

### School entertains Haberdasher friends



October 17<sup>th</sup> was Bunbury School's Deputation Day, when pupils are reminded of the school's historic links through its founder, Thomas Aldersey, to the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers. A group of



### Tom and Elaine celebrate silver

Congratulations to well-known local couple Tom and Elaine Crotty who celebrated 25 years together with a party for family and friends on October 20<sup>th</sup>. The party clashed with an important sporting fixture but rugby enthusiast Tom ensured the match was shown on a giant screen. Tom has also been celebrating another anniversary. It was ten years ago that he was licensed as a Reader.



modern-day Haberdashers, this year led by the Master, Nigel Branson, made their annual visit to tour the school. They enjoyed an assembly where each class showed some work and all Y6 pupils were presented with a Bible by the Master's wife, Nancy.

Bunbury School is the only state primary under the Haberdasher umbrella and the visitors always take a particular interest in these youngest members of the Haberdasher family.

Earlier in the month the school's Harvest Service was especially enjoyable. The whole school raised the church roof with their lovely singing and playing. There was some beautiful artwork on show by the younger year groups, a recitation by Y5 and even some accomplished country dancing by Y6. The congregation wasn't sure whether it was allowed to applaud each contribution, but they were all worth a huge clap - well done! See p6.

### .....Stop Press.....

- **Johnny Gillett's** official leaving party takes place at St. Boniface after morning service 4th November.
- **Ranulph Fiennes** is unable to speak on December 2nd as advertised. We hope to have an alternative date soon.
- **Earlybirds Christmas Fair** takes place on **3rd November** not 23rd as advertised last month, 10-2pm.
- **Bunbury Bonfire Night 3rd November** at the Playing Fields.
- **Christmas cards** - see p6 & 11
- **St. Jude's Christmas Fair** 24th November 2pm
- **A Christmas Carol** will be performed by Tarporley High School pupils 12th-14th December



**Alison and Hugo de la Pena pictured after their wedding at St. Boniface last month. Alison is the daughter of Liz Morton (Whitelegg) of Bunbury.**

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## Remembrance Sunday 11th November

**Need a babysitter over Christmas?** All these girls are experienced babysitters:

Bunbury	Emily Dyer - Hannah Dyer - Holly French - Hannah Munro -
Spurstow	Rose Everton - Jessica Kelly - Katherine Sissons -
Alraham	Emma Waddington -
Peckforton	Emma Bruce -

Elena Ghetau  
has the pleasure of inviting  
you to her

**watercolour  
painting  
exhibition**

**Bunbury Village Hall,  
8th and 9th of December  
10.00am to 8.00pm.**

## Operation Christmas Child needs more help

There are other ways you can help Operation Christmas Child if you have some spare time. The Wrexham Depot are looking for people to knit much-needed glove puppets to be sent overseas and to work as volunteers preparing boxes for shipping, Please phone me if you want to know more or have any other queries. Nicola Elsegood 260507.

Also see page 3 opposite

### Community news



Welcome to **Gracie May McKenzie** baptised at St. Boniface on 21st September (pictured above with Jane Stephenson) and to **Benjamin George** and **James Alexander**, sons of **Keith and Dawn Thomas**, formerly of Peckforton who were also baptised at St. Boniface. The family now live at Stapeley, Nantwich. Benjamin was mentioned in church prayers as a younger child as he was desperately ill.



Congratulations to **Jonathan Gaskell** and **Katie Richardson**, married at St. Boniface on 29th September.

Belated birthday congratulations to **Shirley O'Neill** of Bunbury and to **Ron Tyson** of Haughton whose combined age is now one century.

We are sad to report belatedly the death on 25th July of **Joan Fowles** aged 80, formerly of Church Row, Bunbury. More recently she had been living in Nantwich with son Graham. Our sympathies to **Ann Bibby**, her daughter and the rest of her family.

As we go to print we have heard of the death of **Fiona Holbrook's father** - our sympathies to the family.

Welcome to two new members of our canine community: **Henry**, a Weimaraner puppy now in charge of the French family, and **Oilly**, the Collie who has taken charge of the Overys.

**Sandbach Voices**, celebrating 60 years of singing, present their Autumn Concert on Saturday 10th November at Sandbach Town Hall at 7.30pm. The programme will include **Ramirez's Missa Criolla, Mozart's Coronation Mass and Durufle's Requiem**. Tickets available from the secretary on 01270 841727 or at the door. [www.sandbachvoices.co.uk](http://www.sandbachvoices.co.uk).

**Barbara Croley** recently enjoyed a break in Scarborough with Ernest where she was impressed to note that **St. Mary's Church** has 38 men, women and teenagers on their welcome and refreshment team. The tea-bar is open all week 10-4.30. Is this a hint, Barbara?

If you would like to support the local charity **Save the Family** this Christmas please leave wrapped presents labelled as suitable for mums, dads or children at St. Boniface any time before

the beginning of December. Donations of cleaning products eg. bathroom or kitchen cleaner are always gratefully received.

A coffee morning held by **Meg and Roger Fairweather** in aid of the Macmillan Cancer Fund on September 28th raised £285. The proceeds of a Jewellery and Handbag party held in August were added, giving a combined total of £515 to the fund.

### Church news

This year's **Christingle Service** at St. Boniface will take place on Advent Sunday, 2nd December. Anybody wishing to join the choir for this year's **carol service** at St. Boniface on 16th December, are invited to attend rehearsals at Bunbury Aldersey School, on Monday 19th and 26th November and 3rd and 10th December, commencing at 8pm.

The **Nativity service** will be on Sunday December 16th at 10am. Any children wishing to take part, please come to Kingdom Kids on December 9th at 10am when parts will be allocated. If you can't come then but would like to take part on the 16th, please contact Sarah Tomlins on 730814.

Watch this space....we are hoping to run children's **holiday clubs** on 3rd and 4th April and the 28th July to 1st August 2008

**This month please pray especially for Claudia McLaughlin and Pat Edgley's daughter, Alison; for the Ruprecht and Holbrook families and all those mourning the death of a loved one; for those who are troubled in body, mind or spirit and for those who care for them.**

# Faith is a risk

Spitting Image regularly caricatured Terry Waite, former emissary to the then Archbishop of Canterbury, returning home from his frequent trips abroad - laden with Duty Free which he would bring surreptitiously to an eagerly awaiting Dr Robert Runcie.

The reality of tense negotiation was somewhat different. On a risky final mission, Waite was held in Beirut for nearly 5 years, 4 of them in isolation with no books and no writing materials, tortured for his faith, and accused of being a spy, as many others have been before and since.

His captors would regularly hold him down with a pillow over his head, while beating the soles of his feet with cables. He couldn't walk for up to a week afterwards.

After his release in 1991, he said, "Because of faith, I could say in the face of my captors, 'You have the power to break my body and you've tried; the power to bend my mind, and you've tried; but my soul isn't yours to possess'".

With luck, no-one reading The Link this month will ever have their faith tested quite as Waite's was.

Probably the greatest danger we face is that of trying to keep faith alive in our

very secular world, a world which moves ever faster and squeezes out anything which doesn't provide entertainment or material gain.

Christmas is approaching fast. Advent will start on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. It means 'coming'. From the majority of Advent calendars around, I guess Thomas the Tank Engine or Barbie must be on their way. A Sunday trip into Chester shows a weekday world. Time is of the essence and there's barely time to talk to God. We need stamina to keep faith in a secular world.

Some surveys say that 58% of people have never been inside a church, and that's when you exclude adherents of other faiths. Some of those 58% know that others go to church, whether or often. Some of the 58% are glad that others believe, because, at the back of their mind, they sense that churchgoers will be there for them.

One day, perhaps when life goes hideously wrong for them, perhaps when someone dies whom they love, they are going to ask you how God could let it happen.

You won't have time to ask anyone but God what to say, but you will manage to do it. (Maybe you already have). You will be a lifeline for that person, enabling them to be aware that God is with them too, even in their darkest hour, when life seems bleak.

**Joy Parker**

The tax collector had lost his way in life. He thought that all he had to do was to grow rich, and then he'd be happy. Now he was rich, very rich, and he wasn't happy at all. The delights of wealth had turned to ashes in his mouth; he had no job satisfaction; and he couldn't think what to do next. He was lost and did not know which way to turn.

Like many tax collectors of his time, he had collected rather more than the government expected of him and pocketed the difference. By cheating Zacchaeus had become very rich and he was despised and hated by the local people. He was desperately fearful that Jesus would either ignore him or chastise him for his sinful way of life. But, of course, Jesus spotted him up the tree and then, to the amazement of the onlookers, invited himself to have dinner with Zacchaeus.

## Let them know you care



It's time to prepare shoeboxes for **Operation Christmas Child**. Since 1990 this project has delivered ordinary shoe boxes packed with small toys, school supplies, sweets, and other gifts to 47 million needy children. Last year the UK sent 1.24 million shoe boxes to impoverished children in all corners of the world.

It would be marvellous to continue the increased level of local support we saw last year. Each and every Christmas Shoebox you donate will make an individual child feel special and valued.

Leaflets giving details of the scheme are available at our churches, Bunbury School and Huckleberry's Farm Shop, Bunbury Lane. You can also drop off your gift-filled Christmas Shoeboxes at any of these locations before the **12th November deadline**. You can even pick up an empty shoebox on Sat 3rd Nov (9am - noon) outside Huckleberry's.

**Nicola Elsegood** (also see p2)

## Lost up a tree

'A man was there named Zacchaeus: he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down: for I must stay at your house today".'  
(St. Luke 19, 2-5).

Zacchaeus was lost. Not lost in a fog, nor in the dark, but in broad daylight. He was lost up a tree. Of course he knew exactly where he was: up a tree in his home town of Jericho. But to Zacchaeus it felt as though he was, in modern parlance, 'up a gum tree'.

The response of Jesus made all the difference to Zacchaeus. At last, someone had treated him kindly. At last he felt he mattered. In return, the response of Zacchaeus was to change direction in his life and go straight. No more cheating; no more fraud; he would collect as much tax as he was required to do and no more. Then Zacchaeus made an overwhelmingly generous promise. He would give away to the poor more than half the money he had accumulated. And not only would he pay back the money he had cheated them of but pay back four times the amount. Jesus was delighted. Zacchaeus had been lost and now he was found. Jesus still today seeks out those who see themselves as lost and without purpose in life and offers life in all its fullness.

**Eric Wallington**

# Kabul calling

Richard and Sarah Dwerryhouse were married at St. Boniface earlier this year. Richard was elected to St. Boniface PCC but shortly afterwards the couple moved to Kabul, Afghanistan. No wonder he hasn't been seen at a PCC meeting yet (although it may be considered an extreme way of avoiding it). Richard is working as Security Officer for an organisation that helps with urban regeneration and education. Sarah is writing a paper on the education strategy in Afghanistan. Richard writes:

"What is it like living in Kabul?" I hear you ask. Well, the tea is pretty much the same as in England, but other than that the place could not be more different in almost every way. Hot and dusty, the day is punctuated with explosions from the mine clearance organisations near the airport. We get 'Apocalypse Now'-style fly-overs by all manner of military helicopters most days, the mullahs in the local mosque announce the "call to

prayer" throughout the day. Last night we found a scorpion in the bedroom. This afternoon was made

interesting by a shoot-out between armed robbers and the police nearby. We get waited on hand and foot by some fantastic local people who keep us well fed and looked after. Many women wear the burkha but by no means all. The city's skies are full of kites each day, it seems to be a national hobby. You can buy 'captured' Soviet equipment in the bazaars - left over from the Soviet war 1979-1989.

## We have cleared 2,200 cubic metres of refuse

"The projects here are going well and are certainly making a positive impact on the lives of people living in Kabul. A few things the organisation has done (I can't take much credit for them) include clearing 2,200 cubic metres of refuse from the old city effectively dropping the street level by 2-3 metres, providing 100% employment for the 600 residents of the old city, setting up a medical centre in the old city, repairing

over 30 homes in danger of collapse (one collapsed last year and crushed a child), opening a literacy centre with 156 students, completing the restoration of a 19th Century fort and continuing the restoration of 5 other historic buildings. In total we employ 250 Afghans on our projects.

"We also have a project in Istalif, a village west of Kabul, which was flattened by Taliban artillery. The inhabitants were forced to leave what was left of their homes. We are attempting to revive their ceramics industry.

"Among some of the funny stories we have heard since arriving here is the account of the western journalist who visited Afghanistan after the Soviet war. He commented on how wonderful it was to see the improvement in women's rights. 'I have seen for the first time a man walking ten paces behind a woman'. The Afghan he was standing next to explained that this privilege was only extended in proximity to known mine fields."

# Unseen fungi play their role

They are nature's little known labourers, both creators and destroyers, relentlessly nurturing life or crippling it or snuffing it out. One fungus ferments grapes into wine while another kills them on the vine. In the mid 1880s a fungus turned Ireland's potato crops into black gooey masses leading to about one million people's death and more than a million emigrating to North America. Fungi make bread rise and tempt gourmets. They blacken bathroom tiles as mildew, cause and cure diseases, enrich soil, rot wood and jump-start the workings of plant roots. These mushrooms, prized by connoisseurs, will propagate by gently launching spores from their gills into every corner of life.



Fungi are neither plant nor animal. They make up their own Kingdom. They range in size from the microscopic to a species that has been known to spread over 30 acres.

Fungi lean towards an animal lifestyle in that they consume other organisms for nutrition since, unlike plants, they can't produce their own food, yet like some plants certain fungi cast their fate to the wind sending forth spores to drift where they will, something that allergy sufferers feel all too keenly.

The energetic way one variety broadcasts its spores inspired the name of its genus *Pilobolus* which means 'hat thrower'. After landing on leaves and grass, its spores are ingested by a deer, horse or other herbivore, pass through the intestines, then germinate in the animal's dung. Humans too are unwitting hosts to fungi, which cause common problems such as athlete's foot.

A walk in the woods can reveal fungus fruiting bodies called mushrooms and toadstools sprouting from soil and tree trunks. They can decompose wood

chips without the use of toxic chemicals. Most fungi are unseen varieties living in the soil. There in their microscopic workshops they play a crucial role - using enzymes to break down organic compounds into nutrients for themselves and inadvertently for plants and trees.

Fungi also provide us with valuable medicines such as penicillin as well as delectable cuisine. From harmless decomposers to insidious predators, fungi fill many roles. With so many species unidentified there should be plenty of opportunity for scientific investigation to reveal more stars in the fungal world.

**Liz Jones**

## Are you a tree lover?

If you enjoy **Innocent smoothies**, watch out for the special 'buy one get one tree' packs. With every pack you buy, you can register online and get Innocent to plant a tree in your name. Visit [www.innocentdrinks.com/tree](http://www.innocentdrinks.com/tree) to plant your free tree

# Coach relives glory days for Helen's wedding



Helen Parker, second daughter of Nick and Joy from Bunbury, and Danny Scott were married on 6<sup>th</sup> October. Joy writes:

“Flouting tradition, they chose to be married at the tiny flint church of St Mary the Virgin, Manuden, Essex, close to their new home. It was a very moving and joyful service. Sisters Natalie and Antonia were bridesmaids and Natalie (a former St Boniface ringer) rang one of the bells. Danny's best man was his 14 year old brother, Ben.

“Earlier in the year, the bride had caused some consternation when she announced that she would like one of

of Transport. We held our breath as we asked them if they would lend us the coach. To our amazement the museum agreed.

“The 1961 Harrington Cavalier had last been on the road 6 years ago, but it passed its MOT and set off to Essex at 50mph, driven by two willing enthusiasts from the museum. I well remember that a Yellowway Harrington Cavalier won the Concourse d'Elegance and a huge silver cup at the Passenger Vehicle Operators' Association coach rally in Blackpool three years running in the early 60's.

her Grandpa's coaches as her wedding transport. My father owned the Yellowway company until the 70s. The company no longer exists, but we knew he had donated a coach to the Greater Manchester Museum

“The wedding at Cana lasted 5 days. We didn't quite manage that, but thanks to Danny's mother, who has YHA connections, the wedding party spent Friday to Sunday at Saffron Walden's beautiful half-timbered youth hostel. Wanting to have a truly family affair, everything from the food to the photography was done by family and friends. The groom made the quiches at the youth hostel. The morning after the wedding, the happy couple turned up to help clear away, and were last seen with the bride driving away a large transit van of hired equipment. (We are reliably informed that a more leisurely honeymoon followed.)”

Transport enthusiasts wanting to take a closer look at this fine looking vehicle can see it at Greater Manchester Museum of Transport which is open Wed, Sat and Sun 10-4pm on Boyle St, a mile from the city centre.

# Tree of lights returns to St. Boniface



Local Link readers will remember the beautiful **Tree of Lights** at St. Boniface last year, organised by Target

1250. This year by popular demand the evergreen at the front gate will once again be covered in 100 white lights to be enjoyed by visitors to the church and by passers-by over the Christmas period. For a minimum £5 sponsorship, each light on the string can be dedicated to commemorate a life, or why not celebrate a happy event in your family? – a birth, a wedding, an anniversary, an achievement.

If donors wish, we will record their names and message in a special book to be viewed in church, and there will be a short service of dedication when the lights are first switched on, on 2nd December. If you would like to take part this year, use the form here or ring Jill Robey 260081 or Lucy Munro 260487. Additional forms in church.

If you have a head for heights and would be willing to help string the lights on the tree please contact us.

**I would like a light on the tree to celebrate or commemorate a special person or event: (please give details):**



I would like to donate (£5 minimum) \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tick box for an entry in the Book of Lights.

Please hand or send this form with your cheque, made payable to Bunbury PCC, to :

Jill Robey, 1 Manor Cottage, School Lane, Bunbury, Cheshire CW6 9NR.

After expenses, any profits will go to Target 1250's fund for the restoration of our ancient church.

# Bunbury School enjoys some fun

The circus returned to Bunbury School a few weeks ago and many families who remembered their previous visit couldn't resist another viewing of the old-fashioned delights of juggling, plate spinning, and especially the balancing act of Trevor Delmar. It was the adults who really seemed to relish the show, perhaps because it brought back some real nostalgia for less sophisticated times.

The school enjoyed another treat in October with the two-day visit of old friend David Horner, a poet who works with schools, encouraging the pupils to produce some really original ideas. It was standing room only in the school

hall when parents were invited to come and hear the children's work. David's encouragement and humour always seem to inspire even the shyest child to speak in front of an audience.

Year 5 from both Bunbury and Calveley Schools took part in an evening of dance at Tarporley High School giving watching parents an opportunity to admire some impressive performances.

Bunbury's PTA is already busy organising the Christmas Fair but there is a break with tradition this year as the event will be on the evening of Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Everyone is most warmly invited to

this jolly event: there will be lots to buy and do for all the family, and best of all, you will be able to feed your children there and have a night off from cooking and washing up. The scent of onion marmalade has already been noted on the breeze – please come and buy some!



## More on Neville Edgley

We were short on facts about Neville last month, so here is a little more.

Neville was born in 1927, and grew up in Crewe, where his father was Inspector of Taxes. He went to Sandbach school, where he excelled at cross country running and sprinting. He was a good swimmer, learning in the school's icy cold outdoor pool, which was often covered in algae.

After school he was called up for end of war service, and joined the Fleet Air Arm, where he served on the carrier HMS Victorious, going down to Australia, a most exciting experience for a young man.

When war service ended, he went to Salford College and became an electrical engineer. He started his career by mending irons in the Co-op, and finally worked for ICL in computer development, the big mainframes, no PC's then.

He was married to Coral for forty-four years and they had a son, David, and later a granddaughter, Heather.

On retirement, looking for something worthwhile to do, he became a volunteer at CAB in Nantwich and the RNIB transcription centre in Tarporley. In his spare time, he enjoyed golf and

bowling, and was a member of Wyche Malbank Probus Club, Bunbury Singers and The Royal British Legion.

It was at the CAB that he met Pat, who was also widowed, and they married in 1996 at St. Boniface. Neville became deeply involved with church life, joining the choir, and with Pat, he trained as a Lay Reader and together they took services at Calveley Church. Neville did not let his illness get in the way of living fully, and he kept up with all his activities until the last few weeks of his life.

### Cards for Good Causes

Our multi-charity Christmas card shop is now open until November 24<sup>th</sup> 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 300 operated by Cards for Good Causes which last year raised over £5m.

Our charities receive at least 80p in £1



## From darkness into light

“Do not be afraid – I am with you. I am your God – let nothing terrify you”

Since ancient times, people have gathered round the fire in the dark evenings to tell ghost stories. It was a way to face their fears of the unknown. Today's Halloween, with its scary images is a modern day version of the old custom of remembering and honouring the dead, before the candle lighting ceremonies the next day to celebrate All Saints.

We all have fears and worries, some very real, but we can be assured that God is walking beside us, protecting and reassuring us.

Lord, I need you very much,  
I come to you with my fears and worries,  
Not putting on a brave face, or pretending any more.  
In dark times you are my light,  
In my fears you are my reassurance,  
In my sorrow, you are my comfort.  
Please give me the strength to face this day.  
Shelter me under the shadow of your wings.  
Let your light shine on me  
And give me your peace. Amen

**Pat Edgley.**

# Mary Ruprecht - exciting and intriguing life

Mary Elizabeth Ruprecht was born Mary Vickers on 11th May 1917 at The Nook, Bunbury, and later lived in Wyche Road. She was the daughter of Isobella (Bella) and Jesse Vickers, the second eldest child and only daughter. She had four brothers and is survived by Fred, Jim and Bob. Her youngest brother, Norman unfortunately died five years ago.

Mary worked initially in service, where she learned her considerable cooking skills. The Second World War intervened and saw her working in an aircraft factory locally.

It was at this time that she met her husband Joseph, a Czechoslovakian fighter pilot, serving in the Royal Air Force. They were married in St. Boniface Church in 1943. Her only son, Robert, was born in 1945.

At the end of the war Mary and Robert returned with Joseph to his homeland with expectations of a future in Czechoslovakia. This was not to be and as conditions rapidly deteriorated under

communist rule, Mary and Robert were repatriated to the UK and to Bunbury. Joseph was forbidden to leave his own country and together with others managed to "borrow" an aircraft, and in a risky venture flew to England where he rejoined the RAF.

A life of excitement and intrigue then followed Mary for the next 20 years, with an escape from Egypt during the time of King Farouk whilst Joseph served in the first jet fighter squadron in the RAF. Further globetrotting was followed by postings every two years within the UK.

Later in life she went back to education and work. She became a legal secretary and a hard working member of The Women's Institute. Famous locally in Grately near Andover for her dinner parties, she became mother in law to Susan, grandmother to Timothy and great grandmother to Harry and Antonia.

Mary never really came to terms with

her beloved Joseph's death some 22 years ago and lived quietly but actively in retirement accommodation until recently when strokes resulted in the onset of dementia.

She loved to sing, particularly hymns, and for the last years of her life would tell everyone that would listen about Bunbury and Cheshire in general, particularly the church, in which she was christened, married and where she chose to bury her husband. She always wanted to come home to rest.

One of her great joys towards the end of her life were her great-grandchildren, Harry and Antonia, who always made her smile and put the light back in her eyes whenever she saw them.

Mary's last words were, "Take me home". She was 90 years old when she died and in her last days gave voice to the opinion that 90 was long enough.

**Robert Ruprecht**

# Stuart Furber - a unique presence in any room

The current phrase is that people "touch our lives". Stuart Furber didn't just touch our lives he "bashed" right into us - and we loved every minute of it.

He was born in Nantwich. He and his older brother, David lost their father when they were very young. A few years later, his mother, Jean, married Laurie Earlam, a well-respected family doctor from Frodsham, and they moved into his home "Lisroan". Simon, Stuart's younger brother was born there and and the three boys grew up in a very happy home with Stuart becoming very fond and close to his stepfather.

Stuart was educated at Stowe School where he excelled at art and all things artistic. From Stowe he went on to Art College in London, and from there he joined the BBC design team - firstly in London, and then in Manchester.

The BBC was a very important part of Stuart's life. As a designer, he worked on many successful programmes, for example, Pinky and Perky, Ken Dodd's amazing Diddy men and the Diddy Village and his great triumph "It's a Knock Out", finally finishing his career as Head of Design at Manchester.

Stuart was always very modest about his "Knock Out" years, but those who know remember the huge contribution he made to its overwhelming success. Hours of preparation went into devising and designing what he dismissed as "silly games". Each game had to be tried, calculated, risk-assessed and planned. What looked easy and straightforward on the night was anything but. Games that flowed during rehearsal could be a disaster and vice versa. "Knock Out" ran for 12 successful years. It went international (becoming Jeux Sans Frontières). Stuart won a commendation from the Royal Television society for design. He had many interesting stories to tell of the Royal Knock Out, becoming a regular visitor at Buckingham Palace.

He met Frances on an outside assignment for the BBC, where Frances also worked. They married soon afterwards in 1973 and set about converting some stables into their Bunbury home, "Little Orchard Stables". Stuart did all the designs and plans, and most of the building work, with a lot of help from Frances. They had two children, Sally Anne and Johnny.

Stuart's friends remember his tennis parties which involved a huge catering size teapot and egg sandwiches. He also loved collecting and refurbishing classic cars. He enjoyed golf too and his other passion was motor racing. He also enjoyed painting and became an excellent cook in retirement.

When the BBC decided to re-organise, Stuart took the opportunity to retire. Now he had the chance to completely re-build his Lagonda. It took him two years and the result was it looked as if it had just left its original assembly line.

Stuart was always a family man, reliable and thoughtful, and cared for Dr Earlam and his mother in their old age. In turn his family have nursed and cared for him. No man had a better wife and children. When Stuart entered a room you could not ignore him. He had a unique presence, that is hard to describe. A modest man, far more accomplished than he would have you believe. A man of great integrity, loyalty and compassion — a true friend — we have all been very fortunate to have been "bashed" by him.

**(from the address at Stuart's funeral).**

# So, who did it?

Was it the butler with the revolver in the conservatory?

Well no, but the latest Good Companions' Murder Mystery production certainly had all the audience playing detective.

This production ("Sudden death at Bunbury Manor") was a charity event and the great news is that £650 was raised for the new MacMillan cancer unit at Leighton Hospital.

In fact the play was also different because the GCs delivered it as a radio

play. Strange to see the cast using scripts and not thinking that they had forgotten their lines!

The show was a parody of a BBC radio production of 1954 with the usual set of suspects in a manor house when the nasty squire is murdered. Also present were a suitable posh BBC newsreader and a somewhat manic sound engineer, whose old fashioned sound effects brought the house down – especially the coconut shell clip clops for the horse.

So, who did it?

Well, the first night it was John the Jockey played by Ian Langford with a

dodgy Welsh accent. On the Saturday it was the young maid played by Peggy Watson.

The cast all delivered two great evenings of fun but equally important were all the backroom team – especially the catering and bar volunteers – without whom these village events just would not function. Well done Good Companions.

Look out for the GCs' next production - Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Ernest".

**Chris Green, drama correspondent**

**CAB Rural Advice Service**



This is now based at the doctors surgery in Bunbury every Wednesday from 11-1 and the van is at Bickerton Hall every Thursday from 10 - 12.

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- Comprehensive web design & E-commerce solutions
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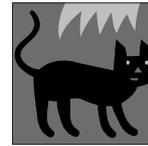


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# Calveley School

It's the start of another year at Calveley school, and we love this time of year. We can have loads of different vegetables and apples grown in Cheshire to make our school dinners even more exciting, and with the start of new topics in school, it's the chance for us to look at how different cultures and people through the ages enjoyed their food.

Food for Thought (Cheshire) have been working with Calveley school for a year and a half now, so the children have come to expect great tasting food, and enjoy the challenge of eating healthily. Contrary to the national trend, the numbers of children enjoying school dinners at Food for Thought schools is increasing as food is made fun and interesting. This term the children have tasted Italian food, Cowboy food, and made bread.

Visitors have all been able to sample the food at the school's successful open day, and special days which are planned throughout the term, and this is set to continue with new menus coming up, plus the now famous Christmas lunch – who knows what the cook and her team will be dressing up as this year? What we do know is that there will be loads of fun and fantastic food.

Mrs Denise Stevens, the cook at Calveley, now also does the cooking for all school events including PTA social evenings, so if you get the chance to go to one, then do, you are bound to enjoy it.

Calveley pupils are busy finishing their pictures for our forthcoming art exhibition. The pictures will soon be sent away for professional mounting, framing and cataloguing. The exhibition will take place in the School on Thursday 15th November.

We are once again holding our spectacular Christmas Festival of lanterns and lights. The Lantern Procession takes place on Saturday 8th December with lantern workshops in Calveley Primary School on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th December.

Interested in attending one of these workshops? Phone the school on 01270 528624. Entry is free, donations welcome. Hot dogs, soup and mulled wine on sale on the night.

See right for two more important dates.

## November Diary

4	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Holy Communion	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley
7	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
11	9.30am 10.45am 4.30pm	Remembrance Remembrance Evensong	St. Jude's St. Boniface St. Boniface
14	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
18	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Matins	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley
21	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
24	2.00pm	St. Jude's Christmas Fair	St. Jude's
25	9.30am 10.00am	Morning Service Family Communion	St. Jude's St. Boniface
28	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface
29-1		YCs Panto - Aladdin	Village Hall
<b>December</b>			
2	8.00am 9.30am 10.00am 11.00am 4.00pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Family Worship Holy Communion Christingle Tree of Lights switched on	St. Boniface St. Jude's St. Boniface Calveley St. Boniface
5	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Boniface

### Looking ahead

#### December

16	10.00am 6.30pm	Childrens Nativity Carol Service	St. Boniface St. Boniface
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## ST BONIFACE GREETING CARDS

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**Ladies Indulgence Evening, Friday 16th November – , £10 a ticket inc glass of fizz and a goodie bag. Traders include The Lavender Room, Virgin Vie, My Gineration, Margaret Appleby, silver jewellery, manicurist and more. Nibbles, chocolate fountain and bar.**

**Calveley School Christmas Fair**  
Saturday 1st December 10 am – 12 noon.



Our vicar, **Rick Gates**, is always available in times of sickness, bereavement or any distress. You can contact him at The Vicarage, Bunbury, on **01829 260991** or at **Rick@prayer.fsnet.co.uk**

**Other church contacts:**

The Reverend Jane Stephenson (parish curate)	250249
Peter and Kath Collinge (pastoral support)	260077

**St.Boniface**

Churchwardens:	Barbara Croley	260344
	Walter Done	01244 332563
Secretary	Neil Dewson-Smyth	261680
Flowers	Margaret Bourne	260944

**St.Jude's**

Churchwardens:	Bob Gardner	260555
	Linda Downey	732017
Secretary	Ann Posnett	260251
Organist	Ann Badrock	260343

**Calveley**

Churchwardens:	Barbara Croley	260344
	Walter Done	01244 332563
Organist	John Batchelor	261056
Secretary	Sue Woodward	01270 522822

Link is edited by **Lucy Munro (tel. 260487)** and **Jill Robey (tel. 260081)**. We welcome all contributions. Our deadline for the December/January edition (which will be available from 2nd December) is Friday 16th November. Please send material to [lucykmunro@hotmail.com](mailto:lucykmunro@hotmail.com).

Visit the St.Boniface website for pictures of recent weddings and the confirmation and for the Link on-line.

**[www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk](http://www.stbonifacebunbury.org.uk)**

Bunbury YCs present



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Tarporley High School

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Saturday 24th  
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Bunbury School

# Christmas Fair

Friday 23rd November 5-8pm

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