

# Berkhamsted. *review*

*In this issue*

Debt

From Chad to  
Hoddesdon

Haiku for a  
Red Kite

Castle Matters

The Rose Red  
City

Trouble with  
Cars

This Month's  
Notes and  
Events

**September 2009**



*for Town and Parish*

**30p**



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

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

Recently the south door of St Peter's Church has been locked and scaffolding has appeared in the south transept. *What's going on?* Parishioners and townsfolk have been asking. It was a fall of plaster from the ceiling of the south transept. Among the fallen debris, the remains of the wooden laths were reduced to little more than dust and there were ominous signs of fungal infestation. An anxious moment. Was it dry rot? Was the whole roof affected? Fortunately it wasn't dry rot and the affected area was small. Nevertheless the cost of the remedial work ran well into four figures. That's how it is with old buildings. The scaffolding and the closure of the south door draw attention to a responsibility that is always there, demanding care and attention on an almost daily basis and sufficient funding for the work of maintenance, repair and improvement. Without that constant care and the prudent management, year by year, of financial resources, St Peter's Church would not speak so surely of God's presence in our town for the past eight hundred years, nor stand so strikingly alongside the High Street, at the heart of the town's long and distinguished history.

**Christopher Green**

### **IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE...**

#### **DEBT**

**Father Anthony Lathe** explores its place in the ministry of Jesus .....p3

#### **FROM CHAD TO HODDESDON**

**Margaret Burbidge** sees a new Diocesan President take up the reins .....p5

#### **HAIKU FOR A RED KITE**

**Ian Reay** reflects on memories .....p7

#### **CASTLE MATTERS - A PRETTY PICTURE OR AN UNTIDY MESS**

**Jenny Sherwood** writes .....p14

#### **THE RED ROSE CITY**

**Frank Norman** introduces an account from Muriel's Journal .....p18

#### **TROUBLE WITH CARS**

**Norman Cutting** .....p21

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

---

Cover: The Court House Cottage (p23)  
*photo: Christopher Green*

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

**Advertising:** Rowena Pike, 18 Osmington Place, Tring, HP23 4EG (826821)  
email: review-ads@greatberkhamsted.org.uk (from 1 September)

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

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

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

**Next copy dates (all Fridays)**

**4 Sep 2 Oct 6 Nov**



## Debt

**Father Anthony Lathe** explores its place in the ministry of Jesus

# review leader

Debt has probably been there from the very beginning. In primitive societies you could lend seeds or animals to others and collect interest because, of course, they reproduce. In the not unsophisticated society in which Jesus

lived debt was part of everyday life. In his story of the Rich Fool who built barns to take his record harvest it was not so much that the man could eat the produce himself, but that he could lend out the surplus to others and live in luxury on the interest. The bankers pension fund! If people could not repay their debts in kind, they would then have to sell produce, work for money to pay off debt or often work for nothing, a kind of slavery. It was not an easy society in which to live. Ordinary people had to pay taxes in both money and goods. At the grass roots there seems to have been an underlying anger at the hopelessness of it all.

Into this society of mainly victims of the system comes **Jesus**. He taught mostly in the villages of rural Galilee; only occasionally in the city of Jerusalem. The burden of debt, the feeling that individuals could do little about what was going on, increasing suspicion of leaders in government, commerce and religion suggest not a few resonances with our own times. Recently I read that about four million people are expected to seek advice about debt this year.

The Gospels with their many stories of helping individuals to manage in difficult circumstances, commending kindness to others, seem to have a new and fresh relevance for our time. A couple of themes suggest themselves.

The first is the emphasis Jesus puts on the value of the individual person. Whoever they were, whatever the circumstances they

were in, however they were judged by other people, the individual not only mattered but had the possibility of a fulfilled life. Life, Jesus suggested, is more than things and money.

The second is the inevitability of the present system failing. Jesus called it the coming of the Kingdom of God. The economist **Karl Polanyi**, in a book published significantly in 1944, describes it as the market attempting to dominate social structures leading to breakdown. Both imply that when people are simply measured in terms of money or things, the system will fail. If Polanyi describes a process which repeats itself over and over again, Jesus means an ultimate and fundamental change.

There can be no surprise that an important part of the Lord's Prayer is *Forgive us our debts, as we forgive those who are indebted to us*. Forgiveness of debt means that, as far as our primary attitude to ourselves and others is concerned, money and things are left out of the equation. This Christian attitude enables us properly to value ourselves and each other, maintaining individual dignity and self-worth whatever the circumstances. Having got that right we can begin the practicalities.

Difficult times lie ahead for a very heavily indebted society and for many struggling individuals and families. The Office of National Statistics figures for June puts public debt at nearly £800 billion; **Grant Thornton** reckons total personal debt (credit cards, mortgages, loans, etc.) amounts to £1,444 billion. The average owed by each UK adult is just over £30,000. It is a huge task but managing debt humanely, I would say in a Godly way, is most important for the well-being of our society and for individuals especially in unforgiving times. Loving one's neighbour and loving oneself is as important and as hard as it was when Jesus was teaching in Galilee all those years ago. And, yes, it still has to do with managing debt and, at the same time, maintaining personal respect. ❖

# ajw home services

gardening  
building works  
plumbing  
carpentry  
electrical  
decorating

**ANDREW  
WRIGHT**

**07790 751335**

**(answerphone)**

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

## FURNITURE RESTORATION

Modern & Antique  
French Polishing,  
Lacquer Finish,  
Repairs. Kids  
playhouses, Dens,  
Treehouses.  
Cabinet Making &  
Carpentry. Spray Paint.

Phone Brendon

**01582 842817**

**07958 927806**

### BOOKS PURCHASED

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

**01442 862036**

**D J PROCTOR**

# *Birtchnells*



Quality Menswear  
Morning & Evening  
Wear Hire.

195 High Street      55 High Street  
Berkhamsted      Princes Risborough  
01442-863506      01844-344020

 **ELLIOTT FLOORING**  
Carpets supplied and professionally fitted

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

Wood flooring, variety  
of woods & laminate

Carpet maintenance  
and cleaning

Free estimates,  
measuring and advice

Over 20 years experience

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

**healththerapy**  
Bowen Therapy & Lymphatic Clinic

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

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

Diocesan Presidents come and go, and new ones take their place. Members attending the diocesan Annual Meeting in July were eager to know who is to replace **Eileen Smith** when she completes her term of office at the end of 2009, but the business had to be completed

first. Minutes, receiving the accounts and hearing of **MU** project work in 2008 passed with no awkward questions. Interesting snippets of information were revealed. Over £33,000 was raised for **MU** work in this diocese and overseas by almost 1,900 members! Linslade became part of Bedfordshire and joined St Albans Diocese and Dunstable Deanery; the subscription for 2010 is to increase by 50 pence and Bishop Alan, the new diocesan Bishop is a **MU** member. Then the moment everyone was waiting for; the names of the new president and trustees for 2010-12.

**Susan Roberts**, currently a diocesan Vice President and member of Hoddesdon Branch had been elected President. She was greeted warmly and spoke of this moment being an impossible dream and an exciting reality. Her talk was beautifully delivered; quiet, confident and expressing deep meaning and honesty. **MU** has become very important for her since joining when her children were 7, 10 and 12. Juggling family life and a part-time job gave her an empathy with the busy parents of today. Its appeal as an international organisation reaching out to families around the world has not diminished. Many years earlier working in Chad, Susan gained a picture in indelible ink of poverty and yet faith, of struggle and yet hope, of lack of education and yet a hunger for knowledge. Today **MU** is dealing with these issues in many countries similar to Chad. Though having served as Vice President for almost six

## FROM CHAD TO HODDESDON

**Margaret Burbidge** sees a new Diocesan President take up the reins

**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families

<http://themothersunion.org>

years she felt she has only begun to scratch the surface of what **MU** is about. She likened it to reading a book, starting slowly and as she continued to turn the pages making more and more discoveries, so that now she can't put the book down! It is a story that will continue with all of us working out the next

chapter together.

A presentation was then made to Eileen and her husband David, for all she had done to raise the profile of **MU** in this diocese and to support its work.

If anyone still thought **MU** was a small inward-looking organisation then the guest speaker quickly put them right. Provincial President for Canterbury, **Elizabeth Brown** and a member of St John's Harpenden, spoke of representing **MU** at the United Nations' Commission on the Status of Women. With 3.6 million members in 76 countries, and running Family Life, Parenting and Literacy and Development projects, **MU** is well-placed to tell the stories of those who have no voice on the worldwide issues of gender equality and equal sharing of responsibilities. She spoke of the difficulties in getting agreement and challenging governments on actions they have signed up to.

**MU** can offer its members many unexpected challenges and opportunities and Eileen, Susan and Elizabeth are testimony to that. Susan's closing words are relevant to us all;

*to serve as Diocesan President is the overflowing answer to the prayer I offer each time I kneel at the communion rail. 'Oh Lord, help me to love you and to serve you in this place at this time and always'.*

We all look forward to sharing her vision in the next Triennium. ❖

# Blair Electrical Limited

Electrical Engineers & Contractors

Domestic, Commercial & Industrial installations



Blair Electrical  
- people you can rely on

Blair Electrical Ltd. Unit 11 Akeman Business Park,  
Akeman Street, Tring, Herts. HP23 6AF  
Tel: 01442 827696 Fax: 01442 827698  
e-mail: [info@blairelectrical.com](mailto:info@blairelectrical.com)  
[www.blairelectrical.com](http://www.blairelectrical.com)

## JOINERY

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

John Turkentine  
01582 794842

## PETER D HANNABY

### Painter and Decorator

*Interior and exterior  
work undertaken.*

*For competitive  
quotations  
please call:*

mbl: 07765 250092  
home: 01442 249187

## Abbeyfield

Where older people find care in housing

The Abbeyfield (Berkhamsted and Hemel  
Hempstead) Society Limited

### **Independent but unhappy living alone?**

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

For further information contact:  
Mrs Susan Pullen 01442 217578

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



Will Kimberley  
Garden Services  
01442 255784

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

*Why not phone  
for a quote?*

## Paul's Plumbing Services

NO JOB TOO SMALL

...

FREE ESTIMATES

...

LOCAL TRADESMAN



Tel: 01442 875415  
Mbl: 07811 186381

## RODERICK WILSON

Fully qualified  
TREE SURGEON  
and FORESTRY  
CONTRACTOR

Tel: 842716 (eve)  
Mbl: 07768 937138

This summer has not been as drenchingly wet as in recent years. It has been a refreshing mix of sunshine and showers, colouring the countryside in unforgettable, vivid greens. My strongest memory of a summer walking in this tinted landscape is that of seeing a Red Kite, hovering over Bradenham valley about 100 feet up, watching its prey. At times it would beat its wings vigorously; at times it was quite still, facing into the breeze. But whether gliding or flapping its wings it always stayed in precisely the same spot, as if pinned by a tin tack in empty space. After a while, without warning, it dropped about 50 feet and then continued to hover precisely, peering into the grass below. Suddenly it swooped to the ground and then flew regally and triumphantly away across the valley, beating its wings in a slow and steady rhythm; its unfortunate prey clasped in its beak.

What this Kite did it did without reflection. We can be pretty certain that a Kite does not understand aerodynamics but it flies, it probably does not understand that it must eat to live, but it hunts. We also act with our greatest intensity when we do not reflect on what we are doing, and such moments are memorable to us. I remember it clearly, and for me the moment of that hovering Kite is a metaphor for how such vivid memories come about. Our strongest, clearest memories occur when we energetically rest in the moment - quiet, but closely attentive. This may be why our childhood memories are enduring. As children we *see* and *do* without reflection, we grow in the moment. We might think of such memories as a little like time-capsules placed in the foundations of a monument, which are placed in the ground to be found by archaeologists in the distant future. But these are left after a lot of circumspection and I think such deliberate intentions are misconceived. We cannot

# Ian Reay's &news &views

## Haiku for a Red Kite Ian Reay reflects on memories



reflection, it only becomes apparent in the future remembering. A moment now in which we rest, we do not reflect on, but such a moment is what we may remember.

The Japanese have a form of poetry, the *haiku*, with which they express this remembering. A *haiku* poem may have just seventeen syllables and to write a *haiku* poem is a discipline. It has to be an expression of immediacy. To fit a thought into seventeen syllables requires the expunging of all reflection and the thought must be left alone. A literal translation of the best known *haiku* poem has only eight syllables:

*Old pond,  
Frog jumps in,  
Water's sound.*

Expanding it into seventeen syllables could go something like this.

*Sitting by an ancient pond,  
A frog jumps into the still water,  
Plop!*

I thought I might try to encapsulate my Red Kite memory as a *haiku*. This is what it is.

*Resting in the moment,  
The Kite hovers,  
Vigorous but still,  
He swoops.*





**For Personal Attention from Berkhamsted's  
only independent family business**

# **J. WORLEY**

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

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

**Telephone Day/Night Berkhamsted 870326**

## **50plus Handyman**

### **HANDYMAN SERVICE**

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

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

[www.the50plus.co.uk](http://www.the50plus.co.uk) 0845 22 50 495

## **MCLEAN DECORATORS**

**INTERIOR AND  
EXTERIOR**

**ESTABLISHED 1985**

**EXCELLENT LOCAL  
REFERENCES  
FREE ESTIMATES AND  
ADVICE**

**PHONE 01582 696032  
MOBILE 07957 848222**

## **S.Dell&Sons**

**THE PROFESSIONAL REMOVERS**

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



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



Strawberries Beetroot Turnips Chard Potatoes Raspberries Cabbage  
Peas Gooseberries Leeks Garlic Broccoli Redcurrants Runner Beans

# **GROVE FARM PYO**

**Great Gap, Ivinghoe,  
Leighton Buzzard, LU7 9DZ**

**Open 10am everyday from approx mid June - October**  
**Buy Fruit and Vegetables that you select and pick**  
**fresh from the farm - great fun for the whole family**

**Info Line 01296 668175 or for more information go to**  
**<http://grovefarmpyo.co.uk> and join our mailing list**

French Beans Cucumbers Gladioli Onions Sweetcorn Tomatoes Swede  
Sunflowers Pumpkins Marrows Broad Beans Blackberries Cauliflower  
Parsnips Courgettes Blackcurrants Carrots Spinach Brussels Sprouts

## **DAVID GIDDINGS**

### **LANDSCAPES**

**Qualified Plantsman**  
**Garden Construction**  
**Planting Aftercare**

**4 Kingsley Walk,**  
**Tring, HP23 5DN**  
**Tel: 826628**



GOOD MUSIC NEAR YOU

# bridgewater sinfonia

patron SIR ANDREW DAVIS conductor ADRIAN DAVIS



**SATURDAY 26th SEPTEMBER**  
7.30pm St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted

**MENDELSSOHN** Overture: A Midsummer Night's Dream  
**R STRAUSS** Suite for 13 Winds  
Conducted by **DAVID CAMPBELL**  
**MOZART** Clarinet Concerto in A K622  
**DAVID CAMPBELL** *clarinet*  
**BRAHMS** Variations on a Theme by Haydn

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

## Booking

ONLINE <http://bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk>  
TEL 01442 873205  
IN PERSON at Aitchisons, Berkhamsted  
& Perfect Pitch, Chesham

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



SPECIAL  
PRE  
&  
POST  
CONCERT  
MENUS

01442 879988  
WWW.EATFISH.CO.UK

163 165 HIGH ST BERKHAMSTED

*the Cowper Society presents*

**the choral societies of Berkhamsted & Chorleywood**



# Pergolesi *Stabat Mater* *and choral pieces by*

## Purcell Stanford Bairstow

**Iestyn Evans** *organ* **Graham Wili** *conductor*

**Saturday 19 September 2009, 7.30pm**  
**St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted**  
**Tickets £10**

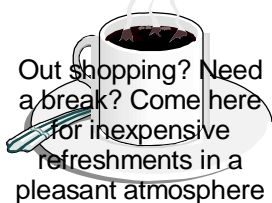
**Dacorum Card Holders & Students £5 Under 16s free**

**from Cole Flatt & Partners and at the door or phone 01442 871967 / 07708 262127**

Berkhamsted Choral Society and the Cowper Society are members of **Berkhamsted Arts Trust** which is financially supported by **Dacorum Borough Council**  
Berkhamsted Choral Society and Chorleywood Choral Society are affiliated to **Making Music** which represents and supports amateur performing and promoting societies  
[www.berkhamstedchoral.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedchoral.co.uk) (Reg Charity no 274462) [www.chorleywoodchoral.co.uk](http://www.chorleywoodchoral.co.uk) (Reg Charity no 287149)

## Court House Coffee Bar

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



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

## HANDY HOME SERVICES

A friendly professional service,  
where no job is too small

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

Call **IAIN BROWN**

**01442 384473 – 07850 102319**

## Stephen K Lofting

*High quality Decorating*

*Passionate about client satisfaction*

*Interior and exterior work undertaken*

*Specialist in all types of wallcoverings*

*Free estimates*

*References available*

*Full Public Liability Cover*

*Tel: 01442 261149*

*Mobile: 07957 457423*

*Email: stephenlofting@hotmail.com*

*Over 25 years experience in the UK & Overseas*



## T.A. LINGARD MOTORS

**BILLET LANE  
BERKHAMSTED**

**Tel: Berkhamsted 871911**

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

## N CUTTING

### **Electrical**

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

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

**01442 871851**

**normthesparks@aol.co.uk**  
**http://normancutting.co.uk**

## BRIAN S GROOM MBHI



MEMBER  
OF THE  
BRITISH HOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE

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

*Antique and quality  
clocks repaired  
and restored*

*Also watches, barometers  
and music boxes*

**Telephone: 01525 872679**

More than a year ago I reported that the Foundling Museum in Brunswick Square, London, close to where the original Foundling Hospital stood, had submitted an application

## THE FOUNDLING VOICES PROJECT

**Jenny Sherwood** reports exciting developments

for lottery funding for an exciting oral history project. The Museum was successful in its bid for lottery funding, was awarded £322,000, and the project is now well under way. Since the project so closely concerns Berkhamsted, where the last Foundling Hospital was, and where the building is now the town's Senior School, Ashlyns, we were very keen that there should be some local input and that not only should the views of the foundlings of their Berkhamsted days be recorded but also the views of local children who were educated alongside them in the early transition days of Ashlyns School. The life of the Foundling Hospital should be viewed against the background of the town and people of Berkhamsted at this time. In this connection **Isobel Aptaker**, Curator of the Dacorum Heritage Trust and I, as Chairman of the Berkhamsted Local History and Museum Society, serve on the Steering Committee of the Foundling Voices Project.

This project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, plans to collect 80 oral history interviews with former pupils and house a copy at the London Metropolitan Archives, and probably also in the Berkhamsted

Society's collection in the DHT Museum Store. It also plans to stage a six month exhibition in the Foundling Museum. There is also to be a touring exhibition, which will certainly be

displayed in Berkhamsted. Other plans include the production of verbatim theatre, the development of educational materials and programmes, a poetry competition for young people and a project website. It is also planned to create a downloadable, audio trail of Ashlyn's School, the last surviving Foundling Hospital site.

In order to bring this project to fruition opportunities will be available for volunteers to learn transcription, filming and editing skills. The project is looking for former Foundling Hospital pupils and those who were at school with them, who would be willing to give an interview. It is also looking for volunteers to help with transcription, filming and editing in connection with this. Training is available, where necessary.

Further information can be obtained from **Alison Duke** 020 7833 1148

[alison.duke@foundlingmuseum.org.uk](mailto:alison.duke@foundlingmuseum.org.uk)

or **Sarah Lowry** 020 7837 3267

[sarah.lowry@foundlingmuseum.org.uk](mailto:sarah.lowry@foundlingmuseum.org.uk)

or **Jenny Sherwood** 01442 865158

[ksherw9100@aol.com](mailto:ksherw9100@aol.com)



---

## THE PERCY BIRTCHNELL MEMORIAL PRIZE 2009

For the eighth year running the Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society has awarded two prizes to children in Year IV at Victoria School. The prize is awarded in memory of **Percy Birtchnell**, an Old Boy of the school and a founder member and Secretary of the Society from 1950-1986. It was while he was at Victoria School that he first developed his love of history.

The topic for this year's prize was *Berkhamsted During World War II*; this attracted the record number of 28 entries. The standard was high and displayed a wide variety of approaches, diaries, life on a farm, comparisons between Berkhamsted today and

the town in wartime, nursing at Ashridge and several more. The two prizes were awarded to **Harvey Allsop** for *Berkhamsted in World War II* and **Maddie Bentley** for *Nursing in Berkhamsted 1939-1946*. **Adam Hawkswood** and **Cara Wardle** were Very Highly Commended for their entries and the following eight children were Highly Commended: Emily Baxter, Olivia Beadle, Macie Dell, Ellie Lawson, Polly Maxted, William Oldman, Adam Robinson, Rhianna Williams. All the children who submitted entries received a certificate to show they had participated. It is to be hoped that their interest in the history of the town will continue.



## Computer Consultancy and Repairs

*Getting your PC up and running again*

Software installation & configuration  
Basic and intermediate level training  
Specialising in anti-virus, security & hardware upgrades



**Andy Robinson** 36 Trevelyan Way  
Berkhamsted HP4 1JH  
Mobile: 07885 966570  
[Andyrcr@dolphin4.demon.co.uk](mailto:Andyrcr@dolphin4.demon.co.uk)

## CG HOLDER PLUMBING & HEATING LTD

For a good reliable  
installation of all  
plumbing and  
heating systems  
Corgi registered  
with over 30 years  
in the trade

**01442 862244**  
**07973 144336**

## Berkhamsted Carpet Cleaning Ltd

Carpets, oriental rugs,  
upholstery

Domestic and commercial  
professional, good value fully  
insured

**01442 876622**  
**0788 405 8795**

PO Box 903  
Berkhamsted, Herts,  
HP4 3ZQ

<http://berkhamstedcarpetcleaning.co.uk>

## CHILTERN LANDSCAPING

Garden design, landscaping and garden service  
including

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



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

tel: 01442 822948  
mbl: 07956 985 365

## A B Eaton

### Plumbing & Heating Engineers



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

**30 years experience**  
**0780 193 8632      0787 143 2475**

## WEDDING

### HAIR & MAKE UP

*Any Special Occasion-10 years experience*

Nails n' Wedding Belles  
Professional Make-up Artists  
&  
Nail Technician.

We bring the salon to your home/  
hotel for your special day.

Find out more at:

[www.weddingbelles-watford.co.uk](http://www.weddingbelles-watford.co.uk)

Email:

[enquiries@weddingbelles-watford.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@weddingbelles-watford.co.uk)

Tel: 01923 215383

You can also visit us on  
Facebook under 'Hair &  
Make-up Artist'

Most people will never come across Motor Neurone Disease. It's a deteriorating neurological disease with no known cure. Its symptoms include muscle wasting, slurred speech and difficulty breathing and swallowing. Its outcome is always fatal. Research is providing clues as to its causes and possible treatment, but only one drug has any effect on the outcome.

The Motor Neurone Disease Association offers support, information and advice to people with MND, their carers and families. It is staffed almost entirely by volunteers, myself included. Its vision is *A World Free of MND*.

## A WORLD FREE OF MND

---

**Eleanor Mumford** writes

---

*What's MND? I've never heard of it, and why should we want a world free of it?*

This year the Association celebrates its 30th Anniversary. The local branch has a Commemorative Gathering at the Future Gardens in St Albans on **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September** at 7:00pm. Music, a

singer, poetry and dedications are planned and light refreshments will be available. All are welcome.

To find the venue from the M25, at Junction 21A take the A405 towards St Albans. Turn left just before the Noke Hotel roundabout. There is ample parking

*To learn more about the MND Association* phone **Elinor Mumford** (865413), or the Association (01604 611618) or <http://mndassociation.org> ❖

---

### **BERKHAMSTED FILM SOCIETY**

The Film Society, founded in 1967, is a well-established and friendly group which meets about once a fortnight through the winter season. We have a membership of around 200 adults of all ages. Most of the films are shown on Monday and Tuesday evenings giving members a choice of night out. This is good for members with young families – no need for a baby-sitter! Frequently members are to be found in the pub afterwards discussing the film.

All our meetings are now held in Berkhamsted Civic Centre and the films start at 8:00pm. All our films are now shown with DVD digital projection and Dolby surround sound which has greatly increased our choice of films and the quality of the experience.

This season, 2009-2010, we have a programme of 15 films and the subscription for a single member will be £28.00, with reductions for couples and concessions. We believe that you will agree that this makes for an attractive package! Guest tickets this year will cost £5.00 and these may be bought at the door.

The committee aim to provide a varied programme, including some well known titles and some foreign films with subtitles, but we are always pleased to receive suggestions from members.

At the end of the season we have a party night for which tickets are sold to cover the costs. Members are given the chance to vote for the film with *feel-good factor* that they would most like to see on this occasion, and the voting result is announced at the AGM.

We will start the season with two opening nights on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2009. Come early for a welcoming glass of wine or juice and chat before the scheduled film – *Slumdog Millionaire*! See the full programme on <http://www.berkfilmsoc.freemove.co.uk> or from the Membership Secretary, c/o 16 Hall Park, Berkhamsted, HP4 2NU (863155).

*Ed. This is the first of an occasional series describing the societies that flourish in Berkhamsted and showing the great range of interests represented.*

**W**hat used to be a pretty picture is now an untidy mess, was the description given at the meeting (in the Council Chamber) to Berkhamsted Castle's moats and banks. Anyone visiting

the Castle today could be forgiven for thinking that this statement was made in July 2009, but the meeting referred to, took place in December 1951 and the Council in question was Berkhamsted Urban District Council, not Berkhamsted Town Council. The report in the *review* for January 1952 continued, *To a complaint made by the Council about the nuisance of the gnat-infested, overgrown moats, the Ministry of Works had replied that the moats had already been sprayed with insecticide and that the question of removal of decaying vegetables was 'being investigated'!*

Berkhamsted UDC showed its mettle. Not being satisfied with this reply the Council decided to request the Ministry to arrange for the moats and banks to be regularly attended to, or, *alternatively hand over the control of the Castle grounds to the Council.*

The Ministry of Works was not, however,

## CASTLE MATTERS

A pretty picture  
or an untidy mess?

**Jenny Sherwood** writes

prepared to consider such a move, *whilst agreeing with the Council's desire that the moats and banks should present a pleasing appearance, the Ministry could not agree to the*

*maintenance being delegated to the Council.* The letter from the Ministry continued, *a special survey had indicated that a long term solution would involve some £6,000 to £10,000 and expenditure of such magnitude could not be justified under present conditions.* How little has changed over the years!

Nevertheless, it appeared that the Council's action was not totally in vain, since the Ministry recognised that some measures should be taken immediately and accepted that the moats would continue to need periodical attention. It was proposed to transfer labour from other work to cut the growth in the moats. It was hoped to make a start with the work in April and to continue throughout the year. Any necessary treatment against mosquito larvae would be done in conjunction with the clearance work. **The Parishioner** finished the article in the *review* with the words, *a most satisfactory result of the Council's representations, I think all will agree.* The sceptical amongst us may think otherwise.

Since the setting up of the **Castle Liaison Group** under the auspices of the Berkhamsted Town Council, several years ago, with active participation from the Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society, the Berkhamsted & District Archaeological Society and the Citizens Association, meetings have been held with representatives of English Heritage and the Duchy of Cornwall, at which



maintenance of the Castle grounds, especially the care of the moats, has always had a prominent part on the agenda. Earlier this year ducks and moorhens with their chicks could be seen swimming happily in the moats. Now, in this summer of heavy rainfall and rapid growth the moats are thick with reeds, grass and other vegetation and no water can be seen at any point. Apart from the bailey itself nothing has been cut back, thus making it difficult to point out certain features of interest on guided tours. In the last two years a number of trees have been felled, but large branches and other debris have been left lying around the banks and on the side of the motte, in some instances obstructing the rails at the side of the steps.

It is not just a question of tidiness but also a matter of safety. We have asked several times that a safety barrier should be put close to the top of the motte where the path turns sharply right before continuing directly down the steps. A rough track has been worn by those who have ignored the correct route and continued directly down from the summit. Such a route is extremely dangerous, especially after rain. This is a matter of concern to those in charge of school parties and presents particular difficulty when a child is affected by vertigo. This matter must be resolved.

On a more positive note, patient and persistent negotiation with English Heritage has enabled us to provide more information on the history of Berkhamsted Castle in the Castle Visitor Room and has brought to fruition the erection by English Heritage of several illustrated boards of information in the Castle grounds. They fit in well with the information in the Castle Visitor Room. As part of the Chiltern Conservation Board's *Walk Back in Time* the History Society has provided guided tours of the Castle and of historic Berkhamsted on four occasions. The majority of the participants in these and visitors to the Visitor Room have come from outside the

town.

The Castle Visitor Room will be open for another two months at weekends before we close for the winter. Support and interest continues. Including the groups who have booked guided tours, we have so far had just over 2,000 visitors (Easter weekend and May 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 onwards) This does not include the vast numbers who come to picnic, play sport or simply to enjoy the ambience of the town's most popular open space.

The pageants and Bank Holiday fêtes of yesteryear are still sorely missed; risk of damage to the archaeology, health and safety issues and problems of car-parking are cited as the main reasons why these popular events can no longer take place.

Perhaps a report in the *review* for February 1949 provides an answer as to how some of these problems could be overcome. **Percy Birtchnell** interviewed **Mr FW Chappell**, born in 1866, and learned much of bygone Berkhamsted. The most exciting event of the year, Chappell reported, was the Oddfellows' August Bank Holiday fête in the Castle grounds, one of the biggest and best fêtes in the Home Counties. Special trains were run and hundreds of Londoners, travelling at excursion rates, attended every year. The programme opened with a procession and ended with a magnificent firework display. A fish stall and the beer tent kept things lively. The present entrance to the Castle grounds was never used; every year a massive wooden bridge was built over the moat opposite Castle Street, almost exactly where the original drawbridge had been.

Even if we cannot stage the pageants and fêtes of former times perhaps much more use could still be made of Berkhamsted's greatest tourist attraction than has been the case in recent years.

*Guided tours of the Castle will take place at 10am, 12noon and 2pm on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2009 as part of Berkhamsted's Heritage Open Days. The Castle will close for the winter at 4pm on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2009.*

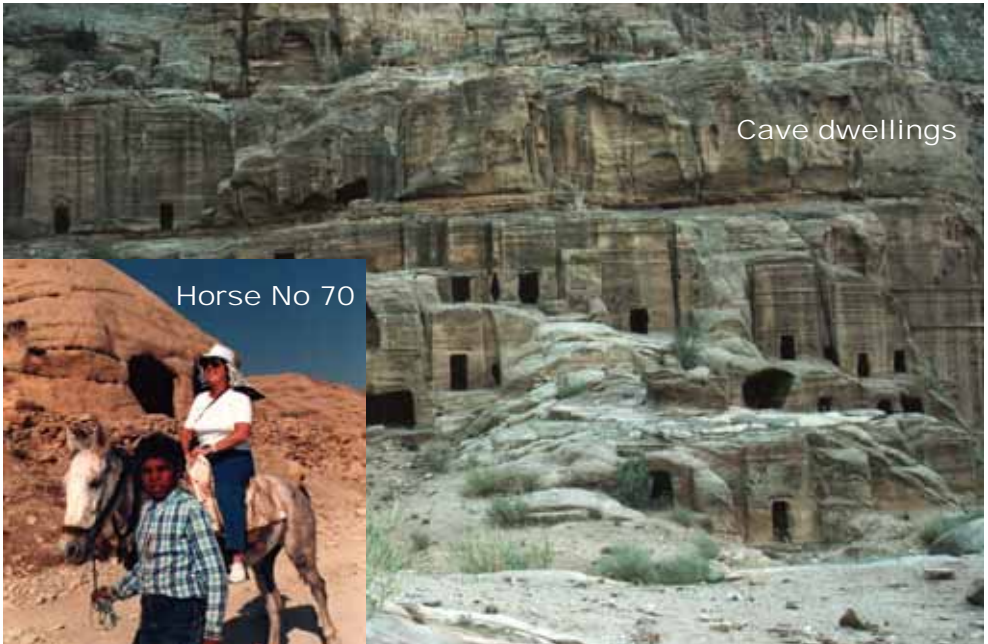




# The Parish Picnic

A sunny Sunday,  
5th August 2009  
at Thomas Coram  
School





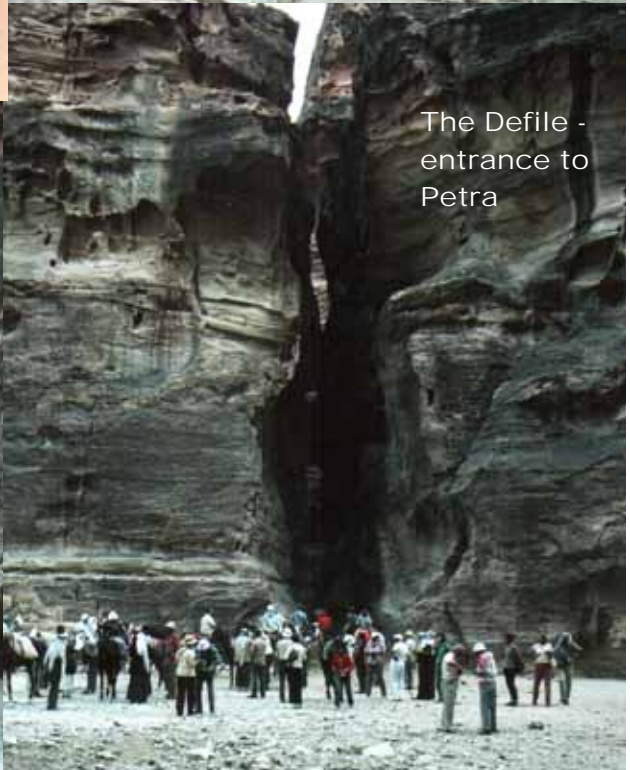
Cave dwellings



Horse No 70



The Treasury



The Defile -  
entrance to  
Petra

*In 1984 Muriel and I were fortunate enough to visit this incredible Nabatean city set in a canyon and made up of buildings cut out of its red rock faces. We sailed up the Gulf of*

## THE RED ROSE CITY

**Frank Norman** introduces an account from Muriel's journal

from the outside world for more than five hundred years. Johann L Burckhardt, an Anglo-Swiss explorer, must have been a brave man to find it in 1812, disguised as an Arabic-

*Aqaba. From here we travelled north by coach to Petra, the Rose Red City. Muriel always prepared journals of our foreign travels which she compiled from observation and research. On this occasion she wrote .....*

We arrived at Petra at about 11.50 and went straight to the Forum Hotel for lunch – I could see that it was going to be one of those days when a strict diabetic routine was not going to be possible. It wasn't a bad meal although we weren't quite sure what the meat was – a spicy dish which I think was chicken though we didn't see any live ones anywhere – goats, yes, hundreds of them so I wonder if it could have been goat. We were offered some white wine called *Omar Kheiamm* which Frank tried and said that it was bitter and not quite full of eastern promise! I wonder where the vineyards are to be found in Jordan?

After lunch the *piece de resistance* – the journey to the ruins of Petra – the Nabatean city. Centre of civilisation many years ago which, until the last century, was hidden

speaking Moslem trader from India.

When we arrived at the place where the horses were to be waiting for us, the whole scene was one of chaos with Arabs and guides gesticulating and arguing in shrill voices. The trouble was that two cruise ships had arrived on the same day causing utter confusion - I don't think that such large numbers of people were expected. A crowd of passengers from the other ship, including a party of Germans, were naturally well to the fore - as only they can be. The Brits stood meekly by, waiting for our coach guide to arrange our *transport*.

After a long wait of an hour and a quarter our horses were secured and one by one we mounted and were away. I have never been so petrified in my life - a case of being petrified in Petra! We had no reins to hold on to and the stirrups were of the *fit one fit all* type. I couldn't properly reach one of mine and the other was so short that the metal chafed the front of my ankle. The saddle was virtually non-existent consisting mainly of some moth eaten blankets - Are they flea-ridden? - Time will tell. I had a young lad of about twelve years old leading my horse which was number 70. Somehow I managed to stay precariously balanced for the two-kilometre ride down the path through the defile. It was very difficult to appreciate the scenery – I didn't dare look around too much and the horse slipped once or twice on the scree which made me even more nervous.

The path narrowed until finally threading through a very restricted gap between the sheer cliff faces it came out into the open space in front of the Treasury.



**MALCOLM JONES & METCALFE**

*Funeral Service*

**284 High Street, Berkhamsted**

**Day and Night Service**

**Phone 864548 or Fax 864572**

**Funeral Directors  
Private Car Park  
Memorial Consultants**



**Private  
Chapels  
Of Rest**



I don't think Frank was too happy either - having his camera bag and our small bag containing bottled water to contend with. It was absolutely impossible for him to take any photos as he too was hanging on tightly. Anyway, about halfway down, one of the ship's photographers was busy taking shots of everyone - so I guess eventually a display of frightened people trying to look carefree on their horses will appear in the ship's photo gallery, and we will have a good laugh as we remember it.

The Treasury has a well-known façade - and a large crack in its ceiling caused by earthquake damage. There is also an open-air theatre, many tombs opening out to the cliffs and large caves where Bedouins now live. We were amazed to find one of the local ladies talking to a small child in English. She is apparently a New Zealander married to a Bedouin. I do remember reading about her and seeing a television programme in which she was mentioned. What a strange life it must be - in complete contrast to her own background.

All the time that we were amongst the ruins we were constantly pestered to buy cards, books and trinkets. Some of the dubious bits of stone were supposedly inscribed in the Nabatean era.

By this time it was beginning to cool a little, the sun was sinking behind the huge cliff face and the light was fading. We toyed with the idea of walking back up the defile but felt we would be a bit hard pressed for time. We had to remember to look for our own number on the horses - we waited for a long time whilst the others disappeared one by one until there were only five of us left.

Our guide, Abraham, was beginning to be worried and grabbed any horses he could for us - to my horror he produced a very tall one for me together with a scruffy looking handler. I really didn't take to him at all as he looked very sinister, but there

was no choice. Frank soon caught me up and I was thankful to see him. My horse kept on shaking his head when persistent flies niggled him and at one stage he tried to take a lump out of another horse as it came alongside. Every time these things happened he missed his footing and I was sure I would take a nosedive to the ground.

I think I could have offered a prayer on my knees when we finally arrived at the top but my limbs refused to work - I thought I would remain bandy-legged for ever.

And so we left Petra - tired and relieved to be in one piece. The journey back to Aqaba took just over two hours in darkness. The moon and stars shine very brightly in this part of the world and out in the wide expanses of rocky desert we could see the flickering lights of fires - it is now so cold at night that the Bedouins light fires in their tents. It wouldn't take much imagination to conjure up pictures of the Nativity and of the shepherds in the fields.

As we began to drop down from the plateau to the coast we could see the lights of Aqaba and just a little way to the west those of Eilat in Israel, much bigger than Aqaba. Soon after we had all embarked, the companionway was raised and we sailed immediately. We heard from a friend who had remained on board, that the underside of the ship had been searched by Jordanian frogmen whilst she was in harbour. ❖

← p17

*Chauffeur driven  
business or leisure luxury travel  
for up to six people*

**Executive  
Voyager**

Aston Clinton  
Buckinghamshire  
HP22 5ES

**Hotels  
Airports  
Theatres  
Nights out  
Restaurants  
Special occasions  
Corporate meetings  
Cruise terminals  
Race days  
Weddings**

**Exclusive!! 10% discount to  
Friends of bridgewater sinfonia**

Freephone  
080 818 00 919

[www.executivevoyager.co.uk](http://www.executivevoyager.co.uk)  
[contacts@executivevoyager.co.uk](mailto:contacts@executivevoyager.co.uk)

# PROFESSIONAL CLEANING SERVICES



*Maintaining standards that others find hard to achieve!*

## CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Full, free, no-obligation survey & quotation prior to carrying out any cleaning. We always make sure we can clean safely and to the highest standards. using the latest environmentally friendly techniques and solutions, our business is based on honesty & satisfaction. A large percentage of our work comes from referral & recommendation.

*'Let us take care of the cleaning so that your free time is leisure time'*

## PATIO & DRIVEWAY CLEANING

Keep your patio and garden looking clean & tidy for instant kerb appeal. reduce the dangers of slipping in the wet or winter weather by removing moss & other debris. bring coloured paving back to life. *Make your house stand out from the crowd!*

Call Murray's Cleaning Services (7am – 7pm 6 days)

on 01442 250679 / 07952 544666

[www.murrayscleaningservices.co.uk](http://www.murrayscleaningservices.co.uk)

**FREE QUOTATIONS & FULLY INSURED.**



VAT No: 818967205

*clean it*



# TROUBLE WITH CARS

Towards the end of last year, I began to think about changing my nice, elderly, distinctive gold coloured estate car. Looked on the

**Norman Cutting** is exasperated

internet and saw one that was on special offer and in my price range. Good I thought, after Christmas, I'll sort that out. Christmas came and went and now the model I wanted had a different *special offer*. 0% finance but costing about £5,000 more. I rang up and said *I'd like one of the cheap ones please*. But that offer has ended says the man on the telephone. *This new offer is much better and will last until March 6<sup>th</sup>* Oh well, I'll just have to wait until then.

March arrives and naturally, the offer has ended and the price is still out of reach. Onto the internet again to do more research. Lo and behold, I found something within budget and more economical - but it's a Skoda! Beggars can't be choosers, so off to the local dealers. They were closing down at the end of the week and if it ain't in stock, you can't have it. The next nearest dealers were much more help - only the pricing wasn't. Back to the internet. Now Skoda have a nice idea. Tell them what vehicle you want and the dealer who can do the best price will contact you direct.

Having specified exactly what I wanted, complete with part numbers and order codes, the price came back, within budget - but the car has to be made in the factory and will take about twelve weeks. Just one small point, I want my personal number plate transferred. Last time it was so easy. How do they manage to turn a simple operation into one so complex? The new registration number is known, the old number is known, the computer doesn't even have to think - then the human touch intervenes.

After a few conversations the delivery day was agreed. It would come on a transporter, my old car taken away and I'd arranged for a towbar to be fitted the next day. The day

arrived. I was idly tending my garden when I looked up and saw a car similar to the one I ordered. Same make, same colour, same

number plate. Stopped outside and the driver got out. No transporter, so having ascertained it was my car, I asked if the transporter was coming. Nope, he was going to drive my old one away!

Next day, off to have the towbar fitted. Within an hour, the telephone rings. *This isn't the car you said. I'll have to order another towbar kit, so you won't get it back until tomorrow or the next day.* The next day we were off for the weekend in our caravan! Not a lot I could do, but back to the dealer I go, to ask if I had the right car. *Oh yes, he says. The factory didn't say there were any problems, but I'll check the paperwork and get back to you.*

Back to me he gets. *Weelllll, it is the car we ordered, but not the one you wanted*, he says. *The one you have is worth £1500 more, so you got a good deal, and we lost out.* I thought that was the end of it. The registration document arrived a few weeks later. Wrong name, wrong address, so I sent it back to DLVA, asking for the right name and address for my new car. The result is that I am now the *second* keeper and my next-door neighbour still hasn't worked out how *his* new car ended up on my drive (the DVLA told him it was no longer his) Confused? You bet! ❖



**AAA Ironing**

**Sandra & Paul**

Ironing our speciality

Phone 07775246156

[sandra@aaa-ironing.co.uk](mailto:sandra@aaa-ironing.co.uk)

Are you looking for someone to pick up your washed clothes and iron them for you? Well you have found us! We have been ironing for many years so why not give us a try. We charge by weight so it does not matter what you are having ironed, £5 per kilo.

**First order - over 3 kilos, get 15% discount.**

We can pick up and drop off in the evening or during the day.

<http://aaa-ironing.co.uk>

Need an  
Electrician?

**Steve Rozental**  
is your local  
electrician  
living in Aston Clinton



**I can....**

Rewire your home or office

Install additional sockets and lighting

Run power to your garage

Install external lighting and security

Undertake all electrical installation repairs

Upgrade your fuse board

Do Portable Appliance Testing (PAT)

Give free safety checks and estimates

call

01296

509414

backed by  
a trusted  
national  
company



<http://eleclocal.co.uk/steverozental>

S E W S O F T  
interiors

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

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

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

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

**Sue Hawkins in Studham**  
**01582 873358**



**True  
commitment**

**...Bailey & Sons**

BERKHAMSTED'S JEWELLER SINCE 1872

9 Lower Kings Road  
Berkhamsted  
Herts HP4 2AE  
**01442 863091**



**little jim's**

**MINI-COACH HIRE**

for 15 to 27 passengers

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



**07736 705520**  
**01442 870029**

1 Castle St, Berkhamsted HP4 2BQ



# THE COURT HOUSE COTTAGE

**Christopher Green** writes

Illustrated on the cover this month, 6 Church Lane, better known as the Court House Cottage, was originally a schoolmaster's house. Formal education has a long history in Berkhamsted, with Berkhamsted School founded by Dean Incent in the sixteenth century and the Bourne School in the eighteenth century. There were also small private schools, such as the one in the High Street attended briefly by **William Cowper** (see *review* November 2008). However it was not until the nineteenth century that the idea of making education more widely available took shape. It was first given expression, early in the nineteenth century, in Sunday Schools provided by the non-conformist churches and soon after by the Church of England. The provision of such schooling in specially built premises began with the building of the Board School in 1834 at the bottom of Park View Road. This was an interdenominational venture inspired by **Augustus Smith**, but unfortunately there was soon disagreement within the organising committee and an appeal was opened to create a separate Church of England school. Land was made available by the **Countess of Bridgewater** adjacent to the Court House and an endowment of £3,500. A total of £1,403 was raised through the appeal, including £100 given by **William IV**, another £100 by **Queen Victoria** and ten shillings by **Mary (Polly) Page**, hostess of the King's Arms and friend of **Louis XVIII**. The new school, known as the National School, occupied the Court House itself and new buildings behind it. The house for the master of the school, now the Court House Cottage was built beside the Court House. The school opened on **16<sup>th</sup> July 1838**. The Court House accommodated two classrooms and further classrooms occupied buildings behind the Court House, surrounding a small courtyard opening

towards the churchyard. The courtyard was divided into two playgrounds - one for boys and one for girls.

There was also a classroom between the schoolmaster's house and the Court House in the space which is now the entrance hall of the Court House. Within a year, 238 children had been registered, of whom about 150 were attending regularly - about 100 boys and 50 girls. In 1898 the boys were moved from the Court House School to the newly built Church of England Primary School at the end of Prince Edward Street - Victoria School. The girls followed a few years later. The Court House, the school master's house and the classrooms were acquired by the PCC in 1926 from the executors of the last **Earl Brownlow** for the princely sum of £380. The cottage became the home of successive vergers. In the 1930s St Peter's Hall (now Chesham House) was built on part of the site of the old classrooms and in the 1980s the Court House itself was extended across the rest of the site. ❖

## **Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

Join the hundreds of sponsored cyclists and walkers across the two counties and visit some of the 628 churches and chapels opened specially for the event. On the back cover see routes followed by cyclists from St Peter's Church last year. They contributed over £3,000 to the grand total of £102,000 raised to help the maintenance and repair of churches and chapels in the two counties. You can help to raise an even larger sum this year. For details contact **Chris Clegg** (875818) or [chris@cleggc.freemove.co.uk](mailto:chris@cleggc.freemove.co.uk)



## THE OLD PASTURES

LUXURY ACCOMMODATION FOR DOGS

Icknield Farm, Icknield Way,

Tring, Herts HP23 4JX



Luxury heated accommodation for your dog

Only 8 large kennels giving your dog the extra care and attention they deserve. All dogs are walked twice a day.

Holiday homes for small animals

## DOG GROOMING

BATHING, CLIPPING, TRIMMING, HAND-STRIPPING, NAILS AND EARS. WEEKEND APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE. EASY WALK

IN, NON-SLIP SHOWER IDEAL FOR OLDER AND BIGGER DOGS. WE CAN CATER FOR ANY SIZE DOG.

EASY PARKING.

FOR AN APPOINTMENT FOR GROOMING OR KENNELING PLEASE CALL:

**01442 824856**

## CAREERS ADVICE

### For Professionals, Students, Returners

- CV preparation
- Applications
- Interview skills
- Confidence and personal impact
- Managing the job hunt process

**Tailored to your needs**  
**Fully confidential**  
**Able to meet days/ evenings**

**Anne McCall – 07870 800985**

Chartered Member CIPD, Member of  
the International Coaching Federation  
**acmccall@hotmail.co.uk**

## A B W Services Ltd Plumbing & Heating

Are you fed up searching for a reliable Plumber?



Tired of waiting in vain for promised appointments?  
Call us now for a friendly, prompt and reliable service.

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

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

**07775 853448 or 01582 873448**

## Church View Funeral Service

*Independent Family Funeral Directors of Distinction*



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

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

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

# *review* notes&notices

---

## **BERKHAMSTED LOCAL HISTORY AND MUSEUM SOCIETY**

---

### **Heritage Open Days**

#### **Sat 12<sup>th</sup> and Sun 13<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

Berkhamsted's Hidden History – learn more of your royal town's past. All free

Dacorum Heritage Trust Museum Store  
Tours at 10:00am and 2:00pm.  
Collections of photographs, prints and other artefacts relating to the history and archaeology of Berkhamsted and other towns and villages of Dacorum. *Booking is essential on 879525 or curator@dacorumheritage.org.uk*

Berkhamsted Castle Tours at 10:00am, midday and 2:00pm. Learn about the history of this royal castle, the best remaining example of a motte and bailey castle in the country.

Berkhamsted School, Old Hall & Chapel  
Tours 10:30am and 2:30pm The Old Hall, built in 1544 is the original schoolhouse of the school founded in 1541 by **Dean Incent**. The Chapel was designed by a local architect, CH Rew, based on the design of the church of Santa Maria dei Miracoli in Venice.

Berkhamsted Town Hall - Tour 11:30am.  
Built in 1859 to replace the market house destroyed by fire in 1854, and including a community hall and rooms for the Mechanics Institute.

Claire Lloyd Properties, 173 High Street -  
*Open 10:30am-4:00pm* for small group tours. The oldest urban timber framed building remaining in the country.

Ashlyns School, former Foundling Hospital *Open 2:00pm-5:00pm*. guided tours at regular intervals by former foundlings. Opportunity to see a video of former days.

St Peter's Church Tour 3:00pm

Consecrated in 1222 this fine church contains many memorials and monuments relating to the history of the town.

St Mary's Church, Northchurch Tours 2:30pm and 3:30pm. This church known also as Berkhamsted St Mary is the church of the original parish of the town.

St Michael & All Angels, Sunnyside  
*Open for Tours 2:00pm-4:00pm*. The church celebrates the centenary of its consecration this year but the church's history goes back to the 1880s.

St John's Broadway, Bourne End *Open for tours 2:30pm-4:00pm*. Built in 1855 as a Chapel of Ease for the parishioners of the eastern end of the parish of Northchurch by **Revd Sir John Hobart Culme-Seymour**, Rector of Northchurch. One of the first churches designed by Gilbert Scott,

Berkhamsted Baptist Church *Open for tours 2:00pm-4:30pm*. The present church, was built in 1864. Its grandeur reflects the importance of Baptists in Berkhamsted in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The first Baptist Chapel was built in 1722.

For further details check the website <http://heritageopendays.org.uk> or contact **Jenny Sherwood** (865158) or email [ksherw9100@aol.com](mailto:ksherw9100@aol.com)

**David Woodward**  
**1937 - 2009**

**A tribute will follow  
in the October issue  
of the *review***

# *review* notes&notices

---

## HOSPICE OF ST FRANCIS

---

### Go Ape

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2009**

This is your chance to climb through the trees and slide across high wires, crawl through tunnels and brave rope bridges, balance on planks and then zip down to the ground!

Go Ape is an award-winning high wire forest adventure course of rope bridges, Tarzan swings and zip slides – all set high up in the trees of Wendover Woods.

All you'll need to do is find 15 people to sponsor you £10 each and you'll reach the £150 minimum sponsorship before you know it. To register, download the form or contact us on 01442 869555 for one, then return it with your deposit of £15. Minimum age to participate is 10. Under 18s must be accompanied by a participating adult. Height and weight restrictions apply. See the *Go Ape!* website <http://goape.co.uk> for more details or call **Claire de Silva** (869555)

### **Award for Hospice Chef**

Congratulations to **Chris Took** and his dedicated team of kitchen assistants and volunteers who have been presented with the Peoples Award for Dignity in Care.

### **Mountain Man Scales Russian Heights For Hospice**

A mountaineer from St Albans is due to scale extraordinary heights in memory of a friend who died at the Hospice. **Simon Edwards**, from Beningfield Drive, Napsbury Park said *"Given the mountains the people at the Hospice climb - both carers and patients, not corny but true - it seems appropriate to try and climb my own mountain. I have chosen to climb Mt. Elbrus in the Russian Caucasus, at 18,510ft (5,642m) is the highest peak on the European continent"*.

If you would like to support Simon, please visit <http://justgiving.com/simoned>

### **D-Day Appeal**

The Hospice is asking people in businesses and organisations to donate one good quality piece of clothing, shoes or accessories in a special Donate Don't Dump D-day appeal.

You can hold your D-Day any time and any place - perhaps in the staff canteen, at a coffee break or lunch hour or down the pub with friends after work. Simply let everyone know when your D-Day is, set up a collection point and wait for people to bring in that magic item - it means money for the Hospice and helps provide care for very ill people when they need it most.

Just let us know when you've collected your goodies, send us your pictures and we'll do the rest!

For more information contact **Claire de Silva** (869555).

---

## OXTALES

---

Oxtales is a quartet of books on the themes Earth Air Fire and Water. Produced for Oxfam's first book festival, they consist of short stories or extracts by famous authors who have donated their work to Oxfam.

The themes reflect important aspects of the charity's work. *Earth* represents its support for agricultural projects. *Water* its important expertise in the provision of clean water and sanitation. *Fire* is a reminder of Oxfam's involvement with the victims of conflict and its campaigning work on arms control.

Oxfam's concern with climate change is covered by the theme *Air* as the side-effects of global warming – drought, floods, hurricanes – affect more and more people with whom they work.

The books cost £5 each and are available at the Oxfam shop in the High Street or at Waterstones.

# *review* notes&notices

---

## **BERKHAMSTED LOCAL HISTORY AND MUSEUM SOCIETY**

---

### **2009-2010 Programme**

**14<sup>th</sup> October 2009** *Redbourn, Then and Now.* Roy Craske, Blue Badge Guide.

**11<sup>th</sup> November 2009** *The Curious Disappearance of Major Glenn Miller* **Tony Eaton** of the Glen Miller Society.

**9<sup>th</sup> December 2009** A Presentation of Short Talks, a Quiz and a Social Evening by members and for members.

**20<sup>th</sup> January 2010** *The Work of the British Film Institute and National Archives.* **Steve Bryant**, Senior Curator of Television for the BFI.

**10<sup>th</sup> February 2010** *Architecture of St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted.* **Christopher Green**, Editor of the review.

**10<sup>th</sup> March 2010** AGM & World-wide events during the American Civil War, **Andrew Houseman**

**29<sup>th</sup> June-3<sup>rd</sup> July 2010** *60 Years of Preserving History* - Exhibition to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the society.

---

## **BERKHAMSTED COMBINED CHARITIES**

---

### **Christmas Card Sales 2009**

#### **46<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Once again our traditional Charity Christmas Card Sales will be held on the following dates in the Court House, Berkhamsted:

**Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Oct 2009** 9:15am - 3:00pm

**Sat 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2009** 9:15am - 3:00pm

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Nov 2009** 9:15am - 3:00pm

**Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Nov 2009** 9:15 am - 3:00pm

Many national and local charities from Herts and Bucks will be represented, and

there will be a wide selection of Charity Christmas Cards, wrapping paper and Christmas accessories.

---

## **WEA BERKHAMSTED AND TRING BRANCH**

---

### **Courses from September 2009**

Please phone **Chris Buckle** (250404) for further information and to enrol.

#### **Creative Writing**

Tutor **Linda Dawe**

Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Sep 2009 10:30 – 12:30pm  
8 weeks - Friends Meeting House

#### **Booker Prize Winners**

Tutor: **Gillian Knibbs**

Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Sep 2009 1:15 – 2:45pm  
8 weeks - Friends Meeting House

#### **Current Affairs Discussion**

Tutor **Premen Eddy**

Tue 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep 2009 10 – 11.30am  
10 weeks - Friends' Meeting House

#### **London Architecture**

Tutor **Madeline Edmead**

Thu 24<sup>th</sup> Sep 2009 10 – midday  
10 weeks - New Mill Social Centre,  
Tring HP23 5HF

*Fees the same as last year!*

For details about Friday sessions and Saturday Schools contact **Hazel Ward** (875899) or get a leaflet from the Library.

---

## **OXFAM CHILDREN'S WEAR EVENT**

---

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2009** 9:00 – 11:30am Oxfam Children's Wear Event when stock for the new season will be on offer at the Civic Centre. Clothes, toys and books will be available and admission is free.

## September

|            |                    |   |
|------------|--------------------|---|
| <b>SUN</b> | <i>St Peter's</i>  | <b>8:00am Eucharist</b>   |
|            |                    | <b>9:30am Sung Eucharist</b>  |
|            |                    | <b>6:00pm Evensong</b>  |
|            | <i>All Saints'</i> | <b>6<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Morning Worship</b>                                       |
|            |                    | <b>13<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Morning Worship</b>                                      |
|            |                    | <b>20<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Morning Worship with Eucharist</b>                       |
|            |                    | <b>27<sup>th</sup> 10:00am All Age Worship with Holy Baptism and Holy Communion</b> |

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

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

|                           |  |  |  |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Mon</b> | <b>GRIEF &amp; LOSS SUPPORT VISITORS GROUP 7:45pm</b> <i>Court House</i><br>Contact June Haile (873087), Angela Morris (866992) or Ruth Treves Brown (863268)  |  |  |
| <b>Tue</b>                | <b>CHUCKLES PARENT &amp; TODDLER GROUP: 10:00-11:30am</b> <i>All Saints' Church Hall</i><br>Song Time or short service as announced. Jenny Wells (870981)  |  |  |
| <b>Tue</b>                | <b>ST PETER'S CHOIR Children 5:15 to 6:15pm</b> <i>St Peter's</i><br>Contact: Adrian Davis (875674) or Jean Wild (866859)  |  |  |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Tue</b> | <b>TUESDAY CLUB 7:45pm</b> <i>A lively women's group with guest speaker</i> <i>Court House</i><br>Contact chairman Barbara McKenna (871159)  |  |  |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Tue</b> | <b>MOTHERS' UNION: meets in members' houses at 8:00pm.</b><br><i>Non-members always welcome.</i> Contact: Kathie Lally (863526)  |  |  |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> Tue</b> | <b>MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER GROUP: 2:30pm</b> <i>17 Shaftesbury Court</i><br>Tell us if anyone needs our prayers. Contact: Jenny Wells (870981)   |  |  |
| <b>Wed</b>                | <b>JULIAN MEETING: meets about twice a month</b> at Jenny's <i>57 Meadow Rd</i><br><i>All are very welcome at 11:30am as arranged</i> or at Ruth's <i>1 Montague Rd</i><br>Contact: Jenny Wells (870981) or Ruth Treves Brown (863268) |  |  |
| <b>Wed</b>                | <b>PATHFINDERS GAMES CLUB 7-8:30pm</b> (yrs 5-8) Jimmy Young (384929)<br><i>The Court House</i>  |  |  |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Wed</b> | <b>GRIEF AND LOSS SUPPORT Lunch at 12:30pm</b> for those who have been bereaved.<br>Contact Sylvia Banks (871195)  |  |  |
| <b>Thu</b>                | <b>HOME GROUP: 8:00pm on 2nd &amp; 4th Thursdays.</b> Contact Linda Bisset (862115)  |  |  |
| <b>Thu</b>                | <b>BELLRINGING: 8:00pm</b> Helen Ruberry (890949) <i>St Peter's</i>  |  |  |
| <b>Fri</b>                | <b>LITTLE FISHES PARENT &amp; TODDLER GROUP: 9:30-11:30am</b> <i>Court House</i><br>Weekly meetings with a short service 1 <sup>st</sup> Fri in St Peter's (10am)<br>Tracy Robinson (863559)   |  |  |
| <b>Fri</b>                | <b>ST PETER'S CHOIR: Children 7:00-8:30pm, Adults 7:30-8:30pm.</b> <i>St Peter's</i><br>Contact: Adrian Davis (875674) or Jean Wild (866859)   |  |  |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sat</b> | <b>ABC PRAYER BREAKFAST: 8:00am</b> for breakfast & prayers. <i>Various local churches</i>   |  |  |

# reviewdiary

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

## September/October

### September

|     |    |         |   |   |
|-----|----|---------|---|---|
| Fri | 4  | 10:00am | Little Fishes Service.....  | <i>St Peter's</i>                         |
| Sun | 6  | 3:00pm  | Installation of The Revd Penny Nash,<br>new Team Vicar.....                     | <i>Holy Trinity Potten End</i>            |
| Tue | 8  | 10:15am | Chuckles Toddlers' service  | <i>Noah and his Ark ..... All Saints'</i> |
| Sat | 12 | 10:00am | Start of Beds & Herts Historic Churches<br>Sponsored Bike Ride (ends 6pm) ..... | <i>most churches</i>                      |
| Sun | 13 | 6:00pm  | Choral Evensong .....   | <i>St Peter's</i>                         |
| Sat | 19 | 8:00am  | Association of Berkhamsted Churches<br>Prayer Breakfast.....                    | <i>Sacred Heart Church</i>                |
|     |    | 7:30pm  | Cowper Society presents:<br>Berkhamsted Choral Society .....                    | <i>St Peter's</i>                         |
| Tue | 22 | 10:15am | Chuckles Toddlers' service Harvest.....   | <i>All Saints'</i>                        |
| Sat | 26 | 7:30pm  | The Cowper Society presents: Bridgewater Sinfonia..                             | <i>St Peter's</i>                         |
| Sun | 27 | 9:30am  | Back to Church Sunday.....  | <i>St Peter's</i>                         |

### October

|     |    |         |  |   |
|-----|----|---------|--|---|
| Fri | 2  | 10:00am | Little Fishes Service.....   | <i>St Peter's</i>                           |
|     |    | 1:00pm  | Recital: Cowper Society presents<br>The Rainbow Quintet playing <i>Trout Quintet</i> ..... | <i>St Peter's</i>                           |
| Sun | 4  | 9.30am  | Harvest Festival Sung Eucharist .....  | <i>St Peter's</i>                           |
|     |    |         | followed by Parish Harvest Lunch .....   | <i>The Court House</i>                      |
| Tue | 6  | 10:15am | Chuckles Toddlers' service<br><i>Joseph and his Rainbow Coat</i> .....                     | <i>All Saints'</i>                          |
| Sun | 11 | 6:00pm  | Choral Evensong .....  | <i>St Peter's</i>                           |
| Tue | 13 | 8:00pm  | Parochial Church Council .....   | <i>The Court House</i>                      |
| Sat | 17 | 8:00am  | Association of Berkhamsted Churches<br>Prayer Breakfast.....                               | <i>Sunnyside</i>                            |
| Tue | 20 | 10:15am | Chuckles Toddlers' service   | <i>Jacob and his Ladder.... All Saints'</i> |
| Sat | 24 | 7:00pm  | Bellringing – District Bellringers (9:00pm) .....  | <i>St Peter's</i>                           |

# reviewregisters

### Baptisms (St Peter's)

26<sup>th</sup> July Autumn Lily Joan Culley, Poppy Elizabeth Holbrook, Maximilian Michael Hulls, Alexander Justin Hulls, Isla Josephine Wilson

### Weddings (St Peter's)

10<sup>th</sup> July Simon Henry Cotterell & Jemma Charlotte Arnold  
18<sup>th</sup> July Mark John Dennis & Diane Marie Legrande

### Funerals

10<sup>th</sup> July Michael Walsh St Peter's Church



## 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  
Epistle Readers  
Electoral Roll  
Pathfinders  
Sidesmen  
Catering  
Hospice contact  
Christian Aid  
Youth worker  
Sunday School/Explorers  
Fairtrade

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)  
Ron Fisher (865846)  
Judith Limbert (873626)  
Stephen Lally (863526)  
Chris Hunt (822607)  
Val Atkinson (866792)  
Rachael Anderson (871997)  
Angela Morris (866992)  
tba  
Helen Nicholls (873162)  
Angela Morris (866992)

### All Saints'

Felicity White (866223)  
Tracy Robinson (863559)  
Chris Lumb (863885)  
Kate Spall (873470)  
Madeleine Brownell (862578)  
Sylvia Banks (871195)  
John Banks (871195)  
Tracy Robinson (863559)  
Tracy Robinson (863559)  
Pat Hearne (871270)  
Penny O'Neill (843422)  
Tracy Robinson (863559)  
Gill Lumb (863885)  
Fay Cuthbert (866988)  
Muriel Johnston (866447)  
tba  
Vicky Drury (384794)  
Julie Wakely (875504)

## 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)  
 All Saints' **Michael Robinson**, 36 Trevelyan Way, (863559)  
 Representatives **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



Val Atkinson in November 1950

