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for Town and Parish

30p



The Parish Magazine of St Peter's Great Berkhamsted

Welcome to the May 2010 issue of the Berkhamsted review

As I write this editorial, the first of the televised debates between the leaders of our main political parties looms. We are told that this is a turning point in the history of our democratic traditions. Maybe it is. But are we turning in the right direction? My newspaper predicts that 20 million will tune in ... putting the debate on a par with an England football international or an X Factor final. Isn't that a rather damning comparison? We can only hope that the outcome will have a similar relevance for the welfare of our nation – little or none? It probably should have, but unfortunately we live in an age beguiled by personalities and with little time for substance. So, when we vote on May 6th there's a good chance that it won't be the policies shaping our judgement but the performances – the hand gestures, the perspiration, the hesitations, even the ties. Commentators seem to agree hesitating for even a second when answering questions on complex issues of national importance will count as a calamitous shortcoming. And it probably will, for an audience raised on the lively repartee of other television game-shows.

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Christopher Green

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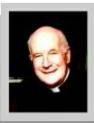
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Next copy dates (all Fridays) 30 Apr 4 Jun 2 Jul



Politics and Public Service
Father Anthony Lathe writes

review leader

In a previous life I belonged to a group of clergy which met for lunch and discussion. One of the features of the meetings was reading the minutes, alternately, of those

who had met fifty or one hundred years before. Strangely, there was never a mention of *the war*. Occasionally it was noted that they met in the National Restaurant; but for what was going on in the rest of world, not a word! So just in case someone picks up this magazine in fifty or a hundred years time, or because of this article you decide to leave it in your Will to your grandchildren, let me mention the Election, local and national.

We don't seem to be able to escape. Is this because everyone likes a bit of a fight? Is it because universal adult suffrage is a relatively recent phenomenon in our society? Is it because although we vote for an individual to represent us in Parliament, candidates come prepackaged with a coloured label? Elections bring out feelings ranging from fanaticism to boredom.

It seems to me fortunate that we do have the opportunity to take part in choosing between people who put themselves forward for the responsibility of government. Also we do get plenty of information about what they are standing for.

More than that, to vote is a token of respect for those who wish to offer this kind of public service. Don't laugh! Certainly the idea of public service in political life has taken a hammering because of the behaviour of some politicians. But choosing between people to serve as governors of the people is the ideal behind democracy.

Could it be that standards have fallen because we, the people, no longer seem to care too much and don't bother to turn out to vote, even when things go blatantly wrong?

Religious ideals come to bear through Jesus' command to love one's neighbour. One way of expressing this love is through choosing between the policies of the people who put themselves forward for the ordering of society. I would wish society to be ordered by those whose motive is public service and who, in the words of one of our prayers - seek the common good.

If this seems a rather obvious thing to say, I do know from people I have known in public life that it is a strenuous and very demanding task. Because of public scrutiny and the speed of communication it is probably more strenuous and demanding than it has ever been. Whoever is elected, our first response should be respect for a commitment to public service and a proper regard for those who seek to do the right thing amid a mass of conflicting demands. If in future we have criticisms to make they could be done kindly and with respect. I wonder too if, when it is deserved, the occasional expression of gratitude or understanding might not come amiss and help to affirm the principle of public service in public life.

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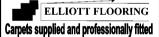
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others' Union members knit and sew! Well, not all of them and it is not a requirement membership. Many who have these skills enjoy using them to help others through Mothers' Union project work, and this in and other dioceses. to support hospitals.

In the St Albans diocese members sew and knit items particularly requested by the Special Care Baby Units. Sewing tiny garments can be fiddly, but pleasure is found in making romper suits and dresses the size of dolls' clothes for premature babies. Another item members sew with love and care is the gown and cap for stillborn babies. Made in white and trimmed with lace and pastel coloured ribbons, they are available for a very sad time in parents' lives. The garment may help with the healing process and bring a little comfort when it is greatly needed. For the sewers a quilt to place under the babies is simpler to make, but must have the



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MADE WITH SKILL GIVEN WITH LOVE

Margaret Burbidge reveals an MU cottage Industry



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special wadding inside it, as the cot bumpers will have too.

There are also tiny items for the knitters. ventilator bonnet tied with ribbons and a little hooded jacket just a few inches long, have also been requested. who prefer those something simpler like straightforward knitting to do while watching

television, the baby shawl and cot blanket are easier options. My new granddaughter, born in January, needed a short time in the Special Care Unit of a hospital in another diocese and while there was wrapped in a shawl with this tape stitched on it; Love from The Mothers' Union. This has prompted me to get out my knitting needles during my convalescence from a recent operation, to knit a shawl for our diocesan project, and I will stitch on my Love from The Mothers' Union tape with pride and thanks.

To complete the picture of members' skills with needles and wool, many like to knit comfort teddies. These are about ten inches long in bright colours and with a scarf fixed round the neck. They are sent to the Emergency Services who use them when children are involved in frightening accidents and need something to cuddle. Knitted garments are also sent overseas, where secure outlets can be found. At present from this diocese we can send them Eastern European including Romania, and also to Africa, to Tanzania. Children's jumpers and cardigans, blankets and shawls for the elderly, baby clothes and cot blankets and hats, scarves and gloves are all welcomed.

What talent there is among our members! As they knit and sew, every item will carry the love and prayers of our organisation, and that tape will be stitched onto everything! One of our *Objectives* is to help those whose life has met with adversity. The clicking of knitting needles or the whirring of sewing machines brings compassion to others when the light does not seem to shine in the darkness.

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Tel: 842716 (eve) Mbl: 07768 937138 We now know that the new High Speed Rail (HS2) will not pass close to Berkhamsted. One of the options looked at would have had the track running parallel to the West Coast Main Line —

and it would have passed Berkhamsted and Tring alongside the A41 bypass. The company's preferred route, however, will instead pass between West Ruislip and Ickenham, cross the M25 just to the south of Rickmansworth and then run through the Chiltern Hills between Chalfont St Giles and Wendover, along the valley of the Misbourne, before going on towards Aylesbury, where it will clip the edge of the grounds of the National Trust property at Hartwell House. About half the stretch between Chalfont St Giles and Wendover would be in a tunnel.

This new High Speed Rail idea is supported by all the political parties. This seems to be because it would be preferable to flying more aircraft, would reduce the need for more airport runways, and would encourage economic growth in a carbon friendly way.

But, I have my doubts. The report by the HS2 company is surprisingly lukewarm about its own proposal. The journey time from Euston to Birmingham will only be reduced by 32 minutes – from 82 minutes to 49 minutes - and this stretch will cost. they estimate, £16-£18 billion. current dire fiscal mess that the country is in where will this money come from? Past projects such as Crossrail and the Channel Tunnel (not to mention the Olympics) have always ended up costing substantially more than the original estimates. This report calculates that for every £1 spent on the project £2 will created as a benefit. These look like suspiciously round numbers to me. cost could easily double and if so the business and economic benefits of the rail would vanish like a mirage in the desert.



HS2 - Who Needs It`?
Ian Reay asks

The belief that a large number of people could be persuaded to switch from air to rail travel also looks tenuous to say the least. What is proposed is that, although the train will start at Euston, there will be a connection at Old Oak Common, near

Wormwood Scrubs, about 10 minutes journey time from Heathrow. Will people really want to go from Heathrow by train to Old Oak Common to switch to another train to go to Birmingham, rather than simply changing flights at the airport where they would not have to worry about their luggage? There would have to be a very large price discount to persuade anybody to do that, and a high speed journey by rail is likely to be charged at a premium rather than be a cut price service.

Finally, the report is surprisingly cool on the low carbon credentials of the HS2. It says that the carbon cost of the railway will be roughly neutral in comparison with alternative means e.g. air and road travel. The change will be just +/- 0.3% of current transport related carbon emissions. To all intents and purposes this is no change. So there won't be any climate benefit of this proposal.

Road and rail, even high speed rail, are a 19th or 20th century solution. What we want is a bit of lateral thinking. All over town, Openreach are installing large green cabinets house broadband fibre to Broadband links connections. enable people to talk to each other, discuss and hold conferences at a great distance. People will be able to get together without having to transport their bodies physically across the globe. Business travel, at least, should become increasingly unnecessary. We need more fibre-optic cables (neatly hidden underground), not more noisy, ugly and intrusive rail tracks irreversibly scarring the landscape.

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4 Kingsley Walk, Tring, HP23 5DN Tel: 826628 The local charity supported by this year's Petertide Fair is **BerkoAstro**, the community project to build an all-weather -

PETERTIDE FAIR GOES SPORTY

Sam Limbert writes

Astroturf sports pitch at Ashlyns School. At the Fair itself, there will be many sport related attractions to highlight the charity, including a football finale. As I'm sure you all know by now, the date of the Petertide Fair is **Saturday 12**th **June 2009**, and this is also the date of England's first World Cup match, against the USA - so the Petertide Fair will be the perfect way to prepare yourselves ahead of the big match in the evening.

The Astroturf at Ashlyns will benefit the whole community as it is being built in collaboration with the local youth team Berkhamsted Raiders. All the first schools in the town will have the opportunity to use the facility every week as well as the middle schools. This means over 2,000 children between the ages of five and nineteen will get the chance to use the pitch on a weekly basis. Once the

Astroturf pitch itself has been completed, there are plans to build a sports pavilion alongside with changing rooms, classrooms, First Aid room and a kitchen.

Fund-raising is well under way for the pitch, and recently Ashlyns School played host to an Arsenal Ex Pros/Celebs XI. who took on a one-off team. BerkoAstro United. Unsurprisingly, the Arsenal team ran out comfortable winners. importantly, the match raised around £10,000 for the project. You can read more in this month's SPY. The pitch and sports pavilion together will cost a total of £1.3 million. The contribution from the Petertide Fair will significantly help in the aim of having the Astroturf pitch in place at Ashlyns for the start of the next academic year in September 2010. The Fair gives you the chance to be active in support of an extremely important community project in Berkhamsted.

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Potten End couple have made history by becoming the first people to be married in the multi-faith chapel at the Hospice of St Francis.

Archbishop's Special Licence was granted to allow the ceremony to take place in the Hospice, s o that Thomas. the Father of the Bride and a natient at the Hospice, could witness his daughter's special day.

WEDDING BELLS CHIME

A Marriage at the Hospice of St Francis



Sarah and Alan were to marry in August at Holy Trinity, Potten End, with the **Revd John Pritchard**, curate at St Peter's officiating. The event needed to be moved forward due to Sarah's father's condition which also prevented him from travelling to Potten End. So it was arranged, with the help of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Faculty Office, for the marriage to take place in the Hospice Chapel. The **Revd John Pritchard** officiated in front of a small gathering of family and friends.

Father of the Bride, Thomas said, I wasn't sure that I would be well enough to walk my daughter up the aisle by August, so I was delighted to be able to attend the wedding, and to see her so happy, and to join in the celebration with family and friends. I was exhausted by the end of the day, but very grateful to all those who worked so hard and so quickly to enable it to happen.

The Hospice's award winning chef, **Chris Took**, and his staff prepared a special buffet in the Hospice Bistro for the happy couple and family and friends, and staff and volunteers decorated the Bistro and

laid on celebratory champagne to toast Sarah and Alan. Sarah's daughter Katherine (10), whose father died some years ago, was very excited to be a Bridesmaid. She

looked radiant in her white, lilac and purple floral dress and s a n g beautifully - Morning has Broken - during the signing of the registers.

Alison Briant, Director of Nursing said, Our Hospice Chaplain, the

Reverend Liz Hughes, pulled this wonderful event together within days, with our amazing staff and volunteers, who rallied together to make it such a memorable day for Sarah and Alan.

Liz Hughes. Hospice Chaplain. commented: We have been absolutely delighted to be able to help this family to have this special event in our chapel. We are extremely grateful to the Archbishop's Office for recognising the exceptional circumstances ... and making the day possible. She continued: People often perceive hospices as sad places but we are always thrilled to help facilitate really special moments for our patients and Although it would be families to share. easy just to focus on the wedding itself - it the thought and the compassion underpinning events like these that make hospice care truly stand out.

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A fun event for all the family, in and around St Peter's Church. Come and buy a delicious homemade cake, discover a gem on the bric-a-brac stall, browse through some second hand books or try your luck on the tombola. For children there's the popular toy stall plus lots of games, alpacas to meet and Punch and Judy.

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

Further information from

We are supporting the BerkoAstro Project and abroad, the Karunashraya hospice in Bangalore, India.

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

CHANDOS ENSEMBLE CONCERT Sunday 26th June 2010

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PETERTIDE FAIR BAG

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On Palm Sunday evening at St. Peter's Church, Berkhamsted, there was a grand collaboration between

collaboration between the *Chiltern Chamber Choir*, their guests

from Spain, *Coro Villa de Las Rozas*, four solo singers and the *Bridgewater Sinfonia*, performing a hugely enjoyable collection of pieces both choral and orchestral by Mozart. It was a joyous occasion, though not without more reflective moments appropriate to Holy Week.

The orchestra under **Adrian Davis** commenced the evening with a noble and sprightly performance of the overture to Mozart's opera *The Magic Flute*. What a marvellous piece this is, with it sombre Masonic opening, the trombones to the fore, followed by delicious music for scurrying strings and winds. The orchestra fully entered into the spirit of the piece, seeming effortlessly to enjoy all the contrasts it offers.

The overture was followed by two wellloved pieces sung by the combined choir. The choir was conducted by Maria Angeles Garcia Serrana, the director of Coro Villa de Las Rozas, and the organ accompaniments were played **Jonathan Lee.** The solo soprano part in the first of these pieces, the Laudate Dominum from the Vesperae solennes de confessore, was beautifully sung by Kathryn Jenkin, while the soft singing of the choir provided equal pleasure. This was followed by Ave Verum Corpus, one of Mozart's absolute gems. Possibly because the music of these two pieces was very familiar to most members of both choirs, but maybe also as a result of encouragement from the visiting conductor, most choristers barely looked their music! The resulting performances were very precise and controlled, but also moving.

Back just before Christmas the *Chiltern Chamber Choir* performed a great piece of music that had only survived by a

MOZART

A Joyous Occasion Richard Grylls writes

hairsbreadth, the *Mass* in *B Minor* by J S Bach. The main work in this joint Palm Sunday concert was another such only just survivor, the *Mass in C minor* by Mozart. The whole its composition is

background to composition fascinating. Mozart composed it at a time when neither his ex-employer. Archbishop of Salzburg, nor his potential new patron, the Emperor Joseph II, approved of anything either showy (operatic) or complex (fugal) in church music. The C minor Mass by no means adheres to those restrictions and is an anachronism in many ways. The single performance of the (unfinished) mass that Mozart managed to arrange in his lifetime took place in a monastery in Salzburg that was outside the jurisdiction of the bishop. Because opportunities for performances never arose, Mozart left the piece unfinished, though he did recycle parts of it. In some ways the piece amounts to an amalgam of the results of Mozart's study of the choral works of and Handel, particularly the Bach former's Mass in B minor. But what a study! From one of Mozart's letters the existence of the piece was known to musicologists and scholars in the years after Mozart's death. A fragmentary autograph score and some parts were found in a monastery in Bavaria, and a performing edition was published in 1840. Further research enabled other scholars to fill in some of the missing details and a new edition was published in 1901, the edition from which most modern editions are derived

It is easier to write about the background of Mozart's Mass in C minor than it is to write about the performance in St. Peter's on Palm Sunday! That performance was truly inspired from beginning to end. The four soloists, Kathryn Jenkin, Sian Menna, John-Colyn Gyeantey and Charles Gibbs, sang excellently and

Liz Jackson concludes her story about her experiences visiting the Karunashraya Hospice in Bangalore in southern India. The

two charities being supported this year by the Petertide Fair

19/02/10 Up at 6:20am for Eucharist in the Hospice chapel, celebrated by a local priest who then stayed to breakfast. Ward round - two female patients nearing the end of their lives will be moved to private rooms presently, both with maxillary tumours. On average there were two deaths per day during my stay. There are at least three counsellors on duty each day who liaise between patient, relatives and staff. They work very efficiently and encourage staff, as well as patients to discuss any fears or sorrows. The large number of deaths must take its toll on the staff. Usual chat with my chaps and talk of many things. I find they ask me questions to which I cannot give a straight answer but can only reassure and alert the staff who hopefully pick up where I leave off.

This evening I was invited, by the non-medical director of Karunashraya, to dinner to meet some of the other doctors and staff. This was very enjoyable and the food superb, such a delicate mixture of flavours. Long drive and traffic horrendous. Back by midnight.

20/02/10 Hired a car and driver to go to Mysore to see the temples and the Sultan's Palace. Took two of the Nuns with me as a treat, left 6:00am returned 12:30am! Visited a sugar cane producing unit on the way. Merely a group of people who live by the roadside and turn the cane, first of all into liquid, then thicken the liquid by heating it and finally transfer it to containers where it solidifies. Then it's picked up by lorry and taken to the companies who buy it to make sweets, etc. Saw the Sultan's Palace, the Queen's

KARUNASHRAYA

Part 2 - Ward round and a visit to Mysore

Liz Jackson's Indian diary

Palace, the Summer Palace with all its wood painted with Islamic designs, the Sri Lrongannata Swami and Talakardii temples and St Philomena's Cathedral where we

were invited to stay for lunch - an advantage of having the Sisters with me as they knew a Sister who was at St Philomena's. After lunch, a boat ride around a bird sanctuary to see nesting pelicans and some very live crocodiles! Our day ended by going to the Krushna Raja Sagr Dam gardens to see an amazing sound and light performance.

21/02/10 Up late this morning. No mass. Met one of the volunteers who does painting and bingo with patients who are able. She took me to an art gallery and we had lunch together. After lunch I went to chat with my patients and on to one of the community nurse's houses where her husband had made a lovely curry, with rice flour pancakes, and a very sweet drink made from mung groundnuts, sugar, and tamarind seed. Tonight the Sisters had bought ice cream which we ate in their rooms.

22/02/10 Today, after ward round and my daily chat I accompanied one of the Sisters to her Mother House for a party to celebrate another sister's completion of 50 vears as a Nun. Before the party I was taken on a tour of the convent. There's a free nursery taking in children from six months to school age to enable their parents to work. These little ones treated me to some singing - much giggling going on and my colour quite an entertainment to them. There was also a unit for orphan girls aged 8 to 18 yrs. They go to school, do their own washing and help with the chores. They all seemed delightful. They told me that they were dancing that evening for Sister. At 6:00pm we all went to the chapel and the Eucharist was celebrated followed by speeches and entertainment by the children, but not before one of the Sisters had impersonated various characters, most of them unknown to me, but she did a very good Michael Jackson!! The girls danced and then acted out the story of the Blind Beggar. Afterwards I was able to tell them how well they had done.

23/02/10 Ward and dressing rounds again. Three new maxillary tumours, one so extensive you could see the jaw bone, maggots had been present but none today. One of my patients is sad today. He wishes to go home to die, but his son and daughter-in-law say they cannot manage. He also wishes to sit outdoors. Problems here as he is a tall Anglo Indian and most of the nurses are so small they cannot manage him, and they don't employ male nurses.

24/02/10 Out with the community nurses today in the Hospice auto-rickshaw. Went way out into the sprawling suburbs of Bangalore to some very run-down areas. Here families live in nothing more than a hovel - sometimes just a tarpaulin thrown over some upright poles, no sanitation and fresh water delivered only once a month to be stored in whatever containers are available.

These were mostly supervisory visits, a maxillary who was not taking her medication as her mouth was so sore, a gentleman with a neck tumour and so on. All drugs, and the one of choice is morphine, are free for hospice patients and are dispensed when the nurse visits. The area we were in was Muslim and I saw many women wearing the burka. The narrow streets were filled with stalls selling almost everything - pots and pans, food, and carpets. There was noise, smoke, shouting of the vendors and the calling to prayer from the Mosque. Few white skins here and I caused a stir as the children came home from school. Bangalore (or Bengaluru to give it its correct name) was once a small city with forest around it. Expansion came in the late 1970s as the IT industry and callcentres came to the area. This resulted in the building of many office blocks and high-rise flats and a great increase in

traffic, but still left the poor in their tiny dwellings beside the three-lane highway and there many of them remain.

This evening saw me at an out-of-town Aids hospice which had, in its grounds a home for children with HIV. There are 86 children there, aged from 3 to 12. The full capacity is for 126. The children looked so happy. They are all orphans, some off the streets. They are taught to care for themselves and to know that they are not responsible for their illness.

My last day. The time has 25/02/10 passed so quickly. Mass at the Carmelite convent again and the usual ward round and dressings. My patient who is having physio was on his feet today on a walking frame. I did so wish I could give him a nice light frame instead of the heavy contraption he had. But credit must go to those who have worked so hard to get him this far. Sad to leave all the patients who have let me share in their lives. All those I met were very gentle and expected nothing out of life, so it was rewarding to see how well they were cared for in their last days and I have nothing but admiration for all the staff who look after both trained and voluntary. Hygiene is high and the floors are washed with disinfectant twice daily with no bacterial infections.

Tonight I gave a party for the nurses and kitchen staff, bought lots of crisps, biscuits and sweetmeats with coke and lemonade and they seemed to enjoy this, as well as the pens and pencils and decorative hair clips I had taken out for them. I was glad to be able to do something for them, since they had given me so much in love and friendship.

So, good people of Berkhamsted we have the Petertide Fair coming up, please do support it and give whatever you can to make it a success and then Karunashraya will benefit.







←p13 Karunashraya









Easter Sunday 2010 at St Peter's



Easter photos: Rowena Pike



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Tn January. the Ireview Malting in remains in shape, occupied by the 1st Berkhamsted Scout Group, but you could easily miss the words FOSTER'S No MALTING. painted on the brickwork

drew attention to the fading traces of Foster's No. 2 Chanel Street. The building good

A C MEEK -**JOBMASTER**

Christopher Green writes

A.C. MEEK LOOSEBOXES LIVERY & HUNTING STABLES BROUGHAMS LANDAUS VICTORIAS WAGGONETTES STATION CABS BRAKES & OMNIBUSES HORSETERS

TEL No 48. PASSENGE LLECTED OR OMPTLY Elsewhere along the High Street you can't miss, on the brickwork forming the side of 138-142, the words HOME AND COLONIAL STORES LIMITED a name now adopted, at least the Home & Colonial bit, by the antique emporium at 134 High Street.

My latest discovery, drawn to my attention

by Patrick Lepper, is in the Lower King's Road. Here on the brickwork forming the side of the Berkeley Gallery and directly above the Bulbourne is the remains of an extended advertisement. Windows have been inserted since the wording was put in place, but the wording can be made out or reasonably inferred as shown above.

There is more, but illegible. The date of this inscription must be after 1885, when the Lower Kings Road was created, and apparently before the advent of motor vehicles in the years before the First World War. A date of about 1900 seems likely. Telephones reached Berkhamsted in the 1890s and A C Meek appears in Kelly's Directory for 1899 as *Johnaster*, a term I had to look up in the dictionary -alivery-stable keeper who jobs out horses and carriages.

There is a fascination in the traces of businesses and industries that flourished in the past, and now there seems to be an urge to preserve those traces. In the recent renovation of two buildings in Berkhamsted, old signage has come to light and been lovingly restored and preserved. At what is now The Car Works in Gossoms End, the signage of former proprietor T W Barford Automobile Electrical Engineer has been preserved. and at 173 High Street, formerly Figgs the chemist, you are still encouraged, in panels on the front of the building, to Buy your Euthymol Toothpaste Here and Now while you think of it - Kills dental decay germs in 30 seconds, or to Ask for Hydrogen Peroxide, though for what purpose you might need this now rather sinister substance, is not revealed.

front cover

Smith Dorrien Memorial

On the front cover this month we have the memorial in St Peter's Churchvard to Mary Ann Smith-Dorrien of Haresfoot who died on 28th July 1909 aged 84. She was the wife of Robert Algernon Smith (1814-1879), the younger brother of Augustus Smith. Robert, following his marriage, assumed by royal licence the additional surname and arms of Dorrien, the maiden name of his wife's mother. Mary Dorrien. Ann Smith-Dorrien bore fifteen children, six sons and nine daughters. All but one of these children grew to adulthood. Her obituary in

the Times records that For very many years Mrs Smith-Dorrien had been a familiar figure in the social life of West Herts, where she was popular and most respected.

figures on the memorial comprise, according to Norris, a Calvary facing Castle Street, St Anne with the child Mary facing westward, St Peter looking towards the church, and looking towards the School, St John the Baptist, the lands of an ancient brotherhood of that dedication having provided for the initial foundation of the School.

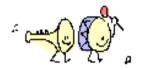
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The Importance
of Integrity
The Revd
Jonathan
Gordon writes

review Northchurch & Wigginton

The month of May coincides with the celebration of Pentecost and it is sometimes called the birthday of the church. The apostles received the gift of the Holy Spirit and Peter gave a powerful

sermon in Jerusalem that claimed that Jesus was not dead, but risen. As a result there were many people who received his message and sold their possessions and *held all things in common*. The first Christian community in Jerusalem was defined by its equalitarianism, generosity to those in need and we are told that *they met constantly to hear the apostles teach*, *and to share the common life*, *to break bread*, *and pray*. (Acts 2, 42)

Since these powerful days the story of the church has been mixed. There is a saying that while the offence may be bad, it is always the cover-up that is worse. This certainly was the case in the aftermath of the scandal in 1972 Watergate convoluted financial trail led from the of the Democratic National Committee headquarters in the Watergate office complex all the way to the White House and eventually to the resignation of the President, Richard Nixon. I have read accounts of stories and had conversations

with people who believe very strongly that the complicity of those in authority in protecting those guilty of serious offences constitutes the most grievous abuse of trust. Rowan Williams, who is a very measured speaker, recently commented on the issue of the abuse of children in the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland: I was speaking to an Irish friend recently who was saying that it's quite difficult in some parts of Ireland to go down the street wearing a clerical collar now. And an institution so deeply bound into the life of a society, suddenly becoming ... suddenly losing all credibility - that's not just a problem for the Church, it is a problem for everybody in Ireland.

Since he made his remarks he has been criticised by Catholic and Anglican clergy and he has expressed deep sorrow for any harm caused. However, the issue of credibility for the Church ofdenominations is an important one. Trust is not something that can simply be expected or taken for granted; it is something that has to be gained by living with integrity. It can only grow through care and compassion. It is essential that all those who come into contact with the life of the church will be cared for, respected and valued. The model of the church in Jerusalem two thousand years ago remains one that retains its authenticity and above all its ongoing relevance.





St Peter's Choir choristers receiving awards and promotion on Easter Sunday

photos: `Rowena Pike

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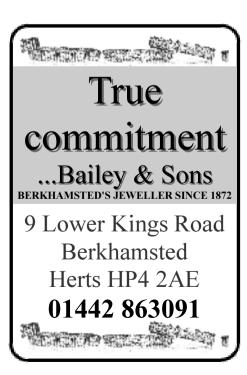
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review letters

HJF stirs another memory

Christopher Morris writes:

I was interested to read that, at one time, Henry and Rosa Foster lived at *Oaklands* in Cross Oak Road. The article is not quite correct in its description of the property as a double fronted one called *Oaklands*. There was, in fact, a pair of semi-detached large houses and, on the 1897 map, they are shown as *Oakland Villas*. On the same map they can be seen to be isolated from other dwellings and were surrounded on three sides by nurseries and fronted by fields.

In 1936, when we moved to Berkhamsted, my parents bought the southern of the pair, then called *Hawkshead* (the northern one had retained the name *Oaklands*). In the cellar of our house there was a piece of ashlar stone built into the wall with date of 1850 carved into it although my memory may be somewhat at fault on the date. In 1936 there was still an orchard on the west boundary of the houses but elsewhere the land had been developed

for housing.

Our property had many conifers in part of its garden, to which my sisters gave the names of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. King Arthur, a Wellingtonia, *Sequoiadendron giganteum*, some 75 feet high was on the southern side of the gate and Queen Guinivere, a smaller tree, on the north side. The Knights were around the tennis court. All the conifers have now gone, except for King Arthur which still stands although it has lost the top few feet.

In the Coronation Year (1953) and almost simultaneously with the first ascent of Everest, I climbed up King Arthur pulling a long pole to which I had attached the largest Union flag that I could find. I was able to get sufficiently near the summit so that the flag was above the tree and fluttered in the wind visible from both sides of the valley. It remained there for a long time until it finally perished under the action of the elements.

(Oakland Villas can also be seen on the earlier edition of the Ordnance Survey Six Inch Map, surveyed in 1877. Ed.)

←p13

Mozart at St Peter's

made a beautifully blended quartet in the *Benedictus*. The two ladies plumbed the depths and soared to the heights of the remarkable *Domine Deus* with thrilling effect, and were admirably joined by the tenor in the trio *Quoniam tu solus Sanctus Dominus*. Kathryn Jenkin had the lion's share of the solos (which Mozart had written for his recently acquired wife, Constanze), and sang them very well indeed. The two choirs sang as one, with great conviction and obvious enjoyment, all the parts seeming to be balanced just right.

The orchestra as a whole was also playing

at its best. The players produced beautiful, noble, warm and exciting sounds to fit the changing moods. The conductor singled out several sections of the orchestra for a special bow at the end, in particular the solo flute, oboe and bassoon who accompanied the *Et incarnatus est* so delightfully.

Altogether this was another Berkhamsted evening to remember, one full of delight. Bringing together two good choirs, one Spanish and the other home-grown, four excellent soloists and a fine orchestra doesn't necessarily guarantee a great concert, but on this occasion it most certainly did.



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osalind McLaughlin. Christian Aid Week representative, travelled to Kenva with a group of other organisers and collectors. She saw the work of Christian Aid

9th-15th May 2010

partner MNU in Kiambiu slum, and discovered what life is like in Matopeni, where MNU has vet to start work. This is her story...

The first things we saw when we arrived in Matopeni were the results of the flying toilets. There's not a single toilet here, so people go, put it in a bag, and throw it over the wall. And there is no official tap or clean running water. People have managed to reach the water pipes below the ground - but the water is really filthy and carries typhoid.

A lady called Catherine Kithuku showed us around. It was incredible. We were led along a walkway that runs beside the houses. It was constructed of planks that were half-broken, and directly underneath it ran the community's drainage system. Catherine said when it rains her family home floods with sewage right up to the level of the beds, soaking the mattresses.

The dignity of the people here and the sense of community are very striking. It's about we, not me. Catherine has already formed a group that has organised rubbish collections and educated people about

CHRISTIAN AID Wffk

Poverty - Let's end it

health and other issues. Catherine said she dreams o f aп environment fit for humans to live in. She said she believes in change. If MNU works in Matopeni, I believe

she will see it.

By contrast, the people in Kiambiu are living something like a normal life. With the help of MNU, they have built five toilet and shower blocks and they've employed people from the community to clean and maintain them. They've also got clean drinking water now. 'But I've also seen that if we're willing to do something, to make an effort, to put other people first, we can make others' lives a lot better. We don't even need a huge amount of money. Relatively small amounts bring massive, massive changes to many, many people.'

£16 could buy the materials needed to build five metres of new drainage in Kenya, to prevent sewage flooding into streets and houses, protecting families from disease.

To find out more about how you can be part of these amazing changes, ask your Christian Aid Week representative -Margaret Burbidge (862139) or go to http://caweek.org

Together, we can bring an end to the scandal of poverty.

review notes & notices

HOSPICE OF ST FRANCIS ASHRIDGE GARDEN PARTY

Sunday, 30th May 2010 2:00pm-5:00pm in the gardens of Ashridge Business School. A fun-filled afternoon for all the family. Come and enjoy the spectacular Ashridge gardens, as well as entertainment for all ages. Browse the range of stalls, selling crafts and plants as well as books, jewellery and other products from local businesses. When you've had a look round,

enjoy a cream tea or a glass of Pimms. Or you can tuck into our barbeque and sample a glass of locally brewed beer as you enjoy our local musicians and performers. A magician and Punch and Judy entertainer will keep the children enthralled - and they're bound to love the bouncy castle and the other children's activities. would like any more information, please email fundraising@stfrancis.org.uk or call 01442 869555.

review notes & notices

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.

BERKHAMSTED JAZZ

Saturday, 8th May 2010 at 8:00pm in the Civic Centre Alan Barnes Quintet Tickets: Members £8, visitors £12, Students and Children half price, available on the door.

BERKHAMSTED WEA

Saturday, 15th May 2010 10:00am – 4:00pm in the Friends' Meeting House – Local Wild Flowers with Brenda Harrold. Tea and Coffee provided – bring own lunch. £12.50

DACORUM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Saturday, 22nd May 2010 7:30pm in St Peter's Church. Conductor **Thomas Loten** Tickets £10, Senior Citizens and Students £7, under 18 free.

LIONS CLUB

Saturday, 8th May 2010 8:00pm Deans' Hall, Castle Street. Swing Dance. A fun evening with instructor on hand if needed. £12.50.

BERKHAMSTED ART SOCIETY

Sunday, 16th – Saturday, 22nd May 2010. Exhibition of wide selection of pictures in all media, ceramics and three dimensional work to view and for sale. Civic Centre 9:00am to 6:00pm (until 5:00pm Saturday) No charge.

HOSPICE OF ST FRANCIS

Wednesday 19th May 2010 10.00am-5pm at the Day Hospice, Hospice of St Francis. Laura's Fashion Sample Sale Laura Morgan (International Fashion Agency) is returning to the Hospice for another fantastic fashion sale for the Spring season. With more than 2,000 garments for sale, you're sure to find something that's just perfect for you. Part of the proceeds will go to the Hospice. Why not bring a friend, too? It's a real chance to grab a bargain for the Summer season!

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How can your holiday benefit Oxfam? If you need holiday insurance, visit the website *Compare for Good* to find a selection of insurers. Two-thirds of the profit generated by the site will be donated to Oxfam. And not just travel insurance. The same benefits apply to all types of insurance on offer. It's an easy way to donate to Oxfam and for you to make an informed choice.

http://compareforgood.com

THE CASTLE VISITOR ROOM

After being open for the Easter weekend, the Castle Visitor Room opens for the Summer season on 1st May 2010 and will be open every Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday until Sunday 26th September 2010 from 10am - 6pm. In addition to selling Castle booklets in English and French at £2 the Society has produced four postcards from its collection which are on sale at 30p each or £1 for the set.

Guided tours for school or other groups are available at weekends or during the week. Please book by phone, 01442 865158 or by email ksherw9100@aol.com

A small donation is requested.

review notes & notices

BERKHAMSTED WALK

Sunday 9th May 2010 There's still time to get yourself organised and collect some sponsorship to support the work of the Children's Society. Walks of 12 and 18 miles start from the Court House. Registration between 10:00am and 12:00 noon. A six mile walk starts at Ashridge College. Registration from 11:00am to 2:00pm. All the information you need is on the website where you can also download registration and sponsorship forms:

http://berkhamstedwalk.com

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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, or register your interest, contact: ttbexchange@gmail.com or tel 01442 864101

BERKHAMSTED CASTLE WI



Joy Lovell and Ali Saunders welcomed members and a visitor to our April meeting. Ali opened the meeting with a very humourous poem and together with Joy reported on the Group

Meeting held at Northchurch and informed

us of forthcoming events later in the year. Our speaker was Ian Waller, giving us an illustrated talk on Victorian Shopping. During the period 1827 to 1901 we were told how the population shopped in Victorian times with the opening of shops started up by working class men, to expand throughout the country. Many of these businesses are still with us today – Debenhams, Dairy Crest, W H Smith, Clarks and K shoes. Boots and the Coop Stores being just a few still trading. A vote of thanks was given by Ali Saunders. During teatime with lovely cakes baked by Sue Bull, the raffle was drawn and the competition for a piece of lace was judged. Our next meeting is on 7th May **2010** at the Court House, at 2:00pm which will be Resolutions with County Visitor Jean Cure.

NATIONAL GARDENS SCHEME

Sunday 2nd May 2010 2:00 – 5:00pm Garden open for charity at Patchwork, 22 Hall Park Gate. Tea, plants for sale. For details Jean & Peter Block 864731

ASHRIDGE EVENTS

Tuesday 25th May 2010 6:30pm Explore the hidden archaeology of the parkland surrounding Ashridge with the National Trust's Regional Archaeologist. Booking required. For details telephone 851227.

Tuesday 11th May 2010 10:30am Gentle Stroll with Brian and Sean Barton observing the wildlife of the Ashridge Estate. Dogs on leads welcome. Booking not needed Adults £2.00. For details telephone 851227

Saturday 8th May 2010 10:00am — 1:00pm *Discover Ashridge*. Six mile walk starting at the Bridgewater Monument. Dogs on leads welcome. Booking not required. Adults £2.00. For details telephone 851227.

June							
SUN S	t Peter's		8:00am Eucharist				
			9:30am Sung Euchari	st			
			6:00pm Evensong				
A	Ill Saints'	2 nd	10:00am Eucharist				
		9 th	10:00am Morning Wor	ship			
		16 th	8:00am Holy Commun 10:00am Morning Wor				
		23^{rd}	10:00am Holy Commun	nion			
		30 th	10:00am Morning Wor 4:00pm Service of Wh				
All se	rvices at St Pe	eter's w	nless otherwise indicated.	MP = Morning Prayer	EP = Evening	Prayer	
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TUE I	MP 7:30ar	n	EP 5:00pm	Eucharist	9:30am A	ll Saints'	
WED I	MP 7:30ar	n	EP 5:00pm	Eucharist	8:00am		
THU I	MP 7:30ar	n	EP 5:00pm	Eucharist	11:00am		
FRI I	MP 7:30ar	n	EP 4:00pm All	Saints' Eucharist	9:15am		
			EP 5:00pm				
SAT I	MP 9:30ar	n	EP 5:00pm	Eucharist	10:00am		
3 rd Mon			ETWORK 7:45pm pa Seldon (871534)			The Court House	
Tue			ARENT & TODDLER ime or short service as			<i>ints' Church Hall</i> Wells (870981)	
Tue	ST PETE	ER'S (CHOIR Children Contac	5:15 to 6:15pm t: Adrian Davis (875	674) or Jean	St Peter's Wild (866859)	
1st Tue	TUESDA		UB 7:45pm <i>A lively wo</i> act chairman Barbara !		iest speaker	The Court House	
3 rd Tue		MOTHERS' UNION: meets in members' houses at 8:00pm. Non-members always welcome. Contact: Kathie Lally (863526)					
4 th Tue			NION PRAYER GROU yone needs our prayers.			haftesbury Court 1981)	
Wed		ery we	TING: meets about twi lcome at 11:30am as arr act: Jenny Wells (87098	anged	or at Ruth's	57 Meadow Rd 1 Montague Rd 68)	
Wed			RS GAMES CLUB 7-8:3	,	ny Nash (865	217) The Court House	
Thu	HOME (GROU	P: 8:00pm on 2 nd & 4 th	Thursdays.			
Thu	BELLRI	NGIN	G: 8:00pm Helen Rube	rry (890949)		St Peter's	
Fri			ES PARENT & TODDI			The Court House	
	Tracy Ro	binso	ngs with a short service n (863559)	`	,		
Fri	ST PETE	ER'S (CHOIR: Children 7:00 Contact: Adria	-8:30pm, Adults 7:3 n Davis (875674) or		St Peter's 66859)	

ABC PRAYER BREAKFAST: 8:00am for breakfast & prayers. Various local churches

3rd Sat

review diary

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

May/June

MA	Y		
Sat	1	6:15am	The Cowper Society presents:
			May Morning Madrigals St Peter's Tower
			followed by breakfast
Fri	7	10:00am	Little Fishes Service
Tue	11	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' service Our Hidden Friend All Saints'
Thu	13	8:00pm	Ascension Day Solemn Eucharist St Peter's
		8:00pm	Ascension Holy Communion
Sat	15	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches
			Prayer BreakfastSunnyside
Sat	22	7:30pm	·
		•	Dacorum Symphony Orchestra St Peter's
Tue	25	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' service Secret Power
JUN	E		
Tue	1^{st}	8:00pm	Occasional Secret Lives Talk: Chrichton
			Limbert Look behind you St Peter's Lady Chapel
Thu	3	8:00pm	·
Sat	5		Cowper Society presents: Bridgewater Sinfonia St Peter's
Sat	12	-	Petertide Fair in and around St Peter's
Tue	15		Chuckles Toddlers' service
			The House on the Rock
Sat	19	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches
			Prayer Breakfast
		7:30pm	The Cowper Society presents: Chris Garrick -
		, 10 ° p	Petertide Fair causes concert
Sat	26	7:30pm	The Cowper Society presents:
240		, ie opin	The Chandos Chamber Choir
Sun	27	9:30am	Patronal Festival Eucharist
2411			Patronal Festival Choral Evensong
Tuo	20	-	Churches Taddlers' corning Invitation to a Party All Saints'

review registers

Baptisms (St Peter's)

21st March Isobel Chloe Bird 4th April Beatrix Elizabeth Gore

Weddings (St Peter's)

26th March Kevin Mayes & Nicole Stefanie Werner

Funerals

24th March Hilda Violet Bearn

St Peter's Church (Kingshill)

review factfile

YOUNG PEOPLE AT ST PETER'S AND ALL SAINTS'

St Peter's

Sunday school and Pathfinders run from 9:30am to 10:30 in the Court House (next to the church in the High Street). Sunday School caters for 4 to 10 year olds, Pathfinders from 10 years upwards. Contact Helen Nicholls (873162) or Stephen Lally for Pathfinders (863526).

Crèche is available at 9:30am for under 3's. Parents are most welcome to use this facility in the Court House. Please contact Nicola Beadle (874538)

All Saints'

The children and young people meet together on Sundays at 10:00 am as *Explorers*, in four age-groups: *Trekkers* 3-5 years, *Hikers* 5-8 years, *Climbers* 8-10 years and *Pathfinders* 11 years onward. Contacts: for Explorers - Vicky Drury (384794), for Pathfinders - Julie Wakely (875504).

Youth Groups

Pathfinders games club meets 7:00-8:30pm each Wednesday in the Court House. Contact Penny Nash (865217)

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

review notes & notices

BEDS & HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

11th September 2010 Bike 'n Hike - Last year the Bike 'n Hike raised over £100,000 (for the churches and chapels of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire and our churches can once again benefit from this event. For every £1 we raise in sponsorship, 50p is returned to us. Last year we raised £2,778 of which half came back to us. All the organising is done for us; all we have to do is take part! The other half of the sponsorship money goes to the Trust and is distributed, in the form of grants, to local communities struggling to raise funds for vital repairs to their

church or chapel.

So what are you waiting for? Enjoy a pleasant day cycling or walking to local churches and chapels and at the same time boost our churches' funds as well as those of the Trust. By using Gift Aid you can further increase the funds available to the Trust. For more information please contact **Chris Clegg** (875818)

SWING GATE SCHOOL SPRING FAIR

Saturday 8th May 2010 11:00am to 2:00pm. Spring Fair at Swing Gate School. Come and support your local school.

review contacts

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 Clumbury Court (866278) Landswood, Shootersway (874993) John Malcolm (Reader),

57 Meadow Road (870981) Jenny Wells (Reader),

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) All Saints'

Jenny Wells, 57 Meadow Road (870981) Representatives

Parochial Church Secretary: Julian Dawson, 62 St Edmunds (871614) Treasurer: Rachel Below, Hillcote, Doctors Commons Rd (862316) Council:

St Peter's

All Saints'

General

http://stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk Director of Music: Adrian Davis (875674) 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)

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





Priscilla Watt aged 21 in a new blue suit bought for Christmas



Above- Meek's Livery and Hunting Stables. The original building, identifiable in plan on the Ordnance Survey Six Inch Map of 1897, stood on three sides of a yard open to the Lower Kings Road. The yard has been infilled with a substantial two storey building forming part of the Berkeley Gallery and the single storey extension to Blakes of Berkhamsted (formerly Saltmarsh).

Below - The side of the stable building, overlooking the Bulbourne, with A C Meek's signage still visible.

