

Link

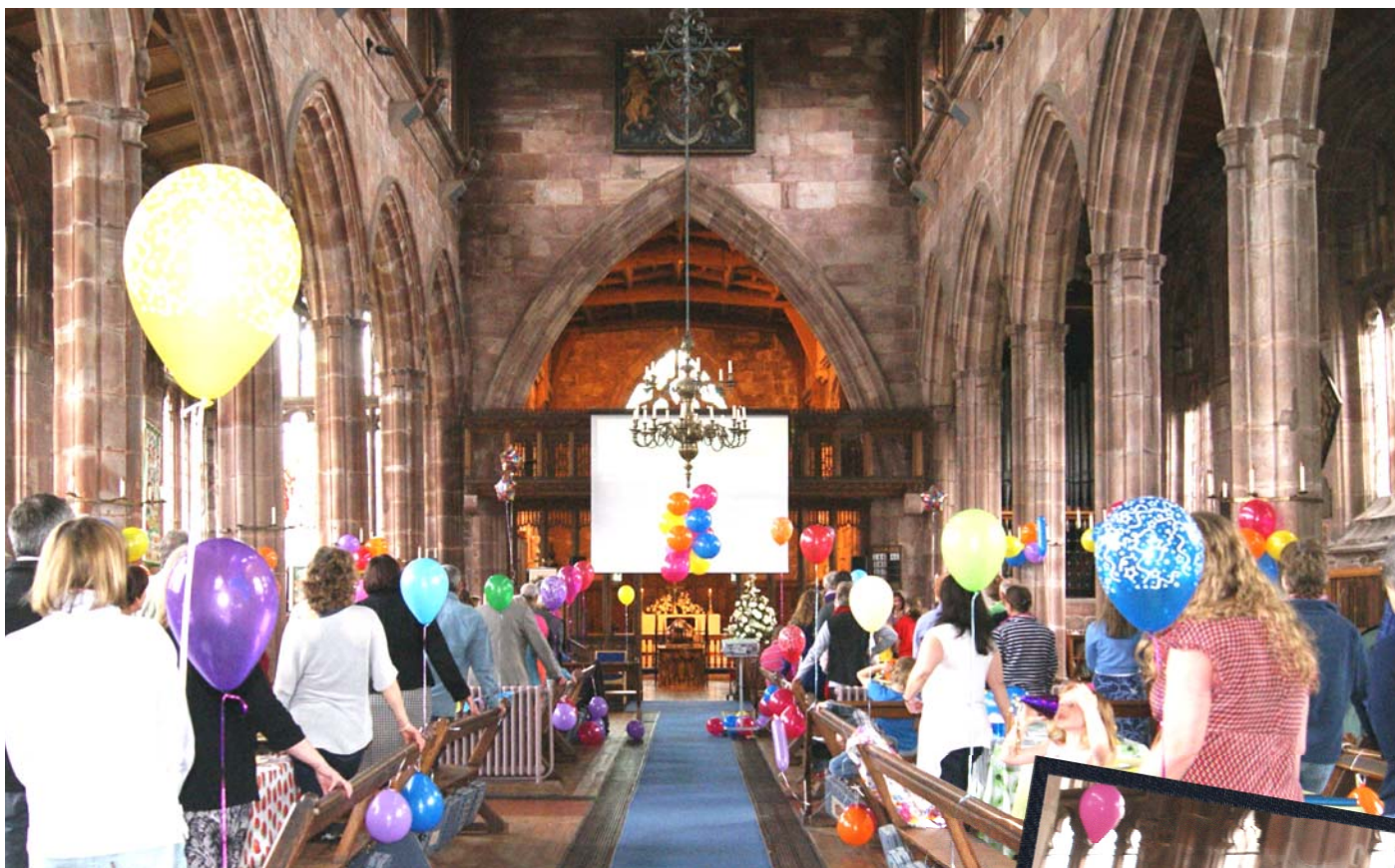
For the parishes of Bunbury & Tilstone Fearnall



June 2013

The pessimist may be right in the long run, but the optimist has a better trip

Daniel L Reardon



Celebrating Pentecost

"I was absolutely dreading Saturday 18th May," writes Wendy Slack. "A sleepover in church with 15 teenagers and a party at the 10am service the next morning?!"

Read all about the YCs' exploits and Pentecost on pages 8-9

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Steve Mort gives us two minutes



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Youth worker Kim bids farewell

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Community news

We are delighted to congratulate **Benn**



Camber and **Katy Sheppard** on their marriage, held at St Boniface on 27 April.

Happy birthday to **Bethany Shears**, who will turn 18 on 8 June!



Congratulations to **Mike and Carole Ridley**, who celebrated their joint 130th birthday recently! As one party guest commented,

Carole is stunning at 40, but Mike...

Congratulations to **Clare Mould and Madeline Jones**, who completed the London Marathon and raised £3500 for their charities (Miscarriage Association & Wellchild).



Thanks to all who sponsored them, wished them well and congratulated them afterwards. Special thanks to **Kevin and his team at Tilly's**, who hosted a quiz and race night to raise funds.

Congratulations to all those children who took exams this term with **The Journey Man Theatre**. There were 77 entries this year: everyone passed and 90% did so with distinction! These are JMT's best results ever! Well done to everyone.

Congratulations to **Jon and Lindsay Cox of The Yew Tree**

on winning a bronze award in the Tourism Pub of the Year category at the Visit England awards.



Thanks to all those who supported **Vikki Huxley's afternoon tea** in support of **Pancreatic Cancer UK**. They raised £970 towards their total target of £8400 (see

article opposite) and are grateful to Follies, The Wardrobe, Piste, The Flower Room, Acassa.co.uk, peasknees.co.uk for



their raffle prize donations and to Cheshire Vintage China, Okells and The Chocolate Shop for their help in putting on the event.

Walter Williamson and his family would like to thank all those who gave support following the death of his wife, Mary. He writes: "My family and I were absolutely stunned by the love and tributes to Mary. It brings home to me that I belong not only to my own family, but also to the families of St. Boniface (incl Calveley) and our many friends at St. Jude's. Thank you."

The **Parish Council** anticipates that a number of **large planning applications** for new housing will be submitted in Bunbury over the next few months. The Council will listen to, and support, residents' objections. In keeping with their duty to act on behalf of the whole village, they may also open dialogue with the developers.

The **Parish Plan Committee** will report back on the headline points from their initial analysis of the questionnaires using a **poster exhibition** in the Pavilion on Village Day on 15 June. A more detailed presentation will be made later in the year and the results will be discussed with the village before a final plan is published.

The **copy deadline** for the July issue of the Link is **Friday 14 June**. The magazine should be in church for delivery on **Friday 28 June**.

Our prayers for June

We pray for all who are ill, including **Hilda Elsworth**. We pray for those who are mourning a loved one, including the families of **Mary Williamson, Claire Jones, Ruby Parkin, Patty Brines** and **Baby Evelyn Rose Harding**.

A note from the editor - it's good to daydream

When I had a 'proper' (i.e. paid) job, I spent a fair amount of time daydreaming. I may have appeared to be working hard at my computer, but often my mind wandered off in various directions. Now that my days are not as structured and I spend a day on many activities in a variety of places, I don't get the chance to daydream much. In fact, I would have to carve out time to do so - and this, it turns out, is important: daydreaming is officially not a waste of time!

Researchers at the University of California, Santa Barbara found that periods of quiet reflection help us to become more motivated and less anxious, to perform better and to plan more effectively. Their study showed that people who returned to a difficult task after taking a break and doing an easy task boosted their performance by around 40 per cent, whereas there was little or no improvement for people who either did another demanding task during the break, used it to rest or did not have a break at all.

Periods of quiet introspection can boost concentration, memory and moral judgment. "Our fast-paced urban and digital environment could be undermining chances of reflection," observed Dr Mary Helen Immordino-Yang in Perspectives on Psychological Science. For children, time spent looking inward is on the decrease, as attention in school and through social media is outwardly-focused. While outward attention is essential for learning, reflection is equally important, fostering long-term healthy development and helping us make sense of the world. This in turn contributes to positive moral thinking and wellbeing.

Doing simple tasks that allow us to daydream is also key to solving trickier questions playing on our minds, the scientists found. "If your mind didn't wander, then you'd be largely shackled to whatever you are doing right now," Jonathan Schooler, psychologist at the University said in The Boston Globe. "During a daydream, your thoughts are really unbounded."

Some of the most important scientific breakthroughs ever made - by everyone from Einstein to Newton - came about as the geniuses behind them allowed their minds to wander.

Now this research has shown that we mere mortals can also improve problem-solving in the same way. Might daydreaming also be a form of prayer? Getting closer to your subconscious through your daydreams might help you realise what you seek and what is being asked of you by God. As the Psalm says, "Be still, and know that I am God."

TIM HAYWARD

Your Vicar



Father's Day will soon be upon us. A day that was created to complement Mother's Day. A day to give thanks for our dads or grandads and their influence upon us.

As well as the old favourites, such as socks or ties or whiskey, shops are now selling 'once-in-a-lifetime gift experiences', like driving a Ferrari round Silverstone, or going on a VIP tour of Anfield or Old Trafford. Like many events in the calendar, it's becoming more and more commercialised. However, research suggests that the thing most dads want is simply quality time with their children. Time to talk, time to laugh, time to grow close, time to love.

Becoming a dad was the most life-changing thing for me. Nothing quite prepares you for it. As I sat in hospital, holding my newborn baby, I remember being mesmerised at the precious gift of life and love I held in my hands. I soon realised life would never be the same again, and there is nothing I would not do for my child. I discovered within me a love I never knew was there.

A life-changing love

Becoming a dad also had a profound impact upon my faith. Sociologists have a theory of the looking-glass self: you become what the most important person in your life thinks you are. It could be your mother or father, your husband or wife, perhaps even your teacher or boss. How they see you, how they treat you, their expectations of you all have an impact upon the person you become. And as a person of faith, I too am shaped by how I picture God.

When we talk of God, we often talk of God as 'Father'. Jesus encouraged us to pray, 'Our Father...' and so to think that God loves me like I love my children, that God is proud of me, that there is nothing God would not do for me, that God will love me no matter what, and that God's love is a gift, and is freely given... well, that is life-changing too.

Walking in their dads' footsteps

On 25-28 June, Bunbury's Vikki Huxley and her sister Rachel Parker will walk Hadrian's Wall in memory of their dad, Glyn Parker.

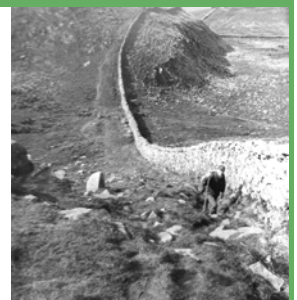
"We lost our lovely dad to pancreatic cancer in August 2010", writes Vikki. "He left behind our amazing mum Claire and his two precious grandchildren Calum and Lowri. Following a tough couple of years we have decided it is time to do what dad would have done and help prevent other families from experiencing the pain and loss that pancreatic cancer causes. We aim to raise £8400 and hope this will help to raise the profile of this disease."

Pancreatic cancer currently has one of the lowest survival rates of any cancer. Research and innovation to enable earlier diagnosis will bring better

outcomes for future patients. Glyn walked the 84-mile Hadrian's Wall path over seven days in 2005.

His daughters aim to complete the walk in four days (that's almost a marathon a day!). As Glyn was a sociable man who enjoyed a pint or two with friends and family, they will walk the last 12 miles again on the fifth day with friends and family.

You can visit: www.justgiving.com/Vikki-Rach to sponsor them or for more information go to www.pancreaticcancer.org.uk.





Eric Wallington

Reader Emeritus

Thought of the month

Jesus was a great story-teller and what wonderful stories they were! The crowds gathered to hear him and hung on his words because he kept them well entertained. They had never heard such stories before - stories of sheep and shepherds; naughty sons and forgiving fathers; passers-by refusing to give any help at all to the victim of a mugging - it seemed like an endless stream of verbal picture painting.

Jesus, it hardly needs to be said, knew what he was doing. People who would very likely be quickly bored by a lecture will listen to a really good yarn. I suppose that none of us particularly likes other people telling us what to do; we generally prefer to make up our own minds how to behave.

The stories of Jesus allow us to do just that. He describes an event in everyday life and asks us to decide what we would do in a similar

situation. Then, when similar problems arise in our relationship with God or our 'neighbour' we're better able to deal with them.

The Gospels don't call the tales by Jesus just stories; they use a special word: parables. In other words they were tales that carry our thinking beyond the literal meaning to a deeper, symbolic level. And, of course, parables are often referred to as 'earthly stories with a heavenly meaning'.

Jesus used every means at his disposal to challenge his listeners. Any storyteller will say that the best way to keep people's attention is through humour. He once told the story about one blind man taking another by the hand to show him the way, and then both falling into the ditch - a case of 'the blind leading the blind'. Who can suggest in any way that God doesn't have a great sense of humour?

Church diary for June

Sunday 2 June	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley	Wednesday 19 June	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 5 June	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Sunday 23 June	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Holy Communion	St Jude's St Boniface
Sunday 9 June	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Communion 6.00pm Evensong	St Jude's St Boniface St Boniface	Wednesday 26 June	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 12 June	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Sunday 30 June	9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Holy Communion	St Jude's St Boniface
Sunday 16 June	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Morning Prayer 10.00am Family Worship 11.00am Family Worship 4.00pm Deanery Songs of Praise and cream tea	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley St Jude's	Wednesday 3 July	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
			Sunday 7 July	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley



Pat Edgley Ellis

Reader

Something for nothing

We all love a bargain, and we are bombarded by special offers on everything from holidays to tea bags to sofas. Things are not always what they seem, and we may end up feeling we've been conned.

We live in a culture where we expect cheap food and cheap clothes and we don't want to pay the real price for anything.

Meanwhile, our plates get bigger, our portions increase, and so do our waistlines!

It can be that we are inadvertently exploiting other people, those with few resources, little food and even less power.

The recent collapse of the factory building in Bangladesh brings to mind the real price of those cheap clothes.

Lord Jesus,
You paid the full price to redeem us.

Give us the grace to understand how our actions
Affect the lives of others.

May we appreciate the blessings you give us each day.

Sharpen our senses to
See what we are looking at
Listen to what we are hearing,
Taste what we are eating
And celebrate the way we are loved by you.

That we may give back just a little,
That our nothing may become your something
And our lives become a living prayer.

Give us Two Minutes... Steve Mort



Steve Mort was born in Gates Heath, Tattenhall in May 1971 and grew up in No-Mans Heath, near Malpas. After school, he trained as a heating engineer and had a career in plumbing and heating until last September, when he started as maintenance manager at Crabwall Manor Hotel and Spa, in Mollington. He has a 19 year old daughter from his first marriage. He met his second wife Mel in May 1996, when he went to fix her

boiler! Having been together ever since, they have now been married for 14 years and have three beautiful children. They moved from Wem to Haughton in August 2003 and Steve has been chairman of Bunbury Village Day since 2009.

If you had a motto, what would it be?

Life is not a rehearsal!

It's a celebrity beer call. Whom would you like to invite?

Peter Kay and Keith Lemon. it would be a night filled with laughter.

What would you call your autobiography?

The best is yet to come!

What was your first job?

Heating Engineer at A&L Construction

What would you change about Bunbury, if you could?

More activities for the old and young in the village.

What is the best book you've read to date?

I don't get much time to read books. Usually read kids books to Lacey. So I would have to say: Peppa Pig and Ben & Holly.

What is your biggest regret?

Not taking a job offer in Australia at the age of 17.

If you were granted one wish, what would it be?

Perfect health. I suffer from extremely painful nerve entrapments in both arms. And have had one operation to relieve them in one arm. But I am still in a lot of pain. I have no feelings in some of my fingers, which makes some day-to-day tasks very hard!

What is the one thing that people would be surprised to learn about you?

I rescue and rehabilitate birds of prey as a hobby. I take in injured birds, and after a full recovery and a vet check, they are released back into the wild. Or, if they would not survive in the wild, I give them a new home. I also re-home pet birds of prey from people who cannot keep or do not want them any more.

What would you like to achieve most over the next 12 months?

Job promotion

What is your favourite place and why?

Home! Where my family are.

How would you spend your ideal weekend?

I would spend it with my family. A long walk with Jake, our dog, and then to a local public house for a cool beer and something nice to eat. And just relaxing at home.

More community news and forthcoming events

St Jude's is holding a **Deanery Songs of Praise** for Father's Day on Sunday 16 June from 4pm at Tilstone Fearnall. Cream teas will be served courtesy of Tilly's and there will be raffle prizes to be won, as well as the opportunity to sing some well-known hymns. All are welcome - please come and join friends and churches from across the deanery.

Raising money for St Boniface church, **Beeston Castle fete committee** is holding a re-run of the exciting **balloon race** seen on Village Day in 2009. Please contribute to the fun by buying a balloon for £2 and crossing your fingers that it travels furthest by Fete day (26 August). The lucky winner gets £50. Balloons are available via Bunbury school pupils during half term, from committee members and on Village Day.

The **Bunbury Gardening Club** will visit The Old Cottage, Frodsham on 18 June. To find out more, please contact Adrian Caine on 261163.

There will be a **village car boot sale to raise money for the Bunbury Playing Fields** on Sunday 23 June from 8:30am. Cars will be £10 each, and undercover spots - which include a table - cost £15 and need to be booked. Please book ahead so organisers can cater for refreshments. The event will be very well publicised so we expect to bring in a good number of buyers. To register your interest, please contact Jane Thompson on 260003 or e-mail: Jane@ditnet.co.uk

On Sunday 14 July at 12pm, **St Jude's** is holding a **summer lunch** at the home of the Maddocks: Four Crofts, Alpraham Green!

The four Bunbury girls pictured below, **Zoe Green, Eilidh Bodfish, Frances Munro and Rachel Overy**, set out in 2012 to raise £1000 for Whizz Kids, a charity funding specialised wheelchairs for disabled children. Eighteen months later the final donations have been gathered in, and here they are pictured with a cheque for the grand total - £1500 - all raised by the girls through cake sales, carol singing and saving loose change. The girls, all now 14, thanked all their supporters during morning service at St Boniface on 18 May. A great achievement and a very worthwhile cause!



Zoe Green, Frances Munro, Rachel Overy and Eilidh Bodfish announce the total raised for Whizz Kidz in church

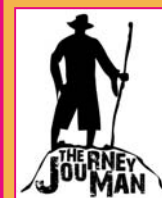
Bunbury Beaver Elizabeth Jones meets Bear Grylls



Congratulations to seven-year-old **Elizabeth Jones**, who won a Bunbury Beavers drawing competition and got to meet the chief scout Bear Grylls as a reward!

Elizabeth told The Link: "Meeting Bear Grylls was amazing as I had only just

started Beavers when I won the competition! I wasn't the only one that won but I was the only one of the six winners who was from Bunbury. On the day, I showed Bear Grylls my picture of him and he said, 'Well done!' 'I'd seen lots of video clips of him. He has done some amazing things like crossing a river full of alligators with just a little knife and also drinking elephant poo juice! He arrived in a helicopter and it was the closest I've ever been to one. It was great to meet someone really famous and the whole of the Beavers group was there. I loved it! We did lots of great activities at the Party in the Park afterwards. It was a very special day to remember.'



THEATRE SUMMER SCHOOL

"Much Ado About Earthlings"

Venue: Bunbury Scout Hut

Age: 8-11 years old

Dates: 29 July-2 August 2013

Further info or registration form:
theatre@thejourneyman.org.uk
01244 940141

Other sessions happening all year round

Tearfund and The Wingate Centre benefit from your giving

In the last two issues of Link we have featured four of the charities that St Boniface is supporting through its giving: the Church Urban Fund, Hope House, The Barnabas Fund and Village Water. This month we look at two more: **Tearfund** and **The Wingate Centre**.

It has often been pointed out that churches provide the most comprehensive network for the delivery of services and help to those in need within the UK. They have a presence in every community no matter how affluent or deprived. But this is not unique to the UK. Tearfund works through churches to address needs in countries all over the world (currently more than 50 different countries particularly in Africa, Asia and South America but also in the UK). They respond to disasters, campaign for justice and help churches do whatever it takes to

tearfund

get close and stay close to the people who need them. Since its instigation in 1968 in response to the terrible famine in Nigeria,

Tearfund has had a big vision. They recognise the God-given potential in poor communities, and work with local churches to unlock this potential, helping people to discover that the answer to poverty is in themselves. Their work has enabled millions to escape extreme poverty permanently, and their aim is to see 50 million people helped materially and spiritually through a worldwide network of 100,000 local churches.

The work of Tearfund touches and addresses many different causes of poverty - advocacy to get issues to the top of the political agenda, relief when natural or politically-induced disasters occur, provision of healthcare, famine relief, issues associated with gender such as childbirth and domestic violence - the list goes on. We can be sure the giving from St Boniface has helped towards these programmes and permanently improved - and even saved - the lives of many individuals.

The Wingate Centre may well be known to many readers. It is situated about 10 miles away just outside Wrenbury. It is the home of the Wingate Special Children's Trust, an independent charity, established in 1988, devoted to enriching the lives of children and young adults with all levels of physical and learning disability or who are disadvantaged. The site comprises a 22-bedroom specialised accommodation facility and a 7,000 square foot, fully-fitted gymnasium. This combination of facilities is unique and complementary as gymnastics are particularly helpful to people with disabilities as they teach discipline, and spatial and kinaesthetic awareness. They also build up strength, improve social skills and develop self-esteem through achievement, encouragement and recognition.



Since its formation, the Wingate Centre has developed into two distinct but mutually beneficial fields of expertise. Firstly, as a specialist short break residential centre for special needs schools, voluntary groups such as PHAB, SENSE and for family support groups. The Centre can cater for groups from 8-50 with a whole range of disabilities from profound and multiple to autistic spectrum and challenging behaviour. Their philosophy is "small enough to care - big enough to have the range of facilities needed".

Secondly it offers sports recreational facilities to local disability organisations, day centres and special schools through its fully equipped gymnasium. The Centre also strongly supports inclusion and runs a gym club offering lessons to local non disabled children in the evenings and at weekends.

More information on these charities can be found at their websites: www.tearfund.org and www.thewingatecentre.co.uk You can also see their letters of thanks on the notice board at the back of church.

Bunbury and Tarporley join forces in praise

Church on a Saturday night? That can't be right, can it?

Well, for all those packed into Tarporley Baptist and Methodist Chapel on the evening of Saturday 26 April it was a really uplifting experience, with Christians from the local area coming together in worship and praise.

Brilliantly organized by Debbie Russell, a heavenly choir - which included some of St Boniface's own signers - had been assembled and drilled over the previous month. Andrew Dean and I joined with Debbie on guitar, her dad Dave on drums, son



Stuart on bass along with Lloyd on guitar, Louise on flute and Clare on sax to form the band. As you can imagine the mood was one of pure celebration with 19 great hymns of praise interspersed with a short talk from Nic Willis, pastor of Tarporley Chapel and another from our own Tim Hayward.

Refreshments with amazing homemade cakes were provided at half time to ensure we were in good voice for a big finish. We all felt uplifted to be worshipping noisily - and hopefully tunefully - and we can't wait for the return leg, which will be at St Boniface on 12 October. **Get the date in your diaries now - it's not to be missed.**

Tom Crotty



Treat your dad this Father's Day with this scrumptious Chocolate Guinness Cake

Rich, dark and chocolaty, the Guinness gives this sponge extra depth and keeps it moist. The cream cheese frosting matches it perfectly - sure to put a smile on Dad's face on Father's Day on 16 June!

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 170°C (325°F, gas mark 3), then grease and line the base of a 23cm (9in) diameter spring-form cake tin with baking parchment
2. Pour the Guinness into a saucepan and then add the butter, and heat gently until the butter has melted. Remove from the heat and stir in the cocoa powder and sugar into the warm liquid.
3. In a bowl, mix the buttermilk, vanilla and eggs together. Add this to the mixture in the saucepan.
4. Sift the flour, baking powder and bicarbonate of soda into a large bowl or into the bowl of a freestanding electric mixer. Either using the paddle attachment of the electric mixer or a handheld electric whisk, mix on a low speed. Then add the mixture from the pan. Scrape down the sides of the bowl and continue to mix thoroughly until all of the ingredients are incorporated.
5. Pour the batter into the prepared cake tin and bake for approximately 45 minutes or until the cake sponge bounces back when lightly pressed and a skewer inserted in the middle of the cake comes out clean.
6. Let the cake cool down, remove from the tin onto a wire rack and set aside until the cake is completely cold to the touch before frosting it.
7. To make the frosting, using a mixer or handheld whisk, mix the butter and icing sugar together until there are no large lumps of butter and it is fully combined with the sugar in a sandy mixture. Add the cream cheese and mix on a low speed first, then increasing the speed to medium. Beat until the frosting is light and fluffy.
8. Cover the cooled cake with the frosting, and lightly sieve a dusting of cocoa powder on top.

Ingredients

For the cake	
280g (10oz) plain flour	
250ml (9fl oz) Guinness	2tsp bicarbonate of soda
250g (9oz) unsalted butter	½ tsp baking powder
80g (3oz) cocoa powder	
For the frosting	
400g (14oz) caster sugar	50g (1¼oz) softened unsalted butter
2 eggs	300g (10½oz) icing sugar
1 tsp vanilla essence or extract	125g (4¼oz) full fat cream cheese
140ml (5fl oz) buttermilk	Cocoa powder for dusting (optional)

Recipe printed with the permission of The Hummingbird Bakery Home Sweet Home (Collins, £20)

A fond farewell to a wonderful youth worker...

It's often said that young people are the future of the church. At St Boniface they are very much at the centre of what we do now and we are fortunate to be able to employ a Youth Worker to help us build the future church today.

Kim Beswick joined us as our Youth Worker almost two years ago, freshly graduated from the University of Chester. She has built a wonderful ministry amongst us and has won a special place in the hearts of everyone, young and old. Sadly the time has come for Kim to move on to the next stage of her career which takes her to a new and exciting position. We are delighted for this new opportunity for her, but she will

be sorely missed.

Kim has done so much - it's amazing how many activities she has managed to pack in. She has been active in the "7/11 Group" which takes place on Sunday mornings where young people discuss a range of Biblical topics and topical issues

delivered in a variety of ways from arts and crafts, to discussions and drama. She has developed "Toasties", an informal group that meets to enjoy crafts, games and fellowship - oh, and to eat Toasties and other snacks! It is a safe place to ask questions about Christianity, personal development or any other issues. Recently they have been very active in the development of a 40 Acts of Lent programme that was featured in the February edition of the Link. She has also been involved in activities at both Bunbury Primary School and Tarporley High School, inside and outside of school hours. On top of all this, she has been part of the Young Christians group and taken part in a wide range of other activities in the church and the village. We've valued Kim's guidance and encouragement on youth work at St Boniface, as a professional in the area, and we value her enthusiasm, outgoing nature, deep faith and the impact she has had on us all. We shall miss her greatly. So as we say goodbye to Kim, we thank her for all she has done for us and wish her every happiness and blessing for the future.

We are also mindful that Kim's ministry that she has so lovingly built must continue, and we will seek to appoint a new Youth Worker - further details in a future edition.

Jeremy Shears

Some of the YCs share their fondest memories of Kim's time with them

When Kim first came to Young Christians, she was a new member of the family. She became one of us, joining in all of the silly games, even when things didn't go to plan and the first aid kit was brought out. Kim has made this community in Bunbury a fun, entertaining place for young people, by setting up multiple clubs and groups for us and other teenagers. She has even come to Tarporley High school and set up a group there, because she hadn't enough of us already. One of my highlights with Kim was our time at a place called Quinta (now known as Blestival). We had a great time there, camping and having fun in a Saturday afternoon activity called Messy Games.

I don't think anyone is going to forget Kim's personality: she is one of the happiest people I have ever met. I cannot remember a moment when Kim was not either smiling or laughing at one of the silly incidents at YCs. She is a loving person, who cares about everyone, and is always willing to join in every game YCs play.

Kim has been an amazing addition to the family at YCs, the church and Bunbury and we are going to really miss her when she leaves. Don't forget to come and visit!

Lucy O'Neill



Thank you Kim, for being such a fun, great and caring youth worker during the time we have had you. Every Monday at YCs has been great, doing all the fun games that you organise, helping us to perform our lines at the panto and helping us to overcome our fears when we had to sing solo. We will all miss you so much when you leave. Good luck for the future. Love Rachel Overly xxx

Kim always has a smile on her face and joins in with all of our games, in fact we all think she's just a big kid! She is always coming up with new things to do at YCs and you always feel like you can talk to her. We all love her soft kitty hoodie!!! Kim is always there to help us and we will miss her very much! Frances Munro

Kim is great to talk to, lots of fun and the best youth worker I've ever had. I'm going to miss her. Hope Dewson-Smyth

...a sleepover in church and a Sunday morning party!

I was absolutely dreading 18 May... A sleepover in church with 15 teenagers and a party the next morning?

I was pleasantly surprised! We kicked off at 5pm with rehearsals for the following day's service then Kim went into action! I can't remember all the games we played but, other than eating dinner, we never stopped, from indoor messy games involving 'Countdown' with alphabet spaghetti to digging for things in white grunge (lovingly prepared by Amber).

Outside games involved a lot of water, several balloons and eggs, though my abiding memory will be of Tim running round chanting "dis....com....bobulate, discombobulate" his team name (I suspect thought up by Simon Parker!). There was much laughing, screaming and shouting and I'm sure people in The Dysart, with thoughts of enjoying a quiet glass of wine (and you know who you are!), must have wondered what on earth was going on.

Later it was story time – stories for 12/13 year olds? I was not sure about this one! What I had forgotten was these were Johnny Gillett stories! He had us all enthralled, even Chris Jones. Time for hot chocolate, midnight snacks and a movie while snuggled up in sleeping bags... then off to bed around 1.45am!

Being woken at 7am for breakfast was a bit of a shock to the system but we had to prepare the church for the

morning service (it may have come as an even bigger shock to those arriving for 8 o'clock communion!). Tim had decided the Pentecost service should be a "Birthday Party" (thanks, Tim!) our part in this was a song, a drama and a dance. The song was a flashmob style rendition of 'Lean on Me'; the drama with an element of comedy; and the dance was all the YCs own work. I came up with the music and they came up with the dance - very impressive!

When Tim first hinted about the birthday party theme, I was worried about how it could possibly all come together: food, party decorations etc, of course I had forgotten about the well oiled machine that is St Boniface! Food? No problem - just call on Debbie Shears. Party decorations? Where would we be without Amber Middlemiss?

We all had a great time and we hope everyone else did too, but there are one or two people who need thanks for all their help and support: Neil Dewson-Smyth for everything, Amber a star in her own right, Debbie always a star. Chris Jones for being there, Barbara Croley for the birthday cake and all people who provided food for the party and helped clear up afterwards. And to anyone else we may have missed: a big thank you. Oh yes and that Youth Worker, what's her name... Kim! Missing you already.

Wendy Slack



Kim looks back over her time at St Boniface

Two years ago, I came for interview at St Boniface, and was offered the job despite not being able to drive. In the interview we spoke about the problems this would cause and the decision was made that, if I were right for the job, God would provide. God did indeed provide; from day one, wonderful people helped me get in and out of work. I was shown so much love from the people in the village, and that love has continued to grow and manifest itself in a whole host of ways.

The youth groups and young people I have had the pleasure of working with are all amazing individuals. I have enjoyed my time with them so much this has not felt like a job in the slightest. Leaving Bunbury is proving to be one of the hardest steps to take. I am going to miss everyone here more than I ever thought I could. However, God is calling me to move on. I am going to be a learner mentor in Churchfields Academy, Swindon. I believe God is calling me to be a light in the darkness for the next period of life; to show his love to those who have not had the chance to meet him.

I wish you all the best for the future. Whoever God places to work with the young people will be so blessed. Take care, Kim

Mary Williamson - devoted to family and church



Friends and family gathered on 9 May at St Boniface to pay tribute to a much-loved member of the community, Mary Williamson. Born in the parish of Ruaban, Mary was Welsh and proud of it! A bright girl, she won a scholarship to the Ruaban School for Girls. She excelled at maths and her gift with numbers would serve her in good stead later on as Treasurer of the Mothers' Union for 14 years. She also helped balance the books at the Cancer Research shop in Crewe for 14 years.

Having left school at 16, Mary wanted to be a nurse, but with the war on, was unable to fulfil her ambition. Instead, she worked in the office of Astons - the furniture shop in Wrexham, and then later as a wages clerk at the ROF in Wrexham.

In 1947, having broken off an engagement, Mary's auntie decided to introduce her to a young, recently single man named Walter - "the cheeky lad who goes down the lane whistling". On the first date, they got to know one another; on the second, they got engaged; and on the third date, they got married at St Mary's church, Ruaban. Walter and Mary were delighted to have two daughters, Elizabeth and Kathleen, who describe their mother as "a scaffold or a prop - always there with the right help and support". The family liked to holiday in Abersoch with their extended family. Since 1958, their home has been in Wistaston and, like her husband, Mary has been a great supporter of St Boniface and its daughter church Calveley. For 17 years Mary ran the raffle at the fete, as well as doing the tombola at Calveley. One year, she even

knitted a bedspread for 1st prize. She supported and encouraged Walter in his ministry as reader. Over the years they held many coffee mornings which raised thousands of pounds. When Walter was honoured for his long and dedicated service to this church and community in 1992 at Chester Cathedral, he and Mary met Her Majesty the Queen. Over the years, they received two letters from the Queen; one for their golden wedding anniversary, and another for their diamond anniversary.

Mary enjoyed quiz games - and was very good. She also loved cards and brain games and was quite competitive. She also inherited her mother's gift for cooking, and the family loved her casseroles, apple pies, Eccles cakes, éclairs and scones. In the 70s and 80s, Walter and Mary were active members of the Lyceum Theatre club; famous names such as Richard Beckinsale, Judy Lowe and Jeffrey Drew all came through the theatre, and Linda Bellingham, now of Loose Women fame, once borrowed a knitting pattern from Mary! The vicar, Tim, recalled his recent encounter with Mary, just before Christmas: "I happened to mention a knitted travelling nativity set I had seen. There was Mary and Joseph and the baby Jesus, the shepherds and some sheep, the wise men, and the angels. I observed how nice it would be to have one for the parish that could stay in people's homes for a night and then move on to the next family. When I next visited Mary in January, I couldn't believe it: much to my delight, she showed me a pattern she had found and, as shown in the photo here, she had already knitted a king!

"I hope and pray this coming Christmas we will finish the set and see it travel round the church and village in Mary's memory."



Claire Jones - caring for all and endearing to all



Born in Whitfield, Staffs in 1919, Clara Helen Jones (Claire) was one of eleven children. Pictured here aged 18, Claire was a farmer's daughter, whose early years were spent on the family farm near Bucknall, Staffs. After leaving school at 14 to join her older sister working at a hotel in Blackpool, she later worked as a nursing auxiliary and, during the war, in a munitions plant in Stoke on Trent.

It was there that she met her future husband, Kenneth, in 1942 and they married three months later. They were blessed with three children, Ron, Ivor and Trevor. After a spell living in Prestatyn, the family settled in Haughton and Claire set about renovating the house and garden. She maintained a scrupulously clean home and loved her garden, growing flowers, fruits and vegetables in abundance.

Kind and generous, Claire supported numerous charities and, having opened up their home in Prestatyn to B&B guests, found that her guests would return year after year and shower her with

gifts from the Potteries: tea sets and ornaments, wall plaques and vases. Claire would make sure these were on display whenever they came to stay.

Claire could be gullible at times but always saw the best in people. Even during the war, when her house was bombed, she thanked Hitler for cleaning her chimney! Home and family were what were important to Claire. She loved her husband Ken and adored her three boys. She was also a devoted and loving grandmother, great grandmother and great great grandmother. Claire was tirelessly hard-working and sacrificed everything for her family, providing for her boys, making clothes for them and encouraging them through school. She lived through some tough times - in particular losing her husband suddenly when he was just 60 years old. She was straightforward and principled but also enchanting and endearing - a shy person who was easygoing with people, but who couldn't abide pretentiousness. "Mum's Christian faith was simply and lovingly held and applied to daily life," recalled her sons. "Whenever we faced exams or other challenges, she would pop a little printed card with a message of faith into our pocket or satchel. The memory of those cards will always be with her family."

Patty Brines - a remarkable woman



On Friday 3 May, St Jude's was filled with family and friends wishing to pay tribute to Patty Brines. One of four children, Patty Brines was born at Oak Tree Cottage in Tilstone Fearnall and attended Tilstone School; she enjoyed it so much she would return as its caretaker for over 25 years.

A hard worker, Patty's first job was at Morgan's Cafe in Tarporley. Her next job

was at the Alvanley Arms at Cotebrook, which is where she met her first husband, Lesley. Lesley was a gardener for Lady Bibby, and he and Patty were soon married at St Jude's church. They had three daughters - Margaret, Ann and Joan. Patty and Lesley sadly lost a baby boy at six months, and then Lesley died of a brain tumour at a young age - a dreadful blow to Patty.

Thankfully, Patty was to find love again and, in her 60s, married Jock Brines; they enjoyed many happy years together. Patty was blessed with children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great great grandchildren - Patty's life was her family and her friends.

Patty was a very independent woman rode her bike to work at Tilstone School until she was 70 when she retired. She loved her cooking, and everyone remembers her favourite: egg and chips.

Close friend, Ann Latham, recalls her fond memories of Patty: "I am so proud that the family of Patty Brines have allowed me to say a few words about long time neighbour and friend Patty. Patty was the matriarch of her family - the centrepiece of a loving family. Her three daughters decided that she should remain in her own home when she became ill, and not go to hospital. This they managed so lovingly, until she died peacefully, at the age of 94 years, with her family taking turns to be with her, often with long and difficult journeys to and fro.

"Patty was a remarkable woman, keeping in touch with all the family, who universally gave back tenfold the love that she had for them all. 'No favourites' she would say, 'I love them all'. She had a hard life in many ways, being widowed twice, working long hours and keeping her family well cared for. Many of the grandchildren used to come and see me when young, especially Michael, Darren and Pamela, and it is wonderful that Michael was able to come from Australia for her funeral. Betty Colman, who did so much for Patty, and with her sister Phyllis Bromfield recall 'Auntie Patty' always keeping an eye on them when they were children, putting up with their childish pranks and mischief when walking back from school - they usually got a jam buttie despite the prank.

"I shall miss Patty in so many ways, especially on birthdays and at Christmas - she never forgot me. She will be missed by so many people. Rest in Peace Patty, you will be missed by so many people in Alpraham - and as far afield as Australia."

Ruth Davies – a small woman with a big heart



Ruth Davies was born on Copthorne Farm in Audlem in 1941, one of five children. A farmer's daughter, she went to Audlem school. For 52 years of her life, Ruth was married to Tony, whom she met when she worked in a shop in Nantwich. Her friends in the shop would say to her: "Here comes your budgie man!" Tony has always loved birds, and he would buy bird seed from

Ruth. Ruth also worked as a wages clerk in a clothing shop in Nantwich, to which she would cycle from Audlem.

Ruth and Tony were married in Audlem church in 1960. Theirs was a real partnership; a life-long and life-giving marriage. Having bought their house before their marriage, it remained their family home for 53 years. In 1962 their first son Andrew was born at the Barony in Nantwich, and in 1964 Andrew was followed by Stephen, born in the family home.

Home and family were most important to Ruth. She was a no-nonsense woman who cared a lot. Though only small, she packed a punch! Friends and family remember some of her favourite sayings, including: "I'm having trouble with your father today!" or, "He's been up that garden for hours!"

Ruth was known for her sense of humour and gregarious nature; she was often bumping into people she knew in Nantwich or Audlem. She lived a life in which she gave much love and inspired much love in others.

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Margaret Peers - cherished her family



Margaret Elizabeth Wilkinson, known by all as 'Marg' was the youngest of four children born in Buwardsley in 1949. Her mum was very protective of her especially when Marg's dad died when she was only 11. She attended high school in Tattenhall, sometimes reluctantly, if she had to walk three miles in the rain. At 15 she left school and got a job in The Beehive shop.

As a teenager she started going out with her future husband George when a neighbour failed to show up for a date with him, so she

stepped in. They went out for two or three years, before getting married in September 1969 in Burwardsley. George worked on the farm and they initially lived in Peckforton before moving to Beeston and then back to Peckforton Castle cottage - this was the family home - before they moved latterly to Wardle.

Marg lived for her family: daughter Jackie and son Mike, their spouses and the three grandchildren that followed. They loved to go on holiday in Wales at a holiday camp or camping and later in their own caravan.

Marg was a great cook - she was always in the kitchen baking. She loved to make chocolate cake and scones and cooked for 19 years at the Outdoor Education Centre in Beeston. Marg also loved flower arranging and she was a member of the Peckforton WI and the Tarporley flower club.

She was renowned for her sense of humour and laughing out loud, and George telling her to be quiet, and her saying 'oh, whatever'. Devotion to her family, sense of humour and strength kept her going in the last few months.

Nannie

*She was scarlet red always bright & cheerful,
She was a snugly fleece wrapping us up with her love,
She was a shiny black Ferrari loudly speeding down the road,
She was daffodils in the spring gently blowing in the breeze,
She was a cosy armchair soft & comforting at the end of a hard day,*

*She was sparkling champagne, bubbly clear & bright,
She was a dawn chorus, a sunrise & good drying day,
She was a gentle whisper & a deep hearty infectious laugh!
She will always be in our hearts & thoughts forever.*

(Written by Marg's grandson Owen)

Calveley gets into the Spring spirit



Calveley's Spring Fair was a great success with the theme 'Made in Cheshire'.

The teas, mastered by Dorothy Donald, were taken this year inside the church where several local organists

treated visitors to some lovely and varied music. The morning featured Frank Woodward, and during the afternoon John Mason and Chas Hardern gave the recitals.

An innovation this year was a craft stall run by Sarah Keyes and Jackie and Martin Griffiths, who also arranged and ran the tombola. There was a bookstall run by Celia Kinnersley which did a brisk trade, whilst

Jenny Brooks took care of the plants. Cakes and produce, run by Pat Edgley Ellis, sold out by lunchtime, so next year remember to come early! John Ellis sold his quirky Cheshire pig key keepers to the amusement of our

visitors. Eileen Wood and Cynthia Fowles took your money for the raffle which featured a great selection of prizes.

The whole day was overseen by Yvonne Wood and thanks also go to Kath Roden and all the others who made a big effort to contribute to a most successful day which raised over £845 towards the church coffers. Calveley's next event will be a scrumptious summer lunch on 4 August at The Woodlands. Watch this space and book early!



Are you ready for Village Day?



Hold on to your clown tails, paint your face and wear your dad's old clothes, start juggling, dancing and having a mad time.

We are back in business and can't wait to get to the field. The field will be jam-packed, and that's before everyone arrives. What time is that, I hear you ask? 12:30pm starting at St Boniface! So join us at the church or hot tail it down to the playing fields and get ringside for the afternoon extravaganza. At £2.50 to get in on the

gate, it's a bargain. That's the same as 5 years ago. What inflation?

And what's on offer? Of course you will be fed by the barmy army at the BBQ. Of course you will get a drink ringside in our 'Show Bar'. They will be open all day to enjoy the local fare.

To get involved, call Steve and Mel on 262473 or visit the website: www.bunburyvillage.info and leave a message that will get to us.

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- ✓ Circus

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Cheshire Wildlife Trust tackles Bunbury's invading species



Cheshire Wildlife Trust is working with landowners and volunteers to enhance the biodiversity along the River Gowy corridor. They are looking for volunteers to help in Bunbury, removing invasive non-native plants like Himalayan Balsam which threaten native wildlife and contribute to erosion and flooding.

The volunteer task days are 10am-3pm on 4 June, 18 June, 2 July and 16 July. They also offer guidance to anyone interested in setting up a village wildlife group to tackle issues such as invasive species.

For more information, contact Lyn at lbynre@cheshirewt.org.uk or call 01948 820728. Please bring a packed lunch and remember to wear your wellies!



Himalayan Balsam

Canon John Bowers' latest pilgrimage: "Dome to Dome"



After raising £17,000 for the Barnabas Fund last year, Canon John Bowers and his son Chris are making a new pilgrimage in early June, cycling from St Paul's Cathedral to the Basilica of The Sacre Coeur (Sacred Heart) in Paris.

This pilgrimage will be to raise funds for the Cana Girls Rescue

Centre in Kenya, which rescues young women and girls from the abuse, forced marriage, polygamy and the horrific tribal rite of female genital mutilation.

If you would like to contribute to their fundraising efforts, please send a cheque made payable to The Barnabas Fund, c/o Canon John Bowers, 2 Shalford Grove West, Kirby, CH48 9XY. In order to register your donation for Gift Aid, please indicate that you are eligible to claim Gift Aid with your donation.

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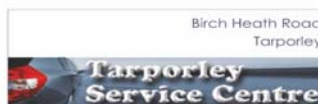
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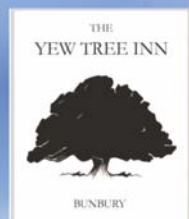


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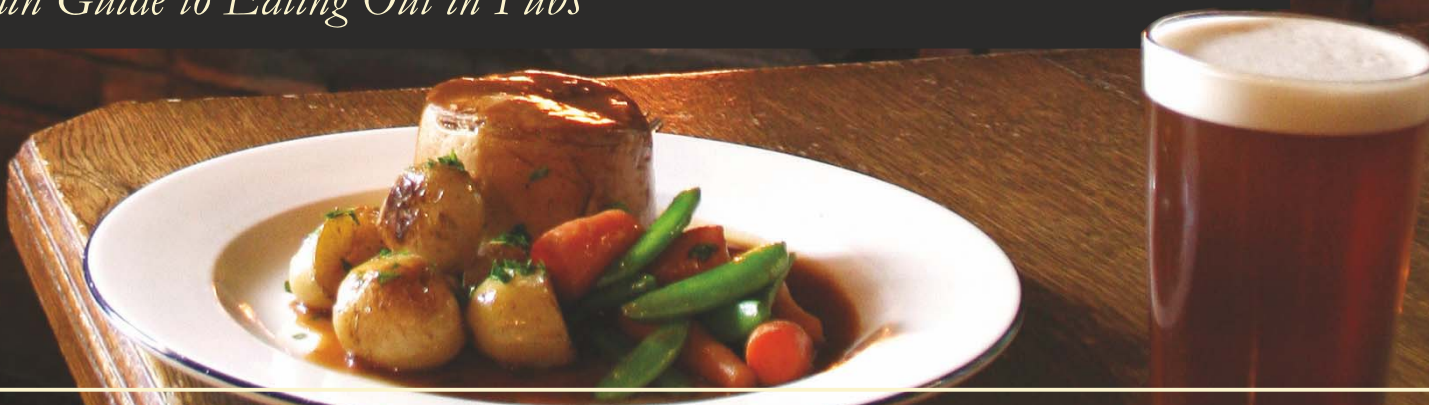


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