

Berkhamsted *review*

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Afraid to
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Notes &
Events**



October 2003



for Town and Parish

30p



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

Welcome to the October 2003 issue of the Berkhamsted Review.

This month we have a very diverse selection with some familiar features.. Fr Mark Bonney writes about a reality beyond our comprehension. We have new series about Edward the Confessor and planning your garden. We have appeals for help.

Sadly we publish the last of **John Cook's** reports from *Around the Town*. John has written this column with great authority, a keen eye for authentic local detail and an unfailing sense of humour continuously since the autumn of 1989. That does not count the many occasional pieces going even further back. He has always had a sharp way of highlighting the ridiculous, especially if officially promulgated. He has done at least 14 years of hard labour without any time off for good behaviour. During this period, in his spare time he has earned his living, served as town mayor and churchwarden as well as pursuing many other interests notably a passion for literature. John's column soon became and always remained a vital ingredient giving the Review its particular flavour. We thank John for a job well and cheerfully done and wish him well in his future endeavours.

David Woodward

Cover photograph by Stanley Sharpe.
Can you guess where he lives?

In this month's issue...

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NEVER BE AFRAID TO ASK

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*... plus our regular features, notes
& notices and diary dates.*

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Next copy dates (all Fridays): 3 October 7 November 5 December



Fr Mark Bonney
confronts the
awesome thought
of the Creator who
is beyond our
comprehension

review leader

In a way this little piece follows on from reflecting upon the excellent things that Fr Basil said about liturgy and worship in

September's Review. I would hope that it is uncontroversial to say that the focus of liturgy and worship is God and not ourselves (although that wasn't always the impression received from the answers to questionnaires about the position of the altar in St Peter's). Fr Basil made the point that we offer the best in liturgy and worship out of a genuine reverence for what God has created, and that he said "is everyone of us".

One of the tensions (even paradoxes) that I find enriching and challenging is the awesome thought that the creator of all (God) has to be completely beyond our comprehension. If we could understand him then what we understood wouldn't be God, yet this completely other is intimately involved with us, and has shown us that in Jesus Christ. A powerful picture at the end of Matthew's gospel at the time of the crucifixion is the image of the veil of the temple being torn in two; there is no longer a Holy of Holies where only special people, in special clothes at special times of the year can go. Reverence and awe and wonder aren't just for special places in special buildings at special times of the week but are for all times and in all places. Every person, every place, every encounter is hallowed ground because the creator of all is the ground of our being. We need the special times and the special places. We need them very much and we rightly invest time, effort, and the rest in them. But this is only so that our ears and hearts can be

opened to recognise that *specialness* elsewhere too, not because, in some way, it is confined to what we call special places.

Some of the wonder and specialness of this God who is other, being also intimately involved with us, is captured for me in the lovely well known poem that follows by **George Herbert**; I hope it will aid your reflections and prayers.

*Love bade me welcome: but my soul drew back,
Guiltie of dust and sinne.
But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack
From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning,
If I lack'd any thing.*

*A guest, I answer'd, worthy to be here:
Love said, you shall be he.
I the unkinde, ungratefull? Ah, my deare,
I cannot look on thee.
Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,
Who made the eyes but I?*

*Truth Lord, but I have marr'd them: let
my shame
Go where it doth deserve.
And know you not, sayes Love, who bore
the blame?
My deare, then I shall serve.
You must sit down, sayes Love, and taste
my meat:
So I did sit and eat.* ❖

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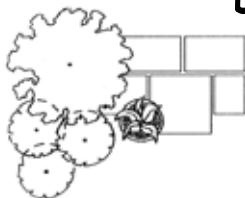
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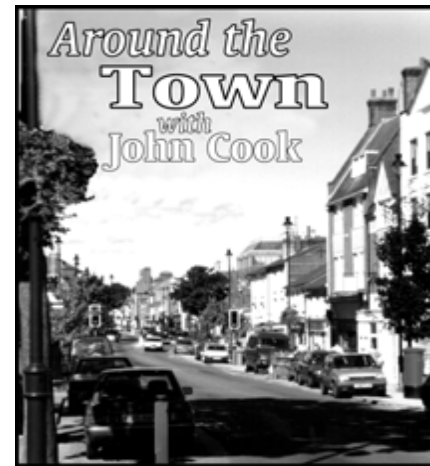
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All these Cars

A recent survey showed that 56% of people who come in to Berkhamsted town centre do so by car, and 36% walk. The consultants who came up with this figure remarked that the proportion of pedestrians was very high compared with what they had found in similar towns in the country. As for children going to school, 37% go by car and 44% walk. Again the proportion of walkers is comparatively high.

Even so, we all know that the traffic in Berkhamsted seems to be at least as bad as in other towns. When the bypass was opened ten years ago and then the Town centre was traffic-calmed, we all thought it would bring relief to the congested heart of Berkhamsted, and so it did for a bit; but now the traffic is as bad as ever for most of the time, although perhaps there are not so many heavy lorries.

Elsewhere in the Town the growth of traffic and the private car has had, in my view, a seriously harmful effect on our environment. It has happened slowly so that we hardly notice the change, but it has been relentless.

30 years ago there was no station car park, although there were nearly as many people travelling then by train.

Some commuters were dropped off at the station, but most people walked what in those days was not considered too great a distance - from Hall Park and Shrublands Avenue, for example (a few still do, I believe). Now a huge number come by car, pretty-well filling the large car park, and parking wherever the restriction will allow in the nearby streets, or even worse on the country side of the railway in the area of outstanding natural beauty.

In the older part of the Town - essentially the conservation area - it is the parked car that is the nuisance and the eyesore. Because in recent months there has been no serious attempt to enforce parking restrictions the situation has got even worse. The people who live in George Street, Victoria Road and Boxwell Road and park on both sides of the street, say that they need a car, often two per house, and that they have no where else to park. You can see their point.

And it is not only in our Victorian streets that the environment is suffering. In the front gardens of Bridgewater Road, for example, laburnums and magnolias have been ruthlessly cut down to make way for concrete and tarmac to take the Volvos and Citroens. We live in the age of motor cars for all. The only consolation is that it hardly seems possible that it can get any worse.

High Street Colour

But on a more cheerful note, the High Street this summer looked more colourful and attractive than I can ever remember. The Borough Council carefully nurtured the hanging baskets on the lampposts through the heatwave, and other businesses like Philip Kingh and the Kings Arms have had lots of flowers in baskets and boxes. Also there have been more flags - there were five Union Jacks (Union Flags to the purists) the other day, and on the whole window

→p7

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←p5

displays are bright and well done. The buildings themselves along our main road too are generally looking spick and span. Another improvement is in the Saturday market. Most people seem to think it has taken a turn for the better, and now regularly has good bread, olives and fish. So as it ever has been, I suppose, some things get worse while others get better.

And finally -

Now, for more than one reason, I have decided that this article under the heading of *Around the Town* will be the last one I shall write. I must have churned out getting on for 200 of them over the years, which is surely more than enough.

In a way I got the job by accident. Many readers will remember **Percy Birtchnell** with affection. Literally for most of his life he wrote every month for the Review; for a time he had two articles in each issue. He was an able writer and acknowledged as the best local historian Berkhamsted has ever produced. His death left a gaping void for the editor to try and fill up, and after a while *Around the Town* took the place that Percy had previously filled so well.

The original intention was that more than one person should be involved in writing this column, but it ended up with just me. I would never claim to be any sort of historian, more of a gossip columnist, but each month I did manage to find 1000 words or so to fill the slot, often with the help of kind people who had written to me, phoned me up or stopped me in the street to tell of something of interest.

Of all the help I have received I think what I have most valued were the hand-written letters. I loved getting those, although sometimes they were a bit critical. Often they were from elderly Berkhamsted people who had left school at quite an early age, yet they could produce excellent letters, well set out, legible and interesting. What a contrast

with the nadir of the written communication that has now almost taken their place: the e-mail, or even worse, the text message.

Over all the time I have been writing *Around the Town*, **David Woodward** has been the editor, or more recently one of the editorial team. In fact he was editor for many years before I became involved, his period of office being broken only for comparatively short times when two others had a go: **David Sherratt** and **Katie Beckett**. So I would like to close with a tribute to him. The Town and the parish should be very grateful to him for his consistent service to the Review over all those years.



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Following our summer break we come together again in September to celebrate with an informal communion led by **Father Stephen**. This has become the pattern for our first meeting over recent years. It serves as an opportunity to give thanks for holidays and long summer days spent relaxing with family and friends and gives us an opportunity to focus on the particular concerns of the Mothers' Union through the unifying act of worship and prayer.

The aim at our October meeting is to explore the subject of fair trade. To kickstart our discussions we shall be watching a video entitled *Fair Trade Bananas*. Some of our members, who are involved with the church stalls selling fairly traded goods, are already knowledgeable on this subject. Others may well have gained some information from the publicity surrounding the Mothers' Union support of the Jubilee debt campaign. Without doubt the ensuing discussion will be lively with much food for thought.

Our November discussion evening will have parenting as its subject. The parenting project, which is the UK part of the 125th anniversary challenge, has now been running for almost two years and so it seems timely that we should focus on this subject. The project trains MU members to facilitate parenting groups as a way of offering support for family life. Typically a small group of parents of children of similar ages will meet together for a number of weeks to share with one another their experiences of being a parent, learning more about the parent/child relationship and developing friendship and mutually supportive networks. The group facilitator is there to

THE MOTHERS' UNION

Kathie Lally looks forward to the Autumn programme



give the group cohesion and to guide the discussion, not as an expert with all the answers to the problems!

Finally at our December meeting we shall be celebrating Christmas early with a party and advent meditation. As usual in advent we shall be sending the travelling cribs on their journeys round the parish. Their arrival is awaited with great excitement in many a home, so I am reliably told.

We are always delighted to welcome non-members to our meetings and I hope that the information above will encourage you to come along. The programme venues are listed on our programme at the back of both churches and I will be more than happy to chauffeur you to a meeting. Just give me a call (863526). ❖

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The lack of public, open space in Berkhamsted was recently made clear by the failure of the town council's plan to place a skateboard park on Butts Meadow, because of a covenant that prevents any construction on the site. It is not just space for skateboard parks that is in short supply. Some

Ian Reay's &news &views

“The rules are acting like a corset”

Ian Reay discusses problems revealed by attempts to use land in our town for sporting activities

Such uses include sporting activity such as football and golf. There is, however, an additional restriction on this land. It is required by a legal agreement to be limited to agricultural use only. This agreement was put in place, in 1999, between the borough council and the developers of Castle Village. It is open to the borough council, as the development

control authority, to vary that agreement and allow other uses, provided they are suitable for the Green Belt. Nevertheless, two applications to use parts of this land for such purposes were recently refused permission.

junior football teams in Berkhamsted do not have a home pitch and have to play their matches as far away as Aldbury or Hemel Hempstead. Space in and around the town is becoming scarcer for whatever purpose it is required. In fact, shortly, as part of the local strategic plan, a landscape strategy will be adopted. This requires areas of countryside, around Berkhamsted in particular, to be *improved and conserved*. The distinctive character of the landscape should not be undermined. The rules of countryside management are acting like a corset around the town, preventing it from spreading outwards so that its boundary forms an ever tighter fit.

A case study of how this policy can conflict with the need of sports teams to find a home for their activities recently occurred in connection with the dry valley enclosing Kitchener's Fields, which runs to the north of Berkhamsted Castle. This valley is attractive and has a long history. It once formed part of the hunting park of the Castle and subsequently the parkland of Berkhamsted Place, which was demolished in the 1960's. Currently it is used, for the most part, as grazing land for sheep. But with the demise of agriculture the owners of the land are now looking for new uses. Since the land is Green Belt and classified as of outstanding natural beauty, open air recreation is, in principle, about the only use of the land that would be allowable.

One application was to use part of the land, high on the hillside close to the golf club, as a driving range. The other was to use fields in the base of the valley for two football pitches. For the driving range, a fence made of wire mesh, 2.4m high was to be erected to protect walkers on a nearby footpath from stray golf balls. To prepare the football pitches the land would need to be flattened and so quite a lot of earth would need to be shifted. The driving range and the football pitches were turned down, in line with the new landscape strategy, because they would fail to preserve the natural beauty of the area. In the case of the football pitches there was the additional point that they were to be placed on a site where a Roman villa once stood and would disturb or destroy valuable archaeological evidence.

All of this is good news for people who value the quality and character of our local countryside. It is less good news, of course, for the sports clubs and societies around the town who might think, with so much open countryside around that there ought to be enough room to play a game of golf or football.



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More than a year ago I wrote an appreciation of Colin Stephens when he retired as headteacher of the Thomas Coram middle school. As some readers will know, the governors undertook three rounds of interviews before we found his successor and we are very grateful for the prayers and encouragement we had from many quarters during this time.

I am very pleased to welcome and introduce to you **Bob Essery** as he takes up his post as the school's new head.

Bob was born into a farming family in Devon and attended Bodmin School, a grammar school which became comprehensive while he was there. Like many young people he was very keen to leave the West Country and, thinking London would be much more exciting, he applied to train as a teacher at Borough Road College, part of London University. His main subjects were education and geography and he did a middle years course. His first teaching post was in a middle school in Borehamwood but in his thirty years as a teacher he has also taught in primary and junior schools. He is just starting his twentieth year of headship in small and large schools, most of the headships having been in church schools and in the diocese of St Albans.

Bob was confirmed while he was at college and now worships at St Albans Abbey where he is a member of the Fraternity of Friends, is a *stand-in* sidesman and serves on the management committee of the education centre. his other personal interests include art, the theatre and travel. He is a fellow of the RSA, particularly involved with education matters and is an active member of the

THOMAS CORAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

Julie Wakely introduces
Bob Essery
the new headteacher

National Trust. He has given up playing badminton but does walk a lot! He enjoys spending time with family and friends. His parents still live in Tavistock so he does get back to his roots regularly and is far more appreciative of the West Country now than in his youth.

Bob really enjoys his job and gets a particular buzz from mentoring and coaching others new to headship. He is also an active member of the National Association of Head Teachers.

Bob feels very strongly that Thomas Coram is a school to serve the community of Berkhamsted by providing good quality education in a stable, caring, Christian environment. His aim is for everyone in the school community to achieve very high standards in everything that we do and to ensure that the school is a truly comprehensive church school. Although he is just getting to know Berkhamsted he recognises it as an interesting place with a strong identity and a community spirit that the school can contribute to.

He is impressed already by the dedication of the staff, the enthusiasm of the children and the quality of the work they are producing so early in the term. He is pleased to be back in a middle school and delighted to be leading the Thomas Coram team. He has really appreciated the welcome he has been given by the school community and is looking forward to learning and working together with them to achieve the best for the children.

I too, as chairman of the governors, am looking forward to working with Bob. I am just hoping I can keep up with the pace...



From Winchester to Westminster

Edward the Confessor was crowned in Winchester on Easter day, 3rd April 1043.

All subsequent coronations took place at Westminster.

Winchester was the capital of Wessex whose royal house, from the time of Alfred the Great (849-99), had

first imposed a fragile unity on the group of rival fiefdoms that were to become the kingdom of England. Winchester was thus, by extension, the nearest thing the Anglo-Saxon had to a capital. The City of London was its principal trading centre with a flourishing port and a market at Aldwych, which in Anglo-Saxon meant *old trading post*. However Winchester was the home of its court and principal abode of its king. When Edward chose the Island of Thorns, west of the City, as the site of his new abbey, palace and future tomb, he moved the centre of royal authority and government to the place where it has remained ever since, the City of Westminster. Edward was the creator of London as the undisputed capital of England.

The unexpected King

Edward cannot have had strong expectations of being crowned in Winchester or anywhere else. His kingship emerged from the confused history of late Anglo-Saxon England with its rival earldoms, its complicated marriage arrangements and its endless conflicts with Viking raiders. Both of Edward's parents married twice and all three marriages produced sons with claims to the English throne. His father was Ethelred the Unready (966-1016) who

Edward the Confessor and the creation of the capital city

Stephen Halliday recalls
Edward's early days

had himself come to the throne at the age of twelve in 978 upon the murder of his half-brother Edward the Martyr. Ethelred (*Unraed* is an Anglo-Saxon word meaning *lacking advice*) had already had six sons by his first marriage when Edward was born at Islip, near Oxford, in about 1005. Edward's mother was Emma, sister of Richard II Duke of Normandy. The widowed Ethelred hoped, by his marriage to Emma, to form an alliance with duke Richard against the Viking raiders whom Alfred the Great had temporarily defeated. By the early eleventh century they had resumed their practice of raiding the English coast for booty and, sometimes, in search of land on which to settle in the eastern counties or *Danelaw*. Payments of *Danegeld* to buy off the raiders gained only temporary respite but also brought unpopularity on Ethelred and his officials who raised the money from taxes.

By 1016, the year of Ethelred's death, the Danish raids led by Canute, son of the king of Denmark, had reached the point where Ethelred had lost control of most of his kingdom. Three years earlier, as a precaution, he had sent his sons Edward and Alfred to a safe refugee at the court of their uncle Richard, Duke of Normandy. A brief revival of English fortunes was led by Ethelred's son by his first marriage, Edmund Ironside. However Edmund's defeat at the battle of Ashingdon, near Southend in Essex, in 1016, and Edmund's subsequent death, left **Canute** as undisputed king of England from that date.

The Widow Emma

Edward's mother Emma lost little time grieving over the death of king Ethelred her late husband. Edward and Alfred, her sons by Ethelred, not yet in their teens, were already safely in the care of her brother in Normandy, where another lineage now enters the records. Duke Richard, besides being Edward's uncle, was to become the grandfather of the future William the Conqueror (1035-87) who was thus a cousin, once removed, of Edward. Her sons by Ethelred safely out of the way, Emma re-married, taking as her new husband Canute, who had just replaced her husband as king. She bore Canute a son, Hardicanute, thus adding another claimant to the English throne. Emma extracted a promise from Canute that Hardicanute would be his successor in preference to an older but illegitimate son, Harold Harefoot. Edward the Confessor's unsympathetic treatment of his mother when he eventually became king may be explained, and indeed excused, by his abandonment at such a tender age by his ambitious mother.

Edward in Normandy

Few records exist covering Edward's period of exile in Normandy which lasted for almost thirty years from 1013 to 1041. He is known to have witnessed several charters issued by duke Richard, including some to the great abbey of Fecamp. Like many others of the period, it was being built in the *Romanesque* or Norman style which Edward later adopted for his new abbey at Westminster. We can conclude with some confidence that Norman architecture was not the only aspect of life at his uncle's court that created a favourable impression on the young Edward. When he eventually became king of England most of his disputes with the Anglo-Saxon nobility,

especially the Godwin family, arose from favours that he conferred on Normans in the form of bishoprics and other offices. He would hardly have risked offending his powerful Anglo-Saxon subjects if he had not valued highly the qualities of his Norman friends.

During the years of his Norman exile Edward can have had little hope of becoming king of England. Canute was king, with three healthy sons. One of them, Hardicanute, was Edward's half brother and their common mother, Emma, had been assured by Canute that Hardicanute would succeed him. One account of Edward's life, however, suggests that he had not altogether abandoned his hopes since he supposedly swore an oath to the effect that, if his kingdom was restored to him, he would make a pilgrimage to Rome.

The death of Canute

In 1035 **Canute** died. Edward was now about thirty years old. Harold Harefoot, Canute's son by his mistress, immediately seized the throne, contrary to Canute's promise to Emma that her son, Hardicanute, would succeed him. In 1036 Harefoot easily repulsed a half-hearted attempt by Edward's younger brother Alfred to claim the throne. It is not clear whether Edward, the older brother with the stronger claim, was involved in this abortive mission. It ended in disaster for Alfred who was captured, blinded and killed by Harefoot's supporters. One of those later held partly responsible for this killing was Godwin earl of Wessex, a charge that helped to create ill-feeling between the Godwin family and Edward when the latter became king. Godwin was one of three earls who had prospered during Canute's reign, effectively ruling most of the kingdom on behalf of Canute, who was also king of Denmark. Godwin ruled Wessex; Siward ruled Northumbria; and Leofric (husband of Godiva) ruled Mercia. ❖

Next month: Edward's rise to power

If one subject can be said to dominate the pages of the early issues of Dawn of Day, that subject is alcohol.

Clearly alcoholism was regarded as the primary and prevalent cause of moral degeneration, and it was the duty of the church to combat the scourge in every possible way. An extraordinary number of societies was devoted to this end: there are references to the Berkhamsted Temperance Society, the Church of England Temperance society, the Temperance Guild of St John the Baptist, the Association for Stopping the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday, and of course the Band of Hope with its invitation to "sign the pledge". Ranged against these formidable groups were the public houses, considerably more numerous than today despite a much smaller population. In the High Street, in addition to the pubs still trading, there were the One Bell, Queen's Arms, Royal Oak, White Hart, Stag and the Black Horse. Altogether there were at least 30 in the town.

The moralising tales which appear in every issue of the magazine invariably reflect this over-riding concern. Typically the main character succumbs to temptation and goes rapidly downhill as the addiction takes hold. He ceases to attend church, loses his job, and his sorrowing wife and children are reduced to destitution. Then some combination of circumstances brings about a dramatic reversal; he sees the error of his ways, repents and is restored to sobriety, prosperity and church attendance. Interestingly alcoholism is always viewed as a sin, never as an illness; the cure is repentance, not treatment or counselling. Nor is any distinction made between moderate and uncontrolled drinking: the only alternative to drunkenness is total abstinence.

THE DEMON DRINK

by **Gerry Morrish**

The September 1878 magazine contains a very long letter headed A Butler's Testimony which vividly illustrates these attitudes. I reproduce extracts from it:

I beg you will excuse me in my position in life for addressing you. I am of very humble position-a butler-yes, sir, actually a teetotal butler! and I am afraid there are not many. I often wish I could find something else to do, to be out of the serving of wine and the drawing of beer. But the point which I refer to is, why are the children of the educated and wealthy so carefully taught to drink? When once the taste for the insidious drink is acquired, what boy is safe, whether he be gentle or simple? And even suppose the anxious mother, the fond nurse, the careful doctor do all they can to cultivate a taste for milk or water, and endeavour to inculcate this in the dear boy's mind-at a tender age he goes to a preparatory school. Here the National schoolboy has the best chance, for in many schools, thank God, there is the Band of Hope and what is better, the home influence, if he is fortunate enough to belong to teetotal parents. Whereas the son of the wealthy, from the first of his trotting down to dessert, is taught to drink by a sip from papa's glass.

But what I want to draw attention to is- if one so humble in life as myself can do any good-is our public schools. I lived as a butler with a headmaster who had more than 60 boys in his house. There are 600 boys in that school, and all are served with a thirst-creating, insidious, intoxicating beer, and some of them are allowed a glass or two of port wine or a pint of Bass's ale per day, the same being a special request of an anxious mother and ordered by a physician. Oh! sir, when will this fallacy and delusion die out? Why are not these boys to be taught

the evil of drinking and the benefits arising from total abstinence as well as the sons of the working classes? Why not Bands of Hope for the educated and wealthy? Why should they be taught to presume upon greater powers to resist temptation, for in, alas!, how many cases does position in life fail to keep down that awful craving for drink after it has so carefully been created?

Again apologising for the liberty I take in addressing you, sir, I am yours most respectfully, MARGIN.

The butler conceals his identity under a nom-de-plume and is careful not to name the school which employed him. It cannot have been Berkhamsted School which had nothing like 600 pupils in the 19th century.

In the next issue I hope to write something about an enterprise designed to entice customers away from the public houses: the George and Dragon Coffee Tavern in Castle Street. Did St George succeed in slaying the dragon? We shall see! ❖

A RARE CHANCE TO HEAR THE "JOE LOSS" SOUND **Peter Block** invites you at 7.00 for 7.30pm on Friday 24 October

Now that the August bank holiday fête is done and dusted (and a very successful one it was too, both as a charitable event and for the charities taking part), the Lions are turning their attention to their next major fund raising event. This will be an Autumn Concert for Swing, featuring Todd Miller with the Joe Loss Orchestra and Singing Stars.

The Lions have built up a lot of expertise organising concerts in aid of charity. We are lucky in Berkhamsted to have the use of the Centenary Hall at Berkhamsted Collegiate School, particularly now that the Pavilion in Hemel Hempstead is no more. It seats 500 with excellent visibility and acoustics at all levels, though it has to be said (by me at least) that the seats are somewhat uncompromising.

The Blaenavon Male Voice Choir was invited to visit Berkhamsted by the Lions in 1995, and again in 1997: in October last year the Black Dyke Band played to a packed house.

Brian Wilkinson who chairs the Lions' fund raising committee said, that the Black Dyke visit demonstrated very clearly to us how important it is to fill the hall. With outgoings approaching £5000 we had to sell 330 tickets at £15, just to break even. Every seat sold in excess of that resulted in £15 coming to our charitable trust. With a packed house, not only did our charity do well but both audience and band revelled in the great atmosphere.

The problem facing the Lions was to find a draw equal to the Black Dyke Band. They are pinning their hopes on the excellent Joe Loss Orchestra, expecting it also to attract followers of swing music from outside Berkhamsted.

Joe Loss set up his orchestra in 1938 with *In the Mood* as its signature tune, one of the most popular and most played pieces of instrumental music of all time. In 1950 Joe entrusted the leadership to Todd Miller, his principal singer, so ensuring that the orchestra's great tradition, that has brought the best in musical entertainment, would continue.

The Joe Loss Orchestra consists of 17 instrumentalists and 3 vocalists, including Todd. Their music appeals to people of all musical tastes and age groups.

Numbered tickets at £15 can be ordered by phoning 385591 or 864411. Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. There will be a licensed bar. Net proceeds go to the Berkhamsted Lions Club charitable trust (registered number 1058861)

Friday 24 October will bring an evening of swing and popular music to savour. Don't delay, book today!

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Hello. Please may I introduce myself. I am Denise Gentry and I have lived locally all my life. I work as a garden designer, having trained at Oaklands College, St Albans and Capel Manor, Enfield.

I will be writing short articles during the coming months regarding garden design. If there are specific areas you would like covered, please email your request to denisegentry@totalise.co.uk and I will try and incorporate it into the next article. I hope you find this interesting, helpful and informative.

Most of us living in this locality are fortunate enough to have a garden attached to the house. But is this space used to its full potential or is it merely a football ground for the kids, somewhere for the dog to dig and you know what, or a dumping ground for unwanted items awaiting that trip to the dump? Very often gardens are just a haphazard crazy paving area outside the back doors. Sometimes there is a patch of balding mossy grass and a ramshackle shed stuffed to the limits with an assortment of garden equipment, toys and household items no longer used.

To maximise the potential of the outside space a garden needs to be well thought out and planned to incorporate the requirements of the entire family. It should reflect their ideas and wishes for the perfect outdoor space that will fit in with their lifestyle.

As the predicted climatic changes are occurring, our summers are becoming hotter. So the garden may be used as the 'outdoor room' providing an extra living space for relaxing and entertaining, not forgetting a play space in the fresh air for the kids. This can encourage them to run and jump and play actively, and draw them away from the sedentary activities like TV and computer games.

A FIRST VENTURE

Denise Gentry wants you to think again about the design of your garden

It's a good idea to draw up a list of requirements that accommodates all members of the family and to prioritise them. Do not forget the wish list.

From such a list the basic format for the garden can be developed, first taking into consideration the basic requirements and then building into the design items from the wish list.

A number of practical elements will need to be considered when designing a garden: the size and levels of the plot, aspect, boundaries, access, locality, soil type and of course budget. These elements will all have a bearing on the design and ultimately cost.

Perhaps there is only a small problem area in your garden such as the odd shaped patch at the side of the house only useful at present for hiding the recycling? Perhaps it could become an intimate Mediterranean courtyard, with terracotta painted walls, a decorative screen from the rest of the garden, a few pots and climbers, and perhaps an elegant iron candle sconce with a small ironwork table and two chairs. A glass of wine on a balmy summer's evening and you will be reliving that romantic summer holiday.

The shady area behind the greenhouse and under the neighbours cherry tree could become a calming green space - a rustic chair surrounded by an array of foliage plants from the vast selection of shade loving plants available, which provide interest with the leaf shapes and form. Colour would be provided by spring and autumn flowering bulbs - a real chill-out zone.

I hope you have found my first venture into the world of 'journalism' interesting and informative. Perhaps you will be encouraged to take a fresh look at your garden and be inspired to create your ideal living space.

If you would like help with your garden please call me on 833954.



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THE ALTAR EXPERIMENT

I was interested to read, in the last edition, the short letter from Cecily Smith and believe she echoed the concerns of many parishioners.

It is the questionnaire which gives me most cause for concern. Firstly, St Peters and most churches I have visited have West facing altars already. So questions A and B are confusing. In fact the confusion arises because the question should be: *“Do you wish there to be a Westward facing celebrant/president?”* and this is surely what the experiment was about.

It is well known in the marketing world that a badly constructed questionnaire will elicit a minimal response. Was that the reason for making it so?

Personally I have every reason to believe that a Westward facing celebrant/president is ideal. What concerns me is *“whether the ends will justify the means”*, or what will it all cost?

To be cost effective, may I suggest the following:

- 1 Move the existing altar forward, by one metre.
- 2 That done, the rest of the sanctuary, including the altar rail, could stay.
- 3 The argument that children can’t see could be solved by suggesting parents and children occupy the first three pews. I can’t guarantee that this would be popular, but if not it would support my belief that the argument about children is fallacious anyhow.
- 4 Whilst it is true that children are the adults of tomorrow, it is also true that everyone should be considered when changes are made.

I write this letter, not because I won’t answer the questionnaire, but because the discussion should be in the public domain. Also because I believe the actions taken as a result of the questionnaire should be made, not just by the committee who review it, but in an open forum of parishioners

John Harris, 34 Trevelyan Way, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 1JH

In the light of the adverse thoughts on the altar experiment, I think it time to say that I for one, like it very much. No, I do not like standing at the altar, and it is sometimes difficult to get up from kneeling without the assistance of a rail. However, this is not for ever, and, as in St Mary’s Northchurch, if and when St Peters is re-ordered, there will be a rail in situ. I feel that to have the altar nearer to the congregation gives the whole procedure a warm and friendly atmosphere, bringing us all closer together.

My husband and I have been 8am worshipers for nearly 18 years, and our grandchildren, when staying here, have joined us at that service since they were very young. It has always been a mystery to them what was going on when the celebrant had his back to us, so what a pleasure for them this holiday to find that they could at last feel part of every bit of the service. And as the 7 year old remarked, *“Did Fr Mark’s wife know that he drank so much before breakfast?”*

Elizabeth Jackson, 22 North Road, Berkhamsted, Herts, HP4 3DX



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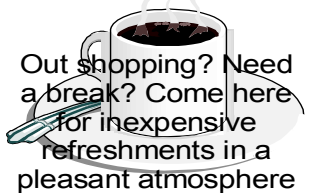
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MAKEOVER

St Cuthbert's was a lovely place
Full of antiquities and space
With three-tiered pulpit soaring high,
A painted Rood, carved saints nearby,
Choir stalls, carved oak, with "poppyhead",
Quaint brasses marking out the dead
A limestone font, an ancient bell,
Wall paintings both of Heaven and Hell.

In 1910 the Reverend Guy
Declared "That pulpit is too high.
We'll move it out. For all I need
Is a simple desk from which to read".
So, with a faculty and permission
...out it went.
Some thought, "a sad decision!"
In 1920 Reverend Hood took great
exception to the Rood.
"I will not have carved saints" said he,
"They'll have to go...it's them or me"
With faculty the saints departed,
Some worshippers were broken hearted.
In 1930, said Reverend Humphrey
"I think we'll make the choir more
comfy.
Those awful upright pews must go.
We'll have some padded chairs," and so,
Out the poor old carved pews crept,
The organist and choirboys wept.
In 1940 Canon Brown
Said " Why not take those brasses down?
They need a lot of work to shine,
We really haven't got the time!"
So they were taken right away and
no-one knew just where they lay.
In 1950 Father Hall said
"What a way to paint a wall.

Nor Heaven or Hell look much like that...
Or if they do I'll eat my hat".
So with a quart of pale dove grey
They hid the paintings right away,
Of course he had the right permission,
To undertake this sad commission.
In 1960 said Father Bont
"Do we really need that font?
I could use a plastic bowl for babies, and
Where the limestone one was , maybe
We could install an electric bell,
That clanging old one sounds like....well!"

Over the years the congregation watched
with concern and consternation,
And one by one they slipped away, to
St Luke's, St Mary's, Trinity,
St Cuth's became an empty shell,
And Father Bont retired as well.

Then later on along "They" came
To open St Cuthbert's once again.
"It's full of history and must be saved".
But as they crossed the threshold, paved,
They peered up at the plain grey walls,
The rotting chairs for choir stalls,
The empty arch where was no screen,
Oh what a sad and ugly scene!
The awful plywood reading desk...
Nothing at all of interest.

So then they sent bulldozers round
And razed St Cuthbert's to the ground

Liz Baxendale

THANK YOU

to our tireless team of distributors, who make sure you
get your copy of the *Review* each month through your
letterbox, come rain and shine, wind and hail!



Revd Peter Hart
tells us never,
never be afraid to
ask, either him or
God

There seems to
be a growing
reticence at large
in asking
anything of the
clergy. I am
rung up by
undertakers

wishing to organise a funeral who
apologise for disturbing me, when in
fact they are about to land a
considerable amount of work upon
me. Parishioners shyly approach
and just about manage to mumble
something about baptisms. Brides-
to-be imagine that booking the
church for their wedding is going to
be the most complicated and
problem-strewn part of their
arrangements.

None of these attitudes bear any
resemblance to how the clergy feel
about sorting out weddings, baptisms
and funerals. We are delighted to
baptise anyone, however many
children the parents might have and
however old the oldest one may be.
I once baptised someone in their
seventies, so it is never too late or
inconvenient. Weddings are
wonderful things, and the church
side of the wedding day is the most
straightforward of the lot. Funerals
are not an imposition upon us:
rather, they are a privilege, enabling
us to share with people who are
deeply burdened and bewildered.

The same can also be said about
hospital visiting, taking communion

to the housebound and the myriad
other parts of the parish priest's role
that people hesitate to request. Do
not ask me to mend anything
electrical or mechanical, avoid using
me as an IT consultant at all costs,
but please do not hold back when I
can be of assistance. I genuinely
enjoy what I do.

If we are reticent with parish priests,
does it also mean we are reticent
with family, with neighbours, with
others in the church, with God,
even? Of all those on that list, God
is surely the one to whom we can
fully pour out our desires, confident
that he will listen, whether his
response is what we want to hear or
not. Let us be a little bolder in our
requests, and who knows where God
may take us, and we might just get
that baptism/wedding/home
appointment sorted out as well.



Visiting St Mary's **Northchurch**

During the week, when there are
no services, St Mary's is not
normally open.

It is usually open on Sundays
for visitors between 2:30pm and
Evening Prayer.

ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP?

The Red Cross Happy Wanderers Club for the physically disabled was formed in 1956 and has been running successfully ever since. There are now 37 members, all over retirement age.

There are usually sixteen meetings a year and five outings. Meetings take place on a Monday afternoon between 2 and 4.15pm, and are held in the St John Ambulance Hall, off Bell Lane, Northchurch. Tea is always served. Transport is provided for all members and no charge is made, though members are encouraged to join in a raffle in aid of club funds.

The club has for some years been organised and run by a committee of five. Sadly, two of the committee members must for reasons of health and age retire at the end of this year. The club is supported by a band of helpers who undertake various tasks including the preparation of tea, washing up, driving and shopping. Without them the club would collapse, but for various understandable reasons none of the helpers feels able to take on a greater commitment.

Can you help us? We need volunteers to

join the committee. If replacements are not found it is feared that the club must close. We do not wish such a happy group to fall apart.

Mrs Lorna Sargaison (864806) would be delighted to hear from you.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Sessions for those aged 12+ will be held on Wednesday evenings 5-6pm in the Court House with Fr Mark beginning 14 January 2004. Please contact Fr Mark if you would like to join. There is a Deanery Confirmation on Friday 23 April at St Mary's Northchurch.

(NB ADULT CANDIDATES - the Emmaus Nurture Course beginning 5 November is the one for you! – contact John Malcolm (874993))

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXHOLDERS

Once again it's time for the annual box opening. I am looking forward to collecting your boxes at the 9.30am services at St Peter's during October and taking them away to empty. If you don't come to this service, I shall be more than pleased to visit you at home. Contact Kathie Lally (863526)

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review notes & notices

THE AEOLIAN SINGERS

The Aeolian Singers celebrate their 40th anniversary this year and start their season with a concert on Saturday 18 October at the Rudolf Steiner School, Kings Langley at 7.30pm to which all music lovers are cordially welcomed.

It will be the start of a year of varied music which we hope all Berkhamsted singers and audiences will enjoy with us in several locations both in the borough and further afield.

The October concert features highlights from Carmina Burana, the Brahms' Requiem and Rossini's La Petite Messe Solonnelle with mother and daughter duo **Rita and Rachel Fryer** at two pianos with some sparkling music for all. The conductor is Stephen Jones. There follows a traditional Christmas concert on 13 December, with a premiere of a work by **Peter Skellern** in St Johns Church, Boxmoor and the St John Passion in High Wycombe Parish Church in March and the usual Summer music in July.

Brochures with full details of the programme are already available or you may consult the website www.aeoliansingers.org.uk If anyone would like to sing with us, rehearsals are on Thursdays at the JF Kennedy School in Warners End at 7.30pm.

NAMING THE LIFEBOAT

The new lifeboat Spirit of Berkhamsted will be named and handed over to its crew (who are based at Happisburg) at a ceremony on the Moor at 2pm on Saturday 18 October.

The naming and dedication will be

carried out by **Revd Dr Richard Hines**, the Rector of Happisburg. This will be only the second time that a lifeboat naming ceremony has been carried out at an inland town, so Berkhamsted is being truly honoured. The bulk of the funds to pay for this new boat was raised in 1997 and 1998 in a burst of activity which marked the golden jubilee of the Berkhamsted branch of the RNLI. Myriad efforts, large and small, were organised and around £20,400 raised in just over a year. The funds raised now total over £25,000. The boat itself is a new type of inshore craft whose designers consulted over 300 active lifeboat crew about the new vessel. Please come and support and witness this unique event.

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People with learning difficulties enjoy all these things too. But sometimes they need support and encouragement to enable them to join in.

Could you share your interests and a little time with someone who has learning difficulties, helping him or her to develop a fuller leisure and social life?

The Dacorum Mencap Friendship Scheme is looking for volunteers (aged 18 and over) who can give a few hours a month on a regular basis to support people with learning disabilities, helping them to follow their own leisure interests or find out about new ones.

We match your skills and interests to the needs of a partner with learning difficulties. We ask you to make a regular commitment to spend time with your partner, doing things you both enjoy.

We provide training, support and out of pocket expenses. We will ask you to provide references and undergo a CRB check

If you would like to make a difference in someone's life, please contact Elaine Precious on 247675 or at Dacorum Mencap, 44B, High Street, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 3AG.

HAROLD IAN MERRIMAN APPEAL

We have had an appeal for help from Richard Parry of Brisbane, Australia who is trying to trace descendents of Harold Ian Merriman, who lived in Berkhamsted in the 1940's. He believes that Mr Merriman had two daughters; Virginia who married Graham Randall Horn on 26 July 1941 and had a daughter Julia Caroline born in 1942,

and Mary who married Harold Oliver Baker on 6 September 1943 and had a daughter Daphne Margaret born on 29 January 1946. Both Virginia and Mary were married in St Peters church, Berkhamsted.

Richard knows his request is a long shot but is hoping that someone may know something of the family given that they probably had a close association with our church. Richard's mother was a Merriman and many members of the family were ministers and missionary nuns within the Church of England. If you have any information please contact either the editor or Richard Parry, 26 Silex Street, Mansfield, Brisbane Old, Australia 4122 or e-mail rparry@pwerrup.com.au.


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BERKHAMSTED CASTLE WI



Berkhamsted Castle WI met at the Court House on the first Friday of September. President **Joy Lovell** greeted members and three visitors by reading a poem about the Calendar Girls, by the lady who appeared as Miss November.

A short business meeting was conducted by secretary **Janet Mitchell**, who reminded us of various activities and their dates. Joy Lovell brought the attention of members to a petition against the opening of a sex shop in the High Street. This was duly signed by those present.

We then welcomed **Mrs Hulbert** once again. She brought slides of a lovely camping holiday through France and Switzerland and as usual had some truly wonderful pictures not only of the magnificent scenery but also of the wild flowers and animals of the mountain areas she and her husband had visited. An appreciation was given by **Liz Baxendale**, who won the competition for a chocolate wrapper, with **Barbara Chester** second and **Joy Lovell** third.

There were some lovely entries for the bloom of the month competition. **Vera Pinks** presided over the sale of raffle tickets and the winners were drawn after tea.

Why not come along in October on the first Friday at 2pm and enjoy a members afternoon when we shall look at some holiday souvenirs and hear some of those things that My Mother used to say....

You will be made very welcome.

Liz Baxendale (866464)

BERKHAMSTED SCHOOLS' PRAYER GROUP

Prayers for our schools are offered by a group which meets once a month normally on a Monday. All are welcome. Coffee is served from 8.45am and prayers begin at 9.15am. For further details please ring **Marjorie Davis** (01494 783034) or **Jackie Harbron** (873012). The dates for this Autumn term are 6 October, 10 November, and 1 December. Meetings are at Jane Lines' house, 12 Cedar Road, Berkhamsted (384769).

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SUNDAY	St Peter's:	8:00am	Eucharist			
		9:30am	Sung Eucharist, crèche, Sunday School & Pathfinders followed by coffee in the Court House			
		6:00pm	Evensong			
	All Saints'	8:00am	Eucharist only as announced			
		9:15am	Sung Eucharist, crèche, Sunday School & Pathfinders followed by coffee in the hall <i>On the 3rd Sunday each month (and on festivals as announced) there is instead a 10am united service with the Methodist congregation.</i>			
		6:30pm	Methodist service each Sunday until further notice.			
MONDAY	St Peter's	7:30am	Morning Prayer (MP)	5:00pm	Evening Prayer (EP)	
TUESDAY	St Peter's	7:30am	MP	All Saints'	9:30am	Eucharist
WEDNESDAY	St Peter's	7:00am	MP	7:30am	Eucharist	5:00pm EP
THURSDAY	St Peter's	7:30am	MP	11:00am	Eucharist	5:00pm EP
FRIDAY	St Peter's	7:30am	MP	9:15am	Eucharist	5:00pm EP (AS)
SATURDAY	St Peter's	8:45am	MP(AS) (except 3rd Sat in month)		5:00pm	EP
1 st Sun	SUNDAYS TOGETHER LUNCH: 12:30pm in the Court House <i>For anyone on their own on a Sunday.</i> Contact: Joan Morris (863780)					
3 rd Mon	GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT VISITORS GROUP 7:45pm in the Court House. Contact Sylvia Banks 871195, Ruth Treves-Brown (863268) or June Haile (873087)					
1 st Tue	TUESDAY CLUB 8:15pm in the Court House <i>A lively women's group with guest speaker</i> Contact chairman Jean Bray (864532) or secretary Joan Gregory (864829)					
Tue	CHUCKLES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 10:00-11:30am All Saints' Church Hall. Song Time or Short service as announced. Jenny Wells (870981)					
3 rd Tue	MOTHERS' UNION: meets in members' houses at 8:00pm. <i>Non-members always welcome.</i> Contact: Kathie Lally (863526)					
Tue	HILLSIDE GROUP: 8.00pm at 22, Upper Hall Park for bible study. Contacts: Rob & Julie Wakely (875504)					
4 rd Tues	MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER GROUP: 2:00pm at 17 Shaftesbury Court. Tell us if anyone needs our prayers. Contact: Jenny Wells (870981)					
Wed	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)					
Wed	PATHFINDERS GAMES CLUB 7:00-8:30pm in All Saints' Hall. Jimmy Young (876736)					
2 nd Wed	MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP: 8:00pm as announced. Contact Guy Dawkins (874108)					
3 rd Wed	GRIEF AND LOSS SUPPORT Lunch at 12:30pm for those who have been bereaved. Contact Thelma Harris (865785)					
4 th Wed	WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: meets 2:30-4:00pm in the Court House. <i>New members and visitors always welcome.</i> Contact: Biddy Shacklock (864574)					
Thu	HOME GROUP: 8:00pm on 2nd & 4th Thursdays. Contact Linda Bisset (862115)					
Thu	BELLRINGING: 8:00pm at St Peter's. Priscilla Watt (Captain of the Tower) (863804)					
Fri	FRIDAY STUDY GROUP: Tuesdays 1:30pm for informal Bible study. <i>Young children welcome.</i> Contact: Kate Semmens (866531)					
	LITTLE FISHES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 9:30-11:30am in the Court House. Weekly meetings with a short service 1st Fri in St P (10am) Nicole Addy-Varndell (864094)					
Fri	ST PETER'S CHOIR: Children 7:00-8:30pm (& Tues 5:15-6:15pm), Adults 7:30-8:30pm. Contact: Adrian Davis (864722) or Jean Wild (866859)					
3 rd Sat	ABC PRAYER BREAKFAST: 8:00am for breakfast & prayers. Various local churches.					
Sun	YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP 7:00-8:30pm (years 7/8) 7:45-9:15pm (year 9 upwards) in All Saints' Hall or the Court House as announced Contact Jimmy Young (876736)					

review diary

Please see page 29 for a full list of regular services at St Peter's and All Saints' churches. A priest is available for confessions by appointment (864194).

October/November 2003

OCTOBER

Wed 1	8.00pm	Joint Council Meeting <i>All Saints' House</i>
Fri 3	10.00am	Little Fishes Service <i>St Peter's</i>
Sat 4	7.30pm	'Voices for Hospices' Haydn The Creation <i>Centenary Hall</i>
Sun 5	3.00pm	Hospice Service <i>All Saints'</i>
Mon 6	8.00pm	Eucharist with prayer for healing <i>St Peter's</i>
Sun 12	6.00pm	Choral Evensong <i>St Peter's</i>
Tue 14	10.15am	Chuckles Service - Jacob and his Ladder <i>All Saints'</i>
Tue 14	8.15pm	Parochial Church Council meeting <i>The Court House</i>
Sat 18	8.00am	ABC Prayer Breakfast <i>Berkhamsted Baptist Church</i>
Sun 19	10.00am	United Anglican/Methodist Eucharist <i>All Saints'</i>
Sun 19	3.00pm	Ephyra (Saxophone, 'cello & piano) Recital <i>All Saints'</i>
Tue 21	10.15am	Chuckles Service - Balaam and his Donkey <i>All Saints'</i>

NOVEMBER

Sun 2	9.15am	All Saints' Patronal Festival Parish Eucharist, Preacher: The Venerable. Helen Cunliffe, Archdeacon of St Albans <i>All Saints'</i> (no 9.30am service at St Peter's)
Mon 3	8.00pm	Solemn Eucharist for All Souls Day, Preacher Fr Mark Bonney, with the Chiltern Chamber Choir <i>St Peter's</i>
Fri 7	10.00am	Little Fishes Service <i>St Peter's</i>
Sat 8	7.30pm	Gaudiamus choral concert <i>St Peter's</i>
Sun 9	3.00pm	British Legion Service of Remembrance <i>St Peter's</i>
Sun 9	6.00pm	Choral Evensong <i>St Peter's</i>
Tue 11	10.15am	Chuckles Service - Joshua & his Trumpet <i>All Saints'</i>
Sat 15	8.00am	ABC Prayer Breakfast <i>The Way Inn</i>
Sun 16	10.00am	United Anglican/Methodist Eucharist at All Saints'
Sun 16	6.00pm	Youth Service <i>St Peter's</i>
Wed 19	8.00pm	All Saints' Area Committee <i>venue TBA on 17 Sep</i>
Wed 19	8.15pm	St Peter's Area Committee <i>The Court House.</i>
Sun 23	6.00pm	St Cecelia Concert with St Peter's Choir <i>St Peter's</i>
Tue 25	10.15am	Chuckles Service - Elijah & the Still Small Voice <i>All Saints'</i>

review

Baptisms (St Peter's)

17 August Ella Grace Nugent, Charles James Pitcher, Henry James Brennan, Olivia May
Thompson & Daniel Robert Thompson

Weddings (St Peter's)

2 August Thomas Matthew Miller & Samantha Helen Taylor
16 August John Radmoore Canagasuriam & Emma Louise Cresswell

Funerals

14 July	Frederick Robbins	Chilterns Crematorium
16 July	Robert Benjamin Chambers	West Herts Crematorium
3 Sept	Vera Latham	St Peter's Church (Chilterns Crematorium)

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 (878227) is usually open 9:30am-5:30pm Tues/Wed, 9:30-12noon Friday (answering machine other times)

	St Peter's	All Saints'
Altar service	Alan Conway (865798)	Jenny Wells (870981)
Chalice rota	Jean Green (863241)	Jenny Wells (870981)
Sunday school	Sally Emery (870656)	Kathy Beaumont (384453)
Church maintenance	Christopher Green (863241)	Martin Judd (865691)
Church cleaning	Jean Green (878227)	Mike Limbrick (384682)
Flower arrangements	Sarah Dawson (871614)	vacancy
Sunday morning coffee	Rene Dunford (862420)	Sylvia Banks (871195)
Service recordings	Alan Conway (865798)	Peter McMunn (874894)
Intercessions	Rev'd Mark Bonney (864194)	Jenny Wells (870981)
Epistle Readers	Ron Fisher (865846)	Jenny Wells (870981)
Electoral Roll	Judith Limbert (873626)	Pat Hearne (871270)
Pathfinders	Stephen Lally (863526)	Felicity White (866223)
Sidesmen	Christopher Green (863241)	John Malcolm (874993)
Catering	Val Atkinson (866792)	Christine Dipper (873006)
Hospice contact	Rachael Anderson (871997)	Jean Merrett (866263)
Christian Aid	Angela Morris (866992)	Muriel Johnston (866447)
Youth worker	Jimmy Young (876736)	Jimmy Young (876736)

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Headteacher Mrs N Boddam-Whetham

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Contacts

The Revd Mark Bonney, The Rectory, Rectory Lane (864194) (day off Friday pm / Sat am)
 The Revd Martin Wright, All Saints House, Shrublands Road (866161) (day off Monday)
 The Revd Prof. Luke Geohegan (NSM), 16 Gravel Path, (866361)
 The Revd Canon Basil Jones (Hon.Asst.Priest), 17 Lochnell Road (864485)
 The Revd Preb Stephen Wells (Hon.Asst.Priest), 57 Meadow Road (870981)
 Mrs Christina Billington (Diocesan Lay Minister), 13 Ashridge Rise (385566)
 Miss Marjorie Bowden (Reader), 16 Broadwater (871283)
 Mrs Joan Cook (Reader), The Gardeners Arms, Castle Street (866278)
 John Malcolm (Reader), Landswood, Shootersway (874993)
 Mrs Jenny Wells (Reader), 57 Meadow Road (870981)
 Parish Administration: Mrs Jean Green, The Parish Office, The Court House (878227)
 Stewardship Recorder: Miles Nicholas, 46 Fieldway (871598)
 Churchwardens: Carol Dell, 4 Clarence Road (864706)
 John Banks, Ladybrand, Cross Oak Road (871195)

Parochial Church Secretary: Mrs Pat Hunt, 11 The Firs, Wigginton (822607)
Council: Treasurer: Michael Robinson,
 36 Trevelyan Way (863559)

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St Peter's

Director of Music: Adrian Davis (864722)
 Asst. Director of Music: Mrs Jean Wild (866859)
 Organist: Jonathan Lee (0794 1113232)
Sundays
 8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sun BCP)
 9.30am Family Sung Eucharist with crèche,
 Sunday Schools & Pathfinders
 (in the Court House) followed
 by coffee in the Court House.
 6.00pm Evensong & Sermon
Weekdays
 Holy Communion
 Wednesday 7:30am
 Thursday 11.00am
 Friday 9.15am
 Morning Prayer: M-F 7:30am, W 7:00am
 Evening Prayer: M,W,Th 5:00pm
 Sat 5:00pm
 Holy Days - see weekly Notices

Weddings, Banns of Marriage, Baptisms, Funerals: Father Mark Bonney (864194)

Bellringers (St Peter's): Miss Priscilla Watt, 11
 Cavalier Court, Chesham Road (863804)

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All Saints'

Choirmaster: Peter McMunn (874894)

Sundays
 8.00am Anglican Eucharist only as announced
 9.15am Sung Eucharist with Sunday schools & Pathfinders, then coffee in the Hall
 10:00am United service with the Methodist congregation (3rd Sunday in month)
 11.00am (Methodist Morning Service)
 6.30pm Anglican service only as announced (otherwise Methodist Evening Service)
 5th Sunday – United Anglican/Methodist service.

Weekdays
 Holy Communion: Tuesday 9.30am MP/EP see p29 Holy Days - see weekly Notices
 All Saints' is an Anglican / Methodist Local Ecumenical Partnership.
 Anglican priest-in-charge Revd Martin Wright (see *Contacts* above)
 Methodist minister: Revd Paul Timmis, 32 Finch Road (866324)



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