



# Link

## August/ September 2010

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

## Youngsters take big step

St Boniface was full of the families and friends of these six youngsters who were Confirmed by Bishop Alan Chesters during a special morning service on July 11<sup>th</sup>. The candidates met for several months at weekly classes led by Rick and our youth worker Laura, where they had the chance to explore what it means to become a member of the Church, to discuss their beliefs and ask lots of questions (and we understand biscuits were sometimes involved!) This was the first confirmation group that Laura has led.

The newly confirmed youngsters took their first full communion, then joined the congregation to celebrate with a large cake.



**Bishop Alan with Frances Munro, Andrew Holbrook, Rachel Melia, Rachel Overy, Laura, Lucy O'Neill, Sarah Overy, Rick.**

## Beeston Fete

The preparations for Beeston Castle Fete go on all year round. Scarcely has the large marquee been dismantled and the Hoopla put away again, than it is time to book the stalls and entertainment for the next year. The Beeston Fete is St. Boniface's largest fundraiser and it has been running in some form for many years, always on the August Bank Holiday, the day when by historic agreement all the entrance takings for the Castle go to the parish church. You can see why we try very hard to get lots of people through the doors! The Fete has always been a big local attraction, bringing in customers from far-afield – many calling in after visiting Beeston Market in the morning. This year we really want to remind local people what a good day out you can have at the Fete, and how important to St Boniface is the money we raise here. Come for lunch or afternoon tea, enjoy the stalls and entertainments – and if you like you can walk to the top of the hill for free!

### Beeston Castle Fete

**August 30th Bank Holiday  
11.00am**

**Come along and join the fun.  
Barbeque, tea tent, traditional stalls and games for all the family.**



**Proceeds to St. Boniface for the upkeep of our magnificent building**

## Kwik Cricketers reach national final

In an exciting finale to the sporting year, Bunbury School's Kwik Cricket team reached the national finals of the Asda Kwik Cricket competition, played at the Derbyshire County ground on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July. (cont p.3)



**Sam (11) takes aim**

## Community

Congratulations to former Bunbury resident **Simon Wilgose**, son of Nina and Paul, on his recent engagement. His fiancée is **Amy Shaw** of Melbourne, Australia and they will be marrying in Australia as Simon is moving there in the next few weeks. Good luck to them both for their future Down Under.



Congratulations to **Janine Thackray** **John Quirk** (pictured below) who married at St. Boniface on 25th June.



Apologies to **Paul and Fiona Holbrook** for announcing their Silver Wedding last month a year early! (an unreliable source!)

**Vanessa Green** snapped her Achilles tendon dancing to the Proclaimers in May and is still in plaster, and commiserations to **Oscar Harris** who fell on Bunbury School Sports Day and broke his elbow - we hope you are both on the mend.

It is good to see **Dennis Clausen** up and about in the village after a health scare in early July.

We were very sorry to hear that due to ill health, **Jean Healey** is no longer able to continue as editor of the Bunbury Journal, after so many years in the role. All good wishes, Jean and

thanks to **Mike Thomas** for taking on Jean's Link round while she is ill.

Many thanks to all those who offered to take on Link distribution in Wakes Meadow: the post has been very kindly taken on by **Eric Lord**, but we will bear the rest of you in mind in the future!

Well done to all our local students who have been enjoying graduation celebrations this summer. Particular congratulations to **Mark Barrie**, who has graduated with a first in Physics from Bristol University and **Tom Bruce** also achieved a first, in Engineering from Edinburgh.

This year's **Bunbury Garden Club Annual Show** takes place at the Village Hall on Saturday August 28th. Everyone welcome to enter the various classes for a small fee - entry forms available from Burrows Butchers. Come and see the show and enjoy afternoon tea from 2.30pm. Surplus produce will be sold at Beeston Castle Fete on Monday 30th August (see front page for details).

Ernest Croley has written to tell us that the **Village Day Committee** has handed over a cheque for £250 to the supporters of the **Bunbury Mill Appeal**. He wishes to thank them for their support of this community initiative. Contact Ernest on 260344 if you would like to know more.



Introducing **Miss Krista Harris** who was crowned Bunbury Rose Queen 2010 at this year's Village Day, 19th June.

This month please pray especially for **Jean Healey** and **Bill Corn**. 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 **October Link will be Sun 12th Sept**. The magazines will be available in church on Sunday 25th September.

**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**

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# Listen with the ear of your heart

At a busy train station in Washington DC, a world famous violinist played beautiful, intricate Bach compositions for around 45 minutes during the morning rush hour. He was ignored by almost everyone – a man stopped for a few seconds and carried on, a woman threw a dollar into his box without breaking stride. The only person who tried to linger was a little boy who was soon hurried along by his mother, saying as he went “how lucky that man is, to be able to play such beautiful music”. When the violinist stopped, there was no applause or reaction, just the silence of individuals going about their daily journey.

This event was set up as an experiment to test people’s perceptions and priorities and was trying to answer the question “In an everyday environment, at an unexpected time, do we notice and appreciate beauty, or recognize the gift of talent?” The answer, based on

these commuters, seems to be “no” and raises another question – what are we missing in the course of an ordinary day, by shutting down our senses when our mind perceives that there is something more important to attend to?

St Benedict, writing 1500 years ago, referred to the senses as “the threshold of the soul” and wrote, “Listen, my child, with the ear of your heart.” The little boy in the Washington station was doing just that. Unaffected by the need to be somewhere else, or the pressure to be thinking about something else, he was listening to the music with the “ear of his heart”.

“Being present in the moment” and “experiencing the here and now” are sometimes thought to be airy fairy clichés. But heightening the senses **requires** us to be in the present and to notice more. The writer Daniel O’Leary suggests that learning to leave the mind and focus on the senses is “the

way to catch the divine harmony in everything human”. He goes on to say “If the present moment is the only place we can meet the incarnate God, will we be at home when God comes in disguise to find us?”

The commuters in Washington didn’t expect to encounter the God-given gifts of a world class violinist on a station platform, though no doubt many would pay to hear a live performance in a concert hall. So they chose not to listen.

By listening with the ear of our heart, by leaving the mind and focusing on the senses, we make ourselves open to the beauty of God’s creation and his gifts manifested in our fellow human beings – all we have to do is notice, and our souls become nourished and enriched, like the little boy at the train station.

## Judy Done

With acknowledgement and thanks to Daniel O’Leary writing in the Tablet 24 April 2010

## Young cricketers learn from NZ professional

(cont from front page)

Well over 12,500 schools entered the competition and after four exciting rounds Bunbury reached the final 16. Part of the prize for winning the north-west finals was a coaching visit from a member of the current New Zealand team and so the boys were lucky enough to enjoy a sunny afternoon’s professional coaching at Bunbury Cricket Club from Lou Vincent.

In the Final the boys won their first match against a Sussex school, beating them by 9 wickets. The team’s hard-hitter, Sam Roberts of Haughton, (pictured front page) scored 3 sixes in one over, and 2 in another. They lost the second match against a Nottingham school by only 5 runs, and narrowly won the third against Rawdon St. Peter’s, Yorkshire. Their final placing was a fantastic eighth - out of the original 12,500. The team’s coach, John Hughes, congratulates all the boys for their good all-round performances, but gives particular mention to Sam for his excellent batting and fielding throughout the tournament and to Joe Walker for his fielding and catching.

**Another credit to Bunbury cricket: the Bunbury CC under 13s team who got through to the county cup final losing to Prestbury on 5th July, but receiving the runners up trophy and medals**



# St. Judes news

We have a champion in our midst.:  
Tilstone Fearnall W.I. have once again triumphed at the Cheshire Show, winning two cups in the Food and Craft categories. And also member Daphne Ashworth was awarded the championship Rose Bowl for her embroidery work. Well done to you all.

Tilstone Fearnall W.I. celebrates its 80<sup>th</sup> birthday this year. Congratulations to them and long may they continue singing 'Jerusalem'.

The Ghost of Tilstone Fearnall has recently been seen again in our parish, this time by a very sober resident. It is also recorded in 'The Cheshire Village Book', published by the W.I., and who would argue with them? Long ago, a Robert de Tremomz gave the Manor of Tilstone Fearnall to the Benedictine Monastery at Chester. Perhaps no-one has told this ghostly monk about the Reformation, and he is still looking for this lost manor. If anyone else has seen him please let us know.

We are happy to record our very sincere thanks to Bunbury Singers for the splendid concert at St. Judes on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July. £586 was raised, which will be split equally between St. Jude's and Tarporley Cottage Hospital. It was a wonderful evening of song and an excellent fundraiser: thank you to singers and audience.

After earlier complaints about the lack of sunshine this year we had our parish lunch in a heatwave. Despite Turkish bath conditions, it was a great lunch, though quickly over as everyone dashed off to watch the World Cup (we lost by the way!).

**Bob Gardner**

## Sorry no gents



**Over £650 was raised for the Gwalior Orphanage at a ladies' Pimms and Pud evening in July. About 60 supporters came along - many thanks for your support.**

## August/September Diary

1	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Holy Communion	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley
4	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
8	9.30am 10.00am 6.00pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Evensong	St. Jude's St. Boniface St. Boniface
11	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
15	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Matins	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley
18	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
22	9.30am 10.00am	Holy Communion Family Communion	St. Jude's St. Boniface
25	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
29	9.30am 10.00am	Holy Communion Family Communion	St. Jude's St. Boniface
<b>September</b>			
1	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
5	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Holy Communion	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley
8	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
12	9.30am 10.00am 6.00pm	Morning Service Family Communion Evensong	St. Jude's St. Boniface St. Boniface
15	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
19	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Family Worship	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley
22	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
26	9.30am 10.00am	Harvest Communion Harvest Communion	St. Jude's St. Boniface
29	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
<b>October</b>			
3	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Harvest	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley

# Can you help our young people?

Unless you have children or grandchildren who come to St Boniface, you may not know about all the work undertaken on our children's behalf – and open to all local children - by our Youth Worker Laura and some very dedicated volunteers. All this work is the responsibility of CAYC - the St. Boniface Children and Youth Committee).

Did you know, for instance, that since Laura joined us in March 2009, with a remit to concentrate mainly on our older youngsters she has started a new teenage youth group called 'Toasties'? Did you know that she was awarded a grant of £500 for youth evangelism and started 'The Bigger Picture' - a fortnightly outreach group? Did you know that she and husband Luke recently took 4 young people away for 'The Gathering', a very successful Christian weekend event in Telford? Did you know that last year she took another group to a Christian event in Manchester? And did you know that as well as all this she organised the Holiday Clubs, led the Confirmation class, using the Youth Alpha Course? Did you know she is also much involved with YC's (Young Christians) on Monday evenings, supporting Wendy and Mike. She also puts her musical talents to use and leads the music in our third Sunday All Age Service?

Did you know that there is always a waiting list to join YC's (our youth group for 11-14s).

And did you know that 50 children attended the 2009 **Summer Holiday Club** and an unprecedented 40 attended the 2010 **Easter Holiday Club**? These only run with the help and support of many volunteer helpers.

Did you know that around 20 children attend **Kingdom Kids** (KKs) on a Sunday morning? These groups are also led and supported by volunteers. Did you know we would like to offer a crèche to preschoolers – but can't yet due to a shortage of leaders?

CAYC is currently undertaking a review of our Children and Youth strategy in order to make sure that everything we do continues when Laura leaves us next year. A working group (Jo McDonald, Laura and Johnny Gillett) has been formed and they are currently consulting leaders, helpers, YCs and KKs to assess current and future priorities.

As part of this 'The Diocesan Good Practice guidelines for working with children and young people' have been reviewed. They state that two adults should be at each group session. Currently our leaders work alone. In order to ensure that our KK groups continue flourish we are looking into the possibility of having a rota of volunteers to act as the second adult in each group. Could you help? You would not need a CRB check or be required to lead a group and we hope you would not need to volunteer more than once a term. We hope to try this out between September and Christmas. If you would be willing to slip out of the Sunday service for a short period once per term to support our KK leaders you would be making a very positive contribution to our Youth Ministry. So if you are aged between 18 and 80+ and feel you can help we would be delighted to hear from you!

**Kate Reeve**

## The Seven Deadly Sins

Back in the Middle Ages, Dante, in his "Inferno" wrote of Pride, Greed, Envy, Lust, Sloth, Anger and Gluttony. Even though the language sounds a bit old fashioned to our ears, it would be hard to find any of us who has not committed at least one!

To add to our guilt trip, two years ago the Roman Catholic Church updated the list, with modern vices. So drug pushers, the obscenely rich, environmental polluters and "manipulative" genetic scientists are all in the frame.

We may not face punishments like being dismembered alive, forced to eat rats toads or snakes, or put in a cauldron of boiling oil, but we do need to look at our lives and see where we need God's help to live in a better way.

Lord, you made us to be like you  
And we will have no peace  
until we find you.

Grant us pure hearts and  
strength of purpose  
So that our selfishness may not get  
in the way  
Of knowing your will for us.

Help us to say no to all that keeps us  
from following you,  
And yes to all that brings us closer  
Until we are changed into your  
likeness.

**Amen**

**Pat Edgley**

## Steps damage

The steps to the war memorial gates are in need of replacement after recent damage by vehicles. The current steps date from 1920 and because they are York stone the estimated cost of replacement is unfortunately estimated at £3,500 - £4,000. A grant of up to 50% of the cost may be available from the War Memorial Trust but we are looking for contributions to make up the balance. We are asking village organisations and individuals to consider making a donations.

**Walter Done (Churchwarden)**



**Laura with Toasties and picnic at the Crocky Trail**

# Give us two minutes - Meg Fairweather

Hazel Megan Porter was born at home, at 39 Congleton Road, Biddulph, on December 31<sup>st</sup> 1930: she says that her mother never forgave her as her arrival prevented her from going to the New Year's Eve Dance that year. She attended Biddulph Infants School and then St. Audrey's PNEU school in Congleton. She learnt to play the piano and to dance from the age of six. She has always worked with children and trained in Stoke on Trent. She ran her own nursery school at Frodsham for 15 years and moved to Bunbury in 1983. She married Roger on December 29<sup>th</sup> 1960, so this is their Golden Anniversary year. They have one daughter, Rachel.

**If you had a motto, what would it be?**  
Work hard but have fun.

**It's a celebrity beer call. Where is it and who do you invite (and why?)** Any venue large enough for Gary Barlow and Take That and room to dance.

**What would the title of your biography be?** 'There's no business like show business'

**What was your first job?** I worked in a nursery school in the Potteries.

**What is your biggest success?** Being able to play the piano for Bunbury Good Companions for 21 years in their wonderful musicals and reviews and still to be involved.

**Where did you meet your partner?** Keele University Inter-Varsity Club

**If you could change something about Bunbury what would it be?** To have a regular bus service going down Bowes Gate Road where we live.

**What is one thing about you that people may be surprised to learn?** To be honest, I don't really like gardening, although Roger does.

**What would you most like to achieve in the next 12 months?** At my age, to keep well and keep going to Keep Fit classes.



**If you were granted one wish, what would it be?** I am becoming more and more aware of the increasing use of guns and knives killing innocent people and wish more was being done to stop it.

**Where is your favourite place and why?** I love my holidays and days out but my favourite place is playing the piano at Smarties Nursery with a row of little children singing and saying, 'What's next, Meg?'

**Where and how would you spend your ideal weekend?** In Brighton, with Rachel and her friends, and Roger, and Zak the dog.

## Sat-Nav wisdom

I don't possess a sat-nav but I'm sure that for many the satellite navigation system which is carried in the car and which guides us as to which road to follow, is a most useful piece of technology.

However, to those who are unfamiliar with them, they can, I've no doubt, even be terrifying. A passenger in a taxi late one night had his mouth open to tell the driver the way to his home when the computerised voice suddenly broke in, to advise the driver to take a completely different route. 'Can I argue with that advice?' asked the passenger. 'I'm afraid not,' answered the driver, 'but at least I don't get called an idiot if I disobey the instructions!'

The Chief Rabbi, Sir Jonathan Sachs, in a newspaper article, described the sat-nav as a tutor in hope. He imagines a driver protesting that he knows more than the machine does. He's been driving for more than twenty years and knows the area like the back of his hand. Any local knows that you turn left here. However, wrote the rabbi, the computer's response, if you disobey

instructions, is an education of politeness. It goes quiet for a moment, as though reflecting on the greatness of human foolishness, and then says, quite simply, 'Recalculating the route'. In a few seconds, it gives you a new route, based on how to get where you want to be from where you are now, ignoring the fact that you got there by disregarding the wisdom it first gave you!

This, concluded Rabbi Sachs, is one of life's great lessons. If you know where you want to be, then no matter how many wrong turnings you have taken, there's always a route from here to there, and he went on to say that this should always be a source of hope for us, no matter how lost we feel.

I suspect that at the back of the Rabbi's mind was a verse from the Book of Isaiah in the Old Testament, which reads: 'When you turn to the right or when you turn to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying "This is the way; walk in it" '.

God, standing outside the muddled

affairs of the earth, undoubtedly has a view on where we are in our lives at present and how to get to our desired destination. He has the answers if we will only seek his advice and help. If we listen carefully we will hear his voice telling us which way to turn. We can ignore the advice of the sat-nav but it's dangerous to ignore the advice God so freely offers.

**Eric Wallington**

## Haughton Hog Roast

The annual **Haughton BBQ** on Sunday 4th July brought community members together for an evening of food, chat and dancing. The hog roast supplied by the Dobson Clan was cooked to perfection and with a wonderful array of salads provided by many helping families no one went hungry! After each barbeque, everyone feels it couldn't be bettered, but each year seems to outdo the previous one.

# Bunbury School ends the year on a high for summer break

The last few weeks of the summer term at Bunbury School were as busy as ever. Parents enjoyed two sports days, the first under traditional scorching sun, the second threatened by rain but going ahead nevertheless. The school put on a concert of music and drama including Y6 pupils in an extract from "A Midsummer Night's Dream", and a performance by the recorder group shown here. Uniquely, a Deputation of Haberdashers paid their second visit of the school year (due to a change in their visiting calendar) and they were presented with another bottle of port and tin of anchovies (perhaps that's why they came again so soon!)

Y6 spent weeks working hard on "We'll Meet Again" (pictured right), a touching version of the well-known "Evacuees" drama, which they performed to parents at their Leavers' Evening on 15th July. There were not many dry eyes in the house when they sang "We'll meet again".

James Burnett, Ben Steward and Genevieve Hill amazed us all by their acting and singing skills. Well done to all the pupils and to teacher Mrs King.



# Bunbury reaches Recycling Finals



On Friday 9th July, Thomas Lea and I went to Tatton Park to Lord Egerton's Apartments for the Junior Recycling Officers of the Year awards. We had made it to the final 4 out of 100 schools. We then had to give a speech to everyone, including Lucinda Hodges who is in charge of recycling officers in Cheshire. We told the judging panel about how our school has set up compost bins and used waste from school lunches; uses rain water to water vegetables we are growing and runs school competitions to raise awareness of recycling. Unfortunately we didn't win but we received a medal and £15 Argos vouchers each.

Zoe Green (11)



## Bye bye Y6



**These Y6 children are leaving Bunbury School this summer. Most are going on to Tarporley High but a few are going elsewhere. All the best of luck to you all.**

# What makes Oberammergau so special

Many people have heard of Oberammergau and its Passion Play. Pat Edgley witnessed this year's once in a decade production.

Nestling In the Bavarian Alps, lies the tiny village of Oberammergau. Once an important communications centre as it lay on one of the most passable routes across the Alps, it has been fought over many times. Eventually it became a religious centre for the region. In its trade route days the people of Oberammergau made a good summer living providing hospitality to travellers. Winter was a different story, with the snows cutting the valley off for months at a time.

Then the villagers and especially those who lived in the high mountains could not move very far from their homes, so they developed the art of woodcarving, making toys, household utensils and religious figures. In the summer, they would set off to peddle their wares in the surrounding area, carrying their goods on a large wooden frame strapped to their backs.

But what makes Oberammergau so special? From 1618, much of Europe was engulfed in the Thirty Year's War, which started as a religious conflict between Protestants and Roman Catholics, and developed into a general war across Europe. In its wake came widespread famine and disease. The whole of Bavaria was ravaged by gangs of marauding soldiers, helping to spread the plague, or "Black Death".

Oberammergau managed to escape disease for some time with strict quarantine controls and guards severely restricting the movements of villagers and strangers alike. Then one night Kaspar Schisler, who had been working away from home, managed to evade the guards and sneak back to visit his wife and family for the festival of dedication of the church. Unwittingly, he brought the plague with him, he and all his family died, as did many other villagers.

At that time, disasters such as the Plague were believed to be a punishment from God. As a

consequence, it was thought that some form of penitence was needed to prevent further wrath from The Almighty. In July 1633, the citizens made a solemn vow to perform, every tenth year, a play of the Saviour's suffering and death, if God would deliver them from the disease.

From that day, no one else in Oberammergau died from the Plague.

The first performance was given in 1634 at Pentecost by the villagers, on a stage erected over the graves of the plague victims. Later the play moved to the beginning of each decade, and apart from 1770 when there was a religious ban, and 1940 during the War, it has been performed ever since, nowadays in a custom built theatre with a stage open to the skies.



**The ornate high altar at Oberammergau**

The play tells the story of Jesus from his arrival in Jerusalem on a donkey right through to his death and resurrection. We see how he treats with love and compassion the poor, the marginalized, and how he enjoys the company of children.

A series of living tableaux of old Testament stories are interspersed with between scenes from Jesus' life, in a series of flashbacks, giving an overview of the whole story of the Bible.

The story begins with Adam and Eve being banished from the Garden of Eden, and Sin entering the world. It is as the result of this sinful, fallen world, that Jesus has come to be our Saviour, to take on our sin and lead us back to

Paradise.

While Moses was up the mountain receiving the Ten Commandments from God, down below the crowd got restive and made a Golden Calf to worship.

In the new Testament God's chosen people are again showing their contempt for God's house, and Jesus angrily drives the traders from the Temple in a flurry of spilt oil, flying coins, scattered doves and frantic sheep.

Jesus meets his friends for the last time at Supper, where they recall the night of the flight into Egypt, the original Passover, when only those households with the lamb's blood daubed on the doorframes were saved.

Jesus warns them of his impending death, offering the bread and wine of

the Passover meal as his body and blood shed for everyone. As the Jews were saved by the blood of the sacrificed lamb on their doorways, so we are saved by the blood of Jesus.

Hauntingly beautiful music with electrifying singing from a chorus of forty eight people, bring to life the character of Jesus, the healer, friend, the leader.

In every scene there is an angel present on the stage, not always easily seen, showing us that the Holy Spirit is with us at all times.

The noise and clamour of the crucifixion seeps into our

consciousness, and we actively live that unbearable agony.

After Jesus dies, quiet descends amongst the audience, a feeling of terrible loss and separation, as the body of our Saviour is gently and reverently taken down from the cross and laid in the tomb.

In the darkness of the garden of Gethsemane, the angel waits. He waits for dawn, for a new day in which all things are made new.

A world shown at first to the women. To Mary Magdalen who runs to tell that Jesus has risen, that he is alive, he is with us all the days until the end of the earth. A great Halleluia chorus soars around the arena in final triumph.

**Pat Edgley**



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