# Berkhamsted \*\* \*\*PULEUU\*\*\*

In this issue

September 1999

Children and Communion

A garden adorned

Cohabitation and marriage

The future of Cooper's

Calling all toddlers!

This month's Notes & Events





for Town and Parish

25p



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

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

The political scene, both locally and nationally, offers continuing 'sport' as protagonists debate differing views in forums ranging from parliament and council chambers to the tabloid press. Such is the spirit of democracy. Whilst we may look on in dismay at some of the more extreme examples - or maybe even with some humour - it's certainly true that in this country we have a rich tradition of debate which, at the end of the day, lubricates the process of decision making.

While not wishing to compare the *Review* with the tabloid press - far from it! - the magazine plays its part in providing a forum for debate of local issues. In this issue, for example, you'll come across political comment and argument together with an excellent piece by Margaret Burbidge looking at modern-day marriage, all of which will get you thinking (and maybe even your pen writing).

Every argument has two sides, and we do our best to present both, impartially and even handedly. If *you* have a view on something you see in the magazine, a local issue or just something you feel strongly about, then write in and tell us!

Chris Smalley

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

#### Do not stop them

Fr Mark Bonney explains why younger children could be welcomed at Holy Communion.

#### Cohabitation and marriage

Margaret Burbidge examines the shift in attitudes to formal marriage.

#### A garden adorned

**Stephen Halliday** tells how Leicester Square, paid for with embezzled funds, emerged in its modern form.

#### Which experts to believe?

Who should hold sway over the Cooper's sheep-dip factory? asks **Ian Reay**.

### Calling all toddlers!

There's lots of fun for toddlers – and their parents, says **Judith Ewart.** 

#### **Support our schools**

Rev Peter Hart looks at how we should support changes in the curriculum.

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

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Next copy dates (all Fridays): 3 September 8 October 5 November



Fr Mark Bonney summarises the debate on children taking part in Holy Communion.

# review leader

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs'. What would he have

said I wonder in relation to children receiving Holy Communion.... and possibly receiving Holy Communion *before* confirmation?

This is an issue that the Church of England has been wrestling with for a few years now. Three dioceses had been allowed to experiment and a majority of the parishes involved reported very favourably on the experiment. As a result of this, two years ago, the House of Bishops issued guidelines, welcomed by the General Synod, which make it possible for diocesan bishops to grant permission for parishes to welcome children to communion before confirmation. Our own Bishop Christopher has not yet decided whether he is willing to give this permission or not, and has begun a consultation process on the matter. Earlier in the year he formed a commission to reflect on the issue and to report to him with recommendations. The commission has unanimously recommended that children of all ages be admitted to communion before confirmation on equal terms with adults in those parishes which apply to the bishop for permission. The commission also recommends that the dioceses adopt a model of on-going Christian nurture for the whole congregation rather than a model based primarily upon preparation for a specific event.

These are just recommendations. The report of the commission was discussed at

diocesan synod in June and parishes and deaneries are being encouraged to engage with the issues and report their responses to the Bishop who intends to make his decision by the end of the year.

As those who came and heard me talk about the new baptism services will be aware, the theological reason behind this proposed change in what many will see as the 'traditional' way of doing things (although historically it's a Reformation creation in its present form) is a recaptured awareness across the denominations of the centrality of baptism - and of baptism as the primary sacrament of initiation. The argument goes - once you're baptised, you're a member of the Church and as a member of the Church entitled to share in the eucharist. Our 19th century forebears certainly downplayed the significance of baptism and made a very big thing of confirmation, and it is perhaps that pattern that many of us have grown up with. It may be strong in our bones but it doesn't necessarily mean it's right (although it may be!)

As many will know the Roman Catholic Church admits children to communion before confirmation. It is also widespread within the Anglican Communion. For example, the Scottish Episcopal Church has admitted baptised but unconfirmed children to communion since 1975. The Episcopal Church of the (continued on page 5)

Cover: The new Caffe Uno restaurant and the pavement available for uses other than the Saturday market. See Around the Town, page 9. Photo: Chris Smalley

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## review leader (continued from page 3)

USA has adopted the guiding principle that baptism opens up a lifetime of unfolding the rich meaning of what has been given in the sacrament. It is free of a minimum age or understanding for admission to communion. Confirmation is a sign of becoming an adult member of the Episcopal Church. The Anglican Churches in New Zealand, Canada, Kenya, South Africa, Brazil and Australia all have some form of practice admitting children to communion before confirmation. I mention all these so that you're aware this isn't some quaint idea the Church of England is discussing!

However, the variety of practice and the concerns that people hold means that there are important things to discuss - the matter is not cut and dried. The PCC will be discussing the matter at its meeting on 5th October when the Revd Andrew Pattman, the diocesan children's work adviser will be with us. At the beginning of this month the diocese will be making background material and discussion papers available and I will try to leave copies of such material at the back of St Peter's for

people to read. There are also briefing meetings for those who want to be as informed as possible about this; the ones nearest to us are on 20th September at St Augustine's church, Oakwood Avenue, Dunstable (8:00 to 9:30pm), and on 22nd September at Christ Church parish hall, Radlett (8:00 to 9:30pm). Anyone concerned and interested in the issue would be very welcome at these briefings.

Parishes have to make a response to the Bishop via the diocesan education centre by 26th November which will give us a chance to have a parish based reflection upon this if there is a feeling that this would be right. But before you jump to any conclusions about it please try to be informed and read the material that will be available and if you can attend one of the briefings.





## 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

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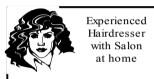
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Around the	-
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#### Saint Alban and Berkhamsted

A new book by Eileen Roberts has just been published, called *Images of Alban*. In it she examines the way St Alban, the patron saint of our diocese, has been portrayed in art from earliest times. One of the images she looked at and analysed at length is the picture of him in a stained glass window in St Peter's, Berkhamsted. It is the one in the south aisle in which he is shown as a Roman soldier, which in fact he never was.

But he is dressed not just like any old Roman soldier: Dr Roberts identifies him as being modelled on none other than the Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius, in the parade uniform of the Commander-in-Chief of the Roman army. One of the best makers of Victorian stained glass, Kempe, was probably responsible for the design of the window, and presumably he was seeking to show Alban – England's first martyr – as our foremost soldier in the Christian cause. It is an excellent window, full of fine detail. There is a coloured photograph of it in the book, but do pop in and have a look at it in the flesh.

Did Alban ever come to Berkhamsted in his lifetime in the third century AD? He might well have passed through. It is thought that although he was British born he had the status of a Roman citizen which gave him some freedom to move about. Berkhamsted is only eleven miles from Verulamium (today's St Albans) where he lived; there was quite a network of Roman roads in the area at the time and Berkhamsted was on one of the major ones. Mind you, there would not have been much cause for him to linger here. All there was to be seen then was a wooded valley with a marshy bottom to it, small settlements of Britons (probably Celts) and a scattering of Roman villas.

#### Owners of The Hall

Last month I mentioned the mansion at the eastern end of the Town called The Hall and the last of its owners, Edward Greene. Colin Davies, who lives in Garden Field Lane, has written to say that the deeds of his house show that part of the land it is built on belonged to Edward Greene and before that to previous owners of The Hall. These include John Curtis, who owned land all over England and gave his name to a local street, Curtis Way; Thomas Dwight of Dwight's Pheasantries which some of us can remember; Henry Lane of Lane's Nurseries (which fewer can remember) and others.

Colin suggests that there is scope for an article about the interesting owners of this house. He ends up by asking a question: Garden Field Lane apparently used to be called Sugar Lane. Does anyone know how the name got changed?

#### Too many castles

Along the A4251, a few hundred yards closer to the town centre than the site of The Hall, Barretts have put up large signs, complete with flags, advertising the 100 or so houses and flats that are to be built on the large AgrEvo site that stretches from the *Bull* almost to Holliday Street. This is well in advance of building starting. First there is the demolition to be done and the contaminated soil to be dug out and carted away. All of this will be a major operation.

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They have chosen to call the development Castle Quay. No marks there for originality. Why does everyone want to have 'castle' in the names of things in the Town? We have Castle Street, Castle Wharf, Castle Mews, Castle House, Castle Chambers, Castle Ceramics, Castle Recruitment, and I am sure there are others which I can't just bring to mind at the moment. Could Barretts be persuaded to think again?

#### Windows

This December the Berkhamsted Citizens Association will again present a silver cup to the shop they judge to have the best dressed window for the festive season. It struck me that there might be a case for doing this more often, not just at Christmas.

For years now *Barbara's the Florists* have regularly re-arranged their nice window displays to reflect the changing seasons and events like Wimbledon and Remembrance time. Now *The Home and Colonial* has set a high standard which I very much hope it will be able to keep up. One week there is a display of old toys, the next clocks, then 'motorobilia' (components from vintage cars like acetylene lamps, and the tops of old petrol pumps and so on); and as I write there is a fine display of pictures, some with a local connection.

There are several other shops that take pains to arrange their window displays with imagination and flair. Some don't, of course, but I had better not say which.

#### **Pavement Opportunities**

Perhaps the Town has been a bit slow in realising that the widening of the pavement on the north side of the High Street between Water Lane and Lower Kings Road, following the opening of the bypass, offers opportunities for uses other than just holding the Saturday market. Anyway, better late than never: we now have a florist there on weekdays, the *Caffe Uno* puts tables out on it in clement weather as seems appropriate for an Italian

restaurant, and now we have the Friday antiques and collectibles market. The market trustees are reasonably satisfied with the way this has got off the ground, and the quality of the merchandise on sale has been a bit better than mere bric-a-brac.

How the commercial scene along our High Street has changed since the Town first held a market and there were bags of corn and lowing beasts to be bought and sold. The market is of great antiquity. In 1217 market day was changed from Sunday to Monday, and in 1618 a new charter from King James I authorised the holding of a market on Thursday as well as Monday. By late Victorian times this had extended to three days a week, 'but all so small as to be hardly noticeable'.

An earlier charter had decreed that no other market town was to be set up within eleven miles of Berkhamsted, and if this could still be enforced we could put the kibosh on the markets at both Hemel Hempstead and Tring. But we wouldn't want to do that, would we?



Home and Colonial -best window displays?

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Cohabitation is a word which has crept increasingly into our vocabulary in the last thirty years, and describes the living together outside marriage of a man and a woman committed to each other in a stable relationship. Cohabitation has always existed and it is impor-

tant to remember that it was not until 1753 in England and Wales that marriages had to take place before a registered official, in front of witnesses and be recorded in a register. Prior to that marriage ceremonies were variable or non-existent. What is significant has been the rising trend towards cohabitation in the last thirty years and it is estimated that four out of five couples will do this before marriage by the year 2000. Up to the 1960's marriage, sexual intercourse and child bearing were largely bound together, but by the 1970's these ties were loosening. Marriage rates began to fall and by the late 80's. 58 percent of women marrying for the first time had cohabited. On average a cohabiting relationship lasts for about two years, with the couple then marrying or deciding to separate. A small proportion will remain unmarried, continue to live together and have children. This raises questions for Christians about the meaning of marriage, and why there has been such a rapid and significant, change in behaviour.

What is meant by marriage will bring many different responses. For Christians the Bible gives little help in finding answers. A key text comes from Mark's gospel, drawing on the creation story in Genesis: 'But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." (Mark 10v6-8). There is no

# Cohabitation and Marriage

Margaret Burbidge considers the change in relationships over the years away from traditional marriage. reference in the bible to a ceremony connected with marriage, so 'wife' would indicate a woman in a committed relationship to the man. Reflection on this passage shows marriage to be part of the whole creative process, fulfilling a deep intrinsic need in most people to

be in a close and intimate relationship. It is to be entered into voluntarily and at a stage in life when a man and a woman are ready to be independent of their parents. It will involve today an intimate, personal sexual relationship, and among other things, love, commitment and trust. It also involves friendship and comfort of each other, as well as the practicalities of managing a home and the demands of paid employment or unemployment and perhaps raising children.

The Bible does not tell us how to achieve this in the complex world of the late 20th century. With life expectancy increasing, 'till death us do part' could mean fifty or sixty years together. This along with other factors, leads many couples to enter into a cohabiting relationship, perhaps seeing it as a preparation for marriage and helping them to feel more certain of the promises they will make to each other in the public marriage ceremony.

Among the changes in the last thirty years, a significant one has been the availability of effective contraception. The Pill has meant that sexual relationships are freed from procreation and for many need not be tied to marriage. There is an emphasis on the quality of relationships between partners, and on the

(continued on page 13)

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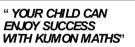
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## Cohabitation and Marriage

(continued from page 11)

sexual relationship in particular. Young people today reach sexual maturity before they are able to be totally independent of their parents. Small families with the birth of children often being carefully planned, are the norm. The second half of this century has seen women becoming more independent, better-educated and developing their careers. The clear-cut roles of the marriage relationship of a generation or two ago are gone; the woman is no longer the homemaker nor the man the bread-winner.

Then there is the experience of marriage and broken marriage among family and friends. Young people today are more aware of the pitfalls than in any previous time. All this and much more leads many couples to a fundamental belief that the chances of making a successful and lasting relationship are improved by a period of cohabitation before marriage. They want to prepare as well as they can because they consider it important and regard their relationship as fully-committed, exclusive and permanent. It is impossible to predict how relationships will develop in the future and to be certain of the importance of a marriage ceremony for every single couple. The ways of achieving a lasting marriage relationship may change and be different for different people. Kahlil Gibran, an early 20th century poet and philosopher, warns parents about their children: '..seek not to make them like vou. For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday'. What is important is that a young couple embarking on the process of developing a life-long relationship with each other, need the love and support of family and friends and that should be a Christian response.



Book the weekend of 6th / 7th November in your diary now! Preparations for the Anglican and Methodist joint All Saints' Festival on 6th and 7th November are well under way. Our youngsters are busy preparing various performances for your entertainment. Cot quilts designed by the children are being completed, and we look forward to the creation by all visitors of a large quilt during the festival.

All this and so much more! Do read the details of the photographic competition below, and there will be lots of delicious food. Please book the dates in your diary now!

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In January 1874 the Metropolitan Board of Works received an offer from Albert Grant, the financier, to rebuild Leicester Square as a 'beautiful garden, adorned with statuary'. The Board accepted with alacrity.

The ceremony in Grant handed over the square on 2nd July 1874 was afforded generous coverage in London newspapers, notably *The Times* and

illustrated London News. The following day The Times, which was to be embarrassed by Grant's appearance in Twycross vs Grant two years later, informed its readers that 'Mr Grant's speech, if not very short, was almost all to the purpose' while the Illustrated London News reported that the total cost to Grant of buying and re-furbishing the square with statues, gardens and seats for two hundred people amounted to £28,000, a figure supplied by Grant himself. The Leicester Square Defence Committee used the occasion to record its own gratitude which recorded 'You, Sir, by a great act of generosity, have converted that which was a filthy wilderness into a blooming garden and thing of beauty'. The Board registered its appreciation of Grant's generosity in its minutes:

'the Board assures Mr Albert Grant of its appreciation of the munificence and public spirit which influenced him in making the gift, and is convinced that this appreciation is shared by the inhabitants of the Metropolis generally'.

Its conviction was repeated in its report for the year in which it recorded that:

'Thus the once desolate and dreary piece of ground has been transformed

# 'A BEAUTIFUL GARDEN, ADORNED WITH STATUARY'

Stephen Halliday completes his tour of the history of the London landmark, Leicester Square. into a beautiful garden, adorned with statuary, and that it is thoroughly appreciated by the public is shown by the numbers who ... have thronged the enclosure'.

Indeed the summer crowds had been so great that they had attracted the attention of a clergyman, the Reverend Whitemore, who applied to the Board to be allowed to hold services there on

Sundays. His request was declined.

The sources of Grant's money were certainly doubtful. In fact his career bears a chilling resemblance to that of the late Robert Maxwell: the change of name (though the title 'Baron Grant' sounds rather grander than 'Captain Bob'); the money taken from needy subscribers to companies whose profits were illusory; the brief period as a Member of Parliament; the flamboyant court appearances. Grant even owned a newspaper, The Echo, for a few months in 1874. However in Leicester Square Albert Grant did leave something of lasting value to his fellow citizens. The Metropolitan described it as 'certainly one of the most appropriate, timely and munificent gifts which could have been made to the Metropolis'. The square sustained some damage in World War II but remained substantially as Albert Grant created it until 1981 when a statue of Charlie Chaplin was added to those commissioned by Grant. In 1992. following some re-development, it was reopened by the Oueen but it remains as a distinctive memorial to one of Victoria's more flamboyant subjects.

ou are invited to a wedding in Trinidad!" We had booked a holiday months ago and the summer ahead was well planned. But our plans had not included a trip to Trinidad and Tobago. We consulted our diaries. It was short notice but ves. we could just fit in a

fortnight at the end of June and the beginning of July. I have a cousin who lives in Trinidad and one of her sons was getting married. It was a chance for a second visit for me and the chance to show the place to Stephen.

We made plans, and purchased airline tickets. When eventually the excitement had died down, I wondered whether any M.U. branch in our diocese had a link branch in Trinidad. Sure enough, I found that St Mark's, Hitchin M.U. not only had a link branch at St Michael and All Angels, Diego Martin but had actually made a banner for them two or three years ago which one of their members had

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# THE MOTHER'S UNION

Jenny Wells finds a warm welcome from the Mother's Union in the Caribbean.

cousins house. I rang Joseph (the Jean member who has corresponded with Margaret Hammond in Hitchin) and a visit was arranged the following week, after

delivered personally.

They were delighted to think I would be in

and hoped that I

would visit the group.

Once

neighbourhood

at

all the wedding festivities were concluded.

And so it was that Stephen and I were to spend a most enjoyable afternoon in the company of the M.U. members and their rector, Matthew Grav and his wife.

We were shown around their attractive modern church and of course saw the M.U. banner. Then we were taken by a car on a tour of the parish including St Michael's school for wayward boys where a new wing had been opened by the Bishop the previous day.

We then returned to the rectory for tea and refreshments in true M.U. fashion. It was such a happy occasion with plenty of

> jokes and laughter, and if the Caribbean accent made some of it difficult to follow it didn't really matter. They plied us with presents, Tshirts and book marks from the branch, and other items Berkhamsted for and Hitchin. We eventually parted with many hugs and kisses after a wonderful afternoon.

> We were to experience many other examples of the Trinidadian hospitality and many interesting sights, but I shall always remember that afternoon at Diego Martin.

A quality driven recruitment Secretaries, Administrators,

vacancy please call:



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RECRUITING FOR BERKHAMSTED



One of the nicest things about becoming mayor is the incredible variety of fascinating people and unusual places that you visit on your travels. I have seen everything, in fact, from Ashlyns Hall classic car show to the

opening of the Amaravati Buddhist monastery at Great Gaddesden.

You very quickly forgo the cut and thrust of political debate and try very hard to be an impartial arbitrator. When you proffer a possible compromise to break the impasse that satisfies absolutely nobody then you accept that you have probably made a wise decision.

What I would like to do from time to time is let you know what the council are doing that could prove to be of benefit to the town.

An interested citizen for instance suggested a circular wrought-iron seat should be placed around the tree near the bus shelter near WH Smith's. Without trawling through the bureaucratic minutiae let me say that the end result could be a triumph for sensible co-operation.

# A View from the Parlour

Town Mayor **John Brooks** reflects on his role and looks at recent council initiatives.

The Round Table were prepared to fund the project for the millennium. The town council ascertained the planning procedures and will co-ordinate the work. The borough council (via Chipperfield town) recommended a visit

to an artistic blacksmith's studio in Aldbury. The county council agreed to install the hexagonal structure and rearrange the street furniture. The market traders accepted there would be a minor rearrangement to their Saturday layout. Regrettably, negotiations are still unresolved with the birds which nest in the upper branches of said tree.

In the months ahead I will update you on the De Lisle clock, the Christmas festival of light, the heritage walk and the millennium book - to name but a few. I have to admit, though, that I will not attempt to provide a disinterested overview of any subsequent development in Raven's Lane or Stag Lane. That would sorely test the legendary wisdom of Solomon himself.



# Emmaus The Way of Faith

You are invited to make a journey with us as we take a six week look at

#### 'WHAT CHRISTIANS BELIEVE'

Especially designed for new Christians, those wishing to brush up their faith,

those searching for real meaning in their lives.

Tuesdays 1.30pm-3pm at the Rectory (beginning 28 September)

Wednesdays 8pm-9.30pm at 'Landswood', Shootersway (beginning 29 September)

If you'd like to join call Fr Mark (864194) or John Malcolm (874993).

# CALLING ALL TODDLERS!

# Chuckles Toddler Group



Chuckles meets in All Saints' church hall from 10:00am to 11:30am. There is a service on some Tuesdays at 10:15am. This includes a bible story for the very young using puppets and lots of songs. On other Tuesdays we have songs with both familiar and new rhymes and lots of fun with music. At 10:45am we have playtime with push-along and climbing toys, a home corner, a quiet table and a messy activity.

Coffee and biscuits are served and there is a weekly charge of 50p. To find out more contact Gillian on 874993 or Kate on 866531.

The programme for September to December is:

7 Sept Noah and his ark

14 Sept Songs

21 Sept Jacob and his ladder

28 Sept Songs 5 Oct Harvest 12 Oct Songs

19 Oct Balaam and his donkey

26 Oct Half term 2 Nov Songs

9 Nov Joshua and his trumpet

16 Nov Songs

23 Nov Elijah and the still, small voice

30 Nov Songs

7 Dec Christmas story 14 Dec Christmas Party Come to **Chuckles** on Tuesdays and/or **Little Fishes** on Fridays: bring your mum or dad to meet friends and have a cup of coffee. A new terms begins this month...

# Little Fishes Toddler Group

Term starts again on 10th September. The two action-packed rooms at the Court House contain a Wendy house, which doubles as a hospital or a supermarket, jigsaws, train track, cars, animals, a rocking horse and a babies' corner. There is also the chance to try out a craft or various messy activities.

Refreshments are available for all. The cost is £1 weekly.

There is a pram service at 10:00am in St Peter's church on the first Friday of each month, with the chance to sing, play instruments, listen to and join in with a story or talk. The first service this term will be on 1st October with a harvest theme.

For further information contact Katy Bonney on 864194.



There are other toddler groups at the Sessions Hall, Kings Road Evangelical church and Sunnyside. Nicholas, my two year old, and I have not yet toddled along to these – perhaps someone else could write about them, so that we can see what we're missing!

Judith Ewart

Tn recent months Glaxo-Wellcome has **I**stirred up sleeping disquiet in the old part of the town with the planning application to demolish the Cooper's sheep dip factory between Manor Street and Ravens Lane. A controversy has arisen since GlaxoWellcome wish to demolish the site and rebuild with a block of flats while many feel that such a historically important site. Berkhamsted's conservation area, should The reasons for the be retained. demolition - potentially hazardous arsenic poison in the fabric and soil of the site has raised fears in the minds of the nearby residents that their property might be similarly blighted.

The strong feelings expressed during discussions of this problem at town council meetings have reminded me that recent are all cynics.

for us. Cynicism is an unavoidable element of that disputatious approach to arriving at the truth which is the basis of our legal and political systems. When out

attempting to an the truth of a =

pronounce. There is no such thing as an independent expert. All experts are employed by sontoodly touth shought interest - and if they are not they are unlikely to devote the same Converge distribution cause as truly committed sartisanse in combat.

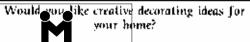
Fighting wars between armies with weapons mawdoddialprost/alixtaningrong, but fighting wars Recenteens, that tieamps with words is probably affisost always right. Although in All Butiness untito ndiscipline within the ranks is important.

But I have strayed from the point - the possible demolition of the Cooper's site. I would like to seo/thes buildings retained and converted into dwellings. But I do see that if there is a risk of poisoning then this

of this reports from the borolight council saying planning te had helded of inschalability in he buildings exceed the safe surveys of public opinion have shown that at error ith I drotted by this (partour not styrnamed) the public's trust in both government flouriffdepartmental accommittee on he (especially politicians) and corporate Redevelopment of Contaminated Land business has shrunk in recent decativer Bulkouring in alternational decaperties are Nobody trusts those, even those discretion from the power to make decisions and have seen a report from another expert, nobody trusts big business. Nowadays we per saying that there is absolutely no reason, will ensure that asours dist the perfect daynes in Actually I believe that a moderate dose the report) why such contamination as of cynicism, as with most things, is geal ustiler author author

11442aR4 pge 550 problem. What weight should we give to these differing expert views? My inclination is to go with the experts acting for those who would be responsible for meeting any claims for damages. They have a bigger

> means being biased towards But Ohnamental chromwerk and ailed information has been called



heir

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## Frank E Sennitt

Workshop is at:

Binghams Park Farm Potten End Hill, Water End Hemel Hempstead Herts HP1 3BN Tel / fax 01442 262040





Town councillor Ian Reav looks at the future of the Cooper's sheep dip factory.



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Every Saturday 9am - 12noon

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# reviewletters

#### Thank You

Valerie and Ian McCalla write:

Now that the dust has settled after our move to Shropshire, and the sea of boxes has dwindled, we are able to get out and enjoy the magnificent hills which surround us on all sides.

We have so much to be grateful for, both here and back in Berkhamsted. Our hearts and minds constantly go to thoughts of friends and the community we have left behind.

Our special thanks must go to everyone who contributed to our leaving presents. The painting of Berkhamsted (the Court House and St Peter's church) was the first picture to be hung. Like the handsome wall clock it is in a prominent place where it can be admired each day.

We still have great memories of our farewell party and we thank everyone who came and helped to make it such an evening to remember.

Our new address and telephone number are printed below. We shall be delighted to see old friends and you can be sure of a warm welcome. We send you all our very best wishes.

> Anchorsholme, Heighways Lane All Stretton, Church Stretton Shropshire SY6 6HN Tel: 01694 724688



You can email your letter to the *Review* at: review@c-of-e.freeserve.co.uk

#### **Borough Officers**

Stanley Sharpe, borough and town Liberal Democrat councillor, writes:

Since Norman Cutting's piece in your August edition is one of a series of farewell performances, I will refrain from being too critical.

I will not enlarge upon the point made that town council meetings which used to last until 10:30pm when Norman was present now finish at 9:00. Nor will I comment on his opinion of his erstwhile fellow councillors: we can answer back if we so wish.

However, he must not be allowed to get away with his cynical remarks about borough officers. Let me remind you of what he said: 'It's funny how when Labour were in power, officers provided reports that 'proved' that green belt land was the only land available for the additional housing 'need'. Any day now, expect to see headlines to the effect that no green belt land will be required as other land has been identified. This will come from those very same officers'.

The officers did not set out to 'prove' anything. They were working to the directive given by elected members that at least 60 percent of the dwellings should be on brownfield sites. They achieved 65 Α new administration. percent. democratically elected on a manifesto 'promise' of no building on Green Belt, have instructed the officers to look again at the plan. They will do their best to meet the wishes of the new representatives of the people. It is a difficult brief, but that is what democracy decrees.

The officers' task will not be made easier by Norman's ill-considered comments.

12 Alyngton, Northchurch

# review letters

#### A road name proposal

Mrs J Gladstone writes:

After reading John Cook's article on Edgeworth and the suggestion that a road might be named after him at some future date, I would like to suggest we also honour a more recent resident of the town.

The Reverend Stephen Breukleman was known and loved by many and his untimely death was a great loss to many of us, adults and children alike, who enjoyed the way he brought Christianity to life.

A street named after him would be a lasting memorial to a man who gave so much of his energies to the town and might also prove a comfort to his young widow Mary and their three daughters.

Like many who die young, Stephen Breukleman always seemed brimful of the joy of life, and the love of God shone out from him to reach others in a very special way.

> 4 Briar Way Berkhamsted HP4 2JJ

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Watches from the finest Watch Houses, Beautiful Cultured Pearls, Diamond and Gem Ring Specialists Jewellery of every description and much. much more!!

#### Go inside, please!

Paul Gilbert writes:

Perhaps someone at Berkhamsted Collegiate School can answer why sixformers at the school are permitted to walk around the High Street eating and drinking in the street around the lunch-time period.

Obviously they buy their provisions at the local bakeries or supermarkets but surely there is some facility available on school premises?

Isn't it time to enforce the use of such premises, as in my own time at secondary modern, to prevent such a poor example to others by pupils of a private school, and get such behaviour off our streets.

26 Highfield Road Berkhamsted HP4 2DD

# 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.



# reviewnorthchurch

Revd Peter Hart considers our role in supporting the school curriculum. September can be a difficult month. It sits at the pivot of the academic year, ushering in new classes and new schools, off to college, or leaving home for university. It also brings a full return to work

after lazy summer days. The temperature drops markedly, the light is not so good in the evenings and you can no longer get three loads of washing dry in a day! In the garden, there is as much clearing and cutting back as harvesting and enjoyment. The swifts no longer wheel overhead and squirrels knuckle down to the onerous tasks of building up their body fat for winter comfort and planting trees exactly where you do not want them.

One of the new experiences that many will have this September is the numeracy hour in school. This follows hot on the heels of the literacy hour and is part of the government's strategy for improving standards across the board in education. There is no denying the centrality of reading and writing to our modem lives; using numbers and doing *hard sums* are equally important. So, from 6th September, teachers and pupils alike will be concentrating on 'number work' for a consistent time, each school day, in a redesigned curriculum and timetable.

I believe that, as a parish and as a church, we ought to support staff, children and parents as this new way of working

gets under way. For the teachers, there has been a huge burden of training and preparation already for the literacy hour and now there is another load to be borne. Children will be called upon to concentrate and work in new ways. Parents will be involved in developing the work that comes home - not just seeing that it is done, but frequently joining in the learning activities.

Firstly, we must pray for teachers, pupils, support staff and parents through the whole of the school term, for joy in learning and pleasure in discovery, for energy, safety and friendship. Secondly, we can support practically by offering time - in the classroom if possible, or out of school. But please be sensitive to the school's requirements. The head teacher will be delighted to talk through with you how you can help. Thirdly, we can take an interest in what children are doing at school, enjoy their work as they show it to us and praise them for their achievements.

The literacy hour has generated great enthusiasm for poetry and story writing and there have been some wonderfully imaginative pieces of work produced as a result of the hour's work. The numeracy hour ought to create the same wave of interest in number patterns and problem solving. Let's recognise our part as members of the wider society (within which our schools operate) and as members of the church, and offer our prayers, our practical support and our encouragement to everyone involved.



# reviewnotes&notices

# BERKHAMSTED PAROCHIAL AND ECCLESIASTICAL CHARITIES

In a recent issue of the *Review* John Cook touched on the history of the Berkhamsted Parochial and Ecclesiastical Charities.

In November, the trustees will be meeting to allocate grants for the current year. If anyone wishes to apply, please apply to the clerk to the trustees by 31st October at the latest.

The trustees are restricted by certain conditions in the relevant deeds under which grants can be made. In the main the grants must be for the benefit of persons who live in the ancient parish of Berkhamsted St Peter. They must also be for the sick or poor, or for the general benefit of persons who live here. The trustees are allowed some discretion in applying these conditions.

Please write to Gordon Hufford (clerk to the trustees), 63 Kings Road, Berkhamsted HP4 3BP (phone 864124).

#### W.E.A.

Three exciting courses of ten weeks each are planned for the autumn in Berkhamsted, starting in the second half of September.

On Monday evenings at 8:00pm there will be A Touch of Magic, a study of some works of Shakespeare. On Wednesday evenings at 8:00pm you can study Mushrooms, Toadstools and other fungi with weekend outings and forays. Both courses meet in Berkhamsted library. On Wednesday mornings at 10:30 there is an art history course entitled The Richness of the Middle Ages in the Friends Meeting House, High Street.

For further information please ring June Douglas on 862860.

# THE SPONSORED BICYCLE RIDE 11TH SEPTEMBER

Good things happen hereabouts, as a result of the annual sponsored bike ride. Wigginton Baptist Chapel's tiled roof and the fine sash windows of New Mill Baptist church in Tring have been well renewed with the help of the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust. The stonework of the great Norman tower of St Mary's Hemel Hempstead is about to be restored, again with the trust's help.

These three grants, of around £3,500 each, are among 16 made as a result of last year's bike ride, which raised £63,500 all over Beds and Herts. Hearty thanks to all who took part. Why don't *you* join in this year, and increase our help to churches in need of costly repair? Get friends to sponsor you for the number of churches you visit on the day, on a bike *or on foot*.

All churches in Berkhamsted take part, and you can get a sponsorship form and a list of churches open from St Peter's and All Saints' organisers (see the advertisement on page 14) or from your own church. Have fun planning your own route, so you can impress your friends into supporting you generously! Half the money goes to the church of your choice, and half to the trust for grants. Good luck!

Patrick Lepper

#### **APOLOGIES**

Unfortunately a few typographical errors crept into the advertisement in last month's *Review* for Impetus Mortgage Solutions (see page 22 of this issue). We apologise for this.



# 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.

#### **DACORUM HERITAGE TRUST**

The Dacorum Heritage Trust are presenting a Dacorum canal exhibition in the Court House from 6th to 11th September. Admission is free and the exhibition is open from 10:00 to 5:00pm each day.



Within the Dacorum district there is a total of approximately 17 miles of the Grand Union canal including two locks of the Aylesbury Arm, the one-mile-long Wendover Arm and 32 locks. The stretch of the main canal is much used by through traffic as part of a popular circular route formed by the Grand Union Canal from Braunston to Brentford, the River Thames from Brentford to Oxford and back up to the Grand Union Canal via the Oxford Canal. Within the district, the canal passes through a variety of landscapes ranging from part of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, including the Tring cutting, to the industrial areas of Berkhamsted, Hemel Hempstead and Kings Langley.

The Tring reservoirs were built to maintain an adequate level of water in the canal at Tring summit. This year's DHT autumn exhibition is to mark the fact that the canal reached the Tring summit 200 years ago, in 1799.

#### FOR THOSE IN PERIL ON THE SEA

The Berkhamsted branch of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution urgently needs some new blood. We are currently looking for people (of all ages) to join our branch to help us raise funds for this very worthwhile charity. There are many ways to help and I will be very happy to enlighten you in the 'ways of the sea'.

Please contact me, Margaret Edenborough, on 865545 if you can help in any way.

#### TUESDAY CLUB

Our new programme starts after the summer break on Tuesday 7th September with a talk by Canon Basil Jones entitled *Thinking the Unthinkable*.

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

## **AGED CHRISTIAN LADY**

requires a kindly lady companion to stay, sleeping overnights and making breakfast. No house cleaning is required.

Salary etc. by negotiation. References are essential.

Please phone 01442 863150



#### Parish email addresses

Fr Mark:

mbonney@c-of-efreserve.co.uk

Fr Robin:

r.figg@c-of-e.freeserve.co.uk

Parish office:

j.green@c-of-e.freeserve.co.uk

review:

review@c-of-efreeserve.co.uk

# reviewnotes&notices

#### BERKHAMSTED W.I.

In keeping with the wonderful weather we are enjoying this summer, our July speaker, Mr Peter Sutherst, gave a beautifully illustrated talk on *Taking Better Photographs* by taking us through an 'imaginary' holiday and demonstrating how to make the best of every photographic opportunity which presented itself.

Mr Sutherst, a retired professional photographer, told us of the interesting paths which his life had followed, all of which necessitated the use of photography in some form. Whether writing photographic leaflets or assessing photographers and their work, Mr Sutherst obviously always has his camera 'at the ready'.

The diversity of his subjects – from flora to fauna and all stops in between – left us with some very useful guidelines. Always try to 'frame' the shot, have a 'focal' point for every photo and consider scale, light and composition in order to make the best of your subject. Managing to master all of this before the subject moves or changes is obviously another skill!

On Wednesday, 18th August Mr B W Yetts took us through *Some Botanical Gardens of North America*. Visitors and new members will, as ever, be welcomed at all our meetings.

# THANK YOU FROM THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The Children's Society raised £545 from their showing of gardens in Meadway on Sun 18th July.

The society raised £589 from the needlecraft exhibition staged for them by Threads of Amersham on 13-15th Aug.

£5,400 has been received so far from walkers on the Berkhamsted Walk on 9th May. There still could be up to another £800 to come in so if you were sponsored please hand in your money as soon as possible if you have not already done so.

# LOCAL WOMEN TO SHOW-OFF IN FOREST!

The six womens institutes which go to make up the Ashridge group (Berkhamsted, Boxmoor, Berkhamsted Castle, Felden, Potten End and Little Gaddesden) are working together to stage an exhibition and sale of members craft work.

This will be held at the National Trust's visitor centre at Ashridge Forest on the B4056 near Berkhamsted from 11th to 16th September. The show will be open from 2:00pm to 5:00pm daily. There is free parking close by and admission is 20p.

On display will be a wide variety of hand made items showing many and varied crafts and providing a good opportunity to buy some unique and interesting gifts.

Owned and managed by the National trust, Ashridge is an area of great beauty and interest with plenty of wild life, including herds of deer. There are endless lovely picnic spots, so why not spend a day in the forest (dogs and children welcome!) and visit the W.I. craft show during the afternoon.

For further information contact Liz Baxendale, 3, Manor Close, Berkhamsted HP4 2BJ (866464).

# reviewnotes&notices

Berkhamsted Castle W.I.

Our president, Liz Baxendale, was pleased to welcome members and two visitors to our August meeting. With our secretary, Janet Mitchell, she took us through the business matters.

Reports were given of an enjoyable evening spent with Boxmoor W.I. to celebrate their birthday, and of a visit to H.F.W.I. 2000 craft show held at the Francis Bacon school in St Albans.

Our speaker this month was Louise Reed who gave us a most amusing talk entitled *Behind Harem Walls*. Much research had been put into her subject which was appreciated by her audience.

An appreciation was given by Sylvia Kleiman.

During teatime the raffle was drawn and Louise Reed kindly judged the competitions.

Next month our speaker will be Mrs Beryl Hulbert who will take us *Through the Rockies to Vancouver* at the Court House on Friday 3rd September at 2:00pm.

A warm welcome is extended to new members and visitors.

#### NORTHCHURCH W.I.

President, Mrs Joan Hollingdale, welcomed members to the July meeting and drew attention to a display of photographs taken at Sandridge. She said that Sandridge W.I. would be paying us a return visit in the spring. Some details of a supper evening to be held in October were given when the speaker would be a shepherd from the National Trust.

Mrs Hollingdale then introduced the speaker, Miss Archer, a lifelong resident of Amersham whose family has lived there for generations. She is an extremely active member of a community which seems to be civic minded and enthusiastic. She had been given a huge collection of photographs of Amersham taken from the earliest beginnings of photography onwards and her range and knowledge was astounding, ably demonstrated as she answered a host of questions. The thanks expressed by Mrs Vera Warren were endorsed by the warm applause.

A brisk trade was done at the produce stall under the management of Mesdames Muriel Martin and Jo Richardson. Members departed for home well pleased with an entertaining evening.

# the things they say

Outside a second-hand shop: WE EXCHANGE ANYTHING -CYCLES, WASHING MACHINES ETC. WHY NOT BRING YOUR WIFE ALONG AND GET A WONDERFUL BARGAIN?

Sign warning of quicksand: QUICKSAND. ANY PERSON PASSING THIS POINT WILL BE DROWNED. BY ORDER OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

*Notice in health food shop window:* CLOSED DUE TO ILLNESS

A miscellaneous collection of odd notices.

Sign on a repair shop door: WE CAN REPAIR ANYTHING. (PLEASE KNOCK HARD ON THE DOOR - THE BELL DOESN'T WORK)

Sign at Norfolk farm gate:
BEWARE! I SHOOT EVERY TENTH
TRESPASSER AND THE NINTH ONE HAS
JUST LEFT

Outside a farm: HORSE MANURE 50p PER PRE-PACKED BAG 20p DO-IT-YOURSELF

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# reviewdiary&registers

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.

1999	
October	
September /	

~		35	
5	9:15am	All Saints' Sunday School starts the term with	All Saints'
		breakfast at All Saints'	
6	8:00pm	Eucharist with prayers for healing (note earlier time)	St Peter's
8	8:00pm	All Saint's Joint Council meets	
9	8:00pm	St Peter Area and All Saints' Area committees mee	et
12	9:30am	St Peter's Sunday School starts the term with	Court House
		breakfast in the Court House	
18	8:00am	ABC Prayer Breakfast	Sacred Heart
19	9:30am	Preacher The Revd David Abbott, Vicar of Sunnysic	le St Peter's
25	7:00pm	St Peter's Harvest Supper	Court House
26	9:30am	Harvest Festival	St Peter
OC	CTOBER		
1 7	7:30 for 8	All Saints' Joint Harvest Supper	

# 1-3 Parish Retreat at Hemingford Grey

3	9:15am	Family Eucharist Harvest Festival	All Saints
3	3:00pm	Annual Hospice Thanksgiving	All Saints
5	8:00pm	PCC	All Saints

16	8:00am	ABC Prayer Breakfast	St Peter's
31	10:00am	Joint Patronal Festival Eucharist	All Saints'

31 6:30pm Joint Songs of Praise All Saints

#### Baptisms (St Peter's)

**SEPTEMBER** 

18 July George Benjamin Cozens, Benedict Edward Alderson

## 25 July Benjamin Kenneth Flint

#### Weddings & Blessings(St Peter's)

3 July Anthony Mark Andrew Green and Arabella Amelia Harriet Green

4 July Roger and Christiana Duthie *(blessing)* 

17 July Duncan Bruce Wright and Rebecca Vivien Southwood

Wayne Ewins and Patsy Anne Busby

#### **Funerals**

12 July	Kay Scott	Chilterns Crematorium
27 July	Alfreda Royle	Chilterns Crematorium
27 July	Olive May Geary	Chilterns Crematorium

# Registers

# review factfile

Young people

Churches

PCC 1999/2000

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 Dunford (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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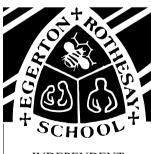
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Principal J.R.Adkins BSc (Hons) PGCE

# review backpage

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 Secretary: Richard Foster, Vandykes, 29 Ashlyns Road. Tel: 863359

Council: Treasurer: Michael Robinson, 36 Trevelyan Way. Tel: 863559

Director of Music: Adrian Davis 864722 Asst. Director of Music: Mrs Jean Wild. 866859 Organist: Terry Charlston Tel: 01582 462024

Sundays Weekdays 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

Evening Prayer: M,W,Th 5:30pm Celebrate Together (2nd Sun) 11:00am Evensong & Sermon Sat 5:00pm 6.00pm (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

Choirmaster: Peter McMunn Tel: 874894

Sundays

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

Ξ Sung Eucharist with Sunday schools & Pathfinders, then coffee in the Hall 9.15am

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)



## **LUCAS FETTES & PARTNERS**

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