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**Your Berkhamsted**

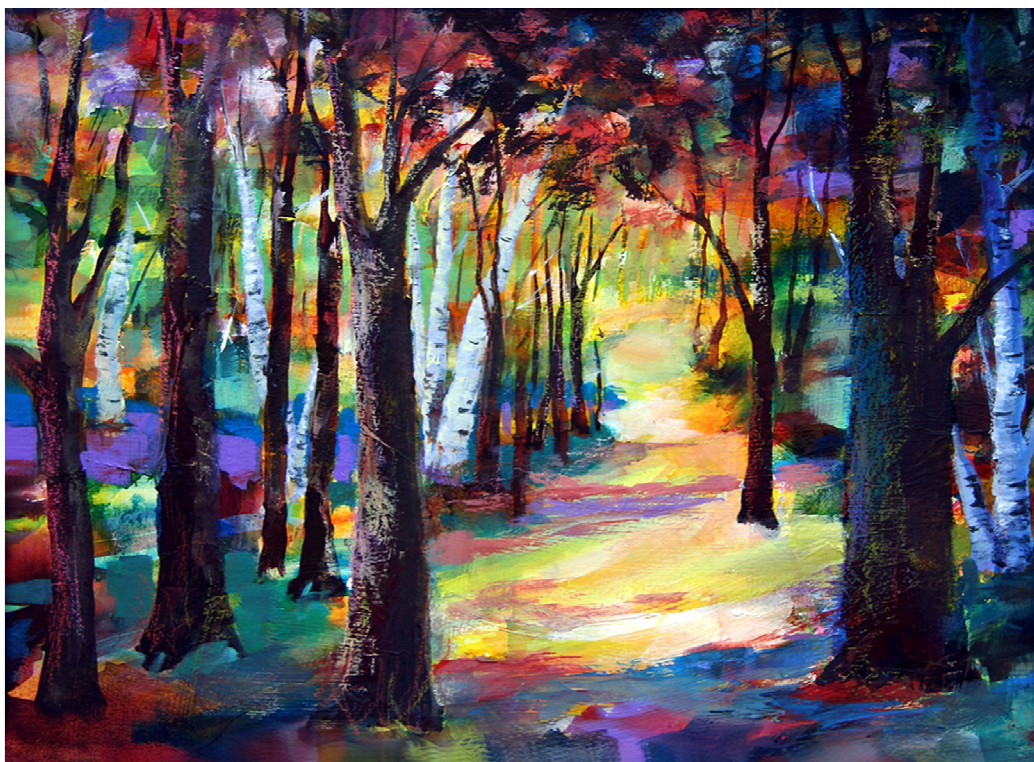
October/November  
2019

**Review of Graham Greene  
Festival 2019**

**Rosanna's Kitchen aka I Love  
Food - A must go!**

**Berkhamsted to Barcelona**

**Looking back on the Heritage  
Open Days**



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

## *In this issue...*

**WELCOME TO THE OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2019 EDITION OF YOUR BERKHAMSTED.** How quick the summer goes and dark nights set in. We will be saying a sad farewell to Father Tim Pilkington, you can read about his time as Rector at St Peter's on pages 16 and 17. Your Berkhamsted wishes him well on ventures new. In this edition we reflect on the events of September which included the Graham Greene Festival and the Heritage Open Days; these always involve a hive of activity. Dennis Furnell discusses his observations on nature and it's beauty; he has a fantastic eye for detail. We also have John Gerry's review on Rosanna's Kitchen, which opened recently. The décor is stunning and there is a wonderful menu to try. Please look out or YB tweets on @Yourberkhamsted. Do get in touch if there are any ideas or stories you may have, either to publish or additions/ changes to the magazine for consideration. And please give us your feedback on the new features.



**JACQUELINE - [EDITOR@YOURBERKHAMSTED.ORG.UK](mailto:EDITOR@YOURBERKHAMSTED.ORG.UK)**

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**Front cover:** Thank you Mitzie Green for the lovely Enchanted Wood picture. You can see Mitzie's other work on her website. <https://www.mitziegreen.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.

## Rambles from Berkhamsted by Julian Dawson



According to [hertsad.co.uk](http://hertsad.co.uk), Ashridge House's grounds will host the Mud Pack challenge on October 13<sup>th</sup>. A five or ten mile muddy obstacle course has to be negotiated by various teams raising money for the Hospice of St Francis. I'm not sure how muddy Ashridge will be in October. I recall a particular Raiders game where it thrashed it down in stair-rods. But it could quite easily be the middle of a heat wave where it might not be so much mud as unyielding concrete.

Ashridge is familiar to most of us as the National Trust owned 5000 acres of woodland, commons and chalk downland. The actual stately home hosts the Hult International Business School's Ashridge Executive Education programme, and has done since 1959. It isn't certain if the programme involves its own mud challenge. Hult is an independent business school which also has campuses in Cambridge, London, San Francisco, Dubai, New York, and Shanghai. It is named after its benefactor Bertil Hult.

Bertil is a Swedish billionaire who made his Krone by founding the educational and language school company EF Education First, which now

40,000 employees in 53 countries. The company specialises in language training, educational travel, academic degree programmes and cultural exchange – perhaps more than ever pertinent for our fractured world. Appropriately it began life in the Swedish university town of Lund, across the Oresund from Copenhagen.

Oresund is similar to the English word Sound, as in strait, as in one of the channels connecting the Baltic to the Atlantic Ocean. One way to cross is by the longest combined road rail bridge in Europe, the Oresund Bridge. Now made iconic by the eponymous Scandi crime drama. The idea for the bridge was actually conceived in 1936, but with much else was kyboshed by the Second World War. Various disagreements on its location and economic and environmental issues held it back, until construction finally began in 1995, and opening in 2000. It was deemed worthy of winning the Outstanding Structure Award presented by the prestigious International Association of Bridge and Structural Engineering.

**Cont page 5**

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Other winners of this award offer a range of building types, including the Phoenix Centre in Beijing, the Estadio Ciudad de la Plata in Argentina, the Copenhagen Opera House and the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. The Guggenheim's architect was Frank Gehry who chose to clad the museum in glass, titanium and limestone.



The building was finished on time and to budget. It would be interesting to note how this was achieved. Gehry explained that there were three reasons why. Firstly he prevented political and business interests from inter-

fering with the design. Then the cost estimates were realistic and detailed.

And lastly computer visualisations enabled close collaboration with subcontractors to control costs.

The Guggenheims are in fact an American family currently responsible for the little matter of \$200 billion in assets. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century

they married into a branch of the Rothschilds whom we know so well locally. Rather than banking, the family fortune was made in mining and smelting which allowed their widespread philanthropy in many areas.

### Drawings of Berkhamsted by Jenni Cator

#### AMCHOR Autumn term - new members welcome!

Amersham & Chesham Bois Choral Society's (AMCHOR) new term starts on **Monday 16 September 2019**. We will be rehearsing Lauridsen's Lux Aeterna and Haydn's Nelson Mass for our Winter concert on Saturday 7 December. Rehearsals take place Monday evenings at the Free Church, Woodside Road, Amersham **8-9.45pm**. New singers are very welcome so do come along and try us out! We welcome singers for all parts but especially Tenors and Sopranos. **Substantial discount on membership fees for younger singers aged 16-26**. More information at [www.amchor.com](http://www.amchor.com) or from the Recruitment Secretary, [recruitment@amchor.com](mailto:recruitment@amchor.com)

# What's on

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  
Lift access at back. If you would like a stall contact Claire - Mob: 07968 627 179;  
Email:

[berkhamstedmarket@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:berkhamstedmarket@hotmail.co.uk)

[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. For more info email:

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

[www.wea.org.uk](http://www.wea.org.uk). (Adult Learning Courses) £74 for a 10-week course, 2 hours a week. 0300 3033464; information 872432

## October

### **Tuesday 1st October to 6<sup>th</sup> October:**

Chilterns Heritage Festival - A series of exciting events across the region, designed to celebrate the diverse heritage of the Chilterns. See website for details and tickets. <https://chilternsociety.org.uk/heritage-festival>

### **Tuesday 1st October: Glee Club -**

Gable Hall, Prince Edward Street, Berkhamsted. Every Tuesday 12.30-2pm or every Thursday 8-10pm. Adults singing for fun and raising money for charities.

[www.gobstopperstheatrearts.com](http://www.gobstopperstheatrearts.com)

**Tuesday 1st October 8pm: C'est la Vie!** - Berkhamsted Civic Centre, Non-members £5 at door. Comedy from the team who made Untouchable. As disaster follows disaster a luxury wedding at a palace threatens to erupt into nightmare.

Dirs:O.Nakache,E.Toledano/ 2017/ France/Cert 15 117min/Subtitles.

<http://berkhamstedfilmsociety.co.uk>

**Wednesday 2nd October 8pm: Recording Britain** - St Bartholomew's Church. £3, coffee and refreshments included. Celebrating the Country's Natural Beauty and Architectural Heritage with Graham Twemlow.

<http://cluster3.website-staging.uk/wiggintonvillage.website/history-society>

### **Saturday 5th October 10am-4pm:**

Book Fair - Court House, Berkhamsted, 10am-4pm. Free admittance. A huge selection of second hand books of all sorts on display. [01442 862011](http://01442862011)

### **Saturday 5th October 7.30pm: Barry Cryer and Colin Sell**

- The Court Theatre, Tring, 7.30pm. £25. Barry and Colin present 'Strictly Come Joking'.

<https://www.get-stuffed.biz>

### **Saturday 5th October 7.30pm:**

**Endymion Quintet** - Berkhamsted Civic Centre. £15. Schubert: String Trio in B Flat, Mozart: Clarinet Quintet in A,

Brahms: Clarinet Quintet in B Minor.  
[Call 01442 862798](tel:01442862798) or email: [treasurer@berkhamstedmusic.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@berkhamstedmusic.co.uk).  
<http://www.berkhamstedmusic.co.uk>

**Monday 7th & 8th October 8pm: The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society** - Berkhamsted Civic Centre.

Non-members £5 at door. After World War 2 a free-spirited writer befriends a group of eccentric Guernsey residents who formed a book club during the island's occupation. Dir: Mike Newell/2018/UK Cert 12A/124min.

<http://berkhamstedfilmsociety.co.uk>

**Wednesday 9th October 8pm: Berko Unplugged** - The Greene Room, Kings Arms, Berkhamsted. £12. Presented by People not Borders in aid of refugees, with Said the Maiden, Lizzie Hardingham and Beverley Wong. Tickets available from Café Epicure and online.

<https://www.peoplenotborders.org>

**Friday 11th October 7pm: BDCC Wine Tasting** - Berkhamsted School, King's site, Kings Road. £15. Father Mike Eggleton, one of the best wine experts in Hertfordshire, will introduce wines from 6 different regions and discuss tasting techniques and what to look for when buying wines.

[peteels12@gmail.com](mailto:peteels12@gmail.com)  
<https://www.berkhamsted-chamber.co.uk/>

**Saturday 12th October 2pm-3pm:**

Chiltern Society Walking Festival at Rectory Lane Cemetery, tour led by Countess of Bridgewater who endowed this space for the town. To buy tickets see

<http://bit.ly/walkfest70>

**Sunday 13th October 2pm-3pm:**

Chiltern Society Walking Festival at Rectory Lane Cemetery, learn about lives cut short with WW1 Matron Sister Cottingham. To buy tickets see <http://bit.ly/walkfest72>

**Friday 18th October 2pm-3pm:** Chiltern Society Walking Festival at Rectory Lane Cemetery, learn about the remarkable women buried here. To buy tickets see <http://bit.ly/walkfest73>

**Saturday 20th October 2pm-3pm:**

Chiltern Society Walking Festival at Rectory Lane Cemetery, tour led by Countess of Bridgewater who endowed this space for the town. To buy tickets see <http://bit.ly/walkfest71>

**Saturday 26th October 8pm: Alan Barnes and 11 Big Band** - Berkhamsted Civic Centre. Members £10, Visitors £13. This all-star band celebrates 1959, when many jazz standards such as Take 5 & Blue in Green were written. These tunes featured on the Art Pepper + 11 Album, and Alan's band present a modern take on this, in his 60th year.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 6pm:**  
**Berkhamsted Rotary Fireworks -**  
Berkhamsted Cricket Club. Gates  
6pm, show 7pm. Features a huge  
professional display to music by  
Classic Fireworks, sideshows, DJ,  
BBQ and bar.  
[https://  
rotaryberkhamsted.wixsite.com/  
berkofireworks](https://rotaryberkhamsted.wixsite.com/berkofireworks)

**Sunday 3rd November 7pm: From  
Odessa to Paris** - The Greene Room,  
Kings Arms, Berkhamsted. A portrait  
of Chagall in music. Clare O'Connell  
and David Le Page, joined by klezmer  
clarinettist Susi Evans and Hungarian  
accordionist Szilvia Csaranko bring  
you an exhilarating night of Jewish,  
Russian and French music and any-  
thing in between. Email:  
[info@behindthemirror.org](mailto:info@behindthemirror.org). [https://  
www.behindthemirror.org](https://www.behindthemirror.org)

**Monday 4th & 5th November 8pm:**  
**The Wife** - Berkhamsted Civic Centre.  
Non-members £5 at door. Glenn  
Close as a wife who's spent years  
playing second fiddle to her Nobel  
prize-winning author husband al-  
though she's been instrumental in his  
success. Dir: Bjorn Runge 2017/UK/  
Cert 15/100min.  
<http://berkhamstedfilmsociety.co.uk>

**Wednesday 6th November 8pm:**  
**Wine Tasting** - Majestic Wine, Billet  
Lane. Please email if you would like to

attend. [berkhamstedcitizensev-  
ents@gmail.com](mailto:berkhamstedcitizensevents@gmail.com)

**Saturday 9th November 10.30am-  
4pm: Little Gaddesden Art Club One  
Day Exhibition** - Village Hall, 24  
Church Road, Little Gaddesden, Berk-  
hamsted, HP4 1NX. Free entry.  
Lunches and refreshments. Framed  
and unframed paintings, pottery,  
sculpture, wood carving and greeting  
cards.

**Monday 11th November 8pm: Rory  
Bremner** - High Street Baptist Church.  
£18. Britain's top satirical impression-  
ist appears as part of the Tring Book  
Festival.  
[https://www.tringbookfestival.co.uk/  
venues/high-street-baptist-church/  
rory-bremner](https://www.tringbookfestival.co.uk/venues/high-street-baptist-church/rory-bremner)

**Wednesday, 13th November,  
8.00pm**, Kings Arms, 147 High St,  
Berkhamsted HP4 3HL Supporting  
Pepper Children's Hospice at Home.  
£5.00 book at this email:  
[lstate@btinternet.com](mailto:lstate@btinternet.com). **The  
next Berkhamsted Live will be broad-  
cast on radio!** The show, which begins  
at 8.00pm, will be live on Radio  
Dacorum from **7.00pm to 9.00pm**.  
That's an hour before the show starts  
(you're all invited to be there and lis-  
ten/talk!) plus the first half of the per-  
formance. Below are the details of  
the full show. Please come along to  
support our charity, Pepper Children's  
Hospice at Home.



**Berkhamsted Live 21** features Zoe Wren, shortlisted Best Female Solo, NMG Awards with her album 'Gold and Smoke', now out with Folkstock Records, and Neil Beardmore's play about transgender in India, transferred from Questors Theatre, London.

**Wednesday 13th November 8pm: Invasion 1940** - Berkhamsted Town Hall. Speaker: Tony Eaton. [Call 01442 877831](tel:01442877831)

[mary\\_casserley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mary_casserley@yahoo.co.uk)  
<http://berkhamsted-history.org.uk>

**Sunday 17th November 11am-4.30pm: Christmas Shopping** - Number Twenty, 20 Lower Kings Rd, Berkhamsted. In aid of The Hospice of St Francis. Enjoy a glass of festive fizz while you browse, while Number Twenty will be offering 15% off all purchases.

<http://www.stfrancis.org.uk>

**Monday 18th & 19th November 8pm: Woman at War** - Berkhamsted Civic Centre. Non-members £5 at door. Funny, moving, unique. When her application to adopt a child succeeds, Halle, secretly an environmental activist, plans one last attack. Dir: B.Erlingsson/2018 Iceland/Cert 12A/101min Subtitles.

**Saturday 23rd November 8pm: Neil Drinkwater's Red Stripe Band** - Berkhamsted Civic Centre. Members £10, Visitors £13. First time at

Berkhamsted for this band. As Neil says - "Think of a smaller version of the Jools Holland Big Band, without the annoying front man".

[Call 01442 824173](tel:01442824173)

[bjazztickets@gmail.com](mailto:bjazztickets@gmail.com)

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

## Ashridge Events

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge-estate/whats-on>

**Festival of Light - Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November**

**3.30pm - 6.00pm**

**Berkhamsted High Street**



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## LOOKING BACK ON AN INTENSIVE MONTH OF ACTIVITY



Anyone who was not away on holiday during the month of September and remained unaware of the variety of events

on offer should be ashamed of themselves. All in some way or other reflected the heritage of our town, be it literary, be it historical. It reflected the interest of its people and provided something to interest all ages and all sections of the community. Some were totally free, some indirectly money-raising, some quite expensive, but meeting the needs of a particular section of the community and bringing people, from all over the world to the Graham Greene International Festival. The Graham Greene Birthplace Trust, with such humble beginnings, set up many years ago by Roger Watkins and the late Ken Sherwood and David Pearce has now just completed its 21<sup>st</sup> Festival. 'It won't last! You will never establish it and keep it going!', said the Jonases, but against all odds it has, and friends from Europe, Asia, Great Britain, South America, the States come to Berkhamsted every Autumn to talk about the works of Graham Greene and meet with members of the Greene family and Greene's family of followers.

For those for whom the Festival is too intensely academic and who would like a more varied fare and are deterred by cost, to boot, there is the annual offering of the Heritage Open Days, arranged for more than twenty years by the Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society. Included this year were twelve different sites with associated exhibitions and guided tours and were moreover totally free. They ranged from a guided walk on Berkhamsted Common following where the boundary fences were placed in 1866 by Earl Brownlow's men, in an attempt to enclose part of the Common. This guided walk and the accompanying story of the remarkable display of the demonstration of People Power was one of this year's HOD offers. For those wishing to be less active but still wishing to follow the theme of People Power another tour of the Market Hall and Town Hall was on offer. This building was erected for the people and by the people in 1860 and saved from the jaws of the bulldozer by the people of Berkhamsted in the 1970s.

Few of Berkhamsted's former large houses remain but sufficient of the outbuildings, traces of the building and a historic ambience linger on up at Berkhamsted Place - successor to the Castle. Up on the other side of the

valley stands Ashlyns School. This enormous building once housed the Foundling Hospital. Here we were privileged to hear the experiences of two former Foundlings who spent their entire childhood here in Berkhamsted. In addition to these, other buildings had guided tours, and a canal-side walk sought the former, now lost, wharves of Berkhamsted. An opportunity to see the Arts and Craft garden of Amersfort, originally planted by Gertrude Jekyll proved a very much oversubscribed option. Tours of the town centre and of Berkhamsted's two parish churches, together with a tour of Berkhamsted's postal heritage and Ashridge's gardens completed the programme.

Four other sites formerly in the History Society programme were run this year by the Dacorum Heritage Trust, the Berkhamsted Castle Trust, the Rectory Lane Cemetery Project and the British Film Institute.

What was on offer for the young of Berkhamsted? Next door to their school varied and noisier entertain-

ment was provided by the BerkoFest, held in the grounds of Ashlyns Hall.

Berkhamsted has, however always been outlooking and has always felt itself a part of the Chilterns, so this year, as last year, we took part in the Chilterns Heritage Festival. This is a comparatively new event ran this year from 21<sup>st</sup> September - 6<sup>th</sup> October. Although a newcomer to Berkhamsted's heritage month it seems probable that Berkhamsted with its rich heritage will always contribute something to this festival.

Two long established events which take place every year, one could almost say discreetly, are 'The Bike 'N Hike', a sponsored money-raising event for the Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust, this year on 14<sup>th</sup> September, and finally, to conclude, the Open Studios, 7<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> September where established as well as budding artists have an opportunity to display their artistic achievements and latent talents. Berkhamsted is indeed a vibrant place, but September is particularly busy!



## Berkhamsted to Barcelona by Robin McMorran

For a short time in early summer this year, morning worship at St Peter's Church was noticeably quieter than usual. The church choir, normally a fixture at services, was out of town, on a week-long tour to Spain. Berkhamsted's loss that week was Barcelona's gain, because St Peter's Church Choir was on a mission to export English choral music to the Catalans. The tour was organised by former head chorister and RSCM Gold award holder Stephen Jullien who was living at the time in Barcelona and employed as a youth worker at St. George's Anglican Church there. The choir performed at a number of prestigious venues across the city.

Barcelona is renowned for its architecture, the opulent, often riotous designs of the Catalan Modernistas of the turn of the 19th/20th century. Top of the list is of course Antoni Gaudí, whose extravagant curving roofs, chimneys and towers draw tourists in their millions. Notably, Barcelona's eclectic styles can be seen concentrated in one place, a row of houses by five different architects whose clashing styles earned it the disparaging nickname, the "Block of Discord" (*la Manzana de la Discòrdia* in Spanish, *or la Illa de la Discòrdia* in Catalan). Yet out of this apparent disharmony comes great beauty, a fantastical backdrop to a magnificent city. For a week, Barcelona's cloud-capp'd towers and gorgeous palaces were to be our stage setting.

Our first performance took place at 512 metres (1,680 ft) above sea level, on top

of Tibidabo, a mountain on the edge of the city. Happily, Barcelona's metro system incorporates several funicular railway lines, so ropes and crampons were not required. Our concert was in the Temple Expiatori del Sagrat Cor (Church of the Sacred Heart), a striking white marble Gothic church that overlooks the city. The Byzantine-style crypt proved to be acoustically welcoming, as we sang works by Thomas Tallis, John Blow, Adrian Batten and Charles Wood to an assorted audience of tourists and locals. Our repertoire for the week was not limited to English composers; Rheinberger's *Abendlied* resounded beautifully around Tibidabo's vaults, and a lovely Russian lady in the audience was visibly moved to tears by our performance of *Bogoroditsye Dyevo* ("Rejoice, O Virgin") from Rachmaninov's *All Night Vigil*.

Not content with life at sea level, we found ourselves singing at altitude once again in the Benedictine Abbey of Santa Maria de Montserrat (the 'serrated mountain') deep in the Catalan hills. Our concert in the ornate, tenebrous church included the first performance of a new work by our Director of Music, Adrian Davis, an emotive setting of the *Regina Coeli*.

Gaudí's magnificent – and still unfinished – church project, la Sagrada Família (the Church of the Holy Family) is emblematic of Barcelona's architecture and faith. St Peter's Choir was invited to sing during the parish

Mass, celebrated not in the main basilica but in the intimate Gothic crypt. This subterranean chamber an intriguing remnant of the work of the original architect, Francisco de Paula del Villar, who envisaged the Sagrada Família as a Gothic Revival edifice, in contrast to Gaudí's later, riotous design.

The choir also sang Mass at Barcelona Cathedral, a glorious Catalan Gothic building in the city centre which dates from 1339. Within the tranquil cloister, we were

greeted by a flock of rather less-than-tranquil white geese, something of a reminder of the notorious wildfowl of Berkhamsted's canal. The cathedral interior is a spectacular chamber of huge

Gothic arches, built to house the relics of Eulalia of Barcelona, one of the city's patron saints (the other, it should be mentioned, is St George, an internationally venerated saint and not a monopoly of the English!).

An evening concert took place in the vast and imposing church of Santa Maria del Mar (St Mary of the Sea). The nave is breathtaking in its simplicity, with soaring stone columns supporting a high vaulted ceiling. It was perhaps here that our young choristers' voices truly made

their mark in pieces such as Monteverdi's *O Beatae Virgine* and Elizabeth Poston's carol *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree*. To hear the voices of young singers singing solo and in duets filling such an enormous space with pure sound was an unforgettable moment, and testament to Adrian's achievements in nurturing the talent of Berkhamsted's young musicians.

The choir tour concluded with a concert in the more intimate venue of St

George's Anglican Church, a lively and welcoming branch of the Church of England's Diocese in Europe.

From mountain to sea, from soaring basilica to hidden

chapel, our privilege that week was to sing glorious sacred music in sacred spaces as music blended with architecture. For a few memorable days, Catalonia's great buildings, once derided as works of discord, became for us a place of concord.

Videos and photographs of our tour can be seen on the St Peter's Berkhamsted website:

[https://  
www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk/  
music/barcelona-tour-2019/](https://www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk/music/barcelona-tour-2019/)





## Observations by Dennis Furnell (The Natureman)

As a working naturalist it seems odd to have favourites when it comes to the seasons of the year, but I have to admit that Autumn is the one for me. As John Clare says *"It is the season of mists and fruitfulness."* In other words, the measure of the wildlife events that will follow the winter into spring and summer.

Our region is one of the driest parts of England. Perched as it is on the cusp of the Chiltern Escarpment with a blanket of glacial clay enfolding beds of chalk, the rain collects before draining away to be filtered and purified - percolating a hundred metres through the shelly remains of a fossil seabed as old as the dinosaurs. The geological combination produces alkaline and neutral soils that in some places are mildly acidic; a wonderful mixture of habitats ideal for woodland, farmland and chalk downland. In short, a naturalist's dream. With Berkhamsted Common and Ashridge Forest clothing the hills, the autumn bounty is one of the richest in the country.

There are any number of folk tales to account for the autumn harvest of wild fruits, but blackthorn bushes groaning with velvety sloes don't necessarily presage a harsh winter. What it does tell us is that last autumn conditions were ideal for a

healthy growth of blackthorn which, in turn, set bud and bloomed in white drifts in spring to the delight of early bumble bees and beetles that fertilised the flowers and in doing so set the next harvest of wild fruits.

What is even more exciting is the fact that the soil, warmed by weeks of summer temperatures, is waiting for just the right amount of rain to call into life the magical fruiting of fungi. Myriad caps and brackets thrive in a medley of colours to tempt an artist's pallet and a photographer's eye. The red and white spotted amanita, featured in every book of nursery rhymes, grows where clumps of silver birch trees shade the bracken. A perfect example of tree and fungi in symbiotic relationship. Birches are themselves host to birch polypores, small brackets in stark white. In past times they were known as razor strop fungi as they contain small crystals of a silica-like material and could be used to sharpen a shaving razor. And where ancient pollarded beech trees show their age the cracked grey bark hosts the pale translucent beech porcelain fungi, the cups glow in shafts of sunlight as if in a theatre spotlight. Here and there, where the sun warms the leaf litter, the stately forms of parasol fungi queue like wealthy guests to a garden party.

Put simply, life on earth would be virtually non-existent without fungi to recycle the dead plant and animal detritus.



Picture:  
Fly Agaric Amanita Fungus fruiting cap – by Dennis  
Furnell

### **Exhibition Display Opportunity**

If any local charity or organisation would like to use the Long Room of the Court House (the room at the front ) to mount a short exhibition or display on a Saturday morning between 9am and 12 noon this space is available free of charge. To check availability and make your reservation contact Kathie Lally at [kathleenlally21@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenlally21@gmail.com)

## Our Clergy



### Some farewell thoughts from Fr. Tim

Whilst the date of my retirement and final eucharist at St Peter's is still four

months distant, this will be my final contribution to this community magazine. This is not going to be an easy task since I do not wish to pre-empt what I am going to say in my final homily. I do want to begin by thanking the editorial team who work so hard to keep this publication alive, often with too little thanks. I do hope that it can be kept going, even though it is now a bi-monthly publication.

The old saying, "How time flies by" could not be a more apposite sentiment for me as Rector of Berkhamsted these past five years. Life is always changing and everything, whether good or bad, will eventually come to an end. As we age, our body changes. We have health problems, emotional problems and spiritual problems. Nothing in this life remains the same; only God is unchanging and constant in His love, at all times. In truth I could continue in office until I am 70, but as I approached my 65<sup>th</sup> birthday this month I realised some time ago that it would be right for me to retire and make-way for a younger priest. That said, after 34 years I still love being called to celebrate the eucharist and preach God's word and like our three retired priests we now have at St Peter's I have no wish to retire from being a

cannot since the Church of England still retains that catholic and sacramental understanding of ordination to the priesthood as "indelible". How one exercises that priestly ministry changes and the one thing that I really look forward to in retirement is retiring from administration and paperwork, and spending real quality time with Alys, who has been a constant support throughout my ministry. After so many years, we are really looking forward to having our own home, a modest bungalow not far from her home town of Falmouth in Cornwall.

When an Anglican priest is instituted to a parish the bishop says: "Receive this cure of souls, which is both yours and mine". Being the Established Church (for how much longer I would not like to speculate!) this means more than the priest being a sort of chaplain to the gathered community. Without wishing to step on the toes of other denominational priests and ministers, the Anglican priest is responsible for all in his or her parish, whether of faith or none at all. For me that has been a very real privilege to serve Great Berkhamsted as the Rector and to share in the lives of many people in those years. Sharing in the events of your lives has been joyful through the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage; it has been thankful through the very many Baptisms I have celebrated; it has been moving to share in the times of sorrow that many of you have experienced over the years as we also tried to give thanks for what has been and in the hope of what will be in the many

funerals and requiem eucharists celebrated in St Peter's.

I should like to express my thanks to the various Mayors of Berkhamsted who have always welcomed a good working relationship with the Rectors past, present and I hope in the future. Working with the Royal British Legion and hosting the Remembrance Day services, not least the one marking the centenary of the end of World War I has also been a privilege. The visit of Her Majesty the Queen to our church and town was a day of great rejoicing and happiness for us all; it will long remain in my memory as a glorious day for the whole community.

I must pay tribute here to the small group of people known as "The Friends of St Peter's". Their remit is to support the maintenance of the fabric of St Peter's Church as one of the iconic buildings in our town. It is clear that in the years ahead both the church building and the Court House adjacent to it will need considerable funds raising, funds far beyond what the congregation can possibly raise. I do hope that the town will support the upkeep of these fine buildings. Here I must pay a huge vote of thanks to Dr James Moir for his work in leading the development project to restore the cemetery as a place of beauty and worthy respect for those buried there. His work in gaining a Lottery Grant has been magnificent, but, once the restoration work is completed, will there be sufficient volunteers or funds made available to maintain it, lest once again it falls back into disrepair. These are just some of the issues which the townsfolk will need to

decide through its locally elected representatives.

Looking to the future I am pleased to say that the Churchwardens and Church Council have made good use of the advance notice of my retirement so that all the work in preparing a parish profile with supporting documentation will be ready to send off almost as soon as the furniture van has crossed the River Tamar. I hope that the vacancy will not be that long this time around. I was told many years ago that when a priest leaves a parish 20% of the people will *swear by* him, 20% will *swear at* him, and for 60% it won't make much difference at all. I hope that this isn't really true. I'm very grateful for the warmth and acceptance I've felt here.

It will be hard to leave you, for both Alys and I have come to love the place and the people, but as I said in the beginning of this farewell note, change is inevitable and all of us have to adjust to it. I do hope that I may see some of you at my farewell eucharist on the Feast of Candlemass at the 9.30 Sung Eucharist on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February next year, or even better, over Christmas!

Yours in Christ,

**Fr. Tim**



## Regular Church Activities

- 3rd Mon Pastoral Network, 7:45pm, The Court House. Contact Philippa Seldon 871534.
- 1st Tues Tuesday Club, 7:30pm A lively women's group with guest speaker. The Court House. Contact Rosslyn Laidler: tel 01442 879992
- Tues Chuckles Parent & Toddler Group, 9.30-11:30am. All Saints' Church Hall. Song Time or short service as announced. Contact Kate Spall 873470 .
- 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. 120 Valley Road. Tell us if anyone needs your prayers. Contact Margaret Burbidge 862139
- Wed Julian Meeting, meets about twice a month, 11:30am. All welcome. At Ruth Treves Brown, 3 Sherwood Mews, Park Street, Berkhamsted HP4 1HX. Tel 863268.
- Thu Bellringing, 8pm, St Peters. Contact David Burbidge 862139.
- Fri Little Fishes Parent & Toddler Group 9:30–11:15am. 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. Peggy Sear 01296 584530.
- 1st Sun Sundays Together Lunch 12.30pm, Court House. For anyone on their own on a Sunday. Carolynne Charman 869003

## 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 (day off Friday), Team Rector, St Peter's, 879739

Simon Vivian, Assistant Curate. 01442 864199. [curate@greatberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:curate@greatberkhamsted.org.uk)

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



## This Month's Diary - All Saints

### October

**6th** Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity  
Harvest Festival  
10am All Age Morning Worship  
Revd Rachael Hawkins  
4pm Service of Wholeness and  
Healing - Revd Rachael Hawkins & Tracy Robinson

**13th** Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity  
10am Holy Communion  
Revd John Kirkby  
4pm Messy Church  
Revd Rachael Hawkins & Messy Church Team

**20th** Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity  
10am Morning Worship  
Revd Rachael Hawkins

**27th** Last Sunday after Trinity  
10am Holy Communion  
Revd Janet Ridgway

#### Every Tuesday

9am Morning Prayer  
9.30am Eucharist

#### Every Friday

4pm Evening Prayer

### November

**1st (Friday) All Saints' Day**  
7.30pm Holy Communion  
Revd Rachael Hawkins

**3rd** Fourth Sunday before Advent  
10am Morning Worship  
Revd Rachael Hawkins  
4pm Service to remember loved ones  
Revd Rachael Hawkins

**10th** Third Sunday before Advent  
Remembrance Sunday  
10am Holy Communion  
Revd John Kirkby

**17th** Second Sunday before Advent  
10am Morning Worship  
Revd Rachael Hawkins  
4pm Messy Church  
Revd Rachael Hawkins & Messy Church Team

**24th** Christ the King  
10am Holy Communion  
Revd Rachael Hawkins

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).

# Getting your computer up & running again



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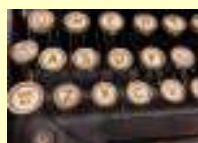
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[www.berkhamstedquakers.org](http://www.berkhamstedquakers.org)**

## **Events at St Peter's Church or the Court House, Berkhamsted**

**Sat 5<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm** at St Peter's: ORCHESTRAL CONCERT, Bridgewater Sinfonia. Programme includes Dvořák Carnival Overture, Mendelssohn Piano Concerto No 1 in G minor, Op 25 (soloist Thomas Kelly), Brahms Symphony No 2 in D major, Op 73. Conductor Steven Joyce Myall. Tickets £15 in advance [www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk](http://www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk) or Aitchisons Berkhamsted and £17 on the door. U18s free

**Sat 19<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm** at St Peter's: ORCHESTRAL CONCERT, Hemel Symphony Orchestra Souvenirs of Russia. Programme includes Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto (soloist Manuel Cini). Tickets £12 adults, £10 Concessions U18s free <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk>

**Sat 30<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm** at St Peter's: ORCHESTRAL CONCERT, Bridgewater Sinfonia. Programme includes Stuart Hancock Variations on a Heroic Theme, Mozart Piano Concerto No 23 in A major (soloist Anyssa Newmann), Mahler Symphony No 5 in C sharp minor. Tickets £15 in advance [www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk](http://www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk) or Aitchisons Berkhamsted and £17 on the door. U18s free

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## The Travelling Crib

There is an old Mexican custom, where, during Advent, people dressed up as Mary and Joseph travel around their villages knocking at peoples' doors to see who will give them hospitality.

The Mothers' Union has adapted this custom through the idea of a Travelling Crib.

Our branch of The Mothers' Union has, for many years, provided two Travelling Cribs for the parish, one for each church. The knitted figures of Mary and Joseph were made by our members in order to provide a 'child friendly' crib so that no one will have to worry young children might damage them. Each year they are mended or replaced, as necessary.

The figures have a special basket to travel in and are taken on to their next resting place by the family who gave them shelter the night before. Each family they visit is asked to prepare a special place in their home for them to rest for the night. When they arrive at each home, there is a short welcoming prayer for the two families to use.

If you would like the Travelling Crib to spend a night in your home during Advent this year please sign up on the list which will be in church on Sundays 3rd & 10th November and, during the week in between, at Chuckles and Little Fishes. One list will be available to sign at St Peter's and another at All Saints'. Make a note of the dates and bring your diaries! To avoid disappointment, sign up on Sunday 3rd.

The cribs will be blessed and sent out from each church at the morning services, on Advent Sunday, 1st December. One will leave from All Saints' and one from St Peter's, with the first of the families on each list who have offered their homes as a resting place on their journey. Each night they will stay with a different family before returning to church, with the last family, at the Crib Service on Christmas Eve.



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



## News from the Hospice of St Francis



**October  
2019**

We are  
continu-  
ing to

celebrate 40 years of The Hospice of St Francis and, during October, Hospice Care Week which shines a spotlight on hospices up and down the country. As always, people that we've cared for are always in our hearts as are those who've supported us, or volunteered for us, over the decades. You can read some of our memories on our website at [stfrancis.org.uk/40](http://stfrancis.org.uk/40) and share your stories. We'd love to hear them!

One gentleman our Community Nursing Team have been supporting through the summer is Yogesh Bhatt from Hemel Hempstead. 'Yogi' has received intensive support from our Community Nursing team and also our new *Rapid Personalised Care Service* which sees healthcare assistants visiting up to four times a day to provide hands-on care to those that need it in their own homes. Yogi recently appeared in a BBC London film talking about his positive experience of our care which also featured his daughter Nimita supporting our fundraising efforts.

If you or anyone you know has cancer or a life-limiting illness and could benefit from our free support, just fill in a short referral form online and we'll be in touch – [stfrancis.org.uk/selfrefer](http://stfrancis.org.uk/selfrefer)

**There's plenty coming up in support of The Hospice of St Francis and we'd love to see you at one of our events soon!**

### **Mud Pack Challenge – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

There's still time to accept your mission, should you choose to accept it, and join our legendary Mud Pack Challenge in the beautiful autumnal surroundings of Ashridge House! Teamwork will help get you through so rally your work colleagues, inspire your friends & family and prepare for some jovial rivalry as you tackle the five (or 10) mile course together, raising vital funds to support our care! Visit [stfrancis.org.uk/mudpack](http://stfrancis.org.uk/mudpack)



## **Firewalk, St Albans Saturday 2 November 2:30 – 5:30pm**

Think you can walk over hot coals? Do it for the Hospice and take the challenge this November! We'll train you up and then you'll walk across a 20ft fire lane that's 1236 degrees Fahrenheit! Find out more [stfrancis.org.uk/firewalk](http://stfrancis.org.uk/firewalk)

## **Zumbathon – Sunday 17 November, Tring**

Hospice patient Helen Harding is putting on a Zumbathon – the perfect way to Zumba the afternoon away with friends led by instructor Roxanne Hussain. Tickets: [roxaneh2000@aol.com](mailto:roxaneh2000@aol.com) or call 07703056774.

## **Christmas...**

It may seem like summer is barely behind us but our Trading team is already gearing up for the festive season. By supporting the Hospice this Christmas you can not only give beautiful gifts to loved ones but also help the Hospice continue to help people to live their precious lives well.

If you like to be organised, do pop in our Christmas shopping dates in your diary:

*Pre-loved furniture showroom Returned to Glory - Thursday 5 November 5-7:30pm and Thursday 8 December 6-8pm.*

*Award winning gift shop, number twenty Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November 11-4:30pm with 15% discount and glass of fizz as you browse. We're also holding a pop up shop in St Christopher's Place in St Albans 18 November – 1 December.*

Our Christmas cards for 2019 are also now on sale. Featuring polar bears, jolly Santas and traditional snowy scenes, the selection of festive cards is available from all Hospice shops and main reception. Packs are priced from £3.25 for 10 and 100% of the profits go directly to the Hospice. We're also holding two Winter markets on Sunday 10 November in Harpenden Halls and Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November at Aubrey Park Hotel with lots of local stallholders and festive gifts.

Lastly, in our 40<sup>th</sup> year do think about if you can spare 40p a day to help fortify our Hospice for the future and enable us to help more people to live their precious lives well for the next 40 years. Visit [stfrancis.org.uk/donate](http://stfrancis.org.uk/donate) to find out more. Thank you.

Follow us on Facebook  
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## 'Read in Peace' Seat

*Friends of*  
**St Peter's**  
GREAT BERKHAMSTED



This beautiful design from Alder Briscoe is destined for the area closest to the Rex Cinema. Many of you will be aware that we joined forces with the Big Give to finance this and appealed for £100 pledges to reach our initial target of £2,950 which we received from local businesses, book groups and individuals. As YB goes to press we are waiting for confirmation that a Big Give Champion wishes to support our project and match our pledge amount. We should hear before the end of the month - we are optimistic that our project will be chosen!

After that we have 8 weeks to promote our cause before the campaign goes live for the online donation week **of 3rd to 10th December**. We do hope that many of our supporters (but not those who have already pledged) will choose to donate - minimum amount £1 - so we reach our donation target of £5,900.

Come and learn more about this and other plans for the Cemetery at our first stall at the Berkhamsted **Festival of Light on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 3.30-6.00**. Rumour has it that there may be some tasty treats and lovely cards on offer.

### Landscaping Matters

Over the summer there has been steady progress on the landscaping work around the Sexton's Hut. The team from Will Jackson Landscapes has also pulled the power cable down the whole length of the site and installed new steps to make access to the top terrace easier.

The Garden of Remembrance is coming along. The wooden structures now installed have been giving passers-by pause for thought. It's our 'Memory Wall' - which will gradually be populated by small, decorative tiles, commissioned from local artists and fixed to the wires to create a beautiful and growing artwork.

The idea is that anyone who wants to remember their loved ones in such a way will be able to choose from a short list of local craftspeople working in a range of hard materials (ceramics, glass, clay, wood, metal, resin for example). There would be a cost to commission and a cost to fix it to the structure - thus creating an income stream for the cemetery into the future. News of the artists chosen and plans for a dedication ceremony in 2020 will follow next year.

Over the last two months we have welcomed Chilterns Conservation Volunteers and students from Astley Coopers School, and our regular stalwart Sunday work parties of course.



**Read in Peace Seat designed by Alder-**



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## Help needed...can you put a smile on Mariam's face?

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We warmly welcome new volunteer hosts to join us.





## Kings Arms Charity Pub Quiz Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October



Pit your wits against your family, friends and fellow quizzers at the Kings Arms Berkhamsted Charity Pub Quiz on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 7pm. Tickets are just £10 per person and include free pizza, fries and brownies per team of 8.

All money raised on the night will support a small charity, the A-T Society. The charity was founded thirty years ago by a Harpenden couple who had two children with the rare degenerative genetic condition Ataxia-Telangiectasia (A-T). A-T affects many parts of the body, causing increasingly severe physical disability and is life-shortening. The current life expectancy for a person with A-T is just 26 years. The A-T Society is a national charity that provides

information and support to people affected by A-T as well as funding medical research to help find new treatments and ultimately a cure.

William Davis, CEO of the A-T Society, said, 'We are delighted that the Kings Arms has chosen to support us. The funds raised on the night will make a real difference to our work helping children and adults with this devastating condition live active and fulfilled lives.'

So pick your teammates, pop into the Kings Arms to book your tickets or call 01442 866595 and get swotting! Your support will make a world of difference to this small charity and help them continue to make a big impact on the lives of the children and families they support.



## Rosanna's Kitchen aka I Love Food - Berkhamsted

It is only a few years ago that "I Love Food" appeared in Lower Kings road. Sicilian siblings Rosanna, Alessia and Mario introduced their flavour of Sicily to Berkhamsted. They quickly established a reputation for great breakfasts, rapidly becoming the go-to meeting place for mum's after school drop off, not to mention a range of lovely home-baked cakes for the afternoon visit. In between, there was a variety of tasty sour dough sandwiches, whilst the evening offered traditional Sicilian dinners. Probably seemed overall a great breakfast, coffee and tea destination that also did lunch and dinner.



Roll on to today and a lot has changed. "I Love Food" has been replaced by "Rosanna's Kitchen", much more of an up-market restaurant than a coffee shop! The place is unrecognisable, both inside and out. With an achingly cool new interior, courtesy of their on-point understanding of contemporary style, it is worth a visit just to see and admire

for yourself. (My one 'harrumph' would be that it is the third eatery in town to use Farrow and Ball's 'Pitch blue' colour).



Oddly, there is not yet a menu outside to explain the offering, but don't let this put you off. Whilst it looks completely different, inside and outside, it still does a great breakfast, whilst the lunch and dinner food is extremely tasty. Upstairs is also a good party venue - the writer experienced for himself the first class catering at just such an event!

This family restaurant has significantly upped its game. With living walls, a wonderful new outdoor terrace upstairs and statement objets d'art and lighting, it deserves your pennies.



**John Gerry**

<https://www.rosannas-restaurant.co.uk/>

## Graham Greene Film Review Prize Launched at 2019 International Festival

Graham Greene is primarily known today as the novelist who penned such classics as *Brighton Rock* and *Our Man in Havana*. Some readers may also know him as a screenwriter, most famous for the *film noir* classic *The Third Man*, which is celebrating the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its first release this year. Relatively few readers today, however, will be familiar with Greene's substantial body of work as a film reviewer.

Greene was, however, one of the creators of the *film noir* genre. Writing in *The Guardian* in 2004, Adrian Wootton observed that "Greene spent the first two decades of his working life writing crime and espionage thrillers, novels that were inextricably bound up with the cinema of his time. He was, at various times in his life, a movie-lover, critic and scriptwriter; film is at the heart of his work and his fiction is remarkable for its powerful cinematic qualities, written at a time when the movies were still considered a relatively new and popular art form. 'When I describe a scene, I capture it with the moving eye of a camera,' he once said."

### Reaching out to new talents

This year's Graham Greene International Festival – a landmark 21<sup>st</sup> in the

series, held in Berkhamsted from Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September – saw the launch of the Graham Greene Film Review Competition. Giles Clark, Chair of the Graham Greene Birthplace Trust, explains: "The Competition has been created to further enhance Greene's reputation and widen knowledge of his work. We have chosen to make this a prize specifically for film reviewing because films are a popular medium for the younger generation, some of whom may not know Greene's work, while among the older generation who may be familiar with his novels, Greene's superb body of film criticism may be unknown. We hope that the competition will attract many entries from up-and-coming writers as well as more established talents."

Organised in partnership with The Centre for New Writing at Manchester University, the Graham Greene Film Review Competition offers a cash prize of £500 for the most imaginative, original, and thought-provoking review of a film (documentary or otherwise) with a run time of at least 80 minutes. Full submission details, along with guidelines from the judging panel, are available on the website of the Graham Greene Birthplace Trust (<https://grahamgreenebt.org/>).



**The Film Review Prize Judges - Jo Wilson, Creina Mansfield and Quentin Falk with Jonathan Steffen (far left).  
Photo Giles Clark**

### **Our Man in Havana**

The year 2019 is not just the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the release of *The Third Man*: it is also the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the release of Carol Reed's film adaptation of *Our Man in Havana*, 60 years since Fidel Castro's revolution in Cuba, and 500 years since the founding of the city of Havana itself. In addition, it is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of Greene's comic masterpiece, *Travels with my Aunt*.

*Our Man in Havana* thus enjoyed fitting prominence in the Festival programme, with a screening of the film on the evening of 20<sup>th</sup> September and a talk entitled *Our Woman in Havana: Reporting Castro's Cuba* by BBC foreign correspondent Sarah Rainsford on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September.

### **The Prague Coup**

Greene's continuing appeal in the 21<sup>st</sup> century was celebrated by another Festival first this year – a talk on the recently published *The Prague Coup*, a graphic novel by Miles Hyman and Jean-Luc Fromental featuring Greene as its hero. The story begins with a fictional Greene arriving in post-War Vienna to commence work on *The Third Man* only to be dragged into an intricate plot to unseat the government of Czechoslovakia. This imaginatively conceived and beautifully presented work is testimony to Greene's enduring appeal as one of the great observers of the geopolitics of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



**Miles Hyman (left) and Jean-luc Fromental discuss  
Photo Giles Clark**

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## Politics and the novel

Other contributions in a packed festival included a screening of the 1940 film *21 Days*, co-written by Basil Dean and Graham Greene and starring Vivien Leigh and Laurence Olivier; a discussion between the BBC's Mark Lawson and Bryony Lavery and Esther Richardson on adapting *Brighton Rock* for the stage; and an insightful and thought-provoking talk by Sir Vince Cable, Leader of the Liberal Democrats 2017–19 and former Secretary of State for Business. A novelist himself, Sir Vince shared his thoughts on the portrayal of politics in the novel and concluded with his own up-to-the-minute analysis of the state of British politics in the shadow of Brexit.



**Sir Vince Cable on politics and the novel.**  
Photo Giles Clark

## Thanks to Dr Martyn Sampson

The Graham Greene Birthplace Trust would like to thank Dr Martyn Sampson for delivering another wide-ranging and well-attended Festival, whose theme was *Reflections on Greene*, and for the extensive contribution he has made to furthering the aims of the Trust in the past three years. Next year's Festival will be directed by Mike Hill, a former Festival Director himself and also editor of the Trust's newsletter, *A Sort of Newsletter*.



**Festival Director Dr Martyn Sampson.**  
Photo Giles Clark

## Festival 2020

Next year's Graham Greene International Festival will be held in Berkhamsted from Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> to Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020.



Tickets, for individual sessions or the entire Festival, will be available next year from the website of the Graham Greene Birthplace Trust (<http://grahamgreenebt.org/tickets>).

People under 21 and holders of a Dacorum Card have free entry to all Festival events apart from the meals. Proof of status will be required on the door.

**Jonathan Steffen**



Entrance to Town Hall with new Graham Greene Birthplace Trust signage.  
Photo Jo Wilson

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<b>Saturday 12 October</b>	Drop off: 9 - 10:30am	Swap: 11 - 12:30pm

Published by Great Berkhamsted Parochial Church Council. Registered charity no 1130108  
Printed by Strongs Printing, Bank Mill Lane, Berkhamsted, HP4 2NT