

In this issue

August 1999

**Markers on
the journey**

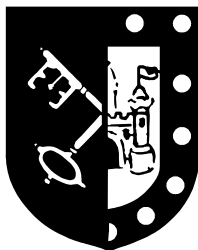
**Play it
again Sam!**

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daunting task?**

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**This month's
Notes & Events**



**Bigger issue
- 32 pages**

for Town and Parish

25p



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

Since the 1928 (at least!) the *Review* has been fortunate in enlisting the help of an almost unbroken line of local councillors. These men and women have given us, unstintingly, their informed insiders' view of events and developments in the local councils. We have all greatly benefited from this continuing tradition of authoritative reporting. It is gratifying to be able to say that, though all these contributors have been or still are active party politicians, they have all been willing and able to adopt an unpartisan approach in their writing.

This month, Councillor Ian Reay joins us with his analysis of the daunting problems confronting the aspiring saviours of the old *Rex* cinema. Mr Reay will be joined soon by Mr Stanley Sharpe and we hope that this team will run well in harness. Meanwhile our previous council correspondent, Norman Cutting, has agreed to contribute occasional articles on civic matters. We thank all the gentlemen and wish them well in our columns.

David Woodward

In this month's issue...

Markers on the journey

Fr Mark Bonney commends two markers from where we go forward on the Christian journey through life.

Play it again Sam!

Liz Baxendale recalls some traditional children's games and nursery rhymes.

An unusual benefactor

Stephen Halliday profiles Albert Grant, the swindler behind Leicester Square.

A daunting task

Saving the *Rex* is a huge job for the Friends of the *Rex*, says **Ian Reay**.

The Missing Bird Mystery

What's happening to our local wild birdlife, asks **David Simmons**.

The holiness of holidays

Rev Peter Hart encourages us to travel with God on our holidays.

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

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Next copy dates (all Fridays): 6 August 3 September 8 October



**Fr Mark Bonney
commends two
markers on the
journey of the
Christian life.**

review leader

One of the images that I find most helpful when thinking about the Christian life is that of a journey. Such an image has its roots in the nomadic life of the early Israelite people who wandered through the desert. Tents were their homes because they were a people on the move. The baptism liturgy reminds us that we're a pilgrim people, the celebration of baptism and confirmation are markers on a journey - markers, not places where we stop but places from which we move onwards. The principle food for this journey is the spiritual nourishment given us by God through the sacraments, through prayer and through reading the scriptures.

There are times along the journey when extra help and nourishment is no bad thing; and there are two events coming up that I wish to commend to you.

The first is for those who are perhaps thinking about starting the Christian journey, or who wish to brush up on the basic elements in the Christian knapsack, who are wondering whether this might be a journey worth making. *Emmaus-the Way of Faith* will begin at the end of September as an initial six week course entitled *What Christians Believe*. It was on their journey on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus that two of the first disciples met the risen Jesus, and as they walked together Jesus explained things to them about himself and about the scriptures. This course takes its inspiration from that story, and the invitation is to come and walk along the road of discovering the presence of the living God today. Exact dates and times will be available soon -

but if you're interested or wish to know more, please contact myself (864194) or Fr Robin (866161) or John Malcolm (874993). There will be the opportunity for a Wednesday evening group and a Tuesday afternoon group.

On any journey an opportunity for quiet, rest, reflection and assessment of things is no bad thing and the Christian journey has found this takes place very well in the context of a Retreat. I'm very pleased that we're able to have another retreat this year at Hemingford Grey, Cambridgeshire, from Friday evening, 1st October to Sunday afternoon, 3rd October. The retreat will be led by a very good friend of mine, Fr Andrew Proud, an experienced priest and retreat conductor, and in the context of a quiet prayerful weekend he is picking up the journey theme with talks entitled *Roots and Shoots - Fresh Orientations for the Journey*. Full board in single rooms for the weekend is £65, and if you'd like to go please give a deposit of £15 to me. There will be silence in the retreat house for the weekend - this isn't something to be fearful of, but a lovely chance to simply be with God, with others and with yourself and to re-charge the spiritual batteries for the next stage of the journey.

Father Mark

Cover: a young visitor to the Petertide Fair on 26th June enjoys a huge helping of candy floss! More pictures are in the Petertide Fair retrospective on pages 24 and 25. Photo: Chris Smalley

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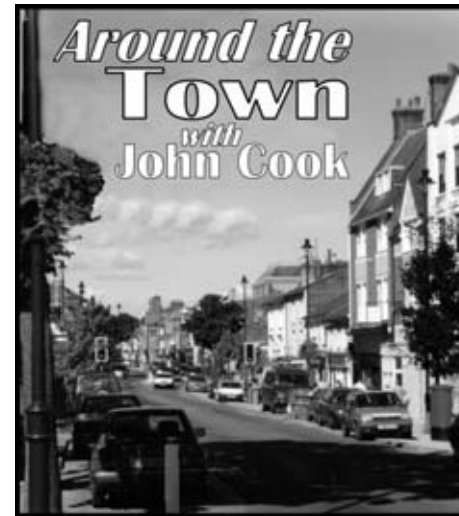
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Mysterious Bust

In last month's *Review* there was a letter from Mrs C Thomson asking about the bust set high up in the wall on the end on the vet's surgery at the east end of the High Street. Who is it and why is it there? It will be interesting to see if anyone comes up with an answer. I haven't been able to find one, although local legend says it is Julius Caesar.

The wall has a purpose-built niche in it, so clearly it was intended that there should be some sort of sculpture there. Perhaps a previous owner, finding himself with a building with an empty niche to fill, simply bought a bust at a sale and put it there. Incidentally, I would guess there is a similar explanation for the coat of arms (recently nicely repainted and re-gilded) being where it is on the front of the Kings Arms. The carving originally was probably on another pub called the Queen Anne (for that is whose coat of arms it is) and an owner of the KA bought it cheap and stuck it on his hotel. After all, one royal coat of arms is much like another - who would know the difference?

Greeneland

The rather badly weathered bust looks down on a street called Londrina Terrace, and also on the row of 1930s shops with the letters *EG* on it. These are reminders that here you are in what used to be Greene country.

Edward Greene, Graham Greene's uncle, lived in the mansion on the other side of the main road called the Hall which was demolished in the 1930s and which gave its name to Hall Park. He had wide commercial interests, not only owning a good deal of property locally but also doing important business much further afield, including in Brazil. Between the wars, in a previously unknown and undeveloped area of Brazil, a new town named Londrina was created, and Edward Greene named this terrace in his home town after it. The row of shops with his initials on it was called Hall Walk.

Station Changes

Railtrack gave a presentation on their proposals for Berkhamsted station the other day to the borough council's environment committee, and as these meetings are open to the public I went along. Railtrack explained that the idea is to provide us with another platform, making five in all, one of which will be used for turning back some rush-hour trains from Euston at Berkhamsted. At present this operation is carried out to certain trains at Tring.

It will involve demolishing some buildings, including all of those on platform 4, and building a new platform 5 - which will become the usual platform for trains to London - about 200 yards further away from Brownlow Road. So if the project comes off, possibly in 2004, most commuters will have some 200 yards or so further to walk - or run - to catch the train in the morning. We await further developments.

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Television in Town

In the meantime I wish Silverlink County would do something about the forecourt of the station. The raised flowerbeds are full of scruffy weeds and the set-down area full of parked taxis, making it all very congested. When I wrote to them about it I got an unhelpful reply.

The situation was not improved last month when the television crews moved in, occupying most of the forecourt for a whole Monday with their massive telescopic booms and plethora of equipment, to shoot part of an episode of *Eastenders*. When the scene appears on our television screens it will be interesting to see how much of Berkhamsted is recognisable.

A few years ago television people spent all day in Castle Street shooting a scene for a *Daily Telegraph* commercial (the one with the little dog in it). Large vans and bright floodlights appeared first thing in the morning, creating an air of excitement and expectation and greatly adding to the usual congestion. But when the commercial eventually appeared virtually all we could recognise of the local scene was Priscilla Coomb's doorstep.

The most important television event for Berkhamsted so far was when *Songs of Praise* was broadcast from St Peter's. This must have been 20 years ago – before the time of video recorders, so the only record of the event will be in the BBC archives. The main memory I have of it all was the amount of light they used to brighten up the church inside – so much that the stained glass windows shone and were a real picture viewed from the outside.



Who is the mysterious figure?
See Mysterious Bust on page 5.

Domestic Services

When the electricity bill dropped through the door the other day I noticed it was from Eastern Energy rather than Eastern Electricity. Presumably they changed their name because they can now sell you gas as well as electricity.

Have you decided to get your electricity from British Gas or your gas from Eastern Energy? Have you, despite British Telecom's frenetic marketing, changed your telephone from BT to cable or Cable &

Wireless? Do you know where you are in all this or what is best for you?

I guess that the population falls into three categories over the bewildering range of options now open to us. There are those who carefully weigh up the choices and make calculated decisions. Then there are others who are troubled and perplexed by it all, and fearful that there will be some hidden disadvantage in making a change stay where they are. Finally there are those who find the whole business an enormous bore, can't be bothered with it and so won't change either. The younger generation, no doubt, will be much more comfortable with all these modern complexities of domestic accountancy.

The Library

Finally, while I am showing my age I might as well get another gripe off my chest. What a disappointment it was when the library re-opened after being re-ordered to find that it had been fitted with cheapjack tin shelving, more suitable for a B & Q store than a public library. Now, as with our unworthy Post Office, we have to rely on the cheerful and efficient staff to make a visit there at all agreeable. ❖

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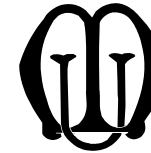


THE MOTHER'S UNION

Margaret Burbidge explains the importance the Mothers' Union attaches to its *Wave of Prayer*.

Over recent months M.U. members in the diocese have been making their contributions to a prayer patchwork which will give a snapshot of the diocese on the eve of the millennium. Each deanery has designed and made a pocket which contains a favourite hymn, reading and prayer. The pockets have been stitched together to form a prayer patchwork which was blessed at a service of celebration on Tuesday 27th July at St Nicholas, Harpenden, attended by over 350 members. It will be available for display, presenting, in an imaginative and unique way, a picture of the Mothers' Union as a worshipping and prayerful fellowship of Christians.

The Berkhamsted and Hemel Hempstead Deanery panel was a diamond made of blue, yellow and white pieces, the deanery name being embroidered inside the pocket. The chosen hymn, reading and prayer were *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*, *1 Corinthians chapter 13*, (Paul's teaching about love) and the *Prayer of St Francis* ('Lord, make us instruments of thy peace'). These are written out on laminated cards to withstand handling. The patchwork is designed to be used wherever it is on display, and the cards are an aid to prayer and worship for the Mothers' Union and its work as it moves into the new millennium. ❖



Volunteers needed!



The Hospice of St Francis is well-known for its high quality of care for seriously-ill patients. What may be less well-known is that the paid staff receive a tremendous amount of support from nearly 240 volunteers. Some commit a few hours weekly, fortnightly, or monthly, whilst others perform tasks on an occasional basis. Whatever their contribution, it is vital in maintaining the high standards of care. However, we still need more volunteers to join our team:

- **In Patient Unit:** Good listeners with a practical streak to answer the door, make tea, coffee, sandwiches and do light ironing in the afternoons.
- **Day Hospice:** (Tuesdays and Thursdays) We need a regular volunteer for some Thursdays and also a relief volunteer to cover holidays. Relief drivers are needed and a secretary to the Day Hospice.
- **Hospice Shop (Abbots Langley):** Volunteers are especially needed for Mondays and Saturdays.
- **Gardeners:** Volunteers to join the present team are needed on Tuesday mornings.
- **Other help:** Fund-raising events, clerical work and so on require help from time to time.

If you would like to find out more about joining the hospice as a volunteer, please contact Liz Daniel at the Hospice of St Francis, on 862960. ❖

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I often find myself quoting the above - particularly when the older generation criticise the younger generation for the way they dress or adorn themselves with many earrings, eyebrow rings, nose rings and so on.

I remember many years ago that one of my sisters and her children had been staying with us in Leicestershire. They set off home in their ancient - and unreliable - car. Before very long the car broke down.

On the other side of the road stood three youths dressed in their teddy boy gear. These three immediately came to my sister's help. They spent a considerable time trying to get the car to move, and when it refused, *pushed* the car about half a mile down the road to the nearest garage. During this time their clothes suffered considerably - particularly one bright yellow pullover which got extremely dirty. Talk about going that extra mile! And yet many people at that time regarded teddy boys with great suspicion.

Last year I returned from France with my

Never judge a book by its cover!

Muriel Lander finds that appearances can sometimes be deceptive.

younger daughter. At Heathrow arrangements had been made for me to be transported by buggy to the railway station and from there to St Albans where my daughter then left me. (I have to say that the use of the buggy was wonderful and I found those concerned most helpful at Heathrow).

One of my brothers-in-law was to meet me at St Albans station. Unfortunately

he was held up by traffic, and when I arrived I was faced with a long staircase up and down. To say I was dismayed was an understatement. I have to use a walking stick outside and this, plus a suitcase on wheels and a plastic bag was going to prove a daunting prospect.

One city gent type came along and tenderly put my case upright as it had fallen over as I viewed the stairs - and passed on. Along came a rather nervous looking man who quickly averted his eyes but immediately picked up my case and carried it up the stairs, over the bridge and down again. I thanked him profusely and told him he was a dear, which he was.

By this time my brother-in-law had arrived so that all was well. I repeated what had happened going home in the car and thought how true it is that one should *never judge a book by its cover*.

These are only two examples of help being given from unexpected quarters. I have experienced many more over the years. The city gent type who looks one straight in the eye isn't that often one of the helpers. Perhaps I've just been unlucky! ❖

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uriel Lander's article about skipping rhymes (July Review) certainly evoked a few memories for me! Apart from anything else, I wrote my college thesis on The Origins of Children's Games, a learned discourse, and written in best italic, and illustrated with prints of famous paintings so as to conform with my status as an art and craft special subject student! Those were the days when, as trainee teachers, we were addressed always as 'Miss' by everyone in college, and had to sign in before the magic hour of 10pm... or else!

I knew the Girl Guide rhyme and my mother used to say about playing with the gypsies, but *Alla Malla Mink Monk* is new to me! I wonder if anyone played *Anna Wanna Weeze* and a weedy Anna, sometimes known as *Kerb or Wall*? It was a racing game between those two features of the street around my home. The whole thing is sung actually and goes:

*Anna Wanna weeze and a weedy anna
Our black cat can play pianna
Anna wanna Wee, stick it up a tree
Our black cat says
Kerb or Wall!*



Play it again, Sam!

Last month's article on children rhymes awakened memories for **Liz Baxendale**.

wasn't!

One of the skipping rhymes that my mother (born 1894) taught me was obviously of the temperance movement times and went, as the long rope was turned:

*House to let, apply within
Man got caught for drinking gin,
Drinking gin is a very bad thing
If you can't pay your rent
'Sally Turner' will come in.*

This was a 'running-in' game. When the other name was mentioned then a different child would run into the rope.

I am sorry to tell Muriel Lander that children today are far more likely to be playing some sort of TV based game. Some years ago, when I was teaching in Hemel Hempstead, a colleague and I were worried by the violence in the playground. This was always explained by the children as 'We are playing the A-Team', or 'It's only a game of Masters of the Universe, Miss'. We decided to introduce some of the old games we had played as children. It was a strange experience! As we demonstrated *The Big Ship Sails Through The Allee Allee Oh!* and *In And Out The Sparkling Windows...* (or bluebells, depending where you come from) and so on, the children looked on with vague

This rhyme was 'played' by 'He' piano-like along the outstretched hands of the players. Whenever 'He' stopped, that child had the choice either to run first to the kerb, while 'He' ran to the wall or otherwise. The winner was the one to return to the line first. The latter took on the piano playing bit! Sounds very complicated like this... but it

Play it again Sam! (con't)

amusement. When we got them to join in you could see them thinking, 'Poor old dears!... well, if that's what they want, we better go along with it to humour them'. Their attitude was such that we soon gave up!

The regional differences in the words used for the same game has always fascinated me. In Bolton we played 'Tig', but I found children here playing 'Tag'. If you are out you may be 'He', or 'It'. If you want to take a break from the game you may call 'Pax', or 'Barley', the latter being a very old word mentioned in madrigals! Pax presumably comes from even earlier Roman times. There are references in Pliny to boys whipping tops, and the ancient game of Fivestones or Jacks. This was banned at my school as we got splinters down our fingernails from the wooden floorboards! Shakespeare refers to *Hoodman Blind*. We call it Blind Man's Buff - only the name has been changed!

Jesus taught about children playing weddings and funerals, and I often thought of this when, in a nursery class in Rochdale, I had the three-year-old child of the local undertaker. He used to walk around solemnly carrying a doll, in the box that should have held the construction toy. The doll would be covered with a piece of cloth, and the box carried close to his chest across his two arms. When asked 'What are you doing?', he would reply in sonorous tones, 'aving a fooneral'. I do hope he went into the family business! ❖

AN UNUSUAL BENEFACTOR

In **Stephen Halliday's** continuing history of Leicester Square, we meet Albert Grant, who bought the square in 1874.

Albert Grant was born in Dublin in November 1831 as Abraham Gottheimer. His father, W Gottheimer, was a partner in a 'foreign fancy goods business' based in Newgate Street who had his son educated in London and Paris. He worked for a while as a wine salesman but from 1859, by which time he had changed his name to Albert Grant, he was in business as a company promoter based in the heart of the City, trading under such names as 'Mercantile Discount Company' and 'Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England'.

Grant was an early exponent of the art of direct mailing. He obtained the names and addresses of 'clergy, widows and other small but sanguine investors' who were 'greedy to take up companies quicker than he could bring them out' and sent to them prospectuses of companies with promising names and enticing profit projections. Companies controlled by Grant bought assets from one another at inflated prices, commissions on the transactions being paid to the directors.

When, in 1868, he was forced to resign as governor of Credit Foncier an investigation revealed that 'the enormous profits shown in the books of the company as having been earned were no profits at

all'. The companies included the Cadiz Waterworks; the Central Uruguayan Railway; the Labuan Coal company; the Lima railway; the Imperial Bank of China; and the Odessa Waterworks. It was estimated, shortly after his death, that Grant had raised £24,000,000 from hopeful subscribers through his company promotions of which £20,000,000 was lost. He made his money from commissions, earning £100,000 from the Emma Silver mine alone.

His methods of operation were exposed in the case of Twycross vs Grant in the Court of Common Pleas in July 1876. Grant had invited subscribers to buy shares in the Lisbon Steam Tramway Company. The prospectus had mentioned that a contract to build the tramway (which was in fact never built) had been let to a firm called Clark and Punchard for £309,000. Twycross had subscribed £700 but had later discovered that Clark and Punchard had originally contracted to build the tramway for £278,000.

The remaining £31,000 was to be repaid to Grant as a form of commission and as a source of funds with which to bribe journalists to promote the share issue. The newspapers included *Investor's Guardian*, *Mining World* and, to its great embarrassment, a journalist on *The Times*. The bribes had done their work, *Investor's Guardian* declaring on 8th July 1871 that 'there could be no doubt that the scheme would be a brilliant success' and predicting dividends of fifteen to twenty per cent. Twycross claimed that these facts concerning the inflated contract price should have been disclosed to prospective investors and that the non-disclosure amounted to fraud.

Grant, in the face of overwhelming evidence, dismissed his counsel and defended himself in a closing speech which lasted for three days and which was listened to by a densely packed courthouse. In the words of *The Times*:

'Mr Grant defended himself with great acuteness, with great courage

and with great cynicism, and the consequence was that he sat down amid an outburst of applause which induced the Judge to order the court to be immediately cleared'.

Grant, in effect, admitted that he had suppressed information about the contracts but insisted that he didn't think he was doing anything unlawful. He claimed that 'he would never identify his name with the low cheating and trickery which had been imputed' (he was referring to the bribing of journalists) and assured the jury that *The Times* could not be bought. He added that 'Everybody must have heard of Albert Grant and most likely heard of him as the sinner of sinners in the City'.

The jury did not take long to find him guilty and to award Twycross £700 plus costs but he never received the money. Grant took the case to appeal and in the meantime he was declared bankrupt. These embarrassments did not prevent him from prospering in other fields. In 1865 he had been elected MP for Kidderminster though he was unseated in 1874 following allegations of bribery. In 1868 Victor Emmanuel I made Grant an hereditary baron of the newly created kingdom of Italy for financial assistance in launching the City of Milan Improvements Company and thereby helping to finance the Galleria Vittore Emanuele in Milan which to-day remains one of the world's largest shopping complexes. Thereafter he styled himself 'Baron Grant'. In the 1870s he built Kensington House, near Kensington Palace which was used once, for a 'Bachelor's Ball' on 22nd July 1880. In 1883 the house was seized by his creditors who demolished it and sold the grand staircase to Madame Tussaud's. Grant eventually died in Bognor Regis in August 1899, still pursued by creditors, his final court appearance occurring a week before his death. ❖

I have to say at once that I am not a fan of the *Rex* cinema. It is a long time since I read Graham Greene's description of his early life in Berkhamsted (*A Sort of Life*), and I do not have a copy to hand, but I do remember the description of his father's disappointment when an old Tudor mansion was demolished and replaced with a modern cinema. With planning laws as they now are that would not be allowed to happen today.

I was surprised to discover some years ago that the replacement building, the *Rex*, so disapproved of by the one time headmaster of the Boys' School, was listed. Having now read the English Heritage guidelines *What Listing Means: A Guide for Owners and Occupiers*, I can now see the logic of the decision – which does not mean that I agree with it. These guidelines say that the criteria for listing are architectural merit, historical interest, close historical links and 'group value'. Only selected buildings from the period after 1914 are listed so as to ensure the survival of examples of particular building types. Presumably, the *Rex* is being preserved not so much because of its beauty but merely because it is *an example*.

The guidelines say, 'In choosing buildings for listing, the Secretary of State cannot consider any factors other than architectural or historical interest. State of repair (unless this has harmed the architectural interest), costs of maintenance and unsuitability to modern needs are matters which are not directly relevant to the assessment of a building's qualification for listing - but they are all things which can be taken into account if a person wishes to demolish or alter a listed building'. The problem with listing a

council & news views

Town councillor **Ian Reay**
is pessimistic about the
future of the *Rex* cinema.

a headquarters for the University of the Third Age. No proposal which has been put forward so far has been found viable by the borough council and it is not acceptable to load onto the borough council an open ended commitment to run the *Rex* at whatever the cost to the local council tax payer.

Viewing the problem of the *Rex* cinema and then casting one's eye several hundred yards along the High Street to the recent success story of the town hall one realises how daunting the task is that the Friends of the *Rex* Cinema have set themselves.

The success of the resurrection of the town hall shows what can be achieved - but the lesson of that success is that it is necessary to find a private sector partner who can provide the know-how to develop a substantially self funding operation which can support the community uses. Since 1997 I have been the town council representative for the town hall trustees and I saw for the first time the work that the Friends of the Town Hall and the trustees had put into the restoration of this 19th century building. For more than 20 years the trustees and friends have planned, persuaded, appealed and managed a range of events and markets to raise funds to restore this building which is so characteristic of the town centre of

building is that it puts severe constraints on the owners, restricting opportunities to use the site in ways which can generate enough revenue to make it viable.

Calls have been made to the borough council to buy the *Rex* and develop it for community purposes - for example, as a multiplex cinema or as

There will be a co-ordinated programme of ecumenical events in Berkhamsted and Northchurch to run from the Advent carol service in December 1999 through to the Advent carol service in December 2000, including;

A forward diary of local events for 2000 will be delivered to every Berkhamsted

home in November and early December 1999 and a copy of *Why 2000?* magazine (Luke's Gospel);

During Advent and up to Epiphany, a banner saying 'Why 2000? God knows' will be hung across Lower King's Road;

Bells will be rung from 12-12:15pm on 1st January 2000 with all churches being open for worship between 12-12:30;

There will be an ecumenical march of witness on Good Friday, 21st April 2000 and a passion play may also be staged;

There will be an ecumenical open air act of worship at the castle at Pentecost, Sunday 11th June 2000; and

A performance will take place of the Rob Frost millennium musical at All Saints', and possibly other churches (dates yet to be fixed).

We would also like to make available millennium candles as a gift from the churches to the people of the town.

Marking the Millennium in Berkhamsted

A full programme of events is being planned to spread the millennium message.

Whether Christian or not, they will be invited wherever they are and whatever they are doing at midnight on 31st December 1999 to light the candle and take a moment of calm reflection to focus on the 'millennium resolution', which has been drawn up by the churches nationally to help people make a 'new start'.

This autumn should be used for study and preparation, perhaps using some of the *NewStart* study material, which covers the themes *A New Start with God*, *A New Start at Home* and *A New Start for the World's Poor*. Training could be organised as part of this for anyone who

NewStart

wants to give a candle to their friends or neighbours. There is also study material available to support the *Why 2000?* magazine, including a video *Jesus - the Man behind the Millennium*.

Follow up courses like those in the Alpha and Emmaus series could be co-ordinated with the other churches during the lead up to Easter 2000, as (hopefully) the people of the town respond to the call to make a new start.

Further information can be had from Rob Wakely (☎875504) or Heather McInroy / Mike Naylor (☎384904).



Council News & Views (continued)

Berkhamsted. With the restoration of the Clock Room, completed in June, the renovation of the town hall is now virtually complete. This has been a tremendous achievement but in the end was only possible because the trustees

formed a partnership with City Centre Restaurants, a restaurant with a national chain, who have converted the ground floor for use as a Caffè Uno restaurant, together with a substantial grant of £225,000 from the National Lottery. ❖

In addition to the house sparrow and starling which I wrote about in the May issue of the *Review*, many of our common 'garden' birds are in decline. Blue, great and coal tits, robin, song thrush, dunnock, rook, magpie and jackdaw show a decline. The

song thrush is particularly worrying because the last nine months have seen the fewest sightings in eleven years of garden bird watching. There have been isolated bad years before, but not the general decline among so many species that has occurred over the last few years. It may be that the next twelve months will reverse the trend. Blackbird, chaffinch and greenfinch seem to be doing well, and nature is always full of surprises.

But looking at the wider picture, many of our farmland and woodland birds are in trouble, and these are the species most often seen in our gardens. The DETR's *The Environment in your Pocket* booklet (1998) shows that over the last twenty years, 24 species of farmland bird have declined and 5 have remained stable out of a total of 50, and for woodland birds, 13 have declined and 8 remained stable out of 38. The picture for seabirds, estuary and wetlands birds is much more encouraging. This suggested loss of habitat for nesting and roosting together with worsening food supplies are a major factor in the decline of woodland and farmland birds. For grain feeding birds like the house sparrow, the widespread sowing of autumn cereals has certainly reduced their supply. When did a sparrow last see an old-fashioned field of stubble in early winter? Intensive agriculture does not create friendly habitats for birds. To us it may look flourishing, but to birds it resembles a green desert with little food or shelter. While birds can come to our gardens

MORE ON THE 'MISSING BIRDIES' . . .

David Simmons enlarges on the mystery of where all the wild birds have gone.

this too is having a detrimental impact on farm and woodland birds.

A return to less intensive farming (such as integrated crop management) or organic farming would help these birds. Sweden and Austria already have nearly none percent of farmland under organic cultivation, while we have only 0.3 percent - which is one reason why we import 70 percent of our organic food.

But it is easy to blame intensive farming. What about 'intensive gardening'? Not only do we have infilling with new houses with ever smaller gardens, but the gardens we do have can easily become extensions of our houses, with more space given over to patios, car parking and house extensions; there are fewer hedges more fencing, fewer trees and large shrubs, less grass and less exposed earth. All this means less nesting sites for birds and less natural food supplies, so that they have less incentive to become residents, and are more likely to just pop in for a quick snack at the feeding station.

So we must redouble our efforts to supply a variety of food, and water for bathing and drinking. But we also need to create a comfortable environment where birds are not crowded out. Then we may halt the decline of some of our more

If you're reading this, then it must be that I have been doing something right over the past few years. The only difficulty is that I am now back where I was in April 1995 - wondering what our councils are

instead, they tend to breed less successfully in them, and this leads to reduced numbers. They need hospitable wide open spaces too. There has been a significant loss of diversity in plant and insect species in lowland arable and pasture areas in the last twenty years, and

doing in our name. They seem to be under the same impression that all politicians take up once they have power. They believe that as they were elected by more votes than went to other groups, then anything they do must be democratically right. Tony Blair is starting to find out the hard way, that even with a seemingly overwhelming majority in the House of Commons, that does not translate into the wishes of the majority of the public.

I have this strange attitude for someone who has stood for election to public office, that I actually believe in democracy. I foolishly believed that I represented all the people in my area of Berkhamsted, even though in 1995 only 700 odd elected me out of around 4,000. I was criticised by the 'majority group' within the independents for speaking out against a lot of the ideas being put forward without any form of debate. Reading the press over the past few months and listening to the odd comment from those still actually talking to me, it appears a similar situation now

CUTTING ECHOES

In an occasional article
Norman Cutting rounds up
activity in our local council.

exists on the town council. The independent-controlled council allowed debate and if a meeting finished before 10:30pm, everyone wondered why. Now, it appears that 9:00pm is the norm. With larger

committees which should produce a more varied point of view, I was even so amazed when I heard that a recent environment committee, which had enough agenda items to cover three pages, was all over in 1½ hours.

Lets have a look at two things that have been going on and remember that I only have access to the local press reports and anything that comes my way via the 'back door'. The rest, of course, I make up in the best tradition.

Green Belt: The Conservatives are just about in control of the borough council and I understand they are working on alternatives to building the 'county quota' of housing in the green belt. It's funny how when the Labour group were in

(continued on page 21)

More on the 'Missing Birdies'... *(continued)*

common birds and also see more of the scarcer ones, like tree creeper, crossbill, grey wagtail, yellow-hammer, lesser-spotted woodpecker and whitethroat, all of which have been new additions to my garden list over the past four years. And you never know what might turn up - like eight pheasants one day at the end of January this year. That's why garden birdwatching can be fun!

Some of the statistics in this article are based on counting done for the BTO's *Garden Birdwatch survey*. If you would like to take part in this, please write to GBW, BTO, Freepost, Thetford, IP24 2BR. It costs £10 a year and you get a very

interesting quarterly newsletter. You don't have to be an expert before you start. You may find that your garden is having increases in some species that are declining in mine. The more gardens that are surveyed, the more accurate the general picture becomes.



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CUTTING ECHOES *(continued from page 19)*

power, officers provided reports that 'proved' the green belt land was the only land available for the additional housing 'needs'. Any day now (well, perhaps any month), expect to see headlines to the effect that no green belt land will be required as other land has now been identified. This will come from those very same officers, by the way.

Coopers site: Lindy will never forgive me for this, but she has actually done something right for a change. Like her, I could never believe that a doctors surgery recently refurbished and attached to what most people consider as possibly the most heavily contaminated part of the site could still be in use if the offices at the far side of the site were so heavily contaminated that they must be demolished. As with the green belt, you can commission a report from an 'expert' to support any point of view. This always worried me at the borough council when reports were presented and members became concerned. The officers took the view that it would be difficult to defend a decision

taken against 'expert advice' if it was questioned.

Which brings me back to the point I made at the beginning of this piece. Just how interested are you in decisions made on your behalf? Do you believe that our elected representatives should just get on with it, or should they make every effort to inform you of the choices and decisions to be made. Personally, I believe every effort should be made to inform the public, who then have the choice of whether to act or not. During my short period in office, I wrote a regular column in this magazine. I personally produced and delivered seven newsletters around my ward, held regular monthly 'surgeries' in the town hall and developed the only web site full of Berkhamsted information, views and comment. Add that to the local press, public meetings and council newsletter, and you had little excuse not to know what went on.

That's it for now, if you have a subject you would like me to have a look at, then get in touch. ❖



PARISH RETREAT

Hemingford Grey, Cambs. 1-3 October 1999

The retreat held two years ago was much appreciated by those who went, and I'm pleased to say that I've been able to book another weekend for this year. The leader will be the Revd Andrew Proud, Rector of East Barnet. I have known Andrew for many years and I'm sure he will facilitate a very good retreat. The cost for the weekend (all meals included) will be £65.

If you would like to go please give a deposit of £15 (payable to the Parish of Great Berkhamsted) to me as soon as possible. If you wish to know more please ask me.

Fr Mark Bonney



The clergy and Jean Green (our parish secretary) can all be reached by e-mail. Their addresses are as follows:

Fr Mark:
m.bonney@c-of-e.freeseve.co.uk

Fr Robin:
r.figg@c-of-e.freeseve.co.uk

Parish office:
j.green@c-of-e.freeseve.co.uk

review:
review@c-of-e.freeseve.co.uk

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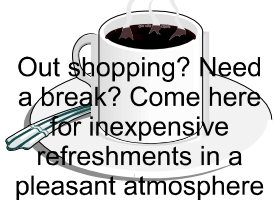
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Now the dust has settled on this eventful day in June and the money is still coming in, here's an account of the relay team's run on the Ridgeway written by 10-year-old Christopher Hill, who accompanied the relay in the support van from start to finish.

Memories of Ella's Ridgeway Day

Christopher Hill followed the relay runners along the length of the Ridgeway.

On Sunday, 13th June, in fine weather, eight runners between them ran the whole length of the Ridgeway National Trail, a distance of 145km, from Alton Priors to Ivinghoe Beacon. They were joined at the end by over 100 walkers and nearly 50 fun runners who covered the last stretch of the Ridgeway to arrive at the Beacon just before them.

The day started just after dawn in mist on the Marlborough Downs. The first runner, Justin Cernis, covered 13 miles of hilly terrain running past some of the great Stone Age sites, such as Avebury Stone Circle and Barbury Castle.

The second, third and fourth runners (my dad Jeremy Hill, Shirley and Richard White) continued along the Lambourn and Berkshire Downs and past the White Horse at Uffington, before a fifth runner, Carey Hagger, turned north along the River Thames between Goring and Wallingford.

As the weather got hotter, the runners had to work harder to keep to schedule. Teams of helpers kept them supplied with water. But the runners were on their own to cope with the unexpected - a herd of cattle blocking the Thames towpath, a mile of thick nettles just east of Wallingford and lots of unmarked turns.

By mid afternoon, Paul Hagger, on the sixth leg, was into the Chilterns and the hilliest part of the Ridgeway. Peter McMunn, the seventh runner and the organiser of the event, took on the steep

climbs of Whiteleaf and Coombe Hills. At just gone five o'clock, Rev Robin Figg, priest at All Saints' church, started the eighth and final leg out of Wendover, up to Tring and then over Pitstone Hill to Ivinghoe Beacon.

The scene was set for the grand finale. The walkers and fun

runners, joined by families and friends, arrived on the Beacon just before seven o'clock. All the relay runners met Robin Figg as he came down Pitstone Hill and they ran the final climb up to the Beacon together. At seven o'clock exactly, thirteen hours after the first runner set out, the crowds cheered them in as they reached the Beacon stone which marks the Ridgeway's end.

Ella Beaumont herself was there to congratulate them. Her father Andrew expressed warm thanks for all those who had made it such a marvellous day. The months of planning were rounded off by a party on the Beacon just nearby. ❖

Peter McMunn adds:

As we go to press the amount of money raised by the event is still being reckoned. The £4,000 mark has been passed and the total is likely to be around £5,000. I should just like to add my own words of thanks to all who supported this event so generously either by their financial giving all their time and energy. With just a few days to go before the event I was fearful it was all going to go horribly wrong: but I'd much under-estimated the commitment and enthusiasm of everyone who made it work on the day. I shall never forget the sight of so many people on the Beacon as the relay team steadily ran the final climb together to a rousing reception. Well done everyone!

The Petertide Fair enjoyed
 blue skies and warm sunshine
 and raised more than £6,400.

In marked contrast to recent years, the sun shone on this year's Petertide Fair. An enthusiastic team of helpers started at the crack of dawn to set up the fair- stalls, displays, the extensive fleamarket, refreshments (including breakfast!) and much else.

The crowds came, and thronged around the arena for the dancing displays by Thomas Coram and Victoria schools. The various stalls did a brisk trade, and varied live music featured throughout the day.

The fair spread across both St Peter's church itself and the churchyard lawns, with new displays and sideshows taking up the theme of 'time' in the run up to the millennium.

The grand finale arrived all too soon and saw a pitched battle between opposing tug-o-war teams, hand picked from both 'ends' of the parish.

Our two chosen causes this year – *Scope for Dacorum* and the *Sylvia Morris Trust* benefited to the tune of some £6,400.

A big thank you to everyone who came – and see you next year!



↑ *The ever-popular
 plant stall does a
 roaring trade.*



← *The Victoria School
 dancers impress a
 large crowd with
 their display in the
 arena.*



Clockwise from top left:
The two fancy dress winners as Egyptian pharaohs; 'Come and get it!' from the barbecue; Bonney's Bruisers vs Figg's Flyers demonstrate their tug-o-war talents; talents of a different sort from Something for the Weekend.





reviewnorthchurch

**Revd Peter Hart
urges us to put the
holiness back into
our holidays.**

The holidays are here. We are all hoping for cloudless skies and warming sunshine (not too hot), rain during the night (after the picnic and evening

stroll), uninterrupted cricket and heavy crops from fruit and vegetables planted earlier in the year. We want to be able to sit outside and read. We feel the need to get out into the countryside and walk the paths and hills that surround us, in addition to enjoying our main fortnight away from home in 'foreign' climes.

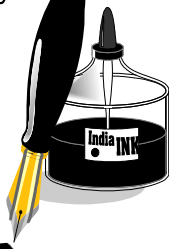
What makes the summer special is that we can break the habitual round of home-shops-work-home (or whatever order those come in for you) and go somewhere different, somewhere new. It is a time for exploration, for fulfilling promises made to oneself in the dark days of winter - to visit that castle, to sit on that beach, to climb that mountain, to see that dreamed-of view. This pursuit of the unvisited, this ticking off of sites from a wish list leads us to ever more exotic locations, with ever more complex travel arrangements and greater costs. Things have moved on a great deal since the original meaning of a day set aside because it was special - holy - a day that was singular, worship-orientated, celebrated together by the community. Now, we travel as families or small groups, and look to others to entertain us.

Holiness may be a difficult concept to include in a modern holiday, but the pursuit of holiness is our calling and our encounters with holiness form our character. As we travel this summer, as we seek out the new or the familiar, may we also seek out holiness in the

strangeness, may we also encounter holiness in our explorations. God travels with us as we journey: God has always been where we end up: God's holiness surrounds us and fashions us wherever we go; our task is to recognise that holiness, to receive it and to worship. If we can do that this summer, then we will truly have had a holiday. ❖

Something to say?

Well, write in and say it! The *Review* is your magazine - we welcome interesting articles, news, letters, photos and poetry. Our subjects are diverse, and we particularly want to include news of current events in the town. So if you're organising an event tell us about it - you'll find contact details inside the front cover with copy dates for the next three issues.



NEEDLE CRAFT EXHIBITION

Threads of Amersham will be mounting another of their successful needlecraft exhibitions over the weekend of 13th to 15th August at the home of Peter Watts, who is the organist at Sunnyside church.

Exhibits will be entered by customers and staff and will show an amazing variety of needlework used in items such as pictures, footstools, cushions and cases. Last year over 60 items were on display so a visit to the exhibition is highly recommended.

The address is Oak Trees, Wood Lane, South Heath near Great Missenden. Take the Great Missenden road out of Chesham, turn right to South Heath opposite the Barley Mow and Oak Trees is the first house in Wood Lane, which is the first turning on the right.

The exhibition will be open from 10.30am to 4.30pm. Light refreshments will be served and Threads of Amersham is generously donating all proceeds to The Children's Society.)

OXFAM CHILDREN'S WEAR EVENT

The next Oxfam children's wear event will be on Thursday 2nd September in the Berkhamsted civic centre commencing at 9.00am. The quantity and quality of the donated children's wear throughout the summer has ensured that this event promises to provide busy mothers with an ideal opportunity to 'buy in bulk' all that is needed to replenish their children's winter wardrobe. If you have not been to our previous events, then this is surely the time to come and join in the enthusiasm with which our devoted customers gather armfuls of bargains from the well equipped rails. The Oxfam volunteers will be on hand to guide you through the measurements or keep a supervisory eye on accompanying toddlers and provide you with a free cup of coffee or tea.

Oxfam is delighted to be able to give customers the first early choice of the range of autumn and winter stock and by so doing help Ashridge visitors centre in the middle of September.

the charity continue to provide much needed humanitarian and technical services overseas where the need is overwhelming.

Children's books and toys will also be on sale and a very warm welcome awaits all who visit the civic centre on 2nd September between 9:00am and 11:30am.

ADVANCE NOTICE: W.I. CRAFT EVENT

Ashridge Group 7 of the Women's Institutes are holding a craft display and sale at the Visitors Centre, Ashridge Forest, from 11th-16th September. The exhibition and sale will be open daily from 2:00pm-5:00pm. Admission is 20p and there is free parking. Book the date now! More information next month. *Liz*

Baxendale

BERKHAMSTED W.I.



Our speaker, Mrs Tigger Hewitt, opened our June meeting by offering us a humorous and novel *Peep into the Past*. Mrs Hewitt, who is involved with a unique project

in Hitchin – the British School, a replica Victorian school – explained how she became a collector almost by accident as a child and had continued ever since! She divided her talk into three areas: pottery, glassware and metals / wood. In each area Mrs Hewitt produced many assorted objects, described how she had come by them and gave a potted history of their provenance and manufacture. This was indeed a fresh slant on collectibles and collecting and we were left with Mrs Hewitt's principle – 'use and enjoy your antiques: you can't enjoy them when they are locked up!'.
(con't next page)

The business part of the evening followed with members being reminded of many and varied outings and events throughout the forthcoming summer. These range from a food evening at the local butchery to the group craft display at

Visitors to our meetings and new members will, as ever, be warmly welcomed.

BERKHAMSTED CASTLE W.I.

On a lovely sunny afternoon it was a pleasure for our president to welcome members and visitors to our July meeting. After business matters we listened to a poem written by Liz Baxendale on television watching of Wimbledon, and also a monologue spoken by our member Olive Pepperdine on Henry VIII which she had written after our recent visit to Hampton Court Palace.

Our town topic this month was for a discussion about the leaflet *Dacorum Digest* now being delivered to all households in town explaining *Recollect* - the collection of recycled materials. We have not been given a firm date as to when the scheme will cover Berkhamsted. It appears Hemel Hempstead, Kings Langley, Bovingdon and Tring are covered. Why is Berkhamsted not? It is a long way to walk to the 'tip' at Northbridge road without one's own transport!

Our speaker this month was Mrs Tigger Hewitt with her subject *Food through the Ages*. She was an entertaining speaker who handed recipes to the audience and judged the competition for a favourite kitchen utensil. An appreciation was given by Mary Harris.

On 6th August our speaker is Mrs Louise Reed and her subject is *Behind Harem Walls*. The meeting is at the Court House at 2:00pm. A warm welcome is extended to new members and visitors.

NORTHCHURCH W.I.

In the absence of the president, the June meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mrs Muriel Martin. A number of excellent photographs were available of the presentation of a flower arrangement to Mrs Rosa Newland, who was warmly congratulated upon reaching her 90th birthday.

A group of fifteen members had visited Sandridge Institute on an exchange visit. This proved to be a very pleasant evening and we look forward to returning the visit with equal hospitality later this year.

Three members joined a county ramble around the environs of Boxmoor followed by a pub lunch. It was a joy to see that rare sight, a field of cowslips.

Our delegate to the intermediate biennial meeting was Mrs Janet Mitchell who reported on her day at the Albert Hall. She brought us up to date with headquarters news and announced the results of voting on the four resolutions being presented this year.

Our speaker for the evening should have been Mrs D Hurdle but because of illness her husband took her place. The subject was *The Art of Weaving and Braiding*. Mr Hurdle brought a large collection of the tools used in this craft and described their use. Mrs Wyn Prout-Jones expressed the meeting's thanks.

Many members had kept their knitting needles clicking to produce a very impressive collection of knitted bobble hats which was on display. These are to go to Romania where they are greatly in demand. The meeting closed after the drawing of the raffle and the judging of the competition. ❖



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.

SUNDAY	St Peter's:	8:00am	Eucharist				
		9:30am	Sung Eucharist, crèche, Sunday School & Pathfinders followed by coffee in the Court House				
	All Saints'	11:00am	Celebrate Together (2nd Sunday only) - A service for all ages				
		6:00pm	Evensong [except 1st Sunday]				
		8:00am	Eucharist [except 1st Sunday]				
		9:15am	Sung Eucharist, crèche, Sunday School & Pathfinders followed by coffee in the hall <i>(This service will be replaced by a family Eucharist or, All Saints' being shared with the Methodists, a 10:00am United Service as announced)</i>				
		6:30pm	Evensong [1st Sunday only] Other Sundays Methodist service				
7:30-9:30pm	Youth Fellowship <i>(contact Christine Billington 385566)</i>						
MONDAY	St Peter's	7:30am	Morning Prayer (MP)		5:30pm	Evening Prayer (EP)	
TUESDAY	St Peter's	7:30am	MP				
	All Saints'	9:30am	Eucharist				
WEDNESDAY	St Peter's	6:45am	Eucharist	7:30am	MP	5:30pm	EP
THURSDAY	St Peter's	7:30am	MP	11:00am	Eucharist	5:30pm	EP
FRIDAY	St Peter's	7:30am	MP	9:15am	Eucharist		
SATURDAY	St Peter's	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>					
Mondays (except 1st)	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					
2nd Tues	MOTHERS' UNION: meets in members' houses at 8:00pm. <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.					
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 / Friday	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 Saturday	ABC PRAYER BREAKFAST: 8:00am for breakfast followed by prayers. Meetings rotate between local churches.					

PLEASE CHECK FOR SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS DURING AUGUST!

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 every weekday and 5:30pm Evening Prayer on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; there is 7:30am Morning Prayer and 5:00pm Evening Prayer on Saturdays.

August / Sept 1999

AUGUST

1	10:00am	Joint All Age Service	<i>All Saints'</i>
8	10:00am	Joint Eucharist (Rite A)	<i>All Saints'</i>
15	10:00am	Joint Morning Service	<i>All Saints'</i>
21	8:00am	ABC Prayer Breakfast	<i>St Michael's Sunnyside</i>
22	10:00am	Joint Eucharist (Methodist Rite)	<i>All Saints'</i>
29	10:00am	Joint All Age Eucharist	<i>All Saints'</i>

SEPTEMBER

5	9:15am	All Saints' Sunday School starts the term with breakfast at All Saints'	<i>All Saints'</i>
8	8:00pm	All Saint's Joint Council meets	
9	8:00pm	St Peter Area and All Saints' Area committees meet	
11	10-6pm	Beds & Herts Historic Churches Bike Ride	
12	9:30am	St Peter's Sunday School starts the term with breakfast in the Court House	<i>Court House</i>
18	8:00am	ABC Prayer Breakfast	<i>Sacred Heart</i>

Registers

Baptisms (*St Peter's*)

20 June	George Henry Ranger, Ben Neil Ranger, Zara Elise Copper Eleanor Jane Breakwell
27 June	Charlie John Lang, Jordan Vaughan Dell, Madelyn Patricia Grace Dell, Isabelle Rebecca India Geldart

Funerals

10 June	John Stratford	Chilterns Crematorium
16 June	Roy Clarke	Chilterns Crematorium
18 June	Kenneth Martin Cowley	St Peter's church (ashes buried at St Peter's)
24 June	Leslie Burchell Gresty	Chilterns Crematorium
28 June	Phyllis May Saunders	St Peter's church (burial Kingshill cemetery)

Young people

Churches

PCC 1999/2000

Contacts

CONTACT LIST

Names and local telephone numbers for jobs, rotas and information (for clergy, parish officers, music, bells and banns etc. see back page). Parish Office in the Court House (sec: Jean Green, 878227) is usually open 9:30-5:30 Tues/Wed, 9:30-1pm Friday (ansaphone other times). Changes from the last list are shown in *italics*.

	<i>St Peters</i>	<i>All Saints</i>
Altar service	Keith Middleditch (862423)	Jenny Wells (870981)
Chalice rota	Martin Macdonald (872002)	Jenny Wells (870981)
Sunday school	Angela Dunsford (875726)	Elizabeth Figg (866161)
Youth activities	Carole Dell (864706)	Christina Billington (385566)
Church maintenance	Christopher Green (863241)	Martin Judd (865691)
Church cleaning	Jean Green (863241)	Cathline Blundell (862897)
Flower arrangements	Gwen Beddall (862845)	Jayne Harris (873974)
Sunday morning coffee	Rene Dunford (862420)	Sylvia Banks (871195)
Service recordings	- - -	Ian McCalla (384574)
Intercessions	Rev. Mark Bonney (864194)	Jenny Wells (870981)
Epistle Readers	Ron Fisher (865846)	Jenny Wells (870981)
Electoral Roll	Pat Hearne (871270)	Pat Hearne (871270)
Pathfinders	Stephen Lally (863526)	Felicity White (866223)
Sidesmen	Barbara Conway (865798)	John Banks (871195)
Social events	Currently vacant	Jayne Harris (873974)
Catering	Val Atkinson (866792)	Rodney Cottrell (384963)
Hospice contact	Angela Morris (866992)	May Kempster (863037).



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Principal J.R.Adkins BSc (Hons) PGCE

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;
 Peter McMunn, 37, North Road. Tel: 874894
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: Terry Charlston Tel: 01582 462024
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: M,W,Th 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'

Choirmaster: Peter McMunn Tel: 874894
 Organist: Paul Swinden Tel: 239975
Sundays
 8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday - Methodist rite)
 9.15am Sung Eucharist with Sunday schools & Pathfinders, then coffee in the Hall
 11.00am (Methodist Morning Service)
 6.30pm Evening Service (1st Sunday - Anglican rite, other Sundays Methodist rite)
Weekdays
 Holy Communion: Tuesday 9.30am Holy Days - see weekly Notices
 (All Saints' is an Anglican / Methodist Local Ecumenical Partnership)



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