

Local youngsters reach India

Katie Everton and Laura Mulcahy would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has donated so generously to the Gwalior Children's Charity. 'We have been overwhelmed by the donations we have received. Thank you too to all who attended the gig on 5th June when 'Off the Wall' performed a brilliant set and entertained a packed Village Hall. The event raised a fantastic £530. We are so looking forward to seeing how the money is put to use'.

Since writing this, Katie has arrived in India and started her placement. Here are just a few extracts from her blog.

[On arrival] "I felt very overwhelmed as I took in the sights. What I remember most about the journey was the honking horns, our taxi seemed to pip at every second vehicle. Emblazoned on the back of each lorry and bus are the words "SOUND HORN". Each HGV was painted beautifully, rather like a canal boat, each having their name painted over the driver's window.

The next morning after a curry breakfast we made the journey to the

Medical Trust Hospital. It was very different to how I had imagined, people bustling everywhere, with packed waiting rooms and wards. The next day we started placement, I am on respiratory. I attended ward round - which was me chasing round two doctors and a nurse, rather like at home. I then went to clinic. The doctor that I was with sees 80 patients in one day. They walk in as soon as he arrives, and as each patient leaves, the next bustles in. He is very kind to me and takes time to explain and interpret into English, even though he is very busy. The nurses are so sweet, they all crowd into the room just to look at me and giggle." To read more of Katie's blog go to katieeve.travellerspoint.com

Fellow medic Laura Mulcahy will shortly be joining Katie, along with Amy Cadman. Before she leaves she is hoping to visit Bunbury School to tell the children all about Gwalior.

To donate, please visit www.justgiving.com/katieandlaura

WW2 plane rediscovered

Aircraft enthusiasts were excited finally to rediscover on June 12th the remains of an American single-engine Mustang plane which crashed in a Spurstow field in 1945. Although groups of enthusiasts have been visiting the area for several years trying to identify the crash site from photos taken at the time, it was not until a large concrete turkey shed was being dismantled at Fields Farm that the remains came to light. The V12 engine block, propellor and 6 machine guns have been removed from the site and it is hoped that they may at some point be put on show. After 65 years there is nothing left of the wings or bodywork.

The body of the American pilot, who sadly died in the crash, was removed at the time.

**Holiday Club
needs helpers- p6**



Pictured here are Bunbury School's Y1 children and helpers who completed the Three Peaks of Bulkeley, Peckforton and Beeston Hills, a total of over 5 miles, raising over £350 in sponsorship for The Railway Children. Teacher Susi Waddington, who organised the walk for the five and six year olds, said, 'I am so proud of the children. They all walked so well and carried their backpacks without a single moan. It was a great day.'

Community

Welcome to the following children who have recently been baptised: **Gemma Lucy**, daughter of **Mark and Vanessa Randles** of Tarporley on 30th May, and **Oliver Michael**, son of **Clive and Lucy Dix** of Alpraham on 17th June.

A number of young people are due to be confirmed by **Bishop Alan Chesters** during the 10.00am Sunday service on July 11th. Why not come along and support them.

Congratulations to former bellringers **Alex James** and **Betony Morris** who have each recently announced their engagements with weddings planned for next year. Alex's fiancé is Chris Pattinson and Betony will be marrying Nick Burrows of Chester.

Congratulations to **Natasha**, youngest daughter of **Wendy and Steve Slack** who married Canadian **Mike Ferris** in Banff, Canada on 29th May. Wendy writes "Whilst over here you were enjoying temperatures of 20C we were having a wedding in the snow!"



Congratulations to **Ann and Frank Latham** on 60 years together.

We hear from Jeremy Shears that wife **Debbie** celebrates a "Very Significant" birthday at end of June. We gather that the figure for **Sandy Verity and Paul Holbrook** is not dissimilar - congratulations to you all.

We are sad to report the deaths of **Brian Ashbrook** and **Clara Thelwell**.

Wakes Meadow needs a new Link distributor - our thanks to **Sue Roberts** for all her efforts over the years.

It is good to see both the **Nags Head** Bunbury and the **Yew Tree** open again. Best wishes to all concerned.

Congratulations to **Imogen Harrison, Kate Lawrence** and **Joanna Mitton** who have passed their Speech and Drama exams with Distinction. Their teacher **Johnny Gillett** has asked us to tell readers about his **Youth Theatre Summer School** which will take place on 23rd to 27th August. For further information contact Johnny (**260680** or **info@thejourneyman.org.uk**).

Church news

Canon John Bowers is cycling between seven cathedrals: Chester; St. Asaph; Bangor; Brecon; St. David's; Worcester and Hereford, starting on July 17th, to raise funds for the Cana Girls Rescue Home in Kenya. Please support his efforts, by donation (Gift Aided if possible) to 2, Shalford Grove, West Kirby, Wirral, CH48 9XY.



On 19th June **Revd Alex Sanders** was ordained priest by the Bishop of

Chester and the next day officiated at her first communion at St. Helen's Tarporley, Alex would like to thank all her local friends for their support and prayers in preparation for her ordination and who attended the Cathedral service. Now she will continue to serve the Parish of Tarporley, Eaton and Cotebrook and also Wettenhall, and would welcome your prayers as she develops her ministry.

This year's **Christian Aid house to house collection** raised £962.

This month please pray especially for **Jean Healey** and **Bill Corn** and the families of **Clara Thelwell** and **Brian Ashbrook**. We pray for all those suffering in body, mind or spirit.

The Link can be read online during the week before your copies are available. Look on our website **www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk**

Please note that the deadline for the **August /September** joint issue will be earlier than usual. All material to the editors by Fri July 9th please. The magazines will be available in church on Sunday 25th July. There will be no separate Sept. issue.

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	Churchwardens: Barbara Croley 260344 Walter Done 01244 332563
Youth worker	Laura Warrington 07763 408609
Secretary	Neil Dewson-Smyth 261680
Flowers	Margaret Bourne 260944
St. Jude's	Churchwardens: Brigid Sayce 260865 David Wright 260467
Secretary	Ann Posnett 261154
Organist	Ann Badrock 260343
Calveley	Churchwardens: Barbara Croley 260344 Walter Done 01244 332563
Organist	John Batchelor 261056
Secretary	Sue Woodward 01270 522822

www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk

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

Volcanic ash chaos separates families



Earlier in the spring I was caught up in the travel chaos caused by volcanic ash from the Icelandic volcano with an unpronounceable name. I was on a business trip to the USA and Canada and, like so many other people, I was stranded on the other side of the Atlantic with no immediate prospect of getting home. At first it was mildly annoying as I thought of all sorts of possible routes home. Would I have to

catch a boat from New York? One option that seemed particularly appealing was to fly to Spain and then catch a Royal Navy aircraft carrier home. I have to say I quite fancied sailing up the Channel on the bridge (I wonder if they have Wi-Fi on aircraft carriers?) towards the White Cliffs of Dover.

Later feelings were more of separation from my family, several thousands of miles away. I have been away for much longer than this before, but it was the open-endedness of it that concerned me. Was my separation going to last for days, or weeks or months? When would I see them again? Somebody cheerful person told me the last time the volcano with the unpronounceable name erupted, it went on for two and a half years.

But in the end I arrived home safely: my three-day visit having become ended up a ten-day trip. And during it, life continued much as normal. It was a small inconvenience. Of course many families suffered much more disruption

than I did from the volcano. This was an exceptional occurrence, but for many families, work or other activities means family members are routinely separated from each other for even longer periods. Under these circumstances it's natural that family members miss each other desperately. They think about each other often, they talk by phone, they exchange e-mails and texts, but they cannot see each other face to face. They cope in different ways. For example, a wife separated from her husband by distance longs for the day when he returns and they can be together again – whole once again.

It is the same with humanity and God. But God has not left us alone. We read His words in the Bible. We talk to him in prayer. We look at the bread and wine and marvel at His dying love for us. And we thank him for His Holy Spirit that he has given us and who is with us even now. But one day we see Him face to face.

Jeremy Shears

Target 1250 news

Regular readers will be familiar with the Target 1250 fundraising group. For the past few years we have organised various events – from talks in St Boniface to the Tree of Lights at Christmas – which raise funds for the upkeep of our area's most important building – St Boniface Church. The group is a small band of people and since we all have plenty of other commitments it has sometimes been difficult to keep the momentum of the group going. At our most recent meeting however, we came up with plans for several events, including the postponed wine tasting evening, proposed for early autumn – we hope plenty of readers will support the event once the date is finalised.

If anyone is planning a wedding or other party next year and will be hiring a marquee for the event we would be most grateful to be allowed to use it afterwards for a fundraiser. Please contact Jill Robey (260081) if you can help.

With the Holbrook family's move north, Target 1250 is losing one of its most stalwart members. Fiona has cheerfully volunteered over the years for any and every job, from untangling Christmas lights to mashing neeps for Burns' night to organising a balloon race. We will miss her very much.

So now we need a few new Target 1250 volunteers even more pressingly. If anyone is willing to give up a few hours every so often for this worthy cause, please contact Jill - we are not a 'churchy' group, just people who care about our historic church building.

Target 1250

Holbrook farewell

Some people would say that the world is divided into watchers and doers. The latter group are not content to watch the world go by, they want to contribute, to make use of their talents and to give something to the community in which they live. That is so true of the Holbrook family - Paul, Fiona, Katrina and Andrew - who we have been privileged to have as part of the community of St Boniface for several years. Sadly for Bunbury, they are now moving on and their new community will be the lucky recipients of their talents. Whether it has been organising Holiday Club or Kingdom Kids, playing in one or more of our music groups, leading worship or prayer or just being there for those who needed them, the Holbrooks have been at the heart of our church community. From all of us, a profound thank you.

Tom Crotty



St. Judes news

St Judes is a parish in its own right, equal in status to that of Bunbury. But as is the usual practice these days we share the services of one Vicar. But it is a sad fact that there is very little contact between the two parishes when surely now is the time we should be working together for the good of the church as a whole. And you know what they say about a house divided!

A very happy event was celebrated in the Parish during June – the 60th wedding anniversary of Ann and Frank Latham. Ann and Frank are long-time members of the congregation. They have worked long and hard over many years for the good of our church. It's clearly a case of long service medals all round.

Remember, remember Friday the 9th of July when we have a summer concert by the Bunbury Singers, 7.30 in the church. Tickets are available from members of the congregation.

Finally we have to report the passing of two old residents of the parish: Clara Thelwell and Brian Ashbrook. May they rest in peace and rise in Glory.

Bob Gardner

July Diary

4	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Holy Communion	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley
7	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
11	9.30am 10.00am 6.00pm	Family Worship Confirmation Service Evensong	St. Jude's St. Boniface St. Boniface
14	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
18	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Family Worship	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley
21	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
25	9.30am 10.00am	Holy Communion Family Communion	St. Jude's St. Boniface
28	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
August			
1	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Holy Communion	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley
4	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface

Any dream will do

'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' is an extremely successful musical written by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd-Webber. It is, of course based on the story of Joseph and his abominable treatment by his brothers, related in the first book in the Bible – the Book of Genesis.

It was first written as a cantata for a school in London and lasted only twenty minutes. For the third performance later in that year, in St. Paul's Cathedral, it was expanded. 'Joseph' was finally produced professionally in 1972, since when, apart from many theatrical productions, it has been performed by more than 20,000 amateur groups, in schools and churches across the world.

At the opening of the show the narrator, encouraging children to dream, relates the story of Joseph, the dreamer, in 'Any dream will do'. Jacob, Joseph's father, has twelve sons and things start to go wrong when he shows favouritism to

Joseph by having a richly-ornamented robe made for him. Not surprisingly, all the other brothers are furious at this special treatment for Joseph, and, we are told, 'hated him and couldn't speak a kind word to him'.

Things went from bad to worse when Joseph experienced dreams implying that he would, before too long, rule over his brothers. Eventually his brothers decide to get him out of the way. They sell him as a slave to some Ishmaelites who in turn sell him off, in Egypt.

Eventually Joseph hits the heights in Egypt, when he interprets dreams for the Pharaoh, predicting seven years of famine, and as a result is promoted to the top job in Egypt.

Some time later, Joseph's brothers make their way to Egypt begging for food. As a finale, the whole family is reconciled happily.

How historically accurate the story is we

can't be sure, but it is claimed that each of the brothers was the ancestor of one of the twelve tribes of Israel, and that story of Joseph was told, in part at least, to encourage the tribes to co-operate and be loyal to each other. The story certainly teaches that betrayal is serious, but that it can be forgiven if there's genuine repentance and a real desire for reconciliation. Those lessons are still important in life today. Jealousy can be a flaw in the life of any family or society and repentance and reconciliation can never come too soon.

We can also learn the importance of dreaming big and following our dream, with determination and perseverance. Yes, in that sense, any dream will do! But if it's a dream of serving God in all that we do, then God promises to love us and strengthen us in everything. The dreamcoat of God's Holy Spirit is freely available.

Eric Wallington

Village turns out for traditional fun



Well done to the Village Day Committee, including Mel Mort (shown below as Dorothy) for an excellent afternoon's fun on Bunbury's playing fields on June 19th. The photos give a flavour of the day. Sadly we don't have a photo of new Rose Queen Christa Harris but hope to include one next month.



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Monday 30th August

Please could you help in any way?

Donate a bottle or other prize • Give a quality gift for the Golden Elephant Stall
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We would love to increase the number of sideshows at the fete
but can only do this with kind volunteers.

Please phone Sarah Thompson 07973871769. We will happily collect gift offers.

Give us two minutes - Bob Welch



Bob (Bunbury's Mr Quiz) was born in a nursing home (now a restaurant) in Sawbridgeworth, Herts on 29th December 1946, but lived most of his life before moving "up north" on a farm in Essex. This was before "Essex man and woman" were invented. The farm was only 32

miles from St. Paul's Cathedral and as a child visits to London were commonplace. He can still remember his father driving him and his mother around London, having a look at all the preparations for the Queen's Coronation. At the age of 10 Bob went away to school in Suffolk where he stayed until he was 17. After one year's practical work on farms Bob then studied agriculture at the University of Reading. Soon after leaving university he entered the somewhat surreal world of the potato industry where he stayed for the next 30 or so years.

Having moved progressively north with his job, Bob ended up in Chester in 1975 and soon after (she says 4th October) met Trish. The rest you might say is history and later this year they will have been married for 33 years.

If you had a motto, what would it be? Put off today what you can do tomorrow. (Often you find you don't have to do it anyway.)

It's a celebrity beer call. Where is it and who do you invite? At the Dysart Arms drinking Adnams Bitter with David Duckham, the best England threequarter I have had the privilege to watch.

What would the title of your biography be? Life's one long holiday!

What was your first job? Working for my father on the farm.

Where did you meet your partner? In Broughton, outside Chester. I mended her gas cooker! (Having broken it first.)

What is your biggest regret in life? The inability to learn to speak a foreign language fluently.

And what is your biggest success? Being able to retire before reaching 60.

If you could change something about Bunbury, what would it be? I would move the canal to Wyche Lane so I could have a boat tied up at the bottom of my garden.

What is one thing about you that people may be surprised to learn? I am only the second person in my family in over 400 years not to have been a farmer.

What would you like to achieve most in the next 12 months? To keep healthy and to keep travelling.

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

That Freemantle, Western Australia, and the Little Creatures Brewery were near enough for weekend visits.

Where is your favourite place, and why? Trish's relatives farm near Woodville, New Zealand. Out on the hills with stunning views, really fresh air and so peaceful.

Where and how would you spend your ideal weekend?

In a nice country pub with good friends and of course some good real ale.

Remembering God

Is it possible to find God in the fast lane? So many of us live there, all the time, in noise, deadlines, phones, traffic.

It is so easy in our busyness, to shut God out, to only give him the leftover bits of our lives.

Let us try to put him back in the centre.

I sit at my computer, Lord,
To do my emails.
To write a letter.
To pay my bills.
To play games.
You are waiting for me.

I sit on my sofa, Lord,
To watch television.
To read the paper
To rest my feet.
To shut my eyes and forget the world.
You are waiting for me.

You sit down, Lord,
To wait for me
To be ready for you.

Help me, Lord, as I sit here,
Doing other things,
To remember that
You are waiting for me.

Amen

Pat Edgley



This summer's holiday club at St. Boniface for primary school-aged children is called the "Hollywood Club". It will run from 26th to 29th July with a family service and barbeque on the evening of the 29th. Registration forms are available from local schools,

As always, we rely on having enough adults' and teenagers' help to make the Holiday Club run smoothly. We are very short of help this year.

If you think that you would be able to help at all either before or during the week's activities please contact Laura. laurawarrington@gmail.com 01270 663463 or Debbie Shears akaroanz@hotmail.com or on 260707.

Summer at Earlybirds

It's been a busy summer term yet again for our children. They have been enjoying the good weather and spending plenty of time running around the Village Hall courtyard, no doubt regaling anyone visiting the village shops with the noise of their high jinks!

Highlights have included a visit from Marnie Dobson and her kids (of the goat variety!) when the children enjoyed feeding, petting and learning all about them. And on June 17th the children (pictured) went outside to cheer on Richard Chesworth, Eliza's father, as he rode through Bunbury on a John O'Groats to Land's End ride with a large group of other riders

This term the children have been learning about Europe, and they have enjoyed receiving postcards from friends and family travelling abroad.

In May Alex Sanders had to leave us before her ordination. (See p2) The little ones loved Alex's great sense of humour, genuine care and kindness and she will be sadly missed by them, parents and the team at Early Birds.

Recent fundraising has been very successful with a sponsored 10K run at Cholmondeley (runners pictured here), raising over a £1000 for Early Birds and £300 for Northwest Cancer



Research. Next year the same mums are going to attempt the Three Peaks!

A date for your diaries is 28th September, where the successful Fizz Fashion Show will be held again in Tarporley. Those who attended last year were delighted with the quality clothes at discount prices. All are welcome and tickets are available through Earlybirds.

For all enquiries regarding Earlybirds Pre-School, please contact Hilary Armstrong on 260410 email info@earlybirdsbunbury.co.uk



Bugs Bunny wreaks havoc

Bunbury School gardeners returned to the plot after the two week half term to find disaster had struck. Four- legged friends had annihilated our newly-planted strawberries and the radishes, rocket and spinach were a metre tall and fit only for the compost bin. Never mind, gardeners have to take the rough with the smooth and at least the rabbits didn't like our parsnips or beetroot which are still going great guns.



Thanks to all who supported our plant sale and afternoon tea in May which raised over £300. Shown here are two of our keenest young gardeners serving on the plant stall.

Sadly Y1 teacher Rachel Bulkeley will be leaving the school at the end of term to start a new job as a specialist SEN Manager in Winsford in September. Rachel began her career at Bunbury School and says she is grateful for the many experiences she has had there.



Pictured here is the line-up for the Goat Derby, part of the entertainment laid on by the Dobson family at Radmore Green Farm on Open Farm June 13th. Over 250 people came to explore the farm, which is home to the UK's largest herd of meat goats. Also pictured is Doug on the tractor wheel.

Clara Thelwell - everyone knew her



There was a time when Clara Thelwell knew everyone in Bunbury, and



everyone knew her. Not only did she know folk, she knew all about their ailments too.

Clara worked for Dr Arthur in the first true medical practice in the village. Times were very different then. The practice had 3,000 patients on its books, and Dr Arthur was responsible for them all. Rumour had it that you only had to look at Dr Arthur to feel better: Clara was his right-hand woman.

Each morning Clara would tend to the domestic chores around the handsome doctor's house, dressed in a white apron and mob cap. Then in the afternoon she would change uniform. Now dressed in a black dress with frilly white apron, wearing smart shoes and black stockings and with a velvet and lace band in her hair, Clara would deal with enquiries from patients, from prescriptions to appointments. She would note important messages on slate boards and there were big ledgers to check information in.

In later years a dispenser was taken on, but Clara remained the point of contact for the surgery, the friendly face everyone knew. By the time she retired in 1966 she had worked for the doctor of over 30 years having started at just 17 in 1928.

Clara moved to Alpraham where she helped Nellie Dutton at the Post Office. In those days the post Office was a hub

for village life and the two even provided a telephonist service. They were a fixture at village events for many years. Clara worked at Tarporley Hospital for a time too.

As she grew older Clara moved to Oathills Lea sheltered accommodation in Tarporley and then in 2002 she moved to Brookfield Residential Home in Nantwich. Here, in recent years her life has been dominated by her two cats, Blackie and Lucky. If you were to visit and the cats weren't around, it wouldn't be long before she'd get up, go to the doctor and shout, "come on!" and before you knew it the cats would come running.

Clara had a full life, she worked hard and is well remembered by many. You could say she had a good innings and oh so nearly made a century.

Written by family and friends

Ann Rudd - remembering the fun

Ann was born in Welling, Kent, in 1932, the youngest of five. Despite leaving school at 14 to work as a clerk in London, she was very well educated. One of the best in her class at English, her love of words grew over the years and in later life 'Countdown Conundrums' and the Daily Mail crossword presented little challenge. Ann also made full use of the mobile library, not only because she could chose a new bedtime read, but also because it provided an impromptu social event come bookclub.

She met Allan in 1950 at the Drill Hall, Bexley Heath. In 1952 he was called up for National Service and whilst undertaking pilot training he sought permission from his commanding officer to marry Ann, first gaining the approval of her father Harry. They were married on Boxing Day that year.

Ann and Allan were delighted as their family grew from two to five with the arrival of Mike (1955), Christine (1958) and Keith (1959) – much later they were to become the much-loved grandparents of Margaret, Marion, Daniel, Jenny, Steph, Ashleigh and Ben – and great-grandparents to Callum and Mason.

Whilst Allan was serving in the RAF, the couple had 14 addresses in 3 years, before finally settling in Bunbury on June 2nd 1977. Ann soon became an active member of Bunbury life, supporting County Care, the RSPCA and the Wednesday Club. She always looked forward the latter, where she would serve tea to the members whom she referred to affectionately as 'the old dears', despite actually being older than many of them herself.

She was also a keen walker, often to be seen with Rosie and Bill, or another of the many dogs the couple looked after over the years, walking through the village, along the canal or up in the Peckforton Hills. Bunbury was Ann's home for so long that she even managed to tame and name some of the local birds: there was Mrs Blackbird,

who would sit on the fence by the back door and wait for her, and Fatso, the daft pigeon who would make such a mess using the bird bath. She enjoyed pottering around the Garden and stream, enjoying the peace and quiet and taking great pride in her orchids, Rhododendrons and home-grown rhubarb.

Ann was lucky to be able to travel widely round the world, visiting Australia, the Seychelles, South Africa, North America, and the Caribbean – but she loved Butlins too, taking the children and repeating the trip with her grandchildren years later.

There wasn't a lot that fazed Ann. She embraced the internet, booking holidays, checking in for flights, e-mailing and using Skype. She was also unfazed by the family turning up at little or no notice, just getting Granddad to clear the dining table and rustling up the best roast dinner ever.

Ann was the cement holding our family together. She was always there for us, whether we needed advice or just a shoulder to lean on. Her memories, standards, sense of humour and wicked sense of tease will stay with us for ever.





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