

*the magazine for town and parish since 1872*

YB

Your Berkhamsted

June 2016

Berkhamsted's Royal Visit - review and pictures

Comedian Damian Kingsley - touring UK for SHELTER

Local author - book review

50p

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

# In this issue...

**Welcome to the June 2016 edition of *Your Berkhamsted*.** *Just looking back on May, this was a month to remember and I am unashamedly guilty of embracing the Royal visit in this edition. We have some great content relating to all things Royal including pictures, reviews and historical Royal visits. Personally it will be remembered as blue skies, great atmosphere and quite surreal. I also interviewed Comedian Damian Kingsley, who is doing a great job raising money for Shelter. Our what's on page shows events 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.*

Jacqueline, Editor

[editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk)



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**Front cover:** Cover by Cynthia Nolan of Shoot Me Studios - all rights reserved. Large selection of images from this event can be seen in their window on Lower Kings Road Berkhamsted. Or phone on 01442 869 099 to access the gallery.



***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's Royal Visit

By Julian Dawson



The word that many of us used that day was 'surreal'. We couldn't quite believe it was going to happen, it certainly felt unreal as it happened, and looking back we felt had it really happened? Christopher Green never in his wildest dreams could have conceived of HM the Queen unveiling the newly restored memorial plaque to Elizabeth I herself. Perhaps the Lord Lieutenant could have been persuaded to interrupt her busy schedule. But the Queen? Our indefatigable musical director could never have imagined in his deepest sleep imaginings conducting a piece he had written himself for Her Majesty. After all, directing the choir in St Mark's Venice had been enough of a pinnacle hadn't it? And never in her remotest day dreaming could the parish flower arranger in chief have foreseen that her first posy would be executed for our longest reigning monarch.

But all of this did happen on the most beautifully perfect day in May, as Berkhamsted hosted the head of state for the first time since Queen Victoria visited in 1842. Very few of us would remember that, I venture. The town turned out en masse to welcome Queen Elizabeth on this special day, and the atmosphere was so special and all-encompassing that it has left an aura of excitement hanging over us all, with otherwise only the bunting to remind us that it had ever

happened.

There were of course the nay-sayers, the curmudgeons, the killjoys who gleefully told us on Three Counties Radio that nobody was interested in the royal visit. The huge crowds in the High Street, the rushing mass of Ashlyns students rushing across to the playing fields to wave Her Majesty off in her James Bond helicopter, indubitably proved them wrong in an emphatic and glorious way. It has been heard from well-informed circles that these were the largest crowds to gather at a royal visit for twelve months.

As a guest invited to official unveiling of the memorial plaque and performance by the School and church choirs, it felt a little odd to the other side of the crowd barriers, to be looking up to the windows full of excited onlookers waving flags. In a goldfish bowl looking out. The sense of anticipation as the minutes ticked by to Her Majesty's arrival was palpable. A combination of an imminent examination, awaiting the first visitor to your carefully planned dinner party, the early morning of the Petertide Fair. The rising crescendo of the crowd outside the church informed us that the moment had arrived. Cheers and shouts, an impromptu national anthem that gave you goose pimples and then the first glimpse of fuchsia pink, before there she was.

(continue on page 5)

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Small, smiling, elegant. She had arrived in our church. She unveiled the plaque. She sat, holding tightly on to her posy of English tulips, listening intently and smiling broadly, as the choirs sang proudly, strongly, and beautifully. And then a few private words and she had left the south door to her

next engagement in the town, to mark the 475<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Berkhamsted School. Now we can sit at dinner parties, talk to work colleagues, listen to relatives. As they tell us that they saw such and such from a TV programme, that actor, you know from what its name - we can smile inwardly with a glow of satisfaction, not smugly, but quietly. Ah yes, but I have met The Queen. What can possibly top that?



Drawings of Berkhamsted by Jenni Cator, Art at 88,  
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Berkhamsted, HP4 2BW Tel. 01442 769110  
info@artat88.co.uk.

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# What's on

**Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday** at 12.30 to 13.15:  
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)

**For Ashridge and a 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.**

**Fri, 3<sup>rd</sup> June @ 8.30pm - Total Batty  
Walk.** Booking required. National Trust,  
Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre. £8 Adult,  
£5 Child. 01442 851227.  
[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge)

**Sat, 4<sup>th</sup> June – Try Bowling** – Little  
Gaddesden Bowls and Croquet Club from  
10 am. [www.LGBCC.co.uk](http://www.LGBCC.co.uk)

**Sat, 4<sup>th</sup> and Sun 5<sup>th</sup> June – Two Oaks 10<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary Weekend** – come and meet  
the resident ponies and other animals at  
this local animal sanctuary. 12noon-4pm.  
[www.facebook.com/two-oaks-pony-  
sanctuary](http://www.facebook.com/two-oaks-pony-sanctuary)

**Sat, 4<sup>th</sup> June @ 2pm – St Leonards  
Village Fete.** Horse show from 9.30 am  
and dog show from 1pm.

**Sat, 4<sup>th</sup> June @ 8pm. Chris Biscoe  
Quintet** "British Standard Time". Civic  
Centre. [www.berkhamstedjazz.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedjazz.co.uk) .  
SAE to Berkhamsted Jazz, 6 Longfield  
Gardens, Tring, HP23 4DN. Visitors £13,  
Members £10. Annual sub: Couples £15,  
singles £10. [bjazztickets@gmail.com](mailto:bjazztickets@gmail.com)  
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**Sat 5<sup>th</sup> June – Try Croquet** – Little  
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10 am. [www.LGBCC.co.uk](http://www.LGBCC.co.uk)

**Thurs, 9<sup>th</sup> to Sat 11<sup>th</sup> June – Royal  
Review** – Little Gaddesden Drama Club.  
A light hearted celebration for Her  
Majesty's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Little Gaddesden  
Village Hall. 8pm. 01442 842780 or  
[boxoffice@LGDramaClub.com](mailto:boxoffice@LGDramaClub.com)

**Sat, 11<sup>th</sup> June – Frithsden Vineyard  
Summer Fete** – BBQ, cakes and stalls.  
[www.frithsdenvineyard.co.uk](http://www.frithsdenvineyard.co.uk)

**Sat, 18<sup>th</sup> June @ 1pm to 5pm – Ashley  
Green Summer Fair** – Sideshows, stalls  
and classic car display.  
[www.ashleygreen.org.uk](http://www.ashleygreen.org.uk)

(Continued on page 8)

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

**Sun, 19<sup>th</sup> June @10.30 am. Walk - Midsummer Ramble.** A circular walk with a stop for lunch led by Paul Crosland. The walk is undertaken at your own risk. Berkhamsted Station.

[www.berkhamstedcitizens.org.uk](http://www.berkhamstedcitizens.org.uk) Free

**Mon, 20<sup>th</sup> to Sat 25<sup>th</sup> June – Journey into Life** – Paintings and artefacts by Enrico Gobbi.

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

**Weds, 22<sup>nd</sup> June @ 8pm. Comedy - Not the Queen's Nostrils** - B'sted's Stand-up Club. B'sted Comedy/ Pepper Foundation. Kings Arms. £3.00/£1.50 concs. Collection for Pepper Nurses. Book at [lstate@btinternet.com](mailto:lstate@btinternet.com)

**Sat, 25<sup>th</sup> June @8pm - Benny Sharoni Quartet** . Civic Centre.

[www.berkhamstedjazz.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedjazz.co.uk) . SAE to Berkhamsted Jazz, 6 Longfield Gardens, Tring, HP23 4DN. Visitors £13, Members £10. Annual sub: Couples £15, singles £10. [bjazztickets@gmail.com](mailto:bjazztickets@gmail.com) 824173. DC

**Sat, 26<sup>th</sup> June @2pm - Open Gardens.** Potten End Gardening Club in aid of Rennie Grove Hospice Care. 01442 862974

**Weds, 29<sup>th</sup> June @2pm - Fashion Show – by Travelling Trends.** Bargain priced high street clothes. Potten End WI. Entry by ticket only £5 included wine or soft drink. Contact Gillian Grainger 01442 872336





## Book Review

### Standing Operating Procedures For Grandfathers – a review

This little book written by local author, Malcolm Allen, is a humorous, tongue in cheek look at the Grandfather/Grandchild relationship, one which mixes love and pride with stress, exhaustion and frequent tight-lipped silences. Modern discipline is not what it used to be. It is important, however, to be the 'favourite grandfather' and that requires preparation and planning. As an ex-military man the author bases his advice and strategy on the 'Ten Principles of War' used by the British Army.

This book is a great present for any grandparents, the writing is funny and very spot on and the illustrations are excellent. The book is available on Amazon or it can be ordered through Waterstones.



A delightful book that many grandparents will relate to. Funny, refreshing and honest.

Editor YB



## BERKHAMSTED LOCAL HISTORY AND MUSEUM SOCIETY

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Over the centuries many members of the royal family have visited Great Berkhamsted, the town which Henry Nash in his 'Reminiscences' proudly calls 'the 'royal town.' Some have only passed through; others have stayed longer or in the time of the heyday of our ancient Castle have visited regularly, to boost their authority, travelling from one castle to another. In more recent centuries few reigning monarchs have visited. Thus we are very privileged to have received a visit from our Queen. Once the manor and honour of Berkhamsted was part of the Duchy of Cornwall. Today, only the Castle and the living of St Mary's Northchurch remain in the Duchy's provenance.

Ancient records tell us that Henry II and Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine kept court in Berkhamsted Castle in 1163 and that Henry visited on other occasions too. Thomas Becket whilst Chancellor had transformed the Castle into one of Henry's more comfortable households. King John spent some time here in 1216 shortly before his death, improving the defences against threatened revolts of the barons, who later invited the Dauphin, Prince Louis, to come to their aid. Later that year after the death of John, whilst his widowed Queen Isabel was still there, the Castle was besieged, but surrendered after two weeks.

Before we leave the Castle we should perhaps mention an unwilling royal visitor, King John of France, who was imprisoned after the battle of Poitiers in 1356 by the victorious Black Prince. He was nevertheless granted the due

reverence of his station and housed in the area of the Palace chamber.

Even after the death of Cicely, Duchess of York, when the Castle was no longer lived in we know that the deer park of the castle and that of Ashridge were favourite hunting grounds for Henry VIII and he no doubt would endorse what his poet laureate, Skelton said, 'A pleasanter place than Ashridge it harde were to finde.' These were, however, unofficial visits. It was to be sometime before official royal visits took place. It was left even then to heirs of the throne, Princes of Wales and Dukes of Cornwall to fulfil this role.

In 1616 the Duke of Cornwall, later to become Charles I, visited Berkhamsted. Twenty horsemen met him at Brickhill Green and escorted him down Chesham Road and Castle Street until he reached Berkhamsted School where at Old Hall he stopped to hear a speech of welcome in Latin 'from one of the Schollers of the free Schole.' He then proceeded to Berkhamsted Place where he hunted in the Park and was entertained by the Murrays. It was not until 1935 that a Prince of Wales and Duke of Cornwall was to make a further official visit to Berkhamsted. On this occasion the Prince of Wales, later to become Edward VIII and then Duke of Windsor, met local dignitaries, veterans of World War I, representatives of local school children and Scouts and Guides in the Castle Grounds. On his way to the Castle, just as the former Prince of Wales had done, he called in at Berkhamsted School, but this time he was not greeted by a welcome in Latin, but addressed the boys himself, speaking of

the merits of discipline provided by the training of the O.T.C.

As it turned out, both these events presaged inauspicious occasions.

Charles I was to lose his Crown and his head and Berkhamsted, once a loyal supporter of the Crown was to become staunchly Roundhead in the Civil War; and the regicide, Daniel Axtell, was born in Berkhamsted. Edward, Prince of Wales, became Edward VIII on the death of his father, George V, but because of his later abdication, he reigned for only 10 months and was never crowned. He was succeeded by his younger brother, the father of our present Queen, who became George VI. Her Royal Highness has now reigned longer than Queen Victoria, who certainly visited at least once and almost certainly passed through by train on at



least one other occasion. In 1841 Queen Victoria, and Albert,

her Prince Consort, passed through in a horse-drawn carriage, stopping at the Kings Arms to change horses and no doubt to partake of some refreshment. Elaborate triumphal arches constructed of leaves and branches and ribbons were erected in the High Street, in comparison with which the bunting and decorations of our Queen's recent visit pale into insignificance. William Claridge, later to become Berkhamsted's first photographer has depicted the scene in two prints for posterity. An equally lasting memento of the royal visit was an apple, Lane's Prince

Albert. William Squire who lived in the Homestead cultivated an apple, which he called the Victoria and Albert. He then passed it on to his near neighbour Lane's Nurseries, who marketed this apple as Lane's Prince Albert. There are said to be some still remaining in older gardens in Berkhamsted. The royal couple were on their way to Woburn Abbey.

There is one other royal connection with the Kings Arms, but this time a French connection. Between 1809 and 1814 the French King, Louis XVIII and his royal court were in exile at Hartwell House, Aylesbury. The French King changed horses and stopped for refreshment on a number of occasions. He is said to have been attracted to Polly Page, the inn-keeper's daughter. After Louis' return to power she visited him in France, where we are told 'nothing improper' took place.

During WWI George V expressed the wish to see something of the training, which the Inns of Court OTC was undergoing in Berkhamsted and the surrounding area. It was an official visit, but one carried out without any pomp and ceremony or advanced publicity. He visited the parade ground in Berkhamsted Park, watched drill practice and bayonet fighting, observed trench fighting and bombing on the Common and inspected wood fighting in Frithesden Beeches.

It would appear that the recent visit of our ninety- year old Queen was one of the very few visits of reigning monarchs throughout Berkhamsted's history, of which we have evidence. We are indeed privileged and honoured to welcome her to our town.

**Jenny Sherwood**

## The Knock Knock Stand Up Comedy Tour for Shelter

Stand-up comic Damian Kingsley is currently travelling penniless from Lands End to Edinburgh on a 120 gig comedy tour to raise money for the bad housing and homelessness charity, Shelter. Damian is actually walking the walk of a homeless person and isn't using any money or public transport, so he's hoping to be given shelter, food and maybe a few lifts on the road to Edinburgh – in return he'll tell jokes to anyone anywhere, from the Nags Head to Granny's front room, in return for the basic necessities so many people have to do without every day. The initial fundraising target was £7,000 but in the 50 shows completed when I interviewed him, he has already raised over £8,000.

Damian said. *"It so important we raise money and awareness for Shelter, and I feel privileged to have the opportunity to do this. I am as worried as I am excited about the Knock Knock tour, but my experience will obviously be no more than a small insight into what homeless people go through every day of their lives".*

Taking 6 months all day every day to plan the tour, he has so far managed to get food, lodgings and transport from the local communities he is visiting. These are mainly villages and he has had a great welcome from most of them. There was one time where he had a day of no food – thank god this was a one-off.

In May, as well as visiting Tring, Damian came along to The Three Horseshoes in Winkwell, which is where I came and watched the show. Each night will also include an MC and support acts – most venues are free entry. I found Damian's style extremely intelligent with a touch of irony. He is very funny and had a great connection with the audience.

During his journey so far, Damian has made many new friends and also has some very funny stories to tell. Maybe to be incorporated into his show in the future.

*"I am as worried as I am excited about the tour," he said. "Out of 120 gigs, lots of which don't normally host comedy, I'm sure there will be some tough nights. I keep having these recurring visions of me dying onstage in a village in the middle of nowhere, trying and failing to sleep in a tent, worried that the farmer who owns the field I'm in will appear with a shotgun, then having to lug all my stuff 14 miles to the next gig like an unfunny wandering minstrel."*

Damian did his first few gigs in Tokyo where he lived for 8 years as an English teacher and translator. In 2009 he returned to the UK and has been performing all over the country.

The logo for Shelter, featuring the word "Shelter" in a bold, red, sans-serif font.

As well as performing on the circuit, he regularly performs at the Edinburgh, Brighton and Leicester fringe festivals, but Knock Knock will be his debut full length solo show.

I wish Damian the best of luck for the rest of his tour and will be following his progress.

You can also support Damian by following his progress on his website ([www.damiankingsley.co.uk](http://www.damiankingsley.co.uk)) and on Twitter @DamianKingsley or #TwoKnockTour. Donations to: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/knockknocktour>



Shelter helps millions of people every year struggling with bad housing or homelessness through advice, support and legal services and campaigns to make sure that one day, no one will have to turn to Shelter for help. Shelter exists so no one has to fight bad housing or homelessness on their own.

Interviewed by the Editor



Hands up to my goofs in last months magazine. Particularly to Sherry Hostler's short story. Here is the last (complete) paragraph again.

***Slowly he raised his eyes to the night sky and noticed for what seemed to be the first time, the beauty of the stars that he had slept beneath for so long.***

## Poppy Appeal Organiser urgently needed in Berkhamsted



The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal Organiser in Berkhamsted has stepped down after a fantastic year in which the town raised over £25,000 for the Appeal.

The Poppy Appeal is one of the nation's most recognised and supported charity appeals. Every year the Royal British Legion sends out millions of poppies which are distributed to schools, shops and businesses. In November you will see some of the charity's voluntary collectors in your local town centre or supermarket with their tray of poppies. Although November may still seem a long way away the Poppy Appeal organisers are asking for your help – can you join the local Berkhamsted team?

**The Royal British Legion's Community Fundraiser for Hertfordshire, Kate Mackay, said: "The Poppy Appeal Organiser is fundamental to ensuring the town has poppies this November."**

"People in Berkhamsted are always so supportive and do dig deep for us. During our collections we have a great sense of reward as people always have a soft spot for the Poppy Appeal and our cause. We need a main organiser who will order the poppies, organize volunteers and help collect the tins and wreaths for the town and ensure we have the poppies in the village in time for this year's Poppy Appeal. We do hope someone in the area will come forward and help us by taking on this valuable role in Berkhamsted."

**If you are interested in joining the Poppy Appeal team in Berkhamsted, please call the Appeal's Community Fundraiser Kate Mackay on 07920 861161 or email [kmackay@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:kmackay@britishlegion.org.uk)**

The Poppy Appeal is the largest single fundraising event in the Legion's calendar. Over 40 million poppies will be made and distributed for this year's Poppy Appeal across the UK and overseas by 350,000 dedicated collectors. The Legion provides wide ranging, and practical support to Armed Forces veterans as young as 19, and Armed Forces families in need, including crisis grants, family breaks, benefits and money advice and at times sadly, inquest advice. Every poppy helps raise the £1.6 million needed by the Legion each week to deliver practical help and advice to Armed Forces community.



# Meet the New Project Manager of the Rectory Lane Cemetery

Ann Masat has been appointed Project Manager for the 12 months development phase of the Rectory Lane Cemetery Project. We caught up with her to find out more about her and the role.

## ***1. What made you choose Construction project Management as a career?***

I didn't really choose it – it chose me & I have no regrets. Everyone in my family is connected with the industry so as well as making for interesting conversations over the dinner table it gives you lots of useful connections – as well as the 25 year + career of course!

## ***2. Which trade did you learn first in Construction?***

I trained as a draughtsman combining the art & technical subjects that I was good at. The first thing that most people learn in construction is that through training you can master the work; there is no substitute for experience when it comes to dealing with people & situations.

## ***3. Being a Project Manager in a closed Cemetery is a rather unusual role isn't it?***

Well until I read the spec for the Rectory Lane Project I have to admit that I would not have thought about it. But prior to this appointment, I was part of the Parish Project Group dealing with the total refurbishment of St Aidan's church in Little Chalfont, where I acted as the co-ordinator between the various religious and secular stakeholders and the construction team. The final account for that project has just been

closed out and everyone involved is pleased with the quality of the refurbishment.

## ***4. So you feel it is not just the technical skills that are needed in this project?***

No, people are absolutely crucial to this whole exercise, I was impressed by the Volunteer input to date, but we are going to reach out to the whole community. We need people who are interested in the wildlife and biodiversity of the site, want to learn new skills, give guided walks, help with events, do yoga or tai chi classes or just enjoy working with a friendly team in a beautiful space.

## ***5. What excited you about this project?***

I was surprised by the amount of opportunities that will be available for training new talent – both professional and voluntary. For much of my career I have been involved in training initiatives; I am a former NVQ Level 3 Assessor and BTEC Lecturer for the Chartered Surveyors Training Trust (CSTT) in the subject of Tendering and Estimating.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions with regard to the project please send an email to [annmasat@hotmail.com](mailto:annmasat@hotmail.com) and I will be delighted to get back to you as soon as I can.



**AURIN GIRLS' CHOIR from Hungary to visit Berkhamsted  
Concert Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 8.00pm at St Peter's Church**



The Aurin Girls' Choir from the Kodály Music School, Kecskemét, Hungary are one of the top youth choirs in the world today. Under their conductor, László Durányik they will be giving daytime workshops and a concert at St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted as part of their 2016 concert tour on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 8.00pm.

The choir has won some twenty first prizes in International competitions since their foundation in 1998, including two gold medals in the World Choir Games in China and a first prize at the Llangollen International Music Eisteddfod.

They have given concerts in the UK since 1999 and have continually received enthusiastic receptions during these visits. This is the first time the choir have visited Berkhamsted. They are being hosted by local families.

With a wide repertoire ranging from sacred motets to secular pieces, 15<sup>th</sup> century to contemporary, Hungarian folk arrangements, spirituals and light pieces, it is hoped this will be a sell-out concert so do get your tickets early!

**Tickets £8, under 18s free from Brown & Merry, 124 High Street, Berkhamsted**

## Your Berkhamsted Clergy

The visit of her majesty the Queen last month was a great day, both for the town and the church. Guests in St. Peter's were drawn from as wide a representation of our town as we could manage. As part of the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations of Her Majesty, we invite you to join us for a civic service on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 3p.m. in St. Peter's, followed by a garden party in the grounds with an array of traditional stalls and games for all ages. This year all monies raised will be sent to a charity attached to a London Church for which our former curate, Fr. Tom has oversight. The charity is called "Some Space" and helps urban dwellers.

Today we live in a world that judges its achievements by speed and busyness. We live in a whirligig of cyberspace communications that smother us in information and data, in international shopping sprees and instant messaging. Time and space, time and thought have very little currency these days. Instead of thinking, of reflecting, we just do. We are so busy making things happen that we have little time left to think about the value of what is happening, on the meaning of life. Over two thousand years ago Cicero wrote, "It is not by muscle, speed or physical dexterity that great things are achieved, but by reflection, force of character, and judgement". And he goes on, "In these qualities, old age is usually not only not poorer, but is even richer". In an age where we have been reduced to a collection of numbers, which governments want to file away and corporations are desperate to discover, none of these

statistics ask us to consider how we feel the way the country is going, or whether the quality of our lives now is as good as it used to be, or could be, or ought to be. No wonder then that so many of us feel like pawns on the chessboard or like cogs on a gearwheel. The message we have internalised is clear: we ARE what we DO and what we OWN, not what we are inside ourselves, where it counts.

This is one of the greatest mistakes we can make in life. When the job ends or the position disappears, or the role changes, when I'm no longer the money-maker anymore or the head of my department, or the councilwoman, or the teacher anymore, or even the parent-in-residence anymore, what does it mean to be alive? These are hard questions that come either with retirement or unemployment. What am I when I'm nothing else?

The answer to such overwhelming questions is a complicated one, but it raises questions about the deeper things of life, what we might call our spirituality. Maybe now is the time to ask ourselves what legacy we will be leaving behind, because one thing is for sure: whether or not we give much thought to it, everyone else we know will certainly do so.

Fr. Tim



## 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.
- 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 David Burbidge 862139.
- 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 and Sunday School

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, (St Peter's)

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

### Key Church contacts:

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

Fr. Tim Pilkington, 01442 879739, (day off Friday), Team Rector, St Peter's.

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

## This Month's Diary

### Events at St Peter's Church or the Court House, Berkhamsted, presented by The Cowper Society supported by the Friends of St Peter's - June

Sat 18<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm: CONCERT in St Peter's Church – Bridgewater Sinfonia. Director Adrian Davis. Rossini Overture: William Tell, R. Strauss Horn Concerto No 2 Soloist Andrew Littlemore, Sibelius symphony No 3. Tickets: £15 bought in advance or £16 on the door. U18s free. [www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk](http://www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk) and Aitchison's 154 High St; 873205.

Sat 25<sup>th</sup> June 3.00pm: CONCERT in St Peter's Church – Chiltern Chamber Choir Touches of Sweet Harmony. CCC's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Programme to include: Tallis Spem in Alium, Vaughan Williams Serenade to Music, Parry Blest pair of Sirens, Harris Faire is the Heaven, Gibbons O Clap your hands. Tickets: £10 (to include TEA) U18s free [www.chilternchamberchoir.com](http://www.chilternchamberchoir.com) and Brown & Merry, 124 High St, Berkhamsted.

Tue 28<sup>th</sup> June 8.00pm: CONCERT in St Peter's Church - The Aurin Girls' Choir from the Kodály Music School, Kecskemét, Hungary. A wide repertoire from sacred motets to secular pieces, 15<sup>th</sup> century to contemporary, Hungarian folk arrangements, spirituals and light pieces. Tickets: £8, U18s free. Brown & Merry, 124 High St, Berkhamsted.

#### St Peter's

**Baptisms** - 24<sup>th</sup> April Sophie Elizabeth Anne Rollings, Oliver Michael Austin-Ward  
Joseph Paul George Fox, Samuel John Fox

**Weddings** - 17<sup>th</sup> April Duncan Richardson and Helen Little

#### Funerals

6<sup>th</sup> April Patricia Rose Marie Lyddon

7<sup>th</sup> April Beryl Smith

14<sup>th</sup> April Albert Edward Hearn

#### All Saints-June

**5th** Second Sunday after Trinity  
10am Morning Worship , David Crew

**12th** Third Sunday after Trinity  
10am Holy Communion, Revd John Kirkby  
4pm Messy Church, Revd Rachael Hawkins and Messy Church Team

**19th** Fourth Sunday after  
8am Holy Communion , Revd Rachael Hawkins  
10am Morning Worship, David White and Rob Wakely  
**26th** Fifth Sunday after Trinity  
10am All Age Holy Communion, Revd Rachael Hawkins and Connie Barrett

No Baptisms or funerals.

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

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

# News from the Hospice of St Francis



**June 2016**

**Alongside caring for patients at the Hospice**

**and in our community, our clinical team continues to work closely with West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust to influence care for patients in hospital nearing the end of life. This includes implementing a new approach to end-of-life care, introducing individualised care plans and helping staff to communicate clearly and compassionately with patients and their loved ones, to ensure all their needs are met. Find out more about our work in our newsletter, available to download on our website.**

**As summer arrives, we have lots going on in June for those in our community including:**

## **Pampering for Local Carers**

Carers across Bucks and Herts are invited to a special Carers' Pamper Day in the beautiful grounds of the Hospice on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015 from 2 – 4.30pm.

Taking place during Carers Week (6-12th June), which this year has a focus of engaging with local communities, the event is free and open to all carers who support a relative or friend with a life-limiting illness. There'll be a chance to enjoy tea and cake on our lawns, enjoy Pilates and visit carers' information stalls from local organisations like Carers in Bucks and Herts. They'll also be craft, gift and plant stalls and live music. To reserve a place

call 01442 869550 or email:

[springcentre@stfrancis.org.uk](mailto:springcentre@stfrancis.org.uk)

## **Forget-me-nots**



Our Forget-me-Not garden is blooming, do come and visit it if you're passing the Hospice in early June!

## **Glow to Celebrate 10 years of Midnight Walking!**



There's still time to join our 10<sup>th</sup> Midnight Walk on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June at 10pm! Past, present and new walkers are invited to join our party to celebrate 10 years of night-time walking, re-tracing the original 5 or 10-mile routes from Hemel Hempstead to Berkhamsted and enjoying the chance to experience our new neon UV pods and extra-special reflective zone.



Whether you've walked last year, ten years ago or never before, it's a great night out offering fun, fitness, friendship and the chance to remember a loved one. Registration is £20 for adults and £15 for 11-17's. Just visit: [www.stfrancis.org.uk/midnightwalk](http://www.stfrancis.org.uk/midnightwalk) to sign up.



## **St Albans Half Marathon – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June**

The Hospice of St Francis is absolutely thrilled to have been voted as the official charity for the 2016 St Albans Half Marathon!

With races for all ages and abilities, from the Half Marathon; Walking Half Marathon; Wheelchair Half Marathon; 5k Race or 1.5 Mile Children's Fun Run, the event at Verulamium Park is the perfect opportunity for anyone looking for a new challenge, to beat their personal best, or a great way to get the whole family active. We also have places available to run, cycle or swim in London – find out more on our website: [www.stfrancis.org.uk/runforus](http://www.stfrancis.org.uk/runforus)

## **Donations and volunteers needed**

We welcome donations of clothing and bric-a-brac at any of our charity shops and, if you're moving house or having a re-vamp, Returned to Glory, our furniture showroom in Berkhamsted, would also be interested in your furniture donations – especially any bespoke pieces. Phone 01442 874356.

And, if you have a couple of hours to spare, our Berkhamsted shop is always looking for volunteers!

## **Laura's Fashion Sample Sale**

With over 2,000 garments and items of jewellery, this event on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June from 10am-6pm in our Spring Centre is a must to anyone on the look-out for a fashionable bargain, with a proportion of profits to the Hospice.

## **Art Bags Exhibition at Watford Museum**

The results of our inaugural Art Bag Project, a collaborative initiative with Peace Hospice Care and Macmillan, inviting the public to take a moment out of their day to complete a simple weaving project, are on display at Watford Museum (WD17 2DT) during June. Do pop in if you're in the area!

For further details on all Hospice events, visit: [www.stfrancis.org.uk](http://www.stfrancis.org.uk) or call 01442 869555 or follow us on **Facebook/**

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## Your Charities

### Appledown Rescue's Dog of the Month



Handsome young Tig is a Husky/Rottweiler cross aged 8 months. Tig was brought up in a flat and needs someone to help him expand his horizons. He enjoys the company of adults and teenagers and is good with other dogs. He needs to learn his basic training and to get out and meet new things. The rewards will be there for an owner willing to put in the time.

If you could offer Tig or any of our other dogs a loving and secure home, please call in at the kennels any day between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. or give us a call for more details. Please note that there are restrictions on rehoming adult dogs to families with children under seven years of age. Full details of the rehoming process can be found on our website or please contact the kennels.

Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels, Harling Road, Eaton Bray, Beds LU6 1QY

01525 220383 e-mail: [appledown.kennels@btinternet.com](mailto:appledown.kennels@btinternet.com)

Website: [www.appledownrescue.co.uk](http://www.appledownrescue.co.uk)

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# Your Garden

## Adventures in Boots by Helen Reeley

Rousham House & Gardens in Oxfordshire is the home of the Cottrell Dormer family built by Charles Bridgeman in the 1700's & further enhanced by William Kent later on that century. Kent created a masterpiece in an Augustan style with ponds, terraces & statues to recall the scenes of ancient Rome. There are dying gladiators, pretty follies & a grotto set in the natural landscape with the River Cherwell meandering through the vale. One of my favourite parts is the modern steel rill which runs from a small trickling pool into a larger pond. On a warm day it's possible to bathe one's feet.

The walled gardens closer to the house are home to quite a large well kept fruit & vegetable garden & a parterre garden with herbs & roses. An ancient dovecote still has a handful of pigeons nesting in it. The green house/conservatory garden is in very good order; the tulips had just gone over but were gracefully doing their decaying bit with scattered petals at the foot of the elevated pots. It was all rather charming with a Head Gardener's shed in the corner.



Rousham Park is also home to a pedigree herd of Long Horn Cattle apparently one of the best rare breed herds in the country, according to a chap I got talking too. They were quite docile creatures but I was glad of the wire between them & me as they were ginormous!

All in all, the gardens make for a delightful jaunt out for several reasons, the main one being it's not frequented by families. No children under the age of 15 are allowed (hooray!) and there is no tea room either (double hooray!!) but you're welcome to take your own picnic. I'd say the grounds are not for the infirm either-there are some solid paths but lots of steps too & parts of the garden are on steep inclines. There is loo & entrance is £5 which represent terrific value if like me you cherish the rare peace & quiet in our very busy south east of England. But, please don't tell everyone, let's keep this localish gem to ourselves shall we?

TTFN Helen 0770 643313



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## **RECIPE QUEEN CAKES**

100 g (4 oz) butter  
100 g (4 oz) caster sugar  
2 eggs, beaten  
100 g (4 oz) self-raising flour  
50 g (2 oz) sultanas



1. Spread out 16 paper cases on baking sheets, or put them into patty tins.
2. Cream the butter and sugar together until pale and fluffy. Gradually beat in the egg, a little at a time, beating well after each addition. Fold in the flour, then the fruit.
3. Fill the paper cases half full. Bake at 190°C (375°F) mark 5 for 15-20 minutes, until golden brown. Transfer to a wire rack to cool.



# Our local schools

## Berkhamsted School

History was made at Berkhamsted School on Friday 6 May when we had the honour of celebrating the School's 475th anniversary in the presence of our Patron Her Majesty The Queen. It was the first time a reigning monarch had visited the School.

There are some great pictures and also news articles on HM The Queen's Visit on the school website.

<http://www.berkhamstedschool.org/Her-Majesty-The-Queens-visit>



## VACANCIES

**Berkhamsted Schools Group Wraparound Care Assistant - term time only, Monday to Friday - 3pm to 6.30pm.** We are looking to recruit a Wraparound Care Assistant for our Prep and Pre Prep Schools. The successful candidate must have excellent organisational and communication skills with an interest in childcare/education. This role will involve supervising play and creative time. Further information and an application form can be down loaded from the school website [www.berkhamstedschool.org](http://www.berkhamstedschool.org)

**Victoria Church of England Infant School and Nursery** are looking for governors, particularly with finance skills to join the governing board in September. For more information about the role and an informal chat, please contact the church office [churchoffice@greatberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:churchoffice@greatberkhamsted.org.uk)

## Pictures of the Royal Visit on May 6th



Thank you to Sophie Clayton for the wonderful picture montage of the Royal visit.

Steve Lupton Hairdressing hired 'ER' from Sophie of 'Bespoke Light Up Letters' and made a fantastic display of their window.

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



## TEA AND CELEBRATIONS FOR THE QUEEN!

In celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, St Peter's church in Berkhamsted is holding a special Queen's Birthday service on Sunday 12 June at 3pm, followed by 'Tea on the Green'.

As part of the official birthday celebrations, anyone attending who is celebrating their 90<sup>th</sup> this year will also get a free tea and scone!\* (*just bring along a passport or other form of ID.*)

The short 40 minute church service will include popular hymns, readings and choral anthems including 'I was Glad' by Parry, sung at the Queen's coronation in 1953.

Following the service and in the style of the Queen's official garden parties, St Peter's will host a 'Tea on the Green' with cream teas plus Pimms, Haresfoot Ale and refreshments for children. There will also be various activities and games including Punch & Judy and 'Beat the Goalie' to keep the little ones entertained plus a country market stall selling crafts, plants, flowers, jams and cakes for adults to browse. Music will be provided by the Castle Choir and other local musical groups.

Father Tim Pilkington, Rector of St Peter's commented, "Whilst we've been extremely privileged to have seen the Queen in person at St Peter's recently, we wanted to officially mark her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday with a service to which everyone is welcome, whatever their faith or background.

"We're following this with our own take on the Queen's garden party and serving traditional tea and cakes on our church lawn; alongside plenty of entertainment for the children – just bring a picnic rug and pray for sunshine! Whilst sadly Her Majesty won't be in attendance again, we hope to toast her good health during the afternoon with our glasses of Pimms, cups of tea or pints of ale!"

All are welcome to attend the church service. Proceeds from 'Tea on the Green' will go to support Somespace, a charity that helps those supporting someone suffering from drug or alcohol abuse in Camden, London. The charity was nominated by previous St Peter's curate Father Tom Plant.

Find out more at [www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk](http://www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk) or Facebook: St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted.

# Word Search

## Queen Elizabeth

T	A	H	C	R	A	N	O	M	A	T	H	I	C
C	O	R	G	I	S	C	H	O	O	L	O	H	N
M	D	C	I	R	L	Y	M	E	C	A	L	A	P
E	A	E	T	W	M	O	A	N	R	O	Y	A	L
T	S	N	T	E	Y	A	Y	G	Z	A	T	I	I
S	I	A	M	S	L	B	J	I	Q	E	A	U	N
K	X	S	P	C	M	I	I	E	C	T	S	Y	R
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H	H	C	N	V	I	U	H	A	T	T	O	H	S
N	C	C	R	M	I	L	R	K	B	H	Y	W	P
A	C	A	S	T	L	E	I	C	R	E	D	T	N
S	H	D	R	H	E	P	C	P	H	E	T	A	E
I	E	S	A	E	K	U	D	R	O	S	B	H	Y
G	A	Y	T	E	N	I	N	N	N	E	E	U	Q

ROYAL  
QUEEN  
BERKHAMSTED  
DUKE  
CASTLE  
CROWN  
MAY  
SCHOOL  
MONARCH  
VISIT  
BIRTHDAY  
NINETY  
CHURCH  
MAJESTY  
PHILIP  
PALACE  
ELIZABETH  
CORGI  
SIXTH  
REIGN

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/61911/>



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## Did you know?

In 1958, The Queen Mother paid a visit to Berkhamsted School to open Newcroft, the Science block. At that time, the Headmaster was H. Garnons Williams

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### Your Berkhamsted Team

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