

Berkhamsted. *review*

In this issue

**What Can I
Give Mum**

**Deepening
Gloom**

Respected Sir

**An
Extraordinary
Work**

**Canals,
Reservoirs
and Nature
Reserves**

**This Month's
Notes and
Events**



February 2009



for Town and Parish

30p



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

Welcome to the February 2009 issue of the Berkhamsted review

Sticks and stones may break my bones but words can never hurt me. As Prince Harry has recently discovered this proverb is not a reliable guide through the minefields of political correctness. Perhaps for this reason, it proves to be a saying with no long history, being recorded first among children in the late nineteenth century. On the other hand, the saying *Words hurt more than swords* has a long history going back to the Greeks of the sixth century BC. Like Prince Harry, the Government had trouble with words in the middle of January when a government adviser spoke of recognising the *green shoots* of economic recovery. So powerful are words, and those who manipulate them, that when Prince Harry's blunder surfaced it was the main feature on several pages of the Times; while on the day they were spoken, the *green shoots* formed the lead story of the BBC News, with several interviews and extended editorial comment, including the suggestion that the words were not just ill-judged, but offensive. Perhaps the most revealing comment was the observation that the words were not used by a politician, but by a government adviser accustomed to telling things as they are.

Christopher Green

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE...

WHAT CAN I GIVE MUM

Margaret Burbidge finds the
ideal gifts..... **p5**

DEEPENING GLOOM

Ian Reay surveys the housing
market **p7**

RESPECTED SIR

Letters to a Regimental Paymaster.... **p9**

AN EXTRAORDINARY WORK

The *1610 Vespers* of Monteverdi
Richard Grylls writes **p11**

BERKHAMSTED'S BEST WALKS

Canals, reservoirs and nature reserves.
Townsman writes **p14**

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

Cover: Oak Terrace (see p23)

photo: Tony Firshman

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

Responsibility for opinions expressed in articles and letters published in this review and for the accuracy of any statements in them rests solely with the individual contributor

Next copy dates (all Fridays) 30 Jan 6 Mar 3 Apr



A New Milestone
Father Luke
Geoghegan traces
the road to Barack
Obama

Barack Obama was inaugurated as the 44th President of the United States on the 20th January, 2009. I knew this was a big deal. Until recently, what I'd failed to grasp was what a big

deal it is. Here's why.

This Christmas we went to the Carolinas. Historically, North Carolina's economy was based on tobacco (grown by slaves) and South Carolina's on rice (grown by slaves). (The cotton was in Georgia). We visited a Plantation House and the historic port of Charleston – the major slave port. What was obvious was that there was a great deal of denial among (white) people about the reality of slavery. At the Plantation House it was presented as (say) the difference between a worker and the boss in a modern firm; the boss got paid more, but hey, everyone was basically O.K.

The reality of slavery is better illustrated by a story involving one of the uncles of Ted Roosevelt (a President of the USA but not to be confused with wartime President FDR Roosevelt). Each child of the plantation owner was given a personal child slave known generically as *the shadow*. The uncle, as a child, became annoyed with his shadow and shot him, killing him. The child was reprimanded but no other action was taken. Roosevelt's mother told this story as an anecdote at dinner parties; she always ended the story by saying "*later on when he was older he really regretted it*".

Moving north to Washington DC I was struck by the fact that the city is still visibly socially segregated: whites live in the north west city quadrant and African Americans in the other three quadrants. (The city was legally segregated as late as World War II – for example, African Americans could not stay in white-only hotels). Late at night we went to view the Lincoln Memorial and I stood on the plaque embedded on the step

review leader

where Martin Luther King had delivered his *I have a dream* speech.

Like many British people I find aspects of American society endearing; for example; the large white van parked on the street with emblazoned on its side in letters two feet high *Secret Service*; and extraordinarily frustrating, for example, the quality of the television programmes, particularly news and current affairs. But the country does seem to have the ability to regenerate itself.

Word's like *regenerate* and *transform* have been debased – thus in government speak *regeneration* usually means some kind of raked over site for light industry, while in the world of marketing a new gadget is promised to *transform* our life. But in Christianity regeneration is the process whereby the Holy Spirit creates us anew, authentically ourselves, but ever closer to the person God wants us to be. And thus we are transformed.

While this happens to us as individuals, it also happens to us collectively. All too often we forget that Israel was brought out of Egypt as a group, individuals were saved from slavery not simply as individuals but only by being part of the nation. This process of group salvation is not always immediate, or pain free. It took the Israelites forty years to reach the promised land – and Moses never made it.

I don't know what kind of President Barack Obama will make. I hope a good one. But a slow and painful process of the US dealing with its legacy of slavery and racism: a process that led to the Civil War, and then the Civil Rights Movement in the sixties, seems to have reached a new milestone: a black President elected by both blacks and whites. Maybe countries can be transformed and regenerated. Maybe if it's true of countries, it can be true of us as individuals too.

And, that is why the election of Barack Obama is a big deal. ❖

ajw home services

gardening
building works
plumbing
carpentry
electrical
decorating

**ANDREW
WRIGHT**

07790 751335

(answerphone)

Friendly, efficient service - over 30 years experience in property
Work charged at £15 per hour

FURNITURE RESTORATION

Modern & Antique
French Polishing,
Lacquer Finish,
Repairs. Staircases,
Floors, Doors, Skirtings
& Architraves.
Cabinet Making &
Carpentry. Spray Paint.

01582 842817

07958 927806

BOOKS PURCHASED

HARDBACK BOOKS
WANTED OLD OR NEW
LARGE OR SMALL
AMOUNTS
HOUSE CLEARANCE
DISCRETION ASSURED
PROMPT PAYMENT

01442 862036

D J PROCTOR

Birtchnells

QUALITY MENSWEAR

MORNING & EVENING WEAR HIRE

195 High Street
Berkhamsted
Herts HP4 1AD
01442-863506

55 High Street
Princes Risborough
Bucks HP27 0AE
01844-344020

4 Chenies Parade
Little Chalfont
Bucks HP7 9PH
01494-762440



 **ELLIOTT FLOORING**
Carpets supplied and professionally fitted

Sample service, to
view in the comfort of
your home/office

Wood flooring, variety
of woods & laminate

Carpet maintenance
and cleaning

Free estimates,
measuring and advice

Over 20 years experience

Tel/Fax: Cholesbury (01494) 758855
Mobile: 07836 315333

healththerapy
Bowen Therapy & Lymphatic Clinic

Back, Neck & Joint pain
Arthritis
Respiratory problems
Hay fever
Sports injuries
Carpal tunnel & RSI
Stress & Fatigue
Glue Ear & Sinus problems
Oedema and Lymphoedema
Detox & Skin conditions

0791 463 4882
<http://healththerapy.info>

WHAT CAN I GIVE MUM

Margaret Burbidge
finds the ideal gifts

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

<http://themothersunion.org>



What can I give
Mum for

Mothering Sunday? is a question that comes round all too quickly after Christmas. So this year why not let The Mothers' Union take the strain! After two very successful years, The Mothers' Union is again running its **Make a Mother's Day** campaign. Gifts can be bought for mothers, grandmothers and godmothers, but also in memory of them and this is something that has been much appreciated. The gifts are gifts with a difference. In this year's catalogue, they range from £6 – £150, and are for basic items that we may easily take for granted. Six pounds will buy chalk and blackboards for the work of The Mothers' Union Literacy project, helping adults to learn to read and write. Seeds help families grow their own food and improve their diets; assistants are trained and equipped to support mothers about to give birth; and latrines and hand-washing stands help develop hygiene awareness. Other gifts help with transport in remote rural communities, or encourage development of new projects that can improve the quality of life for people in the developing world. A card is sent to you for each gift you purchase, either to send on to the recipient for Mothering Sunday or to keep if it is an *In Memory* card. The campaign has been widely supported in the UK and Ireland and not just by Mothers' Union members. This has been so in our own churches and The Mothers' Union thanks everyone for their support of a project that will make a mother's day and be life-changing for those in need.

Mothering Sunday falls on the 4th Sunday in Lent and is on 22nd March this year. Catalogues will be available later this month and orders must reach the Mothers'

Union at Mary Sumner House by 13th March 2009 to enable them to be processed and cards sent to you in time for Mothering Sunday. The gift can be Gift-Aided, ordered through the catalogue or on-line via the special web-site <http://makeamothersday.org> or by following the link on the MU web-site home page. Your gift will be helping families in tough circumstances to provide for their children, empowering communities or giving pregnant mums vital health care. Through

your gift Mothers' Union can make a startling difference to families across the world.

News has come from two trouble spots in the world where Mothers' Union is certainly working to make a difference.

In Baghdad, Mothers' Union members and the US troops brought Santa to dozens of Christian and Muslim children in the city. Canon Andrew White, vicar of the only Anglican Church in Iraq said it was a day of celebration and rejoicing amongst the images of fighting and abuse that come out of Iraq.

An account of the reality of life in Zimbabwe has reached this diocese. With over 17,500 MU members in the country, most will be caught up with the cholera epidemic and the destruction and violence going on around them. Church services have been disrupted by riot police and members forced out of churches. There are five MU Workers struggling to make a difference in a country in the grip of starvation and destitution, bringing a new meaning to The Mothers' Union mission to help those whose family life has met with adversity.



Blair Electrical Limited

Electrical Engineers & Contractors

Domestic, Commercial & Industrial installations



Blair Electrical
- *people you can rely on*

Blair Electrical Ltd. Unit 11 Akeman Business Park,
Akeman Street, Tring, Herts. HP23 6AF
Tel: 01442 827696 Fax: 01442 827698
e-mail: info@blairelectrical.com
www.blairlectrical.com

JOINERY

Individually made
windows, doors,
cupboards and
stairs. Designed and
made to your exact
requirements in our
own workshop

John Turkentine
01582 794842

AITCHISONS



154 High Street
Berkhamsted
Herts HP4 3AT

Estate Agents

Tel: (01442) 862533

Fax: (01442) 384601

Surveyors

Tel: (01442) 864713

Fax: (01442) 862405

<http://www.aitchisons.co.uk>

Abbeyfield

Where older people find care in housing

The Abbeyfield (Berkhamsted and Hemel
Hempstead) Society Limited

Independent but unhappy living alone?

Abbeyfield provide very sheltered houses at
Potten End
Hemel Hempstead
Leverstock Green

For further information contact:
Mrs Susan Pullen 01442 217578

Registered Charity No. 262424. Registered Office 175 High St. Berkhamsted



Will Kimberley
Garden Services
01442 255784

- ◆ Grass cutting
- ◆ Hedge trimming
- ◆ Patios cleaned
- ◆ Gutters cleared
- ◆ All cuttings and clippings removed
- ◆ References available

*Why not phone
for a quote?*

Paul's Plumbing Services

NO JOB TOO SMALL

...

FREE ESTIMATES

...

LOCAL TRADESMAN



Tel: 01442 875415
Mbl: 07811 186381

RODERICK WILSON

Fully qualified
TREE SURGEON
and FORESTRY
CONTRACTOR

Tel: 842716 (eve)
Mbl: 07768 937138

Mid-Winter is a dark and dismal time of year when trees have no leaves, daylight lasts a mere seven or eight hours a day, the landscape looks derelict and forlorn and often the Sun remains hidden from view for

days at a time. It is an *in-between* time, when we seem to be just waiting for something to happen. The gloom this Winter is deepened by apparently endless news reports of economic disaster whether imminent or already in full flood. The biggest event of this kind so far in Berkhamsted has been the news about the sorry financial state of the football club, which was revealed to have debts of the order of half a million pounds.

In the housing market, as the price of property has plunged and people find it much more difficult to find a mortgage the number of houses being built has shrunk. House builders cannot sell their completed homes, particularly if they are flats, and the value of their assets plummets so they can no longer find the finance to undertake new projects. Many of the recently completed properties in the High Street and in the new development at Stag Lane remain unsold. Also, as I wander the streets I have begun to notice established houses standing empty.

In prosperous times, quite recently, houses were being completed in the borough at the rate of about 350 every year. However, this has dropped enormously in the last six months as builders have stopped work, slowed work down or delayed starting new projects. The world of building construction has not just slowed down; it has crashed into a wall. This landscape of dereliction sits uneasily with recently adopted targets to

Ian Reay's &news &views

Deepening Gloom

Ian Reay surveys
the housing market

build houses at an ever-increasing rate for decades to come. The borough has recently had new housing targets imposed which, if they are to be fulfilled, will need houses to be built at the rate of nearly 700 a year, every year for the next twenty-two years.

The Kodak Tower is planned to have about 430 flats and although that project has not stopped it seems to be moving at a much slower rate than a year ago and completion seems a long way off. But we will need to build one new *Kodak Tower* every nine months for the next twenty-two years in order to complete the recent imposed target of 19,000 homes by 2031. This sounds unrealistic to say the least. Where will all the building companies come from and where will all the capital come from? How will all the new roads, schools, water and sewage pipelines, hospitals and doctors' surgeries be paid for? This will not be possible from tax revenues that are falling as fast as house prices. No doubt the present crisis is short term and will eventually be resolved and house prices will again start to rise and builders will resume a more *normal* pace of work. But each year's delay makes the target harder to achieve because the build rate later on has to increase even more to compensate for a slow start now, and what will be needed in the future is a much faster than *normal* rate of building.

When we wish to characterise the modern world we are inclined to think in terms of *progress*. If we believe in progress, we believe that *day by day in every way, things are getting better and better*, but the astounding revelations of the last year mean that steady progress cannot be thought of as normal for the near future. We cannot depend on life being a progression, or a straight line stretching confidently into a well-planned future. ❖

For Personal Attention from Berkhamsted's
only independent family business

J. WORLEY

(FUNERAL DIRECTORS) LTD
344 High Street, Berkhamsted
**FUNERAL DIRECTOR and
MONUMENTAL MASON**

● GOLDEN CHARTER PRE-PAYMENT PLANS ● 24 HR EMERGENCY
SERVICE ● COMPETITIVE PRICES ● PRIVATE REST ROOM

Telephone Day/Night Berkhamsted 870326

50plus Handyman

HANDYMAN SERVICE

for business, for the home
by the 50plus for people of all ages

Electrical, plumbing, bathrooms, kitchens,
interior & exterior, general maintenance
FREE estimates

www.the50plus.co.uk 0845 22 50 495

MACLEANS DECORATORS

INTERIOR AND
EXTERIOR

ESTABLISHED 1985

EXCELLENT LOCAL
REFERENCES
FREE ESTIMATES AND
ADVICE

PHONE 01582 696032
MOBILE 07957 848222

S. Dell & Sons LIMITED

THE PROFESSIONAL REMOVERS

NEW CONTAINERISED WAREHOUSE
IN OPERATION & OPEN FOR INSPECTION
BETWEEN 9AM & 4PM
HOLDING UP TO 600 CONTAINERS



SILVERDALE HOUSE, CANALSIDE, NORTHERIDGE ROAD, BERKHAMSTED, HERTS HP4 1EG
TEL: 01442 863959 or 01753 891151 FAX: 01442 862163



The Old Pastures

Luxury accommodation for dogs & small animals
Icknield Farm, Icknield Way, Tring, Herts HP23 4JX



VISITTING, KENNELING, AND COLLECTING BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Luxury heated accommodation for your dog
with A personal touch giving your dog the
Extra attention they deserve
All dogs are walked twice a day

Holiday homes for small animals

In association with **Mrs. Dea Little's** pet Sitters

TEL: 01442 824856
www.spoilyourdog.co.uk

DAVID GIDDINGS

LANDSCAPES

Qualified Plantsman
Garden Construction
Planting Aftercare

4 Kingsley Walk,
Tring, HP23 5DN

Tel: 826628

The following extracts are from letters written during the First World War by soldiers' wives, legitimate or otherwise, to a Regimental Paymaster in connection with their separation allowances. They were found by **Priscilla Coombs** among papers belonging to her mother and had been transcribed in her mother's hand. They are reproduced here exactly as written.

WxTÜ F|Ü

T wEÜw|Çz æ |Çaðlávǎ|ÉÇá ÉÇ
e xz|ĂxÇatǎ C tŃxÜ \ {tǎx z|ǎxÇ
u|ǎǎ æ t wtǎz{ǎw ÉÇ D^â T NÜ|ǎ

I Éǎǎǎǎǎǎǎ

WxTÜ F|Ü

j x Ůxvx|ǎxw çÉǎǎ Āǎǎǎ? \ tǎ {ǎ
ZÜtÇwytǎ{xÜ tÇw {ǎ
ZÜtÇwǎÉǎ{xÜA [x ǎtǎ uÉÜÇ tÇw
uŮÉǎz{ǎ ǎǎ |Ç ǎ{x {Éǎǎ |Ç tÇǎǎxÜ æ
çÉǎǎ Āǎǎǎǎ

WxTÜ F|Ü

I Éǎ {tǎx v{tÇzxw ĀÇ Āǎǎǎ uÉÇ
|Çǎ t Āǎǎǎ z|Üǎ j |ǎǎ |ǎ Āt-x tÇÇ
w|ǎǎǎxÇvxǎ

WxTÜ F|Ü

\ tǎ xǎǎǎǎǎǎǎ æ ux vÉÇy|Çxw Çxǎǎ
ǎÉÇǎǎ j |ǎ çÉǎ Nǎǎtǎx Āǎ Āx
-ÇÉǎ ǎ{tǎ \ tǎ æ wÉ tuÉǎǎ |ǎ

RESPECTED SIR

Letters to a Regimental Paymaster

e xǎǎǎǎǎ F|Ü? wxTÜ F|Ü

g{Éǎz{ \ ǎt-x ǎ{ǎ Āǎǎǎǎǎ tǎ |ǎ Āǎtǎǎ Āx tǎ
NÜxǎǎÇǎ \ uxz æ tǎ- |y çÉǎ ǎ|ǎ -|Çwǎǎ ux -|Çw
xÇÉǎz{ æ Āǎ Āx -ÇÉǎ ǎ{xǎǎ ĀÇ {ǎǎǎ|Ç |ǎ
ǎ{Éǎz{ {x |ǎ ÇÉǎ ĀÇ Āz|ǎǎ {ǎǎǎ|Ç tǎ {x tǎ t
ǎ|ǎ ǎ{Éǎz{ {x ǎtǎǎ ǎ{x |ǎ wxw uǎǎ \ wÉÇÉǎ
ǎ{|Ç- {x -ÇÉǎǎ yÉÜ ǎǎǎ uǎǎ ǎx tǎǎ ÇÉǎ ĀtÜÜÇw
ǎ{Éǎz{ \ tǎ zǎǎ|Çz ĀÇ tǎǎǎĀxÇǎ ŮxzǎtÜ
ǎ{|ǎ{ |ǎ ÇÉ yǎǎǎ Éy \ Ü __ÉÇ ZxÉÜzx ǎ{É
ǎÉǎǎǎ ǎǎǎ |ǎ |y {x vÉǎǎǎ tÇw \ Ü
 \ v ^ xÇÇt uǎǎ |y çÉǎ ÇÉ ǎ{xǎǎ {x |ǎ tǎ {x |ǎ
uxǎǎÇz æ ǎ{x Çtǎǎǎ YǎǎÇz VÉÜNǎǎ ǎ|Çvx {x
ǎ{|Çxw |Ç ǎ{x] tÇǎtÜÇ ǎ{xÇ {x ǎtǎ ǎtv-xw
yÜÉǎ {ǎ ǎÉÜ- yÉÜ ǎtǎ-|Çz utv- tǎ {ǎ uÉǎǎ ǎ{|ǎ{
ǎtǎ t ǎtÜǎtÇ tǎ ǎ{x ĀtǎÇwǎǎ ǎ{xǎǎ {x
ǎÉÜ-xwǎ \ {tǎx ÇÉǎ {tw tÇÇ ĀÉÇxÇ yÉÜ {ǎ
ǎ|Çvx {x ǎ{|Çxw ǎ{Éǎz{ {x ǎǎǎ \ Ůǎ [tÜÜ|ǎ
ǎ{tǎ Āǎǎǎ ÉÇ ǎ{x zÜÉǎÇw yÉÜÜ ǎ{tǎ {x ǎtǎ t
NÜxǎǎǎ ÉÜv|ǎǎ yÉÜ I B@ t ǎxx-? Āǎǎ Éy ǎtÜǎ
ǎÇwxǎǎǎǎǎ{|Ç yÉÜ ǎ{x ǎ|Çǎǎ tÇw vÉǎǎ ǎǎǎ{xÜ
tÇw \ {tǎx ǎ{ǎǎ v{|ǎǎǎǎǎ ǎ{tǎ |ǎ ux|Çz ǎ{x
ytǎ{xÜ Éy ǎ{xǎ ǎ{Éǎz{ {x ǎǎǎ |ǎ ǎtǎ ĀÇ yǎǎǎ
ǎǎ|Çz çÉǎ tǎǎ Ōǎǎǎ ǎxǎǎ tǎ |ǎ Āǎtǎǎ Āx tǎ
NÜxǎǎÇǎ \ Āǎǎǎ ÇÉǎ vǎǎǎ ÇÉǎ Éǎǎ|Çz çÉǎ tǎǎ
Ōǎǎǎ ǎxǎǎ

\ Ůǎ] tÇx] xÇ-|Çǎ



HIRE OF HALLS

To book a Parish
Hall please
contact

Jean Green (878227)
for St Peter's Court
House

Jenny Ginn (866476)
for All Saints' Halls

HANDY HOME SERVICES

A friendly professional service,
where no job is too small

Electrical Services , Installation and Repairs (Part
P registered) – Maintenance Services – Minor
Interior and Exterior Repairs – Assembly of Flat
Pack Furniture

Call **IAIN BROWN**

01442 384473 – 07850 102319



Kings Arms Hotel & Restaurant

147 High Street, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire

Telephone: 01442 866595

Fax: 01442 877782

Restaurant opens at 7.00pm

(last orders 9.30pm)

Mon. - Sat. Booking advisable.

***Private hire available for
Weddings, Birthday Parties,
Christenings, Funerals,
Conferences.***

Party Packs available on request.

Discounted rooms at weekends.

T.A. LINGARD MOTORS

**BILLET LANE
BERKHAMSTED**

Tel: Berkhamsted 871911

- **WELDING**
- **SERVICING**
- **BREAKDOWN
RECOVERY**
- **BODY REPAIRS**

N CUTTING

Electrical

- **Surveys**
- **Inspections**
- **Advice**

**From the faulty light
switch to a complete
rewire**

01442 871851

sparks@normcall.co.uk

<http://normcall.co.uk>

BRIAN S GROOM MBHI



MEMBER
OF THE
BRITISH HOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE

***Qualified Clock Maker
(over 30 years experience)***

***Antique and quality
clocks repaired
and restored***

***Also watches, barometers
and music boxes***

Telephone: 01525 872679

Since most recent Views of San Marco, Venice, appearing in newspapers showed that church in a sadly water-logged state, it was perhaps fortunate that The Chiltern Chamber

Choir – recently returned from singing *Messiah* in Madrid – chose to perform the *Vespro della Beata Vergine* by Claudio Monteverdi on 23rd December 2008 not in San Marco (where the work was probably first performed in 1613) but in the dry and warmish surroundings of St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted. The vividly lit-up gold painted screen behind the altar in St Peter's, and the trees of candles in front of that, provided a

splendid back-drop for the performance, suitably Venetian and grand. How sad it is, though, that the acoustics of St Peter's are so non-reverberant – but maybe that was caused in part by the church being packed with well-clothed (and thus highly sound-absorbing) audience members eager to hear the piece!

A large cast was gathered together for the performance. The seven solo singers were **Kathryn Jenkin, Jeanette Ager, Phillip Conway-Brown, Simon Davies, Harry Bagnall, John Bernays** and

AN EXTRAORDINARY WORK

The 1610 Vespers of Monteverdi

Richard Grylls writes

Christopher Foster. The choir and soloists were accompanied by the 26 members of the Bridgewater Sinfonietta, leader **Stuart James**, and the whole was directed by **Adrian Davis**.



The *1610 Vespers* by Monteverdi (1567-1643) is an extraordinary work. It is both backward-looking and revolutionary in style, gloriously sacred and unashamedly secular (operatic, in fact), extrovert and intimate, full of innovations for that period, and immensely challenging to perform. It is thought that he composed the work, his first major sacred work, in Mantua in 1608, and had it published two years later in Venice – along with a mass in a more traditional

style – in an endeavour to procure for himself a more prestigious position than the one he had in the court at Mantua. It may well have been performed at San Marco as *an audition piece* in 1613, the year in which he was appointed Maestro di Cappella there. If it was indeed his audition piece at Venice, the performance of it must have been one of the most aurally spectacular auditions in musical history.

Performances of the piece still provide an



E.W. RAYMENT & COMPANY LTD.

FULL BUILDING SERVICE
RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL



DESIGN
PLANNING
NEW BUILD
REFURBISHMENT
EXTENSIONS
MAINTENANCE



HIGH QUALITY WORKMANSHIP FROM A COMPANY EST. 50 YEARS.

TEL: 01442 864422 FAX: 01442 877247

Email: post@ewrayment.com <http://ewrayment.com>
WOODLAND WORKS, POTTEN END, BERKHAMSTED, HP4 2SJ

MRS DOOLITTLES EXPERIENCED ANIMAL CARE

Whilst on holiday
At work or during
Illness at your home

- All animals
- Fully insured
- References available
- 4½ years of veterinary nursing experience

Ring Beverley Cornthwaite
on 822191 or 0796 7019031

Berkhamsted Carpet Cleaning Ltd

Carpets, oriental rugs,
upholstery

Domestic and commercial
professional, good value fully
insured

**01442 876622
0788 405 8795**

PO Box 903
Berkhamsted, Herts,
HP4 3ZQ

<http://berkhamstedcarpetcleaning.co.uk>

CHILTERN LANDSCAPING

Garden design, landscaping and garden service
including

Site & garden clearance, block and brick paths,
patios and walls, rotavating, turfing & lawn
maintenance, rockeries, ponds and water features



DAVE WATSON
5 The Mill,
Tring Road, Wilstone,
Herts HP23 4FP

tel: 01442 822948
mb: 07956 985 365

A B Eaton

Plumbing & Heating Engineers



- Bathroom & kitchen refurbishment
- Underfloor heating
- All plumbing works
- Solar heating
- Small building works

30 years experience

0780 193 8632 0787 143 2475

HAT TRICKS

at Studham

Weddings
Ascot
Special Occasions
Hats for Hire
Hats to buy
Feather Fascinators

(01582) 873822

← p11 Monteverdi Vespers

aurally spectacular occasion, and the performance in Berkhamsted on 23rd December was no exception. Vocal soloists are not often called upon to perform Monteverdi, but all the soloists sang the highly intricate and florid music allotted to them with great flair and virtuosity. They are often required to sing in pairs, the melody that one soloist sings often being *echoed* by the other soloist well before the first has finished. The two lady soloists sang *Pulchra es* beautifully together, two and then all three tenor soloists sang *Duo Seraphim* equally well, and the two bass soloists were splendid in their very high section of the *Magnificat*. Thinking of their more solo contributions, **Phillip Conway-Brown** sang the extraordinary *Nigra sum* radiantly, and made some brilliant almost muezzin-like invocations in *Audi Coelum*, echoed in the distance by **Simon Davies**. These two singers reversed roles (to even better effect and with better balance) in the *Gloria* of the *Magnificat*. The contribution of all the soloists to the whole performance was excellent.

Monteverdi was not at all precise about the instrumentation that he wished to be used in the *Vespers*, though contemporary documents indicate that some 30 instruments were used at Monteverdi's *audition* in Venice, many of these not being in common use nowadays. **Chris Sanders** and **Adrian Davis** created their own edition of the instrumental parts, using about the same number of players. Much of this seemed to work well. However many of the audience at the concert may well have heard (and become used to) live or recorded performances of the piece (and other pieces of that period) using *period* instruments, which inhabit a rather different sound world. Might it be possible, the next time the *Vespers* is performed in Berkhamsted, to have cornetts and sackbuts instead of trumpets and trombones, and recorders instead of oboes? The orchestral sound seemed to the present writer to be a bit heavy and

bloated in places, even in the dry acoustic of St Peter's. However that did not detract from the spirited nature of the playing. Despite very little rehearsal time, the orchestra coped well with Monteverdi's tricky and frequently changing rhythms.

A good performance of Monteverdi's *Vespers* needs a more-than-good performance from the choir. Their contribution to the piece is huge, in length, in variation of style and in general complexity. Several of the choruses (in the various psalm settings, the hymn *Ave Maris Stella* and the *Magnificat*) are in eight or more parts, and are written for two or even three choirs. It goes without saying that the choristers of The Chiltern Chamber Choir were in grand form, and sang very well. The dancing excitement in *Nisi Dominus* was infectious, while the quieter yet still exciting music leading up to the grand and splendid Amen in *Lauda Jerusalem* was all splendidly sung. On two or three occasions the choir sang a long and beautifully controlled *decrescendo* at the end of a piece, a skill more often found in cathedral choirs. Though the seven tenors in the choir sang nobly, it is to be hoped that very soon some more tenors can be found to swell their numbers.

Holding everything on course in Monteverdi's *Vespers* is an immensely onerous task. Making all the short sections tie together seamlessly, and then making them accumulate to form a satisfying whole requires great care. In addition there is the problem of balancing the various components of the piece, in particular making sure that the plainchant melody (sung to long slow notes by one section of the chorus) is exactly the right loudness to balance with the intricate solo lines or other choral lines that are going on simultaneously. **Adrian Davis** seemed to have everything under admirable control, and the soloists, choir and orchestra all combined to provide a rewarding and memorable evening. Congratulations to all! ❖

The Grand Union Canal, running for 145 miles between London and Birmingham, makes its northerly way from Berkhamsted to Tring Summit at Marsworth through many locks.

Each opening of a lock releases thousands of gallons of water which must be replaced to maintain the water levels in the canals. A network of reservoirs and pumping stations was created in the area in the early eighteen hundreds. This walk visits four reservoirs, now nature reserves, and navigates the towpaths of three canals.

The walk, about 4 miles, starts at the village of Wilstone and blends canal towpath walking with the opportunity to bird-watch on the reservoirs. It is buggy and child friendly, apart from a flight of steps and two short sections of road without pavements.

To reach Wilstone from Berkhamsted follow the A4251 into Tring High Street. In the middle of the town, with Akeman Street and Tring Museum on the left, turn right into Frogmore Street which shortly becomes Dundale Road. Cross over the B488, Icknield Way, into Little Tring Road opposite. Keep on going, taking a left turn when it meets the A489 to reach a garden centre. Turn right to Wilstone to reach the village green where parking on the roadside is not intrusive.

At the war memorial on the green, take the no-through-road to pass by an antiques shop and Rothschild style houses on the left. Continue through a swing gate onto a gravel path with converted barns on the left to a pond and through another swing gate ahead to reach a road, the A489. Turn right facing

BERKHAMSTED'S BEST WALKS 5

Canals, Reservoirs and Nature Reserves

Townsman writes

oncoming traffic until shortly crossing the road to a pavement alongside the garden centre. Leaving the pavement, bear left onto a path with fencing on left to reach a wooden bridge and swing gate where turn

right with the bank of Wilstone Reservoir ahead, one of the most famous birds spots in southern England. Climb the flight of steps and at the top turn left along the embankment path which later bears right near the water's edge to reach a gate, Waddesdon Estate, where turn left up a slope. At the top of the slope a swing gate leads onto the towpath of the Wendover arm where turn left.

The Wendover arm of the Grand Union Canal enjoyed prosperity when it opened in 1797, transporting produce from the Aylesbury area to London and bringing back coal, timber and manure to be spread on the land. The canal always suffered leakage and was finally closed in 1904, additionally because of the competition from the nearby Aylesbury Arm. In 1989 a trust was formed to restore the canal to a navigable condition.



Marsworth

*Positive developments have been made by supporters who included prominently a former rector of St Peter's, **Roger Davis**. The canal bed, previously overgrown with shrubs and trees, is being cleared and the channel made water tight. Other work includes a new bridge, traditionally built, and restoration of a filled in section of the canal to reconnect the arm with the Grand Union canal.*

The towpath reaches another galvanised swing gate, with the workings and achievements of the canal restoration ahead. Leave the towpath and bear left on a path through a gap alongside a gate to the road where turn right. **Take care**, there are no footpaths for 100 yards, to reach a farm and cottages where cross the road to join an access road to Tringford Pumping Station. The access road reaches a fork with the Pumping Station uphill on the right, a private road.

Completed in 1818, the Pumping Station operated with a steam powered beam pump for 110 years to be replaced by diesel/electrical motors in 1927. The buildings were remodelled at the time and the round headed windows installed. The roof was blown off in the gales of 1989, a consequence of being a high point in the countryside around. The Pumping Station still operates today and it is occasionally open to the public.

Bear left over the stile at the fork to follow a path with the Tringford reservoir on the right and reach a hide for bird watching with an information board alongside about the wide range of birds and especially ducks to be seen on the reservoir. Herons and swans are perhaps too common and obvious to justify inclusion! The path bears right at the corner of the reservoir and continues at the water's edge to reach a road at a busy corner. Turn right onto the pavement and continue to its end where cross the road with care into a car park opposite. Turn left through a swing gate, sign Tring Park Estate, and follow the footpath to reach a causeway between the Startops End reservoir on the left and the Marsworth reservoir on the right. A hide on the left

provides a sheltered viewpoint for bird-watching. The causeway reaches the corner of the reservoir where it drops down to the towpath of the Grand Union canal. Turn left along the towpath with Marsworth church prominently ahead to reach the Marsworth locks with the White Lion pub across the road. Cross the road where traffic lights control movements over the narrow bridge and, down steps, rejoin the towpath with its plethora of narrow boats tied up on long-term moorings.

Shortly, on the opposite bank, is a wooden signpost pointing to the Aylesbury arm of the Grand Union Canal. *Completed in 1815, the 6 miles long canal enjoyed prosperity in the same way as the Wendover arm, and was still in operation into the nineteen sixties.* The towpath route bears left to pass two adjoining locks at the junction and later goes under a road bridge, continuing to where a footbridge and a water pipe cross the canal at Wilstone. Turn left here into a playing field and continue to reach a road with the village hall on the right. Turn right into Wilstone with the Half Moon on the left and the village green ahead to return to the start of the walk.

Townsman hopes that this walk along canal towpaths and around reservoirs has been an insight into the importance of canals to the Industrial Revolution, particularly the Grand Union Canal, and the engineering achievements at the time to maintain water levels at the Tring summit. Today we can enjoy the legacy of bird sanctuaries, nature reserves, and the scenery and architecture of canals and their buildings. More information can be found on the web at the following sites:

British Waterways

<http://www.britishwaterways.co.uk>

Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust

<http://www.wildlifetrust.org.uk/herts/>

Wendover Arm Restoration Trust

<http://wendovercanal.org.uk>



more photos p17➔



← p11 Chiltern Chamber Choir 23rd Dec 2008 *concert photos: Chrichton Limbert*



Clockwise from top left: Long term moorings at Marsworth. Footpath between the two reservoirs at Marsworth. Tringford Reservoir




Andrew Burchett
window cleaners

COMMERCIAL & DOMESTIC
Local Business Providing
High Quality Window Cleaning
Gutter Cleaning & Maintenance

FREE ESTIMATES **FULLY INSURED**

For a reliable & trustworthy service call
07951 639979
01494 793807
ajburchett@btinternet.com
BERKHAMSTED • KINGS LANGLEY
RICKMANSWORTH • WATFORD

Think of Diamonds...
...Think of Bailey's.



The professionals for
value and design.

Bailey & Sons Est. 1872
Watchmakers, Jewellers and Silversmiths

9 Lower Kings Road, Berkhamsted, Herts, HP3 2AE
01442 863091



ERS EGERTON ROTHESAY SCHOOL
DURRANTS LANE, BERKHAMSTED, HERTS

Why Egerton Rothesay?

We offer

- An inclusive, caring, educational environment
- Additional specialist support for everyone
- Non selective entry, ages 5-16
- A school where your child can flourish

For more information contact Liz Martin on
01442 877060, liz.martin@eger-roth.co.uk

EGERTON ROTHESAY SCHOOL
www.eger-roth.co.uk

For details of our
Open Mornings
visit our website:
www.eger-roth.co.uk



Since I have been here I have been loved, I have been held, touched, embraced, washed, cared for – every way with care. To be shown love, not just professionalism, but professionalism with love, it's that important extra humanity.

THE HOSPICE OF ST FRANCIS

What it does and what it costs

The Hospice of St Francis is an independent charity that provides free, specialist and professional support and care for people with terminal illness across West Hertfordshire and the Chiltern area of Buckinghamshire.

We provide tailored help for each individual patient's needs and work closely with them to support their choices. Care is given at our purpose built Berkhamsted facilities, in the patient's home or via outreach care in local hospitals and nursing homes.

We currently have funding to open only eleven out of our fourteen inpatient beds. Many of our patients come for short stays to improve difficult symptoms (such as pain, breathlessness, nausea or anxiety) and are able to return home. If patients are reaching the end of their illness, then we can care for them at the Hospice until they die. As well as nursing and medical care, we provide physiotherapy, occupational therapy, complementary therapies and family support. Our Day Hospice provides a relaxed and supportive change of scene for patients who are being cared for at home. We offer access to therapies, medical assessment and emotional support also providing a break for carers. Our Specialist Home Care Nurses work with our Hospice doctors, GPs and District Nurses to achieve the best possible care for patients at home. Our Supportive Care team offers practical, social, emotional and psychological advice to patients and their families throughout their illness, helping them to manage the difficult issues. They also provide an extensive bereavement support service including a telephone support line, groups, family therapy and individual counselling for adults and children.

We have 900 volunteers who help us in all aspects of the hospice - in the kitchen, in our inpatient unit and day hospice, gardening, fundraising, in the

shops and offices. Ultimately, we hope to bring peace, comfort and dignity to people, helping them to live life to the full and provide essential support for their families and carers. All our services combine to give our patients total care when time is precious.

From small beginnings in 1979 the Hospice has developed to provide a service of total care. We have built a new hospice to give our care to more people and we urgently need to raise funds to keep our services running. We rely on the generosity of our local community - individuals, local businesses, trusts, schools, community groups, our shops, our lottery and Gifts in Wills. We must raise in excess of £3 million each year just to keep our doors open and we receive just 19% of our running costs from the NHS.

£80,000 pays for the running costs of one bed for a whole year including all nursing and doctors costs, food, medical equipment and treatment, and everything necessary to provide our patients with the excellent level of care which is synonymous with our name.

£275 pays for an hour of all our services – providing care for over 200 people, every hour of every day.

£105 pays for in-patient nursing costs for one day (an eight hour shift) Specialist care is provided in our In-Patient Unit 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year making a difference to the lives of hundreds of patients

£50 will pay for the petrol for one week for a Specialist nurse to visit patients in their homes

£20 will buy craft equipment for a Day Hospice therapy session

£12 a month pays for two oxygen tanks to provide some vital relief to our patients.

For more information please see <http://stfrancis.org.uk> ❖



**Marlin
Montessori School**

Est 1965

**Station Approach
Berkhamsted**

01442 866290

01923 681103

Sessional and Daycare
Summer Club
Age: 2 years to 5 years

Stephen K Lofting

High quality Decorating

Passionate about client satisfaction

Interior and exterior work undertaken

Specialist in all types of wallcoverings

Free estimates

References available

Full Public Liability Cover

Tel: 01442 261149

Mobile: 07957 457423

Email: stephenlofting@hotmail.com

Over 25 years experience in the UK & Overseas



Computer Consultancy and Repairs

Getting your PC up and running again

Software installation & configuration

Basic and intermediate level training

Specialising in anti-virus, security & hardware upgrades



Andy Robinson 36 Trevelyan Way
Berkhamsted HP4 1JH
Mobile: 07885 966570
Andyocr@dolphin4.demon.co.uk

CG HOLDER PLUMBING & HEATING LTD

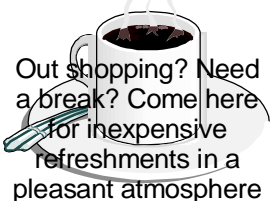
For a good reliable
installation of all
plumbing and
heating systems

Corgi registered
with over 30 years
in the trade

**01442 862244
07973 144336**

Court House Coffee Bar

**Every Saturday
9:30am - 12noon**
(except 1st Sat in month)


Out shopping? Need
a break? Come here
for inexpensive
refreshments in a
pleasant atmosphere



MALCOLM JONES & METCALFE *Funeral Service*

284 High Street, Berkhamsted

Day and Night Service

Phone 864548 or Fax 864572

**Funeral Directors
Private Car Park
Memorial Consultants**



**Private
Chapels
Of Rest**



review Northchurch & Wigginton

**Curries, Trains
and Buses
The Revd
Jonathan
Gordon delayed
but not dismayed**

I met up with a friend in London a few weeks ago. This is an event that takes place two or three times a year and follows a familiar pattern. We meet by the clock at London

Waterloo station; have a drink in a local hostelry, eat a curry and then head back for home, which is normally reached by early evening. This time the relaxing routine was hindered by severe disruption on the railways. The cold weather had done something to the overhead power lines. Rather than going through the front door of the Rectory at nine o'clock in the evening, a combination of long delays, cancellations and bus detours, meant that the arrival home was two-thirty in the morning.

There were quite a few people who were stuck at the station and not surprisingly a few were becoming irritated with the station staff and the main cause of the frustration was the complete lack of information on what was happening and then a long discussion on whether the buses would stop at any intermediate stations between London and Milton Keynes. Despite the cold and the general confusion, other things were happening that perhaps are not regular occurrences on the train journey from London. The shared experience of being powerless and facing a long delay brought people together and initiated conversations. A couple behind me on the bus realised that they had been travelling on the same train for over two years and as they got on so well

arranged to meet on the station the following morning.

I have just started reading an interesting book and in the opening chapter the author describes the impact of a disruptive storm on the local community. The sudden snowstorm meant that the normal routine was disrupted and the locals were freed from expectations, performance demands *and the tyranny of appointments and schedules*. The impact of the disruption was corporate rather than an individual experience. Nature had intervened to give respite to the weary humans. No one needed to make any excuses for not showing up to some commitment *and the sudden alleviation of the pressure to produce makes the heart merry*.

If the return journey took that long more than now and again then I would be less philosophical about the experience. However, it was a reminder to me that a sense of contentment and even the mysterious workings of God can be found in unlikely places and situations.



<http://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

PROFESSIONAL CLEANING

**Rugs, Carpets, Upholstery,
Patio & Driveway, Internal Windows.**

- ✓ Fully insured and member of trade associations
- ✓ Working to strict codes of practice and industry approved guidelines
- ✓ Carpet & upholstery protector treatments
- ✓ Honest Pricing Promise ~ No gimmicks
- ✓ Fast drying times for carpets and upholstery with no residues

DON'T REPLACE IT – CLEAN IT!

01442 250679 / 07952 544666 7am – 6pm 6 days

www.murrayscleaningservices.co.uk

Murray's Cleaning Services

Making your free time, leisure time!



We welcome...



...all major credit cards



S E W S O F T
interiors

As a soft furnishings designer I create exciting designs and ideas for practical and beautiful homes.

From handmade curtains, valences, cushions and upholstery to Roman, Venetian, Vertical and Roller blinds, everything beautifully made and fitted to the highest standards.

You can use your own or choose from my range of the latest fabrics as well as traditional favourites. I also supply and fit a wide range of tracks and poles.

So if you have just moved into your new home or just want to update the look of your interior, call me.

**Sue Hawkins in Studham
01582 873358**

Splashbacks...

...custom made in a range of finishes to suit all kitchens.

Great looking, protective surfaces in stainless steel, aluminium, copper or stove enamelled to match your decor.

- Professional service
- Made to order by local engineers
- Quick delivery
- Other services available



Contact us for
more information
t: 01296 681658
e: sales@colmet.co.uk

**cp COLMET
PRECISION**

little jim's

MINI-COACH HIRE

for 15 to 27 passengers

- Nights Out
- Airport Runs
- Family Events
- Hen Parties



**07736 705520
01442 870029**

1 Castle St, Berkhamsted HP4 2BQ

After the cold of Christmas, we're already looking forward to a hot summer at this year's **Petertide Fair**. Described by the magazine *Berkhamsted Living*, as *One of Berkhamsted's most enjoyable annual events* - you can start helping now.

THE PETERTIDE FAIR 2009

One of Berkhamsted's Most Enjoyable Annual Events

Sam Limbert writes

I'm sure many of you are about to have a spring clean, a declutter and a tidy of cupboards. Before you discard books, good quality bric-a-brac, china, toys, games, CDs and DVDs, ask yourself *Could this be donated to the Petertide Fair?* Donations will be accepted very soon. As happens every year, there will have been Christmas presents that make you wonder what the person was thinking about when they sent it to you.

Yet a gift you don't like could be just what someone else is looking for. *So donate it to the Petertide Fair.*

This year the Fair is undergoing some changes itself, with the new logo above and some other innovations. However, all your favourite stalls and sideshows will still be there for your enjoyment. Also mentioned in December were our two charities for 2009 - **Reach Out Projects** and **Fundacion Juconi AC**. For more information, you will soon be able to log on to our new website, which is currently under



construction

<http://petertidefair.org>.

At a time when we are all struggling to keep New Year's resolutions, there's an easy way to do something for the community and help the Fair's chosen charities. Even though the Fair isn't

until **Saturday 13th June**, you can register your interest to be a volunteer *now*. You can volunteer to sell raffle tickets on the market during Saturdays leading up to the Fair, you can help setting up and sorting in advance of the Fair, you can help on a stall or you can help serve the refreshments.

The organising committee is waiting for your call! (Seriously, all they do is sit by the phone all day):

Judith Limbert	
Chairman	873626
Graham Bashford	
Stallholders coordinator	876933
Stephen Birch	
Raffle coordinator	862486
Julian Dawson	
Site and Logistics organiser	871614
Rowena Pike	
Programme, website and advertising coordinator	826821



Oak Terrace 1878 (cover photo)

The residential development of Cross Oak Road seems to have begun in earnest in the 1870s with the construction of several rows of cottages between the High Street and Charles Street, along the east side of the road. Our cover photograph illustrates one of these developments - *Oak Terrace*, dated 1878. At that time Cross Oak Road was called Gilhams' Lane. The term *Lane*, in Berkhamsted, and probably elsewhere, often indicates a road of early origin, but neither the various histories of Berkhamsted nor the Hertfordshire volume of the English Place Names Society explain the name *Gilham*. By 1897 it had gone and the name



Cross Oak Road was firmly established. The *Oak* element of the name had evidently proved attractive much earlier, with Oakland Villas already on the map in 1877 near the junction with Greamesdyke Road and Oak Terrace built in 1878. More recently, Oaklands, The Oaks and Oakwood have sprung up. The original Crossoak was a substantial house on ancient foundations just off Shootersway where the houses forming Oakwood now stand. It has been linked to the name **Robert de Cruce** who appears in local records early in the 14th century.



GOOD MUSIC NEAR YOU

bridgewater sinfonia

patron SIR ANDREW DAVIS conductor ADRIAN DAVIS

SATURDAY 7th MARCH
7.30pm St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted

Russian Greats

MUSSORGSKY Night on a Bare Mountain
RACHMANINOV Piano Concerto No.2
soloist ALEXANDER ARDAKOV
TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No.6 (*Pathétique*)

Tickets £12 (£10 concessions) Under 18s FREE
Booking
 ONLINE www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk
 TEL 01442 873205
 IN PERSON at Aitchisons, Berkhamsted
 & Perfect Pitch, Chesham





**SPECIAL
PRE
&
POST
CONCERT
MENUS**






01442 873205
WWW.EATFISH.CO.UK

163 165 HIGH ST BERKHAMSTED

The Cowper Society and
Bridgewater Sinfonia
are members of
Berkhamsted Arts Trust,
which is financially supported by
Dacorum Borough Council

A B W Services Ltd


Plumbing & Heating

**Are you fed up searching for a reliable Plumber?
Tired of waiting in vain for promised appointments?
Call us now for a friendly, prompt and reliable
service.**

We are a Studham based and registered Plumbing and Heating Company, with many years experience in the industry. If you have a plumbing and heating problem, whatever the size, we will be more than happy to help remedy it. We specialise in all aspects of plumbing and heating including new bathrooms, new boilers and heating systems, servicing, upgrades to the latest building regs, high pressure hot water systems, and not forgetting water treatment. This can be in the form of water softeners installed or replaced, to special *house filtering* systems to remove sediment and odours. This is especially important if you suffer from dry skin or eczema, these filtering systems really help.

**For any further information or to organise a quote, please contact Andy Warwick on:
07775 853448 or 01582 873448**



The Cowper Society presents

Winter Talks


at 8:00 pm

9th February 2009 *Venice*
by John Julius, Viscount Norwich
St Peter's Church

23rd February 2009
*Where do we come from
and why does it matter?*

A talk on Genetics
by Dr Bruce Winney
The Court House
Admission FREE

There will be wine beforehand
**Donations to the Cowper Society's
cultural programme will be most**



review notes¬ices

OXFAM NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

New Year resolutions are quickly made and all too often quickly broken but three Oxfam supporters are determined to see their resolutions come to fruition. They are all planning to run the **London Marathon** for Oxfam.

David Woollacott will be making his first attempt at the age of 64 and is a newcomer to long-distance running while **Katy Brookes-Duncan** has already proved her ability with runs in the London Asics 10K in June for the Hospice and the Great North Run for CAFOD in October. Katy aged 40 took up running a year ago as part of a personal weight-loss programme. Now over 5 stone lighter, she says she is hooked on the sport. The youngest member of the trio is in his early twenties. **Mark Tomkinson** is also running his first marathon.

Each runner has a stiff target of sponsorship money to raise to justify a place. "*Harder than running the race*" says Katy.

Why not make it your armchair resolution to support them with a donation towards Oxfam's work?

Log on to justgiving.com or contact **Jane Hockings**, the Oxfam Shop Manager on 864225 for more details.

OXFAM CHILDREN'S WEAR EVENT

Friday 27th March 2009 is an important date in the diaries of young families on a budget in Berkhamsted.

Oxfam's Spring Children's Wear Event will take place at the Civic Centre from 9:00am – 11:30am, offering new season clothes for all ages from tots to teens. Books, toys and games will also be on offer. Make a note of it now!



The Little Singers

Saturday, 21st February 2009 at 7:30pm at All Saints' Church, Shrublands Road, Berkhamsted.

Details of this splendid event to raise funds for the work of the Children's Society appeared in last month's review.

Suffice it to say here that the concert is of light-hearted music and songs to suit all tastes, presented by The Little Singers, a local group of talented musicians.

Tickets cost £10 and are available from **Kathie Lally** or from the Way Inn Shop (at the Post Office) in Berkhamsted High Street.

Please come to support the Berkhamsted Appeals Committee of the Children's Society. You'll surely have an enjoyable evening while helping children who deserve a better start to life.

BERKHAMSTED CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Thursday, 12th February 2009 at 8:00pm in the Sessions Hall, Berkhamsted Town Hall. *Berkhamsted in Maps* – **Bill Willett** Visitors £2 at the door.

BERKHAMSTED LOCAL HISTORY & MUSEUM SOCIETY

Wednesday, 11th February 2009 at 8:00pm in Civic Centre. *Aviation History in Hertfordshire* – **Julian Evan-Hart**. Visitors £2.50 at the door.

review notes¬ices

THE BERKHAMSTED SPONSORED WALK

We hope you read the advance notice in your January *review* and made a note in your diary. In case you didn't, the 2009 Walk will be held on **Sunday 10th May 2009**. There will be three distances. The longer routes, about 12 and 16 miles, will start from the Court House with registration between 10.00am and 12:00 noon. The 5 mile route will start from Ashridge Management College with registration anytime between 11:00am and 2:00pm.

You can now find out about the Walk and The Children's Society on our website. The website, <http://berkhamstedwalk.com>, has been created professionally by local website designer, Ambrit. It includes links to other sites to give comprehensive information about the Society, the Walk, Berkhamsted, the Chilterns and the Ashridge National Trust estate. It should whet your appetite for country walking and is well worth looking at even if you are unable to be with us on May 10th. Our grateful thanks go to Ambrit, <http://www.ambrit.co.uk>, who generously donated the site without cost to the Society.

RED FACES AT OXFAM

Oxfam will once again be the only Berkhamsted stockist for the popular face furniture essential for Red Nose Day.

Design of the latest version is always a closely guarded secret but all will be revealed when they go on sale at Oxfam.

Hopefully **Friday 13th February 2009** will be a lucky day for the victims of malaria, mental health problems, poor maternal health services and those missing out on education whom Comic Relief plans to help.

SUNDAY TOGETHER LUNCHES

The first of the revived *Sundays Together Lunches* took place on **Sunday 7th December 2008** and was attended by 33 guests. Every one seemed to enjoy themselves and those who attended previously were happy for the continuation. There were several new friends who were welcomed to the fold and I hope that they enjoyed themselves too, and will return again. As you read this we shall, already, have had our January lunch.

It was very nice to have two helpers from *Donutz*, our youth group. They were extremely efficient, and the older people loved talking to them. As I pointed out at the time, the youth of today will be the helpers of tomorrow, and for this we need to encourage and sow the seeds now. I hope to have an ongoing supply of young people each month, thank you to them.

As for the rest of the team, the lunch cannot be done without you and I thank all who help, in whatever capacity. There is still room for more helpers if anyone out there wants to join in. I have 3 definite teams and a 4th underway, this means that each person helps every 3rd or 4th month. There is also still room for transport help, this entails getting a passenger to the Court House for 12:30pm and taking home again around 2:30pm. Please contact me - **Elizabeth Jackson** (864382) if you would like to help.

DACORUM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Saturday 28th February 2009 at 7:30pm in Centenary Hall, Berkhamsted School, Kings Road. Programme includes Beethoven Piano Concerto no 4, Dvorak New World Symphony. Soloist **Rachel Fryer**. Conductor **Thomas Loten**. Tickets £7, 18 and under free, at the door

review notes¬ices

AGE CONCERN WELCOMES YOU!

Who is a carer?

If you, without payment, provide help and support to a partner, child relative, friend or neighbour who could not manage without your help, you are a carer.

Carers outnumber health and social care workers providing help that would cost the UK tax payer some £87 billion a year.

Three in five people will care for someone at some point in their lives.

If you are looking after someone who is over 50, Age Concern would like to hear from you. Carers looking after younger people can contact Carers UK for advice and information.

What can Age Concern offer you?

Age Concern works to improve the quality of life for older people in Dacorum. We offer telephone support and befriending for the housebound and lonely. We run 11 day care clubs in Dacorum: they provide door-to-door transport, refreshments and a hot mid-day meal and social activity and outings. Our Handy Person Scheme does small DIY and security jobs in the home. We also run a hospital discharge scheme that provides support in the weeks following discharge from hospital.

Our carer support scheme provides information on carer rights and entitlements and can arrange for the carer to have a Carer's Assessment or provide respite care. Carers are entitled to have their needs assessed in their own right. We can help the carer take a break from their role and give information about services that provide help and support.

We run three local carers support groups in the following places: Berkhamsted Support Group meets at Douglas Gardens on the Third Thursday of the month, the Hemel Hempstead Group meets at

William Crook House Warners End every other Monday and the Tring Support Group meets at Akeman St Tring on the first Thursday of the month. We offer complimentary therapy sessions to help carers relax and offer support with interesting talks and informal gatherings. If you are a carer please do contact us as we would like to help.

Please contact **Kathy Ridges** Carer Support Manager Age Concern (259049)

Or email

jo.chan@ageconcerndacorum.org.uk

BERKHAMSTED JAZZ

Saturday 21st February 2009 at 8:00pm in the Civic Centre – Jim Hart Quintet (Vibraphone) Visitors £10 – students and children half price available at the door.

DACORUM LIVE!

Saturday 7th February 2009 7:45pm in the Centenary Hall, Berkhamsted School, Kings Road. South Bank Sinfonia. Programme includes Mozart Symphony no 29. Tickets £11 available from Berkhamsted Civic Centre.

BERKHAMSTED MUSIC SOCIETY

Saturday, 14th February 2009 at 8:00pm in Civic Centre. **David Kimberg**, baritone, singing Schubert, Quilter and Britten (including opera, oratorio and lieder) Visitors £12 at the door under 18s free.

BERKHAMSTED ART SOCIETY

Tuesday 17th February 2009 at 8:00pm in the Civic Centre. A Demonstration of the *pen and wash* painting technique. – **David Webster** - £2 at the door.

February

SUN	<i>St Peter's</i>	8:00am Eucharist
		9:30am Sung Eucharist
		6:00pm Evensong
	<i>All Saints'</i>	1st 8:00am Holy Communion
		10:00am Morning Worship
		8th 10:00am Morning Worship
		15th 10:00am Holy Communion
		22nd 10:00am Morning Worship

All services at *St Peter's* 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</i>	Eucharist	9:15am
SAT	MP	9:30am	EP	5:00pm	Eucharist	10:00am

3rd 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	CHUCKLES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP:	10:00-11:30am	<i>All Saints' Church Hall</i>
	Song Time or short service as announced. <i>Jenny Wells (870981)</i>		
Tue	ST PETER'S CHOIR Children	5:15 to 6:15pm	<i>St Peter's</i>
	Contact: Adrian Davis (875674) or Jean Wild (866859)		
1st Tue	TUESDAY CLUB	7:45pm	<i>Court House</i>
	<i>A lively women's group with guest speaker</i> Contact chairman Val Atkinson (866792)		
3rd Tue	MOTHERS' UNION: meets in members' houses at 8:00pm.		
	<i>Non-members always welcome.</i> Contact: Kathie Lally (863526)		
4th Tue	MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER GROUP:	2:30pm	<i>17 Shaftesbury Court.</i>
	Tell us if anyone needs our prayers. Contact: Jenny Wells (870981)		
Wed	JULIAN MEETING: meets about twice a month		<i>at Jenny's 57 Meadow Rd</i>
	<i>All are very welcome at 11:30am as arranged</i> Contact: Jenny Wells (870981) or Ruth Treves Brown (863268) <i>or at Ruth's 1 Montague Rd</i>		
Wed	PATHFINDERS GAMES CLUB	7-8:30pm . (yrs 5-8)	<i>Jimmy Young (384929)</i>
	<i>The Court House</i>		
3rd 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	BELLRINGING: 8:00pm	Helen Ruberry (890949)	<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 St Peter's (10am) Carrie Wegener (865015)		
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)		
3rd Sat	ABC PRAYER BREAKFAST: 8:00am for breakfast & prayers.		<i>Various local churches</i>

reviewdiary

Please see opposite for regular Sunday & weekday services at St Peter's and All Saints'

February / March

FEBRUARY

Sun	1	9:30am	Candlemas Sung Eucharist.....	<i>St Peter's</i>
Tue	3	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' service <i>A Very Big Picnic</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
Fri	6	10:00am	Little Fishes Service.....	<i>St Peter's</i>
Sun	8	6:00pm	Choral Evensong	<i>St Peter's</i>
Mon	9	8:00pm	Cowper Society Winter Talk Venice by John Julius, Viscount Norwich	<i>St Peter's</i>
Wed	11	8:00pm	Berkhamsted Team Council Meeting	<i>Lady Chapel, St Peter's</i>
Sat	14	10:30am	Bellringing visitors Full Peal	<i>St Peter's</i>
Tue	17	8:00pm	Parochial Church Council Meeting.....	<i>Court House</i>
Sat	21	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast	<i>tba</i>
Sun	22	6:00pm	Meditative Evening Prayer.....	<i>St Peter's</i>
Mon	23	8:00pm	Cowper Society Winter Talk <i>Where do we come from</i> <i>and why does it matter?</i> by Dr Bruce Winney	<i>Court House</i>
Tue	24	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' service <i>Jesus and the Children</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
Wed	25	8:00pm	Ash Wednesday Solemn Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes ...	<i>St Peter's</i>

MARCH

Wed	4	7:30pm	Sung Eucharist followed by...	
		8:00pm	First Lent Talk given by Fr Michael	<i>St Peter's</i>
Fri	6	10:00am	Little Fishes Service.....	<i>St Peter's</i>
Sat	7	7:30pm	The Cowper Society presents Bridgewater Sinfonia concert	<i>St Peter's</i>
Sun	8	6:00pm	Choral Evensong	<i>St Peter's</i>
Tue	10	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' service <i>Jesus Calms the Storm</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
Wed	11	7:30pm	Sung Eucharist followed by...	
		8:00pm	Second Lent Talk given by Fr Michael	<i>St Peter's</i>
Sat	15	6:30pm	St Peter's Choir concert of Music for Venice	<i>Berkhamsted School Chapel</i>
Wed	18	7:30pm	Sung Eucharist followed by...	
		8:00pm	Third Lent Talk given by Fr Michael	<i>St Peter's</i>
Fri	20	11:00am	Victoria School Mothering Service	<i>St Peter's</i>
		1:00pm	Cowper Society presents The Grove Ensemble Recital of voice, 'cello & piano	<i>St Peter's</i>
Sat	21	7:30pm	The Cowper Society presents The Gaudeamus Singers	<i>St Peter's</i>
Sat	21	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast	<i>tba</i>
Tue	24	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' service <i>The Real Story of Easter</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
Wed	25	8:00pm	Annunciation of the Lord - Sung Eucharist	<i>St Peter's</i>

reviewregisters

Funerals

17 Dec

George James Osborn

St Peter's Church (Chilterns)

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 Helen Nicholls (873162) 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 children and young people 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 - Vicky Drury (384691), for Pathfinders—Penny O'Neill (843422).

Youth Groups

Pathfinders games club meets 7:00-8:30pm each Wednesday in the Court House. Contact Jimmy Young (384929)

Donutz - for young people (10 years up) meeting in the Court House every third Sunday of the month after the 9:30am service. Contact Stephen Lally (863526) or Gill Malcolm (874993)

Been to the
Post Office?

Next stop
the Bookshop
then coffee
to recover

<http://wayinn.com>



WAY INN

A Christian Centre at 268 High Street

Telephone: Coffee Shop 864751, Bookshop 870768



Drawing by Mary Casserley, with permission

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)
The Revd 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), 6 Clunbury Court (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)
Peter Bryant, 36 North Road (871680)
 All Saint's **Tracy Robinson**, 36 Trevelyan Way, (863559)
 Representatives **Secretary: Pat Hunt**, 11 The Firs, Wigginton (822607)
 Parochial Church **Treasurer: Michael Robinson**, 36 Trevelyan Way (863559)
 Council:

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 Ruberry** 22 Brook Street, Tring (890949)

All Saints'

Choirmaster: **Peter McMunn** (874894)
 All Saints' is an Anglican / Methodist
 Local Ecumenical Partnership. <http://allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk>
 Minister: **The Revd Caroline Weaver** (866324)

Personalities in the Parish



Answer next month

January's Personality



Ron Fisher

Kenya in 1949 in the Royal Engineers



◀ p11

Chiltern Chamber Choir - 23rd December 2008

Church View Funeral Service

Independent Family Funeral Directors of Distinction



- ◆ *Serving Tring, Northchurch, Berkhamsted & Surrounding Areas*
- ◆ *Traditional Values*
- ◆ *Fully Qualified Funeral Director*
- ◆ *24 Hour Personal Service*
- ◆ *Independent Family Business*
- ◆ *Golden Charter Funeral Plans*
- ◆ *Home Arrangements*

**Church Yard, Tring
Hertfordshire
HP23 5AE**

Telephone : 01442 825472
<http://www.churchviewfuneral.co.uk>



Mango Accounting

Friendly and Sensible advice

Book-keeping

Payroll

VAT

Self-assessment

Corporation Tax

07780 814581