

From little acorns.....

'From little acorns mighty oaks do grow'. This is just one of the many sayings that have adorned this majestic tree. For me the oak's status can be summed up in three lines:

"It is the lion that holds the title of 'king of beasts' while the eagle is renowned as 'the ruler of the skies' But the sovereignty of British trees must always go to the oak."

Not only is it extremely strong, hard and durable, the oak has also played a valuable part in British history. Druids planted countless oaks and later on they would use the area beneath these trees to enact rites and hold local courts. Large well-established oaks once marked parish boundaries and were used by priests and holy men as gathering points. Within their shade and shelter, sermons would be read and open air worship took place. These trees were often known as gospel oaks.

Probably the best known feature of the oak is its autumnal profusion of acorns. Like almost all other fruits found on trees, acorns have played their role as both an animal and a human food source. Shelled, sliced and lightly roasted, acorns were used during the 2nd World War as a substitute



for almonds. Roasted to a rich brown colour and ground, they found favour as a coffee substitute. An added bonus to this coffee is that it checks diarrhoea!

At certain times of the year, strange growths resembling small apples can be found on oak branches. These are formed by the intervention of a small wasp and are correctly termed galls. These galls, (or oak apples) have secret uses. Ground to a fine powder and mixed with water and rusty iron they produce an excellent black ink. Ground galls mixed with water alone make invisible ink. The writing is revealed when the paper is dampened with ferrous sulphate. Oak galls also contain high concentrations of gallic acid which is the principal ingredient in whistling fireworks.

As a final note on the oak, the young leaves are not only the sole food plant of the rare and elusive purple hairstreak butterfly but also make an excellent wine.

Liz Jones



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Ann Latham 260488
Secretary Carolyn Johnson 260703
Organist Ann Badrock 260343

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Church Lighting

This is the time of year when we try to floodlight St. Boniface in the evenings. Why not commemorate a memorable date - such as an anniversary - by sponsoring the lighting for a week? Cost £10, contact Ernest Croley on 260344 for details.

Charity Christmas Cards

Last month we mentioned **St Lukes** and **the Railway Children**, two worthy causes selling Christmas cards. Here is another charity venture well worth your support:

Cards for Good Causes multi-charity Christmas card shop is now open until November 27th at the Tarporley Baptist and Methodist Church. The shop, representing more than 25 different charities, is staffed by local volunteers and is open Monday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm.

The shop is one of a national network of more than 270 operated by Cards for Good Causes which last year raised almost £5m.



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Do you want to get well?

Healing is a buzz word these days. Open any magazine or paper, and there's sure to be an article on some alternative way of improving our well being.

We strive for perfection, and we feel entitled to perfect health. So it is a horrible shock when something goes wrong – an illness, or an accident, which upsets our lives.

With modern medicine, we expect every disease to have a cure, and feel cheated when we don't find it. We are too busy to look after ourselves properly, slow down, rest. Headache? –pop a pill – don't stop working – no excuses! We see healing as purely physical, relief from pain, ability to function normally. We treat the symptoms, not the root cause.

Healing is so much more. Healing means wholeness, of mind and Spirit, not just the body. All healing comes from God, who created everything. He has put into our world so much healing material, and given humankind the wisdom to explore it. In John's gospel Jesus heals a man paralysed for 38 years. Every day his friends carried him to the Pool of Bethesda, where he lay, with many others. They believed that when the waters stirred, the first one in the pool would be cured. Our poor man didn't stand a chance. Then Jesus asks a strange question. "Do you want to get well?"

Healing can be dangerous. It changes whole families, whole ways of life.

Could the paralysed man cope with being well? And his friends? They looked after him, they had strength where he

had weakness. Now they were equal. The whole relationship had changed.

Becoming ill or injured gives us time to rethink our lives, to see what is important. When we are able to thank God for what we have, not what we have lost, then God's healing starts. Dependence on others is a very humbling experience. Superman actor Christopher Reeves recently lost his fight for life. A riding accident changed him from a vigorous, healthy man to a paraplegic who could not even breathe on his own. He coped by devoting all his energy into researching spinal injury. His life had more impact after injury than in his film career. He was not 'cured', but he found healing peace and fulfilment.

As Rick recovers from surgery, he is surrounded by love and prayers from his family, friends and parishioners. We are all anxious that he soon be fully restored to us. But sometimes pain becomes part of our lives; it doesn't go away. Has there been no healing, despite our prayers?

Maybe we are starting at the wrong end. Tom reminded us recently to be thankful for God's love and goodness to us. Then the healing love of God enters our hearts and turns us around to face Him, and change us for the better.

That is true healing. Do you want to get well?

Pat Edgley



God's unending mercies

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness."
(Lamentations 3, 22-23)

God never gets tired of his work: day after day he maintains the conditions in which he knows we can grow as Christians. Morning after morning we take so much for granted. How often, for example, do we see each day as one day nearer to home?

Each night, to some extent, we 'die' in our sleep and are 'resurrected' with the morning. How can we best show our thanks to God for his loving care? A steadfast hope that every one of us can serve him and our neighbours better.

Think of the hundreds of tiny seeds in the spring sowing packets. Do we sow them carefully, giving every seed room and a chance to grow and make good? Do we tear apart the packet to get the last tiny seed out of the corner?

That last little struggler may indeed make the best success of growing. So God takes a vital interest in every last one of us. No-one, in his eyes, is unimportant or past hope. And the more we grow spiritually, the more God, in his faithfulness, adds mercy to mercy.

Eric Wallington

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Cheshire Police

Cheshire police have contacted the Link to spread the word about their new policing initiative in Bunbury and the surrounding villages:

"Your local police officer will be visiting your area in a fully-marked police vehicle at the times and locations shown below. The first of these visits to Bunbury will be on Saturday November 6th, and will continue every three weeks thereafter. (Nov 27th, etc).

This new, regular arrangement is to provide an opportunity for you to have personal contact with your local officer in your community.

We will be able to give advice on a wide range of matters including crime prevention. These visits are for your benefit: please come and meet us!"

Every third Saturday from Nov 6th:

Bunbury 10 to 11am

Church Row -

Spurstow 11.30am to 12 noon-

Southcroft

Bunbury 1.30 to 2.30pm

Bunbury Lane, near Co-op

Alpraham 3 to 3.30pm

Thornton Bank

Wardle 4 to 4.30pm

Wardle Avenue

Sporting (and jumbling?) heroes



Here are scout leaders Sally Sissons, Jonathan Middlemiss, Tim Wheatland and Kay Kelly after successfully completing the Great North Run half marathon in Newcastle in September. Well done!

Scouts enjoyed a different sort of success with their jumble sale in October which raised an impressive

£500 towards scout funds. Lots of us walked off with some amazing bargains but enough stock was left to plan another sale in the near future, so please keep saving your jumble. Thanks to the scouts, many homes in the area benefited from a much-needed pre-Christmas clearout!



And here is photographic proof that Katie Mason and her team did indeed complete the 3 Peaks Challenge as reported last month. Katie is already

planning next year's event though she is not sure whether she will be running again! We can't imagine why not, Katie!

Aura

November offers

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October at Bunbury School

The School has been particularly busy over the past month. These photos show some of our recent activities - the year 5 and 6 trip to London, the Year 5 trip to Pilgrim Day at Chester Cathedral and Deputation Day when the Haberdashers, the City Guild associated with the school, made their annual visit. It was a big day in the

school calendar, each year group presenting some of this term's work for the visitors. The children performed and behaved beautifully, though one of the youngest pupils was so overcome with excitement that he slept soundly through the afternoon assembly in the school hall!

Years 5 and 6 visit to London



Year 6 on the river boat

Some of the children's impressions of their trip:

"I thought 'Joseph' was really good. My favourite bit was when the sheep kept popping up and the talking camel".

On Buckingham Palace - "I was really excited when we got there but the Queen wasn't in."



The treasures at Haberdashers' Hall

On the London Eye - "I was very excited when I went on the Eye. When we were at the top I felt like I was at the top of world."

On Big Ben - "The architect who designed the tower was called Benjamin. He was so fat that they named the bell 'Big Ben' after him."

Deputation Day



(Clockwise from above) the Master is greeted by Mrs Phillips and Year 6 pupils past and present with their traditional gifts of anchovies and Port; Year 5 as Chester Cathedral monks; the Master chats to Amber in reception; some of the teachers (and Henry VIII) enjoying a well-earned afternoon tea after the proceedings;



Left: Dan from Year 1 dressed as Sir Ranulf, tells us about the founding of Beeston Castle.



Pilgrim Day



Oliver and Isobel learning tapestry



Esther and Anna busy with calligraphy



Charlotte and Olivia try their hand at illuminated letters, watched by new teacher Gareth Padfield.

Operation Christmas Child

Please donate a Christmas box to a child living in poverty in Eastern Europe: it may be the most valued gift you give this year.

Leaflets available from Burrows, Village Greens and St Boniface.

Please deliver your box to Bunbury School or St Boniface by Friday, November 12th.

Donations of cash and small gifts also gratefully accepted.

Nicola Elsegood 260507

UNITED KINGDOM
Operation Christmas Child

Improve your CV for free! - Johnny writes.....



It's been great to see young people involved, helping out with the projects through the summer. Now autumn is here, the Young Christians are working on their annual panto, there is talk of young people bell ringing and getting more involved with our Sunday services, and other young people are preparing to present some of their ideas for Bunbury to the Parish Council. With all this going on, it's time to recognise the contribution you young people are making.

In September I met up with Clare Loughlin of Youth Federation. We talked about their initiative entitled 'Millennium Volunteers' which is a scheme that credits young people for their voluntary work. And it covers pretty much everything – drama, music, dance, Scouts, Guides, Explorers, sports coaching, bell ringing, community projects, children's clubs, church involvement, helping the elderly. If you are fourteen years or over, you can join the scheme – which is for free by the way! From then on every hour of voluntary work you do will be recorded and once you have reached 100 hours you will be awarded with the MV certificate. If you achieve 200 hours then you will be eligible for the MV Award of Excellence. And during all this you will be able to take training in First Aid, Child Protection and Health and Safety should you wish to develop your own skills.

An Award of Excellence not only will look good on your CV but will also go towards earning the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Since it began in 1999, over 65,000 young people have joined the scheme, 390 in the last six months!

Are you already involved in a club or project?

Is your club recognised by the MV scheme? Most groups will be and this means that you don't have to start anything new. However, your hard work and commitment will be recognised by a national organisation. So get in touch and let me know what you're up to.

Want to do something but not sure what?

The MV scheme could be just what you need to get you started. There are lots of opportunities open to you or you may want to start something new yourself. Get in touch and we can talk through some ideas.

Wouldn't it be great to see a large contingent of Bunbury youth at the next MV awards night? So don't hang about. Get in touch and be recognised!

You can contact me on tel. 07843 428842 or 01829 260680, e-mail: johnny@stbonya.org.uk, or you can catch me at Tarporley High School, at Young Christians, Explorers, around the Pavillion or at St Boniface of course.

News from St.Judes

The Harvest Supper was a great success with almost 100 people enjoying a hearty meal supplied by Mrs Harvey and equally excellent fellowship. Thanks must go to everyone who helped prepare the hall etc and to Ann for the music.

Our next event is the bumper **Christmas Fair** to be held on **27th November 2-4pm at St.Jude's Church Hall**. There will be something for everyone - white elephant, cakes, crafts, produce etc, and Father Christmas will be paying a visit before he becomes too busy in Lapland. There will also be face painting for the children (or anyone really!) so do come along and join us for some early Christmas shopping.

Ann Latham

Churchyard mess is no more!

A hard-working team (David Jones, Peter Aston, Harry Woodward, George Potter, Ruth Martin, Carolyn Johnson, John Stillwell, Dennis Clauson and Leila Potter who brushed up the rubbish) has sorted out the graveyard. Leila writes: "The other evening, as I leant on my hoe, I looked at the graveyard nearest the surgery, it was like a beautiful garden, and the grave stones were garden ornaments, and, most important, the British Legion Graves stood proud for all to see. Still a long way to go, but plans are afoot for the future, so watch this space. Volunteers are still needed to help."

Ring Leila on 260357.



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Ridley Chapel window

£2,000 has already been given or promised, £1,000 from the Bunbury Society. The Ridley Chapel East window may be the last remaining evidence of the 1940 bomb damage. The late Canon Ridgway wrote: "I was asked to go to Bunbury as the church had been the victim of a German land mine which had done enormous damage, and nothing had been done to repair it!". We really should remember his achievements. We need to raise about £10,000 – please make donations through the churchwardens.

Services at Bunbury - ancient or modern?

What kind of services will you find in St. Boniface? What would you say if approached on this point by a family moving to the village? Are our services traditional with the Book of Common Prayer, choir and psalms? Or something more modern and informal? The answer of course is *both*.

The services for November are set out on the back page of the Link. The most traditional are the 8am Sunday and 10am Wednesday Communion, and the monthly choral evensong (Book of Common Prayer) held at 6.30pm each second Sunday of the month. The 10am Sunday Communion is choral with separate teaching of children in several groups and are designed to accommodate all. The Family Service (10am on the first Sunday) is more relaxed, and our most informal service, with groups of songs and less formal liturgy is reserved for 10am on the third Sunday.

Whatever your church background (if any) you really can find a service to suit you at our church. Give it a try, stay for coffee and tell us what you think.

Community news

The following have been baptised at St. Boniface: **Abigail**, daughter of Sarah Davies and Craig Parker on 29th August; **Jamie**, son of Pete and Barbara Watson and brother of Danielle, and **Madeline** and **Toby**, children (pictured below) of Wendy and Matt Ellis of Sutton Weaver, all on 17th October; and **Matt**, son of Andrew and Keri Boaz of Calveley on 24th October (photo next month).



Congratulations to **Oli Adegoke** and **Karen Lynch**, **James Hewitt** and **Louise Wheildon** and **Raymond Harding** and **Eileen Duffield** who were all married at St. Boniface on 25th September and 9th and 16th October respectively.

A very happy half century on November 13th to **Sean Everton**, And many happy returns to **Helen Jones** whose very similar birthday on 6th December makes her once again as old as her husband! (Surely not?) Here she is (below) helping at the Holiday Club.



Welcome to **Nettie and Phil Sandbach**, recently moved from Kelsall into Mrs Pinnington's old cottage on School Lane.



Blanche Wilgose with the Master on Deputation Day after being granted the freedom of the Company of Haberdashers for her 17 years' service as governor of Bunbury School.

This is late notice of the burial on June 29th, at St. Jude's, of **Mary Alice Latham**, aged 101, a former resident of Bunbury.

We also regret to report the following recent deaths: **Eurwyn Griffiths** aged 86 years of Meadow Park, Spurstow; and **Fred Wheaton** aged 59 years. Fred and his wife Pat used to own the newsagents in Bunbury and moved to Tattenhall last year. Fred sadly died while visiting his daughter, Francene, in Africa.

Church notices

December's Link will be a double issue for December and January. It will be out one week later than usual, from Saturday December 4th. This will give your distributors and editors a well-earned break. Please give us details of events for the January diary in plenty of time.

Special prayers for: **Rick, Lin** and family; **James Bartlett**, still very seriously ill, and his parents, **Jane and Charles**; and **Benjamin Thomas**, also seriously ill, and his parents, **Keith and Dawn**.

General notices

St. Luke's Hospice is holding two services in memory of people we love who have died, in the Hospice grounds at 5.30pm on Saturday 11th November and outside the Municipal Buildings in the centre of Crewe at 5.30pm on Friday 26th November.. You can make a donation to sponsor a light on the tree. For details ring 01606 551246.

Meg Fairweather and Barbara Croley wish to thank supporters of their coffee mornings which raised £185 and £250 respectively for **Macmillan Cancer Relief**.

Many local children enjoyed a "flight" in the cockpit of an air ambulance on October 9th, when **Win Bond** presented a cheque for over £8,000 to the **Air Ambulance Service** We look forward to a photo in the winter **Bunbury Journal (out on Dec 4th)**.

Questions have been raised over the potential health risks associated with **mobile phone masts** after an application to install one on the **Goodyear** site on Bunbury Lane.

Many thanks to the reader in **Tattenhall** who recently sent us a £10 contribution towards our costs. Much appreciated!

Last month we sold £25 worth of **photographs**. Any takers this month? It all helps pay for the magazine.

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Diary

November

3	10.00am	Communion	St Boniface
5		Bonfire Night	Bunbury Playing Fields
6		Cricket Club - Mods Tribute Night	Bunbury Village Hall
7	8.00am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
	9.30am	Communion	St Jude
	10.00am	Family Worship	St Boniface
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	St. Boniface
10	10.00am	Communion	St Boniface
13		Songs with Strings	Village Hall
14	9.30am	Remembrance	St Jude
	10.45	Remembrance	Calveley
	10.45am	Remembrance	St Boniface
	6.30pm	Evensong	St Boniface
17	10.00am	Communion	St Boniface
21	8.00am	Communion	St Boniface
	9.30am	Communion	St Jude
	10.00am	Family Worship	St Boniface
	11.00am	Communion	Calveley
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	St Boniface
24	10.00am	Communion	St Boniface
25-27		YCs Jack & Beanstalk	Village Hall
27		St.Jude's Christmas Fair	St Judes Church Hall
28	9.30am	Morning Service	St Jude
	10.00am	Family Communion	St Boniface
	4.30	Christingle	St. Boniface

Looking ahead

December

4th	December/January Link and Bunbury Journal published Bunbury School Christmas Fair Nantwich Choral Society Christmas Concert
16th	Bunbury School Christmas Service
19th	St. Boniface Carol Service

January 2005

21st	St. Jude's Race Night
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February 2005

5th	Amici Valentines Concert
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Link is edited by Lucy Munro (tel. 260487) and Jill Robey (tel. 260081). We welcome all your comments and contributions. Our deadline for the December/January edition is Wednesday 24th November. Please send material to lucykmunro@hotmail.com, or to Heath Cottage, School Lane, Bunbury. We are looking for new advertisers - if you are interested please contact us.

While your vicar, Rick Gates, is recovering from surgery please ring Peter or Kath Collinge on 260077 in times of sickness, bereavement or any distress. They are co-ordinating a group of people who will be pleased to respond to your call.

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