

# Berkhamsted. *review*

*In this issue*

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Add

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Picage

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This Month's  
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**July 2009**



*for Town and Parish*

**30p**



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

### **Welcome to the July 2009 issue of the Berkhamsted review**

Information technology (IT) is changing the face of democracy. IT has the potential to make ordinary people truly influential in the political process. **Barak Obama** used the internet to bring his message to a generation completely at ease with the computer and all its ramifications. In China, government understands the potential influence of political views circulating through the internet - so access to it is rigorously controlled. As I write, Iran is in a state of turmoil following a very dubious election result. There, despite a crudely repressive regime, those eager to cling to power apparently failed to foresee the danger and only at the last minute, on the day of the election, blocked text-messaging and Facebook, and all but closed down the telephone system - not so much at that stage to stem the flow of political comment but to make the coordination of opposition more difficult. And in our own country? The media are undoubtedly more in touch with the general public than ever before. Through blogs, chatrooms and Twitter we can all make our views known to the whole world - there to be selectively harvested by the media and transformed into *issues* - of rather variable merit.

**Christopher Green**

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Cover: Petertide Fair (p14)  
*photo: Rowena Pike*

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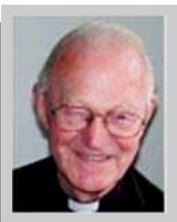
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**Next copy dates (all Fridays)**

**3 July 7 Aug 4 Sep**



### Going the Extra Mile

#### **Father Basil Jones**

recalls lives  
dedicated to  
Christian caring

*If only one of the agencies had gone the extra mile Baby Peter's life could have been saved.*

I have been privileged to watch three nuns and young residentiary social

workers do just that and almost certainly save many young lives in the process. Some of them had been very badly damaged indeed.

My true story begins in 1975 but the Children's Home in Bromham Road, Bedford where it all happened had been running for over 100 years and was part of the widespread social work which was undertaken by the **Deaconesses of St Andrew**, an Anglican Order of Nuns.

As Vicar of St Paul's, Bedford I automatically became Warden to **Sister Joyce**, **Sister Hazel** and **Sister Muriel** who were there already, working at the Children's Home and despite leaving Bedford I have continued to have that role.



Sisters Joyce, Hazel and Muriel 1961-2005

## review leader

It meant that I acquired a detailed knowledge of all the children, who have always known me as Father Basil. I visited them for two or three days every fortnight and when they spent their summer holidays in a Church Hall in Great Yarmouth, I went there with Doreen who stayed rather longer!

I was just an observer of the daily happenings at Bromham Road but the home had a beautiful chapel and amongst others I said Mass there every day that I was there. The sisters kept their rule of life, despite many interruptions and crises. The children were prayed for every day by name.

The children were in the care of local authorities, primarily Islington, Luton and Bedford and ranged in age from a few months to sixteen plus. Some of them had been with us since birth and were there until they went out into the world. This transition was not always easy as most parents will know.

Many of the children regarded St Etheldreda's as their home and even when the Home was closed due to a change of government policy, we ensured that the Sisters lived in a fairly large house which was the Sister's home and almost regarded by the children as theirs as well.

Sister Joyce was sent to be Sister-in-Charge in 1972 and oversaw the entry of boys into what had previously been a Girl's Home. She generally brought the home up to date and had great organisational and financial skills honed by the Co-op in Manchester. She was very kind and motherly but brooked no nonsense. Many of the children had fearsome backgrounds before they were rescued and so they weren't always easy, which is putting it mildly.

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June 21<sup>st</sup> was Father's day, a day that did not feature in my childhood calendar. Perhaps in those days we took fathers for granted, but nowadays we know they are important. My attention was drawn to fathers, first in an item on Radio 4's Woman's Hour and then a few days later by some articles in The Mothers' Union magazine *Families First*.

Woman's Hour was looking at how fathers are portrayed in the soaps and a report by *Think Fathers* argued that dads are seen as feckless, out of touch and not central in the story. Other points of view were put forward in the discussion; perhaps being a dad grows slowly, and do the soaps represent the changes going on in society today? The Mothers' Union acknowledges that family life is changing and with it, the roles of fathers and fathering. One article in *Families First* was entitled *Where are the dads?* The author, **Mark Stibbe**, suggests that Britain is caught up in the global pandemic of fatherlessness, and it is time for society including the churches, to recognise the problem and promote fatherhood. Drawing on the Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32) he says we need a fatherhood as shown in that story; one that is patient, vigilant, compassionate, active, forgiving, intimate, generous, joyful and much more. This in no way devalues motherhood and single mothers who as Woman's Hour argued, are often the lynch pin of the family, holding everything together as women often did in the past.

Another article in *Families First* talked about *A dad's best gift*. **Roger Harper**, a former Guyana and West Indies cricketer and now a coach, is married to Sheran, who is Mothers' Union Diocesan President of Guyana. They have two sons, now at university. Roger spoke of

## WHAT DAD'S ADD

Margaret Burbidge reflects on Father's Day

**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families

<http://themothersunion.org>



fatherhood as being responsible and dependable, providing for the family, setting the right examples for children and instilling the right values. Sheran is also a Parenting Programme Trainer and has helped establish groups in both urban communities and in isolated areas of the rainforest interior. Some of those trained to lead groups are men, recognising the important role of fathers in parenting. **Mark Stibbe** also sees the value of courses that focus on being a good dad; a role important for the well-being of families and society as a whole.

The Mothers' Union understands the need to connect with dads

and has produced a *What Dads Add* card. The words on the card can be summed up thus: *The greatest gift you can give a child is you.*

To find out more about The Mothers' Union magazine *Families First*, visit <http://familiesfirstmagazine.com> ❖

### ←p3 Going the Extra Mile

I have just had the honour of giving the addresses at the Requiems at St Paul's, Bedford for Sister Joyce and Sister Muriel who died within a month of each other in their eighties. The church was packed including many ex-children and their children, many supporters and very good friends.

To see the young men, visibly upset, and off their own bat form a guard of honour as the coffins left St Paul's was a very moving and silent witness to the devoted and loving care they had received over many years.

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Despite, or maybe because of, the current recession, the market in Berkhamsted High Street is thriving in a way that markets in many neighbouring towns are not. A measure of this success is the aggregate rent paid by the stallholders. The stallholders who have pitches on the site pay a fee to run their stalls to the Market Fund Trustees. The Trustees in turn pass the revenue from this fee on to the Town Hall to support its functions for the community as a whole. This year the Trustees paid £28,000 over to the Town Hall, a substantial increase on the previous year, when they paid £23,500.

Berkhamsted Market has a long history which goes back to early medieval and quite possibly Saxon times. It is almost certainly older than markets in nearby towns and there is a Charter dating from 1156 which forbids the setting up of any competitor market within 7 miles of the town. I know this because the late **Ken Sherwood** wrote, in 2007, a short note on the history of the Berkhamsted Market Rights. **Ken Sherwood**, as well as being one of the leading players in the regeneration and rebuilding of the Town Hall, was in recent years the secretary of the Market Fund Trustees. He also took a close interest in the history of the Market.

He uncovered some interesting and curious facts. For example, the 1156 Charter refers to the rights of *stallage* and *picage*. Picage was the right to make holes in the ground enabling the erection of a market stall. A tool which we still use, and which can be used to make holes in the ground, is called a *pick axe*, where *pick* is related to pike - a pole with a pointed end, i.e. a spear. Picage, Ken conjectured, may be the origin of the modern word *pitch*. Ken also

# Ian Reay's &news &views

## Stallage and Picage Ian Reay explores Berkhamsted market



established that the market originally stretched right along the High Street to the west door of St Peter's Church. The shops between the High Street and the narrow cobbled lane, sometimes called Back Lane, which runs from Water Lane (by Tesco) to St Peter's Church, were built on workshops that originally formed part of the market.

The ownership of the market rights, that is the right to receive the levy from the stallholders, was originally held by the Crown and the

Duchy of Cornwall. These rights were bought by Earl Brownlow of Ashridge in the 1860s and were then sold on to the Trustees of the Town Hall in 1923. The Town Council took on the responsibility for this in 1979 but since 1997 the present arrangements have been in place. The levy and fund is now managed by Trustees, two of whom must be town councillors.

The recent and continuing success of the market and the Market Fund is partly due it seems to the moderate charge made for having a pitch and partly because, since the present structure has been in place, the Trustees have begun to extend gradually the claiming of their rights to charge a levy. For example, the restaurants and coffee bars along the High Street, which put tables and chairs on the pavement, pay a levy to the Trustees.

As well as the long standing Saturday market, we now have a monthly Farmers' Market on Sundays, and occasionally foreign visitors from France and Italy also set up stalls. Since the shops between Water Lane and St Peter's Church stand on what was historically market ground, who knows, maybe the Trustees will one day flex their legal muscles and be brave enough to demand a levy from these shopkeepers too! ❖

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I wonder how many people still rely on the church clock to set their clocks and watches. Probably not many now, but it used to be important for local time-keeping. So much so that those responsible for maintaining public clocks could, in the past, be fined - a farthing a day - for allowing a clock that had stopped to show any time other than twelve. I came by this information while I was looking at the clock mechanism in the tower of St Peter's Church with the engineer who had come from the clock-makers, Gillett & Johnston, to find out why the clock has stopped. It has stopped because part of the mechanism is worn, allowing parts that should normally come into the most delicate contact, to move too firmly against each other and eventually jam. The affected parts will have to be dismantled and removed to Gillett & Johnston's workshops to be put in good order.

The clock mechanism is a handsome piece of nineteenth century engineering -

## WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THE CHURCH CLOCK

Christopher Green writes

decorative cast iron frame with moving parts, hand-finished in steel and brass. Manufactured by Thwaites and Reed, who claim to be the oldest clock-makers in the world, it was put in place to commemorate

the accession of Queen Victoria in 1838. There was however a clock long before this date. The earliest record is in 1588 and thereafter there are regular references in the Churchwardens' accounts to costs relating to the maintenance of the clock. In early pictures of St Peter's, dating from before 1838, there is a single dial on the west face of the tower set in a diamond-shaped surround beside the bell-chamber opening. There were no dials on the other faces of the tower. When the new clock was installed in 1838, three dials were put in place, on the west, north and east faces of the tower, above the bell-chamber openings. A diamond-shaped mark, where the old clock had been, remained visible, as late as 1900. The fourth dial, on the south face of the tower, was added at some time before 1908. ❖

## A Royal Performance

**Rob Halls**, deputy headteacher of The Thomas Coram Middle School recalls a memorable occasion

Members of The Thomas Coram Middle School were thrilled to be invited to join in the 270th anniversary celebrations of Coram, Britain's first charity dedicated to helping vulnerable children. The school choir performed *Who are these abandoned children?* from *Captain Coram's Kids* by **Michael Hurd**, before joining the EC4 Choir and the New Foundling Choir to welcome **Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II** and the **Duke of Edinburgh** to Coram's headquarters in Camden on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2009** in a rousing rendition of the *Hallelujah* chorus from *Messiah*, by Handel, one of the charity's first

governors who died 250 years ago. The famous composer performed his *Messiah* on a regular basis to help raise money for the hospital. **Dr Carol Homden**, the charity's chief executive, said *In 1739 there would have been no charity of this kind in the UK. The charter allowed Thomas Coram to create the first institution of its kind. The Queen came here to celebrate the anniversary and the fact that thousands of charities followed in the wake of Thomas Coram's pioneering work.* Thomas Coram Middle School will welcome representatives of Coram, including Dr Homden, to their celebrations in the Autumn term. ❖

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*The Democratic Republic of Congo is the most frightening place I*

*know* wrote John Simpson, the BBC's World Affairs Editor in his book *Not Quite World's End*. From Congo to Zaire to Democratic Republic of Congo this country has carried darkness and violence and fear with it to the present day. The aftermath of over 10 years of civil war with a death toll

of more than five million, is found all over the country. In the capital city Kinshasa, the pavements are broken and decaying; the roads are pot-holed and strewn with rubbish and sewage. Living on these streets are about 30,000 street children, mostly boys.

**John Simpson** met a group of them, aged 10-12. Together they were jolly, competitive and giggling as they made private jokes, but when he spoke to them, on their own, each one became quiet and reflective as he faced the tragedy of his young life. Their stories were remarkably similar; loss of parent or their home; violence, cruelty, running away or being forced to leave to live rough on the streets. Wounded children underneath the superficial jollity; each entirely alone in the world where the reality of their lives was dirt and sores, empty stomachs and private grief. What was their future? What were their hopes? This was the world of **Jimmy Polo Kambili**, not one who met **John Simpson**, but at 15 a street boy. He was forced onto the streets, scavenging amongst the rubbish for food. His family couldn't look after him. Did he run away or did they turn him out? We don't know. What was his future to be? Was his only hope not to die at the hands of the children he met on the streets?

## LIFE BEFORE DEATH

**Margaret Burbidge** explains the work of Christian Aid



Into his darkness in a city filled with violence and fear, comes **Christian Aid**. *Christian Aid believes in life before death.*

The street children and families, whose life is hard to say the least, deserve life before an early death. They deserve to have their hopes rekindled and a better life. In Kinshasa Christian Aid works through a local organisation called **Humanité**

**Nouvelle**. Roughly translated that means *new people*, and it works to bring about change in the lives of the street children.

**Humanité Nouvelle** is a Christian Aid Partner. Money from Christian Aid has helped it to set up a drop-in centre for children like Jimmy. He gets a good meal, advice and training. He can play football and now feels safer sleeping with friends in the Market Place. He knows people care about him. His hopes have been sparked into life and maybe one day he will be a driver or a mechanic.

Christian Aid's work is about loving one another, and vividly shows us who are *the others*. **Humanité Nouvelle**, supported by Christian Aid expresses God's love for the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world; the outcasts like Jimmy and families living on the edge of real poverty. Christian Aid follows in the footsteps of Jesus, whose commandment is to love your neighbour as yourself. This is the natural consequence of God's love for us; to pass that love on. In supporting Christian Aid we too live that commandment. But Christian Aid takes us a step further. It believes it is not enough just to help the poorest people have a better life. The root causes of poverty

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Us Brits are peculiar. We complain about being spied on by the all the CCTV cameras being installed for our protection, complain about an American

company going around the country mapping our streets to make money and provide information for all to use - or not! Then this same technology is used to provide evidence regarding a death on the streets of London during a *peaceful demonstration*. This evidence has, forced three post-mortems as to the cause of the poor man's death. This would never have happened if the general public had had their way and stopped the wholesale surveillance of public areas.

Even the Berkhamsted Citizens Association (BCA) can be considered guilty of this invasion as there is currently a project under way to update the photographic record of the High Street which seems to change almost by the month. The original project was done in the late 1990s using funding from the Borough Council for the Berkhamsted Urban Design Study which was intended to improve the appearance of the High Street shop rears mainly between Water Lane and St Johns Well Lane (see the BCA newsletters during the 1980s, available on the archive pages of <http://bcacitizen.org.uk>). We mustn't be too hasty, must we!

The subject of the current *Google* mapping project was discussed at the April BCA committee meeting and we felt that although we were not happy with the amount of detail that could be made available worldwide, there was little we could do. Indeed, the data protection commissioner has since ruled that the process does not invade our privacy, so can continue. The committee did feel that it would not be unreasonable to request *Google* to notify local Town and Parish Councils prior to the visit of their

## CCTV & CRIME PREVENTION

Norman Cutting  
examines the arguments



photographing vehicles. At least our elected representatives would be able to inform local residents when/if the vehicles are going to be around. The good thing is that it is just a snapshot and could

easily be out of date within four or five years. What do you think?

Personally, I feel this is one step too far. It's always been suggested that if you have done nothing wrong, then you have nothing to fear. That only works for the perfect, and I ain't perfect,

are you? One bit of me, I confess, was pleased that during the recent G20 demonstration, the excessive actions of some of our police had been caught on various cameras - then I realised what I was thinking. If this event happened in almost any other country, the government paramilitary would be out in force, tear gas employed, firearms ready and often used resulting in a number of deaths. This country is policed by consent and it shows. Let's always remember that our country really is one of the best in the world to live in and we have the art of moaning finely tuned - but we are usually listened too - even to the extent that the world and his wife would love to live here. Aren't we lucky? And I, for one, won't forget it!

Meanwhile, in late May, the news has been released that the *Automatic Number Plate Recognition* (ANPR) facility is to be extended to CCTV systems all over the country and the records kept for a minimum of two years. This will mean that every journey you make in your vehicle will be recorded *in the interests of crime prevention* - just in case. I flagged this up in March 2006 (<http://tinyurl.com/cutting1>) when it was suggested 10 years storage could be expected. Add the available facial recognition software and do you still feel comfortable with the *if you have done nothing wrong, you have nothing to fear* argument? ❖

**A** question continually asked over the last nine months was answered emphatically on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June**. After all the meticulous planning, the committee meetings and the long and often wet hours spent on the Saturday market, the Petertide Fair came together to produce a memorable day for all who helped and all who spent their money to support **Reach Out Projects** and **Fundacion Junconi**.

# THE PETERTIDE FAIR

**How hard can it be?**  
**Sam Limbert finds out**



the steam haulage across the churchyard for most of the day.

The train also produced one of the more strange sights of the day. Not only was it a big draw for children and families, the curate **Fr John Pritchard** was spotted enjoying a ride behind the locomotive. The other strange sight from the Fair was one that will live long in the memory - **David Pearce** dressed as a town crier and striding along Berkhamsted

In total, over 200 parishioners volunteered to help throughout the Fair weekend. Whether it was moving things, selling things or *doing the usual*, everyone who helped deserves great credit for contributing to a fantastic day.

The final preparations for the Fair began on Friday as books were sorted, pews moved and bric-a-brac put in position. Panic hadn't set in for chairman **Judith Limbert** as there was a sense of calm before the potential storm. What followed wasn't a storm, but beautiful sunshine.

For all the hard work people put in before the Fair, everyone knows that bad weather can make all that work irrelevant. However the sun was beating down on St Peter's and helped bring in masses of people. Even the unfortunate cancellation of the Red Arrows from the day's events didn't stop the public pouring into the churchyard. Outside attractions had cash flowing as the public wanted to be outside in the sun. The china smash, bottle tombola, Donutz sideshows, food stalls, the politician based coconut shy and the train all collected considerable sums of money. The train in particular was a massive draw as there were queues to ride

High Street with his bell, buckles and breeches.

There was also a lot happening inside St Peter's as the cake stall sold out and the bric-a-brac made a hefty increase on their takings from the previous year. The addition of electrical items added a new dimension to the bric-a-brac which made £500 more than in 2008.

The whole event was a huge success with all the hard work put in by everyone paying off. After the successful wine tasting event followed by the Fair itself, over £10,000 has been raised for **Reach Out Projects** and **Fundacion Juconi**. And as I write, the **Chris Garrick Jazz Concert** and the **Patronal Lunch** are still to come, so that figure is set to rise and make 2009 a record-breaking year for the Petertide Fair.

So, in answer to the question - Quite hard. However the success of this year's Fair is testament to the great work put in by everyone. It's Fair to say a great day was had by all. ❖



The last concert in the **Bridgewater Sinfonia** season saw it return to partnership with its choral ally, **The Chiltern Chamber Choir**, for a programme of French music.

## A PERFECT PARTNERSHIP

Jonathan Lee reviews  
a recent concert

Beginning the concert was the immensely beautiful and satisfying *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faun* by Debussy. This piece is unexpectedly challenging and a lot more difficult than the beautiful and relaxing result gives away. Throughout, the balance of strings, winds and harp was beautifully achieved and the quasi-improvisational flow and tempo were perfect. Principal Flautist **Edward Beckett** provided the extra dimension with his rich, warm tone and his superb control of the phrases, and conductor **Adrian Davis** seemed perfectly in control of the wonderful rubato that makes this piece work.

From one style of lyricism to another as the **Chiltern Chamber Choir** sang the famous *Cantique de Jean Racine*. A favourite of many choral societies and church choirs, it is often heard with rough edges and disappointing dynamic contrast. Here, however, the CCC gave a strong and confident rendition with well-controlled phrasing and dynamic effect, boding well for what was to come.

One could say that Poulenc's *Litanies à la Vierge Noire* can only ever truly reach its full effect in a dark gothic building with thick layers of frankincense hanging in the air. Alas, St Peter's was bright, there was no hint of incense left from earlier services and it was almost full with audience. This left the CCC at a disadvantage in conjuring their mystical plea to the black virgin of Rocamadour. That aside the performance was convincing and the momentum was maintained through the difficult and unsupported phrases. I hope the choir gets an opportunity to sing this fabulous work in a dark and gothic French cathedral – it will give the extra edge to the near desperation of this prayer.

Following on was one of the two central items in the evening's programme – Poulenc's organ concerto for organ, strings

and timpani. The work is one through-composed movement rather than following the classical form. Under the musical control of **Adrian Davis**, the **Bridgewater Sinfonia** settled into a

pace that allowed us to hear the definition as well as providing excitement and bounciness where it was necessary. Organ soloist, **Christopher Bowers-Broadbent** gave a lively and masterful rendition of this great work – clearly enjoying every moment of the luscious passagework as well as the more frenetic. It can only be a shame that the organ sound we heard, though excellent in its digital form, was not a real pipe organ, due to the ongoing rebuilding work of the St Peter's organ. Whilst the audience were well aware of the organ, its presence was not as building-shakingly great as that of a real organ. The organ was accompanied by an well tuned and unified string section as well as precise and rhythmical impetus provided by **Francis Beuttler** on the timpani.

After the interval came Poulenc's *Gloria*. By this point, the Poulenc soundscape was familiar to the audience – the smiles of the audience were apparent. The **Chiltern Chamber Choir** started (and continued) with aplomb – clear words, excellent tuning and, most of all, enjoyment. Occasionally it was a shame that the brass section overpowered the choir, but I feel this was more a fault with the only-possible positioning within the building. Soprano **Kathryn Jenkin** joined for three of the movements. She gave, as ever, a superb and perfectly judged performance, glistening and enjoying every moment – her beautiful and clear tone was perfectly suited to this music.

This was an excellent end to the **Bridgewater Sinfonia** season – a well-chosen programme that gave such a successful balance of French music, and once again at the high professional standard that has become *de rigueur* for these concerts. Continuing high audience attendance is testament to the enjoyment of so many people and the success of this extraordinary and excellent group of musicians. ❖




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**CORAM 270<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY - Thomas Coram School & others singing for the Queen & the Duke of Edinburgh on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2009**





*photos: Rowena Pike*



*photos: Crichton Limbert*





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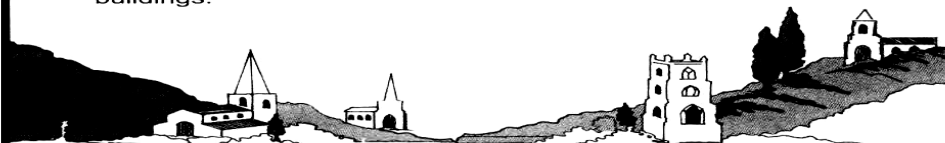
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Last year the *Bike 'n Hike* raised over **£100,000** (including Gift Aid), for the churches and chapels of Beds and Herts and our church can once again benefit from this fund raising event.

Of every £1 that is raised in sponsorship, 50p is comes to us. Last year St Peter's raised **£3,113** of which **£1,556** was returned to us. All the organising is done for us; all we have to do is take part!

The other half goes to the Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust and is distributed, in the form of grants, to local communities struggling to raise funds for vital repairs to their church or chapel.

Contact **Chris Clegg** (875818) [chris@cleggc.freemove.co.uk](mailto:chris@cleggc.freemove.co.uk)

## ←p11 Life Before Death

must also be addressed. The systems of government and global institutions must be challenged if they work in favour of the wealthy and comfortably off and keep poor people poor.

Among Christian Aid's campaigns in recent years have been *Drop the Debt*, *Trade Justice*, *Make Poverty History* and now *Climate Change*. Changes in weather patterns are causing sea levels to rise leading to flooding in low lying countries like Bangladesh. Hurricanes and tropical storms are increasing in frequency and intensity; floods, drought and disease threaten the livelihoods of millions. Already climate change is affecting the poorest people in many of the poorest countries. But who can speak up for them, these people whose voices cannot be heard? Christian Aid believes it is a matter of justice to speak out on their behalf and encourages us to do so too, and follow in the footsteps of Jesus and the Old Testament prophets. They spoke out about injustice and challenged the religious leaders of their time when their laws worked against the poor and broke God's commandment to love your neighbour. Christian Aid's commitment to love our neighbour singles out no one

person. It is inclusive and is concerned with the common good of any community. We, as Christian Aid supporters become part of that communal, inclusive love. We contribute to restoring hope and confidence in the lives of people like Jimmy in Kinshasa and to changing lives through the work of Christian Aid and its Partners. In the darkness of the streets of Kinshasa, the floodplains of Bangladesh and in any of the poorest countries of the world ravished by poverty, there will be life before death.

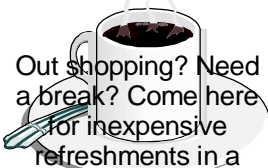
Berkhamsted and Northchurch were part of the biggest street collection in the country in Christian Aid Week in May. Thank you to all who donated or helped to make it so successful. The red envelopes raised £5,540 and the market stall £331. Both were more than last year! Your generosity is really appreciated and not least by those who will have life before death through the work of Christian Aid.



*From an address given at All Saints' on the Sunday in Christian Aid week*

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## *review* Northchurch & Wigginton

**Epænetus,  
Andronicus,  
Urbanus &  
Stachys**

**The Revd  
Jonathan  
Gordon explains  
their importance**

A very interesting theme in the Bible is the role played by the characters that only appear for a few verses and then their part in the story comes to an end. They are the Biblical *footnote characters*, yet, the role they play or the example they provide can be

extremely significant. Examples in the Gospel stories include the woman with a haemorrhage, or the woman who in an act of generosity gives all her money to the temple. There are other examples from the story of Jesus and also references in the letters of St Paul to men and women from the early church communities. At the end of the Letter to the Romans as an example St Paul lists in chapter sixteen a catalogue of names who were members of the church, who had shared in his experiences of imprisonment or had provided him with help and encouragement. Epænetus, Andronicus, Urbanus and Stachys, may not be as well known as Peter, James, and John, yet they were important people who played a part in the establishment of church communities.

Remembering the hidden characters is very important and has shaped the study of history in recent years. In the Civil Rights Movement in the United States, as an example, the focus has not been so much on the leaders and the decision makers, but on the ordinary men and women in communities across the South who played a part in the struggle against segregation. They may not have had any meetings with powerful political leaders or met with anyone famous, but they were the people who decided to march in the rain or stand on street corners for hours waiting to register to vote. In the process of change that led to the dismantling of segregation

these largely unknown ordinary people were integral parts.

In the life of the church we may not feel as if we make a huge amount of difference or even that we are noticed. There is in the Bible a response to this. God notices everyone and no-one is unimportant or insignificant. The Gospel writers were aware of this and use numerous stories of the smaller characters to show that Jesus was intuitively aware of people around him. St Paul in his letters makes a point of showing that in day-to-day church life a vital role of support and fellowship was played by numerous people who only appear once or twice in the New Testament. It is those who are the *footnote characters* that can tell the story of the life of the church in the past and in the present.



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**Christopher Morris** writes

You ask when the painting of the Ascension above the west chancel arch was covered up. This would have been done when the entire Church, except for St Catherine's Chapel, was redecorated in 1959/60 after the moving of the high altar, the organ and choir stalls. St Catherine's Chapel had been re-decorated a few years earlier. I do not recall any controversy about the covering up of the wall painting. It was not in good condition, would have been expensive to restore and I would guess that it was thought that it would distract the eye from the re-positioned High Altar with its decorated reredos made from the old choir screen. I cannot remember about the chancel wall painting but it was probably covered at the same time,

It is interesting to compare the absence of argument about the wall painting compared with the discussions on what should be the colour of the nave ceiling. This was finally resolved by a vote on suggested alternatives at a well-attended parish meeting. I wonder how many would participate in such a meeting today?

*The article on wall-paintings in St Peter's also attracted a phone call to the Editor from **Betty Gilbert**, now resident in Huntingdon. She remembered as a child gazing up at the Ascension, probably, she suspected, when her attention should have been elsewhere, so confirming its distracting influence. She thought the painting might have been covered up in the 1940s.*



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## The Bourne and Salter Charities

**Priscilla Watt** writes

These two charities were both set up in the seventeenth century by philanthropists who were concerned with the welfare of the children of Berkhamsted. Their legacies are still helping children today.

The main areas where help can be given are in connection with the extras required for further education – books, equipment etc. Unfortunately the money does not go as far as it did only a few years ago when £20 was a generous grant but, nevertheless, the Trustees are concerned that those who could be helped are not aware of the assistance available.

The qualification for the Bourne Fund is

either that the candidates must be resident in the ecclesiastical parish of Great Berkhamsted St Peter and/or have been a pupil at Victoria First School. The Salter Fund helps those resident in the ancient ecclesiastical parish of Great Berkhamsted St Peter which is a slightly larger area. In both cases the candidates must be under the age of twenty-five.

If you feel that you or someone you know can be helped please don't be put off by these complicated qualifications but ring me – **Priscilla Watt** 01442 863804 – the Clerk of the Charities, to see if we can help. ❖



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# *review* notes&notices

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## WALK BACK IN TIME

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**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2009** 2:00pm - 4:30pm from Berkhamsted Castle. Part of the Chilterns Conservation Board's Historic Walks Programme. For details contact **Jenny Sherwood** (865158)

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## PEPPER MAGIC

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**17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> July and 22-25 July 2009** at the Centenary Theatre. Gates open 6:30pm and show begins at 8:15pm (3:30pm Sunday) Go early and stay late for the live bands in the marquee before and after the show. Admission £8-£20.

Further details from box office (877292).

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## BERKHAMSTED SCOUTS CENTENARY

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**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009** at 6:30pm in St Peter's Church. As part of the celebration of its centenary, 1st Berkhamsted Scout Group will be having a short service. This will be followed by a social event. All past 1st Berkhamsted Scouts, leaders and helpers and other friends of scouting are most welcome to join us.

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## FESTIVAL OF BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY

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**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2009** from 10:30am to 1:30pm Dacorum Heritage Trust does its bit for a notable national event with a Discover and Dig show. Study decorative pottery, handle flint tools and help recreate a dig in sand. For details contact **Nina Bevan** (879525).

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## ST MARY'S NORTHCHURCH SUMMER FÊTE

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**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2009** 2:00pm – 4:30pm

This year we have another mix of new and regular attractions for all to enjoy. This year the proceeds will again be split between Northchurch United Charities, the Mamie Martin Fund, a charity that supports education in Malawi and thirdly, the further repairs/refurbishment to the church buildings.

The entertainment includes the *St Mary's School Maypole dancers*; *The Hemel Hempstead Band*; in the church we have *The Patrick Gibson Guitar Group* and singing from **Barbara & Bill McGillivray**. There will also be a children's Treasure Trail, Pony Rides plus all the usual stalls and refreshments. Two special extras will be a demonstration unit by the St John's Ambulance Team and a Crime Prevention display with our local **PC Stuart Francis**.

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# *review* notes&notices

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## BERKHAMSTED CASTLE WI

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**Judith Lowther**, Joint President, welcomed us to our June meeting and was pleased to see so many members and a visitor in our midst.

**Janet Mitchell**, Secretary, reported on the Group Meeting to Laycock Abbey and village, and although being a very rainy day, it proved to be a good trip.

Our speaker this month was **Joan Lilwall-Smith**, her subject *Japan Encore*. Her highly amusing talk with first-hand knowledge of the Japanese way of life giving details of fish, fruit and vegetables and not eating meat or dairy produce which seems to give them a long healthy life. We were surprised to know that the Japanese do not entertain at home and only entertain visitors and guests in hotels.

**Joy Lovell** gave the vote of thanks.

During teatime we had a written quiz to solve when the raffle was drawn and the competition judged.

Why not pay us a visit? On **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2009** we hold our next meeting at the Court House Berkhamsted at 2:00pm, the speaker being **James Cumming**.

A warm welcome awaits you.

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## TUESDAY CLUB

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At our meeting on **Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2009**, Mr Cumming entertained us with fascinating reminiscences of his wartime childhood in Hendon, Camden Town and later as an evacuee to rural Buckinghamshire.

Apart from the occasion when he and his family were bombed out and lost their home, his anecdotes were delightfully light-hearted and brought back vivid memories to many of us who shared similar experiences in our early years.

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## OXFAM AND M&S

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Turning water into wine was Jesus' first miracle but at the Oxfam shop in Berkhamsted High St they are turning clothes into water.

Early in 2008 the overseas aid charity and M&S came together to launch a unique scheme. Donors of good quality saleable M&S clothing were given a £5 voucher towards purchases at M&S.

The resulting increase in quality donations to Oxfam has raised an additional £1.8 million for the charity – enough to provide safe water for 2.4 million people or give emergency food aid to 83,000 people for six months in Kenya. Alternatively it could be used to buy 72,000 goats, 1.8 million books or 56,250 emergency shelters.

M&S too has benefited with an exceptionally high 60% of vouchers being redeemed. The scheme is ongoing. As one of Oxfam's audit shops monitoring the sales increase, Berkhamsted volunteers have been delighted with the response and there has been an environmentally welcome saving in unwanted clothing going to landfill.

*Any catches? Well, the success of the scheme, together with the new Gift Aid on donated goods mentioned in the May Review, has meant a significant increase in the volunteer workload and, with summer holidays looming, extra help would be very welcome. A few hours a week can make a miraculous difference. Just call at the shop for an application form or ring Shop Manager Jane Hockings (864225).*

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## DACORUM ANNUAL STEAM & CRAFT FAYRE

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**Saturday and Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> July 2009** at Greencroft Farm Potten End.



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## TRANSITION TOWN BERKHAMSTED

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### *Green themed summer events*

Local community group, Transition Town Berkhamsted, is planning a summer of fun, environmental themed community activities for the town. Transition Town Berkhamsted is a group of local residents who are aiming to make the town a sustainable community by lowering our carbon emissions and reducing our dependence on fossil fuels. The summer events focus on getting the community to share resources, learn more about environmental issues and have a healthy lifestyle.

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009** at 7:45pm in the Berkhamsted School Centenary Hall

In the first event, the group will be showing a popular recent film, *The Age of Stupid*. The film has an environmental theme and stars Oscar-nominated **Pete Postlethwaite** as a man living alone in the devastated world of 2055, looking at old footage from 2008 and asking: why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance? The film will be introduced by its producer, **Franny Armstrong**. Residents can also find out more about the group at the event and how they can make a difference.

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2009** 11:30am to 2pm at the Friends Meeting House, 289 High Street (by Blockbusters) - the first of three *Sunday Exchange Days*. The group hope to encourage Berkhamsted residents to share and exchange. The events will be fun, social days where residents can bring things to swap, meet their neighbours, listen to music and sample some local food. The day is a chance to swap any locally grown produce, handmade goods, accessories (hats, sunglasses etc – no clothes please), services and advice. There will also be a kids swap shop, a bike repair

stall, live music and refreshments. Everyone is encouraged to bring along something to swap or bring along a skill that you could swap for something you might need.

The other Sunday Exchanges will be held on **9<sup>th</sup> August 2009** and **13<sup>th</sup> September 2009**. For more information on the exchange days contact **Marion Baker** (874732) or email **[info@transitionberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:info@transitionberkhamsted.org.uk)** <http://www.transitionberkhamsted.org.uk>

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## ASHRIDGE NATIONAL TRUST

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**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2009** at 7:00pm at Ashridge Estate Visitors' Centre - *Bat Talk and Walk*. A chance to see a real bat, followed by a bat walk in the woods. Booking required. Phone 851227

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2009** 9:00pm at Ashridge Estate Visitors' Centre - *Night-time Wildlife Walk*, including a moth-trapping session with Bucks Moth Group. Booking required. Phone 851227

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2009** 6:30pm from the Ashridge Estate Visitors' Centre - *Barrows, Bumps & Boundaries*. Join The National Trust's regional archaeologist on a walk through the ages from Bronze Age Barrows to World War II remains. £5 Phone 851227.

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## BERKHAMSTED LIONS SUMMER FÊTE

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**Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009** from 1:00pm to 5:00pm at the Cricket Club. Displays of sheep-dog work with **Katy Cropper**, of archery and other set-piece entertainments, plus a dog show, stalls and entertainments. Admission £1.50 – accompanied children free.

## July

<b>SUN</b>	<b>St Peter's</b>	<b>8:00am Eucharist</b>
		<b>9:30am Sung Eucharist</b>
		<b>6:00pm Evensong</b>
	<b>All Saints' 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00am Eucharist</b>
	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00am Morning Worship</b>
	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00am Holy Communion with Holy Baptism</b>
	<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8:00am Holy Communion</b>
		<b>10:00am Morning Worship</b>

All services at *St Peter's* unless otherwise indicated. MP = Morning Prayer EP = Evening Prayer

<b>MON</b>	<b>MP</b>	<b>7:30am</b>	<b>EP</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
<b>TUE</b>	<b>MP</b>	<b>7:30am</b>	<b>EP</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>	<b>9:30am All Saints'</b>
<b>WED</b>	<b>MP</b>	<b>7:30am</b>	<b>EP</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>	<b>8:00am</b>
<b>THU</b>	<b>MP</b>	<b>7:30am</b>	<b>EP</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>	<b>11:00am (Fr Michael's day off)</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>MP</b>	<b>7:30am</b>	<b>EP</b>	<b>5:00pm both</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>	<b>9:15am</b>
<b>SAT</b>	<b>MP</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>EP</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Eucharist</b>	<b>10:00am</b>

**3<sup>rd</sup> 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)

**1<sup>st</sup> Tue** **TUESDAY CLUB 7:45pm** *A lively women's group with guest speaker* *Court House*  
Contact chairman Barbara McKenna (871159)

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

**4<sup>th</sup> 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*

**3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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)

**3<sup>rd</sup> 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'

## July / August

### July

Fri	3	10:00am	Little Fishes Service..... <i>St Peter's</i>
		1:00pm	The Cowper Society presents: Lunchtime Recital <i>The Bridgewater Ensemble</i> ..... <i>St Peter's</i>
Sun	5	3:30pm	<i>Violin Concert</i> – Felicity Lipman pupil concert in aid of <i>Hope and Homes for Children</i> ..... <i>St Peter's</i>
Mon	6	6:30pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Berkhamsted Scout Group Centenary Service.... <i>St Peter's</i>
Sun	12	6:00pm	Choral Evensong ..... <i>St Peter's</i>
Tue	14	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' service <i>The Lost Coin</i> ..... <i>All Saints'</i>
Fri	17	10:15am	Victoria School Leavers' service ..... <i>St Peter's</i>
		12 noon	Thomas Coram School End of Term service ..... <i>St Peter's</i>
Sat	18	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches
			Prayer Breakfast ..... <i>Berkhamsted Baptist Church</i>
		3:00pm	The Cowper Society presents: <i>Songs from around the world</i> A concert being given by the Berkhamsted singing workshops..... <i>St Peter's</i>

### August

Sat	8	3:00pm	Bellringers District meeting with ....
		4:30pm	Evensong..... <i>St Peter's</i>
Sun	9	1:00pm	Parish Picnic ..... <i>Thomas Coram School grounds</i>
Sat	15	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches
			Prayer Breakfast ..... <i>Court House &amp; St Peter's</i>

# reviewregisters

### Baptisms (St Peter's)

17 <sup>th</sup> May	Angus John Lloyd Jenkins
24 <sup>th</sup> May	Leah Elizabeth Kilner, Charlie Matthew Kilner, Joseph George Charles Rockell, Jack Victor Potter
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Sebastian Arthur Barham

### Baptisms (All Saints')

24 <sup>th</sup> May	Lucy Waugh
4 <sup>th</sup> June	Louisa Herbert
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Amelia Mary Muller Turnock

### Weddings (St Peter's)

9 <sup>th</sup> May	Andrew Ruggles & Lisa Jane Clark
30 <sup>th</sup> May	Andrew Edward Wales & Sophie Emma Tinworth Nicholas Morrish & Katie Theresa James

### Funeral

13 <sup>th</sup> May	Joyce Annie Oak (Kingshill)
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### Requiem Memorial Service and Burial of Ashes (St Peter's)

23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Walter Rutherford Sargaison
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## ASSOCIATION OF BERKHAMSTED CHURCHES

Telephone numbers to ring for times of services, etc.

Northchurch Baptist	Revd David Russell	877001
	Barry Cook	877001
St Mary's Northchurch	Revd Jonathan Gordon	871547
All Saints'	Revd Dr Michael Bowie	864194
	Revd Caroline Weaver	866324
	Mr John Malcolm	874993
	Mrs Ida Rance	865829
Sacred Heart (RC)	Fr John Bolam	863845
	Mr Frank Furlong	862768
Society of Friends (Quakers)	Moirra Tomson	871347
	Sandra Bryant	862 957
Kings Road Church	Pastor Ray Toms	864393
	Dr Richard Walker	875614
St Peter's	Revd Dr Michael Bowie	864194
	Mrs Jean Green	878227
Berkhamsted Baptist	Mrs Pat Ginger	865817
St Michael & All Angels, Sunnyside	Revd David Abbott	865100
St John the Evangelist, Bourne End	Mrs S Bright	875025
	Revd David Abbott	865100
	Revd Dick Clarkson	873014

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 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: **David Pearce**, 15 Park View Road (878809)  
**Philippa Seldon**, 1 Fieldway (871534)  
**Michael Robinson**, 36 Trevelyan Way, (863559)  
**Jenny Wells**, 57 Meadow Road (870981)  
 Parochial Church Secretary: **Julian Dawson**, 62 St Edmunds (871614)  
 Council: Treasurer: **Rachel Below**, Hillcote, Doctors Commons Rd (862316)

## 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

### Last month's Personality



Sunday school teacher Judy Ewart aged 14  
in the Isle of Man



# *Violin Concert*

By pupils of **Felicity Lipman**

(Co-founder of European Suzuki Association and British Suzuki Institute and Head of Chamber Music at the Junior Guildhall, Barbican, London)

Felicity's pupils will be performing in aid of the charity  
***Hope and Homes for Children.***

The programme will include music from Bach, Vivaldi, Bruch, Franck and Shostakovich.

**PLUS** – There will be a Playtogether with all Suzuki pupils in the audience.\*

**WHEN:** Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup> 2009 at 3.30pm

**WHERE:** St. Peter's Church, High Street,  
Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire HP4 2AX

*All welcome! Bring your violin!*

Tickets are £4 (adult) and £2 (children) in advance from Ayo on 01727 730624 or at the door. There will be an interval with refreshments.

\*Playtogether pieces:

Book 3 – G Minor Gavotte, *Bach*

Book 2 – Bourrée, *Handel*; Hunter's Chorus, *Weber*

Book 1 – Minuet 1, *Bach*; Andantino; Allegro; Go Tell Aunt Rhody; Twinkles.

All proceeds in aid of ***Hope and Homes for Children***  
(Registered Charity No. 1089490)