

the magazine for town and parish since 1872

YB

Your Berkhamsted

August 2014



Nancy Lawrenson-
a tribute to a remarkable lady

Berkhamsted people and WW1 -
100 years on!

Ideas for things to do
in the school holidays

Enter the
Gorilla Dreams competition



50p

Exploring the past, reflecting the present and looking to the future in Berkhamsted

In this issue...

Welcome to the August 2014 edition of *Your Berkhamsted*



This month's edition we are covering some poignant stories of the past relating to both World Wars. As we are approaching the centenary of WW1 there will be lots of events happening around Berkhamsted. Look out for YB tweets on @Yourberkhamsted. We are also covering things to do in the school holidays. Plus we have the usual gardening, recipes etc. Have a lovely August!

Jacqueline Hicks, Editor

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Picture credits: : A special thanks to Helen Dowley for supplying the beautiful cover of *Boys at the Beach*'



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

Record players, biplanes and cycles are uncovered in this month's web roundup by Julian Dawson



Let us start this month with culinary and catering gossip. Some of you may have been familiar with the former haunt of Jean-Christophe Novelli in Harpenden, the White Horse. Now, according to hertfordshirelife.co.uk/, the hostelry has been taken over by Peach Pubs which is credited with the makeover of our very own The Old Mill. The emphasis is on freshness and seasonality. If you are heading over that way, do write us a review!

Motorcycling makes its debut in its column. If you are searching for those hard to find accessories for your bike apriliaforum.com is the place to go to. There, a seller from Berkhamsted is offering for reasonable price some "Akrapovic End cans for Aprilia shiver inc fittings bar and bolts." Now doesn't set the pulse racing. Well at least it might if I understood the significance. Any bikers out there please help me out!

Which takes us neatly on the unpowered two wheel version of the pastime. ivinghoevelos.org.uk offers some great ideas for round cycle trips, including a gentle 31 mile loop around Berkhamsted,

no doubt all before lunch!

But if the open road is not your style, how about flying. aeroplanemonthly.co.uk reports on the 80th birthday of the DH.87 Hornet Moth and the DH.89 Dragon Rapide. That auspicious occasion will be marked appropriately enough at the de Havilland Moth Club 29th International Moth Rally at Woburn Abbey on August 16/17. Like, well, moths to the flame, the biplanes will fly in from several corners of Europe. For more information please contact: The de Havilland Moth Club at 'Staggers', 23 Hall Park Hill, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire HP4 2NH.

dhmoth@dhmothclub.co.uk.

Our castle always generates a lot of web print, and this month's mention comes from amazon.com, and indeed a book review on the American version of the behemoth's website. In a review of "The Norman Conquest: The Battle of Hastings and the Fall of Anglo-Saxon England", the reviewer has proudly googled all the castles that the Normans built post Hastings, and finds Berkhamsted amongst them "ruins still present, tourist attractions".

(Continued on page 5)

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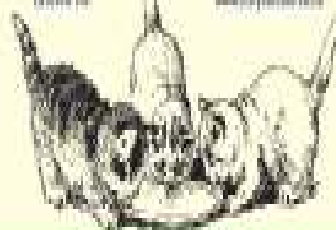
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(Continued from page 3)

Now let's go retro, and investigate the world of the gramophone. What's that Daddy? hifiwigwam.com/ proudly has on sale a Michell Hydraulic Reference, with the original fluid arm no less. And gold pods. Are you any the wiser? Nor me. Anyway, all yours for collection from a Berkhamsted post code at a cool £850.

Local solicitors are pleased to report on their website, pictons.com, that they are doing their bit to support the Hospice of St Francis. They were to submit themselves to a dousing in the stocks at the Tring Summer Carnival, receiving the wet sponge treatment. An opportunity to release all pent up frustration at the legal profession.

Staying with the law, and aptly for this month, lawgazette.co.uk reports on the publication entitled "The Record of Service of Solicitors and Articled Clerks with His Majesty's Forces 1914-1919". One entry for Guy Clifton Davies describes his enlistment in the Inns of Court Regiment, and how he would have spent a "few months in camp in Berkhamsted 'Kitchener's Field'". Sadly he was to die of wounds in May 1918. We shall remember them.



Drawings of Berkhamsted by Jenni Cator,
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What's on

Every 2nd Tuesday at 12.30 to 13.15:
Lunchtime concerts – St Mary's Church,
High Street Hemel Hempstead

Berkhamsted Artisans, Arts & Crafts
Market (**1st Saturday every month**)
10am to 4pm. The Town Hall, 196 High
Street, Berkhamsted, Herts, HP4 3AP
Through the double doors above
Carluccio's on the High St. Lift access at
back. If you would like a stall contact
Claire - Mob: 07968 627 179; Email:
berkhamstedmarket@hotmail.co.uk;
website:
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August

**Free art classes will be held on the
following commons from 1.30-4pm:**
Nettlebed: Monday 11 August, meet
1.30pm at the cricket pavilion
Ashridge: Tuesday 12 August, meet
1.30pm in the field by the Visitors' Centre
Dunstable Downs : Wednesday 13 August,
meet 1.30pm, field behind the Gateway
Centre

Booker: Thursday 14 August, meet
1.30pm at the Memorial Hall
**Bring: suitable clothes, a chair or rug to
sit on and an open mind**
***Booking is essential as places are limited
– contact Rachel Sanderson on 01844
355525 or
rsanderson@chilternsaonb.org***
Workshops open to: anyone aged 5-105.
Children under 8 must be accompanied by
an adult.

4 to 16 August: Art Exhibition – Michael
Lee – paintings. Upstairs Gallery.
www.upstairsgallery.co.uk

10 August: Sunnyside Allotment Open
Day, everyone welcome, refreshments
and produce for sale. Ivy House Lane,
Berkhamsted. 11.00 to 17.00.
www.sunnysideallotments.org.uk

16 August: West Herts Dahlia and Floral
Art Show – Little Gaddesden Village Hall.
14.30. Contact Alan Bunting on 01442
842410

17 August 14.00 to 17.00: Garden open
for NGS – Patchwork, 22 Hall Park Gate,
Berkhamsted. £3. Jean and Peter Block
01442 864731

25 August 11.00 to 17.00: The Lions
Summer Bank Holiday. Berkhamsted
Sports (Cricket Club). Adults £3.50,
children free. [www.berkhamsted-
lions.co.uk](http://www.berkhamsted-lions.co.uk)

(What's On – continued from page 7)

PIONEER

Devised by the Company / Directed by Jack Lowe, Produced by Curious Directive, Norfolk & Norwich Festival and Watford Palace Theatre **29 – 30 August**

Coming straight from the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, *Pioneer* is set in the near future: an Indian Flight Director prepares to lead three astronauts on a mission to Mars, watched by 2 billion people; two brothers travel across Siberia in search of Russian cosmism; and a young Dutch astronaut on Mars realises that something terrible has happened to her partner. This is a life-affirming tale about mankind's desire to reach towards another planet.

<http://www.watfordpalacetheatre.co.uk>

16 and 17 August: De Havilland Moth Club's 29th International Tiger Moth Rally – Woburn Abbey. Vintage aeroplanes and vintage cars. dhmothclub.co.uk or www.mothsatwoburn.co.uk

23 to 25 August: Flaunden Village Weekend – Flower festival, art show, craft fayre and cream teas in the church and village hall. 11.00 to 16.30. Entry free.

September and later

The next *Berkhamsted Live*, **GORILLA** and other **DREAMS**, is on Sept 25th at Dar

Papillon Café 360 High Street Berkhamsted HP4 1HU. There are two free shows: 5.00-6.00pm for families, with author Sue Hampton and artist Mary Casserley, plus singing and dancing from AllStars Academy.

8:00 – 10:00pm for adults, with singer/songwriter Minnie Birch, musicians Patricia Allati and Judith Perera, plus Cynthia Nolan showing how to take authentic photo-portraits and Sue Hampton/Mary Casserley describing how they worked together as author and illustrator. A Pepper event.

Book the free show, 8.00, or optional pre-show buffet, 7.15, at

suehampton@btinternet.com or 01442 877052.

20th November: Pepper Event - Berkhamsted Live – Leggatt's Community Choir sing hot gospel, community art with Jo Kidd/Mary Ann Robbins, poetry from Sunnyside Rural Trust. Free, with collection for Pepper nurses who support ill children. 8pm Dar Papillon 360-364 High St Berk'std. suehampton@btinternet.com/877052.



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25 Things to do in the summer holiday

- www.shootmestudios.co.uk. – 10 -15 yrs summer club. See details online
- Mad Science holiday camps – phone 01727 824700 or email super-sian@madscienceeast.co.uk
- Summer Reading Challenge – free starter packs from Herts Libraries. www.mythical-maze.org.uk
- Coaching me.com at Longdean Sportspace – 5 to 5 years – various dates – contact - 07572 650576 or email coaching-me.com@gmail.com
- St Albans Cathedral. Family Discovery mornings: 3 – 11 yrs 10 – 12.30 Summer Holiday Workshops: 7 – 11 yrs. Various dates book online at www.stalbanscathedral.org or call 01727 890290
- Sportspace has various programmes for different age groups - <http://www.sportspace.co.uk>
- Wendover Woods also Go Ape – <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/wendoverwoods> <http://goape.co.uk>
- Ashridge walking trails, also Malificent Trail
- Whipsnade Zoo - <http://www.zsl.org/zsl-whipsnade-zoo>
- Tring Museum - <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/tring/index.html>
- Butterfly World St Albans - <http://www.butterflyworldproject.com>
- Odds Farm Park - <http://www.oddsfarm.co.uk>
- Mead Open Park - <http://www.meadopenfarm.co.uk>



- Treasure Trails - <http://www.treasuretrails.co.uk>
- XC Centre Hemel - <http://www.thexc.co.uk> Ski Centre Hemel - <http://www.thesnowcentre.com>
- Bletchley Park - <http://www.bletchleypark.org.uk>
- Walk up near Alpine Meadow (fields behind Bridgewater school) to see the unearthed WWI training trenches
- Berkhamsted Castle - <http://www.berkhamsted-castle.org.uk>
- Narrow Gauge Leighton Buzzard - <http://www.buzzrail.co.uk>
- College Lake Visitor Centre and Reservoir – <http://www.bbwt.org.uk/collegelake> <http://www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/tring-reservoirs>
- Warner Bros Studio Tours – <http://www.wbstudiotour.co.uk/>
- National Trust properties

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Your Ashridge

It's playtime for all ages at Ashridge this summer

Summer is the time most likely to bring out the inner child that lurks inside us all and the National Trust team at Ashridge believe you're never too old to come out to play.

Find out about wildlife on the Maleficent trail

This summer families can explore Ashridge with Maleficent's Enchanted Forest Trail. Inspired by the nature-loving fairy folk from the film, the Maleficent trail reveals the wildlife that calls Ashridge home, including rare butterflies and songbirds, as well as fungi and mini-beasts. The Trails cost £1 per child, with every penny going towards managing this special place.

The Wild about Ashridge Club

Join us at our Wild about Ashridge Club every Wednesday and Friday during the holidays 10.30am – 3pm, providing outdoor fun adventures, whatever the weather with the National Trust team.

50 things to do before you're 11 and three-quarters

To help children get outdoors and closer to nature the National Trust has come up with a list of 50 things to do before you're 11 and three-quarters; things we all did as children such as climbing a tree, building a den and flying a kite. There are loads of things on the list that you can do at Ashridge so pick up a scrap book when you visit and see how many activities you can tick off.

Ashridge at War Exhibition

Discover the effects of the First World

War on the Ashridge Estate and surrounding villages at our exhibition being held in the Visitor Centre from the 4th August to the 31st August.

Local stories - We would like to include local stories, experiences and information, if you think you have anything that might help please contact us at admin@nationaltrust.org.uk



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More information contact Chris Clegg on 01442 875818 or visit: www.b-n-h.co.uk

How do you mark the passing of a giant?

As most of you will know by now the most notable tree in Frithsden Beeches died, as it had lived, in a most spectacular way. We had been told there was a problem and when we investigated, half of the tree had split away and fallen to the ground. Whilst we pondered what to do, the other larger half decided it couldn't stand without its counter-weight and crashed to the ground.

Many of you may be thinking well that's

Many of you may be thinking well that's that then another old tree bitten the dust – but as the great storms of the 1980s and 90s showed us, there is life after death. The amount of 'timber' that has now been made available to those myriad of deadwood munching insects and fungi is quite staggering and the vast space left in the canopy will allow light to flood down to the forest floor, which has been starved of light by such a dominant beech tree, and allow all sorts of dormant plant life to flourish.

There will be a rush to be first to fill the space and for a while provide it will be a natural area that will stimulate peoples imagination for years to come.

If we could transport ourselves forward, say 50 years, there will be a thicket of trees in a roughly circular shape and a few lumps of moss covered rotting logs. Hopefully it will be alive with lots of buzzing insects and chirping birds, this new vibrant woodland will be a good way to mark the passing of a fallen giant.

If you have a story or memory you would like to share please contact us via:

ashridge@nationaltrust.org.uk

Bob Davis – Ashridge Head Forester

For our full list of events please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge or if you would like to book your place please contact the Ashridge Visitor Centre on 01442 851227.



A tribute to Nancy Lawrenson

In 2012 a lady called Nancy Lawrenson began writing a series of articles for YB entitled "A Century In and Out of Berkhamsted". Nancy had lived in the town since 1956 but her account began in 1912 with the marriage of her parents, several years before her birth in 1915. Her detailed and varied account of her personal experiences over the last century gave us a unique insight into her life and her fond memories of Berkhamsted. David Hilling, a close friend of Nancy, now shares his own memories of her after she sadly passed away recently. Helen Dowley

Nancy Lawrenson came to live in Berkhamsted in 1956 when her husband Jim was appointed chaplain at Berkhamsted Boys School.

Nancy taught at Berkhamsted Girls School and at the Tring Park Performing Arts School and with active membership of St Peter's Church it is hardly surprising that she came to know,

and was well known by, a very large number of local people who will have been saddened by news of her recent death. Nancy was a very determined lady and it was typical of her that she died in the family home and this she did peacefully just a year short of her 100th birthday.



Nancy packed a great deal into that near century. While doing a degree in French, History (a life-long interest) and Economics at Bedford College, London, Nancy became involved in the League Against War and Fascism, help for the Spanish Democratic Republic and the Women's' University

Settlement in Southwark for whom she assisted at a young boys' evening club and a mothers and babies clinic. She became an LCC Schools Child Care Worker and was heavily involved in the war-time evacuation of Lambeth children to Cornwall - a place and life so different from home that there were problems for Nancy to deal with – her highly developed social conscience was never to leave her.

In 1936 she visited Nazi Germany, travelled widely on the cheap and learnt German. The following year she did an exchange with a friend at Geneva University and spent much time at the debates of the League of Nations. She enjoyed travel and developed a particular love of Greece, which became a feature of family holidays and a frequent source of reminiscence.

On holiday in Cornwall in 1942, Nancy met Jim Lawrenson, a Church of England priest and they were married a year later. His approach to Nancy's mother for her daughter's hand brought the response that "Nancy is very independent – she doesn't need anyone's permission" – a Nancy some of us have known! For Nancy Jim's life as chaplain at a Young Offenders Prison, padre at a Probation Officer Training College and then chaplain at Berkhamsted School was preferable to to being a vicar's wife!

Nancy enjoyed company and conversation and as near neighbours we were frequently invited in for a "cuppa", we were receivers of apples and exchangers of plant cuttings and possibly because we came to Berkhamsted from West Africa conformed to her vision of the town as a base for many with overseas experience. We often wondered at the number of such people she knew and assumed we did too!
David Hilling



Berkhamsted played an important role in World War I. Troops dug over seven miles of trenches on the common and a military hospital was set up in Ashridge House.

Today, the former training ground near the Castle (now the cricket club) bears the name "Kitchener's Field", after Lord Kitchener, Secretary of State for War whose image featured on those famous recruitment posters.

100 Years – WW1

Tales of two photos

Remembrance Sunday will bring back many memories for Sunnysiders, and two particularly poignant ones have recently come to my attention. The first concerns World War I and the second, World War II.

I should like to thank Mary Batchelor for telling me this story about her grandfather.

The second little girl from the right of this photograph, taken by Sills of Berkhamsted, is Olive Batchelor, still remembered at Sunnyside. She lived in Ellesmere Road all her life and loved to talk about Sunnyside's past.



Her father, Gazely Grace, was a staunch member of the congregation. He and his brother sang in the choir. When war broke out he joined up, and later this photo of his young family was taken at Sills, the Berkhamsted photographer, and his family sent it out to him. Just a few days before the Armistice, in October 1918 he was killed in action. The family were not informed until December. He is buried in the Highland Cemetery in France.

Eventually, in 1925 this photograph came to light. The only clue to its possible owner was the name of Sills printed on it. It was sent back to the Berkhamsted shop, where immediately someone recognised the Grace family and it was returned to them. The photo at least came home, and remains a treasured possession.

Thanks too for the second story told by June Bendall, the step-daughter of the Rev. Thomas Hawes who was vicar of Sunnyside throughout the Second World War.

The two Frost brothers, whose grave you can see just outside the porch, were killed within days of each other in June 1940.

Not long afterwards a fighter plane crashed into the railway embankment just west of the church and the unknown young pilot was killed. Accounts differ as to his nationality, although at the time it was generally held that he was German.

Whoever he was, he was certainly far from home, but since it all happened within the Sunnyside parish a funeral was to be conducted here at St Michael's. Mrs Hawes, as vicar's wife, felt she must attend it on some other distant parent's behalf, thinking that there would certainly be nobody else to mourn the poor young foreign airman. But she was not quite alone, the twice bereaved Mrs Frost was also in the church. In her generosity, she understood.

(However it is known that an American pilot stationed at Bovington came down in the same area in 1943, and the story may refer to him. If you can shed any light on this episode, I should love to hear from you.)

Rosalind Partridge



The Graveyard Shift at the Rectory Lane Cemetery

(Behind the Rex Cinema)

Sunday September 14th 2.00-6.00 pm

Friends of Rectory Lane Cemetery are launching this exciting new project and would like to invite you to visit the remarkable cemetery tell you the story of it's fascinating history and the people buried here hear your views on our ideas for enhancing the important open space

Also:

- Horse drawn hearse
- Release of doves
- Environmental activities
- Exhibition of cemetery History
- Masonry stonecutting/lettering
- Brass Rubbing
- Memorial conservation
- Meet Mr Ghost the Gravedigger

Members of the Social Living History Group will take you back to the 1860's Guided trails of war graves; Berkhamsted people; gravestone symbols

Bring a picnic or refreshments will be available.



Parish News

On 28th July we mark the outbreak of the First World War one hundred years ago in 1914, surely one of the darkest days in our history. The start of WW1 is a particularly important anniversary this July, but it is not the only one of course. The very same day, for example, is also the anniversary of the execution of Thomas Cromwell in 1540, although that probably won't make a headline.

It is not difficult to find anniversaries for every day of the year but another date you might have overlooked this month is Silence Day on July 10th, kept by the followers of Meher Baba . Meher Baba was an Indian spiritual master who between 10th July 1925 and his death on 31st January 1969 maintained complete silence, communicating only using alphabet boards and hand gestures. He did this, he said, because of humanity's inability to hear and live according to God's words. He once said "Because of humanity's inability to live God's words, man has waged wars in his name. Instead of living the humility, purity, and truth of his words, humanity has given way to hatred, greed, and violence." I think he had a point. Meher Baba's philosophy was decidedly not Christian but perhaps many things he said and did would chime with Christianity, not least with Silent Religious Orders perhaps. Meher Baba also carried out significant charitable work, especially with lepers, the poor and the mentally ill.

How many words do we speak every day? Estimates seem to range from 5,000 to 20,000. I am sure we can all think of someone we wish would say less, and I imagine many of us would like to say more if only others would let us. We are accustomed to sound and words all around us; some people find silence distinctly uncomfortable. Sometimes when I pause for a short period of silence during a church service I am taking, for personal prayer or simply to reflect on a bible reading, I sometimes sense the congregation thinks something has gone wrong or I have forgotten something. But we need times of silence in which to collect our thoughts and reflect on ourselves, times when we will not be distracted and which we can end when we want and not when something uninvited interrupts our peace. A period of silence is time set aside to think, and most of us could benefit from a little more of that. I hope – I recommend – that we all take a few minutes of silence to reflect on the evils of the First World War on July 28th, and again maybe on 4th August when the United Kingdom formally entered the war in 1914, and at the same time to offer prayer for all those who died then and since in other wars, and to give thanks for all the blessings we enjoy.

Fr Tom Plant

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 Jean Bray 864532.
- 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 Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast, 8am, The Way Inn. Rachael Hawkins 866324.
- 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 – Friday 7:30am; Saturday 9:30am.

Eucharist Monday 6:00pm; Tuesday 9:30am at All Saints' Shrublands Road; Wednesday 8:15am; Thursday 12:45pm at Thomas Coram School, Saturday 10:00am

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

This Month's Diary

St Peter's

Events at St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted, presented by The Cowper Society supported by the Friends of St Peter's

Sat 6th Sep at 7:30pm: CONCERT in St Peter's Church - Berkhamsted Choral Society & Chorleywood Choral Society. Fauré Requiem and other pieces directed by Graham Wili.
Tickets: £13/£11, £6 students, U18s free from Adrian Cole & Ptnrs, 124 High Street, Berkhamsted

All Saints'

3rd Seventh Sunday after Trinity 10am: Morning Worship, Ruth Treves Brown
10th Eighth Sunday after Trinity 10am: Holy Communion, Revd Rachael Hawkins
17th Ninth Sunday after Trinity 8am: Holy Communion, Revd Rachael Hawkins
10am: Morning Worship, Richard Hackworth
24th Tenth Sunday after Trinity St Bartholomew 10am: Holy Communion Revd John Kirkby

Key Church contacts:

Parish Office, Hilary
Armstrong & Kate Perera,
Court House, 878227. Fr.

Tom Plant, 382633 (day off
Fri) St Peter's, Curate, St
Peter's;

The Revd. Rachael Hawkins,
All Saints'.

Further information available from our church web-sites:

www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk

and at

www.allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk

Sunday
8am Said Eucharist
9.30am Sung Parish Eucharist
(with visiting Sunday School)
6pm Evening Prayer

Monday
5.15pm Eucharist

Tuesday
9.30am Eucharist at All Saints, Cross
Oak Road

Wednesday
8.30am Eucharist
(followed by breakfast)

Thursday
12.45 Eucharist at Thomas Coram
School

Saturday
10am Eucharist
4th Saturday Mass of Our Lady of
Walsingham

**SERVICES
AT ST PETER'S
BERKHAMSTED**

**Morning Prayer
weekdays 8am**

**Evening Prayer
weekdays 5pm**

Confessions, spiritual guidance
available by appointment

**Newcomers'
leaflets and
information
available
inside the
church**

News from the Hospice of St Francis

Fundraising News and Dates For Your Diary



**August
2014**

The
Hospice of
St Francis,
situated in
Spring
Garden

designed by Chelsea Flower show Gold Medallist David Stevens and a Woodland trail complete with Storyteller's Chair.

The Hospice will be serving cream teas during the afternoon, with proceeds going to the National Garden Scheme's charities, of which Help the Hospices is a member and received £400k in 2013.

There is parking on site and nearby and the Hospice is accessible for wheelchairs.

Lane, Berkhamsted, looks after people in need of respite or advanced care for a life-shortening illness in its 14 beds. Our community nursing team also visits individuals at home whilst, adjacent to the Hospice, our health & wellbeing Spring Centre supports those with a long-term or potentially life-shortening illness, or carers, through clinics, workshops, complementary therapy, hairdressing and exercise classes. Find out more by calling 01442 869550.

Hospice Open Gardens

The Hospice of St Francis is opening its gardens to garden lovers for the very first time on Sunday 7 September, 2-5:30pm, as part of the National Gardens Scheme Open Gardens programme.

The site covers seven acres, with views over to the National Trust Ashridge Estate, and is split into six areas including a Sensory Garden, Healing Garden,



Admission is £4 and entry for children is free. Refreshments will be available to purchase. www.ngs.org.uk



Take the Mud Pack Challenge!

Whilst not wishing for the nights to draw in, we are looking forward to Sunday 19th October and our inaugural Mud Pack Challenge. .



Taking place in the beautiful parks and grounds of Champneys, Tring, the Mud Pack Challenge is a five mile obstacle race across various muddy and water based challenges. It's perfect for all levels of fitness and for individuals, groups or work colleagues.

It costs £25 to register plus a commitment to raise a minimum sponsorship of £50 for the Hospice to help us provide our patient care. Lots of places have already been snapped up so don't delay, find out more, at www.stfrancis.org.uk/mudpack

Skydive

Always fancied jumping out of a plane but not sure how to organise it? Offering the perfect opportunity to do something truly exhilarating, our Skydive on Saturday

18th October could be your ideal autumn challenge. With a small amount of on the day jump training, you can be skydiving over the countryside and helping our fundraising soar to new levels. It costs just a minimum of £400 to participate.

Spring Photo Competition

Congratulations to Sarah Clark from Hemel Hempstead who won our recent Spring Photo Competition with a vibrant image of rapeseed fields beneath dramatic April skies, one of over 120 entries submitted by keen amateur photographers. The top ten images are now on the walls of our health and wellbeing Spring Centre.



Other dates for your diary!

Hospice Running Club – every Wednesday at 9:30am at the Hospice, suitable for all abilities.

Hospice Film Forum – Wednesday 3 September 6:45pm. The Great Beauty. Find out more on Facebook/ TheHospiceofStFrancis or Follow us on Twitter: hospicstfrancis

Hospice of St Francis Garden, Spring Garden Lane, Berkhamsted. H24 3GW.

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Your Choir

Dacorum Community Choir at Festival

On the Saturday afternoon of the Wimbledon Ladies' Final, the World Cup quarter finals and the start of the Tour de France in Yorkshire, it was perhaps not surprising that only a small audience heard Dacorum Community Choir and groups from mid-Herts and Watford perform in a local choral festival that showed the current popularity of singing with choirs large and small, youth and adult.

Though dwarfed by the spacious Edward Guinness Hall at Dame Alice Owen's School in Potters Bar, the 40 or so listeners were nevertheless equally appreciative. As is often the case at such events they joined enthusiastically in the final song, I'd Like to Teach the World (to Sing in Perfect Harmony), guided by Peter Twitchin, director of the Mid-Herts Youth and Chamber Choirs, who demonstrated pitch energetically by hopping from note to note.

Dacorum's more restrained but nonetheless inspiring conductor Rufus Frowde, unobtrusively aided by accompanist Judi Kelly, led the Hemel Hempstead-based ensemble through established favourites ranging from a traditional Macedonian folk song (Shto mi e milo), to the Nigerian highlife number O-re-mi and Roger Emerson's Shoshone Love Song. The choir ended its set with the Appalachian folk hymn Wayfarin' Stranger. This followed the majestic and moving Al Shlosha, in Hebrew, extolling the importance of Truth, Justice and Peace, which the community choir learnt specially for this performance.

Members combined with the other choirs to end the concert as a whole with the spiritual All My Trials and the Noah's Ark-based marching song Vive L'Amour

Dacorum Community Choir Singing Whilst it Rains!

The first day of the annual Hertfordshire County Show was marred by very poor weather with some extremely heavy falls of rain. Fortunately the Hertfordshire County marquee became alive during the afternoon with some sparkling entertainment from the Dacorum Community Choir.

This was the fourth year running that the Choir had been asked to be put on a short concert for the visitors to the County Show. Before the concert began the rain fell in torrents and made the crowd run for shelter. The County marquee was the ideal place.

The atmosphere for the concert was one of fun and the Choir excelled. The cramped conditions meant that Judi Kelly, the accompanist, lost visual contact with the Musical Director, Rufus Frowde, from time to time. But all concerned gave of their best to pull off an enjoyable performance.

Songs from many countries were well received. These songs developed into rounds and the sound got better and better. A new song to the Choir, 'Hear the Wind', was sung beautifully and the audience showed its appreciation.²³ The popular 'Goodnight Sweetheart' brought the 40 minute concert to a close.

Stan Gillon

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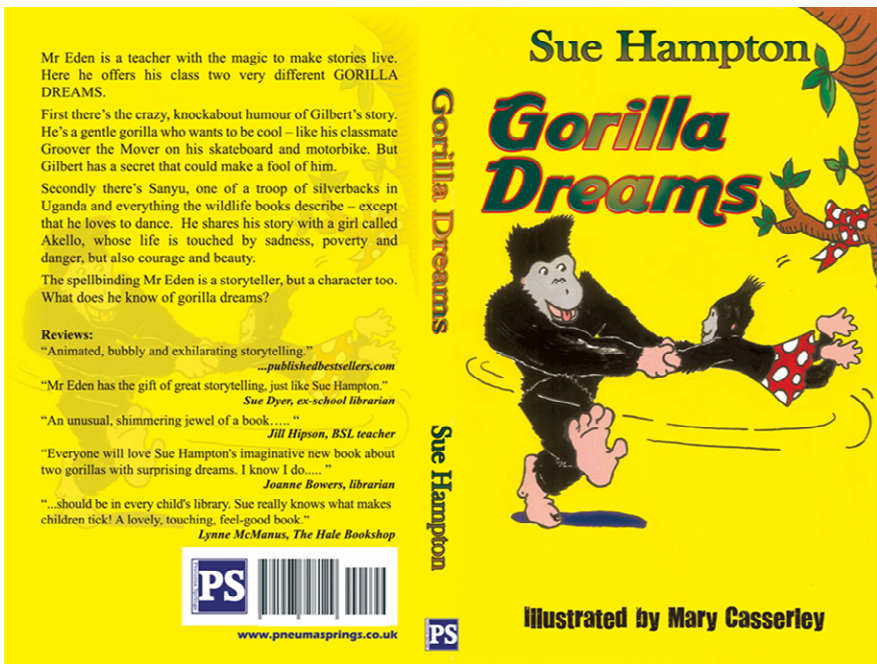
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Book Competition



Enter the Gorilla Dreams Competition

1. The theme is GORILLA DREAMS. You can enter a story, poem, an artwork (in any medium or material), or email Sue a film of a short solo dance piece with that title, performed and choreographed by you.
2. Entry is free. It must be your own composition, no copies/covers. Please put your name on your work.
3. THE DEADLINE IS SATURDAY NOV 1ST.
4. The judges, Sue Hampton and Mary Casserley, will award prizes + certificates at Berkhamsted Library, 2.00, Saturday Nov 15th.

To enter:

Put your name on your artwork or writing.

Write your name, age, tel no. and email on a piece of paper (in capitals or typed).

Give in both at Berkhamsted Library or email your dance film to

suehampton@btinternet.com by Nov 1st.



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Your Community

OXFAM FESTIVAL SHOPS

A shop selling only brightly coloured hand-knitted blankets? Surely not. But yes – at Glastonbury one of Oxfam's pop-up shops was entirely devoted to the colourful craft items. Oxfam's temporary shops at music festivals around the country are very popular and last year raised over a quarter of a million pounds for Oxfam's vital overseas aid work.

Any hand-knitted blankets which are not sold in the local Oxfam shop are sent to Oxfam's Textile Recycling depot and kept for the Festival shops where they are snapped up by eager festival goers. So, knitters, please keep those needles clicking. Blankets measuring 6' x 4' (180cm x 120cm) with a change of colour every 6" (15cm) are always popular.

ALL SAINTS CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Christmas may be a long way away but plans are already well advanced for a Christmas Tree Festival at All Saints from Friday 12th to Sunday 14th December.

At this stage the most urgent need is for sponsors to cover the costs of the trees and lights. At £75 a tree, sponsorship will entitle the donor to a name beside one of the trees and in the programme, of which about 2000 are expected to be distributed.

Proceeds from the Festival will benefit the Hospice of St Francis and DENS as well as church funds.

If you could sponsor a tree or know a business which might welcome an opportunity for some cost-effective publicity please contact Stephen Bailey at steve@baileymail.uk.com.



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Your Recipe

Piri Piri Chicken



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POTATO
WEDGES
TOPPED WITH A
SPICY SALSA
Serves 2
Ready in 30 mins
Kcal 578 fat 36g
carb 28g pro 36g
(per serving)

Ingredients

- 2 Chicken breasts
- 500g Sweet potatoes
- 1 Punnet of cherry tomatoes
- 1 Red Chilli
- 2 Spring onions
- 1 Red onion
- 40 ml Oil
- 20 ml White wine vinegar
- 1 Piri marinade
- 20g Caster sugar

Here's what to do ...

Firstly, marinate the chicken breasts by coating them in a piri piri marinade (available from most supermarkets). If possible, do this in advance and refrigerate for up to 12 hours before cooking. Pre-heat the oven to 180cc

In the oven, heat a small amount of vegetable oil in an oven-proof tray. Slice the sweet potatoes length-ways into evenly sized wedges. Each half of a medium sized potato should equate to 4 even sized wedges

Meanwhile, heat some more oil in a frying pan and brown off the pre-marinated chicken.

Start by frying the chicken skin-side down for approximately 3 minutes, before turning over and browning for the other side for a further 3 minutes.

Place both the chicken and the sweet potato wedges on the tray with the heated oil and return to the oven to cook for 15-20 minutes, until soft when pricked with a knife.

Finely dice the red onion, spring onions and chilli and quarter the cherry tomatoes. Mix these ingredients together and stir in the sugar, white wine vinegar and 40 ml of oil to form a salsa.

Once the potato wedges and chicken are cooked (the juices of the chicken should run clear and there should be no pink flesh when cut), you are ready to serve. We suggest stacking the wedges on the plate, slicing the chicken in half, placing it on top of the wedges and covering in the salsa. Enjoy

Chef's tips: *When marinating chicken, the longer you can leave it, the greater the chance the flavours will have of infiltrating the meat. NB we would not recommend leaving meat for any longer than 12 hours*



Thank you The Naked Radish for the recipe

WWW.THENAKEDRADISH.CO.UK

Your Garden

Adventures in Boots by Helen Reeley



One thing I'll be remembering for sure this autumn is to sow some hardy annuals for earlier flowering next spring and summer. Around the months of October and November I'm normally too busy to sow seeds as I'm concentrating on finishing up my gardens and thinking about my winter travels. This year I sowed seeds in springtime which are in flower now but my contemporaries who sowed sweet peas last autumn have had flowers for weeks and weeks. But oh! what a beauty my pea is, it's a soft white with a very faint vein of lilac around its petal edge. You may not see the vein here in the photo nor will you smell the perfume but I can assure it is the loveliest of things in the gardens right now. Later today I'll cut all the flowers for posy vases, in a few days there will be more stems to cut.

Another flower which I'll sow this autumn for earlier flowering next year is Calendula. I just cannot get enough of those beautiful orange flowers cut and arranged in a jar with Alchemilla mollis also in flower at the moment. The gayness of the lime green and bright orange is so lifting.

Watering any new plants is a bit onerous during the summer months. If you prepared your soil properly earlier in the season your work will be less. I mulched a huge perennial flower and shrub bed with mushroom compost in March and goodness that stitch in time saved nine. I've scraped away the mulch to dig new holes for new planting; underneath the compost the soil is crumbly with worms, perfect for new plants.

On Saturday 27th September 10am I'll be running another Gardening School class up at Frithsden Vineyard this time looking at winter bulb planting. The class attracts a few regulars now; do call if you'd like to join us. We are the friendliest Garden School on the planet!

TTFN, do call if you have any gardening requirements or visit my pro Facebook page for a planty chat Helen Reeley Landscapes 07708 643313

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Your Sport

This month Matthew Dawson looks at Squash in Berkhamsted

To celebrate Berkhamsted winning the Dunlop National Junior Club Championship, something which I'll explain more about later on, I thought there would be no better way than to give you a dosage of squash in Berko.

However, you may be wondering what squash is? Squash is a racket sport played by two people which constitutes a singles game or four people which constitutes a doubles match. It is played on a four walled court with a small ball and the players must take it in turns to hit the ball onto the playable surfaces of the walls itself.

Squash can be played at two places in Berkhamsted, the Berkhamsted Lawn Tennis and Squash Rackets Club near Waitrose, or Sportspace. The club down at Broadwater offers brilliant facilities for all types of players ranging from juniors and beginners to a national level and a fully professional standard. BLTSRC has a competitive box league and regular tournaments whilst it also hosts England squash sanctioned events and regional and county squads. The facilities contain six courts, of which two have a glass back with seating behind. The other four courts meanwhile have a viewing gallery. As for Berkhamsted Sportspace, it has a squash court that is available to hire.

The main purpose of this article though is to congratulate the town's young squash stars. Last month Berkhamsted achieved a 3-2 victory over Pontefract in Nottingham to win the Dunlop National

Junior Club Championship. The final came to a deciding match as at 2-2, Laurence Green defeated Tom Bamford 3-1 to ensure the title made its way back to Berkhamsted. Berkhamsted however were defeated in the first game meaning their comeback was extra impressive as they then went on to win the next two matches, only to lose the fourth and then of course seal the Championship in the final game.

A part of the final was England's number one, 18 year old Angus Gillams who comfortably won his match 11/8, 11/0, 11/4. Congratulations go to him and his team mates, Laurence Green, **Hasnaat Farooqi, Chloe Spratt, Amy Jones, and also to Alex Noakes, Joe Yerrell and Grace Gear** who played a part in Berkhamsted getting to the final but unfortunately were unable to play on the weekend of the final.

Full results from the final:

Angus Gillams bt. Jack Cooper 11/8, 11/0, 11/4 (Berkhamsted win)
Laurence Green bt. Tom Bamford 11/4, 12/14, 11/7, 11/3 (Berkhamsted win)
Hasnaat Farooqi bt. Dom Pegg 11/3, 7/11, 11/5, 11/2 (Berkhamsted win)
Ellen Cooper bt. Amy Jones 11/8, 11/9, 9/11, 12/10 (Pontefract win)
Megan Kaye bt. Chloe Spratt 11/5, 11/2, 11/4 (Pontefract win)

Please note that the article written with regard to Ashlyns Sports Centre was also written by Matthew Dawson and not



...EVERYDAY ADVENTURE

1st Gossoms End Scout Group are looking for a new Group Leader – could you help?

Our Berkhamsted Scout Group is one of the largest in West Hertfordshire and currently supports over 100 children ranging from ages six through to fourteen and buzzes with activity. We have a lot of fun and run an exciting programme of adventurous experiences for our young people.

The Group comprises a Beaver colony, two Cub packs and two Scout troops each of which is led by their own team of adult volunteers. The Group Scout Leader (GSL) is responsible for overseeing these teams to ensure that children are provided with a safe and rewarding Scouting experience. Additionally, the GSL manages the team that looks after the Scout hall and other shared group resources.

As with all Scout leadership, the GSL role is a part time voluntary one. Although no prior Scouting experience is required, enthusiasm, a willingness to work closely with other people and above all else a desire to give something back to the community are all a must. Come and join our dynamic team!

Please contact Joanna McAulay if you are interested in finding out more about how you could help your community. (Email jo.haire@btinternet.com , telephone 01442 864 588)

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| Copy Dates: | 11 August | 11 September | 11 October |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------|------------|

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