

# Berkhamsted *review*

*In this issue*

**September 1996**

**Meet the Rector**

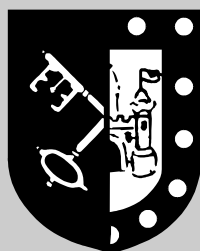
**The Point of  
the *Swan***

**A Colourful  
Suggestion**

**A Late Summer  
walk to Aldbury**

**Happy  
Schooldays**

**This month's  
Notes & Events**



*for Town and Parish*

**25p**



## *The Parish Magazine of St Peter's with All Saints'*

**Welcome to the September issue of the Review.** Although September signals the arrival, soon, of autumn, it often marks a new start. Schools, colleges, universities and many other bodies begin a fresh academic year. We who work for a living put the holiday season behind us. Now that all our colleagues are back at the grind and Christmas is still *ages* away we can get on with it. September to December is often the most fruitful and uninterrupted period of productive effort which the whole year offers.

We in the church in Berkhamsted begin a new chapter under the leadership of an energetic and freshly inducted rector. The churches at All Saints' and St Mary's Northchurch look forward prayerfully to new leadership emerging, as soon as may be, from the unknown future.

There will be much to say about life in both the parish and town in the coming season. Diverse opinions will need to be given their distinctive say. Above all we must get our message across as widely as we can among the readers of Berkhamsted. To this end we ask our readers each to find someone else who can be persuaded to read the *Review*. Meanwhile, keep the contributions coming!

*David Woodward*

### *In this month's issue...*

#### **Fr Mark Bonney introduces himself**

Meet the new rector of Berkhamsted.

#### **The Swan Rescued - for a purpose**

Leading on from last month's article, **Bill Atkinson** explains the point of the *Swan* restoration..

#### **A Colourful Suggestion**

**Stephen Halliday** suggests we can learn from Beaune when it comes to decorating our newest buildings..

#### **A New Route to Aldbury**

Feel like some late summer exercise? Let **Ian McCalla** show you the way!

#### **What was it called?**

**John Cook** examines changes in the names of many local streets.

#### **Happy Schooldays**

**Vera Pullen** looks back happily on her days in a nunnery.

*... plus much more, including our regular features, dairy dates and notes & notices.*

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**Next Copy Dates (all Fridays): 6 September 4 October 1 November\***

(\* note early date)



***Rev Mark Bonney, our  
new rector, introduces  
himself.***

## ***review*** leader

As I sit down to write my first leader for the *Review* I'm still the Vicar of Eaton Bray with Edlesborough, in the process of saying farewells, beginning to contemplate the horrors of packing and unpacking, but also very much looking forward to taking up my new appointment as Rector of Great Berkhamsted (Eaton Bray is getting rather used to training rectors for Berkhamsted). By the time this appears in print I will have moved, but will not officially be the rector until the evening of 5th September. I feel as though I'm standing on the brink of something very special and exciting, but in many ways not knowing at all what the future holds.

I was very grateful for Fr Stephen's leader last month. It pointed to the immense number of opportunities that Berkhamsted offers - it is certainly a parish with potential and opportunity. Fr Stephen also reminded us that the expectations placed upon a new incumbent can be daunting... and be assured I'm *not* the Archangel Gabriel, or even a close relative. His article made it clear to me that I will not be able to be involved in everything and that so many and varied are the openings that the parish offers, I must be careful not to be overwhelmed, and will need to exercise considerable discipline and organisation of time.

There are a number of pressing things that need to be acted upon, and at the top of that list is appointing a priest-in-charge of All Saints'. Apart from such urgent actions I hope that I will be able to take time to see and hear for myself what is happening; take time getting to know people and discerning what are the areas

where my particular gifts and skills will best be used, and enable others to do the same.

Inevitably there will be things that I want to change... that will be a cause of joy for some and no doubt anxiety to others. But rest assured, I don't as yet have a long list of such things (possibly a short one, but I'll keep those to myself for a while!). I certainly don't believe in change for change's sake - but I do find a lot to reflect upon in Cardinal Newman's remark 'to grow is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often'.

Whatever changes lie ahead for all of us they must all be grounded in prayer and the love of the Lord and a desire for the spread of his kingdom. So the bedrock of my ministry has, I hope, been and will continue to be prayer and the worship of God - at the Eucharist and in the daily offering of Morning and Evening Prayer. My plan at present (although the light of experience may mean this is not set in stone) is to say Morning Prayer in Church at 7:30am and Evening Prayer at 5:30pm (except on my day-off and those occasional unforeseen circumstances). Anyone who wishes to join me will be most welcome - it would be lovely to say morning and evening prayer with others every day.

On a different note, I would like to express my thanks for the many kindnesses that have been extended to the Bonney family already. Katy and Hannah are also very much looking forward to living in Berkhamsted (Eleanor is only old enough to be looking forward to the next feed!).

*(continued on page 11)*

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*Cover: Exhausted rounders players enjoying a well-deserved barbecue after the parish Rounders Afternoon. More photos on page 25.*

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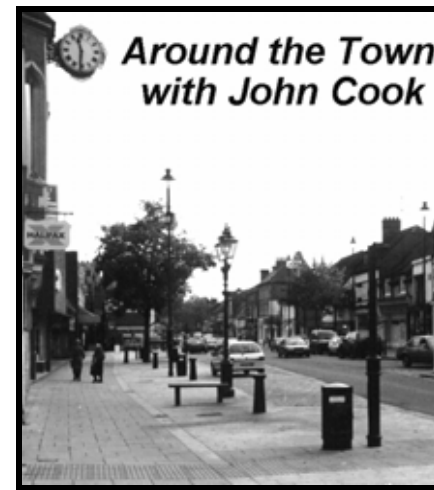
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By the side of the borehole building the new treatment plant is up and working and our tap water is as good as anybody's now. At a lunch I attended a little while ago, bottles of Three Valleys' water were on the table. The local representative of the Water Company was there and I asked him how it differed from what we get out of our taps. "It's just the same" was his reply.

### What Was It Called?

More local nicknames keep coming to light, mostly for old lanes or roads. The

little passageway through into Church Lane by the side of Godden's old shop was called *Post Alley*. The pathway from Doctors Commons Road to North Road was known as *Smelly Alley*, and Hall Park was called *Snobs Corner*. Alma Road, Northchurch, was known as *Number Road* at one time because it was the first street in the village to have numbered houses.

Berkhamsted Collegiate School as we must now learn to call the amalgamated Boys' and Girls' schools, has applied for planning permission to build new junior school buildings to the south of the old Girls' School building in Kings Road. This was a reminder that the land in which the Girls' school was built was known as *Dog Kennel Field*.

### Gas

Hang on to almost anything long enough and it becomes valuable. I was reminded of this adage by an advertisement in the *Gazette* the other day for a cottage which is on the market in Northchurch. 'Many original features', the estate agent claimed, 'including gas lighting in some rooms'.

The cottage in question I guess is at least 150 years old, so I doubt if strictly speaking the gas lighting is an original feature. Gas came to Berkhamsted in the mid-19th century, and the first gasworks was in the Wilderness, right in the centre of the Town. Here it was definitely a mixed blessing. The Headmaster of the Boys' School complained of not being able to have his windows open because of the stench; on the other hand there were stories of mothers taking their sickly infants to inhale the sulphurous fumes, presumably on a kill or cure basis.

Our gasworks moved to a site off Billet Lane in 1906, where it remained until the advent of North Sea gas. Some of the original narrow gauge railway track which carried the coal from the main line railway siding to the gas works has been exposed and will be preserved as part of the canalside improvement project. You can see it if you walk to the very far end of Canal Field.



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### **Church Lane/Back Lane**

I mentioned a month or two ago that the names of a surprising number of roads have been changed officially over the years. As we go to press the Town Council is getting up a petition to restore the previous name of Back Lane to what is currently called Church Lane. Personally I have no strong feelings about this cause, and if all the street names which have changed over the years (some of them more than once) were to be restored we would have a major exercise on our hands.

Greene Field Road was Brewery Road; Bell Lane, Northchurch, used to be known as Salmons Lane; Cross Oak road was Gilham's Lane; Kings Road (so called because it leads to Kingshill) was Bridewell Lane, before that Cox's Lane; The old name for Ivy House Lane was Dwight's Lane. A previous name for Chesham Road was Grubbs Lane.

Incidentally, a privilege that our new incumbent at St Peter's will enjoy is that 'The Rector has ancient right of way from the Rectory through Green Lane to Grubbs Lane'. These words are inscribed on a stone monument at the Rectory, followed by *J.H. Rector 1861*. The initials are those of James Hutchinson.

### **Little Berkhamsted**

A few miles the other side of Hatfield, set in quiet countryside, is the village of Berkhamsted. It does not seem to have any historic connection with Great Berkhamsted, which is the name still occasionally applied to our town in formal documents, although of course we usually drop the 'Great', taking our greatness for granted.

Little Berkhamsted is worth a visit. The impression you get is that it is all very well-heeled, with plenty of substantial nicely maintained houses in spacious gardens, and there are several large country seats set in the pretty Hertfordshire landscape round about. It



*Church Lane or Back Lane?*

has a church, a pub, a village green with cricket, a shop, a garage and a school: almost the epitome of English villages as people would like to think they should be.

Although there is no obvious connection between them and us, there are at least two things we have in common. Firstly, we both claim that it was in our settlement that William the Conqueror accepted the throne of England from the Saxon barons in 1066. In this I think our case must be much stronger than theirs. No less an historian than the formidable G.M.Trevelyan said so (although, living in Berkhamsted and having a strong attachment to the Town, could even he conceivably have been a little prejudiced?).

The second feature which applies to both places is the inconsistency in the spelling of our name. They have an even greater variety than we do on street nameplates and signposts. Walk round the village and you can see at least four different spellings: Little Berkhamsted, Little Berkhamsted, Little Berkhamstead and Little Berkhamstead. ❖

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Last month Stephen Halliday wrote about the work going at the ancient hostelry, the *Swan* hotel, and the purpose of the project. He rightly remarked on the scale of the operations; the old building dating from the late 1300s with two cottages built 100 years ago is undergoing extensive treatment to bring it into good repair and up-to-date for the 21st century to give further good service to Berkhamsted.

It is indeed an exciting time for the trustees of the Swan Youth Project and their partners at the Aldwyck Housing Association for when the repairs and refurbishment are finished in November there will be accommodation for 20 people, each set of 4 or 5 single rooms sharing a bathroom and a kitchen, and large common room on the ground floor. The *Swan* bar is being fully refurbished with a re-fitted kitchen, offices and meeting room and everything is being expertly done to high standards to comply with modern accommodation and conservation requirements.

As a building the *Swan* in its restored plumage will surely be a real bonus to the centre of our town. But the project has a much deeper purpose; it sprang from the ambition formed some years ago by a group of people from our Christian churches to do something really significant to help young people. They took the French 'Foyer' concept that sets out to break the damaging cycle of 'no home - no job, no job - no home' by providing accommodation, training and recreation for homeless and jobless young people. They researched the need, which was not too difficult to establish against the frightening

## The Swan Rescued - with a Purpose

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Continuing from last month's article, **Bill Atkinson** explains the purpose behind the project.

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rate of marriage and home breakdown and the national background of some 700,000 unemployed people under 25 years of age.

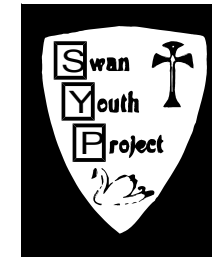
They set up a local charity aimed at assisting young people between 16 and 25 years of age and began fundraising. They found premises (the then bedraggled old *Swan* hotel) and a

partner (Aldwyck Housing Association) with the experience to set up and run the housing part of the project. They contacted local commerce and industry and the local training and enterprise council for help with job training and opportunities.

Great support and financial help has come from local people and organisations including churches and schools. Readers will know that the proceeds of the Petertide fair last year came to the project. The appeal has now comfortably passed the £100,000 mark, although the charity needs as much again to cover its share of the cost. Through the good offices of the borough council Aldwyck Housing Association

has obtained a sizeable housing association grant, and a grant is also offered by the National Lottery that includes some help towards running costs for the first three years (although at the time of writing it is not proving easy to lay hands on the Lottery money!).

The operation of the project will be overseen by an advisory committee made up of representatives from the charity, the housing association, the borough council and a chaplain and one or two other interested people. Experienced management and training staff are being appointed and there will be many opportunities for the



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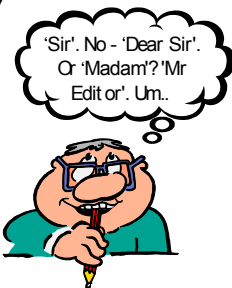
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involvement of volunteers in all lines of activity. The young people who will live at the *Swan* for a year or so at will be charged affordable rents; they will each have an action plan to assist them to settle down and take the best advantage of the chances to learn job search skills and to use work placement and training opportunities towards obtaining employment. These facilities will be based in the ground floor of the *Swan* and can also be used by other interested young people from this area.

The social and recreational activity will centre on the *Swan* bar which is to be renamed *The Swan Inn*. It will be an unlicensed pub, a meeting place open to all young people with drinks and food at reasonable prices, games equipment, live music and other entertainment. The charity trustees have long believed that Berkhamsted offers very little entertainment opportunity to its younger citizens other than in the many pubs, and their intention is that the *Swan Inn* will provide an attractive and much needed venue.

Foyers are quite a new initiative in this country and they already have a good success rate in helping their residents to settle down and get jobs. The *Swan* Foyer will be one of the first to be set up away from a large town centre and the organisers intend that with the continued support of the Community it will quickly rise to the top of the success league. ❖

*Bill Atkinson is a trustee of the Swan Youth Project charity.*

## The Berkhamsted Walk 1996

### A Plea from the Treasurer

This year's Berkhamsted walk for the Children's Society was a great success (see Ian McCalla's account in the July *Review*) and by the end of July the society had received about £3800 - 80% of the total pledged by walkers sponsors. If, dear *Review* reader, you have yet to pay in the money collected from your sponsors I should be very grateful if you would do so by the end of September. If you have mislaid your paying-in slip, please send your money (preferably by cheque made payable to The Children's Society) to me at 46 Fieldway.

I cannot match 11 credits to our bank account, totalling some £400, to the corresponding walkers because their walk numbers have not appeared on our bank statements. If you have paid money in using a credit slip *other than that* provided by the society, please let me know. Also, if you have paid money in jointly with another walker, please let me know.

If you walked in a group, I should be most grateful if you would bring these requests to the notice of your companion walkers.

**Miles Nicholas**  
**Treasurer**

### **Review Leader** (continued from page 3)

We are very grateful in particular to the church wardens, to everyone who has worked on the Rectory, and to Jean Green for keeping us abreast of so many things. The parish has had a rather long vacancy and thanks must also go to Frs Basil, Stephen and Jim who have borne the heat of the day as far as services have been

concerned, and also to the Readers who have been invaluable. I very much look forward to working with this excellent team.

It's all very exciting and challenging and I pray that God will bless us in all that we do together in his name.

*Rev Mark Bonney*

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**B**ack in the April issue of the *Review*, I recounted how I got involved in local politics. It struck me that you may be interested in what is involved in being a local councillor, so here goes.

Being a borough councillor as well as a town councillor has advantages as well as disadvantages. The advantage is that, as a member of the borough council, you are thrown in at the deep end, but you get support from both the officials and other members. I was perhaps lucky in as much as a large number of other new members were in the same boat as myself. The borough holds seminars for new members to introduce the ways of local government to the uninitiated like myself. I got the feeling that most had been trying to get into the borough council for some time, so appeared to be more confident than I felt. Mind you, perhaps they were just good at not showing their feelings, a sign of a good politician.

Within days of the election, I had been photographed, given the members handbook and assigned committees to be a member of. The first committee meeting

# CUTTING COMMENTS

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Local Councillor **Norman Cutting** reflects on his early experiences of the local government machine.

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after the election was Development Control and guess who had been volunteered, yes, correct. That and Works were the crosses I had to bear. Not being a member of a 'group', I had very little say in the matter, but that suited me fine. The first three months of

being a member of the borough council proved a very interesting period for both myself, the Labour group (who suddenly had power but were not quite sure what to do with it) and the Conservative group, who had been in control for what seemed forever and a day only to find their power gone. Credit for their better policies was being taken by the majority group and they were blamed for everything else.

Meanwhile, back at the town council, the realisation was beginning to dawn on what had been achieved in a very short period and how little we knew about each other. The town council gets going later than the borough, so the other borough councillors on the town council, Stan Sharpe and John Brookes were, like me, up to speed by the time the first town council meeting took place to elect a new chairman (mayor). I did suggest that

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perhaps either Stan or John should be proclaimed mayor as members of the majority party, but other members of the council disagreed. Never mind, I thought that the 'leading light' of the group, Councillor Trevor Foley, had thought this all out and would be putting himself forward. It was not to be. Councillor Ray Dyer was elected as the first mayor of the new council. Although I got off to a shaky start, I feel settled in and by the time the new mayor got to the end of his term, I was quietly enjoying it and was far more relaxed.

None of us had any experience and most of us took the opportunity to attend an initiation course for new local councillors held at St Albans. We all learnt a lot and the one thing that stuck in my mind was the comment by one of the other attendees who looked at the attendance list, noticed the large number from Berkhamsted and said "Goodness, how big is your council?" She was duly surprised when told only thirteen.

I believe most of the chairmen of the council committees either run, have run or been in positions of authority in businesses where they take executive decisions. This fact has led to consultations being kept to the minimum in order to reduce frustration, but has led, on occasions, to disagreements between chairmen and committee members. In fact, a rule in local government indicates that no decision should be taken unless sufficient information is available. At the borough, we have almost too much information provided, but I believe this is much better than the often verbal report given, usually by the committee chairman, at the town council before a decision is taken. I have suggested that items needing a decision should have a report together with recommendations circulated prior to a meeting, but this would mean thinking through a subject before presenting it to committee and that would never do, would it!! ❖

## A New Route to Aldbury

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**Ian McCalla** takes us to  
Aldbury where well-earned  
refreshment awaits!.

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Before last Christmas I was asked if I would lead the Berkhamsted Citizens Association new year walk to Aldbury as the usual leader was unable to do it. "You're the Northchurch footpaths and bridleways man; we need a guide through Northchurch". I could not refuse such a challenge, could I?

But how was I to find a route that everyone had not already walked umpteen times and get to Aldbury before the *Valiant Trooper* got too crowded? This is what I came up with. It would make as nice a late summer / early autumn walk as a new year one!

Start from Berkhamsted railway station. Go along Brownlow Road to the junction with Castle Hill. Go straight on into Castle Hill, and at the point where it turns left, cross the road to the right hand one of two gateways in the corner. Go along the drive to a footpath with a hedge on your left. You are now walking between Berkhamsted cricket club on your left and the former Wellcome sports ground on your right.

Go straight on over several stiles to a junction of farm tracks. Go straight across (unless, of course, it is flooded which is quite often the case, in which event make a slight detour). Continue along a farm track to a stile and a gate. Beyond the stile the track bears left but you must bear right, uphill to a stile into the woods.

Go uphill through the wood and into the open when you join a wide bridleway. Bear left to a junction of bridleways. Take

the left hand one of three options. The bridleway meanders across the common past Brick Kiln Cottage (on the right). Ignore footpaths (marked with yellow arrows on the waymarking posts) going off to the left. Eventually you cross another bridleway; turn left onto this and follow it until you reach an open clearing with a house and out-building on your left (this is Coldharbour Farm).

Turn right here, onto an unmade road. At the bottom of the hill you will see a house on the left (Woodyard Cottage). Turn left immediately beyond it to a

footpath between two fences (with a field on the right).

Keep straight on. After a while the path widens out into a great highway of a bridleway. Cross the main road to another bridleway and go straight on through the woods.

Eventually, you pass a house on the right (Old Copse Lodge). Soon afterwards you come to a clearing with what appears to be a sheer drop in front of you. There is a path going straight down, believe it or not. But the recommended, all-weather route down into Aldbury is to go half right to a bridleway (*not* sharp right: that track goes to the Bridgewater Monument). This goes more gently down hill.

At the bottom turn sharp left onto a track that brings you out to Aldbury village green. *The Greyhound* is opposite. Turn left along Trooper Road to the *Valiant Trooper*. Both pubs do food.

After lunch you may be too tired / replete / the possessor of sore feet and so not wish to walk all the way back, even by a shorter route. You can probably manage the twenty minute walk across the fields to Tring station though. For the totally exhausted, there is a bus from Aldbury village green directly back to Berkhamsted at 14:21! ❖



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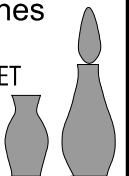
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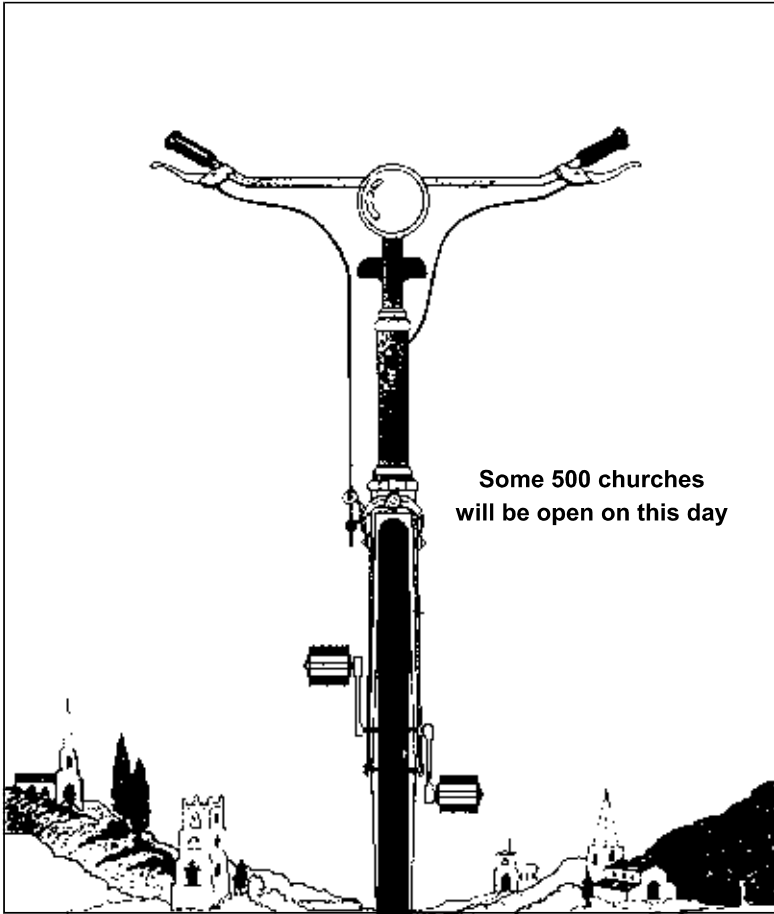
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# SPONSORED BIKE RIDE



I was very interested in Liz Baxendale's article *Nuns' Stories* as my sisters and I were all educated at a Roman Catholic convent. Occasionally I have heard various well known women talking of their days at a convent school and they seem to have had a most peculiar time. We have very happy memories of our schooldays.

Mother St Joseph took games and would tear up the field, her habit tucked under her arm and brandishing a hockey stick. Mother Sacred Heart taught English and literature and made books come alive for us. In those days we were actually taught English grammar, thank goodness (I know many teachers of French now who have to teach English grammar to their pupils before tackling French grammar). It was a Benedictine order and the nuns wore black habits and black knitted stockings.

On Friday afternoons in summer I remember sitting by a large open window overlooking the garden and sewing. We always had to make one garment for the 'poor' before tackling one for ourselves. My mother decided that nightgowns made of winceyette were best but I'm afraid my seams were liberally spotted with blood as I pricked my finger so often, and I don't think I ever got as far as a garment for myself. While we sewed someone would read a story to us, 'Anne of Green Gables' or similar, which we loved. Often I was asked to 'turn the heel' of a stocking being

## HAPPY SCHOOLDAYS

---

**Vera Pullen** recounts her experience of school life in a convent.

---

knitted by the teacher, which she found difficult.

The smell of furniture polish brings back memories of the convent to me. It was so clean and highly polished. It was a boarding school which took day girls and had a beautiful chapel to which we could go if we wanted, although we were never made to feel we had to go. At 12 o'clock a bell rang and we all stood and said the Angelus, then carried on with the lesson. I was once sent to reverend mother for something I'd done - though I can't remember what it was. I knocked on the door of her room and entered when told. She was a tiny little nun with a very wrinkled face but a wonderful smile. I told her what I had done and she patted me on the head and said, 'You won't do it again, dear child, will you?' - and that was that.

We didn't rush from room to room between lessons, the teachers came to us. Prayers were a regular part of school life and it just seemed natural to us, and I have always been grateful for the sheer enthusiasm of the teachers for their subjects, which rubbed off on us.

Years later our next-door neighbour had an aunt who was a nun and who came to stay for a few days from time to time. My small daughter having seen her rushed in and said, "Mummy, there's a mump next door", having got somewhat muddled with monks and nuns! ❖



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Come through the **Post Office** to our **shop** which sells greetings cards, Christian books, stationery and many gifts. **Upstairs** you will find our **coffee shop** serving lunches, teas, snacks or just a cup of coffee.

On the morning of Monday, 29th July, about a hundred people gathered in the ravaged St John's Well Lane car park to bid farewell to thirty-five teenagers from Beaune who had participated in this year's Berkhamsted-Beaune exchange, one of the most successful that I can ever remember. Many tears were being shed as the visitors boarded

the coach and one mother commented that she had become so fond of their visitor that she felt that she was losing a daughter.

In the twenty-two years that the exchange has been running, almost eight hundred young people from each town have taken part. This year the English travelled to Beaune at Easter and the French teenagers stayed in Berkhamsted from 18th to 29th July. On the 19th they all attended the *Sergeant Pepper is Innocent* concert at the Girls' School and participated in the event with wild abandon, many of them begging to be allowed to go again on the Saturday. It

## A Colourful Suggestion

Stephen Halliday reflects on this year's Berkhamsted-Beaune exchange and wonders if we can borrow an architectural idea from Burgundy.

was explained that this was not possible since all the tickets had been sold though one of them, with com-mendable enterprise, was observed on the Saturday evening helping out on the hot dog stand.

They also provided a welcome boost to the local economy. One of the young assistants in *The Bookstack* told me

that she had been doing a steady trade in Sergeant Pepper T-shirts to French children and the footwear business also benefited, judging by the numerous pairs of new Doc Marten boots that were to be observed shining and creaking as they mounted the coach for their departure. Doc Martens are as popular in France as they are amongst English teenagers but for some reason they are about thirty per cent cheaper in England.

Apart from footwear the French party also take home some happy memories of England which contradict some old and cherished myths. One of the French boys, Sebastian, now eighteen, was on his fourth visit to Berkhamsted and commented to me

that he did not understand why some French people are disparaging about English food. He told me that, having stayed in three different English homes, his firm opinion was that the standards of cooking in England were greatly superior to those he experienced at home. He also told me that one of the teachers who was accompanying the group, and who had not visited England for twenty years, confirmed that, in the

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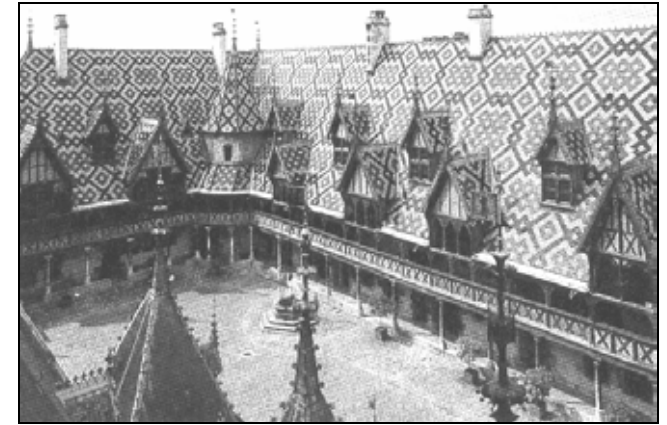
Gill Griffiths: Berkhamsted 866814

intervening decades, the quality of English food had been transformed.

This is undoubtedly true and I suppose it owes a lot to TV. programmes like *Masterchef* and the work of television presenters like Delia Smith and Keith Floyd whose programmes have attracted large audiences and whose books have frequently headed the best-seller lists. I took Sebastian to a local pub, *The Boat*, where we had a delicious lunch which

caused me to reflect that, twenty years ago, we would have had to make do with a packet of crisps and a corned beef sandwich. I mentioned to Sebastian's French mother, herself an Anglophile, that he enjoyed our food. She sighed and commented that, when he returns from visits to England, he is full of praise for the way he has been fed during his visit and has suggested, tactfully but unmistakably, that she should take some lessons!

As we bade farewell to our young visitors the vast expanse of the grey-tiled roof of the new Waitrose caught my eye and I couldn't help reflecting upon the comparison with a similar, even larger structure, on the famous *Hotel-Dieu de Beaune*. This amazing building was constructed in about 1436 by the chancellor to the Duke of Burgundy, Nicolas Rolin, whose other principal claim to fame, or notoriety, was that he handed over Joan of Arc to the English. The Hotel-Dieu was built as a hospital for the poor and was used as such as late as the 1950s. Its huge slate roof is composed of coloured slates arranged in diamonds, chevrons and similar patterns in red, green, yellow, black and gold: a breathtaking example of mediaeval art. Nicolas Rolin



*The decorated roof of the Hôtel-Dieu in Beaune (photo: Michelin)*

apparently imported the idea of the decorated tiled roof from the low countries, another of the possessions of the Duke of Burgundy, but it has since become strongly associated with Burgundy itself and is to be seen on chateaux, town halls and other public and private buildings.

One of the mothers of the English participants in this year's exchange observed that the roof of the new Waitrose would be infinitely more attractive if it were designed like that of the *Hôtel-Dieu* but she added that the local planners would probably object to such a spectacularly colourful building! I wonder if it is too late to make the suggestion. I have been amongst the severest critics of the Kingsgate development but, since it is now a *fait accompli*, it would give me great pleasure to see its great expanse of roof turned into a work of art. ♦

*As a post-script, I wrote two months ago about the birthplace of Kingsley Amis and speculated on the basis of information I had received, that he was probably born at 26 or 28 Shrublands Road. I am indebted to Mrs Rene Bayliss for informing me that the house was number 26. If anyone can identify the house in Gravel Path where Peter Quennell was born or the house where the historian G.M. Trevelyan lived I would like to know.*

## A tune, a tune!

*Max Hageman writes:*

Struck by the multiplicity of lamp standards, parking signs, bus stop signs and so on - now that the next section of our High Street is being treated to the work consequent upon the building of the by-pass - it occurs to me that one could play a tune... by running along tapping each standard with a metal bar!

What would the Berkhamsted tune be - Graham Greensleeves?

*5 Murray Road  
Berkhamsted  
Herts HP4 1JD*

## Thank You

*Stuart Kibble writes:*

### Berkhamsted Memories

*Nancy Rhind writes:*

I was interested to read Mr Harrowell's recollections in the June *Review*. I knew him well as one of the familiar Berkhamsted faces.

I thought that it might interest you, and perhaps him, to know that at the time I was at the Girls' School (from 1916 onwards) the Trevelyans lived in Kings Road, on the right going up, two or three doors below the steps. I remember Mr Trevelyan well by sight, a stooping, grey-haired man who looked the intellectual that he was (on

I am writing to the *Review* and my friends at St Peter's church to say big thank you for the kindness and friendship I receive from everyone. I am glad to say that Father Roger is still in my thoughts. The good news is that we shall shortly be having a new priest at St Peter's. This is wonderful to hear. People at the church have welcomed me into a large family and this has made me proud. I was recently confirmed at Tring parish church. This has opened my eyes as the bishop made me feel at ease. With many thanks indeed.

*23 Douglas Gardens  
Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 3PE*

reflection, he was probably about fifty years younger than I am now!). His daughter, Mary, a very clever girl, was at school with me and I think there were two boys. Her grandmother, Mrs Humphrey Ward, lived in Aldbury and was the author of many rather dull Victorian novels.

Oddly enough, I saw in the *Telegraph* quite recently a reference to a Mary Trevelyan School (in the North, I think). It would not surprise me if that was the same Mary as I do remember hearing that she had a distinguished career.



## CALLING ALL JOURNALISTS!

Do you have a contribution for the *Review*? Our subject areas are diverse - from church matters to the secular, serious and light-hearted. Don't wait for someone else to write about your pet subject! Illustrations - photographs and drawings are always welcome, both for inside the magazine and for the cover. And let us know if you're planning an event - and tell us about it afterwards!

We can handle contributions in many formats: paper (typed, double spaced if possible but handwritten not refused) and word processor disks (Word, WordPerfect, ASCII text formats). Photographs can be colour or black & white, and we can handle drawings on paper or in electronic format (CorelDRAW! V4, bmp, pcx, tif, cgm formats for the technical).



**Malcolm Eames  
reminds us of  
our need for  
regular prayer.**

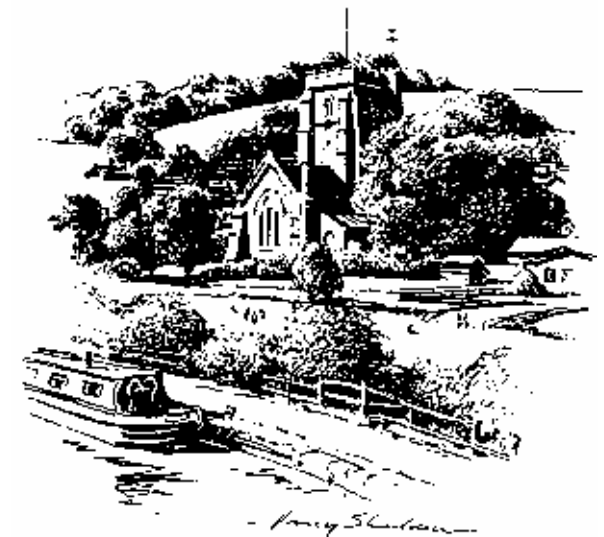
## **review**northchurch

When in July 1981, after his heroic cricketing exploits of the late 1970s, Ian Botham resigned from the England captaincy after making a 'pair' in the Lords Test Match, one felt a certain amount of sympathy for the fellow. However, sorrow was turned into joy within weeks with his batting and bowling performances in the next three matches, resulting in a 3-1 defeat for the Australians. This may be a cliché, but it is nevertheless true that the game of cricket is a great leveller. Even Don Bradman, the greatest of them all, made a duck in his final test innings.

Life away from cricket grounds is very much the same, and we could all recount peaks and troughs in our lives which have followed each other sometimes with remarkable rapidity. One of my most exhilarating weeks as a student bachelor was spent as a member of a 'reading party' from my university college. It was in April 1954, and the scene was Dartmoor. We stayed in a guest house. The mornings and early evenings were spent working and revising; for this we needed no encouragement as our exams were in May. The afternoon was spent going for long walks on the moors and in beautiful valleys, led by the Dean of our college who knew the area like the palm of his hand as his father had been the Vicar of Moretonhampstead. I do recommend the walk along the Teign Valley from Sandy Park to Fingle Bridge, and back along the top. In the evenings we

played bridge, then as now one of my favourite pastimes. It was all like heaven on earth! But when I arrived home, my mother opened the door and I could see at once that all was not well. My father had had a stroke, and my mother hadn't phoned me lest it should spoil my fun. Though my father survived for 12 years, the pattern of life for my parents obviously had to be modified.

How can we best manage to cope with our varying fortunes? I suspect that the true Christian can survive them very well, as his communications system with God is firmly wired up through prayer, and he knows that God can share with both his joys and his sorrows. Others survive less well. When events turn against them, they may perhaps get in touch with God in their panic, but it is a one way system, and they don't allow God to get a word in edgeways. When things are going well, God's telephone remains silent, and they don't even ring up to say thank you.



# review notes & notices

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## ALL SAINTS' WOMEN'S' EVENTS (ANGLICAN AND METHODIST)

---

**Coffee Mornings** (held in the hall)

10am - 11:30am  
10th September  
8th October \*  
12th November  
10th December

\* *Children will help us make a Tree of Little Hands for the Harvest of Talents weekend.*

**Pram Services** (held in the church)

Coffee 10am - Service 10:30am  
24th September  
29th October  
26th November  
10th December \*

\* *Our Christmas special with coffee and goodies then pram service with travelling crib.*

This programme is deliberately light as the autumn is a very busy period. Other activities to join include:



**Sing Good News** - Mondays

Rehearsals for '96 All Saints' Musical to be performed 23rd & 24th November (contact Valerie McCalla 871765).

**Alpha Course** - Weds 2nd October

A chance to explore your faith and ask awkward questions over supper (contact John Malcolm 874993).

**Harvest of Talents** - 12th & 13th October

If you have a creative or practical gift do share it this weekend by exhibiting examples of your work (contact Rita Hodges 864057).

**Meditation Group**

A quiet half hour of prayer for all (contact Jenny Wells 870981 / Ruth Treves-Brown 863268).

**Friday Study Group**

Informal Bible study group; young children welcome (contact Kate Semmens 866531).

**Christmas Choirs**

For carol services various (contact Peter McMunn 874894).

Plus your own Christmas commitments!

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## Northchurch Review (continued)

Jesus' three year ministry on earth must have been full of stress and pressure. He was after all a man as well as being the Son of God. There are several instances, such as in St Matthew Chapter 14, in which he retires into the wilderness or the hills, away from the hurly-burly of crowds who were constantly following him, where he could pray to his Father and re-emerge spiritually refreshed. If Jesus found this essential, how much more should we! A daily, or twice daily retreat by us, not necessarily into the hills, is indispensable.

How did Jesus cope with a crisis? For him there must have been a major crisis in the Garden of Gethsemane. We are told

that he was distressed and troubled, obviously by the thought of the pain of his imminent death on Good Friday. He was particularly prayerful, checking with his Father that he really had to go through with it. *"Father, everything is possible with you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what You will"*. The last sentence is particularly important, indicating that the importance of prayer lies in finding out what God's will is for us, and readjusting our wills accordingly. Perhaps in this way the joys and sorrows of our lives on earth can begin to make more sense, and we can live with greater peace of mind. ❖

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### PCC TRUST FUNDS

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On eight occasions in the past, back to 1938 at least, the PCC has received bequests under which amounts were given to be held in trust, and with the income arising therefrom to be spent either on specified or on general matters.

As the income from each of these trust funds is now too small in relation to their several purposes, the PCC has approved a procedure, made possible under the Charities Act 1993, for the restriction on spending capital of these eight trusts to be removed. Copies of the formal notices regarding this are on display on the notice boards of St Peter's and All Saints' churches.

---

### TUESDAY CLUB

---

Our first meeting of the new session will be at 8:15pm on 3rd September. It is entitled *Memories Are Made Of This* and members are requested to bring an object, written words, a poem or anything that will evoke a memory which we can share.

It was with great sadness we learned of the tragic death of one of our members, Mrs Eileen Shepherd, whose cheerful face will be much missed at our meetings.

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### BERKHAMSTED FLOWER CLUB

---

Berkhamsted flower club are holding their 1996 show and competitions on Saturday 21st September at Northchurch social centre. The show is open from 10am to 4pm and is called *Flowers for Pleasure*. Apart from the feast of floral arrangements, coffee, tea and biscuits will be available all day and ploughman's lunches from 12 noon. There will be a home made cake stall, a sales table of flower arranging goodies and greetings cards for sale. Northchurch social centre has ample free parking facilities. If you require any further information please phone Jean Bray on 864532.

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### A DAY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

---

*"What shall we do today?"*

This is a cry from many a young person who may not know of the enormous range of facilities available at Berkhamsted Sports Centre.

The Berkhamsted branch of Dacorum Council for Voluntary Service (DVCS) in co-

operation with others who care about young people is organising a day on Saturday 19th October where there will be a host of activities at the Berkhamsted Sports Centre, for young people to 'Have a Go!'.

In addition there will be a photographic competition with cash prizes, with the theme *The spirit of Berkhamsted just before the new millennium*. Chris Lees, son of Betty Lees, the mastermind behind the day is a professional photographic journalist and will be a judge on the day.

---

### ST PETER'S WITH ALL SAINTS' ALPHA - A TEN WEEK COURSE

---

*What is Alpha?* Alpha is for:

Anyone interested in **L**earning, meeting  
**P**eople and **H**elping one another. **A**sk  
anything!

*Who is Alpha for?* Alpha is for everyone! It particularly caters for: people interested in investigating Christianity; newcomers to the Church; new Christians; couples preparing for marriage; Those who want to brush up on the basics.

*What happens at Alpha?* There is a series of talks looking at such topics as: Who is Jesus? Why did Jesus die? Why and how should I read the Bible? Why and how do I pray? What about the Holy Spirit? How does God guide us? How can I overcome evil? Why and how should I tell others? Does God heal today? What about the Church?

After each talk there is time for discussion, in smaller groups, and the opportunity to get to know each other and learn together.

The course will start on Wednesday, 2nd October at 7:30pm in All Saints' church hall. There is no charge. Details and application forms from John Malcolm (874993) or Victoria Macdonald (872002).

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### VOLUNTEER BABY SITTERS

---

Jean Green, the parish secretary on 863241 would like to be able to identify a few more people who would be happy to sit occasionally at the Rectory to mind Hannah (4 in September) and Eleanor (just 5 months old on the day of her father's Institution here).

In addition, the Blue Angels (and DVCS mascots) will perform outside the Civic Centre and also the Sports Centre.

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## BERKHAMSTED W.I.

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At the meeting in July members brought their ailing houseplants and Mrs. V. Day held a *Plant surgery*. Too much water, not enough water! Too much light, not enough light! Dead roots unable to breathe because water had pushed out the air! Clay pots or plastic pots? When to feed and when to starve? - all these mysteries of successful houseplant growing were explained and solved and many more helpful hints were given by Mrs. Day.

A large parcel of needlework items had been collected for onward transmission to Croatia. Several members had enjoyed an evening walk in Ashridge and the strawberry tea organised in aid of our bursary fund had been a delightful and successful afternoon rising over £90. Arrangements were made for a visit to Tring Museum to see an exhibition of WI crafts and a collection was taken for our annual contribution to ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World).

Mesdames P. Elphinstone, R. Smith and P. Whybrow received WI spoons or a token for gaining the requisite points in the monthly competition.

Our next meeting is on 18th September at Gable Hall, Prince Edward Street at 7:30pm when Mrs. D. Elton Barrett's subject will be *Musical Entertainment with Audience Participation*. Everyone is welcome to join us.

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## BERKHAMSTED CASTLE W.I.

---

It was so nice to see so many members and to welcome a visitor to our August meeting. After business matters were dealt with, our president Joan Griffiths introduced us to Mr. James Cuming who gave us a most amusing talk of his reminiscences as a boy during the Second World War entitled *Landmines to Landgirls*. He recalled leaving his London home to be billeted with his family in Great Missenden, Bucks and then having to adjust to his new way of life in the country!

There were many items of wartime memorabilia on display for the competition which was judged by Mr. Cuming.

A group walk around the Ivinghoe hills lead by wardens from Ashridge proved very enjoyable if a little strenuous at times!

Our next meeting is on 6th September at the Court House, Berkhamsted at 2pm when the speaker is Mr. Robin Perkins talking about the Cecil family and Hatfield House.

Why not pay us a visit and bring a friend?

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## W.E.A. AUTUMN COURSES

---

The following courses are being offered by the WEA in Berkhamsted this autumn:

**Fungi: *Advanced and Beginners***

Wednesday evenings from 18th September, 8-9:30pm in Berkhamsted Library for 16 weeks. The tutor is Alan Outen.

**Jane Austin: *Plotting her Ideas***

Monday evenings from 7th October, 8-9:30pm in Berkhamsted Library for 10 weeks. The tutor is Elaine Hutton.

**Ten Artists of Their Time**

Wednesday mornings from 18th September, 10:30am-12noon in the Friends Meeting House for 10 weeks. The tutor is Judi Rich.

Concessions are available for pensioners and the unemployed. For further details please ring Ann Gurney on 865445.

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## BOY CHORISTERS NEEDED AT ST PETER'S

---

Boy choristers are sought for St Peter's Choir, aged 7-13, to join others who are starting in September. Yes, joining the choir is a big commitment, but the excellent tuition is free. The choir provides the opportunity to perform at services, festivals, concerts and weddings and, being affiliated to the Royal School of Church Music, the boys' achievements are marked by awards. Tenors & basses are needed too but, unlike the boys, they don't get pocket money! Full details from Vaughan Meakins (01494 837412) or Jean Wild (866859).

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## OXFAM CHILDREN'S WEAR EVENT

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The next Oxfam children's wear event will be on Thursday 5th September at the Civic Centre, Berkhamsted from 9:30am to 12 noon.

This sale will provide an opportunity for all bargain conscious parents to snap up the last of the summer wear and stock up the winter wardrobe of their offspring whilst considerably benefiting the Oxfam cause.

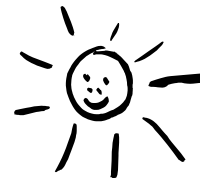


The rails will be stocked with children's clothes for all sizes, all seasons and both sexes! A good selection of children's books and toys will be available and we promise a free cup of tea/coffee to all our customers. We offer help with prams and pushchairs and assistance with

youngsters too. Don't miss out on this golden opportunity where we help you, whilst you help us to help others. Further details available from Audrey Hope or Nicky Evans at the Oxfam shop (tel. 864225). Do come - you won't be disappointed! ❖

## Parish Rounders Afternoon

*Warm sunshine awaited those bold enough to wield a rounders bat on a summer's Sunday afternoon in August. Fun was the order of the day, which was rounded off with a barbecue.*



## reviewdiary

All services at normal times unless stated.

Septer / Oct 1996

### SEPTEMBER

5	8:00pm	The Institution and Induction of Mark Bonney to the benefice of Great Berkhamsted	<i>St Peter's</i>
8	8:45am	Sunday School Breakfast	<i>All Saints'</i>
14	All day	Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Bike Ride	
21	8:00am	Churches Together in Berkhamsted - breakfast followed by prayer	<i>All Saints'</i>
29	10:00am	Anglican / Methodist United Service	<i>All Saints'</i>
29	6:00pm	Choral Evensong	<i>St Peter's</i>

### OCTOBER

12/13		Anglican/Methodist Harvest of Talents	<i>All Saints'</i>
13		Harvest Festival services	<i>All Saints' / St Peter's</i>
18	7pm for 7:30pm	St Peter's & All Saints' Harvest Supper	<i>Town Hall</i>

## reviewregisters

### Baptisms (St Peter's)

7 July	Lucinda Emma Nasymth Sigley, Andrew George Smith, Jordan Daniel Flint & Jack Duncan Hunter
21 July	Natalie Lynn Shepherd

### Baptisms (All Saints')

7 July	Jessica Ruth Malcolm
--------	----------------------

### Weddings (St Peter's)

6 July	Zoe Frances Conway & John Noel Galvin
13 July	Clare Ann Beechey & Lewis Archibald
27 July	Claire Bernadette Harris & Christopher Reid

### Funerals

17 July	May (Mary) Grace Brown M.B.E.	The Chilterns Crematorium
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SundaySchool

Churches

PCC 1996/7

## Sunday Schools at St Peter's and All Saints'

### St Peter's

Sunday School starts at 9:30am and finishes at 10:30, in the Court House (next to St Peter's church in the High Street). We have two schools - Sunday School caters for the 4 to 10 year olds, with Pathfinders continuing upwards from 10 years. Each school is divided into several groups (three or four).

Everyone is extremely welcome. Mums and Dads - why not leave your children with us on a Sunday morning? You'll be warmly welcome at the 9:30 service in church, or you can just return for your offspring at 10:30.

Contact Christine Tucker on 873272 for more details.

### All Saints'

All Saints' Sunday School is open for all children from the age of 3 to 9 years. Children from 10 years are welcome at our Pathfinders group. We begin at 9:15am each Sunday during term-time and finish at 10:15. Children join the main service in church part way through.

For more information contact Vivienne Bull on 870921.

### All Saints' Creche

We operate a creche at the same times as Sunday School (above) for children under 3. There are toys to play with and at least two adults are there to supervise. Details from Julie Wakely (875504)



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## Contacts

The Revd Mark Bonney, The Rectory, Rectory Lane. Tel: 864194  
 The Revd Canon Basil Jones, 17 Lochnell Road. Tel: 864485  
 The Revd Jim Lawrenson (Hon.Asst.Priest), Downside, 7 Torrington Road. Tel: 865999  
 The Revd Preb Stephen Wells (Hon.Asst.Priest), 57 Meadow Road. Tel: 870981  
 Miss Marjorie Bowden (Reader), 18 Greenway. Tel: 871283  
 Mrs Joan Cook (Reader), The Gardeners Arms, Castle Street. Tel: 866278  
 John Malcolm (Reader), Landswood, Shootersway. Tel: 874993  
 Tom Montague (Reader), 27 Hill View. Tel: 875320  
 Mrs Jenny Wells (Reader), 57 Meadow Road. Tel: 870981  
 Parish Secretary: Mrs Jean Green, 17 Cowper Road. Tel: 863241  
 Churchwardens: Christopher Green, 17 Cowper Road. Tel: 863241;  
 John Banks, Ladybrand, Cross Oak Road. Tel: 871195  
**Parochial Church Council:** Secretary: Alan Conway, 7 Kilfillan Gardens. Tel: 865798  
 Treasurer: Michael Robinson, 36 Trevelyan Way. Tel: 863559

## St Peter's

Director of Music: Vaughan Meakins. :01494 837412; Assistant: Mrs Jean Wild. 866859  
 Organist: Mrs Jean Cooper. Tel: 874088  
**Sundays**  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 9.30am Family Sung Eucharist with Holy Communion  
 Creche & Sunday Schools (in Wednesday 6.45am  
 the Court House) followed by Thursday 11.00am  
 coffee in the Court House. Friday 9.15am  
 Holy Days - see weekly Notices  
 11.15am Matins & Sermon (1st Sunday only) 1st Monday in the month at 7.30pm, Holy  
 6.00pm Evensong & Sermon Communion & Service for Healing  
 (except 1st Sunday see All Saints') Matins & Evensong said daily  
**Confessions:** After Saturday Evensong (5.00pm) or at other times by appointment.  
**Weddings, Banns of Marriage, Baptisms, Funerals**  
 Please contact the Rector.  
**Bellringers (St Peter's):** Miss Priscilla Watt, 9 Kings Road. Tel: 863804

## All Saints'

Organist and choir: Mrs Valerie McCalla. Tel: 384574  
**Sundays**  
 8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday - Methodist rite)  
 9.15am Family Sung Eucharist & Sunday Schools, then coffee in the Hall  
 11.00am (Methodist Morning Service)  
 6.30pm Evening Service (1st Sunday - Anglican rite, other Sundays Methodist rite)  
**Weekdays**  
 Holy Communion: Tuesday 9.30am  
 Holy Days - see weekly Notices  
 (All Saints' is shared with the Berkhamsted Methodist Church)

## Western Insurance

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