

Berkhamsted *review*

November 2007

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

Welcome to the November 2007 issue of the Berkhamsted review

Three articles this month have as their theme - Remembrance - a word that for some has only one meaning - the Remembrance of those who died fighting in the First and Second World Wars, and now in more recent conflicts. We wear scarlet poppies for Remembrance - an emblem inspired by the poem *In Flanders Fields* by a Canadian serviceman, **John McCrae**, killed in the last year of the Great War.

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

These words are perhaps less familiar than those from **Laurence Binyon's** poem *For the Fallen*. Words that are often at the heart of our Remembrance.

*They shall not grow old,
as we that are left grow old
Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn
At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
We will remember them*

What irony that these words were written in September 1914, within weeks of the outbreak of war, when the full scale of the tragedy had yet to unfold.

Christopher Green

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notes & notices and diary dates**

Cover cartoon: The Organ Appeal (p16)
Polly Rafter

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“Happiness is no

Laughing
Matter”

The Revd John Pritchard reflects on the words of **Richard Whately**, Archbishop of Dublin (1831-63)

November, through tradition and circumstance, is a time to remember several different, though connected, aspects of our religious, political and social history.

Amongst our personal memories, we remember the *Saints of the Church* in the Christian festival of All Saints. We mock **Guy Fawkes**’ failed attempt to blow up

Parliament in the Gunpowder plot of 1605. The 11th, Remembrance Sunday commemorates the agreed cessation of hostilities in the First World War, the sacrifice made by a nation, loss of life and homeland comfort in both World Wars. On 20th November we mark the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of The Queen and Prince Philip.

When we remember Jesus Christ, He is often referred to as the *Light of the World* (a title which comes from John’s Gospel). A stained glass window in St Peter’s Church based on **Holman Hunt**’s famous painting entitled *The Light of the World* shows Jesus carrying a lantern-light knocking at a door which has no handle and can only be opened from inside. It symbolises the fact that Jesus can only enter our lives by our willing invitation.

Although there is some truth in this popular sense



review leader

of our need to invite God into our lives it must not remove from us that greater truth that God has chosen to be inextricably caught up in all our human history; all our daily activities. Those daily activities include our dependence upon other people not only for our friendships but also for our physical and spiritual welfare. As in the past, so in the present we look to others to risk their lives as much in warfare as in witnessing to the faith we have in Jesus Christ for our freedom both of body and spirit. Soldiers and saints are both part of our cause for prayer and thanksgiving.

The church, its clergy and people seek to understand this by daily remembering the people of this town before God. St Peter’s is *the place where people, events and God meet*.

The *Light of the World* window suggests choice for each of us. We symbolically stand behind the closed door: our choice is to open it, or keep it firmly shut. However, when we open the door to Christ, we become aware that he is actually inviting us out into His world which is our world.

Happiness is not a laughing matter. It is in the pursuit of happiness, that we must remember the common good and not be consumed by our individualism and our own satisfaction. The sacrifices of former and present generations serve to secure the common good for all people. The Festival of All Saints and the sacrifice of men and women help us remember those things of God which are concerned with our potential.

In remembering the efforts, achievements and sacrifices of so many people in this month of November, please set aside some time; to give thanks to those who have striven and continue to work to secure the very best for us spiritually, politically and socially mindful that *happiness is not a laughing matter*. ❖

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On Advent Sunday, 2nd December, two Travelling Cribs will begin their journeys round the parish as a reminder of the story of the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem.

Our branch of The Mothers' Union provides two Travelling Cribs – one for All Saints' and one for St Peter's. The members made the knitted figures of Mary and Joseph so they are very *child friendly* and no one need have fear of them being damaged by young children. The figures have a special basket to travel in and each family they visit is asked to prepare a special place in their home for them to rest for the night.

If you would like the Travelling Crib to spend a night in your home during Advent this year please sign up on the list which will be in church on Sundays 11th & 18th November and, during the week in between, at Chuckles and Little Fishes. One list will be available to sign at St Peter's and another at All Saints'. Make a note of the dates and bring your diaries! To avoid disappointment, sign up on Sunday 11th November!

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

After welcoming the crib for a night, each family is invited to display a poster in their window. Watch out for the posters around the town as you are caught up in the

THE TRAVELLING CRIB

Tracy Robinson writes



busyness of all the pre-Christmas activities. As you see them, remember that journey long ago, be filled with the hope of Advent and be ready to receive the Christ Child in your heart this Christmas.

If you have any queries please contact **Jenny Wells** (870981) for the All Saints' Crib or **Tracy Robinson** (863559) for the St Peter's Crib. ❖

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Since 2005 the Chilterns Conservation Board has sponsored an annual survey of land use in the Chiltern Hills. This means that the use of land in the hills can be regularly checked to see how the rural economy is faring and if there are any growing threats to the landscape which may need to be averted. At the moment the outlook for farming in this area is better than for many years as the prices for cereals and timber are rising – the price of wheat has more than doubled in the last few years – and even the price of milk is starting to rise because of more demand from China. Food stocks are very low across the world and the European policy that 5% of land should be set aside and put out of agricultural use has been lifted. Despite this there seems to be a continuing trend for land in the Chilterns to be taken out of agricultural use, and, in particular, arable crops have been planted on 5% less land last year. The trend for fields to be partitioned off to make paddocks for ponies and horses has also continued. There has been a slight increase in woodland and a rather larger increase in the amount of farm and woodland that has become enclosed in gardens.

This latter trend for more land to be enclosed in gardens is more worrying than it might appear at first sight. This is because of a little known planning rule whose significance is only slowly becoming recognised: that is the definition of what counts as a *brownfield* site. It may come as a surprise but the garden surrounding a suburban house counts as *brownfield* and not greenfield when it comes to making a decision on granting planning permission for a new house. Many local authorities have prided themselves on the fact that by far the majority of houses have been built on

Ian Reay's &news &views

Beautiful Gardens

... Lost Forever

**Ian Reay detects a
worrying trend**

brownfield rather than greenfield sites and developers have consistently moaned that building on *brownfield* sites is more expensive than on green fields because of the need to make good derelict land or to decontaminate land previously used for industrial purposes. They

have used points like these to argue that land should be taken out of green belt protection and be used for housing. But because there is a presumption of permission for building on *brownfield* land a developer can argue that a house built in a back garden is *brownfield*, and so can contribute to the authority's targets for building on *brownfield* land. In this way they have been able to get planning permission when otherwise they might not.

This is a trend that is very visible in Berkhamsted but it is occurring all over the country. Out of 150,000 houses being built each year 30,000 are built in back gardens or by demolishing an existing house. In Wycombe District Council, for example, 84% of new homes are being built in the gardens of existing houses. Our suburban areas are becoming increasingly filled up with either large houses in tiny gardens or blocks of flats stuck incongruously in a street full of large detached houses. Beautiful gardens adorned with mature trees and teeming with wildlife are lost forever.

As a result of the pressure in his constituency, the MP for Tunbridge Wells has proposed a Private Member's Bill to Parliament to change the definition of *brownfield* land to exclude gardens. He is backed by the Campaign to Protect Rural England and the Royal Horticultural Society. The Bill has already been talked out once but the MP is not giving up and the Bill is being re-presented. ❖

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When we think about Pastoral Care, we might think *Clergy popping round for a cuppa tea/coffee.* When we think Clergy, we might think – *They won't have time or I don't like to bother them!* If indeed, you know who to contact at all...

Pastoral Care is our responsibility to each other within the Christian Church. We encourage the belief that together we come to represent the *body of Christ*. So, together, we should consider, care and pray for individual members of that *body* as best we can as we minister to each other.

One way we do this in our parish is through a dedicated group of people who form the pastoral care team. The members of this group bring people to Church and visit the house-bound or the elderly. They seek to nurture, listen to, comfort or assist people in need or difficulty, or simply help people *settle* into Berkhamsted.

The pastoral care team hopes that you will want to develop the relationships that already exist. It is also their task to work with those who come into contact with the church through Youth Clubs, Sunday

PASTORAL CARE

“..you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.”

(1 Corinthians 12:27)

School, Schools, toddler groups, Baptism, Marriage and Funerals (incorporated into the group are trained Bereavement Visitors).

We want to encourage, support and *be there* when needed; to respond confidentially to the needs of those who we worship alongside, or who **you** think might benefit from a visit, phone call or chat.

Philippa Seldon and **Richard Hackworth** are the co-ordinators for this pastoral care group and by the time you read this article, you will have seen other references to the group in Church. Together we want to be better equipped to respond to the needs of our community.

For the clergy and laity to work together more efficiently, we need your help...

What to do if you or someone you know requires *pastoral care*, someone to talk to or a bit of help? Contact either **Philippa Seldon** (871534), or **Richard Hackworth** (863990) Pastoral Care Co-ordinators or the Parish Office (878227)



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BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE MUSEUM

Kate Atkinson's prize-winning novel *Behind the Scenes at the Museum* portrays the betrayals, resentments, infidelities, unspoken secrets and tragedies of an ordinary dysfunctional English family: The title *just came* to the author one dark winter afternoon as she was wandering through a deserted gallery in the Yorkshire Museum.

Should this make museum curators worried? Is this our public persona? Or is it how we see ourselves?

For those of us working in museums, the *dysfunctional family* tag might sometimes ring true. We may well have experience of a tyrannical father figure (the Director), a multi-tasking, peace-making mother (aka the Head of Human Resources) and sibling rivalry in the form of curators competing amongst themselves for the largest piece of the funding cake. But most of the time we try to rise above our minor differences to present a united front to our funding bodies, and, more importantly, our visitors. Our sense of common purpose usually carries us through and sometimes it's hard to believe we actually get paid to enjoy ourselves so much...

I'm planning to talk about the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge where I work. The Museum was founded

Lucilla Burn previews her talk

*Find out more when **Lucilla Burn**, Keeper of Antiquities at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge gives a talk in St Peter's Church at 7.30pm on Monday, December 3rd.*

in 1816 by the terms of the will of Richard, VII Viscount Fitzwilliam, who left not just his collection of paintings and manuscripts to the University but also a substantial sum of money for a purpose-built museum in which to house it. The

Fitzwilliam opened to the public in 1848, and has been promoting Lord Fitzwilliam's aim, the *advancement of knowledge*, ever since. I shall talk a little about the Museum in general, and then about the main activities that I'm involved with. These range from making acquisitions, researching and publishing the collections and initiating and installing exhibitions and permanent displays, to organising storage areas, fund-raising, and teaching university students, school-children and members of the University of the Third Age.

Lucilla Burn has been Keeper of Antiquities at the Fitzwilliam since 2001. Before then she was an Assistant Keeper in the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities at the British Museum. Athenian black and red figured pottery is one of her special interests. She is a graduate of both Oxford and Cambridge and author of popular and scholarly books on Greek and Roman art and archaeology.

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Wasn't the Hospital Trust meeting at the Civic Centre on Monday 24th September interesting?

About 55 members of the public turned up to hear the latest on the West Herts Hospital

Trust's cunning plans to improve our local health service. It was a shame the Town Council couldn't move their meeting to the Tuesday. The reason given was that a couple of months notice was not enough to rearrange the date, so the odd Councillor actually stayed while the majority toddled upstairs to the Council chamber.

The main points were:

Watford Hospital will not be ready to accept any more work until September next year at the earliest.

Hemel has already closed two wards and A&E patients are being taken to Watford. It's considered better to have one 24hr A&E rather than two 12hr A&E departments.

DoH suggests that when services are transferred to a new location, the old services should continue to be provided until the new are available.

The local Trust is no longer in debt, so the changes are nothing to do with saving money.

Public transport issues are nothing to do with the Trust, so are ignored.

Staff for the Watford Hospital will be drawn from local residents who currently commute elsewhere (thus freeing up road space to allow ambulances easier access).

Patients will normally only remain at Watford for a day or two, when they will be transferred back to their local facilities.

The rumour regarding building a new hospital in Hemel was partly confirmed with the revelation that it would be easier

THE DAY THE CIRCUS CAME TO TOWN

Norman Cutting tackles the Hospital Conundrum

to build a NEW hospital than adapt an existing one. This was Mr Laws preferred route, although the location was problematical.

The audience thought that the original CNT

site (aka Paradise Fields) would be an excellent choice and enable the Watford site to be developed as a community hospital.

The Trust had already taken into account the increase in population and additional journey time for patients when the decision was taken to develop Watford rather than the Hemel/St Albans option.

The proposed Watford brownfield site is not contaminated, nor liable to flooding as consultants had tested it. (Similar consultants, I expect, to those who gave the OK to develop the Manor Street site where all the planted trees have now died!).

The proposed paediatrics A&E will now be at Watford instead of Hemel as the DoH guidelines say that all facilities must be available and only Watford will have them, it follows then that the award winning birthing unit is unlikely to have a future.

What does it mean to us in Berkhamsted?

In the recent Berkhamsted Transport report, 69% considered that getting to Hemel Hempstead Hospital was difficult. No mention of Watford, but it must be considered equal or worse. The idea is that as long as you are not at death's door, then the local facilities will deal with you. Indeed, we were assured that Watford was the place of last resort and time spent there would be kept to a minimum. Transport between the acute Watford unit and other local facilities will be dealt with easily by the current ambulance service. No mention was made of the privatised system currently experiencing the obvious problems.

The future of the Hemel unit is problematical. We are assured that

→ p19

Alex Evans, father-in-law of Lt Col Jonny Bourne, Commanding Officer of the Gurkhas in Afghanistan, appeals for generosity at this time of National Remembrance.

"I am very sorry to inform you that 551359 Major A M Roberts (Alexis) was killed as a result of enemy action on 04 Oct 07 whilst on duty on Op HERRICK in Afghanistan".

Alexis, Lex to his compatriots, was 32, mentor to Prince William at Sandhurst, the father of two young daughters, and the most senior British officer to be killed in Afghanistan. His name will join those of the 15,500 members of the armed forces killed in combat, training and acts of terrorism since 1948. In only one year since then have there been no deaths to record.

A new memorial for the dead of continuing wars has just been consecrated in Alrewas, Staffordshire. The names of the 15,500 will be engraved on walls; space is left for 10,000 more names. God forbid that they get used.

The war against the Taleban started in October 2001. In the four years to 2005 four British soldiers were killed. In 2006, and to date in 2007, seventy seven soldiers have died in combat. Roadside bombs, refined in their deadliness by

THE POPPIES OF AFGHANISTAN

Alex Evans writes



Major Alexis Roberts (photo: MOD)

insurgents' experience in Iraq, have killed many, including Lex.

Deaths sometimes make media headlines.

What is rarely brought to attention is the numbers of wounded, categorised as seriously, or very seriously. For every death, three or more are wounded. The ugly reality is that wounds include amputation, blindness, shrapnel wounds, burns, and mental scarring.

Age will not weary Lex. Other injured Service personnel face an uncertain lifetime.

Members of the Armed Forces must respond to the calls by Government for interventions in foreign lands. The ethos of the professions, sailors, soldiers and airmen, is that they do their duty bravely, professionally, and willingly to their utmost to achieve the missions of their masters. The list of family names on the Berkhamsted war memorial at St Peter's is testimony to the ultimate sacrifice made by many of our townsfolk.

There is today, however, an increasing awareness that Government of any hue is unable to sustain the unwritten Covenant between the nation and the military. In return for risking their lives, the military need to be well trained for the intended theatre of war, rested between missions, provided with modern equipment and personal protection of the highest order, all

in sufficient quantity. Service men should be confident that, if they die, their spouse, children and dependent relatives will be looked after, financially and emotionally. The wounded should receive medical excellence in their treatment, and compensation.

The Royal British Legion (RBL) is the UK's leading charity safeguarding the welfare, interests and memory of those who have served in the Armed Forces and their dependants. It provides financial, social and emotional support to millions and its benevolence spans all age groups from the oldest to the very young.

The RBL has been moved to launch a *Broken Covenant* campaign to call on Government to honour its life-long duty of care to those making a unique commitment to their country. Compensation for the wounded is far below that available to civilians with lesser injuries. Military hospitals, including our own at Halton, have been closed. RBL believes that there should be a just compensation scheme, a greater commitment to supporting the physical and mental health of Service people and their families, and more support for bereaved Service families. The RBL has a strong case for support of its campaign and at last Government seems to be responding, with plans for increased compensation for servicemen and women.

Charities strive to fill the breach but the millions raised by them can only be a fraction of what is needed, and a tiny fraction of the cost of prosecuting war. The RBL will surely raise more this year than the £25 million of the 2006 Poppy Appeal. The money will be used, amongst other things, to provide equipment for the disabled, and to fund Care and Respite homes for veterans.

The Army Benevolent Fund has an appeal for donations to a *Current Operations Fund* under the heading, *Out-of-Action Man* with the toy depicted as an amputee. The caption is: *War is not a game of toy soldiers. Young men and women are risking their lives every day.* Instant donations can be made on the web site

below.

SSAFA Forces Help, the combined Services charity supporting Service personnel and their families is appealing for £5 million to convert properties near Selly Oak Hospital in Birmingham, where wounded Service personnel are treated, and near Headley Court, a unit for rehabilitation of the wounded and specialising in prosthetics. The conversions will provide residential accommodation, in lieu of guesthouses and hotels, for visiting relatives of the wounded and disabled who are undergoing treatment.

We have enjoyed peace in our country for an unprecedented period of 62 years. On Remembrance Day, Sunday 11th November, let us be grateful and generous as we donate to the appeals of the charities supporting the victims of war, veterans or in service.

At the Cenotaph, and as the symbolic Flanders Poppies flutter down in the Albert Hall, remember Lex who has given his life in the Poppy fields of Afghanistan. In the two minutes silences, pray for Lex and his family as representative of all those who have sacrificed their lives, for those who have been injured, for those in service whose lives are at risk, and for those of all generations whose lives have been cut short or scarred by war in foreign lands.

When you go home, tell them of us and say,

“For your tomorrow we gave our today”

Many websites provide more information. A selection relevant to this article is:

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

<http://armybenfund.org>

<http://ssafa.org.uk>

<http://tinyurl.com/yponau>



Our cover this month, a lively cartoon by **Polly Rafter**, celebrates the launch by the Cowper Society of the St Peter's Organ Appeal. Friends of the organ gathered at St Peter's on the evening of Sunday 7th October to take a glass of wine, generously donated to the Appeal by Waitrose plc, and to enjoy a recital of songs by the soprano, **Christine Kinsella** accompanied at the piano by St Peter's organist, **Jonathan Lee**. The audience and performers were welcomed by the Rector,

THE ORGAN APPEAL

Christopher Green writes



Father Michael Bowie. Later in the evening **David Pearce**, Chairman of the Cowper Society, with his usual panache, affirmed the significance of the organ in the musical life of Berkhamsted and urged his audience that a vital contribution to the Appeal is to make it as widely known as possible. Jonathan Lee having entertained us at the piano, outlined the problems affecting the organ and invited us to inspect the complex system of rods and levers that comprise the working parts of the instrument.

As an immediate result of the launch event, more than £2,000 was added to the sum raised by the Appeal, which at the time of writing stands at **£15,500** - a very promising start, but leaving a further **£24,500** to be found. A programme of fund-raising events is planned for the coming months - watch the *review* for details - and the Appeal committee is approaching a number of grant-awarding trusts with interests in pipe organs and the Anglican choral tradition.

Prints of the cartoon on the cover of this



month's *review* are available, while the print run lasts, from the Parish Office and at Cowper Society events - £5.00 each. The original is being raffled and tickets are also available from the Parish Office or at Cowper Society events - £1.00 each. The raffle will be drawn at the Chiltern Chamber Choir performance of Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* on 23rd December.

Donations to the Appeal (cheques payable to *The Cowper Society*) can be sent to:

Christopher Green, Organ Appeal Treasurer, 17 Cowper Road, Berkhamsted, HP4 3DE

Gift Aid forms for the Appeal are available on the tables at the back of St Peter's Church. This will give us 28% more money.

Events in November in aid of the organ

Friday 2nd 1.00 pm - Trio Artemis.
Violin, 'cello and piano.

Friday 16th 1.00 pm - Leon Bosch *double bass* Adrian Davis *piano*

Sunday 18th 6.00 pm - St Peter's Choir
St Cecilia Concert ❖



Donate online at

<http://theberkhamstedorgan.org.uk>

Photos: Tony Firshman



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THE COUNCIL AND THE CASTLE

Jenny Sherwood recalls a missed opportunity

In recent years Berkhamsted Town Council has been actively supporting endeavours to improve the facilities at the Castle for the people of Berkhamsted and

visitors to the town. Only recently, under the auspices of the Castle Liaison Group, which it was instrumental in establishing, it financed the redecoration of the Visitor Room at the Castle, so that sixteen panels depicting the history of the Castle, produced by the Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society, could be adequately displayed.

However, the Castle did not always enjoy such priority for the Council. When the post First World War improvement scheme for Berkhamsted was first discussed Earl Brownlow offered his support but thought that the Moor and adjoining Cook's Meadow should be built upon, suggesting instead that the Castle bailey should become a recreation ground.

Simultaneously the Duchy of Cornwall offered the Urban District Council a 31 years' lease of the Castle, the longest period permitted under the Duchy Management Acts. At the same time, Earl Brownlow was prepared to give the town strips of land around the Castle provided that the Council took over its management. The Duchy of

Cornwall declared that it was the wish of the Prince of Wales that the Castle and grounds should be maintained for the inhabitants of Berkhamsted and

neighbourhood.

The Council's response was to hesitate, probably because of concern at the possible expense involved, when other matters had greater priority. Only a careful perusal of the contemporary Council minutes will clarify this. The Council's invitation to the chief steward of the Duchy to come to Berkhamsted to discuss the matter was declined, with the assurance that the expense of maintaining the Castle would not be burdensome. The matter was dropped and no such opportunity has arisen since. What responsibilities rest on the shoulders of town councillors! ❖

In *News & Views* in last month's *review* (p7) it was stated that the Berkhamsted Local History and Museum Society is 'sponsoring a student from the University of Hertfordshire to build an animated virtual model of Berkhamsted Castle'. The Society is not in fact sponsoring the student, but will be checking the accuracy of the model.

← p13 When the Circus came to Town

diagnostics and short term recovery wards will continue to operate. Then there's the suggestion that a new build *Dacorum Hospital* could be a reality - mentioned with the backing of the Chief Executive who explains it would be easier to build new, rather than modify existing. This is the very same executive who considers it better to develop the existing Watford Hospital rather than build a new hospital - on *virgin* land set aside in the 1950s for just such a project to meet the needs of an expanding Hemel Hempstead. We even smelt the money in the 1970s.

The birthing unit fails the *back-up facilities* test as do most of the other procedures currently carried out at Hemel. The thinking goes along the lines that you put the staffing in one place along with the expertise, so that

the customers (that's us!) are not put in danger by a failure to provide the very best care. Just remember, the diagnostics and investigations are going to be carried out at Hemel. Or not!

Do not be surprised if the *consultation*, which ended on October 1st, confirms the acute services review and generally ignores local opinion. Similar proposals are in place for North Herts and the natives are up in arms there as well.

To be fair, the proposals make sense if you start from where the Trust is starting and the system works as they are proposing. However, the risk assessment and the customers (aka patients) suggest that the changes will not go smoothly and the improvements to patient care envisaged will not be realised. Only time will tell. ❖



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OUR CHURCH SCHOOLS

Blue skies and bright sunshine saw five Governors from our Victoria Church School – accompanied by c a n i n e companions **Bryn** and **Kirby** – complete a 12-mile sponsored walk to raise funds for the school's recently completed new building.

The **Revd Canon Iain Lane** saw the group off from St Albans Abbey with a prayer and a donation while Rector of St Peter's, the **Revd Dr Michael Bowie** and the **Revd John Pritchard** greeted the rosy-cheeked ramblers six hours later.

"We had a most enjoyable day," said walk organiser, chair of Governors and **Bryn and Kirby's** owner **Rowena Pike**, *"We had a lovely send-off from St Albans Abbey, fantastic weather for the walk and a very welcome tea on our return to St Peter's. Thank you to everyone concerned and a special thanks to our sponsors."*

The walk, on Saturday 15th September, crossed fields, woodland and country lanes through Bedmond and Abbots Hill, then joined the towpath at Apsley Lock for the homeward canal strait. Governors, **Carole Dell**, **Judy Ewart**, **Cathy Salmon** and **Rachel Below** made up the rest of the fund-raising team, which stopped for a refuelling drink and lunch at the White Hart Inn in Bedmond, before continuing to the Three Horseshoes at Winkwell for a speedy stand-up (shared) pint of lager shandy, which *really hit the spot* according to those who imbibed. Thereafter, it was only two miles to go before several cups of restorative tea and numerous cakes provided by **Anne Stead** and fellow Governor **Barbara Conway** at the Court

Bryn and Kirby lead the way
Cathy Salmon writes



House.

The walkers look set to raise over £1,200 towards the school's £550,000 new multi-purpose block, which opened its doors to pupils for the first time on 10th September.

"If you haven't already sponsored us, it's not too late," added Rowena. *"The building is complete and looks wonderful, but we still have to pay for it."*

So far, not including funds from the Diocese of St Albans, the Parochial Church Council and other sources, over £17,000 has been amassed from Governors' fund-raising initiatives ranging from a Parental Giving Scheme to an alumni appeal and concerts.

Pupils themselves have collected £400 in new building-shaped money-boxes and in mid-September Berkhamsted Town Council contributed £5,000 in response to a grant application submitted by the Governors. *"We're currently waiting for final costings, which have exceeded original estimates,"* explained Rowena, *"Hopefully we're getting very close to what will be our revised target - to pay for a building which is and will be a wonderful asset for generations of children – now and in the future."*

If you would like to make a donation, please visit the website <http://justgiving.com/governorswalk> or send a cheque, made payable to: Victoria School Governors, to Victoria School, Prince Edward St, Berkhamsted, Herts., HP4 3HA. ❖

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Remembering the Past

**The Revd
Jonathan
Gordon writes**

review Northchurch & Wigginton

In August I travelled to Essex to attend a funeral service of a friend named Vincent who in his 95th year had been ordained for 70 years. When I was training for ministry we used to meet up periodically for lunch

and he shared with me some of his experiences of being a priest in a variety of places. One story that was profoundly moving concerned his time as an army chaplain in the last stages of the Second World War. He was part of the unit that entered into the concentration camp of Bergen-Belsen in April 1945. The liberators saw a horrific scene. Surviving emaciated prisoners of the Reich, many close to starvation were found stumbling around those who had already died. The British buried 23,000 bodies in mass graves of 1000 each and provided emergency first aid to over 20,000 survivors. Vincent was a man who had a deep faith and compassion for those who were in need. At his funeral a letter was read that he had written to a soldier at the end of the war. He expressed the hope that those who had survived would do everything they could to overcome hatred and discrimination and to work towards building a better world. He was remembered in the funeral service as a pastor and friend to many, which provides a fitting testament to his own efforts to live up to his words.

Over the last two years in Northchurch and Wigginton I have met a number of people who have their own stories of the war years. These have included home defence during the Battle of Britain and the blitz, active service with the army or air force in North Africa, Italy, India, and Burma, and with the navy on the Atlantic Ocean.

Alongside these recollections have been people, who had connections with Bletchley Park, or munitions and aircraft factories. There are others who were nurses in London or worked on local farms. I was looking at some documents in St Mary's School and the diary describes the arrival of evacuees from London. There are stories of romance and marriages, then mobilisation and years spent apart. They represent remarkable memories of courage, determination, often humour, comradeship, and sacrifice with each person playing a part, in what was arguably the most significant event of the Twentieth Century.

In November there will be acts of remembrance taking place across the town and country. I am going to be thinking hard about Vincent's hope for a better world. It was a hope carved from seeing first hand the worst human beings can do to each other, alongside the experience of human compassion and a deep faith in God who can make *all things new*. Over sixty years later it is a hope that retains its relevance and power.

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BERKHAMSTED TOWN COUNCIL

Friday 30th November 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Switching on the Christmas Lights - Charity stalls; visit of Father Christmas.

BERKHAMSTED CASTLE WI



On a lovely sunny afternoon our Joint President **Judith Lowther** welcomed members to our October meeting and introduced us to our speaker **Joyce Vincent** who spoke to us about her *Trip on an Oil Tanker* - and what a trip! She was expecting to spend Christmas with her family in Yorkshire but unexpectedly spent eight days on an oil tanker - her husband's Christmas surprise for her. We were kept amused by the many problems that can arise on such a vessel in mid-winter in a Force 10 gale on a hazardous journey through the Channel from moorings in Holland ending up making a *bumpy* landfall docking at Falmouth. A vote of thanks was given by Joy Lovell. Tea and cakes followed, provided by Sue Bull and the raffle was drawn. Our next meeting is our AGM at the Court House on **Friday 2nd November** at 2:00pm.

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Friday 23rd November 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Preview

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Saturday 24th November 11:00am - 4pm
Plus stalls and refreshments in the Village Hall

Sunday 25th November 12:00 - 4:00pm
Refreshments in the Church

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Instead of a Christmas stocking this year why not fill one of the bright green reusable bags made from recycled plastic bottles? And your Christmas table would look lovely with a rich red tablecloth from India complemented by poinsettia napkin rings from Thailand. There are crackers too filled with Fairtrade gifts.

There is a splendid range of Festive Fare including chutney and preserves sets. Why bake a Christmas cake when a delicious Fairtrade version is available readymade for a modest £9.99? There is also a calendar featuring Fairtrade recipes for every month of the year.

The Oxfam shop is an Aladdin's Cave of interesting and unusual gifts. Do pay it a visit.

BERKHAMSTED MUSIC SOCIETY

Saturday 17th November 8:00pm at the Civic Centre - *Martini String Quartet* with **Angus Meryon** clarinet in works by Mozart, Dvorak and Brahms. Tickets £12.00, Under 21s £6.00 in advance from 871598 and at the door

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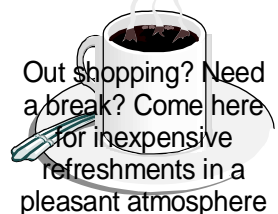
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HOSPICE OF ST FRANCIS EVENTS

Friday 16th November 7:30 for 8:00pm

Fabulous food and wine tasting at Pendley Manor. Tables of 10, tickets £65 each. All proceeds go towards Hospice care. Sponsored by Rodwells and Pendley Manor

Saturday 17th November

Christmas Fayre at the Civic Centre, Berkhamsted - Come and buy your Christmas cards and gifts.

Saturday 17th November 7:30pm at St John's Church, Boxmoor

Voices for Hospices - *Joyful Noise* singing with local schools.

Thursday 22nd November 8:30pm

Firewalk at the Watermill Hotel, Bourne End.!

Walking barefoot **over red hot** coals burning at over 1200°F.

Walk across fire - an amazing way to impress your friends, yourself and have some fun! We ask that you raise at least £150 in sponsorship for The Hospice. People will be more than willing to sponsor you to walk on fire.

The firewalk will be run by *Time 4 Change*, a training and events company. For over 20 years *T4C* has guided literally thousands of people across a 20 foot bed of hot coals with a 100% safety record.

6:00pm Registration

6:30pm Motivational Training

Please contact **Helen Satterthwaite** on (869555). Spectators welcome.

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

Saturday 17th November

9:30am-12:30pm.

Christmas Fair at the Court House

FRIENDS OF ASHRIDGE

Thursday 22nd November 8:00pm at the Civic Centre, Berkhamsted

Field of Dreams - Ashridge on Screen

Illustrated talk by **Nigel Edgington**, National Trust film advisor, on why National Trust properties feature so often on the big and small screen. Members £3.00 Visitors £4.00 at the door - includes

BERKHAMSTED ART SOCIETY

Monday 26th November - Saturday 1st December 9:00am - 7:00pm Monday to Friday; 9:00am - 5:00pm Saturday at the Civic Centre, Berkhamsted

Winter Exhibition - over 400 paintings plus sculpture and ceramics for sale by Society members. Entrance free.

173 High Street

Following the article by the Editor in the August *review* - *Berkhamstede 1300* - **Jenny Sherwood**, Chairman of the Local History and Museum Society writes to bring up to date the understanding of the medieval timber building at 173 High Street, now occupied by Claire Lloyd Properties. It was originally thought that the building might have been a two-bay shop of two storeys, built gable-end to the street. Further investigation suggests that it is more likely to have been a wing to an aisled hall and therefore to have been part of a domestic dwelling - perhaps built for a rich wool merchant. Such houses seem to have been on the south side of the street, away from the River Bulbourne, on slightly higher and drier ground. Stalls or *shops* for trading appear to have been on the other side of the street.

November

SUN	<i>St Peter's</i>	8:00am Eucharist 9:30am Sung Eucharist 6:00pm Evensong
	<i>All Saints' 4th</i>	8:00am Holy Communion – Methodist led 10:00am Morning Worship – Anglican led
	11 th	10:00am Holy Communion – Methodist led
	18 th	10:00am Holy Communion – Methodist led
	25 th	10:00am Sung Eucharist - Anglican led

All services at *St Peter's* unless otherwise indicated MP = Morning Prayer EP = Evening Prayer

MON	MP 7:30am	EP 5:00pm	Eucharist 6:00pm
TUE	MP 7:30am	EP 5:00pm	Eucharist 9:30am <i>All Saints'</i>
WED	MP 7:30am	EP 5:00pm	Eucharist 8:00am
THU		EP 5:00pm	Eucharist 11:00am (<i>Fr Michael's day off</i>)
FRI	MP 7:30am	EP 5:00pm <i>both churches</i>	Eucharist 9:15am
SAT	MP 9:30am <i>St Peter's</i> MP 8:45am <i>All Saint's</i>	EP 5:00pm	Eucharist 10:00am

1 st Sun	SUNDAYS TOGETHER LUNCH 12:30pm	<i>Court House</i>
	For anyone on their own on a Sunday.	Contact: Joan Morris (863780)
3 rd Mon	GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT VISITORS GROUP 7:45pm	<i>Court House</i>
	Contact June Haile (873087), Angela Morris (866992) or Ruth Treves Brown (863268)	
Tue	HILLSIDE GROUP: 8:00pm at 22 Upper Hall Park for bible study.	Contacts: Rob & Julie Wakely (875504)
Tue	CHUCKLES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 10:00-11:30am	<i>All Saints' Church Hall</i>
	Song Time or Short service as announced.	Jenny Wells (870981)
Tue	ST PETER'S CHOIR Children 5:15 to 6:15pm	<i>St Peter's</i>
	Contact: Adrian Davis (875674) or Jean Wild (866859)	
1 st Tue	TUESDAY CLUB 7:45pm	<i>A lively women's group with guest speaker Court House</i>
	Contact chairman Val Atkinson (866792) or secretary Joan Gregory (864829)	
3 rd Tue	MOTHERS' UNION: meets in members' houses at 8:00pm.	
	<i>Non-members always welcome.</i>	Contact: Kathie Lally (863526)
4 th Tues	MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER GROUP: 2:00pm	<i>17 Shaftesbury Court.</i>
	Tell us if anyone needs our prayers.	Contact: Jenny Wells (870981)
Wed	JULIAN MEETING: meets about twice a month	at Jenny's <i>57 Meadow Rd</i>
	<i>All are very welcome at 11:30am as arranged</i>	or at Ruth's <i>1 Montague Rd</i>
	Contact: Jenny Wells (870981) or Ruth Treves Brown (863268)	
Wed	PATHFINDERS GAMES CLUB 7-8:30pm . (yrs 5-8)	Jimmy Young (384929)
		<i>All Saints' Hall</i>
3rd Wed	GRIEF AND LOSS SUPPORT Lunch at 12:30pm for those who have been bereaved.	
	Contact Sylvia Banks (871195)	
Thu	HOME GROUP: 8:00pm on 2nd & 4th Thursdays.	Contact Linda Bisset (862115)
Thu	TE'S (Youth club for yr 9+) 7-9pm	Jimmy Young (384929) <i>Court House</i>
Thu	BELLRINGING: 8:00pm Priscilla Watt (Captain of the Tower) (863804)	<i>St Peter's</i>
Fri	LITTLE FISHES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 9:30-11:30am	<i>Court House</i>
	Weekly meetings with a short service 1st Fri in <i>St Peter's</i> (10am)	
	Nicole Addy-Varndell (864094)	
Fri	ST PETER'S CHOIR: Children 7:00-8:30pm, Adults 7:30-8:30pm.	<i>St Peter's</i>
	Contact: Adrian Davis (875674) or Jean Wild (866859)	
3 rd Sat	ABC PRAYER BREAKFAST: 8:00am for breakfast & prayers.	<i>Various local churches</i>

review diary

Please see opposite for services at St Peter's and All Saints' churches.

November/December

NOVEMBER

Thu	1	8:00pm	Patronal Festival Service	All Saints'
Fri	2	10:00am	Little Fishes Service	St Peter's
		1:00pm	Recital – Trio Artemis	Lady Chapel, St Peter's
		8:00pm	Solemn Requiem for All Souls (Fauré <i>Requiem</i>).....	St Peter's
Sat	10	7:30pm	The Cowper Society presents – The Bridgewater Band	St Peter's
Sun	11	3:00pm	The Royal British Legion Service of Remembrance	St Peter's
		6:00pm	Choral Evensong.....	St Peter's
Tue	13	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' Service <i>Joshua and his Trumpet</i>	All Saints'
Fri	16	1:00pm	Recital - Leon Bosch <i>double bass</i> and Adrian Davis <i>piano</i>	Lady Chapel, St Peter's
Sat	17	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast	All Saints'
		7:30pm	<i>Joyful Noise</i> players.....	All Saints'
Sun	18	6:00pm	St Peter's Choir - <i>St Cecilia concert</i>	St Peter's
Tue	27	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' Service <i>Elijah and the Still Small Voice</i> ...	All Saints'
Wed	28	7:30pm	Deanery presentation: Canon Dennis Stamps <i>Talking about the Gospel</i>	St Peter's

DECEMBER

Sat	1	7:30pm	The Cowper Society presents – <i>Gaudeamus choral concert</i>	St Peter's
Sun	2	6:00pm	Advent Carol Service.....	St Peter's
Mon	3	7:30pm	The Cowper Society presents a talk by Dr Lucilla Burn, Keeper of Antiquities at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge <i>Behind the Scenes at the Museum</i>	St Peter's
Fri	7	10:00am	Little Fishes Service	St Peter's
Sat	8	7:30pm	The Cowper Society presents – Andrew Arthur <i>Organ recital</i> .	St Peter's
Sun	9	7:30pm	The Cowper Society presents – Berkhamsted Choral Society <i>Christmas concert</i>	St Peter's
Tue	11	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' Service <i>Christmas Story</i>	All Saints'
Wed	12	7:30pm	Rotary Carol Service	St Peter's
Sat	15	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast	Sunnyside
Sun	16	6:00pm	Choral Evensong.....	St Peter's
Sun	23	7:30pm	Chiltern Chamber Choir. <i>Christmas Oratorio</i> —JS Bach	St Peter's

review registers

Baptisms (St Peter's)

23 September Charley Victoria Cox, Christina Elizabeth Soulsby,
William Zachary John David Tangen, Joseph Thomson

Weddings (St Peter's)

22 September Stuart Alan Charles Riches & Claire Louise Harris,
William Kenneth Green & Claire Louise Hughson

Funerals

21 September	Ena Selina Elizabeth Smith	St Peter's Church (Chilterns Crematorium)
21 September	John Richard Woodstock	St Peter's Church (Chilterns Crematorium)
25 September	Muriel Chapman	St Peter's Church (Kingshill Cemetery)
4 October	Marion Denise Hurt	St Peter's Church (Kingshill Cemetery)

review factfile

CONTACT LIST

Names and local telephone numbers for jobs, rotas and information (for clergy, parish officers, music, bells and banns etc see opposite). Parish Office in the Court House (878227) is usually open 9:30am-5:30pm Tue/Wed, 9:30-12noon Thu/Fri (answering machine other times)

St Peter's

Altar service
Chalice rota
Church maintenance
Church cleaning
Flower arrangements
Sunday morning coffee
Service recordings
Intercessions

Epistle Readers
Electoral Roll
Pathfinders

Sidesmen
Catering

Hospice contact
Christian Aid
Youth worker
Sunday School/Explorers

Alan Conway (865798)
Fr Michael Bowie (864194)
Christopher Green (863241)
Jean Green (878227)
Sarah Dawson (871614)
Joan Morris (863780)
Alan Conway (865798)
Fr Michael Bowie (864194)

Ron Fisher (865846)
Judith Limbert (873626)
Stephen Lally (863526)

Chris Hunt (822607)
Val Atkinson (866792)

Rachael Anderson (871997)
Angela Morris (866992)
Jimmy Young (876736)
Carolina Bowie (864194)

All Saints'

Felicity White (866223)
Jenny Wells (870981)
Chris Lumb (863885)
Kate Spall (873470)
Madeleine Brownell (862578)
Sylvia Banks (871195)
Janet Conradi (833402)
Jenny Wells (870981) and
John Wignall (827639)
Jenny Wells (870981)
Pat Hearne (871270)
Penny O'Neill (843422) and
Rebecca Judd (865691)
John Wignall (827639)
Chris Dipper (873006) and
Gill Lumb (863885)

Muriel Johnston (866447)
Jimmy Young (876736)
Carenza Wilton (875147)

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to recover



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review contacts

General

The Revd Dr Michael Bowie, (Team Rector), The Rectory, Rectory Lane (864194)
(day off Thursday)
The Revd John Pritchard (Curate), 6 Severns Close (870016) (day off Tuesday)
The Revd Prof. Luke Geoghegan (NSM), 16 Gravel Path, (866361)
The Revd Canon Basil Jones (Hon.Asst.Priest), 17 Lochnell Road (864485)
Canon Anthony Lathe (Hon Asst Priest), 15a Kingsdale Road (863115)
Christina Billington (Diocesan Lay Minister), 13 Ashridge Rise (385566)
Marjorie Bowden (Reader), 16 Broadwater (871283)
Joan Cook (Reader), The Gardeners Arms, Castle Street (866278)
John Malcolm (Reader), Landswood, Shootersway (874993)
Jenny Wells (Reader), 57 Meadow Road (870981)
 Parish Administration: **Jean Green**, The Parish Office, the Court House (878227)
 Stewardship Recorder: **Miles Nicholas**, 46 Fieldway (871598)
 Churchwardens: **Chris Hunt**, 11 The Firs, Wigginton (822607)
Philippa Seldon, 1 Fieldway (871534)
 Deputy Churchwardens: **Peter Bryant**, 36 North Road (871680)
Tracy Robinson, 36 Trevelyan Way, (863559)
 Parochial Church Secretary: **Pat Hunt**, 11 The Firs, Wigginton (822607)
 Council: Treasurer: **Michael Robinson**, 36 Trevelyan Way (863559)

St Peter's

Director of Music: **Adrian Davis** (875674) <http://stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk>
 Asst. Director of Music: **Jean Wild** (866859)
 Organist: **Jonathan Lee** (0794 1113232)
 Weddings and Funerals,
 Banns of Marriage and
 Baptisms: **Fr Michael Bowie** (864194)
 Bellringers (St Peter's): **Priscilla Watt**, 11 Cavalier Court, Chesham Road (863804)

All Saints'

Choirmaster: **Peter McMunn** (874894) <http://allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk>
 All Saints' is an Anglican / Methodist Local
 Ecumenical Partnership.
 Methodist minister: **The Revd Paul Timmis** (866324)

What & Where in Berkhamsted?



Answer next month

October's What & Where



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