Link

February 2010

Published free by St. Boniface Church for all in the parishes of Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall

Change on the cards for St. Boniface

St. Boniface welcomed a large congregation at all our traditional services over the Christmas holiday, from Bunbury School's Christmas concert to morning service on Christmas Day. A highlight was the candle-lit carols on 20th December, A big thank you to the almost forty singers who turned out for rehearsals and sang on the night.

Under the excellent direction of the young and enthusiastic Nicola

Howbrigg (who usually teaches children to sing) and with Andrew and Stephanie Dean as accompanists, a good time was had by all. Please come again next year!

Plans for the building

It seems to take so long for building work in church to get started! Link readers may have forgotten the plans displayed in church in the summer. A faculty (permission) for the work has



St. Boniface and the Tree of Lights at Christmas

now been received. The PCC plans to lower the nave floors to the original aisle level, improve the area around the font, empty and refit for storage the south porch and repair the tower. To this list must now be added some urgent repointing work in the chancel. Work on the floors begins on 1st February and should be completed by Easter. The idea is to make the nave a more flexible area and by taking out the

step a major tripping hazard will be removed. The rest of the work will follow when funds allow.

Newsflash: The above was written on Sunday 17th January – the same day as we found the glazed lantern above the memorial gates had been vandalised. The cost to repair – probably much the same as today's morning collection!

Organists

We have been fortunate to have had several organists willing to play at St Boniface and have operated a rota so that demands for each organist are not onerous. Recently, however, we have lost four, including Alex, now curate at Tarporley, and Martin, in the USA for three years. This has left us with a problem. If you can help, please contact the church wardens or Andrew Dean. Just a few Sundays a year would really help.

Walter Done (churchwarden)

Scout hut appeal nears total

The total raised for the new Scout hut, including the proceeds from the sale of the old building now stands at a magnificent £200,000. Most recently we have received £5,000 from the Rotary Club of Tarporley as well as the proceeds from the 1st Bunbury Brownies pampering event. The next fundraising event is **Bunbury's Got Talent**, planned for 19th March: it sounds like an unmissable evening so watch out for details.

The bulk of our efforts over the last six months have been in clearing the

various legal and administrative hurdles, some of which seemed to move daily. At its peak there were six different lawyers involved and special thanks must go to Neil 'Petrocelli' Dyer, for his sheer perseverance with all the legal issues that have come our way. We are now very close to clearing the final legal hurdles and at last starting to build.

If anyone can offer help of any kind please contact either **David Stockman** (01829 260714) or **Phil Elsegood** (01829 260507).

Sunday 14th Feb

St. Valentine's **Hot Pot Lunch**



in aid of Save the Family

St. Boniface Church

12 for 12.30pm Adults £7.50 Children £5.00 Everyone very welcome Barbara Croley 260344

Community

Congratulations to Bunbury's **Beth Tweddle** who was awarded the MBE in the New Years Honours. We look forward to a photo of Beth with yet another medal!

Welcome to the following children recently baptised at St. Boniface:

Jessica Elizabeth Edge on Dec 20th,

Daniel David Mayers on Dec 27th

Angus Rudolf Beardsell on Jan 9th.

Many happy returns to the everyouthful **Helen Barrie** who turned 50 on January 1st and **Karin Grimwood** who will be celebrating on 16th Feb.

Many happy returns to **Johnny Walker** of Bunbury who celebrates his 90th birthday on February 15th. Despite some ill health over Christmas Johnny is looking forward to several family celebrations. Johnny and wife **Doris**, have lived in Bunbury for 60 years and for 40 years Johnny looked after the gardens at the White House.

Sadly we must report the death of **Bill Blinkhorn**. Janet and family would like to thank everyone for their kindness during this sad time, especially to those who cared for Bill during his illness. Our sympathies to Janet and to their children Mark, Emma, Adele and Claire and all the grandchildren. We hope to write more about Bill next month.

Caroline Briggs-Harris will be walking 26.2 miles through Manchester during the night of 17-18th April to raise money for Cancer Research. Please sponsor if you can at

www.sponsormetoshine.org.uk/carolinebriggsharris

This year's **Women's World Day of Prayer** takes place at St. Jude's on 5th
March. The service begins at 2.30pm
and is followed by afternoon tea. All
very welcome.

During the January snows we heard of several sledging-related injuries. Commiserations to **Patrick Crotty**, who broke a thumb, and to **Grace Dobson**, who is struggling with a broken leg. We hope these and all other similar injuries recover soon. Many thanks to **Frank Large** for allowing the young sledgers to enjoy the snow on his field.

Marnie Dobson of Radmore Green Farm (the goat lady) has been awarded a Nuffield Farming Scholarship to study how to grow niche markets. She will spend 8 weeks travelling the globe and is off to the USA soon to meet up with fellow scholars from Australia, New Zealand and Canada. Her son, Douglas, 3, will be in charge while she is away!

The **March** Link will be published on Sunday 28th February. Contributions by Sunday 14th February please.

You will notice a few **new advertisers** in our pages this month. Their fees help pay for the Link and we are grateful to local businesses for their support. If you use our ads to contact a local tradesman please let them know you found them through the Link! If you would like to find out about advertising with us please contact, Lucy Munro, on 260487 or at **lucykmunro@hotmail.com**

We have heard the good news that **Paul Rathbone** and **John Mason** are both responding well to treatment, and **Claire Dickens** is keeping her smile despite some very unpleasant chemo.

Large TV and stand, free to good home (not flat screen but full working order). Phone Lucy 260487.

The Link can be read online during the week before your copies are available. Look on our website

www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk

If you don't have a magazine delivered you are welcome to pick one up from church.

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

We pray also for the **families of Bill Blinkhorn** and baby **Josh** and for all those recently bereaved.

St. Jude's round up

Christmas 2009, was a most joyful festival for us. Our Christmas Fair made more money than last year, and although money making is not our prime purpose, it is money that makes the world go round and that includes St. Judes.

Our Carol Service attracted a larger congregation than previous years, and this year we had the assistance of the Alpraham Singers, a newly formed choir, who we hope to welcome again in the future. A big thanks to them.

More people than usual attended our Christmas Day celebration in spite of the truly awful winter weather. Never was that great hymn "In the Bleak Mid-Winter" sung with more feeling.

We were delighted to see our old friend the Rev. Alan Mumford, when he took a service recently. Alan has been seriously ill so it is great for him and St. Judes that he is so much better. It just shows you can't keep a good man down!

The St. Jude's Vestry meeting is on 12th April, at 7.00pm in the Church Hall. It is an open meeting when church officials (churchwardens, sidesmen etc) are appointed. All welcome to attend.

Finally congratulations to Rebecca Gardner, awarded an Oxford "Half Blue" for running.

Well done Becky!

Bob Gardner

Our Vicar is Rick Gates. He is always available in times of sickness, bereavement or any distress. Contact him at The Vicarage, Vicarage Lane, Bunbury, on 01829 260991, 07715 178750 or rick@prayer.fsnet.co.uk

Other church contacts:

Peter and Kath Collinge (pastoral support) 260077

St.Boniface

Secretary

Churchwardens:	Barbara Croley	2603	44
	Walter Done	01244 3325	563
Secretary	Neil Dewson-Smy	th 2616	80
Flowers	Margaret Bourne	2609	44
St.Jude's			
Churchwardens:	Brigid Sayce	2608	65
	David Wright	2604	67
Secretary	Ann Posnett	2611	.54
Organist	Ann Badrock	2603	43
Calveley			
Churchwardens:	Barbara Croley	2603	44
	Walter Done	01244 3325	63
Organist	John Batchelor	2610	56

The Link is edited by Lucy Munro 260487, and Jill Robey 260081. Email lucykmunro@hotmail.com

Sue Woodward 01270 522822

www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk

An unknown saint?

'And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself' (St. John 12, 32)

The saint whose commemoration falls on the 14th February must be the best-known, unknown saint. St. Valentine must surely be the most popular saint about whom nothing certain is known at all.

There was a church dedicated to St. Valentine just outside Rome, probably commemorating a Roman priest who was martyred there in the third century. There was apparently also a Bishop of Terni, some 50 miles north of Rome, whose bones were returned there after he was martyred in Rome. Legends are told about these two martyrs and it's more than possible that they were one and the same person. But the truth is that nothing is known for certain about St. Valentine.

Yet St. Valentine's Day is one of the most widely observed saints' days, because of the tradition that it is the day when the birds begin to choose a mate! So, for more than a hundred years people have been sending each other Valentine's cards and celebrating love on St. Valentine's Day. Possibly the custom goes back to the Roman festival of Lupercalia, which apparently fell at this time. Chaucer and Shakespeare both wrote about the legend of the birds and poor Ophelia offered to be Hamlet's Valentine.

But surely it's good to set aside a day to celebrate human love and courtship. When someone falls in love they have to say and do things to prove clearly that they really love the one on whom they've set their hearts. And every kind of love has three aspects – choosing, wooing and proving – even God's love for us.

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, knowing that he would soon be crucified, some Greek people were brought to meet him. To them all he said, 'The hour has come. When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself.' **All** people, not just Jews, but Greeks too, and barbarians and pagans (and even the British, who were then regarded as the worst sort of savage!). He was going to begin his 'courtship' of them all. Like every lover he would 'choose' them, woo them and prove his love for them.

Jesus gave his life to prove how much he loves each one of us. Jesus was lifted up on the cross to show clearly his all-embracing love for all mankind. God wooed and still woos us all with his love, and lovingly seeks a clear response of love for him.

Eric Wallington

Give us two minutes - Alex Sanders

Born in Surrey, Alex moved to Devon in her teens, met Nick, and settled down there for life (she thought). After having Emily and Lizzie, she had various jobs, mostly in the voluntary sector. Rather unexpectedly the family moved 8,000

miles to the Falklands in 2001 for 3 years, where Alex qualified as a Tour Guide and learned Spanish. They moved to Bunbury on their return where Alex took an active role at St. Boniface. She was ordained Deacon in July and is now Curate at St. Helen's, Tarporley (as well as helping at Earlybirds). Alex has

recently completed her Master's in Theology and Pastoral Studies at Leeds University, gaining a distinction in her dissertation on funerals.

If you had a motto, what would it be? "Hang on a minute, I know I've got it here somewhere......"

It's a celebrity beer call. Where and who? Jesus – I've got all sorts of questions to ask him. Also our friend Richard who runs the Bowland Brewery and makes the fabulous Hen Harrier beer (a minor celeb, perhaps, but essential to a good beer call). May I invite Nick along too?

What would you call your biography? "Hang on a minute" (see above).

What was your first job? Soldier – I ioined the Army after university.

Where did you meet your partner?
University in Exeter – neither of us can

recall it but we've stood the test of time (so far!)

What is your biggest regret? My hip measurement.

And your biggest success? Our children. Despite having us for parents, they have turned out OK.

What would you change about Bunbury, if you could? Add some sea, so

that it's on the coast.

What is one thing about you people may be surprised to learn?

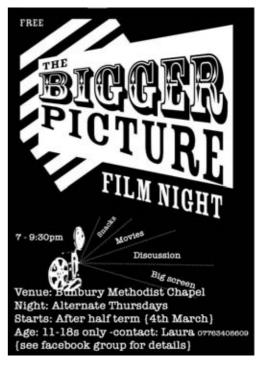
Amongst many temporary jobs, I've worked as a dental nurse.

What would you like to achieve most in the next 12 months? A staggering weight loss so that I can wear the sort of clothes that I'd really like to wear.

If you were granted one wish, what would it be? Good health for all those I care about.

Where is your favourite place, and why? I love the scenery of Devon; I love churches, I'm always happy at the Dysart, but my favourite place is our bed – it's just so comfy and I do a lot of crosswords, Sudoku and reading there.

Describe your ideal weekend With friends and family having a drink on Friday night; out somewhere with the dogs on Saturday; and in church (Bunbury or Tarporley) on Sunday.



Angels and Demons

The opposite of Angels are Demons.

Each one of us has to do battle with our own demons; our fears and worries, sometimes serious and overwhelming addictions to drugs, alcohol or inappropriate behaviours.

We all have times when we desperately need God's help.

Lord Christ.

When you were here on earth, you stilled the storm, Fed the hungry, healed the sick and cast out demons. You are the same yesterday, today and forever.

So make known to me now, O Lord, your grace and power.

Lord, hang onto me, because I don't feel strong enough to hang onto you.

Amen

Pat Edgley

Thanks to Mike Ridley

Bunbury School Parents Association thank Mike Ridley for auditing their accounts for the past 20 years without charge. The school and PA are most grateful for support for so many years. He is now retiring from this job so the PA is seeking a replacement auditor. If anyone is willing to take this on once a year in early September, please contact **lan or Julie Adkins** on 01829 261284 or email **juliec.adkins@googlemail.com**.

Thinking of Confirmation?

Confirmation classes will consist of two six-week courses, the first beginning on Tuesday 23rd February, from 4.30 to 5.30pm, in the Tower room at St Boniface, with Rick and Laura. This is aimed at 10 to 18 year olds, but adults can register their interest with Rick and an alternative group will be arranged for them. Contact **Rick on 260991 or speak to Laura 07763 408609**.

February Diary

February			
3 10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface	
7 8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Holy Communion	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley	
10 10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface	
14 9.30am 10.00am 4.30pm	Morning Service Family Communion Evensong	St. Jude's St. Boniface St. Boniface	
Ash Wednesday	h Wednesday (with ashing at both services)		
17 10.00am 7.30pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion	St. Boniface St. Boniface	
21 8.00am 9.30am 10.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship With Brownies and Gui	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface des	
11.00am	Matins	Calveley	
24 10.00am 7.30pm	Holy Communion Compline	St. Boniface St. Boniface	
28 9.30am 10.00am	Holy Communion Family Communion	St. Jude's St. Boniface	
March			
3 10.00am 7.30pm	Holy Communion Compline	St. Boniface St. Boniface	



Invitation to all

Guides and Brownies past and present

(whatever your age!)

join us for our Centenary celebration

At St Boniface Church,

Sunday 21st February 10am followed by refreshments.

(Men allowed too!)

3 Peaks by rail

Take part in the Railway Children's Three Peaks Challenge by Rail. Climb the three highest mountains in the UK with a special train travelling between the mountains. All your food and drink is included and there are even doctors and masseuses on the train. The dates for the challenge are 24th to 26th June. Interested? Contact Katie Mason, 01270 757596.

katie.mason@railwaychildren.org.uk

Indulgence evening

Friday 26th February 8pm at Bunbury Village Hall

Tickets from Early Birds

An all-ladies night, wine, food, shopping and pampering.

Nantwich Singers Passiontide Concert

St Boniface Church at 7.30pm on Saturday 20th March Conductor Tony Metcalfe all proceeds will be donated to St Boniface Church.

Easter Holiday Club

Wednesday 31st March - Thursday 1st April 10am - 12:30pm, St Boniface Church More details to follow soon



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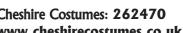
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(Dip. N.T.C., C.G.L.I., A.V.C.M.)

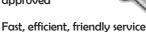


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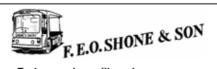
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