

Berkhamsted *review*

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

Welcome to the July 2005 issue of the Berkhamsted review

Will there be a summer this year? As I write, in the middle of June, I am beginning to wonder. And what about global warming? No doubt we shall be told we must *expect* cold Junes as part of it. The British preoccupation with the weather is often treated as a joke, but in truth it reflects the unpredictable nature of the climate in Britain. The weather features often in our folklore and although July is our hottest month, its weather lore is concerned with rain - *'If the First of July be rainy weather, twill rain more or less for four weeks together'*. And if the 1st is fine, we still have to negotiate St Swithun on the 15th when, if it rains, the next forty days will be wet, taking us through most of the school holiday to 24th August. No one seems to know why this dismal prediction is associated with St Swithun. He was the Bishop of Winchester in the ninth century, and we know little more about him. Perhaps all this concern over rain in July reflects ancient anxieties about the harvest. Now however, it's more likely to be anxiety about the weather during our holidays. So, if we can, we head for drier and warmer climes.

Christopher Green

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Rowena Pike

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What are Holidays for?

Father Basil
commends the
opportunity for
reflection

review leader

Some of you will have seen *The Monastery* on BBC2 recently when five men of differing backgrounds joined a Benedictine monastic community for six weeks and the cameras were able to

eavesdrop, with their knowledge, on their life there. It was extremely sensitively filmed and will I am certain be repeated when those of you who may have missed it the first time will have the opportunity of watching. The community life, with its offices (services) during the day and early hours continued as usual with its overlay of much silence. It is a contemplative community.

Apparently when the project was advertised to recruit the lay volunteers there were thousands of applicants who were whittled down to five. We read that it has engendered a great deal of interest in silent retreats - an interest which was growing anyway.

I would not wish to spoil your own impressions but you will see that *Silence* kept over a considerable time has the effect for most people of bringing to the front of their mind things half forgotten, both good and bad. You often need careful help to deal with these things constructively.

Holidays or Pilgrimages can have something of the same ingredients. An unfamiliar routine, perhaps in a strange place, meeting and mixing with a completely new set of people often with widely different backgrounds and experiences. The times to be silent with yourself may vary widely from your norm

even if you are often busy with your children.

It can be a strangely disturbing experience with unexpected delights and sometimes the chance to marvel at the sheer magnificence of God's creation in which you have been set for a spell. It can often cut us down to size, however vital and important we are in our day to day life.

Holidays, Holy days, Pilgrimages have both an internal and an external influence on us all. The changes of routine can cause us to review our life style without trying too hard. We have the often unexpected and sometimes rather frightening opportunity to stand outside ourselves as it were and review, again without trying too hard, our use of time and money, and the needs of ourselves which we may have put behind us for various reasons which these new temporary circumstances have brought to the front of our mind.

The external views, both home and abroad, even in our own locality can give us unusual pleasure if we are prepared to open ourselves to unexpected possibilities. After all, we worship a living God who cares for all his children, young and old.

So whether your Holiday or Pilgrimage is in exotic climes or sitting on the sofa in your own home and letting your mind wander as the marvels of life are brought to your attention by whatever means you favour, enjoy your dreams and visions, and be prepared for some surprises.

Happy times - personally I am off to Paris for a few days.



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Everything done in the name of The Mothers' Union is in accordance with its Aim and Objects, and it is the Fifth Object, - *to help those whose family life has met with adversity*, which inspires much of our project work. A new project in St Albans diocese is support for *Grey*

Havens, a bail flat for asylum seekers in Bedford. *Grey Havens* is an ecumenical project supported by the Diocesan Board for Church and Society. MU members provided bedding and linen when the flat was due to take its first residents, and contribute to the living costs of the residents, each one being given £30.00 a week to cover items like food, household goods and clothing. The small two bedroomed flat houses four women awaiting the hearing of their claims for asylum in this country. This may take weeks, months or even longer. Until a decision is reached, asylum seekers are mostly held in detention centres like Yarls Wood, also in this diocese, and cannot work or claim benefit. They may be fortunate to live out of a detention centre if they can get bail surety, but have to report regularly to a police station.

Seeking asylum is not a criminal offence, despite the use of words like detention and

ASYLUM SEEKERS

Margaret Burbidge explains the involvement of the MU

herself. She had been an MU member in her own country, so imagine her delight when she heard that MU members around Bedford had supplied the bedding for the flat. Another woman escaped the threat of female circumcision, a condition of living in her local community and something she absolutely refused to undertake. These are just two of the human stories underneath the label *asylum seeker* and through the support they receive in the bail flat, they find some light in the darkness of their lives.

Helping to support four women is but the tip of the iceberg, but in doing so MU members are living out their Fifth Object. It is also deeply Christian. It is about loving our neighbour, offering hospitality to the stranger and bringing some justice to situations where there is little. This is the biblical message of the prophets, and of Jesus himself, and from that, MU draws its confidence to act on an issue that often provokes strong and divided opinions. ❖

Situation Still Vacant

The churchwardens **Carole Dell** and **Tracy Robinson** explain the situation

As many readers will know, the Parish of Great Berkhamsted and the (soon to be) Berkhamsted Team Ministry are still without a Rector and Team Rector respectively.

Following the compilation of a 28 page *Profile* (available on <http://stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk>) containing information about the various parishes in the Team, an advertisement was placed in the *Church Times* for two consecutive weeks in April, and details of the vacancy were included on the websites of St Albans Diocese and of the National Clergy Appointments Adviser.

The short-listed applicants were shown around the parishes on the day before the formal interviews in mid-May. The interview panel included the Bishop of Hertford, the Archdeacon of St Albans, and representatives from the parishes. They unanimously agreed on the candidate whom they would like to appoint, and duly offered the position. Regrettably, after consideration, this candidate declined the appointment. The position will be re-advertised.

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Recently while passing through Henley in a boat on the River Thames I looked up and saw, high above me, two large birds slowly circling each other. Eventually they glided gently away, out of sight. They were birds of prey with very wide wingspans - five feet or more - slightly larger than a buzzard. They were red kites.

Until recently red kites had all but vanished from the British Isles. Although they were very common during the Middle Ages, by the end of the 19th century they were no longer breeding in England and only a few pairs remained in mid-Wales. In medieval times they had had legal protection (together with ravens) because they kept the streets clean in towns and villages by scavenging the debris. However the bird was eventually wiped out because it was believed to be a threat to livestock and game birds. The last time red kites bred in Buckinghamshire was in the early years of the 19th century. The last nest in Oxfordshire was seen in 1832. For more than 150 years red kites were hardly ever seen in the south east of England. The Chiltern Hills, however, provide an ideal habitat for them - a mix of woodland, arable land and open pasture.

In 1989 it was decided to reintroduce the red kite back into the Chilterns. The RSPB and the Nature Conservancy Council (now English Nature) imported chicks from northern Spain — where the bird is still common — and released them into the wild at a site in the hills near Stokenchurch. Over a period of four or five years, 93 birds were released in this way. In 1991 the first pair bred successfully and by 2003 there were more than 170 breeding pairs. Now there are likely to be more than 200; with a total population in the Chilterns of more

Ian Reay's &news &views

Return of the Red Kite Ian Reay welcomes their reappearance in the Chilterns

than a thousand birds. The colony is so successful that young birds are taken from here each year to be released elsewhere in England and Scotland in order to establish populations there.

None though have been seen yet in the vicinity of Berkhamsted *. Red kites are known to wander over a very large area when they are young but they tend to return to sites close to where they were hatched to breed. Pairs normally form a lifelong bond. Red kites are most commonly found in the southern part of the Chiltern Hills, between Goring, Henley-on-Thames and Princes Risborough, although they have occasionally been sighted as far north as Wendover and Chesham. At least two red kites from the Chilterns have nested in Northamptonshire and the bird has also visited Wales so it should not be many more years before they start settling in Ashridge and the surrounding areas. We may yet see them, in an evening, roosting in nearby woods. Because they have such a broad wingspan they put their nests in trees on the edge of woodland, in clearings or where trees are widely spaced.

If they do settle here we should also watch out for our washing. Red kites have a habit of decorating their nests with bits and pieces that may be left lying about. It was once even believed that they would take the hats from people's heads. Disposable plastic gloves, soft toys, and even ladies underwear have been found in nests in the Chilterns. We shall have to take note of the words that Shakespeare put into the mouth of Autolycus, in *The Winter's Tale*: *When the kite builds, look to lesser linen*.

* Your Editor has seen a red kite over Berkhamsted and Patrick Lepper reports seeing one on another occasion.



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The Berkhamsted Community Partnership (BCP), in association with CARAB, are running a photographic competition, with exciting prizes, to help capture the town's many beautiful views and features worth conserving for the future.

Rachel Edmonds, the Berkhamsted Project Officer for the BCP says: *"Berkhamsted has many beautiful views, some seen every day and others enjoyed occasionally. We hope that all ages, including local schools, will get involved to celebrate and capture the many buildings and views in Berkhamsted that help to give the town its own particular identity."*

The photographs will be on display at a free exhibition at the Old Hall, Berkhamsted Collegiate School on Saturday 10 September. The BCP is also seeking local

FREEZE FRAME BERKHAMSTED

A photographic competition

people's views and comments to identify which buildings, design features and views in Berkhamsted are worth conserving.

The closing date for entries is 31st July 2005. The competition is **free to enter**. Entry forms are available at the Berkhamsted Civic Centre or you can print one off by visiting <http://www.berkhamsted.gov.uk/bcp/bcpcomp.htm>.

The BCP is community based and driven with a wide membership, bringing together the invaluable knowledge of representatives from: key voluntary and community organisations, young people, the police, local businesses and schools, Dacorum Borough Council and Berkhamsted Town Council. The BCP are working together to take forward projects to improve Berkhamsted. ❖

It's a good life at Victoria

Pupils at Victoria First School and Nursery in Berkhamsted may soon be tasting the fruits of their labours thanks to a new school allotment.

The allotment, which will be used to grow fresh fruit and vegetables, is just part of the pupils' efforts to improve the environment and support Victoria's efforts to become an Eco school. Encouraged by their recent Eco School Bronze Award, children gave up their time over the Easter holidays to help renovate and replant the school pond. Thanks to their sterling work the pond is now a welcome and healthy environment for its resident tadpoles and other water creatures arriving all the time. The children have identification charts to help them identify the creatures and record what they see.

Across the school all classes are growing seeds ready for planting in the allotment. There are also plans to plant some fruit trees in the autumn so the children can watch pears and apples growing too.

These plans were given a real boost recently by a generous grant of £250 from Berkhamsted Town Council. The school has already invested some of the money in more worms for the school's wormery, extra plants for the school pond and materials for an improved compost heap.

Deputy headteacher **Anna Brown** who chairs the school Eco Committee said:

"I have been very impressed by all the children's efforts and their ongoing commitment to our eco projects. By getting involved in these activities they can get some fresh air, have fun and learn at the same time.

The generous support from the Town Council will enable us to make more progress towards our goal of becoming an Eco School.

I hope that the new allotment will really help the children understand that fruit and vegetables do not grow in plastic bags in the supermarket. I am sure they will get a great deal of satisfaction from seeing and tasting the results of their hard work."

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This year, under the title *Think Again*, The Alzheimer's Society is highlighting and focusing on the problem of dementia amongst younger people and challenging the assumption that dementia is just an older person's condition. We are encouraging people to **Think Again**.

Over 18,000 people in the UK under the age of 65 have dementia, but only one third of all younger people with dementia have Alzheimer's disease. Younger people tend to have a rarer form of dementia such as Pick's disease, Vascular dementia or Korsakoff's syndrome.

All people with dementia should receive quality services and support to meet their individual needs. Younger people with dementia often find it difficult to access suitable support and services – the number of specialist homes across the country is fewer than 20.

Dementia care services are usually designed for older people and younger people with dementia are usually more physically active, have dependent children and financial commitments such as a mortgage. Younger people with dementia can also find it particularly

THINK AGAIN

Alzheimer's Awareness
week 3rd – 9th July



difficult to get an early diagnosis due to low awareness and lack of diagnostic services.

The Alzheimer's Society produces a range of information for younger people with all forms of dementia, their families and carers and for professionals working with them.

In Hertfordshire it is estimated that there are over 330 younger people with dementia. There is a local specialist service the Early Onset Dementia Team based in Berkhamsted (876441) Jytte Jensen is the team leader and they offer an excellent package of support to families.

However, there is no specialist care home in the county.

To mark Alzheimer's awareness week and to "Think Again" the local Dacorum branch has organised:

Church Service: 3rd July at 2:30pm at St John's Church Boxmoor. Teas will be served in the church hall afterwards.

Workshop for local GP's – Thursday 7th July.

Collections in Tring and Berkhamsted on Friday 8th July. If anyone would like to help on the day, please contact Alison Harrison (824397). ❖

What & Where in St Peter's?



Answer next month

Answer to June's What & Where in St Peter's?



A surveyor's measuring device to check structural movement in the Lady Chapel.

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Some good news, but ...

DON'T BECOME A VICTIM

Reported crime in Berkhamsted dropped in 2004 compared with 2003. This was due to significant decreases in house burglaries and thefts from

News and advice from the Berkhamsted Crime Prevention Panel

and damage to motor vehicles and bicycles. There were however increases in the number of non-house burglaries (including garden sheds and garages) and thefts of motor vehicles. While it is impossible to be certain why crime figures change, due to the variety of factors involved, the reductions are good news. But we must not become complacent. We all need to ensure that sensible precautions are taken to protect our property and reduce the chances of becoming a victim. As individuals we can make a difference by securing our homes, outbuildings and vehicles; by leaving lights on at home during the hours of darkness when we're away; and by leaving nothing on display to attract the opportunist thief.

Even if you are not a victim, always report immediately any suspicions of a crime in progress. An eagle-eyed Neighbourhood Watch member in Little Gaddesden recently did just that when an offender was seen breaking into a barn. Details were reported and the offender was quickly caught and charged with several offences.

Car Crime Prevention

Have you ever wondered how a thief can pick a vehicle where there is something of value to take, even when there might be hundreds of vehicles nearby? Well it's easy really, especially when we help them, even if unwittingly. Anything left on display within a vehicle can attract the attention of thieves. This includes items

that have been pushed under seats (there is often a tell-tale part to be seen) and empty bags and coats. We know they're empty but thieves don't until they have broken in and caused damage and inconvenience. If we

open the boot or glove box after parking our vehicle and place items *out of sight*, thieves can watch this. They know where to look and that we will be away for some time. So, if you must leave items inside a vehicle, try to conceal them before parking. And never leave valuables such as money, cheque books and credit/debit cards in a vehicle.

Because laptop computers, PDAs, etc are so light and portable they are often to be found inside vehicles. *Bluetooth* enabled laptops, etc left on standby can easily be detected and identified by thieves from outside a locked vehicle. So, always switch off *Bluetooth* enabled equipment, or, better still, never leave it in an unattended vehicle. Estate cars with luggage blinds can also be a target, even when there is nothing in the load area. So why not leave the blind open so thieves can see there is nothing to steal?

To reduce the risks of becoming a victim, leave nothing on display. If you have to park a vehicle with items inside, ensure that they are fully out of sight; close all windows; lock all doors; set an alarm - if your vehicle doesn't have an alarm, consider having a good one fitted

Call 999 for emergencies where there is a risk of injury to someone, a risk of serious damage to property or where you suspect a crime is in progress or there is a serious incident that needs immediate police attendance.

Call **0845 33 00 222** for any non-emergency matter



As displayed on the front cover of May's review, at St Peter's we now have four hatchments, restored to their approximate original position on the west side of the north transept (as evidenced by a photograph of 1860). So what are hatchments? During the Middle Ages and later when a member of the nobility died, his armour, sword and shield displaying his coat of arms were carried in the funeral procession and laid up in the church in or near the grave. By about 1500 armour had ceased to be worn in battle though its use continued for a time in tournaments.

Gradually as the actual accoutrements became rarer they were replaced by painted representations grouped in a frame with a background of mourning black. A custom very common in England from the late seventeenth to the mid nineteenth century (but increasingly rarely later) was to display this board on the house front to advertise the death to the neighbourhood and to act as a sign of mourning. The coat of arms that a person was entitled to at their death either just by inheritance but including any augmentations of honour, advancement in the ranks of nobility, or marriage, was their *achievement* – hence *hatchment*. After the period of mourning was over, perhaps a year and a day, the boards were taken down and removed to

HATCHMENTS EXPLAINED

John Abbott outlines their history and their heraldry



the local parish church to be associated with the deceased's memorial, or just left to moulder away. In form they are some six feet square, sometimes orientated as such but more often diagonally as diamonds (or *lozenges*). Our ones in St

Peter's are typical of ones to be found in many churches throughout the country dating to the first half of the nineteenth century and of course relate to local important families. They demonstrate many of the conventions that are found elsewhere. For example the family motto is replaced by the word *Resurgam* (I shall rise again), or some other phrase. Since in earlier times women did not take on front line military roles they notionally did not possess armour, shield or helmet on which to

display coats of arms. Their family coats of arms (as single women) are therefore usually displayed on a lozenge (or some other non shield-like shape) and the family crest is replaced by a cherub. We can see both these details on the left-hand hatchment. The background shows the arms of Pechell which also occur on two of the other hatchments which are described in heraldic language:

Gules, a lion rampant or, on a chief or three sprigs of laurel vert.

Which is in modern English:

A gold lion rampant on a field of red, with three sprigs of green laurel on a golden horizontal band at the top.

Also there is another shield of arms superimposed on top, two of whose quarters show the arms of Drake:

Argent, a wyvern passant wings addorsed and tail nowed gules."

A red wyvern with back-to-back wings and knotted tail on silver field (example of punning – or so-called *canting* arms, wyvern is a fanciful name for a dragon – draco for Drake)

This is the hatchment of Sarah, daughter of the **Revd Thomas Drake** rector of Amersham who married **Augustus Pechell** in 1786 and died in 1839. A bit misleading this - the main background shows her husband's arms, her paternal arms being shown centrally in this special way because she was an heiress.

The uppermost hatchment shows the arms of Pechell (on a black background) alongside those of Thoyts (on a white background). The arms of Thoyts:

Azure on a fess between three molets or three signs of the planet Venus sable.

On a blue field three five-pointed golden stars, and three black planet Venus symbols on a gold central horizontal strip.

These are the arms of **Samuel George Pechell**, Capt RN who married Caroline, daughter of **William Thoyts** in 1817, and died in 1840. The convention was that the background is shown white behind that part of the shield which represents the surviving spouse, so this means Caroline was left a widow.

And now to the right hand one. This shows the arms of husband and wife displayed on one shield side by side, the husband's on the left from the viewer's perspective (but on the right hand side of the imaginary bearer of the arms). The husband is **James Smith**, a Nottinghamshire banker who bought Ashlyn's Hall in 1801, and his second wife **Mary Isabella Pechell** of Berkhamsted

Place, Augustus' and Sarah's daughter. Since the arms are on a shield and the background is black on both sides it is James's hatchment and he was a widower. He actually died in 1843, and the imposing monument on the other side of the church tells us that Mary Isabella had died in 1823. The arms of Smith are shown as:

Or, on a chevron cotised between three demi-griffins (the two in chief respectant) sable, a leopard's face or.

On a golden field a black chevron bounded by two smaller chevrons placed between three half-griffins also black, the two at the top facing each other, with a gold leopard's face on the chevron.

It is commonly assumed that all Smiths are related and therefore are somehow entitled to the same coat of arms. This is what gift shops selling plaques and key-rings would like you to think, but is not the case (in England, at any rate). Anyway Smith might not be **James Smith** ancestor's original name. This is another story, but interestingly these arms (minus the leopard difference) were also borne by Oswald Smith from the other side of Hertfordshire who was an ancestor of the late Queen Mother.

All these hatchment date from the 1840's and it appears that the fashion for displaying them ended soon afterwards. There are probably several reasons for this, perhaps the great increase in communications brought about by railways and telegraph obviated the need for advertising death in this way, and there was also an increase in the use of more permanent armorial stained glass. And of course some of James and Mary's descendants gained *achievements* that need no such memorials, notably their son **Emperor Augustus Smith** of Scilly Isles fame *, and their grandson general **Sir Horace Dorrien Smith**, veteran of many wars who showed a knightly leadership in the early days of the first world war. ❖

* subject of a recent biography – *The Man Who Built Scilly* by **Sam Llewellyn** – reviewed in The Times, May 28th.

The editor adds a footnote on the monuments

As **John Abbott** observes, and as might be expected, the people whose arms are displayed in the hatchments are also represented in monuments in St Peter's Church. The relationships revealed provide an interesting insight into upper middle class society in early nineteenth century Berkhamsted. There is a monument commemorating **Sarah (née Drake)** and her husband **Augustus Pechell** on the west wall of the St John's Chantry, with the Pechell arms once again displayed. This monument was formerly affixed to the west wall of the north transept, with the hatchments. Sarah's sister, **Isabella** is also commemorated in St Peter's Church. She was the wife of **Thomas Dorrien** and her monument can be seen in the north transept over the north door. Like the Pechells, **James Smith**

is now commemorated on the west wall of the St John's Chantry in the large monument which also commemorates his second wife **Mary Isabella**, the daughter of **Augustus** and **Sarah Pechell** and several other members of the family. The monument to **Samuel George Pechell** is also there, but both these monuments were originally in the north transept, close to the hatchments. The full attribution of the fourth hatchment is unknown but it is probably significant that the heraldry



**Sarah and her husband
Augustus Pechell**

Samuel George Pechell



**Elizabeth
Parker and
family**



**Isabella
(wife of Tho'
Dorrien)**



**James Smith and
family**

includes the arms of Parker:

*sable a stags head cabossed between two
flaunches argent*

A stags head, full face, on a black background between two silver segments of circles

A monument to **Elizabeth Parker** and other members of the Parker family can be seen in the north transept on the west wall to the right of the window. ❖

Activities like bell ringing require considerable practice to attain the necessary skills. This is achieved by weekly practice and through meetings, peals, quarter peals, striking competitions, and by taking part in outings to other towers. It is also customary to welcome visitors to our own tower.

For some years the bell ringers have been conscious that the bells are unacceptably loud, particularly for those residents and businesses close to the tower. Over the past 18 months ringing activities at St Peter's have been severely curtailed because of the need to have consideration for our neighbours. As far as we can ascertain there have been no cases of bell noise nuisance that have gone to law with ringing subsequently being stopped. However evidence indicates that careful management of ringing and its potential to cause annoyance has avoided such cases.

With the support of the PCC, a specialist

ST PETER'S BELLS

David Burbidge describes recent developments

firm, **Sound Solutions**, carried out a survey last August with a view to controlling sound volume for non-service ringing. Their recommendations were accepted and the sound control system installed during the second week of May.

We are very pleased with the results. The system is controllable so that the bells are heard at normal volume for all services, this of course being the prime purpose of church bells. However closing the shutters provides around 60% volume reduction. This means that it is difficult to hear the bells above the sound of passing traffic. Berkhamsted ringers and the Hertfordshire Association of ringers contributed to the cost of the work.

We are now able to resume usual ringing activities, including welcoming visitors to use our bells. The control system is a very positive move by the PCC, which is much appreciated by the ringers.

Cast and Recast

The cover photograph is a view into the bell-chamber in the tower of St Peter's Church. The tower has eight bells but prominent in the photograph are the wheels to which the bell-ropes, and the bells, are attached. When the rope is pulled the wheel turns, swinging the bell so that the clapper strikes against the rim to sound it. In the foreground is the corner of the oak bell-frame and the top, or crown, of the largest bell. This is the VIIIth or tenor bell and weighs 1,757 lbs (797kg). All the bells at St Peter's were cast at the Whitechapel foundry in London. This foundry is probably the oldest continuously active business in Britain, established in 1567 and still casting bells today. The bells at St Peter's were cast in the nineteenth century when the foundry was run by **Thomas Mears II**. Seven of the bells bear the inscription, cast in the metal: THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1838.

The largest bell is simply inscribed LONDON AND GLOUCESTER 1839, a reference to the two foundries operated by Mears at that time. Two of the bells, the Ist, or treble, and the Vth, after many years in a damaged condition, were recast at the Whitechapel foundry in 1946. They retain the original 1838 inscription but are also inscribed RECAST 1946 CANON WC STAINSBY RECTOR. The Fifth in addition bears the name WILLIAM LOCKWOOD MAYDWELL BENSON. He was a solicitor in Berkhamsted who died in 1940 aged 75. His contribution may have been a bequest to the church. He was the father of John Percival Benson who was living in Berkhamsted in 1999.

Christopher Green

Early Years

Sir Charles Barry (1795-1860) was the architect responsible for designing the New Palace of Westminster after the medieval building was mostly destroyed in the fire of 1834. He was born on 13th May 1795 in Bridge Street, Westminster close to the

Palace of Westminster and in a house which, sixty years later, was literally in the shadow of the clock tower which would be the most prominent feature of Barry's design for the new palace. He attended Christ's Hospital school which was at that time located on the north side of Newgate, just south of the present site of St Bartholomew's Hospital in the City of London. In 1811 he was articled to a firm of surveyors in Lambeth. His son, **Dr Alfred Barry** (1826-1910), later Principal of King's College, London and Archbishop of Sydney, recorded in his biography of his father that in his childhood Charles, the only member of his family to show any artistic tendencies, had been in the habit of drawing on the walls of his bedroom in Bridge Street. The wallpaper was replaced when it no longer had any space for further designs. This helps to explain how it was that, during his period of apprenticeship, the young **Charles Barry** regularly exhibited at the Royal Academy. His first exhibit, with unconscious foresight in view of his later work was entitled *A view of the interior of Westminster Hall*.

Barry's father, a prosperous stationer, had died in 1803, leaving a considerable sum to be inherited by his son when he reached the age of 21, so in 1817, fortified by his inheritance, Charles quit his articles and set about broadening his education. The continent of Europe had re-opened to English travellers following the end of the Napoleonic wars in 1815 so Barry embarked on a European tour. He visited Italy, Greece and Constantinople where he particularly admired Justinian's

A LIFE IN THE SHADOW OF WESTMINSTER

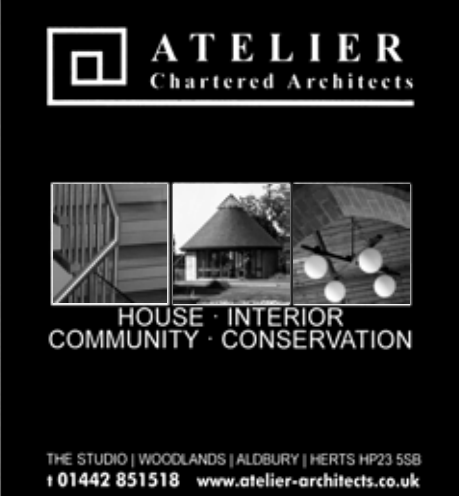
Stephen Halliday
describes the early career
of Charles Barry

Aya Sophia, a building almost unknown in Western Europe at that time. Upon his return to England in 1820 Barry married and established himself in practice in Ely Place, Holborn. There followed a series of commissions which began with requests from various ecclesiastical sources

for churches to be built at modest costs. One evangelical clergyman even devised a plan to build '*churches for nothing*' which cannot have been either attractive or profitable to a struggling architect whose fee was 5% of the construction costs. He was however successful in gaining the contract for the design of the King Edward VI School in Birmingham, which brought him into contact with two fellow professionals, **Augustus Pugin** and **John Thomas**, who were later to work with him on the Palace of Westminster.

The Conflagration

On 16th October 1834, as he returned in his carriage from an appointment in south London, **Charles Barry** noticed a glow in the sky from the vicinity of Westminster. The Palace of Westminster, including both Houses of Parliament, was ablaze. The inferno had been caused by an early,



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if misguided, attempt at recycling. Since the Middle Ages the Court of Exchequer had issued receipts for taxes paid in the form of wooden tallies. These were split down the middle, one half being kept by the taxpayer and the other stored by the court in the Palace of Westminster. The practice had continued until 1826 by which time every inch of storage space in the Palace was occupied by these decaying relics of medieval taxation. An enterprising official suggested that they could be used as fuel for the building's antiquated heating system. The rotting timber burned so merrily that the blaze soon extended from the boiler to the rest of the building. The Prime Minister, **Lord Melbourne**, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, **Lord Althorp**, hurried to the scene. They saw the House of Lords Chamber ablaze and the flames advancing on St Stephen's Chapel, which since 1530, had served as the meeting place for the House of Commons. Beyond the Chapel lay **Richard II's** Westminster Hall, scene of some of the most memorable events in English history including the trials of **Thomas More**, **Guy Fawkes** & **Charles I. Althorp** spoke for both of them when he cried '*Damn the house of Commons. Let it blaze but save the Hall*'. Westminster Hall survived together with the crypt and a few fragments of St Stephen's Chapel. With these exceptions the building was destroyed. The Mother of Parliaments was homeless.

King William IV's government headed by **Lord Melbourne** considered rebuilding the Palace on a different site. Both Green Park and Trafalgar Square were considered as alternative sites but dismissed as impractical. On 3rd June 1835, a Select Committee set out the specification for the New Palace, which included the requirements '*that the style of the building be either Gothic or Elizabethan*'; that the House of Commons should have seating for 460 members; and that the Palace should contain two prison cells to accommodate persons who behaved disrespectfully towards Parliament. A striking feature of the competition, at a time when public expenditure was regarded

as little less than a vice, was the decision of the Commissioners that '*we are not called upon to make the cost of the design an object of our consideration*'.

The design chosen was that of **Charles Barry** who had laboured for up to twenty hours a day for over three months to submit his designs on time. He had also visited cities in the Low Countries to study gothic monumental buildings. He had built his design around the surviving Westminster Hall and also incorporated the crypt of St Stephen's Chapel, thereby preserving in the new *Gothic* building the best surviving features of the medieval one. It was calculated that the buildings would cost £693,104 and a further £129,000 would be needed to purchase land and embank the Thames. The unanimity of the Commissioners was not reflected in the opinions of Barry's fellow architects, 96 of whom had made unsuccessful entries to the competition. On 22nd June 1836, a group of them presented a petition to the House of Commons requesting that the competition be re-opened. There followed a prolonged wrangle over the suitability of the design which was the subject of an ill-tempered debate in the House of Commons. One MP described Barry's design as '*a fine picture, well calculated to deceive one young and inexperienced in architecture*' while another claimed that '*the data on which Mr Barry had calculated the cost of the building were of a most fallacious description*'. Such accusations, amounted to a charge of fraud but **Sir Robert Peel** sprang to Barry's defence and the dispute was seen off by the Government, but it presaged the disputes that were to accompany the completion of the building over the next quarter century and which caused Barry to suffer much illness and anxiety. In the event the building was to cost almost two and a half times the estimate, thereby establishing a tradition of overspending on Parliamentary works which was gloriously reproduced in the Parliamentary office building, Portcullis House, two centuries later. ❖

Next month: *Delays and Disputes*, from **Stephen Halliday's** book *Making the Metropolis* available from Ottakar's Bookshop.


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Northchurch Notebook

**Jonathan
Griffin**
wonders
whether local
dialect words
are alive and
well

review northchurch

The St Mary's Parish Newsletter has had the great benefit, over many years, of regular contributions using the title above, always with the by-line *Hedgehog*. Far from being prickly or nocturnal, this is an individual whose cheerful and caring research interacts regularly with the daily life of Northchurch and its village community.

His memoirs cover village life and lives, characters and occurrences, shops and trades, and even the history of land ownership and housing developments. A mark of this community contribution saw a copy of the book *Hedgehog's Northchurch* presented to each child at St Mary's Church of England First School, as part of the Millennium celebrations.

This month's *review* contribution shines a light into the corners of local dialect. *Hedgehog* admits that it was only when he was interviewed on local radio some years ago, that he became truly aware of his Northchurch accent. The various dialect words and phrases he had built up in jottings and articles then became of interest to a University student who was studying English Language and dialect. She sought *Hedgehog's* advice on a list of words compiled as part of a project *Is local dialect dying?* To test our village sage's opinion that dialect is indeed receding, the following compilation of words from Northchurch villagers is offered here.

It starts with half a dozen which were certainly used in my family home; continues with a middle batch which are entirely new to this *editor*; and finishes with a final six which I would think are more widely used across this region and

beyond.

CLAGGY Sticky, muddy *A bit claggy digging the garden*

DECKO To look to see *Move over, le's 'ave a decko*

POOTLE To walk around in a leisurely way

TIGGLE OFF Move away slowly

TODGE UP Lift someone up (to see better, or to sit on lap)

WICK Nerves

ACKLE Function, work *This new padlock don't ackle well*

BIFF Throw *He biffed a brick at me*

DABBER A stone, a pebble

FITHERING Fumbling, fidgeting

GIPPO Gravy *Gis a bit o' bread to mop up me gippo!*

GRARMED UP Dirty, messy

HANKED UP Courting, keeping company

HARRUP To scratch forcefully

HARRUP ABOUT Search here and there

KIBBLING/CROFFLING ALONG Limping, walking with difficulty

LICHUP A young rascal

LOBBOE A look out warning of danger

OMMICKING Stamping about *No good ommicking about on the ground*

A POOR OLD STITCH A job poorly done

SCRATTIN ABOUT Work feverishly, always on the go

SLOMMAKING ALONG Shuffling along

CLOBBER Clothing *Get that wet clobber off and dry it by the fire*

COTTONED ON To understand, become aware of something

SEEDY Slightly unwell

SLOPE OFF Depart quietly, discretely

TRAIPSE Walk here and there seeking something

TWIG To see, to understand

So, while my great nephews continue to tiddle about, getting an occasional todge up from their parents and other relatives, the question is: *How many of these words have travelled even as far as Berkhamsted?* ❖



Nobly, nobly, did the PCC respond to the challenge of the Cowper Society that a cricket match should be played, six ladies and six gentlemen a-side, on the Collegiate Field. It was an occasion for resolute spirits for the summer wind blew keenly, and players and watchers dressed in the

manner of the day - the ladies in blouses, bonnets, boaters, bustles, boas - shivered alike. The St Peter's flag flew from the flag pole as the Cowper Society took the field having won the toss. The Revd Basil Jones bowled the first ball - *Under-hand* as he said it would be. Messrs Dunford and Booth and Julian Dawson set about things as if they meant business - the last scoring two mighty fours - but they were pegged back by the wily deliveries of the Director of Music and an adroit catch from Mr Beuttler fielding closer than sense might suggest.

Thereafter, the PCC took a rather defensive stance. No surges of blood, no swashbuckling sorties, but rather a considered doggedness. It was not that the bowling was threatening; much of it of the type once referred to as *daisy-cutters*. Mrs Atkins loosed her projectiles on target, but her over-arm action was held to be suspect. The bowling of Mrs Green and Mrs Hart suggested that certain talents have been too long hidden; Miss Semmens has a shrewd eye for the ball, while Dr Green's uneven performance indicated that there might once have been skills, but so long ago. Miss Beatrice Limbert occupied the crease for some time, but it was not until the end of the innings that there was a flurry to produce a respectable total. The Captain stiffened resolve; the *Deserving Poor* representative looked dangerous, and Mr Firshman, it seemed, might throw the whole matter into doubt from his own flashing blade. The innings ended on the last ball of the 25th over with both occupying batsmen at the same end. The Parish Council had been dismissed for 54 runs.

Time for the cakes that people had kindly

THE VICTORIAN CRICKET MATCH

David Pearce of the
Cowper Society describes
the action

brought and the cup of tea which Mesdames Conway, Watt and the ladies set before cold mortals. Oh, for sunshine and parasols and deck chairs!

The Cowper Society faced up to the bowling, realising that there was much talent in the foe if

only the players could believe in their destiny. An early set back to the batting came with the fall of the wickets of the opening pair, but the ship was steadied by Professor Duffell who had already kept wicket with great panache, by Mrs Atkins, and then by Mr Hart who carried his bat for a top score of 12. The runs were struck off for the loss of only 5 wickets, and so the Cowper Society carried the day.

The great credit, though, goes to all those who supported and played with such a jolly, good will; to those models of rectitude and umpiring fairness, Mr John Cook and the splendidly moustachioed Mr John Malcolm; to the scorers, Charles Fidler and Sam Limbert. Perhaps there may be other occasions to stir the blood of old men, and to reveal the charms of our lady parishioners.

The following played:

The PCC

Mrs Sarah Dawson
Mrs Janet Hall
Mrs Carole Dell
Miss Beatrice Limbert
Mrs Judith Limbert
Dr Barbara Groet
Mr Julian Dawson
Mr Alan Conway
Mr Paul Jullien
Mr David Booth
Mr Andrew Dunford
Mr Tony Firshman

Cowper Society

Mrs Jean Green
Miss Emma Semmens
Mrs Yvonne Hart
Miss Rowena Pike
Mrs Ann Duffell
Mrs Heather Atkins
Mr Mike Hart
Professor Roger Duffell
Dr Christopher Green
Mr Adrian Davis
Mr Francis Beuttler
Mr David Pearce

Photos: Rowena Pike and Tony Firshman

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review notes & notices

BERKHAMSTED CASTLE WI



We held our monthly meeting at the Court House at 2:00pm on Friday 3rd June. **Liz Baxendale** was President for the month, and welcomed sixteen members and two visitors. She then introduced **Anne Parsons** from the charity

Hope for Children and presented Anne with a Number Frieze wall hanging which members of the Craft Group had made. Anne was pleased to receive it and told members of the work that *Hope* is doing in providing prefabricated schools in the Sri Lankan camps, which will be taken down and re-erected when people are able to go back to their own villages. *Hope* is also funding the fostering of over a thousand children for the next three years. **Bob Parsons**, founder of *Hope* will take the wall hanging to one of the schools when he visits in October. **WIs** across Hertfordshire have offered similar items, so Anne said that this was a lovely start to the collection.

A brief business meeting followed and then Liz introduced **Mr John Cook** who had come to give a presentation about St Peter's Church. John started off with some general history of the building and showed some excellent slides. We then went into the church and he told us about some of the most interesting features. It was a very enjoyable and enlightening tour and we all appreciated John's knowledge of this beautiful place. We returned to the Court House for tea and cakes which **Sue Ball** and **Jean Harwood** served, and then after a pleasant sociable time, the raffle was drawn and the competition for *A Church in any Medium* was judged by our speaker.

We shall be holding a Table Top sale and Garden Tea afternoon (if fine) on 3rd July at 3 Manor Close, Berkhamsted. Why not come along and see if you can find a bargain ... and help our funds?

IAIN RENNIE HOSPICE AT HOME

The Iain Rennie Hospice is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year and has a programme of events which started in February and continues through to September. Forthcoming local events include a picnic and concert at RAF Halton on Saturday July 9th (for details, contact **Christine or Richard Nisbet** on 01494 812458), followed on Sunday 10th July by a service of Thanksgiving and Celebration with St Peter's Church Choir, also at RAF Halton, at 3:00pm in the Drill Hall (to be seated by 2:15pm). Then in the second half of July, this year's annual rock extravaganza **Sgt Pepper's Summer of Rock** takes place with seven performances in the Centenary Hall, Berkhamsted Collegiate School, Kings Road Campus 15th, 16th, 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd July, including matinee on 16th July. Ticket Hotline is 877292

FRIENDS OF ASHRIDGE

Wednesday 13th July - Why not take a gentle stroll with **Brian and Sian Barton** and discover the wealth of wildlife in the Ashridge Estate. An informal walk lasting for about two hours, open to all, no booking required. Just turn up on the day - 2:30pm at the Ladies Walk car park on the B4506 Northchurch-Ringshall road..

WEEK OF ACCOMPANIED PRAYER

The Week of Accompanied Prayer is an opportunity for people to set aside a week during their busy lives to allow God to be more closely in touch with their daily world through prayer.

The week starts on Friday 7th October and concludes on Friday 14th October. For further information and/or an application form contact **Anne Strach** (872542 anne@lastrach.fsnet.co.uk) or **Jackie Harbron** (873012).



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review notes¬ices

DACORUM ARCHAEOLOGY

On Sunday 17th July the Dacorum Heritage Trust in conjunction with the Berkhamsted and District Archaeological Society are once again participating in National Archaeology Week, an annual event organised by the Council for British Archaeology.

This is your chance to take a tour of The Museum Store, paying particular attention to the Archaeological Store to discover details about the archaeology of Dacorum. Archaeologists will be on hand to provide first hand accounts of local excavations and explain the history behind an array of objects and excavation photographs

Places must be booked in advance.

Please telephone 879525

or email cpeet@dacht2.freemove.co.uk to book your place

DIGGING FOR VICTORY IN DACORUM

The Dacorum Heritage Trust is presenting an exhibition about the Home Front during the Second World War. The exhibition will be open from 10:30am to 4:00pm on Friday and Saturday 29th and 30th July. Admission free - Donations welcome.

Venue: Frogmore Mill, Fourdriner Way, off Durrants Hill Road, Apsley, Hemel Hempstead.

Tours of Frogmore Paper Mill will be available from 10:30am to 2:00pm. Groups by arrangement.

Car Park - off Durrants Hill Road

For further details please contact **The Dacorum Heritage Trust** (879525)

BERKHAMSTED CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

At the AGM of the BCA, the matter of the floodlighting of St Peter's Church was raised. The original funding for the floodlighting came as part of the Berkhamsted Bypass Demonstration Project but responsibility for maintenance of the floodlights passed to the County Council and has become part of the Council's street lighting contract. After a period of several months during which none of the floodlights were working, some, but not all, have now been switched on again. Would you like to see them all put back in working order? Or are you happy with them as they are now? ***The editor will be happy to receive correspondence on this subject.***

SPONSORED BIKE RIDE & WALK

The Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust Annual Sponsored Bike Ride and Walk takes place this year on Saturday 10th September 10:00am to 6:00pm. Some 600 churches and chapels will be open to welcome riders and walkers. Enjoy a day visiting some of these beautiful buildings and raise money to keep them in good repair. Half the money you raise through sponsorship will go to the church or chapel of your choice and the other half will go to the Trust to make grants available to churches undertaking restoration and repairs. Over the past ten years the Trust has made more than 165 grants totalling some £434,000. Start getting your sponsorship now. Sponsorship forms available from **Merville Childs** (866767) or **Mick Smallwood** (877208).

review registers

Funerals

20 May

Victor John Lintott

Chilterns Crematorium

JULY

SUN	<i>St Peter's</i>	8:00am Eucharist 9:30am Sung Eucharist 6:00pm Evensong		
	<i>All Saints' 3rd</i>	10:00am Holy Communion - Methodist led		
	<i>10th</i>	8:45am Sung Eucharist - Anglican led 10:00am Morning Worship - Methodist led		
	<i>17th</i>	10:00am Holy Communion - Methodist led		
	<i>24th</i>	10:00am Morning Worship - Anglican led		
	<i>31st</i>	10:00am Sung Eucharist - Anglican led		
TUE			<i>All Saints' 9:30am</i>	Eucharist
WED	<i>St Peter's</i>	5:00pm Evening Prayer (EP)		
THU	<i>St Peter's</i>	11:00am Eucharist 5:00pm EP		
FRI	<i>St Peter's</i>	9:15am Eucharist	<i>All Saints' 5:00pm</i>	EP
SAT			<i>All Saints' 8:45am</i>	MP

1 st Sun	SUNDAYS TOGETHER LUNCH 12:30pm	<i>Court House</i>
	For anyone on their own on a Sunday. Contact: Joan Morris (863780)	
3 rd Mon	GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT VISITORS GROUP 7:45pm	<i>Court House</i>
	Contact June Haile (873087), Thelma Harris (865785) or Ruth Treves Brown (863268)	
Tue	HILLSIDE GROUP: 8:00pm at 22 Upper Hall Park for bible study.	
	Contacts: Rob & Julie Wakely (875504)	
Tue	CHUCKLES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 10:00-11:30am	<i>All Saints' Church Hall</i>
	Song Time or Short service as announced. Jenny Wells (870981)	
Tue	ST PETER'S CHOIR Children 5:15 to 6:15pm	<i>St Peter's</i>
	Contact: Adrian Davis (864722) or Jean Wild (866859)	
1 st Tue	TUESDAY CLUB 8:15pm <i>A lively women's group with guest speaker</i>	<i>Court House</i>
	Contact chairman Val Atkinson (866792) or secretary Joan Gregory (864829)	
3 rd Tue	MOTHERS' UNION: meets in members' houses at 8:00pm.	
	<i>Non-members always welcome.</i> Contact: Kathie Lally (863526)	
4 rd Tues	MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER GROUP: 2:00pm	<i>17 Shaftesbury Court.</i>
	Tell us if anyone needs our prayers. Contact: Jenny Wells (870981)	
Wed	JULIAN MEETING: meets about twice a month at Jenny's 57 Meadow Rd	
	<i>All are very welcome at 11:30am as arranged</i> or at Ruth's 1 Montague Rd	
	Contact: Jenny Wells 870981 or Ruth Treves Brown (863268)	
Wed	PATHFINDERS GAMES CLUB 7-8:30pm . (yrs 5-8) Jimmy Young (384929)	
	<i>All Saints' Hall</i>	
3rd Wed	GRIEF AND LOSS SUPPORT Lunch at 12:30pm for those who have been bereaved.	
	Contact Thelma Harris (865785)	
Thu	HOME GROUP: 8:00pm on 2nd & 4th Thursdays. Contact Linda Bisset (862115)	
Thu	TE'S (Youth club for yr 9+) 7-9pm Jimmy Young (384929)	<i>Court House</i>
Thu	BELLRINGING: 8:00pm Priscilla Watt (Captain of the Tower) (863804)	<i>St Peter's</i>
Fri	LITTLE FISHES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 9:30-11:30am	<i>Court House</i>
	Weekly meetings with a short service 1st Fri in St Peter's (10am)	
	Nicole Addy-Varndell (864094)	
Fri	ST PETER'S CHOIR: Children 7:00-8:30pm, Adults 7:30-8:30pm.	<i>St Peter's</i>
	Contact: Adrian Davis (864722) or Jean Wild (866859)	
3 rd Sat	ABC PRAYER BREAKFAST: 8:00am for breakfast & prayers. <i>Various local churches</i>	

reviewdiary

Please see opposite for a full list of services at St Peter's and All Saints' churches.

July / August 2005

JULY

Fri 1	10:00am	Little Fishes service.....	<i>St Peter's</i>
Sun 3	6:00pm	Choral Evensong	<i>St Peter's</i>
Mon 4	8:00pm	Service of Wholeness and Healing	<i>St Peter's</i>
Sun 10	3:00pm	Thanksgiving Service for 20 years of the Iain Rennie Hospice.....	<i>RAF Halton</i>
Tue 12	10:15am	Chuckles Service <i>The Sower</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
Sat 16	8:00am	Associated Churches Prayer Breakfast	<i>Berkhamsted Baptist Church</i>
Sun 17	6:30pm	Pepper Praise	<i>Centenary Hall</i>
		NO Evensong at St Peter's	
Fri 22	11:15am	Thomas Coram Valedictory Service & farewell to Tony Jeffries	<i>St Peter's</i>

AUGUST

Mon 1	8:00pm	Service of Wholeness and Healing	<i>St Peter's</i>
Wed 17	TBA	Induction of The Reverend Jonathan Gordon.....	<i>St Mary's, Northchurch</i>
Sat 20	8:00am	Associated Churches Prayer Breakfast	<i>Sunnyside</i>

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YOUNG PEOPLE AT ST PETER'S & 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 Sally Emery (870656) 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 Nicola Beadle (874538)

All Saints'

The Anglican and Methodist children meet together on Sundays at 10:00 am as *Explorers*, in four age-groups: *Trekkers* 3-5 years, *Hikers* 5-8 years, *Climbers* 8-11 years and *Pathfinders* 11 years onward. Contacts: Carenza Wilton (875147) Penny O'Neill (843422), Rebecca Judd (865691). Crèche is available at the same time for children under 3. Contact: Vicky Drury (384794).

Youth Groups

TEs for Year 9 up meets each Thursday at 7pm to 9pm in the Court House Contact Jimmy Young (384929)

Pathfinders games club meets 7:00-8:30pm each Wednesday in All Saints' Hall

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reviewcontacts

General

The Revd David Abbot, Rural Dean (865100) can be contacted during the vacancy
 The Revd Prof. Luke Geoghegan (NSM), 16 Gravel Path, (866361)
 The Revd Canon Basil Jones (Hon.Asst.Priest), 17 Lochnell Road (864485)
 Christina Billington (Diocesan Lay Minister), 13 Ashridge Rise (385566)
 Marjorie Bowden (Reader), 16 Broadwater (871283)
 Joan Cook (Reader), The Gardeners Arms, Castle Street (866278)
 John Malcolm (Reader), Landswood, Shootersway (874993)
 Jenny Wells (Reader), 57 Meadow Road (870981)
 Parish Administration: Jean Green, The Parish Office, The Court House (878227)
 Stewardship Recorder: Miles Nicholas, 46 Fieldway (871598)
 Churchwardens: Carole Dell, 4 Clarence Road (864706)
 Tracy Robinson, 36 Trevelyan Way (863559)

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

St Peter's

Priest-in-charge—vacant
 Director of Music: Adrian Davis (864722) stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk
 Asst. Director of Music: Jean Wild (866859)
 Organist: Jonathan Lee (0794 1113232)
 Weddings and Funerals: The Revd David Abbott (865100)
 Banns of Marriage: Jean Green (878227)
 Baptisms: Marjorie Bowden (871283)
 Bellringers (St Peter's): Priscilla Watt, 11 Cavalier Court, Chesham Road (863804)

All Saints'

Choirmaster: Peter McMunn (874894)
 All Saints' is an Anglican / Methodist Local
 Ecumenical Partnership. allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk
 Anglican priest-in-charge — vacant
 Methodist minister: Revd Paul Timmis, 32 Finch Road (866324)

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