

Bunbury Village Day entertains the crowds



I suppose it was about time we had a wet Village Day, after several held in brilliant sunshine. Sure enough the day dawned grey and gloomy. Before long, the rain was teeming down, to the dismay of so many involved in Bunbury's busiest day. But just as we all resigned ourselves to umbrellas and wellies as we set off for the parade, the rain stopped and eventually the sun shone on what was one of the most successful Village Days we remember. Although each year the parade seems to shrink – despite the committee's encouragement – the participants made up for their low numbers with plenty of enthusiasm and

imaginative costumes inspired by this year's theme – 'Outer Space'. This year's winning junior float was created by Bunbury School.

A very big thank you to all the members of this year's committee: Alison Davies (chair), Sarah Donaldson (secretary), Hayley Cooper (treasurer), Frances Lawford, Nick Parker, Roger Fairweather, Helen Craig, Sharon Helsby, Rob Davies and Sally Beard: they worked long and hard to put together the day's entertainments. The tug of war competition was a particular success this year – thanks to Johnny Gillett for his rabble-rousing – which brought forward teams of all ages and both genders. New this year were the miniature railway, climbing wall and craft tent which all attracted lots of interest from young and old. Photos of the day are on pages 4 and 5 and see page 13 for competition winners.

Well done, Helen



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Pictured left is Parish Council Chairman Dennis Burrows presenting Helen Martyn with the Chairman's Cup. The cup is awarded annually to a member of our community judged to have made a special contribution to the life of our village. Helen has taught many hundreds of local children in her work with Earlybirds Pre-school.

Wedding congrats

All the very best to Laura Ridley and Spencer Payne pictured below after their marriage at St. Boniface on 23rd June. Laura is the daughter of local preacher (and Good Companion) Mike Ridley and wife Carole .



Cupid's Revolver to visit St. Boniface - see page 6

The pleasures of beachcombing

Summer holidays on the beach can produce memories that last a lifetime - exploring rock pools and collecting pretty shells and unusually coloured pebbles. When one was young we didn't question what the seashells were or where they came from but always expected to find some. What kind of shells you encounter depends on the type of beach. Razor shells, cockles, oysters and whelks favour sandy shorelines whilst limpets seem to appear everywhere and cockles love mud. Mussels attach themselves to boulders and rocky shores where they enjoy a constant flushing from the waves crashing against the rocks. Occasionally a more exotic-looking shell will be found and this provides great excitement and interest. These exotic shells have completed epic journeys, possibly hitching a lift on the Gulf Stream.

On most beaches both live and empty shells can be found. Seashells are, of course, the homes of animals known as

molluscs. These fall into two groups, gastropods and bivalves. Gastropods are marine snails such as limpets, periwinkles, dog whelks and winkles whilst bivalves are animals with two shells hinged together such as clams, cockles, mussels and oysters. Looking at the motionless shells on the beach, it is difficult to understand what their purpose might be. Though they may look inactive, they play an important role in the global food chain. They clear algae off rocks and act as nature's rubbish collectors. They eat seaweed and this passes energy to the creatures that feed on them such as starfish, crabs, fish and birds. Not all seashells are herbivores though: the cowrie eats seasquirts, while the dog whelk consumes other snails using acid on its tongue tip to drill a hole through the shell.

These days we are made to feel guilty if we pluck the odd wild flower or take shells from the beach but mankind has probably always gathered seashells.



Shells strung as beads have been found to date back to 75,000 BC and many Aboriginal people relied on them for food. Henry VIII wore a shirt bound with seashells and shells have long been adapted as lamps. Many pebbles have been taken from our beaches to enhance our garden features and this has caused serious erosion in some places. Whilst the impact of taking shells would not be as great as this, they are still important for the ecology of the beach. They produce calcium when they break down and large amounts of our beaches are made from such shells. If you are tempted to go beachcombing and get carried away and gather a large quantity of shells, before leaving the beach why not pick your favourite few and leave the rest behind? Always make sure the ones you take are empty.

Liz Jones



Liz writes for us every month but in case you don't know what she looks like, here she is hard at work serving refreshments with the WI on Village Day.

The Reverend **RICK GATES** 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

St. Boniface

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	Walter Done	01244 332563
Youth Worker	Johnny Gillett	office 733563
		mobile 07843 428842
Secretary	Neil Dewson-Smyth	261680
Flowers	Margaret Bourne	260944

St. Jude's

Churchwardens:	Bob Gardner	260555
	Linda Downey	732017
Secretary	Ann Posnett	260251
Organist	Ann Badrock	260343

Calveley

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

Link is edited by **Lucy Munro (tel. 260487)** and **Jill Robey (tel. 260081)**. We welcome all contributions. Our deadline for the joint August and September edition is Monday 16th July. Please send material to lucykmunro@hotmail.com.

Our vicar, **Rick Gates**, is always available in times of sickness, bereavement or any distress.

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Put the past behind you

'So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away: see, everything has become new!' (2 Corinthians 5,17)

Mary Magdalene was, I believe, one of the most important people in the story of Jesus. All four Gospels agree that she was one of the principal witnesses of both the crucifixion and the resurrection of Jesus and that she was sent to tell others the good news.

We don't know an awful lot about her but there's no doubt she was what's called, virtually in capital letters, 'A Woman With A Past'. All sorts of traditions and stories have grown about her but in any case, it's clear that she carried with her a bad reputation which must have been almost impossible to overcome.

Many men would have run a mile from a woman like her. But not Jesus. He handled her with courtesy, respect and affection. He didn't push her away, as others did. He healed her and that showed her that God still loved her. Indeed,

Jesus chose her to be his principal witness, showing her that a shady past does not preclude a glorious future.

Christianity really ought to be known as the religion of the second chance. Our churches are not hothouses for saints but rather seedbeds for repentant sinners. The Christian Church seeks to be famous as the place where those with a shady past of any kind are helped to make a new beginning through the love and grace of our Lord Jesus.

Fred Astaire sang a song by Jerome Kern with these words:

Nothing's impossible I have found,
For when my chin is on the ground,
I pick myself up,
Dust myself off,
And start all over again.

The truth is that Jesus is always there, longing to pick us up, dust us off and make a new beginning with him.

Eric Wallington

Father and daughter in Ugandan mission

At the end of July we are going as part of a group of 20 to Uganda with the Christian charity, Mission Direct.

The purpose of our trip is to build classrooms for a school attended by AIDS orphans and to work on the construction when we are out there. The school is in a town called Rukungiri, situated in the south of the country about 8 hours drive from Kampala.

Currently there are 750 children at the school and they have up to 100

children in each class so extra classrooms are desperately needed.

In order for us to understand a little better what it must be like for many Ugandan children who frequently go hungry and to raise funds for the project, earlier in June we did a 36 hour sponsored fast.

We are very grateful to everyone who supported us and thanks to people's generosity we have raised over £1500 all of which will

go towards buying building materials and labour in Rukungiri.

We will write to Link when we get back and bring you up to date with how the trip went.

Paul & Katrina Holbrook

Anyone who would still like to make a contribution to this worthy enterprise please contact Paul on 01829 770567.



Prayer for those in rough seas

As an island nation, we are never very far from the sea. But as we eat our fish and chips, how often do we think about those people who work at sea, often in dangerous conditions?

As we go through our own storms in life, maybe we can understand their fears and worries. This month we think about all sailors.

Protect me, dear Lord.
My boat is so small
And your sea is so big.
The sea is rough, Lord,
As are many journeys.
Protect me in this vessel
And be with all who
Venture on life's mysteries.
For I am but a cork,
Battling against the tide.
Steer me, my Lord, to peace and calm,
Safely in your hands. Amen.

Pat Edgley



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Village Day 2007 - an alien invasion?





A little girl takes a rest after the tug of war.



Guest of Honour Leila Potter crowns this year's Rose Queen Chloe Johnson, watched by last year's Queen Chloe Stratton. By coincidence both Chloes have parents called Sue and Tim!



Thanks to roving photographer and general factotum for the Church and the Link, Peter Crump. Peter took many of the photos shown here.

Youth Action

One distinctive feature of Christian youth work is its emphasis on reconciliation. The Christian youth worker should be acting as mediator and advocate. That means he or she should be looking to bring people together who may not normally meet up. This provides the opportunity to find out new things about each other. It's all part of helping us see how we are each members of the same community. Here some recent examples:

A few weeks back, the YCs and Club15 met up on the Jubilee Playing Fields to play some wet and messy games. It was a raucous time and thoroughly enjoyed by all. This was especially seen when members of both groups spontaneously competed in seeing who could slide the furthest on an exceptionally slippery tarpaulin!

This year we were able to put two teams up for the Diocese Sports Tournament – one from YCs and other from The Cross. However, one member of The Cross team did not turn up! This would have meant that the team could not play. The day was saved though by Ashleigh Dean who very kindly offered to transfer from YCs for a couple of matches. And

then later, Dale Done offered his services to YCs to help them boost their score. It was great to see two different teams supporting one another in making the best of this tournament. The Cross team made it to the final, but lost out to their opponents who had a couple of very big players!

And now, plans are moving for a Christian rock concert at St Boniface (see the advert below). This concert with Bolton band, Cupid's Revolver, is for all young people in the area. And we will be joined by other youth groups from surrounding churches as well.

The concert is in response to our visit to the event "Are You Bovered?" in April. A number of our teenagers went along and enjoyed the band so much that we have invited them back to Bunbury.

So put the date in your diary, tell your friends, book your tickets and join all the young people who will be there. Maybe you'll learn something new about each other and about yourselves!

Johnny: 01829-733563 Johnny@stbonya.org.uk



The Cross team (left to right): Poppy Hill, Paddy Taylor, Charlie Wood, Ben Unsworth, Rebecca Holland, Dale Done, Will Furredge



The YCs team Charlotte Everton, Charlotte Greenbury, Peter Mulcahy, Toby Middlemiss, Olivia Waddington, James Melia and Alex Burrows

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, Bunbury Scout Hut

Tuesday: D of E Award

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

Club 13

7.30 to 9.00pm, Bunbury Scout Hut

Thursday: T7.5

7.30 to 8.30pm: St Boniface.

And at Tarporley High School:

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Year 10: Fri

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Rock Concert at St Boniface

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8.00pm-10.00pm

For ages 12-18

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Under 5 years free

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Have you got a grabber or a snapper?

Have you ever noticed how many different types of letterbox there are? You would have thought that once urban man had identified the need and come up with a reasonable solution to what is a fairly simple problem, an efficient design would become standardised. One or two manufacturers would enjoy a near monopoly and all our front doors would be equipped with the perfect receptacle for letters, newspapers and parish magazines.

But wouldn't life then be boring for postmen and all the other delivery-people? As it is, they must approach each unfamiliar door with caution. First – locate the letter box. Most are obvious, placed in the middle of the door, a few are unexpectedly vertical, a few are positioned at the back-breaking bottom of the door (and a few are never located at all!). Second – listen carefully: are there doggy sounds

within? A low box coupled with an enthusiastic hound is the recipe for disaster: shredded mail or shredded fingers. Third, how wide is the slot? Answer – never quite wide enough. Finally, your intrepid deliverer cautiously raises the letterbox flap, but watching out for grabbers and snappers: some of the springs make even opening the box a tricky manoeuvre, some are so fierce that only an expert escapes with knuckles unscathed.

For obvious reasons, few of us have ever experienced the terrors of our own letterbox. But spare a thought for your indefatigable Link deliverer, newspaper boy and postman: maybe your post arrives crumpled, folded and torn for a reason!

(These thoughts were inspired by **Elaine Crotty!**)

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Save the Family has plans for Cotton Hall

There was a large poster in church inviting people to Cotton Hall on Saturday 19th May. I don't quite know what I was expecting, but I thought perhaps it was just showing what went on at Plas Belin and this was a central venue. How wrong can you be?

Cotton Hall is a farm that has more than fallen into the needs of a handyman. The barns were "naturally air-conditioned", and there were at least 5 of them. The farmhouse - well, many of the visitors wished that they could have put it into their cars and taken it home: even in the state it was. It will one day be a beautiful home. The picture boards led us through the programme that was to be undertaken, and much help will be needed. There will be accommodation for single people with special needs and family housing. All in all there will approximately 26 units of various sizes. There will be educational units, quiet areas for study and safe play areas, for children, who fear socialising and are in need of love.

Many of the volunteers from Plas Belin had spent Friday putting up marquees, brushing out dirty barns, setting out chairs, and hanging tarpaulins to keep out draughts. This was where we were going to hear some very special news. Edna Speed, OBE (Chairperson of Save the Family) told us about the wonderful gift the Westminster family had made in giving this land to the charity. The Duchess of Westminster, along with many of the governors and directors of the Trust were available to answer questions and to ask for volunteers and financial support. Mrs Speed told us of some past residents

of Save the Family who had made jams and chutneys, on a very small scale, and sold them at a profit. They re-invested their cash, made some more and sold it in the Chester open Sunday Market. Women who had nothing, but a yearning to get out of a rut had lifted their heads above the parapet. The jam and chutney is of the highest quality, I know, I tasted them.

A group of children then entertained us. Their age range was from 7 to late teenagers and their music and movement was very moving, telling the audience of the need for such places as Cotton Farm and of course Plas Belin, and of how many of them shudder to think what would have happened without P.B as it is affectionately known. All the staff at P.B. are dedicated in giving these children a new outlook on life, in some cases a life they have never known.

Tea, coffee and cake was served in the marquee, where there were hand made items for sale, including beautiful cards, shopping bags, and aprons.

I know that later this year there will be an appeal towards this fantastic project and I hope that we can extend our help. The contributions we have already made to StF have not gone unnoticed, believe me. Mention St. Boniface, Bunbury, and thanks for our support is always forthcoming.

Many thanks to everyone who has helped in the past, and thanks to those who will help in the future.

Barbara Croley

Diana and Pam in marathon Bra Walk fundraiser

I just wanted to thank you all for your very generous support for our MoonWalk adventure in Edinburgh on the night of June 16th/17th. Although almost midsummer it was cool (the thermometer struggled up to 15 degrees during the day) and damp. It rained all day, stopped for the actual start of the walk - but as we came down from Arthur's Seat it began to rain again and didn't really stop until dawn. Not exactly perfect conditions for walking around town in your bra - but many did. Nesh southerners as we are, we wore waterproofs as well. Despite that we finished in 6 hours, 50 minutes - within our target time of 7 hours. The first 15 or so miles

went fine, then it became a bit more of a struggle as my dodgy knee began to complain and my left foot decided to join in. Going uphill for the last two miles seemed the height of cruelty, but it felt great when we rounded the corner to cheering spectators and the big pink finish line. Quite an emotional experience! Pam and I spent the rest of the day hobbling around. We think we're on target to raise over £1200, so that makes the whole thing worthwhile - I couldn't begin to contemplate giving up and having to face you saying I'd wimped out!

Diana Caldwell

Mark Lewis

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Rick writes

I would dread more than anything to lose any of the 5 basic senses, of touch, smell, taste, hearing or sight. The worst must be hearing or sight because the loss of either would create in me a terrible inner loneliness which I imagine would be unbearable.

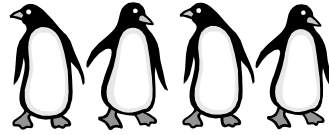
The man in the event re-told by Mark, (Chap.7 vs 31 -37) was deaf and could not communicate. It fills me, in my imagination with a terror of being trapped in a body with no way out. Imagine how great was this man's isolation, some might say, "Thank God he could still see and smell and touch". But he could not hear. He could not speak. He could not tell his loved ones, his wife, his children, his friends, of his love. He could not speak a word of sorrow, or express his grief, but had to keep it bottled up within. He could not hear the joy of children. He could not hear the words of comfort or encouragement that we can receive from one another. He could not listen to the wisdom of others nor the infectious laughter that makes us feel good. Around his world was a barrier of silence.

We have a promise, an understanding from God that He can break through all barriers, and enter our isolation and turn it into fellowship.

God can work within the depths of our souls to the core of our personality, into the very heart of our inner self. God is within, God is without, God is here. May the Lord banish all our isolation and inner loneliness.

May the Lord use us to banish the loneliness in others.

St. Boniface Summer Holiday Club!



Join these 4 cheeky penguins for at the St.Boniface Holiday Club.

- ♦ 3 fun packed mornings 30th July to 1st August
- ♦ for children age 4-11
- ♦ spaces limited to 50 on a first-come, first-served basis!

Don't miss your chance of a place! If you haven't already received a registration form via school or by post, forms are also available at the back of the church or from Debbie Shears (260707). Please return your forms to Debbie Shears by the 13th July at the latest!

We also need as many helpers as possible to run the Holiday Club. Don't worry if you can only help for one of the three days, we will still appreciate your help. Please contact Debs Gillett (260680) to volunteer.

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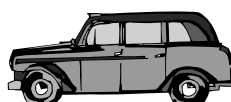
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North wall put in order in £35,000 overhaul

Over recent months visitors to Bunbury will have noticed the North Wall of St. Boniface was hidden by extensive sheet metal. What was going on? At long last the crumbling masonry was being repaired. Churchwarden Walter Done writes:

'Our contractor, Lambert Walker, has completed the work on the north aisle parapet on time. The stonework is now secure with new stainless steel fixing rods and worn and cracked stones have been replaced. The firm have maintained

excellent site security and even agreed to do some additional work on the adjacent roof without additional cost. We were lucky to have them. The cost of some £35,000 will be met by a grant from the Cheshire Historic Churches Trust (£5,000), our own Target 1250 committee (£5,000) and the balance from St Boniface Restoration Church Trust (now much depleted!)

News soon of proposed work on a new audio system for the church, improved heating and work on the bells.



The extent of the repairs to the north wall is shown above with a distant view of Church Row beyond. Thanks to rooftop photographer Peter Crump who was kitted out with hard hat and his own safety shoes!


Some of the blocks at the top of the wall had to be completely replaced - you can spot the new blocks from below. Each took more than 3 hours to carve!

Target 1250



The Target 1250 Committee was delighted that some of the money raised over the past 18 months has been turned to stone! This is the aim of the Committee's fundraising and it is exciting to see the Church benefiting from events such as the Ranulph Fiennes evening and the very successful balloon races of the past two years. Pictured left at Village Days is last year's lucky winner of £50. Shown right is Rose Queen Chloe Johnson helping Debs Gillet with the launch.





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Many happy returns to the St. Boniface chandelier

This summer marks the 250th anniversary of a very visible feature of St Boniface – one which most of us have probably never looked at closely. In 1755 the roof of the nave was partially rebuilt and in July 1757, in a parish-wide celebration, the new 'Chandelier of brass' was hung and dedicated – and it has hung there in the nave ever since.

St Boniface's is very fortunate in being one of the few churches whose chandelier, once a very common decorative feature, has survived: and we are particularly lucky that it has not been spoiled by adaption for lighting by gas or electricity.

The chandelier (known at the time as a candlestick or 'branch') was purchased, according to an inscription on the lower globe, 'by a voluntary subscription of the parishioners of Bonebury An: Dom: 1756'. It seems this brief description wasn't entirely accurate, as some of the money seems to have been raised for the rebuilding of the roof, but surviving accounts do show that the chandelier was purchased for £22 and a shilling, and transported to Bunbury for an additional cost of 18 shillings and ninepence. The records do not reveal where the chandelier was made but research into the style and manufacturing technique of similar surviving examples suggests it was made in London.

Though information about its manufacture is scant, we know a lot about how the chandelier first came into use, as the event was faithfully recorded by the Rev. William Cole, an historian who happened to be visiting Tarporley at the time. Hearing about the celebration, he came to see what was going on:

'Hearing that there was a famous Rushbearing, as the Cheshire People call it, on account of the hanging up of a

new Chandelier of Brass in their Church, which cost the Parish about 30 Pounds, we took a Ride there in the Evening to see the Ceremony. The Parish is a large one, and has about a dozen townships depending on it, which all sent, at different times, garlands and large kinds of fans, adorned with gilt paper cut with various figures, and mixed with flowers; these were borne by separate persons, each having one in his hand, and coming in procession from the many different townships at intervals, and many of the neighbouring villages sending them garlands, all which were set up in different parts of the Church, and made it look very

ornamental, and gave the whole village an air of gaiety and cheerfulness not usual in the southern part of the Kingdom. On the Dedication Day of their Churches in the North, it is usual to straw them with rushes and otherwise adorn them, but it had not been practised at Bunbury within the memory of man; but having new roofed their Church about 2 years before, & very handsomely ceiled it, & buying the aforesaid Branch, they were desirous of solemnising the memory of it, & the Day following was to be ushered in with the ringing of bells & 2 sermons & great Psalm singing and other Festivities.*

This eye-witness account manages to conjure up a vivid picture of a real village celebration – perhaps in our

modern Village Day we experience some of the same spirit. And what modern-day innovation will be written about in the Parish Link 2257? The O2 Mast?

*This extract and the historical facts were taken from '**The Chandelier of Bunbury Church**' by Robert Sherlock.



Do you remember Blaster Bates? - help requested

We have been contacted by Jason Adlard who is working on a Blaster Bates tribute website, a preview of which can be seen at www.blasterbates.info. He has asked us for more information about this well known character, particularly his involvement in the Beeston Castle motorbike hill climbs:

Jason writes: 'Derek "Blaster" Bates was a Comedian, Raconteur and explosives expert who would go around telling stories of his antics to round table societies, luncheon clubs and in theatres. Over the years he raised many millions of pounds for charity sponsoring such courses as the Cheshire homes, church roofs and children's charities to mention but a few, from his talks, taking part in donkey derby's and his dare devil motorcycle antics.

I was hoping that some of your readers may have information that would be of interest to fans, photos, stories, promotional literature, information about the locations of the stories or any who would be willing to recount reminiscences. In your area one particular story of great interest is Blaster's involvement in the Hill climbs held at Beeston castle

in the late 40's and 50's for example one year (maybe 1952 or 54) Blaster fitted rockets to his old Norton Motorbike which ended up in a cloud of dust and a trip to the hospital. This was filmed by the Gaumont newsreel (footage still exists) and was shown all over the world.

Any information would be very gratefully received.

I hope to have as much of the site completed as possible for around 1st September when the Crewe Chronicle (and maybe other publications) will be writing an article to tie in with the first anniversary of his death in which the site will be mentioned.

I hope to have other pages up detailing the locations where some of the stories took place and a page of reminiscences written by fans and friends of Blaster.

Many thanks'. **Jason Adlard**

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01851 870318/07970 304294
Jason@planetzed.co.uk

Bunbury's young actors win festival trophy

On the evening of 25th May Joel Grimwood, Georgina McParland, Isabel Wheatland, Annie Robey and Lizzie Simpson (ages 12 down to 7) headed off for the Wilmslow One Act Drama Festival (held over 4 nights) and represented one third of the cast from the Cheshire Academy of Performing Arts (CAPA) in a 30 minute production of "Waiting for Pandora" by Geoff Bamber, directed by Fran Helliwell. On the journey they were full of anticipation, rehearsing their lines in the car and discussing the likelihood of nerves and possible pitfalls like seasoned pros. Isabel Wheatland, 9, coolly announced that it was her 10th show – she is a veteran of Mrs Hanlon's ballet shows as well as a member of the theatre school since she was 6! Joel fretted that his Dad might fall asleep and we would know because he snores. Other theatrical Dads, John McParland and Jim Simpson, who had shown characteristic confusion earlier in the afternoon as to what exactly was going on, succeeded in arriving in the audience with other members of the children's considerable following in time to find out. Before that, the young performers were shown the stage by Fran (who works as a chaperone to children in professional productions) and went on to give an outstanding, polished performance. Joel

was a particularly convincing "Spirit of Gloom" and delivered some deliciously witty and blood-curdling lines with excellent timing, ensuring that his Dad thankfully stayed awake. Georgina was entertaining and confident, helping to spread the gloom as "Woe" (one of the Spirit's sidekicks), and Annie and Lizzy formed half a quartet of sweet, wiggled, plaited girl scouts, following their leader Blue Moose and injecting some refreshing goodness into the story to counteract all the gloom. The younger children only had the opportunity to take part due to many of the older students being already on their way to half term holidays that evening and they seized it in style. Isabel, in the major role of "diminutive old lady who everyone underestimates" was poised and word perfect. All the children spoke beautifully and those unaccustomed to the bright spotlights that make the audience invisible adapted well. Although most of the children missed hearing the adjudicator's glowing praise at the end of the evening (being tucked up in bed at home by then) they subsequently discovered that they had won the trophy for the Festival's Junior Section.

Jill Robey

Local skiers show promise in summer league

On 13th May, whilst some Bunbury children were getting wet practising for the bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, Holly French, Alexa Clauson, Georgina Gardner Stockley and Sophie and Alex Caldwell were getting wet representing their ski race club, Snowsports, at Rossendale dry ski slope.

Over 200 people aged from under 8 to over 50 competed in the first race of the summer league in far from ideal conditions. They all successfully completed their two runs, with Alexa and Holly finishing 10th and 13th in the under 16 girls, Georgina 3rd in the under 14 girls, Alex 12th in the under 14 boys and Sophie 4th in the under 12 girls.

There are another 4 races in the series and Matt Clauson and Toby French are expected to take part in some of them.

Janet Gardner



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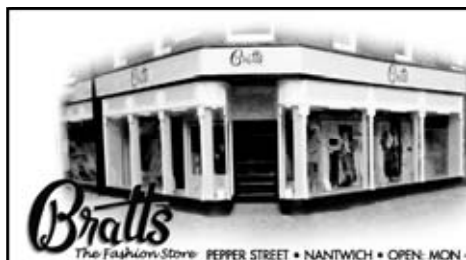


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News from St.Judes

It is said that 'the Devil looks after his own', or is it that 'the sun shines on the righteous'? Well if the sun did not exactly shine, at least we had a dry day for St. Jude's annual parish lunch. It was a highly successful day, thanks to the efforts of Ann Posnett and Charlotte Okell and other members of our church. Our sincere thanks to Mr and Mrs Okell for the use of their home and garden.

On the 9th of July morning service has been cancelled, and members of the congregation will be attending churches on the Wirral looking at various forms of service – what we might call a 'church crawl'! We'll be seeing other forms of worship, which we may then be able to use to enrich and enhance some of our own services at St Jude's. Why not come and join us?

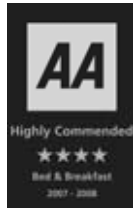
This month we said goodbye to the late Mrs Betty Harding, a long-time resident of the parish. Her funeral took place on Thursday 14th June: the interment was in the family grave in St. Jude's graveyard.

Bob Gardner

B&B awards for Sandhollow Farm

In its first year of operation Sandhollow Farm B&B in Burwardsley has been nominated for 2 awards. Elise Stafford was nominated for the AA UK "landlady of the Year" award and was a finalist, from 4,000 nominees. The final was held in London on 23rd May and although she didn't win the title, she was extremely pleased when she realised she not only represented Cheshire, but was the sole nominee for the north of England.

Then the B&B was nominated for the "Best B&B in Cheshire" by Visit Chester and Cheshire Tourism and took second place at the award ceremony on 8th June at Chester Racecourse with a special award of "highly commended".



Sadlers Wells Wood Village Day Quiz

A good entry in the Village Day Quiz produced multiple winners in both the Junior and the Senior Quizzes and in both cases the final result was declared after a name was drawn "out of the hat".

There were five Juniors who recognised all six birds and they were:-

Catherine Bull, Abi Grey, Rebecca Grey, Andrew Jones and Robert Jones. Robert Jones was the lucky competitor selected.

In the Senior Quiz four competitors recognised all eight plants. They were:-

Gordon Carmen, Peter Frodsham, Liz Jones and Liz Jones. No it is not a typo (for once - ed) the Jones really did get most of the correct entries. Once more into the hat and Liz Jones (of the Square, Bunbury) was declared the winner.

Band night thanks

Many thanks to all those who supported Richard Munro and his brother Nick at the 'Front Room' band night in the Village Hall on June 15th. The event raised £1500 for Guide Dogs for the Blind and was great fun into the bargain! Richard and Nick's 300 mile bike ride in the Alps takes place in September. You may spot Richard out training at the weekends but he is worried that Nick is not taking it seriously enough and may need a push!

Ralph wipes the board

Bunbury Scouts once again organised some imaginative ways to play with food on Village Day. Congratulations to the winners in this year's Foodathon competition: well done to Steve Mulcahy, who ate 5 pickled onions in one minute and to David Grace who was the adult winner of the Smarties with chopsticks competition. Sophie Caldwell was particularly determined to win the junior prize, triumphing at last after attempting the competition 9 times. (Would that have happened if her mother Diana had not been moonwalking in Edinburgh?)

A special mention to Ralph Elsegood, aged 11, who wolfed down 4 doughnuts in 2 minutes 15 seconds, beating single-handedly all the teams of four.

We hope you're all feeling better now!

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Remembering Pippa Bacon

St. Boniface was full for the funeral of Pippa Bacon. The following is an extract from the eulogy:

‘Asked by the family to speak about Pippa, I chatted to many people about their memories of her, and what she had meant to them. I heard the same words time and time again: ‘kind’, ‘immensely talented’, ‘resilient’, ‘caring’ – and of course, ‘wicked sense of humour’.

Pippa’s mother, Emmy, told me that most of her talent came from her father, Pat McCormick, though she likes to think a small part might have come from her. Her abilities really started to blossom when she went to Roedean at 13. It was there she struck up a relationship with her art mistress – not just for her teaching, but also for helping her get out of compulsory cross country runs!

At 18 she was sent to Florence to study fine art: she adored the city and all it had to offer, and before long she had even managed to sell some of her paintings after exhibiting them in restaurants and cafes.

Returning from Italy, she was soon lured by the bright lights and late nights of London, where she met Michael. Inviting him to the Batchelors Ball at the Grosvenor, they ended the evening engaged to be married. The wedding was at Tytherington Manor Farm in 1965.

They came to live in Hunter Cottage, Cotebrook, where Laura was born, then moved to Oscroft House, in dire need of renovation. While Michael set about the outside, the inside received the full force of the ‘Pippa Factor’ and was rapidly transformed into something really special. While this was going on, Holly was born, but two young children and a house in tatters didn’t slow Pippa down – she was frequently seen leaping across open gaps on the first floor, babe in one arm, paintpot in the other, and cocker spaniel in tow.

Later the family moved to Manley Hall – the parties they held there are legendary. You always knew Pippa was there before you set foot in a room as you were greeted by her distinctive

laughter while still at the door. Sadly, the parties came to an end: Pippa left with the girls to live in Ireland where they stayed for two years. As ever, Pippa’s immense charisma attracted many friends, amongst them Clement Freud, who gave the family a cat called Kitty Grimble and during that time Teddy Bacon became a frequent visitor.

The family returned to Cheshire in 1975, moving to Kelsall, and while they were living there Teddy proposed: they were married in 1977, moving together into Teddy’s house, The Oranges. There were many happy times there: Pippa recently confided that not a day went by that she didn’t wake up next to Teddy and consider how lucky she was. Unfortunately, business circumstances forced them to move again – despite this knock-back, Pippa immediately took up the challenge of transforming a damp farmhouse into a warm and welcoming family home.

From Laurel Bank Farm they moved to Jasmine Cottage, living there for a number of years before selling up and moving to Chiswick, where with Teddy’s help, Pippa set up Pippa Bacon Interior Designs on the King’s Road. Her business head combined with her talent and for ten years she transformed the homes of wealthy Londoners, her work taking her overseas to Stockholm and Paris. Teddy was pivotal in running the business behind the scenes. After ten years they returned to Cheshire, their spiritual home, and bought Jasmine Cottage for the second time, as it was fortuitously on the market.

Pippa did so many jobs during her life – from wedding organiser to insurance salesman to interior designer, but of all things she did and created she always considered Laura and Holly her greatest achievements.

Whatever Pippa did, she did to perfection, with a level of enthusiasm and energy that would leave most of us out of breath. Whatever life threw at her she took, and came out fighting, with a grin on her face’.

Archie Campbell

Once again it was a packed St Boniface that listened to these memories of Archie Campbell, given by his nephew:

‘Uncle Archie – as I knew him – but whether it was Archie, sir, brother, pop or granddad, no-one could disagree – Archie Campbell was ‘the best of men’, made of the stuff that keeps the rest of us glued together. A family man, a happy and warm man is how I’ve always thought of him. Honest, hardworking and hard playing: always sincere and genuine.

I’ve known him all my life and have never heard a bad word against him. Everyone loved Archie and, I believe it was obvious, Archie loved everyone: his soul mate and the love of his life, Julie; his sister Elaine and her family; his children Mark and Sarah; his grandchildren Tom, Matt and Lissie; all of his friends and colleagues and not forgetting his beloved dogs.

He loved life and lived it to the full. He loved the countryside and all that nature could offer, and he loved his country. He was proud to be British, serving it through his time in the forces and through his businesses. But whether he was dealing in meat or ladies’ lingerie, you would always be seduced into buying more than you bargained for! He was

just such agreeable company: even whilst sleeping, he was the life and soul of any gathering.

When Julie was taken from him so tragically just a few years ago, he was naturally devastated and heartbroken. Julie was his life. Together they were an institution and, although in many ways her loss may have been the beginning of his own demise, he never gave up on life. He rebuilt, made new friends, kept his dignity and enjoyed many of his days in good company, drinking, reminiscing, sleeping.

We all have stories of his unyielding delight – the party never started until Uncle Archie arrived. Sitting with the family last night, we were full of laughter as we remembered a catchphrase so often heard in the wee small hours – ‘Mummy, take me home, I’m in a mess!’

Towards the end of his life he realised his time was near, but not with self-pity or regret. He had lived his life. He had made his peace. He was ready for his journey. I know his family are comforted in the knowledge that he will at last be back at Julie’s side. That’s how I picture him: dogs at feet, glass in hand and Julie at his side.’

Community news

Proud granny **Wendy Slack** has written in to tell us of the birth of another American grandchild. **Ethan Henry Popple** (pictured below) was born on 19th May 2007 in Frederick, U.S.A. to **Melissa and Chris**, a little brother for **Ella**.



We couldn't resist including this picture of Carole and Mike Ridley's little grand-daughter dressed in all her finery for her aunt Laura's wedding! See the bride and groom on page 1.



Welcome back to former Bunbury schoolboy **Dan Thomas** (possibly born and bred in Bunbury too?) who has moved back from Bristol with wife **Debbie** and three young children. Dan is pictured here with his youngest at



Village Day - good to see he has already thrown himself back into village life - next stop the gardening club, Dan!

Dan's parents **Mike and Trish** may already be enjoying lots of extra babysitting opportunities!

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"I went to bed at 11 pm", said the woman, "and by 4 in the morning I still hadn't got to sleep. So I woke my husband and told him I'd got insomnia. All he said was "What the heck are you trying to do - start an epidemic?"

After months of anticipation **Huckleberrys** farm shop opened its doors to customers on Village Day. It is good to see the premises once again open for business.

Local photographer **Natasha Marshalsea** was asked to take some photos of the Rose Queen parties on Village Day. Anyone wishing to view these professional photos which are for sale can view them on her website. Under "client previews" the password is "bunbury". Included are some rather good pictures of the 1250 balloon launch.

The CAB Rural Advice Service is now based at the new surgery in Bunbury every Wednesday from 11-1. The van no longer visits the Nags Head. However, there is a new service for the van at Bickerton Hall every Thursday from 10 - 12 noon.



Church news

Martina Phillips has written with the total collected from Children's Society Boxes. Many thanks to all those who contributed to the £378.33 raised this year.

Joyce Buxton wishes to pass on her thanks to all who supported this year's Christian Aid campaign which raised the record amount of £1042.

We are sad to report that **Johnny Gillett** will be leaving his post as youth worker for St. Boniface after 3 years having accepted a new post working with young people in Halton, Runcorn. Future plans for the youth mission are under consideration and will be published in the Link when they are confirmed. Johnny, Debs and family meanwhile are planning to stay living here in Bunbury.

Johnny and Debs Gillett are looking for adult volunteers to help with the smooth running of the rock concert at St. Boniface on the evening. If you can help please call Debs on 260680 or Johnny (see numbers on p2).

Those who have noticed problems with the **sound system at St. Boniface** will be relieved to hear that plans are in hand to replace it with a more modern and reliable system. The current system has been in place for 17 years.

This month please pray especially for Neville Edgley and Claudia McLaughlin; for the Weaver, Mossford, Major, Campbell, Watson and Bacon families and all those mourning the death of a loved one; for those who are troubled in body, mind or spirit and for those who care for them.

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Diary

July

1	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Worship	St. Boniface
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Calveley
4	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
5	7.30pm	Choir Practice	St. Boniface
8	9.30am	Morning Service	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Communion	St. Boniface
	6.00pm	Evensong	St. Boniface
11	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
14		The Bunbury Ball	Cricket Club
15	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Jude's
	11.00am	Cricket Service	Bunbury Cricket Ground
	11.00am	Matins	Calveley
		Church Cricket Match	Bunbury Cricket Ground
18	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
22	9.30am	Morning Service	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Communion	St. Boniface
25	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
29	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Communion	St. Boniface

August

1	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
5	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Jude's
	10.00am	Family Worshio	St. Boniface
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Calveley
8	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface

Looking ahead

August

27 Bank Holiday Food and Fun Day Beeston Castle

September

11 Confirmation



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