

Berkhamsted *review*

In this issue

September 1998

**Education,
education,
education!**

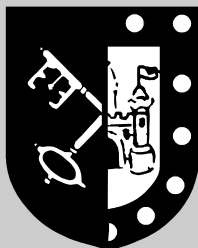
**Bayeux
tapestry: the
finale**

**Happy birthday,
Graham Greene**

**Keeping the
peace**

Milling around

**This month's
Notes & Events**



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for Town and Parish

25p



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

Welcome to the September issue of the *Berkhamsted Review*.

It seems that familiar designs change with increasing regularity these days. When did your bank change its logo last? Last month? Or maybe as long as six months ago? Is the design on your margarine tub out of date before the 'best by' date for its contents? Pick up your daily newspaper. Does it look the same as it did yesterday? Or last week?

My attention was caught recently by this last point after *The Independent* underwent a complete redesign less than a year since the last one. Not to be outdone (though far be it for me to compare our magazine to a national broadsheet!) it is now coming up to three years since we redesigned the *Review*. The intent then was to put together a wider range of articles covering both church-related and secular matters of interest to readers across the town. We hope it's been successful and that the *Review* is still a 'good read'.

But it's *your* magazine. Change for its own sake is rather pointless (unless you're a design company). However, are there changes which you would like to see? Are there things we could do better? We won't know unless you tell us; all comments are very welcome!
Chris Smalley

In this month's issue...

Education, education, education!

Fr Mark Bonney invites you to share in a rich and varied programme.

Bayeux Tapestry: The Finale

The new version of the missing last section of the ancient masterpiece is coming to Berkhamsted (*see cover*).

The Children's Society reborn

Kathie Lally and Anne Browning tell us how the work and local organisation of the society is meeting new challenges.

Happy birthday, Graham Greene

Roger Watkins previews the festival celebrating the author's life and work.

Keeping the peace

Fancy a day in court? **Stephen Halliday** suggests a way without leaving the straight and narrow.

Mills - water and wind

John Cook mills around the town.

... plus our regular features, readers' letters, notes & notices and diary dates.

Editorial Team: David Woodward, 3 Murray Road HP4 1JD (862723)
Chris Smalley, 18 Osmington Place, Tring HP23 4EG (826821)
email: review@cavendish.co.uk

Advertising: David Woodward, 3 Murray Road HP4 1JD (862723)

Circulation: Daphne Montague, 27 Hill View HP4 1SA (875320)

Treasurer: Miles Nicholas, 46 Fieldway HP4 2NY (871598)

Committee Sec.: John Cook, The Gardeners' Arms, Castle Street HP4 2DW

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Next Copy Dates (all Fridays): 4 September 2 October 6 November



**Fr Mark Bonney
takes up the cry
of 'Education,
education,
education'.**

'Education, education, education' was one of Tony Blair's battle cries when the present administration came into power last year. Let's hope that all the money that is promised for education over the next three years actually makes it into our schools since accessibility for all to high quality education is so vital. Education is a life long process. The month that I have just spent at Windsor was an important part of my continuing education and has opened up many areas for me to pursue over the coming months.

A very exciting educational initiative comes to its first flowering this month within our deanery. With ecumenical assistance the Revd Martin Nathanael (from the Tring team) has put together a series of very promising courses to take place within the deanery during the autumn and winter months. Continuing Christian education is essential if we are to grow in our faith and to relate it to the world in which we live. One sermon on Sunday and the distant memory of confirmation classes is not enough to sustain us in a rapidly changing world, and many of the courses and one-off lectures offered by *New Horizons* give a splendid opportunity to consider some important issues and to deepen our faith and understanding of the society in which we live. Further details are on page 20.

Coupled with this I commend one of the several *Alpha* courses that start at the end of this month - there is one at All Saints' beginning on 27th September. If you're thinking about confirmation, or feel in need of a refresher course in Christian basics, then this is the course for you.

review leader

Alpha is non-threatening - you get a pleasant supper and a video-ed talk that is a starter for small group discussion.

'Education, education, education' is not just a cry for our schools and our children - it's for all of us, all the time.

St Peter's Pastoral Network

All the writing on parish ministry supports my view that when a congregation reaches the size of St Peter's it's impossible for the priest to be in pastoral contact with everyone. People can easily fall through the net, and one role of the parish priest is to make sure the pastoral work is done rather than doing it all himself.

This thinking has been behind the setting up of the Grief and Loss Support Group across the parish and with our Methodist friends. I now want to focus on the regular congregation at St Peter's, and with the assistance in particular of Joan Cook, Tracy Robinson, Fiona Middleditch and Linda Bisset the St Peter's Pastoral Network is coming into being. The idea is to allocate members of the congregation into geographical groups of about ten families with one person within the group acting as a co-ordinator. It will be the co-ordinators' role to be in touch with group members via the occasional visit, delivery of regular communications and to be the 'eyes and ears of the clergy'.

One of the initial things is to ensure that the names on our lists are right. At the back of St Peter's you will find an alphabetical list of names. *Please add your name* to this list if it has been omitted or even *take it off* if you feel you don't want to be part of the network. Group co-ordinators have been approached for most of the groups and we've been thrilled with their willingness to take part. So I look forward to this development of our pastoral work together. ❖

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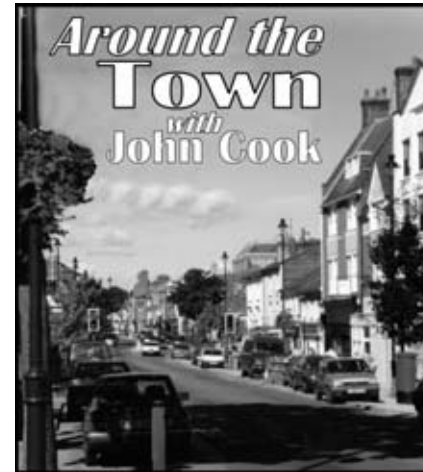
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Milling Around

An old postcard reproduced in the *Herald Express* showed the substantial mill that used to stand in Mill Street. One of the consequences of the wet summer is the splashing to be heard again in Mill Street: the sound of the Bulbourne flowing over the weir that used to serve the watermill.

This is a reminder of the importance that good regular rainfall must have had in the past for getting Berkhamsted's corn ground. Before the canal was built and ground water was extracted by pumping the flow in our little river would have been a good deal more constant than it is today. Even so there must have been anxious days for the miller when the rainfall was low for any length of time.

There were at least two watermills in Berkhamsted until the end of the last century: the one near the centre in Mill Street; the other on the eastern edge of the town. *The Old Mill House* on the corner of Bank Mill Lane is surviving evidence of the second of these. It is thought that milling took place on that site over many centuries, perhaps from as early as Norman times.

Planning permission has been granted for refurbishment and alterations to the *Old Mill House* building and its grounds, but before work starts there is to be an archaeological dig. It will be interesting to

see what evidence this brings to light to add to the rather scant knowledge that exists of the early history of that end of the Town.

A Windmill Too

Presumably when the flow in the river dropped to a level when it could no longer drive the waterwheels, corn had to be stockpiled or taken to one of the windmills round about. Old windmills are still to be found within a few miles of here - at Pitstone and Hawridge, for example - but Berkhamsted had its own, off Gravel Path at Millfield.

In our street names - Mill Street, Bank Mill Lane and Millfield - we have reminders of all the milling that used to go on here.

Tomorrow's Hospitals

At the consultation meeting held in the Town Hall in July, a panel of no less than nine experts made a presentation and then answered questions about the choices for the future of hospitals in West Hertfordshire. With my weakness for statistics I jotted down some of the figures that were quoted. Every day in this corner of the county 7,000 of us visit our GP, 900 go to hospital and 60 of us are rushed in as emergencies.

We heard a lot from the audience about what they saw as the inadequacies of the local health service, present and proposed; but a Berkhamsted GP said that over the 15 years he has been practising in the Town the quality of hospital provision had greatly improved.

Our present remaining local hospital at Hemel Hempstead is constantly being modernised and extended. Even so it seems to me that it may be a parallel with the AgrEvo complex here in Berkhamsted, where the original works was extended and improved over many years, but eventually it became uneconomic and uncompetitive.

The idea of a brand new hospital within the area is a compelling one; but a suitable

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site has to be found and it is difficult to see where this could be except in the Green Belt, which everyone wants to preserve. And if we do have a new one the facilities at the present hospitals in the area will undoubtedly be reduced.

The consultation process continues until 25th September, so there is still an opportunity for people to have their say. There are copies of the consultation document in the library.

Whistling Weathercock

On 20th December 1989 St Peter's church was struck by lightning. The flagpole was splintered into a thousand pieces and the weathercock crashed on to the church roof, ending up severely damaged.

Now at last the weathercock is back on the flagpole - restored, re-gilded and re-balanced so that it will rotate properly. Its unusual feature is that it has two trumpet-like tubes attached to its sides that whistle in the wind, or would do if they had not now been sealed up. We know of only one similar weathercock - on Ottery St Mary's church in Devon.

The history of ours is lost in antiquity. It appears in early pictures of the church, originally on a pole on top of the big cross on the tower. The whistling caused annoyance to those trying to get to sleep on windy nights; in fact so much so that someone shot it. Perhaps the culprit was a soldier billeted in the school on the other side of the churchyard during the Napoleonic wars. It still has the patched-up bullet holes to prove it.

Anyway it is back up now, and so far has swung to face the wind in unison with the new weathervane on the Baptists' spire



St Peter's tower resplendent with the new weathercock., and showing the empty niches over the south door (bottom left).

just down the road - a good omen for ecumenical relations.

Sculpture in Berkhamsted

Prompted by Bill Frew's question about the bust in a recess in the end wall of the vet's opposite the bottom of Swing Gate Lane, Bill Willett has written in. He says that Berkhamsted hasn't got much sculpture outside the church and the graveyard. What about a Graham Greene statue, he asks.

When David Sherratt was Town Mayor he was keen on having a statue in the Town to William the Conqueror,

the most famous and robust of the historical figures with Berkhamsted connections.

Another suggestion, possibly for the millennium, would be to put statues to 20th century saintly persons in the two empty niches over the south door of St Peter's church facing the High Street, following the recent precedent set at Westminster Abbey. Can anyone think of two suitable candidates, preferably with local connections? To avoid too much controversy they should perhaps be dead.

Bill Willett goes on to pose a question for a little quiz: Where in Berkhamsted is there a sculpture by Eric Gill? The answer is over the door of Knight's Cottage in Castle Hill Avenue - Mr and Mrs Peter Braybrooke's house. The previous owner, the late Arthur Willis, was an architect involved in the construction of Broadcasting House. Gill produced maquettes (smaller models) of the statues he made for the building, and Arthur Willis managed to acquire one of these to adorn his house in Berkhamsted. ❖

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The Bayeux Tapes-try is probably one of the most well-known embroideries in the world although it is not in fact a tapestry but a 'laidwork' of coloured wools on linen. It tells the story of the invasion and conquest of England by William the Conqueror, but ends abruptly in a ragged edge, with the English flight from the Battle of Hastings. Some time during its 900 year history the final section depicting the aftermath of the battle became lost.

This final section, eight feet in length, has now been recreated by Jan Messent, who is not only a very fine embroiderer, but also a teacher and author. Her particular interest in Anglo Saxon and early medieval history inspired her to research the history of the Bayeux Tapestry and thus to recreate the missing section which depicts, amongst other things, the English noblemen offering the keys of London to William the Conqueror at Berkhamsted and his subsequent coronation at Westminster Abbey.

This reconstruction, commissioned by Madeira Threads (UK) Ltd and now valued at £15,000, took some eighteen months to research, design and embroider, the format, style and colours being carefully matched to produce a coherent ending to



THE BAYEUX TAPESTRY FINALE

Berkhamsted is set to welcome a historic display of a recreation of the final section of the Bayeux Tapestry.

the remaining 232 feet of the original on permanent display at Bayeux in Normandy.

The Berkhamsted Arts Trust has been able to arrange for *The Bayeux Tapestry Finale* to be seen in Berkhamsted. This nationally acclaimed embroidery will be displayed, courtesy of the Dacorum Heritage Trust, at their exhibition *Images of Dacorum's Heritage* in Berkhamsted Civic Centre from Monday,

5th October to Saturday, 10th October. Admission will be free and the exhibition will be open Monday to Friday, 10:00am to 6:00pm and Saturday, 9:00am to 5:00pm.

Jan Messent will be giving her illustrated talk *The Bayeux Tapestry - The Embroiderer's View* during the period of the exhibition and there will be three opportunities to hear it: Tuesday, 6th October at 2:30pm; Wednesday, 7th October at 8:00pm; and Thursday, 8th October at 10:30am. This interesting talk gives a fascinating insight into the making of the Bayeux Tapestry; tickets priced at £3 are available from the secretary of the Berkhamsted Arts Trust (862013). ❖

The Berkhamsted Arts Trust is a registered charity (no. 273616) and is financially supported by Dacorum Borough Council.

A section of the lower border of the Bayeux Tapestry Finale is reproduced below. Part of the main body of the tapestry can be seen on this month's cover.



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The Children's Society has a new logo! The challenging and innovative new work the charity is undertaking in society today needed new emphasis. So here we have a new image to communicate the distinctive contribution The Children's Society makes to helping young people reach out for a better

future. It is a charity which is doing some of the most dynamic and exciting work with children in Britain today, being a positive force for change.

The greatest emphasis for many years has been on rescuing the thousands of young people who run away from home and end up on city streets, homeless and vulnerable to drug pushers and pimps. The society's counsellors patrol main line stations to try and pick out these children before they get onto the streets. The society runs three refuges in our main cities to offer shelter and help with solving their problems, where they may stay for up to two weeks while appropriate arrangements are made, hopefully to enable them to return home. From this experience the society has lobbied govern-



The Children's Society

Kathie Lally and Anne Browning describe the work of The Children's Society across the country.

ment to change the law concerning soliciting by prostitutes under 16 years of age, has influenced police practice and shifted public perception of guilt from the children to those who use and abuse them.

The society also works with young people awaiting trial. Britain puts more

teenagers in prison on remand than any other country in Europe. Here they learn more serious ways of breaking the law. The society has three community based projects working with young people on remand, and two more aiming to divert youngsters away from crime. It is finding these much more effective at keeping them out of trouble, and is campaigning to prevent 15 and 16 year olds from being held on remand, hoping to provide many more community based programmes as an alternative.

Exclusions from school have risen by 450% in the last five years. Problems at home such as divorce, domestic violence or abuse against the child will often have

(continued on page 13)

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The Children's Society *(continued from p11)*

an impact on his or her behaviour at school, and this can deteriorate until exclusion is the only option. The Children's Society is working in schools with children, parents and teachers to help prevent these exclusions and ensure continuing education for all. Their success is showing a new way forward, which will hopefully be adopted by many more schools in the future.

There is a condition in babies and very young children called failure to thrive. This is a nightmare situation for parents where the child will not or cannot eat enough, causing retardation of growth and development. In Wiltshire The Children's Society has pioneered work with families to tackle the problem and almost every child on the programme has started eating again. They are now offering training and support to health professionals all over the country.

All these projects cost thousands of pounds to run, and Berkhamsted Appeals Committee has been very busy fund-raising during May. This year the Berkhamsted Walk was blessed with glorious weather, and, although the number of entrants was down, over £4,000 of sponsorship has been promised.

Then two weeks later, thanks to the wonderful generosity of Mr and Mrs Lawrie and Mr and Mrs Norrington, nearly one hundred people came to enjoy the delights of their gardens in Frithsden Copse, and had the surprise of a third garden offered at the last minute by Mr and Mrs Holliday. The weather was miraculously sunny and warm after a terrible weather forecast and every one enjoyed seeing three totally contrasting gardens. With the proceeds of a plant stall, a raffle and teas a total of £385 was raised. The Committee would like to thank everyone who supported these events so generously.

The Berkhamsted Appeals Committee has at present only seven full members with the additional help of two others who organise the walk route for us. A few more pairs of hands would be such an asset. Meetings are held every one to three months depending on planned activities. If any one feels they would be able to spare a little time to help this special charity, and would like to know more before committing themselves, please contact Kathie Lally on 863526 or Ann Browning on 864968. We look forward to hearing from you. ❖



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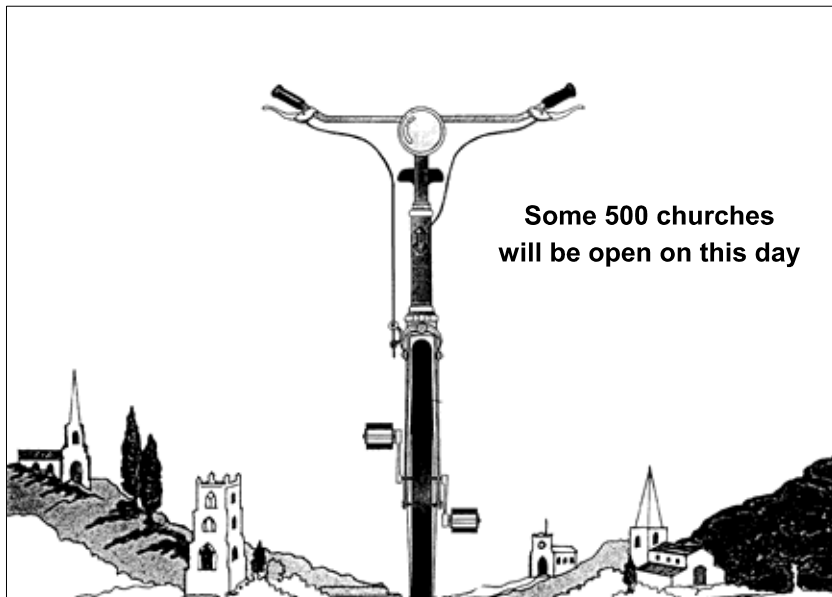
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hen the Graham Greene Birthplace Trust was launched last October, those attending the public meeting were asked to indicate the activities which they regarded as the highest priority for the new trustees.

Two objectives emerged clearly ahead of the others: an annual lecture together with related events on or near Greene's birthday and an annotated 'trail' of locations in Berkhamsted associated with the life of the writer or with his short stories and novels. It is good to be able to report that less than twelve months later substantial progress has been made on both priorities. We shall hold the first Graham Greene festival from 29th September to 3rd October; the concluding event in the festival will be the launch of the trail.

Greene of course was for most of his life deeply interested in the cinema both as critic and as a writer of screenplays. Many of his novels were subsequently filmed and for many people these are their first introduction to the writer's work. Not surprisingly, *Greene and the Cinema* has emerged as the principal theme of our first Festival and Philip French, the distinguished film critic of *The Observer*, will speak on that topic on the anniversary of Greene's birth on Friday, 2nd October in the Town Hall. On the preceding evenings we shall have the opportunity to see again two of his most successful films: *The Third Man* which will be shown in the original format of 35mm in a newly restored print on the Wednesday and *Our Man in Havana*, the comedy starring Alec Guinness on the Thursday of festival week.

CELEBRATING GRAHAM GREENE

Roger Watkins previews the upcoming festival celebrating the famous author.

illustrate the covers of those very collectable paperbacks. His book *Graham Greene Country* records the paintings he made of the locations of Greene's novels, many of them colourful and exotic including Mexico and Kings Road, Berkhamsted! We have arranged an exhibition of Hogarth's watercolours, many for sale, over a period of two weeks at Berkhamsted Collegiate School and the artist will speak about his association with Greene at the same venue on the evening of Tuesday, 29th September.

The last day of the festival will examine the literary reputation of Graham Greene in the closing years of the century. Provocatively entitled *Fallen Idol?* (the question mark is very important) two visiting academics will lead the discussion but full participation by the audience will be encouraged. The Graham Greene Trail will be launched in the afternoon.

A special pre-festival event has been arranged for the morning of Saturday, 12th September when by special arrangement with the BBC there will be a chance to see all three one-hour *Arena* television programmes made in 1993 as a tribute to mark the life of Graham Greene.

Tickets for the festival can be bought in person from Berkhamsted Library from September or by post c/o Berkhamsted Town Hall. Telephone enquiries should be made to the secretary of the trust on 865158. ❖

The opening event will present the artist and illustrator Paul Hogarth whose work will be familiar to everyone who owns a Graham Greene novel in the edition published over a period of more than twenty years by Penguin Books. Hogarth painted the vivid watercolours which



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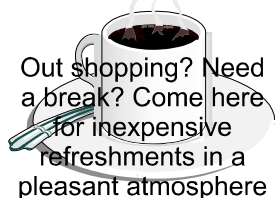
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There I was, strolling along the High Street, near to the traffic lights, when I spotted a couple looking animatedly at the 'finger' post that suggests which direction everything is in. These are not generally consulted, unless, of course, you are looking for a toilet. And that was what they were looking for. I pointed them in the direction of Water Lane. They then asked if there were any more estate agents further up the High Street. Being the sort of person that knows everything about just about everything, I informed them that I was sure that at least one had escaped from 'Estate Agent Alley'. Just then they felt the 'loo' was more important. Putting two and two together (like wot I do), I asked if they were thinking of moving into the area. The reply came that they thought it was a nice area and were looking for something on the outskirts of the town in which to settle down.

All this got me thinking about just why do people want to live in the area. This couple were not interested in our wonderful fast commuter service to the metropolis. They were not interested in sending their children to one of the excellent private schools in the town. They couldn't have been impressed with either our shopping facilities or the employment prospects. I even wondered whether someone had declared war and they were being evacuated, but considered it unlikely. It seems that they just liked the area. How strange - everyone else seems to want to change it. Why not build on the green belt? Why not 'enhance' the town? Why not 'beautify' the canal? I could go on.

One of my current projects is taking photographs around the town to put on the Internet to let others know this is a nice

CUTTING COMMENTS

Independent councillor
Norman Cutting reflects on
why our town is attractive.

place to visit. It is surprising how few 'unattractive' areas there are within the town. It is only when you stop and consider your surroundings, you realise just how lucky we are. As I write this, my wife has just taken the laughingly called 'dog' for a walk in the nearby recreation area. It was in this area a few weeks ago that a lady remarked how overgrown one of the footpaths was. I have now found out that the borough council has just three men to maintain 450 miles of rights of way within the borough, which is fine if the paths are used and the weather 'average'. But this year...!

All of which brings me back to the original question. Just why do people wish to live in our town apart from the two obvious reasons. Perhaps you could pass your ideas and thoughts on to me as it is starting to worry me. I mean, if it is so attractive to live in now, at what point does it become unattractive? When we have crammed 100, 500 or however many additional houses that are 'demanded / needed'? Do those people then move off to pastures new, leaving us with a disaster town that even we don't want to live in?

On the town council front, they have suddenly woken up to the fact that an election is just around the corner and someone had better actually do something. During the coming months we are promised the heritage walk, town guide, Castle Street bridge 'enhancement' (under the CARP banner), millennium book, yet another 'Conqueror' and somehow space made for another two councillors in May 1999. Most of these proposals have been chugging along for several years and currently (early August) seem likely to cost well over budget. ❖

On Saturday, 26th September, the Dacorum Magistrates' Court will be having an open day when members of the local community are invited to visit the courts and learn something about what they do. I hope that many readers of the *Review* will take advantage of this rare opportunity.

The office of Magistrate (also referred to as a *Justice of the Peace*) is so old that its precise origins are lost in the depths of mediaeval history. It is likely that the office was derived from the earlier *Conservators of the Peace* who were active in the thirteenth century in assisting the sheriffs in maintaining order. These earlier Conservators of the Peace were thus more like policeman than were the later Justices of the Peace.

The first official reference to *Justices of the Peace* is in a statute of 1361 but the statute is concerned with regulating the activities of an office which had already been in existence for some considerable time. After the devastation wrought by the Black Death of 1348-9, which killed about a third of the population, there was a

KEEPING THE PEACE

Justices of the Peace filling in potholes in roads? It was all part of the job, as **Stephen Halliday** explains.

serious shortage of labourers which meant that the traditional mediaeval relationships between lords and serfs broke down. Many villages on marginal land were deserted as able-bodied labourers deserted the lands of their lords to seek more profitable employment elsewhere

where on better land whose inhabitants had perished. One such deserted village is to be found - Crafton, near Mentmore. As a result of this breakdown in feudal relationships the government of Edward III passed a series of Statutes of Labourers between 1349 and 1360 which conferred on Justices of the Peace the task of regulating relationships between lords and tenants.

In the centuries that followed Justices of the Peace were given a multitude of tasks which were marginally, if at all, connected with the administration of justice. They were responsible for maintaining highways and bridges, determining the rateable values (and hence the taxes) of properties and for administering the Poor Laws. At a time when central government exercised minimal authority the local justices

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enjoyed considerable independence. Thus the Justices of Speenhamland, a district of Newbury in Berkshire, decided in 1795 to introduce an early form of social security linking unemployment payments to the price of bread. This system was widely adopted until the introduction of workhouses in 1834, in which justices also had a role. Outside the boroughs the justices were, in effect, the local government of the nation until 1888 when Lord Salisbury's government introduced elected county councils. The most celebrated justice of the peace is undoubtedly Mr Justice Shallow who was lampooned by Shakespeare in *Merry Wives of Windsor*, possibly because a justice with a similar name had punished the young Shakespeare for deer poaching in Charlecote Park.

There are at present about thirty thousand justices in England and Wales, of whom sixty-eight serve in Dacorum, thirty five women and thirty-three men. They include teachers, paramedics, housewives, doctors, printers, engineers and other callings too numerous to mention. All criminal cases, from motoring offences to murder, start their journey through the judicial system in the magistrates' courts and only about four per

cent of them - the really serious cases - go on to jury trials in the Crown Courts.

The remaining ninety six per cent are dealt with entirely in the magistrates' courts. The accused may be acquitted or, if found guilty, may be sentenced to a range of penalties involving fines, probation, community service or up to six months' imprisonment. Each case is heard by three lay justices sitting together, though cases may be heard by a minimum of two. In a number of large cities, notably London, 'stipendiary' magistrates are appointed. This term, reminiscent of the novels of Anthony Trollope, refers to magistrates who are legally qualified (solicitors or barristers of several years standing) who receive a salary ('stipend') and can hear and determine cases sitting alone. Lay justices are not legally qualified though, since 1966, they have been obliged to undergo training in basic judicial processes. They are advised by justices' clerks, who are legally qualified and who sit in each court, organise the proceedings and draw the attention of the magistrates to legal rulings or precedents which are relevant to the case in hand.

A similar office is found in many countries whose legal systems are derived
(continued on page 23)

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NEW HORIZONS: THE PROGRAMME



New Horizons has been organised to give opportunities for good quality Christian Education close to where people live. The programme has been devised to feed the heart as well as the mind and a

number of events will call for group and individual participation.

Evening Courses

The Earth Under Threat

(the Christian approach to ecology). Wednesdays at 8:00pm from 14th October at Northchurch parish rooms. Cost £12 (6 sessions). Leader: David Simmons.

After the Apostles

(early Christianity 50-550 AD). Mondays at 8:00pm from 19th October at Cecilia Hall, Puttenham. Cost £12 (6 sessions). Leader: Rev Canon Anders Berquist.

Ascent of the Heart

(an introduction to the Christian mystical tradition). Mondays at 8:00pm from 11th January 1999 at the Friends Meeting House, Berkhamsted. Cost £8 (4 sessions). Leader: Rev. Martin Nathanael.

Daytime Courses

The Messiah by Handel

(listen to the music, explore the words). Mondays at 2:00pm from 8th October at the Friends Meeting House, Berkhamsted. Cost £10 (4 sessions). Leader: Dr Alfred Cassell.

Evening Talks and Workshops

Flower Power

(the discovery, preparation and use of flower remedies). Tuesday, 13th October at 8:00pm in the village hall, Little Gaddesden. Cost £3. Leader: Dr John Porterfield.

Feet First

(an introduction to reflexology). Tuesday, 20th October at 8:00pm in the village hall,

Little Gaddesden. Cost £3. Leader: Christine Shaw MBRA.

Jews and Christians

(exploring the differences). Thursday, 22nd October at 8:00pm in the Anglican-Methodist Hall, Tring. Cost £3. Leader: Rev. David Lindsay.

Saturday Workshops

Understanding Islam

(Islam's place in today's world). Saturday, 28th November, 10:00am to 4:00pm in the Cecilia Hall, Puttenham. Cost £6. Leader: Dr Caroline Ellwood.

Alternatives to Violence

(dealing with conflict creatively and without violence). Saturday, 16th January 1999, 10:30am to 4:30pm in the Friends Meeting House, Berkhamsted. Cost £6. Leader: Mark Bitel.

Personality and Evangelism

(why some get put off while others are excited). Saturday, 20th February 2000, 10:00am to 1:00pm in the church rooms, St Bartholomew's, Wigginton. Cost £3. Leader: Rev. Angela Butler.

Praying with Icons

(images with the power to make God seem present). Saturday, 27th February, 1999, 10:00am to 4:00pm in the Cecilia Hall, Puttenham. Cost £8 (including cost of materials). Leader: Sylvia Ross MA, MTh.

Advent Talks at Puttenham

Faith which is Open

(exploring the relationship between a committed spiritual path and the ability to remain open to the beauty, depth and insights of other traditions). Wednesday 2nd, 9th and 16th December at 8:00pm in the Cecilia Hall, Puttenham. Cost £3. Speakers from Anglican, Islamic and Buddhist traditions.

Further details on all these courses and others in the series are in the blue leaflets in both St Peter's and All Saints' churches. See also the *Review Leader* on page 3 of this issue.

TUESDAY CLUB

Our 1998/99 programme begins with our September meeting on Tuesday, 1st September when Rev Mark Bonney will be answering questions on a variety of topics, both light-hearted and serious.

We meet in the Court House at 8:15pm on the first Tuesday of each month. New members are always welcome. Please contact Angela Morris on 866992 or Margaret Barnard on 862794 for further information or just come along on the night. You will be made very welcome. Copies of our new programme are available in St Peter's, All Saints' and on the noticeboard in the Court House.

SAVE THE CHILDREN QUIZ EVENING

Would you like to make up a table (or come as an individual) for a quiz evening? The quiz will be held on Saturday, 3rd October at 7:30pm in the Dean's Hall, Castle Campus of the Collegiate School. Price is £7.50 per head to include a fish and chip supper. For further information and tickets please contact 865138 or 862230.

W.E.A.

LEISURE CLASSES IN BERKHAMSTED

Traditional Buildings of Britain: The Houses

Old buildings are fascinating to study as well as pleasing to look upon. Commences on Monday, 28th September, 8:00-9:30pm for 10 weeks in Berkhamsted Library. Fees: £25, concessions £20.

Episodes from English Romantic Art

We will look at the early part of the English romantic movement in art and architecture. Commences on Wednesday, 30th September, 10:00-11:30am for 10 weeks in the Friends Meeting House. Fees: £25, concessions £20.

Beginners Fungi

A general introduction to fungi and their diversity and how to set about identification. Commences on Wednesday, 9th September, 8:00-9:30pm for 12 meetings in Berkhamsted Library and field forays. Fees: £30, concessions £25.

Advanced Fungi

A course for those with several years' experience in fungi. Commences on Wednesday, 9th September, 8:00-9:30pm for 12 meetings in Berkhamsted Library and field forays. Fees: £30, concessions £25.

For further information contact the secretary, A.R.A. Gurney, on 865445.

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OXFAM CHILDREN'S WEAR EVENT

The next Oxfam children's wear event will be on Thursday, 10th September from 9:30am to midday. The venue is the Gable Hall (*not* the Civic Centre as earlier advertised).

An extensive range of children's winter clothes will be available and those with an eye to bargains will not be disappointed! Keep the date free. Come and make the most of this very popular shopping opportunity.

THE MEDITATION GROUP

The numbers in our Meditation Group vary from two up to six or seven people coming from several different churches in Berkhamsted. Some have no church affiliation but all are welcome. We come when we can: there is no sense of obligation to come to every meeting, though I know we are always glad when we have been able to be there.

We come together to share in a time of quiet when we seek to 'Be still and know that I am God.' We find that it is easier to hold this sense of stillness when we are in the presence of others than when we are alone. The silence is often very deep.

We begin with a time of preparation, making sure that we are sitting in a well supported position, with feet firmly on the

floor, relaxed but alert and aware. Some use a prayer stool - I read somewhere that the straightness of our backs is a measure of the depth of our meditation! We all have to find the best posture for ourselves. We consciously put away the concerns and worries of the day, sometimes thinking of putting them one by one into a circle drawn outside the front door, or on the common if they need to be further away! We remind ourselves that we can pick them up again, if we need to, as we prepare to go.

We light a candle, remembering that Jesus is the light of the world, that the light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it. Then we may have just one reading followed by silence. But usually we have several readings (often from the Bible, but we use other sources too) at intervals of five or ten minutes which we find helps to keep our minds from wandering right away. Often there is a particular theme - water, light, the tenderness of God, the way God speaks to us through our senses of hearing, sight, touch, smell, taste. We end with some music to help us to come out of the silence, and say the Grace. Then there is time for a chat and a cup of tea or coffee.

Do come and join us. We usually meet on Wednesdays but if several people wanted another day it could be easily arranged. Just speak to Jenny Wells (870981) or to me (863268).

Ruth Treves Brown

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BERKHAMSTED W.I.



The July meeting took place in reverse order with the business discussion taking place after the speaker and in fact proved to be a successful format for an occasional change. Our speaker for the evening was Mrs Nan Ireland, a long time collector (and indeed most interesting and knowledgeable authority) of old paperweights. Mrs Ireland led us through the complete history of paperweights, which in the scale of things historical has in fact been relatively short. The first known appearance was in 1845, although glass itself has been in existence in its many diverse forms since its discovery in Phoenicia around 1500BC. Mrs Ireland illustrated her talk with many wonderful examples of antique and modern paperweights. She finished by discussing members paperweights which had been brought along for her inspection. We were pleased to hear that they all had value both in beauty and convertibility - so no doubt boot fairs and antique stalls will be more closely scrutinised in future!

Mrs Jill Blumsom continued the meeting after an early tea break - informing members

that next year's programme is now completely filled, that the W.I. is having a promotional fortnight in Berkhamsted Library in order to attract new members, and that the outings for the forthcoming months are many and varied.

Our August meeting included a talk by Mr Tim Hanwell on *Osteopathy*.

BERKHAMSTED CASTLE W.I.

On the hottest day of the year our president Liz Baxendale was pleased to see so many members at our August meeting. During business matters members were told about arrangements for our scrabble and poetry reading days to take place later in the year.

Our speaker was Mr Graham Atkins MBE who came to speak on British Hedges. A very interesting talk with excellent slides showed us the varied form of hedging around the country, including man-made from stone. Mr Atkins being a naturalist also showed slides of the wild life residing in our hedgerows.

An appreciation was given by Joy Lovell.

Next month on 4th September we look forward to meeting Mrs Ann Kettleborough - housekeeper to King Khalid of Saudi Arabia, at the Court House, Berkhamsted at 2:00pm. New members and visitors most welcome. ❖

Keeping the Peace *(continued from page 19)*

from the English model, such as Australia and New Zealand. In England they are appointed by the Lord Chancellor whereas in the USA they are elected, like most of their judges. In the USA a JP can perform marriage ceremonies. More surprisingly a similar office existed in the former USSR where two lay assessors, similar to JPs, sat with judges to determine verdict and sentence in minor cases.

I hope that many readers of the *Review* will take the opportunity to visit the courthouse on 26th September. It is to be

found near the library in Hemel Hempstead, behind the police station and will be open from 10:00am to 4:00pm. You can visit the court rooms (and the cells!), see some mock trials, talk to the staff and join them in a cup of tea or coffee. If you see a rather formidable looking character painting the outside of the building don't be alarmed. It's probably Vinnie Jones doing his community service!

❖



reviewnorthchurch

*Revd Peter Hart
challenges us to
use what we gained
from our holidays
to God's purpose.*

September brings us all back together again, after holidays, summer breaks from Sunday School and choir, and all those family events which have taken us to varying parts of the country with varying degrees of success. We arrive raring to go, champing at the bit full of ideas and motivation. Would that it were so. How much do we bring back with us after the August break, and how much do we expect simply to happen?

It is the preacher's prerogative to illustrate his sermon with anecdotes from his vacational experiences, and children's to use the word 'wicked' with tedious regularity as they detail their encounters with rock pools and monster helter skelters. Tans may be compared, photographs so kindly shown, and many an hour can be passed exchanging horror stories involving road numbers and caravans. Where in all this plethora of memories is our experience of God? Where are our insights into worship and prayer, or the life of the church?

Some people collect church magazines, pew leaflets and liturgies when they go on holiday, and bring these back as examples of good or bad practice. Others only visit certain locations to ring their bells or to tick off another medieval church with wall paintings and Saxon foundations. Few

people talk to me about their spiritual encounters, of meetings with interesting people of faith and action, but as I am equally unforthcoming with my own experiences, then I am just as blameworthy as everyone who, when asked if they had a good holiday, replies, "Yes thank you. It was lovely" and then goes on to plan the autumn term's activities.

This autumn, as we come together with so much mapped out for us between now and Christmas, with Alpha courses, the Deanery Studies programme, ten weeks of Sunday School and so on, let us first pool all that we have gained through relaxation and recreation, through travel and encounters, through tastes and sights, smells and sounds. Let us explore all that was of God in our holiday, all that can lead us to worship and to prayer both away from home and once returned. This process can happen between individuals and in larger groups, between planners and between those who work together. The Church needs to be built up by its members' experience of God and growth in the faith through those experiences. As we seek this term to increase our knowledge of God and to spread broader the influence of God's love, may we start by contributing all that we have gained this summer. Let us use that as our starting point, so that we can be equipped to share in a wider sense all that it means to be part of God's family, and to be those who work for the increase of God's kingdom. ❖



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SUNDAY	<i>St Peter's</i>	8:00am	Eucharist			
		9:30am	Sung Eucharist, crèche, Sunday School & Pathfinders followed by coffee in the Court House			
		11:00am	Celebrate Together (2nd Sunday only) - A service for all ages			
		6:00pm	Evensong [except 1st Sunday]			
	<i>All Saints'</i>	8:00am	Eucharist [except 4th Sunday, Methodist rite]			
		9:15am	Sung Eucharist, crèche, Sunday School & Pathfinders followed by coffee in the hall. All Saints' is an Anglican Methodist local ecumenical partnership. On the <i>first Sunday</i> each month there is <i>instead</i> a joint family service at 10am			
			Evensong [1st Sunday only]			
MONDAY	<i>St Peter's</i>	7:30am	Morning Prayer (MP)	5:30pm	Evening Prayer (EP)	
TUESDAY	<i>St Peter's</i>	7:30am	MP	5:30pm	EP	
	<i>All Saints'</i>	9:30am	Eucharist			
WEDNESDAY	<i>St Peter's</i>	6:45am	Eucharist	7:30am	MP	5:30pm EP
THURSDAY	<i>St Peter's</i>	7:30am	MP	11:00am	Eucharist	5:30pm EP
FRIDAY	<i>St Peter's</i>	7:30am	MP	9:15am	Eucharist	5:30pm EP
SATURDAY	<i>St Peter's</i>	7:30am	MP			5:00pm EP
1st Sunday	SUNDAYS TOGETHER LUNCH: 12:30pm in the Court House <i>For anyone on their own on a Sunday. Contact: Joan Morris 863780</i>					
Mondays	GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT GROUP 8:00-9:00pm in the Court House as announced.					
3rd Sunday	OPEN HOUSE: 11:30am - 5:00pm with the Macdonalds (384953) 9 Hall Park <i>Stay for five minutes or five hours; unlimited coffee; lunch; tell a friend, bring a friend.</i>					
2nd/4th Monday	BIBLE STUDY/HOUSE GROUP: 8:00pm at the Macdonalds (384953) 9 Hall Park					
1st Tuesday	TUESDAY CLUB 8:15pm in the Court House <i>A lively women's group with guest speaker</i> Contact chairman Angela Morris 866992 or secretary Margaret Barnard 862794.					
Tuesdays	CHUCKLES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 10:00-11:30am All Saints' Church Hall. Song Time 1st & 3rd Tuesdays; Short service 2nd & 4th Tuesdays. Special activity weekly. Gillian Malcolm 874993 or Jenny Wells 870981.					
Tuesday	MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER GROUP: 2:15pm third Tuesday at 3 Nightingale Lodge. <i>Non-members always welcome.</i> Contact: Jenny Wells 870981					
Wednesdays	MEDITATION GROUP: meets about twice a month as arranged at Jenny's 57 Meadow Road and at Ruth's 1 Montague Road. <i>Everyone is very welcome to join us for about half an hour of quiet prayer.</i> Contact: Jenny Wells 870981 or Ruth Treves Brown 863268					
Wednesday	PATHFINDERS GAMES CLUB 7:00-8:30pm in All Saints' Hall. Contact Chris Billington 866038.					
2nd Wed	MOTHERS' UNION: meets in members' houses at 8:00pm. <i>Non-members always welcome.</i> Contact: Jenny Wells 870981					
4th Wed	WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: meets 2:30-4:00pm in the Court House. The meetings are usually addressed by a guest speaker and the group attracts senior members for whom lifts can be arranged. <i>New members and visitors always welcome.</i> Contact: Vera Pullen 862196					
Thursday	BELLRINGING: 8:00pm at St Peter's. Priscilla Watt (Captain of the Tower) 863804					
Thursday / Friday	THURSDAY / FRIDAY STUDY GROUPS: 9:30-11:30am. Two separate weekly meetings for informal Bible study and support. <i>Young children welcome.</i> Contact: Kate Semmens 866531 for Thursday or Gillian Malcolm 874993 for Friday					
Friday	LITTLE FISHES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 9:30-11:30am in the Court House. Weekly meetings with a short service on 1st Fridays in St Peter's. Katy Bonney: 864194					
Friday	CHOIR: Boys 7:00-8:30pm (& Tuesday 5:15-6:30pm), Adults 7:30-8:30pm. Contact: Adrian Davis 864722 or Jean Wild 866859					
3rd Saturday	ASSOCIATION OF BERKHAMSTED CHURCHES PRAYER BREAKFAST: 8:00am for breakfast followed by prayers. <i>Share the concerns of individual churches and of our town. All will be very welcome.</i> Meetings rotate between local churches.					

reviewdiary®isters

There is Eucharist every Tuesday (9:30am) at All Saint's and every Wednesday (6:45am), Thursday (11:00am) and Friday (9:15am) at St Peter's. At St Peter's there is 7:30am Morning Prayer and 5:30pm Evening Prayer every weekday and 7:30am Morning Prayer and 5:00pm Evening Prayer on Saturdays.

Sept / Oct 1998

SEPTEMBER

2	All Saints' Council	
6	After 10:00am service - All Saints' Joint Church Barbecue	
13	11:00am <i>Celebrate Together</i> - a new service on the second Sunday in month for all ages	<i>St Peter's</i>
19	8:00pm Association of Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast at Northchurch Baptist church.	
27	New <i>Alpha</i> course begins	<i>All Saints'</i>

OCTOBER

2	7:30pm All Saints' Harvest Supper	
3	7:00pm St Peter's Harvest Supper	
4	9:30am Harvest Festival Service	<i>St Peter's</i>
4	10:00am Harvest Festival Service	<i>All Saints'</i>
4	3:00pm Hospice of St Francis Annual Thanksgiving Service	<i>All Saints'</i>
17	8:00am ABC Prayer Breakfast	<i>KREC</i>

Registers

Baptisms (*St Peter's*)

19 July Tara Natasha Chaussalet

Weddings (*St Peter's*)

4 July Roger Michael Payton & Terraine Kathleen Troup
 11 July Simon George Streeton & Penelope Jane Hufford
 Pasha Wilkinson & Claire Louise Baxter
 18 July Frank Ludwig & Dominique Kimberly Barklett
 25 July David Paul Roos & Teresa Naomi Stuyt
 Sean Russell Charlton & Natasha Prior
 1 August Graham John Rhodes & Rebekah Isobel Lucy Hawes
 Douglas Grahgam Wallace & Caroline Anne Jones

Funerals

6 July Alfred George Bridgman All Saints' church (Kingshill Cemetery)
 23 July David 'Dave' Webb St Peter's church (Kingshill Cemetery)
 27 July Bernard Charles Climpson Chilterns Crematorium

THE PARISH OFFICE is usually in operation Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9:30am to 5:30pm and Fridays 9:30am to 1:00pm. It reopens after the summer break on **3rd September**.

Young people

Churches

PCC 1998/99

Contacts

Young people at St Peter's and All Saints'

St Peter's

Sunday school and Pathfinders run from 9:30am to 10:30 in the Court House (next to the church in the High Street). Sunday School caters for 4 to 10 year olds, Pathfinders from 10 years upwards. Contact Linda Bisset (862115) or Stephen Lally for Pathfinders (863526).

Crèche is available at 9:30am for under 3's. Parents are most welcome to use this facility in the Court House. Please contact Katy Bonney (864194).

All Saints'

Sunday school and Pathfinders run from 9:15 to 10:15am, or at 10:00am on the first Sunday in the month. Sunday school caters for 3-9 year olds; Pathfinders from 10 years upwards. Children from both groups join the main service part way through. Contact Carol Newcombe-Coetsee (863452), Kathy Beaumont (384453) or Felicity White for Pathfinders (863526). Crèche is available at the same times as Sunday school for children under 3. Please contact Elizabeth Figg (866161).

Youth Groups

The youth fellowship meets in the Court House each Sunday 7:30-9:30pm. Contact Christina Billington (866038).

Pathfinders games club meets 7:00-8:30pm each Wednesday in All Saints' hall. Contact Christina Billington (866038).

For mid-week activities for toddlers please see page 25.



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Contacts

The Revd Mark Bonney, The Rectory, Rectory Lane. Tel: 864194 (day off Friday pm / Sat am)
 The Revd Robin Figg, All Saints' House, Shrublands Road. Tel: 866161 (day off Monday)
 The Revd Canon Basil Jones (Hon.Asst.Priest), 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), 16 Broadwater. 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 & Area Youth Worker, Christina Billington, 13 Ashridge Rise. Tel: 866038
 Parish Secretary: Mrs Jean Green, The Parish Office, The Court House Tel: 878227
 Churchwardens: Mrs Barbara Conway, 7 Kilfillan Gardens. Tel: 865798;
 John Banks, Ladybrand, Cross Oak Road. Tel: 871195
Parochial Church Council: Secretary: Richard Foster, Vandykes, 29 Ashlyns Road. Tel: 863359
 Treasurer: Michael Robinson, 36 Trevelyan Way. Tel: 863559

St Peter's

Director of Music: Adrian Davis 864722 Asst. Director of Music: Mrs Jean Wild. 866859
 Organist: Mrs Jean Cooper. Tel: 874088
Sundays
 8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sun BCP) Holy Communion
 9.30am Family Sung Eucharist with crèche, Wednesday 6.45am
 Sunday Schools & Pathfinders Thursday 11.00am
 (in the Court House) followed Friday 9.15am
 by coffee in the Court House. Morning Prayer: Mon-Sat 7:30am
 11:00am Celebrate Together (2nd Sun) Evening Prayer: Mon-Fri 5:30pm
 6.00pm Evensong & Sermon Sat 5:00pm
 (except 1st Sunday see All Saints') Holy Days - see weekly Notices
Confessions: By appointment 864194
Weddings, Banns of Marriage, Baptisms, Funerals: Contact Father Mark Bonney.
Bellringers (St Peter's): Miss Priscilla Watt, 11 Cavalier Court, Chesham Road. Tel: 863804

All Saints'

Organist: Mrs Valerie McCalla Tel: 384574 Choirmaster: Peter McMunn Tel: 874894
Sundays
 8.00am Holy Communion (4th Sunday - Methodist rite)
 9:15am Family Eucharist (except 1st Sunday when Anglican-Methodist)
 Family Service at 10:00am
 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 an Anglican / Methodist Local Ecumenical Partnership)



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