### In this issue

### October 1996

Advertising the Church's message

**Committee Life** 

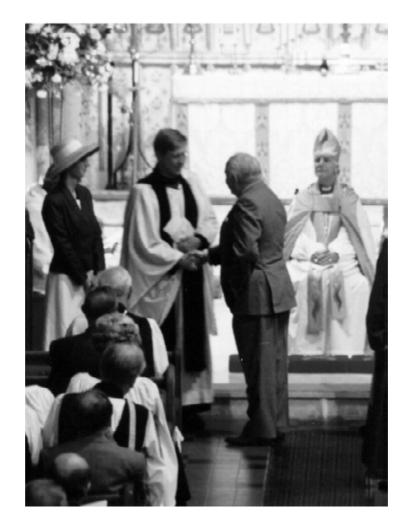
Another Vacancy in the town?

The Wild Boy

The Berkhamsted Berth

This month's Notes & Events





for Town and Parish



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

Welcome to the October issue of the **Review.** Father Mark's leader this month found me, while composing this issue, reflecting on the wider aspects of communication. These days we tend to take communication very much for granted. For instance, technology means that I can reach enormous resources of information in seconds and talk with 30 million people across the world via the Internet from my office or home. Indeed, some of the things you see in the Review each month come from this very source. The consequence of this is that one now expects instant access to anything you care to mention - be it the latest share prices. some obscure piece of research or simply the time of the next train into London.

But isn't this making us a little blasé? It's all very well knowing what the weather and the traffic is doing this very second in Los Angeles (yes - just a few keystrokes away on a PC!), but let's put it in perspective. Unless you're actually going to Los Angeles - in which case I suppose you might want to know if it's raining - then doesn't a magazine like the *Review* play a part which, thanks to your contributions, is at least as important in communicating local issues and news? I certainly hope so! *Chris Smalley* 

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

### **Advertising the Church**

**Father Mark Bonney** considers the problems of communicating the Christian message.

#### **Another Vacancy?**

Is Berkhamsted threatened with another shopping complex? **Stephen Halliday** reflects on the future of a vacant plot.

#### **Committee Life**

Local councillor **Norman Cutting** lifts the covers of council committees.

#### The Institution

Some reminders of the recent Institution and Induction of Father Mark Bonney.

### The Wild Boy

**John Cook** looks at the story of Peter the Wild Boy, who brought fame to 18th century Berkhamsted.

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

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Responsibility for opinions expressed in articles and letters published in this Review and for the accuracy of any statements in them rests solely with the individual contributor

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

(\* note early date)



Fr Mark Bonney, reflects on the difficulty of advertising the Christian Faith.

### review leader

On the front of my newspaper this week was a very eye-catching picture of a poster that we may all be seeing more of soon. It has been produced in consultation with

other churches by the Communications Department of the Church of England and. unless it gets vetoed, it will appear from the end of the month advertising Christmas. If you read a different newspaper from me and didn't see it I don't want to take away its shock value, so I won't describe it, but suffice to say the Archbishop of Canterbury was not commenting, the Archbishop of York thought it was one step too far and the Archdeacon of York had even stronger things to say. I'm nailing my colours firmly to the fence and thinking about it... not least, thinking about how difficult it is to advertise the Christian Faith using the same methods as are used to promote everything from new kitchens to a new figure.

I admire the attempts of Christians working in this field, most of whom are experts at their jobs and giving of their skills freely. I admire them not least because whatever they do is so easily open to criticism - either of trivialising the sublime when using sound-bites, or of giving in to the spirit of the age when using popular phrases, or being out of touch when using churchy language.

Communication is central to the advertising venture. Before marrying a priest, my wife had the more glamorous (on the surface) existence of being an account executive with one of the big advertising firms. I recall her many times

telling me how they would always be trying to get the client to be clear what it was about their product that they wanted to convey to people and to keep that message clear and simple. That's very difficult, and especially so for the Christian Faith (my bookshelves are witness to how easy it is for people to write at length about it) - succinctness and simplicity are rarely features of Christian thinking and speaking, and often rightly so: difficult questions rarely have easy answers. However its quite fun to try writing down in a short sentence, using language that you would hope a nonchurchgoer would understand, what the Christian Faith is about for you. You may not come up with a good advertising slogan, but it may be something you could use sometime in conversation.

After all, the real advertisements for the Christian Faith are not posters produced by the Communications Department of the Church of England (I'm very uncertain what effect they have at all). The real advertisements for the Christian Faith are those of us who call ourselves Christians... and that is something that should give us plenty to reflect upon.

Father More.

Cover: Churchwarden of All Saints', John Banks, greets Father Mark Bonney at Father Mark's Institution and Induction at St Peter's on 5th September, while Robin, Bishop of Hertford looks on. More photographs appear on page 15.

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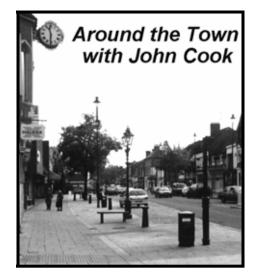
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#### **Faux Pas**

Whether our new Rector at St Peter's was to be instituted, inducted, installed or collated, or a bit of each, was the source of some bewilderment as well as amusing comments and wry smiles at the seemingly obscurantist ways of the C of E in these matters. Other words like *incumbency*, *benefice*, *ancient formularies* and *cure of souls* which rarely see the light of day are dusted off and brought out on these occasions. This time we also had a reference to *The avoidance of the see*.

Our Rector before last, Edward Norfolk, had some good examples of the laity struggling to come to terms with the terminology of the Established Church. The old Banns of Marriage form required an entry to be made in a column headed 'Condition', meaning whether the applicant was a spinster, bachelor, widow etc., but this was not made quite clear. One form came back to the Rector with 'healthy' written in the 'Condition' column; in another case an anxious applicant entered 'pregnant'. Still on the subject of banns, a third lady wrote to explain that she was on the electrical role of another parish.

Some misconstructions may have been made more in mischief than in error. On the occasion of a special service for the medical profession a prayer was taken from the 1928 Prayer Book, and transcribed onto the service sheet as: 'Grant to physicians, surgeons and nurses, wisdom and skill, sympathy and patients.'

One elderly lady who knew much of the Book of Common Prayer by heart and must have admitted to her sins a thousand times in the General Confession, always recited that 'the burden of them is tolerable'.

Readers might like to send in other examples of faux pas which they can remember. This column, you may have noticed, has made a few of its own over the years.

#### Wild Boy

Talking about local road names that have changed over the years I was reminded that the lane which leads to Little Heath from Broadway Church used to be called Haxters End Lane. Today it is called Little Heath Lane, or on some maps wrongly as Broadway Church Lane. Why the name came to be altered is not clear, but it seems a pity that it was, for two reasons.

Firstly, the use of the word 'end' in place names, so characteristic of this part of Hertfordshire, should be preserved wherever possible, in my view. Secondly, the old name was a reminder of the long disappeared Haxters End Farm, which for many years was the home of Peter the Wild Boy.

Many Berkhamsted and Northchurch people will have heard the story of Peter, who was found wandering in a field near Hamelin in Germany in 1725, wearing only a ragged shirt. He was thought to be about 12 years old, but he could not talk, only grunt. The English Royal Family heard of this strange find and had him brought to London for instruction. When this failed to work (Peter never could be taught to speak) he was literally farmed out to Haxters End, where the farmer was paid £35 a year to look after him.



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He roamed the countryside round about wearing a leather and brass collar with his name and address on it; yet he managed to survive to be about 75 years old. He died in Broadway Farm.

The fame of Peter the Wild Boy was nation-wide and outlived him for many years. There are several literary references to him, including two mentions in novels by Dickens - Martin Chuzzlewit and Edwin Druid.



Peter the Wild Boy's grave near the church's main door in St Mary's churchyard. The inscription reads 'Peter the Wild Boy 1785'

#### **Parish Anomaly**

Why, you may well ask, was Peter buried at St Mary's and not at St Peter's, which is so much closer to where he lived? The reason was that Haxters End was in the detached part of the large old parish of Northchurch, or Berkhamsted St Mary as it is still called in some official references. As with every parishioner in those days. when he died his body had to be taken to his parish churchyard for burial, in his case that of St Mary's, a good three miles up the road. The cart carrying the mortal remains of the Wild Boy to their final resting place would have slowly trundled past St Peter's churchyard, less than half way along its journey.

Now of course that detached part of the old Northchurch parish has two Anglican churches of its own, both with pleasant local names: St Michael and All Angels (Sunnyside Church), and Broadway Church, just over the road from where Peter's strange life came to its end.

### Where Did They Live?

Stephen Halliday reported in last month's *Review* that Rene Bayliss had revealed that the house where Kingsley Amis used to live was 26 Shrublands Road. Stephen asks if anyone could say where George Trevelyan and Peter Quennell used to live,

and by coincidence the answer to the first was given in the same issue by Nancy Rhind.

The house where Trevelvan lived until 1927 is opposite what most of us will continue to call the Girls' School rather than its new name - the Kings Campus of Berkhamsted Collegiate School. He called it Pen Rose, after his wife. His daughter Mary went to the Girls' School and later married Bishop Moorman, the church historian. She wrote a fine biography of

her father which you can get out of the library.

The Cowper Society did a fair amount of research into this general topic in preparing for the presentation they put on last March called *The Making of Berkhamsted*, in which the development of the buildings of the Town was described, mostly concentrating on the houses and the people who had lived in them.

Peter Quennell lived in Gravel Path in a house called Crabtrees, which was designed by his father, C.H. Quennell, an architect as well as a social historian. It is still there, complete with its original internal oak joinery.

Just down the road from there at Meadow Cottage lived Gerald Priestland, the journalist and religious broadcaster. He was born in a house in Ravens Lane. W.W. Jacobs, the humorous writer, lived in a house in Chesham Road called Beechcroft on the site of the recent housing development overlooking Tompkins Meadow. There are still people in the Town who can remember all these characters.

You may be interested to know the Cowper Society production *The Making of Berkhamsted* is to be repeated in the Town Hall on Friday, 1st November.

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The 1997 Berth has been reserved for physically handicapped and the able 2nd-8th August for a challenging voyage bodied to share the challenge of crewing a from London to Southampton. The closing

If you are interested in applying to the disabled resident of Berkhamsted fund or know someone who might be eligible (postcode HP4) to sail on the Trust's sail please contact Penella Warren on 862816 or training ship Lord Nelson. There is no pick up an application form from Berkhamsted Library. (The Trust regrets it The STS Lord Nelson is a square- cannot accept voyagers weighing more than

### Money to Spare!

The Trustees of the local Ecclesiastical & Parochial Charities have some difficulty in dispensing the monies from one of their accounts - the Pest House Account. This account is funded from the invested proceeds from the sale of the Isolation Hospital and must be used for the general benefit of the people of the ancient parish of Berkhamsted. The difficulty arises from the fact that each suggested use of the money must first be agreed by the Charity Commissioners and their interpretation of this rule is at times difficult to understand.

### Jim Pullen writes with an unusual plea.

They agreed that a payment be made for the repair of St Peter's Clock, but not one towards a Red Cross ambulance as other than Berkhamsted residents might use it. Again, money for repairs to the Court House was agreed, but not towards the cost of a special bath needed by the Social Services. as other than Berkhamsted bottoms might sit in it!

Trustees would appreciate suggestions as to the use of this money, to test the wisdom of the Charity Commissioners.

Jim Pullen (Clerk to the Trustees)



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During the month of August I received two very interesting letters from former residents of Berkhamsted, mother and son, whose name has a particular resonance at this time. The first was from Sir Richard Cooper, descendant of William Cooper, and the second was from Sir

Richard's mother Dorothy, Lady Cooper. William Cooper, a veterinary surgeon, came to Berkhamsted in 1843 where he developed Cooper's Sheep Dip which became a staple product in every sheep-rearing country and was the first product of Cooper's Animal Feeds, a company which was later acquired by Wellcome and has, in the last few years, passed through many hands including ownership by ICI, Roussel-Uclaf and Agrevo.

Sir Richard's letter arrived on the day that Agrevo announced that it was to close its unit in Berkhamsted, thus ending an association with the town which stretches back over one hundred and fifty three Sir Richard now leaves in Beaminster, Dorset, and told me of a book written about the Cooper business and published in 1943 to mark the centenary of its foundation. I have been trying to obtain a copy of the book to give an account of the firm's development during its time in Berkhamsted but so far I have had no luck. The library does not have one and I have so far been unsuccessful in my attempts to trace one in the libraries of older residents of the town. If anyone knows where I can borrow one I would be most grateful and I solemnly promise to return it.

Lady Cooper's letter informed me of a lecture that her late husband, Sir Frank Cooper, gave to the local history society in 1960 which would be an alternative source of information and I am trying to obtain a

## Two Letters and a Vacant Plot

The Cooper family has strong links with Berkhamsted.

Stephen Halliday considers the past and future.

copy of this as well. This would certainly be a good time to record, for the benefit of Review readers, the activities of this company, long Berkhamsted's largest employer, as association comes to an end. Lady Cooper lives now Tourettes-sur-Loup, not far from the

Mediterranean coast in the South of France and ended her letter "I am always most interested in the Berkhamsted Review. Berkhamsted is still my home from home". I knew that the *Financial Times* had an overseas circulation but I had no idea that this applied also to the *Review*. Perhaps I ought to visit Lady Cooper and interview her but I fear that the *Review's* travel budget, if it has one, would not stretch to sending me to the South of France for the purpose (not considering the entire editorial team

would have to go along too! - Ed.)

Whatever will become of the site which is now to be vacated in the town centre by Coopers' successor? I'm not a very good judge of the size of industrial sites but if you add together the offices. production units, warehouse and transport facilities, many of which have not been used for some years, then the site seems to be enormous: larger in fact than the Kingsgate site whose development has caused such controversy. **Property** developers will no doubt be licking their lips at the prospect of getting their hands on it. It may even be that the muchreviled Kingsgate development will prove to have been a heavily-disguised blessing since surely even Dacorum Council would not sanction another superstore on the Agrevo site. Kingsgate is punishment enough for a town the size of Berkhamsted: otherwise we would be in

danger of becoming a glorified shopping mall.

Even as I write, creative minds are no doubt at work on the matter. Perhaps someone will propose to build a nuclear power station there, or the terminal for the Channel Tunnel, or a nice pretty motorway

service station for the M25, or possibly the fourth London airport. I shouldn't joke about these things, in case some enterprising planner takes me literally. If readers have any ideas of their own let's hear them.





A few months ago I wrote about the activities of our local scout groups. Following an excellent response, First Gossoms

End Scouts, whose HQ is the large concrete building on the corner of Queens Road, has been able to start a second cub pack in response to strong demand. There are still plenty of opportunities for anyone who would like to help run this lively and exciting group. In particular, the group needs help in the areas opposite.

If anyone is interested in any of these important posts in the lives of the young people of the town please call Howard Roscoe, Group Scout Leader, on 865436.

• Anyone interested in working with Beavers (6-8 yrs) or cubs (8-11 yrs) to assist the experienced and committed team of leaders in organising activities for these boys, either on a regular or occasional basis. Full training paid for by the group. Age range 16 to 65. The group also needs a pack secretary to keep records of the boys' achievements - badges etc.

• A handyman (or woman) prepared to keep an eye on the Scout HQ and advise on any work that needs to be done and carry out simple maintenance tasks like changing washers or organising people to paint etc. The group pays for all materials and professional work.



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### All Saints' Harvest of Talents

For our Harvest Festival celebration on 12-13th October we are focusing on the talents that God has given to each member of his church individually, and we invite everyone to come and celebrate with us.

In the church there will be an exhibition of art and craft items made by members of our two congregations, flower arrangements, a programme of music, demonstrations of lace-making, marquetry, quilting... In the lower hall, home-made refreshments will be served. There will be a special programme for children with face painting, giant artwork in our 'paintathon', stories, vegimals(!?), puppets, a drama workshop, puppets, a dance workshop on Sunday morning ... and there will be a crêche on Saturday from 10:30am-12noon and from 2:00-5:00pm.

We shall be open on Saturday from 10:30am to 5:00pm, and on Sunday from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. On Saturday refreshments will be available in the Hall from 10-11:30am and from 2:30-4:30pm, and lunch will be served between 12 and 2pm. On Sunday cream teas will be

**Rita Hodges** tells us about the forthcoming Harvest celebrations at All Saints'.

served between 2:00pm and 4:30pm. Any money given will go to St Botolph's.

Our services on Sunday will include a Joint Family Service at 10am and a Service of Praise at 6:30pm.



Contact Rita Hodges on 864057 for further details.

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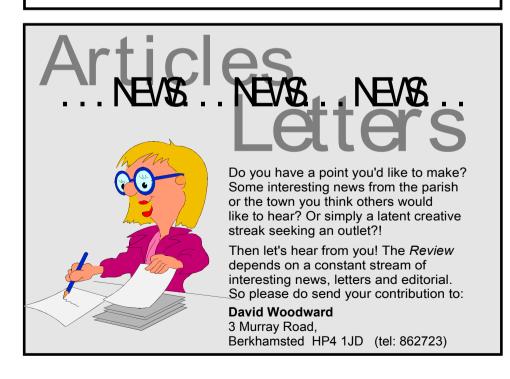


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The joint congregations of All Saints' (Anglican and Methodist) are presenting a lively retelling of the message of the Bible in the run-up to the season of Advent and Christmas, Don't miss it!



The
Institution and
Induction
of
Father Mark Bonney
5th September 1996





The Institution and Induction of Father Mark Bonney to the Parish of Great Berkhamsted took place at St Peter's Church on 5th September. Robin, Bishop of Hertford, officiated (above) with The Venerable



Philip Davies, Archdeacon of St Albans, and the Diocesan Registrar, David Cheetham assisting. Local dignitaries including the Mayors of Dacorum and Berkhamsted, together Churchwardens of St Peter's and

All Saints', welcomed Father Mark to the parish. More than 400 people joined in the celebration, followed by refreshments in a packed Town Hall afterwards.

**On Saturday 7th September** a full peal of 5056 changes Cambridge Surprise Major was rung at St Peter's to welcome Father Mark and his family to the parish. After a hesitant



start and a change of method from Double Norwich to Cambridge, and excellent peal was achieved in 2 hours and 50 minutes with very few mistakes. Past and present Berkhamsted ringers were assisted by friends from Chalfont St Giles, Amersham and Bushey. It was Gareth Bennett's first peal on an inside bell.

David Burbidge

ith luck, this column will reflect the life and times of the town, through the eyes of this particular Independent Town &

Borough
Councillor. To
bring you up to
date, I have set out a
brief summary of
the activities of the

Transport Committee in this issue, and will cover the Planning, Policy and Environment Committees in a later one (I can produce a few copies of back issues of the *Sunnyside Up* newsletter for those who think they have missed something).

Transport & Highways was chaired by Cllr Peter Such last year and is responsible for exactly what the name says. Road safety and footpaths also come under this heading. Funnily enough, the 'Traffic Calming Project' Mk. 1 & 2 appears to have skipped this committee in the past. The next part, called phase III, involves the area from the traffic lights to St Johns Well Lane, and was brought forward to this autumn at the request of Waitrose, supported by the local traders (well about a dozen turned up at the meeting), and also by the town council. A special joint meeting of the Transport and Town Planning committees was held on 28th May to discuss the bringing forward of the Phase III of the By-Pass Demonstration Project. After much discussion, a motion was voted on as to whether the town council would support this shift in time.

Cllrs P Such, J Brooks, R Dyer, L Foster and S Sharpe voted for the motion. Voting against were Cllrs N Cutting and I Johnson, with Cllr K Duvall abstaining. This did mean, of

# CUTTING COMMENTS

Local Councillor **Norman Cutting** gets down to the nitty gritty of council committees.

scheme went through 'as is' rather than as we would like it. Apart from keeping an eye on the past, present and future 'traffic calming'

course.

that the

an eye on the past, present and future 'traffic calming' measures, other subjects discussed included the location of the cable TV boxes and the general state in which

both roads and footpaths have been left.

Yours truly volunteered to be your council's representative on the Disabled Access Committee, so if you have any matters relating to this subject please get in touch. We are currently looking into the assorted pavement advertising signs that litter the High Street. The difficulty, as always, is that part of the footpaths are private property. I also took up the number of disabled parking spots which appear to be out of proportion to the needs of the town. Social Services have been asked to provide the number of orange badge holders issued in Berkhamsted in order that we can ensure that adequate provision has been made. Once again, your thoughts will be of interest.

May I also remind readers that we now have a countryside cycle route around Berkhamsted; the guide should be available at the Civic Centre.

The committee is still pursuing the problem with the footpaths across the A41 with the Highways Agency. Also, Footpath 27 (the one from Lower Kings Road to St Johns Well Lane) is still being disputed. At one of my 'surgeries', concern was expressed about the interchangability of return tickets on the various bus routes in the town. This has been taken up both at town and borough level and the matter is still ongoing.

The street nameplate saga continues with the Borough Council having moved a little, the town council not moving at all and

different designs popping up everywhere! Look at the top of were not even options offered by the Borough, but they were installed during the period of this saga. The latest I have heard is that the Chairman of the borough works committee has issued a press release indicating that Berkhamsted will have black & white signs. The release did not say whether they are with or without the D.B.C. logo or where in the town we will be allowed to have them, but the D.B.C. works committee met on 10th September, so by now we should know.

At the first meeting of the 1996/7 vear, held on 10th June, local athlete and non-car driver Cllr Ian Johnson, the new chairman of this committee, replaced Cllr Peter Such. Cllr G. Moore was reappointed as vice-chairman. The committee requested that the existing wooden bus shelter outside the NatWest Bank be refurbished and the one outside Boots be replaced with something more appropriate with a conservation area. A petition was presented by Cllr R. Dver comprising of excess of 100 names requesting the restoration of the name 'Back Lane' to what is currently known as Church Lane.

In my next article - the latest from these two committees, potted activities of the Planning, Environment and Policy & Finance Committees, news about the Town Hall, the new Community Action Committee and anything else I can get past the editor. Don't forget you are welcome to come to any committee meeting; these are generally held on Monday evenings starting at 7:30pm, and you can also speak on any matter on the agenda if you wish.

And finally, let me have any suggestions you may have to improve this column either via one of the editors or direct to me (the Civic Centre can always forward mail at no cost to you via the internal courier).

Chesham Road and the top of Durrants Lane to see what I mean. These



### **Berkhamsted & District Chamber of Commerce**

### Christmas Lights 1996

Plans are well ahead to provide Berkhamsted with Christmas lights in the High Street and Lower Kings Road again this year. The lights cost a staggering £3000 each year, so all financial contributions from all those who appreciate the lights will be warmly welcomed! Contact our Treasurer, Catherine Harris on 872878.

The Switch On and Street Festival will be on Friday, 29th November. Complete details will be included in the November *Review*; meanwhile charity stall-holders should contact Sylvia at the CVS (Council for Voluntary Services) on 866051.

### THE PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office now has an address, a telephone number and even a *letterbox!* Jean Green (Parish Secretary) intends to be in the office in 'office hours' on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and on Friday mornings most weeks.

Address: The Parish Office,

The Court House,

Berkhamsted HP4 2AX

Telephone: 01442 878227 (with

answering machine)

Letterbox: is in the Court House

wall in the car park.

Jean appreciates that not all telephone calls can be limited to office hours and asks that telephone calls be made Tuesday/Wednesday 9:30am-9:30pm and Thursday/Friday 9:30am-7:00pm. Please dial 878227 (the office number) in 'office' hours or Jean at home on 863241 at other times.

### review letters

### Please always dial 878227 first in | 'office' hours. The War Cry

Stephen Poxon, Lieutenant of the Salvation Army and responsible for its Berkhamsted outreach, writes:

I write to respond to John Cook's item *The War Cry* in the August *Review*, having been away on holiday this past fortnight.

I share his sadness about the decision to withdraw from public houses on Friday evenings (with the exception of the British Legion). As the person responsible for the decision, and upon whose desk the buck stops, I can give the assurance that it was not taken lightly, but with reluctance.

Perhaps I should point out that the Sally Ann has not entirely abandoned this form of evangelism in Berkhamsted but merely postponed it, which I think explains the decision rather more positively. When writing to pub landlords to thank them for their hospitality and to inform them that we wouldn't be visiting for the immediate future, I was at pains to leave the door ajar, as it were (no pun intended!), so that the way remains open for the work to be re-commenced should that be thought appropriate at another time.

However, for now, we see ourselves heading in different directions, and exploring alternative means of evangelism, such as selling the *War Cry* on the High Street and engaging in door-to-door visitation to leave a copy of the *War Cry* and an invitation to our meetings, which are now held in the United Reformed Church in Chapel Street at 4pm on Sundays, and to which everyone is welcome.

John Cook is correct in his perception that the Salvation Army is, by and large, held in much higher regard by those who remember WW 2 than it is by my own generation (I am 30 years old). Maybe that is true of churches generally? I don't know, but I suspect 'the generation gap' to be something of an across-the-board dilemma, whatever the denomination.

Hand on heart, I would have to say that the Army is partly responsible for this situation, in that we have frequently blown the trumpet (quite literally!) of our social work done in the name of Christ, to the detriment of our 'religious' activities, which have not been awarded the same high profile. In other words, people know of the Sally Ann as the benevolent provider of cups of tea, but aren't so aware of our status as a mainstream Christian church, with a passion for evangelism and all the trappings of a major denomination; 'A Christian church and a registered charity - with heart to God and hand to man', as it reads on my official notepaper!

Sadly, we Salvationists have been guilty of dining out on our reputation of admirable social endeavour, only to discover that we have been disregarded as a serious Christian church. We need to redress the balance, and rectify our faulty PR work! Likewise, brothers and sisters from other denominations could do us a favour by thinking of us as Christians with a strong social conscience, as opposed to social workers who are lightweight Christians! Having said all that, I am immensely proud to belong to an organisation which is still radical, and still pioneering methods of evangelism which are brave and inventive. I am genuinely privileged to find myself heading up the

work of the Army here in Berkhamsted, and I hope the General lets me stay put for a few years yet! With or without visits to public houses to be made, there is still plenty to be done. I would like to feel I am right in my hunch that the majority of people in the town are supportive of our efforts.

31 Beech Drive Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 2HG

#### The Fat While Woman

Another (unknown) reader adds to a topic featured in a recent issue:

Perhaps your readers might also like to read the Fat White Woman's Answer (as recorded by G.K. Chesterton) to Frances Cornford's unkind poem. I found it some years ago, and enjoyed it very much.

Would it help us all to be a little less quick to judge from first impressions and outward appearances, and to look a little deeper?

#### THE FAT WHITE WOMAN SPEAKS

Why do you rush through the fields in trains,

Guessing so much and so much?
Why do you flash through flowery meads,
Fat-head poet that nobody reads;
And why do you know such a frightful lot
About people in gloves as such?
And how the devil can you be sure
Guessing so much and so much,
How do you know, but what some one who
loves

Always to see me in nice white gloves, At the end of the field you're flashing by, Is waiting for his old Dutch?

G.K. Chesterton

### Please - get writing - NOW!

Muriel Lander writes:

I have recently written to two women MPs from two of the main parties, expressing my deep concern regarding the sexual abuse of children. So far I have received one answer.

Apparently there is an All Party Women's Committee dealing with the subject of child abuse, so they are very aware of the problem.

Hardly a day passes without further cases coming to light. Often the offenders are in positions of trust.

My solution is simple: print the photograph, name and address in the national press of those caught exploiting children in this particularly foul way.

If you feel as strongly as I do, might I ask you to write - NOW - to your MP or to any member of Parliament you may feel would take notice.

I truly believe that if everyone, all over the country, was to bombard the House of Commons then something might be done.

> 16 Shrublands Road Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 3HY





### review northchurch

Gareth Pritchard considers the pressures on young people today. I am writing this on the day on which GCSE results have been released - a day viewed with apprehension and anxiety by many candidates,

wondering what the slips of paper- will tell them. Reactions vary tremendously, some candidates shed tears of joy, others of disappointment - and there are cries of disbelief and shouts of sheer exultation. Emotions are just as mixed for the teachers who have taught them. Depending on the results, all the carefully laid plans for the future and ambitions for further courses can either be realised or have to be rethought.

The pressures on young people these days are intense. Whereas it was the norm to take seven or eight 'O levels', it is now customary to take nine or ten GCSEs. Examinations have changed in ethos from what was often 'How well can I do on a particular day in two hours regurgitating facts?' to 'How well can I do over a period of two years with regular accountable projects and coursework. together with an examination at the end?'. Emphasis has changed from the testing of memory to continuous assessment. I realise of course that there have always been pressures on youngsters in whatever courses they take and it is not possible to generalise. But are there contemporary pressures on them which older generations might not have experienced?

Thirty or forty years ago, the education and training one undertook was often directed towards a particular occupation; one would anticipate security and the same type of work for

life. Nowadays, the young trainee has to be flexible; redundancy and insecurity have unfortunately become common words in the home. People have to be willing to change career, to be adaptable and flexible, and patient in searching out new employment. Is this contributory to the growth of materialistic tendencies in our society - the wish to surround one's self with the latest Hi-Fi, TV, car and washing machine before one's employment is cut short? Years ago it was accepted that one saved up until something could be afforded; nowadays to some people, being flexible means a plastic card and the paying of its incurred interest charges at the end of each month. Do our youngsters look for part-time jobs because they are influenced by this rationale? Or are they wanting to show their independence? Or



are they distracted away from more important ideals by advertising? Powerful pressures indeed!

We live in a society where there is increasing pressure from some quarters to legalise drugs; there can be peer pressure amongst youngsters to 'try' something so as not to be different. In our urban area, entertainment can involve travelling to another town where there is glitter - but not all is gold; the drug sub-culture is present there too, not far below the surface

The tensions accompanying materialistic outlook coupled with a lowering of moral standards lead to the break-up of many modern marriages. I am aware of two instances where parents separated just days before the start of their-children's public examinations. One-parent families are now common. I know of a young girl desperately unhappy about having to go to live on the continent because her mother had a new boyfriend there. Such scenarios cause intense pressure on youngsters.

All is not doom and gloom however! I know of a youngster who raised £500 so that she could pay for herself to act as a 'helper' for a handicapped person, pushing her wheelchair and tending to all her needs on a visit to Scandinavia; if the youngster had not raised the money, there would have been no holiday for that handicapped person. There are other youngsters who help in Community Service in the Hospice, in local handicapped clubs, who visit the elderly and who assist with Brownie Packs. Fortunately there are children who live in happy homes, where family life is supportive and moral values maintained. It is said that 'the family which prays together stays together'. I suggest that in our personal prayers we give thanks for all that is positive amongst the young generation and for their resilience under modern pressures, and ask for God's love and support to guide and protect them all, especially those who are vulnerable.





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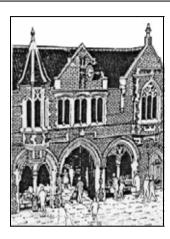
and almost anything else

Gill Griffiths: Berkhamsted 866814



### reviewnotes&notices

### FRIENDS OF BERKHAMSTED TOWN HALL SESSIONS MARKETS



Sessions Markets are held on the first Saturday morning of each month. If you can give:

- Good quality bric-a-brac (not electrical goods)
- Saleable books and records
- Outgrown toys in good condition

then you can leave them at the Trust Office in the Town Hall, or ring 866992 or 866553 and we will be happy to pick up.

Thank you for your support.

### 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).

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

What is Alpha? Alpha is for:

Anyone interested in Learning, meeting **P**eople and **H**elping one another. Ask 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).

#### A DAY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

On Saturday, 19th October, the Berkhamsted branch of Dacorum Council for Voluntary Service (DCVS), in co-operation with others who care about young people, is organising a special day for young people who may not know of the enormous range of facilities available at Berkhamsted Sports Centre. There will be a host of activities at the 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.

### THE LEPROSY MISSION COUNTDOWN TO CURE

A leprosy detector survey shows that the disease is extremely prevalent in the slums and shanty towns of East Delhi. The Leprosy Union's hospital in Shahdora District needs urgent upgrading to cope with extra numbers of leprosy sufferers found each day by search teams. Two new wards are being built to give in-patient treatment to sufferers with deep ulcers, high fever and swollen joints, characteristics of leprosy reaction and needing constant care. The operating theatre is being refurbished and re-equipped, so corrective and prosthetic surgery and so on can be carried out as efficiently and hygienically as possible.

The hospital's Superintendent, Dr. Daphne Wilfred and her staff are committed Christians. They minister to the spiritual as well as the physical needs of their patients and are fully aware that the healing process includes working to remove the unholy stigma which is still attached to leprosy... Too many victims of the disease remain social outcasts and have to eke out a miserable existence by begging on the streets.

In line with their 'Care after Cure' policy TLM propose to build an extra storey on top of the hospital to house a vocational training centre and run courses on computers, secretarial practice and the repair of video and audio systems, for which there is a market in East Delhi.

The total cost of the project is £181,000 some of which has already been raised. TLM have gone ahead in faith and budding has started.

On Saturday, 9th November there will be a coffee morning and bring and buy stall with a Christmas flavour. TLM Christmas cards and gifts will be on sale. Box holders are welcome to bring their boxes for opening. Any contributions for stalls will be much appreciated, as will be your support.

#### SAVE THE CHILDREN

The Berkhamsted branch of Save The Children is pleased to announce the return of Alison Neil who will produce her one-woman show *The Just William Lady, the Story of Richmal Crompton* on Wednesday, 16th October at 8:00pm in The Dean's Hall, Berkhamsted School. (Alison Neil has visited Berkhamsted twice before over the last few years appearing in *Bella, the Story of Mrs. Beaton* and *The Sixth Wife*, when she proved very popular). Please do

come and support what will be a highly entertaining evening.

Tickets are priced at £4 and are available from the Book Stack, 248 High Street, or from any Committee member. For more details phone M. Harris (865138) or S. Kittle (862230).

### THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY SILENT AUCTION

The Children's Society are holding a Silent Auction in the Court House, Berkhamsted on Saturday, 5th October from 9:30am until 12 noon.

For more details call the secretary, Kathie Lally on 863526.

#### CATS WHISKERS

Alison Turner, a resident of Berkhamsted for 16 years, has established this business to bring to private homes a large range of items of high quality created by local craftsmen and women.

For the party host or hostess there is a free gift plus other bonuses.

To learn more, phone Alison on 875564. See the advertisement on page 10.

#### NSPCC BERKHAMSTED BRANCH

There will be a Fashion Show on Thursday, 10th October at The Dean's Hall, Berkhamsted School. Ladies' and children's Autumn fashions will be supplied by MacKays and modelled by friends and family. Shoes by Terranova will be on sale as well.

Tickets are available from MacKays or Committee members and cost £5 (to include a glass of wine) and £1.50 for children.

The Branch has also been regularly providing popular refreshments at the Book Sales held in the Civic Centre. The next sales will be on Saturday, 19th October and 14th December.

The Branch is an informal fund-raising group which aims to raise £2000 per year for the national organisation and the local Child Protection team at Hemel Hempstead. We welcome offers of help! Contact Penella Warren on 862816 for details.

#### FATHER MARK BONNEY

Please note that Father Mark's day off will be on Mondays each week.

#### SUIT YOURSELF! SAYS OXFAM

"Why should women have all best bargains?" will be the theme of the special menswear promotion in early Excellent quality leisure wear and to clothes will be available at the special weats and male volunteers will man the local Oxfam shop on certain days. Watch out for more details!

#### **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Any young people or adults who wish to consider confirmation, please give your name to Fr Mark (864194), Joan Cook (866278) or Marjorie Bowden (871283). Young people should be at least 12 years old during this school year. The classes will begin after half term. The Confirmation is on 27th April 1997 at St Peter's.

### THE BERKHAMSTED SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The Berkhamsted School Association (B.S.A.) has been active over the last ten years raising funds for school projects. The object of the B.S.A. is to sustain the good name of the school in the community.

The Michaelmas Fair is one of the B.S.A.'s largest fundraising events and brings a large number of local charities together, making the Fair a thoroughly enjoyable day while raising funds for the school and local community. See the advertisement on page 14.

#### REGISTRAR SERVICE

Births and Deaths can be registered in Berkhamsted at the Court House.

To do so, first phone to make an appointment. The Registrar can come on Tuesdays (3:00-4:00pm) or Thursdays (9:15-10:15am).

The number to call is 228600 (note that this number has recently changed). This will put you straight through to the Registrar's office in Hemel Hempstead. See the notice on page 10.

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

**Coffee Mornings** (held in the hall) 10am - 11:30am

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

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!

#### HOSPICE OF ST FRANCIS

Our 1996 Christmas Bazaar will be held in the Court House on Saturday, 16th November between 9:00am and 12 noon.

The stalls will include Christmas gifts and fare, bric-a-brac, toys, knitwear and much more.

Please do come and support the Hospice.

#### BERKHAMSTED W.I.



The August meeting started with a tribute to Mrs. Eileen Shepherd who was tragically killed in a road accident at the end of July. She had been a member for ten years and was Secretary for four of those

years. Twenty members had attended her funeral at St Peter's Church in Berkhamsted and the Institute stood in silence for a short while remembering her as a friend and W.I. colleague.

Our speaker was Mrs. Sole who gave a very informative talk on the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund which owes its existence to Douglas Macmillan, who was so shocked by the death of his father he set up the charity in 1911 to improve the awareness of cancer. Soon, the organisation began a grants service for patients in need and the vision grew to include specialist nurses and cancer centres.

Today, these services form the heart of Macmillan's work and are an integral part of the NHS which takes on the long-term funding after the charity has met its start-up costs. The charity is helping people to 'live with cancer', not to 'die with cancer'.

Mrs. Pat Whybrow was presented with a W.I. Spoon having gained sufficient points in the monthly competitions. Members continue to enjoy bowls, craft and play-reading at fortnightly intervals.

Plans for a coffee morning on 3rd September in aid of the Bursary Fund were finalised; the arrangements for our Autumn Fair on 19th October in Berkhamsted Town Hall from 9:30am to 12 noon were also discussed (see the notice at the foot of this page).

Our next meeting is on 16th October at 7:30pm in Gable Hall, Price Edward Street, when Mrs. J. Donad will talk on *The Drovers Route to Dorchester*. New members are most welcome.

#### BERKHAMSTED CASTLE W.I.

At our September meeting, our president, Mrs. Joan Griffiths, was pleased to welcome members and three visitors. After business matters were discussed, we were pleased to be introduced to our speaker for the afternoon, Mr. Robin Perkins, his subject being *The Cecil Family and Hatfield House*. Excellent slides revealed the exterior and interior of this celebrated Jacobean house, which stands in its own park and was built between 1607 and 1611 by Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury. The House has been with the Cecil family ever since.

Our next meeting is on 4th October at the Court House, Berkhamsted at 2:00pm. The speaker will be Mrs. Jean Archer telling us about *History in the Chilterns*. Do come and join us.

BERKHAMSTED WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

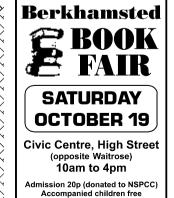
### **AUTUMN FAIR**

October 19th 9:30am to 12 noon

Berkhamsted Town Hall

Craft, Cakes, Plants, Gifts 50p Stall

Refreshments



Refreshments available

Organiser: 862011

### reviewdiary

All services at normal times unless stated.

		OC1	OBER		
	1	l 1		PCC Meeting	
W/e 12/13		12/13	Anglican/Methodist Harvest of Talents	All Saints'	
CO	1	13		Harvest Festival services	All Saints' / St Peter's
1996	1	13	7:30pm	Concert - Herts Sinfonietta conducted by Adrian Weddell	St Peter's
	1	18	7pm for 7:30pm	St Peter's & All Saints' Harvest Supper	Town Hall
/ Nov	ı	VOV	EMBER		
4	1	l	8:00pm	All Saints' Day Patronal Festival United	All Saints'
_				Eucharistic Service	
چ	7	7		All Saints' Area Committee Meeting	
Oct	8	3		St Peter's Area Committee Meeting	
	1	0	3:00pm	Royal British Legion Remembrance Serv	rice St Peter's
	1	18,19	9,20 at 8pm	Aubrey's Brief Lives - David Pearce as John Aubrey	Court House
		23,2	4	Musical Sing Good News	All Saints'

### reviewregisters

#### **Baptisms** (St Peter's)

18 August Joshua James Thompson, Josephine Alice Thompson, Jessica Louise Lathwell,

Jacob Richard Crampton, Lorraine Crampton, Samantha-Jane Crampton

Terry Crampton

### Baptisms (All Saints')

1 September Thomas Charles Grant, Henry Montgomery James McMunn,

Finlay Charles Bulmar Garland

### Weddings (St Peter's)

10 August Richard John Ward & Charlotte Andrews

10 August Richard Jason Samways & Clare Elizabeth Stagnell

10 August David Richard Monger & Jillian May Dell 31 August David Johnson & Susan Adrienne Laishley

#### **Funerals**

9 August Eileen Terence Shepherd St Peter's (Ashes interred at Kingshill Cemetery)
23 August Eric George Jones The Chilterns Crematorium
28 August Eileen Picton St Peter's (St Mary's Churchyard, Apsley)
29 August Violet Parker St Peter's (Kingshill Cemetery)

### reviewfactfile

SundaySchool

Churches

PCC 1996/7

### **CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BERKHAMSTED**

### Telephone numbers to ring for times of services, etc.

1.	Northchurch Baptist	Rev Peter Swaffield Mrs H Blundell	Berk. 866685 Berk. 875021
2. 3.	St Mary's Northchurch All Saints' Anglican	Mr W Frew	Berk. 864368
4.	Methodist All Saints'	Mr John Malcolm Rev. Nicholas Paterson	Berk. 874993 Berk. 866324
٦.	Wethoust All Gaints	Mrs Ida Rance	Berk. 865829
5.	Sacred Heart (RC)	Father V Commerford	Berk. 863845
_		Mr J McLellan	Berk. 871818
6.	Society of Friends (Quakers)	Robert Ward	Berk. 864404
7.	Kings Road Evangelical	Pastor Billy Milton	Berk. 876917
		Mr J Rainey	Berk.866315
8.	United Reformed		
		Mrs D Bahadur	Berk. 871107
9.	St Peter's	Rev M Bonney	Berk. 864194
		Mrs Jean Green	Berk. 863241
10.	Berkhamsted Baptist	Rev James K Neve	Berk. 873283
	·	Mrs J Ivin	Berk. 865309
11.	St Michael & All Angels	Rev S Breukelman	Berk. 865100
	Sunnyside	Mrs T Gibbs	Berk. 863266
12.	St John the Evangelist	Rev S Breukelman	Berk. 865100
	Bourne End	Mrs M Ireland	Berk. 865098
13.	Salvation Army	Lt. Stephen Poxon	Berk. 876024
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The Revd Mark Bonney, The Rectory, Rectory Lane. Tel: 864194 (day off Monday)

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, The Parish Office, The Court House Tel: 878227

Churchwardens: Christopher Green, 17 Cowper Road. Tel: 863241;

John Banks, Ladybrand, Cross Oak Road. Tel: 871195

Parochial Church Secretary: Alan Conway, 7 Kilfillan Gardens. Tel: 865798 Michael Robinson, 36 Trevelyan Way. Tel: 863559 Council: Treasurer:

Director of Music: Vaughan Meakins. :01494 837412; Assistant: Mrs Jean Wild. 866859

Organist: Mrs Jean Cooper. Tel: 874088

Sundays Weekdays 8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sun Rite B) Holy Communion Family Sung Eucharist with Wednesday 6.45am 9.30am Sunday Schools (in the Court Thursday 11.00am House) followed by coffee in Friday 9.15am the Court House. Morning Prayer: Tues-Sat 7:30am

11.15am Matins & Sermon (1st Sunday only) Evening Prayer: Tues-Fri 5:30pm 6.00pm Evensong & Sermon Holy Days - see weekly Notices (except 1st Sunday see All Saints') Matins & Evensong said daily

**Confessions:** After Saturday Evening Prayer (5.00pm) or at other times by appointment.

Weddings, Banns of Marriage, Baptisms, Funerals

Please contact Father Mark Bonney.

Bellringers (St Peter's): Miss Priscilla Watt, 9 Kings Road. Tel: 863804

Organist: Mrs Valerie McCalla Tel: 384574 Choirmaster: Peter McMunn Tel: 874894 Sundays

8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday - Methodist rite)

Family Sung Eucharist & Sunday Schools, then coffee in the Hall 9.15am

(Methodist Morning Service) 11.00am

Evening Service (1st Sunday - Anglican rite, other Sundays Methodist rite) 6.30pm

Weekdays

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Holy Communion: Tuesday 9.30am

Holy Days - see weekly Notices

(All Saints' is shared with the Berkhamsted Methodist Church)

### Western Insurance

HOME \* BUSINESS \* MOTOR

1, LOWER KINGS ROAD, BERKHAMSTED HP4 2AE **TELEPHONE 866670 or 865877** 

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