

*the magazine for town and parish since 1872*

YB

Your Berkhamsted

September 2015

Explore your town:  
this year's Heritage Open Days

Graham Greene on the radio

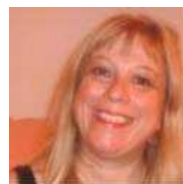
The Highwayman comes to town



Exploring the past, reflecting the present and looking to the future in Berkhamsted

# In this issue...

**Welcome to the September 2015 edition of *Your Berkhamsted*.** Firstly, I make no apologies for including the Heritage Open Days feature again as I feel it is such an important part of Berkhamsted's rich history and hope that you will make time to visit one or more of the featured events. We had a new restaurant open in August – please read the review for The Highwayman – I hope this will entice you visit there for pint, coffee or meal. Very cosy surroundings! I hope you are enjoying our Podcast reviews – this month as it is September we felt we should feature Graham Greene. We have our Writer's page and I urge you to write in with a short story or poem you want to share. Please see email below and get in touch if there are any ideas or stories you may have, either to publish or additions/changes to the magazine for consideration.



Jacqueline Hicks, Editor

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Front cover image: Berkhamsted Castle by the late Alma Duncan Rafter (Polly)  
With kind permission from © Cuckoo Fair. Greetings cards from this painting are available from The Way Inn Bookshop.



***The Town and Parish Magazine of St Peter's Great Berkhamsted***

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

# Berkhamsted in the News

In this month's column, as Julian Dawson is on a well deserved holiday, we are publishing his best bits from previous issues!



**October 2014:** A grave beginning to the post-summer column. [hemeltoday.co.uk](http://hemeltoday.co.uk) reports on the Friends of St Peter's initiative to restore the Three Close Lane Cemetery, behind the Rex Cinema. The paper states the scheme will reclaim the site from nature. But that implies nature will get short shrift, which is not entirely the case. The plans, which have Heritage Lottery funding, is to make the cemetery a more inviting place to visit, enhance the interest of the graves whilst also making it ecologically attractive too. There are many enthusiastic and committed individuals who are giving much time to this scheme, and it deserves every success.

**Dec 2014 :** This month's rogue forum is [ukmonster.co.uk](http://ukmonster.co.uk). "How about to Berkhamsted to help me strip calipers, replace seals and new brake fluid?" reads one post. Sounds like a rather dodgy personal to me, but it turns out that Monster is a 1992 Ducati, a motorcycle that "shocked the world". Never let be said that I don't broaden your horizons in my column. And whilst I am discussing matters mechanical and electrical, [connectingindustry.com](http://connectingindustry.com) breathlessly reports on Bunting Magnetics Europe Ltd, which has their European manufacturing facility in Berkhamsted.

They specialise in designing and manufacturing separation technology including magnetic separation, metal detection and eddy current separation. Oooh, I think I need to lie down.

**Dec 2014:** Let me leave you with a revelation from [abundanceoxford.wordpress.com](http://abundanceoxford.wordpress.com), which tells us that Berkhamsted has its own apple, the Lane Prince Albert created in the town in 1850. The RHS tells me that it is a culinary apple, the tree having showy flowers. According to the Wordpress blog, it makes an excellent chutney. But that is quite enough of a pickle for me to get into for one month.

**Feb 2015 :** [Hemeltoday.co.uk](http://Hemeltoday.co.uk) reports on the football nursery that is our own local team. Comrades reserve team coach has a mission to bridge the gap between youth and senior football. Joe Sweeney's vision was to nurture players of the future by making them the focal point of the reserve team, and after four years his patience and the results are paying dividends, with players making a successful move into the first team. "You need to create an environment where the boys enjoy their football, enjoy each other's company, and they want to do well for each other", he says. From dribbling to walking again, this time not necessarily with dogs. .

(Continued on page 5)

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(Continued from page 3)

2015 is the Hertfordshire Year of Walking, so get out of those cars, off bikes and horses, and fall out of the pushchairs

**April 2015:** If castles are rather more your thing, and they too have their own styles and variations, then visit [castlelady.wordpress.com](http://castlelady.wordpress.com) for a compare and contrast piece on Berkhamsted and Hertford castles.

Sharing the same form as our local ruin, it also suffered a siege by that rascal Louis, who in 1216 attempted to overthrow the English Throne.

It also makes the point that Hatfield, home of Elizabeth I as a child was the midway point between the two castles. The blog author decries Berkhamsted Castle's comparison with Anstey. *It is unlikely it [Anstey] was ever rebuilt in stone and that is why it is unconscionable that it compare to Berkhamsted.* So there.



Drawings of Berkhamsted by Jenni Cator, Art at 88, 88 High Street, Berkhamsted, HP4 2BW Tel. 01442 769110 [info@artat88.co.uk](mailto:info@artat88.co.uk).

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# What's on

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 12.30pm – 1.30pm:  
Lunchtime concerts – St Mary's Church,  
High Street, Hemel Hempstead

Berkhamsted Artisans, Arts & Crafts  
Market (1<sup>st</sup> Saturday every month)  
10am to 4pm. The Town Hall, 196 High  
Street, Berkhamsted, Herts, HP4 3AP  
Through the double doors above  
Carluccio's on the High St. Lift access at  
back. If you would like a stall contact  
Claire - Mob: 07968 627 179; Email:  
berkhamstedmarket@hotmail.co.uk;  
website:

[www.greatmarkets@vpweb.co.uk](http://www.greatmarkets@vpweb.co.uk)

Tring Farmers Market (Alternate  
Saturdays)

The Marketplace, Brook Street, Tring  
9.00am - 12.15pm

Tring Farmers Market promotes local food  
for local people and offers a full range of  
produce including: meat, eggs, bacon,  
cakes, biscuits, preserves, pies,  
vegetables, cheese, fish, plants, jewellery,  
crafts and much more. For more info  
email:

[enquiries@tringfarmersmarket.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@tringfarmersmarket.co.uk)

## September

**Mon 28th September 2015: 8.45am to  
4.30pm - Down Syndrome Conference  
2015** Location: The Fielder Centre,  
Hatfield, AL10 9TP Introduction by  
Professor Sue Buckley OBE. This  
conference is aimed at school staff,  
professionals, front line workers and  
parents/carers of children and young  
people with Down Syndrome. Subsidised  
crèche available for children under the  
age of 5.

The conference has been organised by  
DSPL Area 7 (St Albans) and subsidised by  
all Hertfordshire DSPL Area Groups. There  
is a small attendance fee which DSPL 8  
will pay for staff and parents from  
Dacorum Schools. Please contact Jan  
Nethercoat if you would like to receive  
more information and book a place. -  
07525 917125 Email:  
nethercoatj05@kingslangleigh.herts.sch.uk

**September 30th 2015: 8.00 pm -** The  
next Friends of St Peter's social event will  
be held on Wednesday, September 30th  
2015 at 8.00 p.m. in the Court House. It  
will consist of a film entitled 'Life on the  
Home Front in Hertfordshire - A County  
at War' followed by a talk by David Pearce  
on Berkhamsted Parish Memorials of  
WW1. It promises to be a very interesting  
evening. There is no charge and all are  
welcome.

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

HJP Chartered Macmillan Coffee Morning  
Host: Karl Reeves

When: 9:30AM on 25 September 2015

Where: -

H J P

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Northbridge Road  
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HP4 1EH

Rising Sun will be open from 10am

<http://coffee.macmillan.org.uk>

0845 602 1246

(Continued on page 8)

# What's on , continued .....

**Thursday 1 October:** Coffee Morning in aid of The Children's Society. Join us for delicious scones and home made cakes, 10am to 12noon in the Court House. All welcome.

## **Taizé Worship at St Mary's Church, Northchurch**

Taizé is an international ecumenical Christian community in Burgundy, France, renowned for its simple and beautiful services formed from prayer, chants and silence. Services in the Taizé style are held all over the world and St Mary's holds 5 each year on the second Sunday in the evening. If you enjoy singing or playing a musical instrument, or would simply like to enjoy the calm and contemplation then you would be very welcome to join us. In particular we would like



to hear from anyone who is interested in joining the core of singers who help to lead the chants. If you wish to learn more, and are interested in joining the St Mary's Taizé Group, please contact Renee Alldridge on 0771 405 8581/[r.alldridge578@btinternet.com](mailto:r.alldridge578@btinternet.com) or Rachel Gordon 07512 714343/[rachelgordon@fsmail.net](mailto:rachelgordon@fsmail.net))

## **News of Ashridge Estate events**

### **Kids' Autumn Trail - 1<sup>st</sup> Sept until 31<sup>st</sup> Oct, £1**

Take a stroll through the woodland discovering more about autumn time at Ashridge and complete some of the "50 things" to do before you're 11 3/4 on route. Visit the Ashridge Visitor Centre to

collect your trail map and follow the trail, answer the questions and return to collect your sticker reward. No need to book, just turn up.

### **Heritage Open Day - 12<sup>th</sup> Sept, Free**

The Bridgewater Monument will be open free of charge all day on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September. Climb the 172 steps for beautiful panoramic views of the entire estate. Opening is weather dependant.

### **Chilterns Countryside and Food Festival - 13<sup>th</sup> Sept, Adult £4, Child £1**

Come along to our annual festival to celebrate the different crafts, industries and wildlife associated with the Chilterns countryside. Enjoy a day of mouth-watering local produce stalls, fascinating craft displays, forestry demonstrations and children's activities in the meadow behind the Visitor Centre.

### **Gentle Stroll - 15<sup>th</sup> Sept, 10.30am, £3**

Part of a series of strolls which provide a chance to discover the wildlife in different parts of the Estate and to look for animal tracks, deer sightings, birds and other items of interest. The strolls take around 2 hours. No need to book, just turn up with sensible walking shoes and warm waterproof clothing just in case!

### **Angela Allaway open studio and work shop – 19<sup>th</sup> /20<sup>th</sup> Sept**

Local artist Angela Allaway will be displaying her beautiful pieces of art inspired by Ashridge at the Visitor Centre. You can come and watch her work on her current piece or join her in the afternoon on Monument Green for drop-in workshops. Learn to use chalk and charcoal to create your own piece of natural art. Suitable for all ages. Drop in on the day, no need to book.



# Bach comes to Berkhamsted.

## The complete organ works to be played over four days

17th–20th September 2015.

Following the success of 2014's Oktoberfest, St Peter's Great Berkhamsted is once again having a German cultural festival.

The complete organ works Johann Sebastian Bach will be played over the four days. Admission to St Peter's Church is free. People are free to come and go as they please to enjoy this fabulous music! The organists include not just skilled local musicians but well-known cathedral, concert and parish organists from further afield\*. If anyone would like to sponsor one of Bach's 330 years, a donation of £15 a year is suggested, and can be made via the church website (link below).

There will be German wine tasting, including wine not available normally in this country, and some traditional German food. Tickets are £15 and available in advance from the Parish Office (01442 878227). Places are limited and will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

The service at 9.30am on Sunday will include Bach cantata movements and afterwards a Bavarian breakfast will serve a German Weissbier, German Weisswurst and some bread for £5, and (weather-permitting) will be outside in the church grounds. Beer from the local Haresfoot Brewery will also be available.

## TIMETABLE

### Thursday 17 September

1730–2130 Bach Organ Works recitals

### Friday 18 September

1030–2000 Bach Organ Works recitals

### Saturday 19 September

1000–1930 Bach Organ Works recitals

1930–2200 Guided German Wine Tasting (Court House) £15 per ticket

### Sunday 20 September

0930–1045 Parish Mass

incorporating Bach Cantata movements

1100 onwards Bavarian Breakfast in the Church Yard

1215–1800 Bach Organ Works recitals

1800 Choral Evensong

Organists will include: Bryan Almond (St Mary's, Primrose Hill), Richard Carr (St Michael's, Bishops Stortford), Terry Charlston (Royal College of Music), Adrian Davis (St Peter's, Berkhamsted), Steven Grahll (Peterborough Cathedral), David Hardie (Birmingham Cathedral), Marilyn Harper (Christ's Chapel, Dulwich), Linden Innes-Hopkins (St John's, Boxmoor), Nicholas Johnson (St Alphege, Solihull), Nicholas King (Hemel Hempstead), Julian Larkin (Saxmundham), Jonathan Lee (St Peter's, Berkhamsted), Craig Nathan (Aylesbury), Simon Pusey (Hemel Hempstead), Steven Smith (St Lawrence, Abbots Langley), Jane Watts (International Concert Artist), Ben Woodward (St John's, Fulham)

## FURTHER INFORMATION: email:

ChurchOffice@greatberkhamsted.org.uk

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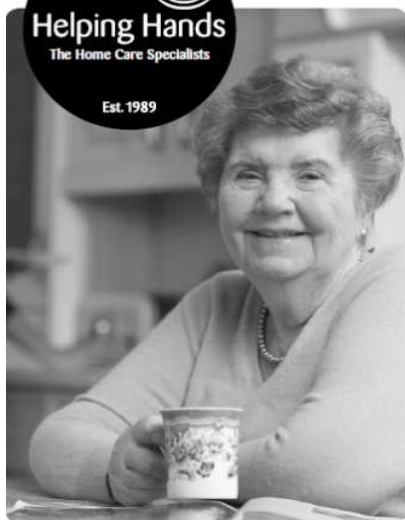
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# Berkhamsted Local History and Museum

## Society Programme 2015 - 2016

9<sup>th</sup> September 2015 An Introduction to Crested China.

Graham Webster of 'Bygone Treasures Crested China'

14<sup>th</sup> October 2015 Farming in Hertfordshire in 19<sup>th</sup> century

Dr Julie Moore of the University of Hertfordshire

11<sup>th</sup> November 2015 The History of Stag Lane Aerodrome, 1917-1934

Stuart McKay, Author of Tiger, the de Havilland Tiger Moth.

9<sup>th</sup> December 2015 Black Plumes and Victorian Mourning.

Robert Stephenson of Kensal Green Cemetery

13<sup>th</sup> January 2016 Medieval Wall Paintings & the Medieval World View

Julie Wakefield, formerly Assistant Curator of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Museum

10<sup>th</sup> February 2016 Pictures in the parlour: the Story of the Magic Lantern. Kevin Varty of the Magic Lantern Society

9<sup>th</sup> March 2016 AGM followed by From Business College to Monastery: the story of Ashridge House. Ken Wallis, Society member.

All meetings are held in the Wellcome Great Hall, Berkhamsted Town Hall and start at 8pm. Visitors are always welcome £2.50 on the door.

Further details of the Society visit

[www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk](http://www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk)

### **Berkhamsted's Heritage Open Days**

10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> September 2015

For many years now the Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society has featured Heritage Open Days every September as part of Berkhamsted's heritage calendar. Over the years we have had guided tours of sixteen different sites. Some have been more successful than others and because we want variety we have dropped one or two and almost every year introduced new ones.



Berkhamsted has a rich history and our ideas are not yet exhausted! We are hoping particularly this year to increase the support from schools, especially from the teachers, very few of whom now live locally. A study of the local town and environment

now features in the National Curriculum. Quite apart from that it is important to broaden one's horizon beyond the narrow perimeters of a restricted curriculum and encourage observation and the asking of questions.

Spend some time looking at the old photographs all relating to our Town Hall and see the short history of the Market House, the Mechanics' Institute and learn about Edward Buckton Lamb, the architect. How times have changed! You can't go to a Smoking Concert now – you can't even smoke in the building.

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

Come up to the Common and visit the WWI trenches and see the exhibition of photos of the IOCOTC who trained there before leaving for France. Go up to Ashlyns School and learn what life was like for the children at the Foundling Hospital from 1935-55. From two former foundlings. Make the most of this opportunity, which will not be there forever. Come up to Berkhamsted Place. Yes, the main house was demolished in 1967 but much remains in this secluded place rich with history, successor to the Castle! How well do you really know it and of the history of the building and of the many people of national importance who lived there? Although no longer lived in after 1495 it has had a prominent position in the life of our town to this day. Either before or after visiting St Peter's Church come up Rectory Lane to Rectory Lane Cemetery and see the progress the Friends have made during the last year. Follow some trails and find where your ancestors were buried.

And that is not everything! All these sites are FREE. Further details and bookings from Jenny Sherwood, 01442 865158 or [KSherw9100@aol.com](mailto:KSherw9100@aol.com). Or websites [www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk](http://www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk) and [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk)

## **Support Berkhamsted's Heritage Open Days**

### **Friday 11th September**

'A Walk Into the Past - Berkhamsted Place, Successor to the Castle' 10am Guided Tour, including the Great Barn, plus small exhibition.

Berkhamsted Place was built by Sir Edward Carey in the reign of Elizabeth I using material from the Castle. From the 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards it was frequently

referred to as the Castle. Little remains of the Mansion but the area is rich in history. The Barn probably pre-dates the house.

Dacorum Heritage Trust Museum Store - numbers limited. Tours at 2.30pm and 4.30pm Booking essential. [collectionsmanager@dacorumheritage.org.uk](mailto:collectionsmanager@dacorumheritage.org.uk) or 01442 879525. This museum store holds collections from all parts of Dacorum. Come and see why Dacorum so desperately needs a museum.

### **Saturday 12th September**

Dacorum Heritage Trust Museum Store.

Tour at 10.30am

'A Walk Into the Past - Berkhamsted Place, Successor to the Castle'. Guided tour at 2pm. Details as above.

Visit the Devil's Own World War 1 trenches. Small exhibition of the Inns of Court OTC in WW1 Berkhamsted and guided tours to include Memorial, trenches and possibly rifle butts.

Open 11am-4pm

Tours: 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm & 2.30pm

The IOCOTC were in Berkhamsted from 1914-19 and trained in Berkhamsted and the countryside around digging a large number of training trenches in preparation for warfare on the Western Front. A short area of these has been uncovered and preserved as a permanent memorial to the many who were later to lose their lives. A lottery-funded project.

### **Sunday 13th September**

The following sites are open:

Old Hall & Chapel, Berkhamsted School.

Tours 10.30am and 2.30pm

Old Hall was built in 1544 and the beautiful little chapel is Victorian. Small exhibition included.

## Heritage Open Days

Berkhamsted Town Hall, open 10.30am-12.30pm. Guided tour at 11am. This market house, meeting room and room for the Mechanics' Institute was designed by Edward Buckton Lamb and replaced the Elizabethan market hall burnt down in 1854. There is a permanent exhibition of old photographs.

Berkhamsted Castle tours at 10.30am, 12.30pm, 3pm. This is the best remaining motte and bailey castle in the country and has many royal associations. 16 display panels on its history and connections with the town in the Castle Visitor Room.

St Peter's Church and Court House. Tours at 3pm. The church was consecrated in 1222 and has many fine monuments. The Court House is Tudor.

Ashlyn's School, the former Foundling Hospital, open 1pm-5.30pm.

Tours at 1.30pm and 3.30pm, led by former foundlings. A DVD and small exhibition is included. Fine stained glass and many monuments from the original London Foundling Hospital in the Chapel.

Rectory Lane Cemetery, open 1.30pm-6pm. Guided tours at 2pm, 3pm, 4pm. Small exhibition on the cemetery's history; WWI and local notables' trails, update on the RLC Project, help with genealogy enquiries and 'Find a Grave'. Activities for children.

All events are free! Bookings and enquiries to Jenny Sherwood, [KSherw9100@aol.com](mailto:KSherw9100@aol.com) or 01442 865158 except for the DHT Museum Store details above. More details at [www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk](http://www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk) or [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk).



# Acrobat Document

**Chilterns**  
Countryside and Food Festival

Sunday 13th September 2015

from 10am to 4pm  
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## Short Story

The short story holds an important place in English literature. From Edgar Allan Poe to Kate Mosse, writers down the ages have turned their attention to this form. It's now *Your Berkhamsted's* turn! We are asking our readers to let us publish their work. Don't let inexperience put you off trying. Your subject can be humour, adventure, love, fun, mystery or just an intriguing situation. Around 700 words, and anonymous if you wish.

No short story this month

## We need volunteers

All skills required – Please contact the editor for more info.



### **Response from Vernon Mildew's 'Take it with you—Litter on our trains'**

Dear Editor,

I started commuting to London in 1964 and still travel to Euston from time to time. In those days one had breakfast before leaving home. There was nowhere on the station or indeed on the way to the station to buy coffee, croissants etc at 7:30 in the morning. People did not carry water bottles that they then left on the seat next to them. There were no free newspapers at the station to read and discard on the train. I think that people could be shamed into not doing the antisocial things that Vernon Mildew mentions.

Some of us are so fed up with the way that a minority are trashing our beautiful town that we started the Berkhamsted Litter Pickers about six years ago.

We have more than 100 volunteers regularly clearing the litter off many of the residential streets of the town. We leave the High Street to the professionals. The idea is that, if people regularly clear their own street, it might just stay that way. Two councillors have given us money from their community funds to buy litter pick sticks and Hi-Vis vests. If any of your readers would like to join us they should 'phone me on 01442 866694.

Colin N Garrett  
Coordinator  
Berkhamsted Litter Pickers



# Podcast Review

## Graham Greene on the Radio

As we approach the anniversary of Graham Greene's birth (on October 2nd), this month's column is dedicated to podcasts and radio programmes about the writer, which you can listen to on the internet.

### BBC Radio 4: *Great Lives*

Graham Greene is nominated for 'Great Life' status by *Daily Telegraph* journalist Tim Butcher, with Berkhamsted's own David Pearce as the expert witness. Presenter Matthew Parris opens the programme by asking, 'What do an East Anglian brewery, a former Director-General of the BBC, and one of the last centuries most eminent English novelists have in common?' The answer, of course, is that they were all members of the influential Greene family. A lively and interesting conversation, plus clips of Graham Greene talking about how he worked. Listen at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b012wj1>

### NPR: *Centennial for Author Graham Greene*

Scott Simon explores Graham Greene's literary legacy in a 2004 podcast to mark the centenary of the writer's birth. The short programme includes a contribution from Norman Sherry, who wrote the three-volume *The Life of Graham Greene*. He recalls: 'His eyes ... frightened me. I felt them almost Satanic. But every woman liked them.' Listen at [www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4057711](http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4057711)

## ABC Radio: *Replay*

Although this broadcast can be found on the website of the ABC in Australia, it is actually a BBC interview, recorded in France in 1980. Graham Greene discusses Catholicism, taking opium, psychoanalysis and the significance of his dreams, which include an apparent premonition about the sinking of the *Titanic*. When quizzed about the traffic noise that can be heard from his flat, Greene replies that it doesn't bother him, but that: '... barking dogs and children can annoy me, because one feels they could be stopped, but traffic can't be stopped.'

Listen at [www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/replay/graham-greene/2951170](http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/replay/graham-greene/2951170)

## University of Oxford podcast

In this podcast, part of a series billed as 'a study of the history of the book', Adam Smyth talks to Anna Sander, the archivist of Balliol College, Oxford. They examine the arrival of a collection of papers relating to Graham Greene and his secretary Josephine Reid. The discussion includes fascinating details about what is included in this unique archive.

Listen at <https://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/keywords/graham-greene>

## Film: *England Made Me*

Although there is no Graham Greene festival this year, there will be a showing of the 1973 film of Graham Greene's novel *England Made Me*, at the Civic Centre on Friday September 25th at 7.30pm. For more details, to purchase tickets, and for information about the 2016 Festival, go to <http://grahamgreenebt.org/> Happy listening! **Ian Skillicorn**

# Your Berkhamsted Clergy

Since my last letter, we have had the Petertide Fayre and so my opening remarks must be of thanks, thanks to all who organised the event and managed the stalls and all that goes with that, but also for the many who, in spite of the rain, came and spent money! It was a good day indeed.

This month also marks the beginning of a new academic term for many of our young people, be it at pre-school, infant and primary or senior school, along with those who will be leaving home for university for the first time, to say nothing of anxious parents who have to loosen the ties of parenthood somewhat. Amongst the comings and goings here at St Peter's in July we bade farewell to Alice Christoffi our intern student whom we share with the chaplaincy of Berkhamsted School. In her place we welcome Lex who will be working with our younger people and in our infant and junior schools.

I really enjoy this September month when the hint of summer remains, I hope, but then the leaves begin to change, a sign of the seasons moving on, all part of the rhythm of life isn't it? And it is so with ourselves, is it not? Life, it would seem, has its seasons. Our hearts, interwoven with spring and autumn, winter and summer, beat warm, then heavy, and our moods would follow the flow of the sea. It's all so complex, beyond us, and yet so simple: An eternal rhythm, a repetition, living then dying, and then, a break in the rhythm, a surprising freshness, living anew. It's a mystery, a wonder, so unbelievable, this life! And yet....and yet.....As storms and rain follow sunshine, so too our lives cloud over with the pain

of broken relationships, of illness and of course, with the death of our loved ones. And here at St Peter's we have recently had a number of deaths of faithful men and women, something which still affects me even after thirty years as a priest.

Such repetition, of sunshine and storm, of good times and bad, may lull us into a kind of negative fatalism, we give up the little Faith we once had. Just two years ago my mother died after Alys and myself had nursed her through a seven week illness, never leaving her bedside. Watching and waiting for death to come certainly tried my faith and led to a long dark night of the soul when God seemed totally absent, when prayer simply dried up. The sad fact is that many people feel that they dare not admit such things to themselves or to God, let alone to one another. How on earth can we carry on? On my pilgrim journey I have drawn upon the resources of a 20<sup>th</sup> century Dutch priest and author, Henri Nouwen, who once wrote:

*Are the darkness and dryness of my prayer signs of God's absence, or are the signs of presence deeper and wider than the senses can contain? Is the death of my prayer the end of my intimacy with God or the beginning of a new communion, beyond words, emotions and bodily sensations?*

*From: The Heart of Henri Nouwen, page 96.*

In the midst of darkness, Nouwen found light, He clung on to the hope that God was still with him and that no matter what was happening, it could and would lead him to a greater intimacy with God.

# Your Berkhamsted Clergy, cont

Mother Teresa also experienced a similarly dark season when she found that she lost that intimacy with Jesus she once felt so deeply:

*In my heart there is no faith, no love, no trust. There is so much pain, the pain of longing, the pain of not being wanted. I want God with all the powers of my soul and yet there is between us a terrible separation.*

From: *Come, Be My Light*, page 192.

So the message is????? Be honest with God, do not be afraid to pray "God, why the distance?" Hang on in there because God never deserts us. It is part of the human experience as God seeks to bring us to greater maturity in Jesus Christ that we have these dry, barren periods. There may well come a time when we have to let go of the false idea that we should experience the warmth, the closeness, the glory of God every time we pray. There are these comings and goings with God on the Christian journey, changes in our relationship with Him, just as the seasons change. After the darkness there is light, sometimes glimpsed in the darkness as a tiny pin prick. Jesus Christ has experienced all of this. The darkness of death gives way to the bright light of the resurrection. He is our hope, enough to walk the next few steps of life. Just hang on in there: don't give up on God for God never gives up on us. The Christian life is one of constant new beginnings. Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Tim

Rector

## Events at St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted, presented by The Cowper Society

**Sat 5 Sep at 7:30pm** CONCERT in St Peter's Church - Berkhamsted Choral Society & Chorley Wood Choral Society. Conductor Graham Wili. Sebastian Weiss The Seasons plus Choral favourites from summer tour to Berlin. Tickets: £13, £8 student or DC [www.berkhamstedchoral.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedchoral.co.uk)

**Mon 7 Sep at 7:30pm** RECITAL in St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted. Virginia Black (piano) plays Bach, Rameau, Scarlatti and Mozart.  
Thu 17 Sep 2:30pm-9:00pm: Bach 330 ORGAN RECITALS for the kulturelles Oktoberfest at St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted. Sponsor a year of Bach's 330 years at [www.btmydonate](http://www.btmydonate) (when set up) for a minimum of £15 – Recitals free.

**Fri 18 Sep 10:30am-8:00pm** Bach 330 ORGAN RECITALS for the kulturelles Oktoberfest at St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted. Sponsor a year of Bach (as 17<sup>th</sup>) – Recitals free.

**Sat 19 Sep 9:00am-5:30pm** Bach 330 ORGAN RECITALS for the kulturelles Oktoberfest at St Peter's Church; 7:00pm WINE TASTING with food in the Court House, Ticket £15. Sponsor a year of Bach (as 17<sup>th</sup>) – Recitals free.

**Sun 20 Sep 12nn-6:00pm** Bach 330 ORGAN RECITALS for the kulturelles Oktoberfest at St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted; 9:30am Mass 'with Bach' and 6:00pm Choral Evensong 'with Bach' also 12nn BIERFEST in the car park. Sponsor a year of Bach (as 17<sup>th</sup>) – Recitals free.

**Wed 30 Sep at 8:00pm** FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S FILM AND TALK in the Court House, Berkhamsted. Film 'Life on the Home Front in Hertfordshire – A Country at War'; Talk by David Pearce on Berkhamsted Parish Memorials of WW1. No charge.

## Regular Church Activities

- 3rd Mon Pastoral Network, 7:45pm, The Court House. Contact Philippa Seldon 871534.
- Tues Chuckles Parent & Toddler Group, 10–11:30am. All Saints' Church Hall. Song Time or short service as announced. Contact Jenny Wells, 870981.
- Tues St Peter's Choir, Children 5:15–6:15pm. St Peter's. Adrian Davis 01296 632263 or Jean Wild 866859.
- 1st Tues Tuesday Club, 7:30pm A lively women's group with guest speaker. The Court House. Contact Rosslyn Laidler: tel 01442 879992
- 3rd Tues Mothers' Union, meet in members' houses at 2.30pm. New members always welcome. Contact Kathie Lally, 863526.
- 4th Tues Mothers' Union Prayer Group, 2:30pm. 17 Shaftesbury Court. Tell us if anyone needs your prayers. Contact Jenny Wells 870981.
- Wed Julian Meeting, meets about twice a month, 11:30am. All welcome. At Jenny Wells, 57 Meadow Rd, 870981 or at Ruth Treves Brown, 3 Sherwood Mews Park Street, Berkhamsted HP4 1HX
- Thu Bellringing, 8pm, St Peters. Contact Helen Ruberry, 890949.
- Fri Little Fishes Parent & Toddler Group 9:30–11:30am. The Court House. Weekly, with short service on 1st Friday in St Peter's (10am), Tracy Robinson 863559.
- Fri St Peter's Choir, Children 7–8:30pm, Adults 7:30-8:30pm. St Peter's. Adrian Davis 01296 632263 or Jean Wild 866859.
- 3rd Sat Berkhamsted Churches Prayer Breakfast, 8am, The Way Inn. Rachael Hawkins 866324.
- 1st Sun Sundays Together Lunch 12.30pm, Court House. For anyone on their own on a Sunday. Liz Jackson 864382.

## Regular Church Services

### St Peter's

#### Regular Sunday services

8:00am Eucharist

9:30am Sung Eucharist with Sunday School

6:00pm Evensong

#### Regular weekday services

Morning Prayer – Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00am (St Peter's), Tuesday 9am (All Saints' Shrublands Road)

Eucharist – Tuesday 9:30am (All Saints'); Wednesday 8:30am (St Peter's)

Evening Prayer Monday – Friday 5.00pm – Saturday 6:00pm (St Peter's)



## **This Month's Diary**

### **All Saints' – September**

6th : Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity, 10am Morning Worship, David Williamson

13th: Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity, 10am Holy Communion, Revd Rachael Hawkins,  
4pm Messy Church, Revd Rachael Hawkins and Messy Church Team

20th: Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity, 8am Holy Communion, Revd Rachael Hawkins,  
10am, Morning Worship, Revd Brian Tebbutt, 4pm Holy Communion with Prayers for  
Healing, Revd Rachael Hawkins, Audrey Cox, Jenny Wells and Tracy Robinson

27th: Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity, 10am Holy Communion, Revd Penny Nash

### **Registers**

#### **St Peter's September**

##### **Baptisms**

12<sup>th</sup> July: Lucas, Charlie Stuart and Layla Stone WALKINSHAW

26<sup>th</sup> July: Tatiana and Ruby SIMPSON  
Lucy Florence BUNN

##### **Weddings**

4<sup>th</sup> July : Timothy Geoffrey SHELL and Charlotte Gabriella KAYE

11<sup>th</sup> July: Lee Stephen HOLLICK and Kirsten Amy ROGERS

25<sup>th</sup> July: Ian David Victor John DELL and Ceylon Aryinee MARABLE

##### **Funerals**

3<sup>rd</sup> July: Thomas Edmund Peter AUSTEN

10<sup>th</sup> July: Neil FOREMAN

30<sup>th</sup> July: Ann WATSON

No registers for All Saints

### **Further information available from our church websites:**

[www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk](http://www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk) and at [www.allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk).

### **Key Church contacts:**

Parish Office, Hilary Armstrong & Kate Perera, Court House, 878227.

Fr. Tim Pilkington, 01442 879739, Team Rector, St Peter's. (day off Fri)

Fr. Tom Plant, 01442 382633 (day off Mon) Curate, St Peter's.

The Revd. Rachael Hawkins, All Saints' 01442 866324.

# News from the Hospice of St Francis

## September 2015

### Open Gardens – Sunday 6 September 2015 2-5:30pm

For the second year running we're opening our beautiful gardens as part of the NGS Open Gardens Scheme. Come and explore the sensory garden, woodland walk or enjoy refreshments on the lawns with their views over to the Ashridge Estate. Entrance to the event is £4.



### Trek Peru open Evening – Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 7pm

If you'd be interested in trekking to Peru with us in September 2016, do come along to our informal information evening on 15<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm at the Hospice. The trip will follow the ancient Inca trail and a visit to mystical city of Machu Picchu and include a local community project.

Find out more at: [www.stfrancis.org.uk/peru](http://www.stfrancis.org.uk/peru) or call 01442 869555.

### Prostate Cancer Wellbeing Course – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September for 6 weeks 2-4pm.

If you, or someone you know, needs help moving forward with your life following prostate cancer treatment, you may be interested in our course which covers side

effects, diet, relaxation and relationships. For more information, speak to Tina, our Prostate Cancer Specialist Nurse on 01442 869555 or email

[Springcentre@stfrancis.org.uk](mailto:Springcentre@stfrancis.org.uk). Our Spring Centre also holds many other courses for those affected by a serious illness - find out more on our website.

### Go Purple for St Francis – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October, during Hospice Care Week, we're asking local people to show their support for our Hospice by Going Purple for us! Can you **WEAR** purple for the day, **BAKE** purple-iced cakes to sell and host a coffee morning or **BE CREATIVE** and organise your own crazy purple-themed fundraising activity. The aim is to make purple the colour of the day and help us turn purple into pounds!!

For your Go Purple Info Pack call 01442 869555 or email

[gopurple@stfrancis.org.uk](mailto:gopurple@stfrancis.org.uk)

### Mud Pack Challenge – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October

Do something completely different on a Sunday and come and get muddy for us by participating in our Mud Pack Challenge II in the beautiful grounds of Ashridge House! Negotiate muddy obstacles on your own, with a team of friends or work colleagues and have lots of fun on the way round, choosing between a 5 or 10 mile route!

The *Keohane Crew*, a team of nearly 100 friends of Eleanor and Paul Keohane, taking part to thank the Hospice for the care it gave gifted sportsman Paul, 52, who passed away at the Hospice recently,

have already signed up. "We are so proud to be taking part as a team in Paul's name," explained Eleanor, 43, from Rectory Lane, Berkhamsted. "There's going to be lots of smiles, lots of mud, loads of fun and a huge amount of team work helping each other round. Paul would have done anything to support the Hospice and would have loved to have been part of the Keohane Crew but he'd be thrilled to know that all these people are taking part for him to enable the Hospice's amazing care to continue." The event is open to anyone over 15 with a basic level of fitness and no specific training is required. Participants are asked to raise a minimum sponsorship of £50.

[www.stfrancis.org.uk/mudpack](http://www.stfrancis.org.uk/mudpack).

## Make a Will month makes a difference

Thanks to the 75 people who made a will at 10 local solicitors including Sumner & Tabor, Austins, Penny and Thorne and Harrowell & Atkins in Berkhamsted during our March Make a Will month. Solicitors waived their will writing fee for a donation to the Hospice and the initiative helped to raise £13k, double the £6k it raised last year.

"We'd like to thank all the solicitors and members of the public who took part for helping to raise vital funds which enable us to continue the valuable work we do," said Kate Rogers, Trusts and Major Gifts Manager at The Hospice.

[www.stfrancis.org.uk](http://www.stfrancis.org.uk) Tel: 01442 869555

Facebook at: **TheHospiceofStFrancis**

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## Appledown Rescue's Dog of the Month

This is **Joey** a Yorkshire Terrier aged two and a half years. Don't be fooled by his cute appearance!

He needs an experienced home with owners willing to continue the work we have done socialising him. Joey cannot go to a home with children but could live with another dog. He cannot live in Bedford.

If you feel you could offer Joey, or any of our other dogs a loving and secure home please call in at the kennels any day between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Please note that we have restrictions on rehoming dogs to families with children under 7 years. Full details of the rehoming process can be found on our website or call the kennels.

Our **Open Day and Fun Dog Show** is on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September. Lots of classes, refreshments and stalls. Opens at 11 a.m. classes commence 12 noon. Entries on the day.

**Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels, Harling Road, Eaton Bray, Beds LU6 1QY** (Reg Charity No 1116848)

01525 220383 e-mail: [appledown.kennels@btinternet.com](mailto:appledown.kennels@btinternet.com)

Website: [www.appledownrescue.co.uk](http://www.appledownrescue.co.uk)

## OXFAM'S EMERGENCY WORK

Nepal's devastating earthquakes are the latest disaster to hit the headlines but rebuilding lives after disasters strike is an important aspect of Oxfam's work. Employment training and equipment has been provided to victims of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

Over 5.5 million people worldwide were helped in emergency situations by Oxfam last year.

Water supplies for one million people have been restored within Syria as well as sanitation and clean water in refugee camps in neighbouring Jordan and Lebanon. Food vouchers and medical supplies as well as water and toilets have helped people in war-torn Gaza and South Sudan.

So donating to or buying from Oxfam really does make a difference.





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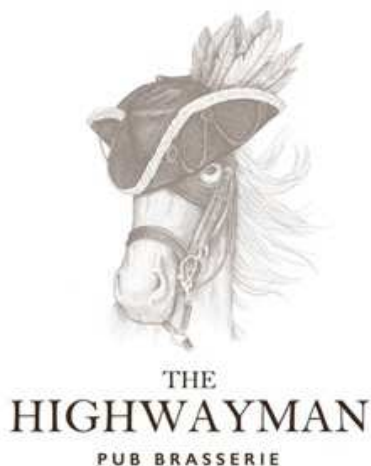
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# The Highwayman comes to Town



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## Inn Style

Going back to its roots of a historic coaching inn, The Highwayman has been designed to reflect its heritage with cosy nooks and a relaxed home-from-home feel. Spanning several levels with comfortable booth seating and inspiring interiors that feature beautiful oak beams, polished floors and soft lighting, it's the perfect place to unwind with a post-work pint, a delicious mid-week dinner or weekend lunch with friends. Not forgetting the stunning hidden courtyard, making it *the* destination for al fresco dining.

## Market-Fresh

The seasonal menu is changed four times a year and showcases local, British produce with classic British pub dishes and an array of French influences. Indulge in starters such as grilled smoked herring salad with pea puree, pea shoots and horseradish cream; and potted Cromer crab and prawn butter on toasted pain de campagne. Mains feature the likes of grilled Scottish king scallops with braised and roasted fennel and cherry tomato fondue; roast Lincolnshire pork belly with sauté potatoes, braised cabbage, crackling and gooseberry compote; and chickpea and coriander cake with smoked aubergine and roast tomato sauce.

Come Sundays, gather friends and family for a leisurely lunch and feast on a traditional British roast with all the trimmings, available every Sunday and priced at £13.80. Choose from sirloin of Irish beef or free-range Cherry Orchard pork. Starters or desserts can be added for just £2.50.



# The Highwayman comes to Town, cont

## Pull up and have a pint

Draught beers such as Meantime Pale Ale and a host of local rotating guest beers and ales including those from Haresfoot Brewery will be available so guests can relax over a quiet cosy pint after a hard day's work. Wine-lovers are sure to find their top tipples with the extensive yet accessible wine list, featuring an array of quality French favourites and carefully chosen bespoke bottles. Those looking for something unique can try the bespoke fresh and fruity sparkling wine, Mousseux Premium Blanc de Blancs, or brand new creation, Mousseux Rosé, for something a little more refreshing. A range of bitters and premium spirits are also available.

## My Experience

I chose the classic pub favourite the signature 30-day dry-aged Irish heritage fillet steak, with pepper sauce. As you can see from the picture, this was well presented and as with any good steak the knife cuts through very easily.



I accompanied my steak with chips and rocket and parmesan salad. I was very pleased with myself for not choosing a starter only because the main course was so filling.

Though I did indulge in a dessert, this being the Summer berry savarin, strawberry sauce, creme Chantilly. I can only describe this as a sponge soaked in syrup with a generous serving of tangy fruit. Very yummy!

As well as enjoying all the courses, the staff made the experience a pleasure with their professional approach.

Average spend £20/£25

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Jacqueline, editor

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# Gardening Article by Helen Reeley

Adventures in boots-August visit to The Old Vicarage Gardens in East Ruston, Norfolk.

One of the joys of having friends living far & wide is that you get to visit the gardens in their locality. The Old Vicarage Gardens in East Ruston, Norfolk is on the edge of the universe as far as I'm concerned & a difficult place to visit which means it's been on my list of places to go for about twenty years & I've never managed to get there until this summer. One of my best friends lives in Bury, Suffolk so it was still another couple of hours on from her place to East Ruston. Undaunted & cameras charged we set off on a beautiful sunny day, (the only one we had in August) & landed at The Old Vicarage Gardens at 1pm opening time.

Alan Gray and Graham Robeson have been owners of the gardens for 40 years. When they arrived there were no gardens & they have worked meticulously to re-establish lost wildlife & areas full of horticultural diversity. Sections of the gardens are planted with roses, exotics, Dutch style planting, herbs, desert plants, vegetables & cut flowers & fortunately for us on the day there was shade to be had in the woodland garden where a terrific collection of hydrangeas thrived.

One area close to the house had the most beautiful collection of echeverias & succulents...whether they were taken into a greenhouse for the winter or draped with fleece I didn't ask but they looked good & strong & most at home.

No fine upstanding garden that hawks visitors is complete without a tea shop. The Old Vicarage didn't disappoint; the cakes were all homemade & the tea served in a proper pot. The plant shop sold a huge healthy array of plant specimens that grew in the gardens & I also spotted a shed that displayed some interesting old tools.

I reckon if I lived closer I would've trundled along to one of their open evenings to see the gardens at dusk. Also, I've noticed from their website they hold flower arranging & painting classes along with Gardener's Question Time & Summer Parties. East Ruston could be a good locality for a short break-there is a great beach very close & a lighthouse too. Everyone loves a lighthouse.

Do drop me a line if you have any queries  
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TTFN



# Your Sport

Matthew Dawson

## A pitch with a view

Last month a brand new stand was completed at Berkhamsted's 3G astro facility at Ashlyns School. The facility is known to many as simply BerkoAstro, and with the new stand parents and supporters will be able to watch proceedings from a greater vantage point than beforehand.

Previously there had been a large metallic green face obstructing your view, as you'd either have to stand behind that or on the sideline itself in order to enjoy the football that was taking place. With the new stand you'll now be able to watch the play from an enhanced view as 'The pitch with a view' project is now fully completed.

The new stand will accommodate 100 plus people and will aim to draw more parents and fans alike to the astro itself when a game or a training session is happening. The stand is situated on the half way line of the pitch and therefore presents onlookers with a great view of the wonderful facility. To coincide with that, new fencing and railing has been installed and restored to enhance the experience for spectators.

I spoke to Berkhamsted Raiders chairman Keith Pollard about the new stand and how the project came about. He explained that the board of Trustees who represent Raiders and Ashlyns

and actually run BerkoAstro

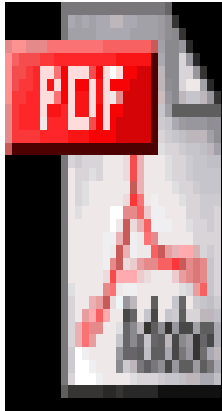
*"decided to invest some of the surplus" which was generated from the facility throughout the last year into "improving the venue for spectators"*

Berkhamsted Raiders are massively keen on fundraising and that's how some of the funding was raised when BerkoAstro was originally built. Keith went on to say that *"Raiders has also raised significant funds for the development [of the new stand] through events such as the Berkhamsted Fun Run and Half Marathon."* Those events saw many Raiders parents and players run to raise money for not just the new stand, but also for a charity called 'Cardiac Risk in the Young.'

Keith also told me of the benefits that will be reaped from the new stand explaining that it *"will increase the enjoyment of football for all involved"* whilst it will also make the astro *"more marketable for 11 v 11 games, 7 v 7 games and all training sessions."*

Donations towards the new stand are still being accepted and at the time of writing sponsorship has almost reached £4000. If you wish to help out Raiders and Ashlyns with this new development then visit the following site to sponsor a seat and add to the ever increasing total; <https://www.justgiving.com/pitchwithaview/>

**BERKOASTRO**  
The Paul Beard Centre at Ashlyns School



# Acrobat Document

<b>Copy Dates:</b> 11 August	11 September	11 October
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