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YB

Your Berkhamsted

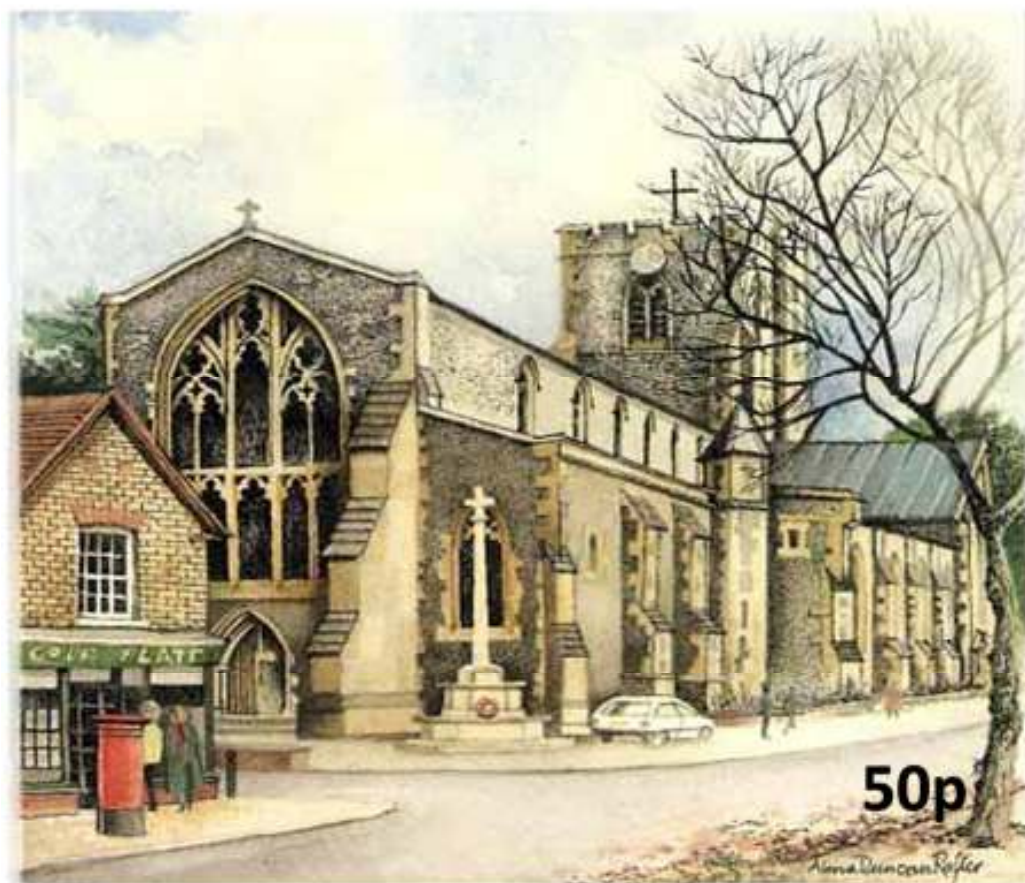
November 2016

Go for a short walk in the Chilterns

A visit to Tate Britain. Art Review

1066 and the Bayeux Tapestry

Berkhamsted Fireworks - Details



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

In this issue...

Welcome to the November edition of Your Berkhamsted. Just getting used to the dark mornings and dark early evenings, it comes upon us so quickly. Winter is here! This month we have a great story on the Bayeux Tapestry and Berkhamsted's place in the 1066 battle. There is information on our local firework display and also details of Christmas fairs and wreath making workshops. We have our resident writer's contributions which are always varied and up to the minute. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Andy Robinson (who places an advert in our magazine - see page 31). My laptop completely died on me and Andy was able to get it up and running in time for me to produce this edition. I cannot thank him enough for saving the day. *Our what's on page shows events in November 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: Thank you Cuckoo Fair Cards for allowing us to use the wonderful front cover of St Peter's Church, painted by Alma Duncan Rafter.
<http://cuckoofaircards.co.uk/>



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

By Julian Dawson



I'll start all poetical like. October 6th was National Poetry Day, so it seems appropriate to say, Waterstone's hosted Rosie Sheppard read from her collection of poetry "At the Corner Table". Perhaps not stable fare but crackling with the unexpected, so says seren-books.wordpress.com. Sounds a bit like my column. Oh, and that is another blog to add to your collection by the way. I'm a poet, but didn't know it. There was a young lady from Windsor...("Stop it!"... Ed.)

To more contentious matters. tringtoday.co.uk/ reports that Berkhamsted's multi-storey plans have been given the go ahead. Many of you will have strong views of this project. Suffice to say that we hardly need to encourage more traffic to the town. Gridlock can hardly be enticing to visitors, whether on foot, two wheels or four. Perhaps a park and ride arrangement would be far more felicitous. Reclaim the streets! We shall fight them at the post box, on the pavements, at the Pelican crossings.

It probably hasn't escaped your notice that we are well into the football season now. Probably our best reporter of local sport (though not the best regionally), watfordobserver.co.uk reports on the progress of Berkhamsted in the Spartan South Midlands League Premier Division, where once again they seek that elusive promotion. They always seem there and thereabouts, but fall away at the business

end of the season as perhaps fatigue creeps in. thecoldend.blogspot.co.uk, mentioned previously in this column as a follower of non-league football, reports on the drawer for the FA Vase. Our local town is one of 27 clubs exempt until the second round. Perhaps this year their fortunes will bloom. See what I did there? I don't believe I have mentioned onlandscape.co.uk before. This delightful website has a page devoted to landscape photography of that beautiful tree the silver birch. One of the images, entitled "Sisters" portrays a pair of trees on Berkhamsted Common. The light is magically portrayed. Almost back to poetry...steady. Kieran Sandwell has appeared on several pages. A computer analyst from our town, he donated his heart to the Royal Brompton for research following a heart transplant. healthmedicinet.com is just one of many sites that report him visiting his old heart in a somewhat macabre scenario. Apparently his congenital condition meant that the heart was three times its normal fist size. If you are not too squeamish you can see for yourself. I haven't mentioned en.wikipedia.org in a while. As a librarian I have to be careful to ensure its accuracy by corroborating with the cited sources. For instance, a colleague of mine who formerly appeared on children's TV apparently was also a brain surgeon. Never trust it without double checking. Having said that I am sure the entry for former Berkhamsted Town

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player Dean Anton Williams is above reproach.
huffingtonpost.co.uk is always a good read, and its reputation grows. It reports on Woolton & Hewitt who offer personal consultations at its Berkhamsted show-room to help same sex couples pick the perfect rings. A definite market opportunity spotted, but one bravely and admirably done.



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

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What's on

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

For Ashridge and a full list of events please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge or to book your place contact the Visitor Centre on 01442 851227.

Taizé- Centenary Memorial Service Sunday 6 November 2016 at 6.00 pm St Mary's Church, High Street, Northchurch, Berkhamsted, Hertfords
A quiet meditation service with chants and silence to commemorate the lives lost in the battle of the First World War on 6 November 1916. Tea/coffee and cake to be served afterwards. All welcome

Weds, 9th Nov 8pm - Human Osteology: the wonders of archaeology, bones and skeletons—Jelena Belvac of the Museum of London explains the world of bones and skeletons in archaeology, and their interpretation. Town Hall.
www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk
Annual sub: joint £12, single £7, visitors

£2.50 (no conc); DC.
KSherw9100@aol.com 865158

Andrew Dixon will be displaying his paintings on **14th - 19th, November, 10am - 5.30pm**, The Upstairs Gallery, Berkhamsted High Street. We sometimes use Andrew's paintings for our front cover. **www.andrewcochranedixon.com**
There will also be ceramics by Liz Finnerty.

Berkhamsted Art Society Winter Exhibition **2016 Sunday 20th November to Saturday 26th November** - Sunday 2-4pm, Monday - Saturday 9-5pm Civic Centre, 161-163 High St, Berkhamsted, Herts, HP4 3HD Paintings, folios, cards, sculpture, ceramics Free entry. All welcome.

Weds, 16th Nov @ 8pm Love Berkhamsted Event - Berkhamsted Citizens Association invites you to join it in celebrating the rich life and fabric of the town. Town Hall.
www.berkhamstedcitizens.org.uk. £5 (your entrance fee will also entitle you to a year's membership). Entrance free to members.

Weds, 23rd, Nov @ 8pm - Local Culture Show - With Sam Riverbanks' fantasy "The Duelling World" plus acapella music. Also, Anna Ryland's account of the UK/ Polish immigrant experience, "Second Chance", and Jane Lockear Willis' short stories. Kings Arms. £5/£3, collection for Pepper Nurses. Book at lstate@btinternet.com

November 20th 11am to 4pm - Ashlyns Craft Fair, Ashlyns, School, Chesham Road, Berkhamsted. Busy annual Craft Fair with around 70 stalls of handmade crafts and gifts including jewellery, photography, bags, scarves, cards, decorations, chutneys, pickles and cakes. Cafe open all day, £2 entry for adults, children free. Plenty of free parking, wheelchair and pushchair friendly.

Festival of Light - Sunday 27th November sees the Berkhamsted Festival of Light. This is a must date for the diary as it is every year. Festivities go on from 3pm to 6pm in the High street. Along with all the usual stalls, rides and food and drink, the festival will feature Lockers Park choir (3.30), Rock Chorus (4.00), The Association of Berkhamsted Churches (4.30), the Best Dressed Window competition for shops, the turning on of the lights(5.15) and , OF COURSE, the arrival of SANTA on his sled when the lights are on.

Amchor. Sat 3 December Haydn The Creation St Mary's Church, Amersham. Tickets for all events from www.WeGotTickets.com/amchor Tel 01494 785822 for bring and sing event only Tel 07702 608314 for other concerts Amersham and Chesham Bois Choral Society

Saturday 3rd December Christmas Wreaths: We'll provide all the materials you need to create your very own bespoke Christmas Wreath to hang on your door. Christmas Decorations: Discover how to needle felt a bespoke Angel and Robin to go on your Christmas tree. Enjoy a glass of mulled wine and mince pie then let the creative juices flow!! 10.00 am – 12.00pm Wreath Making 12.30pm – 2.00pm

Angel & Robin Christmas Decorations 2.30pm – 4.30pm Wreath Making Workshop Prices: Wreath Making £25 Felt Decorations £20 Book two classes for £40 How to book: To book your place email: publicity@sunnysideruraltrust.org or Telephone 01442 863364 Your booking will be confirmed via email. Please note there are limited places so book early to avoid disappointment. There are no refunds if you cancel your reservation.

Willow Wreath and Garland Workshops Various dates

December 3rd & 4th Willow Wreaths at Apple Tree Cottage, Potten End, Berkhamsted 10-1pm coffee/mulled wine included.

December 10th—Haresfoot Brewery, Berkhamsted . Willow Wreaths 10-1pm Door Garlands 2-5pm

December 11th—Haresfoot Brewery, Berkhamsted . Willow Wreaths 10-1pm Door Garlands 1-5pm Apple Tree Cottage & Haresfoot Brewery workshops are £35

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All materials, flowers, berries, seed heads, cones, greenery are sourced locally from grounds & gardens I work in-no nasty chemicals or imported plastic garbage. The willow is grown & cut locally by The Sunnyside Rural Trust in Berkhamsted Workshops can also be booked at your place anytime outside of the dates above in December up to **Friday 16th** including evenings.



The Millennium Garden – Canal Fields

Having been away South on the Grand Union for five months - exploring the Rickmansworth Festival and spotting the Kings Langley Dinosaur, it was finally time to come home to Berkhamsted for a couple of weeks recently. An occasion to take some time off work and catch up with many friends; got a great mooring spot right by The Crystal Palace and proceeded to celebrate one of those birthdays ending in a big 0, with amongst other things a Christmas party in July!

Thought I knew Berko quite well but discovered still more during my latest stay!

Out for a meal one evening, walking with a group of

friends along the Canal from Station Road and across Canal Fields, then onto the bridge, across the Canal - a lovely sunny day's route to the far end of the High Street; we discovered the 'Millennium Garden' tucked into Canal Fields, just after the children's play area.

Whilst my friend Tina, who walks her dogs 'everywhere' was surprised I did not know of it, other friends in the group friends in the group who have lived in the town since before the Millennium were also surprised to find this beautiful patch filled with such a variety of plants along with benches to sit and enjoy.

I was so impressed that the next day I got

my camera out and took a stroll back (also needing to work off the previous night's Fat Buddha treats!).

Whilst the rest of Canal Fields was bustling and lively, on reaching the Millennium Garden, it was peaceful and serene. I took some photos to share with you and watched all sorts of insects buzzing between the wild flowers and shrubs planted there to encourage them.

I have since found out some more about the garden and will definitely be stopping by again.

The Millennium Garden was developed by Berkhamsted Town Council and local volunteers to mark the year 2000.

The garden encourages

pollinating insects into Canal Fields, where previously the wind pollinated trees had not.

Comprised of three different beds, levels and soil conditions the garden supports a vast array of herbaceous perennials and shrubs and in turn is visited by many bumble bees, hive bees and butterflies. Canal Fields Park has achieved the Green Flag Award (a national standard for parks and open spaces in England & Wales) an impressive six times since 2007.

The Millennium Garden, another Berko Gem.

Samantha Elgar



Art Review

by Julian Dawson

Painting with light: art and photography from the Pre-Raphaelites to the modern age.

I had the good fortune to attend the recent Painting with Light exhibition at Tate Britain, which concluded on 25 September. It looked at how the invention of photography in 1839 led to a period of flux in the British visual arts. New techniques and materials influenced both artists and photographers who in turn created a shared dialogue of ideas and ambitions. In Victorian and Edwardian times their shared creativity was at the heart of artistic innovation.

This quite extensive exhibition used paintings and photography to illustrate these developments through to the early 20th century. It described the debates about 'truth', how photographers trained as painters, and showed the distinctive role of literary traditions in British art. We saw how artists moved away from the earlier aims of Pre-Raphaelite art and instead searched for true beauty, which in turn in the 1880s brought a renewed interest in landscape. This continued into the 20th century as photography and painting explored this relationship with panoramas. It was also intriguing to see how important Japanese culture became in influencing

British creativity, though photographers and painters also looked to Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci in their pursuit of idealised beauty.

Through all of this it is the technical changes in photography, from light-sensitive silver salts, through to glass plate negatives, pigment photographs, then platinum prints and finally the dry plate negatives that opened the way to the first practical colour photography, that guides the search for truth. A truly fascinating afternoon. Though the exhibition has now finished you can read and see more at <http://www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-britain/exhibition/painting-light> .



Berkhamsted Fireworks

November 5th
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www.bonfire-night-safety.co.uk

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www.berkhamstedfireworks.co.uk



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Chiltern Walk

Hughenden Manor and Downley Common

A short easy-going walk which enables you to visit both the National Trust property of Disraeli's home, Hughenden Manor, and also go for a walk along attractive woodland paths to Downley Common.

Distance: 2½ miles (allow 1½ hours)

Start: Hughenden Church. Buses pass the entrance to the Manor. There is parking off the driveway in front of the church. Alternatively, continue uphill along the driveway to a car park on your right.

Access Information: Initial gradual climb from the church (avoided if you park in the car park further along the driveway); from there mainly level walk until a short climb on the return route before you reach the driveway at Hughenden Manor.

Refreshments: At 'The Stables', Hughenden Manor, when house is open. There are pubs in Downley and Downley Common.

Route:

Walk uphill past the church and cottages on your right until you meet a gate giving access to the driveway. ❶ Go through the gate and turn left along the driveway passing 'The Old Vicarage' on your left and, shortly after, 'The Stables' on your right, now a National Trust gift shop and restaurant. Continue past the rear entrance to the House to meet a signpost at the edge of the wood. ❷ Follow the bridleway straight ahead to Downley, ignoring a right-hand path shortly after entering the wood, and descend slightly through the wood to reach a gate.

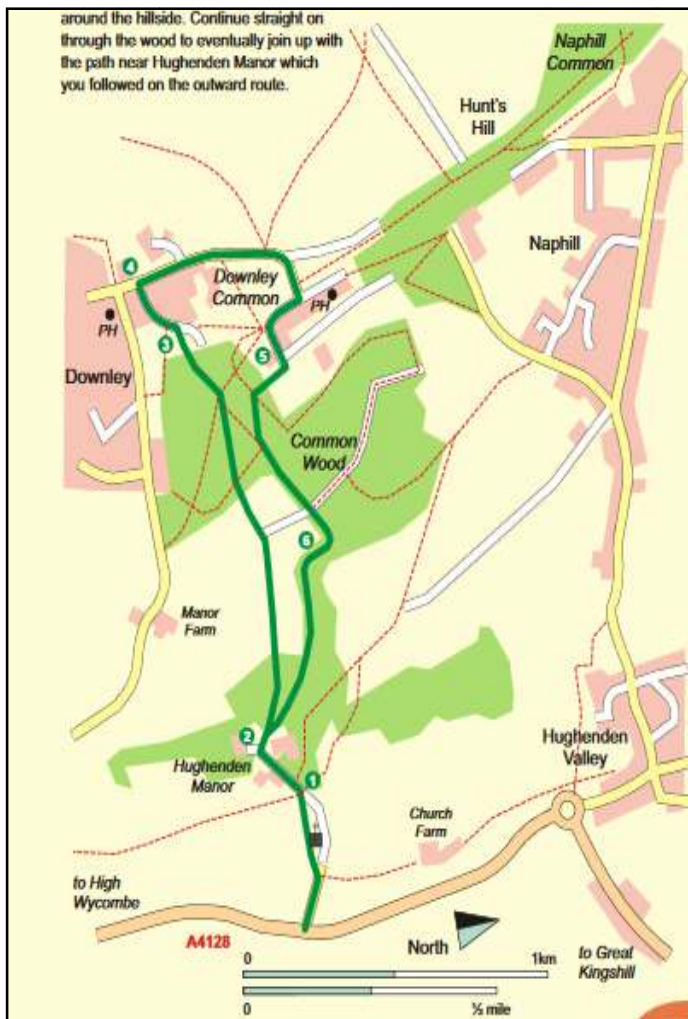
Go through the gate and continue along the path, ignoring a track on your right. Shortly after, you enter another wood where you follow the path along the bottom of the wood, ignoring side paths, until you reach a track by Well Cottage and then a road at Downley. ❸ Carry on along this road (Moor Lane) past houses until you meet another lane. ❹

Turn right here and continue along the lane to Downley Common, ignoring side paths. Follow the lane as it twists all the way around the Common. It becomes an unsurfaced track past some houses on your left. At the end of the houses, turn off the track as it swings right, following the track straight ahead of you, to the left of a white house. ❺

Go through a gate and turn right following a narrow path downhill into a wood, to another gate. Go through the gate and immediately turn left to see two white arrows on a tree ahead of you; follow the right arrow, walking along the path through the wood to meet a crossing path. Turn left here and continue over a chalk ditch, ignoring a white arrow on a tree on the right, and continue downhill to leave the wood where it meets a broad crossing track. ❻ Go straight over this track and uphill to where it joins another path at the top. Turn right and follow the path as it contours

Wildlife

The mix of woodland, open areas and ponds offers a home to a wide range of flora and fauna. Some of the woodland is classified as ancient and the spring bluebells and wood anemones are evidence of this. The very rare aquatic plant, starfruit, has returned to one of the ponds and the grassland supports a wide range of flowers and insects. Listen out for the woodpeckers and watch red kites drifting over the common.



Information from the following website:-

<http://www.chilternsaonb.org/explore-enjoy/walks-rides.html>

The Travelling Crib

As usual, on Advent Sunday, 27th November, at the morning services at All Saints' and St Peter's we will send a Travelling Crib from each church to begin a journey round the town as reminder of the story of the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem.

The knitted figures of Mary and Joseph travel in a basket together with their donkey, making them safe and attractive for families with children.

If your family would like the Travelling Crib to spend a night in your home during Advent this year please sign up on one of the lists which will be in churches on Sundays 6th & 13th November and also at Chuckles and Little Fishes.

Make a note of the dates and bring your diaries!

To avoid disappointment, sign up on Sunday 6th November!



If you have any queries please contact Tracy Robinson (863559) for the crib at All Saints' or Margaret Burbidge (862139) for the crib at St Peter's.

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Your Berkhamsted Clergy

November: a month to Remember

Have you ever noticed how at certain times of the year, the mood of nature's season is reflected by what goes on in Church? As the leaves fall and the nights draw in nature dies away and in this month that theme is echoed in what we do in Church.

On the Sunday nearest November 1st we recall the great feast of All Saints & then in the evening of October 30th at 6p.m. there is a special service for All Souls, a time when we remember our departed loved ones and bring forward a lighted candle in their memory. It is a most moving service, a way of saying that our love does not end with physical death for as Christians we believe that there is life after death. I do hope that you will be able to join us in this especially reflective & moving act of worship.

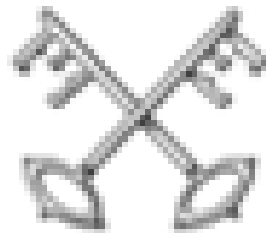
When did you last visit the Imperial War Museum? In my case, in mid-October, but then I recalled that it was the first visit for over 35 years. Whilst we live so close to London I shall make several visits but on my first trip I spent the whole afternoon in that part dedicated to World War One. I found this a profoundly moving occasion bringing home as it did the dreadful suffering and incredible bravery of so many young men, together with the sheer waste and wickedness of what can only be called slaughter. Both as individuals and as a nation it is vital that we never, ever forget those who had their young lives snatched from them for the sake of our freedom. I therefore hope that we

shall see many people in St. Peter's for the annual Service of remembrance on Sunday, 13th November at 3p.m. We should not forget those who in our nation's recent history have gone to war and who have returned injured or who were killed in action, so please do support the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal.

Looking ahead to next month and Christmas, may I invite you to something which has not been seen in St. Peter's for many years, a Parish Carol Service by candle-light when once again we can join together in the singing of traditional Christmas carols as part of our preparation for Christmas. This will be on Sunday December 18th at 6 p.m. followed by mulled wine. The usual Midnight Mass will be at 11.30pm with the family Eucharist on Christmas morning at 9.30p.m. Do bring the children along with their new toy as a challenger to see how it might fit in with the Christmas story; this challenge becomes more difficult as the years pass!

Yours in Christ,

Fr Tim.





COMMEMORATING 1066

Nobody can have failed to notice that this year is the 950th anniversary of the battle of Hastings and the

coronation of William I normally known as William the Conqueror, the last time that the mainland of Britain was successfully taken over by foreign invaders.

Appropriately, this morning's radio service (Sunday 9th October) came from Battle Abbey School, on the very site where the battle took place. The address was given by the Bishop of Chichester, the lesson read by the Headmaster and several other appropriately chosen readings read by pupils of the School. A number of commemorative events are due to take place at Hastings and Battle in the coming days.

Reference was made to the Bayeux Tapestry, as it is widely known, and it was pointed out that it is neither a tapestry, since it is embroidered and not woven: nor does it originate from Bayeux. The reason for this name probably derives from the fact that the first written reference to this valuable source for the events leading up to the battle of Hastings and the Norman Conquest is found in an inventory of Bayeux in 1471. Experts believe it was created in the 1070s. French legend states the work was commissioned and created by Matilda,

William's Queen. Twentieth century historians, however, believe that the work was commissioned by Bishop Odo, William's half-brother, and designed and constructed by Anglo-Saxon artists here in England.

No reference was made in the service to the fact that it is widely believed that the last four sections of the Bayeux Tapestry are missing, the vital finale which shows the death of Harold at the battle of Hastings and then the submission of the English to William here at Berkhamsted and the final two scenes, the Coronation on Christmas Day 1066 and the building of the White Tower in London, symbolic of William's exercise of power shown by the building of a network of 'motte and bailey' castles to protect his route to London and the capital itself.

In recent years there have been two attempts to create these four missing scenes. First in the 1990s by the embroiderer Jan Messent who was commissioned by Madeira Threads (UK Ltd) to make the missing eight feet of the Bayeux Tapestry, which took her about eighteen months to complete. Many will remember Jan's visit to Berkhamsted with her tapestry and her talk about her work. A short extract has been displayed with her permission in books, booklets and in the Castle Visitor Room at Berkhamsted.

The second attempt was a community project carried out on the island of Alderney, at the instigation of Kate Russell. Work was started on 1st February 2012 and completed on 28th February 2013. It has attracted considerable interest including from members of the Royal Family, particularly from the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall who stitched a little themselves.

Now time has passed on and we are commemorating 1066. Currently the Alderney Tapestry is on display at Battle Museum until the end of October. Thereafter it will be on display here in Berkhamsted, since it is here that William was offered the Crown. Great Berkhamsted historians discount the suggestion that this event took place at Little Berkhamsted. The tapestry will be displayed, with an accompanying exhibition in the Civic Centre from 2nd-5th November and then from 7th-11th November in Old Hall, Berkhamsted School, for school parties only. It may not be widely known that the Manor and Honour of Berkhamsted was part of the Duchy of Cornwall for many hundreds of years and that Berkhamsted Castle belongs to the Duchy to this day. For further information on these events please contact Jenny Sherwood on 01442 865158. KSherw9100@aol.com and see the History Society website www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk

Apart from Battle and Berkhamsted nowhere else on the mainland of Britain is playing host to this Alderney Bayeux Tapestry finale. Do make the most of this opportunity to come and see it.

What else is happening in Berkhamsted in this year of commemoration and many anniversaries, the most significant for the town and the country of which is 1066? A bronze bust of William the Conqueror has been presented to the people of Berkhamsted and discussions are still taking place as to where would be an appropriate and safe place for it to be displayed permanently. An unveiling ceremony is due to take place on Friday 14th October at 11.15 am at the Castle when there will be an address by Professor David Bates of the University of East Anglia. Our local MP, David Gauke will also be present and the Town Mayor. Obviously nobody really knows what William looked like but a great deal of research has been carried out to produce a bronze torso which embodies as much historic accuracy as possible but at the same time symbolises the force of William's conquest. Any suitable suggestions of an appropriate place for William's permanent place would be gratefully received.

Jenny Sherwood



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 Jey 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)

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.

Simon Vivian, Assistant Curate

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

Sunday 6th Nov 3.00pm: RECITAL The Notebooks of Anna Magdalena Bach. Steven Devine, harpsichord and Kate Semmens, soprano. Free Entry. Retiring collection.

Mon 14th Nov 8.00pm: ORGAN RECITAL with Remembrance theme in St Peter's Church. Stephen Smith, St Lawrence, Abbots Langley. Free Entry. Retiring collection.

Sat 26th Nov 7.30pm: CONCERT in St Peter's Church – Bridgewater Sinfonia, Director Adrian Davis. Mozart Overture, The Marriage of Figaro; Robert Schumann Konzerstück; Mozart Requiem (with Chiltern Chamber Choir). Tickets: www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk £15 bought in advance or £16 on the door. U18s free. Aitchison's High St; 873205.

Mon 28th Nov 8.00pm: ORGAN RECITAL in St Peter's Church. Liam Cartwright, All Saints, High Wycombe. Free Entry. Retiring collection.

Sun 4th Dec 7.30pm: CONCERT in St Peter's Church. Berkhamsted Choral Society. Conductor Graham Wili. Seasonal music plus audience carols with brass ensemble. Tickets: £15, student £8, DC. 07500 431643 or www.berkhamstedchoral.co.uk

St Peter's

Baptisms

11 th September	Oliver Samuel Turner Heidi May Moffatt Isabel Carroll Bushby Jessica Jane Dixie Cantwell Maisie Jane Cantwell
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Weddings - None

Funerals - None

All Saints

1 st (Tuesday)	All Saints' Day - 8pm Holy Communion - Revd Rachael Hawkins
6 th	Third Sunday before Advent
10am	Morning Worship - Revd Rachael Hawkins
4pm	Messy Church - Revd Rachael Hawkins & Messy Church Group
13 th	Second Sunday before Advent - Remembrance Sunday
10am	Holy Communion - Revd Rachael Hawkins & Malcolm Lindo
20 th	Christ the King
8am	Holy Communion - Revd Rachael Hawkins
10am	Morning Worship - Stephen Fletcher
27 th	Advent Sunday
10am	Holy Communion - Revd Janet Ridgway & Tracy Robinson
4pm	Healing Service - Revd Rachael Hawkins, Tracy Robinson, and Audrey Cox

Further information available from our church websites:

www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk and www.allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk.

News from the Hospice of St Francis



**November
2016**

We were
delighted
to welcome

Angela Rippon OBE to speak at our recent AGM. Angela, who also took time to tour the Hospice and meet patients, spoke eloquently on dementia and the work of the Alzheimer's Society in helping to improve understanding of the condition. The Hospice is very keen to help more patients with life-limiting illnesses and dementia in the future so her talk will inform future thinking.



At the AGM, our latest impact report was published, giving insight into the work of The Hospice of St Francis in the financial year 2015/2016. You can view a copy at www.stfrancis.org.uk/impactreport

Art Bags

We've launched a new art bag for 2016, funded by Macmillan, to boost the wellbeing of individuals living with a life-limiting illness in our community, or those who support them. The theme for the second art bag initiative is 'carve out a time and space for yourself' and the bag contains all the materials needed to complete a soap carving including a beautifully scented LUSH soap. Once completed, artists can return their creation to the Hospice to be exhibited.

'Our free art bags provide an accessible and simple creative activity for those supported by the hospice and the wider community,' explains the Hospice's Macmillan Creative Therapist Annalie Ashwell. "Those who participated in last year's art bag reported to feel a range of benefits from being transported away from the here and now, to focusing their mind and enabling thoughts and feelings, that are hard to articulate in words, to take shape."



Go Purple

Thank you so everyone who supported our recent Go Purple day on Friday 7th October! Over 50 businesses, groups, schools, nurseries and individuals raised £££'s for the Hospice by dressing, baking and painting all different shades of purple to support our Hospice care.



Spring Centre Courses

Our Spring Centre is here for anyone affected by a life-limiting illness and also provides support for people who look after them. We are holding a colour and style workshop on Tuesday 1st December and a Skin and Makeup Workshop on Monday 21st November which are free to attend. For more information contact

sandy.winyard@stfrancis.org.uk.

Christmas and Beyond!

Christmas is quickly coming and there are many ways to support your local Hospice this festive season:

- ◆ Recruit the family (and Jingle Dog) and dress up as Santa to join us for our annual Santa Dash through the streets of Hemel Hempstead on Sunday 11th December at 10am.

- ◆ Buy some of our beautiful Christmas cards for sale at our shops and online!
- ◆ Purchase a Norwegian spruce, non-drop, Christmas tree from the Hospice in early December. Great prices with all profits from the sale of the trees going to the Hospice. Keep an eye on our website for details.
- ◆ Come to our Christmas shopping evenings, taking place at Returned to Glory (our homeware and pre-loved furniture shop on the Northbridge Road, Berkhamsted) on Thursday 3rd November from 5.30 – 8pm and at our Number Twenty gift shop on Lower Kings Road on Thursday 10th November from 5.30 – 7.30pm.
- ◆ **Looking to 2017**, we have places available on our Trek to China leaving in September for a trip of a lifetime, plus, for those who are looking for a different type of health & fitness experience, our Biggest Loser challenge in conjunction with Sportspace starts at the end of January. The Biggest Loser sees 20 individuals work together to lose weight, eat well and raise pounds for Hospice care.

For further details on all Hospice events, visit: www.stfrancis.org.uk or call 01442 869555 or follow us on **Facebook/TheHospiceofStFrancis**
Twitter:hospicstfrancis

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Your Charities



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Have you heard of the crisis evolving in the Lake Chad Basin? Probably not but Oxfam has classed it as a Category One emergency, alongside Syria and Yemen.

As a result of the 7-year conflict between Boko Haram and military operations against them, 65000 people in Nigeria are already in the grip of famine and another one million are very close to it. Many have fled their homes.

Oxfam International is already providing water, sanitation, hygiene, food and livelihoods support to a quarter of a million people in Nigeria, Niger and Chad and aims for 1.45 million by the end of the year.

But support costs money. Donations to Oxfam's Refugee Appeal will help and buying an Unwrapped Support a Refugee alternative gift and your Christmas cards and presents from the charity will also provide essential funds.

Appledown Rescue's Dog of the Month



Handsome **Rudolph** is a medium-sized crossbreed born in 2015. He is an affectionate young dog who is gaining in confidence. He needs a patient loving home with owners willing to carry on the good work that Appledown has started with his training. He could probably live with a female dog pending introductions. Rudolph needs a home with children no younger than teenage.

If you can offer Rudolph or any of our other dogs a forever home, please call in at

the kennels any day between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. or phone for more details. Please note that there are restrictions on rehoming 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.

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01525 220383 e-mail: appledown.kennels@btinternet.com

Website: www.appledownrescue.co.uk

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Your Garden

Adventures in Boots by Helen Reeley 'Coleton Fishacre'

It was like stepping back in time visiting Coleton Fishacre during our August bank holiday in Devon. The Arts & Craft styled house was superbly curated & reminded me of childhood visits to my grandmother's home where the bath-room furniture & colours were similar. The house & garden are now under the guardianship of the National Trust & the garden itself is RHS accredited. The site is spread over twenty-four acres and was originally planted with shelter belts of pine & holm oak way before the house was completed. The garden winds its way down to Pudcome Cove via a typical Devonshire

combe which alas wasn't open to the public but you could see it from a viewpoint half way up the cliff footpath. The route down the hillside footpath is planted with luxurious specimens of musa (banana), gunnera, hydrangea and bamboo. The combe is a micro climate which offers protection to much of the sub-tropical planting; succulents from the Canary Islands & tree ferns from New Zealand. The foot path is steep but firm underfoot with strategically placed benches to rest on the way back up. Closer to the house the planting is more formal. The flower borders

immediately around the house are planted with hot coloured canna lilies, dahlias, verbenas, hemerocallis & other tender plants I couldn't name but they looked beautiful.

Behind the house is a steep embankment which was of particular interest to me. I'm very fond of aeoniums & in this border were planted some fabulous specimens of *Aeonium arboreum* 'Schwarzkopf'. They'd grown to a couple of metres high & they were left outside for the winter which demonstrates just

how mild the climate is & the protection the combe offers. The plants were a magnificent glossy purple in really good condition. Alas they have the incongruent common name of 'Black House Leek' -



hardly inspiring.

Visitors are very well catered for at Coleton Fishacre. As per usual, the National Trust does an excellent job of fleecing one of one's dosh. The café is very sheltered-sun brollies were much sought after the day we went as the sun was searing. I read online people roughly spend two & half hours visiting this magnificent house & gardens which is frankly not enough time to do it credit; take a day, take a picnic. This flagship house & garden is open all year except on Fridays. Until next month, TTFN
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Letter to Vernon Mildew

Dear Vernon,
I realised that I have never told you about when I worked in an office. I am not sure how I got the job; I think they must have confused my application with someone else. I was very enthusiastic at the interview and agreed with everything they said, so perhaps that did the trick.

I worked at a large company and seemed to be doing quite well. My job titles kept getting longer and longer and I went to more and more meetings where we had to put sticky labels on the wall about how we were feeling. I was the 'Facilitator of Wellbeing Procurement' so it was very important to say you were always very excited about everything. Everyone tried to appear very nice and I never seemed to actually do any proper work.

Then one day I was called into a room and told I was 'at risk'. This worried me as I did not want Social Services breaking my door down and taking my cats away. Luckily it was only my job that was at risk, not my cats and this meant going to more meetings to talk about our feelings.

I felt rather guilty as I was quite glad to be leaving a job where I didn't really do anything. However, the other people in my 'at risk' group had quietly got on with the mundane tasks that really needed doing. Most of them had to care for children or parents or both when they got home so were used to just getting things done. Because they

knew what to do and didn't brag about it, none of the managers had ever understood that these tasks even existed.

I heard that there were some problems after we left. Some expensive consultants recommended that the company do exactly the same as they had recommended to all of their previous clients, so the company employed extra managers with long job titles to prepare computer pictures with lots of arrows and boxes that faded in and out like magic.

This did not seem to help, so the company had to pay off these new managers and all the advisers, assistants and deputies that they had hired for themselves. The company then tried to re-employ the people they had previously sacked, but they had all got better jobs, happier lives, or both.

In the end, the company was sold for £1 and all the bosses were given lots of money to just go away.

I saw some interesting documentaries about very similar offices to mine. My friends said these were comedy programmes but I don't think they can ever have worked for large companies because that is what really happens; and it is all taken very seriously.

I was very fortunate that I had legacies and a public sector pension to fall back on but many of my colleagues are not so lucky. Some are doing self-employed delivery work even though it costs them more than they actually earn.

Vera

We shall remember them



In May I wrote a piece to commemorate the anniversary of the death of my grandfather's cousin in Egypt. We wanted to ensure that he was not forgotten, but a visit to Suez is impractical, and it is not the safest place to go these days. John Dawson naturally didn't have that choice. The Royal Legion offer a wonderful service, in cooperation with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, to lay a poppy wreath pretty much anywhere their graves are administered. All they ask is a donation that at least covers their costs. The additional bonus is that they take a photograph of the wreath laid at the graveside. We have been lucky therefore to see John's grave for the first time and feel that we have marked the occasion appropriately. We shall remember them.

Julian Dawson

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Your Sports

By Matthew Dawson

YB speaks to up and coming Berko tennis star

At the age of just nine, local up and coming tennis star Anna Popescu was stuck at a cross roads; carry on with tennis or stick with football. It was a case of opting for the more lucrative option and the better chance of becoming professional at the time as she chose to commit to tennis. This was rather than going along the football route, which as the time in terms of the women's game was cast aside. As it happens, the women's game is now more accessible and more professional than ever.

However time moves on, and rather than having the regret of possibly making it as a pro footballer after quitting Watford Academy, Anna is now full of positivity as she looks to really make her mark in the world of tennis. She's over an injury that halted much of her development as a teenager, and her tennis is now getting back to a place where she expects it to be.

Anna started playing tennis when she was at Greenway School, doing after school clubs, before her love for sport snow-balled into her joining Berkhamsted Tennis Club, and then when she was nine, joining the high performance centre in Batchwood, St Albans. This was at the same time she was playing for Watford, *"I quit Watford at the end of the season, and decided to go for tennis not football, because of perceived greater career opportunities to be professional,"* she said.

The influence Berko Tennis Club has had on the 19 year old since has been huge though, training at the club since she was a young girl, taking advantage of the great array of programmes the club offers. *"It was the club that nurtured me as a kid, you could say that Chris Stringer [the owner] and Olly Culwick [a coach at the club] helped me a lot in these years,"* Anna said. However it wasn't until her current coach, Tyrell Diaz Stevens, a former pro, came over and set up the Berkhamsted Tennis Academy at the club that she began to really realise her potential, saying; *"at 13 I trained solely with Tyrell and the academy, and it was him who made me believe I was good enough to become a pro tennis player. Without him I don't think I would have had that belief to have a crack."*

More recently, Anna's career has been a case of bouncing back from injury and progressing over 2016. She suffered a bad injury when she was 15 and spent the best part of three years out of the game recovering, before returning late in 2015; *"it has been a season of progress for me for sure,"* she said, before explaining; *"this year has been massive for me because it's been my first back, my first year playing professionally, and I'm very grateful to be back doing what I love."*

This year has been where the dream has started to become a reality though. She got her rating down sufficiently enough to enter tournaments, playing in her first professional competition in February,

whilst getting her UK Open ranking down to 51 from 396, an amazing rise.

At the same time she's played in places around the world such as Crete and Romania during this year. Anna meanwhile won a national tournament in Norwich earlier in the year, before competing in a 50k challenger event in London where she gained her first WTA point. *"I actually got very lucky," she said, "I only got in because someone pulled out on the day but it was great playing with ball boys and ball girls, and it felt like the big time so it was such a cool experience playing on a show court."*



It's experiences and breaks like that, that will only help Anna as she bids to rise through the professional rankings as she gets older.

She hopes to play more tournaments and travel full time around the world next year, and maybe even have a spell in the US. One of her short term goals she said is *"to gain a world ranking in both singles and doubles, and to make top 30 in the UK next year,"* before she strives to achieve the long term goal of getting as far up the ranking's on the women's tour as possible.

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Copy Dates:	11 Nov	11 Dec	11 Jan
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