporters and went to many games for many years. He joined the Royal British Legion in 1955 after finishing his National Service and was still a member. Dennis became a freemason in 1973 joining Stanlow lodge in Ellesmere Port, which he loved and enjoyed, he was in many Lodges and was a founder member of Cheshire Farmers Lodge, It was a very large part of his life. Dennis chaired Bunbury Parish Council for 8 years and was a Church Warden at St Boniface from 1985-2002 Dennis was a wonderful Dad to Denise Alison and David. They had a lovely childhood, never wanting for anything. He was always ready to help anyone in anyway he could be that family or friends. He was a very proud of his grandchildren and great grandchildren and all their achievements, seeing them all regularly. He will be greatly missed by all the family.



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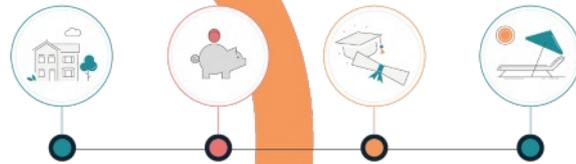
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