

# Bunbury Church Online

You  
Tube



*Join us every Sunday @ 10.30am*

July 2020

*A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination*  
Nelson Mandela

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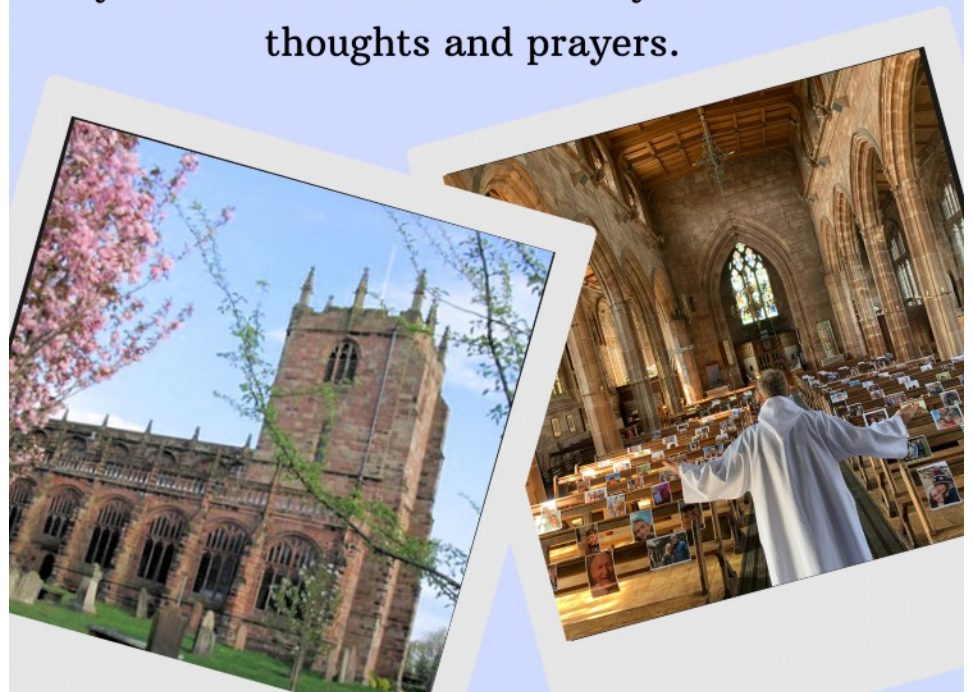
A day in the life  
of Emma Bellis-  
Ferreira

A magazine for the parishes of  
Bunbury and Tilstone Fearnall

## CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

With great joy, we share the news that our  
Church buildings have reopened for private  
prayer.

For those who remain in isolation, please be  
assured your photos are in the Church and  
you and all in our community are in our  
thoughts and prayers.



Follow Bunbury Church on Facebook to  
receive regular updates on local support.



# Who we are

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Please contact us if you would like to advertise your business or to send us your news, views and pictures.

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You can also read The Link online at: [www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk](http://www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk)

# Community news

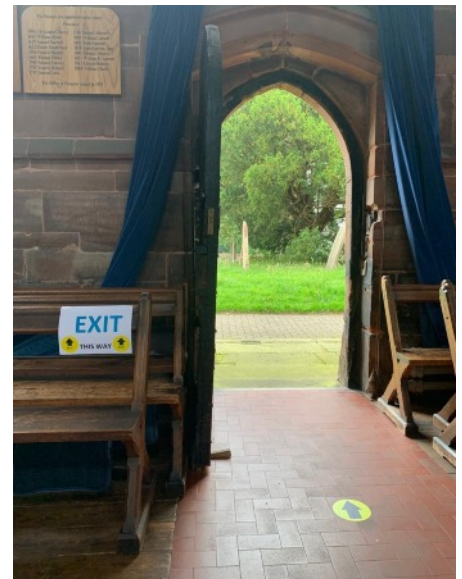
## St Boniface opens for personal prayer

The church is now open for unsupervised private prayer during the day. Rev Tim will lock and unlock the doors each day. For the protection of those entering the church:

- Alternate pews have been removed.
- The pews are labelled with "praying hands" to indicate where to sit.
- The north and west doors will be left open during the day (to provide ventilation) with signage to encourage people to enter from the West and leave from the North and signage requiring people to maintain social distancing.
- There is a hand sanitiser dispenser on the right-hand side of the door before the church is entered.
- There are signs indicating the direction that people should take.
- The toilet is closed.

Cleaning will be done weekly (floors etc.) and Rev Tim will wipe surfaces at the end of each day (handles, handrails, pews, etc.).

A volunteer from the Pastoral Visiting Team will be in church every weekday 10–11am for those wishing to connect with someone.



The **Parish Council** held a second 'virtual' meeting on 10 June; the meetings are working well, though they are no shorter! Planning applications and an alcohol sales license application for a property in Bunbury were discussed. After the meeting Cllr Sarah Pochin followed this up as it appears the application was incorrectly worded; there should be a resolution by the next issue. The Co-op plans internal changes to the shop layout and this will result in it closing for 11 weeks; a pop up shop to be located in the car park was agreed in principle. Work is likely to start in a couple of months and more details will be published when they are available.

## A word from the editor

*Lockdown has had an impact on everyone in different ways. I was with an older friend this week and her car had broken down. She rang on the day it broke down (Thursday). She had limped home from the garden centre. Chris Murton arrived in the afternoon to pick it up and dropped it off on Monday afternoon when I was there. He knew she would be stuck. It was great service and she was so pleased. Thank you, Formstones.*



**TIM HAYWARD**  
Your Vicar

# I prefer to kneel

I prefer to kneel. Even when there isn't much room, or the floor is hard.

To kneel is to assume a posture of vulnerability. It is a sign of deference, even submission. So for me it seems entirely appropriate to kneel when we pray, demonstrating (especially to ourselves) that we are honouring God and showing our reliance on his faithfulness.

Nowadays people tend not to kneel in church, except, that is, when we receive communion. How often do I see an elderly person struggling to kneel to receive the bread and the wine, faithfully and without fuss, out of respect.

And now, in a very different context kneeling has become a very important statement, one which has aroused strong feelings and especially now following the tragic murder of George Floyd.

It began with American footballer Colin Kaepernick deciding to kneel, not stand, for the US national anthem before a preseason game in August 2016. His cause? Police violence against unarmed black people. "I am not looking for approval," he explained. "I have to stand up for people that are oppressed." His kneeling started a movement, as many NFL players, entire teams even, "took the knee". To kneel as a sign of protest has proved to be a powerful symbol by using a non-threatening posture to convey an important message.

To kneel in public, even in our own country, is now a sign of

acknowledging the need for racial justice, even from what would appear a position of weakness.

But as Christians we are familiar with how often God uses our weaknesses to demonstrate his power. How often his Kingdom turns our values on their head, how Jesus subverts our struggle for status.

Even as his cross darkens the sky, the mother of two of his disciples kneels before Jesus to ask they be given positions of power. "Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom."

Jesus responds: "Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant." And then he demonstrates what this means even on their last evening together, as he kneels before each of his disciples, towel wrapped around his waist, to wash their feet.

Peter, for one, found this reversal of values deeply troubling. "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" But that's what Jesus does, his power being made perfect in weakness.

So, when we, along with the entire creation "in heaven and on earth and under the earth" bow our knee before Jesus as he reigns in glory, we kneel before the one who knelt before us to cleanse and commission us.

Indeed, we kneel with Jesus.

## Help Bunbury raise funds for an outdoor public access defibrillator

Public access defibrillators save lives and Bunbury does not have one available 24/7.

Before lockdown, fundraising to buy one for the village started with a folk evening which raised £430, but more donations are needed. As current restrictions mean this can't be done through further events, we are launching a JustGiving campaign. It is being coordinated by David and Vicki Riley and you can donate at: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/bunbury-defibrillator>

We need to raise at least a further £1,000. The Village Hall have kindly said the defibrillator can be located on the outside wall of their porch by the gates. For any further information contact David and Vicki: Tel 01829 260579 or email [davidriley001@gmail.com](mailto:davidriley001@gmail.com)

## Birthdays

Wishing a very happy birthday to **Nick Parker, Mark Ireland Jones, Carol Blake, Brenda Williams, Hilary Watson, Joyce Buxton, Leila Potter and Dennis Burrows.**

With the support of our advertisers, we continue to publish the Link, delivering it to the Co-op for collection. The copy deadline for the August-September issue is Friday 17 July. The magazine should be in the Co-op on Saturday 1 August. Notices to [bunburyparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:bunburyparishoffice@gmail.com)

USING THE BUTTON BELOW YOU CAN EITHER MAKE A ONE-OFF DONATION OR SET UP A REGULAR MONTHLY DONATION.

**DONATE**



# Rose Hayward's kids church online

Since the lockdown, it has been tough for all of us, but most of us have been trying to make a good thing out of a bad situation, doing random acts of kindness to cheer people up. I struggled at first to think of what I could do to help, but then I thought about the kids that would be finding the online Sunday service less interesting because they don't have their usual Sunday school. I wanted to remind them that God is there for them too, especially in the times that they will be struggling the most. So, I decided to create Kids Bunbury Church Online. All of the positive comments I'm getting about the videos motivate me and make it enjoyable. My parents and schoolteachers have always said that I was good at public speaking and I've wanted to be a TV children's presenter since meeting Katie Thistleton from CBBC open our playground four years ago.

The short ten-minute videos have been seen by lots of people in Bunbury and beyond every week, which is great. My studio is our family caravan which makes it easy to film and edit. The videos are made up of three parts: it starts with an animation previously filmed for 3rd Sunday Brunch that explains the theme of the week; then I record a time-lapse of me making various crafts that the kids can send to me during the week for me to show in next week's video; it always finishes with the sing and dance along song (which usually features some of the younger kids with the cute factor!) When I first started, I didn't know whether my Easter video would be the first and last one I did! But now thanks to the support I'm getting I will keep on going!



*The Link has since heard that Rose has been contacted by Pam Rhodes from Songs of Praise and premiere Christian radio, they would like to put her on their YouTube video. It has 50,000 subscribers. They are going to show the piece with the marshmallow challenge and have asked her to do a 2-minute talking piece in her studio: the caravan.*

*The Church of England renewal group also want to do a piece featuring Rose. The story will focus on the retelling of the Good Samaritan and be part of a series of stories on everyday faith to inspire others. The posts, usually around 250 words, go on the Church of England's social media accounts and website. **Well done Rose. We are very proud of you – Editor.***

## Jack and Buddy's 15,000 metre daily challenge during June

Chester Zoo, a place close to many other people's hearts, has announced financial difficulty due to extended lockdown. The zoo does so much conservation for plants and wildlife. Jack Green decided to use his spare time to raise money for the Zoo charity, so with his dog Buddy, he pledged to walk and run 15,000 metres (15k) every day through June. He will also walk the sandstone trail (54km) on the last day.

He is grateful to have received overwhelming support, raising over £1,000 in just 48 hours. You can follow his progress on social media via Facebook, and on Just Giving. If you would like to support this challenge and donate to the zoo, the link to his Just Giving page is: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jack-buddy>, or you can email me at: [harrisonjackgreen@gmail.com](mailto:harrisonjackgreen@gmail.com).



# A local reflection on the Black Lives Matter movement

Watching events in the US and the UK after the murder of George Floyd has been a really tough time for lots of us. For me as a black woman and daughter of Jamaican parents it's been especially hard, and it's raised a lot of pain. Mum and Dad have been targeted and discriminated against. I have too. And it's really hard to talk about it.

As the days went by, I did make the decision to talk about it. I wrote on social media about how racism had impacted us as a family. In it I wrote about how angry and ashamed I'd felt about not speaking up. But how that silence was very much a large part of what racism is and does. If you're not viewed as an equal or treated as such you learn very quickly to keep your head down and keep the peace.

I also wrote about how this feels like a real moment for change. Whether that be because of lockdown and we have

more time to stop and think. Who knows? But it feels more so than ever that people are willing to listen. It feels like there's more of an openness to look at ourselves and challenge how we as individuals think and behave. And to also challenge and question those around us.

I'm hopeful for real change, but it must come from all of us. Wouldn't it be great if we could all look back at this time and feel we've each done something in our own way? Be it big or small. So please keep on listening. If someone you know takes the leap to share their experience with you give them your time as it would have taken them some courage to do so. And keep on talking and calling it out when you see it. Yes, these conversations can be really tough and really awkward, but it's got to be worth it. Right?

Gill Arnold

## Ain't it been strange?

### Checking in with Tilly's owners, Kevin and Phillippa

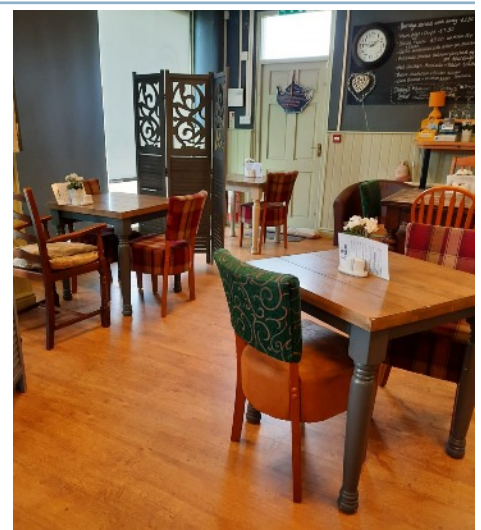
It started for us the week before lockdown, when Boris Johnson announced at a Sunday briefing that people should no longer go into pubs or cafés.

Sure enough, the next day we didn't see many customers – we did more takeaway than had sit-down customers. This led to a contrary and worrying week: we were open but customers were told to stay away; we weren't aware of a furlough scheme or how long this would go on; we had concerns over paying bills and wages. When customers did come in, there was growing worry for staff and customer safety. By Friday we were as busy as normal with the exception of the Friday morning 'Coffee and Chat' group – normally a group of about 35 – had decided to heed advice and stay away and around eight turned up. Although it was good that people were coming in, I was uneasy about the situation as this wasn't the message coming from government at the time.

That evening, the decision to enforce the lockdown was taken, shutting cafes, pubs, shops and non-essential services. It came as a shock as well as a relief that the

decision had been taken out of my hands and that the staff could be paid during this time of uncertainty. I spent that evening calling staff and discussing what it meant. We agreed to have a deep clean and mothball the shop on Saturday ready to reopen whenever possible. The mood on the Saturday was good: the shop was cleaned from head to toe and with the perishable food we made buffets for the hairdresser upstairs, the butchers and our lunch!

For me the lockdown at home with family has been great. We are lucky to live in Nantwich by the lake so took the opportunity to cycle and discover new walks, between the home schooling! The warm, dry weather has helped enormously. India and Autumn have helped in the allotments behind our house in their own sweet way! I visit the shop often and it's great to see familiar faces. Lee Gordon and I ran a quiz and music night and I've played a few games of tennis with Rev Tim in recent weeks (all of which I've lost) – tremendous fun and a great opportunity for a natter!



Current government advice is that we can reopen around 6 July, so I've spent the last few weeks planning how to open safely. We have taken some tables out to allow for greater space between them, placed screens between tables to help younger guests stay in their area. We are also working on increasing the outdoor space. 100% table service removes the need to come to the till; hand sanitiser stations and an increased cleaning regime are in place. We believe that opening in a safe and pleasant environment is very achievable and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to Tilly's again shortly. Kevin and Phillippa x

# Give us 2 minutes

Dan Chang was born on The Wirral and raised in Willaston. Secondary education was at Neston Comprehensive and, despite the proximity to The Wirral, he hadn't heard of Bunbury until he was 42! He moved on to Polytechnic in Nottingham in 1990 for three memorable years.

The recession in 1993/94 brought poor job prospects; rather than stay at home, Dan applied to cruise lines and holiday companies for seasonal work. He managed to get a position as a campsite courier in Brittany for the European family campsite specialists, Canvas Holidays, spending the next five years in France. In his 20s he came home, finding work in the graphics industry that kept him in Central London for over 20 years.

Seven years ago he founded Go Visual Ltd, a company which project manages, produces and installs display graphics for the luxury fashion retail sector, installing window schemes for the likes of Selfridges and Burberry.

Dan has three children, Ella, Rebecca and Tom, who all attended Bunbury school and, from September, will be at Tarporley High School.

## If you had a motto what would it be?

Be kind

## It's a celebrity beer call who would you invite?

Liam and Noel Gallagher (although I think I'll need to wait a little while to see them together!).

## What would you call your autobiography?

That went quickly.

## What was your first job?

Sorting potatoes into 5lb bags at Jacksons Greengrocers, Willaston.

## What would you change about Bunbury if you could?

I feel privileged to live in a community like Bunbury, especially during this past three months. The village help schemes that were quickly set up in response to the current crisis were very impressive and effective, and we have enjoyed shopping locally, especially at Burrows!

I would re-develop the vacant cottage and garden in the centre of the village. Make it part of a landscaped village green, with a feature oak or beech tree, plenty of benches to sit/meet and a one way system around it for traffic and safe parking.

## What is your biggest regret?

No regrets but I sometimes wonder how different life would have been if I'd accepted a position in the Royal Navy at 18, instead of going to Polytechnic.



Dan Chang

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

That the current Black Lives Matter movement can lead to a change in how our children from a very early age are educated about race, ethnic minority groups and other cultures, hopefully putting an end to racism on all its levels for future generations. I think this early education in school is especially important in areas such as Cheshire, where the population is not as culturally diverse.

## What is one thing people would be surprised to learn about your family?

My Uncle Allan (Williams) was The Beatles first manager. He and my Aunt

Beryl owned The Jacaranda and The Blue Angel in Liverpool, where my uncle promoted many Liverpool bands as well as jointly promoting acts such as Gene Vincent and Eddie Cochran with Larry Parnes. With his friend and fellow promoter Lord Woodbine (who had arrived on the SS Windrush), Allan had the idea and opportunity to take The Beatles to play the clubs in Hamburg. My 19 year old Dad (Barry) was asked to go along and help with the driving on the inaugural trip. Pictured below, as well as the two most famous faces and my uncle and aunt,

you can also see left to right: Lord Woodbine (labelled by some as the sixth Beatle) who had travelled to the UK from Trinidad on SS Windrush, Stuart Sutcliffe in sunglasses and the original Beatles drummer Pete Best.



## What is your favourite place and why?

Plage de Raguénez, Névez, Brittany. This was my first base 'site' and was my home during summer 1994 working for Canvas Holidays. I'd never seen a coastline and the ocean like it is here – it was breathtaking.

## How would you spend your ideal weekend?

A long, all-afternoon lunch with family and friends, followed by a party into the early hours with Pete Tong as guest DJ. Sleep in on Sunday, brunch and an afternoon driving a classic Mini Cooper around the English countryside with Chloé and no fear of a speed camera.



# Sky notes for July

July's short summer nights are dominated by a pair of brilliant planets – Jupiter and Saturn – low down in the south among the stars of Sagittarius and Scorpius. The month opens with them shining above the south-eastern horizon. Jupiter is at "opposition" on 14 July which means that it is visible all night long; it outshines any star by far. If you have a small telescope or binoculars you should be able to see four of Jupiter's brightest moons: Io, Europa, Ganymede and Calisto. They are often called the Galilean moons after Galileo Galilei who observed them when he turned his small telescope, which had only recently been invented, towards Jupiter in January 1610. They move rather fast, with Io orbiting Jupiter every 1.8 days, so if you check night to night you will see they have moved relative to each other. Jupiter has a further 75 moons, although most are very faint having been discovered by visiting spacecraft.

Another feature visible on Jupiter, visible in medium sized telescopes, is the Great Red Spot (or GRS). This is actually a storm that has been raging in Jupiter's atmosphere for several hundred years. In meteorological terms, it is a persistent high-pressure region in the atmosphere of Jupiter, producing an anticyclonic storm, the largest in the Solar System. The GRS appears to move very quickly across Jupiter's face as Jupiter's day is only about 10 hours. The very high speed of the planet's rotation means that the gaseous atmosphere of the planet bulges at the equator. If you look at the accompanying picture, which also shows the GRS, you can see that Jupiter is distinctly wider at the equator and flattened at the poles: rather than being round, it looks as if it has been squashed a little!

Just to the left of Jupiter throughout July you'll find Saturn, ten times fainter, but still very conspicuous to the naked eye. A small telescope will reveal his rings.



On 5 July, look out for a beautiful sight as the full moon passes below Jupiter and forms a triangle with Saturn. The following night, July 6, the moon is below and left of Saturn.

Mars rises in the east around midnight and is midway in brightness between Jupiter and Saturn, although it brightens during the month. You might notice that Mars is slightly ruddy in colour to the naked eye and even more so through binoculars. Clear skies!

Bunbury Stargazer

## Notice: Invitation to apply for grants

The trustees of Bunbury Parochial Charities (charity number 216368) invite applications for a limited number of grants, which will be awarded once a year in December, from residents and organisations of the following parishes:

**Alraham, Beeston, Bunbury, Burwardsley, Calveley, Haughton, Peckforton, Ridley, Spurstow, Tilstone Fearnall, Tiverton & Wardle.**

An application may be made by the proposed beneficiary, or by a trustee or other person on their behalf. In considering applications the trustees will take into account the following guidelines:

1. The proposed recipient should normally be resident in one of the constituent parishes or be an organisation active in providing benefit for the residents of one or more of the constituent parishes.

2. A grant may be made to a recipient who is in financial difficulties, particularly where the difficulties are adversely affecting a child or elderly person.

3. A grant may be made to assist the education of a child who is being hindered by financial difficulties.

4. A grant may be made to support a resident, particularly a child, in an activity deemed to be a worthy use of the charity - for example to help the recipient undertake an extracurricular educational project, to participate in a charitable project or to learn skills to assist that resident in finding work.

5. A grant may be made to support an organisation providing support within the constituent parishes, for example providing clubs/group activity for the young and the

elderly, support groups for the elderly, assistance for the disabled or disadvantaged, and groups providing hospital transport, respite care and home support.

Applications must be in writing on our formal application form and sent to David Ellis, Ivy Cottage, Wyche Lane, Bunbury CW6 9PS preferably by email to [dwellis7.de@gmail.com](mailto:dwellis7.de@gmail.com). Completed applications to be returned by 12.00 noon on Wednesday 11 November for consideration at the trustee meeting on Wednesday 2 December when the awards will be made at the complete discretion of the trustees whose decision will be final. Application forms can be obtained from the clerk at the above address/email or by telephone on 01829 261898.

# From my bookshelf

## Independent People by Halldór Laxness

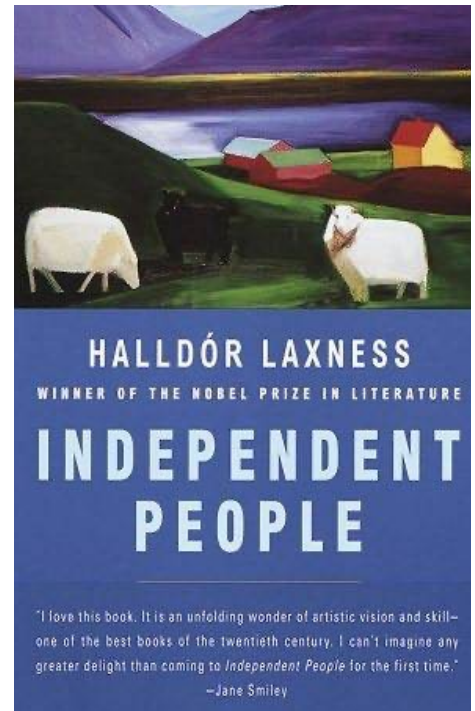
Set in rural Iceland in the early twentieth century, this epic novel presents a magnificent portrait of the eerie Icelandic landscape and one man's dogged struggle for independence.

Bjartus is a sheep farmer determined to eke a living from the blighted patch of land on which he has put down the first payment after eighteen years working as a shepherd for the Bailiff of Rautthsmryri. Icelandic chronicles say that when the land was settled by the Norsemen the western sorcerers were forced to flee and their leader Kolumkilli the Irish laid a curse that none would ever prosper there. Legend has it that in ages past Gunnvor, skilled in occult lore, farmed at this place and had made an evil compact with Kolumkilli. She terrorised the community until being condemned to die. Since then for many generations the local custom is to seek protection from misfortune by casting a stone onto the cairn by the cleft where Gunnvor is buried. For centuries the lone worker has been tempted to seek their fortune on the knowl between the lake and the cleft in the mountain, where stand the ruins of an old croft-house that is Winterhouses.

It is to this croft-house that Bjartus is making his way as he passes Gunnvor's cairn, where "he spat and ground out vindictively: "Damn the stone you'll ever get from me, you old bitch" and refused to give her a stone. Refusing to be cowed

by the relics of old popery he determines not to be bound up with spectres of the past on his farm. He renames it Summerhouses. "Size isn't everything by any means" he said aloud to the dog, his constant companion. "Freedom is of more account than the height of a roof beam. I ought to know; mine cost me eighteen years' slavery. The man who lives on his own land is an independent man." "...It is freedom that we are all after. He who pays his way is a king. He who keeps his sheep alive through the winter lives in a palace." Here we have the essence of the man who will be beholden to no one. His drive to be financially independent informs his philosophy, his expectations of his family and his position in the close community of exploited crofters. A stubborn man, his refusal to swerve from his ideals lead his family to live in unimaginable hardship. His only love is for Asta Sollilja, the illegitimate baby of his first wife who dies in childbirth. He raises her as his daughter. The narrative evolves around their relationship as she herself grows to be an independent person.

The power of this novel is in the wide cast of characters and the details of their day to day life eking out a miserable existence in a hostile climate set against breathtaking descriptions of the inhospitable landscape. The gritty realism of the struggle to survive in rural Iceland, the context of the political systems of the



time and the underpinning ancient folklore make this a fascinating book.

Laxness was an Icelandic writer and winner of the 1955 Nobel Prize in Literature. He has been dubbed the 'Tolstoy of the North'. Whilst this is not an easy read, the essence of what it takes to strive to be free and live life on your own terms gradually insinuates the reader's mind to leave an indelible impression that will stay with you long after the book is finished.

Contributor: Margi Nalia

## Bunbury community be a good neighbour scheme

With the Government announcing 'test and trace' coupled with some loosening of the lockdown the scheme will be maintained as it is, although the group is moving to a monthly update now that the scheme is established, though they will be in touch if anything urgent crops up. In this phase people may be asked to self-isolate for 14 days if they have been in contact with someone infected. The guidance is clear: you should go home and not stop to shop on the way home so

the scheme can support you with shopping or other tasks. Don't hesitate to get in touch even if you haven't used the scheme before. Bunbury Church Online continues every Sunday at 10.30am for a short 30-minute service. There is also a shorter Kids Bunbury Church Online, produced by kids for kids. Please share with your children and grandchildren. The YouTube Channel where you'll find all the videos is: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/>

UCaiFF03adosm6e7LsIQfLOQ/vid eos  
Matthew from Ocean Wave Fish is still coming every Monday to the Nags Head car park 1.15–2.15pm; if you haven't used him before why not try some fish this week. The Nantwich Plant stall is also delivering regularly to Bunbury. Contact Mike Dodd at [cnpcoton@gmail.com](mailto:cnpcoton@gmail.com) for availability.  
The Dysart Arms have a Click and Collect service on Fridays, Saturdays

and Sundays, offering a pub classic menu item each day along with a selection of beers, wines and soft drinks. Check out their website for details and to place your order. We'll keep you updated on other businesses as they reopen. Contact details phone 07823490425 [www.bunburyvillage.info](http://www.bunburyvillage.info) follow the links and use the contact email us at [bunburycommunity@gmail.com](mailto:bunburycommunity@gmail.com)  
Thanks and keep safe  
Mark and Tim



# A day in the life of...

## ... Emma Bellis-Ferreira

My day starts early with my curly haired alarm clocks, Henry (5) and Emilia (3), are always up at 5.30am, so any good intentions about getting up before the kids for a run are usually ignored. Once the children have had breakfast and are dressed (or maybe not in lockdown), they get to play for a while whilst I do some early work.

I work for myself. I run a Marketing, PR and Event Management Company called Moonface Marketing. After 20 years of working for large companies, I finally had the guts to set up on my own once I had Henry. I wanted to have a more flexible job so I could work around him, and Emilia followed soon after. I am very thankful for the experience that I gained before I set up my own business and I certainly appreciate the flexibility of running my own business now.

I manage social media accounts for companies and as you can imagine there could not be a more pertinent time for businesses to be able to communicate and build relationships with their customers and their communities. I ran corporate events for large companies, but that came to an abrupt halt as soon as COVID-19 became apparent, so now the companies that are doing well are the ones who are being flexible and are adapting to the new world. Virtual Events and safe social distancing events are now very popular and companies are asking for help to run them. Equally many companies, particularly in the hospitality industry, are asking for help to re-launch, re-brand, get back out there, and that is a positive and promising sign as we move forward. So in many ways, after a quiet period, business is picking up again.

By 8.00am I've caught up on work and it's time to start home school. This is with varying degrees of success at the moment and I'm just so glad that the

children are at Bunbury School (Henry is in reception) and Early Birds Preschool (Emilia), because they could not have been more supportive and helpful with advice about what to teach and how to plan the day. Having said that, it doesn't always go to plan. Although my school lunches are not up to standard apparently and I don't offer pudding at lunch time, much to their disgust.

We try and keep at home school until lunchtime, when we sit at the table and eat together and then it's TV/play break time for them and back to work for me whilst I try and catch up. Working in blocks of time like that for me is trickier than ever trying to balance looking after the kids and working at the same time it doesn't always work smoothly, but I have my whole office on my phone and laptop so I keep things moving with the odd sneaky email even during school time.

In the afternoon we try to get out and get some air, we walk Jessy our 19-year-old wonder dog, or we take off on an adventure to the woods, or the brook.

I've been renovating the house for a while and my DIY Disasters are online for all to see in my blog. I've had to learn many new DIY skills from YouTube and I'm now pretty handy with a drill. So many people have helped us out and



we cannot thank you all enough, it already feels like such a social, happy home, a new start for the three of us.

The evenings are meals together, kitchen discos and bedtime stories. Once the children are in bed, there is more work to catch up on and a list of renovation jobs as long as your arm to be getting on with.

Solo parenting, running a business, renovating a house, and home schooling is not for the faint hearted and at times stressful and tiring, but also lots of fun and I'm so thankful to be doing that in Bunbury. It feels very nice to finally be home, where I grew up, where all my friends are and just around the corner from my lovely mum. Henry, Emilia and I already feel very much part of this wonderful community

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# The evolution of St Boniface church

## Phase 6 The effects of the Reformation on Bunbury church evolution

While the writings of Martin Luther in Germany had brought about the Reformation in mainland Europe the Reformation in England can be mainly attributed to the protracted dispute between the Papacy and Henry VIII's attempt to divorce Catherine of Aragon. After the Pope's pronouncement that Henry's marriage could not be annulled, Henry secretly married Anne Boleyn in 1533, declared himself head of the Church of England by the 1534 Act of Supremacy and thereby not beholden to the Pope. Subsequent events were the Dissolution of the Monasteries between 1536 and 1539 but the former Benedictine Abbey in Chester was spared to become the Cathedral Church of the newly formed Diocese of Chester.

In 1547, Edward VI abolished Chantry chapels. In Bunbury, this resulted in the abandonment of both Sir Hugh Calveley's College and Sir Ralph Egerton's Chantry which had been used for 161 and 20 years, respectively. Concurrently, with the demise of the two chantries the appointment of the Bunbury parochial clergy became vested in the Crown. The Dissolution Commissioners decreed that Bunbury parish required two ministers and, to preserve continuity, two of the former Wardens, Thomas Hall, and an assistant, Robert Hall, were duly appointed and this dual-incumbency system was to last, under different names, until 1896. How Bunbury parish coped on the return of the Catholic faith during Queen Mary's reign between 1553 to 1558 is unknown, but when Elizabeth I ascended the throne, in 1558, the Church of England was re-established as the national religion.

Soon after her accession Queen Elizabeth repeated earlier attempts to establish Parish Registers to record the names of those baptised, married and burials within every parish. Of interest to Family Historians the Bunbury registers start in 1559 and, up to 2001, record 26,619 baptisms, 5,487 marriages and 19,500

burials. Bunbury's registers are complete apart from 1702 to 1725 when they were 'very imperfect.' This period corresponds to the incumbency of Rev. William Briscall who did not bother with the registers but fortuitously he did submit the names to the diocese in the form of 'Bishop's Transcripts'. Other church records are the Churchwardens' Accounts to be found in the Bunbury Parish Books kept from 1665 to 1956. Between them, the Parish Registers and the Parish Books, are a source of much information about church affairs and yield, for example, the names of the Churchwardens, from 1599. Together with information from these and other sources much information about Bunbury church evolution can be deduced.

Nationwide, apart from those loyal to the Roman church, the newly founded Church of England was generally accepted. However, a sizeable group known as the Puritans, believed the new church, by retaining episcopacy and the wearing of vestments, remained too close to the precepts of the Roman church. The Puritans, as befitted their name, believed in a purer form of worship with an emphasis on good preaching. It appears that Puritanism had a strong London base which was to become important as a locally born Spurstow man, of importance in the capital, was to influence the fortunes of Bunbury church up to the present day. His name was Thomas Aldersey whose Bunbury connection is stated on the existing Charity board, as follows:

*In the 18th of Q. Eliz. Thomas Aldersey, Citizen and Haberdasher of London . . . Purchased ye whole Rectory Church & Tyths, of Bonebury of the Queen; and during all the continuance of the Lease made good addition to the maintenance of a minister out of his own purse, and purchased three houses and lands in Bonebury and Built a schoole...*

Thomas Aldersey was born at Aldersey Hall (now known as Spurstow Lower Hall) and was a member of the ancient family of

Aldersey of Aldersey and Spurstow, whose forebears can be traced back for seven centuries. It is unknown why he left Spurstow for London to become a merchant tailor, a haberdasher and also an MP for London, from about 1579 until 1583. Certainly there is a Dick Whittington element in his career, but he was far from being a poor boy. He prospered in London and, from the evidence of his later Bunbury activities, was a Puritan. In 1594 he supplemented the Bunbury tithes from his own purse to endow both a 'preachership' and a 'curacy'. By so doing he retained the older custom of dual-incumbency in Bunbury which will be described in the next extract, in more detail.

### Notes:

The duty of 'The Preacher' was simply to preach (and thereby spread the puritan doctrine in Bunbury) while all the other parochial work was undertaken by 'The Curate', usually known, however, as 'The Vicar'. Aldersey stipulated that both offices were to be held by university men with the Preacher having at least an MA Degree from an English university and made the first appointments himself. Thomas Aldersey died on 4 February 1598/9 and was buried on the 19 February in the quire of the parish church of Berden, Essex. Aldersey, although married, died without issue and some of his assets were used to establish the Aldersey Charity to be administered by the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers. In Bunbury, the rights to the tithes were retained by the Aldersey family for many generations and were used directly to pay the stipends of the school and church incumbents until Victorian times. Likewise the Aldersey rights in Bunbury church chancel lasted until the mid-1930's. To the present day the Haberdashers retain rights of patronage and actively support the Bunbury, Aldersey school – both consequences of Thomas Aldersey's legacy.

To be continued...

John Elsworth, Churchwarden 1992-2001





## Pat Ellis – Reader Emeritus The Plague village

To the lead mining village of Eyam, Derbyshire, in 1665, a damp, flea ridden bundle of cloth from London was delivered to local tailor Alexander Hadfield. His assistant, George Viccars, opened it, and was dead within a week. And more people in his household died soon after.

As the plague took hold, the Rector, Revd. William



Mompesson and the Puritan minister, Thomas Stanley, introduced precautions to stop the disease spreading.

The village was quarantined, and this lasted for around fourteen months.

Families had to bury their own dead and Church services were held outdoors.

The village was ringed by boundary stones, "plague stones" which must not be crossed.

Villagers placed on them coins soaked in vinegar, believed to kill the infection, and exchanged for food and medicine.

Around 75% of the villagers died. One

woman lost her husband and six children within a week. But thanks to their sacrifice and grief, the plague was contained.

As we emerge slowly from complete lockdown towards the "New Normal", let us not forget to remain on our guard, aware of those we meet, especially the vulnerable, and continue to ensure that our virus does not spread out of control again.

*O Lord God,  
You called us to ventures  
Of which we cannot see  
the ending,  
By paths yet untrodden,  
Though perils unknown.  
Give us faith  
To go out with good  
courage,  
Not knowing where we  
are going,  
But only that your hand is  
leading us,  
Your love supporting us,  
To the glory of your  
Name.*

After Eric Milner-White & CW Briggs.

Mike Rogers writes...

## Will we ever finish?



As I write this, we are still in the grip of the COVID 19 epidemic and the constraints it places on us, one of which is the restriction on air travel, a restriction that means that the chances of a summer holiday in the sun are a bit slim. That being the case, I thought I would take you in your minds-eye to Barcelona, to Europe's most unconventional church, The Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia.

The building in its present form is the work of Antoni Gaudi who, in 1833, was given the task of completing a neo-Gothic church which had been started a year previously. On taking control, Gaudi changed everything, extemporising as he went along and the building, which remains unfinished to this day, became his life's work.

It was Gaudi's intent that his new design should be read in the same way as a medieval cathedral with each element of the building representing a biblical event or an aspect of the Christian faith. To try and describe it all here would be impossible but one of the most

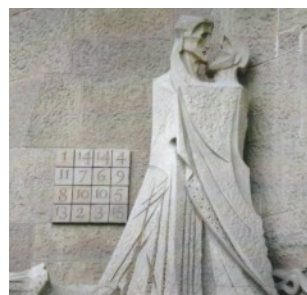
striking aspects is The Passion façade depicting the suffering and execution of Jesus.

However, the façade is not the work of Gaudi; it was designed by Josep Maria Subirachs and, not surprisingly, it includes a portrayal of Judas' betrayal of Jesus. If you look at the picture of it, you will see a cryptogram to the side of Jesus.

The cryptogram is remarkable in that the numbers on it add up to 33 in every direction and 33 was Jesus' age at his death.

Why is it remarkable? Well it's a bit like the building itself. It stands as a reminder that everything about Jesus and his life is remarkable; there is nothing trivial about what he had to say, what he did and how he taught us to live our lives. More importantly, he never said that being a Christian was easy and just as Gaudi made his Sagrada Familia his life's work, becoming a Christian is our life's work.

And maybe we are a bit like this remarkable Cathedral; maybe we shall never finish becoming what we should be.



### Our prayers for July

We remember those who are mourning a loved one, remembering especially family and friends of much loved and well-respected Bunbury GP **Dr Peter Aston**. There will be a memorial service in church when restrictions on numbers are lifted.

We pray for all our young people, especially those who in normal times would have been taking exams and are waiting to hear from colleges and universities about places. We pray too for all who are looking for employment and employers trying to kick start businesses.

May they know your peace and guidance in the weeks ahead.

*Dear Lord,  
we know our plans for this year  
have not turned out as we  
expected:  
help us to find pleasure in small  
things,  
joy in the friendliness offered to  
us,  
peace in the beautiful setting  
around us,  
and to find You in everything.  
Amen*

# Rhubarb crumble cake

Each month the Link will ask local cafés and hostleries to give us their favourite recipe. This month features the Watermill Café

## Ingredients

### For the crumble

120g flour  
90g butter  
60g caster sugar

### For the cake

720g rhubarb  
1 tbsp sugar  
2 pieces of stem ginger, finely chopped  
and a tbsp of the stem ginger syrup  
180g butter, softened  
180g caster sugar  
180g self raising flour, sifted  
3 large eggs  
1 tbsp milk



This recipe is a firm favourite at the mill and we change the fruit and the spicing as the months go by.

Heat the oven to 190°C/375°F/ Gas Mark 5. Butter and line the base of a 24cm springform cake tin. Make the crumble. Rub the butter into the flour with your fingertips and when nice and crumbly stir in the sugar. Cut the rhubarb into 2.5cm pieces, sprinkle with the tbsp sugar, chopped stem ginger and ginger syrup and toss to coat.

Make the cake. Beat the butter and sugar together until white and fluffy, then beat in the eggs bit by bit, sprinkling in a tbsp of the flour when you have added about half of the beaten eggs, to ensure against curdling. Fold in the rest of the flour. You may

need to add a little milk so that the cake mixture is soft enough to just drop off the spoon.

Spread the cake mixture evenly over the base of the prepared tin, pile over the chopped and sugared rhubarb and sprinkle with the crumble mix.

Bake in the oven for about an hour (it can take up to 1.5 hours) until the sides of the cake have shrunk slightly away from the tin and the top is quite firm when you touch it. Leave to cool in the tin for 15 minutes, when you can serve it hot like a pudding. Or leave to cool completely, then serve it cold as a tea time treat. Either way, thick cream is a must.

You can use apple and cinnamon, pear and cardamom, plum and vanilla, gooseberries, cherries (we can go on!).

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In such unprecedented times we wish to emphasise the thoughts of the nation in thanking our NHS doctors, nurses & staff, paramedics, all carers in our community and care homes and the long list of keyworkers keeping our country functioning. Our best wishes to everyone, stay safe.





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