

In this issue

October 1999

**Harvest:
pleasure
and pain**

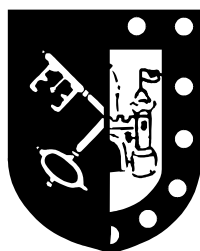
Crime decline

**Democratic
working parties**

**All Saint's
festival**

**Significant
Victorians**

**This month's
Notes & Events**



for Town and Parish

25p



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

Welcome to the October issue of the *Berkhamsted Review*.

In glancing through the pages of this month's issue you might be forgiven for getting the impression that the town's entire focus is on festivals of one type or another. October of course sees harvest time celebrated in festivals in every church, with aisles overflowing with produce. Our parish is no different, with both St Peter's and All Saints' hosting the annual celebration; a theme which our leader writers take up in this issue.

We also welcome two other diverse festivals this month, both of which are covered in these pages. The All Saints' Festival sees many activities and attractions centring around the church, and, elsewhere in the town, the Graham Greene Festival enjoys its second year as a celebration of one of our most notable local authors.

Common to all these events is the tremendous amount of time and energy so many people devote to their success. Iceberg-like, nine tenths of the work involved in a festival happens out of sight, behind the scenes. So if you're involved in this way, more power to your elbow; and if you aren't, do go along and support the events!

Chris Smalley

In this month's issue...

Harvest: pleasure and pain

Fr Robin Figg and **Rev Peter Hart** both reflect on aspects of the joy and pain Christians should feel at harvest tide.

Crime decline

The drop in local crime figures gives **Ian Reay** a pleasant surprise.

Birch or beech?

John Cook takes issue with some interpretations of the original meaning of 'Berkhamsted'.

All Saints' festival

Make a note in your diary for 6th-7th November to be at All Saints'!

Significant Victorians

Stephen Halliday introduces some interesting Victorian personalities.

Democratic working parties

Norman Cutting questions the impact of 'working parties' on local democracy.

... plus our regular features, readers' letters, notes & notices and diary dates.

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Next copy dates (all Fridays): 8 October 5 November 3 December



**Fr Robin Figg
finds harvest
celebrations both
joyful and painful.**

review leader

Once again we have reached the season of harvest, with our harvest suppers and festival services. This is traditionally a time to celebrate God's gift of an earth that provides for our needs. But as well as being a time to enjoy the abundance of God's provisions to us in our part of the world, this is also a time to reawaken our concern for the world's poor - for those whose harvest has failed or who, for whatever reason, do not enjoy the earth's fruits in security as we do.

At harvest time it is right for us to offer our thanks to God for his goodness. But it is essential that we also recognise our need to repent for the human betrayal of God's gift in creation. It is right that we seek God's forgiveness for the way the world fails to ensure a just distribution of its food and water supplies. Are we willing to go on seeing many thousands of our fellow human beings perish each day as a result of malnutrition and contaminated water supplies? What are we doing in the fight against hunger, against injustice?

At harvest time we need to renew our awareness of environmental or 'green' issues that affect the whole of God's creation. Realising the dangers the earth faces from the greed and exploitation of its resources it is vital that the Church rediscovers a reverence for creation that has almost been lost sight of. It is interesting that there is a resurgent interest in those strands of our Christian heritage - the Franciscan and Celtic traditions - that proclaim our kinship and connection with the elements of the natural world.

Once again we have reached the season of harvest, with our harvest suppers and festival services. This is traditionally a time to celebrate God's gift of an

As you come to celebrate this harvest time I hope that you will stop and reflect seriously on the present well-being (or not) of God's creation. Be thankful for God's many blessings to you, yes, but do not neglect to feel something of the pain of the sufferings of God's world. The following poem challenges us to not only feel the pain but take action to alleviate it.

*I was hungry,
and you formed a humanities group to
discuss my hunger,
I was imprisoned,
and you crept off quietly to your chapel
and prayed for my release.
I was naked,
and in your mind you debated the
morality of my appearance.
I was sick,
and you knelt and thanked God for
your health.
I was homeless,
and you preached to me of the spiritual
shelter of the love of God.
I was lonely,
and you left me alone to pray for me.
You seem so holy, so close to God
but I am still hungry - and lonely - and
cold.*

When you next sit down to eat you might like to use this grace of Bishop Charles Gore: *Lord, forgive that we feast while others starve!*

May the Lord of the harvest bless you. ❖

Cover: The Berkhamsted prep school building in Chesham Road, now demolished to make way for new flats. See Around the Town on page 5.

Photo: John Cook

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Changes in Chesham Road

For once I managed to get round to taking photographs of parts of old Berkhamsted before they disappeared. Two sites in Chesham Road, both of which belonged to Berkhamsted School, have been cleared and housing is going up on them at the moment. The old prep school building is a loss: it had probably reached the end of its useful life, but it was a handsome Edwardian house with architectural features of a quality we are unlikely to see in the new houses that are taking its place.

Further down the road the garden on the west side which used to belong to St John's House has been dug out, and by the time this *Review* is published blocks of flats will have sprung up on the site. Whenever I passed that spot I was reminded of the chapter in Graham Greene's autobiography in which he describes how as a young boy, when he lived in St John's and his father was housemaster, he used to play on his own in this garden, pretending it was France and Chesham Road was the English Channel.

The excavations carried out there revealed that the ground is almost pure chalk. To think that in the days of blackboards, had it been realised, the School could have been self-sufficient in

the essential writing material that went with blackboards -chalk.

The Derivation of Berkhamsted

In Scott Hastie's new book, *Berkhamsted – An Illustrated History*, the derivation of the name of our town is given as 'birch-grown homestead'. This is also the one given in a book in the library *The Place-names of Hertfordshire*, and Percy Birtchnell in his *Short History of Berkhamsted* says this derivation makes sense; but it doesn't to me. Where were there ever birch trees around here in sufficient numbers to give their name to our Town? Birches grow in places where the soil is thin and acid, such as the Common. Along the bottom and on the lush slopes of the valley one would have expected hardwoods like oak to have predominated, or beeches where the chalk was near the surface as on the site in Chesham Road.

Percy Birtchnell added that an alternative possible derivation – 'homestead among the hills' also made sense, and I think I would favour that one; or could it possibly have been *beech*-grown homestead? If there are any readers who can throw more light on this I hope they will write in.

The changing face of banking

How many banks are there in Berkhamsted? Years ago this would have been an easy question to answer. Things were much simpler then - a bank was a bank and a building society was a building society. We had the Westminster and the Midland, the National Provincial, Barclays and Lloyds, each with a manager with a face. But now the Abbey National is a bank too; so is the Halifax. What about the others? What is the status of the Nationwide, for example? (I could of course go in and ask, but I have a deadline to meet).

Of the original clearing banks only Barclays has so far managed to hang on to its old name. In keeping with the trend to call things by initials Lloyds has become

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Lloyds TSB and the Midland name has been replaced by a set of unmemorable letters. And we are promised that the banking scene is likely to continue to change rapidly over the next few years, with the much wider use of electronic banking and other technical innovations.

We do of course already have credit cards and switch cards, and with a bit of luck they will be made more reliable. Last week my wife was embarrassed when the machine at the butcher's shop refused to accept her NatWest switch card in the presence of a queue of people, although the account was well in balance. The butcher blamed the bank and the bank blamed the butcher. Anyway, after a few days NatWest were kind enough to send round a lovely box of flowers.

The chances seem to be that there will be amalgamations and branch closures. Most of the buildings occupied by the present clearing banks were purpose-built as banks, and if there are to be closures these premises would not convert easily to anything else, even restaurants. For those of us still alive in 20 years time it will be interesting to look back and see the changes that will have taken place by then in the realm of banking in our town.

Ashridge opening

An innovation this August was the daily opening of Ashridge House to the public, and the conducted tour was well worth the £2 fee. I hope the College felt it was a success and they will do the same again next year. Even those of us who had had the chance to look round on previous occasions learned a lot, and as well as the house you had free range of the lovely gardens. Both are very well looked after, and constant restoration works and improvements are being made.

I asked about the wall paintings by Dora Carrington, and although these were not on the route of the tour one of the guides was good enough to take us to them. Carrington as she called herself (there was a film about her called *Carrington* starring Emma Thompson only



The changing face of banks in Berkhamsted

a few years ago) was Lytton Strachey's girl friend and the artist of the famous elongated portrait of him. Her paintings at Ashridge are large murals in pastelly colours showing rural scenes like sheep shearing.

Coming away after the tour we reflected that the vast pile of Ashridge House – over 1,000 feet long – together with its splendid garden was originally the home of just two people: an ageing, childless couple, the Seventh Earl of Bridgewater and his wife (plus of course an army of servants).

Those library shelves

Apropos the new shelves in the library, a friend tells me that she wrote complaining about the changes there, particularly the scrapping of the lovely wooden shelves. She said the reply she received was quite hysterically funny. The reason given was that they didn't want anyone catching their fingers on the wood – particularly the young and the old.

Impartiality

John Brooks, our town mayor, in his article in last month's *Review* said that the mayor quickly forgoes the cut and thrust of political debate and tries hard to be an impartial arbitrator. This reminded me of the story of another mayor who on taking office made a confused attempt to draw an historical parallel. 'During my year of office' he pronounced, 'I must lay aside all political prepossession and be, like Caesar's wife, all things to all men'. ❖

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Most of the great Anglican societies date from the first half of the 19th century, the days of Joshua Watson, the wine merchant who spent his fortune on one major campaign after another.

But it comes as a surprise to find that when my father was a little boy there was no women's organisation in the Church, no group who cared about the houses and families which are the foundation of the life of our people.

The Mothers' Union started in 1876 as a handful of young mothers, facing poverty and ignorance in one village. The story was given widespread publicity and similar groups rose up to meet an urgent need in parishes all over England.

Before long it spread to the Church overseas, until between the wars it was the largest women's organisation in the world,

THE MOTHER'S UNION

Prebendary Stephen Wells
looks at the roots of the
Mothers' Union.



apart from political groups. That is particularly surprising when you realise that it never really caught on in North America, where other women's groups with no interest in family life were already established.

Family life is surely a major concern of the Church today more than ever. We have learned - the hard way perhaps - that every family has its own needs and opportunities. We must be very careful about sweeping condemnation of those whose family is unlike anything we have known. Love is an ambiguous word. But that surely means that we need, and need desperately, women in the Church who will pray with sincerity and compassion for mothers and children in a generation so often bewildered and in pain.



the things they say

"The youngest son, the 21-year-old, how old is he?"

"Were you present when your picture was taken?"

"Was it you or your younger brother who was killed in the war?"

Q. "Can you describe the individual?"

A. "He was about medium height and had a beard."

Q. "Was this a male, or a female?"

"How many times have you committed suicide?"

Q. "You were not shot in the fracas?"

A. "No, I was shot midway between the fracas and the navel."

"Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?"

It takes brains to be a lawyer in America.
But not in these cases...

Q. "Doctor, how many autopsies have you performed on dead people?"

A. "All of my autopsies are performed on dead people."

Q. "Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?"

A. "No."

Q. "Did you check for breathing?"

A. "No."

Q. "So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?"

A. "No."

Q. "How can you be so sure, Doctor?"

A. "Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar."

Q. "But could the patient have still been alive nevertheless?"

A. "It is possible that he could have been alive and practising law somewhere." ❖

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All Saints' Festival

6-7 November

The purpose of our festival is fourfold:

- to bring our church into greater focus with our community
- to bring each other into closer fellowship by working for a common good
- to fund raise for the benefit of our church and our community
- to have fun

Our festival is beginning to take shape and plans are moving forward for what we expect to be exciting event. Our church will be **decorated** by various groups showing the church and community life in which we are involved. The decorated tables will be judged by experienced flower and church decorators from outside the Berkhamsted area. **Music** will be provided by adults and children and **drama** will also play a part.

On Saturday **refreshments** will be served all day. There will be lots to see, do and buy, and the many **stalls** (including craft, cakes and home produce, plants, books, bric-a-brac, cushions and quilts) will provide something for everyone. There will be **raffles** and **games** a plenty, with a **bouncy castle** and a **football shoot**.

On Sunday the **morning service** will be followed by **lunch**, with **music** continuing until 3:00pm.

Make a note in your diary not to miss this event!

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

There will be a photographic competition as part of the festival. The theme of the festival is 'Growth' and your interpretation of this via printed photographs can provide you with lots of fun. A half-built bike/car or decorated room can be growth – so can an almost finished or just started garden.

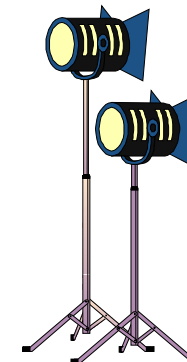
Originality, spontaneity and capturing 'the moment' will be considered as important aspects when judging the entries. There will be a category for those up to 16 years and another for those above. Digital and conventional photography will be welcome and the details of film and camera used should be provided with the prints. The size of print can be the standard 6x4 inch (15x10cm) or larger if you prefer.

All material submitted may be used for church publicity and is submitted at the competitor's risk. Transparencies are not acceptable as these are usually originals and can easily be lost.

All skill levels will be welcome so make the most of those photo opportunities!

This is a competition open to all members of the local community. There will be prizes for each category and certificates for junior competitors following selection by experienced judges.

Please send photographs with personal and technical details to Mike Limbrick, 33 Bridgewater Road, Berkhamsted HP4 1HP (phone 384682).



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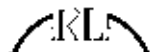
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It seems to be essential to the nature of news (at least of public interest) that to be *news* at all it has to be *bad* news. If our knowledge about the world were derived solely from newspaper headlines and top television and radio news stories we would rapidly sink into black despair. Whenever we do hear good news it

is often presented with an aspect which reverses the following mood. More students are passing GCSEs and A-Levels than ever before - but are standards falling? The ban on the export of British beef has been lifted - but the Germans and the French still do not want our meat and it will take years to rebuild confidence. Whenever we do hear good news we are strongly inclined to be suspicious - a good news story from the Government has to be spin or propaganda.

So it was with some surprise that at a town council meeting recently I heard some good news. Town councillors were given the opportunity to meet the new divisional commander of the Dacorum division of the Hertfordshire Constabulary, Superintendent Custerson and the policeman in charge of the Berkhamsted station, Inspector Dixon-Gough. At this meeting we were provided with a survey of policing in Berkhamsted and the surrounding area. Across Dacorum reported crime is below average for the country and Berkhamsted has a crime rate roughly half the level for Dacorum as a whole.

At this presentation I learnt not only that crime in Berkhamsted is at a level which is amongst the lowest in the country - I have known that for some time - but I was also amazed to hear that this year crime in Dacorum, and in Berkhamsted in

council & news views

Town councillor **Ian Reay** confesses his surprise about falling crime levels.

particular, has fallen, not by a small amount but very significantly. And nobody seems to know quite why. In the first eight months of 1999 crime in Hemel Hempstead as a whole was down by 10 percent on the same period of 1998, but crime in the town of Berkhamsted was down by 20 percent. Between January and

August 1998 there were 793 crimes reported in Berkhamsted; in the same months of 1999 there were 628. During the first three weeks of August the level of crime was 40 percent lower in 1999 than in the previous year (down to 43 from 72).

And yet we have never felt more fearful for our safety. Fear of crime is much greater than is justified by the statistics. Why are we so anxious?

It is now a requirement of the Crime and Disorder Act that police authorities develop a strategy to deal with crime and disorder in their territory. As a result last year a 'crime audit' was undertaken. The audit was concerned with perceptions of both 'crime' and 'disorder', but there is no distinction in many people's mind between these two things. The 'crimes' that most concerned elderly people questioned in the audit were noise, disorder and nuisance by young people. Although as a rule elderly people are much less at risk from crime than younger people their fear is much greater. Noisy and aggressive manners do not make a crime but they can evoke an anxious response. So although there is a low level of crime in Berkhamsted there is a great deal of concern about anti-social behaviour, particularly by young people. As a result our perception of the risk from crime is much greater than the actual risk that we face. ❖

During the course of the research which led me to write The Great Stink I stumbled upon a number of Victorian personalities whose contributions to the history of Victorian England deserve to be better known. We will be featuring potted biographies of some of these eminent Victorians in this and future issues of the Review.

SIGNIFICANT VICTORIANS

Stephen Halliday wants you to meet some Victorian personalities who you may not have heard of before.

Sir Marc Brunel (1769-1849)

The father of Isambard Kingdom Brunel, Marc was taught by the French mathematician Gaspard Monge who became secretary to the French navy under Napoleon. Marc entered the French navy but his royalist sympathies prompted him to flee to New York in 1793 where he became the city engineer. He came to England in 1799 where he invented a process for making ships' blocks, thousands of which were required to guide the ropes which hoisted the sails on a man of war. The process was adopted by the Admiralty as it expanded the Royal Navy to meet the threat from Napoleon and in this way Marc contributed to Nelson's destruction of the service for which his old tutor, Monge, was responsible. Marc also

invented an early typewriter, a cotton winding machine, a knitting machine, and a shoe-making machine. He built the floating docks at Liverpool. He showed little commercial acumen in exploiting his inventions and in 1821 spent several months in a debtor's prison

from which he was rescued by a £5,000 payment from a belatedly grateful government. His greatest achievement was the Thames tunnel, the first tunnel ever constructed beneath a river. For this he invented the tunnelling shield whose design still underpins tunnelling methods. Work began in 1825 and, following many vicissitudes, was completed in 1843. It was designed as a foot tunnel but now carries the London underground railway from Wapping to New Cross.

Thomas Cubitt (1788-1855)

Thomas Cubitt's contribution to Victorian London above ground is comparable with Sir Joseph Bazalgette's beneath. He was trained as a ship's carpenter and travelled in that capacity to India, saving enough money from his labours to set himself up as a builder upon his return. He was the first large-scale builder to employ a permanent (as distinct from jobbing) workforce of tradesmen embracing diverse crafts: carpenters, bricklayers, glaziers and so on. In order to maintain a steady flow of work for his employees he became engaged in speculative building and was thereby responsible for developing large areas of Highbury, Bloomsbury (including Gordon and Tavistock Squares), Belgravia (including Belgrave Square and Chesham Place); and two hundred and fifty acres of Clapham. At the request of Queen Victoria he modified and extended Osborne House and built the familiar east front (facing the Mall) of Buckingham Palace. At the request of Prince Albert he

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negotiated the purchase of the land on which the Kensington Museums were built with the profits of the Great Exhibition of 1851. He left over one million pounds in his will which, running to 386 pages, was the longest on record.

Sir Edwin Chadwick, 1800-1890



Chadwick's energies as a campaigner for praiseworthy philanthropic causes were matched only by his ability to antagonise others who shared his aims. He was an active campaigner for reform of the Poor Law and became secretary to the Poor Law Commission, a position which he used with ruthless ingenuity to whip into line local Poor Law Guardians who did not approach their tasks with appropriate zeal. As a result of the antagonism which his campaigning aroused the Commission was dissolved. He turned his attention to the cause of sanitary reform and in 1848 became a member of the General Board of Health and of the Metropolitan Sewers Commission, both created in that year. In 1849 he (and his principal antagonist) were both removed by the Home Secretary from the Sewers Commission in order to restore harmony to that body. This left him more time to use his position as a member of the General Board of Health to interfere in the workings of local boards and was one of the factors that led to the abolition of the Board in 1854. Chadwick never held public office again. He tried unsuccessfully to enter Parliament and was knighted in 1889, the year before his death.

Let's have a bit of good news!

Vera Pullen urges us to cheer up in the face of gloomy news.

I am by nature an optimist, thank goodness, but for those who take a more gloomy view of things I do wish we could sometimes hear and read some items of good news. I have noticed particularly lately, having been more confined to the house than usual, that the news on TV and the radio is definitely gloomy, never anything to cheer you up. I cannot believe that in the whole wide world there is not some hopeful and cheerful news somewhere, but we never hear of it.

Then we are fast becoming a world of hypochondriacs as we are told of yet more ghastly diseases about to pounce, we read and hear more about illness than ever before. What good does it do? All it does is worry everyone.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if one day we actually heard that Mr Blair and Mr Hague actually agreed on some point, instead of sounding like a pair of ill tempered schoolboys. We were told that, in spite of everything, the health of the nation is improving; we are certainly living longer which is a good sign. When I was a child there were many cases of diphtheria, polio, scarlet fever and even smallpox at times. Even when my children were young the fear of polio meant we couldn't go to the swimming baths in the summer for fear of infection. Now with those fears gone, the powers that be seem to find others to broadcast.

So, cheer up, this is a wonderful world, enjoy it, don't worry and *smile!* That's a tonic in itself.

Lord, Teach Me To Pray

Anon.



I cannot pray Our, if my faith has no room for others and their need.

I cannot pray Father, if I do not demonstrate this relationship to God in my daily living.

I cannot pray who art in heaven, if all my interests and pursuits are in earthly things.

I cannot pray hallowed be thy name, if I am not striving, with God's help, to be holy.

I cannot pray thy kingdom come, if I am unwilling to accept God's rule in my life.

I cannot pray thy will be done, if I am unwilling or resentful of having it in my life.

I cannot pray on earth as it is in Heaven, unless I am truly ready to give myself to God's service here and now.

I cannot pray give us this day our daily bread, without expending honest effort for it, or if I would withhold from my neighbour the bread that I receive.

I cannot pray forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, if I continue to harbour a grudge against anyone.

I cannot pray lead us not into temptation, if I deliberately choose to remain in a situation where I am likely to be tempted.

I cannot pray deliver us from evil, if I am not prepared to fight evil with my life and my prayer.

I cannot pray thine is the kingdom, if I am unwilling to obey the King.

I cannot pray thine is the power and the glory, if I am seeking power for myself and my own glory first.

I cannot pray forever and ever, if I am too anxious about each day's affairs.

I cannot pray Amen, unless I honestly say, 'Cost what it may, this is my prayer'.

The Gardener's Hymn

Submitted by
Angela Morris

*All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.
But what we never mention, though gardeners know it's true,
is when He made the goodies, He made the baddies too.
All things spray and swatable, disasters great and small,
all things paraquatable, the Lord God made them all.
The greenfly on the roses, the maggots in the peas,
Manure that fills our noses, He also gave us these.
The fungus on the goose-gogs, the club root on the greens,
The slugs that eat the lettuce and chew the aubergines.
The drought that kills the fuchsias, the frost that nips the buds,
The rain that drowns the seedlings, the blight that hits the
spuds.
The midges and mosquitoes, the nettles and the weeds,
The pigeons in the green stuff, the sparrows in the seeds.
The fly that gets the carrots, the wasp that eats the plum,
How black the gardener's outlook, though green may be his
thumb.
But still we gardeners labour, midst vegetables and flowers,
And pray what hits our neighbours, will somehow bypass ours.
All things bright and beautiful.....*

An Autumn View

Debra Carletti

*An intake of breathe, nostrils cool,
The aroma of decay fills the air.
Clouds brood upon the horizon,
Whilst down below, like vultures,
Seagulls plunder the chocolate soil
As the plough carves up the dusty harvest.
Summers' silent heat gives way to the branches' crinoline rustle
As the green leaved splendour cavorts its last,
Holding on defiantly until, in gold and russet shades
They sink gracefully to the floor in a final bow.
Damp mornings cover the golden heat
With a watery thinness, until, burning through,
Their shadows yawn and stretch across the grass.
Daylight sleeps in a little longer,
Lazy at the prospect of another dawn!
Bushes in agitation whisper
As they sense the coming of change,
The secret spreads throughout the landscape
As Autumn arrives once again.*

In my last column, I suggested I would provide an insight into what your local council may have in mind for the next 3½ years. This was done working on the assumption that the council would follow the principles of democracy and bring decision making down

to the lowest effective level. It appears to me that this has gone out of the window.

When the Independents were elected in 1995, they were accused of not knowing what they were doing (true) and doing their best to inform the public on what they were doing (also true). They were frustrated by the rules governing the running of parish councils (yes, the town council is one). I believe however that most residents accept that if nothing else, they did know what the town council got up to, whether they supported it or not.

the more members there were on a

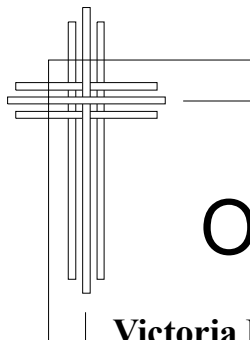
CUTTING ECHOES

Norman Cutting has become suspicious about the impact of council 'working parties' on our democracy.

One of the first things the newly elected council did was to pick up on the previous council's idea of shortening the committee cycle, reducing the number of committees and generally speeding things up. They promptly increased the number of members in

the reduced number of committees and introduced the working party principle into almost every area of decision making. Now the finance and policy committee chairman appears to have decreed that committees can take final and binding decisions.

Let's have a look at each of these changes. The council membership increased from 13 to 15 under local government reorganisation. The numbers on the standing committees increased from 6 to 10. The reasoning, I believe, was that the more members there were on a committee, the more chance there was that



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it would provide a decision that the council was likely to agree with. This logic makes sense until you then start adding little working parties which present recommendations to committee for a final decision.

These working parties are not public, nor are the agendas and minutes public. So, it appears that a committee can set up a working party to bring forward a recommendation to a committee that can then bind the council to any legal course of action. Previously, all standing committees would discuss almost everything in public and make a recommendation to the full council. Now it appears a recommendation can go to a standing committee, without anything being made public. That committee (which need only comprise of 5 out of 15 council members) can bind the council to a course of action. I have looked through my February 1999 copy of the council's standing orders and it appears that sub-committees can be appointed (which are public). But I cannot find any reference to working parties (which appear not to be public). So much for democracy!

The new council committees are environment, planning, finance and policy (with an accounts and grants sub-committee). There is also an urgency sub-committee. The transport and highways committee is now a 'working party', covering police liaison and road safety. The Liberal-Democrats' own pet committee, community action (inaction?), was dropped.

Having spoken to the town clerk, it appears that council and standing

committees will have their meeting dates, agendas and minutes made public. Sub-committees will be open to the public, but not advertised (the comment made was that if you happen to be in the council office when one is in progress, you may attend!). Working parties will not normally have agendas, meeting dates or reports/minutes made public.

The town clerk also pointed out to me that working parties are set up generally to address a single subject and are 'temporary' in nature. This implies that the parish paths partnership, transport and highways, accounts and grants, town promotion and allotment management working parties (to name just the ones mentioned in the August cycle) address a single subject and are 'temporary'!

It's all fun and games over at the borough council. As you must be aware, the Conservatives are hanging onto power often by the casting (second) vote of the committee chairman or the mayor. All the parties are playing the musical chairs game by ensuring that membership of each committee is changed regularly to take into account holidays and other 'foreseen' eventualities.

In case you were not aware, town and borough councillor Peter Ginger is poorly as I write. Having spoken to him at the end of August, I trust he will be continuing his council activities by the time you read this. I'm sure I can repeat the message 'get well soon - we all miss you' from all residents of the town and all who know him. ❖



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Long Walk to Freedom

Nelson Mandela

Review by Muriel Lander

This is a really *really* good read. At 751 pages it is also a long read, but from the word 'go' I was utterly enthralled and returned to it every moment that I could spare.

For a man to have spent something like 27 years in imprisonment and then to return to freedom showing no bitterness is remarkable in itself. The years in prison were not wasted as Mandela continued to write, study, discuss and work towards freedom for his people. And alongside all this, he was forced to break up stones and so on. And of course he was just one of many imprisoned for fighting against apartheid.

We also have to remember that many white people fought hard alongside the black South Africans to abolish this dreadful and cruel regime. Many were well known to us - Helen Suzman, Father Trevor Huddleston, Jo Slovo and his wife Ruth First, she being murdered. I can remember some white women who wore black sashes and stood in silent protest.

In 1945 I was living in Ripon with my husband and small daughter, Alison, and had made friends with a woman whose young son was Alison's age. Her husband had been at Dunkirk and mercifully returned home. After the war they went out to Africa for two or three years,

returning home when the little boy was about three. My friend was talking about her time abroad and went on to say, "You ought to have seen young Jeremy! He would clap his little hands together and call 'Boy' and our servant would obey". Of course the 'boy' was a grown man. I was truly appalled. We had just finished fighting Hitler and all he stood for - the murder of Jews, gypsies, mentally ill people, homosexuals; and here my very nice English friend had been treating the black South Africans as an inferior race.

In 1951 we moved to the Leicester diocese, and my husband acted in a part-time capacity as chaplain to the university there. One day we had a young black couple of students in for coffee, and the first words the young man said to my husband were, "What do you think of apartheid?"

Africa still has a very long way to go, and things may well get worse before they get better because apartheid lasted for such a long time. But with goodwill on both sides and patience, surely right will prevail in the end.

I have only touched on the contents of this book and can only repeat that I can thoroughly recommend it.



CHEESE!



With more space in the *Review*, we're doubly keen to include your photographs and illustrations. Do you have an interesting picture of our town, either present day or from years gone by? Or if you're taking part in an event or performance then do let us have a photograph. All materials will be treated with care and returned to you. So get snapping!



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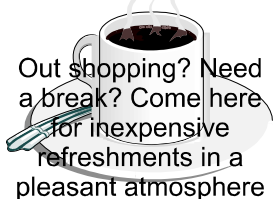
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Sixty Years of Change

Elizabeth Jackson writes:

Having owned a cottage in Norfolk for 11 years, David and I are well acquainted with the county and on our frequent walks often call in to look at some of the village churches. On the whole, these are extremely large and, as most of you know, in times past would have served the large farming communities which then existed. Nowadays there are just a handful of worshippers. Our local church of Tunstead (number of worshippers on a Sunday is approximately 15, and the church will seat around 100) has a flower festival each year and we always try to support it if we can. This year was no exception, and on the exhibit depicting the world wars was the following article which we would like to share with you.

WE ARE SURVIVORS

(For those born before 1940)

We were born before television, before penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, plastic, contact lenses, videos, and the pill. We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams, and ball point pens; before dishwashers, tumble dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip dry clothes - and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together (how quaint can you be?). We thought fast food was what you ate in Lent, a 'Big Mac' was an oversized raincoat, and 'crumpet' we had for tea. We existed before house husbands, computer dating, dual careers, and when a 'meaningful relationship' meant getting along with cousins and 'sheltered housing' was where you waited for a bus.

We were before day care centres, group homes and disposable nappies. We never heard of FM radio, tape decks, electric typewriters, artificial hearts, word processors, yoghurt and young men wearing earrings. For us, time sharing meant togetherness and a 'chip' was a piece of wood or a fried potato, 'hardware' meant nuts and bolts, and 'software' wasn't a word.

Before 1940, 'Made in Japan' meant junk, the term 'making out' referred to how you did in your exams, a 'stud' was something that fastened a collar to a shirt, and 'going all the way' meant staying on the double decker bus all the way to the depot. Pizzas, McDonalds and instant coffee were unheard of. In our day, cigarette smoking was 'fashionable', 'grass' was mown, 'coke' was kept in the coal house, a 'joint' was a piece of meat you had on Sundays, and 'pot' was something you cooked in. 'Rock music' was a grandmother's lullaby, 'Eldorado' was an ice cream, a 'gay person' was the life and soul of the party and nothing more, while 'aids' just meant beauty treatment or help for someone in trouble.

We who were born before 1940 must be a hardy bunch when you think of the way in which the world has changed and the adjustments we have had to make. No wonder we are so confused and there is a generation gap today - but, by the grace of God, *we have survived! Alleluia!*

*22 North Road
Berkhamsted HP4 3DX*

It would be interesting to hear the views of those born after, say, 1975, on 'We shall survive'. - Editor



review northchurch

**Revd Peter Hart
urges us to take on
the debate over
food production at
this harvest time.**

October brings harvest festivals and a general feeling of enjoyment of the countryside as it changes from green to brown to bare in the progressing autumn.

Deep-seated memories of a rural existence surface as we picture small children staggering up the aisle with an oversized marrow, and rectory apples adorn the church window ledges once again. Yet our lifestyle is increasingly urban, our children know about farms from school trips, not from every day experience and, apart from zealous allotment owners and small plot cultivators in large gardens, we now live further from the sources of our food than ever before.

The Church, as it celebrates God's wonderful provision for us in food, flowers and companionship, would do well to reflect on the current state of our side of God's provision. God has put us in fertile lands, well-watered and drained. God has provided seeds and a great variety of produce which is fit to eat and sustains us. God has given us physical strength to work the land, harvest the crops and turn them into food. God has also given us inquiring minds and searching thought processes which enable us to increase God's basic provision.

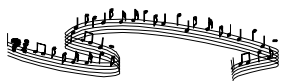
Now we stand at a crucial cross-roads of scientific development in agri-business and food provision, where genetically modified foods vie with organic produce for our favour, where cheap meat is produced by large-scale antibiotic administration to livestock, where size and shape and presentation value count for more than flavour and authenticity. The Church cannot blithely celebrate harvest festival any more. The harvest is no longer neutral.

God also gave us a moral sensitivity, a conscience that looks beyond short-term benefits and weighs up the impact of current decisions on future developments. Part of our role as members of God's creation is to safeguard the entirety of that creation, not just the parts which are useful to ourselves.

As we enjoy this year's harvest festivals, suppers, gift-giving and produce distribution, let us also as a Church seriously enter into the debate which rages around us and fearlessly seek out God's perspective on the current questions facing the task of feeding the world. May we also fearlessly make known God's standards of honesty and reciprocity in the midst of a debate governed all too frequently by vested interests and powerful financial alliances, for, as the Psalmist says, 'to God belong the cattle on the hills, and the trees of the field sing his praises.'



ORGAN RECITAL



On Sunday 11th October Adrian Davis, Director of Music at St Peter's, Berkhamsted, will give an organ recital at St Mary's Northchurch. The concert starts at 3:30pm and will last 45 minutes. It will be followed by refreshments in the parish room.

Free admission, but a collection will be taken in aid of the New School of Organ Studies.

TUESDAY CLUB

This year we will have two meetings in October. On Tuesday, 5th October, Mr David Simmons will give an illustrated talk on the River Avon and its fascinating wildlife and history.

Tuesday, 26th October will be a hands-on meeting when Mrs Vi Wrigglesworth will lead a craft workshop at which we plan to make a variety of items for our stall at the Christian Aid fair on 7th December. Bring along a needle and cotton and some sweet-smelling dried herbs if possible.

Tuesday, 2nd November is All Souls' Day and members will be attending the service at St Peter's at 8:00pm.

Our December meeting will be our Christmas party on the 7th.

We meet in the Court House at 8:15pm on the first Tuesday of each month. New members are always welcome. Please contact Angela Morris on 866992 or Margaret Barnard on 862794 for further information or just come along on the night. You will be very welcome. Copies of our new programme are available in St Peter's, All Saints' and on the noticeboard in the Court House.

ORGAN RECITAL AT ASHRIDGE CHAPEL

On Saturday 30th October at 2.30pm Hilary Norris will be giving an organ recital at Ashridge Chapel. The unique 1818 Thomas Elliot organ in Ashridge Chapel is one of the very few English organs of this period surviving essentially intact. It contains pipework of particular sweetness and beauty and is especially suited to the authentic performance of 18th century English, French, and Italian music.

Come and see and hear this historic instrument in the exquisite fan-vaulted surroundings of the Chapel at Ashridge, and visit the organ loft after the recital.

Tickets £5 (children £1). Wine or fruit juice will be available during the interval.

CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARDS

Charity cards will be on sale at the Court House at the following times (please note these times are different from last year):

Friday, 29th October 10:00-4:00pm

Saturday, 30th October 10:00-4:00pm

Friday, 12th November 2:00-6:00pm

Saturday 13th November 10:00-4:00pm

Friday, 26th November 2:00-6:00pm

Saturday 27th November 10:00-4:00pm

ADVENT WORKSHOPS AT THE SACRED HEART CHURCH

These will take place at 8:00pm on Wednesday evenings 10th, 17th and 24th November at the Church Hall in Park Street, Berkhamsted.

The subject this year is The Coming of Christ, and the weekly themes will be Christ was born for us, Christ is with us and Christ – our future.

Each event of the series will comprise a short talk on the chosen theme, then workshops giving practical applications to the theme, an exchange of ideas and reactions and finally a closing prayer. A warm welcome is extended to all.

Further information may be obtained from Sylvia Ross (863872) or Margaret Steed (875544).

ELLA'S RIDGEWAY DAY REMEMBERED

Many of you who so generously donated or who took part in the energetic fund raising day on 13th June may have been wondering what the day's events finally raised.

It is very pleasing to report that the sum of £5779.31 has been given to the Ella Beaumont Support Fund. Thanks to all who gave or took part in this happy event. The sight of little Ella in her new electric wheelchair is a good reminder that all the effort was worth it.

Peter McMunn



The programme of events sponsored by the trust in October, in addition to the Graham Green festival, is as follows:

On *Monday and Tuesday 4th and 5th October* Berkhamsted Film Society present *Iran 1997: A taste of cherry*, a winner of the *Palm d'Or* at the Cannes film festival, in the civic centre at 8:00pm. Tickets to non-members £5 at the door.

On *Saturday 9th October* Berkhamsted Jazz present the *Campbell Burnap All Stars* at the civic centre at 8:00pm. Tickets £5 at the door (£2.50 students / children).

On *Saturday 9th October* Berkhamsted Music Society present the Bridgewater Band (conductor Adrian Davis, piano soloist Viv McLean) in the Centenary Hall, Collegiate School at 8:00pm. Tickets £7 at the door (£3.50 for under 21s).

On *Monday and Tuesday 11th and 12th October* Berkhamsted Film Society screen *The Spanish Prisoner* (USA 1998) at 8:00pm in the civic centre. Tickets as above.

On *Wednesday 13th October* Berkhamsted Local History Society give a talk on *The medieval well at Chenies Manor* by Ray Potter in the civic centre at 8:00pm. Non-members pay £1 at the door.

On *Wednesday 20th October* Berkhamsted Citizens Association and the local history society combine to present Scott Hastie and David Spain talking about their book *Berkhamsted: An illustrated history* in the town hall at 8:00pm. Admission for non-members is £1 at the door.

On *Thursday to Saturday 21st-23rd October and 29th-30th October* BAODS theatre company stage the *Sound of Music* (Rodgers and Hammerstein) in the civic centre at 8:00pm. Box office (394363) or Berkhamsted

Soft Furnishings at 110 High Street have tickets at £7 (£5 for concessionaires).

On *Thursday 29th October* the Berkhamsted Archaeological Society have a talk by Dr David Bailey (British Museum) on *Quarrying in Roman Egypt* in the Newcroft Wing, Collegiate School at 8:00pm. Non-members pay £1.50 at the door.

AN EXHIBITION OF WILDLIFE PAINTINGS BY MARK CHESTER

Wildlife artist Mark Chester will be holding his eighth one man exhibition of paintings on Sunday, 28th November at the Watermill Hotel, Bourne End between 2:00pm and 5:00pm.

The exhibition will feature original paintings with subjects ranging from big cats to gamebirds, owls to garden birds. There will also be pen and ink drawings, limited and open edition prints and cards.

Some of the work shown will be drawn from Mark's latest trip to the National Tiger Reserve of Ranthambhore in central India, where he was able to see at first hand tigers, leopards, sloth bears, fishing owls and many other species.

This year's exhibition is supporting the local wildlife trusts, helping to improve wildlife habitats in the area.

An example of Mark's work is shown below.



MAHLER SYMPHONY NO. 8

Around 800 singers from choirs throughout Hertfordshire and beyond join with the massive symphony orchestra and eight soloists required by Mahler for his masterpiece expressing contrasting views of the power of love. In the first part of the symphony, Mahler sets the hymn, *Veni, creator spiritus*, which expresses the Christian belief in the power of the Holy Spirit; in the second, he uses the symbolic vision of mankind's redemption through love in his setting of the final scene of Goethe's *Faust*. The concert begins with the opportunity to hear the wonderful Royal Albert Hall organ as solo instrument in the greater part of Widor's *Symphony No. 5*, concluding with the ever-popular *Toccata*.

The combined choirs of Hertfordshire, the Herts Music Service young singers and the Westminster Philharmonic Orchestra combine their forces under conductor Derek Harrison on Friday, 15th October at 7:30pm in the Royal Albert Hall. Tickets are £25, £22, £18, £12 or £8. Many Berkhamsted singers are taking part.

The concert is being given in aid of the British Council for the Prevention of Blindness (SEE: Save Eyes Everywhere) which is a registered charity (270941).

BERKHAMSTED W.I.



Our president, Mrs G Blumson, opened the August meeting with a presentation of birthday posies to members whose birthdays fall this month - this was the first of a new monthly 'event' and was warmly received by members. Mrs Blumson then congratulated members on a recent fund-raising event - a garden barbecue lunch - where in glorious sunshine a magnificent £145 was raised in two hours!

Mr B W Yetts, our speaker for the month, (who confessed to planning all his holidays

around visit to gardens), took us through *Some Botanical Gardens of North America*. His talk was stunningly illustrated with most brilliantly colourful slides. Mr Yetts talked mostly of his two favourites - Butchart Gardens in British Columbia and Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania. Members who had also visited these gardens were in complete agreement with Mr Yetts that the gardens were at all times models of sheer perfection, show pieces where one wilting flower head or curled leaf had never been seen! It was a joy to be taken on such a colourfully exotic journey, despite the torrential rain outside and the knowledge that we were all had to return to soggy grass and rain battered flora at the end of the evening!

Our September meeting was held on Wednesday, 15th September when Mrs Margaret Rogers spoke to us about *Home and Country - our very own magazine*.

Visitors and new members will, as ever, be warmly welcomed to all our regular meetings..

BERKHAMSTED CASTLE W.I.

On such a hot sunny afternoon it was a pleasure to hold our September meeting in the coolness of the Court House. During business matters our president Liz Baxendale reported on a letter of thanks received from those who had distributed the craft items exhibited at the Herts County Show. They had now been given out to schoolchildren and child hospital patients in Sri Lanka. We look forward to seeing the promised photos of these children with their gifts.

Our speaker this month was Mrs Beryl Hulbert. She gave us an excellent talk with illustrated slides of a trip *Through the Rockies to Vancouver*. She showed us pictures of wonderful scenery and close ups of the wild animals in their natural habitat. An appreciation was given by Janet Mitchell.

Next month we look forward to meeting Mrs Ann Hunt speaking on *Laughter: the best medicine*, on 1st October at the Court House at 2:00pm. New members and visitors are very welcome. Why not join us and bring a friend?

THE GRAHAM GREENE FESTIVAL

The Graham Greene festival began on 30th September with a conducted tour of sites in Brighton associated with the film *Brighton Rock* and a screening of that film in Kodak House, Hemel Hempstead. The first three days of October see a full programme of events presented in Berkhamsted by the Graham Greene Birthplace Trust.

On Friday 1st October there are:

- Two talks at 9:30am and 11:30am in the Great Hall in the town hall. Catherine Rendon, In the footsteps of Graham Greene, recalls the author's investigation of religious persecution in Mexico. Nicholas Scheetz reveals the Secret Archives of Greenland, the treasures of the archive of Greene's papers in the library of Georgetown University, Washington D.C. Tickets cost £5 for both talks.
- The film *Brighton Rock* is screened at 3:30pm at Kodak House, Station Road, Hemel Hempstead. Tickets cost £5.
- Two talks at 7:30pm and 8:30pm in the Dean's Hall, Berkhamsted Collegiate School. Roy Boulting discusses his relations with Greene while making the film in *The Making of Brighton Rock*. Prof. Cedric Watts of Sussex University discussed the moral landscapes of the author's work in *Darkest Greenland: Brighton Rock*. Tickets cost £5 for both talks.

On Saturday 2nd October there are:

- A tour of parts of Berkhamsted Collegiate School associated with Graham Greene from the Old Hall at the school at 9:30am. Limited tickets cost £1 each.
- Talks and discussion between Fr Leopold Duran and Roger Bolton on travels in Spain and Portugal which inspired Monsignor Quixote at the Dean's Hall in the school at 11:00am. Tickets cost £5.
- A discussion Not a catholic novelist but a novelist who happened to be a catholic between Jill Paton Walsh, Dr Thomas Woodman, Rosalie Ormond and Jane



O'Grady, at the Dean's Hall at 2:30pm. Tickets cost £5.

- A talk and a discussion in the Dean's Hall at 7:45pm. Michael Meyer gives Personal memories of a 40 year friendship and John Barry, Giles Havergal, Rupert Goold and Bryan Forbes discuss Greene adapted for the stage. Tickets cost £8.

On Sunday 3rd October there are:

- Three BBC Arena documentaries on the author's life entitled Graham Greene: a video biography and some rare audio recordings, the Voice of Graham Greene donated by his daughter Caroline. This event is run twice: from 10:00am to 1:00pm and from 2:30pm to 4:30pm in the Dean's Hall. Tickets cost £4.

Tickets for all events are available from the Festival Secretary, GGBT, Trust Office, Berkhamsted Town Hall. Early booking is advised though some tickets may be available at the door. ❖

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| SUNDAY | <i>St Peter's:</i> | 8:00am | Eucharist | | | |
| | | 9:30am | Sung Eucharist, crèche, Sunday School & Pathfinders followed by coffee in the Court House | | | |
| | | 11:00am | Celebrate Together (2nd Sunday only) - A service for all ages | | | |
| | | 6:00pm | Evensong [except 1st Sunday] | | | |
| | <i>All Saints'</i> | 8:00am | Eucharist [except 1st Sunday] | | | |
| | | 9:15am | Sung Eucharist, crèche, Sunday School & Pathfinders followed by coffee in the hall (<i>This service will be replaced by a family Eucharist or, All Saints' being shared with the Methodists, a 10:00am United Service as announced</i>) | | | |
| | | 6:30pm | Evensong [1st Sunday only] Other Sundays Methodist service | | | |
| | | 7:30-9:30pm | Youth Fellowship (<i>contact Christine Billington 385566</i>) | | | |
| | MONDAY | <i>St Peter's</i> | 7:30am | Morning Prayer (MP) | 5:30pm | Evening Prayer (EP) |
| | TUESDAY | <i>St Peter's</i> | 7:30am | MP | | |
| | | <i>All Saints'</i> | 9:30am | Eucharist | | |
| WEDNESDAY | <i>St Peter's</i> | 6:45am | Eucharist | 7:30am | MP | 5:30pm EP |
| THURSDAY | <i>St Peter's</i> | 7:30am | MP | 11:00am | Eucharist | 5:30pm EP |
| FRIDAY | <i>St Peter's</i> | 7:30am | MP | 9:15am | Eucharist | |
| SATURDAY | <i>St Peter's</i> | 7:30am | MP | | 5:00pm | EP |
| 1st Sunday | SUNDAYS TOGETHER LUNCH: 12:30pm in the Court House <i>For anyone on their own on a Sunday. Contact: Joan Morris 863780</i> | | | | | |
| Mondays | GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT GROUP 8:00-9:00pm in the Court House as announced. | | | | | |
| 3rd Sunday | OPEN HOUSE: 11:30am - 5:00pm with the Macdonalds (384953) 9 Hall Park <i>Stay for five minutes or five hours; unlimited coffee; lunch; tell a friend, bring a friend.</i> | | | | | |
| Mondays (except 1st) | BIBLE STUDY/HOUSE GROUP: 8:00pm at the Macdonalds (384953) 9 Hall Park | | | | | |
| 1st Tuesday | TUESDAY CLUB 8:15pm in the Court House <i>A lively women's group with guest speaker</i> Contact chairman Angela Morris 866992 or secretary Margaret Barnard 862794. | | | | | |
| Tuesdays | CHUCKLES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 10:00-11:30am All Saints' Church Hall. Song Time 1st & 3rd Tuesdays; Short service 2nd & 4th Tuesdays. Special activity weekly. Gillian Malcolm 874993 or Jenny Wells 870981. | | | | | |
| Tuesday | MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER GROUP: 2:15pm third Tuesday at 3 Nightingale Lodge. <i>Non-members always welcome.</i> Contact: Jenny Wells 870981 | | | | | |
| 2nd Tues | MOTHERS' UNION: meets in members' houses at 8:00pm. <i>Non-members always welcome.</i> Contact: Jenny Wells 870981 | | | | | |
| Wednesdays | MEDITATION GROUP: meets about twice a month as arranged at Jenny's 57 Meadow Road and at Ruth's 1 Montague Road. <i>Everyone is very welcome to join us for about half an hour of quiet prayer.</i> Contact: Jenny Wells 870981 or Ruth Treves Brown 863268 | | | | | |
| Wednesday | PATHFINDERS GAMES CLUB 7:00-8:30pm in All Saints' Hall. Contact Chris Billington 385566. | | | | | |
| 4th Wed | WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: meets 2:30-4:00pm in the Court House. The meetings are usually addressed by a guest speaker and the group attracts senior members for whom lifts can be arranged. <i>New members and visitors always welcome.</i> Contact: Vera Pullen 862196 | | | | | |
| Thursday Tuesday / Friday | BELLRINGING: 8:00pm at St Peter's. Priscilla Watt (Captain of the Tower) 863804 TUESDAY / FRIDAY STUDY GROUPS: Tues 1-3pm / Fri 9:30-11:30am. Two separate weekly meetings for informal Bible study and support. <i>Young children welcome.</i> Contact: Kate Semmens 866531 for Tuesday or Gillian Malcolm 874993 for Friday | | | | | |
| Friday | LITTLE FISHES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 9:30-11:30am in the Court House. Weekly meetings with a short service on 1st Fridays in St Peter's. Katy Bonney: 864194 | | | | | |
| Friday | CHOIR: Boys 7:00-8:30pm (& Tuesday 5:15-6:30pm), Adults 7:30-8:30pm. Contact: Adrian Davis 864722 or Jean Wild 866859 | | | | | |
| 3rd Saturday | ABC PRAYER BREAKFAST: 8:00am for breakfast followed by prayers. Meetings rotate between local churches. | | | | | |

reviewdiary®isters

There is Eucharist every Tuesday (9:30am) at All Saint's and every Wednesday (6:45am), Thursday (11:00am) and Friday (9:15am) at St Peter's. At St Peter's there is 7:30am Morning Prayer every weekday and 5:30pm Evening Prayer on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; there is 7:30am Morning Prayer and 5:00pm Evening Prayer on Saturdays. A priest is available for confessions by appointment (phone 864194).

October / November 1999

OCTOBER

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|-----|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 7:30 for 8 | All Saints' Joint Harvest Supper | |
| 1-3 | | Parish Retreat at Hemingford Grey | |
| 3 | 9:15am | Family Eucharist Harvest Festival | <i>All Saints'</i> |
| 3 | 3:00pm | Annual Hospice Thanksgiving. | <i>All Saints'</i> |
| | | Preacher: The Revd Liz Hughes, Hospice Chaplain | |
| 5 | <u>7:45pm</u> | PCC (including a presentation by the Revd Andrew Pattman, Diocesan Advisor for Children's Work | <i>All Saints'</i> |
| 16 | 8:00am | ABC Prayer Breakfast | <i>St Peter's</i> |
| 31 | 10:00am | Joint Patronal Festival Eucharist | <i>All Saints'</i> |
| | | Preacher: The Venerable John Burgess | |
| 31 | 6:30pm | Joint Songs of Praise | <i>All Saints'</i> |

NOVEMBER

| | | | |
|----|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2 | 8:00pm | All Souls Eucharist – John Rutter <i>Requiem</i> | <i>St Peter's</i> |
| 3 | 8:00pm | St Peter's Area Committee | <i>Court House</i> |
| 11 | 8:00pm | All Saints' Area Committee | |
| 13 | 4:00pm | Evensong at St Albans when <i>Yews for the Millennium</i> will be distributed to the parishes. | <i>St Albans Abbey</i> |
| 20 | 8:00am | ABC Prayer Breakfast | <i>St Andrews URC</i> |
| 24 | 8:00pm | <i>Christmas is for Adults Too</i> : Fr Mark gives the first of three talks. | <i>St Peter's</i> |
| 28 | 6:00pm | Advent Carol Service | <i>St Peter's</i> |
| | 6:30pm | Advent Carol Service | <i>All Saints'</i> |

Registers

Baptisms (*St Peter's*)

| | |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------|
| 8 August | James Benjamin Underwood, Sam Bayard Underwood |
| 22 August | Thomas Henry Jerome |

Weddings (*St Peter's*)

| | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 21 August | Dominic Parry Allder and Sarah Denise Purr |
| | Simon Charles Cox and Lynn Margaret Dell |
| 28 August | Finlay James Robb and Gillian Rosemary Oakley |

Funerals

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 11 August | Shirley Yewnio Lavender | St Peter's (committal at Kingshill Cemetery) |
| 24 August | Bryan Rae Chennells | Chilterns Crematorium |

Young people

Churches

PCC 1999/2000

Contacts

ASSOCIATION OF BERKHAMSTED CHURCHES

Telephone numbers to ring for times of services, etc. (*italics indicate changes*)

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Northchurch Baptist | Rev Peter Swaffield | Berk. 866685 |
| | Mrs H Blundell | Berk. 875021 |
| 2. St Mary's Northchurch | Rev Peter Hart | Berk. 865312 |
| | Mrs D Knapp | HH 257897 |
| 3. All Saints' Anglican | Rev Robin Figg | Berk. 866161 |
| | Mr John Malcolm | Berk. 874993 |
| 4. Methodist All Saints' | Rev Martin Turner | Berk. 866324 |
| | Mrs Ida Rance | Berk. 865829 |
| 5. Sacred Heart (RC) | Fr Peter Grant | Berk. 863845 |
| | Mr Frank Furlong | Berk. 862768 |
| 6. Society of Friends (Quakers) | Mr Robert Ward | Berk. 864404 |
| 7. Kings Road Evangelical | Pastor Billy Milton | Berk. 864393 |
| | Dr Richard Walker | Berk. 875614 |
| 8. St Andrew's (URC) | Rev Jane Wade | H.H. 212320 |
| | Mrs Margaret Chrichton | Berk. 875401 |
| 9. St Peter's | Rev M Bonney | Berk. 864194 |
| | Mrs Jean Green | Berk. 878227 |
| 10. Berkhamsted Baptist | Rev James Neve | Berk. 873283 |
| | Mrs J Ivin | Berk. 865309 |
| 11. St Michael & All Angels | Rev David Abbott | Berk. 865100 |
| Sunnyside | Mrs Pam Davis | Berk. 863609 |
| 12. St John the Evangelist | Rev David Abbott | Berk. 865100 |
| Bourne End | Rev Dick Clarkson | Berk. 873014 |
| 13. Salvation Army | Keith White | Berk. 876024 |



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Berkhamsted (01442) 877060
Principal J.R.Adkins BSc (Hons) PGCE

The Revd Mark Bonney, The Rectory, Rectory Lane. Tel: 864194 (day off Friday pm / Sat am)
 The Revd Robin Figg, All Saints' House, Shrublands Road. Tel: 866161 (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), 16 Broadwater. 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 & Area Youth Worker, Christina Billington, 13 Ashridge Rise. Tel: 385566
 Parish Secretary: Mrs Jean Green, The Parish Office, The Court House Tel: 878227
 Churchwardens: Mrs Barbara Conway, 7 Kilfillan Gardens. Tel: 865798;
 Peter McMunn, 37, North Road. Tel: 874894
Parochial Church Council: Secretary: Richard Foster, Vandykes, 29 Ashlyns Road. Tel: 863359
 Treasurer: Michael Robinson, 36 Trevelyan Way. Tel: 863559

Director of Music: Adrian Davis 864722 Asst. Director of Music: Mrs Jean Wild. 866859
 Organist: Terry Charlston Tel: 01582 462024
Sundays
 8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sun BCP) Holy Communion
 9.30am Family Sung Eucharist with crèche, Wednesday 6.45am
 Sunday Schools & Pathfinders Thursday 11.00am
 (in the Court House) followed Friday 9.15am
 by coffee in the Court House. Morning Prayer: Mon-Sat 7:30am
 11:00am Celebrate Together (2nd Sun) Evening Prayer: M,W,Th 5:30pm
 6.00pm Evensong & Sermon Sat 5:00pm
 (except 1st Sunday see All Saints') Holy Days - see weekly Notices
Weddings, Banns of Marriage, Baptisms, Funerals: Contact Father Mark Bonney.
Bellringers (St Peter's): Miss Priscilla Watt, 11 Cavalier Court, Chesham Road. Tel: 863804

Choirmaster: Peter McMunn Tel: 874894
Sundays
 8.00am Holy Communion (1st Sunday - Methodist rite)
 9.15am Sung Eucharist with Sunday schools & Pathfinders, 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 an Anglican / Methodist Local Ecumenical Partnership)
Methodist minister: The Revd Martin Turner, 32 Finch Road Tel: 866324



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