

Berkhamsted *review*

June 2008

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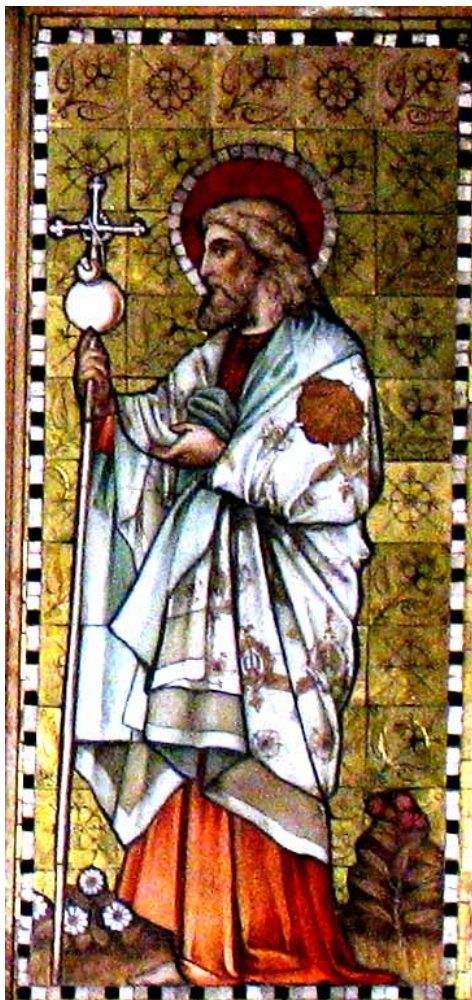
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for Town and Parish

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

Welcome to the June 2008 issue of the Berkhamsted review

June this year is packed with celebration for our town and parish. On the 7th, Berkhamsted's very own symphony orchestra, the Bridgewater Band marks ten years of brilliant music making with a celebratory concert and re-invents itself as the **bridgewater symphonia**. On the 14th the people of the town can celebrate the patron saint of their parish church at the Petertide Fair. Not just a stroll among the stalls - a chance to support causes that make a difference in lives less fortunate than our own. Then on the 21st, from Berkhamsted and all over the Diocese, pilgrims will make their way to St Albans to the shrine of St Alban, Britain's first Christian martyr, to celebrate his life and example. On the same day the bells of St Peter's will herald the ordination to the priesthood of our curate, **John Pritchard**. The ordination follows on the 28th in St Albans Cathedral and John celebrates his first Mass on the 29th - the Feast of St Peter. On this joyful occasion, St Peter's Choir, supported by the Chiltern Chamber Choir will sing the *Messe Solennelle* by Vierne and afterwards the congregation is invited to join John for celebratory refreshments in and around the Court House.

Christopher Green

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Editorial Team: Christopher Green, 17 Cowper Road, Berkhamsted, HP4 3DE (863241)
email: greenc@waitrose.com
Tony Firshman, 29 Longfield Road, Tring, HP23 4DG (828254)
email: review@firshman.co.uk fax: 828255
Joe Garstin, 26 Priory Gardens, Berkhamsted, HP4 2DS (866846)
email: joe_garstin@hotmail.com

Advertising: David Woodward, 3 Murray Road, Berkhamsted, HP4 1JD (862723)
woodies@chyverton3.freemove.co.uk

Circulation: Sheila Miller, 31 Lincoln Court, Berkhamsted, HP4 3EN (864277)

Treasurer: Michael Below, Hillcote, Doctors Commons Road, HP4 3DR (862316)
email: below@waysid.freemove.co.uk

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Next copy dates (all Fridays) 6 June 4 July 1 Aug



Lobbing Bottles

Fr John Russell
explains

review leader

I am delighted to have become part of the Berkhamsted Clergy and very much look forward to the challenge ahead.

I also want to say thank you for the warm welcome Karen and I have received.

A few years ago, whilst preparing for weekend retreat for young people in the deanery of which I was then a part, we were having a brainstorming session with a few of the young leaders. They were looking for a good name to attract their friends to come, especially those who hadn't a faith, but perhaps wanted to know more. Someone suggested *Lobbing Bottles* and when asked why, she said - the Christian life is a bit like being at a football match. As you can imagine, we all wanted to know more.

Imagine a football stadium, she told us, full of spectators, with teams on the pitch, the simple challenge is to place yourself in that stadium; are you a committed player, or an official playing your part, or are you a spectator just lobbing bottles?

I remember once seeing a cartoon which expressed a similar notion. The picture is of a swimming pool; some people haven't even got their costumes on, others are standing on the edge shivering, some are dipping their toes in, others are swimming confidently up and down the pool; there are even some boldly diving in.

Where do we stand in all this? Our position and commitment is a question we could all ask, not just about our attitude to faith, but in our lives in general, at work, home, school or in our community. It's very easy to stand on the sidelines and

criticise, lobbing bottles in any walk of life.

One of the criticisms I hear quite often is that the church is full of hypocrites; it's very sad and largely untrue. It is however one of the most fundamental misunderstandings Christians face, the common assumption is that going to church means you are automatically a better person and that you look down on other people. The reality I find mostly is that people who I meet in church have more understanding of their own inadequacies and failings and are less likely to lob bottles! Furthermore, Christians are required not to judge others [see Matthew 7: 1, 3-5] lest they themselves be judged – and that is only one of the challenges we face.

The drive we surely all share is to make the world a safer, happier, cleaner place and our duty as stewards of this planet is to do all in our power to help and support others, especially in distress, wherever and whenever we find them irrespective of faith or background.

Jesus' blueprint for the way we should live is encapsulated in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel chapters 5 -7 in my bible, that's only three pages and it's worth a look. It's revolutionary, it's jaw dropping, it'll make you feel uncomfortable, but it will also reassure and strengthen you, give you some teaching on prayer and maybe make you think.

The words of the Sermon on the Mount are as alive and fresh as any you will find in the Bible, they make it hard for anyone who reads them seriously to stand on the sidelines and lob bottles or judge others; they could also help you to think about the priorities in your life. ❖

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TIME FOR RELATIONSHIP

Margaret Burbidge explores the
MU theme for 2008



How would you define *Time* and then *Relationship*? These were two of the questions that faced MU members at their April meeting, when, under the guidance of Janet Ridgway, Diocesan Vice

President, they examined the MU theme for 2008, *Time for Relationship*.

Trying to define *Time* was difficult, though phrases like *no time, right time, time flies, time drags* and *time waits for no one*, helped. We eventually settled on space; space between fixed events or moments in our lives, and space that could never be retrieved. *Relationship* was easier. We came up with connectedness between people, family members, friends and even strangers, and not only between humans; relationship can occur with pets, especially cats and dogs.

In joining the two terms together, Janet reminded us that as members of The Mothers' Union and of the church, we belong to a community of love, however unclear that may seem at times. This is the base line from which we approach all other relationships in our daily lives. In developing an understanding of what *Time for Relationship* means we were helped by a picture of a clock face. Each hour on the face was a talking point, and our thoughts and experiences were shared as we looked more deeply into the place of relationship in our lives.

At one o'clock, was relationship with God. As MU members this is central to all we do, both as an organisation and as individuals in our own lives. In discussion we discovered we were different in how we approached a

relationship with God. Perhaps this reflects our personality and upbringing, and there is a need to beware of the danger of *one approach fits all*.

As we moved round the clock face, we discussed relationship with friends and strangers and were encouraged to think of relationship in community and with other countries in the world. Being MU members helped, with our connections with dioceses and members overseas. With time running out, we skipped over other important issues like difficult relationships, repairing relationships and ourselves in relationship, and a challenging one at 12 on the clock face, of the future of relationship. A passing thought here: is life becoming increasingly self-centred so that relationship is diminishing in importance?

This was MU at its best at grass roots level where members meet for fellowship in their branches. It was rooted in prayer and bible story. Before the discussion, part of Genesis, Chapter 18 was read. It is the story of Abraham meeting the three strangers under the great trees of Mamre, and we pondered over the relationships in the story, and saw how Abraham and Sarah experienced a relationship with God through the strangers who visited their tent. Then with love and care we talked, shared our thoughts and experiences, listened and gained insights into the many relationships in our lives, with other members of The Mothers' Union and with God. ❖

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Shakespeare once said that all the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players with *their exits and their entrances*†. Somebody also once said that every exit is an entrance. Everything changes and with that change some things cease to be and others come to be. Our consumer mentality assumes that once an item has been consumed it can be discarded, thrown away, forgotten. That disrespectful attitude is what is leading to the appearance of vast tracts of litter that now seem to be polluting the whole world. But Shakespeare's observation remains valid: the plastic bag exits and the litter makes an entrance. Being aware of this truth we are warned to be more circumspect.

In Shakespeare's age our ancestors were indeed more circumspect – perhaps by necessity. Berkhamsted Castle made an exit in the 16th century. Having fallen into disuse, its worked stones and flints were plundered and recycled, carted up Castle Hill and used to build an Elizabethan

Ian Reay's &news &views

A One-Oak Mansion Berkhamsted Place

Ian Reay writes

mansion at the top – Berkhamsted Place, which thereby made an entrance. The flints and stones of the Castle were not discarded but reused. In its early years this mansion was occupied by royalty or friends of royalty. In the 17th century it was the home

of John Sayer, head cook to Charles II, and also the benefactor of the Almshouses in the High Street, which are still run by the trustees of the Ecclesiastical and Parochial Charities. In the 19th century the house was the home of General Finch who rebuilt the Bourne School and supported the construction of the Town Hall. A picture dating from the late 17th century painted by Wycke the Younger, which is reproduced in Percy Birtchnell's book, *A Short History of Berkhamsted*, depicts a view across the Bulbourne valley from somewhere high on the hillside in the Swing Gate Lane area. This painting clearly shows St Peter's Church, the remains of the Castle (in much the same state as it is today) and on the top

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←P7 A One Oak Mansion

of Castle Hill, dominating the landscape, is the mansion of Berkhamsted Place.

After the Second World War it was time for Berkhamsted Place to make its own exit. But the transformation did not take place suddenly, it was a slow and lingering death. In 1946 it was converted into flats but within seven years it was no longer occupied and, as with its predecessor the Castle, fell into disuse. It was demolished in 1967, but it is highly unlikely that its flints and stones, with their Castle provenance, were reused to ensure the entrance of another fine house – far more likely that, in the spirit of the modern age being celebrated in the 1960s and beyond, they were discarded into landfill.

A seventeenth century medical physician, writer and scholar, **Sir Thomas Browne**, once said *Old families last not three oaks*. That may actually be quite a long time as

oaks can survive many hundreds of years. But Berkhamsted Place may not have survived even one oak. Until quite recently there was a huge and clearly ancient oak tree in the small woodland grove which is all that remains of the parkland around the old mansion. Only a few years ago this oak tree fell over, blown by the wind or perhaps hit by lightning (one of King Lear's *oak-cleaving thunderbolts*) and now lies on its side. This fallen tree is a symbol to me of the broken glories of this ancient house and its forefathers. Now it's exit is a slow decay, making way for the entrance of a tranquil and soothing copse of mature trees



† As You Like It, II, vii, 139




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James Young, youth worker at St Peter's and Deborah Watkin (Jimmy and Debs) were married on 19th April 2008 at St Peter & St Paul, Tring.



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Shopping is followed by refreshments in the cafeteria and then the shoppers are driven home and helped in with their shopping. The Shoppers are contacted a week beforehand and also the day before to check their availability. It is a great opportunity to get out, go shopping and see other people to talk with.

If you wish to join the scheme – the District Nurse will visit you in advance. We ask for a small donation of £2 per trip.

If you would like to go contact Louise on 01442 228930.

BEING A CHRISTIAN IN BURMA

From a sermon preached in Winchester Cathedral earlier this year, following the Bishop's visit to Rangoon. The recent disaster in Burma gives an added

The Bishop of Winchester speaks

poignancy to the Bishop's words on the difficulties facing the people of that country.

In the 1870s the Diocese of Winchester raised £10,000, the lion's share of the endowment of the See of Rangoon; and the first Bishop went out from this Diocese in 1877, with the Blessing of my then predecessor **Bishop Harold Browne** who prayed that the relationship would always be a Blessing both to Burma and to Winchester. Until the 1950s there was a *Winchester Brotherhood* in Mandalay, where the fine old building that now houses the Diocesan Offices is still called *Winchester House*. Ten days ago the Bishop of Mandalay gave me the Cross that I'm wearing, made from teak used a hundred years ago in the roof of that building, recently renovated.

It has been my great privilege as your bishop to make this second visit to the Church in Myanmar. This time I was invited to spend the first week visiting the two Dioceses with their Bishops - one of them the Archbishop-designate with whom I was able to spend a good deal of time; to attend his Installation; and then to attend the Seminar that followed for all the clergy and lay-workers of the six Dioceses. This was a remarkable gathering, and a most privileged opportunity for me to listen to and talk with a great many people - and to catch the gist and quality of the Addresses, with the help of digests in English or, failing that, occasional shafts of translation either from the speaker or from someone next to me! - and as the Burmese flowed over me, to read the Bible passages on which the Bishop-speakers were commenting.

All through the history of what is now Myanmar, life has been hard and dangerous for its peoples; and the last 75 or so years have been especially insecure and

threatening even when they have not been murderous. Since 1966 the churches - and Christians are perhaps 4% of the population, Anglicans perhaps 1% - have been humanly-speaking on their own without expatriate assistance let alone leadership, and for the first 20 of these years substantially isolated from the rest of the Christian world. Today the Government is as it is; life for most people, and so for the churches, remains hard; maintaining contact with the world, and so with the Church, outside Myanmar is often difficult, with communications unpredictable and generally monitored.

In 1977, 100 years on from Bishop Harold Browne, Bishop John Taylor re-affirmed our friendship with the Burmese Church and our responsibility for offering them all the encouragement and support that we can; and I believe that this relationship is as important for us as it is for the Church of the Province of Myanmar. All being well the Burmese Bishops and their wives will be in this country for the Lambeth Conference this summer, and in the Diocese for the second week-end in July before it.

The Seminar was designed by the outgoing and incoming Archbishops for the further education of the clergy and lay workers, and perhaps still more to sustain them and encourage them. First thing on Monday morning I found that a verse from the third chapter of the Letter to the Hebrews had been chosen to express their overall theme:

We are God's household if only we hold firm in our confidence and our hope - which struck me powerfully, surrounded there in Yangon by the clergy, lay workers and bishops of the Province, all 140 or so

→p13

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Last month a group from this parish went on pilgrimage to Walsingham. On the cover this month is St

James the Great as he appears in the reredos in the old chancel at St Peter's. He is companion there to St Peter, who appeared on the cover of the April *review*. James is represented, as he often is in art, with the staff and scallop shell of a pilgrim and his name is associated with probably the most influential centre for pilgrimage in Western Christendom, after Jerusalem and Rome - Santiago de Compostela in north west Spain. Although James was the first of the Apostles to suffer martyrdom, in about AD44, tradition has it that before his execution in Jerusalem he had journeyed to Spain to preach the Gospel. Tradition, at least in Spain, also affirms that after his death his body was brought from Jerusalem back to Spain. None of these traditions can be traced before the seventh century and the relics that are revered

PILGRIMAGE

Christopher Green writes

in the shrine at Santiago were not discovered until the ninth century. However, this cannot diminish the huge

significance in the medieval world of the pilgrimage to Santiago. Pilgrimage had its greatest burgeoning in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. The four principal pilgrim routes to Santiago were described in many contemporary guidebooks. Their starting points were Arles, Le Puy, Vezelay and Paris, though pilgrims came from much further afield to start their journeys from these centres. Along the pilgrim routes, from the late eleventh century and throughout the twelfth, a great campaign of building took place, creating a wealth of uplifting architecture and many of the loveliest examples of Romanesque craftsmanship. It would not be too great an exaggeration to argue that pilgrimage gave to Western Christendom a new sense of identity and a common artistic tradition more coherent than any since the fall of the Roman Empire. ❖

←P7 Burma

of them.

And then the next day, as I listened with the help of his English summary to a striking address by **Bishop David of Myitkina** I noted his use of another passage from the Letter to the Hebrews. Try to think of the context in which Bishop David pointed us all to it -

Moses persevered as one seeing Him who is invisible

I picked this up when I made my Thanks and my Farewell to the whole gathering. I translated it as *endured successfully* and *found sufficient blessing in enduring* for a church which is living *with their eye on the One no eye can see*, in a setting where Christian belief is seen as un-Buddhist, so un-Burmese, so un-patriotic - enduring towards a future that no-one can see with any clarity at all.

Of course our own situation here, as Christians and as Anglican Christians, is not remotely comparable with theirs. Yet two things have struck me, returning to this country and our Church:

By comparison we are unimaginably rich

in numbers, resources, position in society and in our freedom to witness publicly as Christians. But do we, most of the time and most of us, use all this sufficiently? Or are we too quiet, too hesitant, our Christian Faith more a leisure activity than what defines us, our passion and the world's salvation?

And now in this country we are living within a political, media and legal culture which feels increasingly hostile to the beliefs of Christians, and of those of other Faiths too, not least where these are contributed into politics and public decision-making; we can feel that we have fewer Rights than others, and that at significant points the Rights of others trump those of believers. I understood **Archbishop Rowan** to be alluding to this reality in his recent Lecture, to the sense that our public culture ought to beware of becoming hostile to, unjustly cramping of, the legitimate convictions and behaviour of Believers of a range of Faiths.

In all this I find our sisters and brothers in Myanmar an encouragement and an example, *persevering as one seeing the invisible God*. ❖



At home we are supporting **Coram** and its work with young people.

In the Gambia we are supporting the village of Tujereng, where a previous Petertide Fair (1996) raised the money to set up a library for the school. Most families there lack things we take for granted - appropriate medicine, access to doctors and midwives, basic hygiene. The children in particular succumb to malaria, diarrhoea and infection.

We aim specifically to:

Rebuild the school toilet block, at present in an appallingly unsanitary condition

Roof a building to provide a clean kitchen and dining area

Supply mosquito nets for younger children and babies



Pit for new toilet

An important part of the Fair is the **Prize Draw** which makes a major contribution to the fund raising. This year's prizes include a £300 jewellery voucher from Bailey and Sons, a meal voucher for two at the Eat Fish restaurant, a garden centre voucher from Woods of Berkhamsted, and a case of wine. Tickets, 50p each or book of 10 at £5, will be available at the Fair; and will also be sold from a stall on the Berkhamsted market on Saturday, 7th June, or by telephoning **Tony Bailey** 01442 872581



Don't miss this year's Petertide Fair on the 14th June, 2008 at St Peter's Churchyard, 10:00am to 3:00pm. All proceeds go to charity and you can have lots of fun too! Smash a crock or pick up a bargain, then sample a cake, and wash it down with a cup of tea or a nice cool Pimms!

More details are available on <http://stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk/petertide.htm>

I suspect the most straightforward answer to the question *How do you solve a problem like Maria?* is *Establish a shrine.*

In my most Protestant moments, I don't cope well with the flowery or sometimes indulgent worship of Our Lady. But this objection is about *my* issues, it is not about genuinely allowing people to find a way into God. It is not about the

Walsingham shrine which encourages people in honesty and faith to seek and worship the living God. At Walsingham, pilgrims worship God through their own private and corporate devotions, as well as giving thanks for one, not dissimilar to each of us, Mary, Mother of God. She was after all, fully human without being fully anything else, and still invited to participate in the incarnation of our Lord.

This shrine, where Mary is believed to have been revealed, cannot be used to affirm prejudice and intolerance where uninformed judgement says, with an inappropriate confidence, that these *catholic* rites and practices are wrong. The Shrine at Walsingham is Anglican, and as we struggle to remain a broad church, we might remember that this shrine is supported by our Archbishops past and present. This is simply another place where England on her knees, gives thanks to and seeks God.

Twenty-two of us left for the Shrine, hundreds of us gathered to worship God in word, music and ritual. **Fr Philip North**, the Administrator and **Fr Philip Barnes**, the Shrine Priest, together known as *North-Barnes* gave us a terrific

ESTABLISH A SHRINE

The Revd John Pritchard
finds an answer



welcome. It is apparent that at the core of this Shrine is worship, prayer, hospitality and memory. Daily these attributes present themselves in different orders but are none the less present. This ancient shrine of England where candles are lit, offers prayers for parishes and people all over the world, seeking simply to affirm what we desire - *that England shares*

in the Faith of Christ.

The invitation which exists at Walsingham, calls us out of our own comfortable and *right* way of doing religion. Perhaps this Shrine calls us out of the silence, where we create or perceive God calling us, into the articulate, where we join with a Mother who said *yes* in the presence of God. Hers was not a silent response. The Words from her mouth once spoken have resounded throughout our prayers and liturgy for centuries. Walsingham is the place where I suspect we simply add our voice to hers, and say *Yes, Amen.*

The experience of the pilgrims from St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted, is for personal reflection and sharing individually, not for these pages. If you wonder, or want to know what happened, and the possibilities of faith shared at the shrine, speak to any of the twenty-two who attended and dare I suggest, join with us in May 2009 for our Pilgrimage.

In the faith of Christ, and with the Blessed Virgin Mary, may I commend to you the *Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham.*





**Pilgrimage to
the shrine of
Our Lady,
Walsingham
from
May 2nd 2008**

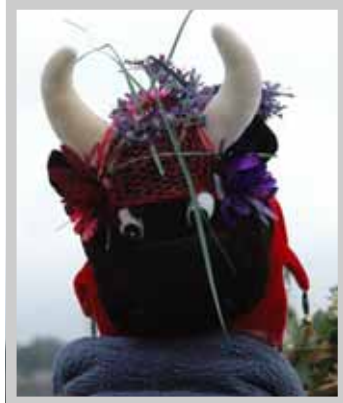
*photos: Pat Hunt and
Chrichton Limbert*



May 1 madrigals at 6:15am
on St Peter's Tower with the
Chiltern Chamber Choir.
Jon Lee directed.



Why did I have to get up early?



Jean Green brought a Viking!

The **Berkhamsted Walk** on May 11th being opened by
Peter Drury - football radio commentator



photos: Rowena Pike and Kathy Lally



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BERKHAMSTED GETS BOARDED UP

Sam Limbert writes

The Berkhamsted Board Game £24.99
from Hamlins or At home dot.com

Berkhamsted is a town rich in history and full of interesting sites. Places like the castle, Ashlyns School and St. Peters have history to interest the whole country and not just the local area. What better way to put the town firmly on the nationwide map than to make Berkhamsted into a board game.

Along with a few other youngsters in the Parish, I was given the chance to play the new game and give a verdict. The best way to describe the game is *Berkhamsted meets the London Game*. For those who haven't played the London Game, it is based on the map of the tube network with the stations as places you can visit, with lots of opportunities to scupper opponents. Obviously in Berkhamsted closing the station wasn't going to hinder my opponents' journey round the town!

On the board, Berkhamsted town centre is laid out in clear squares. Most places are included from Metric Carpets to S Dell & Sons. There are ten places that each player needs to visit in order to finish the game and you'd think that the Castle and possibly St Peter's would be included in those ten. However money has obviously had a say as the places to visit are sponsors of the game. Eastwoods, Sportspace Berkhamsted and the Collegiate School to name a few. All the well-known places are on the board, but you don't need to visit them.

When playing the game, players can only move their counter four spaces at a time, and have to pick up a card if they end up on the road. These cards can be positive or negative, but usually result in you going a different way from where you were heading. However these cards do include some good detail - for example, if

you are sent to the toilets behind Tesco, the card tells you to remind yourself not to go there again. There is an element of money involved that comes into play at various different points. This can leave you bankrupt and in serious need to go to a bank in the High Street.

You may also be required to answer a question related to the town. Some are pretty hard, others you could answer whilst standing upside down. On one occasion, in an effort

to get a question right, one of the players in our game ran out into the street in search of the answer. Somehow, he still got the answer wrong!

As we approached the end of our game, my brother was in the box seat. As in the London Game, we expected him to have to try and reach a final destination to win. However once he'd collected his tenth card to say he'd visited everywhere, the game just stopped. To add a little twist, we made him have to get to St Peter's. This prolonged the game and gave it a more exciting climax.

If this description of the game is about as clear as mud, then there is a helpful but probably even more complicated instruction booklet.

When the game finished, we discussed it at length. Playing the game was certainly a laugh, mainly because it exposed some large holes in our knowledge of the town! However in terms of competitive challenge, the lack of chances to frustrate fellow players' progress was disappointing. Put briefly by one player "It was an OK game and was made more fun by knowing the town." So if you live in Berkhamsted, it's definitely worth having. If you don't, you may prefer to keep your £25. ❖



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Drawing by Mary Casserley, with permission

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The recent court case about getting a criminal record for *overflowing* your rubbish bin, only goes to reinforce my view on the new powers given to Borough Councils - if something is possible, it will end up being put into practice.

Technology gave us CCTV to *make our town centres safer*. I recall being told when I expressed concerns, that if I had nothing to hide, there would be nothing to worry about. Ten years on, the very same CCTV system, can be used to send you a fine if you overstay parking in the High Street for just a minute or park incorrectly within the marked parking bay. You can now be identified, either by your vehicle or by facial recognition, and be followed as you go about your lawful business without you even being aware. Throw away that cigarette end, sweet wrapper or bus ticket and in the post will be the summons together with the fine for dropping litter.

You may think I'm being paranoid, but when *parking attendants* were first introduced, I thought that as the idea was to reduce illegal parking and that it would be revenue neutral, it wouldn't work. Now we find the income has to be increased due to increased costs. No one seems to remember that the idea was to improve parking in the town, but things have got worse with no real effort by either the Town or Borough Councils to resolve the situation. It appears that it's more important (and easier) to increase income, than to identify who parks where and why and find ways to alleviate the problem. For example,

How many *school children* drive into town and park all day? And why are so many vehicles allowed to park on pavements? Answering simple questions like these would enable an action plan to be drawn up. We can't continue to ruin our town by allowing commuters to park

CCTV AND PARKING

Norman Cutting is concerned

all day within easy walking distance of the station, discouraging shoppers and slowly killing the retail centre. Just look at Lower Kings Road at the

moment!



Photo: Tony Firshman

Madrigal singers on the tower of St Peter's Church among the preparations for setting up the new cross. The old cross which had become dangerously decayed was probably put in place in the 1820s during the restoration of the church by Wyatt. The new cross has been fabricated locally in the workshops of **Riverside Joinery** and a tower crane will lift it into position later this year. Watch this space.

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Value and Achievements

The Revd Jonathan Gordon writes

With the summer holiday coming up it is a good chance to think about books that you would like to re-read or the ones on the shelves that for one reason or another you have never started. A

few years ago I read an extremely moving novel entitled *Gilead*, which was written by Marilynne Robinson. The book is set in 1956. A pastor writes a letter for his seven year old son who has been born late in his life. In one passage he describes how children are commanded to honour their parents, but no parent need be commanded to honour their children. It is the deepest impulse of parenthood and so he describes the depth of his feelings towards his son:

Your hair is straight and dark, and your skin is very fair. I suppose you're not much prettier than most children. You're just a nice looking boy, a bit slight, well scrubbed and well mannered. All that is fine, but it's your existence I love you for, mainly."

The passage struck a cord with me in the sense of how this is a very good way to be loved – not for what we achieve, or what exams we pass, just simply for existing. He then describes the love his mother has for the boy: *she loves you as God loves you; to the marrow of your bones.*

A St Mary's house group has been reading Phillip Yancey's *What's so Amazing about Grace?* It is a good book that through stories and illustrations gently defines the nature of divine grace as revealed in the ministry and teachings of Jesus. Yancey also identifies an attitude towards faith that struggles with the sense of not being quite good enough, or to put in it another way, the belief that God will only accept us if we think holy thoughts and live lives of

righteousness. The demand for perfectionism can be quite strong. Yet the distinguishing feature of a church community is not high moral standards, but rather God's acceptance of us. How we act and live is obviously important: it is just not the starting point for how we come to be loved by God. It is a good book and if you are looking for summer holiday reading inspiration copies are available in the Way Inn. (At least they were the last time I looked)


Over the summer months quite a few of the young people in the local community will be receiving their examination results. Hopefully they will have achieved the grades they need and the hard work that has been put in will have been worthwhile. However, whatever the results that have been achieved, we can also reflect that to become a follower of Jesus your *Curriculum Vitae* does not have to be academically impressive.

God simply delights in our existence. ❖

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ST ALBANS FESTIVAL PILGRIMAGE

Saturday 21st June from 10:30am.

Alban lived and was executed for his Christian beliefs in the Roman city of Verulamium during the third century. He is honoured as the first British martyr and his grave, over which the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Alban was built, quickly became a place of pilgrimage. For over 1,700 years people have journeyed to this place to remember Alban, to pray for peace and healing and to seek God. Each year, as pilgrims retrace the route from the place of Alban's trial to the hill on which he was executed, giant puppets retell the story of his martyrdom - a stunning spectacle and a profoundly moving experience. The Pilgrimage Procession starts from the ruins of Roman Verulamium at 10:30am and ends at the place of Alban's execution - now the Cathedral - for the Festival Eucharist at 11:30am. Groups and individuals are warmly invited to take part in the Festival Pilgrimage. To help with planning, please let the Cathedral Office know you are going 01727 890245 or pilgrimage@stalbanscathedral.org.uk

Pilgrims are welcome to bring a picnic to eat on the Abbey Orchard. From lunchtime food and drink will be available from the Café at the Abbey and from stalls on the Abbey Orchard, along with chariot racing, lion taming, face painting, bouncy castles, circus skills and lots more. At 2:00pm and 3:00pm there will be prayers at the Shrine of St Alban and at 4:00pm Festival Evensong will be celebrated in the Cathedral with a procession to the Shrine. Alban's story takes us right back to the beginning of Christianity in Britain, but it remains fresh and inspiring for all those who make the pilgrimage today.

ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY

The Dacorum Branch of the Alzheimer's Society celebrates its 15th Anniversary this year. During this time we have grown from a small group of carers meeting in each others homes to a branch offering a wide range of services for people with memory problems and for their carers. Although we may be a lot bigger now we are just as friendly and welcoming as we have always been!

We are coming up to a very busy time of the year with lots planned for **Dementia Awareness Week** in July:-

Sunday 6th July a Church Service at St John's Church, Boxmoor at 2:30pm. All welcome. Light refreshments will be served afterwards.

Tuesday 8th July 7:00pm. Salvation Army Band & Songsters at the Salvation Army Hall, Waterhouse Street, Hemel Hempstead. The programme also includes the children's choir and various soloists. Tickets £5

Thursday 10th July *Carers' Workshop* at Haven House, London Road, Hemel Hempstead from 10:00am to 2:00pm. *Reminiscences and Activities – What carers need to know* to help those caring for someone with dementia to enhance the time they spend together. Tickets include a buffet lunch and cost £5 for family carers.

Friday & Saturday 11th/12th July

Flag Day Collections

Friday in Tring and Berkhamsted and Saturday in Hemel Hempstead. If anyone could spare an hour to help we would love to hear from you!

*For more information about your local branch of the Alzheimer's Society or to purchase tickets please call **Jane Wilkinson** on 01442 260088 or **Norma Dean** on 01442 252435.*

review notes¬ices

LUNCHTIME RECITALS

In the Lady Chapel of St Peter's Church

Friday 20th June at 1:00pm

Takami Weaver *piano*

Friday 27th June at 1:00pm

Trio Artemis *violin, 'cello and piano*

ASHRIDGE NATIONAL TRUST EVENTS

Sunday 8th June 2:00pm to 5:00pm at the Ashridge Estate Visitors' Centre - An illustrated talk about badgers, followed by an optional badger walk. Booking required.

Thursday 19th June at 7:00pm - Historic Parkland Walk. Meet at Ashridge College Car Park. Booking required

Details from 851227

THOMAS CORAM SCHOOL

Saturday 28th June - Summer Fair.

2:00pm to 4:00pm. Details from 866757

FRIENDS OF ASHRIDGE

Thursday 19th June at 10:30 am - A Gentle Stroll with **Brian and Siân Barton**. Meet at the Clipperdown/cattle grid end of the Steps Hill grass car park off Beacon Road (NGR SP 964 156)

ERRATA

The author of the article on p9 of the May *review* - Sacrilegious Spoliation - was printed incorrectly. The article was by **Jenny Sherwood**. Her telephone number, shown incorrectly on p17 of the May *review*, is 875158.

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HOSPICE OF ST FRANCIS EVENTS

Saturday 7th June 10:00am to 4:00pm
Markyate Plant Fair at 64 High Street, Markyate. Thousands of plants for sale, including the Hospice Rose. Refreshments & live music. Contact **Ian Bradley** on 01582 841341

Tuesday 10th June 6:30 – 8:30pm at Waterstones, Berkhamsted. *The Power of Poetic Language* A reading of children's books and verse by local authors **Sue Hampton** and **Leslie Tate**. Sue and Leslie will perform readings and answer questions in aid of the Hospice. Sue has already published three children's books and will give examples of how to encourage children to write and appreciate poetry. Entrance fee £4 or £3 concessions, all of which goes to the Hospice.

Saturday 21st June *Walk with the Stars 2008* Registration from 10:00pm. Sponsored midnight 13 mile walk for women only from Hemel Hempstead to Berkhamsted and back. Men needed to marshal so please do get in touch. Contact Fran on 01442 869555

BERKHAMSTED CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Sunday 1st June meet at 10:30am at Berkhamsted Railway Station for a Summer Ramble led by Bill Willett. All welcome. No charge.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Sunday 25th June at 8:00pm. Service of Celebration to mark the signing of the new Single Congregation Constitution in the presence of **The Revd Anne Brown** (Chair of the Methodist District of Herts, Beds & Essex) and **Bishop Christopher Foster**, Bishop of Hertford

OXJAM

Music may be the food of love but it can also be food of a more tangible kind in the hands of Oxfam. The overseas aid charity has always had a presence (and mobile shop) at the major music festivals but in recent years it has pioneered a music festival of its own. *Oxjam* is the name given to the initiative which invites people to arrange a fundraising musical event in their own area. These can be as varied as the many different styles of music – classical, jazz, pop.

The focus is usually concentrated in a month in spring and autumn so anyone planning an October date needs to start now. A pack with information and ideas is available – details from the Oxfam shop in the High St.

Of course music is also available in the shop all year round. Donations of CDs, vinyl records and sheet music are welcome. There is a vacancy for a volunteer to research and price the vinyl. Training will be given and application forms are available at the Oxfam shop.

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June

SUN	<i>St Peter's</i>	8:00am Eucharist	
		9:30am Sung Eucharist	
		6:00pm Evensong	
	<i>All Saints'</i>	1 st 10:00am Holy Communion - Methodist led	
		8 th 10:00am Morning Worship - Methodist led	
		15 th 10:00am Holy Communion with Holy Baptism - Methodist led	
		22 nd 10:00am Holy Communion - Methodist led	
		29 th 8:00am Holy Communion - Anglican led	
		10:00am Morning Worship - Anglican led	
All services at <i>St Peter's</i> unless otherwise indicated. MP = Morning Prayer EP = Evening Prayer			
MON	MP	7:30am	EP 5:00pm Eucharist 6:00pm
TUE	MP	7:30am	EP 5:00pm Eucharist 9:30am <i>All Saints'</i>
WED	MP	7:30am	EP 5:00pm Eucharist 8:00am
THU	MP	7:30am	EP 5:00pm Eucharist 11:00am (<i>Fr Michael's day off</i>)
FRI	MP	7:30am	EP 5:00pm <i>both churches</i> Eucharist 9:15am
SAT	MP	9:30am <i>St Peter's</i>	EP 5:00pm <i>St Peter's</i> Eucharist 10:00am <i>St Peter's</i>
	MP	8:45am <i>All Saints'</i>	

3 rd Mon	GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT VISITORS GROUP 7:45pm <i>Court House</i> Contact June Haile (873087), Angela Morris (866992) 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 (875674) or Jean Wild (866859)		
1 st Tue	TUESDAY CLUB 7:45pm <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 Tue	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>		
3 rd Wed	GRIEF AND LOSS SUPPORT Lunch at 12:30pm for those who have been bereaved. Contact Sylvia Banks (871195)		
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 Helen Ruberry (865048) <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 1 st Fri in <i>St Peter's</i> (10am) Carrie Wegenerl (877404)		
Fri	ST PETER'S CHOIR: Children 7:00-8:30pm, Adults 7:30-8:30pm. <i>St Peter's</i> Contact: Adrian Davis (875674) 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 services at St Peter's and All Saints' churches.

June/July

JUNE

Tue	3	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' service	<i>The House on the Rock</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
Fri	6	10:00am	Little Fishes Service		<i>St Peter's</i>
Sat	7	7:30pm	Concert - bridgewater sinfonia with Chiltern Chamber Choir		<i>St Peter's</i>
Sun	8	6:00pm	Choral Evensong		<i>St Peter's</i>
Sat	14	10-3pm	Petertide Fair	in and around <i>The Court House</i> and	<i>St Peter's</i>
Tue	17	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' service	<i>The Good Samaritan</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
Fri	20	1:00pm	Lunchtime Recital: Takami Weaver piano...	<i>Lady Chapel, St Peter's</i>	
Sat	21	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast		<i>Bourne End Church</i>
		9:15am	Full peal to mark John Pritchard's ordination		<i>St Peter's</i>
		10:30am	St Alban Festival Pilgrimage	sets out from <i>Roman Verulamium</i>	
		11:30am	St Albans Festival Eucharist, Preacher Angela Tilby		<i>St Albans Cathedral</i>
		4:00pm	St Albans Festival Evensong, Preacher Stephen Cottrell, Bp of Reading		<i>The Cathedral</i>
Wed	25	8:00pm	Service to mark the signing of the new constitution		<i>All Saints'</i>
Fri	27	1:00pm	Lunchtime Recital: Trio Artemis - violin, 'cello & piano		<i>Lady Chapel, St Peter's</i>
Sat	28	4:00pm	The Revd John Pritchard's Ordination		<i>St Albans Abbey</i>
		7:30pm	Concert - Chandos Chamber Choir Brahms Requiem director Andrew Arthur		<i>St Peter's</i>
Sun	29	9:30am	Patronal Festival Eucharist, The Revd John Pritchard's First Mass. Vierge Messe Solennelle with Chiltern Chamber & St Peter's choirs..... to be followed by drinks and lunch in the		<i>St Peter's</i> <i>Court House & church grounds</i>

JULY

Tue	1	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' service	<i>Invitation to a Party</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
Fri	4	10:00am	Little Fishes Service		<i>St Peter's</i>
Sun	13	6:00pm	Choral Evensong		<i>St Peter's</i>
Sat	19	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast		<i>St Mary's Northchurch</i>
Wed	23	10:00am	Victoria School end of term service		<i>St Peter's</i>
		12noon	Thomas Coram end of term service.....		<i>St Peter's</i>

review registers

Baptisms (St Peter's)

20th April Adelaide Mary Barham

27th April William Dixon-Juden, Francesca Helen Louise Poulton

review factfile

CONTACT LIST

Names and local telephone numbers for jobs, rotas and information (for clergy, parish officers, music, bells and banns etc see opposite). Parish Office in the Court House (878227) is usually open 9:30am-5:30pm Tue/Wed, 9:30-12noon Thu/Fri (answering machine other times)

	<u>St Peter's</u>	<u>All Saints'</u>
Altar service	Alan Conway (865798)	Felicity White (866223)
Chalice rota	Fr Michael Bowie (864194)	Jenny Wells (870981)
Church maintenance	Christopher Green (863241)	Chris Lumb (863885)
Church cleaning	Jean Green (878227)	Kate Spall (873470)
Flower arrangements (862578)	Sarah Dawson (871614)	Madeleine Brownell
Sunday morning coffee	Barbara Conway (865798)	Sylvia Banks (871195)
Service recordings	Alan Conway (865798)	Janet Conradi (833402)
Intercessions	Fr Michael Bowie (864194)	Jenny Wells (870981) and John Wignall (827639)
Epistle Readers	Ron Fisher (865846)	Jenny Wells (870981)
Electoral Roll	Judith Limbert (873626)	Pat Hearne (871270)
Pathfinders	Stephen Lally (863526)	Penny O'Neill (843422) and Rebecca Judd (865691)
Sidesmen	Chris Hunt (822607)	John Wignall (827639)
Catering	Val Atkinson (866792)	Chris Dipper (873006) and Gill Lumb (863885)
Hospice contact	Rachael Anderson (871997)	Muriel Johnston (866447)
Christian Aid	Angela Morris (866992)	Jimmy Young (876736)
Youth worker	Jimmy Young (876736)	Carenza Wilton (875147)
Sunday School/Explorers	Helen Nicholls (873162)	

review poetry

I've lost my spring

Dedicated to Mary

When I was young
I could climb a tree,
Not to the top I must agree.
But from those lower boughs
I would see fields of lambs and cows.
I once climbed a ladder up to the top
For a breath of air, I did not stop.
I managed to gather fruit from the tree
Then bring it down quite easily.

I would stand on a chair without any trouble,
Just lift myself up without a wobble.
But now I find when one leg is high,
The other refuses however I try
I've lost my spring,
It's hard to adjust.
But getting older
I suppose I must
Come summer, autumn and winter
In my knees there is no *ping*.
I've lost my spring.

BAF

review contacts

General

The Revd Dr Michael Bowie, (Team Rector), The Rectory, Rectory Lane (864194)
(day off Thursday)
The Revd John Pritchard (Curate), 6 Severns Close (870016) (day off Tuesday)
The Revd Prof. Luke Geoghegan (NSM), 16 Gravel Path, (875970)
The Revd Canon Basil Jones (Hon.Asst.Priest), 17 Lochnell Road (864485)
Canon Anthony Lathe (Hon Asst Priest), 15a Kingsdale Road (863115)
The Revd John Russell (Hon Asst Priest) 49 Tring Road, Aylesbury (01296 423022)
Christina Billington (Diocesan Lay Minister), 13 Ashridge Rise (385566)
Marjorie Bowden (Reader Emeritus), 16 Broadwater (871283)
Joan Cook (Reader Emeritus), 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: **Chris Hunt**, 11 The Firs, Wigginton (822607)
Philippa Seldon, 1 Fieldway (871534)
 Deputy Churchwardens: **Peter Bryant**, 36 North Road (871680)
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

Director of Music: **Adrian Davis** (875674) <http://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): **Helen Rubery** 2 Hall Park (865048)

All Saints'

Choirmaster: **Peter McMunn** <http://allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk>
 (874894)
 All Saints' is an Anglican / Methodist
 Local Ecumenical Partnership.

Personalities in the Parish



Answer next month

May's Personality



Jean Green, of course. How recognisable she is
 aged 23 on honeymoon in the Loire valley.

The Cowper Society presents

Registered Charity No: 291540
Patron: Sir Charles Mackerras

CHANDOS CHAMBER CHOIR

J. Brahms
Ein Deutsches Requiem

'London' version for
chamber choir and piano

Conductor:
Andrew Arthur

Piano:
Gavin Roberts, Jon Mark Lee
Baritone:
Alexander Ashworth
Soprano:
Amy Moore

SATURDAY 28TH JUNE - 7:30 PM
ST PETER'S CHURCH
Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire
TICKETS £10 on the door
or call 07941 085 486 or email enquiries@chandoschamberchoir.org.uk




GOOD MUSIC NEAR YOU

bridgewater sinfonia

conductor ADRIAN DAVIS

10th ANNIVERSARY CONCERT
Celebration party afterwards

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS
Dona Nobis Pacem
Soprano MARIANNE COTTERILL
Bass JOHN BERNAYS
with the CHILTERN CHAMBER CHOIR

MAHLER
Symphony No. 1 in D major

Saturday 7 June 2008
St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted, at 7.30 pm

Tickets £12 (£10 concessions)
Under 18s FREE
Party - no charge, but tickets (limited number) must be reserved
Available in advance 01442 828254;
from AITCHISONS, 154 High St,
Berkhamsted, from PERFECT PITCH,
Chesham, and on the door
www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk
The Cowper Society and the
Bridgewater Sinfonia are
members of Berkhamsted
Arts Trust, which is financially
supported by Dacorum Borough
Council




<http://bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk>