

Link

For the parishes of Bunbury & Tilstone Fearnall



March 2015

The best mathematical equation: 1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given

Anon



Another in the series of articles featuring local talent within the parishes of Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall, this month we profile local artist Elena Roman (more of her art can be seen on page 5). The painting above depicts Bunbury rooftops, looking towards the school. If you would like to highlight the talents of other members of the community, email parishlinkeditor@gmail.com

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New charity shop for Tarporley Hospital

Who we are



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The Link

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Community news



We welcome **Barnaby Frederick Lloyd**, son of Jennie and Joe, born on the 30 September (Hamilton's birthday), baptised at St Jude's on Sunday 1 February.

We also welcome **Thomas Daniel Ridgway**, shown with parents **Stuart and Nicola**, baptised at St Boniface on Sunday 23 November.



Congratulations to **Janice and Doug Lloyd** who celebrate their Golden Wedding on 27 March.

Congratulations to **Richard and Charlotte Large** on the arrival of **Ruby Florence** and **Frankie Ava** on 20 February.



This year's **Women's World Day of Prayer** service will be held at 1.30pm on Friday 6 March at **Bunbury Methodist Church**.

The theme this year is "Jesus said to them: Do you know what I have done to you?" The service has been prepared by Christian women in The Bahamas.

History is made. The first woman bishop, the Rt. Revd. **Libby Lane** will be installed as **Bishop of Stockport** in Chester Cathedral on 8 March.

Youth Alive – sketches, word, music, fun on Sunday 8 March from 7pm to 8.15pm at Tarporley Methodist and Baptist Church.

On 12 March **Bunbury WI** will have a talk by Doug Haynes about the 'Impact on the Area of Local Estates'.

There will be a musical evening with Caroline – Latin, country, ballads and songs from the shows, plus supper and licensed bar at **Bunbury Mill Visitor Centre** at 7pm on 14 March. Tickets £12.

On 17 March **Bunbury Gardening Club** will have a talk by Sue Nicholas on 'Gardening under Glass' followed by cheese and wine.

St Jude's Easter Fair will be on 28 March from 2-4pm.

Bickerton WI is organising a group of WIs celebrating **100 years of the WI** on 8 May in Bickerton village hall.

Friday at Tilly's meets every Friday morning, 10.30-12, at Tilly's. If you know anyone who might like to come but isn't mobile, phone Amber on 261437. If anyone is able to help with transport on a Friday morning, please let Amber know.

Tiverton OPAL Club (Older People Active Lives) which is part of a small local charity run by Rural Community Services, is looking for volunteers for their club in Tiverton, Tarporley – Drivers, Mid Day Assistants and General Helpers. Their services only operate through the generosity of local volunteers. This often leads to new friendships and a sense of community involvement, as well as being fun! Training and support are provided. Contact Carol Hitchen OPAL Club Organiser on 07851 253587.

Bunbury Football Club (5-11 years) meets on Saturday mornings in term-time, 9.30-11am on Bunbury Jubilee Playing Fields. www.bunburyfootball.co.uk, info@BunburyFootball.co.uk or 07901 954862.

Tarporley, Bunbury and District Historical Society meets on the 4th Thursday in the month at 7.30pm in Tiverton Village Hall. Details from Ann Wall 01829 261612.

Beeston Castle Fête will be earlier this year, on May Day Bank Holiday **Monday 4 May** and will have a vintage theme.



A great time was had by all who came and supported the **Pancake Party** at Tilly's. £50 was raised for

myaware.org.uk. Sam Prescott won the flipping competition with 292 points in 1 min. (1 point = 1 flip, 10 points = 1 pancake landing on your head!)

Save the date! With Bunbury set to star on TV screens this summer, the theme of **Village Day**, on **Saturday 20 June**, will be 'Stars of the Screen'.

Haughton Parish Council report that the **Haughton Parish Plan** is now complete and went to print for distribution in February. It is two years since the last edition and approximately 75% of the suggestions received then have been or are being implemented.

Jackie and Martin Griffiths would like to say a huge thank you to **Johnson Brothers Builders**, who helped them out when another builder let them down. "They are honourable, extremely hard working and have delivered a fabulous home. They are busy, but well worth waiting for."

The **copy deadline** for April Link is **Friday 13 March**. The magazine will be available for distribution from **Friday 27 March**.



Work is continuing on the Neighbourhood Plan with draft policies for Housing and Local Economy now on the website (www.bunburynpg.org), together with supporting information. Further draft policies covering Transport and Communication, Landscape and Environment, Community Infrastructure and Tourism, together with one for Open Countryside will follow shortly. There will soon be an additional round of consultation and we are planning a second public meeting to discuss the Draft Plan. Watch the web site, notice board and posters for details but in the meantime we will be happy to hear your views or answer any questions. Contact us at info@bunburynpg.org

We want to know how you feel about the emerging plan so that it can truly reflect the views of the people who live and work in Bunbury. We are aiming to hold a referendum on the plan, in the summer, which is the last stage of the Neighbourhood Plan process and it is important that you take part in the consultation so that you can make an informed choice.

Our prayers for March

We pray for all who are ill, especially **Hilda Elsworth, Daniel Jones, George Wilgose** and **Veronica Hughes**. We also pray for all who are mourning a loved one including the families of **Dorothy Jones, Jean Higgins, Richard Smith, Tom Phillips, Stephen Mercer** and **Frank and Nancy Woolley**.

TIM HAYWARD

Your Vicar



He carried a large wooden beam - one half of a cross. They handed it to him like it was nothing. Like it could be thrown away; like they were going to throw him away. He held the rough wood in his hands; gripped it, felt its shape, tested its weight, imagined the plane upon it. He remembered it's growing in the forest. A tiny unfolding. The first leaf unravelling, it's vast potential. This was the hull of a boat, the rafters of a house, the handle of a plough. It was the fruit of the earth and the work of human hands, this wood he carried. It was half a cross. He didn't carry the whole thing, though that was how it would be usually remembered. But nobody ever got him right. It was about five feet in length and weighed about five stone - a bag of cement. He knew that when he reached the place of execution a stake would be ready, and the beam attached to it. The Romans were fond of crucifixion. It was their execution of choice. Over a thousand years, thousands of people died this way. Their names are forgotten.

But this carpenter's son from Nazareth - he is remembered. Why?

Half a cross and the purposes of God

Is it because this man is not just a man, but God contained within what it is to be man?

He is face to face now with our barbarity.

He carries the cross, and he treads the path of suffering, step by painful step. He carries the weight and woundedness of everyone who has been trapped by all the awfulness we do to each other. He can taste its breath, he can feel its hands upon him.

But he carries something else. A light flickering within him that will not be snuffed out. Not when the soldiers mock him; not when he is stripped and beaten; not when they drive in the nails; not when he hangs there ridiculed, forsaken, defeated.

He carries half a cross; that half which is God's determination to plumb the depths of that dark river which is the human heart. But the other half is entirely something else: something that also needs to be nailed down and joined up. He is reaching into the bloody mess in order to redeem it. He carries the purposes of God. They will be shaped into a cross.

Pastoral Worker training update



The Baptism Matters module is well underway, writes **Amber Middlemiss**. It has been much more interesting than I imagined as it brings up all sorts of issues around what people believe and hope for; how did I not anticipate that?! It seems that people bring their children for baptism/christening for very many different reasons and it is a joy and a privilege to meet them and hear their hopes and expectations. I am discovering that different churches across the diocese of

Chester have very different ways of responding to baptism requests and I've been delighted to see the warm and inclusive way in which Tim welcomes new families and responds to their needs. For a small parish we do a fairly large number each year (20 to 25) which keeps him busy and is a wonderful way to meet and welcome families with new additions. For my assessment I will have to do a mock presentation as if to a fictional family with a young baby and a 6-year-old sibling who are inquiring about baptism but are not churchgoers; it's really making me think about what baptism is about and how we provide that here at St Boniface, as well as explaining it in accessible terms to people who may know little or nothing about what goes on here.



Eric Wallington
 Reader Emeritus
Sitting, thinking and choosing

In a Punch cartoon, a character says, "Sometimes I sits and thinks and sometimes I just sits." And I suppose that the times when we sit and think can be the most valuable. We may not think very deeply, but what we are able to think about is the meaning and purpose of our lives - what are, I suppose, the main issues of philosophy.

Philosophy, I believe, means eventually, love of knowledge, but giving it a long name may almost frighten us off. Most people, I suppose, are inclined to switch off when you mention the word 'philosophy'. So the philosopher is understandably inclined to tell stories to make the point.

Sometimes I sits and thinks and sometimes I just sits



Jesus told a story about being taken to the pinnacle of the temple and being given a choice whether to seize power by using the devil's weapons, or to win followers by way of self-sacrifice.

The point of the story is, I believe, that we all have the power to choose between right and wrong, just as Jesus did. And our free will gives us the capacity to give and receive love, guided by the love of our Lord Jesus himself. And the riddle reminds us that perfect love casts out all fear.

Church diary for March

Sunday 1 March	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Communion 10.30am Family Worship 11.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley	Sunday 22 March	9.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface
Wednesday 4 March	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Wednesday 25 March	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 8 March	9.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Communion	St Jude's St Boniface	Sunday 29 March Palm Sunday	10.30am Family Communion 6.30pm Evensong with choir	St Boniface Calveley
Wednesday 11 March	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Wednesday 1 April	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface
Sunday 15 March Mothering Sunday	8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Family Worship 10.30am Family Worship 11.00am Family Service 6.00pm Evensong	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley St Boniface	Thursday 2 April Maundy Thursday	7.00pm Agape meal with Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 18 March	10.00am Holy Communion	St Boniface	Friday 3 April Good Friday	11.00am Outdoor service 12.00-3.00pm Vigil service	Tilly's St Boniface
			Sunday 5 April Easter Sunday	8.00am Holy Communion 9.00am Family Communion 10.30am Family Worship 6.30pm Holy Communion	St Boniface St Jude's St Boniface Calveley



Pat Edgley Ellis
 Reader
Who am I?

It seems we can't sign up to anything these days without producing at least three types of identification, a passport, perhaps, driving licence and the gas bill.

At the same time we are so fearful of having our identity stolen that we go to great lengths to be anonymous, ripping our address off our mail, shredding our papers and not letting anyone see our PIN number.

But here is the puzzle – most of us long to be recognised, we want to make our mark; our deepest fear is coming and going – and nobody knowing!

We crave attention, we strive for our place in society and at work; to keep up, we drop the names of important people into our conversation, struggle up the ladder of success. And what is at the top? Another ladder!

Where can we go for the affirmation we so desire?

Our significance comes from within, not what we achieve. Who will accept us, just as we are? Our loving Father, God.

He says; "Fear not, for I have redeemed you, I have summoned you by name; you are mine –you are precious and honoured in my sight—I love you."

"O Lord, you have searched me and you know me.

You know when I sit and when I rise:

You perceive my thoughts from afar.

You discern my going out and my lying down;

You are familiar with all my ways." (Ps. 139)

Thank you God, for calling me by name and loving me, just as I am.

Elena Roman - local artist



Elena has lived in Bunbury since 1998, and she is originally from Romania. She has always enjoyed being creative, but only started painting in 2003, when, while visiting Bunbury Art Exhibition at the old Scout Hut, she found out about a painting class in the pavilion. The class was only an introduction to painting for Elena, and she followed this by taking courses with world class artists from Europe and America.

At first, she worked in acrylics, but was soon drawn to watercolours to which she fell in love with. She finds watercolours to be playful, expressive and free. She enjoys travelling to paint and has made many friends in the process. She particularly enjoys painting outdoors, although she will also 'absorb' memories and feelings of a scene and carry them home to work on in her studio. She finds painting to be alive, magic, and a very good company. For her painting is both, hard work and enjoyable; it helps her understand her inner self, gives her self-knowledge and an inner freedom. It is always a voyage of discovery. She has recently painted at Bunbury Mill and will be exhibiting paintings there in the near future - this may be a working exhibition. Elena is also considering the possibilities of teaching watercolour painting. If you would like to see more of her work, just log on www.elenamariaroman.co.uk



British Legion annual dinner



Bunbury Royal British Legion had a great time at their annual dinner dance at Bunbury Village Hall on 14 February, dancing to Wychcraft, who returned due to popular demand after last year's very successful evening. The hall

was beautifully decorated for Valentine's night with great flair as ever and everyone enjoyed a good meal, and interesting tombola, raffle and whisky roll, with lots of excellent prizes kindly donated by Legion members, friends, supporters and several local businesses. A fantastic supporter of the Bunbury Royal British Legion and a long-serving member received certificates, much to their surprise, from the County Chairman of the RBL, Phil Read. These were, Mrs Gill Jones who, once again, collected more poppy donations than any other

individual collector in our area in 2014 and is shown accepting her Branch certificate from Bunbury RBL President, Mike Rogers, and Fred Hardy for his dedication and commitment as Standard Bearer and Poppy Appeal Co-ordinator, both positions from which he has now retired. If you remember, we collected just under £6,000 this year, so a wonderful achievement and all masterminded by Fred. A sincere round of thanks was offered by the president, chairman and committee to all those people who often go unrecognised, but helped to make the evening such a successful, profitable and happy event.

Jill Walton,
Publicity Officer,
Bunbury RBL



St Jude's news

March already and springtime is just around the corner, marking a new beginning, a new season where the countryside springs back into life and we notice the days drawing out...

On that theme, the christening took place on Sunday 1 February of Barnaby Frederick Lloyd from Alpraham. Barnaby, a brother for Sophie, was born on the 30 September 2014 to proud parents, Jen and Joe Lloyd. The church family were delighted to welcome young Barnaby.

Sunday School is running on the first Sunday of the month, the next dates are Sunday 1 March and Sunday 5 April. Youngsters meet in the church hall for craft activities and fun before joining the congregation to share what they have learnt.

On Saturday 28 March St. Jude's will be hosting their Easter Fair from 2-4pm. Mark it on the calendar, as it was an entertaining afternoon last year, so see you there.

Christmas Wreaths - As Christmas is now past, please can parishioners arrange for Christmas wreaths to be removed from the churchyard by the end of March. If anyone is unable to do this, St Jude's will arrange for any remaining wreaths to be carefully disposed of. Thank you for your help in this matter, and thank you to everyone who has already removed their wreath.

Ernest Croley retires from Mill



The Trustees and volunteers of Bunbury Mill have presented Ernest Croley with a framed painting of the mill, in recognition of his time as a founder member and Chairman of the Bunbury Watermill Trust.

Ernest has twice been instrumental in saving Bunbury Mill - once in 1970 when it was threatened with demolition, and again in 2010 when he gathered together a group of determined people to establish a Charitable Trust and acquire the mill to keep it open as an educational and heritage institution. Ernest went about this in a quiet determined manner, following the approach of Daniel O'Connell (a 19th Century Irish Politician) - "I will go on quietly and slowly but I will go on firmly and with a certainty of success".

In addition to setting up the Trust and negotiating the purchase of the Mill, Ernest was relentless in raising funds from village organisations, business sponsors and some 70 households within Bunbury and its environs. This strong local support made the Trust's bid to run the Mill on behalf of the community businesslike and creditable. The fact that Bunbury Water Mill is open to the public, schools and organised groups and run entirely by volunteers is a tribute to Ernest's vision and leadership.

Ernest has retired from the board of Trustees, but is still to be found at the mill with his paintbrush in hand on Wednesday mornings. He is also organising their next social event, a Musical Evening to be held on 14 March. The Trustees are sure that he would like to say how much his wife, Barbara, has contributed to the Mill enterprise; her encouragement has supported Ernest in bringing the Mill back to life for Bunbury village. For further information about Bunbury Mill visit www.bunburymill.com or email info@bunburymill.com.

Give us Two Minutes... Murphy the Donkey



Please could you give us a bit of a thumbnail about you, your history, family, what you do for a living and do in your spare time?

Hi. My name is Glendene The Prophet, but I'm known to my friends and family as Murphy. I'm a three year old donkey, who was born and brought up in the village of Brown Knowl. My daddy is called Prophecy, and is a British Supreme Champion show donkey. My mum is Tabitha, who herself is a British Champion – so you could say I've got blue blood!

What would you change about Bunbury, if you could?

More carrots grown in the village.

What is the best book you have read to date?

Winnie the Pooh

What is your biggest regret?

Not kicking the vet hard enough when he gave me an injection.

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

To have a finer coat – everybody thinks I'm half Yak.

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

I really am a pure bred donkey.

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

To win the British Supreme Championship like my dad – unfortunately my older half-brother seems to be liked by the judges more than me ☹

What is your favourite place and why?

Blackpool – lots of pretty young fillies

How would you spend your ideal weekend?

Ignoring the alarm clock, not having to have a bath, not going to a show – just lying in mud and being fed carrots.



If you had a motto, what would it be?

More carrots please

It's a celebrity beer call – who would you like to invite?

My great friend Wonkey Donkey – as when he's had a few too many, nobody would notice

What would you call your autobiography?

From Ears to Eternity

What was your first job?

Leading the Palm Sunday parade at Bunbury church 2014.

Calveley news

On Sunday 15 February in a beautifully warm chapel at Calveley, with frost lingering on the fields, the choir of St Boniface came to lead the singing of Matins. This really lifted those in the small Chapel into a feeling of true praise to the Almighty. The gathering at Calveley always look forward to visits from the choir which just adds that lovely and glowing edge to the service. These events are well supported but there is always room and a welcome for more to come.

Looking ahead **Calveley's Spring Fair** is on 16 May with floral displays together with organ recitals, our excellent refreshments, tombola and other stalls. Make sure you put it in your diary, and come!

Mike Rogers on Lent

In Western Christianity, Lent is the forty-day period preceding Easter and it lasts from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday.

Easter Sunday always falls between March 22 and April 25, which of course, roughly corresponds to early spring in the Northern Hemisphere.

There is a simple formula to work out the exact date of Easter: it falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon of the Spring Equinox.

But if you are quick with a calendar, you will know that Ash Wednesday, which may fall anywhere between February 4 and March 10, always occurs forty-six days before Easter.

So how come Lent is considered to be forty days long?

The answer is quite simple. In Lent Sundays are not counted among the 40 days; traditionally, fasting was considered inappropriate on Sunday, the day commemorating the Resurrection of Jesus.

And why forty days?

Forty is symbolic of the number of days spent by Jesus in the wilderness (but remember, this was an event which had occurred three years earlier,

at the outset of his ministry) and possibly the forty hours between his death on Good Friday and resurrection on Easter Morning.

In Christianity, Lent is marked by three traditional practices; prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The first focuses on God, the second on ourselves and the third on our neighbours.

In modern terms most simply give up something they enjoy - Lent is seen as an opportunity to shed a few pounds in weight after the Christmas excesses!

Others do add something that will bring them closer to God, and a few give the time or money spent doing that to charitable purposes or organizations.

The practice of fasting in Lent may, of course, have originated for practical reasons; in the era of subsistence agriculture in the West, by the time Lent came round, food stored away in the previous autumn would be running out, or was going bad and had to be used up. With little or no new food-crop expected for a while, a fast was a reality brought about, not by any religious fervour, but by the practicalities of the day!

Whatever its origins, however, the season is now firmly ensconced in our liturgical calendar.

Dorothy (Dot) Jones - Many children to look after

Dorothy was born 88 years ago as the eldest of nine children, Dorothy Mary Price always preferred to be called Dot. Her parents Benjamin and Francis Price lived in Nantwich at that time and four of her siblings also joined the family whilst they lived there before the family moved to Wallfields Road where her brother Alan still lives.

Dot excelled at her local school and was one of only six pupils selected to take a scholarship for Nantwich Grammar School which she passed. She left with a school certificate having passed all subjects with either a distinction or credit. She particularly liked Latin. Her further education was curtailed by the need to earn money so she used her shorthand and typing skills to secure a secretarial role at War Ag. Based at what is now known as Reaseheath Agricultural College.

With a twenty year age spread between the children, Dot was soon helping bringing up her brothers and sisters. Dot maintained that so much early housework was the cause of her aversion to mundane household tasks. However, she put all her energy into her garden without regard to dirt and clothes, seemingly inspired by her father's love of nature.

Whilst at Reaseheath Dot met a young Drainage Officer called Dennis who was to become the love of her life. They married in 1950 and continued living in Nantwich. After three sons, Philip, Rick and Peter, Dennis wanted a girl. Dot misjudged the contractions on

a Sunday morning at home in 1959 and Dennis found himself delivering not one baby but twin girls, Liz and Anne.

The same year Dennis set up his own land drainage business but five children and agricultural machinery forced them to relocate to Rosemount in Alraham in 1961, where they lived for fifty years. They both loved being involved in village life such as the fete, where Dot won flower and baking competitions. In addition she put her dressmaking skills to good use and loved hosting family occasions such as Boxing Day parties when she would produce inspired meals. Dot still had time to be an insatiable reader of classics, royal or historical books.

Each market day Thursday she would return from Nantwich not only with bags full of shopping but also a supply of books from the library. The children during school holidays were deposited at different market stalls to stand in the queues to save time so they could finish in time to catch the bus home. In later years Dot loved having the grandchildren to stay, sometimes camping in the garden.

Life took an adverse turn in 2004 when Dennis died unexpectedly. Dot struggled on for five years but found living on her own hard. Her own health started to fail and dementia progressed so she had to move to Clarendon House at Stapeley. Her personality was unleashed on the staff and she was described as funny, grumpy, lovely, quiet, loud, chatty, and stubborn and many other terms of endearment! Her attendance at bingo sessions will be missed.

Jean Higgins - A Cheshire country girl

Jean described herself as a 'funny old stick' but those who knew her were charmed by the very thought that someone could be so humble, delightful and simply down-right honest!

Jean Eva Higgins was born at Peckforton in 1934 near the Elephant & Castle monument. She was a Cheshire country girl at heart and loved Bunbury and Peckforton where she spent her early life with her parents Charlie and Annie.

Later she moved to Tarporley to live with her aunts and cousins and remembered many happy times there.

In 1950 she commenced what turned out to be a sixty five year involvement with the Ridgeway family when she became an informal secretary to the Vicar. This soon changed to become a central and much loved member of the family. However, her return visits to the Elephant & Castle at Peckforton, often accompanied by the Ridgeway twins, brought huge joy to her parents and aunts.

During her time with the Ridgeway's she met and married Richard Higgins. During their fun times together Jean was able to travel far beyond Cheshire and visit places she previously could only dream about. Unfortunately Richard died aged 62 after a difficult few years in 1989. Jean then returned to Tarporley, her second home.

Perhaps her greatest joy in her later life was to 'create memories' for other people by gifting them with trips - near and far, meals and cream teas, or simply helping them out in practical ways whenever she was able. Jean's influence on others bears a blinding light that has affected and will continue to affect the many lives she touched.

Vintage charity shop for Cottage Hospital

A treasure of a shop has just opened on Tarporley High Street in the former gallery shop. The Vintage Charity Shop is full of character. The stock changes daily, so it is worth popping in often. It was the inspiration of manager, Clare Bond, and Christine Lees-Jones, chair of the Cottage Hospital trustees. The hospital is not an NHS hospital, although it receives a small amount of funding, and costs £2400 a day to run. They have set themselves a target of raising £40,000 in 12 months. Every penny raised goes to the hospital, which has been caring for the local community since 1919. The hospital has recently acquired a scanning machine and holds an ultrasound clinic each week, there is a frailty clinic and many consultants visit once a fortnight to hold a rural clinic. Many of us have experienced their excellent physiotherapy service or have had wonderful care as an in-patient.

The shop would be delighted to receive new or nearly new jewellery, vintage clothing, handbags, accessories, small pieces of furniture, ceramics, hand-made craft items etc (nothing chipped or broken). These can be dropped off during opening hours:

Tuesday to Friday 9am - 4.30pm, Saturday 10am - 2pm. They also take cash donations. Volunteers are needed to help in the shop too. The shop is at 105 High Street - just look for the bright bunting.



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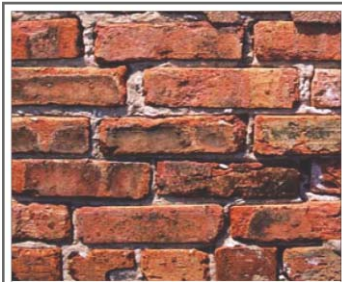
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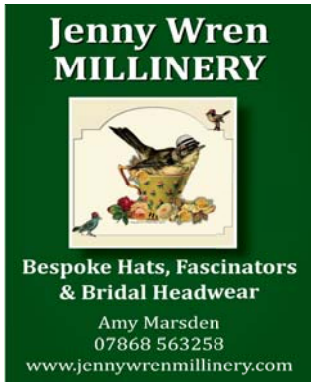
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