

Berkhamsted *review*

In this issue

November 1998

What is a saint?

200 years of
our canal

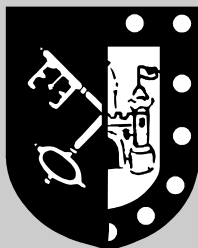
Crossing the
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Mr Prescott...

Winter visitors

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the icon

This month's
Notes & Events



Bigger issue
- 32 pages

for Town and Parish

25p



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

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

In this column in the September issue I reflected on the ever increasing rate of change we all live with, and mentioned that changes were being planned for the *Review* itself some three years on from the magazine's redesign.

You may have already noticed one of these changes - the magazine is bigger this month, with four extra pages giving us space for more articles and editorial. This reflects the volume of articles and letters we receive - please do keep them coming.

The bigger magazine also means we have included a few more advertisements, though we are maintaining the same strict balance between ads and editorial. Advertising means that we've been able to keep the cover price at just 25p (it's been the same for more than ten years!). Do support our advertisers, and mention the *Review* when you do.

Which brings me to support of a different sort. Recently several smaller shops have closed in the town, and with them we have lost outlets for the magazine. If your local store doesn't already stock the *Review* do mention it to them - Daphne Montague (below) would be only too happy!
Chris Smalley

In this month's issue...

What is a saint?

Fr Robin Figg asks a question appropriate to All Saints-tide.

200 years of 'our canal'

Forgotten the bicentenary? **John Cook** jogs our memory.

Crossing the Thames

Stephen Halliday explains how new bridges and fewer tolls opened up Victorian London.

Dear Mr Prescott

Vera Pullen has a bone to pick with the Minister of Transport.

Winter visitors

With winter almost here, **David Simmons** tells about rare avian visitors.

Blessing the icon

Revd Peter Hart describes the new icon in the Lady Chapel of St Mary's church.

... 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): 6 November 27 November* 8 January
(note early date for December issue due to Christmas)*



**Fr Robin Figg
reflects on
sainthood at this
time of the feast
of All Saints.**

review leader

What is a saint? may well be the question on many lips as we begin the month of November and celebrate the feast of All Saints.

There are many saints, of course, whose names are quite familiar to most of us: Mary and Joseph, Peter and the other disciples, Francis, Benedict, Clare and Catherine. But it is not only the famous whose lives we celebrate.

Saints are not a special breed or caste. They do not possess a certain prescribed blend of skills, or emerge out of a particular set of circumstances. The feast of All Saints is the feast of all Christians. Saints are people who know, without doubt, their need of God and spend their lives close to him. Saints are ordinary people like you.

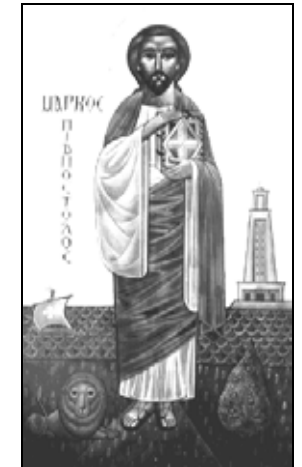
Through the lives of the saints God touches and challenges the world. Both in word and action many men and women of God have worked hard to lead the world to a better way of living, a way that adheres to the gospel values of peace and justice, love and righteousness for all. The tragedy, as we know only too well, is that so many in the world are not interested in such values: hence the saints are quickly mocked and persecuted. To be a saint is to expect opposition and hardship.

I have a postcard with some words of Dom Helder Camara: 'When I give food to the poor, they call me a saint. When I ask why the poor have no food, they call me a communist'. Part of the work of all Christians is to be a voice for the voiceless, challenging the unjust structures of society, continuing the work that Jesus began during his ministry amongst us.

We begin the month giving thanks to God for all those who have faithfully given their lives in the service of the gospel. We end the month with the move into the season of Advent, a time of preparation for Christmas and our celebration of Jesus' birth. During the four weeks of Advent we have the time to ponder on the mystery of God's coming in our history; we prepare to welcome God who is born among us.

The Christian Church does not proclaim a God who is distant from his people, but a God who is present among us. Through the Christmas story we proclaim a God who is intimately involved in our story, and we in his. God is at the centre of history attracting and energising the path of his people.

And we are now his people, called to make the gospel known in all the world following the example of Jesus and all the saints. ❖



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Cover: *St Peter's church viewed from the north-east, with the Smith-Dorrien monument in the foreground.*

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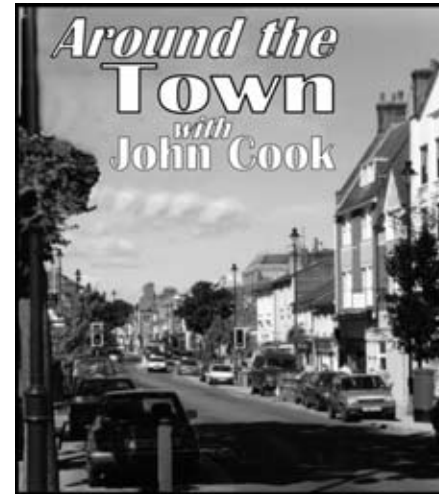
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Our Canal

One important anniversary has been allowed to slip by this year without a mention, as far as I know. Two hundred years ago, in 1798, the canal was opened through Berkhamsted. At first it only ran from Brentford to Tring, but a few years later it stretched to Birmingham in one direction and the Thames in the other. To begin with it was called the Grand Junction Canal.

The canal had three distinct impacts on the Town. The first was the arrival of the navvies who built it and who brought wild and drunken behaviour to the Town such as had never been witnessed before by the staid Berkhamsted population. Today's goings on in the High Street on a Saturday night look innocuous in comparison.

The second effect of the canal was on local commerce. Goods which before were unthinkable expensive became available, like coal for example; and the town was able to export its products too. A boat-building yard was set up between Castle Street and Ravens Lane, blacksmiths' shops to shoe the horses that pulled the boats, and pubs along the cut to cater for the boat people.

Three canal-side pubs survive today, of which the least spoilt one is the *Rising Sun*. And of course we have Bridgewater

Boats whose hire boats now carry the name of Berkhamsted along the canal network all over the country.

A Barrier

The third effect for local people was that the canal created an awkward physical barrier to the north of Berkhamsted. Hump-back bridges at Bank Mill Lane, Gravel Path, Castle Street and Billet Lane were the only ways across it for vehicles and animals for the whole length of our long town. Even today this barrier is still there. Three footbridges have been built (although agile pedestrians have always been able to get across at the locks, of which there are six between Bank Mill and Northchurch), but in spite of the huge growth of the Town and the coming of the motor car, only one additional way over for vehicles - Lower Kings Road bridge - has been provided in two centuries.

How would Berkhamsted have developed if the canal had taken a different route avoiding the Town, as it did at Tring, one wonders. When the railway came some 40 years later it paralleled the canal fairly closely through Berkhamsted so hardly created an additional barrier. In fact there were more bridges on the railway than on the canal, once the original level crossing at Bank Mill had been replaced by Ivy House Lane bridge. Again at Tring the railway avoided the town. (Was there something about Tring that we have not been told?)

Moonlight Dancing in the Cemetery

Ros Partridge kindly let me have a copy of the transcript of an interview she and Ken Sherwood had with Mrs Olive Batchelor, a life-long resident of Berkhamsted for 86 years and a stalwart of Sunnyside church. Extracts have already appeared in *The Sundial*, Sunnyside's parish magazine, but I must include here a shortened version of one of Mrs Batchelor's recollections.

"My old mum she said to me: If you want to enjoy yourself, she said, you ought to go up into the churchyard, but it must be

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on a moonlit night. And she said if you go round by this grave and you run round it three times and shout your name the person in the grave will answer. So a gang of us from George Street went up.

“Up Rectory Lane they had a big iron gate they used to open at sunrise and close at sunset. There were about twenty of us went up but we couldn’t get in, so we went up Three Close Lane and got over the wall; and lo and behold there was one of those graves with a big thing like a casket on top. So we all danced round – and lo and behold it did answer – but it was the echo. My mum used to do it when she was a girl. So we all danced round there.

“Well, there was a Mr Porritt – like a verger at St Peter’s church. He used to walk about with a long cassock and a velvet collar; he looked like the devil himself. Anyway, we saw him coming and we run. We got over the wall; but one boy he never got over – old Kim Arthur. So anyway, come next morning we went to school at Victoria school – God, weren’t we for the high jump!

“The head teacher said ‘I want all the children in George Street and Ellesmere Road to come out.’ And she said ‘Now, what did you do last night?’ ‘Stopped in and read a book.’ ‘No you didn’t; no you didn’t.’ So then she said ‘I’ll have you.’ So she had us, one by one. And the old Rector he come. Did we get in a row!”

What a good thing that this charming story and other of Mrs Batchelor’s memories have been put on record.

Berkhamsted Republicans

It was interesting to read Jessica Irons’ comments in last month’s *Review* on her experiences in a French university. I was particularly struck by the remark made to her there that if the English had not executed Charles I the French might never have had such an uncivilised idea as to cut off the head of their king (and so establish the French Republic).

Jessica may not have wished it to be known that one of the principal schemers



One of the newer ways to cross the canal.

behind the execution of Charles I came from her home town. Daniel Axtell, a member of a prominent Berkhamsted family, was captain of the guard at Charles I’s trial, and he was one of those who signed his king’s death warrant. Later Axtell was to pay with his own head for this act of regicide.

Another Berkhamstedian, Nathan Payne, was a keen Roundhead until the execution of Charles I, when he changed his mind and got into trouble for declaring in public his abhorrence of this deed and his regret that he ever entered into the service of the Parliament.

Payne was a churchwarden at St Peter’s, as were two members of the Axtell (or Axtill) family in the 17th and 18th centuries. Another Axtell, Daniel’s brother Thomas, emigrated to a place which was also eventually to renounce its king. As a young man he sailed off to New England where he seems to have started quite a dynasty. Descendants of his have visited Berkhamsted on more than one occasion, and there is a town in Nebraska called Axtell.

Tailnote

Planning permission has been granted to a mobile phone company to fix an aerial to the roof of the building in the High Street which used to be Outspans. The name of the company? It had to be Orange. ❖

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It is my turn to write for the *Review* this month. The poor editor will not know where he is with all these M.U. ladies!

I want to bring to your attention a new initiative that has recently started in this area. The Hertfordshire Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (H.A.C.R.O.) has pioneered the scheme to look after the children of prisoners while their families are visiting them. Hertfordshire, in fact, has only one prison and that is The Mount at Bovingdon where the scheme is based. The M.U. was asked if members would be able to help and three of us now do so. The volunteers come from many sources and it is a pleasure getting to know them.

The crèche area is an integral part of the visiting room at the prison. Children come into the play area only with the permission of their parents. They range from toddlers to twelve years old. There is a trained childcare nurse on duty at all times with the volunteers and both these young ladies do an excellent job.

More volunteers are needed so if anyone would care to join I know the organisers would be very pleased. One afternoon a month, especially if it could be at the weekend, would be very helpful.

THE MOTHER'S UNION

Margaret Barnard writes about a new initiative in our area helping the families of prisoners.

On another topic, Jenny Wells and I went to the Central Hall, Westminster for the annual meeting of the M.U. on 9th September. There were about 2,000 members there (and some gentlemen!) and the meeting was very

stimulating. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, spoke to us about the importance the government attaches to the family. Preserving family values is one of main aims of the M.U.

As a public speaker, Lady Christine Eames, the M.U. central president, was an inspiration. She spoke for about 45 minutes without a note encouraging us to take the M.U. forward while we are in the public eye (as for example in a recent TV programme) and to publicise all the excellent schemes we have to help people who are in real need. At lunchtime Lady Eames came to the main door of the hall and shook hands with as many members as she could as we returned from our picnic lunches. The civil servants of Westminster must have been bemused by all this and the sudden dash we all made to get to shelter when the rain suddenly came down! ❖



Calling all Journalists !

Do you have a contribution for the *Review*? Our subject areas are diverse - from church matters to the secular, serious and light-hearted. Don't wait for someone else to write about your pet subject!

Photographs and drawings are always welcome, both for inside the magazine and for the cover. We can handle contributions in many formats: paper (typed, double spaced if possible but handwritten not refused) and word processor disks (most common PC formats). If you're 'online' then you can email copy to us at review@cavendish.co.uk.

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Many readers of the *Review* will know that, for the last four years, I have been writing a book about the life and work of Sir Joseph Bazalgette, the great Victorian engineer who built London's systems of sewers, pumping stations and treatment works that freed

London of the scourge of cholera in the late nineteenth century. Bazalgette and his employers, the Metropolitan Board of Works, were also responsible for freeing from tolls most of the bridges upon which Victorian Londoners relied to cross the Thames. In 1856 the only toll-free crossings of the Thames within the metropolis were London, Blackfriars and Westminster bridges, to which Southwark Bridge was added when the owners were bought out by the City corporation in 1866. All the other Thames bridges outside the City had been built with private capital and carried tolls.

The Board recognised the need for more toll-free crossings and in 1876 announced its intention to free the remaining bridges from tolls. It drew attention to the harmful effect upon commerce and upon the labouring population

CROSSING THE THAMES

Crossing the Thames used to be an expensive business.

Stephen Halliday tells us about London's bridges.

1817, had never made any money for its shareholders since travellers made detours to the free bridges at Blackfriars and Westminster. When the Metropolitan Board advertised its intention to buy out the owners the value of the shares rose from £2 to £12 (though their nominal value was £100).

It didn't do them much good. Bazalgette's survey revealed that the foundations of the bridge had been allowed to fall into a very poor condition and the bridge, which cost £1,054,000 to build, was bought by the Board for £474,200, a further £62,705 being spent immediately on strengthening the foundations. A further £98,000 was paid to free from tolls the nearby footbridge (Hungerford Bridge, so called because it gave access to Hungerford market, on the present site of Charing Cross station). The freeing of Waterloo Bridge from tolls occurred at mid-day on Saturday, 5th October, 1878 and was reported as a great event. As mid-day approached pedestrians obstructed the entrance to the bridge as each competed to be the last to pay the halfpenny toll. The toll-keepers, wearing their white aprons with huge pockets, finally stood aside, guns were fired in salute from the Surrey shore and crowds surged across the toll-free bridge.

(continued on page 13)

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Crossing the Thames (continued from page 11)

In May 1879 a more elaborate ceremony attended the freeing of the Lambeth, Chelsea, Battersea, Albert and Vauxhall bridges at a cost to the Board of £535,974. The Prince and Princess of Wales declared the bridges open and then symbolically drove over each in turn. It was a great occasion. Chelsea pensioners paraded, guns fired in salute, flotillas of boats were bedecked with flags, choirs of children sang 'God bless the Prince of Wales' and the four-mile route was lined with flags and cheering crowds. A year later a similar ceremony was enacted as the last three bridges were freed at Wandsworth, Hammersmith and Putney. Bazalgette's surveys of the structures showed that the Albert Bridge could be rendered structurally sound with expenditure of £25,367. Hammersmith, the first Thames suspension bridge, had been opened in 1827 but it was too narrow to accommodate the volume of traffic which resulted from the abolition of tolls. When Bazalgette reported that bits of it had started to fall off it was closed, widened and substantially re-constructed at a cost of £82,177.

The bridges at Battersea and Putney were beyond repair. The wooden bridge at Battersea had been built by Earl Spencer in 1772. It was demolished and replaced by Bazalgette's five-arch design, costing £112,000, which was opened by the Earl of Rosebery, chairman of the L.C.C., in July 1890. Putney Bridge had a longer history. Prior to 1729 there had been no bridge between London Bridge and Kingston, the long intervening stretch of the river being served by

thirty-six ferries. In 1642 a bridge of boats was built for military purposes by the Parliamentarians in the Civil War between Fulham and Putney and in 1729 the site was chosen for a new wooden bridge, then called *Fulham Bridge*, built by a company whose shareholders included the Prime Minister, Robert Walpole. By 1880, when the bridge was freed from toll, the bridge was too weak and too narrow for the large volumes of traffic which resulted from the abolition of tolls. The decrepit wooden bridge was replaced by Bazalgette's handsome granite bridge which cost £405,438 and was opened in May 1886. The new approaches to the bridge which Bazalgette constructed to accommodate the greater volume of traffic prompted the landlord of the *Eight Bells*, Fulham, to sue the Board for loss of trade. He was awarded £1,000 compensation. All these bridges remain in use and it is interesting to reflect that my great-grandfather would have had to pay to cross them. ♦



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Easy, the latest draft local plan proposes that three areas in Berkhamsted/Northchurch have the green belt designation removed. You have an opportunity to inspect and make comments on the plan on Monday 16th November in the Town Hall all day. A number of councillors, including myself, will be attending in the evening to give our particular views and answer questions, so see you there.

All this wonderful information is available in the autumn edition of Dacorum Digest Special Supplement that was delivered to all households in early October. It contains brief details of the borough proposals up to 2011 and should provide background information for the numerous questions to which you wish you knew the answer. If you don't get a copy dropped through your letterbox, then either contact the Civic Centre or myself. The latest edition of the town councils' superb publication, *The Conqueror*, will also be with you in November so you will have lots of material to recycle.

It wasn't until I became involved in local politics in 1995 that I realised just how true 'Yes Minister' actually was. Like many, I thought it was very funny, but nothing like true life. If you don't believe me, come to just about any town council meeting and see for yourself. I will remind you that all meetings are public and the present informal approach allows the views of the public to be heard. In common with the borough council, we normally set aside an agenda item for

CUTTING COMMENTS

Independent councillor
Norman Cutting on housing
development in the town.

public participation although, unlike the borough meetings, we 'interact'!

In order to meet part of the county's 'need' for dwellings, the borough gave planning permission for four one-bedroom flats to be built on the

play area in the Hilltop housing estate. Readers will remember this estate was built with three shops as well as a fully fitted children's' play area. The shops were so expensive that no one could afford to take them on, so they were converted into flats. The play area suffered from lack of funding when the new safety regulations came in. I suppose the will to find funding wasn't there; the lot was ripped out and a nice flatish area was left for the local kids to kick a ball about on. Leave for long enough and allow the area to degenerate, wait for the locals to complain and come up with a scheme to make use of it. Mix this with misleading information by officers and the borough manages to impose itself again. The information that alerted me was a Part II (secret) item at the housing committee. I admit I should have realised something was amiss when the location map included a road junction without any road names and the site described as an unused play area at the bottom of Robin Hill. It has been suggested that if I had any queries I should have asked. I really do have better things to do than ask officers to clarify just about every report on every committee as that is exactly what it would entail.

On the subject of housing need in the area, I was listening to a well known national radio station the other morning when the presenter, whom I had understood lived with a partner, announced that he was poorly and would have to (continued on page 17)

The Windmill

Christopher Green sheds further light on wind-power in Berkhamsted.

John Cook referred in the September *Review* to the windmill that gave its name to Millfield. This is the mill that stands prominently in the foreground of the *Prospect of Berghamsted* [sic] 14. Sept. 1724., reproduced in part here (and more fully but less distinctly in Percy Birchnell's *Short History of Berkhamsted* - p. 104). This picture was drawn by the antiquary William Stukeley (1687-1751) as he travelled around the country preparing material for the publication in 1725 of his *Itinerarium Curiosum or an account of the antiquities and remarkable curiosities in nature or art observed in travels throughout Great Britain*. Like the picture of Berkhamsted, most of his drawings are precisely dated, and as a

result we can see that he was sketching in Banbury on the day before he visited Berkhamsted and was in Ludlow drawing the castle there two days after. Stukeley believed that Berkhamsted was the Roman settlement called Durocobravis, and he reports that many Roman coins had been found here. He describes Berkhamsted as '...most sweetly surrounded with high, hard and pleasant ground all around, full of hedge-rows, pastures and arable', and he saw the town 'stretching itself a good length in handsome buildings, and a broad street: the church is a large handsome building ... full of chapels and monuments old and new'. The windmill may have gone but we haven't changed beyond recognition in the 274 years since Stukeley's visit.



Cutting Comments *(continued from page 15)*

move from his house in Bedfordshire into her residence in London so he could be looked after. They also have another residence in Warwickshire, which is used most weekends. A similar situation exists just round the corner from where I am writing this piece where the occupiers are generally only around at weekends. The nearness of London and the rather nice area we all live in (at the moment) suggests that a fair number of 'weekend homes' exist around here. I'm not sure that peoples' freedom should be used as a basis for government policy to the detriment of others.

Those of us who live in the Sunnyside or Shrublands areas will be pleased to know that we now reside in Berkhamsted East, Berkhamsted West or Berkhamsted Castle wards. The town council decided that the new town council areas should have the same names as the borough council ones. All this is somewhere near a place called Dacorum. Little pieces of history are being nibbled away without any real thought, even though I brought this to the attention of the council much earlier this year. No-one cares any more. I object to obscure names dating back well beyond living memory being imposed and comparatively recent changes ignored. The next periodic review is of Hertfordshire county council that gets under way on 3rd November. Representations should be made by 8th February 1999 at the latest. Berkhamsted currently has one member

for the town, so it will be interesting to see how the figures pan out when you consider we lost one representative on the district council and gained two on the town council.

As some of you know, I work from home, and the other day had to leave around 8:30 in the morning to get where I was going by mid morning. It appears that some strange affliction has struck down the majority of school children, that only affects them during term time and then clears up during holidays, only to return again once school gets going. This affliction seems to affect the legs of children, with some kind of knock-on effect to some women who suddenly lose all sense of direction as well as the ability to understand the contents of the Highway Code. Indeed, large numbers must have to cross wet and muddy fields to get to school, as large four-wheel drive vehicles are second only to the 'people carrier' type of vehicle with just two or three people in them. Maybe I was just unlucky, but I somehow think not. We really must find a solution to this ridiculous situation, which must cost the country a fortune in fuel, vehicle servicing and wasted time together with the reduction in the fitness of our young people.

And finally, you will be pleased to know that Ampthill (in Bedfordshire) has just removed the Christmas bunting that has adorned its High Street for the past two years. ❖

CHEESE!



With more space in the *Review*, we're doubly keen to include your photographs and illustrations. Do you have an interesting picture of our town, either present day or from years gone by? Or if you're taking part in an event or performance then do let us have a photograph. All materials will be treated with care and returned to you. *So get snapping!*

St Peter's Church
Monday 2nd November 8:00pm

SOLEMN REQUIEM FOR ALL SOULS DAY

Music: *The Requiem* by Maurice Duruflé
(sung by the Chiltern Chamber Choir)

Preacher: The Revd Peter Hart
Rector of Northchurch

If you wish departed family or friends to be prayed for by name please give those names to the Parish Office - telephone 878227

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I do know Mr Prescott wants to encourage us all to use public transport, and whilst I go along with this, I have recently found it is impossible for me to co-operate. The main thing is that I am a poor traveller, unless I am driving the car. I always have been, and I'm thoroughly ashamed of it. Practice, in my case, has not improved the situation at all. Many years ago I attempted to go by bus to Watford, and felt horribly sick by the time we got to Bourne End - so you can see my problem.

However, recently my husband Jim was in hospital at Hampstead and my family decided it would be much easier for me to go by train. At present I am having to use two sticks when walking in the street, and as my sister, who came with me, has to use one, we approached the station with some trepidation, remembering the wide 'gap' between the platform and the train. However, all was well, a very kind railway employee produced a ramp and we were safely escorted into the train followed by three ladies pushing pushchairs who also took advantage of the ramp. So far so good.

At Euston we had to take the Northern Line to Belsize Park. Luckily there is an escalator to take you down and we managed the stairs and lift at the other end without too much difficulty. The walk from the station to the Royal Free Hospital is not far, though I'm slow at present, and it is uphill. We arrived and I then realised how very large these modern hospitals are - you can walk for miles!

We were delayed at the hospital as Jim was having various tests and we had to wait an hour and a half to see him, which meant, unfortunately, we landed up returning in the rush hour. In the trains there is a polite little notice

'Dear Mr Prescott...'

Vera Pullen faced a traumatic rail journey and thinks the Minister should know!

suggesting that those sitting in the seats nearest the door should give up their seats to 'the elderly or disabled' - it is probably just another sign of how poor our education system has been over the years that so few people

seem able to read, so we stood, crammed in with all the others. We were so firmly wedged we couldn't actually have fallen anyway!

Once again we managed the stairs and lift but, would you believe it, the long escalator at Euston wasn't working so, along with hundreds of others, we walked up. One or two kindly people asked if they could help but, short of carrying us up in a fireman's lift, they really couldn't. That escalator is very long, believe me. We found the train waiting in platform 8 was running about twenty minutes late, so we were directed to another platform. A train was waiting but by then I didn't really care where it was going to as long as I could sit down. So we climbed in and waited - and waited. Eventually we did get back to Berkhamsted and my granddaughter came and picked us up at the station, whilst we muttered 'never again'.

On another occasion during that time I went up by train to Euston and was to meet my granddaughter at 6pm. On that occasion the train took 15 minutes to get to Hemel Hempstead; no one explained why! It should have taken four minutes. I was late but she wasn't a bit surprised, 'The trains are never on time', she said. If Mr Prescott really does want to encourage us to leave our cars at home he has to make public transport a great deal cheaper than it is at present, and it really must be improved. All those who have to commute daily have my greatest sympathy. So you will understand why I am about to write to 'Dear Mr Prescott' and explain that I for one just cannot cope with public transport as it is at present. ❖

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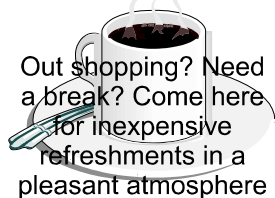
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For the first time in nearly 30 years crossbills appeared in the garden last winter during October, November and December. There were five together on two occasions, feeding on the bumper crop of cones in the fir tree which was once-upon-a-time, a small 'Christmas tree' indoors. The male crossbill must be one of our most colourful birds, and to me it is unusual, in that it looks better in real life than in the bird books. Apparently there was one of the periodic 'irruptions' of crossbills last summer from the continent, due to poor conifer seed crops in their residential areas and then severe cold weather over Europe. Some birds were still present locally in February and this could lead to the possibility of local breeding. Ashridge and Wendover woods are the most likely places to see them, but if you have a large fir tree in your garden, and if next winter, it has a large crop of cones, you too may be lucky. They are certainly unmistakable birds, and obliging enough to stay around a long time feeding, while you fetch the binoculars.

Another winter visitor to the garden in good numbers this year was the siskin, first seen in the garden in 1990. They



appeared regularly from the end of January till the end of March. In recent decades they have thrived with the spread of conifer plantations, for they, like the crossbill, love the seeds in the open pine cones. But in recent years they have come increasingly to gardens as they have found more people putting out peanuts. Books sometimes tell you they are attracted to red net bags. Maybe they were to begin with, but mine were more interested in the peanuts - never mind the green fittings on the hanger. In April they move to their breeding sites in Scotland and Scandinavia. With their head-down feeding posture and beautiful mixture of green, yellow and black plumage, they are delightfully agile and attractive little birds. They can be so intent on feeding that you can be only a few yards away and not disturb them. With crossbills and siskins about, it can almost make you look forward to winter, even in mid-summer.

Two birds you won't see in a garden, but you might see by scanning the skies over Berkhamsted and the southern Chilterns are the buzzard and the red kite. Several buzzards were reported in the Ashridge area last summer and autumn, but as far as I know, no red kites here, yet. But 1998 could be the year. They are not far away, so watch out! ❖

Left: The male crossbill (photo: Michael Leach, Oxford Scientific Films)

I was writing to one of my great nieces recently, and in my letter I said that her granny and I would be visiting Hemel Hempstead the next day - weather permitting. Nothing earth shattering about that you would rightly think, but it took

Winter Visitors

David Simmons warns us in good time of what to look for in the coming months.

me back to many years ago when my husband and I were staying on one of the Scilly Isles with two relatives.

We took a cottage on St Agnes where the loo was in the garden and electricity was shut off at 10pm. But

we loved it. We visited St Mary's the following Saturday - a thriving metropolis compared to St Agnes. We looked into the parish church and found the vicar inside. We got talking and asked about the Sunday service on St Agnes the following day. The vicar said that there *would* be a service - weather permitting. In other words, if the celebrant was able to get over by boat (the sea is very deep just there and can be incredibly rough). My husband volunteered his services and the vicar was delighted to accept.

The next day we attended the tiny church on St Agnes and the austere setting seemed absolutely right. The flowers on the altar are called, I think, sea thistles and looked perfect.

W . P .

Muriel Lander is transported
back to the Scilly Isles.
Weather permitting...

The plus side was that people who attended the service greeted us most warmly whenever we met for the rest of our stay and this gave one the feeling of belonging, if only for a short time. And if

my memory serves me correctly, there was a notice outside the church saying that there would be a service each Sunday 'W.P.(weather permitting)'.

One day, during our stay, the sea was so rough that it was impossible for any bread to be brought over by boat from St Mary's. So I set to and made some plain scones which went down very well indeed. It gave one a delightful feeling of being 'cut off'.

Things on the island may well have changed by now and I know I wouldn't want to live permanently in such an isolated place. But for a fortnight it was a wonderful experience. W.P. of course! ❖

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A Memory Jogged

Colin Garrett writes:

Two items in the October edition of the *Review* caught my eye and jogged my memory.

And Another Book (John Cook's *Around the Town*) - I asked the library to reserve for me Priscilla Chadwick's book *Shifting Alliances*. Apparently there is no copy in Hertfordshire! I suggested that our library should have a major work by the principal of Berkhamsted Collegiate School. I have just received a postcard to say that they have accepted my suggestion.

French University life - Jessica Irons' experience exactly mirrors my own thirty years ago. At that time I also visited the centres of European bureaucracy in Luxembourg and Bruxelles. I am not surprised at Tory resistance to political union with Europe!

17 North Road
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ORGANISING AN EVENT?

Tell everyone about it through the *Review*!

Whether you're organising a concert, a fair, a bring-and-buy, a talk or anything else, we'll do our best to include details in *Notes & Notices*, or for greater impact you might consider advertising.

Call David Woodward on 862723 for details; you'll find copy dates for forthcoming issues inside the front cover.



NEWS FROM THE

P • C • C



The October meeting of the PCC considered a wide range of topics, ranging from the mundane to the near philosophical.

Michael Robinson, the honorary treasurer, reported on the parish's financial position and noted an encouraging response to the stewardship appeal earlier in the year.

Various matters were discussed concerning our buildings. These included the approval for a new patio for All Saints' house, on the understanding that a Pimms 'launch party' be held when it is completed next summer!

Most of the meeting followed the pattern set in recent months by taking a discussion subject for debate. Father Mark had tabled a discussion paper considering the marriage in church of divorcees and seeking the PCC's views. In the paper he set out the Church of England's 'official line' disallowing remarriage in church, the diocese's advice placing the decision to solemnise a 'second' marriage on the incumbent, and the historical and legal background to marriage itself.

After much discussion, the almost unanimous view of the PCC was that remarriage in church in our parish should be allowable at the discretion of the incumbent and given sufficient reflection and research by the parties concerned.

Finally it was agreed to hold the Petertide Fair next year; David Northcott had volunteered to chair the organising committee again. Nominations for two causes to be supported by the Fair should be sent to the Parish Office. CJS



The Berkhamsted Arts Trust is involved with a number of artistic events in Berkhamsted during November.

Thursday 5th to Saturday 7th November sees the musical *My Fair Lady* at the Civic Centre at 8:00pm presented by BAODS theatre company. Tickets £6.50 (concessionaires and children £4.50) from the box office (394363) or at the door.

On *Thursday 5th November* the Berkhamsted Gardeners Society holds its annual meeting followed by slides of gardens at Kew, Wisley and Monet's garden at Giverny in the Great Hall, Town Hall at 8:00pm. Non-members £3 at the door.

On *Saturday 7th November* Berkhamsted Music Society present the Fitzwilliam String Quartet in the Centenary Hall, Berkhamsted Collegiate School at 8:00pm. Music by Purcell, Haydn, Puccini, Borodin and Shostakovich. Non-members £7 (£3.50 for under 21s) at the door.

Monday 9th November: the Cowper Society present *Glimpses of Ashridge: An Historical Presentation* at the Lady Marian Alford room, Ashridge College at 7:30pm for 8:00pm. Tickets in advance from Arts and Crafts, 258 High Street at a cost of £3.

On *Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th November*, the Berkhamsted Film Society present the film of the Threepenny Opera, a newly restored print of the classic Brecht/Weill musical of 1931, at the Civic Centre at 8:00pm. Tickets for non-members are £3 at Berkhamsted library.

Friday 13th November: the Berkhamsted local history society present an illustrated talk on the *History of the Chilterns* by Jean Archer at the Civic Centre at 8:00pm. Admission at the door to non-members is £1.

On *Saturday 14th November*, Berkhamsted Jazz present the international singer Lee Gibson with Jamie Talbot (reeds) and the *Geoff Eales Trio* in a varied programme at the Civic Centre at 8:00pm. Tickets from the secretary on 01525 220894 or at the door; for non-members £7 (£3.50 students).

Sunday 15th November: Ashlyns school craft fair in the school hall from 11:00am to 4:00pm. Admission at the door is £1 (50p for concessionaires and children).

Sunday 15th November: Dacorum Symphony Orchestra give a concert in the Centenary Hall, Collegiate School at 3:30pm. Tickets at the door £7 (£4 for pensioners, UB40s and students). Music by Weber, Brahms and Sibelius.

On *Thursday 19th November* Berkhamsted Citizens' Association presents a talk on *Antiques and Auctioneering* by Richard Ellis of Amersham auction rooms in the Great Hall, Town Hall at 8:00pm. Admission at the door is £1 for non-members.

Saturday 21st November: the Cowper Society present the Bridgewater Band playing Mendelsohn's violin concerto and Brahms 1st Symphony, in St Peter's church at 7:30pm. Tickets from The Bookstack, High Street, or at the door £7 (£5 concessions).

On *Sunday 2nd November* the Friends of Berkhamsted Town Hall present a *Concert for St Cecilia's Day* by musicians from the Collegiate School at 7:30pm in the Great Hall, Town Hall. There will be a collection in aid of Arts Trust but no admission charge.

Thursday 26th November: the Berkhamsted Archaeological Society present a talk, *An Etruscan Noblewoman Rides Again* by Dr Judith Swaddling of the British Museum at 8:00pm in the Newcroft Wing of the Collegiate School. Non-members £1.50 at the door.

Thursday 26th November: the Rex Arts Centre Trust (TRACT) presents a short film illustrating the life and times of the Rex cinema in the Great Hall, Town Hall at 8:00pm. Tickets from the secretary (871209) or at the door £3 (concessionaires £1.50).

FRIENDS OF ASHRIDGE

Annual Lecture

The Friends of Ashridge annual lecture will be given on Tuesday 24th November at 8:00pm in the Civic Centre, Berkhamsted (parking is off Well Lane opposite, clearly marked).

Graham Atkins, warden of College Lake nature reserve, will speak on British Woodlands: Their history and natural history using local references. Tickets are £3 each. Booking is appreciated (see below) but you may pay at the door. All are welcome.

Christmas Cheer

The Friends of Ashridge committee invite you to a Christmas coffee party at 10:00am to 12noon on Saturday, 5th December at the Ashridge visitor centre on Monument Green, Ashridge estate. Entry cost is £1 to include a cup of coffee and a mince pie. The National Trust shop and its exhibition centre will be open and other attractions include:

- a bring-and-buy stall (donations of priced goods would be helpful)
- a raffle
- a plant stall including seasonal holly

Pre-prandial Christmas walk

On Monday 28th December at 10:00am a Christmas walk for 5 to 95 year olds will be held by Brian and Sean Barton, followed by mulled wine and home-made mince pies at noon. Meet at Monument Green by the Ashridge visitor centre. The cost for Friends is £3 and for non-members £4. Children are half-price with suitable refreshments provided for them. Last booking by 19th December, please. Janet Stupples tells us that she has made the mincemeat already but needs the numbers to know how many pies to bake!

For tickets to these events and any other enquiries please contact Janet Stupples on 842252. Please send cheques payable to the National Trust and a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Berkhamstead Lodge, Ashridge Park, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 1NP. Tickets for the annual lecture may also be obtained from Miss Barbara Brookfield (Treasurer), 19 Mortimer Hill, Tring HP23 5JB.

THE BRITISH SUGARCRAFT GUILD (CHILTERN HILLS BRANCH)



The branch will be having a stall selling Christmas fare at the Community Market in the Old Town Hall on Saturday, 7th November between 9:00am and 12noon.

The Guild meets regularly at Lagley Hall in Douglas Gardens, Berkhamsted on the third Saturday in the month at 2:30pm, with demonstrations, workshops and a sales table on offer, together with refreshments. New members are welcome.

CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARDS

Charity Christmas cards will be on sale between 10:00am and 4:00pm at the Court House on the following dates (all Fridays and Saturdays):

*13th & 14th November
27th & 28th November*



TUESDAY CLUB

Tuesday Club's November meeting will be on 3rd November at 8:15pm in the Court House. Angela Morris will show us how to make marzipan sweets, fruits and festive novelties and we will be able to try out our newly learnt skills. Please bring with you: an apron, a small chopping board, a flexible knife and a J-cloth.

The December meeting will be our Christmas Party on Tuesday, 1st December. Details are to be confirmed. New members are always welcome. Copies of our programme are available in St Peter's, All Saints' and on the noticeboard in the Court House.

Have you got a point you'd like to make?
Something to get off your chest?
Then write to us! Send your letter together with any illustrations or photographs to:

**David Woodward, 3 Murray Road,
Berkhamsted HP4 1JD (862723)**

SAVE THE CHILDREN

The Berkhamsted branch of Save the Children is holding its Christmas Fair on Saturday, 21st November from 9:00am to 12noon in the Court House. Gifts, cakes, a bottle stall, bric-a-brac, books and toys and more. Please support us! For any further information please ring Margaret Bowley (873694).

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY 1998 BOX OPENING

Once again it's time for the annual box opening. I am looking forward to collecting boxes at the 9:30am services at St Peter's during November and December, so if your box is feeling a little light you've still got a few more weeks to put in all your loose change. If you don't come to this service I shall be more than pleased to visit you at home - just give me a ring on 863526. I would like to thank all boxholders for our continuing support during the past year. If any readers would like to have a collecting box do please contact me on the above number and I shall be happy to give you a box and explain more about the work of this very worthwhile charity. *Kathie Lally*

MICHAELMAS FAIR 14TH NOVEMBER 1998

The Friends of Berkhamsted Collegiate School are holding their Michaelmas Fair on 14th November at the Castle Street campus from 12noon to 4:00pm, featuring a host of stalls and activities.

There will be the opportunity to purchase Christmas gifts and decorations and a range of other items such as fresh pate and plants.

There are plenty of activities for children including a 'ball pond' and wet sponge throwing!

To keep your energy level up there will be a wide range of refreshments available.

A number of charities will also be present and the prizes for the main prize draw are definitely worth the purchase of a ticket.

Hope to see you there!

FRIENDS OF SERGEANT PEPPER

The Friends of Sergeant Pepper are holding a Christmas Fair at Sunnyside church hall at 7:00pm on Saturday 5th December. All proceeds will be donated to the Pepper Foundation to fund the Pepper nursing service. The Pepper nurses are specially trained paediatric nurses who look after children in this area suffering from terminal and life threatening illnesses. Children are cared for in the family home. To find out more about the Pepper Foundation and its future events please phone the helpline on 01442 275272 or write to us at PO Box 334, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire HP4 1UL.

BERKHAMSTED W.I.



The September meeting opened with our president, Mrs Jill Blumson, welcoming members and reminding them of forthcoming meetings, outings and, particularly, our major fund raising event on Saturday 17th October, the Annual Autumn Fair. This took place in the Great Hall, Berkhamsted Town Hall and members were encouraged to keep working to fill the stalls!

Our speaker for the evening was Mr Graham Atkins, an 'applied ecologist', who enthralled us with his talk entitled *The Story of College Lake*. Despite the local proximity of College Lake - adjacent to Tring reservoirs - many members did not even know of the existence of this remarkable project! Mr Atkins described, with fascinating and informative slides, how he had planned, designed and carried to fruition the conversion of one of the old Pitstone quarries into an all embracing nature reserve, in little more than ten years. Mr Atkins spoke of his objectives - to create a wildlife habitat which was exceptionally accessible to large numbers of people and to promote the education of the general public in matters ecological. The 'before' and 'after' slides - many just two years apart - amazed us with the transformation! The

reserve is now home to numerous rare birds, including sea birds, many forms of ancient domestic animals - Jacob's sheep and English Longhorn cows - and a botanist's delight with rare and almost extinct species. There is even the conservation of arable weeds! The evening flew by and we were all left with the desire to visit this amazing doorstep project as soon as possible.

BERKHAMSTED CASTLE W.I.

Our president, Liz Baxendale, welcomed members to our October meeting and with secretary Janet Mitchell took us through the business matters.

Reports were given by members who attended the Scrabble day and also our own institute's Scrabble day which was so successful that we hope to plan a further one.

Our speaker this month was Mrs Janet Dineen who came to talk to us about *Hertfordshire Home Life*. On display there were examples of lace-making and straw plaiting which were very much to the fore in this part of the county in earlier times. We were shown very old recipes dating from 1776 that originated locally. We were able to taste some dishes prepared by Mrs Dineen using similar ingredients.

An appreciation was given by Mrs Joy Lovell for an excellent talk which needed much research into the subject.

During tea-time the raffle was drawn and the competition judged.

Our next meeting on 6th November will be our annual meeting at the Court House, Berkhamsted at 2:00pm.

NORTHCHURCH W.I.

Members assembled after their August break eager to hear Mr T Coldwell's talk on *Wendover Waterways*. He has an exhaustive and detailed knowledge of the environs, the building and the history of the little river that wends its gentle way through Wendover to join the Wendover arm of the Grand Union canal. His slides, some of mills and other buildings long demolished were a splendid accompaniment to his talk. He took us along the towpath with the occasional detour, examining bridges in detail, pointing out some of the many interesting features that the trained eye sees. Mrs Jean Brazier spoke for all in expressing her warm thanks.

Mrs Audrey Syers reported on the outing to Burford and Buscott House on a warm sunny August day. Everyone had had a very satisfactory visit. Arranged by Mrs Monica Marshall members had looked round Burford, a well known Cotswold beauty spot, followed by a tour of Buscott House and grounds, and all agreed it had been a day well spent.

Six members had entered for a bowls contest organised by Hertfordshire Federation and following a good day's play Mrs Kathy Turner proudly bore the winner's trophy home.

Northchurch W.I. can be justly proud of the major part it played in the very successful Northchurch Festival. Several members created beautiful flower arrangements for the display in the church which looked magnificent. Mrs Jennifer Underwood and Mrs Christine Flannagan staged an inspired exhibition of the art and craft work of great variety, accomplished by W.I. members. There were continuous demonstrations of decoupage, lace-making and sugarcraft which attracted great interest from the many visitors. ❖



WAY INN - A Christian Centre at 268 High Street

Come to the **Post Office** for foreign currency, travel insurance, passport applications and forms E111 - and for everything else a main **Post Office** provides. Come through to our **shop** which sells greetings cards, Christian books, stationery and many gifts. **Upstairs** you will find our **coffee shop** serving lunches, teas, snacks or just a cup of coffee.



review northchurch

**Revd Peter Hart
tells of the blessing
of the icon now
enriching St
Mary's church.**

At a simple yet rich service, the icon of the *Protecting Veil of the Mother of God*, now installed in the Lady Chapel at St Mary's, was blessed. The Bishop of Hertford led evening prayer, then Fr Gregory Woolfenden, a Russian Orthodox priest from Oxford blessed the icon with prayers, water and incense. Alexander Sidorov, who lives locally and who painted the icon, was present, as were members of St Mary's congregation and the Orthodox community who meet at St Albans Abbey. The tone of the service was quiet and worshipful, the liturgy was ancient yet accessible, and there was a strong sense of fellowship between those of differing Christian traditions. The gift of the icon and the re-ordering of the Lady Chapel had brought together people with different experiences of God in the common purpose of worshipping him in a sacred place.

What now do we do with the icon? It adorns the Lady Chapel as a permanent feature - does it change anything, or provide anything extra to the church? Is it simply a beautiful artefact which complements the large painting of the Madonna and Child above the altar? Is its purpose to inspire us to worship and meditation? The liturgy of blessing spoke of acts of God which could occur through the icon - hearings, deliverance, knowledge of God - should we be looking to it in that way? Or, since the Lady Chapel is separate from the main body of the church, can we forget that it is there?

The option of ignoring the icon is not available, as it is visible to everyone who takes communion or receives a blessing at the altar rail, or who comes in through the south transept door. During Advent, we will share night prayer together in the Lady Chapel, underneath the icon. On the second Sunday of the month, at 11:15am., we celebrate communion alongside it. It is part of the worshipping life of the church and speaks to us of God, just as the corona of lights above the nave altar does, just as the stained glass windows and the flower arrangements do.

The theme of the icon is of protection: God reassuring his people that, whatever the circumstances, they are 'covered' by the all-encompassing love of God, which will never be taken away. The protecting veil is lifted high above the earth, an expression of God's care being beyond the normal, earthbound experience of humanity, taking us to a spiritual dimension. Yet Mary's feet are firmly placed on the earth - this is not so other worldly that it does not relate to us at all. Rather, just as Mary was the agent of God becoming human, so she is able to link the human to the divine and the divine to the human.

Understood in this way, the icon adds to the resources within the church which point us to God, which link us to our heavenly Father. The cross, the angels painted in the windows and on the walls, the saints, the memorials, the Bibles in the pews and the people who fill those pews all point us to God and lead us to worship. May we all find blessing through this icon, may it enrich our spiritual understanding and may the worship and witness of the church be built up by its powerful presence amongst us. ❖

SUNDAY	<i>St Peter's:</i>	8:00am	Eucharist			
		9:30am	Sung Eucharist, crêche, Sunday School & Pathfinders followed by coffee in the Court House			
		11:00am	Celebrate Together (2nd Sunday only) - A service for all ages			
	<i>All Saints'</i>	6:00pm	Evensong [except 1st Sunday]			
		8:00am	Eucharist [except 4th Sunday, Methodist rite]			
		9:15am	Sung Eucharist, crêche, 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			
		6:30pm	Evensong [1st Sunday only]			
		7:30-9:30pm	Youth Fellowship (<i>contact Christine Billington 385566</i>)			
	<i>St Peter's</i>	7:30am	Morning Prayer (MP)	5:30pm	Evening Prayer (EP)	
	<i>St Peter's</i>	7:30am	MP	5:30pm	EP	
MONDAY	<i>St Peter's</i>	7:30am	MP	5:30pm	EP	
TUESDAY	<i>St Peter's</i>	7:30am	MP	5:30pm	EP	
	<i>All Saints'</i>	9:30am	Eucharist		5:30pm	EP
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	5:00pm EP
SATURDAY	<i>St Peter's</i>	7:30am	MP			
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>						
Mondays BIBLE STUDY/HOUSE GROUP: 8:00pm at the Macdonalds (384953) 9 Hall Park						
(except 1st)						
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 385566.						
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						
Tuesday TUESDAY / FRIDAY STUDY GROUPS: Tues 1-3pm / Fri 9:30-11:30am. Two separate weekly meetings for informal Bible study and support. <i>Young children welcome.</i> Contact: Kate Semmens 866531 for Tuesday 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 ABC PRAYER BREAKFAST: 8:00am for breakfast followed by prayers. Meetings rotate between local churches.						
Saturday						

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.

Nov / Dec 1998

NOVEMBER

1		All Saints' Day	
	9:30am	Eucharist - Preacher: the Revd Derwyn Williams, Chaplain to the Bishop of St Albans	<i>St Peter's</i>
	6:30pm	United St Peter's & All Saints' Eucharist for the three congregations	<i>All Saints'</i>
		Preacher: the Revd Dr Keith Straughan	<i>All Saints'</i>
2	8:00pm	All Souls' Day Solemn Eucharist (Durufle Requiem)	<i>St Peter's</i>
		Preacher: the Revd Peter Hart	
6	10:00am	'Little Fishes' Pram Service	<i>St Peter's</i>
7	4:45pm	Diocesan Choirs' Festival Evensong	<i>St Albans Abbey</i>
8	11:00am	<i>Celebrate Together</i> - a service for all ages	<i>St Peter's</i>
	6:00pm	Choral Evensong	<i>St Peter's</i>
10	10:15am	'Chuckles' Pram Service (Samuel, the Good Listener)	<i>All Saints'</i>
19	9:30am	Berkhamsted Quiet Place (Rita McManus, to 12:30)	<i>9 Hall Park</i>
21	10-1pm	Training session led by the Revd Margaret Saunders	<i>All Saints</i>
21	7:30pm	The Bridgewater Band (Mendelssohn, Brahms)	<i>St Peter's</i>
22	8:00pm	Taizé style Evening Worship	<i>St Peter's</i>
24	10:15am	'Chuckles' Pram Service (Naaman & the Little Girl)	<i>All Saints'</i>
29	6:00pm	Advent Carol Service	<i>St Peter's</i>
29	6:30pm	Advent Carol Service	<i>All Saints'</i>

DECEMBER

4	10:00am	'Little Fishes' Pram Service	<i>St Peter's</i>
8	10:15am	'Chuckles' Pram Service (The Christmas Story)	<i>All Saints'</i>
9	7:30pm	ABC Carol Service	<i>St Peter's</i>
16	9:15am	Victoria School Thomas Bourne Service	
19	8:00am	ABC Prayer Breakfast	<i>St Peter's</i>

Baptisms (*St Peter's*)

13 September	Jack Andrew Surry, Kathleen Henderson Wright	<i>(All Saints')</i>
20 September	Declan Hall, Isabelle Louise Dawes, Hannah Story	<i>(St Peter's)</i>

Weddings (*St Peter's*)

18 July	Gary Needham & Denise Tringer
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Funerals

10 September	Eira Victoria Warren-Smith	Chilterns Crematorium
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Registers

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 Angela Dunsford (875226) 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 Elizabeth Figg (866161), 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 (385566).

Pathfinders games club meets 7:00-8:30pm each Wednesday in All Saints' hall. Contact Christina Billington (385566).

For mid-week activities for toddlers please see page 29.



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Principal J.R.Adkins BSc (Hons) PGCE

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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: 385566
 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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