

Berkhamsted. *review*

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March 2009



for Town and Parish

30p



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

**Welcome to the March 2009 issue of
the Berkhamsted review**

Married? You're in a minority now. Headline in the *Times* - and later in the article - *people don't want to commit in case something better comes along.* It isn't quite as simple as that, but commitment is the key. And it's not just marriage, but day-to-day as well. Tying down friends and relations, younger ones especially, to times and dates is a losing battle. And what about Stewardship? The commitment to be active in the life of the Church through talents, time or money. It's in decline. 1982 - 275 families involved; 2007 - 181. But it's wrong to suggest that we are all just becoming more selfish. There's a social and economic context. There are no jobs for life now; job security is a short-term contract at best. For many young people there is no longer a reasonable expectation of buying a house or finding affordable long-term rented accommodation in which to set up home (a phrase which sounds curiously dated now). When one's own future seems so much less secure it is less easy to make commitments and then, of course, attention tends to focus on the short term and immediate. But it's no good moaning about it. Remember Darwin and adapt.

Christopher Green

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Cover: St Peter's Church (see p19)

photo: Tony Firshman

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6 Mar 3 Apr 1 May



Silent Retreat
Father Basil Jones
explains

review leader

I hesitated writing about traditional silent retreats in view of the publicity about Walsingham and Venice which will both be enjoyable

religious and social occasions. However something more stringent might be right for some - so here goes.

For those of you who have tasted them there need be no introduction. If this is a first for you a weekend at a Retreat House with an experienced conductor is the best way to start. Friday night until Sunday after lunch is usual, with the opportunity to meet your fellow retreatants over an early supper on the Friday evening soon after you arrive.

Silence then follows until Sunday lunch. There is often something read to you during mealtimes - *Winnie the Pooh* used to be a favourite - or music, usually classical. The silence is not oppressive and if you want something you ask for it at any time.

There is often an address on the Friday evening followed by Compline at about 9:00pm. On Saturday there may well be three addresses by the Conductor. After breakfast, at teatime and after supper would be common with Mass celebrated late morning. Sunday morning follows a similar pattern with Mass before lunch and then home. Everything is optional and no questions are asked. Often retreatants read lessons but this is quite voluntary and nothing is demanded of you. You may want to talk to the Conductor or perhaps make a Confession but this again is up to you and in my experience is for the few.

You can expect to have your own room which might be en-suite. There is always a well-stocked library but I usually advise retreatants to take something light as well. For some a good who-done-it fills the bill!

If you lead a busy life the coming out of silence can be harder than you expect and the family should be warned to let you

come to for a hour or so. A solitary car journey from Yorkshire was right for me as a young City bank clerk.

Don't expect or look for mystical experiences but silence can have a profound effect especially for those who are busy, busy. No mobiles or telephones intrude and you are well advised to avoid contacting those near and dear unless it is absolutely essential, when you must.

There is a list of places and times of Retreat at the back of St Peter's Church and I shall be pleased to offer advice if required.

Retreats take many forms and I have outlined the sort that suited me and which I have taken.

Try it and see.



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I wonder how many of you know that we have a group in our parish that will pray for you and your family every month?

Prayer is at the heart of everything the Mothers' Union stands for. Every meeting begins and ends with prayer and once a month a group of us meet and pray for anyone we know who is in especial need. If you or someone near to you is in need of prayer, please tell one of our members, or come and join us. The number and details will be in the pew leaflet or in the All Saints' notices before a meeting.

Prayer is very much part of life for anyone who is a practising Christian. It is vital for all members of the Mothers' Union. We have a Wave of Prayer, so that at any one time we are able to pray for our members in several different countries around the world. Without the support of these prayers it would be difficult for some of our members to function and carry out their work.

We have 3.6 million members in a total of 79 different countries and some of these members are living in very difficult circumstances like those who live in Myanmar, in Zimbabwe, or Iraq for example. In the first week of March we shall be praying for members in parts of Nigeria and Kenya, in Argentina, Zululand and Swaziland, and in England for those members in Carlisle. Always a mixture of places but always places where the Mothers' Union is active.

We pray for the different projects being carried out around the world.

PRAYER AROUND THE WORLD

At the heart of everything the

MU stands for

Jenny Wells writes



For, the literacy programmes, for parenting groups, agricultural projects, and the many, many more aid programmes that we have written about each month. Our members rely on our prayers as we rely on theirs.

At the beginning of July they will all be praying for us in St Albans Diocese together with our linked dioceses of Grafton and Armidale in Australia; Lusaka in Central Africa; Akoko in Nigeria; and Christ the King in Southern Africa.

Mary Sumner House, in London near the Palace of Westminster, is the home of the Mothers' Union, and if I am in the area, I like to go into the chapel there for midday prayers. The chapel is at the heart of what the Mothers' Union stands for. It is a focus for the whole house, a place of worship and a quiet refuge. Going there can make all the difference to a busy London visit.

Our founder, **Mary Sumner** wrote this lovely prayer, and I share it with you.

*All this day, O Lord,
let me touch as many lives
as possible for thee;
and every life I touch, do
thou by thy spirit quicken,
whether through the word I
speak,
the prayer I breathe,
or the life I live. Amen*



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Ian Reay's & news & views

Noise over the Chilterns

Ian Reay reviews the problems

I have written on a number of occasions in this column about the threat to the tranquillity of the countryside and of the Chilterns in particular from the growth in noisy, low flying aircraft overhead. National Air Traffic Services, the organisation that controls aviation, recently undertook a consultation on new routes over the northern part of the London area but were forced to go back and rethink their proposals after a significant amount of well informed criticism. In particular, NATS are still reviewing the position regarding the flight paths from Luton over the Chiltern Hills. They are now having a rethink but have indicated that this is only a tinkering – they are not exploring fundamental revisions to their earlier proposals.

This is a pity and may be a missed opportunity. The consultation was limited in scope and did not include within its terms of reference the option of moving the holding *stack* at Bovingdon. In this *stack* aircraft arriving to land at Heathrow circle over Bovingdon at an altitude of 6000 or more feet, using a navigation beacon at the former airfield as a fix. That piece of airspace has to be reserved for this purpose and this significantly reduces the scope for relieving the noise nuisance over the Chilterns. This is because aircraft departing from Heathrow which are flying north and Luton departures heading for the south west both have to remain at low altitudes here to ensure that they remain lower than aircraft that are entering and leaving the Bovingdon hold. This, in turn, means that the Luton departures have to fly below the Heathrow departures.

But since all this took place last summer the Government has decided to proceed with a third runway at Heathrow and NATS has said in the past that the provision of a third runway at Heathrow would be of such significance that it

would require moving the Bovingdon stack. In light of this recent Government decision, it now seems clear that the previous limit to the scope of the air routes review is no longer justified. Now is the opportunity to look at repositioning the

Bovingdon holding facility, which needs consideration in any event. This provides hope for a significant reduction in the experience of aircraft noise around Berkhamsted and Wendover Woods, in particular.

Meanwhile attention has been turning to the noise created at night time by the aircraft from Luton Airport. Luton, unlike the other major London airports at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted, places no limit on the number of aircraft that can fly in or out during the night-time. The highly technical restriction that it does have, which was imposed by the Planning Inspector when it received permission to expand its operations, offers no practical limit to the noise generated at night and noise levels have been steadily increasing in recent years. In fact some people argue that they suffer more night-noise from Luton Airport than those living near Heathrow. Almost one aircraft in ten that flies from Luton Airport flies during the night.

Between 1984 and 2007 the number of movements at night increased from about 4,500 to over 10,000 and is still increasing. During the three months at the end of last year there was an average of 36 movements during the night and this led a lot of people to complain to the airport about the noise. There is no doubt that Luton Airport makes a valuable contribution to the local economy. However, it is necessary to balance this with the need of the surrounding communities for a good night's rest. Now is the time to address the problem of noisy aircraft at night coming from Luton Airport. ❖

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Those in the Donutz youth group experienced a new type of worship on Saturday 31st January. It was aided by free food, but essentially the gathering was intended for an Iona service, led by **Fr John Russell**. With **Fr John**



**An Iona Eucharist
and Chocolate Trifle**
Sam Limbert writes

Pritchard in the kitchen as the celebrity chef, the Donutz members arrived at 6:00pm in readiness for the service to be held in the Court House. With over twenty young people coming, and their parents arriving later, it was a big event for the intimate space of the Court House. The service was arranged around a long table with nothing on it but candles. With minimal light, it made for an atmospheric occasion. **Fr John**



Russell presided at the Iona Eucharist. It was essentially similar to a normal Sunday service, but there were different songs, an interactive talk and a special communion. With everyone sitting round the table, the bread and wine were passed round and everyone received communion from the person next to them.

The idea of the Iona Eucharist is for the table to be similar to the one used during the Last Supper. It is a more visual representation of what would have happened before Jesus's death. This idea is backed up by the passing round of bread and wine. After the more serious matter of the service, the youngsters were let loose and given food. Now, those that have children will know it is possible for children to be hyper after eating. However on this occasion, a number of them were hyper before eating. In fairness though, the food was worth getting excited about. **Fr John Pritchard** had produced a

brilliant chicken curry with sag aloo. It went down very well with most of the children, especially all the boys at one end of the table. There was a long queue for seconds!

Fr John Pritchard's curry was a hard act to follow, but **Bea Limbert** came up with a chocolate cherry trifle and an apple crumble for pudding. As the meal was being finished, parents were arriving for cheese and wine. Downstairs in the Court House was very civilised compared to the children upstairs, who were letting off steam. Overall, an enjoyable evening was had by all. A big well done and thank you must go to **Fr John Russell** for organising the service and presiding at it.

Despite having held a few Iona services in St Peter's, it was always going to be harder to get youngsters interested and engaged - however he managed that expertly. Add to that the food prepared by **Fr John Pritchard** and **Bea Limbert**, the evening was a definite winner. The service and meal were just another successful event for the Donutz group as it goes from strength to strength. They continue to take part in the Sunday morning service on the first Sunday of each month and have some exciting things planned for the near future. For any youngsters interested in joining Donutz, come along to the meetings after 9:30 service at St Peter's on every third Sunday of the month. If you do join, you can look forward to more exciting events, interesting acts of worship and more free food!



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I used to be such a purist about English Literature. One whiff of Shakespeare burger and I was off on my high horse about the commercial exploitation of creative artists, their birth places, local landscapes and even graves. I had birthplace phobia. There must be a Latin term for this - suggestions welcome.

The only thing you need to know about artists and writers is contained in their work. This view was almost certainly inculcated at university, where biographical references in essays were treated with hoots of derisive laughter from Leavisite professors.

But one of the joys of growing older is changing one's mind. I have come late to the joys of mooching around in the footsteps of favourite authors and I now fully admit to having visited Milton's cottage, Shaw's Corner, even the sinister home of T E Lawrence in Dorset, and thoroughly enjoying myself. But I still think I'll give Stratford a miss.

This guide to places associated with **William Cowper** will almost certainly persuade me to revisit Olney and walk along the river reading *The Task*. Bloomsbury and the Temple have too many other literary figures associated with them to merit a special visit on his behalf, I feel.

The biographical element in the book is

TRAVEL WITH WILLIAM COWPER

A review by Susan Davis



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admirably concise and readable, though naturally lacking the almost eighteenth century expansive style of the **David Cecil** biography *The Stricken Deer* which is a joy to read from beginning to end, and there is not the marvellous introduction to eighteenth century life and modes of thought contained in **Gilbert Thomas's** *William Cowper and the Eighteenth Century*. There are some notable omissions, the most obvious being the total silence on the issue of Cowper's *inimate deformity* which certainly intrigued this reader of the **David Cecil** biography and which could explain a lot about Cowper's subsequent mental breakdowns.

However for a book of this size, I don't think you could do better. The illustrations are many and mostly illuminating, though one or two random photographs of place

or road signs seem a little unwarranted. There are a few useful potted biographies of important people associated with the poet, included in the text in a different format. These are beautifully clear, which is more than I can say for the rather sketchy maps. Some locals may also object to the archaic spelling of *Berkhampstead*. I rather prefer it. ❖



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In 1950 a number of local people, among them **Edward Popple**, **Barbara Russell** and **Percy Birtchnell**, who cared passionately for the rich heritage of our ancient town, were

concerned that the many old documents, photographs and artefacts should be preserved for posterity. Under the auspices of the Berkhamsted Citizens Association the Berkhamsted & District Local History Society (BLHMS) was formed. Now entitled the Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society, the Society has a growing collection and, unlike many other societies, an increasing membership. Regrettably Berkhamsted still does not have its own museum. The formation of the Dacorum Heritage Trust (DHT) in 1993 and the subsequent conversion of the old fire station behind the Civic Centre has enabled us to store Berkhamsted's collection together with collections from elsewhere in Dacorum in appropriate museum conditions. DHT is an umbrella organisation comprising various local history societies, Berkhamsted Town Council and the Graham Greene birthplace Trust among others. These collections are stored in the Museum Store under a loan agreement with DHT.

Already a registered museum, DHT received accredited museum status in 2008. In the last two years mobile shelving has been installed in the General Store and the Archaeological Store, thus virtually doubling the space for storage. Tours of the Museum Store are held monthly and as part of the Heritage Open Days organised by the BLHMS every September and exhibitions are held from time to time enabling the public to learn more of our heritage. Loan boxes on various topics have been prepared for schools but we do not have the space in the Museum Store for a display area or to do education work with other than very small groups of children and adults.

YOUR HERITAGE YOUR FUTURE

Plans for the Museum Store

Jenny Sherwood writes

The opportunity has arisen to refurbish and redesign the Museum Store, including adjacent garages, to bring the building up to the necessary standards for disabled access, to

provide a display area and also a room for education work. All this is dependent on obtaining a successful lottery grant.

In this connection, two open consultation days are to be held on Thursday 5th March 2pm-5pm and on Friday 6th March 10am-5pm in the Civic Centre, Berkhamsted.

Admission is free. Come along and see what is envisaged for Berkhamsted's historic collections and those of other areas of Dacorum. How would you like Dacorum's museum service to be improved? What do you think about these plans? We need to know. Your views are important! ❖

WALK BACK IN TIME

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On Friday and Saturday 6th and 7th March as Fairtrade Fortnight ends, Berkhamsted will Go Bananas.

The finale of Fairtrade Fortnight 2009 will be a huge event bringing together the whole

Fairtrade movement worldwide, from producers to school children. From noon on Friday 6th March 2009 to noon on Saturday 7th March 2009, an attempt will be made to break the world record for Fairtrade banana eating. Berkhamsted aims to take part in the attempt and confidently looks forward to your support.

So join us, do! Bring your own banana or have one of ours – we hope to get *our* hands on hands of small bananas. From noon on Friday 6th March, eat your banana at Oxfam in the High St (opposite the police station), and on Saturday 7th March join us at the charity stall outside Tesco.

Why bananas? Bananas symbolise the challenges in international trade. Many people who grow and harvest bananas endure unacceptable working and living

BERKHAMSTED GOES BANANAS

Fairtrade Fortnight Finale!

Angela Morris, chair of the
Fairtrade Berkhamsted
Steering Group writes

conditions, including the suppression of independent trade unions. The workers' local environment is often ruined by toxic chemicals and intensive farming. But it's not just those who grow bananas who face these challenges, it is

millions of farmers and workers in developing countries on whom we rely for our food and drink and lifestyle. They are kept in poverty by unfair trade rules and poor market access.

At present one in four bananas bought in the UK is Fairtrade. We are aiming to make this one in two bananas by 2012. This world record attempt will make it absolutely clear to retailers that we all want Fairtrade bananas, for us, for producers, for the planet.

For more information on how you can play your part, please speak to **Jane Hockings** at the Oxfam shop, or contact me on 866992, or
angela.morris17@tiscali.co.uk ❖

Support your Local Market

Claire Patterson aka ArtbyClaire has had a stall at the Berkhamsted Community Market for the last five years. Now she has taken over management of the market and explains her ambitions for it.

I have seen the market go from a hustling, bustling, thriving market, with all the rooms open, to a dwindling, sad little place with barely any market tables left. We need the public support to come and visit us, and buy our arts and crafts, and in the future we would like to offer people alternative therapies, so they can come and sample and relax! Already a couple of new stall-holders are offering nail artistry and massage and we hope that such stall-holders will encourage customers to make bookings and meet them at the hall. In

other words the stall can be an outlet for customers new and old to come and see and meet and try or buy products.

Claire is busy building the market up. Currently there's jewellery, wooden bowls, ceramics, art and photography, glassware, mosaics, scarves, children's toys, and bric-a-brac. There's also a little coffee shop selling homemade cakes!

How to get a stall

Only £10 for the morning 9:00am – 12:30pm on the first Saturday of the month.

Contact **Claire Patterson**

07951 943 101 claire@artbyclaire.com

<http://artbyclaire.com> ❖

Are you sitting comfortably? That's good, because if you aren't, the news I have for you may cause you to fall over. Remember I went to the *stakeholders* meeting last July to decide the facilities we want in our new General Hospital - and we were told then that another meeting would be called in October for us to choose from three locations that met the criteria that were agreed. Do you also remember that the October meeting didn't happen, but I heard that it would be in January? Funnily enough, that didn't happen either. But another rumour indicates that the existing site in Hillfield Road in Hemel Hempstead was one of the three locations and now the Trust will decide in March 2009. Just don't hold your breath!

Meanwhile, I've been doing some remedial electrical works at St Lawrence's Church in Nettleden and I thought I would tell you a little about it.

The present building dates from 1470, although there has been a church on the site since at least 1285. It was a chapel-of-ease within the Parish of Pitstone. In 1811, at the same time as Ashridge House was being rebuilt, the Earl of Bridgewater paid for the chancel and north wall of the church to be rebuilt and at the same time the porch was moved to the north side from the south side.

No church is complete without bells and the flint tower houses three, two of them both ancient and rare. The oldest dates from 1478 and is one of only eight anywhere in the country by **Thomas Harrys**. The next oldest dates from 1636

NHS TO NETTLEDEN

News and Notes
from **Norman Cutting**



and was made by **Richard Chandler** (just three of his bells now remain) and the youngster was made by **George Chandler** in 1714 and carries a dedication to St Lawrence.

The pews are Canadian Oak and date from 1887 and the pulpit is a memorial to the church's Victorian vicar, the poet and artist **The Revd George Spencer Cautley**. Outside and to the right of the porch lies a stone coffin dating back to the 14th century, which was found 2ft beneath the west wall of the churchyard when it was rebuilt in 1930. The yew tree behind the church is recorded as

being 620 years old.

If you are walking in the area, it's worth having a look, although it's normally locked (sign of the times, I'm afraid), but the churchwarden lives at Nettleden Farm (about 100 yards up Roman Lane, same side as church) and I know several villagers have a key or would know who does, so it's worth a knock. Inside there is a wealth of history and a decent guide. They even have converted oil to electric lighting in the aisle! There are plans to use the church for more community related activities, but essentials like water, toilets and better heating need money, so go and soak up a little history and make a donation whilst you are at it.

On a personal note, my wife has just had cataracts removed from both eyes and if you think you might need the operation but are worried, don't be. The world changes and she says she can see better than ever – please can I have the old model back as she's driving me nuts peering into everything!





← p9

Donutz Dinner - Curry and chocolate trifle and candles



← p14

Claire Patterson, new Community Market Manager



There is a concert at 6pm on Sunday 6th March, 2009 in the Collegiate School Chapel. St Peter's Choir visits Venice during the week after Easter. They will perform in La Madonna di Miracole, Venice - the church that inspired the design of the chapel

The St Peter's organ restoration is on schedule for completion by Easter



Clockwise from top left: One of the two new bellows in their magnificent oak frame, the tracking connectors exposed and the new wind ducting.




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In two previous articles (September 2008 and January 2009) I wrote about the building of St Peter's Church in the 13th century and its enlargement, almost to its present form, in the 14th century. This history

can be read in the architecture of the building itself. In the four centuries I write about this month, the 15th to the 18th, there was less large-scale alteration to the building and we become more dependent on written documents and later, paintings and drawings, to learn about what was going on.

There are however some architectural features that can be placed in this long period. The three-light window in the south aisle has the typical form and tracery of the later Perpendicular period and is probably of 15th century date. The two more easterly windows in the north aisle might also belong in this century but slightly earlier. A more substantial alteration was the addition of the upper stage of the tower. On the south side of the tower there was formerly an inscription, now degraded beyond recognition, but recorded by Norris in 1923 in his book on St Peter's Church:

John Phyllip and Alice his wyffe

Norris adds - *According to tradition these people built the tower, or its upper stage at least, about 1540.*

Another extension of probable late medieval date was a large vestry attached to the church on the north side in the angle between the chancel and the Lady Chapel. This was demolished during the Butterfield restorations in the 1870s. There was access to it by way of a door in the north wall of the chancel. It must have obscured completely the more southerly of the windows in the east wall of the Lady Chapel.

The primary source of information from the mid-16th century onward is the Churchwardens' accounts. The earliest records for St Peter's (1584-1748) are now in the British Library. The parish

ST PETER'S CHURCH 1400-1800

Glimpses of the past
Christopher Green writes

once had a microfilm copy but sadly this has disappeared. If anyone knows of its whereabouts please contact the Churchwardens. There are also relevant papers in the Hertfordshire County Archives.

Throughout the 17th and 18th centuries the story is mainly one of sporadic efforts to keep the building in reasonable repair. This cannot have been made any easier in the mid-seventeenth century when, during the Civil War the church was used to house Royalist prisoners from the siege of Colchester.

The cost of maintenance and repair was raised from time to time by a local tax or rate imposed on householders by the Vestry - a body approximately equivalent to the PCC but having powers, in terms of local taxation, more akin to those of Dacorum Borough Council. In the early seventeenth century this was evidently a controversial issue. In 1635 **Francis Wethered**, a member of the local gentry, probably living at Ashlyns Hall, was in the Archdeacon of Huntingdon's court for alleged non-payment of a rate for the repair of the church. It may have been for this offence that Francis was excommunicated. Only his release from excommunication in 1637 is recorded in surviving documents.

By the 18th century the church was undoubtedly in a state of serious dilapidation. Early in the century the roof of the St John's Chantry fell in, and at the end of the century there was a long-running dispute between the Rector, **Charles de Guiffardiere**, and the diocesan authorities over responsibility for the upkeep of the chancel, which historically lay with the Rector and not with the Vestry. In the end Guiffardiere restored the chancel.

There are, no doubt, many other fascinating details to be uncovered in the Churchwardens' accounts. If only I had the time! ❖



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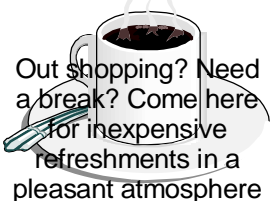
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review Northchurch & Wigginton

Putting right what has gone

wrong

**The Revd
Jonathan
Gordon writes**

There have been quite a few debates in the news about regulation or lack of regulation of the banking sector and who is responsible for the financial crisis. One thing that provided some

light humour in all of this was a new song from the singer **Seasick Steve** entitled *I started out with nothing and I still have most of it left*. Everyone seems to agree that it is a crisis and no one agrees who should take responsibility. There is also the wider question of how do you put right something that has obviously gone very wrong. Do you try to overturn the previous system and somehow start again, or is there a way of removing the excesses of a system so that the emphasis can be more on the common good? Or do you work on the assumption that the system is basically sound and in time things will sort themselves out and harmony will be restored? Also, where does personal responsibility fit into all of this? Are we passive, simply waiting on the next government rescue plan, or is there anything that we can do?

Thinking about the theological response to what is taking place is not an easy task. However, a recent lectionary reading from St Paul's letter to the Colossians at least provided some good news in the general atmosphere of gloom and despondency. St Paul writes about redemption; God's self-giving and involvement in the world. Paul states that Christ *is the image of the invisible God*, which is saying that if you want to understand God, then look at Jesus. He is then called *the first born of all*

creation, which is a title that is possibly linked to one of the Psalms (89.27) *I will make him my first born, higher than the kings of the earth*. The passage then moves into a discussion of creation – *in him all things were created*, which expresses the conviction that the world is not just an accident or something independent and self contained, but at all times dependent on God for its life, order and motion. The key argument for Paul is that everything that we experience in the world only makes sense through the death and resurrection of Jesus. It also counters the view that the world is essentially bad or evil; rather it shows that its origins are in God. Paul links together creation and redemption. In Christ the created order is healed and renewed. 1. 19: *For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things to himself, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of the cross*.

The letter explores the theme of renewal and healing. Putting right what has gone wrong is not about scrapping what was there and starting again, but liberating what has become enslaved. Maybe what is most interesting about Colossians is that it describes a response to the world that combines two things. There is a divine rescue - God in Christ acts to save the world. However, we are not passive in all of this as we can share in God's new life and vision. There is, likewise, a common theme in the Gospels about caring for people, treating others with respect, looking out for the needs of our neighbour, about forgiveness and reconciliation, that in the fragmented world in which we live has an ongoing relevance and power. ❖

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review easter services

Palm Sunday, Holy Week & Easter 5th – 12th April at St Peter's

Palm Sunday

Sun	5 th	8:00am	Eucharist with Palm Crosses
		9:30am	Blessing of Palms and Sung Eucharist (starting in St Peter's car park)
		6:30pm	Concert – Chiltern Chamber Choir & Bridgewater Sinfonia <i>Bach St John Passion</i>

in Holy Week –

Mon	6 th	7:30pm	Eucharist
		8:00pm	Liturgy of Penitence and Healing
Tue	7 th	7:30pm	Eucharist
		8:00pm	Stations of the Cross
Wed	8 th	7:30pm	Eucharist
		8:00pm	Tenebrae

Maundy Thursday

Thu	9 th	8:00pm	Sung Eucharist of the Lord's Supper. † Preacher: Fr Edward Dowler The service is followed by Vigil of Prayer
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Good Friday

Fri	10 th	12-3pm	The Liturgy of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday. † Preacher: Fr Edward Dowler
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Easter Eve

Sat	11 th	9:00pm	The Easter Vigil with Holy Baptism
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Easter Day

Sun	12 th	9:30am	Sung Eucharist † Preacher: Fr Edward Dowler
		6:00pm	Choral Evensong

† **Fr Edward Dowler** is Vice Principal of St Stephen's House, Oxford

Palm Sunday, Holy Week & Easter 5th – 12th April at All Saints'

Sun	5 th	10:00am	Holy Communion
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in Holy Week

Mon	6 th	8:00pm	Meditative Act of Worship
Tue	7 th	9:30-3pm	Easter Holiday Club
		8:00pm	Meditative Act of Worship
Wed	8 th	8:00pm	Meditative Act of Worship

Maundy Thursday

Thu	9 th	8:00pm	Holy Communion
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Good Friday

Fri	10 th	8:00pm	Good Friday Service
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Easter Day

Sun	12 th	10:00am	Holy Communion
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review notes & notices

LENT COURSE/TALKS - 2009

Town-wide Lent Courses start in the week commencing **Sunday 1st March 2009**. Details of the interesting and varied courses on offer this year will be found on the notice board at the back of the church. Of particular interest to St Peter's will be the York Course, which will run in St Peter's Lady Chapel at 8:00pm from **Tuesday 3rd March 2009**. If you are interested in any of the Courses, please complete one of the forms on the notice board or talk to the Rector or **John Malcolm**.

Also there will be:

A Series of Talks under the general heading *Pillars of the Church - What is Anglicanism?* to be given in the Lady Chapel by the Rector at 8:00pm **Wednesdays 4th, 11th, 18th March & 1st April 2009**. Each talk will be preceded by 7:30pm Eucharist.

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For any further information or to organise a quote, please contact Andy Warwick on:

BERKHAMSTED ART SOCIETY

Thursday 12th March 2009 at 8:00pm in the Civic Centre. AGM and a demonstration of abstract painting by **Marilyn Camparetto**. Visitors £2.50 on the door.

BERKHAMSTED & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Thursday 26th March 2009 at 7:45pm at Newcroft, Mill Street, Berkhamsted School. Hadrian's coins: Voyages, Celebrations and Commemorations. **Richard Abdy**, Curator, Coins and Medals, The British Museum. Visitors £1.50 on the door.

TUESDAY CLUB

We are lucky that the Dacorum Heritage Trust, an accredited museum, has its store in our town. The largest of its collections comes from the Berkhamsted Local History Society and at a New Year meeting, on **Tuesday 13th January 2009**, **Jenny Sherwood**, gave us a most interesting talk, illustrated by large displays of photographs. She spoke about the discovery of timbers from a 13th Century building at Figgs the Chemist, also a well with water still drinkable, took us through the history of the Castle, Berkhamsted Place, Ashlyns when it was the Foundling Hospital and the Hall which once stood where Swing Gate School is now. We were also able to look at 1877 documents about the sale of a piece of land belonging to **Earl Brownlow** at Shrublands Road where All Saints' Church now stands.

A fascinating evening and we are looking forward to a conducted tour of the museum in March 2009.

review notes¬ices

BERKHAMSTED MUSIC SOCIETY

Saturday 14th March 2009 at 8:00pm in the Civic Centre. **Atrium Quartet**, from Russia playing Beethoven, Shostakovich and Schubert. Visitors £12, under 18s free on the door.

30TH OXFAM CHILDREN'S WEAR EVENT

30 years ago in March 1979 the first permanent Oxfam shop in Berkhamsted opened its doors in the Lower Kings Road premises now occupied by the pet shop.

This month the anniversary will be marked by the 30th Oxfam Children's Wear Event to be held on **Friday 27th March 2009** in the Civic Centre from 9:00-11:30am.

School uniform will present no problems for parents attending the Spring event. There will be ample choice as well as new season garments for every other occasion.

But for families in the Third World things are not so simple. Even if primary education is free, providing uniform and equipment can be prohibitive, especially at a time of steeply rising food prices. In Liberia Oxfam has funded a sewing group who not only make uniforms for their own children but also make them for sale. The charity also supports after-school clubs and classes for older people who have missed out on formal education.

So buying clothes, books, toys and games at fund-raising events such as the Oxfam Children's Wear Event can have far-reaching consequences.

Admission is free. Family budgets across the globe benefit with Oxfam.

BERKHAMSTED JAZZ

Saturday 21st March 2009 at 8:00pm in the Civic Centre. Aylesbury Music Centre Band. Tickets Members £8, visitors £10 available on the door.

SUNNYSIDE RURAL TRUST

Sunnyside Rural Trust is a local registered charity offering day activities and training to local adults with learning difficulties. We need volunteers to maintain and expand our service.

The charity provides a valuable and popular service which aims to enhance the lives of some 60 clients each week who are referred to us by social services, charitable trusts and private individuals. Our clients come from a wide range of backgrounds. Sunnyside Rural Trust specialises in teaching Independent Living Skills, Numeracy, Literacy, Computer Studies, Craftwork & Woodwork. We also provide training in a range of Land-based Activities with particular emphasis on organic gardening, horticulture, conservation, and animal care. The service is tailored to meet the needs of each individual, and training is provided to recognised national standards by caring staff in a secure and safe environment. We give clients the opportunity to try out many things they just wouldn't or couldn't do at home; we provide them with stability and friendship and help each person to develop a sense of personal achievement. We are currently trying hard to expand our service by investing in the development of Social Enterprise Projects to enable our clients to become more fully involved in small business opportunities within the local community.

We welcome part time volunteers who are interested in working with our clients and assisting our permanent staff with one to one or small group activities. People with an interest in horticulture and practical conservation tasks are also encouraged to volunteer to help us maintain our sites on an occasional or regular basis. To find out more about SRT you can visit our website:

<http://www.sunnysideruraltrust.org.uk/>
If you are interested and want to find out more, please give **Denise Smallpiece** a call on **01442 863364 or 07534 267142**

WATFORD PALACE THEATRE



The Mercury Theatre Company and The New Wolsey Theatre Ipswich present **A Chorus of Disapproval** by **Alan Ayckbourn**

Performances **Tuesday 24th March – Sat 4th April 2009** 7:45pm

Matinees **Wednesdays, 25th March and 1st April 2009** 2:30pm

Saturdays 28th March and 4th April 2009 3:00pm

Tickets £11.50 – £21.00 Book online <http://www.watfordpalacetheatre.co.uk> or phone 01923 225671

FREE THEATRE INITIATIVE

Now here's something you don't see every day - If you're under 26 and want to try something different - why not a free night out at the theatre.

Watford Palace Theatre has been chosen as one of the theatres across England to take part in the **Free Theatre Initiative**, a two-year pilot programme offering free tickets to under 26-year-olds funded by Arts Council England.

Brigid Larmour, Chief Executive and Artistic Director of Watford Palace Theatre said: *We are proud of the work we do with young people both in our theatre and further afield, and are delighted to be chosen to take part in the Arts Council's Free Theatre Initiative, to help us engage with new young audiences in Watford and the region.*

Attendance at arts events traditionally drops in the 18-26 age range and so this initiative is specifically targeted at young adults and their families.

It is designed to reach new audiences and develop a new generation of arts lovers. The initiative follows on from the Government's commitment to free access to museums and, more recently, free swimming and will run alongside the successful reduced-price

schemes for young people which many theatres already operate. Results of the pilot will be carefully monitored and, if successful, it is hoped that the initiative could be extended to other art forms. **Andrea Stark**, Regional Executive Director of Arts Council England said: *The energy and imagination already displayed by our regional theatres, and their creative commitment to this initiative, gives us the confidence that more young people and their families in the region will get to experience excellent, inspirational art.*

For further information please contact **Julia Kouyoumdjian**, Press and PR Officer on 01923 810306

julia@watfordpalacetheatre.co.uk

Now booking:

13th to 14th March 2009

Herts County Youth Theatre

Success by Nick Drake,

20th March 2009

An Audience with John Sergeant,

24th March- 4th April 2009

A Chorus of Disapproval

by **Alan Ayckbourn**,

18th April 2009

Still Alive - **Barry Cryer**

28th April – 2nd May 2009

The BFG by **Roald Dahl**
adapted by **David Wood**

6th May 2009

A Funny Look At Impressions
with **Jan Ravens**

12th to 16th May 2009

New Connections Festival

6th June 2009

Inspiral Arts

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review notes¬ices

BERKHAMSTED CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Thursday 12th March 2009 at 8:00pm in the Sessions Hall, Town Hall. AGM/ Presentation of Environment Award for the best new building or improvement in the town. A short talk and open forum on the town's affairs. Speaker TBA.

2nd April 2009 at 8:00pm in the Sessions Hall, Town Hall. The Environment – an update. **David Brown**. Visitors £2 on the door deductible from £5 annual household membership when joining on the night.

BERKHAMSTED LOCAL HISTORY & MUSEUM SOCIETY

Wednesday 11th March 2009 at 8:00pm in the Civic Centre. AGM and Berkhamsted Maps – a potted history of cartography by **Bob Willett**. Visitors £2.50 on the door.

CONSERVATION AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF BERKHAMSTED (CARAB)

Tuesday 7th April 2009 at 8:00pm in the Berkhamsted Baptist Church, corner of High Street and Ravens Lane. *The Planning Process - Making Your Voice Heard* – talk by **Dr Laurence Handy**. Admission Free.

CORRIGENDA

Red Faces at Oxfam (and in the editorial office) In Notes & Notices last month the date of Red Nose Day was incorrect. The correct date is 13th March 2009.

Respected Sir A proof reader's nightmare. Making sure the incorrect is incorrect!

The original wording in the first letter was *Ring Paper* not *Regimental Paper*; and in the second letter *Granafather* not *Grandfather*.



The Cowper Society presents **Venice in Pictures**

An illustrated talk by

Patrick Lepper

Monday 16th March 2009

at 8:00pm

Lady Chapel of St Peter's Church
admission free

review registers

Weddings (St Peter's)

3rd January Tim Brannam and Belinda King

Funerals

12th January John Henry Cliff (Jack)

30th January Paul Lewis Beard

Chilterns Crematorium

Chilterns Crematorium followed by
Memorial Service in St Peter's Church

March

SUN *St Peter's*

8:00am Eucharist

9:30am Sung Eucharist

6:00pm Evensong

All Saints' **1st** **10:00am** Holy Communion

8th **8:00am** Holy Communion

10:00am Morning Worship

15th **10:00am** Holy Eucharist

22nd **10:00am** All Age Morning Worship

29th **10:00am** Holy Communion

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** *All Saints'*

WED **MP** **7:30am**

EP **5:00pm**

Eucharist **8:00am**

THU **MP** **7:30am**

EP **5:00pm**

Eucharist **11:00am** (*Fr Michael's day off*)

FRI **MP** **7:30am**

EP **5:00pm** *both*

Eucharist **9:15am**

SAT **MP** **9:30am**

EP **5:00pm**

Eucharist **10:00am**

3rd Mon **GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT VISITORS GROUP** **7:45pm**

Court House

Contact June Haile (873087), Angela Morris (866992) or Ruth Treves Brown (863268)

Tue **CHUCKLES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP:** **10:00-11:30am** *All Saints' Church Hall*
Song Time or short service as announced. *Jenny Wells (870981)*

Tue **ST PETER'S CHOIR Children** **5:15 to 6:15pm** *St Peter's*
Contact: Adrian Davis (875674) or Jean Wild (866859)

1st Tue **TUESDAY CLUB** **7:45pm** *A lively women's group with guest speaker* *Court House*
Contact chairman Val Atkinson (866792)

3rd Tue **MOTHERS' UNION:** meets in members' houses at 8:00pm.
Non-members always welcome. Contact: Kathie Lally (863526)

4th Tue **MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER GROUP:** **2:30pm** *17 Shaftesbury Court*
Tell us if anyone needs our prayers. Contact: Jenny Wells (870981)

Wed **JULIAN MEETING:** meets about twice a month at Jenny's *57 Meadow Rd*
All are very welcome at 11:30am as arranged or at Ruth's *1 Montague Rd*
Contact: Jenny Wells (870981) or Ruth Treves Brown (863268)

Wed **PATHFINDERS GAMES CLUB** **7-8:30pm** (yrs 5-8) Jimmy Young (384929)
The Court House

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) *St Peter's*

Fri **LITTLE FISHES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP:** 9:30-11:30am *Court House*
Weekly meetings with a short service 1st Fri in St Peter's (10am)
Carrie Wegener (865015)

Fri **ST PETER'S CHOIR:** Children 7:00-8:30pm, Adults 7:30-8:30pm. *St Peter's*
Contact: Adrian Davis (875674) or Jean Wild (866859)

3rd Sat **ABC PRAYER BREAKFAST:** 8:00am for breakfast & prayers. *Various local churches*

reviewdiary

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

March / April

MARCH

Tue	3	8:00pm	York Course – 1 st Lent Course in the Lady Chapel..... <i>St Peter's</i>
Wed	4	7:30pm	Sung Eucharist followed by...
		8:00pm	Lent Talk <i>Pillars of the Church – What is Anglicanism?</i> - Fr Michael Bowie <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 <i>Bridgewater Sinfonia</i> 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>
		8:00pm	York Course – 2 nd Lent Course in the Lady Chapel..... <i>St Peter's</i>
Wed	11	7:30pm	Sung Eucharist followed by...
		8:00pm	Lent Talk <i>Pillars of the Church – What is Anglicanism?</i> - Fr Michael Bowie <i>St Peter's</i>
Sat	15	6:30pm	St Peter's Choir concert
			Music for Venice <i>Berkhamsted School Chapel</i>
Tue	17	8:00pm	York Course – 3 rd Lent Course in the Lady Chapel <i>St Peter's</i>
Wed	18	7:30pm	Sung Eucharist followed by...
		8:00pm	Lent Talk <i>Pillars of the Church – What is Anglicanism?</i> - Fr Michael Bowie <i>St Peter's</i>
Fri	20	11:00am	Victoria School Mothering Service <i>St Peter's</i>
		1:00pm	Cowper Society presents <i>The Grove Ensemble</i>
			Recital of voice, 'cello & piano..... <i>St Peters'</i>
Sat	21	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast <i>All Saints'</i>
Sat	21	7:30pm	The Cowper Society presents
			<i>The Gaudeamus Singers</i> <i>St Peter's</i>
Tue	24	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' service <i>The Real Story of Easter</i> ... <i>All Saints</i>
		8:00pm	York Course – 4 th Lent Course in the Lady Chapel <i>St Peter's</i>
Wed	25	8:00pm	Annunciation of the Lord Sung Eucharist <i>St Peter's</i>
Sat	28	10:30am	Bellringing – Full Peal <i>St Peter's</i>
Sun	29	11:15am	Annual Parochial Church Meetings <i>The Court House</i>
Tue	31	8:00pm	York Course – 5 th Lent Course in the Lady Chapel <i>St Peter's</i>

APRIL

Wed	1 st	8:00pm	Lent Talk <i>Pillars of the Church – What is Anglicanism?</i> - Fr Michael Bowie <i>St Peter's</i>
Thu	2 nd	9:30am	Victoria School <i>End of Term Service</i> <i>St Peter's</i>
Fri	3	10:00am	Little Fishes Service <i>St Peter's</i>
		12noon	Thomas Coram School <i>End of Term Service</i> <i>St Peter's</i>
Sun	5	6:30pm	Cowper Society presents Chiltern Chamber Choir
			<i>JS Bach St John Passion</i> <i>St Peter's</i>

All services for Holy Week and Easter, 5-12 April, are shown on page 23

Sat	18	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches
			Prayer Breakfast..... <i>Northchurch Baptist Church</i>
Sun	26	9:30am	Confirmation – Christopher, Bp of Hertford <i>St Peter's</i>
		3:00pm	Choral Evensong to mark the end of

Mayor Carol Green's year in office*St Peter's*

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)

St Peter's

Altar service
Chalice rota
Church maintenance
Church cleaning
Flower arrangements
Sunday morning coffee
Service recordings
Intercessions

Alan Conway (865798)
Fr Michael Bowie (864194)
Christopher Green (863241)
Jean Green (878227)
Sarah Dawson (871614)
Barbara Conway (865798)
Alan Conway (865798)
Fr Michael Bowie (864194)

Epistle Readers
Electoral Roll
Pathfinders

Ron Fisher (865846)
Judith Limbert (873626)
Stephen Lally (863526)

Sidesmen
Catering

Chris Hunt (822607)
Val Atkinson (866792)

Hospice contact
Christian Aid
Youth worker
Sunday School/Explorers
Fairtrade

Rachael Anderson (871997)
Angela Morris (866992)
Jimmy Young (876736)
Helen Nicholls (873162)
Angela Morris (866992)

All Saints'

Felicity White (866223)
Jenny Wells (870981)
Chris Lumb (863885)
Kate Spall (873470)
Madeleine Brownell (862578)
Sylvia Banks (871195)
Janet Conradi (833402)
Jenny Wells (870981) and

John Wignall (827639)
Jenny Wells (870981)
Pat Hearne (871270)
Penny O'Neill (843422) and

Rebecca Judd (865691)
John Wignall (827639)
Chris Dipper (873006) and
Gill Lumb (863885)

Muriel Johnston (866447)
Jimmy Young (876736)
Vicky Drury (384794)
Julie Wakely (875504)

Been to the Post Office?

Next stop
the Bookshop
then coffee
to recover



WAY INN

A Christian Centre at 268 High Street

Telephone: Coffee Shop 864751, Bookshop 870768

<http://wayinn.com>



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 Sevens 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

February's Personality



Marjorie Bowden in 1948 in her student days

The Couper Society presents

Chiltern Chamber Choir

Directed by

Adrian Davis

The Bridgewater Sinfonietta

Leader: Stuart James

St John Passion

J S BACH

Sunday 5th April
6.30 pm

St Peter's Church
Berkhamsted

Soloists:

Kate Semmens *Soprano*

Jeanette Ager *Alto*

Harry Bagnall *Tenor (arias)*

Phillip Conway-Brown

Tenor (Evangelist)

John Bernays *Bass (Christus)*

Tickets: £12, £10 concessions

Under 18 free

From: Cole Flatt, 124 High Street



Berkhamsted is a small town in Hertfordshire, England. It is home to St Peter's Church, which is a Grade I listed building. The church is known for its fine collection of 15th-century stained glass windows. It is also home to the Couper Society, which presents the St John Passion by J.S. Bach.

GOOD MUSIC NEAR YOU

bridgewater sinfonia

patron SIR ANDREW DAVIS

conductor ADRIAN DAVIS

7th March

St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted. 7.30 pm

Russian Greats

MUSSORGSKY

Night on a Bare Mountain

RACHMANINOV

Piano Concerto No 2

ALEXANDER ARDAKOV piano

TCHAIKOVSKY

Symphony No 6 (Pathétique)

Tickets: £12 (£10 concessions) Under 18s FREE

Available ONLINE: www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk

Also from AITCHISONS 154 High St, Berkhamsted

and PERFECT PITCH, Chesham: ENQUIRIES 01442 873205

The Couper Society and Bridgewater Sinfonia are members of Berkhamsted

Arts Trust, which is financially supported by Quaternary Borough Council

PRE-CONCERT MENU



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