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YB

Your Berkhamsted

June 2013

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A day out at Hughenden Manor

All the fun of the Petertide Fair

50p

In this issue...

Welcome to the June edition of *Your Berkhamsted*

This month's issue is full of all things summer. It's the final countdown to the Petertide Fair with all of its traditional English festivities, the Victoria School fair also takes place this month with a Carnival theme and to top it all we have a lovely seasonal recipe for Strawberry Delight. All we need now is sunshine!



Helen Dowley, Editor

Berkhamsted in the News	3
Local Noticeboard	7
Message in a Bottle	9
My Berkhamsted	11
A Day Out at Hughenden Manor	12
Return to Santiago	14
Petertide Fair	16
Parish Pages	17
Hospice News	20
Figuring Out Our Nation	23
A Century In and Out of Berkhamsted	27
Recipe	29
Young Berkhamsted	30
Book Review	31

Front cover: 'Two jugs and lemons' by Berkhamsted artist Mitzie Green. Please see our Local Noticeboard on page 7 for more details about Mitzie's work.



The Town and Parish Magazine of St Peter's Great Berkhamsted

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.

Berkhamsted in the News

In this month's internet trawl, **Julian Dawson** discovers the delights of 4G, homesteads, barons and Profumo



The Internet is veritably buzzing about the addition of Berkhamsted, along with other towns, to the 4G network. A cause of much whooping in the streets, this will give us mobile ultra-broadband no less to devices such as smartphones allowing us to watch high definition and 3D TV on the move and experience the nebulous delights of cloud computing.

On to planning, and the news from building-projects-news that Churchill Retirement Living has acquired a prominent 0.73 acre site on Berkhamsted High Street, just south of the Grand Union Canal. 29 apartments are proposed for this development. Never was so much invested in so few. And article.wn.com reports that Travelodge Hotels is seeking to double its presence in Hertfordshire, and is looking for a new site in Berkhamsted.

Our old friends Richoux Group, owners of the small Villagio chain, announced their final results as reported by investgate.co.uk. The six Villagio restaurants continue to trade in line with expectations apparently. But it is unclear

what those expectations actually are.

The pronunciation and spelling of our local town has featured before in this column. On the ever surprising Wikipedia, a comparative table of Germanic toponymy (that's the study of place names to you and me) lists Berkhamsted. The town's name derives from the proto-Germanic word *haima*, meaning homestead or dwelling. Other towns that have similar derivations include Denham, Tottenham, Nottingham and Walthamstow. I am sure you can think of some others. But other similar derivations from further afield include Trondheim and Ouistreham.

The blog publictransportexperience attributes the growth of Watford in medieval times to travellers passing through to Berkhamsted Castle. So, it is all our fault. The entry mainly discusses the plans for the redevelopment of Watford Junction. And keeping the vaguely middle ages connection, the game review site channelfireball.com

(continued on page 5)

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(Continued from page 3)

discusses the game card Blood Baron of Vizkopa, not a phrase I anticipated writing for this magazine. I must admit that others will understand the terminology better than I, though the reviewer states *for real, though, this guy is going to have a target on its head bigger than the feudal barony of Berkhamsted. Yes, that was a real place. Just ask Robert, count of Mortain.* We can all exchange knowing glances at that. Ah yes, our old friend Robert of Mortain.

Hemeltoday gets itself into a lather over the resurfacing of the Wilderness, questioning the priorities of a road that is allegedly hardly used. It perhaps ignores the point that the road adjoins a car park for busy offices and that is a regular cut through for pedestrians.

On the Guardian website, an article by Observer writer Vanessa Thorpe looks at the long-term impact of the Profumo Affair and the sexual revolution 50 years on. Apparently as the Profumo scandal began to bubble to the surface, the Guardian reported the politician speaking to Berkhamsted Young Conservatives. "I am all in favour of a free press and the

moment we start to try to control it in any way, we would be in serious trouble," he is quoted as saying. A concept that 21st century politicians are still grappling with.

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Local noticeboard

Petertide Fair

Saturday 15th June, 10am-3pm

Come along to the grounds of St Peter's Church for this annual quintessentially English event. See page 16 for a full timetable of events.

Victoria School Fair

Saturday 22nd June 2013, 11am-2pm

The Fair starts at 11am and all are welcome! This year's exciting theme is Carnival so get on down to the school and feel the rhythm of the drumming band, get caught up in the lively dance displays and be a part of the Big Carnival Parade with face-painting, mask and headdress making and dressing up. Scoops will be there selling all your favourite flavours of ice-cream, a BBQ selling Eastwoods hot dogs and veggie hot dogs, coffee shop, cake stalls and much, much more. Shoot Me Studios will be getting the children into the Carnival mood with beautiful costumes and a fun photo shoot in 'Carnival Corner'. Bouncy Castle, Hamper Raffle, Eco Stall, Craft Room and Year 4 Games and Stalls are just a few of the fun things to see and do on the day so bring your friends and family, put on your best Mardi Gras smile and Samba on down to Victoria First School.

Berkhamsted Art

Our front cover artist, Mitzie Green will be showing her work during the Herts Open Studio event in September at 14 Meadway, Berkhamsted HP4 2PN. Mitzie will be sharing her studio with Elspeth Hector and Alison Berthelson and between them they will show a variety of paintings, textiles and jewellery. Visitors are very welcome to browse.

Mitzie's paintings are eye-catching for their vibrant sense of colour and dynamic composition. Her work is very spontaneous and she makes it look so easy. She paints landscapes, townscapes and flowers in watercolour, acrylics and mixed media. She teaches watercolour classes in Northchurch and Harpenden on Thursdays and Fridays respectively. Anyone interested please contact her on 01442 862978 or through her website mitziegreen.co.uk

Hats off to Oxfam

Beautiful hats at bargain prices will be on offer at Oxfam this month. If you are planning a visit to Royal Ascot look no further than Oxfam for that special accessory. Or perhaps you've been invited to a wedding and need a chic piece of crowning glory to complete your outfit. Accessories expert volunteer Chris Smith has made a splendid selection of quality hats including designs by top milliner Philip Treacy and highly regarded designer Peter Bettley for that glamorous occasion. Every hat sold helps the overseas aid charity to bring desperately needed aid to Syrian refugees or displaced people in Mali.

Berkhamsted Through Time is the latest book produced by the Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society and published by the Amberley Press. It is a book with a large selection of old photographs with corresponding new ones of what is there today. There is accompanying text with the photographs and a historical introduction. The book costs £14.99 and is available from Waterstones, the Way Inn and from the Society, or from Jenny Sherwood on 01442 865158 or email KSherw9100@aol.com.

(continued on p8)

(continued from page 7)

IF campaign

Oxfam and Christian Aid are among over 100 charities and other organizations supporting the IF campaign. What is IF? A campaign to draw attention to the fact that there is "enough food for everyone IF". So why does 1 in every 8 people go to bed hungry? That is nearly 900 million people who would have enough to eat IF...

It is a big IF. The campaign will focus on four main areas – tax, land, aid and transparency. Land across the world is being purchased by richer countries and the people who have farmed it for generations but cannot establish their legal rights are being evicted.

The UK has committed to achieving the UN goal of .7% of gross national income on aid in 2013 and crucially will chair the G8 meeting in June.

To support the IF campaign you can purchase a wristband from the Oxfam shops. The Make Poverty History wristband was a sought-after accessory and hopefully the white IF bracelet will be equally popular. It comes with optional coloured attachments highlighting the theme. So let's aim to Make Hunger History this time round.

Herts Cycle Challenge

Sunday 21st July

Following the success of the Chilterns Cycle Challenge, Rennie Grove Hospice Care, are launching a brand new bike ride with the help of Heart Breakfast DJ Daniel Fox, who'll be taking on the 10 mile challenge. There is also a 50 mile route around the scenic Hertfordshire countryside. Register now at www.hertscyclechallenge.org.

Request for information

We've had a request from Linda Rhead in Shropshire who is helping out a lady in Dallas, USA to find out more about the life of her great-grandmother, Ismay Frances Brown, nee Tisdall who lived some of her later years in Berkhamsted, dying here in 1942. She was buried at Rectory Lane Cemetery and Linda is at present consulting with a stonemason to ascertain the condition of the headstone with a view to having an additional inscription added in memory of her daughter.

Linda has been asked to build a picture of Ismay's life in Berkhamsted, so if there are any residents who remember her or have any information please email linda.rhead@btinternet.com.

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Be prepared with a message in a bottle

Many people are living longer than the biblical three score years and ten. The majority of our population can eat well. We are cared for if we have an accident, disease, or illness. As we get older we might need an unexpected urgent visit to a hospital. Saving time to get to a hospital in a crisis, such as a stroke or road accident, might save a life. This article suggests some common sense ways to reduce delay.

We've all seen an emergency ambulance on its way. The paramedics need all the help we can give them to save their time. House name plates need to be prominent, day and night, so the Ambulance can quickly get to its destination.

Are you aware of another way of making emergency contact, wherever you are? You need to have your mobile with you and have entered names of kin, for example, on the mobile. Anyone finding you unable to communicate would use your mobile to dial ICE, (In Case of Emergency) as an address. The opened message would give your important information to help those helping you.

How often have you locked yourself out? Indoors, do you leave the key in its lock when you go to bed? If you have a fall indoors and can't reach the door key you are locked in. Leave the key by the door, not in the lock. In the worst case the door may have to be broken into. It's good to have trusted neighbours who can check that the resident is safe and well. A Key Safe enables some trusted

neighbours and relatives to access the key in the Key Safe to open the house door.



The Lions international Club is promoting its **"Message in a Bottle"** widely across Dacorum and nationally. The simple idea is that the house holder, alone or with a partner, keeps personal and medical information in a Bottle. The emergency services and the Social Services know about the Bottle scheme, and expect to find a Bottle in the kitchen fridge. The personal and medical information in the Bottle can be invaluable to the emergency services. Examples of the bottle contents are the name of the next of kin, current medication and allergies. Bottles are free and available locally in doctors' surgeries and in Berkhamsted Library.

The Dacorum Elderly Services Department offers a Life Line service, "Independent - but not alone". It is for Dacorum residents mainly of age 65 + who may be alone and need to call for help in an emergency. The Life Line responds to a Call Centre when the resident presses a button or pendant for urgent help. The resident is immediately in contact with the service and knows that urgent help is on its way.

Citizens of Dacorum have good medical and care services which are to protect our health and be prepared for safety in our homes. Life is precious. Think about what might happen to you if you had an unexpected accident or illness. Be prepared when time is urgent.



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My Berkhamsted

We moved to Berkhamsted because ...

We were looking for a small town outside London, nearer to my parents in Oxhey, and with access to lovely countryside, motorway networks and rail links to London. Good friends of ours who are also musicians recommended Berkhamsted to us and now we live in their road. We were expecting our first child, and the ease with which we could walk down to the High Street seemed perfect. I still appreciate the fact that I can walk everywhere. As a teenager I used to drive along Berkhamsted High St on my route North to university (in the days before the new A41), and I always admired Dean Incent's House, the Court House and the Town Hall.

The most beautiful sight in Berkhamsted is

I love the view as you come into the town on the train – the castle, the canal, a variety of interesting buildings, and a great sense of space beyond our beautiful cricket pitch. Another stunning sight is Butts' Meadow on a frosty, sunny morning on the way to Victoria School.

The local place where I like to relax and reflect is...

The stretch of canal all the way from Canal Fields down to The Old Mill. I wouldn't say that I relax exactly as I'm usually on the move, but I enjoy my thinking time while I'm there.

I'm proud to live in Berkhamsted because...

I love the people I've met since we've lived here. There is such a strong sense of community and caring about each other. People speak out about things that matter – whether it's the parking, the schools, the state of the buildings. We have wonderful neighbours – a mixture of ages, backgrounds, experiences – and we have a really good time when we get together. I'll never forget the collective determination of Charles St in erecting a marquee for our Diamond Jubilee

street party. Fabulous teamwork when faced with poles and tarpaulin but no instructions. Interesting and quirky things happen here too: anyone up at 6.15am on May 1st may have heard a determined and florally adorned group of singers enjoying a robust rendition of madrigals from the top of the Bell Tower of St Peter's. A marvellous tradition that must be kept. Although it was so quintessentially English, I was reminded of Midsummer Murders and wouldn't have been surprised if a body had suddenly fallen from the top...

If I could change one thing about Berkhamsted it would be...

Most definitely it would be to allow free short term parking of 30 mins all the way along the High St. This would help retailers and customers alike. Searching around for small change when you're making a short stop can be very annoying.

Berkhamsted is crying out for...

Street lights on until 1am. The current arrangement feels like a curfew, and our road is utterly pitch black at midnight. Many of the good folk of Berkhamsted catch late trains home and have to scabble around in the dark hoping they've got the right house!

When I tell people about Berkhamsted I always tell them

I love living here. My family are happy and settled, help is at hand should I need it. There are far more artistic, musical and theatrical people living here than I realised at first, which makes it a culturally thriving town. It has proved to be a lovely place to bring up children, with so many opportunities and activities – sports clubs, play groups, pre-schools, parks, the library, the Rex Cinema, swimming pools, choirs, occasional trips to the sweet shop, and a free ski-slope above Butts' Meadow when it snows! I also love the fact that I meet new people all the time and the town is subtly but constantly changing.

A day out at Hughenden Manor

Ian Skillicorn



Hughenden Manor
GiacacamoReturned (Wikipedia)

Hughenden Manor in High Wycombe is of historical importance for two reasons. Firstly, it was the country home of Victorian Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli. Then, during World War II, it served as a secret map-making base, code-named Hillside.

A day out at this attractive red brick mansion has much to offer visitors of any age. The house itself provides a fascinating insight into the life and times of Disraeli, with many of his belongings, and even ceremonial robes, on display. Going down into the cellars, you can learn more about Operation Hillside and the UK Air Ministry staff whose maps were used for bombing missions, which included the "Dambusters" raid. Surrounding the house are acres of grounds, including a kitchen garden and peaceful woodland.

One welcome feature of the house is that, almost without exception, the rooms are not roped off, so visitors can walk freely around and get up close to the furniture, paintings and other objects of interest. Friendly, helpful staff on hand to answer any questions.

There is a lot to see and do in and around Hughenden Manor, so arrive early and make a full day of it. Here are just some of the key attractions.

The rooms

The rooms in the house are presented as they would have looked during Disraeli's life. Artefacts displayed include Disraeli's desk, his impressive library of books, and a marble copy of the foot of his wife, Mary Anne. There is a wealth of information about the special relationship between Queen Victoria and her favourite Prime Minister, including contemporary letters and paintings. To mark the recent death of Margaret Thatcher, her last ministerial red box, which she donated to Hughenden Manor, is also currently on display.

The cellars

The cellars contain an exhibition about the wartime exploits of the Air Ministry's secret team of map-makers. You can see aerial photographs and the maps which were subsequently drawn for use in

bombing raids. Also in the cellars is the recreated 1940s living room of Sergeant Hadfield, who was in charge of the Air Ministry constabulary at Hughenden, and who lived with his family on the top floor of the manor during Operation Hillside.

The cafe and shop

What National Trust property would be complete without a stable tearooms and well-stocked shop?! Have a break between seeing the house and exploring the grounds. There is also a second-hand bookshop with an eclectic mix of very reasonably priced books.

The grounds

The grounds include a formal garden and a walled kitchen garden. A number of woodland walks start at Hughenden Manor. Detailed guides can be downloaded from the manor's website before you set off.

The church

On the approach to Hughenden Manor is St Michael and All Angels Church. Here you can visit the tomb of Disraeli and his wife.

Talks and events

There are daily talks about both Disraeli's life and the events in the house during World War II. Talks last between 15-20 minutes. Times vary, so check with a guide when you arrive. Hughenden Manor also hosts numerous events throughout the year. Those taking place during the summer months include a nature detectives walk for children, archery for all ages, and a Victorian Weekend (27th - 28th

July). See the website for a full list of events.

Opening times

These vary according to the time of year, but in June the house is open daily from midday to 5pm, the gardens from 11am to 5.30pm, and the park from dawn to dusk. You can check opening times by date on the Hughenden Manor website.

Getting there

Hughenden Manor is located 1½ miles north of High Wycombe; on west side of the Great Missenden road (A4128). It is about 35 minutes' drive from Berkhamsted.

You can get to Hughenden Manor by public transport. Take a Chiltern Railways train to High Wycombe Rail Station. Then, walk ½ mile to the bus station, and take a 300 Arriva bus to the entrance to the house.

For more information visit:

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hughenden



Entrance to Hughenden Manor, GiacomoReturned (Wikipedia)

Return to Santiago

J Carmen Smith

On my regular visits to Berkhamsted – we have family living in the town – I usually pick up a copy of *Your Berkhamsted* and was delighted to read Kate Perera's article *Singing in Santiago* in May's issue.

I made my own very special pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in the year 2000, researching my family tree. My maternal grandparents were both from Galicia and I had been told that my grandmother left Santiago in the early 1900s after a double tragedy and settled in Liverpool, where my mother was born. I knew very little of my grandmother's life in Spain except for anecdotes passed down through my mother – my grandmother didn't speak English – so I went to Santiago with no information but a great deal of hope!

I was interested to read that the venue for St Peter's first concert was the *Museo del Monasterio San Martin Pinario*. This magnificent building also houses the *Archivo Historico*, the church archives for Santiago and it was here in June 2000 that I met the young priest – by an incredible coincidence, also from Liverpool – who was to prove invaluable in my search for my roots. Kate's mention of the *Hostal de los Reyes*

Católicos, also brought back memories. This is now a sumptuously furnished *parador*, where my husband and I were lucky enough to spend one night, but in my grandmother's day it was the hospital for Santiago. During our visit, I was able to lay my hands on a physical piece of my family history, and it still makes me weep to remember the circumstances.



J Carmen Smith's Galician grandparents

And so to the Cathedral – I hope the choir had the opportunity to follow the footsteps of millions of *peregrinos* and traverse the wide aisles before climbing behind the high altar to touch the statue of St James. I am not a Roman Catholic, unlike my ancestors, but during a pilgrim's mass on my first visit to the cathedral, I had the unforgettable sensation of a distinct link with the past. On a later visit, I was also lucky enough to be present on a holy day when the *botafumeiro* was swung; the one used now is a replica as the original was stolen by Napoleon's troops!

Kate's article made me feel nostalgic; it has been two years since my last visit to Santiago de Compostela and I must return soon. Since my first visit in 2000 I have unearthed more information about my grandmother and her – my – family

than I ever thought possible. And it is only now that I understand what a brave woman she was. I hope she would have been pleased that I've visited her city; when I walk the streets she walked as a young girl I feel that I'm taking her home with me.

I also hope she would be pleased that I've recently been interviewed about my search for my roots for the Galician newspaper *La Voz de Galicia*.

Thank you Kate, for giving me a glimpse of someone else's experience of my beloved city.

J Carmen Smith's book about her search for her Spanish roots, *Chasing Shadows*, is available from Amazon. Read more about her at www.jcarmensmith.com.

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The Petertide Fair



Don't forget the Petertide Fair which is taking place on Saturday 15th June from 10am – 3pm in the grounds of St Peter's church.

Come along and browse the stalls, try your luck on one of the sideshows, listen to the free entertainment and enjoy various refreshments from coffee to cakes and beer to a BBQ. There will also be a grand raffle, silent auction, art display and bake-off for the children! All money raised from this year's Fair is going to support Home-Start Dacorum and Maji Mazuri in Kenya.

The running order is as follows:

9.30am—Bellringing peal to announce the start of the Petertide Fair at 10am, combined with procession down the High Street.

10am—Fair opened by The Countess of Verulam, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Hertfordshire accompanied by the Mayor of Berkhamsted and Town Crier.

10.05am—Opening aria by Kathryn Jenkin and Philip Brown

10.10am—Berkhamsted Air Cadets Drill

10.30am—Thomas Coram School Concert

11am—BURP (Berkhamsted Ukulele Random Players)

11.30am—Victoria School Entertainment

12 noon—Punch and Judy

12.30pm—Stop and Search

1.15pm—Ashlyns School band

2pm—Punch and Judy

2.15pm—Organ Music Requests

2.45pm—Raffle Draw, Silent Auction Closes. Highest Bidders announced

3pm—Close.



The bake-off event at last year's fair

Your Berkhamsted Clergy

Richard Hackworth



I am writing this on a cold and drizzly day in May. I hope when you read it, it will be warm and sunny. Every day of the year the Church celebrates the

Christian witness of individuals who have devoted (and sometimes sacrificed) their lives for our faith. In June these include Justin martyr on 1st, St Alban on 22nd, John the Baptist on 24th, Irenaeus on 28th and St Peter and St Paul on 29th. We don't need sunshine to appreciate the light and warmth these and many other people have given the Church. But it would be nice if it was sunny too. Living near St Albans it's tempting to think of St Alban as "our saint", but of course he is celebrated around the world. A few years ago I visited Mexico City and on Sunday morning went to Christ Church, an English speaking Episcopalian church. After the service I introduced myself to the American priest in charge and told him where I came from. He promptly grabbed me by the arm and took me to a room at the back of the church they called their St Alban's Room – complete with photographs of the Bishop and pictures of St Alban's Abbey. They were very enthusiastic for it. I was given coffee and asked to tell them all about St Albans. I was a little embarrassed that I couldn't tell them that the Abbey has a small room called the Mexico City Room,

but it was a very memorable visit, for me at least. The distances between Christians isn't a matter of geography. The Anglican Communion includes some 85 million people in 165 countries but, for example, Anglican liturgy is recognisable everywhere in the world. Somehow if services are in different languages the shape seems familiar and one can worship quietly in English while others use their own tongue. When we worship together, whatever distinguishes our community from others, we are always on the same page. But while we remember our saints on every day of the year, we must never forget the Christians and churches that are today persecuted around the world. Tragically, martyrs are not only a matter of history. Thank God for our blessings. Almost every church around the world consecrated to St Peter and/or St Paul will be celebrating sometime in June. We are united through our patron saints as well. Our own Petertide fair will be held on Saturday 15th June. Do come and contribute some money to our charitable causes which this year are [Home-Start Dacorum](#) which offers support and friendship to families living locally, and [Maji Mazuri](#) which helps deprived communities in Kenya. I really do hope that that will be an especially sunny day. On 29th June, the feast day of St Peter and St Paul, our curate at St Peter's, Rev. Tom Plant, will be priested at St Albans's Abbey. This is a great day for him. Please pray for him and his ministry throughout the rest of his life. And may God bless our town and all who live here.

Regular Church Activities

- 3rd Mon Pastoral Network, 7:45pm, The Court House. Contact Philippa Seldon 871534.
- Tues Chuckles Parent & Toddler Group, 10–11:30am. All Saints' Church Hall. Song Time or short service as announced. Contact Jenny Wells, 870981.
- Tues St Peter's Choir, Children 5:15–6:15pm. St Peter's. Adrian Davis 01296 632263 or Jean Wild 866859.
- 1st Tues Tuesday Club, 7:30pm A lively women's group with guest speaker. The Court House. Contact Barbara McKenna 871159.
- 3rd Tues Mothers' Union, meet in members' houses at 2.30pm. New members always welcome. Contact Kathie Lally, 863526.
- 4th Tues 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 01296 632263 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 864382.

Regular Church 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 – Thursday 7:30am; Friday 8:00am, Saturday 9:30am

Eucharist: Monday 6:00pm; Tuesday 9:30am at All Saints' Shrublands Road; Wednesday 8:00am; Thursday Holy Communion 12:30pm; Friday 7:30am; Saturday 10:00am

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

This Month's Diary

St Peter's

Sat 15th June: Petertide Fair

Sat 22nd June: St Albans Pilgrimage

Sat 29th June: Fr Tom's Ordination, St Albans Abbey, 4pm

Sun 30th June: Patronal Lunch

Events presented by the Cowper Society at St Peter's Church or the Court House, Berkhamsted

Sat 15th Jun 10am-3pm: PETERTIDE FAIR in and around St Peter's Church and the Court House. This year supporting Home-Start Dacorum and Maji Mazuri in Kenya.

Sat 22nd Jun at 7:30pm: CONCERT in St Peter's Church – Bridgewater Sinfonia directed by Adrian Davis. Brahms 'Serenade No.1 in D', Butterworth 'Rhapsody A Shropshire Lad', Bruckner 'Te Deum', with Chiltern Chamber Choir. Tickets: £15, U18s free from Aitchisons or www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk.

Sat 6th July at 3:00pm: CONCERT in St Peter's Church - Singing Workshops Groups' 'Summer Strawberry Sing'. Songs from around the world directed by Yvonne Brener. Free Entry. Retiring collection in aid of Chiltern Music Therapy.

All Saints'

Sun 2nd June: First Sunday after Trinity, 10am Morning Worship, Jenny Wells

Sun 9th June: Second Sunday after Trinity, 10am Holy Communion, Revd Brian Tebbutt

Sun 16th June: Third Sunday after Trinity, 10am Morning Worship, Brian Parsons and Rob Wakely, 4pm Messy Church group

Sun 23rd June: Fourth Sunday after Trinity, 10am Holy Communion, Revd John Kirkby

Sun 30th June: Fifth Sunday after Trinity, 8am Holy Communion, Revd Linda Woollacott, 10am Morning Worship (Action for Children) Chris O'Reilly

Registers

Weddings

13th April: Rupert Henry Reid RICKARD and Clare Elizabeth EADES (St Peter's)

Andrew Chukwuemeka ETUAZIM and Janine Claire MURPHY (St Peter's)

20th April: Peter Robert ARBER and Alexandra Margaret MASSEY (St Peter's)

Baptisms

28th April: Grace Irene Linda ANDERSON (St Peter's)

Funerals:

30th April: Norah Allder (Chilterns Crematorium)

Key Church contacts

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

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

Fr. Tom Plant, 382633 (day off Fri), Curate, 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

News from the Hospice of St Francis

Opening of final two beds

We recently celebrated the opening of our final two beds, realising the vision we've held since moving to our new Shootersway site in 2007 to become a 14-bed Hospice.

Generous legacies from supporters have enabled us to do this, allowing us to care for an extra 60 patients a year from across our catchment area - beyond the 300 patients already cared for in our in-patient unit.

But, to ensure we are self-sufficient when the legacy money runs out, we still need to raise £4.6million a year, so please keep supporting us!

Jenny Burrell, Senior Sister at the Hospice, added, "Our 55 strong nursing team has been looking forward to this moment for the last six years. We pride ourselves on offering total care when time is precious and are delighted the new beds will enable us to look after many more people in the future."

Midnight Walk - Sat 29th June

Whether you're walking in memory of your mum or dad, husband or wife, grandparent, colleague or friend, our seventh annual Midnight Walk on Sat 29th June is a wonderful chance to do something amazing in their memory.



There's a 5-mile or an 11-mile route from Hemel to Berkhamsted and all we ask is that you raise what you can to help fund our work so we can continue to make a difference to our patients and their families when they need us most. Registration costs just £15 and includes a Midnight Walk T-shirt as well as a shiny medal and breakfast treat at the finish. To sign up, register at www.stfrancis.org.uk.



Memory message wall

Bovingdon Open Gardens – Sun 7th July, 12-5pm

Sip a Pimms, indulge in a cream tea or lunch, peruse the plant sale or just sit and listen to the strains of a classic 50s rock band and the Jolly Jazzers at the Bovingdon Open Gardens event on Sun 7th July. Seven beautiful gardens will be open to the public thanks to The Friends of St Lawrence Trust, whose event will be raising funds for The Hospice of St Francis and St Lawrence's Church. So far, the confirmed open gardens are situated in Bushfield Road, Flaunden Lane, The Green and Venus Hill.

There will be a £5 entry fee that will cover your entrance into all six gardens. Admission is free to children aged 11 years and under. For more information please email p.e.wright@talk21.com.

Dacorum Steam and Country Fayre – Sat 27th and Sun 28th July, 10am-5pm

If you're looking for a fun-filled day for the whole family, look no further than the Dacorum Machinery and Steam Preservation Group's Annual Steam and Country Fayre which supports our Hospice.

There's plenty to see for the steam and tractor enthusiast, live demonstrations by the fire brigade, polly parrot shows and circus skills workshops as well as a range of local craft stalls and activities for all ages.

The Fayre takes place at Green Croft Farm, Potten End, HP1 2SG. Admission: £7 adults, £4 Children and Concessions, £15 Family (2 adults and two children).

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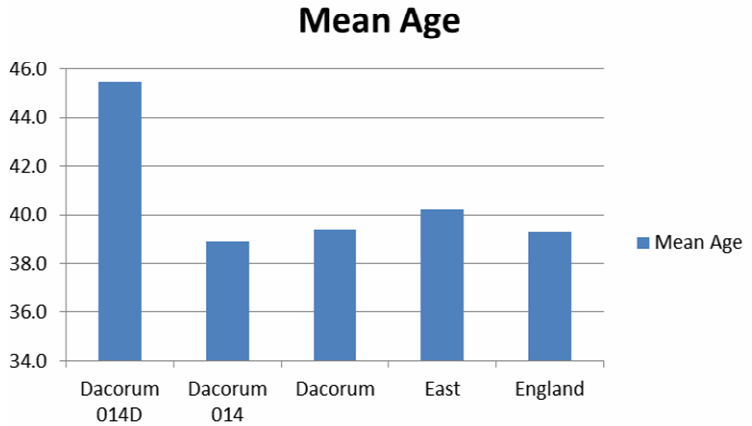
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Figuring out our nation

Julian Dawson discovers that females outnumber males in Dacorum

In this month's snippet from the 2011 census, I'm taking a look at the average age of residents. The average age of my part of Berkhamsted, known as Dacorum 014D is 45.5, is actually nearly seven years more than the slightly wider area of Dacorum 014 of which it is a part. Its average age is 38.9. Residents in Dacorum as a whole have an average age of 39.4. The figure for the East of England region is 40.2, whilst those resident in England as have an average age of 39.3. So, my part of the town has generally older people than the countrywide average. We are all aware of the phenomenon of an aging population. The census bears that out, as in 2001 the



Source: Office for National Statistics

average age of residents in England was 38.6, over a year less than that in 2011. The Office of National Statistics also reports that *the percentage of the population aged 65 and over was the highest seen in any census at 16.4 per cent, that is one in six people in the population was 65 and over.*

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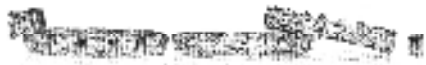
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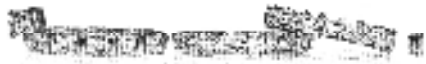
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A century in and out of Berkhamsted

Nancy Lawrenson

Part 4

In 1937 I arranged an exchange visit with Madeline Hable, a student friend at Geneva University. The university is in the old city which is enclosed by high walls.

The visit provided an opportunity to learn about the Escalade, the storming of the walls, and Geneva's defences against the French army. Geneva became an independent City-state and home of the League of Nations where I went to debates and heard many of the pronouncements which had no force behind them.

In 1938 my younger brother Michael Vercoe came to Berkhamsted School as a boarder in School House with Alwyn Coombs, the youngest of Uncle Coombs three children. David the eldest now had a university degree in civil engineering and was working in Tasmania while Priscilla had trained at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital and was an SRCN working as a children's nurse in Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) where her mother Dora Coombs had cousins who were tobacco farmers. More recently my grandson Stephen after graduating in Zoology (funded by whom?) did a filming expedition in Zimbabwe and went on to a masters degree in Biodiversity and Conservation and work as a ranger with the West Surrey Wildlife Trust.

1939 Lambeth and evacuation

In 1939 I was appointed Child Care Committee Organiser in the LCC's Schools Health Service, pre-NHS, in the Borough of Lambeth and Brixton. In the war proximity to the Clapham Junction made this a very dangerous area and my first job was evacuating school children from Lambeth to Callington, a small village in Cornwall whose school was the focus for other smaller

schools, some three or more miles away along muddy country lanes.

The children were assembled outside their schools with their gas masks and baggage leaving their tearful mothers who worked in local factories or were themselves being evacuated in mother-baby groups. All the railway stations we passed through were 'blinded' but I did recognise coastal Dartmouth. Some of the children were sick and we were greeted in Callington by WVS organisers in their green and mauve uniforms. Each hostess chose a child and took them home. I stayed with the WVS organiser and in the morning I visited the children and the few mothers and babies from the other group. They were very vocal - "We want to go home, it's awful here", "the milk comes from cows not Cow and Gate tins and the cows are out in disgusting, muddy fields" and "there are no fish and chip shops, no cinemas" and "some children have to walk three miles to school." So, some came back to London on the train with me.

The children's hostesses varied. Some just pointed to the need for wellie boots, others were loud and furious about disgusting slum kids who wet the beds. I could only ask "was it dark?", "did you tell them where the loo was?" (outside of course), "did you give them a potty or candle?"

Back in Lambeth angry mums came swarming in to the office. "Miss, I've had an insulting letter from the lady where my Tom is. She does not say Dear... just Mrs Piper and says Tom needs a Sunday suit, Sunday shirt, and Sunday boots. I can't afford that - I'm only doing a factory job and his father's in the war." I tell her that we can't give a suit but can give him a jersey, pair of shorts, wellies and plimsolls for weekly instalments of 6d towards a total cost of 10/-.

Competition

I scream, you scream, we **all scream for ice cream!**



We are running a competition with Scoops – Berkhamsted's ice cream parlour – and are inviting all children up to the age of 16 to come up with the most tasty ice cream flavour.



Scoops will be judging the competition and will pick the flavour that they think will make the best new ice cream for the summer. The winning flavour will then be made and be available to buy in Scoops. The winner will also win a £5 voucher and two runners up will receive a single scoop ice cream voucher.

Please send all entries either by email to editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk or in an envelope to the Parish Office labelled 'Ice Cream Competition'

All entries must be received by 30th June 2013.



Scoops produce traditional gelato ice cream using only the finest ingredients containing no artificial flavours or preservatives. As well as ice cream, Scoops also make a lovely selection of fresh sandwiches & paninis and is a great place for parents to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a yummy cake.



Recipe

Joanne Lloyd-Evans

Strawberry Delight

I always associate June with delicious English strawberries, which seem to be so much more fragrant than the imported varieties we get at other times of the year. This is a quick and simple dessert that looks lovely – it is not particularly sophisticated flavours but it will definitely be popular. The strawberry dessert is lovely served with shortbreads, which you can either buy or make using the simple recipe below. This serves 4 to 6 people, depending on the size of glass used for serving.

Ingredients

400g strawberries

125g raspberries

2 tbsp caster sugar

1 tbsp finely chopped fresh mint

300ml whipping cream

1 tin sweetened condensed milk

1. Wash and drain the strawberries and raspberries. Remove the green stems from the strawberries and chop them roughly.

2. Place the fruit in a bowl and toss with the sugar and mint.

3. Whip the cream until it forms soft peaks and then gently fold in the sweetened condensed milk.

4. Divide three quarters of the fruit mixture between small glass tumblers (this quantity will serve 4-6). Spoon the creamy mixture on top and then top each glass with a small spoonful of the remaining fruit.

5. Put into the fridge until you are ready to serve and the consistency

will firm up a little. Serve with a few fingers of fresh shortbread.

Ingredients for shortbread

210g plain flour

140g soft unsalted butter

70g sugar

2 tsp vanilla extract

1. Preheat the oven to 180C. Rub the butter into the flour until it resembles fine breadcrumbs.

2. Stir in the sugar and vanilla extract and use your hands to gently form the mixture to a dough. Flour a work surface and rolling pin and roll out the dough to a thickness of about ½ to 1 cm (¼ to ½ an inch). Cut the dough into rectangular fingers or stamp out other shapes as you wish.

3. Line a tray with baking paper and place the shortbread onto the tray. Bake for 10-15 minutes until they are a light golden brown colour.



YOUNG BERKHAMSTED

Father's Day traditionally takes place on the third Sunday of June in the UK, so this year it will be on 16th June.

It is a day to honour all father figures in our lives whether they be grandfathers, fathers-in-law, or just someone special to you. The tradition of Father's Day originates from the USA and began there in June 1910.

This month we have a special Father's Day Sudoku for you to try using the letters FATHER in each 6-square grid.

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		E	A		
H					E

Book review

Our regular sports writer Matt Dawson is taking a break this month to concentrate on his exams – good luck! In his place his brother has written for us this month.

Hello my name is James. I am 10 years old and I'm in year 6 at Thomas Coram Middle School. I am going to do a book review as I love reading.

One of my favourite authors is Michael Morpurgo and I have read many of his books such as *The Butterfly Lion*, *Kasper Prince of Cats*, *The Dancing Bear*, *Cool!* and *Toro! Toro!* My favourites have been *Shadow*, *An Elephant in the Garden* and *Running Wild*.

About Michael Morpurgo
Michael has three children and six grandchildren. He was born in 1943 and attended schools in London, Sussex and Canterbury. He then went on to London University to study English and French and became a teacher after. There he discovered he wanted to be an author. In 1976 he and his wife created a charity called Farms for City Children, which provided a week on a farm away from the noisy streets. Since then they now have farms in Devon, Wales and Gloucestershire and the charity has become very successful.

Living in Devon, listening to Mozart and working with the children have really inspired him to think of new ideas for stories. He spends half his life mucking out the shed and feeding animals, and the other half dreaming up and writing stories.

About the Book

I have just finished *Alone on a Wide Wide Sea*. It has two parts and it was great! As a young boy, Arthur loses his parents in the bombing of London in the Second World War and is separated from his sister (Kitty) and sent to the other side of the world, Australia. There his epic journey begins and he is sent to a brutal working farm with his friend Marty. Will they escape and find a new family? Later on Arthur finds his talent of building yachts.

Sixty years later Arthur's daughter, Allie sails on her own in a yacht designed by her father to find his long lost sister in England. Can Allie find Arthurs sister or will Allie find out Kitty was just a figment of her father's brain?

This was a thrilling and emotional book and I give it 5 stars.

I hope you enjoyed the book review and that you enjoy the book!

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Editor:	Helen Dowley, editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk
Advertising:	John Gerry, 07774 850508, advertising@yourberkhamsted.org.uk
Circulation:	Joanne Lloyd-Evans, 865417, joanne.lloyddevans@gmail.com
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