

Berkhamsted *review*

April 2006

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Servant**

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36 page issue



for Town and Parish

30p



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

Welcome to the April 2006 issue of the Berkhamsted review

A theme that seems to recur in several places in this month's *review* is *change*. In some cases our contributors are looking to the future to changes that may or must take place. **Ian Reay** writes about the future of the Water Lane area, **Christopher Morris** about renewal of the heating system in St Peter's Church. Elsewhere we touch on changes that have taken place in the past - from the London Underground to the fonts in St Peter's Church. **Norman Cutting** returns to the pages of the *review* and asks *Have things changed?* Well, have they? Look at the letter written in 1845 that we reproduce. Grumbling about the heating arrangements at St Peter's is evidently a habit of long-standing. There is a strong hint that in terms of our day-to-day concerns nothing really changes. But that is not the Easter message. As **Jonathan Gordon** writes, Easter is all about change. The events of the first Easter changed the world for ever. They transformed the lives of the disciples. They can transform our lives. In Jonathan's words *Easter ... is an earthquake that does not destroy and bring chaos, but rather, offers new starts, reconciliation, forgiveness and peace.*

Christopher Green

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Next copy dates (all Fridays)

7 April 5 May 2 June



Well done thou
good and faithful
servant -

**Father Basil
Jones** in praise of
Churchwardens

review leader

Canon Robert Brown my beloved Rector and later Archdeacon of Bedford used to instil in me that the most important people in the Church of England were its churchwardens. He was not just speaking of St Peter's but of the

enormous and untold service given by so many and so freely throughout the Parish Churches of England. At that time we had just seen the difference between Rector's Warden and People's Warden rescinded by law and since then of course we have seen the post open to the ladies as well. All of these changes have been of immeasurable benefit to the Church.

We have been fortunate enough to witness what **Robert Brown** meant. **Carole Dell** has been remarkable by any standards and her steady hand on the tiller during the recent interregnum has steered us through very choppy waters indeed. She remained unfailingly cheerful and approachable and was a tower of strength. That she found time to be a wife and mother and efficient business woman at the same time only goes to confirm the old adage that it is the busy person who is so often able to take on more. As our churchwarden she has done us proud and we are very grateful.

The role of a churchwarden goes back to the 13th century and in the past they have had extensive civic duties including maintaining the state of the roads and making a note of citizens who were not at Divine Service on a Sunday. The tower was

useful for this task provided that the churchwardens could climb the stairs! One of the interesting reminders from this age is the fact that the meeting to appoint churchwardens is open to all on the Electoral Register and not just the Electoral Roll. There are certain safeguards to prevent a non-believer being elected. Our present churchwardens are much more friendly and we expect them to ensure that all is in order for worship, the church clean and warm and the minister duly prepared with a clean surplice supplied, if necessary, by the PCC. The churchwardens are a legal entity and are the Bishop's Officers who have the right with or without the incumbent to eject from the church (I once found it necessary to alert the Churchwardens for this purpose). They of course are expected to be a conduit from the people to the Rector and vice versa. This is a most important task and taken seriously leads to a happy parish.

They cannot be expected to do everything and so there is a multitude of jobs which need to be taken up by others, freely and with a cheerful Christian spirit. A glance at a pew leaflet will quickly tell you what is on offer at the moment and the churchwardens and the Rector will always be pleased to hear from you. Being British you may need to be nudged in the right direction and so do not take it amiss if someone nudges you. False modesty never helps anyone.

The parish has just had its Annual Meetings but it is always the right time to volunteer and who knows it might open up opportunities you had never imagined possible. ❖

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Regular readers of this page will know the statistics of **The Mothers' Union**; - a world wide Christian organisation with 3.6 million members in over 75 countries, working for some of the most needy and marginalised women in the world. At the grass-roots level it is the **MU** workers who support families and contribute to improving their lives.

In 1886, ten years after Mary Sumner began the **MU**, the first overseas branch was opened in New Zealand and started its spread across the world. Initially the **MU** workers overseas were from Great Britain, and the **MU** archives contain letters from some of these pioneering women. The work included helping local women with basic health and child care, as well as instructing them in the Christian faith, and opening local **MU** branches, schools and clinics. They worked closely with the local bishop and were often the only female member of staff in his team. As a result they and the **MU** were loved and respected around the world.

Today the number of **MU** workers is over 300. They are now local women who understand the needs of their communities and are sensitive to cultural matters. Their role has expanded and among the issues they encourage women to think about and tackle are community development, violence against women and HIV/AIDS. The **MU** workers are part of diocesan and provincial teams and through them they are supported and trained. Their confidence and expertise is invaluable for the work of **MU** and its members in developing countries.

These two quotes from **MU** workers seem to say it all:

LOVED AND RESPECTED AROUND THE WORLD

MU Workers Overseas
Margaret Burbidge writes



"Self-help initiatives and income-generating activities can do so much to improve the lives of women and their families. Earning a small amount of money can enable children to go to school and to eat better; I now have skills to help and support the local MU in this type of activity"

Martha Rurai
- Malaita diocese,

Melanesia.

"I feel able to use my skills to help poor families grow spiritually, physically and emotionally. The practical business skills will enable me to advise vulnerable people to take practical action to improve their lives." **Jeanne-Francoise NdiMubakunzi** - Gitega diocese, Burundi.

The work costs money; salaries, travel costs, funding projects and training have to be financed. Some money comes from the local dioceses, but most from the Overseas Fund largely supported by members in the UK and Ireland. Around half a million pounds is given each year, yet if the work is to expand and the number of workers to increase, more money will be needed. This is why the money raised at our coffee morning (£160) in March will go to the Overseas Fund, and we thank everyone who supported it. This money and that raised by all the branches in the diocese was presented to **Trish Heywood**, the World Wide President at the Lady Day service in St Albans Abbey. Through the **MU** workers it will deepen participation in grass-roots communities, empower poor people, orphans, the sick and the unloved, and so bring Christ's love into people's lives in practical ways. ❖

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There has been a lot in the news recently about the expansive plans that the Borough Council has for regenerating Hemel Hempstead town centre - the *Vision 2020*. Ever since the explosion at Buncefield last December Hemel Hempstead has been in the limelight, and

the launch of this new ambitious project for the town was fortuitously timed to take full advantage of this. Six big time property developers are now jostling for position, hoping to work with the borough to rebuild the decaying centre of the old *New Town*. But, in spite of all the attention on Hemel Hempstead at the present time, Berkhamsted has not been forgotten!

A few weeks ago the Borough Council announced that it was looking into the possibility of providing for a new food supermarket in Berkhamsted. A company has been asked to prepare plans for regenerating the area around Tesco, including the shops stretching along the High Street from Tesco almost as far as WH Smith and the Water Lane car park. These buildings are not the most attractive in the town despite lying in the heart of the Conservation Area. For a long time, after Waitrose moved from here to its current site, the area looked destitute and it has taken many years to fill all the empty shops - although they are now all occupied with apparently thriving businesses.

Ever since the new Waitrose was built in the mid 1990s a lot of people have expressed worries that there is no real competition for it in the town. The Berkhamsted shop is, after all, the most profitable Waitrose store in the country. Although Berkhamsted has a Tesco, it is not a modern store, is on a cramped site and it can only offer a limited range. In effect anyone who doesn't want to do their big

Ian Reay's &news &views

Ripe for Regeneration

Ian Reay looks at the
Water Lane site

weekly shop at Waitrose has to leave town and go to Apsley, Tring or Hemel Hempstead.

These worries increased when Waitrose asked and was allowed to increase its shopping floor area (by about a third) and it became clearer that there cannot

be a superstore at the Stag Lane site. Tesco owns this site and for many years tried to persuade the planning authorities to put a store there. It did not succeed, because it was thought that a large store there would damage the town centre. Plans are now well under way - although not yet agreed - to put about 150 houses on that site.

The car park at Water Lane, and the area along the High Street next to the current Tesco, has been earmarked for some time as a site for a food superstore. A floor space of about 1000 or more square metres is a possibility. This is rather smaller than Waitrose but it will still provide more competition than Tesco is able to offer on its present site. There are other things that could be done here too. Instead of, or as well as, a large supermarket, there could be smaller shops and maybe some flats. A Government Inspector, when commenting on a proposal for a new town square on this site ruled that it would not be appropriate for a town like Berkhamsted which was, he said, *linear* in structure. I find this surprising since the siting of the new Waitrose has already made the town less *linear*.

The present review provides the opportunity for this site to be totally rethought with careful design and to make it an altogether more attractive place, worthy of its location in the Conservation Area. A *mini regeneration* of Berkhamsted is what is called for, right in the centre of town. ❖

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FROM THE AMAZON TO THE ANTARCTIC

Transatlantic travels
with Priscilla Watt

It didn't start that way. First of all we saw a trip advertised from Tierra del Fuego to the Antarctic and back again. Then we noticed that if we embarked at Buenos Aires we could include the Falkland Islands as well ...

but while crossing the Atlantic why not make it worthwhile and start in the Amazon?

We flew from a very wintry Gatwick just after Christmas and joined our ship in the heat of Manaus which is approximately halfway up the Amazon and renowned for its splendid Opera House. This is a large city and I did not at first appreciate that it had no road connections with the rest of the country, all connection being by air or river, and the chief mode of transport was the riverboat of the Mississippi type.

We called at two more places on the Amazon – at one of which we were conveyed by trishaw (a rickshaw propelled by a tricycle) which proved most interesting as the drivers practised their overtaking skills.

On leaving the Amazon we very briefly visited the Northern hemisphere before turning South and visiting Recife and its neighbour Olinda a beautiful town of colonial Portuguese houses.

It was then on to Rio de Janeiro where we went up the Sugar Loaf Mountain and Corcovado with its statue of Christ the Redeemer, the former was reached by cable car and the latter by a cog railway, both interesting experiences with fantastic views from the top. We also made a short visit to Copacabana beach which was full as it was still the school summer holidays. Perhaps the best view of Rio was as the ship steamed out – it really is one of the most spectacular harbours in the world.

On to Buenos Aires where we chose a trip to the Tigre Delta just outside the city. Here there is a community, with a large number of weekend homes, on islands with no bridges, so all transport is dependent on boat.

We were due to call in at West Falkland to visit a farm and some King Penguins but, unfortunately, a force ten gale put paid to this as we would have had to go ashore by

tender. (Incidentally the gale caused havoc the previous night as all the drawers in my bedside cabinet dropped out as the ship rolled). The following day was completely different with a brilliant blue sky as we visited Stanley in East Falkland (we were firmly told that *Port Stanley* was the name of the port and not of the town). After Latin America this was definitely a touch of home – red pillar-boxes, driving on the left and Waitrose goods in the supermarket.

Then on down to the Antarctic which we learned was the continent with the greatest average height and the driest climate. We were able to visit three out of the proposed four landing spots, the other being blocked by ice. Antarctica is very carefully controlled and licences have to be obtained for anyone to land, the number being ashore at any one time being restricted and so we had to go in relays. The main attraction at each stop was the penguins which are fascinating to watch. Global warming? We did meet icebergs far further North than we should have done and we had rain on the Antarctic one day and I was told this should have been snow.

It was then time to turn back and we sailed up to Ushuaia at the tip of South America from where we flew to Buenos Aires and on to London.

Overall view – a cruise is a wonderful way to travel in that the bedroom and luggage comes with you but you get only a short taste of a place before returning to a sort of England. We are shown only the best bits and so do not get the full story – for instance we did not see anything of the slums of Rio.

All in all, it was a wonderful trip and I feel very lucky to have been able to go ❖



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UGANDA GUEST

Bishop Stanley is visiting the UK just after Easter and on Sunday 23rd April he will be coming to Potten End and Little Gaddesden. A warm invitation is extended at all to come to the services.

Visit of
Bishop Stanley Ntagali,
bishop of Masindi, Uganda

hoped, if they are able to obtain visas, the Bishop's son Timothy and nephew Robert. Roger is from Little Gaddesden and a former secretary of the Berkhamsted Deanery Synod. He is now living in Masindi, where he is the Diocesan International Relations Officer.

10:30am Parish Family Communion at Potten End
6:30pm Easter Praise at Little Gaddesden

Bishop Stanley has visited Potten End and Little Gaddesden several times in recent years before he was appointed to be the first Bishop of the new Diocese of Masindi-Kitara in Western Uganda in December 2004. The Bishop will be accompanied by his wife Beatrice, who is the Diocesan President of the Mothers Union. **Roger Turner** will be coming as well, with, it is

There are strong links between Potten End, Little Gaddesden and Masindi. A considerable sum of money was raised to help provide the Bishop with a 4x4 vehicle so that he could get around his diocese on the unmade up roads. **John Kirkby**, the Team Vicar of Potten End plans to visit Masindi in the autumn. The church in Uganda has grown enormously in recent years. Many report on the welcome and vibrancy of the Ugandans' faith. ❖

BOXES OF DELIGHT

Liz Baxendale recalls her childhood presents

When I was a child one of my best presents was a Shop-in-a-box. It might be a Post Office with sheets of tiny stamps in green and red, an ink pad and telegram forms, a selection of writing paper in palest pink and green decorated with elves and ladybirds; or it might be a Sweet Shop, with little glass bottles of Hundreds-and-Thousands, Dolly Mixtures and Mini-Gems and so on; and there was always a pair of balance scales made of tin, poke bags and fake coins. I loved either as a small girl. Our three-cornered fire-guard set on three books on the table (one book was a Sunday School prize of Mother's *circa* 1905, and called *Agathos and the Rocky Island*) made a perfect Post Office grille under which to pass stamps and telegram forms to prospective customers.

But there was another box in our house which held a tiny pair of tin tongs. This box was smaller than the shop boxes and whereas they were printed with bright coloured pictures, this one was made of strong brown cardboard. When the lid was lifted, it revealed a honeycomb of 365 little scrolls of paper. On each was printed a *Promise of God*. The tiny tongs were to assist in removing the scrolls each day so that the text could be read - a sort of *Thought for the Day*. For a year or two my Mother and I would carry out a small ceremony each morning after breakfast, taking it in turns to read the *Promise* for the day, and then rolling up the paper and putting it back.

When things get tough, I recall some of the texts. Perhaps you can still buy Promise boxes, but until you find one, I pass on this thought:

*When you are between a rock and a hard place, don't panic.
You'll find the Lord is in the gap too.*

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Reform, modernisation, reorganisation. No, the Berkhamsted Walk isn't entering the political arena but, yes, it's a bit different. Why? Because we want more people to walk, we want to make it easier to do so, and to raise more sponsorship money. How? There are more routes with more distances to choose from. Registration at the Court House will be two hours longer, from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Register early on the *Register Now* form attached to the Sponsor Form, and make your registration quicker and easier. The time you start and finish will be your choice. Sweepers will patrol the routes later in the day, and way-marks will stay in place longer. Sweepers make sure everyone is back safely from their chosen route.

Prizes for the most sponsorship have increased threefold in number, and value. There are fabulous prizes for the three people who raise the most sponsorship money. A Paramo waterproof jacket, retail £180, a pair of Chris Brasher walking boots, retail £100, and a pair of Leki walking poles, retail £40. If you don't need any of these, goods of equal value can be selected from our generous sponsor's shop at Bourne End, **The Complete Outdoors**.

The Walk is to raise money for the Children's Society, with no bones about it! It gives you a great organised day out in the beautiful countryside around us, in return for your sponsorship. We've entered the computer age. The sponsor forms will be conventionally available around the Town, and sent to previous walkers, schools and clubs. New for this year, the sponsor form can also be downloaded from our web site, <http://www.berkhamstedwalk.org.uk>. The site gives you all you need to know about the Walk. If it doesn't, (or you don't do web sites!), please phone 01442 864968.

FUND RAISING FOR CHILDREN

The 38th *Children's Society*
Berkhamsted Annual Sponsored
Walk 14th May 2006

Getting sponsors can be painful, and even more painful getting them to pay up. You can as always sponsor yourself, but please remember it's for the Children's Society. Something around the cost of a meal out

would be more useful than the price of a motorway cup of tea. We've made it easier to raise and collect sponsorship. We are giving tips for fund-raising, and suggesting you open your own free personal web page using the site <http://www.justgiving.com>. Follow the easy steps when you log on. Your sponsors pay into your site by credit card, making paying in and collection easier all round.

There's great emphasis these days on *fit kids* and avoiding obesity, as much by exercise as by reducing calories. We are hoping to persuade parents, schools and youth organisations to enter groups of children and teenagers in pursuit of this ideal. Last year, girls from Abbotts Hill School had a *brilliant* time. They raised £1200 between them. Wow. We'd love more schools and groups to match that. If you know of a group leader or school teacher willing to lead a group, please alert them to this great opportunity for youthful fitness, fun and fund raising.

We hope the changes will be to your liking. We'll refrain from calling it the *New* Berkhamsted Walk, but we hope it's a new departure in fun and fund raising. What is not new is the continuing need to care for the thousands of deprived children who are vulnerable to exploitation. Please enjoy yourselves on May 14th and share a little bit of your good fortune. Every pound you raise enables The Children's Society to make a real difference to children's lives.



The St Peter's Church heating plant is now over 20 years old and is due for renewal. We shall shortly be appointing a firm of consulting engineers to examine the options for replacing the present system. This consists of gas fired indirect heaters,

heating the air which is drawn through them by fans and then discharged into the Church through a number of under floor ducts. The design of the system in 1984 was constrained by the space available in the 19th century basement for equipment and by the existing floor ducts. The disposition of the latter is strange, there being no ducts running to the west end to provide heat there. The layout is even stranger when one notes that in the original scheme, which had furnaces fuelled by coke or coal and natural circulation, the greater part of the warm air came up through the grating that is at the foot of what is now the chancel step. The cooled air returned through the grating which is further west, nearer where the Churchwardens now sit, and through the gratings in St John's Chantry. It may be that with the clergy and choir located in the crossing and the dignitaries seated in the front pews the heat was where it mattered. In addition to the current uneven distribution of warm air we have the problem of noise from the fans. We can reduce the noise during services by slowing the fans but there is a limit to this in that, if the fans are slowed down too much, the burners will overheat and trip.

We have had a meeting with the Diocesan heating adviser and it has been agreed that the options to be studied by the consultants are:

Scheme 1

To keep to the existing system but with the ducts extended under the suspended nave floors to the west end. The gas fired air heaters might be replaced by hot water ones

HEATING ST PETER'S

Christopher Morris
looks to the future

which would get over the problem of burners tripping at low fan speeds. Means would be employed to reduce the fan noise in addition to the silencers which are now installed in the ducts.

Scheme 2

To have a totally *wet* system with hot water convectors, some of which, down the north and south walls, might have to consist of large diameter finned pipes to minimise interference with the pews.

Scheme 3

A hybrid system of air heaters as in Scheme 1 together with hot water convectors to heat the areas not served by the present ducts.

In all schemes heating would be extended to the north transept and Lady Chapel and possibly to St Catherine's Chapel.

The adviser rejected two other methods of heating, I am glad to say, as I would have strongly opposed them, namely under floor heating and radiant wall mounted heaters. The former because of the high insulation of the floor boards and the worry of having a network of hot water pipes under the floor. The latter because of doubts about their effectiveness and the fact that they would never be permitted anyway for aesthetic reasons. Have a look at the heaters in St Catherine's Chapel.

We program to have the detailed design completed and a contractor appointed in time for the work to start immediately after the end of the next heating season.

Perhaps older readers of the Review do not remember seeing the letter of 1845 which I found in the Church archives and so it is worth publishing it again for their benefit and that of newer readers (see opposite page). It rings true today

- plus ça change ...



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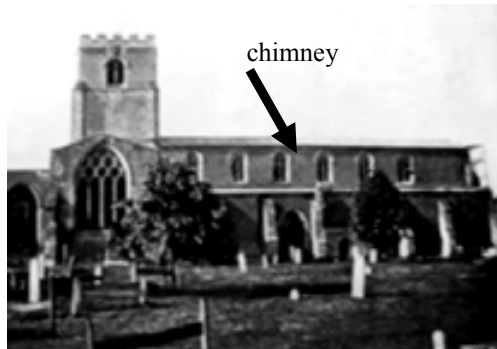
Sir,

We hope your Committee has no intention of throwing any unreasonable objections or obstacles in the way. We were in hopes after all we have done, that the Hot Water

Apparatus would have been perfectly satisfactory to all your Parishioners. We understand from our man that on several Sundays the Congregation expressed their entire satisfaction, and even some complained of the Church being too hot. We do not consider it a fair trial to test the heat when the Church is unoccupied. The object of heating Churches is that the Congregation shall not feel cold by the length of time they have to sit – and a great deal depends on the quality of fuel used, some of which you are aware has twice the power of other sorts; good Coke and Coals are what ought to be used if the full power of the Apparatus is required to be tested.

GOOD COAL AND COKE

A letter from the parish archives,
addressed simply to:
Mr Claridge, Berkhamsted



Mr Weeks will be happy to meet your Committee on any day you may be pleased to appoint, should you think such a course desirable, at the same time we should like our man to be there to attend to the fire, and that you be provided with the best description of Coke and Coals. But we hope you will spare us all the expense you can, as we assure you we are considerably out of Pocket by the job.

We have the honour to be Sir
Your most Obedt. Servts.

J Weeks & R Day

Christopher Morris adds a footnote:

In a photograph taken of the north side of the Church in 1870, before the restoration was completed, a chimney can be seen in the bay between the two central buttresses of the north aisle wall, adjacent to the now closed north door. Presumably this was where the Hot Water Apparatus was located. The Apparatus, with the cast iron hot water pipes and possibly radiators, must have been removed and replaced with the underground air heating furnaces as part of the restoration. ❖

What do I complain about?

Father Basil Jones dips into Kilvert's diary.

Sunday, St Valentine's Eve 1870.

Went to Bettws in the afternoon wrapped in two waistcoats, two coats, a muffler and a mackintosh, and was not at all too warm. Heard the Chapel bell pealing strongly for the second time since I have been here and when I got to the Chapel my beard, moustaches and whiskers were so stiff with ice that I could hardly open my mouth and my beard was frozen on to my mackintosh. There was a large Christening party from Llwyn Gwilym. The baby was baptised in ice which was broken and swimming about in the Font. ❖

handyguy

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HAVE THINGS CHANGED?

One or two readers may remember how at the end of the last century, I used to write a column trying to keep you all abreast with what

Norman Cutting muses

goes on behind our backs in the town. Being one of the few who actually work in the town, I've been struck by the number of people who have remarked that they like living here and one lady, who moved to Hemel from *up north* to be near her daughter, said she would have preferred Berkhamsted.

I can only suppose that those who know best must be doing something right, but it did start to remind me that when I was young we still went round complaining that there was nothing to do, but we did have a theatre and one and a half cinemas, a paddling pool, outdoor swimming pool in the centre of town, numerous garages selling petrol and cars, gas/electricity showrooms, Sainsburys, more pubs than you could imagine and the Co-op sold just about everything.

On the other hand, the High Street didn't get electric light until the early 1950s, the trains took up to two hours to get to London (the station didn't even have electricity), we had a freight depot and gas works, the canal was busy with moving freight of all types up and down the country with the *butty* being part living quarters. Oh, I forgot, we had parking problems even then with Berkhamsted High Street being the widest part of the A41 between Kings Langley and Aylesbury. This is what reminded that things don't actually change.

As I write this piece, the extension to the Waitrose shop will mean that about a third of the parking spaces will be lost

for three months (at least). It is intended that it will be made up by the use of the Canal Fields car park which

apparently has plenty of spare capacity (except when I want to use it, although I must admit, I usually can find a space). This cunning plan makes you wonder why most of the roads around the Town Centre are filled with vehicles during the day, when this *under-used* resource is available for free. Perhaps all will be revealed in due course.

This will be part of the study, I expect, into the re-use of the Water Lane car park for a large retail unit (can't imagine who/what!) and other commercial use currently being looked into by, yep, you guessed, consultants from London and paid for by the Borough Council. Now, if only they could actually repair the pavement along the High Street and resolve the blockage of footways by vehicles, I could believe that progress is being made. ❖

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revieweaster week

PALM SUNDAY HOLY WEEK & EASTER DAY : 9 - 16 April 2006

At St Peter's we are looking forward to welcoming **The Revd Professor John Rogerson** who is booked to give Addresses Monday – Friday in Holy Week. John was Professor of Biblical Studies at Sheffield and is a much-published Old Testament scholar who continues to lecture and preach all over the world.

Palm Sunday

Sun	9	8.00am	Eucharist with Palm Crosses	<i>St Peter's</i>
		9:30am	United Blessing of Palms – Anglican led.....	<i>All Saints'</i>
Methodists & Anglicans from both churches start at 9:30am at <i>All Saints'</i> and process to <i>St Peter's</i>				
		10:00am	United Sung Eucharist – Anglican led	<i>St Peter's</i>
		6:30pm	Bach B Minor Mass - Chiltern Chamber Choir	
			& Madrid Bach Choir	<i>St Peter's</i>

Monday in Holy Week

Mon	10	8:00pm	Eucharist with Address by The Revd Professor John Rogerson	<i>St Peter's</i>
			The scandal of the Cross: <i>Cursed be everyone who hangs on a tree</i> (Galatians 3:13)	

Tuesday in Holy Week

Tue	11	8:00pm	Eucharist with Address by The Revd Professor John Rogerson	<i>St Peter's</i>
			The Johannine response: <i>As Moses lifted up the serpent</i> (John 3:14)	
		8:00pm	Meditative Act of Worship – Methodist led	<i>All Saints'</i>

Wednesday in Holy Week

Wed	12	8:00pm	Eucharist with Address by The Revd Professor John Rogerson	<i>St Peter's</i>
			The Pauline response: <i>God forbid that I should glory...</i> (Galatians 6:14)	

Maundy Thursday

Thu	13	6:00pm	Haggadah Meal - Methodist led	<i>All Saints'</i>
		8:00pm	Eucharist of the Lord's Supper and Vigil of Prayer	
			Preacher: The Revd Professor John Rogerson	<i>St Peter's</i>
			The unanswered prayer in Gethsemane: <i>Father if it be possible...</i> (Luke 22:42)	

Good Friday

Fri	14	10:00am	Ecumenical open air service in the	<i>Market Place</i>
		12-3pm	Three Hour Devotion including the Liturgy of the Day	<i>St Peter's</i>
			Preacher: The Revd Professor John Rogerson	
		12noon	<i>The traitor empowered</i>	
		12:30pm	<i>The powerful with no power</i>	
		1:00pm	<i>Forsaken but not forsaken</i>	
		1:30pm	<i>Truly this man was the Son of God</i> (Mark 15:39)	

Easter Eve

Sat	15	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast	<i>All Saints'</i>
		9:00pm	The Easter Vigil	<i>St Peter's</i>

Easter Day

Sun	16	7:00am	Ecumenical Service in the grounds of	<i>Berkhamsted Castle</i>
		8:00am	Eucharist	<i>St Peter's</i>
		9:30am	Sung Eucharist	<i>St Peter's</i>
		10:00am	All Age Communion - Methodist led	<i>All Saints'</i>
		6:00pm	Choral Evensong	<i>St Peter's</i>

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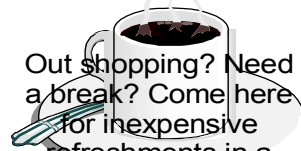


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Anna Markland - soloist in Grieg's Piano Concerto at the recent Bridgewater Band concert
photo: Tony Firshman



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CLOSING THE CIRCLE

Sir Edward Watkin and the London Underground

Stephen Halliday writes

When Sir Edward Watkin took over as chairman of the Metropolitan Railway in 1872, the company was respectable but its dividends were poor. This unhappy situation arose from the fact that competition for passengers from horse-drawn (and later motorised) buses in the centre of the metropolis kept fares to levels which made it hard to pay acceptable dividends on the capital invested in constructing the line. This did not however deter other entrepreneurs from building other underground railways. The Metropolitan District Railway, later the District Line, had been launched in 1854 to create the southern half of what would eventually become the Circle line. By 1872 the District line was running from High Street, Kensington where its services overlapped with those of the Metropolitan, to Mansion House, within half a mile of the Metropolitan terminus at Moorgate. It took more than a decade of quarrelling between the chairmen of the two companies before the circle was closed.

However, in 1872 Watkin faced problems more pressing than his relations with the District. The company's accounts were in such a state of confusion that it was far from clear what profits, if any, the line was making. Watkin appointed **Edward Waterhouse**, founding partner of Price Waterhouse, to undertake an investigation to *ascertain what the defects of the past management may have been which have brought the company to such a low ebb*. This brief could be seen as pre-judging the outcome, but Waterhouse had no difficulty providing Watkin with the evidence he

sought. His report revealed that Watkin's predecessor as chairman, a man called Parson, had admitted that he didn't understand accounts. The stores had been *grossly mismanaged* and the stores manager had vanished with the rewards of his mismanagement. The modest dividends that had been paid had been drawn from capital. Extravagant sums had been paid to engineers, notably one called John Fowler who had been involved in the affairs of both the Metropolitan and the District companies from their earliest days. Between them, the two companies had paid him almost half a million pounds. Referring to this unimaginably large sum—half a billion in twenty-first century terms, Watkin wrote to Fowler:

... no engineer in the world was ever so highly paid ... you have set an

example which seems to me to have largely aided in the de-moralisation of the Professional men of all sorts who have lived upon the suffering shareholders for the past ten years.

Watkin's relentless pursuit of enemies of the Metropolitan continued throughout his chairmanship. In 1889 he turned his scorn on an obscure soldier called Sir Randall Roberts who had sued the railway for an injury supposedly suffered on the company's premises, claiming £5,000. Watkin had him followed by a private detective whose evidence as to the negligible effect of the supposed injury resulted in the award of damages of £10 - a fraction of the costs.

➔ p25

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← p23 Closing the Circle

Watkin now turned his attention to more constructive activities: linking up with the District to create the Circle Line and extending the Metropolitan in a northwesterly direction to create the suburbs that were to become known as *Metroland*. The first task was to close the gap between the District station at Mansion House and the Metropolitan at Moorgate in order to create the Circle Line linking the main line termini north of the Thames. The process was not helped by Watkin's long-running feud with the Chairman of the District Railway, **James Staats Forbes** (1823-1904). In December 1877 **Charles Lucas**, a contractor, persuaded Forbes and Watkin to hold a meeting in the neutral surrounds of his office in the City. The City agreed to contribute £300,000 to the cost of completing the circle and the Metropolitan Board of Works eventually agreed to contribute £500,000. It was agreed that the two railways would extend their lines to a meeting point at Tower Hill. In September 1881 the work began. The Metropolitan reached Tower Hill in September 1882 and had to wait for two years for the financially strained District to complete the link.

Trial working of trains around the system began in October, with a full service beginning on 6th October 1884. It was agreed that Metropolitan trains would run clockwise around the outer track while District trains ran anti-clockwise on the inner. It was anticipated that this would avoid conflicts between the two companies but the hope was vain. Forbes and Watkin accused each other of running more than a fair share of trains, causing delays at crossing points. For passengers other problems were more pressing. Trains were running up to three hours late and one group of passengers staged a breakout from a train marooned between stations. Only two weeks after the line opened an arbitrator was appointed to examine the grievances of the two companies. This

brave man suggested that each company should restrict itself to eight trains an hour, allowing 80 minutes to complete the circle. The insults however continued. Watkin told his shareholders that the treacherous District had sneaked in an extra 46 trains a day. Forbes retaliated by claiming that the Metropolitan was cheating passengers by sending them the long way round the circle, resulting in more money for Watkin's company.

The work of completing the circle had been made more expensive by the attempt of the Metropolitan Board of Works to eliminate the ventilation shafts in the streets through which smoke and steam could escape from the tunnels into the already polluted atmosphere. Even with the shafts in place, the atmosphere in the tunnels was appalling. The specially designed *condensing engines* were only partially successful in reducing the volume of steam emitted by the locomotives and did nothing to eliminate the smoke that came from their funnels. An early journey on the Circle Line was described by the journalist **R D Blumenfeld** as *my first experience of Hades ... The atmosphere was a mixture of sulphur, coal dust and foul fumes from the gas lamps so that by the time we reached Moorgate I was near dead of asphyxiation ... I should think these underground railways must soon be discontinued, for they are a menace to health.*

The solution to the problem was to be found in electrification. However, in 1898 a Board of Trade committee enquired into the state of the tunnels and was told that 550 passenger and goods trains were using the system each day, all still drawn by steam engines. Electrification of the Circle would have to wait for the following century. ❖

Next month: The Channel Tunnel

From **Stephen Halliday's** book *Making the Metropolis* available from Ottakar's Bookshop.

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On our cover this month is a photograph of the font in All Saints' Church. From the beginning, baptism has been central to the beliefs and practice of the Christian Church. In the early centuries, baptism was often by total or partial immersion, either in a river or a lake or in an artificial pool within the church building or, in the case of some great churches and cathedrals, in a separate building - the baptistery. However by the tenth century, baptism as we know it - by pouring water over the head of the person being baptised - was normal and upstanding fonts became the normal form.

The font at All Saints' was originally in St Peter's Church, Norris in his book on the church reproduces a water colour sketch, still in the St Peter's archives, showing the font in the old south porch. Norris tells us that the south porch was arranged as a baptistry from 1820 to 1870. When Butterfield restored the church in the 1870s, the old south porch was destroyed, the present font was placed in the nave, where it remains, and the old font was moved to the north transept. In 1906 it was removed to the new church of All Saints'. It is not an ancient font. On the rim is the inscription

THE GVIFT OF FRANCIS WETHERID ESQVI^R 1662

Francis Wethered was Controller of the Works to Charles II, an alderman of Berkhamsted and owner of the Ashlyns estate. As a Court official he would certainly have known **John Sayer**, the King's Master Cook who was the tenant of Berkhamsted Place. Perhaps they sometimes commuted together on the coach to London. Unlike **John Sayer**, **Francis Wethered** was not in exile with

THE GVIFT OF FRANCIS WETHERID ESQVI^R

A note on fonts by
Christopher Green



Font remnant at All Saints'

Charles during the Commonwealth. In the Baptismal Register for St Peter's for that period, among the very few entries that are recorded are the children of **Francis Wethered**. The Wethered family was not always on good terms with the Church. Among the parish records, now at County Hall, we have glimpses of a dispute culminating in the excommunication of **Francis Wethered**, probably the father of Francis the donor of the font. In 1637 he had to answer 'in the Archdeacon of Huntingdon's court concerning alleged non-payment of rate for the repair of the church'. No doubt the grounds for his excommunication. His answer appears to have satisfied the Archdeacon, as the records also include his Release from Sentence of Excommunication.

What about a font at St Peter's before 1662? There is a tantalising clue. Cobb in his *History and Antiquities of Berkhamsted*, writing about St Peter's refers to 'a remnant of a very interesting ancient font'. Norris subsequently records that this remnant was built into the chancel wall of All Saints' church. And there you can still see it - a fragment of the upper part and rim of a round font with a zig-zag moulding above an arcade of intersecting round-headed arches. In form and decoration it looks very Norman and too early to be contemporary with the earliest work at St Peter's, of thirteenth century date. Could it have belonged in an earlier church on this site and been retained because of its sacramental importance to furnish the new building? Is there any other evidence for an earlier building on the site of St Peter's? ❖



An Easter Earthquake

The Revd Jonathan Gordon writes

At the Natural History Museum in London, in one of the sections, it is possible to experience an earthquake. The floor starts to shake, the walls vibrate and on the monitor screen you can observe a

film of a shop in Japan that was devastated in twenty seconds of powerful shuddering. Geologists are able to show us that mild earth movements take place quite regularly and even unnoticed, but the impact and scale of major tremors, as experienced last year in Pakistan, was brought home in a small and controlled way by the display in the museum.

There are contrasting descriptions in the Gospels of the first Easter morning. St. Matthew tells us that there was a great earthquake, and an angel came from heaven, rolled back the stone and then sat on it. The appearance of the angel resulted in the guards collapsing with fright, while the women who have come to the tomb are instructed to tell the disciples that Jesus has been raised from the dead. This makes an interesting comparison with St Luke, where two of the disciples decide to walk to Emmaus and conclude the day with supper. Whilst they discuss what the women have told them, the impression is given that the news is very interesting, but it will not interfere with their travel and eating arrangements. It is only when they recognise Jesus in the breaking of the bread that they decide to head back to Jerusalem. Initially, they carry on as if the world has not changed and will continue on as it has before. St Matthew is more forthright. Easter represents an earthquake in the world in which everything has been

shook. Something dramatic and life changing has taken place.

Easter is an invitation to see everything around us from a new perspective. The Gospels share the conviction that when the stone was rolled away we were given a glimpse of a new world, in which death has been overcome and does not have the last word. God has raised Jesus from the dead and the world therefore can be seen in a new way. It is an earthquake that does not destroy and bring chaos, but rather, offers new starts, reconciliation, forgiveness and peace. Whether we experience this as a mild tremor, in which nothing much changes, or as an earthquake that turns us upside down, is left open ended. For the disciples, a relationship that had been broken by death was now restored, and nothing could ever be the same again. ❖

<http://www.stmarysnorthchurch.com>

SIMPLE LUNCHES

St Mary's Northchurch

Served in the Parish Room

Every Thursday

12:15 to 1:00pm

**Anyone is welcome
to attend**

*review*notes¬ices

LOW VISION EXHIBITION

Hertfordshire Society for the Blind is holding an exhibition of equipment of interest to those with low vision. The event is on Tuesday 9th May from 10:00am to 3:00pm in the British Red Cross Hall, Faversham Close, Tring (pedestrian access through Frogmore Street car park). Come and explore a wide range of equipment specially designed for leisure, home and office - desktop and portable video magnifiers, computer software, scanners, writing aids, kitchen equipment, memo recorders, telephones, clocks and watches.

HERTFORDSHIRE ARCHIVES

Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies' (HALS) are holding an Open Day on Sunday May 14th 2006 at the County Hall in Hertford. The event is entitled *Town Jewels*. It will feature some of the most exciting documents relating to Hertfordshire's oldest towns, such as Watford, Bishop's Stortford Hitchin, Hertford, St Albans and Berkhamsted. An exhibition will feature New Towns and Garden Cities. Tours, displays and talks will feature on the day. For further details telephone 01438 737333, ask for the Local Studies Library or look on our website :

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/hals>

OXFAM 22ND CHILDREN'S WEAR EVENT

Don't miss it at the Civic Centre, Berkhamsted. on May 3rd 2006, 9.00 - 11.30 am. An amazing collection of quality clothes will be on sale, donated by Berkhamsted Mums and prepared to as-new condition by an increasing team of supporters.

Spring is with us. Clothes for spring and summer, for babies to teens, for girls and boys, will be sold at bargain prices. Toys,

books, and baby equipment as usual will add to the opportunity for money-saving bargains.

We hear we are to have mandatory water meters, at least in Dover and Folkestone. What a hardship that our piped and purified water should be metered! In many countries, African in particular, droughts can last for years and water is just not available, or disease bearing.

One of Oxfam's specialities is water projects in drought stricken countries. When you donate to the sale, or buy from it, you are helping Oxfam to help the victims of drought, and its resulting poverty. Your bargain buys can save lives.

Please don't forget May 3rd. Come to the Civic Centre and help the Oxfam volunteers

MAKE POVERTY HISTORY. Donations and help would be very welcome. Why not drop into the shop and see what you can do as one of the Oxfam team?

ED: Water meters are compulsory in our area when a property changes hands.

OXFAM MAKES MUSIC

Spring is in the air and the sound of music is issuing from the Oxfam shop on Berkhamsted High Street. A recently launched section devoted to music of all kinds has already proved popular and caters for all tastes from Classic to Country Rock. There are also DVDs and videos including popular children's classics.

Oxfam's own range of CDs from Bollywood to Salsa offers an interesting and unusual variation.

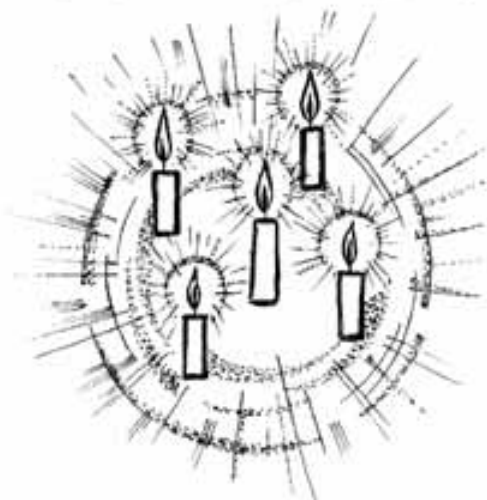
But more stock is urgently needed so please spring-clean those collections and turn those surplus CDs and DVDs into trees, seeds and hoes to help some of the world's poorest families.

St Peters Church Berkhamsted

Eastertide Service of

Thanksgiving & Commemoration

for departed friends and family



6pm Sunday April 30th
St Peters Church
Preacher The Revd John MacPherson
All Welcome
Transport available contact
June Haile 01442 873087

Been to the
Post Office?

Next stop
the Bookshop
then coffee
to recover



WAY INN

A Christian Centre at 268 High Street

Telephone: Coffee Shop 864751, Bookshop 870768



Drawing by Mary Casserley, with permission

review notes & notices

BERKHAMSTED CASTLE WI



We were welcomed by **Joy Lovell**, Joint President and **Janet Mitchell**, Secretary to our March meeting and on such a cold afternoon it was pleasant to be among friendly faces once again. They took us through the business part of the meeting and mentioned forthcoming events taking place in our Group.

Our speaker this month was **Julia Marriage** who recalled her memories of her life growing up on a farm in Risby in rural Suffolk, a village famed for a notorious murder! A book relating the gruesome details was on display for us to peruse. An appreciation was given by **Janet Mitchell**. During teatime the raffle was drawn and the competition judged for an item made of straw. Our next meeting is on 7th April at the Court House at 2:00pm when we celebrate our 17th birthday. Perhaps you would like to come along and join us.

THE ST PETER'S AND ALL SAINTS' GRIEF AND LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

May we help? Would you like to share the pain of bereavement or loss, whether recent or not, with someone who will listen and be there for you? Would you like to join our monthly Lunch Group? If so please call **June Haile** (873087), **Thelma Harris** (865785) or **Sylvia Banks** (871195).

BERKHAMSTED TOWN COUNCIL

CORRECTION

The date of the Annual Town Meeting was incorrectly advertised in the March *review*. The Annual Town Meeting will be at the Civic Centre on Thursday 6th April at 7:30pm.

TUESDAY CLUB

Our AGM on 7th March began with a glass of sherry and was followed by coffee, cakes and an entertaining talk entitled *The Byways of Berkhamsted* by **Jenny How**. Her wonderful slides showed well known landmarks of our town and revealed many hidden delights that could only be found by exploring unfamiliar pathways. We must get out of our cars and walk!

BATRICARS AT ASHRIDGE

Did you know that Ashridge National Trust have had Batricars for the disabled for nearly fifteen years? They are opposite the café, near the Monument. The fleet of ten consists of double seaters and single seaters. They operate every day Monday to Friday: 1-5 pm; weekends and Bank Holidays: 12-5 pm. No bookings before 2:00pm. To book ring 01442 851227. Probably only necessary for weekends and Bank Holidays, unless we have hot sunny weather this summer! They are FREE but a donation is appreciated for maintenance.

For Sale - For an asking price of £1,250 we have a nearly new single seater that is unsuitable for our two trails. (Price when new - £2,995) For further details call **Graham Maxfield** (01582 661978)

FRIENDS OF ASHRIDGE

Why not take a Gentle Stroll with **Brian** and **Sian Barton** who will lead the first of this season's two hour informal walks on Wednesday 12th April at 11am.

Meet at Ling Ride car park, off Beacon Road. (Map ref.SP 982 143).

Or join a Walk and Talk with Ashridge Estate nature experts on Tuesday 2 May at 7pm to enjoy *The Woods at Bluebell Time*. **Meet at the Visitor Centre.**

April

SUN	<i>St Peter's</i>	8:00am Eucharist 9:30am Sung Eucharist 6:00pm Evensong
	<i>All Saints' 2nd</i>	8:00am Holy Communion – Methodist led 10:00am Morning Worship – Methodist led
	9 th	9:30am Blessing of Palms and procession to St Peter's 10:00am United Sung Eucharist at St Peter's – Anglican led
	16 th	10:00am All Age Communion – Methodist led
	23 rd	10:00am Morning Worship – Anglican led
	30 th	10:00am Holy Communion – Methodist led
All services at <i>St Peter's</i> unless otherwise indicated MP = Morning Prayer EP = Evening Prayer		
MON	MP 8:45am	EP 5:00pm Eucharist 9:15am
TUE	MP 8:45am	EP 5:00pm Eucharist 9:30am <i>All Saints'</i>
WED	MP 8:45am	EP 5:00pm Eucharist 8:00am
THU		EP 5:00pm Eucharist 11:00am (<i>Fr Michael's day off</i>)
FRI	MP 8:45am	EP 5:00pm <i>both churches</i> Eucharist 9:15am
SAT	MP 8:45am <i>both churches</i>	EP 5:00pm Eucharist 9:15am
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 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 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 57 Meadow Rd <i>All are very welcome at 11:30am as arranged or at Ruth's 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) <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>	

*review***diary**

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

April

Sun	2	10:45am	Annual Parochial Church Meeting.....	<i>St Peter's</i>
Fri	7	10:00am	Little Fishes Service.....	<i>St Peter's</i>
9-16 April Palm Sunday, Holy Week & Easter Day details page 19				
Sat	15	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches	
			Prayer Breakfast.....	<i>All Saints'</i>
Sun	23		Area Elections after the main morning	
			services.....	at <i>St Peter's</i> & at <i>All Saints'</i>
Tue	25	10:15am	Chuckles Service Breakfast by the Lake.....	<i>All Saints'</i>
Sun	30	4:00pm	Children and Communion group Service	
			with Parents and Godparents	<i>All Saints'</i>
		6:00pm	Service of Thanksgiving and Commemoration	
			for departed family and friends	<i>St Peters'</i>

Fri	4	10:00am	Little Fishes Service.....	<i>St Peter's</i>
Mon	8	8:00pm	Eucharist with Prayers for Healing.....	<i>St Peter's</i>
Tue	9	10:15am	Chuckles Service <i>The House on the Rock</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
Sun	14	10.00am	Children's Society BERKHAMSTED WALK	
			sets out from	<i>The Court House</i>
		6:00pm	Choral Evensong.....	<i>St Peter's</i>
Sat	20	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches	
			Prayer Breakfast.....	<i>The Way Inn</i>
Tue	23	10:15am	Chuckles Service <i>Our Hidden Friend</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>

reviewnotes&notices

**BERKHAMSTED CITIZENS'
ASSOCIATION**

Bricks: Restoring the Past - A talk by **Nick Siney** of Meadham's Farm Brickworks, Ley Hill. April 6th at 8:00pm in the Sessions Hall, Berkhamsted Town Hall. Visitors £2 at the door.

DACORUM LIVE!

London Mozart Players at the Centenary
Hall, Berkhamsted Collegiate School,
King's Campus - Friday 21st April at
7:30pm. Programme includes Symphonies
nos 39 and 41 and Piano Concerto no 27.
Tickets £14 and £12, from the Civic
Centre, Berkhamsted and at the door.

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* 8-10 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)

review poetry

David Pearce reflects

This used to be the time of the crocuses
around the churchyard lime.
Four years ago I wrote this.

The Lime Tree

Every day
Throughout the year
I walk your way -
Quite deliberately
Out of my own way -
A voyeur, just to stare,
See how you fare;
Just to hear the sun
Sighing through the open arches,
Windows of your branches,
Before you draw a trace

Of green and modest lace
To hide your loveliness
While you decide the dress
That you will wear
For the year's tomorrow.
My step is Spring, and March is
The music that I follow.
All these, and Beauty - reasons
To employ some loving art
That, through each season's
Stage will hold your image
Before my eyes,
Enfold it in my heart.
Today especially, for you rise
Naked slim, amid the spindrift
Circle of your white and purple
Crocus shift.

St David's Day 2002

reviewcontacts

General

The Revd Dr Michael Bowie, Team Rector, The Rectory, Rectory Lane (864194)
(day off Thursday)
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

Director of Music: **Adrian Davis** (864722) stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk
 Asst. Director of Music: **Jean Wild** (866859)
 Organist: **Jonathan Lee** (0794 1113232)
 Weddings and Funerals,
 Banns of Marriage and
 Baptisms: **Fr Michael Bowie** (864194)
 Bellringers (St Peter's): **Priscilla Watt**, 11 Cavalier Court, Chesham Road (863804)

All Saints'

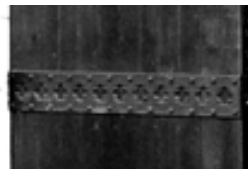
Choirmaster: **Peter McMunn** (874894) allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk
 All Saints' is an Anglican / Methodist Local
 Ecumenical Partnership.
 Methodist minister: **The Revd Paul Timmis**, 32 Finch Road (866324)

What & Where in St Peter's?



Answer next month

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



An iron reinforcing band on the West door

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