

Berkhamsted *review*

In this issue

March 1997

The heart of
Christianity

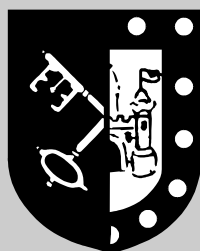
Berkhamsted
memories

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epaulettes

An Iain Rennie
nurse's day

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services

This month's
Notes & Events



for Town and Parish

25p



The Parish Magazine of St Peter's with All Saints'

Welcome to the March issue of the Review.

I recently attended a day seminar held in St Albans for editors of parish magazines. It was an opportunity to meet people from across the diocese involved in the production of magazines: to share experiences, to discuss different techniques and editorial styles and to explore the purposes which lie behind a magazine like the *Review* - a big subject in itself.

I suppose there were about twenty or so people there, and it was fascinating to see the ways in which different parishes approach their magazines. At one extreme, production seemed to be a burden carried by one poor soul in the parish against all odds, with every article being extracted as 'blood from stone'. Thankfully, many other editors enjoyed the full support of their church family and wider community, be it through editorial contributions, advertising or practical help.

We, the editorial team (the *Review* has three editors!), can honestly say that we fall into the second category - which is very good news for everyone concerned. However, let's not be complacent and, as David said last month, don't leave it to others to get involved!

Chris Smalley

In this month's issue...

An Early Easter

Father Mark Bonney looks at the history of the celebration of Easter.

Memories of Berkhamsted

In two separate articles, **Clarice Miller** and **May Kempster** remember our town earlier this century.

Caps, Hats and Epaulettes

The Church of England isn't alone in the use of odd terminology. **Lieut. Stephen Poxon** of the Salvation Army explains.

A Super Store or Not?

Ian McCalla looks at the impact of recent changes in our town.

An Iain Rennie Nurse's Day

Stephen Halliday follows a Hospice nurse through a 'normal' day.

Holy Week Services

Full details of services during the Easter period at St Peter's and All Saints'.

... plus much more, including our regular features, diary dates and notes & notices.

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Next Copy Dates (all Fridays): 7 March 4 April 2 May



***Fr Mark Bonney
asks what really
lies at the heart
of Christianity.***

review leader

If I could have a pound for every time I've heard the comment 'Easter's early this year' I'd be doing quite nicely thank you. The remark is true, although Easter

can be as early as 22nd March (which won't happen until at least 2026, and is as far as a table I've got goes, although it's on 23rd March in 2008). It can be as late as 25th April (the latest date in the near future is 24th April in 2011).

The celebration of Easter is the oldest Christian festival (celebrating Christmas was a new-fangled idea in the 4th century, a much later affair than Easter!). It's the only feast of the Christian year which can plausibly claim to go back to the first century. It was not long before a number of ceremonies became attached to Easter, and particularly the baptism of new converts at the Easter Eve Vigil. All the ceremonies of Holy Week have a very long history and in celebrating them we enter into a great stream of tradition and experience. Sharing in that can be a great deepener of faith and understanding.

At the time of my writing this there's been a little flurry in the papers about the number of clergy who apparently don't know the ten commandments. Bad news really, I suppose. But the ten commandments are not at the heart of the Christian faith. Christianity at its heart is not a set of rules about how to lead one's life (although the Bible has some jolly good rules), Christianity is not at its heart about moral values, and the Church's primary role isn't an ethical one. In a wonderful passage in chapter 15 of the first letter to the Corinthians Paul talks

about the heart of Christianity - and he doesn't say anything about leading a good morally upright life, not a single thing. What he does say is 'if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain'. I do not want to deny for a moment that morality has a high place in a Christian life, but it's not the heart of the matter. The heart of it all is Jesus Christ and his death and resurrection. Some of you may have seen the *Everyman* series before Christmas entitled *The Lives of Jesus* with Mark Tully taking us through a wide range of approaches to the person of Jesus and all filmed in locations in India, Egypt and the Holy Land. The series ended with Mark Tully in an English pub still unable to make the leap of faith, but recognising the centrality of the resurrection. In a way he had tried to find all sorts of answers to why Jesus was 'special', but in the end it all boiled down to the resurrection. And Mark Tully was right - it all comes down to the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. It's a shame, but not a great tragedy if we can't recite the ten commandments... Christianity can survive without the ten commandments; without the resurrection we are as St Paul said 'of all people most to be pitied'.

Christ is risen, Alleluia. He is Risen indeed, Alleluia! A very joyful and happy Easter to you all when it arrives slightly early this year.

Father Mose

Cover: the entrance to Berkhamsted School - beauty in Berkhamsted? See About the Town with John Cook, p5.

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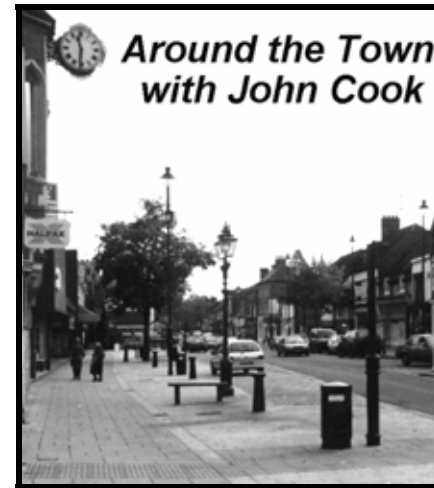
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Traffic Calming

Figures released in a report to Herts County Council show that the number of accidents in Berkhamsted High Street since the speed tables were introduced came down from ten in three years to two in two years.

It is not possible to say how much of this welcome reduction was due to the speed tables and how much to the diversion of most of the through traffic onto the bypass, but there is no doubt that traffic calming measures do reduce serious accidents to people, if not to cars.

After their two years of existence various features of our traffic calming measures - gates, walls, bollards, etc. - show severe damage or even complete demolition from conflicts with vehicles, and in most cases the vehicle must have come off worse.

Akeman Street

One of the traffic calming features to be partially destroyed by vehicles is the 'gateway' at the eastern end of the town between Berkhamsted and Bourne End, which is of course on part of Akeman Street, the old Roman road.

Following a reference I recently made about this stretch of the road, Clive Blofield has written in, quoting from a

book which is in our library called *Roman Roads in South East England* by Viatores. This shows that the present A4251 does not follow the line of the old Roman road all the way. Roman Akeman Street changed its course on the high ground where St John's Church, Bourne End, now stands. At this point it turned left and forded the Bulbourne where the valley is narrow, and resumed its alignment on the other side.

The rest of Clive's most interesting letter is unfortunately too long to reproduce here in full. One of the facts he mentions is that Akeman Street was not surfaced with paving stones as many Roman roads are pictured (presumably because there is no suitable stone to be found anywhere around here), but had a foundation of clay and rammed flints, with a dressing of gravel.

Whenever a deep excavation is opened up in the High Street I peer down to see if there is any evidence of the old Roman road, but nothing recognisably Roman has registered on my untrained eyes.

Anyway, Clive's comments and the archaeological prediction recently reported suggest that it is somewhere near Broadway Church that a Roman villa lies waiting to be discovered.

Beauty in Berkhamsted

In last month's *Review* I referred to Lincoln Cathedral as the most beautiful building in England, half expecting to have my arm grabbed in the street by someone or other and be told I was talking nonsense - had I never seen Tintern Abbey, or Blenheim Palace or some other great national treasure. This has not happened yet, but my mind was set off wondering what people might see as being the most beautiful building in Berkhamsted.

We have a number of interesting and impressive buildings here, but none of them I think is notably handsome; so how about another question: What is the most beautiful *thing* in the Town? I asked this of someone near and dear and she said our



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cat. When I ruled that animate objects (for which he just about qualifies) are excluded she thought perhaps a green and leafy space like St Peter's churchyard enclosed by mellow historic buildings - the church, Berkhamsted School Old Hall and the Court House; or a view, like the one along the canal from Gravel Path bridge. I guess that a lot of people would agree with one of these.

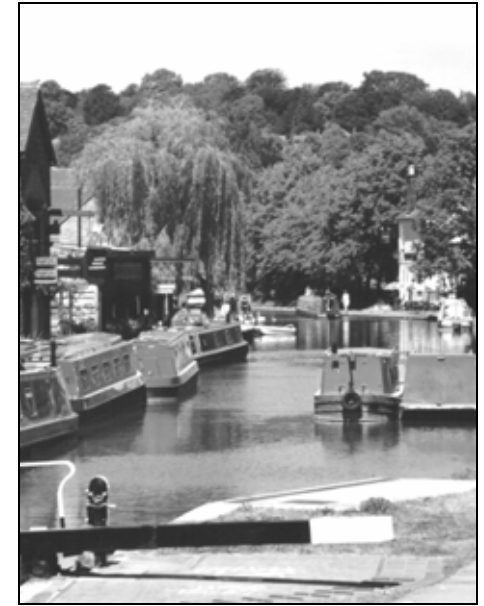
But if we restrict the question to man-made objects my vote would go to the Moray Memorial in St Peter's. It was made in about 1650 and shows two youths holding hands, one reading a book. They were the sons of James Moray or Murray, who lived in Berkhamsted Place, but there seems to be little more reliable knowledge of them. It is said that their mother had the monument made after they had both died young. The memorial is topped by a small statue of the Grim Reaper.

The whole thing is well carved with lovely proportions, and to study it can be a moving experience. It has a Latin inscription and like many monuments of its period it was painted and gilded, but most of the paint has gone and the stonework is rather worn at the corners. If someone would come up with the money it would be marvellous to move the monument to a position in the church where it could be seen and appreciated, to restore it and have it repainted.

That's what I think; but are there any other views as to what is the most beautiful thing in the town?

Dorrien-Smith

On the subject of monuments in St Peter's, there are many memorials there to three local families and their descendants: the Smiths of Haresfoot, the Dorriens of Ashlyns Hall and the Pechells of Berkhamsted Place. These families inter-married, resulting in the Dorrien-Smiths, the Smith-Dorriens and even the Smith-Dorrien-Smiths. The pulpit and several stained glass windows are in memory of members of the family, and a whole wall



The most beautiful view in Berkhamsted?

in the church (on the High Street side, facing the end of the choir stalls) is crammed with monuments to them.

A very interesting recent talk by Eric Holland to the History Society was about this family, concentrating on its most famous member, General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien. He was commander of the British forces which withstood the Germans at the first Battle of Mons in 1914 and went on to lead the Second Army; but fell out with the Commander-in-Chief, French, and resigned.

Previously Horace Smith-Dorrien had been present at the battle of Omdurman and fought in the Boer War and the Zulu Wars. He was one of the few survivors of the battle of Isandula when the Zulus nearly annihilated a British force. He and a handful of others escaped by swimming a river and fighting off their pursuers. We have a reminder of this battle in some houses in Charles Street which have the name Isandula Terrace on the front. General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien's grave, now sadly vandalised, can be found in Three Close Lane Cemetery. ❖

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I first fell in love with Berkhamsted over 50 years ago and since then have been back many, many times, seeing the woods and farmlands in all their colourful seasons, the bluebells, the poppies and lovely chestnut trees. I never tired of walks by the canal and, in those days, seeing the colourful boats and watching the boat people operating the locks. There was always something to see and friendly people to talk to. I've enjoyed many coffee mornings in the old Court House, and the Salvation Army, the Saturday market and harvest festival at St Peter's. I've even helped with cemetery clearing! What a friendly place.

My husband and his friends were stationed in Berkhamsted during the war and some naturally married local girls, but we had been married for two years by then. Reg (my husband) used to hide under the arcade and only dash out when the Green Line bus came along for London, to pay me a flying visit now and again. His friend, Frank Pheby, married Joan in 1944 and I came to their wedding. I was seven months pregnant. We lived in smocks when we were pregnant in those days, but for that special occasion I treated myself to a lovely blue maternity dress, all little pleats and covered buttons.

Joan said, "If ever the raids get too bad, come down to me". One day she opened her door to find me standing there with my tiny babe-in-arms, and she took us in - how wonderful! But my poor baby cried and cried. We didn't know the

A Londoner's War Time Memories

Clarice Miller has fond memories of Berkhamsted in the 1940s. Here she recalls some favourite moments.

give Joan's dad a bit of peace. But a feeding bottle and some National Dried Milk soon gave us all some sleep, never mind what the clinic said!

Old Mrs Pheby was bombed out twice and she also came to stay with Joan and her father as an evacuee. She had had fifteen children and had seven sons in the forces, and they all came back safely. She was a character.

The RECCE wives used to meet once a week for tea and chat, and one day we met at Lady Davidson's house. As I was the only one with a baby we asked old Mrs Pheby if she would look after young Reg for an hour or two. "What!", she said, "I would sooner scrub a house from top to bottom than mind *him*". But who could blame her, after 15 of her own? So we had to take him with us: a big white pram was wheeled out onto the patio, and I laid him in it, like a little prince. He looked so tiny in it but we all enjoyed our afternoon.

Now the tiny baby is a bank manager, flying all over the world in his job, and has a lovely wife and three boys, all young giants as boys seem to be these days. My daughter is a judge. I'm so proud of my family, but it all began here in Berkhamsted 52 years ago. ❖

phrase 'stressed out' in those days, but I suppose we were and it must have affected those babies born during the war. Frank's mum, old Mrs Pheby, pointed out to me that I was starving the poor child. Joan's sister, Elsie, even had me up at her little cottage at Potten End for a time to

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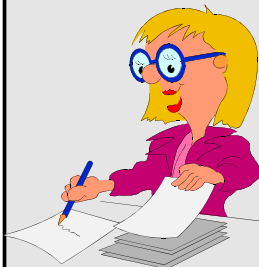
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Articles
... NEWS ... NEWS ... NEWS ...
Letters



Do you have a point you'd like to make?
Some interesting news from the parish
or the town you think others would
like to hear? Or simply a latent creative
streak seeking an outlet?!

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It was so lovely to reread Fred Ryder's memories, in the January *Review*, of his days in St Peter's choir and the long halls behind the Court House. Although I was not a member of the choir

(though my late husband Bernard was one), I can share many memories with Fred. I have known him from early childhood, when we used to play in the gardens of his parents' and my paternal grandparents' houses in Park Street, and I also worked with his late wife Kath until we were drafted into war work.

Thinking about those long halls brings many happy memories back to me. Apart from Sunday school, the girls from eleven years old and up were able to meet there, forming the St Peter's Church Girls' Guild, led by the late Mrs Olive Hull assisted by her husband Harold, their son Lewis and daughter Joan, who were all staunch worshippers at St Peter's. The main objects of the Guild were to work for the Korean Mission and for the 'Canning Town Slums'.

We used to raise money for the Mission which we took each year to the Holy Redeemer Church in Clerkenwell in London. This being a *very high* church caused much good-natured argument on the journey home as to whether it was Anglican or Roman Catholic - but we were assured that it was the former!

For the Canning Town girls, each Christmas we used to go there by coach, conveying food, gifts and so on for 50 to 100 girls. We played games with them,

More Memories

Last month's recollections about St Peter's choir brings memories back to **May Kempster**.

gave them a good tea, then afterwards they all had three presents from the tree: something to eat, something to wear and a toy.

How did we raise the money? Well, we went carol-

singing in a big group, but our main money-raiser was the plays which Mr and Mrs Hull produced and which were presented in All Saints' *Tin Room*. Among the more ambitious were *Snow White* and *Alice in Wonderland*. The costumes were mostly made by Mrs Hull, assisted by parents. It is wonderful how words and pictures of those plays still live in my mind.

Many of the presents for the Canning Town girls were made by us, and much of our evening meetings was set aside for this, such as dressing dolls and knitting gloves, hats and scarves.

During two summers we had coachloads of these children for a day on Cherry Bounce. For those who do not know of Cherry Bounce, it is alas now overgrown. It was a lovely grassy slope opposite two cottages on the Frithesden Road, past the Alford Arms. One of these cottages had a well and the people who lived there drew the water for the drinks. Everything else was carried by us from the church. It was a long walk carrying things on a hot sunny day but we had no means of transport. Anyway it was all well worth it to see those children enjoying the open country and, at the end of the day, going back to London carrying the wildflowers they had picked. Happy days, happy memories. ❖

Full details of Holy Week services at St Peter's and All Saints' appear on page 25

Memories

Dorothy Chesney writes:

On reading in the *Review* of John Cook's asking when all the old shops closed, I remembered them closing as I came here about 1932 but have no recollection of exact dates. It did make me remember other things that happened in those far-off days. When did the Town Crier cease to ring his bell? It got everyone going to their doors to hear what news he had to shout about. Also, when did the Water Works close? I well remember every week a neighbour going down there, with a towel under her arm, to have a bath.

Does anyone remember a Mrs Barrett who lived in quite a large house, laying back where the indoor furnishing shop is now? She was pushed in a bath chair by a well-known character called Little Jim; he was so small that no one knew how the bath chair was moving, until one got close to them.

I remember Farmer's the Butcher's selling pease pudding and faggots in the evenings and one would see folk taking their own containers to bring their suppers home.

As one sits alone now, there are so many things brought to mind but not enough memory for the dates of such. I wonder what other things people have thought of? Berkhamsted is a very much changed town in so many ways.

*13 Kitsbury Road,
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Something to say?

Annoyed or pleased
about something?

Then write to us!



**David Woodward, 3 Murray Road,
Berkhamsted (Tel: 862723)**

Thanks from Tujereng

Lamin M Jatta writes:

On behalf of the entire community of Tujereng, I wish to thank the parochial church of St Peter's with All Saints' for donating an amount of £2,466 to Tujereng Primary School to set up a library for the children. We thank the church for their kind gesture and the money will serve its purpose.

The people of Tujereng are very happy to have this help from the people of Berkhamsted. Thank you.

*Tujereng/Hertfordshire Link,
PO Box 983, Banjul, The Gambia*

Funds from last year's Petertide Fair have helped establish a library in Tujereng primary school. Next month's Review will have details of this year's fair and the causes it will be supporting. Ed.

To Apostrophe or Not?

Jean Meyer writes:

Should *All Saints' Church* be spelt with an apostrophe or not? It depends on the meaning you attach to *church*. If you are referring to it as a building - All Saints' Church is in Shrublands Road - it should take an apostrophe. It is the church of All the Saints. But if you use *church* to describe the people of God - All Saints Church performed a musical in November - then clearly it should not have an apostrophe.

This query arises perhaps because of a generally lax use of grammar and ignorance of the precise meaning of words. I notice that even our esteemed editor uses an adjective to describe a verb: *we should sleep easier*.

*9 Gaveston Drive,
Berkhamsted HP4 1JF*

It's a funny world, this writing lark. By now you will know the result of the by-election held on 6th February, but I can only speculate since it is still some time in the future as I write. I can

however be assured that a candidate from one of the major political parties has won. Having got the politics out of the way I can get on with all the happenings over the past month or two.

The most important event that will affect the town, is the county council's decision to request all the borough councils to detail where they are going build all the dwellings to accommodate all the expected families the county will be generating over the next 15 to 20 years. I mean, it must be true, as only recently West Herts hospital was wondering how it was going to cope with the expected increase in births during May. The county will hold their statutory 'examination in public' during March (you did make comments to the borough proposals by the end of January, didn't you?). This 'examination' will comprise, I suspect, lots of people commenting on what county are going to do, and they will go ahead

CUTTING COMMENTS

Local independent councillor
Norman Cutting again turns his
spotlight on local council affairs.

and do it anyway. It's all to do with consulting the people and to be seen doing just that. It does not have anything to do with taking any notice of what the public want.

The next subject I want to bend your ear about is the effect the new 'landfill' tax is starting to have locally. As you know, in order to encourage people to reuse materials as much as possible, the national government imposed a new tax last October on waste materials. We all pay it indirectly in our council tax, as when the dustcart calls to take away the rubbish, the tax has to be paid when it is disposed of on some landfill site or other. The reason I mention this is that over recent months I have noticed more builders' rubbish dumped over the fence between the bottom of Hilltop Estate and the top of the Three Close Lane cemetery, as well as tree 'prunings' scattered along Sandpit Green and outside the gate leading to Long Green. This must be done by businesses, as the Northbridge Road skips will accept domestic rubbish 'free' of charge but businesses have to pay. Can I request that

(continued overleaf)

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if you are having work done, you ensure your contractor disposes of the rubbish in a responsible way, even if it means paying a little more. You could also check that it actually happens because it is not unknown for contractors to be economical with the truth.

Meanwhile, back on the town council front, the allotment holders in Sunnyside have taken the first steps in forming an association in order to run their own affairs. The town market fund, which the town council administers for the benefit of the Town Hall, should, by the time you read this, be under the control of the Town Hall Trust, and the Berkhamsted Youth Council has already held its first meeting as detailed in the *Gazette* at the end of January. Also coming up in the next few months are closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras, a proposal for a town warden, alterations to the town centre car parking charges and, of course, we have a national election followed by the county council election. Who said democracy was dead!

The borough has consulted the town council over the location of the CCTV cameras and, at the time of writing, the finance has all but been agreed for the borough plan; unfortunately, the town council is looking for more cameras and 'call points' than the borough thought about. As usual, someone has looked at a map and placed the cameras in the 'ideal' spots. The cameras must be able to see through all the leaves on the trees and the assorted 'street furniture' that has sprung up all over our town centre. Still, I have every confidence these minor difficulties

can be got over by using additional cameras or perhaps chopping down the trees and removing a lot of the nice new obstacles that have appeared over the past year or so.

The borough council set aside £70,000 for town and parish councils to employ town wardens to provide a locally based service and augment the borough facilities. When this was last discussed at borough towards the end of 1996, only £58,600 or so had been bid for. Not wishing to have money left over, the various town and parish councils in Dacorum were asked to provide a feasibility study to support any further claims. If the monies available are spread about on a population basis, then Berkhamsted would be entitled to £23,000. This would pay for a full-time warden, van, tools and most of the other facilities the warden could well need. If more than the allocated £70,000 is requested, then our expected £23,000 will not all be available from the borough and any shortfall will need to be made up from the council's reserves. I'm sure that we can find a few businesses in Berkhamsted who would be prepared to sponsor the proposed warden in some way or the other to help get the project off the ground and get all those jobs done that borough or county never seem to find either the time or money to do. My company has offered the use of our local two-way radio service for free, to supplement the proposed mobile phone facility. Once again, I've over run my allotted space, so I will endeavour to return to one or two of the subjects touched on in this article unless, of course, events overtake me again. ❖



WAY INN - A Christian Centre at 268 High Street

Come through the **Post Office** to our **shop** which sells greetings cards, Christian books, stationery and many gifts. **Upstairs** you will find our **coffee shop** serving lunches, teas, snacks or just a cup of coffee.

So, your correspondent Bill Frew (December *Review*) is struggling to understand 'the arcane terminology which gets aired on special church occasions', and suggests a glossary of words such as vicar, rector, parson, priest, minister, and so on.

Please may I bring Bill a word of consolation. I too struggle with understanding the difference between such titles, and I'm a fully paid up minister of religion!

Be grateful, Bill, that you aren't required to comprehend the rank structure of the Salvation Army. That really would throw you out!

You see, a person expressing an interest in joining the Salvation Army is known as a recruit. Should that person wish to take a further step of commitment within the ranks of the S.A., he or she would become an adherent, with a view towards senior soldiership (as opposed to junior soldiership, which is an option open only to those aged 14 years or under).

Senior soldiership is the equivalent of church membership and any senior soldier is entitled to become a local officer, if the commanding officer and the census board are in agreement. Local officers hold S.A. office at local level (hence the title - simple, really), but are in secular employment. Local officers are entitled to wear S.A. uniform, but don't have to if they would rather not. They can also take their pick of an enormous range of badges and trimmings with which to enhance their uniform. These trimmings come in a range of colours; you choose your colour according to your position.

Caps, Hats and Epaulettes

Arcane terminology within the Salvation Army equals that of the Church of England, **Lieut. Stephen Poxon** writes.



above) and then, if successful, packed off for two years' residential training, assuming the title of cadet. First year cadets wear one red stripe on the epaulettes, and second year cadets wear two. Cadets are entitled to wear officers tunics (ones with pockets), and officers caps or hats. Officers caps have piping and cresting according to rank, but the same cap may be worn by cadets, lieutenants and captains alike.

Still with me, Bill?

Upon completion of training, cadets are commissioned, with the rank of lieutenant, which means being entitled to wear a silver star on each shoulder, red epaulettes and lapel patches (purple velvet epaulettes and lapel patches if you reach the rank of commissioner).

A lieutenant stays a lieutenant for five years, during which certain qualifications have to be met before he or she can be considered for promotion to captaincy (which means two silver stars on each shoulder). Captains are captains for fifteen years, unless the General decides to make you up to a major at his or her discretion. The General, by the way, wears gold trimmings, not mere silver ones; the spouse of the General is called general, but isn't one really, as there can only ever be one general and it's a courtesy title given out of respect. The General's spouse is in fact still a

Senior soldiers are entitled to become candidates for officership, so long as they are over 18 and under 40. Officership is full-time ministry. Candidates are interviewed by the Divisional Commander (who has to be ranked at Major or

commissioner, even though he or she will now wear gold trimmings anyway. He or she is a member of the High Council, which consists of Territorial Commanders from across the world.

Majors can remain majors for ever, but some are promoted to the giddy heights of lieutenant colonel, colonel or even commissioner. Majors wear a crest on their epaulettes, whereas lieutenant colonels wear a crest and silver piping, although you have to be a full colonel to qualify for silver piping on your lapel patches as well.

So, you see, it's all dead easy to understand. Oh, yes, if you offer yourself for officership after the age of forty, you become an auxiliary captain wearing plain red epaulettes (but a captain's cap). Auxiliary captains can be promoted to full

captaincy, but only if they would be able to fulfil this role for at least five years before retirement.

Have I mentioned the Order of the Silver Star? And what about the Order of the Founder? Long service medals? Better not, methinks. I would hate to confuse anybody.

We do actually publish our own glossary of terms, Bill, but I'm afraid I can't let you have my copy, as I'm too busy trying to plough through it myself! I hope however this has clarified things somewhat.

Incidentally, I'll become a captain a year earlier than I should, but only because I married above my station and married rank is given according to the senior partner.



CALLING ALL JOURNALISTS!

Do you have a contribution for the *Review*? Our subject areas are diverse - from church matters to the secular, serious and light-hearted. Don't wait for someone else to write about your pet subject! Illustrations - photographs and drawings are always welcome, both for inside the magazine and for the cover. And let us know if you're planning an event - and tell us about it afterwards!

We can handle contributions in many formats: paper (typed, double spaced if possible but handwritten not refused) and word processor disks (Word, WordPerfect, ASCII text formats). Photographs can be colour or black & white, and we can handle drawings on paper or in electronic format (CorelDRAW! V4, bmp, pcx, tif, cgm formats for the technical).

The Petertide FLEA MARKET

Spring cleaning? Finally got round to that back room, the garage, the shed? Or are you clearing a house - or know someone who is?

Well, don't forget that we need lots of good quality bric-a-brac, furniture, books, and any other saleable items for this year's expanded Flea Market at the Petertide Fair on 28th June. Nothing is too big or too small!

We can store items from now until the day of the fair - we can even arrange collection if this helps. If you can contribute to this important part of the fair, please call **Tony Blair** on 864660 who is managing the market, or **Chris Smalley**, this year's fair co-ordinator on 826821.

Well, the new Waitrose super-store has now been open for over two months. Remember all the heated arguments before it was built, about whether it would save the town, or ruin it? A lot of people joined in, including myself. I admit that I got it wrong to some extent. I was worried about the traffic prob-

lems it might create in the town centre, and also the fact that, in the early days of discussion, Sainsbury's were the front runners to operate it; Sainsbury's were deemed to be unsuitable for reasons which were well aired, so I won't bore you with them again.

The traffic and parking problems don't seem to be anything like as bad as we all expected. I have never seen traffic queuing to get into the new Waitrose car park; and there are a lot more spaces in the old Waitrose car park, even at 10:30 on a Friday morning. If there is a problem, it is the St. John's Well Lane car park, which is free and unrestricted. This means that a lot of people park there all day - even a dozen or so commuters, so I am told. I understand that on the first Saturday of the new store being open, the car park was full of anglers' cars at 8:30, because there was an all day fishing competition on the canal, so no shoppers at all were able to park there. Sooner or later, the borough council will have to introduce the same restrictions and charges as in other municipal car parks in Berkhamsted.

The main question that was debated at length was how would the new store affect trade in other shops in the town. Well, it seems to be too early to judge; those I

TOWN CENTRE CHANGES: A VIEW

Ian McCalla considers the effect on the town of the new Waitrose store.

have spoken to have not noticed much difference so far, and casual observation suggests that the market area is less crowded but, with all that empty shop space, that's hardly surprising. I gather that the food shops now do better than they did before. Waitrose are well pleased (and probably

relieved!) at the amount of extra trade they are getting. Doubtless some of this is due to the fact customers aren't bad tempered any more (there is enough space to avoid trolley collisions!). But Tesco must surely be having the last laugh in this saga. They did a modest refurbishment of their store a year ago and got a significant increase in trade, so that must be paid for by now. And now, they have got about 20 percent extra trade for no extra effort whatsoever, and a lot more parking spaces, courtesy of the borough council, to bring more people in! One wonders what is going through the minds of people at Tesco H.Q. right now.

A constant source of worry to the P.C.C., the police, and probably many others, was *Cheerleaders* and its customers. Most of you will have noticed that *Cheerleaders* has gone bust and is boarded up. I am told that the building is being taken over by another, very respectable, pub chain, J.D. Wetherspoon. This chain is highly rated in the Good Pub Guide and discourages lager louts. So they should enhance the High Street a bit, besides making all the other pubs in the town buck their ideas up.

❖



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I had arranged to meet Sylvia (a pseudonym), one of twenty-four Iain Rennie nurses, in Hemel Hempstead so that I could accompany her on visits that she had planned to six patients. Sylvia is one of the six nurses who are based in the Berkhamsted / Hemel Hempstead area. My strongest memory from the

day is that the word 'planning' has to be used in the loosest sense since the unexpected is the norm in the life of one of these nurses. The mobile phones which are an indispensable part of their equipment may ring at any time with a request to divert from the planned schedule in order to deal with an emergency. The previous week this had occurred at four o'clock one morning when Sylvia, who was 'on call' had received a call not from a patient but from a relative of the patient. It is not unusual for close relatives, who shoulder the major burden of care, to feel great stress when caring for a loved one who is terminally ill. Each patient has a named nurse who is the normal point of contact for the patient and family.

The first call was to the home of an elderly lady, suffering from cancer, who was being cared for by her son and his wife. Sylvia and the district nurse work together to ensure that the family receive regular supportive visits and on this occasion the purpose of the visit was to check that the lady's medication was effective in preventing her from suffering any pain and to give her a bath. The second visit was to the home of another elderly lady whose family, while wanting to keep her at home, were

A Day in the Life of an Iain Rennie Nurse

The Iain Rennie Hospice at Home offers valuable help and support to the terminally ill. **Stephen Halliday** describes a day in the life of a Hospice nurse.

beginning to feel the strain. The purpose of this visit was to check the condition of the patient and of her family, since the patient can only remain at home while the family are able to care for her on a day-to-day basis. Sylvia, in consultation with the family, agreed that both the patient and the family would benefit in the long

term if the old lady could have some respite care in a hospice, relieving the family of the responsibility for a week or so. She called a local hospice and organised it on the spot.

The next call should have been to visit a lady in a local hospital who had been receiving respite care and was due to be discharged to her home where her husband would resume responsibility for her. However, on the way to the hospital Sylvia received a call to tell her that the lady had died earlier that morning and that, instead, Sylvia should visit the bereaved husband to offer him some counselling and support. Having accomplished this task we were about to set out for the next appointment when Sylvia received a call to tell her that one of her patients, whom she had not planned to visit that day, was suffering some distress caused by his illness and vomiting uncontrollably. Sylvia drove straight to his home, sized up the situation and telephoned the patient's G.P., describing the symptoms and proposing some medication, to which the doctor agreed. She drove immediately to the surgery, picked up the prescription, collected the medicine from Dickman's and took it to the patient. The whole operation was completed within an hour of the original call being received.

(continued overleaf)

Two other routine calls were followed by the last one of the day which was unusual in one respect. The patient had visited a doctor complaining of the symptoms of a cold and had learned that he was suffering from a serious illness of the kidneys which could not be treated and meant that he had not long to live. The patient himself, a jolly Irishman in his eighties, did not appear to be at all worried at the prospect of meeting his maker but his little granddaughter, aged eight, was worried about what was going to happen to her granddad. Sylvia's task on this call was to explain to Lucy, tactfully but honestly, what the next few weeks would hold for him. She will be visiting the family regularly over the next few weeks. All the Iain Rennie nurses are trained to deal with very distressed relatives and maintain contact with them to give re-assurance and support when they suffer bereavements.

We are very fortunate in Berkhamsted that we have people like Sylvia and her colleagues who can offer a service of this kind which means that terminally ill patients are able to live in comfort and dignity despite their

illnesses, providing specialist care and counselling for the terminally ill and their patients. I confess that, until I spoke to Robert Breakwell a few weeks ago, I was only dimly aware of this organisation and the great comfort it provides to people who are most in need of it. It would be wonderful if its benefits could be offered to more people and over a wider area.

If any readers of the *Review* feel able to offer their services as voluntary helpers or have ideas for fund-raising please write to one of the addresses below. You may be able to offer some time to do administrative work, or help Robert with his fundraising or work in the shop. I know they would be glad to hear from you.

Please write to:

*93, Western Road,
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or

*Cedar Barn,
Cedar Avenue,
Hazlemere,
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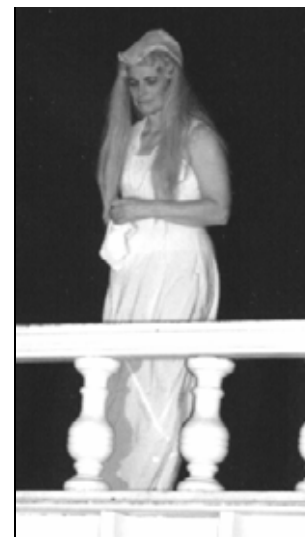
Tel: 865006





Cats, hippopotami, William the Conqueror and Juliet with her attendant Romeo were all at the Town Hall on February 1st. Why? Well, a glance at the programme for *Showtime at Shrovetide* reveals the answer - they were only some of the performances that members of the congregations of St Peter's and All Saints' gave during this popular event, returning for its third and final year. Despite the aforementioned William's accent becoming more Prussian by the minute and the leap of imagination proposed by the evening's compere, Tony Roberts, to turn the stage into a hippo's watering hole, more than 120 guests thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment and dinner. It will be a hard act to follow next year!

Clockwise from top: Tony Roberts and Mike Prole prepare to wallow in mud; Fr Mark Bonney and Sue Simmons; Fr Basil Jones negotiates with Katy Bonney; Juliet (Angela Morris) is trapped on her balcony.



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reviewnorthchurch

**Revd Peter Hart,
of St Mary's,
Northchurch,
considers settling
and the unsettling.**

This article for the March *Review* has to be written at the end of January, seven days before my institution. The house still not fully ordered and a great deal still not known about the locality and the churches here - a daunting task. It reminds me of the writers of the general epistles at the end of the New Testament, who disseminate their teaching to scattered and unknown congregations, striving for relevance in the conviction of the truths they seek to impart. My purpose in writing is not so glorious, as I am simply doing as I have been requested.

Impressions are growing all the time - we have settled into the routine of the church clock striking the hour; listened to bellringing practice with pleasure; hazarded several routes to school; found the food shops and cashpoint machines and made a start at understanding the curious numbering of the High Street. The house is full of unexpected sounds - clicking pipes, creaking floorboards and so on, but we are already able to say, like Caliban of Prospero's island:

*'Be not afeard; the isle is full of noises,
Sounds and sweet airs, that give
delight, and hurt not.'*

The Tempest 111. 2. 133-34

We are settling in.

Being settled is an important element in human happiness - surrounded by the familiar, the recognisable. It is part of our spiritual experience as well - liturgy functions on its familiarity, freeing us to worship by its known structure: church music also operates within a fairly select band of tunes and hymns in which we can readily participate. Sections of the Bible

are also familiar - certain passages are always read at Christmas and Easter, for example, we know exactly what the story is, but we are comforted by its repetition, and sustained by its 'settled' nature. Is there room, therefore, for the unexpected, for surprises, within our spiritual experience, or are they as unwelcome as changes to our daily routine? Sometimes, even frequently, we do need to be drawn out of our comfortable routines of prayer and our habitual theological thought patterns by something new and unexpected.

This month brings the greatest of those surprises - our God, in Jesus Christ, dies and rises again. This cannot be a comfortable story, it cannot be a settling thought and each time it is rehearsed it must surprise us and change us. Lent, Holy Week and Easter present us with a challenge each year - just how much do I understand and appreciate of what God was doing in Jesus Christ; how much does it relate to me and the way I live and think; how does it relate to us as churches, the people of God, and the way we conduct ourselves corporately? Work through this holy season, prepared to be surprised and changed, expecting a challenge to all that is settled, and as that happens to us, our God will become ever more surprising to us, leading us to worship and service. ❖



REMEMBERING THE DEPARTED AT THE SUNDAY EUCHARIST

The list of anniversaries of the departed whom we remember in prayer week by week on the pew leaflet has become unmanageable. From this month we are starting a new list and if you wish for someone to be remembered by name in the prayers at the anniversary of their death *please give the name and date of death* to Jean Green at the Parish Office, The Court House, Berkhamsted HP4 2AX. Unless you give a name in, it will not appear *since all names will now be taken from the new list*.

OXFAM 'FUR' RED NOSES

It's that time again! Comic Relief day is 14th March and the Oxfam shop is the place to buy your noses or badges (£1 each). This year's furry fiery fun faces come with a tongue-dying lollipop for greater effect. So plan your special event, visit the Oxfam shop for supplies and make serious efforts to bring Comic Relief to those in need.

ST PETER'S WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We meet on fourth Wednesdays from 2:30-4:30pm in the Court House and visitors and new members are always welcome. We try to make our programme as varied as possible so that there is something for everyone. Why not come along and join us? Our next meeting is on Wednesday, 26th March, and is our usual Lent eucharist which Fr Mark will take for us, followed by tea and chat all in the Court House as usual. If you need transport please ring Vera Pullen (862196) who will be happy to arrange it for you.

BERKHAMSTED W.I.



Our first meeting of the new year was on a very damp and foggy evening. However, 24 members braved the elements. Unfortunately our speakers, due to travel from some distances, were unable to come.

The business of the Institute included arrangements for a visit to the Tate Gallery for a lecture; a guided tour of the Mansion House in London; a visit to a farm in Miswell Hill, Tring followed by lunch and a walk around the reservoirs; and a day's study of rural Hertfordshire in the 1950s to the 90s.

The craft section will meet in January to plan the year's programme and the competition for the Hertfordshire Show and the homes and gardens section will have a 'cook-in' for American-style muffins and a plant recognition afternoon. The play reading group has already met and is reading a new three-act play.

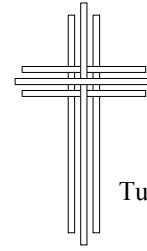
Members attended the county consultative afternoon on resolutions for the triennial general meeting at Birmingham in June.

Members enjoyed a *What's My Line* type of quiz before refreshments and an 'initial quiz' afterwards. The meeting closed early at 9:30pm when members were pleased to find that the fog was no worse!

Our next meeting is on 19th March when Mrs G Cobley will give a talk *Why Romania?* We meet at 7:30pm in Gable Hall, Prince Edward Street, Berkhamsted. Do come, you will be very welcome. ❖

TELL US WHAT'S HAPPENING!

The Review is your mouthpiece - use it to tell people what's happening in the town. If you're arranging an event then publicise it in the magazine - and tell us about it afterwards! If you want to express an opinion, write to us - or write an article: our subject range is diverse, from church matters to the secular, serious or light-hearted. And if you can provide us with illustrations - photographs, drawings, anything you like - so much the better! (we will of course return all such materials).



Holy Week

at St Peter's and All Saints'

Tuesday - Saturday am:

7:30am Morning Prayer & 5:30pm Evening Prayer (*St Peter's*)

Monday - Wednesday:

24 8:00pm Devotional Address & Compline (*St Peter's*)

8:00pm United Devotion (*All Saints'*)

25 8:00am Eucharist (*St Peter's*)

9:30am Eucharist (*All Saints'*)

8:00pm Devotional Address & Compline (*St Peter's*)

8:00pm United Devotion (*All Saints'*)

26 6:45am Eucharist (*St Peter's*)

12:30pm Eucharist (*St Peter's*)

8:00pm Devotional Address & Compline (*St Peter's*)

8:00pm United Devotion (*All Saints'*)

Maundy Thursday

27 11:00am Eucharist (*St Peter's*)

8:00pm United Eucharist followed by
The Watch until Midnight (*All Saints'*)

8:00pm Eucharist of the Last Supper followed by
The Watch until Midnight (*St Peter's*)

Good Friday

28 10:00am United Service of Witness (20mins) in the Market Place
followed by Procession of Witness

12 noon Three Hour Devotion including
the Liturgy of the Day (*St Peter's*)

Easter Eve

29 9:00pm The Easter Vigil (*St Peter's*)

Easter Day

30 8:00am Eucharist (*St Peter's*)

8:00am Eucharist (*All Saints'*)

9:15am Sung Eucharist (*All Saints'*)

9:30am Sung Eucharist (*St Peter's*)

11:30am Book of Common Prayer Eucharist (*St Peter's*)

6:00pm Choral Evensong (*St Peter's*)

reviewdiary

All services at normal times unless stated.

March / April 1997

MARCH

7	10:30am	Service for Women's World Day of Prayer	<i>St Peter's</i>
7	8:00pm	Annual Parochial Church Meeting	<i>The Court House</i>
9	6:00pm	Choral Evensong	<i>St Peter's</i>
9	6:45pm	Organ Recital given by Julian Larkin	<i>St Peter's</i>
15	8:00am	Ecumenical Breakfast and Prayers	<i>Kings Road Evangelical Church</i>
16	9:30am	Preacher - The Rt Revd & Rt Hon. The Lord Runcie	<i>St Peter's</i>
22	7:30pm	Chiltern Chamber Choir Brahms Requiem	<i>St Peter's</i>
23	9:00am	Blessing of Palms and Procession	<i>from St Peter's</i>
	9:15am	Palm Sunday Service	<i>All Saints'</i>
24-30		See <i>Holy Week</i> to Easter (page 25)	
31		Easter Monday Pilgrimage to St Albans	

APRIL

6	9:15am	Sung Eucharist followed by Area Election	<i>All Saints'</i>
11		Parochial Church Meeting	
13	9:30am	Sung Eucharist followed by Area Elections	<i>St Peter's</i>
13	6:00pm	A Service of Thanksgiving & Commemoration of departed family and friends. Preacher: The Revd John Payne Cook	<i>St Peter's</i>
20	6:00pm	The Licensing of the Revd Robin Figg	<i>All Saints'</i>
27	9:30am	The Parish Confirmation	<i>St Peter's</i>

reviewregisters

Wedding (*St Peter's*)

1 February Neil Lightning and Joanna Prosser

Funerals

8 January	Neale Cameron Stewart Monks	St Peter's (The Chilterns Crematorium)
14 January	George Sills	The Chilterns Crematorium
30 January	Helen Mary Sills	The Chilterns Crematorium
30 January	Molly Tomlin	The West Herts Crematorium, Garston

SundaySchool

Churches

PCC 1996/7

Contacts

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BERKHAMSTED

Telephone numbers to ring for times of services, etc.

1. Northchurch Baptist	Rev Peter Swaffield	Berk. 866685
	Mrs H Blundell	Berk. 875021
2. St Mary's Northchurch	Rev Peter Hart	Berk. 865312
	Mr W Frew	Berk. 864368
3. All Saints' Anglican		
4. Methodist All Saints'	Mr John Malcolm	Berk. 874993
	Rev Nicholas Paterson	Berk. 866324
	Mrs Ida Rance	Berk. 865829
5. Sacred Heart (RC)	Father V Commerford	Berk. 863845
	Mr J McLellan	Berk. 871818
6. Society of Friends (Quakers)	Robert Ward	Berk. 864404
7. Kings Road Evangelical	Pastor Billy Milton	Berk. 876917
	Mr J Rainey	Berk. 866315
8. United Reformed		
9. St Peter's	Mrs D Bahadur	Berk. 871107
	Rev M Bonney	Berk. 864194
	Mrs Jean Green	Berk. 863241
10. Berkhamsted Baptist	Rev James K Neve	Berk. 873283
	Mrs J Ivin	Berk. 865309
11. St Michael & All Angels		
Sunnyside	Mrs T Gibbs	Berk. 863266
12. St John the Evangelist		
Bourne End	Mrs M Ireland	Berk. 865098
13. Salvation Army	Lt. Stephen Poxon	Berk. 876024



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Contacts

The Revd Mark Bonney, The Rectory, Rectory Lane. Tel: 864194 (day off Monday)
 The Revd Canon Basil Jones (Hon.Asst.Priest), 17 Lochnell Road. Tel: 864485
 The Revd Jim Lawrenson (Hon.Asst.Priest), Downside, 7 Torrington Road. Tel: 865999
 The Revd Preb Stephen Wells (Hon.Asst.Priest), 57 Meadow Road. Tel: 870981
 Miss Marjorie Bowden (Reader), 18 Greenway. Tel: 871283
 Mrs Joan Cook (Reader), The Gardeners Arms, Castle Street. Tel: 866278
 John Malcolm (Reader), Landswood, Shootersway. Tel: 874993
 Tom Montague (Reader), 27 Hill View. Tel: 875320
 Mrs Jenny Wells (Reader), 57 Meadow Road. Tel: 870981
 Parish Secretary: Mrs Jean Green, The Parish Office, The Court House Tel: 878227
 Churchwardens: Christopher Green, 17 Cowper Road. Tel: 863241;
 John Banks, Ladybrand, Cross Oak Road. Tel: 871195
Parochial Church Council: Secretary: Alan Conway, 7 Kilfillan Gardens. Tel: 865798
 Treasurer: Michael Robinson, 36 Trevelyan Way. Tel: 863559

St Peter's

Director of Music: Vaughan Meakins. :01494 837412; Assistant: Mrs Jean Wild. 866859
 Organist: Mrs Jean Cooper. Tel: 874088
Sundays
 8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sun Rite B)
 9.30am Family Sung Eucharist with
 Sunday Schools (in the Court
 House) followed by coffee in
 the Court House.
 11.15am Matins & Sermon (1st Sunday only)
 6.00pm Evensong & Sermon
 (except 1st Sunday see All Saints')
Weekdays
 Holy Communion
 Wednesday 6.45am
 Thursday 11.00am
 Friday 9.15am
 Morning Prayer: Tues-Sat 7:30am
 Evening Prayer: Tues-Fri 5:30pm
 Holy Days - see weekly Notices
 Matins & Evensong said daily
Confessions: After Saturday Evening Prayer (5.00pm) or at other times by appointment.
Weddings, Banns of Marriage, Baptisms, Funerals
 Please contact Father Mark Bonney.
Bellringers (St Peter's): Miss Priscilla Watt, 9 Kings Road. Tel: 863804

All Saints'

Organist: Mrs Valerie McCalla Tel: 384574 Choirmaster: Peter McMunn Tel: 874894
Sundays
 8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday - Methodist rite)
 9.15am Family Sung Eucharist & Sunday Schools, then coffee in the Hall
 11.00am (Methodist Morning Service)
 6.30pm Evening Service (1st Sunday - Anglican rite, other Sundays Methodist rite)
Weekdays
 Holy Communion: Tuesday 9.30am
 Holy Days - see weekly Notices
 (All Saints' is shared with the Berkhamsted Methodist Church)

Western Insurance

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