

Berkhamsted. *review*

July 2010

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for Town and Parish

30p



The Parish Magazine of St Peter's Great Berkhamsted

Welcome to the July 2010 issue of the Berkhamsted review

When you live in a place for a long time – 37 years in Berkhamsted in my case, you don't often think about what might make the place attractive to someone looking for a home now. I had to smile recently when one of our children, now in his thirties, who as a teenager had only one word for Berkhamsted – *BORING*, said to me, without any hint of irony, *Berkhamsted is really a very nice place to live*. And so it is. Still enough useful shops for day-to-day needs – though sadly two long-established outlets have just closed (see p15). Good schools, state and independent; a remarkable range of restaurants, cafés and takeaways – 44 listed in the latest edition of *Berkhamsted Living*, and 14 pubs; and a wide range of clubs, societies and interest groups – nearly 60 listed in *Berkhamsted: the Official Guide*. But is it all for adults? Not according to *Do itNow*, another useful *Berkhamsted Living* publication with 63 pages of *Clubs and Activities for children aged 0-19* in and around Berkhamsted and Tring, including sport, the arts, youth groups, church groups, pre-school day nurseries, child-minders and toddler groups. It's all happening out there.

Christopher Green

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Cover: Petertide Fair

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photo: Rowena Pike

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Next copy dates (all Fridays)

2 Jul 6 Aug 3 Sep



review leader

Working Together **Fr Basil Jones** sees multiculturalism in action

When I was in Stoke Mandeville Hospital recently I had the opportunity of observing multiculturalism in action and very impressive it was as well.

I was a patient there for a little over three weeks and required intensive care by physicians and nurses. It was expertly provided by a multitude of people from all parts of the world including Great Britain.

The consultant in charge was from the Indian sub-continent and his doctor colleagues were from Ireland and England. The nurses were from Lithuania, Poland, the Philippines, the Caribbean, Tring and around Aylesbury and High Wycombe. One of the nurses had a son in the Royal Marine commandos who had just arrived in Afghanistan and another nurse was in the RAF Reserve and was called upon from time to time to fly the badly injured home from there.

It was a wonderful and sombre picture of life at present and gave me plenty to think about. In particular I marvelled at the

apparently seamless way the various races and creeds were able to work together for short or long shifts. Whether they were doctors, cleaners, nurses, bio-chemists or caterers they all had their tasks to do and I witnessed how well they did them; the Ward even had a West Indian housekeeper who ensured that I had my *Times* every morning!

I adjudged the reason for the apparent lack of friction between them all was simply because everyone had a common cause at heart which was to cure the sick and alleviate pain.

I am well aware that everything is not perfect with the National Health Service; but I am proud to have been around at its inception and at times played a small voluntary part in its growth.

We believe that all men and women are equal in the sight of God. What I saw was putting that belief into day-to-day practice.

It is obvious that having a worthwhile common cause is the bond which unites. The World Cup isn't quite in everyone's mind but it does show us something of the power of sport to unite – perhaps this Olympics will do the same.

The Church always has had the opportunity to help with common endeavours like the Petertide Fair or perhaps more importantly by binding the faithful day-by-day to help each other to try and show Christ in our everyday lives. The Eucharist is the centrepiece – a common meal is always meant to be.

The real test is so to order our lives that any thoughts of racialism or the like dissolve into our common humanity. It must mean becoming more vulnerable in everything that we do – not throwing caution to the wind – but asking and expecting the Holy Spirit to help us discern the right conduct.

We may not always get it right but Christ's forgiveness is always on offer. ❖



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Relationship not rules! This is the Mothers' Union theme for the year and was explored by members of this deanery at a meeting in May, under the guidance of the diocesan Vice President **The Revd Janet Ridgway.**

RELATIONSHIPS

Margaret Burbidge explains what they mean to MU members

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We all need rules, not just for drawing straight lines, but the other kind too; the laws that are necessary for ordering society, institutions and family life. Even the Mothers' Union has a rule for membership; members must be baptised and prepared to uphold its *Aim* and *Objectives*. Nothing else! Without rules life would sink into chaos, for they provide the guidelines and framework for some sort of ordered living. However, are they sufficient for how we should treat each other, and how much help can the bible give us on this?

The first five books of the Old Testament contain the rules or laws for the Jewish people and within these is found the Greatest Law or Commandment urged on us by Jesus many centuries later. *Love other people as I have loved you.* Today and not just for Mothers' Union members, this includes love for our family, friends and strangers and those in need, requiring us to stretch our love to the whole world. That is quite a challenge! As Janet led us through her talk and we began to think of what that Great Commandment means in our lives, we saw the shift from rules, orders and laws that could or should not be bent, to relationship, which is flexible, open and at its best life-affirming.

There was time for discussion, but never enough to do justice to the topics. My



Margaret Burbidge and Janet Ridgway at the MU AGM in Liverpool, 2007

group was asked to look at the differences between rights and responsibilities; always a topical issue and likely to produce strong reactions. We all have rights to basic necessities, and Mothers' Union members are aware that there are many

hundreds of thousands of people that do not have access to clean drinking water and sanitation, let alone to schooling, decent housing and medical care. These we consider to be basic human rights, but rights bring responsibilities. In exploring the differences between the two, members thought individuals and specific groups have rights, whereas responsibilities are about our concern for others and the common good.

Another group had the tricky task of exploring the clash between rules and conscience and several examples were given, sometimes involving breaking a law for the sake of a relationship or our conscience. As with many talks of this kind there were no definitive answers and certainly no rules. It was agreed that relationships are the most important reason for living and for Mothers' Union members, God's love is shown to all.

In an organisation that works in 81 countries, with few rules, but symbols of hope like badges and blue dresses, the over three million members have a responsibility to show compassion, love and justice and make a difference in the lives of others. This is especially true for us, who take as given the basic human rights that bring dignity and a decent life



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Everywhere I look now it seems to me that I see young mothers (or fathers) pushing buggies or walking toddlers. And more and more I see young women as yet without toddlers but proudly and expectantly bustling around the market. We are now in the midst of a new *baby boom*. The birth rate has risen across the region, if not the country, by about 5% or so. This started a few years ago and shows no sign of abating. It is not just a result of immigration.

No one knows why it has happened but it is now in fashion to be pregnant or to have a young toddler in tow.

This is a problem for those responsible for planning schools. Until a few years ago the county council was managing a steady decline in pupil numbers and from time to time schools were closed down and consolidated as the need for classroom space diminished. This was despite the fact that hundreds of houses were being built across the area every year. But now the situation has completely changed. Within the next two years the county council will have to provide an extra 26 new forms of entry or reception classes at primary schools across Hertfordshire. One of these will have to be in Berkhamsted if we are to avoid the spectre of a small number of little five year olds having to be taken by car or taxi to Tring or Hemel Hempstead for their first experience of school.

Since young mothers nowadays work as well as raise a family this also means that it is now a boom time for those people who provide day-time child care, nurseries and after-school clubs. As a consequence the county council has increased the number of nursery places in

Ian Reay's &news &views

Buggies and Toddlers

Ian Reay looks at local provision for a new *baby boom*



Lagley Meadow Youth Centre

Berkhamsted that are provided in community schools to help plug this gap. For this, use will be made of the extra space now soon to be available at Greenway School, on completion of the building programme now taking place and due to be completed by this autumn term. The original purpose of this extension was to provide for more children in reception classes - a need that became evident a couple of years ago when this increase in the number of children first became apparent.

So it is a spectacular piece of mis-timing for the borough council to propose not to renew the lease of the Youth Centre in Lagley Meadow which at the moment is providing just such a range of daytime and after school facilities. It has a popular and affordable nursery and an after-school club known as BASH. Its 21 year lease comes up for renewal this December and the borough is not taking up the option of renewing it for a further 21 years. The Youth Centre was set up 21 years ago and built by donations from the public to be run as a youth club in the town and this is what the lease specifies. But now there is a well run youth club at the Swan Centre and the Berkhamsted Raiders Football Club is very popular with young boys and with girls. The need now at the Youth Centre is not for a youth club but for day care nurseries and after-school clubs for younger children. The lease should be modified to allow the Centre to do this. Parents whose children attend the nursery or BASH club are understandably concerned and have organised a petition and campaign to persuade the borough to change its mind and arrange for a brand new lease. This will probably require a new charity to run the Centre. ❖

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Karunashraya, the in-patient hospice in Bangalore – South India, was set up in 1999 to look after, and provide free care, for very poor and suffering cancer patients in the last stages of their life.

Both in the setting up and in the running of the hospice there has been the definite and unmistakable influence of an unseen hand which has made it possible for us to provide this free care to make the end of life free from pain, peaceful and dignified. India has

a population of over 1,200 million compared to Great Britain's 60 million. Here you have over 235 hospices and we had only a handful at the time we set up the service. We have so far looked after almost 10,000 patients and their families, since we consider our unit of care to be the entire family.

We have a home-care service in which two teams of nurses and counsellors visit and provide care for patients in their own homes, all over Bangalore, since we do not have the two very useful services of Macmillan Nurses and District Nurses like you have here in Britain. Very often our poor patients live in small thatched-roof huts or in ten foot by ten foot, all-purpose one-room hovels in slums. When the disease progresses, and it becomes difficult to care for them at home, they are invited to come as in-patients to our residential unit, **Karunashraya**.

To look after them, and provide the peace and dignity which every human being deserves at the end of life, we have built, entirely from donations, a beautiful, large and bright in-patient hospice which can provide free care for fifty patients and

THE ABODE OF COMPASSION

Kishore Rao trustee of the Karunashraya Hospice writes about its work



provide them round-the-clock attention.

Poverty, illiteracy and ignorance make their plight even more pitiful. Very often they do not even understand their situation and it becomes necessary for

our counsellors to work intensively with them and their families to bring about an element of peace and understanding. All the care is provided free of charge but doctors, nurses, counsellors, administrative staff have to be paid, food and medicines

have to be bought and transport needs to be provided for the home care teams. All this costs us the equivalent of £180,000 per year and the donation you and your church plan to send us is more than welcome. The unseen hand I mentioned above seemed to work overtime to have sent us visitors like **Liz Jackson** and earlier her daughter Caroline. They were not only moved by what they saw in our work but took an active part in helping our patients.

More parishioners from your church are welcome to come and see our work. If you do come, and are impressed, you may perhaps want to start a small group of supporters who can work from Berkhamsted to spread awareness of our work for the poor and may even want to call yourselves something like *Friends of Karunashraya*. In the name of the poor and suffering cancer patients in South India – thank you and may God bless you all. ❖

*This is a summary of the talk **Kishore Rao** gave in St Peter's on Sunday 6th June 2010*



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The annual Petertide Fair is over for another year. The sun shone; the local community turned out in force and an impressive amount was raised for charity.

At the time of going to press, the Petertide events total stands at £11,700, which includes money raised on the Fair day, the Gatsby Dinner on 4th May, the wine-tasting and sponsorship from Sarah Dawson's BUPA 10k run. This total is expected to be increased significantly by proceeds from the Patronal Lunch on Sunday 27th June and three further musical

concerts (*Christian Garrick Jazz Quartet*, the *Chandos Ensemble* and *Ashlyns Big Band*). All monies raised at the Fair will be split between the local *Berko Astro Project* and the *Karunashraya Hospice* in Bangalore, India.

Berkhamsted stood still on Saturday 12th June 2010 as **Mayor Cllr Julie Laws**, ably supported by the *Ashlyns Samba Drummers* and *Berkhamsted Air Cadets*, arrived at St Peter's in a vintage car to open the Fair. She was accompanied by our very own town crier (aka churchwarden) **David Pearce**, who came out with some memorable lines and injected some pizzazz into the proceedings.

Toe-tapping musical entertainment was provided by Freedom Express and the impressive Berko Big Band, a group of young people from the local area led by **Sam Sommerfeld**. Not to be outdone, Victoria School's Country Dancing display was a delight and those in the church marvelled at Thomas Coram's

PERFECT PETERTIDE PROCEEDINGS

Prunella Murray writes



Saturday, 12th June 2010

drummers.

Over 750 hot dogs were eaten, Pimms was quaffed and about 150 pints of the Petertide Ale, specially brewed for the occasion by Tring Brewery, were supplied. The ladies in the Court House kitchen also reported a roaring trade in refreshments.

The bric-a-brac, tombola, china smash and cake stall were as popular as ever and the children were kept entertained by Punch and Judy, face painting, the toy stall and lots of games.

The event closed with a penalty shoot out.

F a t h e r J o h n

Pritchard, who it is rumoured to have narrowly missed out on a place in the England World Cup squad, was in goal, facing three teams from Berko Raiders, Donutz and Little Kickers. Resplendent in his cassock and with oven gloves to protect his hands, St Peter's curate saved a few goals but unfortunately was no match for the teams and Little Kickers were crowned the eventual winners.

Judith Limbert, Chairman of the Petertide Fair, commented, *I am pleased that the weather was kind to us and we enjoyed yet another great Petertide Fair. Many, many thanks to everyone who helped on the day (over 200 of you!) and participated by coming along – we couldn't have raised such a lot of money for good causes without you. We look forward to seeing you next year for our 30th Petertide Fair, which promises to be yet another memorable occasion!*



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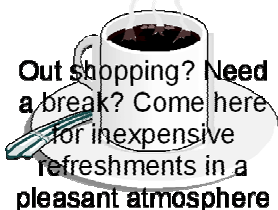
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*In October 1982 Muriel and I went aboard **SS Uganda** at Athens for a cruise in the Eastern Mediterranean. Unlike*

THE HOLY LAND

Frank Norman introduces another extract from Muriel's travel diaries

the huge cruise liners of today she was a baby of only 14,430 tons. Early in 1982 she was requisitioned and converted into a Hospital Ship for service in the Falklands war and sailed there on 19th April.

*We were convinced that our holiday would be cancelled but miraculously **Uganda** survived, returned from the South Atlantic, was reconverted and resumed cruising just in time for our trip.*

We went ashore at eight ports in all but the most important was Haifa as Muriel's journal on our visit to The Holy Land records:

The Haifa Harbour port authorities made quite a meal of getting their boat alongside and finally came aboard for immigration documentation. All photography is forbidden and we had stayed outside the harbour entrance for some time whilst frogmen went down to examine the ship's hull.

Already the sun was very hot and the sky cloudless. By 8.30 we had come down the gangway, actually trodden on ground in the *Promised Land*, boarded the coach and discovered that our guide for the day was aptly named - Israel.

Mount Carmel dominated the skyline and hopefully we shall see more of it on our return from Jerusalem and Bethlehem. We went via the coastal motorway towards Tel Aviv passing the ruins of Acre the fortress from Crusader days.

We saw dates on the palm trees and banana trees with much smaller fruit than I had expected and this was protected from the birds by blue plastic open-ended bags. There were orange trees with the fruit still green, lemons and grapefruit just coming into season, almond trees and vineyards. They also grow strawberries

and of course avocados which abound on Mount Carmel together with many giant cactus plants. Either side of the road was sandy scrub - this is Samaria

of the Bible. We journeyed to the South and South East and the landscape changed to steep rocky desert - we were in Judea.

Jerusalem is built on the slopes and along the top of a mountain, it can be seen from miles away. Before visiting the city we drove to the top of Mount Scopus and the Mount of Olives for superb panoramic views. It was here that we saw our first camels - shown purely for the tourist trade.

Then on to the Garden of Gethsemane just outside the city walls (contrary to the hymn) and the Church of all Nations built by Roman Catholics in 1924, to see the stone where Christ was laid. It was enclosed by a wrought iron fence decorated to suggest the crown of thorns and doves of peace.

From the Garden we went round the old wall and beside the Jaffa Gate saw the ruins of King David's Palace which are about two thousand years old.

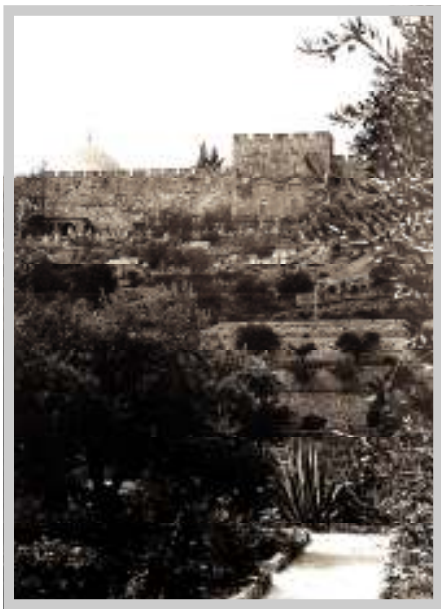
We left the coach to start our walking tour of the Old City entering by the Jaffa Gate then on towards the western wailing wall which is part of the Temple constructed in the time of Herod the Great. Our landing passes were inspected at a military check point. The Israeli soldiers, both men and women have to do three years National Service.

We walked through the *Via Dolorosa* but only joined at the third Station of the Cross where Jesus fell to the ground under the weight of the Cross that he carried. After seeing Station Four where he bade farewell to his Mother, Mary, we walked through the various alleyways of the Souk.

My main impressions were of seething humanity, consisting of Muslims only,

since it was the Sabbath, and the cavern like interiors of each *shop* and their contents, but mostly their smells. So many different foods – spices and fruits and butchers’ shops opening onto the alleyways where all the gullies were running wet. Tea makers serving their concoctions in small glasses without milk, and countless sweetshops – everything looked so delicious but it was all unwrapped so we did not risk buying anything.

Eventually we arrived at the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Sepulchre which was very ornate with brass lamps and had a strong lingering smell of incense. The tomb of Christ is inside an enormous stone memorial in the Church, unfortunately so many people were waiting to see it that we were unable to get a closer look. Then once more we set off through the Souk, out via the Jaffa Gate and back to the coach. Our route took us through the new Jerusalem with all the trappings of a modern city and so on to Bethlehem.



The Golden Dome of the Rock and the Golden Gate seen from the Garden of Gethsemane

Our next visit was to the Church of the Holy Nativity in Bethlehem. How incongruous it seemed – the church bells were ringing beautifully but we were somewhat alarmed at having to enter it through a group of armed Israeli soldiers, wearing their prayer caps whilst carrying automatic weapons. Once again this is a Greek Orthodox Church with many ornate brass lamps. I bought a Bethlehem Christmas candle and three prayer candles from the Greek Priest. I lit one of the small candles and said a prayer – it seemed the proper thing to do – after all this was the important thing of the whole tour. Somehow though it seemed to be so difficult to comprehend that I stood here in Bethlehem and was about to descend to the crypt and see the stone that marks the spot of the actual nativity.

Bethlehem is only about eight miles from the outskirts of Jerusalem so we were soon back for a visit to the Garden Tomb near the Damascus Gate. It is kept in first class condition by a Trust of English Friends that has an American Administrator. We saw the place where Christ lay alongside the two robbers immediately after they were taken down from their crosses.

What a country of contrasts – the Arab and Muslim holy day is on Friday, the Jewish Sabbath on Saturday and the Christian population celebrates on Sunday and yet they seem to make a reasonable success of living side-by-side in spite of their convictions.

When we arrived back at Haifa our guide took us up to the top of Mount Carmel. It was a wonderful view with thousands of lights in the town and along the coastal plain. He told us that it was possible to see the lights on the Lebanese border (from where the Israelis have now withdrawn to leave Lebanon living in peace).

Frank and I are glad we came on our visit to the Holy Land but until things sort themselves out a little more politically we are not sure whether we would want to come again. ❖



←p11

Walsingham Pilgrimage - May 2010



photos: Philippa Seldon and Jean Wild

Many readers will have seen Bob Clark's announcement, posted in the windows of Birtchnells:

Following an approach to buy the premises and after a great deal of consideration I have made, for me, the very difficult decision to close down both the shops

This has been a very heart rending period as I have been involved with the business for over 50 years having seen it through a lot of difficult trading situations and as

VANISHING LANDMARKS I

Birchtnells

Christopher Green writes

Percy said to me on a number of occasions Ours is a changing trade! None more so than at the present time.

I took a very close stock of all the current economic factors and made the decision to

sell.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who has supported the business over the years for their custom.

Bob plans to write for a future issue of the **review** an account of Birtchnells and its history. ❖



VANISHING LANDMARKS II

Cooks Delight
Bruce Nixon writes

I expect many of you will know that **Rex Tyler** and **Khai Eng** have retired – *Cooks Delight* shut quietly, for the last time at the end of April after 30 years. You may have seen the little piece on the front page of the Gazette

(<http://tinyurl.com/35us2zu>)

The *Cooks Delight* website, with Rex's poems, is still there, (<http://www.cooksdelight.co.uk>) but no longer as a business . The rest, as Rex says, is history.

We arrived in Berkhamsted about the same time as they started. When both of us were working full time, they fed us and, later, our children with macrobiotic frozen meals. He and Khai Eng also educated us over the years.

I have much admiration for their creativity and resilience. At one time Khai Eng ran a successful macrobiotic restaurant upstairs. Rex follows his passion, is firm in his principles, and walks his talk. As you may know, he rails fiercely against the excesses of big corporate power, including supermarkets bearing down on farmers

and driving small retailers out of business. He was brilliant at researching and sourcing. He supported small growers of good, organic and biodynamic food, wherever possible

British, and ethical and sustainable suppliers, some of whom are co-operatives.

Rex, an idealist and enthusiast, could be moody and difficult, as Khai Eng freely said! Like all of us, not perfect, but a great pioneer. And we in Transition Town Berkhamsted (TTB) know how tough pioneering can be! Even more so when your, and your partner's living is at stake. In many ways he stands for much of what TTB is about.

I am sure they are very sad at the moment. I am too. For the past few years, they just didn't get enough support. They have had a tough time, especially as they were tiring and Rex was not so well. But I tell Rex and Khai Eng, they can be proud of their achievements, their service to the community, appreciated by many customers and recognised with many awards. And when they are through the transition, a new, gentler life will open up for them. They have their Speakers Club, that empowers people and helps them become more self-confident, to enjoy. Over the past twenty years or so, Rex and Khai Eng became our friends. I shall miss my regular Friday shopping visits and the conversations with them and their interesting customers. Now we have to go to Tring for what we want.

But perhaps something new will emerge for people in Berkhamsted who love sustainable, locally and ethically sourced food and other products.



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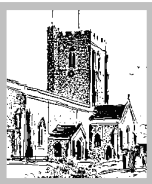
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review Northchurch & Wigginton

Children at St Mary's

**The Revd
Jonathan
Gordon**

recognises some
instinctive
philosophers and
theologians

As the end of another school year is close I want in this article to thank everyone who has worked so hard at St Mary's in the encouragement and care of children and young people.

Whether it is groups offering support for babies, toddlers and parents, or the work with children in the

various Sunday Clubs in the church; the enthusiasm, hard work and creative skills of the helpers has enhanced the worship of the church and hopefully the sense of belonging and community. I really appreciate the contribution the children are able to make to the life of the church and how this is made possible by the dedication of the team. What is very evident on a Sunday morning when the children show what they have done in their groups is how much they have enjoyed themselves. In the last year we have also been very fortunate to be joined by Ed Stewart, the parish youth worker, who has been able to set up a Bible Group in the school and develop the churches work with older children.

I was taking an assembly at St Mary's School a few weeks ago and I asked the children what sort of things they would like to happen when they go to an assembly. The answers were very interesting. As the children sit on the floor, some of the younger ones said they would like to be more comfortable. Secondly, there was a suggestion that as the assembly is taking place, members of the teaching staff would bring them refreshments. The final idea was in a way the least surprising. They said they enjoyed an assembly far more if there are

activities that can involve them, whether that is music or drama, or responding to questions. Children have wonderful imaginations and in many ways they are instinctive philosophers and theologians, and I often find that they offer a new insight in thinking about God, life and the world and it is very helpful listening to what they think and what they do and don't enjoy. One thing they always manage to do when I take an assembly is make me smile and lift my mood if I am feeling down.

The helpers in the Sunday Clubs and other activities will be taking a well deserved break over the summer holidays, although there will still be a crèche and the use of the Children's Corner in St Mary's. If you would like to find out more about the work with children at St Mary's please feel free to contact me or simply come along on a Sunday morning at 10.00am and you will be made very welcome. ❖

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DACORUM STEAM AND COUNTRY FAYRE

Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th July 2010 10:00am – 5:00 pm at Green Croft Farm, Potten End in aid of the Hospice of St Francis. A day of fun with entertainment for all the family. Tickets £5 and £3, family ticket £12. Helicopter rides available – see <http://dacorummachineryandsteam.co.uk>

OXFAM VINTAGE

Antique, vintage, retro – all terms which are freely used when describing fashionable styles. But for those in the know they have very precise meanings. Antique only applies to clothing which dates from before 1920. Vintage covers the period 1920-1989 and Retro refers to modern garments made in the style of an earlier era.

Vintage clothing has enjoyed huge popularity in the recession and the place to find an excellent selection is Oxfam. The High Street store will be featuring a special Vintage event towards the end of July when there will be a splendid selection of quality items including accessories.

The charity already devotes a section of its online shop to the popular range but to shop in person watch those High Street windows.

BERKHAMSTED LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Tuesday, 29th June 2010 to Saturday, 3rd July 2010 from 10:00am to 5:00pm in the Civic Centre. An Exhibition celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the founding of the *Berkhamsted History Society*. Admission free.

SUMMER EVENING SERENADE

Saturday 10th July 2010 7:30pm at All Saints' Church, Shrublands Road – A musical entertainment by **Robert Little** and his professional musicians, both singers and instrumentalists. Those who attended their concert in February 2009 will vouch for the wonderful quality of the music and the tremendous humour that enlivened the programme leading to many calls for this to become an annual event. As Robert calls his troupe *The Little Singers* you may have thought it was a choir of children – believe us, this is very grown up and great fun! Tickets £10

Contact **Ann Browning** 864968 or **Kathie Lally** 863526

DACORUM HERITAGE TRUST

The *Dacorum Heritage Trust* is looking for more articles for both its quarterly *Newsletter* and its website. The June *Newsletter* has a fascinating article about *Berkhamsted Bowmen*, the oldest archery club in Hertfordshire, currently celebrating its Diamond Anniversary. Your article can be of any length from a few lines or just a photograph and caption to a longer piece. Don't worry if you don't have a photograph to illustrate your article. The Trust has a large library of pictures relating to many aspects of Dacorum's heritage. Contact **Pam Gasking**, Newsletter Editor gasking166@btinternet.com or office@dacorumheritage.org.uk

PENDLEY FESTIVAL

Tuesday 3rd - Saturday 7th August 2010
Taming of the Shrew;
Tuesday 10th - Saturday 14th August 2010 *Richard III*.

For details and booking
<http://pendleyshakespearefestival.co.uk>

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ST MARY'S NORTHCHURCH SUMMER FÊTE

Saturday 3rd July 2010 2:00 – 4:30pm

This year we have another mix of new and regular attractions for all to enjoy. This year the proceeds will be split between an international, a national and a local charity. The entertainment includes the St.Mary's School Country Dancers; The Hemel Hempstead Band; in the church we have The Patrick Gibson Guitar Group and organist Hilary Norris. There will also be Pony Rides, bottle stall, tombola, raffle, duck race, teas, BBQ and lots more games and fun. It promises to be a fab way to spend your Saturday afternoon and your money!

Details from Nick Laing 873629 or alsiaing@aol.com

POTTEN END PRE-SCHOOL SUMMER FAIR

Saturday 3rd July 2010 from 12:00 noon at the June Farmery Building, Church Road, Potten End – Bouncy Castle, raffle face-painting, tombola, stalls, BBQ, and more! Great prizes. For details 866979

POTTEN END VILLAGE SHOW

Saturday 10th July 2010 from 2:30pm at Potten End Village Hall. Details from 879709

CHROMA MIDSUMMER TANGO

Sunday 11th July 2010 4:00pm at Berkhamsted Friends Meeting House - *Children's Tangotastic*. Tickets £5 and £2. 7:00pm *Midsummer Tango*. Tickets £10 and £7. To book email chroma.concerts@me.com or call Clare on 862953.

ASHRIDGE NATIONAL TRUST

Friday 9th July 2010 from 9:00pm *Night time wildlife walk*. Look for bats and other nocturnal creatures, including a moth trapping session with Bucks Moth Group. Booking required. Details from 851227

Sunday, 18th July 2010 11:00am to 3:00pm at National Trust, Ashridge Estate Visitors Centre. *Archaeology Day* Meet an archaeologist and enjoy displays and hands-on activities for all ages.

PEPPER ROCKS

Friday 16th July – Saturday 24th July 2010 *Pepper's 22nd Summer Rock Festival*. Doors open at 6:30pm (3:30pm on Sunday 18th) for performance in the Centenary Hall, Berkhamsted School, King's Road at 8:15pm (5:00pm on Sunday 18th). Arrive early and stay late. Food available from 6:30pm. Fully licensed bar. Members of the cast and the show team will be promoting the show at Acorn Pharmacy on **Saturday 3rd July 2010** 10:00am-12:00noon and at Berkhamsted Railway Station on **Friday 9th July 2010** 4:00-6:00pm. Tickets from 877292 or <http://peppershow.com>.

TUESDAY CLUB

On **Tuesday 1st June 2010**, **Dr Brenda Harold** gave us a fascinating talk entitled *The New Genetics – Dream or Nightmare?* The science of genetics, involving powerful technology, can be open to abuse but can also bring huge benefits in medical research, forensics and gene therapy. It was interesting to learn that we humans are connected to all species of animals and plants. For example, we share 50% of our genes with a banana! Our summer outing will be a trip to Dunstable Downs on **Saturday 3rd July 2010**.

reviewnotes¬ices

WATFORD PALACE THEATRE

Thursday 8th July 2010 at 7.45pm and **Friday 9th July 2010** 3:00pm and 7:45pm
The Daydreamer Company present *Age of Promise : Dragon's Creed* written and directed by **Mahlon Prince**. Tickets £10.00

Friday 9th July 2010 at 8:00pm in the Green Room Bar *Come to Where I'm From* created by **Paines Plough**. In this special one-off performance playwrights from in and around Watford come home to tell their tale. **Paines Plough** has co-commissioned 61 playwrights to return to their home towns and write plays inspired by their memories of the place that shaped them. Across 14 venues throughout the UK, *Come to Where I'm From* forms a nationwide theatrical tapestry examining if home is really where the heart is.

The playwrights whose work will be performed at this one-off event in Watford include; **Gurpreet Kaur Bhatti**, **Guy Jones**, **Adam Taylor** and **Glyn Maxwell**, whose libretto was recently seen onstage at the Palace Theatre in *The Lion's Face*.

Tickets £3.00

Monday 12th July and Wednesday 14th July 2010 at 8:00pm *Rock Choir Live!*
The UK's most popular contemporary choir - offers up-lifting and energetic performances of well known feel good contemporary songs guaranteed to leave audiences on a high.

Friday 23rd July at 4:30pm and Saturday 24th July 2010 at 11:00am and 2:00pm *Stick Man*

Touching, funny and utterly original: a fabulous show from the acclaimed Scamp Theatre, *Stick Man* returns to Watford Palace after an extensive national tour and successful London run. Featuring a trio of top actors and packed full of puppetry, songs, live music and funky moves; *Stick*

Man promises more fun than you can shake a stick at! Tickets £6.50/£5.50

Wed 21st – Fri 23rd July 2010 at 8:00pm *My Hamlet* with **Linda Marlowe**, directed by **Beso Kupreishvili**. *My Hamlet* combines the inimitable talent of puppetry company Fingers Theatre with actress Linda Marlowe to create Shakespeare's greatest work as you've never seen it before, appearing at Watford Palace Theatre before heading to Edinburgh to be seen at *Assembly @ George Street* as part of their 30th Anniversary celebrations.

Fingers Theatre Founder and Director **Beso Kupreishvili** conceived the idea, based on the notion that every actor believes they would portray the definitive Hamlet if only they had the chance. He would give that chance to somebody who had never played Hamlet, and probably never would. In this new version **Linda Marlowe** is a theatre cleaner who brings Hamlet to life. A team of six puppeteers will play the supporting roles, all voiced by Linda.

This is the first year the Palace will be producing work at the renowned Edinburgh Fringe Festival. The project is supported by *Escalator East to Edinburgh*, the Arts Council initiative that enables artists based in the Eastern region to take work to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. *Escalator East to Edinburgh* has been running since 2003 with great success, supporting 21 shows this year, helping to raise the profile of work from the East of England.

Linda Marlowe's credits include work for the RSC, in the West End and a long standing career with **Steven Berkoff**, including playing Gertrude in *Hamlet*, *Decadence*, *The Trial* and

review notes & notices

Metamorphosis. Linda has worked extensively as a solo artist and has been seen at The Assembly Rooms in Edinburgh for many years, being especially invited back this year to celebrate their 30th Anniversary.

Beso Kupreishvili founded *Fingers Theatre Tbilisi* in 1988 and staged its first full performance, *Extravaganza*, in 1991. The performance presented a new, unique way of working, with the use of costumed fingers receiving an enthusiastic response from audiences who were impressed by its creativity. As a result the theatre-studio was called *Fingers Theatre*. Now based at the Marjanishvili Theatre in Tbilisi, the company has appeared all over the world.

Tickets £10 Box Office 01923 225671

<http://watfordpalacetheatre.co.uk>

HERTFORDSHIRE VISUAL ARTS FORUM

Saturday 11th September - Sunday 3rd October 2010 - *Herts Open Studios 2010* once again brings you a unique celebration of visual arts and crafts from across Hertfordshire. With a total of 195 participating artists and art groups, this year's Open Studios is set to be even bigger and better than last year.

Herts Open Studios gives you that unique opportunity to get to know local artists and makers. During Open Studios you will find a variety of artwork including paintings, sculptures, photographs, stained glass, woodwork, ceramics, jewellery, metalwork and much more. Visiting the studios will give you a chance to understand where artists' inspiration comes from and to ask questions about their work. Most artists will have work in progress or will give demonstrations,

others run workshops and you might even be tempted to have a go yourself.

This is a great opportunity to buy or commission works of art for yourself, your home, garden or as a gift, as well as discovering the rich seam of culture that runs through the county with some intriguing places to visit. And should you wish to make that special investment, please note that not all artists can accept cards, so please do check first.

Studio opening times vary so check out the brochure, available **July 1st 2010** from local libraries, tourist information centres, cafes, and local shops. Or at **<http://tinyurl.com/2v96owc>** or call the Open Studios Coordinator (07813 100651). For more details visit **<http://hvaf.org.uk>**.

BERKHAMSTED CASTLE WI



Joint President **Joy Lovell** welcomed members and one visitor to our June meeting and with Secretary **Janet Mitchell** took us through the forthcoming events later in the year.

Maureen Stonhill reported on the outing to Hever Castle which many members attended last month. Our speaker this month was **James Cuming**, an excellent storyteller, his subject being *Landmines and Landgirls*, taking us back to the start of WW2 in 1939. His experiences as a London schoolboy evacuated to rural Great Missenden after a landmine had destroyed neighbouring houses in his road and as a child adjusting to countryside ways of living after leaving London, was told to us in a very amusing way. A vote of thanks was given by **Judith Lowther**. We meet next at the Court House on 2nd July 2010. Our speaker will be **Jane Thomson** talking on *An Ex-environmental Officer's Experiences*.

July

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

All services at *St Peter's* unless otherwise indicated.

MP = Morning Prayer

EP = Evening Prayer

MON	MP	7:30am	EP	5:30pm	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

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

reviewdiary

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

July / August

JULY

- Fri 2 10:00am Little Fishes Service *St Peter's*
 Sat 3 7:30pm The Cowper Society presents: Ashlyns Big Band
 supporting Petertide Fair causes *St Peter's*
 Sun 4 9:30pm Sung Eucharist *Youth Service* *St Peter's*
 Fri 9 1:00pm The Cowper Society presents: a recital:
Fiona Duncan violin,
Kevin Vockerodt piano *St Peter's*
 Sun 11 6:00pm Choral Evensong *St Peter's*
 Tue 13 10:15am Chuckles Toddlers' service
A Very Big Picnic *All Saints'*
 Sat 17 8:00am Association of Berkhamsted Churches
 Prayer Breakfast *Berkhamsted Baptist Church*
 2:30pm The Cowper Society presents: Berkhamsted
 Choral Workshops concert *St Peter's*
 Wed 21 9:30am Victoria School *Leavers Service* *St Peter's*
 Fri 23 12noon Thomas Coram School *End of Term Service* *St Peter's*

AUGUST

- Sat 14 8:00am Association of Berkhamsted Churches
 Prayer Breakfast *Kings Road Church*
 Sun 22 1:00pm Parish Picnic *Thomas Coram School grounds*

reviewregisters

Baptisms (St Peter's)

- 23rd May Sophie Rose Roberts, Poppy Grace Bowyer, Rocco David Christopher Freer, Jack
 George Thompson, Evvie Kaatje Rose Cooper-Rolfe, Oliver James Page
 30th May Elizabeth Poppy Bond

Baptisms (All Saints')

- 24th April Phoebe Roberts
 6th June Isabella Holly Brookes, Harry Edward Brookes

Funerals (& Memorials)

- 14th May Gwyn Rowlands West Herts Crematorium
 (St Peter's Church memorial)
 21st May Amelia Mary Elizabeth (Milly) Loczy St Peter's Church (Kingshill)
 1st June Gordon Stuart Paton Chilterns Crematorium
 10th June June Lodge St Peter's Church (Chilterns Crematorium)

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

Big Machines

Boys of all ages are fascinated by big machines. If you put *Steam Trains* into Google you get 1.3 million results! On our back cover this month we have two big machines. **Crichton Limbert** who supplied the photograph of *Princess Elizabeth* that appeared on our cover in April 2010 has very kindly supplied a photograph of another steam train passing through Berkhamsted Station. We always used to call them *railway stations* but now they seem to be *train stations*. Why has this happened?

Crichton's photo is of 60163 *Tornado* passing through Berkhamsted early on **Saturday 22nd May 2010** on route to Chester. *Tornado* is an A1 class locomotive newly built at a cost of £3 million raised by subscription. She was completed in 2008 and has been hauling steam specials since then. Our former Rector **Roger Davies** has been very much involved

with her as a member of the *A1 Steam Locomotive Trust*.

Our other photograph follows up **Ian Reay's** article in the June 2010 *review*. Ian mentioned seeing at College Lake *the metal corpse of a gigantic circular cutting machine*. As Ian surmised, this is the remains of a rotary excavator with which the chalk was dug up to be transported on conveyor belts to the furnaces of the old Pitstone cement works. Our photograph shows the machine shortly before it was dismantled, the great cutting wheel is visible at the front of the machine and, as Ian discovered, is now conserved at College Lake as a reminder of the chalk quarry that forms the setting of the nature reserve. College Lake is not just about big machines and bird watching it was once the haunt of elephants and lions – but that's another story. ❖

reviewcontacts

General

The Revd Dr Michael Bowie, (Team Rector), The Rectory, Rectory Lane (864194)
(day off Thursday)
The Revd John Pritchard (Curate), 6 Church Lane (870016) (day off Tuesday)
The Revd 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: **Vacant**

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)

Choirmaster: **Peter McMunn** (874894)
 All Saints' is an Anglican / Methodist
 Local Ecumenical Partnership. <http://allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk>

Minister: **The Revd Caroline Weaver** (866324)

St Peter's

All Saints'

Personalities in the Parish



Answer next month

Last month's Personality



Kathy Lally in 1967





←p30

Big machines