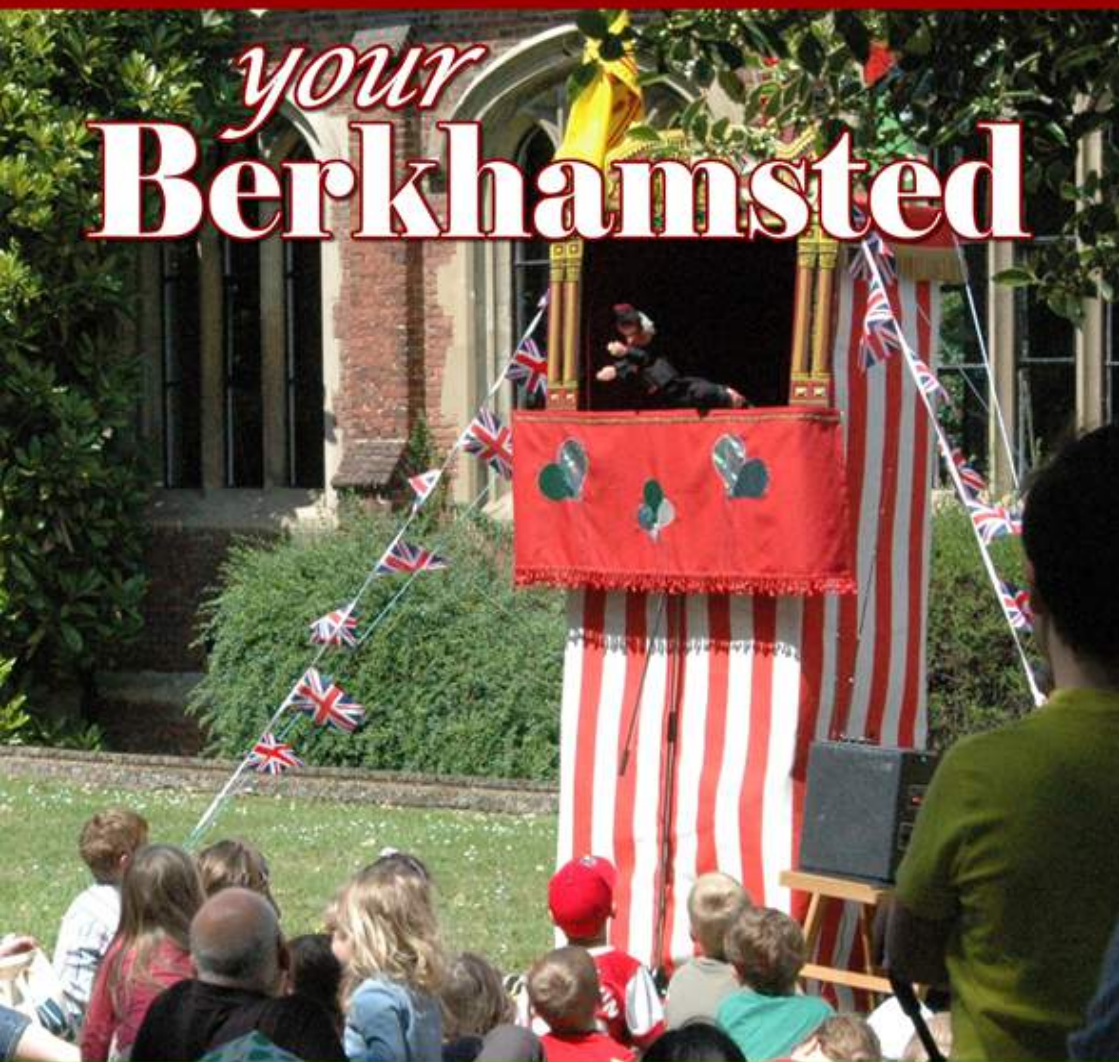


the magazine for town and parish

your **Berkhamsted**



Get ready for a summer of sport and fun



Find out how the Olympics is being
marked in our town at the
Berkhamsted Games 2012

June 2012

50p

From the Editor June 2012



*The Parish Magazine of
St Peter's
Great Berkhamsted*

Welcome to the June issue of *Your Berkhamsted*.

Firstly, let me introduce myself as the new editor. I have now taken over from Ian Skillicorn who has done a fantastic job for the past two years and I would like to thank him for supporting me in handing over the role and for providing me with such a thorough introduction into how it all works. I hope that I will be able to carry on his good work.

This month's magazine looks forward to the annual Petertide Fair which takes place on Saturday 16th June and is sure to be another great success. Let's hope we get the sunshine that we are all longing for to make it an even better day. There is a touching obituary to John Cook, who was Mayor of Berkhamsted and a significant figure and contributor to the town and church for many years. We also have an interesting article by Colette Millar, nursery teacher at Victoria School, who recently went to the Amazon to learn more about this fascinating place. As always there's lots more to read about including a history piece on Berkhamsted Castle, news on the Berkhamsted Games 2012 and even an article on Scottish dancing!

I hope you enjoy this month's magazine and as always we would be delighted to hear from you if you have any interesting articles or information that we could include in future issues.

Helen Dowley, Editor

Contents

Leader by Revd. John Russell	3
Around the town	5
Read all about us	7
The French Invasion	9
Obituary—John Cook	12
Recycling	14
Petertide Fair 2012	16
Parish news	18
Berkhamsted Games	20
Bike and Hike	21
Berkhamsted Bowls Club	23
Amazon trip	25
Recipe	28
Strathspey and Reel Club	29
The Last Word	31

Credits

Front cover: Petertide Fair 2011, Rowena Pike

Photograph of Berkhamsted Castle, Wikipedia

Your Berkhamsted Leader by Revd. John Russell



The month of June is for many clergy the start of the wedding season – though weddings seem to be happening any time of the

year these days – I had one on New Years' Eve last year and I have another this year on the Saturday before Christmas! Nevertheless weddings are starting to come to us thick and fast now.

Last month was a momentous one for our family, as my eldest son Michael should, by the time you read this, have married Emma! People have said to me, '*are you marrying your son?*' To which I've replied, '*I certainly am not! They're marrying each other and I'm just taking the service!*'

You never stop learning in life and this last year has been a huge learning curve; Karen and I had in our minds how weddings were when we got married some 30 odd years ago. In those days, our wedding felt very much like our parents' party – they invited the guests, they paid the bills and decided an awful lot about what would happen on the day. Today it's rather different - and even though I wasn't sure to begin with, I can see that the happy couple making most of the decisions themselves, paying a lot of the bills, (thank goodness!) and inviting their friends to celebrate their special day makes sense. Perhaps this way is better, healthier and puts the proper emphasis on a marriage? Starting as you mean to carry on is wise.

Getting married in church is still pretty popular and with the growth of so many alternative venues I find myself asking why? Surely to have everything on one site is so much more practical? Yet couples still want their marriage in church. Looking again at what the wedding service says about marriage is useful; the Introduction to be read prior to the service says, *a wedding is one of life's great moments, a time of solemn commitment as well as good wishes, feasting and joy... Marriage is intended by God to be a creative relationship, as his blessing enables husband and wife to love and support each other in good times and in bad... For Christians, marriage is also an invitation to share life together in the spirit of Jesus Christ. It is based upon a solemn, public and life-long covenant between a man and a woman, declared and celebrated in the presence of God and before witnesses... on their wedding day the bride and bridegroom face each other, make their promises and receive God's blessing.*

The Marriage Service itself contains these words, *marriage enriches society and strengthens community*, and...*marriage is a way of life made holy by God*. Without always putting it into words, this is surely what couples come to church to receive – the grace of God to enhance, enrich and strengthen their marriage from the word go?

I pray that Michael and Emma and all who are getting married this year, may truly come to know God's grace and love.

JRB

CONNEXT COLOUR TECHNIK

Bringing colour to life



www.connektcolour.com

www.technik.com



THE OLD PASTURES

LUXURY ACCOMMODATION FOR DOGS

Icknield Farm, Icknield Way,

Tring, Herts HP23 4JX



Luxury heated accommodation for your dog

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

Holiday homes for small animals

DOG GROOMING

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

IN, NON-SLIP SHOWER IDEAL FOR OLDER AND BIGGER DOGS. WE CAN

CATER FOR ANY SIZE DOG.

EASY PARKING.

FOR AN APPOINTMENT FOR GROOMING OR KENNELING PLEASE CALL:

01442 824856

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning Specialists

Why You Should Choose Us...

Thorough Cleaning & Outstanding Service

State of the Art Truckmounted Cleaning System

Most Carpets Dry within 30 min
Fully Insured

Free On-Site Quotations

Carpet Stainguard with Dustmite & Allergy Control

Spot, Stain and Odour Removal

Environmentally Friendly

Domestic & Commercial

National Carpet Cleaners Assoc.

**100% No Risk, Iron Clad
Guarantee**

PROCARE

Professional Carpet & Upholstery Cleaners

Call Matthew Free on

0800 695 1442

www.procare-cleaning.co.uk



SAFE
FOR
PETS



SAFE
FOR
BABIES



SAFE
FOR
WOOL



SAFE FOR
ALLERGY
SUFFERERS



SECURITY MARK

Vintage Settings Vintage Crockery & Accessories Hire

We have a beautiful range of eclectic vintage bone china, silverware, linen, bunting and crockery all available to hire. Make your event extra special

www.vintage-settings.com
Telephone: 01442 - 460105

Around the town

Berkhamsted & District RNLI

Chairman, Mr Wally Finch, would like to thank the residents of Berkhamsted and surrounding villages for the kind donations given for the RNLI Flag Day and House to House collections. The total collected was £2,755.

The Berkhamsted Branch of the RNLI will also have an information stand in Dean's Hall, Berkhamsted School on 4th June as part of the Jubilee Weekend celebrations organised for Berkhamsted. They welcome members of the public to come and visit the stand.

Events presented by the Cowper Society

Saturday 9th June at 7:30pm: CONCERT
Bridgewater Sinfonia, Director Adrian Davis: Butterworth

The Banks of Green Willow, Vaughan Williams *Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis*, Brahms *Ein Deutsches Requiem* with **Chiltern Chamber Choir**

Tickets: £15, under 18s free, from Aitchisons or www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk or tel: 01442 875945.

Saturday 14th July at 12:30pm: CONCERT – Singing Workshops Groups' Charity Concert directed by Yvonne Brener. Free Entry. Retiring collection

National Garden Scheme Charity

Sue and Alan O'Neill will be opening their garden on Sunday 17th June from 2-6pm as part of the National Garden Scheme, which is supporting Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie Cancer Care, Help the Hospices and Cross Roads Care. The garden is at St Michael's Croft, Woodcock Hill, Durrants Lane, Berkhamsted HP4 3TR

The Children's Society – A Summer Serenade

Saturday 7th July, 7:30pm

Robert Little and his friends, all professional singers and instrumentalists, are giving their time and talents completely free once again to entertain us. All Saints' Church will have its sound enhancement available this time so you won't miss the spoken word. Do come along to help the Berkhamsted Committee raise more funds for the vital work of the Children's Society. It will be a new and sparkling programme.

Tickets £10 at the door, from The Way Inn or phone 01442 864968.

Go Shwopping with Oxfam

High St retailer Marks and Spencer is co-operating with Oxfam in launching a new recycling initiative called Shwopping. Customers visiting the stores will be able to leave their pre-loved but redundant garments at special collecting points. They will then be passed to the overseas aid charity for resale through the Oxfam High St stores or the online shop, onward sale to social enterprise initiatives such as Frip Ethique in West Africa (bras are especially welcome), sold to international customers or, in the case of some selected fibres, recycled into new fibre.

Hopefully significant quantities of unwanted clothing will be kept out of landfill – to the benefit of those struggling with poverty.

Any make of garment can be left at the M & S collecting points but only people who donate a Marks and Spencer item direct to an Oxfam shop will still be able to claim a £5 voucher off a £35 M & S purchase.

So let's go shwopping! yB

Blair Electrical Limited

Electrical Engineers & Contractors

Domestic, Commercial & Industrial installations

REGISTERED MEMBER



Blair Electrical
- people you can rely on

Blair Electrical Ltd. Unit 11 Akeman Business Park,
Akeman Street, Tring, Herts. HP23 6AF

Tel: 01442 827696 Fax: 01442 827698

e-mail: info@blairelectrical.com

<http://www.blairelectrical.com>

T.A. LINGARD MOTORS

BILLET LANE
BERKHAMSTED

Tel: Berkhamsted 871911

- WELDING
- SERVICING
- BREAKDOWN
RECOVERY
- BODY REPAIRS

PETER D HANNABY

Painter and Decorator

*Interior and exterior
work undertaken.*

*For competitive
quotations
please call:*

mbl: 07765 250092
home: 01442 288956

Abbeyfield

Where older people find care in housing

The Abbeyfield (Berkhamsted and Hemel
Hempstead) Society Limited

Independent but unhappy living alone?

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

For further information contact:
Mrs Susan Pullen 01442 217578

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



Will Kimberley
Garden Services
01442 255784

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

*Why not phone
for a quote?*

Berkhamsted Carpet Cleaning Ltd

carpets
oriental rugs
upholstery

- residential & commercial
- professional • good value
- fully insured

David Green
01442 876622
0788 405 8795

PO Box 903 Berkhamsted
Herts HP4 3ZQ

www.berkhamstedcarpetcleaning.co.uk

Berkhamsted Oven Cleaning Ltd

complete valet service for

**all ovens, hobs
and extractors**

- professional • good value
- fully insured

David Green
01442 876622
0788 405 8795

PO Box 903 Berkhamsted
Herts HP4 3ZQ

www.berkhamstedovencleaning.co.uk

Read all about us!

Julian Dawson looks at varied and surprising references to our town on the internet

Before I embark on this month's gambol through the internet after last month's break, a note on a follow-up from my *Just a minute* piece. I was delighted to hear from Priscilla Watt who read with interest my remembrances of Parish affairs, specifically the records of the electoral roll, and high count of 943 in 1952. Priscilla gathers that it was due to the fact that the electoral roll officer went door to door enrolling members whether they were church people or not and she believes they were probably under the illusion that they would lose their right to vote at the General Election if they didn't sign on the dotted line! The problem was compounded by the fact that there was no new Roll every six or so years which meant that while people on the Roll still lived in the Parish they couldn't be thrown off and so the 943 was really fictitious. She also noticed that I referred to the Rev. Smith taking the meeting in 1952. Priscilla can't remember a curate of that name and it was not the Rector but was, she suspects, the redoubtable Mr S H Smith, Churchwarden. She is not certain whether he was Rector or People's warden at that time - he had been Rector's Warden for many years until he fell out with the Rector and became People's Warden. All fascinating stuff and marvellous to hear from someone with personal memories of that date.

And to bring us right up to date, web press releases have been buzzing with the news that Metric Property Investments has

bought the former Royal Mail building in the town, Insider Media being one of the many sites to report on this. Such a purchase might bring a so-what shrug of the shoulders until we learn who the property company has let 80 per cent of the site to, none other than Marks and Spencer of saintly retail fame who it is understood will be opening a food store on the site. A cue for wild rejoicing and delirious happiness. Europe Real Estate website goes on to report that the director of M&S property is looking forward to bringing the Simply Food format to Berkhamsted. Before we get too excited, the whole plan is subject to a planning application in June, but I suspect that this will be one of the less controversial plans in recent years. Let's hope so.

This month's unexpected famous person link is Madeleine Albright. In an interview with the former US Secretary of State on Huggingtonpost.com, she discusses her Jewish routes and catholic upbringing. Of Czech origin, her parents managed to get her out of Czechoslovakia before the war and she spent part of her childhood in Berkhamsted before relocating to Denver. She describes herself as a peripatetic Episcopalian. We aren't particularly likely to see her around the town in 2012, but according to the *Hemel Hempstead Gazette* we might see Frank Bruno in our Fitness First Gym in a somewhat bizarre piece describing his defection from Champneys. Boxing clever with endorsements I'd say. Know what I mean?

yB

Pets Palace

We treat your pets like royalty;

Doggy day care
Dog boarding
Dog walking
Dog visits
Puppy visits
Puppy day care
Cat visits
Small animal boarding
Small animal visits
Pet taxi service

07540 339083
jessarmitage@btinternet.com



Is your home and car insurance
policy good enough?



Call 01442 270000 for a quote or pop into the
office to talk to us at NFU Mutual Office, Boxted Farm,
Berkhamsted Road, Hemel Hempstead,
Herts HP1 2SG



We do right by you

Agent of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited.

The French invasion of Berkhamsted

Dan Parry

When, 800 years ago, a French prince landed unopposed on the coast of Kent, he brought with him an army and a plan that placed Berkhamsted on the frontline of a bloody civil war. Prince Louis had been asked by England's leading barons to help rid them of a king with a reputation for cruel and petty intolerance. King John – he of Robin Hood fame – held scattered regions of the country based around his royal fortresses, and just as the king was the focus of Louis's ambition so were the castles he controlled. As a pleasure palace within striking distance of London, and a strategic gateway to the north, Berkhamsted played a key part in John's defensive plan. He had begun to strengthen it a year earlier but had he done enough? Louis besieged first Dover, then Windsor before embarking upon what was to become one of the most violent episodes in the history of our castle.

It's hard to imagine it as anything more than a few flint walls but let's abandon our modern image of the castle and instead think of a thriving royal palace populated by hundreds of people, from nobles to cooks. Amid the noise and chaos, a small town hummed with life within the confines of powerful walls, themselves protected by one of the country's most elaborate system of moats. The castle's powerful gatehouse led to a

ramshackle collection of buildings: houses, workshops, stables, food stores, arsenals, kitchens – everything a garrison might need. Wandering through these we would have seen a high wall, beyond which was a three-storey tower – or keep – and a smaller set of buildings, the royal apartments. On and off for more than 400 years the castle was used as a royal fortress, the home of eight kings who regularly visited it during their travels around the country.



In early 1216, John was enjoying a period of uneasy peace amid his ongoing feud with the barons. In April he was at Berkhamsted where he ordered six tuns (1,536 gallons) of 'good and strong wine'. The good times came to an end when civil war broke out once again, with Prince Louis's arrival in May. Leaving Berkhamsted in the care of his trusted German military commander, Walerand Teuton, John headed north-east to Lincolnshire and East Anglia. But by the autumn he was suffering from dysentery

(continues on page 11)

GARY MATTHEWS

CARPENTRY & JOINERY

All types of carpentry & joinery work.

Over 30 years experience.

City and Guilds Craftsman.

Minor to major work undertaken.

Reliable and a trustworthy tradesman.

Free quotes.

Telephone – 01582 653904

Mobile – 07739 226567

E-mail – g.matthews2@ntlworld.com

A B W Services Ltd
Plumbing & Heating



**Are you fed up searching for a reliable Plumber
Tired of waiting in vain for promised appointments?
Call us now for a friendly, prompt and reliable
service.**

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

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

07775 853448 or 01582 873448

G.P.LUCAS ASSOCIATES

The Specialist Landscape Company

**All aspects of garden and pond design,
construction and maintenance**

Bespoke driveways, patios and
brickwork

Ponds, streams and waterfalls

Rockerries, planting and turfing

Intelligent lighting

Design consultancy

Regular garden maintenance

Contact Gary Lucas NCHLC, Nat DipGD

National Certificate Horticulture in Landscape
Construction, National Diploma Garden Design

01442 870989

**gary@lucaslandscapes.co.uk
www.lucaslandscapes.co.uk**

One to One
PC Tuition

***Computer help tailored
to fit your needs***

- Internet and e-mail
- Word and Excel
- Technical problems explained and resolved
- PC maintenance — backups, security, housekeeping

Call Roger Blunt
01442 896041

**roger@121pctutor.co.uk
http://121pctutor.co.uk**

(continued from page 9)

and his death in October left Walerand in a vulnerable position. Things were only going to get worse. For a month, Louis's army battered Hertford castle until it finally fell on December 6th. Then that same day they marched the 21 miles to Berkhamsted. His king gone, his enemies proven in siege warfare and his options limited, Walerand prepared for the onslaught approaching from the east. The cavalry arrived first, probing the castle's defences and seeking a site to position the bulk of the army who were marching behind on foot. Matthew Paris, a monk of St Albans, wrote that the barons, commanded by Louis, "planted their tents to the north of the castle beneath the forest". While they were still setting up camp, here on the slopes above what is now the Sports and Social Club at Kitcheners Field, Walerand sent a raiding party out from the castle who snatched the barons' baggage train. The garrison were so elated at this early success that they tried a second raid later that evening though this time they were beaten back into the castle.

At dawn the next day, Louis's siege engines began hurling stones at the castle from all sides. Meanwhile his infantry began pillaging the area, according to Matthew Paris, "exhorting money from the virtuous". As both sides began to endure the hardships of siege warfare, Walerand "directed the souls of many excommunicated Frenchmen to the infernal regions". For two weeks both attackers and defenders hurled stones and other missiles at each other, the French exploiting the advantage of height and the garrison probably using giant winch-

powered crossbows set up on the vast mounds to the north and east of the walls. It was clear that the castle must fall eventually and since it was a royal palace there was no sense in battering it beyond repair, especially given the demise of John. The order was given by those representing the nine-year-old Henry III to surrender, and on December 20 the garrison were allowed to walk free. For Louis however it was an empty victory, for within months the castle was back in royal hands.

Today little remains to remind us of this period in the castle's history. The West Coast Main Line ploughs straight through – or rather above – the southern moat, an area once protected by giant earthworks. But John's earthworks of 1215 still stand to the north of the castle, overlooking Brownlow Road. They remain the most evocative reminder of the time when a sustained campaign of ruthless devastation took place just a few hundred yards from where today we catch a train or queue for chips.

Your Berkhamsted Needs You!

The editorial team of Your Berkhamsted is actively seeking new contributors for the magazine.

Local groups

Bringing news from local groups to our readers is an important function of Your Berkhamsted. If you belong to a local group please let us know about your latest news and events. Please consider sending us an article about what your group does. Articles should be 500 to 900 words in length.

John Cook 1928-2012

By Christopher Green

In all the many activities in which John became involved, he was the one to whom people turned when there was a job to be done or an office to be filled. He lived in Berkhamsted for forty-six years and he played an active role in the life of the community across a remarkable range of local interests and institutions. He was by profession a civil engineer and spent all his professional career working with railways, at first with British Rail and latterly in connection with Eurotunnel and the Channel Tunnel Rail Link. His work with Transmark, the consultancy arm of British Rail, took him to many parts of the world and after retirement from British Rail he continued to travel widely as a consultant for Transmark. In all, he visited no less than fifty countries in the course of his career, sometimes, for example in the deserts of the Arabian Peninsula, working in extreme and hazardous conditions. His colleagues speaking of such experiences in John's company, recalled his invariable calm, even in the most alarming circumstances.

This was a striking aspect of John's character. He seemed always to be at ease, with those around him, and with the many and varied tasks he set himself, or that others entrusted to him. This of course is why he came to office in so many different groups and institutions in our town and beyond – in the Town Council as Mayor, at St Peter's Church as Churchwarden, chairman of the Buildings Committee and chairman of the Cowper Society, as chairman of the Town Hall Trust, and of the Berkhamsted Citizens Association, as a Trustee of the Dacorum

Heritage Trust, of the Market and of the Berkhamsted Parochial and Ecclesiastical Charities, and as an Honorary Member of the Rotary Club and Vice President of the Berkhamsted Branch of the British Legion. More widely, he was for a time on the County Committee of the Scouts, he was a Professional Volunteer, in his civil engineering capacity, for the National Trust, and he was a Cathedral Guide at St Albans Abbey where, with a certain inevitability he became chairman of the Cathedral Guides Committee. But in his company, there was rarely a glimpse of this huge commitment to the community in which he lived, and above all, never a hint of self-importance. John seemed to take it for granted that this was the normal pattern of life.

It would however be a mistake to think, because John's manner was invariably courteous, that he was without strongly held views. He was passionately attached to the *Book of Common Prayer* and greatly regretted its passing from the regular liturgy of the Church of England. But above all he believed that once undertaken, a task must be done rightly, with due attention to detail, with the right materials and to time. From what his colleagues had to say, that was how he went about his own work and that was what he expected of others. But if it came to a discussion with him that involved the issues that he held dear, he could argue without rancour and without any obvious sign that he thought others ought to share his views.

And what of his interests? When John and

Joan moved from the Gardeners Arms, John, having selected the books he wanted to keep with him, with typical generosity, threw open his extensive library to his friends, to select and take away the books they fancied. There it all was – his love of poetry, of natural history and of the countryside, of art and architecture, of historic buildings and particularly the parish churches and cathedrals of our country. He was a member of the Ecclesiological Society for more than forty years.

John wanted others to see the world as he did – full of interest and full of history. He wrote in the *Berkhamsted Review* for many years a column *Around the Town* that searched out the quirky traces of the past and cast a critically observant eye over new developments. John was also the

inspiration for the *Berkhamsted Heritage Walk*, with its 32 blue plaques highlighting the town's historic buildings, and he wrote and illustrated the accompanying leaflet *A Glimpse of our History*. Then in the millennium year he wrote *Berkhamsted's Story – A Book for the Millennium* – 64 pages packed with information about the town, and written as John always wrote, in a thoroughly approachable style.

Now John is gone and he will be missed in many places. But he leaves a rich legacy, some of it visible, like the *Berkhamsted Heritage Walk* and the new south porch in St Peter's Church, but much of it in the hearts of those who knew him and for whom his life is an inspiration.

JB



Discover how your unwanted tools can change lives

Berkhamsted residents are being urged to help tackle poverty and help the environment by recycling their unwanted tools this spring. Workaid is a registered charity collecting old and unwanted tools and equipment from all over the UK which are



Choma, Zambia, Carpentry Training at Youth Development Organisation using refurbished Workaid Tools

refurbished by a team of over 200 dedicated volunteers at the Workaid workshop in Chesham.

“We are always in need of more tools and equipment” comments Richard Boughton, operations manager at Workaid.

“Carpentry and horticultural tools, sewing machines, haberdashery, knitting machines and larger equipment, both manual and electric, are essential in helping us continue to tackle poverty in a practical way.”

After refurbishment, the donated tools and equipment are sent to vocational training and self-help projects, mainly in East Africa and in the UK, enabling vulnerable

and disadvantaged people to learn a skilled trade and earn a living.

Over 70 tonnes of donated tools and equipment are saved from landfill each year and restored to full working order. Any items which are not suitable for sending overseas can be sold in the Workaid Shop which raises vital funds to support their work.

To donate your unwanted tools and equipment simply pop into Workaid at The Old Boot Factory, 71 Townsend Road, Chesham, HP5 2AA or call 01494 775220 to find a collector near you.

JB



Read more about the forthcoming Berkhamsted Games on page 20!

Your Berkhamsted Needs You!

The editorial team of Your Berkhamsted is actively seeking new contributors for the magazine.

Did you know that everyone who works on bringing Your Berkhamsted to you each month is a volunteer? We would extend a warm welcome to anyone who would like to join us, whether you would like to contribute on a regular basis or just write a one-off article.

Features

We are always interested in discussing ideas for features about Berkhamsted life. These could be about the town's history, interesting modern day developments or local people of note (past or present).

Find us online

St Peter's church:

www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/pages/St-Peters-Church-Berkhamsted/149331025129622

Petertide Fair:

www.petertidefair.org

Twitter:

@PetertideFair



Read more about the Sponsored Bike 'n Hike on page 21!

Subscribe to Your Berkhamsted

Subscribe to Your Berkhamsted to make sure you never miss an issue. We can have the magazine delivered to your door by post or by one of our team of distributors.

A 12 month subscription to Your Berkhamsted is just £5 - that's twelve copies for the price of ten!

For more information please email editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk

Responsibility for opinions expressed in articles and letters published in this magazine and for the accuracy of any statements in them rests solely with the individual contributor. Your Berkhamsted has no affiliation with the Save Your Berkhamsted campaign.

Petertide Fair 2012

Pru Murray takes us through what we can expect at this year's Petertide Fair



One of the highlights of the Berkhamsted town calendar is the Petertide Fair which this year is taking place on Saturday 16th June.

The Fair is quintessentially English. I believe it encapsulates what people think of when they are asked to describe an English church fete. There are traditional stalls like bric-a-brac where one man's junk is another man's treasure, delicious homemade cakes the likes of which you'd never get in the shops and a traditional bottle tombola where you might win a fine claret or the more unusual ginger wine if you pick the right ticket out of the drum. For the children there's Punch & Judy, miniature train rides given by local enthusiasts, Candy Floss and a coconut shy. And, when you feel you've exhausted

the stalls, you can take time out with a pint of specially brewed Petertide Ale or Pimms, soak up the atmosphere or listen to the packed programme of entertainment.

The line up for the 31st annual Petertide Fair is very strong. The Fair will be opened by the Ashlyns School Samba Drummers and local Air Cadets, with a rousing opening aria from local opera soprano Kathryn Jenkins. Then, during the day, the

entertainment will include Mr Kite's Benefit Band, Freedom Express and the Berkhamsted Ukulele band with further entertainment provided by a guest appearance from the Aldbury Morris Men, a Dutch organ and performances from children from the local Victoria First and Thomas Coram Middle Schools.

The superb thing about the Fair is that it doesn't only offer the congregation of St Peter's and town residents the chance to do something completely different on a Saturday, united in the quest to enjoy themselves, but it also raises much needed money for charity at the same time. Last year was the 30th Petertide Fair and we were extremely pleased to raise the most money ever throughout the year (from the Fair and other events) - nearly £24,000 for charity. This was split

between the Sunnyside Rural Trust who are using the funds to buy a people carrier to transport members around the Berkhamsted area, and the McCabe Educational Trust where we funded a new dormitory for a school in Nepal.

This year's funds are going to support two charities. The Iain Rennie Hospice at Home, now part of Iain Rennie Grove House Hospice Care (IRGH), provides the option of care at home or in a day hospice, for patients with a life-limiting illness across Herts and Bucks. In the last 26 years, Iain Rennie has helped over 10,000 families in the region with the help of over 700 volunteers.

Overseas, the Nepali Children's Trust is working to provide much needed equipment, education and medical treatment including a physiotherapist for a

new disabled children's home, called the New Life Centre, in Kathmandu, Nepal. With both these charities, the funds we can raise via Petertide can really make a difference to their work and the people they support.

Please join us on Fair Day and to help us support these fantastic causes!

www.petertidefair.org.uk

www.irhh.org

www.nepalichildrenstrust.com

Please help!!

It's not too late to donate books, bric-a-brac, homemade cakes or wine to the Fair or offer to help out on one of the stalls or in the coffee bar on the day. If you would be interested in helping, or have items to donate, please contact Pru Murray on 01442 871386 for further details. yB



2011 Petertide Fair

Regular Church Activities

3rd Mon	Pastoral Network, 7:45pm, The Court House. Contact Philippa Seldon 871534
Tue	Chuckles Parent & Toddler Group, 10-11:30am. All Saints' Church Hall. Song Time or short service as announced. Contact Jenny Wells, 870981
Tue	St Peter's Choir, Children 5:15-6:15pm. St Peter's. Adrian Davis 875674 or Jean Wild 866859
1st Tue	Tuesday Club, 7:30pm A lively women's group with guest speaker. The Court House. Contact Barbara McKenna 871159
3rd Tue	Mothers' Union, meet in members' houses at 2.30pm. New members always welcome. Contact Kathie Lally, 863526
4th Tue	Mothers' Union Prayer Group, 2:30pm. 17 Shaftesbury Court. Tell us if anyone needs your prayers. Contact Jenny Wells 870981
Wed	Julian Meeting, meets about twice a month. 11:30am. All welcome. At Jenny Wells, 57 Meadow Rd, 870981 or at Ruth Treves Brown, 1 Montague Rd, 863268
Thu	Bellringing, 8pm, St Peters. Contact Helen Ruberry, 890949
Fri	Little Fishes Parent & Toddler Group 9:30-11:30am. The Court House. Weekly, with short service on 1st Friday in St Peter's (10am). Tracy Robinson 863559
Fri	St Peter's Choir, Children 7-8:30pm, Adults 7:30—8:30pm. St Peter's. Adrian Davis 875674 or Jean Wild 866859
3rd Sat	ABC Prayer Breakfast, 8am for breakfast & prayers. Various local churches.
1st Sun	Sundays Together Lunch 12.30pm Court House. For anyone on their own on a Sunday. Liz Jackson 864381

All Saints' June

3 June (Trinity) 8.00am Holy Communion Revd Rachael Hawkins
10.00am Morning Worship John Malcolm & Tracy Robinson

10 June 10.00am Holy Communion Revd Rachael Hawkins

17 June 10.00am Morning Worship Revd Wilf Bahadur

24 June 10.00am Holy Communion Revd Tony Cavanagh & Malcolm Lindo

Services

St Peter's**Regular Sunday services**

8:00am Eucharist

9:30am Sung Eucharist with crèche, Sunday school and Pathfinders

6:00pm Evensong

Regular weekday services

Morning Prayer: Monday – Friday 7:30am, Saturday 9:30am.

Eucharist: Monday 6:00pm; Tuesday 9:30am at All Saints' Shrublands Road;

Wednesday 8:00am; Thursday 12:30pm; Saturday 10:00am

Evening Prayer: Monday 5:45pm, Tuesday – Thursday, Saturday 5:00pm

June Diary

Saturday 9th June—7.30pm—Cowper Society presents Bridgewater Sinfonia with the Chiltern Chamber Choir

Sunday 10th June—6.00pm—Choral Evensong Corpus Christi

Saturday 16th June—10.00am—Petertide Fair

Sunday 24th June—12.30pm—Petertide Patronal Lunch

Baptisms

1 April Nell Lucy Baxter Goldthorp (All Saints')

Weddings13th April Paul Christopher Allen and Brooke Siobhan Samantha Anthony (St Peter's)14th April Simon William Heath and Anne Wendy Price (St Peter's)21st April Stuart Martin Ralph Reid and Nicola Michelle Burton (St Peter's)**Funerals**2nd April Jean Ellen Huddle (Chilterns Crematorium)**Your Berkhamsted Team**

Editor: Helen Dowley, editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk

Advertising: John Gerry, 07774 850508, advertising@yourberkhamsted.org.uk

Circulation: Joanne Lloyd-Evans, 865417, joanne.lloydevans@gmail.com

Features: Julian Dawson, Dan Parry

Layout: Sam Limbert

Key Church Contacts

Parish Office, Hilary Armstrong and Kate Perera, Court House, 878227.

Fr Michael Bowie, 864194 (day off Fri). Team Rector, St Peter's.

The Revd Rachael Hawkins, All Saints'.

Further information available from our church websites:www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk **and at** www.allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk

The Berkhamsted Games

Matthew Dawson brings us news of the Berkhamsted Games 2012

The Berkhamsted Games, an event in which there will be a chance to showcase the sporting talent from every school in Berkhamsted, from reception up to year 9. The venue for the games is Bridgewater school and will be on 5th July.

The day before the event starts, head teachers and children from the 10 schools participating in the games will take part in a torch relay. The torch will begin its journey from Potten End First School and will travel to each school, passing from Head Teacher to Head Teacher, before finally reaching the host venue, Bridgewater Middle School on 5th July. In the run up to the games, as part of the 'Get Set' campaign, teachers will be teaching their pupils about the history of the games, whilst helping them to explore the seven Olympic and Paralympic values. Each child will also be learning about the countries they will be representing.

The day itself will start with an opening ceremony and each year group in every school will represent a different country – 46 countries will be represented. The competitors will represent their country in a parade carrying their flag whilst displaying traditional dress, dance and music. The schools will be representing the following countries:

Ashlyns: Italy

Bridgewater: Senegal, Bangladesh, Burma, Sierra Leone

Greenway: Haiti, Switzerland, Canada, Peru

Potten End: Uganda, Romania, Australia, Brazil, Austria

St Mary's: Kenya, Russia, Jamaica, Spain, China

St Thomas More: Gambia, Tanzania,

France, Ireland, Paraguay, Japan, Turkey

Swing Gate: Portugal, Denmark, India, Botswana, Vietnam

Thomas Coram: Greece, Hungary, Tunisia, Germany

Victoria: Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Chile, Holland, Zambia

Westfield: Poland, Malaysia, New Zealand, USA, South Africa

The children will then have lunch and then a warm up will be led by 'Active-Creative' with assistance from trained year 9s.

It's then down to the main event, where the children, split into different age groups, will take part in fun and competitive sporting events inspired by Olympic and Paralympic sports. There will be a fully competitive sprint, distance, jump and throw event for the older age groups whilst the younger age groups will be taking part in events such as Egg and Spoon races.

The games will then close with a mass choir performance of Hertfordshire's own Olympic song – The Winner's Dream. It will be sung by all the competitors from each school and will be led by Nyree O'Brien from Hertfordshire's Music Service who has had experience of working with community choirs, including the South Oxhey choir which featured in the BBC Series, *The Choir*.

There was also a competition to design a logo for the games in which the Berkhamsted public could vote for their favourite design. Over 450 students entered the competition, which was won by year 6 pupil, Joe Hunt from Bridgewater Middle School (see p.15).

I would like to wish all the pupils taking part the very best of luck! *yB*

News of some activities to enjoy outdoors

Ashridge Walks

There are two series of walks in Ashridge through the Summer. Brian and Siân Barton lead the Gentle Strolls, up to 2 hour informal walks observing the wildlife in different parts of the National Trust Ashridge Estate. Kath Hardy leads the longer walks.

Mon 4 June Longer Ashridge walk.

Starts Beacon car park, 6.30pm, about 5 miles, returning to car park in time to see beacon lit. £3 on the day, no need to book. Bring a torch.

Fri 15 June Gentle Stroll in Ashridge Estate, 10.30am. Meet Visitor Centre, Monument Green Map ref SP 971 131.

Sat 16 June Longer Ashridge walk. Start Visitor Centre 10am, about 5-6 miles. £3 on the day, no need to book.

Thu 12 July Gentle Stroll in Ashridge Estate, 2.30pm. Meet large car park opposite Northchurch Common Map ref SP 977 115.

Sat 14 July Longer Ashridge walk. Start Visitor Centre 10am, about 5-6 miles. £3 on the day, no need to book.

Mon 20 August Gentle Stroll in Ashridge Estate, 2.30pm. Meet Steps Hill grass car park off Beacon Road Map ref SP 963 159.

Sat 8 September Longer Ashridge walk. Start Visitor Centre 10am, about 5-6 miles. £3 on the day, no need to book.

Wed 19 September Gentle Stroll in Ashridge Estate, 10.30am. Meet B4506 road end of Monument Drive Map ref SP 979 127.

Sat 13 October Longer Ashridge walk. Start Visitor Centre 10am, about 5-6 miles. £3 on the day, no need to book.

Tue 16 October Gentle Stroll in Ashridge

Estate, 10.30am. Meet B4506 road end of Monument Drive Map ref SP 979 127.

Sponsored Bike 'n Hike

Saturday 8 September 2012 10am-6pm

The ***Bike 'n Hike*** is an annual fundraising event organised by Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust. The aim is to raise money both for the Trust and for the participating churches. Half of every cyclist's and walker's sponsor money goes to the Trust and half goes to the church of their choice. Consequently, the more cyclists or walkers who take part, then the greater the direct benefit to that church

There is also an indirect benefit because the more funds raised for the Trust the more it will be able to offer as grants in support of church repair projects across Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. For information on how to apply for a grant, please visit the Trust's website:

www.BedsHertsHCT.org.uk.

The ***Bike 'n Hike*** is always held on the second Saturday in September. It started in 1992 and is now bringing over 600 churches into the event each year throughout Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire and raising over £100,000 from some 1,000 cyclists and walkers and their generous sponsors.

Bike 'n Hike Sponsor Form and List of Participating Churches

Download a *Sponsor Form* and a *List of participating Churches* and follow the instructions on the form. Also available as a download is a [Bike 'n Hike Area Map](#).

You can increase your sponsorship income by using [JustGiving](#) – see

For Personal Attention from Berkhamsted's
only independent family business

J. WORLEY

(FUNERAL DIRECTORS) LTD

344 High Street, Berkhamsted

**FUNERAL DIRECTOR and
MONUMENTAL MASON**

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

Telephone Day/Night Berkhamsted 870326

The 50plus

- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Handyman
- On-line

- fixed prices
- helpful advice
- discounts
- articles

- Locally based
- Free estimates
- NICEIC & Gas Safe personnel



0845 22 50 495

www.the50plus.co.uk

By the 50plus for people of all ages

McCLEANS DECORATORS

INTERIOR AND
EXTERIOR

ESTABLISHED 1985

EXCELLENT LOCAL
REFERENCES
FREE ESTIMATES AND
ADVICE

PHONE 01582 696032
MOBILE 07957 848222

DAVID GIDDINGS

LANDSCAPES

Qualified Plantsman
Garden Construction
Planting Aftercare

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



ELLIOTT FLOORING

Carpets supplied and professionally fitted

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

Wood flooring, variety
of woods & laminate

**Carpet maintenance
and cleaning**

**Free estimates,
measuring and advice**

Over 20 years experience

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

Computer Consultancy and Repairs

Getting your PC up and running again

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



Andy Robinson 36 Trevelyan Way
Berkhamsted HP4 1JH
Mobile: 07885 966570
Andyrcr@dolphin4.demon.co.uk

CG HOLDER PLUMBING & HEATING LTD

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

**01442 862244
07973 144336**

Berkhamsted Bowls Club

Berkhamsted Bowls Club, set up in 1985 in the heart of Berkhamsted in Canal Fields, would be interested to hear from anyone in Berkhamsted or Northchurch who would like to give a try to the game of bowls. It doesn't matter what your age or ability as you can be sure of a welcome at this very friendly club. Currently we cater for about 85 men and women from the area ranging in age from mid 20s to over 80. We play competitively and for fun and we have club afternoons mainly for the non-competitive members and club evenings on a Friday, which also include food, and of course our bar offering very competitive rates is always open. We run

a coaching programme for new members. In addition to 85 playing members we also have several social members and we run a full social events calendar in the traditional "closed" season from October to mid April. Our events include Sunday lunches, charity talks, auction evenings, whist, bingo, race nights and many more. We are a very vibrant and successful club. We also run recruitment campaigns on a regular basis. Come on give us a try. We'll always give you a cup of tea. If you would like to find out more, please contact Beryl Parsons on 01442 871892 or 07963 011048

yB



Art By Caroline.....

Animal Portraits - A uniquely personal gift.
Beautifully vivid oil paintings of your pet or horse
capturing the essence and character that makes
them special and which you adore.

Call Caroline on 07710 231880
or visit www.artbycaroline.zoomshare.com



AWARD WINNING GARDEN DESIGN

The
GREEN ROOM
Garden Design



*Design, Planting, Consultancy,
Construction, Project management*

FROM CONCEPT TO COMPLETION

TEL 01923 264 724
MOB 07917 004 712
www.thegreenroomgardendesign.co.uk



Ashridge Cleaning Company

Your Local, Reliable & Friendly Cleaning Service

ASHRIDGE CLEANING COMPANY

CALL NOW AND RECEIVE YOUR FIRST CLEAN FREE!

Competitive Rates, Daily, Weekly & Fortnightly Service, Fully Insured
Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning, Ironing Service, Spring Cleans & Oven
Cleaning

Call 01442 780800 or email info@ashridgecleaning.co.uk

www.ashridgecleaning.co.uk

Call Us Now On 01442 780800 For A Free Quote

Amazon Adventure

Colette Millar, nursery teacher from Victoria First School shares her experiences with us

Snap, psssst, the sound of my diet coke can opening and releasing a fizz of excitement into the air. Click, Click, ipod on, my world now filled with a matrix of colliding instrumentals. My heart races faster and my face is unable to hide the elation that cannot be contained for another beat in time. For months I have been anticipating this moment, taking off in the aeroplane on my journey to Ecuador for what can only be described as a once in a lifetime experience.

Prior to the end of term there was a buzz about school as the children grew in anticipation along with me for the engaging educational journey I was to take to. Once every two years, two educational eco-enthusiasts organise an Amazonian adventure with a rich cross curriculum focus and an eco slant. This year was to be no exception and our days seemed to stretch beyond their natural 24 hours.

The turbulence began and like popcorn

we bounced in our seats. The plane banked to the right and our attention was drawn to the beautiful site that lay beneath our wings. A patchwork of all the imaginable and unimaginable shades of green interlocked like a jigsaw over rolling terrain. We banked again and the lush vegetation was swapped for an array of colourful squares tightly knitted together; Quito city (capital of Ecuador). I awoke in an altitude bubble, a little hazy and achy but buzzing, ready for our tour of the city and subsequent explorations of Ecuador to begin. Our guides were truly inspirational. I am still suspicious as to whether they had Ecuadorian encyclopaedic computer chips wired to their brains.

We toured around the city of Quito, to the Equator, up into the Cloud Forests of Maquipucun, down to the Amazonian rainforest of Yachana Reserve and then back up into the Andes Mountains. The whole time taking notes, flashing our

cameras and jamming our brains with more and more information and intense memories.

For many the main focus for the trip was to be the rainforest. However, Ecuador is such a rich country with regards to its vast educational qualities that before we had even begun our journey to the forests every subject within the curriculum had been covered (I could list all of the curriculum subjects and the

(continues on page 27)





- Rewires
- Replacement Fuse Boards
- New Circuits
- New Sockets, Switches
- New Light Fittings
- Downlights
- Smoke Alarms
- PAT Testing
- PAT Testing
- Periodic Inspection & Testing
- Landlords Certificates
- Power to : extensions sheds, garages, ponds, gardens, lofts workshops
- CCTV
- Access systems
- Gate automation
- Satellite systems
- Telephone extensions



Approved Contractor and
Part P Registered

Tel : 01296 630124

Mobile : 07825 747773

Email : steve.rozental@circuitfix.co.uk

Website : <http://circuitfix.co.uk>

LOCAL ELECTRICIAN "FAST"

For all types of electrical work you require. Benefit from over 40 years of experience and our reliable and friendly service. From rewires to repairs no job too small.

Call today for a
FREE NO OBLIGATION
quotation.

Freephone Anytime
0800 169 7409

Emergency calls **1 hour** response
Part P Registered - Fully Insured



Home. There's no place like it

Being able to live at home can be one of the most important comforts in an older person's life and because family and friends can't always be there, Home Instead Senior Care are here to help.

From just a couple of hours, to full time care, our personalized service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Please call Bernie on 01442 233599 for more information.

BOOKS PURCHASED

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

01442 832910

DJ PROCTOR

John Cossins & Co. Chartered Accountants

A friendly and professional
accountancy and taxation service for
individuals and small businesses offered
by a Chartered Accountant in Berkhamsted

Competitive fees
Free initial consultation
01442 863231

email: johncfca@gmail.com
www.johncossins.co.uk



True commitment

...Bailey & Sons

BERKHAMSTED'S JEWELLER SINCE 1872

9 Lower Kings Road
Berkhamsted
Herts HP4 2AE
01442 863091



(continued from page 25)

ways in which the study of Ecuador can enhance and extend these subject, but to do this would probably take up the whole of this publication).

The phrase “the world is your oyster” can be true, but to say “The world is your classroom” is undeniably true. To the point, where I sat and wished that I could transport my whole school to where I was to experience the utter delight of learning through living out an experience. This was not possible and so I have returned with an abundance of resources and experiences to share.

The Ecuadorian people are aware that they need to concentrate on the conservation of their natural wonders, at the same time as having this high on their political and social agenda it seems to also conflict with the ever growing economic progress being made. Every day parts of the rainforest are being lost and with this we are losing evidence and information for history, science, geography, cultural and social, music and many more roots into the curriculum. Again opening this whole debate up to children would be a fantastic root into cross curricula learning and expression.

Our rainforest guide explained that deforestation is a major problem to Ecuador and trying to get people to understand the impact is difficult. From the plane I could clearly see the vast areas of woodland that had been cleared for logging or farming. The rainforest may look robust and vast but in actual fact it is a very fragile and intricate eco system where balance is key to survival of species and native vegetation.

The rainforest is so much more than an equaliser to our climate change issues, or even a topic to use in specific lessons. It is

a metaphor, a story, a key to unlocking a plethora of thinking around living within an environment, community or city, in a constructive not destructive way. This is a constant topic etched into both educational and political landscapes of the modern world. We are striving to ensure that the generations of children we raise and educate are not only aware of consumerist wealth but also of nature and nurture with regards to themselves, their peers and their community.

The Kapok tree is a wonderful encashment of this and represents more than my class’s favourite rainforest story. It is the heart of the Rainforest and a wonderful example of the way nature finds life and energy from the smallest glimpse of positivity. Within the ‘wet desert’ the Kapok tree and all that live on it and by it cohabit through team work, recycling and being waste aware. The circle of life eternally turns and spins as a rapid nutrient cycle and it is this wonder and energy that I want to transfer over from the rainforest and into teaching. The children of the Cloud Forest that I met were full of joy and energy to learn and meet new people. They seemed to have the spirit of the Kapok tree within. Somehow I was able to inspire a group of six children to come and draw, colour and just sit with me. I can speak only little Spanish, but we smiled, we communicated in our own way and we shared time together just sitting. To me this was powerful and I realised the importance of just taking time to listen, to be, and to show you care can simply be priceless. The Kapok tree, the spirit of the rainforest is what I have brought back and what I inspire to incorporate into the world inside my classroom.

yB

Summer Vegetable Pasta

Joanne Lloyd Evans



3 tbsp cream cheese
2 tbsp basil pesto
Goats cheese – 2 thick slices from a log (or more if you prefer)

1. Remove the broad beans from the large pods and cook in boiling water for 5 minutes. Drain the pan and fill with cold water to cool them. When cool, remove the beans from their shells and set aside until serving.

This is a very simple pasta dish that looks beautiful on the plate and makes good use of early summer vegetables as they are coming into season. It seems to have been a long wait for English asparagus, broad beans, peas and courgettes, but now is the time to make the most of them. In the recipe below, I've used broad beans, but you could substitute for fresh or frozen peas, which you can just throw in with the pasta about two minutes before the pasta is ready. This is a quick and easy weekday recipe that only takes about 20 minutes from starting to getting it onto the table.

Ingredients to serve 2

400g broad beans in their pods
1 tbsp olive oil
100g fine asparagus, trimmed
1 medium courgette, sliced
Pasta for two (according to appetite)

2. Pre-heat the grill to 180C. Put the water on to boil for the pasta and add the pasta when boiling.
3. Heat the olive oil in a frying pan and fry the courgette slices for a few minutes on each side. Remove from the pan and throw in the asparagus. Cook the asparagus for a few minutes, tossing regularly to avoid them browning too much. When the asparagus is just softened, take the pan off the heat.
4. Place the slices of goats cheese on some foil under the grill and grill for a couple of minutes until it is just starting to melt.
5. When the pasta is cooked, drain it and return it to the saucepan. Stir in the cream cheese and pesto until it coats the pasta. Toss the broad beans, courgette and asparagus through the pasta and put onto bowls or plates. Top with a slice of the grilled goats cheese. *JB*

Berkhamsted Strathspey and Reel Club

Thanks to *Strictly Come Dancing*, there has been an increased interest in this leisure pursuit, so it's worth taking a look at one local organisation, Berkhamsted Strathspey and Reel Club, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year.

Scottish country dancing is fun, keeps you fit and offers many opportunities for friendship. There are Scottish dance clubs all over the world, so wherever you travel, you can always enjoy the driving reels, jaunty jigs and smooth strathspeys.

Berkhamsted Strathspey and Reel Club was founded by the Bateson brothers – Fergus, George, Robert and Simon – and their friends. And one of these founding members is still dancing at the club alongside the many new members who have joined recently!

The regular Tuesday evening club nights held at Potten End Village Hall attract 50 or more dancers from the flourishing membership of 100. As well as the Tuesday evening beginners' classes which run concurrently with the social dancing, the club holds intermediate and advanced classes on alternate Monday evenings, also at Potten End Village Hall.

The season runs from September to the end of May following which the club holds Saturday evening garden dances during June and July. During the year, there are special evenings for Burns' Night, Spring Dance, Hallowe'en and Christmas ceilidhs, all with live music. However, the highlight of the year is always the Highland Ball held in February, usually at Ashlyns School.

The club is always aiming to maintain and improve the standard of dancing and, in recent years, a Day School has been introduced which offers classes run by well-known teachers and these have proved very popular with members and friends from other clubs in the area. Each year, a large group of members attend Summer and Winter Schools in St Andrews and Pitlochry organised by The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. These courses offer a mix of tuition, social dancing – both with live music played by well known dance bands – as well as the opportunity to make new friends and enjoy the wonderful Scottish scenery.

(continues on page 30)

Your Berkhamsted Needs You!

Fiction

Are you a budding writer of fiction or poetry? We want to showcase local writing and are looking for poems of up to 200 words and short stories between 500 and 1000 words.

Arts and culture

Would you like to write a review of an arts event taking place in or nearby to Berkhamsted? Let us know!

Features

We are always interested in discussing ideas for features about Berkhamsted life. These could be about the town's history, interesting modern day developments or local people of note (past or present).

Please email the editor for more details at editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk.

*(continued
from page 29)*

In this special anniversary year, the Club has produced several commemorative items including a Diamond Jubilee Collection of 17 new dances. These have been devised by club members and friends and an accompanying CD of music

has been recorded by Sandy Nixon and his Scottish Dance Band, who are great favourites of the club. Sales of the book and CD are going well with many requests for copies from all around the world as well as the UK.

This thriving club also boasts a Demonstration Team which is available to dance at group meetings or events in the local area. As well as demonstrating a variety of dances, The Team will also give the audience an opportunity to join in some of the dances.

New members are always welcome at the Club. For further information on classes and



booking the Demonstration Team, please contact:

Tel 01442 875496 (Judy Roythorne)
Email enquiries@berkhamstedreelclub.org
Website www.berkhamstedreelclub.org

yB

PLUMBING SERVICE
Gas Water Electric
Maintenance, Repair and Service Specialist
Chris Rickarby
No Job too small
Mob: 07970 151191 (24hr.)
Tel/Fax: 01442 890235


304566

The Last Word

Jenny Habib marks this month's Diamond Jubilee with a commemorative poem

Her Majesty Queen ELIZABETH II, 2012

Our Queen has reigned for sixty years and
still she bears the heavy weight
Of service, day by day, the symbol and
soul of our Sovereign state.

She reigns, with understanding, loving
and kind to all.

Her smile is warm, her eyes are bright,
and though she isn't very tall
Her gentle dignity is seen
By all the host who daily meet her
Both high and lowly, when they greet her.

Her knowledge of this world is great,
She's met them all, the men who rule,
She knows the good, the kind, the wise,
the clever and the vicious fool,
With gentle wisdom she will guide
The men of State, whom we call leader,
Though sadly they don't always heed her.

We all do love our gracious queen, who's
lived her life to serve our land
No president could give as much, or care
for us, or take in hand
For Britain's land and Britain's people
The suffering that's never spoken,
That lifelong service, never broken.

So, let the bells from every steeple
Ring in her Diamond Jubilee
Celebrating, joyfully her praises sing,
Long may you live, "God Save Our
Queen". yB

Your Berkhamsted Competition News

Congratulations to the winner of the
Brasserie Blanc competition!
The prize to win a three course dinner
with wine for six people goes to:
Melanie Furnell-Jones of Berkhamsted

Write the last word

*The last word is available for readers to
send in approx. 500 or 900 - 1000 words
on a topic of their choice, and one that
may stimulate debate in further issues. All
opinions are the author's own.*



Petertide Fair 2012

Saturday 16th June

St Peter's Church

See you there!

Copy Dates:

1 June 2012

6 July 2012

3 August 2012

Published by Great Berkhamsted Parochial Church Council. Registered charity no 1130108
Printing by Connekt Colour, Northbridge Road, Berkhamsted HP4 1EH



quality villas

Luxury family villas
with private pools

**France • Italy
Morocco • Ski**

01442 870 055
www.qualityvillas.com

ABTA W3175



Fit the best

Everest

Not only windows doors and conservatories, but
block paved driveways, flat roofs, maintenance
free roofline products, solar, and much more...

Your local consultant - Jon Campbell-Walker
Tel: 07770 43 10 43

Russian, German & Serbian spoken

S.Dell & Sons LIMITED
THE PROFESSIONAL REMOVERS

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



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

