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August 2015

## Part 2 of our short story 'War and Peace'



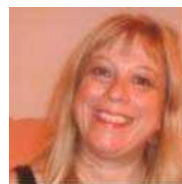
At Picking from Rainforests

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

# In this issue...

## Welcome to the August 2015 edition of *Your Berkhamsted*

This month Vernon Mildew is discussing litter and how if everyone took their litter home or used bins – not just on trains but anywhere – it would make a difference. We also have all the information you need for the Open Heritage days in Berkhamsted, we have a wonderful history and I am sure you will learn something new. We are still encouraging budding authors with our 'Writer's Page' and I encourage you to write in with a short story or poem you want to share. Our 'What's On' page shows for events in August in and around Berkhamsted; also look out for YB tweets on @Yourberkhamsted. Please see email below and get in touch if there are any ideas or stories you may have, either to publish, or additions/changes to the magazine for consideration.



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Front cover image: Thank you Mary Casserley for the wonderful front cover painting of the Rising



## *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 column, Julian Dawson trawls the blogosphere, checks out a vase and warns of the dangers of trees and manholes



My most loyal and attentive fans (a couple at least including me), will remember [archiseek.com](http://archiseek.com), an excellent site for architectural gems. Newcomers to my eccentric column are referred to the entry for the proposed East End of Little Gaddesden Church, by the architect E.W. Godwin. It really is a most marvellous treat, and is taken from Building News of July 1871, a little matter of 144 years ago. Perhaps we can send out a correspondent to investigate whether the plans came to fruition. Some of you will be able to tell me I'm sure. In fact I can see a new column on the architectural histories of our local churches.

Retaining the historical theme, but moving forward 73 years, the [neilbaldwin.net](http://neilbaldwin.net) blog describes his trip to the D-Day landings near Caen, the martyr, well one of many, of the battle of Normandy. His journey took us through our own town on the way to the ports, where current battles of industrial disputes and desperate immigration provide their own desperate tales of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

On to a more personal blog, [jasmineww.blogspot.co.uk](http://jasmineww.blogspot.co.uk), which provides the story of a one of

Berkhamsted's many au pairs. It is quite a touching column, which speaks of initial home sickness which is steadily transformed until at the end of the stay she is desperately sad to leave her new friends and adopted home town behind. "It's weird how someone who you are almost forced to spend time with, all of a sudden becomes the best thing in your life." Seemingly prosaic, yet containing an emotional kernel of truth.

Enough tugging on the heart strings. Bring on the FA Cup, now sponsored by Emirates. Berkhamsted will play Hanworth Villa at home in the Extra Preliminary round on 15<sup>th</sup> August. Give them your support on the road to Wembley! This from another blog, [thecoldend.blogspot.co.uk](http://thecoldend.blogspot.co.uk) which reports on non-league football in our part of the world. Meanwhile [dunstabletoday.co.uk/](http://dunstabletoday.co.uk/) reports that the winner of that match will play Barton Rovers away in the Preliminary Round.

Continuing with the grass-roots theme, [nonleaguedaily.com](http://nonleaguedaily.com) gives the draw for the FA Vase; Berkhamsted will play Woodford United at home in the Qualifying Round, and if successful will then earn a home tie against

(Continued on page 5)

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(Continued from page 3)

Northampton On Chenecks (you what?) or Sun Postal Sports. Berkhamsted will aim to emulate their predecessors at Broadwater when Town reached the final in 2001.

Since when has this been a sports column, I hear you cry. I cover all life's rich tapestry, so let's head to Bedfordshire once again at [luton-dunstable.co.uk](http://luton-dunstable.co.uk) where we hear the inspiring tale of Molly Poultnery who took care of a boy who had fallen out of a tree in Berkhamsted (don't ask), and ensured that his mother was

comforted. The girl from Caddington Village School had earlier rescued a boy from a manhole. The twelve-year-old received a well-deserved award from the East of England Ambulance Service for her calm efforts, though the way these events follow her around I'm not too keen on being in her vicinity! Though in all seriousness, it would appear that the victims, who appear to have been a combination of Dennis the Menace and Horrid Henry, were no doubt in excellent hands.

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# What's on

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 12.30pm – 1.30pm:  
Lunchtime concerts – St Mary's Church,  
High Street, Hemel Hempstead

Berkhamsted Artisans, Arts & Crafts  
Market (1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.greatmarkets@vpweb.co.uk)

Tring Farmers Market (Alternate  
Saturdays)

The Marketplace, Brook Street, Tring  
9.00am - 12.15pm

Tring Farmers Market promotes local food  
for local people and offers a full range of  
produce including: meat, eggs, bacon,  
cakes, biscuits, preserves, pies,  
vegetables, cheese, fish, plants, jewellery,  
crafts and much more. For more info  
email:

[enquiries@tringfarmersmarket.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@tringfarmersmarket.co.uk)

August

Ashridge - For our full list of events please  
visit [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge)  
or to book your place contact the Visitor  
Centre on 01442 851227.

Join us for a range of '50 things' activities  
on 'Wild Wednesdays' over the summer  
holidays.

Wednesdays Aug 5, 12, 19; 12.30-1 pm,  
2.30 - 3pm;

No fixed charge but £1 donation  
appreciated

Come along and see how many of the 50  
things you can do on our summer trail.  
Pick up a trail, answer the questions and  
collect your sticker.

Until Sept 6; 10am-5pm £1 per child

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Aug at 7pm – Concert Rotary Club  
of Berkhamsted Bulbourne (RCBB). Castle  
outdoor performance of Iolanthe  
performed by Illyria theatre company.  
Please bring seating, picnics and suitable  
clothing. [www.berkorotary.org](http://www.berkorotary.org) for more  
info; Tom Ritchie, 3 Newbury Grove, Kings  
Road, Berkhamsted, HP4 3FY. Cheques  
payable to RCBB, with SAE. £20, U15's  
£15. 01442 863659

St Lawrence Church, Bovingdon Flower  
Festival and Art Show 29<sup>th</sup> August 10.30-  
5pm, 30<sup>th</sup> August 12-5pm, 31<sup>st</sup> August  
10.30-5pm. Concert on Saturday 30th Aug  
7.30pm FREE ENTRY.

This will be our second Bi-Annual Festival  
and the theme this year is Anniversaries.  
Six well known artists will be exhibiting.  
There will be an Antiques and Collectables  
Stall during the festival and on the  
Monday afternoon there will be an  
opportunity to bring your own antiques/  
collectables to be valued by an expert.

We have an award winning Delphinium  
grower who supplies Buckingham Palace,  
Clarence House etc. Teas, coffee, lunch  
and our new Pimms Bar will be on offer as  
well as food from the village market and  
not forgetting the tombola.

On Saturday Bovingdon Players and  
Harrow Opera will be performing a variety  
of prose and songs with the Chess  
Quartet.

(Continued on page 8)

# What's on , continued .....

Out of Town

The Court Theatre -

[www.courttheatre.co.uk](http://www.courttheatre.co.uk)

Aylesbury Waterside Theatre: for information - <http://www.atgtickets.com>

Watford Colosseum: for information - <https://watfordcolosseum.co.uk>

September

17-20 September 2015

St Peter's Kulturelles Oktoberfest

This year, the St Peter's Oktoberfest presents the complete organ works of J. S. Bach - 17 hours of music - that will run from Thursday 17 September at 2pm till Sunday evening; the recitals will be played by a mixture of organists, and will be free entry. Nearer the time one will be able to sponsor one of Bach's 330 (1685-2015) years as a way of supporting this marathon and St Peter's Church.

The usual Oktoberfest components will also be in evidence with a guided German wine tasting on Saturday evening, a Bach cantata during Mass on Sunday morning, and a lunchtime Bierfest outside the church on Sunday lunchtime. Please keep an eye on St Peter's Church website for more information.

Mon 28th September 2015: 8.45am to 4.30pm - Down Syndrome Conference 2015 Location: The Fielder Centre, Hatfield, AL10 9TP Introduction by Professor Sue Buckley OBE. This conference is aimed at school staff, professionals, front line workers and parents/carers of children and young people with Down Syndrome. Subsidised crèche available for children under the age of 5. The conference has been

organised by DSPL Area 7 (St Albans) and subsidised by all Hertfordshire DSPL Area Groups. There is a small attendance fee which DSPL 8 will pay for staff and parents from Dacorum Schools. Please contact Jan Nethercoat if you would like to receive more information and book a place.

September 30th 2015: 8.00 pm - The next Friends of St Peter's social event will be held on Wednesday, September 30th 2015 at 8.00 p.m. in the Court House. It will consist of a film entitled 'Life on the Home Front in Hertfordshire - A County at War' followed by a talk by David Pearce on Berkhamsted Parish Memorials of WW1. It promises to be a very interesting evening. There is no charge and all are welcome.



**BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY**  
31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2015 | 11AM - 5PM





# Take it with you – litter on our trains

Vernon Mildew

There was a time when you could board a train without being confronted with half-full coffee cups, empty sandwich wrappers, beer cans, banana skins and the like. But sadly, a rubbish-free journey is now a dim and distant memory. When did our trains first become so dirty and littered? I have been travelling up and down the London Midland (formerly Silverlink) line for almost a decade and don't remember it being a problem during the earlier years. However, it is clear that the amount of trash thoughtlessly discarded by passengers is on the increase, and the state of many compartments is a disgrace.

So when and why did it become acceptable to dump your rubbish on the floor, in the gangway or on the empty seat next to you? Does it ever occur to these litterers that their fellow passengers might object to sitting on a seat smeared with food, or by a floor wet from the contents of an upturned takeaway coffee cup, or at a sticky table littered with half-finished drinks and empty crisp packets?

Age, sex and class are no barriers to this anti-social behaviour. There are plenty of so-called 'respectable' middle-aged, middle-class men and women who don't give a second thought about polluting the on board environment. One wonders if the well-worn phrases of the self-centred, entitlement generation are at play here.

*It's not my job. Someone is paid to do it.* And indeed, the train companies do employ hapless souls to dash down the aisles collecting the muck that lazy travellers are too important to have

removed themselves.

But why? By doing this, aren't the companies admitting defeat and saying 'Yes, you are too important to put your own litter in the bins we provide in every compartment, or simply to bag it up and take it with you. We'll get someone else to do it at the end of the line, and in the meantime other paying customers can travel among your filth.'

We are constantly being reminded to take all of our belongings with us when we get off the train, never to leave any items unattended, not to travel unless we have the right ticket for the right class carriage or train service. Would it be so difficult to add to this, please consider other travellers and put your rubbish in the bin or take it with you? If no-one is willing to make the point that this conduct is unacceptable, what incentive is there for people to reflect on their actions and make changes?

On occasion I have pointed out to a passenger that they could choose to put their rubbish in the bin rather than leave it on the seat or floor. But I was recently warned that this could be dangerous – what if I was attacked for challenging someone's misconduct? If it is now the accepted norm to have total disregard for the people we share public spaces with, and to question this puts you in mortal danger, we should all be worried.

What are your views on litter on trains? We'd love to know. Write to the editor at [editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk) or drop a letter into the church office letterbox at the side of the Court House.

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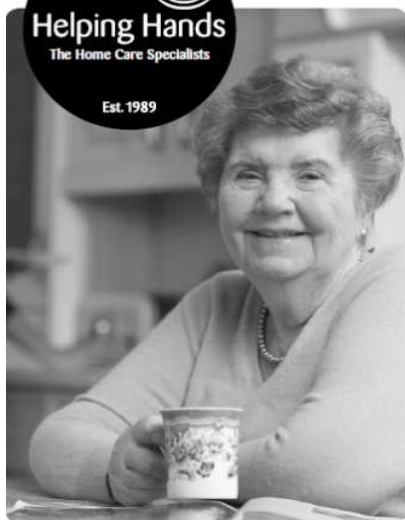
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# Berkhamsted Local History and Museum

## Society Programme 2015 - 2016

9<sup>th</sup> September 2015 An Introduction to Crested China.

Graham Webster of 'Bygone Treasures Crested China'

14<sup>th</sup> October 2015 Farming in Hertfordshire in 19<sup>th</sup> century

Dr Julie Moore of the University of Hertfordshire

11<sup>th</sup> November 2015 The History of Stag Lane Aerodrome, 1917-1934

Stuart McKay, Author of Tiger, the de Havilland Tiger Moth.

9<sup>th</sup> December 2015 Black Plumes and Victorian Mourning.

Robert Stephenson of Kensal Green Cemetery

13<sup>th</sup> January 2016 Medieval Wall Paintings & the Medieval World View

Julie Wakefield, formerly Assistant Curator of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Museum

10<sup>th</sup> February 2016 Pictures in the parlour: the Story of the Magic Lantern. Kevin Varty of the Magic Lantern Society

9<sup>th</sup> March 2016 AGM followed by From Business College to Monastery: the story of Ashridge House. Ken Wallis, Society member.

All meetings are held in the Wellcome Great Hall, Berkhamsted Town Hall and start at 8pm. Visitors are always welcome £2.50 on the door.

Further details of the Society visit

[www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk](http://www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk)

### **Berkhamsted's Heritage Open Days**

10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> September 2015

For many years now the Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society has featured Heritage Open Days every September as part of Berkhamsted's heritage calendar. Over the years we have had guided tours of sixteen different sites. Some have been more successful than others and because we want variety we have dropped one or two and almost every year introduced new ones.



Berkhamsted has a rich history and our ideas are not yet exhausted! We are hoping particularly this year to increase the support from schools, especially from the teachers, very few of whom now live locally. A study of the local town and environment

now features in the National Curriculum. Quite apart from that it is important to broaden one's horizon beyond the narrow perimeters of a restricted curriculum and encourage observation and the asking of questions.

Spend some time looking at the old photographs all relating to our Town Hall and see the short history of the Market House, the Mechanics' Institute and learn about Edward Buckton Lamb, the architect. How times have changed! You can't go to a Smoking Concert now – you can't even smoke in the building.

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

Come up to the Common and visit the WWI trenches and see the exhibition of photos of the IOCOTC who trained there before leaving for France. Go up to Ashlyns School and learn what life was like for the children at the Foundling Hospital from 1935-55. From two former foundlings. Make the most of this opportunity, which will not be there forever. Come up to Berkhamsted Place. Yes, the main house was demolished in 1967 but much remains in this secluded place rich with history, successor to the Castle! How well do you really know it and of the history of the building and of the many people of national importance who lived there? Although no longer lived in after 1495 it has had a prominent position in the life of our town to this day. Either before or after visiting St Peter's Church come up Rectory Lane to Rectory Lane Cemetery and see the progress the Friends have made during the last year. Follow some trails and find where your ancestors were buried.

And that is not everything! All these sites are FREE. Further details and bookings from Jenny Sherwood, 01442 865158 or [KSherw9100@aol.com](mailto:KSherw9100@aol.com). Or websites [www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk](http://www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk) and [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk)

## **Support Berkhamsted's Heritage Open Days**

### **Friday 11th September**

'A Walk Into the Past - Berkhamsted Place, Successor to the Castle' 10am Guided Tour, including the Great Barn, plus small exhibition.

Berkhamsted Place was built by Sir Edward Carey in the reign of Elizabeth I using material from the Castle. From the 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards it was frequently

referred to as the Castle. Little remains of the Mansion but the area is rich in history. The Barn probably pre-dates the house.

Dacorum Heritage Trust Museum Store - numbers limited. Tours at 2.30pm and 4.30pm Booking essential. [collectionsmanager@dacorumheritage.org.uk](mailto:collectionsmanager@dacorumheritage.org.uk) or 01442 879525. This museum store holds collections from all parts of Dacorum. Come and see why Dacorum so desperately needs a museum.

### **Saturday 12th September**

Dacorum Heritage Trust Museum Store. Tour at 10.30am

'A Walk Into the Past - Berkhamsted Place, Successor to the Castle'. Guided tour at 2pm. Details as above.

Visit the Devil's Own World War 1 trenches. Small exhibition of the Inns of Court OTC in WW1 Berkhamsted and guided tours to include Memorial, trenches and possibly rifle butts.

Open 11am-4pm

Tours: 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm & 2.30pm

The IOCOTC were in Berkhamsted from 1914-19 and trained in Berkhamsted and the countryside around digging a large number of training trenches in preparation for warfare on the Western Front. A short area of these has been uncovered and preserved as a permanent memorial to the many who were later to lose their lives. A lottery-funded project.

### **Sunday 13th September**

The following sites are open:

Old Hall & Chapel, Berkhamsted School.

Tours 10.30am and 2.30pm

Old Hall was built in 1544 and the beautiful little chapel is Victorian. Small exhibition included.

## Heritage Open Days

Berkhamsted Town Hall, open 10.30am-12.30pm. Guided tour at 11am. This market house, meeting room and room for the Mechanics' Institute was designed by Edward Buckton Lamb and replaced the Elizabethan market hall burnt down in 1854. There is a permanent exhibition of old photographs.

Berkhamsted Castle tours at 10.30am, 12.30pm, 3pm. This is the best remaining motte and bailey castle in the country and has many royal associations. 16 display panels on its history and connections with the town in the Castle Visitor Room.

St Peter's Church and Court House. Tours at 3pm. The church was consecrated in 1222 and has many fine monuments. The Court House is Tudor.

Ashlyn's School, the former Foundling Hospital, open 1pm-5.30pm.

Tours at 1.30pm and 3.30pm, led by former foundlings. A DVD and small exhibition is included. Fine stained glass and many monuments from the original London Foundling Hospital in the Chapel.

Rectory Lane Cemetery, open 1.30pm-6pm. Guided tours at 2pm, 3pm, 4pm. Small exhibition on the cemetery's history; WWI and local notables' trails, update on the RLC Project, help with genealogy enquiries and 'Find a Grave'. Activities for children.

All events are free! Bookings and enquiries to Jenny Sherwood, [KSherw9100@aol.com](mailto:KSherw9100@aol.com) or 01442 865158 except for the DHT Museum Store details above. More details at [www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk](http://www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk) or [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk).

## Ashridge House Guided Tours

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> August to Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> August – Monday to Thursday only. Commencing 2pm/2.30pm

### Guided House tour prices:

	Standard Admission	Gift Aid Admission
Adult	£8.00	£9.00
Children/Concession	£5.00	£5.50
HHA members	Free	Free

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	Standard Admission	Gift Aid Admission
Adult	£15.00	£16.50
Children/Concession	£9.00	£10.00

\*access to gardens included in tour price.

**Chilterns**  
Countryside and Food Festival  
Sunday 13th September 2015  
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# Short Story

The short story holds an important place in English literature. From Edgar Allan Poe to Kate Mosse, writers down the ages have turned their attention to this form. It's now *Your Berkhamsted*'s turn! We are asking our readers to let us publish their work. Don't let inexperience put you off trying. Your subject can be humour, adventure, love, fun, mystery or just an intriguing situation. Around 700 words, and anonymous if you wish.

## War and Peace – Part Two

### By James Dawson

Peace is the opposite to war. We see peace as a very good thing and that everyone should have it in their lives. Lots of people say that all good people deserve peace and that bad people don't. Sometimes we take peace in our country for granted instead of realising how lucky we are to live in a country where we have enough money, no wars and lots of food. Peace is about sharing. Lots of countries in Africa, South America and Asia suffer too much from starvation, wars, crime and loss of money. If only we shared more, poor countries wouldn't rely on countries like the UK, Canada, Australia, Germany and other rich countries to fight for them in wars, help them farm their crops, teach people how to be a doctor, teacher etc and to share money with them. If we shared things like land then we wouldn't have as many wars.

Peace is also about listening. Prime Ministers and Presidents along with others help to govern a country. They make sure everyone is getting the right

amount of food, shelter and education that we need. We always moan about politics in this country. We say things like 'they're not running the country properly' or 'they never listen to what we want or what we think is best' or they always say things like 'sure we'll do that' when really they're lying. Some countries leaders are not fair on their people at all and always keep all their money to themselves. That is why we have the United Nations (UN). The UN is a collection of Prime Ministers and Presidents from all across the World which come together to discuss world issues. The UN makes sure that all of the countries are getting a fair life. They make sure everyone gets the amount of food, shelter and education that each country needs. In the UN the Prime Ministers and Presidents try their best to listen to each other to come up with ideas for solving bad things in the world such as starvation. Sharing and listening are only two ways that can help us to create peace but there are many more such as caring, trusting, forgiving, being helpful, being non-judgemental and giving everyone the fair amount of freedom they need. We can help by spreading the message that peace is a good thing and that we should focus more on peace than on war. We should teach people in Africa how to grow their crops and to help people who are very ill or have lost homes due to natural causes or war. We should never give up on Peace.

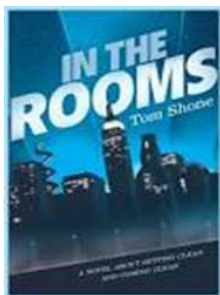
Overall I think War and Peace are two important things. They both give us things we could not live without. Peace gives us happiness, freedom and the right to be

heard. War gives us new discoveries; in medicine, weapons and other cultures. We have wars to try and settle our differences. Some people would agree that without opinions we wouldn't have war, but we need opinions to be able to make good peace makers. If we brought all of our opinions and ideas together we would make one big idea which is fair for everyone. If we listened to each other then we would know how to stop wars

and create peace. I think someone's idea shouldn't be put to one side. People who don't listen to useful advice should do as it may come in handy in the future. It's good that we commemorate days like Remembrance Day because we can remember all those who died for our country and also to learn from our mistakes. War and peace should be talked about down the generations as important subjects.

## Book Review

**Julian Dawson reviews *In the Rooms* by Tom Shone**



On the face of it, Tom Shone's novel "In the Rooms" doesn't sound like a whole bundle of laughs. English literary agent Patrick Miller comes to New York following his girlfriend, and hoping to make it big.

Six months later his relationships has finished and he is attempting to sell books he doesn't believe in. However, a chance sighting of legendary novelist Douglas Kelsey brings him into a world of addicts of all descriptions, where he discovers that sobriety gains him excellent networking opportunities and romance.

In point of fact, in places this novel had me laughing out loud on the commute, which on the 8.15 is tantamount to talking loudly in the Bodleian. From apparent darkness, Shone brings a lightness (sorry

about that) of touch and emotional attachment to the characters. We engage with Patrick's own journey of discovery, as he confronts his own demons and finally reaches his own truth.

Those of us who know Manhattan would perhaps enjoy this even more, as the author describes it with a fine observation. Having emigrated there from Britain, perhaps there is a touch of the autobiographical about Patrick's experiences in a new city.

A novel about alcoholism might have been a depressing wallow in the failures of humanity, but in Tom Shone's hands we get a touch of cynicism, much satire, and examination of the American Dream. It also asks awkward questions of ourselves. Are we all in denial of our alcoholism? Do we really know ourselves? Through the hilarity shines a very human tale.

# Podcast Review

## Old Time Radio

In previous columns I've recommended contemporary podcasts of interest but this month we are going to take a journey into the past. Old Time Radio is the name given to what is also often called the 'golden age' of radio broadcasting in the US. It broadly covers the period from the 1920s to 1960. Throughout these decades, radio listening was a favourite indoor pastime of housewives and the young and elderly during the day, and of families in the evenings. There was content to suit all ages and tastes; from comedies to crime dramas, soap operas to news features and documentaries, full cast play and film adaptations to quizzes and game shows. In short, the programmes were not dissimilar to the television shows of today, except it was the audience who supplied the pictures, in their mind's eye.

The majority of this vast radio output is sadly lost forever. Most programmes, particularly before World War II, were broadcast live and no recordings of them were ever made. This also meant that actors would need to do two performances of the same programme in a day – one for the East coast and one for the West. Although pre-recorded programming eventually become more common, many recordings were wiped, destroyed or lost over time.

By 1960, television was rapidly growing in popularity, and radio stations switched to airing predominantly music-based programmes. But interest in Old Time Radio persisted and collectors began trading those recordings still in existence. Now, thanks to the internet, many of the surviving radio programmes are available to listen to online for free. These include comedies from the likes of Bob Hope, Groucho Marx and Abbott

and Costello, plays starring greats such as Bette Davies and John Geilgud, and countless entertaining performances by actors who may be less well-known to us today but who were no less talented.

If you have never sampled the delights of Old Time Radio before, a good place to start is the dedicated section of the Internet Archive (<https://archive.org/details/oldtimeradio>). Here is a selection of recommending listening:

**Detective:** Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce star as Holmes and Watson in *The New Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, which originally aired between 1939 and 1947.

**Comedy:** Film star Eve Arden is *Our Miss Brooks*, a wise-cracking high school teacher who gets herself into any number of scrapes. This show is much funnier than most of the sitcoms you will find on television today.

**Mystery:** In *The Whistler* the eponymous narrator introduces spooky tales with a twist, not unlike television's *Tales of the Unexpected*.

**Plays:** *The Campbell Playhouse* has full cast adaptations of novels such as *Les Misérables*, Noel Coward's *Private Lives* and Agatha Christie's *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*, all directed and starring Orson Welles. Other notable actors in the series include Laurence Olivier and Katharine Hepburn. The series began with *Rebecca*, and there is an interview with author Daphne du Maurier at the end of that programme.

**Crime:** Orson Welles again, this time as host of *The Black Museum* – stories inspired by Scotland Yard's Crime Museum, which houses items of evidence from real-life

# Your Berkhamsted Clergy

I saw a picture of the Pope looking at the Turin shroud, maybe the first to see it in its latest exhibition. It reminded me of a book I used to have on the Shroud. I remember the book particularly because it was given as a gift, a present from someone who wanted to say thank you in a practical way. I knew they could not afford it because I had amicably negotiated with several mail order companies to whom the person owed hundreds of pounds and who, between them, wrote off the majority of the debt. The book was “mail-order”!

Debt is certainly in the news as I write. Is it ever out of it? Greece has ratcheted up huge debts. Our own country is heavily indebted. The United States owes billions of dollars. As the world goes round so nations borrow simply to pay the interest on existing debts in a seemingly never-ending cycle.

Personally most of us could not manage without going into debt, certainly from time to time. The mortgage, the car, the credit card, the store card, the bill to be paid at the end of the week, even not paying for a meal until you have finished eating it or putting drinks on a tab at the bar, are just a few examples.

It can be no surprise that in first century Palestine debt was also a major topic of the day. As an agricultural country people borrowed against the next year's harvest, and if that did not produce enough the cycle of debt began. Quite a few of Jesus stories are about debt. People are threatened with slavery, or prison, violence or exclusion if they do not pay. The uncomfortable message that comes through is that in the end if debt cannot be paid it has to be forgiven, written off. “Forgive us our debts as we forgive those

who are indebted to us”, is the ultimate prayer.

Of course, that seems no practical way to manage. Scoundrels would be borrowing like fury, living the life of Riley, knowing that they would never have to pay. However, the responsibility is twofold. Borrowers borrow on the understanding they will pay back, but they pay interest which covers not just the cost to the lender but more (sometimes lots more) as a kind of insurance against default. When payment is made the lender makes his profit. Lenders, on the other hand, take a risk which is why they are paid more than they lend. If you make a mistake and lend to a person who cannot, or will not, pay you back you lose your money. That is well understood in everyday life and in organisations like the Stock Market. When lenders will not shoulder their responsibility, take the losses arising from their decisions to lend in the first place big problems arise, as do those when borrowers will not or cannot pay.

Forgiveness may seem to be no way to do business or run the global economy, but in the end it may well be the only reality. Debts can become too big ever to be paid off and will have to be written off somehow or other. Catastrophic inflation is the worst way of down-sizing debt as it leads to huge social problems.

Forgiveness is the quality which leads to new life for both borrowers and lenders. And it is not only to do with money but with the whole of life. It is a fundamental Christian insight. This is why those, however wealthy or poor, who have the mind set of someone who owes finds it Gospel, good news.

Anthony Lathe

## 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 Rosslyn Laidler: tel 01442 879992
- 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, 3 Sherwood Mews Park Street, Berkhamsted HP4 1HX
- 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, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00am (St Peter's), Tuesday 9am (All Saints' Shrublands Road)

Eucharist – Tuesday 9:30am (All Saints'); Wednesday 8:30am, Thursday 9.30am (St Peter's)

Evening Prayer Monday – Friday 5.00pm – Saturday 6:00pm (St Peter's)



## **This Month's Diary**

### **Events at St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted, presented by The Cowper Society**

Sat 1 Aug at 2:30pm: CONCERT in St Peter's Church, Lady Chapel – Sounds tastic bring a bear concert. A fun and informal introduction to classical music for the whole family with Ben, violin, and Rebecca, piano; free refreshments. Adults £7.50, children & bears free. Book via [www.soundstastic.co.uk](http://www.soundstastic.co.uk)

### **St Peters**

#### **Baptisms**

28<sup>th</sup> June: Harry Christopher Campbell, Kara Anna Pritchard, Florence Clara Anne Mizen  
Elsie Hannah Lyus

#### **Weddings**

6<sup>th</sup> June: Neil Wilson Lawrence and Chantal Serena Elizabeth Ricketts

#### **Funerals**

18<sup>th</sup> June: Roy Payne

19<sup>th</sup> June: Gwynneth Mary Bradstreet

### **All Saints' – August**

2nd: Ninth Sunday after Trinity, 10am Morning Worship, Revd Rachael Hawkins

9th: Tenth Sunday after Trinity, 10am Holy Communion, Revd Brian Tebbutt

16th: Eleventh Sunday after Trinity, 10am Morning Worship, Richard Hackworth and Tracy Robinson

23rd: Twelfth Sunday after Trinity, 10am Holy Communion, Revd John Kirkby

30th: Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity, 10am Holy Communion, Revd Rachael Hawkins

### **Further information available from our church websites:**

[www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk](http://www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk) and at [www.allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk).

### **Key Church contacts:**

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

Fr. Tim Pilkington, 01442 879739, Team Rector, St Peter's.

Fr. Tom Plant, 01442 382633 (day off Fri), Curate, St Peter's.

The Revd. Rachael Hawkins, All Saints' 01442 866324.

# News from the Hospice of St Francis

## Thank You Walkers!

Thank you to the 600 people who glowed for it and walked our Midnight Walk at the end of June. We are hoping to have raised at least £65k in sponsorship which will go towards patient care.



## Open Gardens

Come and see our stunning Hospice Gardens which we're opening as part of the NGS Open Gardens Scheme on Sunday 6 September 2pm – 5:30pm. Explore the sensory garden, woodland walk or enjoy refreshments on the lawns with their views over to the Ashridge Estate. The gardens were created from a brown field site eight years ago and today are a haven for plants and wildlife, being tended to by a team of entirely volunteer gardeners. Entrance to the event is £4.

## Our Spring Centre

Don't forget to check out our Spring Centre programme if you, or a friend/ relation, needs help after the diagnosis of a life-limiting illness. We have workshops, therapies, clinics and fitness groups on offer to help with your wellbeing. Visit: [www.stfrancis.org.uk/springcentre](http://www.stfrancis.org.uk/springcentre) to find out more.

## Returned to Glory Wins Award

Our furniture and upcycling showroom on the Northbridge Road in Berkhamsted has just scooped the prestigious 'Specialist Shop of the Year' award at the national Charity Retail Association Awards. The judges were impressed with the innovative shop, particularly its collaborative relationships with fabric designers, upcycling projects and re-inventing furniture to make it both desirable and unique.

Returned to Glory is always in need of furniture and homeware donations to sell and upcycle. Please drop them off at the shop or call 01442 874356 to arrange for a free home collection for larger items.

## Go Purple for St Francis

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October, at the end of Hospice Care Week, will you **Go Purple** to show your support for your local Hospice?



You can **WEAR** purple for the day, **BAKE** purple-iced cakes to sell and host a coffee morning or **BE CREATIVE** and organise your own crazy purple-themed fundraising activity. The aim is to make purple the colour of the day and help us turn purple into pounds!!

Anyone, schools, businesses, community groups or individuals can take part all we ask is that you donate what you can to help people who need our Hospice services in our local community. For your Go Purple Info Pack call 01442 869555 or email [gopurple@stfrancis.org.uk](mailto:gopurple@stfrancis.org.uk) or visit: [www.stfrancis.org.uk/gopurple](http://www.stfrancis.org.uk/gopurple)

### The Mud Pack Challenge is Back – Bigger and Muddier!

Registration has officially opened for The Hospice of St Francis' Mud Pack Challenge II, an adrenalin-fuelled obstacle course set in the beautiful grounds of Ashridge House and taking place on Sunday 18th October. Open to anyone over 15, it's fantastic fun for friends, teams and work colleagues. All that's needed is a sense of adventure



and a willingness to get muddy! Register now at [www.stfrancis.org.uk/mudpack](http://www.stfrancis.org.uk/mudpack).

[www.stfrancis.org.uk](http://www.stfrancis.org.uk)

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Facebook at: TheHospiceofStFrancis

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# Berkhamsted School News

## Victoria School Governor Vacancies

We are looking for people who might be interested in becoming a governor for Victoria School, to fill a number of vacancies. Governors are volunteers from the parent body, church and community, and are involved in the long term vision for Victoria, helping the Head and staff to deliver on the overall plan. They don't need to be an expert in education or have specific business skills (although we are looking for someone with finance experience to fill one of the spaces). For more information about the role, please contact Jenny Jenkins, Governor, on [jclj2@hotmail.com](mailto:jclj2@hotmail.com)

## Ashlyns School

Ashlyns Talent Showcased There is nowhere better to be on a sunny evening in Berkhamsted than the Ashlyns Summer Concerts: pre-show Pimms and BBQ under the colonnades; excitement in the balmy air. Vocal performances were to a professional standard (often composed or arranged by students themselves) and delightful pieces by brass, string and drums demonstrated how gifted and dedicated our students are. Backstage, production was as slick as ever, with the addition of the "Fifth Element", a new floating stage for the brass players. One parent commented: "There is so much talent; it has to be seen to be believed. This school tradition gets better every year".

## Things to do in the school holidays

**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**

**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 up near back of 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.bbowl.org.uk/collegelake>  
<http://www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/tring-reservoirs>

**WarnerBrosStudioTours** <http://www.wbstudiotour.co.uk/>

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# Your Charities

## Appledown Rescue's Dog of the Month



This is **Ar-meca**, she is a staffie cross aged 3 years. She is an incredibly happy friendly dog who is brilliant with people and other dogs. She is house-trained, playful, bright

and obedient. A popular girl with our staff and volunteers!

If you feel you could offer Armeca, or any of our other dogs a loving and secure home please call in at the kennels any day between 10 am and 4 pm. Please note that we have restrictions on rehoming dogs to families with children under 7 years. Full details of the rehoming process can be found on our website or call the kennels.

**Our Open Day and Fun Dog Show** is on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September. Lots of classes, refreshments and stalls. Opens at 11 a.m. classes commence 12 noon. Entries on the day.

Full details of the rehoming process can be found on our website or call the kennels. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter! Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels, Harling Road, Eaton Bray, LU6 1QY (Reg Charity No 1116848) 01525 220383 [appledown.kennels@btinternet.com](mailto:appledown.kennels@btinternet.com)

## Street Collection



On Saturday 29th August the Herts Committee for the ABF The Soldiers' Charity will be holding their annual Street Collection in Berkhamsted. This Collection was started more than a decade ago by Col Hal Owen formerly of Anglefield Road. The present organiser is Lt-Col Peter King.

The Collection is authorised by Dacorum Borough Council.

The ABF The Soldiers' Charity was set up in 1944 and is a registered charity and which raises significant sums of money every year to support existing and former soldiers and their families. It is a life time commitment and so any former soldier or their dependents can get help at any time.

The Charity gives financial help directly to individuals in time of need. It also provides financial support to other relevant charities such as homes for ex service-men.

More information including both how to donate and how to claim are on the Charity's web site [www.soldierscharity.org](http://www.soldierscharity.org) This year's Collection aims to follow the format of previous ones in that Collectors with tins are positioned in the High Street and Lower King's Road. They will be supported by up to three Chelsea

(Continued on page 27)



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(Continued from page 25)

Pensioners who will be in the Town, plus Local Army Cadets. The Collection is based at the Berkhamsted Royal British Legion Club and who give valuable support.

The people of Berkhamsted have traditionally supported this event very generously and it is hoped that this year will be no exception.

Although we do not now have so many of our soldiers involved in an active conflict as was the case a few years ago the need is a great today as it has ever been.

### **OXFAM and the early bird**

Are you already making notes in the back of your diary about important dates in 2016? Oxfam's range of diaries and calendars is now available and could solve the problem. The Family Organiser Calendar with space for five people is ideal for families with lots of important engagements to remember.

In addition to the usual pocket and slim-line diaries starting in January, there is a useful Academic Diary starting immediately for teachers and students. Decorated in fashionable pineapple shapes, the cover is a reminder of Oxfam's support for women pineapple growers in Rwanda.

Buy now while stock last!

## **Father John Pritchard's 270 mile sponsored cycle ride**

For 5 days in August Fr. John Pritchard with a few members from St John the Evangelist Church, Upper Norwood, Nicky Burchnall (daughter of David and Liz Pearce ) and Bev Julien, will be doing a sponsored cycle ride – London - Chichester – Brighton – Hastings – Canterbury – London ( 270 miles)

We are hoping to raise **£10,000 for Cancer Research UK** and for **Fr. John's Church** which is in need of extensive repair.

Please help us by donating to this enterprise –

By using the link <https://mydonate.bt.com/events/pedallingpilgrims/225731>  
or by contacting David or Liz Pearce Many thanks, Nicky Burchnall



# Artwork Charity Sale & Hertfordshire Open Studios Preview Exhibition

**17<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> August 2015 at the Upstairs Gallery in Berkhamsted.**

Proceeds to local homeless charity, DENS.

In the run up to this year's Herts Open Studios in September a group of local, Dacorum based, artists, in collaboration with the Upstairs Gallery in Berkhamsted, is holding a charity sale of original small artworks. The proceeds of this charity sale will be donated to DENS, a Dacorum based charity which helps provide a safe and friendly environment to vulnerable and homeless people within the Dacorum area.

The artists' work varies in discipline and includes paintings, encaustic wax, textiles, glass, photography, ceramics, print, jewellery and sculpture.

These works, together with larger pieces submitted by those artists participating in Herts Open Studios in Dacorum, will be on display for two weeks, 17<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> August 2015 (inclusive), at the Upstairs

Gallery above the Post Office in Berkhamsted High Street (open Tuesday – Saturday 10am to 4pm) in the run up to the Open Studios event in September.

This exhibition and charity sale will give the public a unique opportunity to see the work of many local artists and to meet several of them prior to the opening of their studios to the

general public during the period 5<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> September.



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Also online at [www.hvaf.org.uk](http://www.hvaf.org.uk)

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For further information on Herts Open Studios go to [www.hvaf.org.uk/Open-Studios-2015](http://www.hvaf.org.uk/Open-Studios-2015), and for details of the exhibition and sale contact Upstairs Gallery at [www.upstairsgallery.co.uk](http://www.upstairsgallery.co.uk).

The Upstairs Gallery in Berkhamsted is a non-profit-making contemporary gallery supporting local artists and makers and local DENS homeless charity.

**The Upstairs Gallery**, Above the Post Office, 268 High Street, Berkhamsted HP4 1AQ. Email: [upstairsgalleryberkhamsted@gmail.com](mailto:upstairsgalleryberkhamsted@gmail.com). Web: [www.upstairsgallery.co.uk](http://www.upstairsgallery.co.uk)

**Hertfordshire Open Studios**, 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 5<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

Contact for further information: Joan Fisher, Gallery Manager, Email: [upstairsgalleryberkhamsted@gmail.com](mailto:upstairsgalleryberkhamsted@gmail.com).

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# Your Sport

Matthew Dawson

## A trip to Camp Nou

It's that time of the year again; that moment in the calendar where you're either waiting eagerly for it to begin or utterly dreading it. I am of course talking about the football season which begins once more this month after a seemingly short break.

With the season getting back underway this month I thought there would be no better way to get back into it than by talking you through my visit to Barcelona's famous Camp Nou stadium in Catalunya.

Last month I visited Barcelona in Spain and one of the main things I wanted to do whilst out there was visit the Nou Camp. Barcelona's football ground is the biggest in Europe with a capacity of just over 99,000 and the sheer size of the ground replicated that; it was a great sight to behold.

The views from the upper parts of the stadium were incredible, and compared to any other ground I've visited such as Wembley and the Emirates it was like

none I've ever witnessed. It looks almost like an ancient amphitheatre or coliseum from the outside but once pitch side the ground looked amazing. The pitch was perfect, even during the off season which is when I went, whilst the insides are state of the art.

The original purpose of my trip to Camp Nou was to go on the Tour. However one of my favourite aspects was the Barcelona museum where the trophy

cabinet was displayed. The cabinet was absolutely huge and was lined with various prestigious domestic trophies from La Liga to the Copa Del Rey. However what was most

amazing, aside from looking out onto the pitch, was getting to see the five Champions League trophies Barcelona have won. As well as that I got to see the various Golden Boots and Ballon d'Or's (World Player of the Year) trophies that the great Lionel Messi has won.

If it couldn't already be seen, then the trophies and history on show gave a clear

(Continued)



indication of just how incredible Barcelona is as a football club. Simply being at their stadium made you appreciate how amazing the club is and what it must mean for a player to be a part of it. I'm a football fanatic and I have to admit that I did have goose bumps when I first saw the pitch.

Barcelona's ground wasn't all just about football though. The village situated outside the ground consisted of various food

courts and the official store covered 3 floors! In one part of the area where the Nou Camp is situated, there is the Palau Blaugrana arena which is home to Barcelona's basketball, handball, ice-hockey and futsal teams. Their trophies were also all displayed in the Barcelona museum.

It was a great day out and if anyone is planning on visiting Barcelona then I'd recommend this tour to any football fan!

# Did you know?

## Origin of the town's name

### Berkhamsted

The earliest recorded spelling of the town's name is the 10th century Anglo-Saxon *Beorhðanstædæ*. The first part originates from the [Old Celtic](#) word *Bearroc*, meaning "hilly place"; or alternatively it may originate from the [Old English](#) words *beorg*, meaning "hill", or *berc* or *beorc*, meaning "birch". The latter part, "hamsted", derives from the Old English word for homestead, and thus the town can be understood as either the "homestead amongst the hills" or the "homestead among the birches".

Local historian [Percy Birtchnell](#) identified over 50 different spellings and epithets for the town's name since the writing of the [Domesday Book](#); the present spelling was adopted in 1937. Other spellings included: "Berkstead", "Berkampsted", "Berkhampstead", "Muche Barkhamstede", "Berkhamsted Magna", "Great Berkhamsteed" and "Berkhamstead". The town's local nickname is "Berko".

(Source Wikipedia)

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