

# Berkhamsted *review*

**December 2008**

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Seed

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Notes and  
Events



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*for Town and Parish*

**30p**



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

### **Welcome to the December 2008 issue of the Berkhamsted review**

Christmas Greetings to all our readers.

The birth of Jesus is set in a context of difficult journeys - Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem and not long after, the Holy Family to Egypt. The world changes very little. Families forced to make difficult journeys are ever in the news - in Ossetia, in Darfur, in the Congo. People caught up in events that have their origins in historical circumstances and ideologies far removed from those who are most dramatically affected. In affluent Britain we are sheltered from such turmoil. Too sheltered perhaps. Too complacent. Too ready to accept the great inequalities between our own comfort and affluence and the experience of the vast majority of the world's population. In two hundred years time what will our descendents think? Will they look back with the same sense of disbelief that we feel when we contemplate attitudes to slavery in the eighteenth century? To an unimaginable extent an experience of journeys, not just difficult but often fatal. Easy now to see how wrong it was. Christmas is a time of joy, but also a time to reflect on the message of the angels - Peace on Earth and Goodwill to *all* People.

**Christopher Green**

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**plus our regular features,  
notes & notices and diary dates**

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Cover: St Peter's Christmas card (see p13)

*illustration: Katherine Green*

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*Responsibility for opinions expressed in articles and letters published in this review and for the accuracy of any statements in them rests solely with the individual contributor*

**Next copy dates (all Fridays)**

**28 Nov 2 Jan 30 Jan**



**The Death Penalty**  
**Father Michael**  
**Bowie writes**

## review leader

In Mid-October, Carolina and I were lucky enough to hear **Sister Helen Prejean**, who wrote *Dead Man Walking*, speak to the 20<sup>th</sup> annual conference of *Lifelines* the charity founded by **Jan Arriens** in the UK to write letters to death row prisoners in the UK. If you haven't seen the film of *Dead Man Walking*, try to watch it; better yet buy and read her book (and there's a second, *Death of Innocents*). I have rarely heard a more impressive speaker. Because of our recent trip to the USA, during which Carolina visited two death-row prisoners, I know a little about what goes on around the death penalty in the USA. But Sister Helen mentioned two very significant statistics that I didn't know or remember:

*80% of those on death row are found in the ten former confederate states that supported slavery.*

*All the states which use the death penalty have higher homicide rates than those which do not.*

So we can say that the death penalty has a link to racism and we can say that it doesn't work. I trust the new President of the USA knows these things.

We should never forget that judicial processes make mistakes which, when a death penalty is imposed, are fatal mistakes. We also know that (because good lawyers cost money) judicial processes make more mistakes in cases involving poor people than those involving rich or even moderately comfortable people. There are more mistakes in the case of black people than white people, more mistakes in the case of Latino people than white people and more mistakes in the case of working-class people than middle-class people. To an extent those last four statements all say the same thing. These distinctions are not pinko-liberal propaganda, just facts. And if you replace the word *mistake* with the word *injustice* you are suddenly talking about a systemic problem in the administration of justice in an allegedly democratic society, a society which subscribes to the doctrine that all are equal under the law.

There are no rich people on death row. If you have money to find, retain and brief a lawyer,

your sentence will be life or less. The serial killer **Charles Manson** is not on death row. And there are poor people on death row (average stay 20 years) who prove to be innocent – the man Sister Helen is visiting at present, she told us, will have his conviction overturned after many years on the row. She has accompanied six men to their deaths, all of whom were guilty. But she would say, as I would, that their guilt or innocence is not the primary issue. A society must be judged by the way it treats its citizens. If we kill people judicially we will inevitably make mistakes; even forgetting those mistakes, we are not treating the guilty with the respect that a civilized state owes to its citizens as human beings if we kill them. If it is wrong in law to murder people, a judge ordering it does not make it right. To put this in a Christian perspective, as Sister Helen asked the Pope (**John Paul II**): does the Church only stand up for the rights of the innocent? That was not Jesus' way – he sought to release us from our wrong-doing and help us to turn around (repent); there was no wrong, no sin that he did not forgive (he made one technical exception to that – ascribing evil to God – but that isn't at issue here).

There is one more good line, one of many, from Sister Helen's talk which crystallizes her point and, for me, the argument about this issue: *No one should be defined by the worst thing they have done.* There is more to every one of us than the worst thing we have ever done. Jesus taught that. His good news was that we can redeem, come back from, our worst moments and be, all of us, saints, however unlikely that may seem at the end of a bad day. I would say that the death penalty is by definition un-Christian because it denies the opportunity for repentance and forgiveness. It closes down the opportunity for change and institutionalizes murder.

Christmas, to which we're all looking forward, was the beginning of God's physical pledge of that gift of forgiveness: new life, the birth of a baby who would change the world. Spare a thought for those who will spend Christmas under threat of lethal injection.

If you want to know more about *Lifelines* and writing to death row prisoners, the website is at <http://lifelines-uk.org> ❖

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## SOWING THE SEED

The Mothers' Union is the best kept secret in the Anglican Church! This is something its members know, and when over fifty of us met for the Deanery Autumn Worship in Tring a lot of that secret was revealed

Margaret Burbidge shares a secret



<http://themothersunion.org>

for us to be proud of and to share. The service that afternoon in October was a Eucharist for a Global Harvest. The Mothers' Union sows seeds all over the world, in the poorest countries and where there is great need. Seeds were sown that afternoon; crayons and colouring books, underwear and tights were given to the Women's Refuge in Bedford, for women and their children who are escaping domestic violence and arrive with nothing. The collection of over £112 was for the Family Life Programme in Uganda. During the service we prayed for seeds sown in Myanmar, Canada, Brazil and Australia, as well as those sown when natural disasters strike. In this country seeds are scattered in prisons and hospitals. A mother whose baby was in the Special Care Unit of a local hospital could quickly find her baby by the brightly coloured cot quilt made and donated by Mothers' Union members. Surely this was a seed sown and harvested at a dark time and a well-kept secret! The fruits from these seeds may grow slowly and the harvest will be ongoing, but the hope and the prayer is that the harvest will nurture and sustain relationships within families and communities. The words of the Eucharist Prayer that afternoon were *Take, eat, this is the body of Christ given that you might gather the harvest of deep-rooted, far-reaching relationships.*

Relationships were thought about differently at the diocesan Faith and Policy Day, *We are Created by God*. The venue was the recently built Vision Hall attached to Christ Church, Radlett and the day was to explore identity and relationships. Members could choose to attend two of four discussion groups; marriage and cohabitation, divorce and further marriage,

being single and being lesbian or gay.

These took place after the introductory address given by **Revd Denise Lady Brown**, the Faith and Policy Co-ordinator for the Oxford Diocese. Denise

reminded us that we experience these different ways of identifying ourselves and relating to each other in our wide circle of family and friends. In developing a theological understanding of relationships, we may struggle with biblical events in the light of social and technological developments of recent decades. Jesus challenged the social boundaries of his day and in doing so showed that every person is much more than one label and all belong equally. Jesus lived alongside all sorts and types; he met and welcomed the vulnerable and those labelled unacceptable by others, and showed that unconditional love breaks down barriers.

In the groups, we were given case studies to discuss, and members were able to share their own experiences and reservations, and possible effects on church communities. We came to the Closing Worship with our thoughts of the wide variety of relationships we experience. The words reminded us that relationships are not static; they change and grow, are broken and rebuilt. Communities can be divided by difference, yet barriers can be demolished and bitterness softened. These are the fruits of the seeds sown by us all, and by harvesting the fruits of those seeds, the Mothers' Union works to transform communities and nurtures the family in its many forms. Surely this is a secret worth sharing!



**Children's Society** A new website for the Berkhamsted Walk is

<http://www.berkhamstedwalk.com>.  
Omitted in error in Notes & Notices in last month's review

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Recently there was a furore over the possibility that the routes that aircraft fly across the north west of London may have been changed by the National Air Traffic Services. This anger was caused by the expected

extra noise that the new routes would give rise to over rural areas. The rural tranquillity in the Chiltern Hills would have been disturbed. The noise of jet aircraft is particularly offensive in the quiet countryside; but one wonders if the same uproar would have been heard if aircraft still used propellers rather than the jet engines that are used by all commercial airlines today. The sound of an aircraft propeller has a rhythmic quality which is almost soothing – jet engines, on the other hand, simply irritate. There is a similar contrast between, say, the rhythmic sound made by a steam engine and the rather less endearing noise of a diesel motor, an electric motor or, for that matter, an internal combustion, petrol, engine. Like the jet these engines make a rough noise that irritates rather than a musical sound that soothes. The sentimental attachment that many have for steam trains is as much, I am sure, to do with that rhythmic sound and the rhythmic puffing of steam and smoke from their chimneys as with their look, which itself has a kind of a comical, well meaning rhythm, appearing clumsy at slow speeds but dignified and ruthless at high speeds.

So rural tranquillity is not just about silence, soundlessness. It is as much about the nature of sounds. Some sounds add to tranquillity. I have known people complain about the sound of church bells but I suspect that this is only when they are extremely loud and persistent. For the most part the distant sound of church bells on a quiet Sunday morning adds to the tranquillity. Such a sound is the *peal of stillness*<sup>†</sup> itself. It is a sound that draws

## Ian Reay's &news &views

### Measuring Tranquillity

Ian Reay looks  
beyond the decibels

attention to the silence, it bathes in it and leaves it undisturbed. It does not break it. The sound of low flying jets, on the other hand, jars like a cracked bell: it is distracting rather than revealing of the quietude of a country walk.

Because the nature of a sound, rather than just its loudness as measured in decibels is so important, it has proved difficult to *measure* tranquillity in a way that is useful for those people burdened with the responsibility of deciding on such issues as road and airport construction and aircraft routing. Neither the Civil Aviation Authority nor any Government department has accepted a way of establishing what tranquillity is in numerical terms. And as is often the case in the modern world, what a policy maker cannot unambiguously measure the policy maker ignores.

There has, however, been an attempt to measure tranquillity in a numerical way. This was undertaken by the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England. They commissioned Northumbria University to prepare a measure of tranquillity to be used at first for the Northumberland National Park and the West Durham Coalfield. The university's approach was to ask a large number of participants in a survey what they found important about tranquillity and then to relate these responses to features on the ground and in the landscape. The important thing about this approach is that it does not rely on *experts* deciding what tranquillity is but rather uses the opinions and *votes* of affected people. Naturally this is too dangerous for experts to use and so no department of state has yet agreed to use it to inform their judgements and decisions about noisy new developments. ❖

<sup>†</sup>**Martin Heidegger**, in *Poetry, Language, Thought*, translated by Alfred Hofstadter.



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Our editor  
**Christopher Green**, in his interesting article in August's *review* came to the conclusion that contrary to received wisdom the Lady Chapel of St

Peter's was not a later addition but was all part of the original church built in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century. Now in last month's *review* **Christopher Morris** says he agrees. Only a rash man would express a different view from two such knowledgeable gentlemen (and friends), but here goes.

Firstly, fond as I am of St Peter's, I have to come clean and admit that I don't share the view that our Lady Chapel is anything much to write home about. It seems churlish, almost sacrilegious, to be uncomplimentary about a part of the church that is over 600 years old, but this chapel jars my eye. It is just stuck on to the side of the north transept and is neither well designed nor well built. The vaulted ceiling is sloppily made, so that when the three big windows were inserted at a later date they had to be put in off-centre to fit them in. And aren't those incongruous windows an architectural disaster? Who today would try and put in windows that were so tall that they rose well above the highest part of the ceiling, and bodge up the vault to fit them in? It was the medieval equivalent of someone now inserting large plate glass windows into a Tudor cottage. I bet that the famous **William Butterfield**, who was something of a purist, would have wanted to get rid of them as part of his major restoration of St Peter's in the 1870s if he thought he could have got away with it

Incidentally, Butterfield must have recognised that the Lady Chapel was hardly stable, as can be seen today from the leaning pillar and bulging east wall. He raised the roofs of the chancel and south transept, and for the sake of symmetry would surely have raised the

## COWBOY BUILDERS?

**John Cook** looks askance  
at the Lady Chapel

roof of the north transept too, if he had not been worried that by doing so he would have risked adding to the instability of the Lady Chapel.

Turning to the date when the chapel was built, from their architectural style the walls, mouldings, pillar and buttresses look different to me, and later, than those of the transept. The boded-up arrangement of the arch which leads into the chapel from the old chancel suggests that it was not part of the original plan – rather an extension built by cowboy builders some time later. The windows are 14<sup>th</sup> century, and the roof later than that, judging from its flat-pitched gable style.

In fact I have always been rather surprised at the date of 1230 given to the Lady Chapel on various plans. This seems much earlier than I would have thought, although the ancient graffito which can just about be made out on the tower pillar would seem to bear out that there was such a chapel there in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The translation of this inscription reads *The Virgin Mother, the Eternal Gate of Glory of the Church* – clearly apt words for a Lady Chapel. But as far as I am aware, with only a few exceptions substantial Lady Chapels were later additions to early medieval churches, usually added round about the early 1300s when the cult of the Blessed Virgin Mary grew strong. They were often then made in a fittingly enriched style with a vaulted ceiling. On large churches, where practicable they were added on to the extreme east end of a church, but in the case of St Peter's this would not have been possible because Castle Street is too close. My hunch is that there was an earlier, smaller chapel which was subsequently replaced by the present one, followed by the later modifications mentioned. ❖

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**S**aturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2009 - Make a note of the date. St. Peter's will once again be holding this popular town event in and around the church, and next year is going to be an exciting fair. With a new chairman, **Judith Limbert**, and new committee members, the fair is ready to be updated, as you can see from the new logo.

However, as always, the Fair will support charities locally and abroad. This year, the local charity is one of which younger members of the St. Peter's congregation have had firsthand experience.

**Reach Out Projects** is a charity based in our diocese that concentrates on the provision of services to youth, community and voluntary groups. They provide a residential centre and maintain a canal boat. Canal trips are particularly popular with disabled children and those with special needs. Our own youth group, **Donutz**, went on a canal trip with **Reach Out** and had an excellent day out. However these things can't be sustained without support. Having the canal run through Berkhamsted, you will be able to see where half the money we raise is going as the boats operate on the Grand Union. We shall be making *a great day out* possible for many in our diocese who deserve our help. **Reach Out** is an excellent charity to support as the ongoing work will directly benefit people in our

## PETERTIDE FAIR 2009

Sam Limbert writes



locality and our diocese.

**Fundacion Juconi AC** is our second charity - taking us from Africa where our support went in 2008 to the Americas.

**Fundacion Juconi AC** work with children in Mexico or Ecuador who are living or working on the street, or are at risk of doing so. The main aim is to reintegrate these children into their families and into society. **Juconi** work with three main groups, *street-living children*, *street-working*

*children* and *market-working children*. Work with all of these groups helps to take children off the streets. **Juconi** have found that 40% of children on the streets can be re-homed with their families, and then can be re-integrated into society. Our money will enable **Juconi** to continue with the excellent work they do, and save the lives of children on the streets in Mexico and Ecuador. These are some of the poorest regions of Central and South America, and we can help them. **Fr John Pritchard** has links with **Juconi**, and is going to visit them later in the year to let them know of the support we are going to give them.

Watch this space in the coming months for more news from the **Petertide Fair** as it moves into a new era. With the charities in place, the committee for 2009 are aiming to exceed 2008's total of £10,000 and hope you will get involved in whatever way you can. ❖

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Several decades ago  
**Barbara Ward**,  
author of *Spaceship*  
*Earth* (1966) and co-

author of *Only One Earth* (1972) described the 20th century human as centaur-man — half man, half car. Car-loving manufacturers and politicians are desperately searching for ways to keep driving as the problems of congestion and greenhouse gas emissions from cars fill our news programmes. Biofuels is the latest solution.

Petrol is made from oil, a fossil fuel which has been stored underground for millions of years. To burn petrol in our cars means releasing that stored CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere.

Biofuels are made from plants. They are described as *carbon neutral* as new plants are planted to replace them after they are harvested. Also the CO<sub>2</sub> released when the biofuels are burned in our cars is only what the plants took in from the atmosphere while they were growing.

On a small scale growing crops for biofuels can be good. Making fuel from crop residues such as stalks is better. Making fuel from waste vegetable oil, for example from fish and chip shops is even better.

However, on a large scale biofuels are going to be disastrous. The EU is committed to 5% of the fuel for our cars being sourced from biofuels. Germany uses 12% of its cultivated land for biofuel

## ARE BIOFUELS THE ANSWER?

crops to produce just 2% of its transport fuel. This means much of the biofuels will come from

outside Europe. Indonesia for example has earmarked millions of hectares of tropical rainforest for destruction — to grow more palm oil for biodiesel to be sold in Europe. In poorer, low-energy societies, even a small amount of bioenergy from waste or intercropping, could make a real difference to people's lives — provided that they are able to use it for their benefit, not export it to the richer nations. To suggest that Asia and Africa should divert land away from growing food to growing fuel to keep cars running in the industrialised countries is unwise and potentially harmful to both local economies and to the environment.

So, when you hear biofuels proposed as the answer to replace petrol in cars and aeroplanes, don't kid yourselves. There is no easy fix to this particular problem. A more sustainable solution is to drive less, walk, cycle, take the bus and train whenever we can and use local shops. We can give lots of lifts to people and buy a smaller car next time. And avoid flying. ❖

*Adapted from an article published originally by Christian Ecology Link. For Christian views on other environmental issues see*

<http://christian-ecology.org>

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Christmas Angel - **Christopher Green** writes

Our cover this month features a drawing by **Katherine Green** of one of the four angels on the pulpit in St Peter's Church. The pulpit wasn't always where it is now, nor were the angels part of its original design. The earliest photograph of the church interior (c.1871) shows the pulpit, without angels, on a stone plinth on the south side of the nave, opposite its present position. Norris tells us that it was given at the time of the 1870 restoration by the curates who had served under the **Revd James Hutchinson** (Rector 1851-1871). The angels, carved by the eminent sculptor and woodworker **Harry Hems** (1842-1916) of Exeter, were added in 1910 in memory of **Mrs Mary Ann Smith-Dorrien** by her fourteen children. Then, at some time prior to the re-ordering of St Peter's in 1960, the pulpit, including its stone plinth was moved to the north side of the nave to approximately its present position. During the re-ordering the stone plinth and steps were removed and the present, utilitarian wooden stand and steps substituted. Gilding was added in 1995. ❖

## HOSPITAL CARE?

### Still waiting for a decision

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of June the Area Health Authority will announce its decision on the location of a new District General Hospital for the North West Herts District. There are indications that this will be built in St Albans and that the services available in the Dacorum District will be of an even lower level than at present. The implications of this decision are of immense importance to us all. The problems of travelling to St Albans by public transport can hardly be exaggerated. To ensure that Berkhamsted is aware of the facts a meeting has been arranged by the Berkhamsted League of Hospital Friends at the Gable Hall, Berkhamsted, on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> June at 8 pm. The meeting will be addressed by **Dr Ian Mortimer**, District Community Physician and by **Mrs Bullmore**, Chairman of Dacorum Hospital Action Group.

That got you all going, didn't it?

That was in the May 1974 issue of the Berkhamsted Citizens Association newsletter, but 30 years later the same problems are being discussed by some of us as I pointed out in the September issue of the *review*. That article was written as a result of my attending a *stakeholders* meeting in July to discuss our new Hemel Hempstead General Hospital. The July meeting was to set the criteria for the location and a second meeting was promised for *late September or early October*. Here we are in November, and still waiting.

That, of course, was the Primary Care Trust. The West Hertfordshire Hospitals Trust is going in exactly the opposite direction. They are moving services to Watford (*that decision has been made and we can't change that* – how many times have I heard that?), only to have to move them back again due to problems at Watford. The latest *move* puts A&E at Watford between 10pm and 8am for *safety* reasons (i.e. not enough staff!) although we

were promised this would not happen before March 2009.

On the October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008, the Dacorum Hospital Action Group

held a public meeting (OK, where were you?) regarding the latest proposals to turn the Hospital Trust into a Foundation Trust. The Hospital Trust itself has been holding public meetings all over the area to explain the implications during yet another consultation period. The two Hospital Trust meetings in Berkhamsted attracted less than ten residents, the one I attended had three plus a couple of Town Councillors who popped in for a short time.

The idea is that the Trust will be able to do what it wants (so, what's new?), provide the services that its *customers* want, provide *targets* in addition to the government set ones (they can't even reach them!) and naturally raise funding elsewhere. Oh, I forgot, the public will be allowed to become governors and have a say in the way things are done.

Using the usual *management* style, they have divided the area into six constituencies and the proposed fifteen public governors will be selected using the number of referrals from each constituency during 2007. I did point out that Dacorum will be having another 25,000 *patients* thrust upon us during the next 10 years and our constituency (Berkhamsted and Tring) may have just one governor out of the four proposed for Dacorum. I have also pointed out that Watford is far more difficult to get to than Hemel Hempstead and that this could be part of the reason why referrals are low and why population would be a better measure.

The consultation period ends on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and shortly afterwards the Hospital Trust will make the decision to apply for Foundation Status – whoops – that should say, decision whether or not to apply.....

More information from <http://www.westhertshospitals.nhs.uk/ft> or the office on 084 44 77 6321

### **So you want to die?**

Once again the *awkward* subject of voluntary euthanasia has reared its ugly head with Baroness Warnock suggesting we should have the right to have assisted suicide if we suffer from conditions such as dementia or Alzheimer's disease.

Strangely, I get the impression from comments on the radio and in the press that approval for this *right* increases as we get older and the possibility of exercising the right becomes a reality. To the young, life is an adventure and the majority want to live it to the full. As old age creeps up, bits start to fall off, cease to work as well they might, responsibilities to others are reduced and the realisation that life cannot continue for ever, sinks in. Naturally, this happens at different rates and at different times to all of us and may not even happen at all

In some respects this thorny question already gets answered. I had an elderly aunt who lived on her own and was *lucky* enough to have stroke when a friend from Italy popped in (don't ask!) to see her. The friend called an ambulance and waited at the hospital until we arrived at gone 11pm. She was assessed overnight in the A&E side ward before being transferred to the stroke unit. A couple of weeks later, she was transferred to her local community hospital. Initially, on the ground floor, but then moved to the 1st floor. A patient told us that people rarely came down again! She spent several

weeks in a ward, but as she was unable to swallow and in great pain, it seemed her only wish - to be allowed to die - wasn't too much to ask at 95. After a few weeks, we found she had been moved to a single ward at the end of a corridor and, in effect just left. Within the week she was dead.

I suspect this story could be repeated in a similar fashion by many people regarding an elderly relative and I suppose the real question is whether the person should be 'helped' to die with his/her relatives and friends nearby or, as in the case of my aunt, be shuffled off to a side ward and just left to die on her own. At the time, I was very cross that no effort had been made to make her final days and hours more comfortable and I wrote a letter complaining of the treatment handed out. I got the usual invitation to make an appointment to discuss my concerns but in the end considered that nothing would be gained apart from costing NHS staff time and money and did not follow up the invitation.

This is a difficult subject that does need addressing, but if we don't discuss the safeguards that must be put in place, doctors will continue to do what they feel is best rather than what the patient and relatives feel is preferable. I hope this short article at least makes you think about the subject and realise that no matter what the law currently says, it happens by the back door and that can't be right. ❖



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## BERKHAMSTED CASTLE

In 1864 the then Duke of Cornwall leased the Castle to Earl Brownlow for the sum of £1 per annum, *not for his benefit but for the recreation of the inhabitants of Berkhamstead.* For

### For the Recreation of the Inhabitants of Berkhamstead

Jenny Sherwood has some thoughts on the castle

several hundreds of years before that, and ever since, the people of Berkhamsted and visitors to the town have enjoyed *this setting of great beauty, surrounded by earthworks of astonishing size and interest*. For in spite of the noise of passing trains *'the Castle remains a haven of peace ... a place where we may dream of an age when any famous Englishman who did not visit Berkhamsted was at least aware of the existence and importance of our Castle.* (From the 1966 Pageant Programme.)

During the summer months visitors to our Castle at weekends have had the opportunity not only of enjoying the recreational facilities of our ancient monument but also of learning more of its history and of its influence on the development of the town. 2,913 men, women and children have come into the Visitor Room to see the sixteen panels produced by Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society, some to read every word, some to study particular panels, some to give a cursory glance and decide 'history' is not for them!

We have welcomed visitors from all over the world, seen some budding young historians, full of questions, observed older children with *castle projects* to complete, where Mother was taking copious notes from the panels and young son was outside on his mobile phone! During the week we have welcomed school and other groups who have visited the Room and also taken part in guided tours. Some of these have taken advantage of the CD of the panels available and prepared the children for a worthwhile educational visit, even in the pouring rain!

Many hours spent at the Castle this summer, in all weathers, have enabled me to study some of the many visitors, who come not for its history but to enjoy the peace of the Castle - wheelchair users, mothers, with toddlers

who are able to run around in safety, providing they do not climb the motte! The vast expanse of the bailey provides the playground for a nearby nursery school, whilst older children enjoy a sports day. Large groups of teenagers gather to chat. Groups of younger children climb the cavalier by the gateway and play *I'm the King of the Castle!* With the background of the curtain wall a cluster of colourful balloons surrounds another group celebrating a birthday party. Occasionally children are seen climbing the castle walls, in spite of the notices forbidding such activity. If they cannot read, the parents standing by, observing and sometimes even aiding and abetting, certainly can!

The circular walk around the top makes a fine constitutional and is good for walking the dog. Even if it is not possible to be married within the Castle precincts the Castle makes a distinguished setting for the wedding photographs, especially if the bride and groom arrive in a horse-drawn carriage.

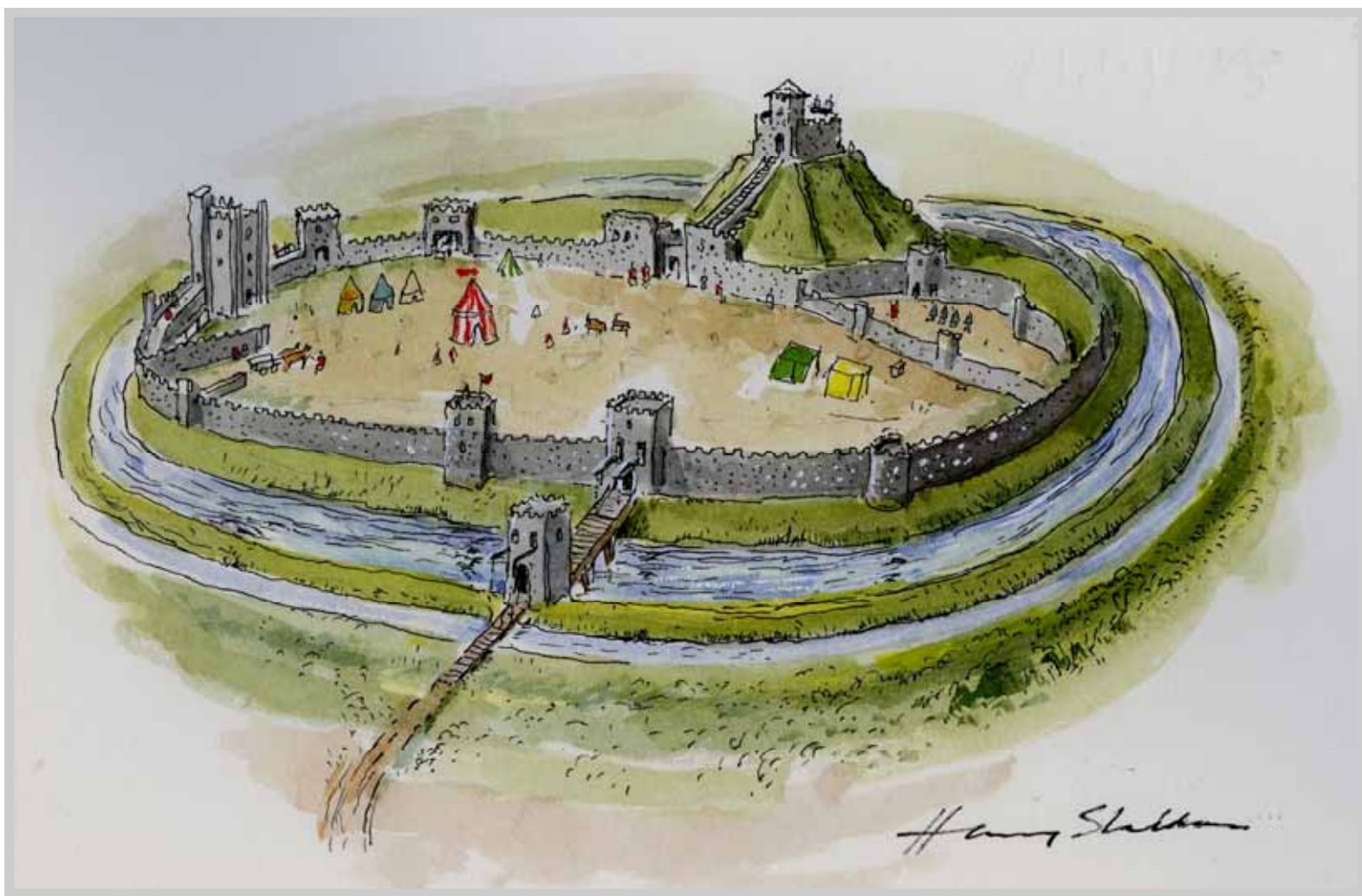
Persistent rain deters visitors, but cold and snow apparently do not, as figures for the Easter Weekend confirm. Perhaps it is the comparative rarity of snow today that brings out the visitors. The Castle with a smattering of snow makes picturesque photography and provided great fun for the small girl who tobogganed down the slopes on her little tin tray!

It is often said that Berkhamsted has few open spaces in the town centre but surely Berkhamsted Castle is the largest, most beautiful and probably the best used of all the recreational open spaces - and it is free!



This picture of the Castle by the late **Harry Sheldon** is reproduced here with the permission of Berkhamsted Town Council to whom the copyright belongs. The Council has recently affirmed its active interest in the Castle.

*"Berkhamsted Castle has been a massive presence in the town for a thousand years, although it has been relegated to a mere ruined monument. The council has felt for some time that the Castle should again play a more central role in the life of the community. We are in discussion with the Castle Liaison Group regarding possible events to be held in the Castle. The Castle Liaison Group has also been extending the accessibility of the Castle through its highly successful Visitors Room and most recently through the development of a 3D animation of the Castle in its heyday." This can be viewed on the Town Council website <http://www.berkhamsted.gov.uk>*



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BERKHAMSTED • KINGS LANGLEY  
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With the other members of Berkhamsted Choral Society and Chorleywood Choral Society, combining under the name English

Philharmonia and Chorus, I was privileged on 12 May 2008 to sing in this exciting charity concert in the Royal Festival Hall, conducted by **Graham Willi**, in aid of PLAN.UK, a leading international children's charity, that is still supporting regions devastated by the 2004 tsunami. This article is based on the excellent programme notes and on my own wonderful personal experience.

In December 2005, a year after the devastating Asian tsunami, the choirs were very inspired and moved by singing **Chris Williams'** commissioned *Tsunami Requiem* in St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted. This innovative, haunting work interweaves the traditional words of the Latin Requiem Mass with an evocative account of events unfolding in a Tamil Nadu fishing village on the day the tsunami struck. The work is challenging and very moving, especially the poignant but uplifting *Agnus Dei*.

This was such an amazing experience, that **Chris Williams** was commissioned to write a companion - follow-up piece - to the Requiem. This work, *Songs of the Coromandel Coast* interweaves sea shanties with the reflections of the villagers. It culminates with the powerful, almost ecstatic *Gayatri Mantra*, which is a universal prayer for guidance and enlightenment. The composer helped us promote this event by giving a pre-concert talk. His words are in the programme and I include some of them below.

*Living in Southern India, the tragedy of the 2004 Boxing Day Asian tsunami moved me deeply and, when commissioned by the Berkhamsted and Chorleywood Choral Societies to compose a piece for their Christmas concerts in 2005, I couldn't write about jolly holly*

## TSUNAMI

### A Choral Cycle

by Chris Williams

**Vivien Dottridge** writes

*and figgy puddings. The choral societies bravely bought my idea for the **Tsunami Requiem**. The success of this led to a second commission about life after the tsunami - **Songs of the***

### **Coromandel Coast.**

*Given the wonderful opportunity to compose a piece for large chorus and orchestra, I hit upon the idea of using sea shanties. The melodies of these songs have become universal, and the stories they tell connected to the stories I discovered in Nagapattinam. Adapting the words gave me the structural basis for the choral part of the work, the shanties becoming a lyrical reflection - much in the same way Bach uses chorales in his Passions and Cantatas, and Tippett uses spirituals in A Child of our Time. But to tell the stories I needed a narrator, hence the tenor solo.*

*However, when I came to compose the final song about life moving on and the opportunities for women and children to speak up, I couldn't find the right shanty.*

*Hearing the Gayatri Mantra blaring over a music system while on a coach journey into the depths of Tamil Nadu gave me the solution. It is a very powerful and uplifting melody, universal in appeal, which has haunted me for the whole time I have lived in India. Then I discovered that this ancient Sanskrit text was a prayer for guidance and enlightenment, and this seemed wholly appropriate for the finale.*

The choral societies are most grateful to **Chris Williams** for providing us with a unique choral cycle that will remain in our repertoire for years to come. We are very grateful also to the commercial sponsors, charitable trusts and individual donors who made it possible to mount this concert and helped us to produce a healthy sum for PLAN.UK. The total amount raised for the charity was

p23→



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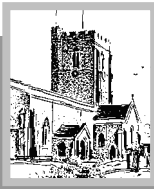
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**Winds of  
Change**  
**The Revd  
Jonathan  
Gordon writes**

## *review* Northchurch & Wigginton

The election of **Barack Obama** as President of the United States of America was a moment of high drama. The celebrations in Chicago were profoundly moving. When Obama was born the Civil Rights Movement was still struggling to make the significant in-roads that might lead to the removal of segregation and now forty years after the assassination of **Martin Luther King**, the United States of America has its first black president. One of the terms used to describe what had taken place last month was that this was a defining moment in history; a sense that here was something new that filled people with optimism and hope. Obama defined his candidacy on the premise of change and, in an evocative image, described how his supporters had a *righteous wind* behind them, which could give a momentum to tackle the problems of war, climate change, economic turmoil and poverty.

The dilemma of knowing whether an event is a defining moment in history is that you don't really know if it is for a good number of years. It is something that can only be judged retrospectively. Christmas is the celebration of the birth of a baby two thousand years ago and it would be reasonable to assume that the events in Bethlehem were earth shattering. God has entered into the drama of human history not through an earthquake or a flash of lightning, but in the most ordinary, yet the most wonderfully miraculous way of all - the birth of a child.

Possibly the greatest test of how we judge the importance of an event is the

extent to which it changes how we live and see the world around us. We can witness significant events and even get caught up in the enthusiasm of the moment, but the rub of the matter is whether they stay with us or are quickly forgotten. The celebration of Christmas is encouraging us not just to enjoy a few days in December, but think about what is being celebrated every day of the year.

One image of Christmas always really hits home with me. The birth of Jesus shows that God was willing to show himself to us in all the vulnerability and weakness of a child. It is a reminder that caring for the most vulnerable and dependent is at the heart of discipleship. There is one place where this image seems most applicable this Christmas time. In the Democratic Republic of Congo there are many babies and families struggling for survival amid violence, hatred, hardship and fear. If ever there was a place that a *righteous wind* was needed it is here and maybe in 2009 it will be the setting where history can be made.

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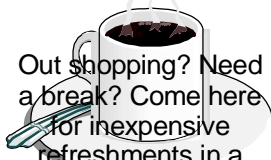
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## review notes&notices

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### BERKHAMSTED ART SOCIETY

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**Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> November to Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2008** 9:00am to 6:00pm in the Civic Centre. Wide selection of pictures in all media, ceramics and three-dimensional work to view and for sale. No charge.

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### BERKHAMSTED MUSIC SOCIETY

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**Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2008** at 8:00pm. at the Civic Centre. Ballads, theatre songs etc plus mumming play in full costume. Tickets from Treasurer 862798 and on the door. Visitors £12, under 18s free.

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### DACORUM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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**Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2008** at 3:30 pm at the Centenary Hall, Berkhamsted Collegiate School, Kings Road. **Concert** of seasonal music including Saint-Saens *Carnival of the Animals*. Tickets available from Civic Centre and on the door. £10/£7 under 18s free.

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### HOSPICE OF ST FRANCIS

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**Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2008** There is still time to enter for the first-ever **Santa Dash** in Hemel Hempstead a two and a half mile run, walk, skip or sleigh through Hemel Hempstead town centre dressed up in a free Santa outfit. Registration costs just £15 for adults and £5 for kids or £35 for a family (2 adults and up to 3 children). Call **Fran Martin** on 869555 or email [fran.martin@stfrancis.org.uk](mailto:fran.martin@stfrancis.org.uk) for your Santa pack.

Also on **Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2008 at the Hospice at 4.30** The annual **Light up a Life Ceremony** Contact Harriet on 869555 for details.

**Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2008, Annual Carol Service** at 8:00pm at Sacred Heart Church.

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### WAY INN

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**Part-time catering assistant** required. Please contact Rod on 864751 or Kat on 870768 for further details.

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### ←p19 Tsunami

£15,750, including the bucket collection at the concert and nearly £7,000 raised by our conductor, **Graham Wili**, by running the London Marathon just four weeks before the concert. Graham's infectious enthusiasm for this demanding project has never flagged and he has involved himself in all aspects of its organisation.

The two additional pieces featured in the concert - Mozart's Horn Concerto No3 and Britten's Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings - need no introduction to classical music lovers. They were included to give this concert a broad-ranging appeal. We were delighted to have attracted soloists of the calibre of

**Richard Watkins** (horn), and **James Gilchrist** (tenor), along with the highly experienced choristers who make up the choir of Eltham College in South London. As well as technical perfection, inspired by our maestro, I feel that the performers have to let the work speak to and live in us - so we can convey the spirit, emotion and drama intended by the composer. This enables the audience to share in and relate to its magic more easily. ❖

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# *review* notes&notices

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## SWING INTO CHRISTMAS

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**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2008** 8:00pm at the Civic Centre. Celebrate the very best of classic Christmas music with **Tony Jacobs** and his band. Special guest is **Sue Greenway** from the RAF Squadronaires and the Syd Lawrence Orchestra. Tickets from Dacorum Live Box Office 228091.

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## BERKHAMSTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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**Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2008** at 8.00 pm at Newcroft, Mill Street. **The Zeppelin War** by **Dr Neil Faulkner**. Pay on the door.

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## FRIENDS OF ASHRIDGE NATIONAL TRUST

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**Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2008** from 10:00am at the Ashridge Monument Visitor Centre. **Ashridge at Christmas**. Come and join us for presents and seasonal music. No charge.

**Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> December 2008** 10:00am to 12 noon meet at Ashridge Visitor Centre. **Christmas walk** followed by wine and mince pies. **Pre-booking essential phone 851227**. Friends £4, under 16s £2, all others £5.

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## CHILTERN WOODLAND BURIAL PARK

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This burial park opened on **1<sup>st</sup> October 2008** for graveside services. Individual graves or ashes plots may also be chosen by those wishing to make their own funeral arrangements in advance. Open between 9 and 4 Monday to Friday and by appointment at weekends (tel. 0845 6033714). The park is at Potkiln Lane, Jordans, Beaconsfield, and is the only mature woodland burial park on this side of London.

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## BERKHAMSTED CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

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**Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009** at 10:30am from front of Berkhamsted Station. **Traditional New Year's Day Ramble** to Aldbury and back with stop for lunch or own picnic. No booking required.

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## DACORUM HERITAGE

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**Tuesdays, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2008, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2009 and 10<sup>th</sup> March 2009** **Tours of Museum Store in Berkhamsted**. Booking essential cost £3 per person tel. 879525.

**Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2008 in Potten End Village Hall** 10-12. **Winter in Dacorum**. Escape from the cold & explore the wonders of Dacorum in our festive display. Find out how Christmas Day was celebrated during World War Two, look at pantomime programmes and invitations to Christmas parties, discover how Christmas tables were decorated and see how people kept warm. Cost £1 per person.

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## TUESDAY CLUB

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At our November meeting we welcomed **Father Michael Bowie**, who told us the inspiring story of how his father, having as a young child watched a Chinese man flying a kite on Hampstead Heath, resolved one day to go to China.

This ambition was fulfilled when, having studied at theological college & been ordained in Sydney, he was finally able to enrol at the University of Western China to study anthropology. He became fluent in Mandarin, built a church at the University and through his work with the choir & communion services was able to resist the ever-increasing Communist propaganda.

Among the mementoes he showed us were a beautiful mandarin's robe, an exquisite stole made by Chinese nuns & a minute pair of shoes for a woman with bound feet.



**The Cowper Society presents**

***Peter Hill with CHROMA***

**Peter Hill** *piano* **Marcus Barcham-Stevens** *violin*  
**Clare O'Connell** *'cello* **Stuart King** *clarinet*



***Quatuor pour la Fin du Temps***

**By candlelight to celebrate the centenary of the  
birth of Olivier Messiaen  
with short introductory talk by Peter Hill**

**Monday 1st December 2008 at 8:00 pm**

**Lady Chapel, St Peter's Church**

**Admission FREE**

Retiring collection for the Cowper Society Cultural Programme

The Cowper Society is a member of the Berkhamsted Arts Trust which is financially supported by Dacorum  
Borough Council



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## review history

### Travellers' Impressions

What did visitors to Berkhamsted think of our town in the past? The antiquary Leland, in the early sixteenth century was struck by the *very faire medowes* on either side of the Bulbourne. **Marmaduke Rawden** in the middle of the seventeenth century was less impressed - *this is a longe market towne and antient. Thir is little in this towne worth the seeinge, only the free schoole and the ruines of the castle.* The **Revd Jeremiah Milles** also noted *Incents School* in the mid eighteenth century and wrote *I am informed that there are lands belong to this school of considerable value ... but there are not above three boys belong to it.* An anonymous Gentleman writing in 1762 was however better impressed. *Great*

*Berkhamsted ... most pleasant environs ... full of hedge rows, pastures and arable ...it extends itself far in handsome buildings, and a broad street.* But by 1802 although **George Lipscombe** found Northchurch *full of genteel houses* and Hemel Hempstead *a neat market town ... the spire of whose church appearing to sprout from among cherry orchards which abound in this neighbourhood,* Berkhamsted he describes as *shabby and decayed - the market house propped up by not a few rough posts.*

(Based on *So that was Hertfordshire: Travellers' Jottings 1322-1887* by **Malcolm Tomkins**)



The Cowper Society presents

## Four Winter Talks

in the Court House at 8:00 pm

Except 9th February which will be in St Peter's Church

12th January *Abraham Lincoln* by **Andrew Houseman**

26th January *The History of Temple Bar* by **John Ansell**

9th February *Venice* by **John Julius, Viscount Norwich**

23rd February *Where do we come from and why does it matter?*

A talk on Genetics by **Dr Bruce Winney**

**Admission FREE**

*There will be wine beforehand*

Donations to the Cowper Society's cultural programme will be most welcome



## December

SUN *St Peter's*

8:00am Eucharist

9:30am Sung Eucharist

6:00pm Evensong

*All Saints'* 7<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Sung Eucharist - Anglican led

14<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Morning Worship

21<sup>st</sup> 8:00am Holy Communion

10:30am Nativity Service

4:00pm Carol Service

28<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Morning Worship

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	MP	7:30am	EP	5:00pm	Eucharist	11:00am ( <i>Fr Michael's day off</i> )
FRI	MP	7:30am	EP	5:00pm <i>both</i>	Eucharist	9:15am
SAT	MP	9:30am	EP	5:00pm	Eucharist	10:00am

3<sup>rd</sup> Mon GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT VISITORS GROUP 7:45pm *Court House*  
Contact June Haile (873087), Angela Morris (866992) or Ruth Treves Brown (863268)

Tue CHUCKLES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 10:00-11:30am *All Saints' Church Hall*  
Song Time or Short service as announced. Jenny Wells (870981)

Tue ST PETER'S CHOIR Children 5:15 to 6:15pm *St Peter's*  
Contact: Adrian Davis (875674) or Jean Wild (866859)

1<sup>st</sup> Tue TUESDAY CLUB 7:45pm *A lively women's group with guest speaker* *Court House*  
Contact chairman Val Atkinson (866792)

3<sup>rd</sup> Tue MOTHERS' UNION: meets in members' houses at 8:00pm.  
*Non-members always welcome.* Contact: Kathie Lally (863526)

4<sup>th</sup> Tue MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER GROUP: 2:30pm *17 Shaftesbury Court.*  
Tell us if anyone needs our prayers. Contact: Jenny Wells (870981)

Wed JULIAN MEETING: meets about twice a month at Jenny's *57 Meadow Rd*  
*All are very welcome at 11:30am as arranged* or at Ruth's *1 Montague Rd*  
Contact: Jenny Wells (870981) or Ruth Treves Brown (863268)

Wed PATHFINDERS GAMES CLUB 7-8:30pm . (yrs 5-8) Jimmy Young (384929)  
*All Saints' Hall*

3<sup>rd</sup> 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 BELLRINGING: 8:00pm Helen Ruberry (865048) *St Peter's*

Fri LITTLE FISHES PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: 9:30-11:30am *Court House*  
Weekly meetings with a short service 1<sup>st</sup> Fri in St Peter's (10am)  
Carrie Wegener (865015)

Fri ST PETER'S CHOIR: Children 7:00-8:30pm, Adults 7:30-8:30pm. *St Peter's*  
Contact: Adrian Davis (875674) or Jean Wild (866859)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sat ABC PRAYER BREAKFAST: 8:00am for breakfast & prayers. *Various local churches*

## review diary

Please see opposite for regular Sunday & weekday services at St Peter's and All Saints'

### December/January

#### NOVEMBER 2008

Mon	1	8:00pm	The Cowper Society presents: <i>Chroma plays Messaien</i> by candlelight.....	St Peter's
Fri	5	10:00am	Little Fishes Service.....	St Peter's
		1:00pm	Lunchtime Recital: Adrian Davis <i>Organ</i> .....	St Peter's
Sun	7	7:30pm	The Cowper Society presents: Berkhamsted Choral Society.....	St Peter's
Tue	9	10:15am	Chuckles Toddlers' service <i>Christmas story</i> .....	All Saints'
Fri	12	9:15am	Thomas Bourne Eucharist (with Victoria School attendance)....	St Peter's
Sun	14	6:00pm	Choral Evensong.....	St Peter's
Tue	16	10:00am	Chuckles Toddlers' <i>Christmas Party</i> .....	All Saints'
		7:15pm	Thomas Coram School Christmas Service .....	St Peter's
Wed	17	7:30pm	Rotary Carol Service .....	St Peter's
Thu	18	9:30am	Victoria School Carol Service.....	St Peter's
Fri	19	12noon	Thomas Coram School End of Term Service .....	St Peter's
Sat	20	8:00am	Association of Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast.....	Sunnyside Church
Sun	21	9:30am	Sung Eucharist with Sunday School Nativity.....	St Peter's
		10:30am	Nativity Service .....	All Saints'
		4:00pm	Carol Service .....	All Saints'
Tue	23	7:30pm	The Cowper Society presents: Chiltern Chamber Choir, <i>Monteverdi Vespers</i> .....	St Peter's
Wed	24	4:00pm	Crib Services.....	at St Peter's & at All Saints'
		11:30pm	Procession to the Crib and Midnight Mass of Christmas.....	St Peter's
		11:30pm	Holy Communion.....	All Saints'
Thu	25	9:30am	Procession of gifts to the crib & Sung Eucharist.....	St Peter's
		11:00am	All Age Celebration .....	All Saints'

#### JANUARY 2009

Tue	6	8:00pm	Solemn Eucharist for the Epiphany.....	St Peter's
Sun	11	6:00pm	Choral Evensong .....	St Peter's

## review registers

#### Baptisms (St Peter's)

19 <sup>th</sup> October	Toby John Collinson
26 <sup>th</sup> October	Holly Dora Beecroft, Oscar George Bancroft Wallis, Joseph William Easter

#### Weddings (St Peter's)

18 <sup>th</sup> October	Mark Simon Swatman & Sarah Elizabeth Deacon Philip James Avery & Alison Jane Williams
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#### Funerals

18 <sup>th</sup> October	Emily Harris	St Peter's Church (Chilterns Crematorium)
30 <sup>th</sup> October	Sylvia Clare Kleiman	West Herts Crematorium

#### Memorial

14 <sup>th</sup> October	Patricia Irene Collister	St Peter's Church
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# 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

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

Epistle Readers  
Electoral Roll  
Pathfinders  
Sidesmen  
Catering

Ron Fisher (865846)  
Judith Limbert (873626)  
Stephen Lally (863526)  
Chris Hunt (822607)  
Val Atkinson (866792)

Hospice contact  
Christian Aid  
Youth worker  
Sunday School/Explorers  
Fairtrade

Rachael Anderson (871997)  
Angela Morris (866992)  
Jimmy Young (876736)  
Helen Nicholls (873162)  
Angela Morris (866992)

### 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)  
John Wignall (827639)  
Chris Dipper (873006) and  
Gill Lumb (863885)

Muriel Johnston (866447)  
Jimmy Young (876736)  
Vicky Drury (384794)  
Julie Wakely (875504)

Been to the  
Post Office?

Next stop  
the Bookshop .....  
then coffee  
to recover



Drawing by Mary Casserley, with permission



# WAY INN

A Christian Centre at 268 High Street

Telephone: Coffee Shop 864751, Bookshop 870768

# 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, (875970)  
**The Revd Canon Basil Jones** (Hon.Asst.Priest), 17 Lochnell Road (864485)  
**The Revd Canon Anthony Lathe** (Hon Asst Priest), 15a Kingsdale Road (863115)  
**The Revd John Russell** (Hon Asst Priest) 49 Tring Road, Aylesbury (01296 423022)  
**Christina Billington** (Diocesan Lay Minister), 13 Ashridge Rise (385566)  
**Marjorie Bowden** (Reader Emeritus), 16 Broadwater (871283)  
**Joan Cook** (Reader Emeritus), 6 Clunbury Court (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)  
**Peter Bryant**, 36 North Road (871680)  
 All Saint's Representatives: **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): **Helen Ruberry** 2 Hall Park (865048)

## All Saints'

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

### Personalities in the Parish

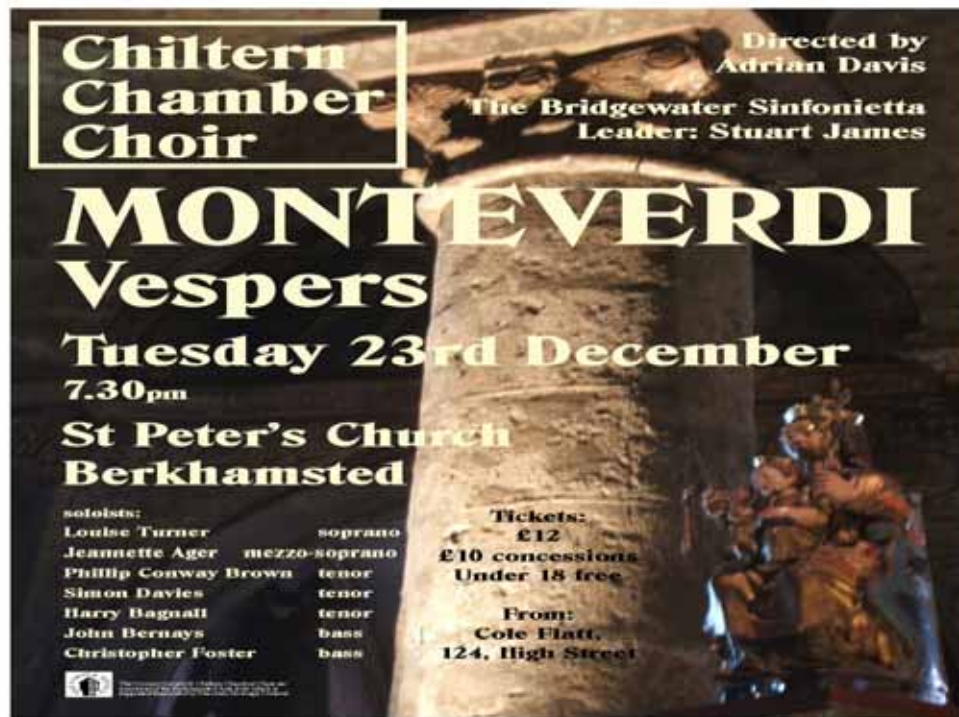


Answer next month

### November's Personality



Luke Geoghegan from his '60s student railcard



**Chiltern Chamber Choir**

Directed by  
**Adrian Davis**

The Bridgewater Sinfonietta  
Leader: **Stuart James**

**MONTEVERDI**  
**Vespers**

**Tuesday 23rd December**  
7.30pm

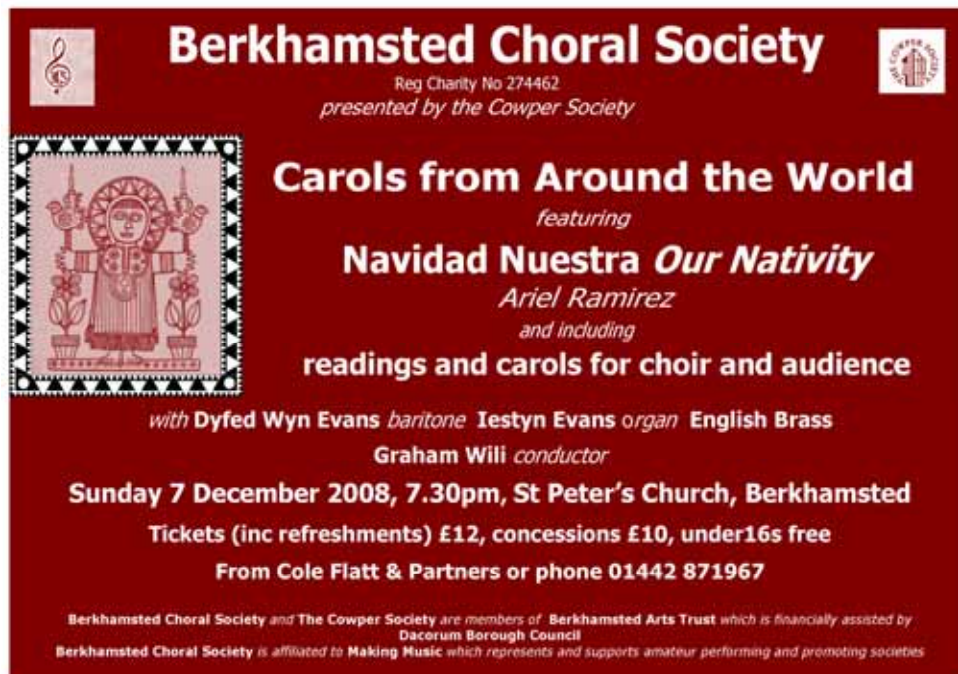
**St Peter's Church**  
**Berkhamsted**



soloists:

Louise Turner	soprano
Jeannette Ager	mezzo-soprano
Phillip Conway Brown	tenor
Simon Davies	tenor
Harry Bagnall	tenor
John Bernays	bass
Christopher Foster	bass

**Tickets:**  
£12  
£10 concessions  
Under 18 free

**From:**  
**Cole Flatt,**  
124, High Street



 **Berkhamsted Choral Society** 

Reg Charity No 274462  
*presented by the Cowper Society*

**Carols from Around the World**  
*featuring*  
**Navidad Nuestra *Our Nativity***  
*Ariel Ramirez*  
*and including*  
**readings and carols for choir and audience**

*with Dyfed Wyn Evans baritone Iestyn Evans organ English Brass*  
*Graham Wili conductor*

**Sunday 7 December 2008, 7.30pm, St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted**

**Tickets (inc refreshments) £12, concessions £10, under16s free**

**From Cole Flatt & Partners or phone 01442 871967**

Berkhamsted Choral Society and The Cowper Society are members of Berkhamsted Arts Trust which is financially assisted by Dacorum Borough Council  
Berkhamsted Choral Society is affiliated to Making Music which represents and supports amateur performing and promoting societies