

Berkhamsted *review*

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for Town and Parish

30p



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

Welcome to the October 2005 issue of the Berkhamsted review

At this time of year, we celebrate in our churches, across the country, the festival of Harvest Thanksgiving. Most of us have absolutely nothing to do with the harvesting of the crops that we enjoy, and in our choice of food we are hardly affected by the seasons of the year - seed-time or harvest. It is difficult for us to grasp the nerve-racking significance of the harvest, but in many parts of the world it remains a time of intense joy, anxiety or desperation. Perhaps if we grow our own fruit and vegetables we retain a slight sense of the satisfaction and the frustrations that for many are the focus of their whole lives. Our part is to remain aware of the wider world and to be caring and generous in our response to those less fortunate than ourselves. Harvest Festival has no long history in the Church's calendar. Its celebration became common only in the mid 19th century, perhaps significantly, at a time when urban growth in Britain was attracting population away from rural communities. Before that, the traditional Harvest Home wasn't a Church festival but a boisterous community celebration.

Christopher Green

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Cover photograph — Southill Cottage,
Cowper Road (p 7)

Tony Firshman

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Next copy dates (all Fridays)

4 November 2 December 7 January



Autumn

A season for new beginnings.

Marjorie Bowden
writes

Autumn may suggest the dying of the year, the onset of winter, but it is also a time of new beginnings.

Many children will recently have started school for the first time; others will have moved to a more senior school, and all will have moved up a year in the school hierarchy. Greater change comes at this time of year for those who have just left school and are now seeking a job or entering courses of further education - usually away from the security of home for the first time.

But it is not just the young who experience new beginnings in autumn. Many, of all ages, will have enjoyed a holiday away from their usual surroundings and are now back to make a new start at their jobs and daily tasks.

Many clubs, societies and activities will have had a break during the summer and will now have embarked upon new programmes and aims for the winter months. This is a good time to consider joining in and sharing talents and interests. Opportunities abound within our town and our churches - seize the moment!

Two major new beginnings are being experienced this autumn in the parishes of Northchurch and Great Berkhamsted as they welcome new Rectors - **The Revd Jonathan Gordon** already installed at Northchurch, and **The Revd Michael Bowie** to follow shortly in Great Berkhamsted.

review leader

Doubtless, the Rural Dean will welcome relief from the long *clergy drought* in the Deanery - as we all do! We hope that the new incumbents will both be happy in their ministry among us.

And not just new Rectors but in both cases new groupings of parishes as Wigginton forms a united benefice with Northchurch and Great Berkhamsted joins with Great and Little Gaddesden, Potton End and Nettleden in a new Team Ministry.

New starts all round, with new hopes and, we pray, new achievements.



BISHOP'S HARVEST APPEAL 2005

This year the Appeal is focussing on supporting UBINIG, a partner of Christian Aid working to help poor rural families in Bangladesh.

"In the year of

MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY, *our Appeal is focussing on the impact of trade on developing countries,"* said **Jonathan Ellis**, World Development Adviser to the Diocese.

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It is a rare privilege these days to know someone who was born and has lived all their life in the same place, and one such person is MU member **Dorothy Baily**. Dorothy was born in Montague Road and grew up in the town, attending Sunday School at All Saints. She also taught in the Sunday School at St Peter's, where she was married, and then became a regular member of the All Saints' congregation. Four years ago Dorothy moved from her Kitsbury Road home to Northchurch and now worships at St Mary's, where she went for a while when she was a child! It was at All Saints' that Dorothy became involved in many areas of church life. She helped with the catering,

remembers the flower festivals and was a sacristan carrying out her duties faithfully until she could no longer do the tasks.

Dorothy's involvement with MU goes back a long way, but is not continuous. She joined the Young Wives group in the parish in the 1950s when, as a young mother she enjoyed the opportunity to meet other mothers with their children. The meetings were held in the afternoons and children went along too! At that time the MU group was comprised of rather older members! Dorothy eventually joined the MU group when **Rene Bayliss** and **Charlotte Brown**, the Rector's wife, were actively involved in running the branch. That was the beginning of a long friendship with Rene. Both worshipped at All Saints' and they became closer when Dorothy moved to Kitsbury Road after her husband's death.

Dorothy was a loyal branch member, never holding office but there to help with MU

NINETY YEARS IN BERKHAMSTED

Margaret Burbidge looks back
with Dorothy Baily



activities. She particularly remembers the MU stalls at the annual Whit Monday fete in the Castle grounds and as many members have done, catering for church events. But Dorothy would definitely say that MU is not only about teapots! The MU branch at St Peter's and All Saints' closed in the early 1970s, but in 1986 when **Ruth Pyke**, wife of Richard who was Priest-in-Charge of All Saints', reformed the branch, Dorothy joined again. Ruth has a deep-rooted belief in MU and its importance today and Dorothy found her enthusiasm infectious and saw how it attracted younger women. Dorothy admired Ruth's quiet determination and wanted to support the new group.

Since then Dorothy has been a faithful member, attending meetings, enjoying the talks and worship and finding new friends amongst the other members. She likes to keep up-to-date with all that is going on and reads the MU diocesan newsletter and *Home and Family* (the excellent MU magazine) from cover to cover. She has attended MU services and events in the deanery and beyond, and sees MU membership as one way of widening her horizons.

It is the monthly Prayer Meetings that have become special to Dorothy. We meet in Dorothy's home, and to pray, and share fellowship together over a cup of tea deepens our commitment to God, to MU and to each other. So it was fitting for us to celebrate her 90th birthday after our June Prayer Meeting. Dorothy's long life, lived in Berkhamsted, and with her faith at the heart of all she does, is something the members of the branch are privileged to share.



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On our cover we illustrate a house in Cowper Road - Southill Cottage, bearing the date 1888.

Berkhamsted's first railway station opened in 1837. Trains could make the journey to London in less than an hour. The commuter age could begin. But did it? Kelly's Directory in 1850 records no residential or trade addresses except those in the High Street and Castle Street, Church Lane and Mill Street. The Victorian expansion of Berkhamsted didn't begin until the 1860s, and then mainly in the area between the High Street and the canal. So by 1870 there were

BERKHAMSTED DATES

Christopher Green writes



new addresses in Chapel Street, Provident Place, George Street and Manor Street. It wasn't until the 1870s and 1880s that the town spread across the High Street. Among the new developments was a piece of land called Steels Meadow. Here Cowper Road, or, as it appears on the deeds of Cowper Road properties - Cowper Street, took shape. Judging by their architectural detail, most of the houses, including Southill Cottage, were probably built in the period 1880 to 1905. ❖

review poetry

A Fond Farewell - Part Two!

I'm so embarrassed! Having said
My last adieu to Berkhamsted
In early summer, now I fear
September's come and I'm still here!
The moral is, don't try to buy
A property in June, July

Or August, when the lawyers take
Their doubtless well-earned annual break.
For while they frolic in the sun,
Conveyancing cannot be done -
But now that summer's days are o'er,
With fingers crossed, goodbye once more!

Gerry Morrish

All Saints' Christmas Tree Festival December 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 2005

All Saints' Church celebrates its centenary this year and the Anglican/Methodist congregation is planning a special Christmas Tree Festival to mark the occasion. Forty Christmas trees have been sponsored by local businesses and will be decorated by community groups and charities.

The Festival will be held for three days in early December. On Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd opening hours at the Church will be from 10:00am to 5:00pm; and on Sunday 4th from 2:00-5:00pm.

There will be a light-hearted concert on Saturday evening and a service of thanksgiving on Sunday evening.

Make a note of the dates now and share in this colourful and unusual occasion.

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Despite our restlessness we all have a yearning for roots. It takes a lot of care to transplant rooted stock. It often happens that a sensitive plant when dug up and placed in another location will die unless well tended. With us it is similar. If a marriage breaks up it is not easy for the children to adapt to a new family structure. When families emigrate to a new world the next generation will feel a need to seek out its origins in the old country and to identify with it, causing a confusion of allegiances.

Just as bindweed cannot be eradicated from a garden until the roots are dug up and burnt we cannot be said to have truly moved on from our past until our former roots have died within us and a new inheritance can take their place. This is a painful experience and often accompanied by insecurity and anger. When anger is replaced by sadness perhaps a little progress is made in relinquishing the past. I'm sure that this is the role played in our lives by commemoration (remembering together with respect). When we commemorate something that cannot be recovered or replaced we are linked to our roots but at the same time we recognise that the roots are dying and being replaced by something new. We can feel this as a personal experience but also see it as historical change.

To spend one's whole working life in an enterprise which plays an important role, not just in your life but in the well being of your family, your community and even your nation, and then to see that enterprise come to an end is to experience dying roots. Examples of this in the recent past are the demise of the pharmaceutical industry in Berkhamsted and the closure of the John Dickensons' paper factory at Apsley in 1999.

Ian Reay's &news &views

Commemorating the Past

Ian Reay follows the
paper trail

In the case of paper making the local history has links to much larger historical changes. Large scale paper making first took place at Apsley, where **John Dickenson** built the world's first

commercial paper making machine in 1804. The invention of printing techniques in the 15th century had had huge implications, which included assisting the rapid consolidation of the Reformation by enabling new ideas to spread more easily. The production of paper on a commercial scale gave the spreading of the written word through books and newspapers another boost by removing a further constraint (expensive paper). This, together with the Penny Black postage stamp, introduced in 1840 (which was a big cut in the cost of sending paper through the post), contributed to the rapid spread of ideas in England. A change on a similar scale today would be that of the Internet.

But what is interesting about Apsley is that part of the John Dickensons' site is now being used to help in commemoration. At Frogmore Mill, part of the old site, the Apsley Paper Trail runs a paper making machine which still makes paper on commission. An important ingredient of paper is fibre. This can be augmented from a variety of surprising sources - including elephant dung which is used to make *Nellie Pooh Paper*. Grass cuttings from historic sites have been used to make special paper. Paper made with grass cuttings from the Centre Court at Wimbledon or cuttings taken from the Princess Diana Memorial Garden are two recent examples. When the Berlin Wall was demolished many people took away fragments as a memento. If what is lost is an important garden or tree then why not turn it into paper - exchanging letters on it could be a commemoration. ❖

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As readers will know, the Cowper Society has been raising funds so that St Peter's may have a Grand Piano. In this we have had the support of the Parochial Church Council, and we are grateful to members of our audiences who have contributed so generously.

ST PETER'S GRAND PIANO APPEAL

David Pearce, Chairman of the Cowper Society writes

much sought after on the national and international circuits. We are delighted that she has agreed to play on this great occasion.

This will be a significant moment in the history of music in our church, as well as in Berkhamsted and the

area. Please be a part of it.

Details of the music to be played will be announced. Seats for the recital will be FREE.

But (here the sharp intake of breath!) there is still something over £6000 to be paid on the piano before we can say absolutely that it is ours. We are hoping to raise that sum in one great, glorious evening of the Recital.

Berkhamsted people are amazingly generous, and my belief is that we should all rather be associated with making a voluntary donation than with the dull business of paying for tickets. It is, of course, an uncertainty, but I am a romantic, and I think that together we shall achieve our aim. Then, we shall sit in all future concerts, and each say to himself or herself: *'I helped make that Piano possible'*. ♦

A Grand Piano will not only enable the concert repertoire to be extended, it will add immensely to the musical life of the church, both as a place of worship and as a venue for concerts and recitals. Above all, it will be a mark of our belief in the music of the future.

Now, the time has come to make a leap of faith. We have secured an attractive arrangement for the very instrument that our music professionals desire, and for accessories and tuning in addition. This is a discounted offer that will not be repeated. The result is that the Cowper Society has now bought the piano, even though some one third of the money has still to be raised.

This Grand Piano will be first played on Sunday, 23rd October. A Recital will be given by the celebrated pianist, **Anna Markland**, *Young Musician of the Year* in 1988, and



The Cowper Society presents a recital by

Anna Markland



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review poetry

How Times Change

Liz Baxendale dismayed by
camels on the lawn.

When my mother was a bright young thing
In 1912 or so
And little girls wore draw up vests
Whose silk strings must not show.
She was nursery governess
To Anne and little Jean
Two darling little girls whose vest strings
Were very seldom seen.
But if a string slipped over dress
And hung there quite forlorn
Discreetly their Papa would say
'There's a camel on the lawn'.

I grew up with this story
Then wore a bra and slip
But if a strap hove into view
My Mum would be there quick
She'd tuck it in and pin it
Until it was quite gone
I was never seen in public
With a camel on the lawn!

But now I see girls everywhere
With straps all out of place
With knickers showing over jeans
And tatty bits of lace
On underwear apparent
I look at them with scorn
And long to stop and tell them
'YOU'VE GOT CAMELS ON THE LAWN!'



THE CHILTERN SOCIETY

Forty Years of Care and Conservation.

Jenny Habib writes

The Chiltern Hills are a unique geological structure. The chalk streams are unlike any others in the world, and are worthy of World Heritage status. The many and varied flora and fauna which live in this habitat are also unique and the villages are beautiful. In order to try to protect the area against wrong use, the Chiltern Society was founded in 1965, by a small group of environmentally aware people, with the aim of *Caring for the Chilterns* both in the natural and in the built-up parts of the area. The Society has grown steadily in membership and in activities ever since, and now has over 7,000 members and many groups of volunteers targeting different fields of activity,-.

The Planning Team, who consider applications for planning permission and respond to the applicants and to local Council planners where appropriate.

The Rights of Way Group, who keep watch over their section of the 2,300 miles of paths and bridleways in the Chiltern Hills.

The Path Maintenance Volunteers, who carry out public path clearance.

The Rivers and Wetlands Group, who watch over all the streams and rivers and report any problems to the authorities concerned.

The Chiltern Conservation Volunteers, who work on general conservation projects, cleaning monuments, mending hedges, and now have begun to run a schools awareness programme.

The Historic Works and Buildings Group, who respond to planning applications for listed buildings and buildings under threat.

The Photographic Group, who take, archive and display photos of the area.

The Bottom Wood Group, who look after the wood, off the A40 near Radnage.

The Lacey Green Windmill Group. The windmill was fully restored by members.

The Ewelme Watercress Beds Group, who have cleared years of rubbish and brought the historic watercress beds back into production.

The Books by Mail Order Service, both walks maps, books on the Chiltern Hills and its treasures are available for purchase.

The Society Shop, selling various items and distributing information.

The Chiltern News, the Society magazine, which is issued quarterly to all members, with articles of interest, reports on the groups, dates of events and warnings of future dangers to the area.

Last but not least the various Special Projects carried out with the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty body, *The Chiltern Conservation Board*.

One of the successful projects carried out together with the Chiltern Conservation Board is the re-introduction of the Red Kites. These lovely birds can now be seen in the Radnage Valley and district (see **review** July and August - Ed). The Annual Buildings Design Award competition, first held in 1999, also in partnership with the Conservation Board, aims to promote building design which is sympathetic to the character of the Chiltern countryside and villages. The members of the Chiltern Society have contributed to the spreading awareness of this competition and now more care and thought is being given to building design in our beautiful part of England.

For all enquiries contact The Chiltern Society, White Hill Centre, White Hill, Chesham, HP5 1ZA. Phone 01494 771250

Patron: The Earl Howe
President Michael Rush
Chairman: Revd Derek Upcott ❖

Chiltern Society 40th Anniversary Celebrations

The Chiltern Society in celebration of its 40th Anniversary
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THE ENGLISH MUSE

The Chiltern Chamber Choir

Kate Semmens—soprano Simon Davies—baritone Jonathan Lee—organ

Directed by Adrian Davis

Sunday 6th November at 7:30pm

at the Berkhamsted Collegiate School Centenary Hall, King's Road, Berkhamsted

The programme includes music by Adrian Batten, Thomas Tallis, Orlando Gibbons, Vaughan Williams, Henry Purcell, Edmund Rubbra, Hubert Parry, Gerald Finzi, Benjamin Britten and Antony Hopkins

Antony Hopkins, well-known composer and broadcaster, will be present and has kindly agreed to introduce his songs

Tickets £10.00 from the Chiltern Society Office, 01494 771250; Bookthrift, 248 High Street, Berkhamsted; Perfect Pitch, The Broadway, Chesham;

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Tickets are un-numbered and unreserved - Interval refreshments on sale



The Bridgewater Band concert at St Peter's on September 3rd

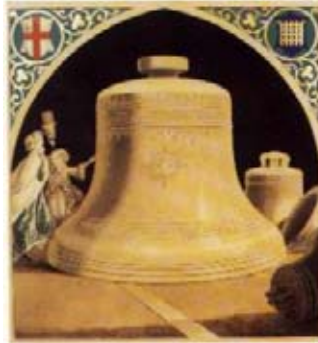
Tony Firshman

BIG BEN

Sir Charles Barry's difficulties in constructing the heating system for the new Houses of Parliament were as nothing compared with those he encountered in building the great clocktower. The building of the clocktower had begun in 1843 and Barry had arranged for the clock to be designed by **Benjamin Vulliamy** (1780-1854), Master of the Clockmakers Company and a personal friend. One of the three parliamentary committees that deliberated upon the matter decided that a competition should be held for the design and manufacture of the clock, the judge to be **Sir George Airy** (1801-92), the Astronomer Royal. Airy dismissed Vulliamy's proposed design as *a village clock of very superior character*. He specified that the clock should be accurate to within one second within any hour. He awarded the job of designing to **Edmund Beckett Denison** (1806-1905) and that of making it to **Edward Dent** (1790-1853). Dent was a clockmaker of distinction who designed the clock for the Great Exhibition of 1851 (later installed at King's Cross Station) and the clock for the Royal Exchange.

Denison was a different matter. He had been born **Edmund Beckett**, son of a Yorkshire baronet. The father had adopted the name Denison which the son discarded before being created first Baron Grimthorpe for his contributions to church architecture. His entry in *The Dictionary of National Biography* gives some clue to the nature of the problems that he posed for Barry. He is described as '*lawyer, mechanic and controversialist*'. His appetite for controversy outshone his other qualities. He had written extensively on church architecture and had designed

Stephen Halliday
describes the
sixteen year saga



Painted by William Kimber, the head moulder.
The *hour bell* (Big Ben) being inspected by George Mears, with his wife and daughter in 1858

churches in his native Yorkshire. His early career as a controversialist, marked by his '*powers of sarcasm and assertive manner*' was exercised on behalf of the Protestant cause in opposition to the ritualism which had entered the Church of England as a result of the Oxford Movement.

In 1850 Beckett had written *A Rudimentary Treatise on Clock and Watch Making*, following a lengthy study of the subject and had designed the clock made by Dent for the Great Exhibition. This had earned him the friendship of Airy though that friendship did not long survive Airy's attempt to work with Beckett on the Parliamentary clock. Some idea of his character may be gained by examining his relationship with the Horological Institute. In 1868 the members elected him as their president in recognition

of his undoubted technical achievements in the field but they wisely stipulated, as a condition of his election, that he be forbidden to attend their dinners in order to avoid the arguments that would otherwise be sure to follow.

Barry, who was charged with building the tower which would house the clock, tried vainly to extract from Beckett and Dent the information he needed on the size and character of the mechanism and the bells he had to accommodate. Beckett, who could never see any point of view but his own, wrote a series of offensive letters to or about Barry. After he had written to *The Times* referring to '*the stupidity of Sir C. Barry*', the newspaper declined to print any more of his correspondence. The clock mechanism was completed in 1855 but Barry now had to wait for the bells. In the words of Barry's son, '*much discussion took place on whether the tower was waiting for the clock, or the clock waiting for the tower*'. In 1856, tired of

waiting, and worried that rainwater would damage the inside of the tower, Barry installed a temporary roof and awaited the resolution of the saga of the bells. Within the tower he had incorporated the prison cells specified in the original design for persons showing disrespect to Parliament. The last occupant was the suffragette, **Mrs Emmeline Pankhurst**, who was confined there in 1902.

The first great bell, to sound the hours, was cast in 1856 in Stockton by Warners of Cripplegate. It weighed sixteen tons and was hoisted into place later that year, accompanied by the clock mechanism. Warner had specified that the clapper should not exceed seven hundredweight. Beckett thought he knew better and insisted on a clapper weighing thirteen hundredweight. This caused the bell to crack. The clock was then removed, together with the great bell. The bell was recast by the Whitechapel Foundry and re-installed, weighing thirteen and a half tons, in 1859. In the meantime the clock's hands had been re-designed twice. Their original weight was such that they fell from 12 o'clock to 6 o'clock and struggled back up the clock-face to 12 o'clock. The clock was commissioned on 31st May 1859. However the saga had not quite finished. The great bell cracked again in September 1859. It was repaired in situ but the crack remains there to this day.

Some controversy surrounds the naming of the bell. Strictly speaking it is the great bell itself which is called *Big Ben* though the name has come to be attached to the clock as a whole and to the tower (properly St Stephen's Tower) which houses it. A contemporary tradition held that the name *Big Ben* was suggested facetiously during a Commons debate involving the lofty **Sir Benjamin Hall**, Commissioner of Works, who had set up the committee which designed the bell, though there is no record of this in *Hansard*. Another tradition suggests that the name was derived from that of **Ben Caunt**, an eighteen stone boxer of formidable reputation whose retirement from the ring coincided with the installation of the bell. The clock has

always been extremely accurate, old penny pieces being added to or removed from the mechanism, each one advancing or retarding the mechanism by two-fifths of a second. Until 1913 the mechanism was wound manually once a week, two men taking thirty-two hours to complete the task. In that year a winding mechanism was installed in their place.

The completion of the clocktower did not quite mark the completion of the work as a whole. The Lords had occupied their chamber since 1847 and the Queen opened the building officially in 1852, the year in which **Charles Barry** was awarded a knighthood. When Barry died in 1860 the building was fully occupied though another three years would pass before **Goldsworthy Gurney** earned his knighthood for completing the building's heating, lighting and ventilation systems. These final stages of the construction were supervised by Barry's son Edward (1830-80).

During the long period while the New Palace of Westminster was being built, Barry was engaged in other work in London. He levelled and paved Trafalgar Square and built the terrace on the north side in front of the National Gallery, in the wall of which are the standard measures for yards, feet and inches. He served on the Great Exhibition building committee which eventually selected Paxton's *Crystal Palace* to house the exhibition. He also designed buildings in Whitehall including one for the Treasury and one for the Privy Council. Following his death on 12th May 1860 he was buried in Westminster Abbey and a statue of him was erected within the Palace of Westminster itself. The Palace was the object of repeated attacks by the Luftwaffe and was bombed on eleven occasions between September 1940 and May 1941. On 10th May 1941 the House of Commons was destroyed and the Commons moved into the Lords chamber. The destruction was made good in 1945-50 by **Sir Giles Gilbert Scott**, the work being executed in a style which faithfully followed Barry's original while toning down some of Pugin's more ornate decoration. ❖

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Benghazi Airport, such as it is, lies some way from the city, so first impressions at 3:30 in the morning are of a bumpy road, a decrepit minibus and several police and army checkpoints on the road into the city. Accommodation is in the museum. Here the galleries have stood empty for the past twenty years or more, since they were built, while the director waits for instructions *'from above'* to move the exhibits from storage in the basement. The building shows signs of its age. The stucco on the outside is beginning to crumble and the plumbing arrangements, perhaps never of the highest standard, are now forlorn. The waste pipe from the hand-basin in the bathroom empties onto the tiled floor, and of course, the cisterns in the loos have long ceased to function. But there is plenty of water, piped to Benghazi from oases far to the south, so buckets are the order of the day.

The galleries where we pitch our camp are lofty, marble-lined, airy and cool - but not an exhibit in sight. Finally to bed at about 6:00am just as the sun is rising and the cocks begin to crow. Snatch a couple of hours sleep before rising to a breakfast of bread and tea. Later in the day we drive out to the outskirts of Benghazi to look at the site where we shall be working - the remains of the Greek colonial city of Euesperides. Founded in about 600BC it flourished for three hundred and fifty years before being suddenly and inexplicably abandoned in the middle of the third century BC. This makes it particularly interesting from an archaeological point of view because most Greek colonial towns in north Africa continued to flourish in Roman and Byzantine times and beyond, which has greatly complicated their archaeology. The day is hot. A hot dry wind - the *ghibli* is blowing up from the Sahara bringing a haze of fine pinkish dust that settles on everything. In the distance the muezzin is calling the faithful to evening prayer.

The outskirts of Benghazi are not beautiful

LIBYAN ADVENTURES— PART 1

Christopher Green recalls
a visit to Benghazi

- a waste of sand and rock, extensively devoted to the disposal of builders' rubble and unwanted household goods. Patches of oily water and decaying animal carcasses distinguish the least salubrious areas. Among the debris, young shepherd boys and girls tend their flocks of surprisingly healthy-looking goats.



The fortunes of Euesperides depended on the production of Tyrian purple, a dye greatly valued in the ancient world and obtained by boiling a species of mussel. The low mound that marks the site of the city is littered with fragments of Greek pottery - it is impossible to walk across the site without treading on them - and innumerable mussel shells. The summit of the mound is pitted with the graves of an ancient Jewish cemetery from which the bodily remains have long been removed for burial elsewhere.

Driving back through Benghazi I was struck by the condition of the cars. They all look as though they have been in a serious accident and perhaps have rolled over once or twice on a rocky and uneven surface.



Apparently there are no new cars in Libya. Libyan traders visit vehicle auctions in Europe and buy second-hand cars to supply the Libyan market. Thereafter, maintenance is evidently not a high priority. ❖

(to be continued)


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A Legacy of Hope

The Revd Jonathan Gordon reflects on the death of Brother Roger, founder of the Taizé community

from 1st August.

At the induction service on Wednesday 17th August, Bishop Christopher mentioned in his sermon the news of the tragic death of **Brother Roger**, the founder of the Taizé Community. **Brother Roger** over his long life inspired many people to pray, to search for truth, and to live life in a disciplined new way. His hope was that the Taizé community might allow people, both individually and collectively to recognise that they were loved and valued by God, and that they were called to be Christ's disciples in the world. His spiritual gentleness was intertwined with a fierce longing for God's peace and justice. He championed the poor and vulnerable, passionately believing that the Gospel offered the hope of forgiveness

review Northchurch & Wigginton

Over the past few weeks the warmth of the parishes' welcome has been greatly appreciated. We are settling into life in the Rectory and making headway with the unpacked boxes. The new *Benefice of Northchurch and Wigginton* came into official being as

and reconciliation.

Despite the immense sadness felt by Christians across the globe at what has taken place, the legacy of **Brother Roger** will be one of hope. His death might seem senseless. It is another sad reminder that so many people and situations in the world have been moulded by hurts and pain to become far removed from what God ever intended. The spirituality and witness of the Taizé Community has and will be a continual reminder that *the light shines in the darkness and the darkness shall never overcome it*. Healing and reconciliation always remain a possibility, and irrespective of what as Christians we face, *nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord*. (Romans 8.39) ❖



St Bartholomew's Wigginton

photograph: Tony Firshman



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- ◆ References available

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THE Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Bike Ride

The Trust's Treasurer,
Christopher Green writes

Pouring with rain at 7:00am. Not a promising start to a day on the open road. Bike in the car and over to St Albans. Lots of churches there and reasonably flat. Only light rain by 10:00 o'clock but very humid. And so it remained all day. The rain patchy. Avoided torrents in Watford and enjoyed a bright and sunny late afternoon in Berkhamsted. Judging by numbers visiting local churches, the weather wasn't too much of a deterrent. Can the Trust reach £90,000 again? ❖



Photographs—Rowena Pike



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review notes & notices

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Boxes Boxes Boxes

Please bring your boxes for emptying to the 9:30am service at St Peter's Church on any Sunday in October - or ring me and I will collect your box

Kathie Lally (863526)

BERKHAMSTED CASTLE WI



We met as usual on the first Friday of the month at 2:00pm in the Court House.

Liz Baxendale welcomed members and handed out birthday greetings to those celebrating this month, and read a couple of her poems, which struck chords with members, being about today's fashions (see p13 of this issue) and supermarkets!

In the absence of our secretary, our other President, **Joy Lovell**, took over that role, and led us through brief business. Our speaker for the afternoon was **Mr Boustred**, with a wonderfully compiled presentation on the Palace of Langley. With slides, music and most interesting commentary we learnt of the importance of this palace, from which England was governed at the time of the Black Death.

We all agreed that we had learnt so much and in such an enjoyable way. Most of us did not know why *Kings Langley* had been so called. **Judith Lowther** gave an expression of thanks to our excellent speaker who later judged our competition for *Royal Memorabilia*. **Joyce Pearson's** cigarette card album of *Our King and Queen* came first with a letter to Liz from the time of our Queen's marriage, and Sue's model Coronation Coach coming second and third.

Sue had provided wonderful cakes to go with our cuppa and we all enjoyed a friendly chat over tea. Why not come along and join us ... we would make any lady

very welcome. Ring 866464 for more details.

DACORUM HERITAGE TRUST

The Dacorum Heritage Trust is a registered Museum with collections covering the whole of Dacorum. Come along on Tuesday 11th October at 2:00pm to the Museum Store in Berkhamsted and see how we record and interpret the heritage of Dacorum. Take a close look at the collections, find out about the local area and discover resources to assist with local history and family history research. Tours last around 1-2 hours and cost **£3** per person

Places are limited and must be booked in advance. Please ring 879525 or email cpeet@dach2.freeseve.co.uk

MARKET DATES

Farmer's market - Sunday 20th November
French Market - Sunday 4th December
Antique Market - Friday 7th October

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Sheila Newland writes - By the time you read this, the Photographic Competition organised by the Berkhamsted Community Partnership in conjunction with CARAB (Conservation Area Residents' Association Berkhamsted) will be over as far as the judging and initial display of the entries are concerned (at the Old Hall, Berkhamsted Collegiate School on 10th September). If you missed this most interesting event - although this seems hardly possible given the amount of hard work put in to advertise the competition and exhibition - there is another opportunity to see these wonderful entries, which will be displayed at the **Rex Cinema** from Friday 30th September to Friday 14th October.

*review*notes¬ices

A WEEK OF ACCOMPANIED PRAYER

7th - 14th October

This is an opportunity for people to set aside time during a week of their busy lives to allow God to be more closely in touch with their daily world through prayer. Each person commits half an hour each day for the week to meditative/contemplative prayer and a further half hour each day to meet with a trained guide at a mutually convenient time. The purpose of the week is to help you with your prayer in daily life, suggesting ways of praying and giving appropriate texts from scripture to draw you into a deeper personal relationship with God. For further information and/or an application form please contact **Anne Strach** (872542) anne@lastrach.fsnet.co.uk or **Jackie Harbron** (873012)

OXFAM'S NEW ALTERNATIVE CATALOGUE

Did you give your nearest and dearest a goat last Christmas? If so, you joined thousands of others in giving the gift of the year from Oxfam's Alternative Gift Catalogue. The actual item goes to a needy family or community while the recipient has a voucher with a picture and information about the gift and a colourful greetings card as well as the satisfaction of knowing that the true spirit of Christmas giving is being honoured.

The new autumn version of the catalogue will be available in Oxfam shops in early October and six of the items will be available for purchase over the counter at the local branch in Berkhamsted High Street, while a wider selection of over fifty items is available on-line, by post and over the phone. Look out for a very seasonal item which is bound to appeal to present-givers and receivers alike.

So collect your copy of the new season catalogue at your local Oxfam shop and make your choice. Perhaps your club or class might like to select one of the higher priced items as a group.

Oxfam will also be offering a splendid selection of traditional gifts for all ages at prices to suit all pockets. Visit Oxfam for the solution to your present problems and give a gift that gives twice.

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CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARDS

Once again the traditional Charity Christmas Card Sale will be held between **10:00am and 4:00pm** on the following dates in the Court House, Berkhamsted

Friday 28th October

Saturday 29th October

Saturday 12th November

Saturday 26th November

Many national and local charities from Herts and Bucks will be represented and again there will be a wide and tempting selection of Charity Christmas Cards, wrapping paper and Christmas accessories to choose from. The charities represented include ARC, Leukaemia Research, Hope for Children, The Chiltern Society, Mencap, The National Eczema Society, Save the Children, RNLI, The Hospice of St Francis and the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home.

WINTERSHALL NATIVITY 2005

December 16th, 17th, 19th and 20th

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Wintershall is in the village of Bramley near Guildford. Bookings opened on Wednesday 7th September. Tickets sell out very quickly so those wanting to go should book at once. Further details and booking online at <http://www.wintershall-estate.com>. Or look out for posters in St Peter's and All Saints'.

review notes¬ices

IAIN RENNIE HOSPICE AT HOME

20th Anniversary celebrations continue:

Wednesday 5th October

Flower Demonstration by **Neil Gurney** at the Pendley Theatre - Humour, Hilarity, Hibiscus and Horticulture. A blooming good night out. Tickets £10.00

21st and 22nd October at 8:00pm

Music Hall at Little Gaddesden Village Hall. Presented by the Music Hall Company. Supper included with the entertainment. Proceeds divided between IRHH and Hospice of St Francis. Tickets from **Betty Mason**, 21 Finch Road, Berkhamsted, HP4 3LQ or 01442 863710

Wednesday 26th October at 8:00pm

Lions Club of Berkhamsted Big Band concert at the Berkhamsted Collegiate School - James Goff Big Band with sounds of the 1940s and 1950s.

Tickets £7.50 Ring 864411

BERKHAMSTED CITIZEN'S ASSOCIATION

Thursday 13th October

8:00pm in Berkhamsted Town Hall

The Lighter Side of Stained Glass - an illustrated talk by **Alfred Fisher**, stained glass artist, formerly of Chapel Studios. Visitors £2.00 at the door, deductible from £5.00 household membership for those joining on the night.

FRIENDS OF ASHRIDGE

Wednesday 12th October - 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 B4506 end of Monument Drive.

THE LIME TREE

There has been surprisingly little reaction to the felling of the great lime tree in the churchyard. Only one letter.

Father Basil Jones writes:

My first thoughts were to leave things as they are. I rather enjoyed the view from the Parish Office. However coming up from Castle Street along the churchyard path the view in the background is not in keeping. I favour an oak.

Verbal comment to your editor seems mainly to favour the new vistas, with perhaps some small-scale planting along the east side of the car-park ... and mention of the Millennium Yew (still sheltering in the Rectory garden).

GRAHAM GREENE FESTIVAL

29th September - 2nd October

Talks, Interviews, Films, Readings and a tour of Greene's School. Details in September issue of *review* or from Festival Office (865158).

DACORUM LIVE!

Black Umfolosi. Internationally renowned Zimbabwean *a capella* and dance group bring their sweet harmonies, gospel singing and captivating dancing to the **Civic Centre, Berkhamsted at 8:00pm on Thursday 20th October**. Tickets £11/£9 from the Civic Centre, Berkhamsted; Old Town Hall HH (228091) or at the door.

BOXMOOR TRUST

Sunday 16th October 12noon—3:00pm

The Boxmoor Trust 10th annual conker festival. A knockout conker tournament for adults and children on Blackbirds Moor, St John's Road, Boxmoor. For details phone 01442 253300

OCTOBER

SUN	<i>St Peter's</i>	8:00am Eucharist 9:30am Sung Eucharist 6:00pm Evensong		
	<i>All Saints' 2nd 9th</i>	10:00am Sung Eucharist – Anglican led 8:45am Holy Communion – Methodist led 10:00am Morning Worship – Methodist led 16 th 10:00am Holy Communion - Methodist led 23 rd 10:00am Morning Worship – Anglican led 30 th 10:00am Holy Communion – Methodist 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>	Morning Prayer
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.		Contact: Kathie Lally (863526)	
	<i>Non-members always welcome.</i>			
4 th 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 <i>57 Meadow Rd</i>	
	<i>All are very welcome at 11:30am as arranged</i>		or at Ruth's <i>1 Montague Rd</i>	
	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)	
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.

October/November 2005

OCTOBER

Sun	2	3:00pm	Hospice Service	<i>All Saints'</i>
Tue	4	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' Service <i>Joseph and his Rainbow Coat</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
Fri	7	10:00am	Little Fishes Toddlers' Service	<i>St Peter's</i>
Fri 7 - Fri 14			Week of Accompanied Prayer.....	<i>All Saints'</i>
Sun	9	6:00pm	Choral Evensong	<i>St Peter's</i>
Mon	10	8:00pm	Service of Wholeness and Healing.....	<i>St Peter's</i>
Tue	11	8:00pm	Parochial Church Council	<i>The Court House</i>
Fri	14	8:00pm	Centenary Celebration service, Bp Christopher, St Albans to preside	<i>All Saints'</i>
Sat	15	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast	<i>The Court House / St Peter's</i>
Tue	18	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' Service <i>Jacob and his Ladder</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
Sun	23	7:30pm	Anna Markland Inaugural Recital for the new Grand Piano	<i>St Peter's</i>
Sun	30		End of British Summer Time – start of Greenwich Mean Time	

NOVEMBER

Tue	1	8:00pm	Patronal Festival Eucharist for All Saints' Day	<i>All Saints'</i>
Wed	2	8:00pm	Solemn Eucharist for All Souls' Day	<i>St Peter's</i>
Fri	4	10:00am	Little Fishes Toddlers' Service	<i>St Peter's</i>
Mon	7	8:00pm	Service of Wholeness and Healing.....	<i>St Peter's</i>
Tue	8	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' Service <i>Joshua & his Trumpet</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
Wed	9	8:00pm	St Peter's and All Saints' Area Committees	
Sun	13	3:00pm	British Legion Service of Remembrance	<i>St Peter's</i>
Sat	19	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast	<i>Berkhamsted Baptist Church</i>
Sat	19	7:30pm	The Cowper Society presents The Bridgewater Band	<i>St Peter's</i>
Sun	20	6:00pm	The Cowper Society presents St Peter's Choir St Cecilia concert	<i>St Peter's</i>
Mon	21	7:30pm	Licensing of Fr Michael Bowie, Conducted by Bp Christopher St Albans	<i>St Peter's</i>
Tue	22	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' Service <i>Elijah and the Still Small Voice</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
Sun	27	6:00pm	Advent Carol Service	<i>St Peter's</i>

reviewregisters

Funerals

22 July	Alan Humphrey Martin	St Peter's Church (Committal Kingshill)
23 August	Gertrude Mary Winter	St Peter's Church (Committal Kingshill)
26 August	James Douglas Richardson	St Peter's Church (Chilterns)
26 August	Doris Kingston	Chilterns Crematorium (memorial at St Peter's)

review factfile

YOUNG PEOPLE AT ST PETER'S AND ALL SAINTS'

St Peter's

Sunday school and Pathfinders run from 9:30am to 10:30 in the Court House (next to the church in the High Street). Sunday School caters for 4 to 10 year olds, Pathfinders from 10 years upwards. Contact 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: for Explorers—Carenza Wilton (875147), for Pathfinders—Penny O'Neill (843422) or 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. Contact Jimmy Young (384929)

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

St Peter's

Rector Designate: **The Revd Dr Michael Bowie**
 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) allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk
 All Saints' is an Anglican / Methodist
 Local Ecumenical Partnership.
 Methodist minister: **The Revd Paul Timmis**, 32 Finch Road (866324)

What & Where in St Peter's?



Answer next month

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



The mud-scraper outside the west door

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