

Berkhamsted. *review*

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April 2010



for Town and Parish

30p



The Parish Magazine of St Peter's Great Berkhamsted

Welcome to the April 2010 issue of the Berkhamsted *review*

Time for a change. Later this year, when the September *review* reaches you, I shall have been Editor for six years and will have guided 72 issues of our parish magazine to press. Nothing like as many as the late **David Woodward**, who took on the role of Editor on two occasions and in all was Editor for twenty years – 240 issues! As I have no hope of matching David's dedication, I plan to make way at the end of my six years for new blood, new ideas and perhaps a complete re-think of what the *review* should be for our parish and our town. This will soon be a topic of discussion for the Parochial Church Council – Is the *review* what it claims to be – *For Town and Parish*? Is it a useful source of information about events in the town? What new and additional features could be included? Perhaps readers would like to make their views known - *review letters* always welcomes correspondence. And of course, there will be an opening for an Editor. If you would like to be involved in the *review*'s editorial team. Make your interest known to the churchwardens or the clergy.

Christopher Green

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Cover: Dockey Wood (p9)

photo - Alex Evans

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*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)

2 Apr 30 Apr 4 Jun



A Journey of Discipleship

Father John Pritchard reflects on the lives of the earliest Christians

review leader

In a somewhat timely way, I have been reminded recently that the early church, the Christian men and women, who immediately following the Resurrection of Jesus, were entrusted with the stories of Jesus'

life, not only met in one another's homes but in secret.

These financially poor people, met in guarded secrecy until Emperor Constantine became a Christian in AD313 and the Christian faith was *decriminalised*. Some small churches were in existence; but the apparent confusion in Roman eyes between the Christians and the *disliked Jews*, meant that violent outbursts against the Christians were likely to happen anywhere and at any time, so secrecy was necessary.

Meeting in one another's homes, apartments or rooms, wasn't unlike meeting in the synagogue, which itself was often a simple room in a private house. But one thing that distinguished the early Christian practice was its meeting on a Sunday, the first day of the week. The seventh day was always the Jewish Sabbath, but the new practice amongst the new religious following was based on their Master's Resurrection. The first day of the week, Sunday, became a holy day for the Christian assembly and for the Eucharist, because *The third day he rose again from the dead*. The logic is:

Friday (day one) – Crucifixion and death.

Saturday (day two) – Burial.

Sunday (day three) - Resurrection.

So Jesus' Resurrection makes holy the first day of the week, a day which we continue to seek to keep holy in the midst of our busy modern life.

Amongst those first Christians were Jewish Christians, some who for a brief period chose to celebrate the seventh day as Jews

and the first day of the week as Christians. As we meet on Sunday's, so they also met to break bread and drink the wine which was the memorial of their Master. Like them, we continue the practice and share one cup which is a symbol of fellowship. The Christians were obedient in fulfilling our Lord's command to *Do this in remembrance of me*, and celebrate a meal where they could do that which is required.

The two things which are most striking to me are that the Eucharist, the celebration of the Lord's Supper, the passion, death and resurrection for nearly four centuries had a domestic setting. Perhaps that reflects something which encourages us not to compartmentalise our faith and religious practice from our domestic and social life. But what also interests me is the element of confusion about the identity of the new religious *Christians*. Members of the Christian community were becoming Christians rather than completely turning their backs on their Jewish heritage and practice. They, like many of us were on a journey of discipleship which accepted them for who they were while allowing them to *grow in faith in Jesus*.

It doesn't always have to be like St Paul where the scales fall from our eyes. It should be about setting our eyes towards God, revealed in his Son, Jesus. We do that more so at Easter than at any other time in our Christian calendar. The child born of Mary, killed at the hands of man, is now risen from the dead and risen for all. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Resurrection is an invitation to think again, and if you are so inclined, to turn to Christ and share in the community of faith. In time we will all become more recognisably Christ-like and less recognisably *other*, if we seek to follow Christ.

God bless you in this Easter season and may the joy of the followers of Christ who saw him risen be your joy also. ❖

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I first noticed the members of the Mothers' Union when I started to go to church at the age of 17. These worthy ladies, always seemed to be serving tea - and they wore hats. They kept their hats on even when wielding a teapot. No coats on—just hats! I was pretty ignorant of what else they did for the church but the tea was good and so were their cakes.

When I became a Mum, I didn't consider that I too was eligible to join the group at the church where I then lived, and I joined friends in a *Young Wives* group which was supposed to lead to membership of the *proper* Mothers' Union.

However it was not until I was back at work teaching that a friend invited me to come with her to an evening group which met at her church. Somewhat reluctantly I joined her one Tuesday evening and it was quite a surprise. Not only were there no hats but the membership varied from those in their twenties to two in their nineties. It was a very lively group and it was there that I learnt what the Mothers' Union was really all about.

We have members in over 78 countries and these days our membership is not confined to mothers as it was in the days of those ladies with hats. Single, married, parents, grandparents and young adults make up its 3.6 million members who continue the work that I now realise had been going on when I had thought that Mothers' Union people just made tea!

If you have been reading about us each month you will already know that we are an international Christian charity that seeks to support families worldwide and you will have read all about our work. You will know that we work internationally and nationally for better conditions in society for children and

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Jenny Wells remembers the hats



<http://themothersunion.org>

families and all this work is underpinned by the Christian faith of our members.

Perhaps you contributed to our *Make a Mother's Day*, ethical gift campaign?

If you want to know more about the Mothers' Union then read our website (see left) and keep reading about us in the *review*. ❖

St Peter's & All Saints' Easter Holiday Club

Thursday 1st April 2010
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Last month I wrote of the problems with water supply and water quality that could result in the future as a consequence of the construction of more houses and climate change, leading to more droughts and floods. I was reminded of this, and of how much local industry in the past has relied on a plentiful supply of water, when reading the story of John Dickinson and Co, the paper making company that was until recently based at Apsley.[†]

Water is used copiously in the production of paper, and paper making came to Apsley because of the supply of water provided by the rivers Gade and Bulbourne. Five mills on the River Gade; at Two Waters, Nash Mills, Frogmore, Apsley and Home Park were converted to paper making in the 1750s. In 1809 the founder, John Dickinson, bought Apsley Mill and, shortly after, Nash Mills. The records show that there were often disputes between John Dickinson's paper mills and the company which ran the recently constructed canal about the extraction and use of water from the river network. John Dickinson sought to divert the Grand Union (then Grand Junction) Canal so that it ran close to his Nash and Apsley paper mills. He managed this in 1818 by means of an Act of Parliament, after which the water from the canal was used directly to drive a water-mill, which formed part of the industrial process. But the presence of the canal also enabled the raw materials needed for paper making, and coal, to be transported to the mills by barge. It also linked these mills to Paddington so that deliveries of paper could be made to London quickly.

Paper was invented in China almost exactly two thousand years ago but the first English paper mill was not set up until 1490, in Hertford. Before mechanisation the process was to boil rags to a fibrous pulp which, after bleaching,

Ian Reay's &news &views

Fool's Cap and Dandy Rolls

Ian Reay explores Dacorum's industrial past

was laid out as a felt on a wire sieve in a wooden frame suspended in water. The *watermark* in the paper was formed from a device in the wire frame that thinned the paper according to a specified shape. This has traditionally been used as a sign of authenticity and quality

of a sheet of paper as well as an indicator of its size. For example, *Foolsap* was originally denoted by a watermark image of a fool's cap. This was later replaced by an image of Britannia. When paper was later made mechanically, continuously on rollers, the watermark was impressed in the paper at regular intervals using a *riding roll*, the most successful of which, the *Dandy Roll*, was a cylinder made of brass and wire, invented by **John Marshall** in 1826.

As early as the 18th century alternatives to rags for making paper had been tried – wood, leaves, moss, wasps' nests, straw, hay, thistles, hemp, flax, bark - but with limited success, and after the end of the Napoleonic wars, which had caused a shortage of rags, substitutes were no longer tried. But as the 19th century progressed the demand for paper increased whereas the supply of rags did not. After much experimentation the most successful and economic substitute for rags became, by the 1870s, esparto grass.

Paper nowadays recycles many fibres and as a consequence is one of the most sustainable materials available, with a low carbon footprint. Ways of injection-moulding paper, to enable it to be used for many more purposes than just writing and printing, are even now being invented. ❖

[†] The Endless Web, *John Dickinson & Co Ltd*, 1804-1954, by Joan Evans, Jonathan Cape, 1955.

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The Chiltern Hills are designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) - a

recognition that the Chiltern countryside is amongst the finest in

the country. On **Sunday 9th May 2010**, The Children's Society Sponsored Berkhamsted Walk offers a choice of three routes through this beautiful countryside. The routes criss-cross the network of gentle hills and valleys revealing beech woods and chalk grassland. In spring the woodland paths become edged with clumps of violets and primroses. Bluebells under the canopy of the trees of the National Trust's Ashridge estate carpet the woodland floor, a miracle of nature. It's all there for your pleasure.

The three routes are the popular Bluebell Walk of 12 miles, a Fun Walk of 6 miles, and the Challenge Walk of 18 miles. All the routes include bluebell displays, sights which can be seen only between late April and early May.

Please take part, whether you want to stroll gently or to rise to the challenge of the 18 mile Walk for which some of the hills are less than gentle! All the information you could want about the Walk, or the Ashridge Estate or The Children's Society is on our web-site <http://berkhamstedwalk.com>. To take part easily, the site includes registration and sponsorship forms. Forms are also available at *The Bloc* on the corner of Lower Kings Road in the High Street, and at *The Complete Outdoors*, London Road, Bourne End. Other outlets in the town, such as the Library, the Sports Centre and some shops have sponsor forms on display. Alternatively, telephone 01442 864968 for information and forms to be sent to you.

The Bluebell and Challenge Walks start from the Court House which is alongside St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted High Street, HP4 2AX. Registration can be in advance via the website or at The Court

PUT SPRING IN YOUR STEP

Alex Evans promotes The
Berkhamsted Walk

House between 10:00am and 12:00 noon. The six mile Fun Walk starts at Ashridge College, HP4 1NS, with registration between 11:00am and 2:00pm. Allow about 2½ miles

an hour to assess how

long you will be walking. Routes are way-marked and a map and text are provided to guide you. Check points track your progress, offer light refreshment, and can call up transport if needed.

The Walk is not only for your pleasure.

Just as important is funding the vital work of **The Children's Society** by your sponsorship. In the sponsor form are tips on fund-raising and on how to use the website

<http://justgiving.com/childrenssociety>

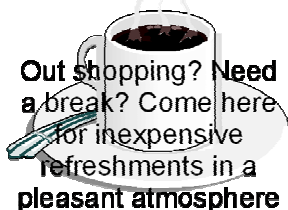
This website makes it easy for you to get sponsorship from relatives and friends and saves you the task of personally collecting the sponsorship money.

Each year *The Complete Outdoors* generously donates three valuable prizes for the most sponsorship raised on one form. They are a Paramo Jacket, Brasher Boots, and a pair of Lekki walking poles, or items of equivalent value. Please look on this competition for most sponsorship as a way to make a difference to the lives of disadvantaged children

The Children's Society campaigns to make childhood better. It provides vital help and understanding for forgotten children who face poverty, danger, and discrimination. A network of projects helps thousands of children and their families each year, supporting children in trouble with the law, on the streets, young refugees and the disabled. Through research and campaigning the Society protects the childhood of all children in the belief that every child deserves a good childhood. **Please take part, not only for your fitness and enjoyment of the beauty around us but also to raise funds for this vital work.** ❖

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More Shrublands Road History

Susan Johnson writes:

As the current owners of *Stonycroft* we were interested in the article in the *review* of March 2010 concerning the *Shrublands Road* Victorian villas.

Our house was built shortly after 1890 (we do not have an exact date) but was definitely in the ownership of **Ellen Capon** in 1893. The house had been designed by **Charles Henry Rew**, who was the architect of All Saints Church, together with the Chapel, Deans' Hall and the Swimming Pool at the Boys' School. He is commemorated in the Chapel as *the faithful architect of this school*. He often worked with his son Noel. You can see our house in his architectural drawing of All Saints, which used to hang in the church and was reproduced in the illustrated Centenary publication in 2005.

Ellen Capon sold *Stonycroft* to the **Revd Octavius Pechell Greenstreet** in 1898. The Revd Greenstreet was a benefactor to various causes in the town. He, and later his wife Annie, were the owners until 1920. I have the original deeds and can trace ownership to modern times. Amongst other owners have been the distinguished civil engineer **Harry Ekermans Oakley** MBE, and **Ralph Ingham Hallows** CMG, MBE of the Indian Political Service and later advisor to the Bank of England. And then there was our own **David Woodward**.

When I retire next year I intend to research the local domestic architecture of Charles Henry and Noel Rew. This will enable a greater understanding of their contribution to house-building in the town. Perhaps readers of the *review* would like to get in touch?

email: scgjohnson@btinternet.com

Bill Frew writes:

Having lived in Shrublands Road for thirty years or so I was very interested to read the article about HJF and the others who lived in that road in its early days.

In it is mentioned the Thelwall family, who

in 1901 lived in No 1, now *Rothesay Court*. The article states that the head of the family's first name was *Embale*, but with a question mark. In fact his name was **Eubule Daysh Thelwall** and his grave is in St Mary's Churchyard in Northchurch. *Eubule* is believed to be a Greek name meaning *good counsel* and if one *Googles* the name Eubule Thelwall it will be seen that one Sir Eubule Thelwall was the Principal of Jesus College, Oxford, prior to his death in 1630. No doubt he was an ancestor of our Eubule Thelwall.

Eubule Daysh Thelwall had six children, all but one of whom are buried in St Mary's Churchyard. One married **Hugh Ralph Satow** CBE, who died in 1967 and was buried in St Mary's Churchyard, and another married **Cyril Mosley Wagstaff** who became a Major General CB CMG CIE DSO and who was also buried in St Mary's Churchyard, in 1934. The Wagstaffs were a Berkhamsted family but I cannot trace the Satows. Do we know who they were? There was a **Sir Ernest Mason Satow** PC GCMG who was a diplomat in the Far East and who wrote the standard work on Diplomatic Practice but he died in 1929 in Ottery St Mary.

(*the Editor writes*) From the St Peter's Church Burial Registers I am able to identify a family of Satows who were resident at *Northcote* in Kitsbury Road. **Samuel Augustus Mason Satow** was buried on 3rd June 1925 aged 78 (note the forename *Mason* shared with Sir Ernest – perhaps his brother). Samuel appears in Kelly's Directory for 1899 as resident at *Northcote*. **Kathrin Jarvis Satow** (probably Samuel's wife) was buried on 26th March 1907 aged 60. **Noel Wilfred Satow** (probably their son) was buried on 20th February 1896 aged 17. T C Fry, Headmaster of Berkhamsted School officiated. Kathrin and Noel share a grave in the Three Close Lane churchyard, together with **Norah Kathrin Satow** (presumably Noel's sister) who died on 5th September 1943. Samuel is buried separately, also in Three Close Lane. His gravestone records that he was born on 29th October 1847. ❖

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Save unwanted items to donate to the fair and offer to help on the day. Further information from **Judith Limbert** (873626).

This year the Petertide Fair is supporting the **BerkoAstro Project** to provide an all-weather, floodlit sports pitch at Ashlyns School for young people in Berkhamsted - and abroad, we are donating funds to the **Karunashraya** hospice in Bangalore, India.

<http://petertidefair.org.uk>

JAZZ FOR A SUMMER'S EVENING

Sunday 19th June 2010

The Christian Garrick Jazz Quartet will once again be performing in St Peter's Church. Come and enjoy a pre-concert *al fresco* glass of wine and relax as you listen to this fantastic band.

PATRONAL LUNCH

Sunday 27th June 2010

Please join us in St Peter's Churchyard for a drink and lunch following the 9:30am service. The event is open to all and is an opportunity to celebrate St Peter's day and meet other members of the congregation.

CHANDOS ENSEMBLE CONCERT

Sunday 26th June 2010

This superb chamber orchestra will perform a programme of classical works in St Peter's.

PETERTIDE FAIR BAG

There's till a chance to buy the eco-friendly Petertide Fair *Bag for Life*. Just £3 from **Judith Limbert** - and look out for details of the *Petertide Fair Bag Competition*. Where will you take yours?

The burial ground that lies between Three Close Lane and Rectory Lane, often called Three Close Lane or Rectory Lane Cemetery, is in fact the detached churchyard of St Peter's Church. The lower part, accessed from Rectory Lane was consecrated in 1842 when little space remained for burials in the churchyard around St Peter's Church. It was subsequently extended on two occasions, in



1896 and again in 1921, but by the 1950s little space remained for further burials and the Kingshill Cemetery became Berkhamsted's principal burial ground.

The Three Close Lane Churchyard is not only a churchyard, it is also an important area of green space in the heart of Berkhamsted and for this reason its future has been the subject of recent discussions between representatives of the Parochial Church Council and Berkhamsted Town Council. As a result of these discussions, both councils are agreed that the area offers an important opportunity to create an amenity space for the benefit of the community as a whole.

A report commissioned by the two councils has identified a number of options for the future use of the area, including the use of the space to host community activities, management of part of the site for the conservation of wildlife and the creation of nature and history trails. Any future use of the area will have to be subject to careful planning, local consultation and the agreement of all those parties with an interest in the site, including the families of those buried in

THREE CLOSE LANE CHURCHYARD

What Future?
Christopher Green writes

the churchyard, the Diocese, the local planning authority, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and the Church Commissioners. The transformation of the area from its present partially unkempt condition will cost substantial sums of money. Sources of funding will have to be identified.

The report contains a recommendation that a ***Friends of St Peter's Churchyard*** voluntary group

should be established to maintain the momentum of the project and ensure wide community representation in the development and management of the site. Ideally the group will include people representing different interests and bringing to the group different areas of expertise, ranging from the historical and ecological to fund-raising and administration.

The group will be supported by the Town and Parochial Church Councils who will retain ownership of the Project and will play a guiding role in the identification of funding sources.

There has already been a positive response to the notice of this Project in the Town Council's Winter Newsletter. If you missed that announcement, it is not too late to express your interest. *If you are interested in becoming involved as a **Friend of St Peter's Churchyard**, please contact Colin Westwood at the Town Council on 01442 228945 or email at berkhamsted.towncouncil@dacorum.gov.uk*



Liz Jackson writes about her experiences visiting the Karunashraya Hospice in Bangalore in southern India. The Hospice is one of the two charities being supported this year by the Petertide Fair.

KARUNASHRAYA

Part 1 – The Scissors were not very sharp

Liz Jackson's Indian diary

government owned land and is on a 20 year lease. Monies were raised locally with a major boost from Rotary Club both in India and England. Some individuals have sponsored rooms, but

the whole works are run entirely on donations from fundraising and general collections.

17/02/10 Arrived Bangalore airport at 5:00am after an uneventful flight and was met by the Hospice driver, Sheaker in a small ambulance! As we sped along the three lane highway, I observed the *Remember Lane Discipline* notices. These did not seem to apply, and vehicles passed either to the right or left of the vehicle in front, accompanied by a considerable amount of horn blowing and many motorcycles weaving in and out.

As we drove along the sun started to rise, first a thin red line on the horizon headed by a large black cloud, and mist, (not pollution) rising up from the ground. In the half light this looked very dramatic.

On arrival at the hospice I received a warm welcome, and immediately became *Caroline's Mum* (For those who don't know, my daughter, who is a student nurse, spent her elective, seven weeks, at Karunashraya last year). I was shown to my room and adjoining bathroom, which received a source of solar water so I never needed to use the boiler. There was another door to the outside where I was able to hang washing and sit on a small veranda if I wished. These rooms were very comfortable, and set around a square courtyard with central garden which was very pleasant, with the Sisters on the ground floor and the younger nurses on the second floor. There were two dining rooms, one for Sisters and visiting staff and the other for the junior nurses, with a very large kitchen between the two, a small chapel and a Sisters sitting room, all this was connected to the wards by a corridor.

Hospice History Karunashraya, with its 30 beds, was opened in 1999 having taken three years to construct. It is built on

Each cubicle is approx 9' x 8' with an adjustable hospital bed down one long side and some cupboards and shelf space for personal belongings on the other. Between each cubicle is a stable door which corresponds to a door on the other side of the ward so that there is a through breeze all the time when hot. All the wards, two female, one male and four single rooms are built around a man-made body of water which contains some beautiful trees making the setting so tranquil and calm. Relatives, if there are any, are encouraged to visit and family groups can be seen around *the pond*. Three tiers of nurses assist the patients, the youngest at 18 are auxiliaries or HCA's, then the trained nurses and finally there are usually two or three senior nurses who are nuns from various orders who work for a specified period. The first two groups are all Indian but the Nuns can be from any country.

Having settled in and met the nursing staff and hospital director I was able to go on my first ward round. Fungating breast tumours, maxillary facial tumours, lung, brain and abdominal tumours feature high on the list. Both men and women chew tobacco and wedge a roll between lower teeth and cheek this results in the most horrendous sores. A great many of the patients are brought in by concerned relatives, some are transferred from Kidwai the private cancer hospital or the general hospital and some come in from the street having no one in the world to care for them, many are only there for a few days before they die but the love and care they receive in some way makes up for all their hurt.

Today is Ash Wednesday and after work I

joined two of the Nuns and went to church for the Imposition of Ashes. This was a bus ride away and the church held approximately 100 people with another 100 sitting outside. The Eucharist followed ours and was in English except that the hymns were more Evangelical. Most people speak English although the local language is Kanada, with Hindi as well.

18/02/10 Up at 6:00am and accompanied the Nuns to the nearby Carmelite Convent for mass. The Novices were making their devotions as we arrived and it was a treat to hear their chanting, they look so young.

Ward round this morning and I have been detailed to spend some time with two male patients, one lung cancer with brain metastases in his 60s and another early 30s who has had successful surgery for a brain tumour but has been left with no speech, although his understanding is perfect. His legs were semi paralysed but he has physiotherapy every day and this is improving so that he is now able to shuffle with help. Married with two small children he has to stay with us as he cannot be managed at home. This particular patient was nursed by Caroline last year and his face lit up when I was able to talk about her.

Today the head Oncologist from Shrewsbury Royal Hospital, who had been on the annual cancer convention in Delhi, came to visit with his wife who also works in palliative care. He has sponsored Karunashraya for many years and always comes laden with out-of-date dressings, drugs etc and tries to help where he can.

This afternoon was dressing rounds, the first was spinal compression due to an abdominal tumour which had caused nerve damage from the waist down. This lady had been at home and had developed a bed sore. Since there was no sensation from the waist down she had become very large and by the time she was admitted measured 10" x 4" with full skin thickness and the sacral bone visible. This was thoroughly cleansed with a mixture of hydrogen peroxide and normal saline and some of the sloughing skin was removed. The scissors were not very sharp and a razor blade would have

been better. A blade was found but no handle was available. Everything is in short supply and there are many improvisations. After cleansing and a final wash of saline, potassium permanganate powder was sprinkled on the wound, then this was covered with home made waxed gauze. Squares of gauze are cut up and placed in a container then Vaseline is added and the tray put into the microwave until the gauze is completely coated. The gauze was then covered by strips of torn up linen - which will be washed and recycled - and the whole encased in a large disposable incontinence pad. This patient's heels and ankles were already showing signs of breaking down.

Next there was a maxillary tumour right side of lower jaw, which yesterday had yielded 200 live maggots. Today only two or three were visible and came out with the help of forceps. This wound was treated in the same way as the above bed sore, linen wrapped around the jaw and secured with tape. This lady had full sensation and the cleansing must have been very painful. Everyone is so brave and hardly a murmur is heard.

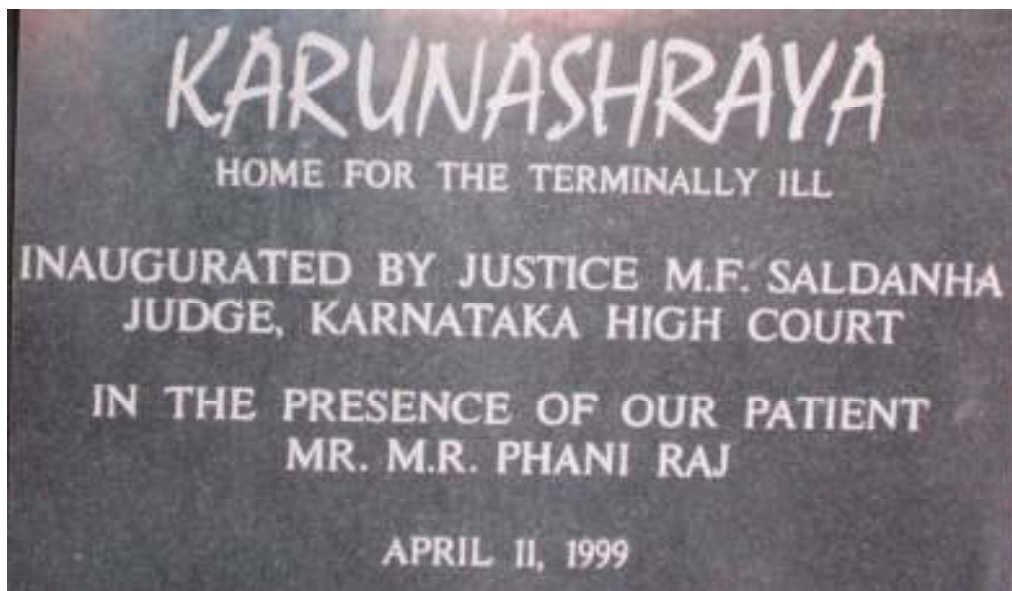
I was very privileged that these two patients allowed me to observe their procedures.

After sanitising myself I went to talk to my allotted patients. Conditions are so different from one case to another, one would like to go home but his family say they cannot cope, another is clearly unable to go because he needs too much help and this is not available in the community.

So, good people of Berkhamsted we have our annual fair coming up, please do support it and give whatever you can to make it a success and then Karunashraya will benefit. With 70 rupees to the pound whatever we send will go a long way. And, I shall hope to go back again next year and may well be asking you for out-of-date dressings to take with me. Be warned!!

❖

p16➡



**The 2010 Petertide
Fair overseas charity
in Bangalore,
Southern India**

← p14







Notice seen in Thurleigh Church, Bedfordshire

photo: Christopher Green

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We are all always saddened and shocked when a person young or old loses their life having used some drugs, drunk too much, eaten too little or gambled it all away...

These days it is possible to get high for the night for very little money, which can sometimes lead to death or psychiatric problems the first time we use. Every life is worth incalculably more than that.

For almost everyone it comes as a life-changing shock to learn that their family member, friend or partner is taking drugs or has some other form of possible addiction. For all of us there is a time of denial: part of that comes from our own feelings of guilt, of fear, of anger and of shame at what others might think of us.

For us personally, our beloved family member is in recovery for today.

We were dragged mentally kicking and screaming to our first meeting of **Families Anonymous**. However, when we got there we found people just like ourselves, who loved their family member, partner or friend, more than words could say, battling with the same problems. We

THERE IS HELP

Do you know about
Families Anonymous?

were no longer alone. We met with people who were learning, through the programme, that we can change ourselves and our reactions, but that

others we can only love.

Through changing ourselves we learnt to react differently to each situation and though the problem didn't go away, we learnt to live our lives the best we could, getting through each day, no matter what choice the person who had brought us to this programme made

We had several avenues of help, but **Families Anonymous** was one of the most important. We were not judged, we were supported by people who knew exactly how we were feeling. All of us are travelling the same 'road', but in different places on our journey. We were also reassured to know that anything we talked about would never be repeated elsewhere.

For more details or to talk to someone in confidence please phone **Jackie** who is our local contact on **07847 120988** or **Families Anonymous** national helpline **0845 1200 660**. ❖

reviewletters

A Bit More on St Peter's Roof

John Cook writes

If someone whose name is not *Christopher* may be allowed to have a say, can I add a word on St Peter's nave roof? I think the structure is correctly called a *queen-post rafter roof*, although the queen-posts are so short they are really only stumps. The medieval arched braces shown in the photograph in last month's *review* may have been too flimsy to serve any structural function, but they did have an architectural purpose in enriching what is a rather featureless part of the church. Their removal I rank as one of the worst barbarisms to

afflict Berkhamsted in the 20th century, along with the destruction of Egerton House, Berkhamsted Place, the sunken cottages and the shops facing the market. From memory, I think Baldock parish church has the same design of roof, and they have managed to keep theirs.

As for the colour of the ceiling, the lightish blue that was controversially agreed to in 1958 was changed to the present red in the 1980s, but this too was criticised. I was churchwarden at the time and got a terrible verbal mauling from **Bert Ablett**, the architect of blessed memory, who told me in no uncertain terms that the only proper colour for a church ceiling was blue, the colour God had chosen for his sky. ❖

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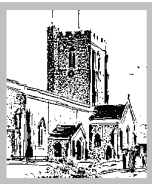
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review Northchurch & Wigginton

The BNP and Racism

**The Revd
Jonathan
Gordon** focuses
on election
issues

On election night I usually settle myself in front of the television into the small hours until the result is known. The last few elections have not been that exciting as the outcome has been

fairly predictable and has meant going to bed by 1:00am, but this year the polls suggest the result could be very close. So whether it is this month or early May, it looks like an entertaining evening ahead - of exit polls, swingometers and detailed analysis.

The pollsters are talking-up a hung parliament at the time of writing and as a consequence more attention will be given to minority parties and the impact that they may or may not have. The *first past the post* system generally does not favour smaller parties, but previous elections have shown how strategic voting or even protest votes can make a difference in certain constituencies. In the European elections last years the British National Party had two elected members under the system of proportional representation. The BNP currently has just 56 councillors out of a national total of over 22,000 on principal local authorities (districts, boroughs, etc.) in the UK, which includes one seat on the London Assembly. Whilst their impact on national politics is minimal, it is likely that they will target certain seats and hope to make some limited inroads.

The BNP have a very interesting way of avoiding direct references to race, but I would argue race is at the heart of every statement they make. The BNP will use

negative images of Islam and migrant workers, to suggest British culture is under threat. They want people to feel insecure and afraid. Their standard ploy is to argue that they are saying openly what most people are thinking – that they are the voice of the majority who have been silenced by political correctness. Their election posters or rallies will usually involve pictures of Spitfires, to foster the sense of the blitz spirit, and how we are under threat and need to pull together and protect our culture and identity. I think that at the heart of it all is racism; a belief in white supremacy and dominance.

Racism is a faith or a dogma that argues that one ethnic group is superior, whilst others are inferior, worthless or defective. If you were a racist Christian you would have to argue that God had made a creative error. In essence you are arguing that there are worthless human beings in one race and superior human beings in another race.

The Bible is clear and unambiguous: all people are made in the image of God and are his children.

There is a slogan that you sometimes read entitled: *What would Jesus do?* In response to the BNP, I think he would pray for them as they hold onto an ideal of a past society that in practice never really existed, and they are insecure and fearful. A sense of identity and belonging can only be found in a dubious creed of whiteness and superiority. I hope that the churches together can show the BNP that the values of understanding, friendship, trust and community are far more important than the artificial barriers that can separate and divide. ❖

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Now some 85 years since its conception in 1924, Berkhamsted Citizens Association is the oldest organisation of its type in the town.

But what does it do? Well, the masthead on its newsletter says *Working for the social and civic life of the community*, so that's a clue.

On their website <http://bcacitizen.org.uk>, there is an archive of all the old newsletters going back to 1968, although the early ones are a little sparse, as in the early days, the Association kept in contact with its members by having a column in this very magazine and the Library keeps past issues of the *review* back to the 1970s. Both make interesting social reading.

When I was a lad, the *review* really was the main source of what went on in the town - OK gossip! - and this can be seen by looking at past copies. Advertisements for shops long gone, prices and goods you only dream of today. Did you know you could actually buy a three piece suite (those things laying around your living room - maybe), a washing machine or a spin dryer and get your television, radiogram or radio actually repaired. Petrol was sold in at least eight garages and the demon drink had umpteen outlets - still I digress again.

Getting back to the point, the AGM of the Citizens Association was held on 11th March 2010 with the usual request for more members and for people to sit on the few committees it has, but with the usual result of not a lot of offers. There must be readers of this superb publication who want to see our town improve and who are actually younger than me. It doesn't take up a lot of time and you can be self-appointed and have a voice with the people that matter. You aren't expected to agree with everything, but you will have a voice that is not *party political*. On that subject, I keep being told that the Association isn't political - well, in a way,

GET INVOLVED

Norman Cutting commends the Berkhamsted Citizens Association

it isn't party political but any organisation that gets involved has to be political by definition. I know the BCA have Conservative supporters on board as well as Lib-Dems. Add a few

floaters and you must admit they represent the flavour of the town, without the hassle of going and getting elected by just 30% of residents. It only needs a couple of members and you can agitate for whatever you think the town needs, whether it's an outdoor swimming pool, Marks & Spencer shop or just more rubbish bins.

Come on and get involved.

... and on the Grapevine

Just in case you didn't know, down the grapevine I've heard that Ashlyns Farm has been sold. And down the same grapevine I've heard that the track between Chesham Road and Swing Gate Lane is to be upgraded to a proper tarmac road, with a pile of homes built in the area bounded by the A41, Swing Gate Lane, Thomas Coram School (maybe Ashlyns School as well) and Ashlyns Hall. To be fair, it's unlikely to happen with the current attitude of the Borough and County Councils, but just hoping it will go away means it may happen behind our back.

I wonder if the planning people will insist on a proportion of social housing and spaces for travellers? These are the current proposed requirements for any new multi-home developments. The area character study will need to be taken into account (farmland/open space all around - not quite in character by any stretch of the imagination!). If we are not careful, Sugar Lane (also known as Long Green), which is a public highway, will be turned from a bridleway into a proper road capable of taking 44 tonne lorries which in turn will mean upgrading the single track of Swing Gate Lane which will encourage the development of the land between the A41 and Upper Hall Park.

Aren't you glad you don't live on that side of town? ❖



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*review*easter services

28th March Palm Sunday

- 8:00am Eucharist with Palm Crosses
9:30am Blessing of Palms and Sung Eucharist (start in car park)
6:30pm The Cowper Society presents: Chiltern Chamber Choir
with Coro Villa de Las Rozas & Bridgewater Sinfonia

29th March Monday in Holy Week

- 7:30pm Eucharist
8:00pm Liturgy of Penitence and Healing

30th March Tuesday in Holy Week

- 7:30pm Eucharist
8:00pm Stations of the Cross

31st March Wednesday in Holy Week

- 7:30pm Eucharist
8:00pm Tenebrae

1st April Maundy Thursday

- 8:00pm Sung Eucharist of the Last Supper
Preacher: +Christopher, Bishop of Hertford

2nd April Good Friday

- 12-3pm Three hour devotion including the Liturgy of the Day
Preacher: +Christopher, Bishop of Hertford

3rd April Easter Eve

- 9:00pm The Easter Vigil, Holy Baptism & Confirmation
+Christopher, Bishop of Hertford to preside

4th April Easter Day

- 8:00am Eucharist
9:30am Sung Eucharist
6:00pm Choral Evensong



Christopher
Foster,
Bishop of
Hertford

Being a Grandparent

A little girl was diligently pounding away on her Grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story. *What's it about?* He asked. *I don't know*, she replied, *I can't read*

A grandmother was telling her small granddaughter what her own childhood was like. *We used to pick wild strawberries in the woods. We had a swing made from a tyre, hanging from a tree in the garden. We had a pony to ride and in the winter we could skate on the pond.* The little girl was wide-eye, taking

this all in. At last she said, *I wish I'd got to know you sooner.*

After putting her grandchildren to bed, a grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the grandchildren becoming noisier and noisier, her patience grew thin. Finally she threw a towel round her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard the three-year old say with a trembling voice, *Who was THAT?* ❖

*review*notes¬ices

BERKHAMSTED JAZZ

Saturday, 10th April 2010 at 8:00pm in the Civic Centre **Brian White Septet**
Tickets: members £8, visitors £12 at the door. Students and children half price.

BERKHAMSTED & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Thursday, 22nd April 2010 at 7:45pm at Newcroft, Mill Street. *Invading Angles and near invisible Britons.* **Susan Young.**
Visitors £1.50 on the door.

BERKHAMSTED CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Thursday, 8th April 2010 at 8:00pm in the Sessions Hall. *World Finance;* **Tony Statham.** Visitors £2.

BERKHAMSTED FILM SOCIETY

Monday and Tuesday 29th and 30th March 2010 *Pot Luck*

Monday and Tuesday 12th and 13th April 2010 *Cherry Blossoms* – profoundly moving story of marital love.

Monday and Tuesday 26th and 27th April 2010 *Young Victoria*

At Civic Centre at 8:00pm Visitors £5 at the door. For details of membership contact Membership Secretary 863155.

BERKHAMSTED ART SOCIETY

Thursday, 26th April 2010
Demonstration of picture painting. Chinese brush technique with ink and watercolour. **Jean Turton** At The Civic Centre at 8:00pm Visitors £2

BERKHAMSTED THEATRE GROUP

Thursday - Saturday, 25th-27th March 2010 at 7:45pm in the Civic Centre. *Noises Off* by **Michael Frayn.** £8-£10

BERKHAMSTED TOWN COUNCIL

Thursday, 29th April 2010 at 7:30pm in Berkhamsted Town Hall. The Town Council reports to the electorate on its past year's activities and invites a guest speaker on a local topic.

BALLET

Sunday, 18th April 2010 At the Centenary Hall, Kings Road. **Vienna Festival Ballet.** £17.

EXHIBITION

Saturday, 24th April and Sunday, 25th April 2010 From 10:00am to 4:30pm in the Civic Centre. Exhibition of quilting. Admission £3

EASTER EGG TRAIL

Saturday, 3rd April 2010 to Monday, 5th April 2010 12noon to 4:00pm. Annual Easter Egg trail in the form of a Treasure Hunt at Ashridge. Children £2.

CHILTERN CHAMBER CHOIR

Sunday, 28th March 2010 at 6:30pm in St Peter's Church. **Mozart Mass in B Minor** £12, Concessions £10 U18 free

FRIENDS OF TRING CHURCH HERITAGE

Saturday 8th May 2010 10:00am – 4:00pm - Family Fun Day at St Peter and St Paul Church and churchyard, Tring High Street - BBQ 12:00 noon – 2:00pm, cream teas 2:00-4:00pm, Mixx 96 bouncy slide, children's crafts, adult raffle, plants, cakes, musical entertainment, and more.

It's a 21st Birthday Celebration for Friends of Tring Church Heritage! All proceeds go towards the upkeep of the church and churchyard.

*review*notes¬ices

OXFAM CHILDREN'S WEAR EVENT

Friday 9th April 2010 9:00 - 11:30am in the Civic Centre. Organizer **Nicky Evans** has set her sights on a target of £6000. More help is needed, especially with ironing and an urgent priority is to find dry storage space for the prepared stock.

Oxfam's resources are being fully stretched by demands such as the Haitian earthquake and the desperate plight of people in drought-stricken East Africa. Education is always a high priority for the charity. The destruction of schools in Port-au-Prince alone is formidable. It costs £429 to build and equip a library and train people to run it. Events such as the Children's Wear sale would raise enough for 14 new libraries.

There will be a range of clothes for the spring and summer seasons as well as books, toys and games. Local families can benefit from quality clothing for their children, knowing that their purchases help not only their own family budgets but desperately needy people overseas as well.

*If you can help with either storage or ironing please contact **Nicky Evans** (872502)*

OXFAM AND EASTER

The Oxfam shop has an excellent variety of Fairtrade Chocolate Easter Eggs and Novelties including milk and white chocolate Easter chicks, spring lambs and chickens. A chocolate hen surrounded by a varied selection of mini-eggs would make a great party centrepiece and children could play the board game Carrot Hunt with chocolate playing pieces.

Easter eggs symbolize new life and buying Fairtrade chocolate will bring new life to poverty-stricken cocoa farmers. Everyone is a winner with Oxfam.

TRANSITION TOWN BERKHAMSTED

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Garden exchange scheme

TTB is running a garden exchange scheme to match people who want to garden but don't have space, with people who have too much garden for their needs.

If you'd like to find out more, purchase energy monitors or register your interest, contact: ttbexchange@gmail.com or tel 01442 864101

WEDDING

On **15th February 2010** at the Mansion House at Edinburgh Zoo, **Christopher Judd** formerly a chorister at St Peter's Church married **Jill Owens** of Bo'ness near Edinburgh. They will be making their home in Colchester.

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Saturday 24th April 2010 at 7:45pm at the Centenary Hall, Berkhamsted School. **Kathryn Jenkin** and **Phillip Conway-Brown** are giving a concert in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. There will be opera favourites and songs from the shows, a lot of laughter and interval bar refreshments. Tickets £12/ £10 from box office (07500 843575) or from Kathryn and Phillip (874803).

April

SUN	<i>St Peter's</i>	8:00am Eucharist 9:30am Sung Eucharist 6:00pm Evensong
	<i>All Saints'</i>	4 th 10:00am Holy Communion 11 th 10:00am Eucharist 18 th 10:00am Morning Worship 25 th 8:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Morning Worship with Holy Baptism

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

MON	MP	9:00am	EP	5:00pm	Eucharist	6:00pm
TUE	MP	7:30am	EP	5:00pm	Eucharist	9:30am <i>All Saints'</i>
WED	MP	7:30am	EP	5:00pm	Eucharist	8:00am
THU	MP	7:30am	EP	5:00pm	Eucharist	11:00am
FRI	MP	7:30am	EP	4:00pm	<i>All Saints'</i>	Eucharist 9:15am
			EP	5:00pm		
SAT	MP	9:30am	EP	5:00pm	Eucharist	10:00am

13 rd Mon	PASTORAL NETWORK 7:45pm	<i>The Court House</i>
	Contact Philippa Seldon (871534)	
Tue	CHUCKLES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 10:00-11:30am	<i>All Saints' Church Hall</i>
	Song Time or short service as announced.	Jenny Wells (870981)
Tue	ST PETER'S CHOIR Children 5:15 to 6:15pm	<i>St Peter's</i>
	Contact: Adrian Davis (875674) or Jean Wild (866859)	
1 st Tue	TUESDAY CLUB 7:45pm	<i>A lively women's group with guest speaker The Court House</i>
	Contact chairman Barbara McKenna (871159)	
3 rd Tue	MOTHERS' UNION: meets in members' houses at 8:00pm.	
	<i>Non-members always welcome.</i>	Contact: Kathie Lally (863526)
4 th Tue	MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER GROUP: 2:30pm	<i>17 Shaftesbury Court</i>
	Tell us if anyone needs our prayers.	Contact: Jenny Wells (870981)
Wed	JULIAN MEETING: meets about twice a month	at Jenny's 57 Meadow Rd
	<i>All are very welcome at 11:30am as arranged</i>	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)	Penny Nash (865217)
		<i>The Court House</i>
Thu	HOME GROUP: 8:00pm on 2 nd & 4 th Thursdays.	
Thu	BELLRINGING: 8:00pm Helen Ruberry (890949)	<i>St Peter's</i>
Fri	LITTLE FISHES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 9:30-11:30am	<i>The Court House</i>
	Weekly meetings with a short service 1 st Fri in St Peter's (10am)	
	Tracy Robinson (863559)	
Fri	ST PETER'S CHOIR: Children 7:00-8:30pm, Adults 7:30-8:30pm.	<i>St Peter's</i>
	Contact: Adrian Davis (875674) or Jean Wild (866859)	
3 rd Sat	ABC PRAYER BREAKFAST: 8:00am for breakfast & prayers.	<i>Various local churches</i>

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

For Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter see page 25

APRIL

- Fri 16 1:00pm The Cowper Society presents:
Recital . Pelléas Trio – viola, harp & flute*St Peter's*
- Sat 17 8:00am Association of Berkhamsted Churches
Prayer Breakfast*Northchurch Baptist Church*
- Sun 18 11:00am Annual Parochial Church Meeting*The Court House*
6:00pm Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance*St Peter's*
- Sat 24 7:30pm The Cowper Society presents: The Chess Valley
Male Voice Choir with Hemel Hempstead Singers
and Damon Singers.....*St Peter's*

MAY

- Sat 1 6:15am The Cowper Society presents:
May Morning Madrigals.....*St Peter's Tower*
followed by breakfast*The Court House*
- Fri 7 10:00am Little Fishes Service*St Peter's*
- Thu 13 8:00pm Ascension Day Solemn Eucharist.....*St Peter's*
- Sat 15 8:00am Association of Berkhamsted Churches
Prayer Breakfast*Sunnyside*
- Sat 22 7:30pm The Cowper Society presents:
Dacorum Symphony Orchestra.....*St Peter's*

Weddings (St Peter's)

20th February

Edmund John Rab and Sarah Catharine Clegg

Funerals

19th February Gerald Eric Beddall

St Peter's Church (Kingshill)

5th March Dennis Frank Bellaby

St Peter's Church (St John E, Bourne End)

review factfile

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
	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
	Mrs S Bright	875025
St John the Evangelist, Bourne End	Revd David Abbott	865100
	Revd Dick Clarkson	873014

review notes¬ices

BERKHAMSTED CASTLE WI



Joint President **Joy Lovell** and Secretary **Janet Mitchell** welcomed us to our March meeting and we were pleased to have a new visitor in our midst.

Our speaker was **Hugh Grainger**, his topic being *Amazing Frauds and Swindles*, covering crimes around the world as well as in the UK. It is advisable to be most careful with our plastic cards at all times, to keep ahead of the trouble it can cause when these cards get into the wrong hands! A vote of thanks was given by

Anne Nightingale. Our speaker next month on **Friday 9th April 2010** is **Ian Walker**, his subject being *Victorian Shopping*. We meet in the Court House at 2:00pm.

CHROMA CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

Sunday 18th April 2010 at 7:00pm at the Quaker Meeting House: Adès – Arcadiana, Ravel – Quartet, Mozart String Quartet K421. Tickets £10/£7.
email chroma.concerts@me.com or call Clare O'Connell (862953)

reviewcontacts

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)
The Revd Penny Nash (Youth Minister) The Vicarage, Potten End (865217)
The Revd Caroline Weaver (Minister - All Saints') (866324)
Christina Billington (Diocesan Lay Minister), 13 Ashridge Rise (385566)
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



Sheila Miller in the '60s on a beach in Italy



Following on from the photographs in the March *review* of Berkhamsted Station in 1963, here a steam-hauled train passes through platform 4 at 1:13 pm on Saturday 6th March 2010, on a trip from Birmingham New Street to Euston. The locomotive was the Princess Elizabeth, Class 4-6-0 No 46201 in LMS Livery (London, Midland & Scottish). The trip was organised by Vintage Trains Ltd. <http://vintagetrains.co.uk> based at Birmingham Railway Museum.

photo: Chrichton Limbert