

the magazine for town and parish since 1872

YB

Your Berkhamsted

September 2014



New writers competition
Community stories

New Dogs' Trust feature
Looking for young reporter of the year

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 inspiring community stories, including a new monthly feature which is for Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels, a worthwhile cause and hopefully will assist in finding these dogs a home. We also have two new writing competitions for our young audience. Plus we have our usual suspects - gardening, local walk etc. Have a lovely September! Look out for YB tweets on @Yourberkhamsted.

Jacqueline Hicks, Editor
Editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk

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Picture credits : A special thanks to Mary Casserly for supplying the beautiful cover of the Water Tower in Shooters Way



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 Review – What's the hurry?

Vernon Mildew



Anyone who lives in or visits Berkhamsted knows what a nuisance it is to cross the road at the corner of Lower Kings Road and the High Street. It seems that no matter when you arrive at the crossing, it is always just as the lights turn red for pedestrians. Then there is the lengthy wait while traffic streams past from four different directions.

For lots of people, though, that delay in their busy schedule is just too much to accept. So, with a quick glance around for oncoming vehicles, they take their chances and dash across this busy crossroads. You could argue that it's their life, and if they want to take unnecessary risks with it, then that's their affair. But what about the many impatient folk who are dragging small children across the road with them or, even worse, pushing buggies and prams in front of them?

What makes an adult choose to take that risk with the life of a child whose welfare they are responsible for? And what lesson about road safety is this teaching our children? Is getting to the other side of the High Street in the shortest time possible really so important? There are, of course, plenty of grown-ups with young charges who will patiently wait for the lights to turn green, even if

the roads look clear. By standing with these adults and children until the lights change, we can help educate impressionable young minds on the safest way to cross the road. It might just save a life.

Obviously, it isn't only pedestrians who put lives in danger on the roads. Sadly, drivers texting and making mobile phone calls are common sights in our town. Recently I saw a woman driving along the High Street, playing with her iPod, with no hands on the steering wheel and no eyes on the road ahead. There were two schoolchildren in the back of the car. According to the AA, 17 people died last year in traffic accidents in which mobile phone use was the direct cause.

Speeding is another issue in Berkhamsted, particularly on long stretches of road such as Castle Street. Often cars whizz down these streets so fast it would be impossible for them to brake in time, should a pedestrian suddenly appear in front of them. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents says that every year around 400 people are killed in crashes caused by someone exceeding the speed limit or

(Continued on page 5)

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(Continued from page 3)
driving too fast for the conditions on the road.

Fortunately, road traffic accidents are rare in Berkhamsted, but that often seems more by luck than design. A lack of thought and care could so easily turn into a tragedy which none of us would wish for. So, next time you are dashing to get somewhere, on foot or in your car, or can't wait until you get out of the car to make a call or change your music, ask yourself: What's the hurry?

Is it really worth risking your own, or someone else's life?

Vernon Mildew

What do you think? Do you agree with Vernon, or do you think it's all a fuss about nothing? The editor would be interested to hear your views for a future issue of YB.

Email: editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk

Julian Dawson is away. His column returns next month.

Drawings of Berkhamsted by Jenni Cator,
Art at 88, 88 High Street,
Berkhamsted, HP4 2BW
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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 and 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:
www.greatmarkets@vpweb.co.uk

Tring Farmers Market
(Alternate Saturdays)
The Marketplace, Brook Street, Tring
9.00am - 12.15pm

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Contact Lucy Carmody or Ben Noithip
lucycarmody@gmail.com 07891 066543 or bnoithip@berkhamstedschool.org

(What's On – continued from page 7)

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.

9—13th September: Grease is the Word - Court Theatre Tring—info www.courttheatre.co.uk

September 26th 19.30 (doors open 19.00:

Sunnyside Church – Girl's Night Out. Tickets £5.00 in advance or £7.00 on the night. Can be obtained from Sunnyside Church Office 01442 875025 or office@sunnysidechurch.org.uk or online at www.ticketline.co.uk/world-visions-girls-night-out#bio Tickets strictly limited. Girls of all ages from 16 to 96 are invited to this special event.

Later Dates

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.

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Before going to their new homes our dogs are neutered, microchipped, have had at least the first part of their vaccinations, have been treated for fleas and worms and have four weeks free insurance. We request a minimum donation of £150

If you can offer a dog a loving and secure home please visit us. We are open every day from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. We do our best to match the right dog with the right owner and we always do home checks and follow-up visits. Please note that there are restrictions on rehoming dogs to families with children less than 7 years old, so please ask for details.

You can help us to meet the costs of caring for so many dogs by making a donation or sponsoring a kennel for just £10 per month. Have fun and help raise funds by joining us for our **Fun Dog Show on 13th September** and the **Appledown Autumn Walk on 5th October**. For more details about any of the above please contact us:

Call Appledown on 01525 220383.

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Your Walk

Great Missenden Stile-Free Walk

This walk starts in the picturesque village of Great Missenden, home of the Roald Dahl Museum. It passes through mature woodlands typical of the Chilterns. The route is undulating and offers some fine views across the Misbourne Valley.

Distance: 2.5 miles (1.5 hours)

Start: Great Missenden Station (Chiltern Line trains from London Marylebone) SP893013. There is a convenient car park (free on Sundays) in Links Road. There is also parking at the station. There is a direct bus service between Great Missenden and High Wycombe except Sundays.

Access information: Some sections of the walk can be very muddy after rain (from 3-4 and 5-6). There are a few steep sections on this walk.

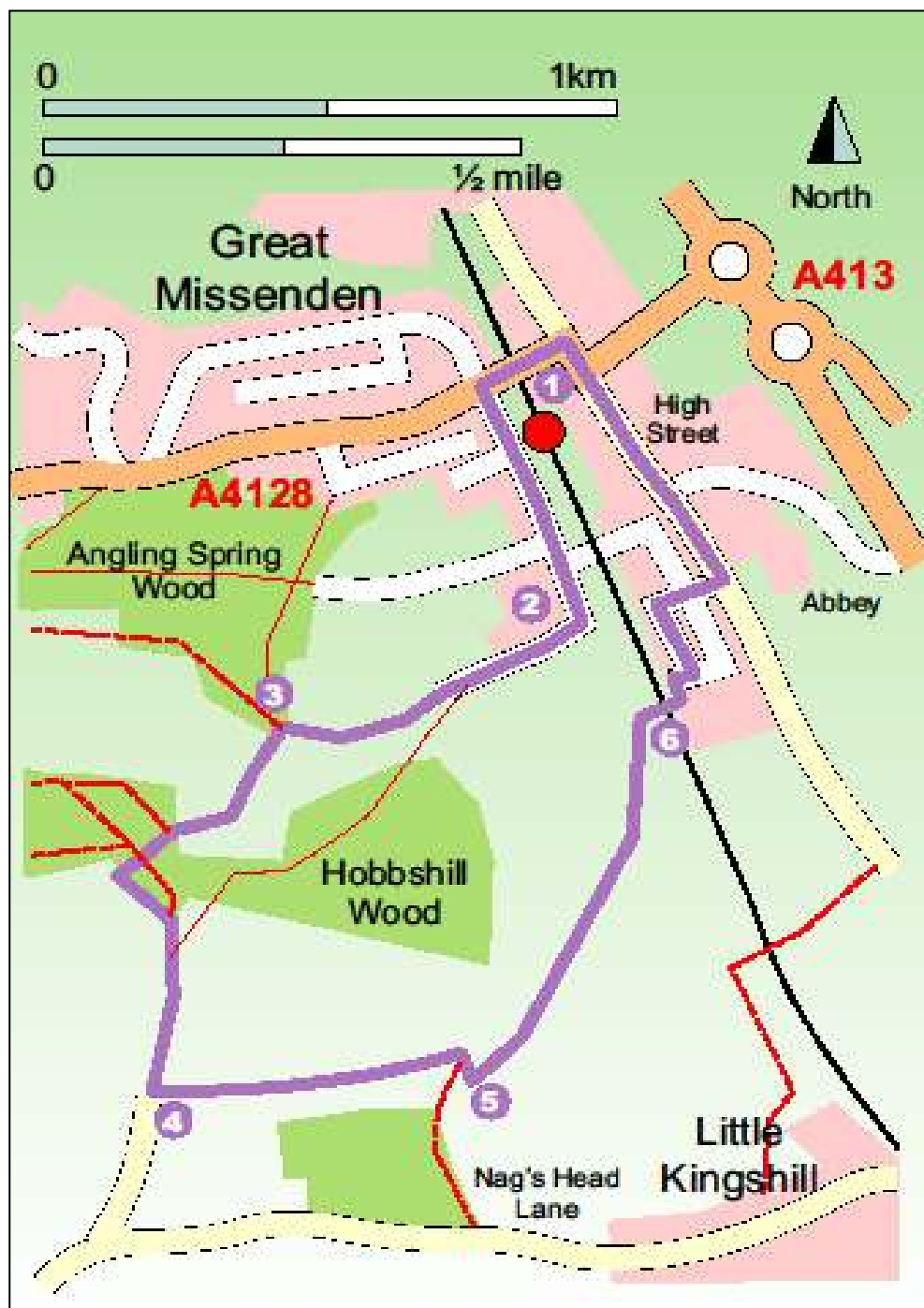
Refreshments: There are a number of pubs and a cafe in Great Missenden.

From the railway station **1** follow the road across the railway bridge and turn left down the Private Road. Walk straight along this road which narrows into a stony path. Walk right to the end of the houses ignoring two public footpaths leading off to your right. Turn right up the lane **2** past the garden centre to the left and Gypsy House, the Dahl family home, on the right. Follow the lane to Angling Spring Farm.


At Angling Spring Farm follow the lane (a bridleway) to the left **3**, it narrows between ancient hedges, the end of clean boots in wet weather! Follow the bridleway as it descends through mature woodland, ignoring footpaths on the right. The bridleway turns sharp left at the bottom of the wood, where it widens (this can become a slough of mud in wet weather). The path bends right and climbs between wood banks and opens out at the end.

When you reach a smart drive on your left lined with young cherry trees, turn left following the footpath along it **4**. Fine views appear across the valley showing Missenden church set in a cluster of trees. Pass the house on the right at the end of the drive, then turn right following the wooden fence. When you reach a car park **5**, turn sharp left following the footpath through a gap in the fence and down the slope. Go through the gate and down the steep slope beside a fine laid hedge. The upward slope gets muddy after rain. At the top you arrive in the middle of large horse paddocks with fine views of the Misbourne Valley.

Follow the footpath to a wooden gate on the right and over the railway bridge **6**. Cross over the railway, then turn right through a kissing gate; the path opens out into an estate adjacent to the Misbourne School. Take the first road on the left, then turn right towards Great Missenden High Street and turn left along it.



Young Writers National Short Story Week



Could you be the "Your Berkhamsted" Young Writer 2014/2015?

To celebrate this year's National Short Story Week, "Your Berkhamsted" is running a short story competition for Berkhamsted schools. There will be two age-groups for the competition, years 5 and 6, and years 7 and 8.

Pupils who enter must write a story based on the title "The Gift". What happens in the story is up to each entrant. The story should include or be about some sort of gift, but we encourage pupils to let their imaginations run free when writing their stories.

Year 5 and 6 pupils should write a story of between 500 to 600 words, and year 7 and 8 pupils should write between 900 to 1000 words. Entries should be typed.

The competition opens on Monday 17th November 2014 and entries can be submitted at any time between that date and Monday 8th December 2014.

Full entry details are available to schools by emailing **editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk**. Parents and pupils should first check that their school is taking part in the competition. If they aren't, why not ask them to sign up?!

There will be four category winners: Best story by a year 5 pupil, Best story by a year 6 pupil, Best story by a year 7 pupil, Best story by a year 8 pupil. The winning entries will be published in Your Berkhamsted between February and March 2015.

Good luck to all pupils who enter and we hope you enjoy writing your story!

“YB” Young Reporter of the Year



Do you enjoy writing? Would you like to be a journalist when you leave school? We're looking for young reporters to write articles for "Your Berkhamsted". It's a great way to get some practise at writing news and features, and to have your work and name in print!

We already have some young people writing articles, such as our sports column, for "Your Berkhamsted". Now we'd like to hear from even more writers aged between 11 and 18 years old.

If you'd like the chance to write for the magazine, we'd like to hear from you. Just send us a brief email of no more than 100 words with your article idea, to **editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk** The editorial team will pick a shortlist of ideas, and ask those writers to research and write their articles.

Next year, the editorial team will pick a winner from all of the articles we publish, and that writer will be crowned YB Young Reporter of the Year!

Here are some ideas of topics you could write about.

History

Why not research an important event in Berkhamsted's history? The town has a fascinating history going back over 1,000 years, so there is plenty to write about! You could start off in the reference section in the town's library, which has a number of books about Berkhamsted. If your family has lived in Berkhamsted for many generations, is there a story to tell about a person, business or building from the past?

People

Do you know a person in the town who has a particularly interesting story to tell? Perhaps they have achieved success in their field, raised a lot of money for charity, or done something unusual with their life.

Buildings

Berkhamsted has many old and interesting buildings. Could you look in to the history of a landmark building in the town?

Events

Berkhamsted is host to lots of events throughout the year. Would you like to report on one of them?

The Arts

Could you write a review about a local play, music gig or comedy night?

These are just some suggestions, and we'd be happy to hear any other ideas of your own. So, get writing!

100 Years – WW1



Over the next four years at St Peter's Great Berkhamsted, we plan to include the names of the fallen in the First World War in our prayers for the departed. With prayer, we will mark the actual

Hundredth Anniversaries of the War deaths of Berkhamsted men, and those connected with the town in any way.

If you have a relative or have a connection with a person whom you would like commemorated, please contact Churchwarden David Pearce drap@15pvr.me.uk.

The details should include:

- Full name
- Date of death (precise or as near as is known)

If possible please also provide:

- Regiment, place of death
- any (brief) distinguishing information

At each individual Anniversary the name will be put on the Intercessions List and will be read out in church.



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

- 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.

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



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Parish News



Good morning from Wathgill Camp in North Yorkshire! As I write, we are waiting for the Army cadets to arrive from Bedfordshire

and Hertfordshire on their buses, and I am wondering exactly what it will mean to be a chaplain among them.

To be a priest is to be a Christian in a particularly public way - there's no disguising your faith, whether you're wearing a dog collar or a combat uniform with big black crosses on the lapels. Chaplaincy is very much about being a public Christian not only with fellow Christians, but among those who are indifferent or even hostile to the faith. But whether our faith is made obvious in the way one dresses or not, whether we wear our faith on a cross round our neck or on our sleeve or inwardly on our hearts, it should be visible in the way we live.

This theme touches on the great feast that the Church celebrated on 6 August: the Transfiguration. Jesus climbs the mountain as Moses did, but while Moses had to hide his face from God, Jesus looks at His Father face-to-face.

The disciples who go up the mountain with Him see Him blaze with the glory of God for an instant; then the glory fades, and it is the same old Jesus they knew who stands before them. But they have seen Him in a different light, and will never see Him quite the same again. Likewise, with the eyes of faith we grow to see bread and wine as Christ's body and blood; to see Christ in all people, but especially in the needy and distressed; to see the light of the Kingdom just below the veil of all creation, occasionally piercing through. And like Jesus looking at the Father, the more we look and our eyes acclimatise to the glare, the more we too will reflect that light, so that others can see it in us. Perhaps that can tell me something about what it is to be a chaplain and all of us what it is to be a Christian in a world too often shrouded in darkness, as the news keeps reminding us every day.

Fr Tom Plant
Assistant Curate
St Peter's, Great Berkhamsted
T 01442382633

Regular Church Activities

- 3rd Mon Pastoral Network, 7:45pm, The Court House. Contact Philippa Seldon 871534.
- Tues Chuckles Parent and 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 and 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

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 and Chorleywood Choral Society. Fauré Requiem and other pieces directed by Graham Wili. Tickets: £13/£11, £6

students, U18s free from Adrian Cole and Ptnrs, 124 High Street, Berkhamsted
Sat 20th Sep at 7:30pm: ORGAN RECITAL in St Peter's Church – Andrew Lucas, Master of Music at St Albans Abbey who was for many years at St Paul's Cathedral, London, gives the Grand Opening Recital of the 2014 – 15 series. Andrew has given recitals worldwide and has a large and celebrated organ discography. Entrance £10 on the door.

Sat 27th Sep at 7:30pm: CONCERT in St Peter's Church – Bridgewater Sinfonia.

Dukas The Sorcerer's Apprentice, Mozart Piano concerto in D minor David Gordon piano, Saint Saens Symphony No 3 in C minor (Organ Symphony) Jonathan Lee organ. Tickets: www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk, 873205, Aitchison's High St. 4 concert Season £45, today £15, U18s free

All Saints'

September

7th Twelfth Sunday after Trinity, 10am Morning Worship, Richard Hackworth

14th Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity, 10am Holy Communion with holy Baptism, Revd Rachael Hawkins

21st Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity, St Matthew, 10am Morning Worship, Derek Walton

28th Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity, 10am Holy Communion, Revd Brian Tebbutt, 4pm Healing Service, Revd Rachael Hawkins, Jenny Wells, Tracy Robinson and Audrey Cox

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

Fundraising News and Dates For Your Diary



Hospice News – September

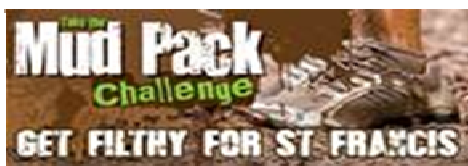
The Hospice cares for people with life-shortening illness in its 14 beds or in their own homes and also supports people with long term illness as its adjacent health and wellbeing facility, the Spring Centre. The Spring Centre offers clinics, workshops, complementary therapy, hairdressing and exercise classes. Find out more by calling 01442 869550 or visit www.stfrancis.org.uk/springcentre

Your local Hospice needs to raise £4.7m a year to fund the care it provides for people and can't do so without your help! Some future fundraising events include:

Literary Quiz – Wed 24th September, Old Dining Room, Berkhamsted School, Kings Road, 7 for 7:30pm

Come and test your literary knowledge of books, plays and poems against other teams in this light-hearted quiz! Bring your own drinks and snacks. Entry £8 per person. Call 01442 869555 for tickets.

Take the Mud Pack Challenge! Sunday 19th October



Join our Mud Pack Challenge, a five mile obstacle course in the beautiful grounds of Champneys, the Health Spa, Tring. It's perfect for all levels of fitness and for individuals, groups or work colleagues! It costs £35 to register plus a commitment to raise a minimum sponsorship of £50 for the Hospice to help us provide our patient care. www.stfrancis.org.uk/mudpack

Returned to Glory Paint Workshops

Returned to Glory, Berkhamsted's stylish home emporium on the Northbridge Road, has launched its autumn programme of specialist Autentico paint workshops, perfect if you want to breathe new life into pre-loved furniture or you have a student flat to furnish.

Dates in September for the three-hour Learn the Basics Workshop, which all run from 10am - 1pm, are: Sat 6th September, Fri 19th Sept and Sat 27th Sept. October dates are Weds 8th October and Sat 18th October and in November, Sat 8th Nov. The cost is £75, which includes all materials, refreshments and a completed painted item to take home. To book, call 01442 874356 or email : returnedtoglory@stfrancis.org.uk

Returned to Glory is open seven days a week, from 10-5pm Monday to Saturday and 10:30 – 4:30pm on Sunday. Furniture and homeware donations are always needed.

Hospice Care Week 6 – 12 October 2014

Look out for details of events on our website and social media pages about events happening during Hospice Care Week at the beginning of October.

Hospice Open Gardens – Sunday 7 September 2 – 5:30pm

Our beautiful gardens are being opened to garden lovers for the very first time as part of the National Gardens Scheme Open Gardens. Admission £4, ample car parking, refreshments provided.

Make a Will Month

Thanks to everyone who supported Make a Will month in March which helped raise £5,650 for us as local solicitors waived appointment fees in lieu of a donation to the Hospice.

Last year, the Hospice opened its final two beds thanks to generous legacies left in Wills, but in order to keep these beds open, the need for funds is greater than ever. We'd be delighted to hear from any local solicitors who might be interested in participating in Make a Will Month 2015.

Hospice Coffee morning – Friday 26th September 10:30am – 12pm. Open to all.

Hospice Film Forum – Wednesday 1 October 6:45pm. A Late Quartet. Doors open 6:45pm. £5. Find out more on:

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Your Community

The Northchurch Society – Monday 29th September

The Northchurch Society was formed in 1969 to promote interest in and preservation of local arts and crafts and parish history. The 46th Season of the Society will begin on Monday 29th September at 8:00pm in the Parish Room with an illustrated talk on Zimbabwe given by Michael Eggleton. This will be his fourth visit.

Following this we will have an informal discussion about how the Northchurch Society can move forward. Our current situation is that our Secretary, who also arranged our programmes, having given us notice in 2013 that he would not be standing again 2014, stood down. We have been unable to find a replacement. Without a full complement of officers and an effective committee the Society cannot continue in its current form.



As this may be our last chance to save the Society, non members are very welcome to come and express their views.

Admission on this occasion will be free to non members.

If you have any thoughts even if you are unable to come, please let me know.

I hope to be able to give an update on the three display cabinets of artefacts in St Mary's School which have been preserved for the interest of future generations. Two of them have had to be emptied and removed from the school during the building works. We hope space can be found for their return.

Christopher Talbot-Ponsonby
Chairman, Northchurch Society
Tel: (01442) 865882
e-mail: christopher@talbot-ponsonby.org

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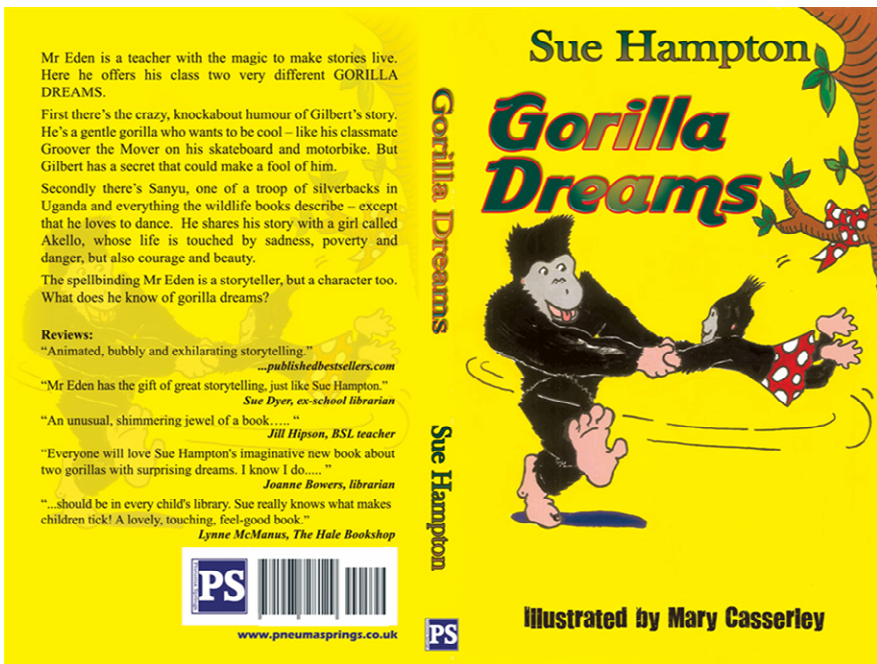
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Book Competition



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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Like several thousand other idiots around the country who fill a spare bedroom with an unlikely collection of toys, cards, clothes, and comestibles I wonder from time to time why on earth Traidcraft volunteers do it.

Well, we support the principles of Fairtrade but know Traidcraft goes beyond 'fair'. Possibly a unique structure, Traidcraft is a trading company and a development charity working together with a mission is to fight poverty through trade. It is a Christian organisation established in 1979 and works with people of all faiths and none.

Advisers such as agronomists and marketing specialists give training and long term support to small farmers and artisans in poor, remote communities in more than thirty developing countries, working with 100+ producer groups. With help to improve the quality and quantity of their produce, many of these groups eventually achieve Fairtrade status; rice and cotton are two notable Traidcraft successes. Finding international agreement for the Fairtrade Mark for the excellent craft items however is an ongoing challenge. Not all produce is for export, some is sold locally or nationally.

With the widest range of Fairtrade products in the UK and a turnover approaching £30 million, this is a responsible company worthy of your support. Traidcraft goods may be bought or ordered from many local churches, just ask. Sunnyside and St Peter's churches sell on the first Sunday of each month and All Saints on the 2nd Sunday. Crafts, cards and food are also available on each 1st Saturday from 9 – 4 at the Market in the Town Hall, or from Angela - but please phone her first.

Renowned for challenging policy makers, Traidcraft continues the fight to change unfair trade rules. Please look on-line at traidcraft.co.uk for more info. Pick up the excellent leaflet, "Not all fair trade is created equal" in St Peter's church, or from the writer. Angela Morris 866992

Children's Society

Kilimanjaro and a great future for the Children's Society

It seems a long time since the Berkhamsted Walk last May, but now the sponsorship deadline is passed we have awarded the prizes donated by The Complete Outdoors. Although there were more walkers again this year, their promises seemed to indicate our receipts might be about £1,000 less than usual. However, we did not account for the massive £1,270 raised by a group of five young ladies from London! This has lifted the income to £6,332, on top of which we can claim Gift Aid from many of the donations.

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(contd from page 27)

This group of five has won the prize for the small group raising the highest figure, while Peter Young of Watford, who has raised hundreds of pounds over many years, topped the list and received the £100 voucher for the individual sponsorship.

The compliments we receive on the beauty of the bluebells, the careful waymarking of the route, the general organisation and the delicious cake offered at the end of the walk all encourage us to go ahead with plans for next year. So put Sunday 10th May in your forward planners now. Don't miss the best sponsored walk of the year, with different routes each time to add to its interest.

In the town one day several members of the fund raising committee met a student wearing a Children's Society T-shirt, collecting donations towards £3,000 sponsorship she needed to join a charity trek up Mt. Kilimanjaro. Thirty two Bath University students joined this trek for The Children's Society and between them they raised £80,000. To help Jess Phillips reach her target, the committee offered her the opportunity to give a presentation at the Court House, inviting supporters to join us for wine and a buffet.

None of us had realised what a traumatic experience it is to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro! This six day trek was dramatically recorded by photo and video, showing the effects of the different climate zones they climbed through to the arctic cold and lack of oxygen on the nine hour final stretch to the top.

This final stage started at midnight in order to watch the sunrise over the horizon from this great height. On average, only 44% of trekkers overcome the altitude sickness and reach the summit but all 32 of Jess's group succeeded!

Matthew Reed, the Chief Executive of The Children's Society, also addressed the gathering of 60 supporters. He was brought up in a family which has always supported The Children's Society, and is a fireball of enthusiasm and ambition for the future of the charity! Having been in place for 2 years now, he gave an overview of his plans to make The Children's Society a much more significant and well organised force in the future.

Being a smaller charity than many others it uses its influence with research and campaigning to change public and government attitudes to the needs of children of this country. By stepping up this work it will increase the number of children whose lives are improved by the charity from 40,000 to over a million per year.

Matthew Reed, an ordained priest, has known the desperation of families in areas where large companies close and unemployment rockets. He worked in a Young Offenders prison during his training and has seen the result of children being brought up in the Care System. This costs the taxpayer £200,000 per year per child, and yet, two years after leaving the system, 25% will be involved in the criminal justice system and spiral downwards to a life of crime and prison.

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Your Garden

Adventures in Boots by Helen Reeley



When you read this in September things might be a little 'over' in the flower gardens but as I write in August things are blazing away. Crocosmia, Echinacea, Perovskia and Rudbeckia are all putting on their best show in my gardens.

September is truly one of the busiest years in the gardening calendar; for me it marks the start of the horticultural year. All activities from September onwards are geared for what's going to happen next year. Flowering perennials will be cut back to flower again next year and September is the start of the bulb season so I'll select and plant the best varieties for a show next year. I buy bulbs early so I get what I want size and colour wise, most of my planting schemes don't require tall narcissus and tulips for example. And we start planting shrubs and trees again now the heat of high summer is over and dormancy just round the corner. We'll still need to water freshly planted borders for a while especially if autumn proves dry.

This September I shall be propagating semi-ripe cuttings from a few plants. On my list is a particular Penstemon called 'Raven' that has a dark moody purple flower along with Salvia 'Hot Lips' which I simply adore for its pure gayness. Added to the list will be and a few Asters, Pelargoniums and Fuchsias and that will fill up the greenhouse.

Nurseries and garden centres often have plant sales this time of year so look out for bargains that aren't too ragged. If you know what you're doing even a pot bound specimen can be revived with re-potting, dividing, new compost and good soak.

Arabella and me were the guests of the Head Gardener Kevin Martin at Glyndebourne Opera House in August. A group of garden writers were given a guided tour by Kevin before we watched 'Rinaldo' inside and subsequently picnicked outdoors in the beautiful grounds. It's a popular myth that Glyndebourne is an outside opera experience, it is not; the opera house is a modern well designed indoor building with decent seating. But the gardens are more beautiful...

If you're planning any changes in your garden do feel free to call to arrange an informal garden chat on :-

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Your Sport

The Tour of Britain comes to Berkhamsted

Matthew Dawson

This month sees the **Tour of Britain** begin on Sunday 7th September with Stage One in Liverpool and then finishing with stage Eight b on Sunday 14th in London. However, on Friday 12th September the Tour is set to come through Berkhamsted and the surrounding areas on the second largest stage of the tour. It starts at Bath, and finishes in Hemel Hempstead, which accumulates to 205.7km of open road cycling.

The Tour is set to feature some of the world's finest riders including 4 times Olympic Gold medallist and 2012 Tour of France winner Bradley Wiggins who will look to defend the title he won in 2013. Ten of the teams competing at the Tour de France will be in action as the cyclists head through Bucks and Herts in the closing stages of stage six.

The Tour is the biggest professional bike race in England and for the first time will pass through Dacorum so those who venture down into the town on the 12th will get to witness a little piece of history.

Stage Six goes through a host of towns, and after passing through Princes Risborough, it heads through Great Missenden and then into Chesham before passing Ashley Green. The cyclists will then proceed towards Chesham Road before going over the A41 and taking a left down Kingshill Way.

Next the route heads down Kings Road and past Butts Meadow before reaching Lower Kings Road, going under the railway and then passing the castle. Upon reaching the castle a right will be taken and Berkhamsted CC and the Kitcheners fields will be on the cyclists left before reaching a steep climb up New Road towards Berkhamsted Golf Club. They'll then go through the common towards Potten End and then eventually into Hemel where the stage finishes at Gadebridge Park.

It'll be a fantastic chance to see some of the World's top riders go through our historic market town and if you get the chance you can also head up to London over the weekend to see the final stages and the conclusion to the 2014 Friends Life Tour of Britain.

For more information on the Tour of Britain and to see up to date information at the time of the tour itself visit; <http://www.tourofbritain.co.uk>

Straying away from cycling I would like to quickly congratulate Berkhamsted Raiders CFC on winning the 'FA Charter Standard Community Club of the Year'. Chairman Keith Pollard and Ian Sayle received the award on the pitch at half time from none other than Sir Geoff Hurst in front of the 71,000 people who turned out to watch the Community Shield between Arsenal and Manchester City on Sunday 10th August at Wembley.

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The lives of children whose families struggle with low wages and debt can be blighted by deprivation in many ways. With many other illustrations, the audience was enthused by the possibilities for the charity in the future, and inspired to work even harder to support it financially.

The Children's Society began as a charity within the Church of England and its connections continue. Matthew serves on three panels, with the Archbishop of Canterbury, with the Archbishop of York and on an advisory panel with the Lords Bishops who sit in the House of Lords. Every eight weeks he meets Chief Executives of other children's charities working in this country to coordinate ideas, work and publicity. It was good to hear there is co-operation of this nature rather than competition between charities doing similar work.

Everyone was impressed by Matthew's knowledge, enthusiasm and huge desire to make an impact on the deprivation he has seen in his work. The impact on those who heard him resulted in a great desire to do more for The Children's Society.

Ann Browning

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