

Berkhamsted *review*

In this issue

July 2001

A vacancy at
All Saints'

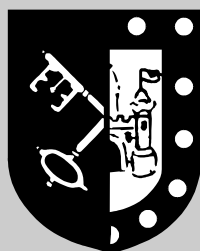
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for Town and Parish

25p



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

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

The waves of election fever have by now subsided; you're probably now asking yourself, 'Well, now what?'. The trouble with elections is that they have a habit of creating expectations which, inevitably, can't be met by the politicians who then find themselves in power. Of course, those are the same politicians who happily promised to simultaneously cut taxes, spend more and improve everyone's lot, so they've really only themselves to blame! But maybe part of the problem is to do with politicians not really listening to what you and I are asking for. Though the democratic process gives everyone a say in how the country is run, individual voices tend to go unnoticed.

But at a more parochial level there are vital ways in which you can have your say and have a real effect - and you don't have to wait for an election. For example, the parochial church council (the PCC) is there so you can voice your opinions and really influence decisions which affect our parish life. But PCC members aren't telepathic - they need your input. And don't forget the *Review* itself - your magazine offers a great forum for debate. It just needs you to take part!

Chris Smalley

In this month's issue...

A vacancy at All Saints'

Fr Mark Bonney looks at the process for appointing a new priest-in-charge.

What do we want?

A recent survey of what townspeople say they want attracts **John Cook's** attention.

Diary of a Pilgrim

Gerry Morrish reports on his pedestrian pilgrimage to Walsingham.

The Underground at war

Stephen Halliday continues his story of the wartime role of London's Tube.

Not really a fortress!

Brian Hunt explains the original thinking behind our police station 'fortress'.

What kind of job are we doing?

Rev. Dick Clarkson suggests we should take stock of our Christian witness.

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

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Next copy dates (all Fridays): 6 July 3 August 7 September



Fr Mark Bonney
*explains the
search for a
new priest for
All Saints'.*

review leader

The news that Fr Robin is moving in August to be the Vicar of Kildwick will by now be old news and we will be sorry to see him go. Nevertheless

we are very pleased for him and the family. The new parish looks to be just the right kind of thing for him, and we wish him every blessing for the future.

A question on many lips, and voiced several times to me has been 'How long will it be before we get someone else?' Sometimes the simple statement is made, 'so there'll be someone else soon then.' The first question is difficult to answer; the second statement is in danger of being presumptuous. I thought it would be helpful to outline the process involved in making an appointment as priest-in-charge of All Saints' and to highlight some problems around.

As Rector the responsibility for making this appointment is solely mine. However I won't be doing this without consultation, and have already discussed person specifications and aspects of a future job description with the PCC and members of All Saints' area committee. In the near future I will draw up a full job description and then advertise through the national church press and the clergy appointments adviser. The diocese knows about the vacancy and will have discussed it at the bishop's staff meeting. The advertisements probably won't go in the *Church Times* until at least the middle of September. This is because the most likely field of candidates are those who are coming to the end of a first curacy and will be looking to move between Christmas and May 2002. If I advertise immediately these people will not be in a position to move yet (I think

I'm right in saying that every priest-in-charge of All Saints' has been someone serving a second curacy).

There are some facts that we all need to be aware of which may or may not make things more difficult. Firstly there are fewer clergy wanting to serve second curacies. This is because the average age of those being ordained into stipendiary ministry is higher than it was (people in their mid to late thirties, rather than in their twenties), and having served four years in a curacy they look for an incumbency rather than a second curacy post. Secondly there are more posts around than there are clergy to fill them. For the first time ever the St Albans diocese has 10 per cent of its stipendiary posts vacant. This is a cause for concern, but the fact is that there are more clergy retiring than are being ordained (even though the numbers of the latter are rising slightly), so the nett result is a loss in total clergy numbers. It is likely for the foreseeable future that this trend will continue; this is something that raises questions about how the stipendiary clergy will need to work and what the expectations are of them. It will certainly mean that a good deal of what has traditionally been seen as things that the clergy should do will have to be shared by lay people.

So what can we do? Pray, first of all, for guidance as we seek to make this appointment, and secondly keep the life and witness of All Saints' as strong as possible. Whether we like it or not we need to be an attractive proposition to someone looking for a post! ❖

Cover: The toy stall at the Petertide Fair heaves with goodies for the children. A full report and pictures from the Fair will be in next month's Review. Photo: Chris Smalley



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What we want and what we get

'This makes six places in Berkhamsted where you can get your nails done'. So I was told by a fellow nosey parker as we peered through the window into the large new hairdressers just after it opened in part of the old Waitrose building in the High Street.

Did we really need another hairdressers? Well, obviously the proprietors of *Altered Image - Hair and Beauty* must think so. It is certain that they would not have invested so much in fitting the place out so lavishly, not just for doing hair but for enhancing other extremities of our bodies, if they were not confident of a big demand.

The paradox is that if you had asked anyone what was most needed in the way of new shops here, another hairdressers would have been pretty low down the list. This is what Research and Marketing Ltd found when they conducted a survey in the Town in March. What people told them they most needed was more variety in the shops.

The summary of the consultants' report, which was commissioned by the borough council, can be picked up in the library. They concentrated their research on four specific 'focus' groups:

1. Non-working women under 54 years.

2. Commuters, male and female.
3. 'Empty nesters' – 45 - 65 years (from homes from which the children had left)
4. Single working – 18 - 24 years.

There is not room to give even a summary of the report here. Although it contains nothing startling it is well worth a browse through to see what our fellow citizens had to say, and it is only six pages long. After having read it, though, one is left with two rather depressing thoughts. Firstly, whatever we say we want, it is very largely in the hands of property developers and retailers what we actually get. The second disconcerting thing is to find that I am much too old now to be considered worthy of inclusion in any market research focus group.

Our Quality of Life

Another document just out that got me thinking was the one produced by the Hertfordshire Environment Forum called *Quality of Life Report 2000*. It is beautifully presented, full of statistics for Hertfordshire with coloured pie charts, mostly giving separate figures for each district council, including Dacorum. It tells for instance that 44 per cent of children walk to school, 39 per cent go by car, and only 1 per cent by bicycle. There are all sorts of data like that.

Unfortunately this well produced and well-meaning document is marred by trying to be politically correct. It talks about life expectancy in the county and the need to give attention to inequalities in this area. Life expectancy in Dacorum is shown as 76 for men and 81 for women. It does not say how it is intended to address this clearly unacceptable inequality between the sexes.

Magna or Great

If you have not yet visited the British Library in Euston Road I do recommend it - it is only five minutes from Euston Station. You just walk in, there is no charge and apart from the impressive building itself there are other things to see, with permanent and temporary exhibitions.

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In the bookshop there it is possible to buy quite a good copy, in full colour, of Saxton's map of Hertfordshire of 1577. It only costs £4.95, which seems to me to be a remarkable bargain. Studying the map, of course the first place to look for is your own home town - and there it is, between Hemsted and North Chyrche : Berkhamfted Magna.

This is one of the few instances I have come across of our town being given that name. Great Berkhamsted, or variations of it, was common, so as to avoid confusion with Little Berkhamsted, the pretty village near Hertford. Sometimes Berkhamsted St Peter was used, to distinguish us from Berkhamsted St Mary, the parish based on what we now call Northchurch parish church, which is older than St Peter's by a couple of hundred years.

When St Peter's was built and a new parish created, St Mary's parish was literally cut in two, leaving a thinly populated part to the east completely detached. You can just imagine the outcry if anyone tried such a move today.

When the civil parishes were reorganised in the last century, Northchurch lost what used to be the detached part to the east, which then became part of just plain Berkhamsted. But in ecclesiastical terms the old names still stuck, although the detached eastern part of the old parish of Northchurch came to be a separate parish – what we now call Sunnyside.

Face to Face

I thought it was a very nice idea when some years ago now the National Westminster Bank brought one of their desks out from behind the armoured glass into the public area. The person who sits at it does not have any money to hand out, but for other transactions you can deal with someone face to face in a civilised manner. This goes against the general trend these days of putting up barriers between the public and those who serve them, particularly by the large institutions.



Are the days of face-to-face contact numbered?

The example of our police station I mentioned a little while ago. There when members of the public approach the inquiry desk they are not allowed to see anyone at first, although they themselves are under close circuit television observation by someone in the back room. Then the town council, not long after it moved to more spacious accommodation in the Civic Centre a year or two ago, locked its door against the public, and now you have to do your business with them through a hole in the wall.

At the railway station you can understand the need for the ticket clerks to be well protected, but upstairs on platform 4 the notice which said *Customer Information* on one of the doors, put up soon after Silverlink took over, has now been removed. Is this a deliberate ploy to discourage people from seeking information from the staff there?

Then more and more we are urged to do business on the net: shopping, banking, even buying a house, and for getting information of every sort. The effect of all this will obviously be to reduce day-to-day contacts between people. Are we moving towards the time when about the only reasons for visiting the High Street will be to eat out, get your hair dressed or your nails done? Will we really then have a better quality of life?



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When we started to plan our family holiday earlier this year we decided to visit our nephew who manages the fish farm at the Lechwe Lodge holiday resort and wild life conservation area on the Kafue river about an hour's drive from Lusaka in Central Africa. It didn't immediately occur to me that I should also take the opportunity to visit our Mothers' Union link diocese of Lusaka.

For those readers not entirely au fait with the organisation of the Mothers' Union, each diocese is linked in a group to a number of other dioceses throughout the world. Our Berkhamsted branch as part of the St Albans diocese is linked to five other dioceses – two in Australia, one in Nigeria, one in Southern Africa and the fifth, the diocese of Lusaka. M.U. members are united in prayer for the worldwide work of the organisation by the prayer diary, which specifies the consecutive days in the year on which prayers are said for the different groups of linked dioceses. Each branch in the linked dioceses is given a specific prayer time so that over the days allocated to that group there will be continuous prayers, the 'Wave of Prayer', for the linked dioceses. At the same time other branches will know who to name specifically in their prayers.

This year our five linked dioceses will be praying on 6th – 10th July and our branch 'Wave of Prayer' day is 7th July when I shall be on holiday in Lusaka. The significance of this gave me the idea of making contact with the M.U. workers there to try and arrange to visit them and learn more about their vital work with families and children. From my first tentative email putting this suggestion to them, matters have snowballed

THE MOTHERS' UNION

Kathie Lally describes the connection between Zambia, the Mothers' Union and the Wave of Prayer.



considerably, as is apparently the way with all things African. My approach was greeted with great enthusiasm. If I was not careful I would be spending the whole fortnight visiting M.U. branches, while the rest of my family enjoyed the delights of safaris, canoeing, and so on. My offer to carry out a few items to help the two provincial workers in their work was eagerly accepted. I have kindly been given some financial assistance by the deanery and the diocese to buy Mothers' Union badges (greatly prized by overseas members, yet in short supply) and, baggage allowance permitting, shall also be taking out Mothers' Union service books, prayer cards and other gifts, a couple of portable typewriters, knitted items made in the diocese and some Sunday school and bible teaching material.

I am currently trying to organise a couple of branch visits to fit in with our holiday schedule and especially looking forward to meeting some M.U. members and being able to learn about their lives and work. ❖

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The 33rd Children's Society annual walk was organised long in advance of its due date of 13th May. The route had been walked and the description written. Then came the foot and mouth crisis with the closure of country paths and towpaths alongside our canals. The committee, with great apprehension, had to take an agonising decision.

Should we cancel, postpone, create an all roads route, or hope that the paths would be open in time? As the weeks went by, it became obvious that a country route would be out of the question. With less than a month to go, the restrictions were lifted for the towpaths and for selected paths, many of which were semi-urban cycle ways. In great haste the committee set to and devised a route using the towpath to Hemel Hempstead, opened paths and country roads.

Would our walkers and supporters have given up hope that the walk would take place? Would walking in what perhaps seems like the urban setting of Hemel Hempstead attract any walkers? Posters were urgently overprinted with the 'The Walk Is On', and the walk was publicised as much as possible with such short notice.

Thankfully 220 people responded, raising the magnificent sum of over £4,500 in sponsorship money. The committee breathed a collective sigh of relief. The tradition of a Berkhamsted springtime walk had been upheld. The sponsorship money, while less than in the previous year, justified the decision we had taken.

Our walkers rated the route very acceptable. The towpath to Hemel Hempstead is full of interest, and the first

IN THE NICK(Y) OF TIME

Alex Evans tells us the story behind the 33rd Berkhamsted Walk.

cuckoo could be heard, the herald of spring. Boxmoor and Gadebridge Park prove surprisingly large areas of attractive open spaces on the outskirts of Hemel. The route of the Nicky Line, the course of a disused railway, for the long route walkers, proves to be a leafy track. It inspires awe at the engineering activities of our Victorian ancestors. The

country roadside route back to Potten End gave rise to a contra-flow of walkers. The Dacorum Mayor's Walk was, unusually, taking place on the same day in the opposite direction to us over this section.

The committee is left with yet another agonising decision to be taken! A pair of boots worth £100, donated by *The Complete Outdoors*, is to be won by the person paying in the most sponsorship money. Present indications are that a sponsored dog has won. We are familiar with puss-in-boots, but Fido-in-boots is beyond our comprehension. Any amusing

suggestions on how a dog should be rewarded for its achievement would be welcomed!

This dilemma aside, the society is gratified that so much money has again been raised. It will be used wisely to make a change in the lives of young people whose circumstances make them vulnerable to misfortunes not of their making.

Thank you to everybody who took part, and for the generosity of the sponsors and *The Complete Outdoors*. If you missed your walk in the Chilterns this year we promise, provided the foot and mouth crisis is over, that the 2002 walk will be as rural and enjoyable as ever. ♦



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I remember my sense of surprise and even shock when Ronald Reagan early in his time as president of the United States said rather proudly that he did not have 'the vision thing'. Since then I've come round to his point of view. The fashion for strategic thinking and visioning has taken hold of all of us. Like Baldrick in *Blackad-*

der we all want a cunning plan, which will deal with all the deficiencies we face in one deft blow. Every large business must have a strategic planning department to lead the company into the future like the one-eyed man leading the blind.

Now the fad has gripped local government. Last year, the rural white paper was published. In it, amongst other things, was help for towns and parishes to prepare their own plans. Berkhamsted town council has leapt onto this opportunity like a schoolgirl at a BoyZone band concert pushing impatiently against the barrier before the gates open and the music starts. At the same time the borough council is in the midst of a major political restructuring exercise. Because of the Local Government Act 2000, the council has no choice - or, as it is expressed in vision-speak: 'do nothing is not an option'. The new structure, which is about to take effect, will be a cabinet style of political management with 'backbench' committees to provide overview and scrutiny of the cabinet and other committees to help with policy development. The first task under this new structure will be a visioning exercise to discover what the community wants.

Recently the town council has done a lot of talking and listening to the people in the town (in my view that is its proper job). This has been both great fun (helped I'm sure by the wine provided at the town

council & news & views

Local councillor **Ian Reay** is wonders whether the current fad for 'vision' and focus groups is useful.

meeting in May) and informative. Many people wrote in to the council on the blank forms inset into the town newsletter *Your Voice*. At the same time the borough council has bought some market research in which many shoppers were asked what they liked or disliked about the town. This was done by stopping people in

the High Street, by telephoning them at home and by inviting selected individuals to 'focus group' meetings. (Visions, strategies and focus groups all belong to the same genus and dwell in the same habitat.)

Because of this we now have plenty of raw material to work on. We know what everybody thinks about the town, even those who do not habitually make their views known - the ones cornered by the market research teams and coaxed into speaking up. On sifting through all this material, some familiar topics come up with, sometimes, different points of view expressed. Litter is a problem often mentioned. Likewise the *Rex*: most want to see a film and arts centre there but some would like to see it demolished. Many people think car parking is a problem.

A widespread feeling is surfacing that too much house building is taking place in the town and it is time to call a halt. We all know about the pressure on the Green Belt - it is one of my hobby-horses - but the obverse of preserving the Green Belt - overemphasis on housing in the town - is beginning to become a problem as well. Unchecked, this will turn Berkhamsted into a characterless dormitory town in which everybody is either asleep or absent.

The biggest surprise to me, however, in all this came not from the *Your Voice* responses or from the views expressed and

(continued on page 15)



Stephen Halliday continues his study of the role of London's Underground system took on in the war years 1939-1945.

Deep shelters

Herbert Morrison had plans. As the Blitz took its nightly toll he announced on the BBC on 3rd November, 1940 that "a new system of tunnels linked to the London tubes should be bored". They were to have sleeping accommodation for 64,000 people. The reason for this decision is not entirely clear since by this date the government was resigned to the fact that Londoners were firmly and contentedly settled in the tube stations. Some writers have suggested that the decision was influenced by tales of 'Hitler's terror weapons' involving rockets, germ warfare, atom bombs and other horrors which had frequently featured in the popular press as war approached. Accordingly the shelters were possibly designed to house essential government departments in the face of such horrors. Construction began almost immediately and eight were eventually ready for use in 1942 when *The Engineer* reported that

'Eight new tube shelters in the London area are now so nearly completed that in an emergency they could be brought into use without delay...constructed in such positions that they can become part of new tube railways that may be driven below London when the war is over.'

In the late 1930s J P Thomas, London Transport's general manager for railways, had developed a plan for an additional high-speed network of lines beneath London, one of them running parallel to the Northern Line on which overcrowding was the subject of bitter complaint at the time. Seven of the shelters were built beneath the Northern Line adjacent to

stations at Clapham South, Clapham Common, Clapham North, Stockwell, Goodge Street, Camden Town and Belsize Park. Moreover, J P Thomas was brought out of retirement to supervise their construction. The shelters took the form of tunnels, each about twelve hundred feet long, with a diameters of sixteen feet six inches, almost one and a half times the size of the tubes.

The eighth shelter was built at Chancery Lane. The location of the Northern Line shelters may be recognised by the large brick structures which still stand at the entrance of the shafts leading down to the tunnels.

These deep shelters were never used to house government departments, even when the V1 and V2 rockets began to fall on London in 1944, but they found a variety of uses instead.

The one at Chancery Lane was commandeered by the nearby Public Records Office as a document store, while that at Clapham Common was used by the Admiralty for the same purpose. The other shelters at Clapham, Stockwell and Camden Town were used by the War Office to accommodate soldiers passing through London on their way to the south and the beaches of Normandy. In 1942 the Goodge Street shelter became Eisenhower's headquarters where he planned the Normandy invasion before moving to an advance headquarters in Hampshire. For over a year that unremarkable London station witnessed a steady flow of generals, admirals and air marshals, including Montgomery and Eisenhower, as preparations for D-Day advanced. A scrambler telephone was

installed on which Eisenhower spoke regularly to Churchill. It remained the centre of the communications network for the high command, operating every hour of the day. On D-Day three telephone lines were established between Goodge Street and the three British and Canadian beaches, Juno, Sword and Gold. Goodge Street thus received the first reports of the drama unfolding on the Normandy beaches and as the allied armies advanced Goodge Street's telephone lines followed closely behind, a line to Berlin itself being opened as the war ended.

What are they now?

The cross-London fast tube, of which the shelters were supposed to form part, was never built. They now serve a variety of uses. The Chancery Lane shelter is a telephone exchange. Six of the other shelters are used by private companies for storing documents. One of them is vacant and available for renting. The Camden Road shelter achieved a brief moment of fame when it was used as a set for *Dr Who* in the 1970s and the Clapham South shelter served as a youth hostel during the Festival of Britain in 1951. The Clapham Common shelter featured in one of Peter Wright's escapades, recorded in

Spycatcher. The shelters remain however, and those on the Northern Line are still evident from the odd-shaped structures that form their entrances, like the one at Belsize Park.

The Underground made many other contributions to Britain's war effort. Station tunnels on the uncompleted Central Line in Essex were used as a factory where Plessey made parts for Spitfires, Lancasters and Halifax bombers. The train depot at Aldenham, intended for an extension of the Northern Line, became an aircraft factory. The maintenance depot at Acton adapted tanks for the Normandy landings, and in the pedestrian tunnels at Earl's Court station Underground staff, in their spare time, made aircraft components. These events are now distant memories but the strange surface structures that survive at stations like Belsize Park are a reminder of the wartime role that the Underground played in sheltering London's citizens, its soldiers and, occasionally, its government.. ❖

This article is based on Stephen Halliday's new book Underground to Everywhere to be published in August.

Council News and Views (continued from page 13)

recorded at the town meeting. Much of that largely confirmed the impressions that I had already formed from talking to people and reading the local newspaper. The new thing came from the structured market research done on behalf of the borough council by Research and Marketing Ltd. This research was aimed at discovering what was needed to make Berkhamsted a better shopping centre - a more attractive destination for shoppers and even the occasional day tripping tourist. The deficiency that came up most - surprisingly even ranking as more important than car parking - was the lack of decent public toilets in the centre of

town. There is a convenience in the Water Lane car park. The condition of this is often not good. There is another at the edge of town in Lagley Meadow close to the leisure centre and the youth club. The condition of this is often appalling and it is, in any case, a long way from where shoppers congregate.

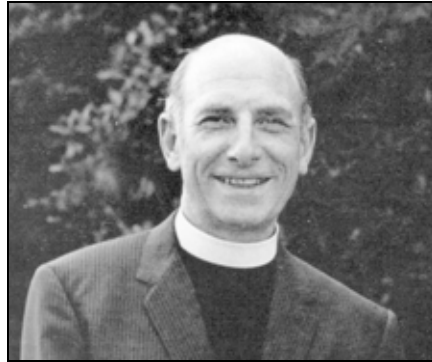
Clearly what is needed is firstly to improve the state of the existing public conveniences but also to build a new one. Suggestions as to where it should be put would be welcome. Mine is the Lower Kings Road car park at the back of Waitrose.

❖

ROBERT
SAVILLE
BROWN R.I.P.

ARCHDEACON EMERITUS

Basil Jones and others remember
a well-loved rector of our parish
who passed away recently.



Robert Brown was curate of the Parish of Great Berkhamsted from 1940 to 1944 and then returned as its rector in 1953 until he left in 1969 to become Vicar of St Paul's, Bedford, and then Archdeacon of Bedford. While he was a curate in the town he met, and subsequently married, Charlotte Furber who was his unfailing support; they had one son, Simon.

These are the bare bones of his ministry here. Shortly after he came, it was necessary to undertake a major restoration of St Peter's with a new roof to the nave and repairs to the stonework. At the same time, under his direction, the church was reordered, leading to a vision of the sanctuary as we now see it. There were other areas which required fairly urgent action on his return to the town and with the help of his curate a youth group was formed. As a bell-ringer himself, he helped to train a new band, practically from scratch, and one of his trainees is ringing to this day. Another main task was the over-seeing of the training of many curates. At that time we had a staff of two curates - one in charge of All Saints' and the other who came as deacon and served his title in the parish. Robert was also priest-in-charge of Bourne End at a time when they need a guiding hand.

Robert was firm when the occasion demanded but otherwise undemonstrative. He had the gift of delegation but always kept his ear to the ground and was there to help when need or trouble arose. He is remembered with real affection by all his curates. He gave them great freedom but was an unfailing support when needed.

Robert was what would have been described then as a 'prayer-book Catholic'. He was a very fine preacher in the classical mould and a good committee chairman. He was completely unmusical and relied on his curates to fill the gap - in fact he made it one of the conditions of services at Berkhamsted! Although trained in the traditional mould of the time Robert was modem in thought - often ahead of his much younger curates.

For relaxation he read poetry and Tuesday evenings were invariably spent at the chess club in the town hall. When a curate, he enjoyed playing tennis on a parishioner's court in Cross Oak Road.

He is buried in Amersham where he lived in retirement, but as he would have wished there was requiem mass said for his soul at St Peter's attended by his family and local friends.



*'Whan that Aprill with
his shoures soote
The droghte of March
hath perced to the
roote...
Thanne longen folk to
goon on pilgrimages'
(Canterbury Tales)*

Diary of a Pilgrim

Gerry Morrish walked to
Walsingham as part of
the parish pilgrimage.
Here is his story.

When I first heard about the proposed pilgrimage to Walsingham, I immediately 'longed to goon', even before the sweet showers of April, and I wanted to go on foot like many of the pilgrims of Chaucer's time. I wish I could explain this desire in terms of some religious motive, but the truth is that I needed a break from the daily routine, and was excited by the prospect of a little adventure. I made inquiries in case someone might like to accompany me, but although some expressed an interest, in the end I was on my own. My wife Shirley thought the project quite mad, but seeing my enthusiasm she acquiesced and gave invaluable help with practical matters such as the purchase of boots and so on.

I began the planning by taking a ruler and drawing a straight line on the map between Berkhamsted and Walsingham, intending to walk as close to the line as possible along footpaths and minor roads. A major snag was at once apparent - the line went through the centre of Luton. I didn't relish the prospect of spending much of my first day trudging across that unlovely town, so decided to start just north of it. I worked out a feasible route, using the relevant OS maps, and calculated that it totalled about 90 miles. I estimated that I could walk this distance in five days, walking about 18 miles a day, and arranged to begin on Monday 5th March, arriving at Walsingham on the following Friday in time to meet up with my fellow-pilgrims who would be travelling by car.

Overnight accommodation was the next problem. I obtained lists from several tourist bureaux and eventually was able to book bed and breakfast at four locations spaced at more or less equal intervals.

Then, a day or two before the off, came the start of the foot and mouth crisis,

which meant that I would not be able to walk on footpaths. This was a trivial inconvenience when set against the dreadful turmoil affecting so many, but it did mean that I needed to replan my route using only roads, as even if some paths were still open I didn't want to take the slightest risk. Fortunately the revision was not too difficult, but it did add somewhat to the mileage.

Day One: Shillington to Wrestlingworth
A glorious day - what luck! I leave home looking like the Michelin man, all my pockets bulging with necessities for the journey as a suspect back makes a backpack impossible. A good friend takes me in his car to the starting point, and I'm on my way across eastern Bedfordshire, which proves to be disappointingly suburban with a great deal of new housing. My 1961 OS map (it cost four shillings and six pence) shows small villages such as Meppershall and Clifton which are small no longer - the 'executive housing' and 'prestige developments' seem to go on for ever. The odd thing is that all these prestigious dwellings are crammed together with tiny gardens and no privacy at all.

I ask for directions several times with varying degrees of success. Everyone assumes I'm a motorist, telling me to go to the third roundabout, take the second exit and so on. The motor car reigns supreme around here. At one point I have

no alternative but to cross the A1 so as to get on to a minor road on the far side. There is no foot bridge or underpass: I have to wait for a gap in the traffic and dash across. Not very pleasant.

My B&B at Wrestlingworth doesn't provide evening meals, but I've been told there is a pub which does. However, when I go in, I'm informed that the chef has taken the evening off. So it's a cold pasty and crisps from the local shop. At least I've arrived here in good time and my feet are in good shape, thanks to my excellent new boots.

Day Two: Wrestlingworth to Cottenham

A fine day again, and I feel more cheerful as I cross the border into Cambridgeshire, with empty roads, enormous hedgeless fields and very little executive housing. Then I take a wrong turning. I'm not too sure why, but I think it's because in my planning I mistook the short track for a road and included it in my route. Finding it barred because of foot and mouth, I assume that I have to continue along the metalled road and do so for two or three miles, until I see a church tower in front of

me. I examine my map. That church should not be there! A sinking feeling sweeps over me. The church notice board revealed that I'm in Pottton, a long way from where I should be.

Eventually I rejoin the planned route, but this detour has added some half-dozen miles to today's journey. I walk on in the teeth of a biting east wind, becoming increasingly tired and hungry. I get something to eat at Bourn, then on and on, my pace gradually slowing, until I reach Oakington, still 2½ miles short of my destination, and it's getting dark. I stagger into the village pub and order a hot chocolate to thaw me out. The friendly landlord starts a conversation, hears of my dilemma and at once offers to drive me the rest of the way. Gratefully I accept, finish my chocolate and arrive at Cottenham in comfort.

I reckon I've walked about 20 miles, and I'm paying for it. I feel quite ill. I buy some fish and chips, but can hardly eat anything. Back at the B&B I collapse on the bed. I seriously consider giving up.

To be continued.

Rocks, Pebbles and Sand

A moral tale submitted by
Victoria Macdonald. Have
you got your priorities right?

A philosophy professor stood before his class and had some items in front of him. When class began, wordlessly he picked up a large empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with rocks, rocks about two inches in diameter. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

So the professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles, of course, rolled into the open areas between the rocks. He then asked the student again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The students laughed. The professor picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else.

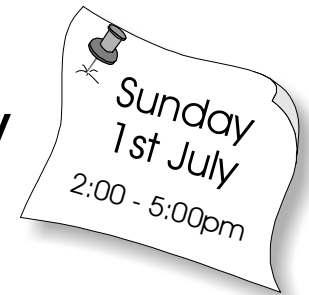
"Now," said the professor, "I want you to recognize that this is your life.

(continued on page 21)



Ashridge College Gardens Open Day

in aid of The Children's Society



The gardens at Ashridge Management College will be open on Sunday 1st July between 2:00pm and 5:00pm in support of the work of The Children's Society.

The college has made recent major investments in the gardens under the direction of the gardens manager, Michael Thompson. The formal Repton rose garden dating back to 1820, with later additions, has been fully restored. The great variety of roses will all be in full bloom, around the central fountain. To the north of the terrace, the Italian garden has also been restored. Both the garden and the terrace have been freshly planted with summer bedding plants and will be in the full magnificence of summer flowering. The rhododendrons have been cut back to open new vistas, including one opening on to the recent azalea garden. The gardens are constantly evolving in the process of restoration to former glories. Do come and see the latest developments.

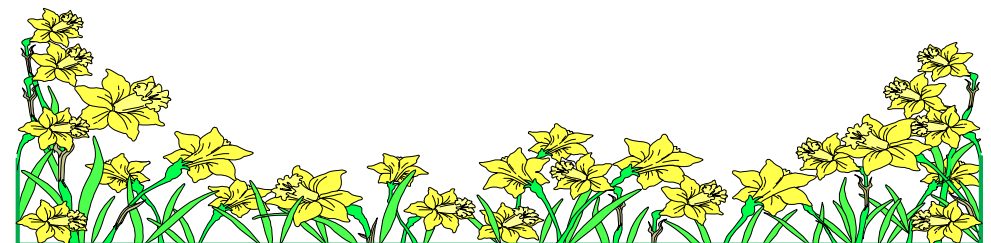
Teas will be served in the fernery, overlooking another formal garden, to delight simultaneously the stomach and the eye. The unique Hertfordshire

pudding stone at the entrance to the nearby souterrain, with its curiously concrete like appearance, will definitely not be on the menu but is well worth a look!

The Lions Club will be running a shuttle bus for those who would otherwise have difficulty in getting to the college. The bus will depart from the station car park on the half hour, starting at 1:30pm, and will return from the college on the hour, last bus at 5:00pm. The service will be free, but a voluntary donation to support charity would be welcomed. The entrance charge to the gardens is £2.50. Please make a reservation for the bus by phoning 872502 so we have an idea of numbers wishing to use this service.

The Children's Society hopes you will come, for your own pleasure and to make a difference to the lives of those children whose circumstances make them particularly vulnerable. We thank the management college for supporting the Children's Society *All Gardens Great and Small* fund raising initiative.

We look forward to welcoming you at Ashridge on Sunday 1st July.





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I recently went to a 'training morning' for volunteers up at the Ashridge National Trust visitors' centre. During the quite long discourse on what we should and should not do in the event of various happenings we were told once more that if asked to provide a plaster for a child with a scratch, we must get a qualified

first aider to deal with the situation. The reason is that the child might be allergic to plaster and the National Trust could be sued for negligence! Again if a child fell down we mustn't help her/him up - it could be misconstrued as 'assault'! What a weird world we are living in! Things were different when the good Samaritan was around.

When we hear about all the violence happening - and in our town too - I blame the parents. Small children have to be taught how to behave towards others. They don't start off as belligerent savages. How rarely some parents accept any

So who's responsible?

Vera Pullen has some strong views on where responsibility for our actions, and those of others, should rest.

responsibility for their children's behaviour - it's the fault of the school, or anyone but themselves. To my mind the job of the school is to educate, not to teach pupils how to behave in or out of school. Recent cases of teachers being attacked by parents are appalling - what an example to their children.

We sadly live in a time of family break up, with all the chaos that brings, when few people will accept responsibility for their actions. It is a time when solicitors advertise on TV hoping to attract customers to sue for this that or the other. We saw this coming in the United States some years ago of course, and felt it couldn't happen here, but it has. Sometimes I feel so furious about it, then a normally polite child holds a shop door open for me and I realise they are not all alike, thank heaven. Perhaps there is hope for the future after all.



Rocks, Pebbles and Sand *(continued from page 18)*

The rocks are the important things - your family, your partner, your health, your children - things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house, your car. The sand is everything else. The small stuff."

"If you put the sand into the jar first, there is no room for the pebbles or the rocks. The same goes for your life. If you spend all your energy and time on the

small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you.

"Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your partner out dancing. "There will always be time to go to work, clean the house, give a dinner party and fix the waste disposal. Take care of the rocks first - the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."



The article referring to Berkhamsted's 'fortress' in February's *Review* touched on various aspects of the police station, but missed an opportunity to give some answers to the questions raised. This article tries to repair these omissions and identifies some more positive aspects.

As with many things, we are the children of our history, and have to live with

the decisions of our forebears. The police station was built when IRA activity on the mainland seemed likely - hence the design. If a bomb had inflicted serious damage, the cry would go up - why wasn't it built to withstand damage?

It was built to house a projected motorway HQ when the by-pass, from the M25 to beyond Tring, was planned with motorway status. The building is big for its current role as it turned out, but is fully utilised. If current commercial inputs to public policy had existed in the 50s the site would have been sold or rented, with the police station put on a less commercially attractive site. In an ideal world the space could be allocated to the citizens' advice and volunteer bureaux, the public library and so on. We could have an information centre similar to Hemel Hempstead and Tring, but which, as usual Berkhamsted does not have at present.

The logistics and cost of moving communication and IT links to another site would be horrendous, and this assumes that another useable site could be found. There is no practical mileage in that idea when you think it through. We just have to live with the mistakes of our forebears.

True, the architecture is plain, austere, stark, 50s (albeit designed and built in the early 70s), but is marginally more attractive than the building opposite

The 'Fortress' is a working Police Station

Contrary to the town's police station being an impenetrable fortress, **Brian Hunt** tells us it's quite the reverse.

occupied by the Halifax and the Card Shop. The police station *does* have an entrance: it can be used and the enquiry office is attended until midnight all week. If you visit when the front door is locked you will see there is an outside telephone to be used to call the police on duty.

The style and manner of today's policing is a quite

separate question and obviously needs to be better marketed to the public. The high expectations demanded by the public in respect of rapid response can only be met by vehicle-based police officers, because of the wide area the officers are expected to cover.

A lack of visible police presence or 'not enough bobbies on the beat' are nice catchphrases but do not suggest ways to beat crime in Berkhamsted. This has been recognised and reflected in the policing plan for 2001/2002. Where pickpockets or muggers are rife, then CCTV and 'on the beat' presence has been shown to be successful in places like London's Oxford Street, but in towns like ours flexibility and speed of response are major factors.

Foot patrols are reassuring, particularly to senior citizens but are not the most efficient when resources are limited. Perhaps locally a more visible presence between, say, 11pm and midnight when people are walking and the pubs are emptying would be helpful in providing reassurance to all members of the community?

A positive contribution in all areas of the town is the existence of a neighbourhood watch scheme. If you don't have one in your road then do discuss setting one up with your neighbours.

The road/area co-ordinator for 40 or so households has only to give out leaflets four times each year, which takes an average of 40 minutes each time. Occasionally you would be a conduit for the police when there is a need to advise of local incidents, and you would be expected to hold area meetings, say once or twice a year, to discuss issues of local concern.

But this is what neighbourhoods are all about. The neighbours would get to know each other better! NW schemes act as eyes and ears on any pattern of nuisance or potential crime, without any implication of creating a local posse or do-it-yourself policing. Patterns of information are extremely valuable in preventing and solving crimes, so don't be shy to advise the police of any nuisance or suspicious activity. Policing is not just about a presence but is often about putting together jigsaw pieces of information before or after an incident.

We can all help with this and so support local policing. Even by checking that you have locked your car and closed all the windows, without leaving goods on the seats, you are helping to prevent crime and avoiding your having some heartache. We are all players in the game, not just the police.

Some incidents are nuisance activity by bored youngsters making unsocial noise and activity without caring about the impact on others. Feedback to the police is crucial on this and was very successful recently in the Springwood area of Northchurch, leading to positive multi-agency response. This was not only on one occasion but over a period of several days. It advised and reassured local people of what they could do to deter villains and advise the police so that offending persons could be prosecuted. These days, deterrence and prosecution action have to be very thorough. How many cases do you read of where evidence is not thorough enough? Unfortunately, villains have rights also!

The Crime Prevention Panel (CPP), a group of volunteers provide much appreciated indirect assistance to the police in ways which would otherwise take direct police time, for example

1. Fixing permanent warning notices in car parks;
2. Distributing advisory notices to households and car drivers;
3. Cycle marking - so that stolen bikes can be identified when located, which they often are;
4. Manning the information advice caravan at local fetes and carnivals;
5. Liaising with co-ordinators of local neighbourhood watch schemes;
6. Providing speakers at local meetings of senior citizens, at village halls and so on;
7. Distributing crime prevention leaflets for display at surgeries, garages and petrol stations;
8. Distributing the crime prevention news (produced by the Home Office) to advise of various anti-crime initiatives around the country;
9. Helping with open days at the police station.

Much of this support action is trying to make people *aware* what *they* can do to minimise the chances of crime. In Berkhamsted, the high frequency of car crime is an issue. Yet one still sees cars with open windows and doors unlocked, with enticing things left on seats, simply asking the unscrupulous to pinch them. Do then remember what *you* can do to help yourself. If you are careless or don't bother with elementary security it will make you vulnerable to upset, loss and frustration.

It isn't enough for us to just make suggestions on what the police should do or what they aren't doing; we should also remember what we can ourselves do to make crime more difficult. ❖

Brian Hunt is chairman of the Berkhamsted Crime Prevention panel.

Having recently read *Brideshead Revisited* with my U3A group (University of the Third Age), membership of which I can thoroughly recommend, I went on to read a book given me at Christmas - *My East End* by Gilda O'Neill. I can thoroughly recommend this book although the contrast between *Brideshead Revisited* could not be greater.

I imagine that many people will remember the TV version of Waugh's book and certainly it portrayed vividly the life of an aristocratic family before the last war. In the years leading up to that war one formed the impression of what useless lives they were.

To go on to read about the East End with all its poverty in the 1920s and 30s was almost too much for me. There was, of course, a brighter side in so far that everyone in a street would care for their neighbours and share when they were able to. But the absolute degradation of such slums with their massive starvation, unemployment and illness fills one with shame that this was England I was reading about. It is a cruel irony that it takes a war

Stark Contrasts

A literary diversion prompts
Muriel Lander to consider
the horrendous social
contrasts of wartime England.

to come along to cure the unemployment problem.

I remember my husband telling me that when he was a curate in the East End of London he would give out vouchers from the church to those who were unemployed so that they could get food from the local shops. When visiting, it was

usual to see the walls of the houses heaving with bugs - not because the people were dirty (although to keep clean must have been a problem) but because the material the walls were made of encouraged the growth of vermin.

I watched recently on TV a programme about debutantes because I was intrigued by what was, to me, a particularly useless sort of occupation! I almost turned it off pretty quickly, but then I was intrigued to hear what the ex-debs had to say about it all. Some felt themselves that it was a pretty useless sort of thing to have done. One woman felt the stark difference between her life and the barefooted children she saw in the streets so much that after the war she worked in an orphanage. ❖


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New Books

Two new books have been published with proceeds benefiting the IRHH. *Serving Bluebird Pie* is a collection of poetry, short stories and articles by Jan Moran Neil drawn from her published work over the past 12 years. The book is £4.00 with £1 benefiting the IRHH.

David Simmons' *A Gateway to Heaven* explores the hope that can arise from bereavement from a Christian viewpoint and is based on his personal experience. The book costs £5.99 with all proceeds from the first 40 copies coming to the IRHH.

Both books are available from our offices and shops and can be purchased online at www.irhh.org.

Fill a Basket

The IRHH will be organising a stall at the Lions' Fete in Berkhamsted on 27th August and are requesting people to fill a small basket with goodies (soaps, chocolates, candles, etc) for them to sell on the day. Please drop your basket into their Tring shop.

Sponsored Parachute Jump

A number of people have expressed an interest in a sponsored parachute jump. A freefall jump from 10,000ft is planned for September and will be open to anybody. Insurance and full training will be provided. Please call Carol Parkey on 890222 for details.

Annual general Meeting

The IRHH extends an invitation to all their supporters to attend their annual general meeting on 4th July at the Fitzwilliam Centre, Beaconsfield. Anyone wishing to come along can obtain full details from Sarah Rothwell on 890222.

Volunteer opportunities – can you help?

Iain Rennie still needs volunteer receptionists to help answer its nursing calls and with general nursing administration particularly on a Wednesday and Friday, although ideally we need volunteers who may be able to cover other days as and when the need arises.

The IRHH shops need a volunteer driver who would be willing to transport goods and internal mail between our offices and shops, and if possible from people within the area who cannot take their donations to shops. Iain Rennie will reimburse travel expenses although the Iain Rennie Saab could also be used.

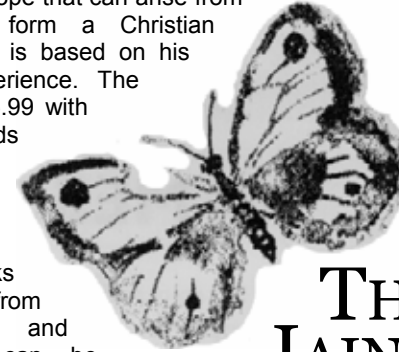
We are currently planning a new volunteers training course to run over two Saturdays for those who work. Please get in touch if you would like to know more.

IRHH is currently planning a pilot programme for bereavement visitors with the first course starting in September. If you would like to know more about the programme and the next course, which is planned for next year, please get in touch.

If you can help with any of the above then please contact volunteer co-ordinator Emily Shorthouse on 890222.

Hemel Hempstead Carnival

This event will be held on Sunday, 15th July in Gadebridge Park. There will be a circus, crafts, exhibitions, displays and lots more. The IRHH mobile information unit will be attending. Admission is free and the procession through the town centre starts at 12:45pm.



**THE
IAIN RENNIE
HOSPICE
AT
HOME**





review northchurch

Rev Dick Clarkson
suggests three
tests by which
we can evaluate
our witness.

Today I have been looking at the Bible readings set for Ascension day, which at the time of writing is a few days away. I was struck again by the clear commission Jesus gives to his Church, 'You shall be my witnesses' (Acts 1:8). So it seems right to take stock at this time and to ask ourselves, 'How are we doing?' It also seems fair to invite those who do not consider themselves as part of the Christian Church to look at us and comment on how we are doing from their angle. It seems to me that there are three key areas that should reflect our witness most clearly.

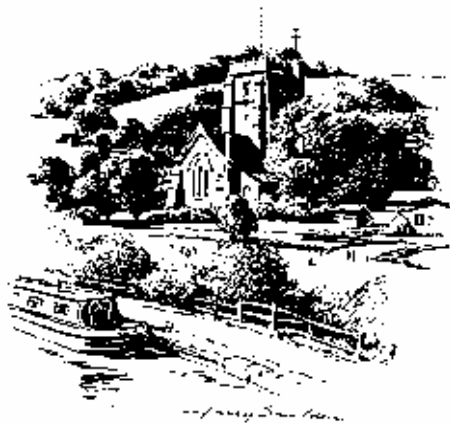
The first is, when new people come into St Mary's, or to any of our churches, do they feel welcomed or do they feel excluded? This applies both to how we treat them and to how easy is it for them to participate in our worship. My wife came with me to a particular church where I was the visiting preacher. The church was pretty empty when we arrived and she sat in one of the pews near the back. Not long before the service was due to start, a lady came up to her and said, "Would you mind moving? I always sit there". It's clear that most people come to faith as a Christian over a period of time. They need to 'belong' before they come to 'believe'. Sometimes we do make it difficult for folk to feel they 'belong'.

The second is linked to the second great commandment, 'Love your neighbour as yourself'. How well do the people of Northchurch feel loved and especially when times are hard? Many feel that is the role of the rector, but no

one person can handle all the needs within any parish. Pastoral care is a job for everyone within the fellowship. It can be such a powerful witness.

The third is linked to the 'new commandment' that Jesus gave to his Church, 'Love one another as I have loved you'. Last year I visited Jerusalem and went to see the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the church built over the site where Jesus was crucified and buried. It is looked after by a number of Christian denominations, including the Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox and Armenian churches. But we learnt that these denominations could not agree who should hold the key, so it's kept by a Moslem family. There have been far too many squabbles both between denominations (that we have so many is a real indictment) and within individual fellowships. What kind of image does this give to those outside the Christian Church? Do folk in Northchurch look at the Christian fellowship there and say, 'See how they love one another'?

"You shall be my witnesses", said Jesus. So what kind of a job are we doing? ❖



ALDBURY GARDENS

For the ninth year in succession, the gardeners of Aldbury village are graciously opening their private gardens, great and modest, so that the public can share in the gardens' peace and beauty.

On each of the open days delicious teas and homemade cakes will be served in one of the larger gardens.

The gardens are open from 2:00pm to 6:00pm on:

Sunday 1st July

This day includes amongst the gardens:

- A model railway that runs around the garden;
- Haflinger ponies

Sunday 15th July

A number of cottage gardens are open, as well as

- A Victorian manor house garden under a ten-year restoration plan;
- An organic garden;
- A garden created out of the grounds of the former isolation hospital (teas served here with the gentle music of a guitar recital);
- A display of classic motorbikes and cars;
- A guitar recital

Tickets are on sale on the day from 1:30pm outside the village shop by the village green. The ticket price is £3.00 per day. There is no charge for children. For further information please phone Martin Compton on 851437.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHRIDGE

The Friends of Ashridge would like to thank all readers who supported their fifth plant fair held on 13th May. We were very grateful to Bingham's Park Farm for the use of their car park and field.

Despite having less space, money taken from the sale of plants was over £4,000 - the final figure being £200 more than last year. Hopefully we should be back at the Monument next year.

John Powell

TUESDAY CLUB

Ladies, why not come along and join us at one or more of our meetings? We meet on the first Tuesday of each month in the Court House. The meetings start at 8:15pm. Below are details of some of the evenings for the later part of this year's programme:

4th September *Me and my Hats*: a talk by Juliet Rinkle

2nd October *Baubles, Bangles and Beads*: demonstration

6th November Flower arrangement for Christmas

You will be made welcome and we feel sure you would enjoy the jolly company. Whichever church you belong to, we will make you feel at home.

ASHLYNS SCHOOL 1951 - 2001

Ashlyns School celebrates its 50th Birthday this year, adding yet another milestone to what is already an unusual and distinctive heritage. I hope you will be able to join us in our birthday weekend celebrations.

Saturday 7th July 2001 - Birthday Ball

A spectacular evening is planned with champagne, a superb dinner and dancing to an eight-piece band. Tickets are available from the school - telephone 863605.

Sunday 8th July 2001 - Reunion Open Day

From 11:00am to 5:00pm, the School will be open for ex-pupils and ex-staff and their families, as well as current pupils and the Berkhamsted community, to meet up with old friends and take a trip down memory lane and see the school as it is today.

Richard Dalziel, Headteacher

Organising an event?

Then let our readers know what's going on! The *Review* is your magazine - use it to tell people of forthcoming events, and don't forget to tell us how your event went afterwards.

Send full details to **David Woodward,**
3 Murray Road, Berkhamsted HP4 1JD
(862723) (copy dates inside front cover)

BOURNE AND SALTER EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS

If you are a student and under 25 years of age, preparing to embark on a period of extended study at college or university and would appreciate some financial help towards the cost of equipment or books, why not apply for a grant from the above foundations?

If you live in the ecclesiastical Parish of Great Berkhamsted or attended Victoria Church of England school you are eligible to apply for a grant. Although there is not a huge amount of money at the trustees' disposal, every little helps.

Grants will be allocated at the next meeting of the Trust in October.

For more information please contact the clerk to the trustees, Mrs B Johnson on 864453.

*A report on the Petertide
Fair will appear in next
month's Review together
with pictures.*

BERKHAMSTED CASTLE W.I.



Our vice-president, Joy Lovell, welcomed members to our June meeting and was pleased to see two new members and a visitor joining us. Together with secretary Janet Mitchell they took us through the business matters of the meeting. On display were lovely blooms in the competition for the flower of the month, which was won by Maureen Stonhill.

Our speaker this month was Muriel Jones who spoke to us on *Leeks, Daffodils, Gymslips and Jerusalem* - an intriguing title and we wondered what we were about to hear when this speaker commenced her talk about her early school days in south Wales and on her gaining a scholarship to grammar school. The daffodils were favoured by the girls and the boys preference was for leeks as the national emblem. Mrs Jones reminisced through the years and on becoming a WI member in Buckinghamshire. An expression of thanks was given by Mary Harris.

On 6th July day our speaker is James Cuming, his subject being *Helmet and Handcuffs* at the Court House, Berkhamsted at 2:00pm. Do come and join us and enjoy an afternoon and make new friends. ❖

St Peter's OPEN DAY



Sunday, 15th July
1:00pm - 5:00pm



By popular request we are repeating last year's open day at St Peter's. Tower Top tours will give a bird's eye view of the town and the developments taking place in it. At ground level, John Cook, with his encyclopaedic knowledge of the church will conduct tours giving a fascinating insight into the 800-year-old church building and its contents.

For those who prefer Sunday to be less energetic or academic, delicious cream teas (at £2.00) will be on offer to all visitors from 2:00pm onwards.

We are taking individual and group bookings, and would like to know numbers in advance. There is no entry charge; the tower trip and the church tour are £1.50 each. Please pre-book by calling Alex Evans on 872502. Places are limited and early bookings will have priority. And remember, all proceeds will go to the Petertide Fair causes!

SUNDAY	<i>St Peter's</i>	8:00am	Eucharist			
		9:30am	Sung Eucharist, crèche, Sunday School & Pathfinders followed by coffee in the Court House			
		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 Carole Dell 864706</i>)			
	MONDAY	<i>St Peter's</i>	7:30am	Morning Prayer (MP)	5:00pm	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	5:00pm EP
THURSDAY	<i>St Peter's</i>	7:30am	MP	11:00am	Eucharist	5:00pm 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 VISTORS GROUP 8:00-9:00pm in the Court House as announced.					
Mondays (except 1st)	HOME GROUP: 8:00pm at 9 Hall Park. Contact Victoria Macdonald on 384953.					
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 Joan Gregory 864829.					
Tuesdays	CHUCKLES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 10:00-11:30am All Saints' Church Hall. Song Time or Short service as announced. Special activity weekly. Gillian Malcolm 874993 or Jenny Wells 870981.					
Tuesday	MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER GROUP: 2:15pm third Tuesday at 61 Kitsbury Road. Tell us if anyone needs our prayers. Contact: Jenny Wells 870981					
Tuesday	TUESDAY STUDY GROUP: Tuesdays 1:15-3:00pm for informal Bible study. <i>Young children welcome.</i> Contact: Kate Semmens 866531 HILLSIDE GROUP: 8.00pm [alternate weeks] at 32 Hillside Gardens for <i>Bible study.</i> Contacts: Rob & Julie Wakely 875504					
2nd Tues	MOTHERS' UNION: meets in members' houses at 8:00pm. <i>Non-members always welcome.</i> Contact: Margaret Barnard 862794					
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. Carole Dell 864706					
2nd Wed	MEN'S DINNER & DISCUSSION: 8:00pm at Peaches Bistro. For information and booking: Rodney Cottrell 384963 or Steve Spall 873470					
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	BELLRINGING: 8:00pm at St Peter's. Priscilla Watt (Captain of the Tower) 863804					
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 P (10:00am). Nicole Addy 828541					
Friday	ST PETER'S CHOIR: Children 7:00-8:30pm (& Tuesday 5:15-6:30pm), Adults 7:30-8:30pm. Contact: Adrian Davis 864722 or Jean Wild 866859					
3rd Sat	ABC PRAYER BREAKFAST: 8:00am for breakfast & prayers. Various local churches.					
Sunday	YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP 7:30-9:30pm in the Court House. Contact Carolyn Gunn 875865					

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 5:00pm 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).

July / Aug 2001

JULY

2	8:00pm	Eucharist with Prayers for Healing	<i>St Peter's</i>
6	10:00am	Little Fishes Toddler Service	<i>St Peter's</i>
10	10:15am	Chuckles Service <i>An Invitation to a Party</i>	<i>All Saints'</i>
14	8:00am	ABC Prayer Breakfast	<i>Court House / St Peter's</i>
14	9:30-1pm	Full Peal	<i>St Peter's</i>
15	*6:30pm	<i>Pepper Praise</i>	<i>Centenary Hall</i>
22	*6:30pm	Bishop Robin's farewell service at St Albans Abbey	
25	10:15am	Thomas Coram Year 8 Leavers' Service	<i>St Peter's</i>
	<i>* no 6:00pm Evensong on these days</i>		

AUGUST

6	8:00pm	Eucharist with Prayers for Healing	<i>St Peter's</i>
18	8:00am	ABC Prayer Breakfast	<i>St Michael's Sunnyside</i>

Registers

Baptisms (* St Peter's ** All Saints')

13 May *	Thomas Llewellyn Rees, Eloise Daisy Groves
27 May *	William Phillip John Turner
13 May **	Charlotte Zoë Surry

Funerals

22 May	Troy Biggs	Garston Crematorium
25 May	Betty Hulse	St Peter's church (Three Close Lane)
31 May	Athena Williams	St Peter's church (Kingshill)

The June meeting of the PCC examined a wide range of issues and saw a lively discussion.

Reports were noted from the stewardship and youth work committees. An increase in stewardship giving is being seen; this is not a cause for complacency as was exemplified by a report from the deanery synod which highlighted continuing pressure on diocesan financial budgets.

The continuing question of children receiving communion before confirmation

NEWS FROM THE

P • C • C

was discussed. After lengthy group sessions the meeting voted to accept the principle; educational material would now be collated ahead of a final vote later in the year.

Much discussion also ensued surrounding the upcoming vacancy at All Saints' following Fr Robin's imminent departure, with a profile for a new priest-in-charge being the focus (see this month's leader on page 3). It was recognised that the process would take time. CS

Young people

Churches

PCC 2001/2002

Contacts

Young people at St Peter's and All Saints'

St Peter's

Sunday school and Pathfinders run from 9:30am to 10:30 in the Court House (next to the church in the High Street). Sunday School caters for 4 to 10 year olds, Pathfinders from 10 years upwards. Contact Angela Dunford (875226) or Stephen Lally for Pathfinders (863526).

Crèche is available at 9:30am for under 3's. Parents are most welcome to use this facility in the Court House. Please contact Libby Jones (862438)

All Saints'

Sunday school and Pathfinders run from 9:15 to 10:15am. Sunday school caters for 3-9 year olds; Pathfinders from 10 years upwards. Children from both groups join the service in time for Communion. On the third Sunday in the month there is a Family Eucharist when everyone is together for the whole service. Contact Kathy Beaumont (384453) or Felicity White for Pathfinders (863526). Crèche is available at the same times as Sunday school for children under 3. Please contact Sandra Simpson (384915).

Youth Groups

The youth fellowship meets in the Court House each Sunday 7:30-9:30pm. Contact Carolyn Gunn (875865).

Pathfinders games club meets 7:00-8:30pm each Wednesday in All Saints' hall.

For mid-week activities for toddlers please see page 29



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Contacts

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
 Christina Billington (Diocesan Lay Minister), 13 Ashridge Rise. Tel: 385566
 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
 Mrs Jenny Wells (Reader), 57 Meadow Road. Tel: 870981
 Parish Secretary: Mrs Jean Green, The Parish Office, The Court House Tel: 878227
 Stewardship Recorder: Miles Nicholas, 46 Fieldway. Tel: 871598
 Churchwardens: Chris Smalley, 18 Osmington Place, Tring. Tel: 826821;
 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

St Peter's

Director of Music: Adrian Davis 864722 Asst. Director of Music: Mrs Jean Wild. 866859
 Organist: Terry Charlston Tel: 01582 462024

Sundays		Weekdays	
8.00am	Holy Communion (1st Sun BCP)	Holy Communion	
9.30am	Family Sung Eucharist with crèche, Sunday Schools & Pathfinders (in the Court House) followed by coffee in the Court House.	Wednesday	6.45am
		Thursday	11.00am
		Friday	9.15am
		Morning Prayer:	Mon-Sat 7:30am
		Evening Prayer:	M,W,Th 5:00pm
6.00pm	Evensong & Sermon (except 1st Sunday see All Saints')		Sat 5:00pm
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

All Saints'

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



WAY INN - A Christian Centre at 268 High Street

Come to the **Post Office** for foreign currency, travel insurance, passport applications and forms E111 - and for everything else a main **Post Office** provides. Come through 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.