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yB

Your Berkhamsted

May 2017

Review of The Bull

Business is fizzing in Berkhamsted

**Rayden Solicitors raise over
£4,000**

**Hemel Hempsted - A place to do
business**



50p

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

In this issue...

Welcome to the May 2017 edition of Your Berkhamsted. We are already into the 5th month! I do not know about you but this year is flying by already! In this edition we focus on business and one feature is why Hemel Hempstead is a place you can do business – there is a quite a bit going on in our neighbouring town and is worth a look. We also have more on the Berkhamsted Chamber of Commerce and their recent event – lots of glass chinking going on. Rayden Solicitors are also doing a great job in raising money and awareness in the community for many good causes – see page 31 for their latest contribution. Jenny Sherwood shows us that Berkhamsted is so rich in history and how a ‘Hub’ would be an answer for a one stop shop of information. I want to apologise for a couple of issues from last month’s edition – and will go out on a limb and say that this magazine needs more volunteers – could this be you – please contact me if you feel you could help. *Our what’s on page shows events in May in and around Berkhamsted, also look out for YB tweets on @Yourberkhamsted. 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, Editor— editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk

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Front cover: Thank you Mary Casserley for the wonderful picture of Bluebell Woods.
www.marycasserley.com Cards and prints are available from Berkhamsted Imaging

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

By Julian Dawson



Not content with car parking controversy, we now have plans to implement a one-way system. berkhamstedtoday.co.uk reports that the town council's parking forum is suggesting a scheme that would include George Street, Ellesmere Road and Bridge Street. Sounds fun. As one who is primarily on foot in the town I do enjoy watching a spot of car confusion and chaos. Providing they don't attempt to drive on the pavement. Don't get me started on that!

But we all pretty much on a one-way street to the cemetery, if you'll forgive the morbidity. Certainly the residents of Chipperfield, as reported by hemelto-day.co.uk, feel the same way. Now that the churchyard of St Paul's is full, residents have campaigned to open another, the nearest being six miles away in Berkhamsted. Chipperfield Burial Ground Trust have submitted approval for plans. My maternal grandfather's ashes are in fact scattered in the original site.

Well, we've had a funeral. Now let's have a wedding. weddingvenues.com excitedly tells us that though Ashridge is completely booked for the summer, you can still book in November. For "a gorgeous autumn wedding, we can promise an array of beautifully coloured trees within our 190 acres". Fog and a chill drizzle is also included. I particularly remember a Raiders football match in November

hammered it down and the leaves were ripped off the beeches in a howling gale. Still, if that floats your boat don't let me spoil your day.

Talking of football, wimbledon.guardian.co.uk reports on the latest escapades of the Spartan South Midlands Football League as we reach the business end of the season. Berkhamsted's 0-0 draw with Oxhey Jets and a 2-1 victory over Tring Athletic are chronicled.

In schools sport, rathbones.com report on the 2017 National Schools Lacrosse Championship which they sponsor. Berkhamsted School reached the final of the Under-15s with a hundred per cent record, but unfortunately they fell at the final hurdle with a golden goal defeat against victors St Catherine's, Bramley. The Under-13s reached the semis.

The School also appears in this month's guest blog 1ondoncalling.wordpress.com. It appears to be tri-lingual – English, Chinese and Japanese. Perhaps some oriental scholars can verify that for me. Either way, some fine photos have been taken by a Nikon D90.

Berkhamsted's Antiques and Collector's Fair, which was to take place at the Sports Centre as we go to press was listed

Cont on page 5

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in homesandantiques.com. Do we have any antiquaries amongst us who can report on the latest exciting find? To wit, I noticed that Castle Antiques has closed, former star of Antiques Road Trip. A great pity.

Fiercely independent, Practice is the alternative pop artist from London that doesn't want to be disposable, so reports masterbeaters.com. Steady on. You can listen to their track Vantablack on the site. Their latest output has been recorded in homes in Dalston, Croydon

and Berkhamsted. The music centres on current themes such as the fluoridisation of American waters, the sentencing of Chelsea Manning, Snowden and the censorship of governments. Music to challenge, provoke and unsettle. It sounds good too.



Drawings of Berkhamsted by
Jenni Cator, Art at 88,
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info@artat88.co.uk.



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What's on

Berkhamsted Artisans, Arts & Crafts Market (**1st 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; 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 For more info email: enquiries@tringfarmersmarket.co.uk

For events at Ashridge please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge or contact the Visitor Centre on 01442 851227 Ashridge@nationaltrust.org.uk

<https://www.dayoutwiththekids.co.uk/things-to-do/east/hertfordshire/berkhamsted>

Sat, 6th May @ 7.30 pm - Elgar: Music Makers - Joint concert with Chorleywood Choral Society. Watford Coliseum.

www.berkhamstedchoral.co.uk Ticket prices tba, DC. 07500 431643

Sat, 6th May @ 8pm - Gabriel Garrick Big Band "Ellington, Garrick" – jazz concert. Civic Centre.

www.berkhamstedjazz.co.uk Visitors £13, members £10. Annual: couples £15, singles £10. DC. SAE to Berkhamsted Jazz, 6 Longfield Gardens, Tring HP23 4DN. bjazztickets@gmail.com 824173



**Easter Taizé Service
Sunday 7th May**

@ 6.00 pm

St Mary's Church, High Street, Northchurch, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, HP4 3QW

A quiet meditation service with chants and silence to celebrate Easter. Tea/coffee and cake to be served afterwards. All welcome

Thurs.11th May @ 7pm - live screening. OBSESSION (NT live). Jude Law. The Vyne, Northbridge Rd. Berkhamsted.

£15. www.vynetheatre.co.uk. Tel: 0333 666 3366. Full 2017 programme on website.

Sat, 13th May @ 7.30 pm - Orchestral Concert - Programme to include: Mendelssohn's "Violin Concerto" and Haydn's "Symphony no 101 (The Clock)". Soloist tba, conductor

Thomas Loten. St Johns Boxmoor.
www.dacorumso.org Tickets see 16
Oct. 01494 727240

Sun, 14th May to Sat 20th 2.30pm to 5 pm - Berkhamsted Art Society Spring Exhibition

Art Exhibition – a wide range of members' artwork in all media, including ceramics, to view and for sale. Civic Centre.

www.berkhamstedartsociety.co.uk

Free, all welcome

May 17th @ 8pm. BERKHAMSTED LIVE 14, performing in support of Pepper Nurses, we have: outstanding violinist from Hemel, TANYA SWEIRY, leader of the *Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra of London*, Watford artist AYA HASTWELL talking about her portraits of 'invisible' people, plus an interview with local publishers ANNE & JOHN SAMSON about *TSL Books*. MCs: LESLIE TATE & SUE HAMPTON. 8.00 May 17th Kings Arms, Berkhamsted, HP4 3HL. £5.00/£3.00 supporting Pepper Foundation Nurses. Please book at lstate@btinternet.com

Thurs. 18th May @ 7pm - live screening. Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf (NT live). Imelda Staunton. The Vyne, Northbridge Rd. Berkhamsted. £15. www.vynetheatre.co.uk. Tel: 0333 666 3366. Full 2017 programme on website.

Date of event: Saturday 20th May 2017 from 10am

Name of event: Markyate Plant Sale supporting The Hospice of St Francis (Reg. Charity 280825)

Where event to be held: 64 High Street, Markyate, AL3 8HZ

Details of event: Markyate's garden party of the year selling over 7,000 colourful bedding plants, perennials, hanging baskets, vegetables and herbs. Homemade cakes and refreshments, live music, children's entertainment and raffle. *FREE ENTRY*.

Ticket price: Free Entry

Orders and Information: Ian

Bradley ie.bradley@talktalk.net/01582943133

Twitter: @MarkyatePlants

Facebook: Markyate Plant Sale

Sat, 27th May @ 8pm - Robert Fowler Quintet "Zoot Sims tunes, standards" – jazz concert. – jazz concert. Civic Centre. www.berkhamstedjazz.co.uk
Visitors £13, members £10. Annual: couples £15, singles £10. DC. SAE to Berkhamsted Jazz, 6 Longfield Gardens, Tring HP23 4DN. bjazztickets@gmail.com 824173

Out of Town

The Court Theatre -

www.courttheatre.co.uk

Aylesbury Waterside Theatre: for information - <http://>

www.atgtickets.com

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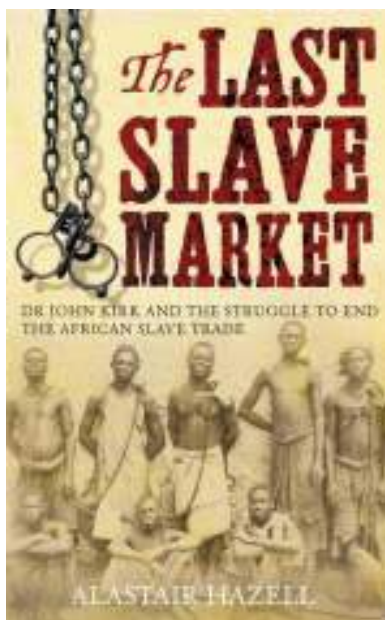
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Book Review

by Julian Dawson



The Last Slave Market: Dr John Kirk and the Struggle to End the African Slave Trade. By Alastair Hazell.

Alastair Hazell tells an extraordinary tale of one man's mission, endeavour and finally success in halting a centuries old slave trade. This was not the industrial-scale slavery that moved huge numbers across the Atlantic to the Americas plantations. This was enslavement by Arabs of Africans, either for their own domestic use, or for trade and sale in Arabia, Persia and Turkey.

The story centres on the island of Zanzibar, the fulcrum of the trade. A city of extremes, of wealth, pleasure, if you enjoyed the sea breezes. But woe betide if you were downwind of the sewage filled beaches where it was not

uncommon for the miasma of decay to burst into flames.

The British anti-slavery movement were appalled by the trade in slaves, but British sensibilities to local customs ensured that the boat was only rocked so much, and expediency shaded the eyes to much of what was going on. David Livingstone did much to raise awareness, but Alastair Hazell gives him a rough ride. This was man whose obsession rode rough-shod over his friends and travelling companions, including Kirk himself. It was Stanley, the over-bearing American journalist, who turned Livingstone into a saint, and tried to besmirch Kirk's character.

Nevertheless, Kirk's quiet and thorough determination, in his role as acting consul, ensured that he lined up the cards in his favour. He compiled every small detail of the trade, befriended Zanzibaris of influence, and finally manoeuvred the sultan into banning the trade altogether.

Although Kirk was later to fall foul of the machinations of the Scramble of Africa, he showed that not all of Britain's influence on the African continent was self-serving, exploitative and patronising.

Berkhamsted Museum and History Society



A HERITAGE HUB FOR BERKHAMSTED?

The more one delves
into our historic past
and looks around the

streets of Berkhamsted the more one becomes aware how rich our historic heritage is. For the past fifteen years the History Society has taken part in the nationally sponsored Heritage Open Days, when we have arranged guided tours of different buildings of historic interest, which are not normally provided to members of the public. In the course of these fifteen years we have included about sixteen different sites of interest and we are not short of new ideas of sites to include. Naturally there are some sites included every year for example our Castle, the best example of a motte and bailey castle remaining in the country! Also Ashlyns School, the former Foundling Hospital attracts many every September, not to go to school but to hear the personal experiences of two former foundlings, a boy and a girl, who speak of their childhood as they walk through the corridors they once knew so well. Another very popular site to visit is our 'Walk into the Past-Berkhamsted Place, Successor to the Castle, which includes the opportunity to see the vast Castle Barn. We are grateful to private owners who open their doors to members of the public to share and enjoy their historic heritage. For three years the History Society arranged tours of the BFI archives at Kingshill. Now the BFI has taken over the arrangements themselves.

This is again a very popular event. Another site introduced in more recent years is the inclusion of Rectory Lane Cemetery linked in with St Peter's Church both with their fine memorials and more humble graves which reflect the life and history of our historic town through the centuries. Last year the event at Rectory Lane culminated in a very moving torch-light procession'. What it will be this year remains to be seen? The full details of this year's events, 7th - 10th September, will go live in July, ready for bookings to be taken. One thing that has not been mentioned is the fact that all the Heritage Open Day events are free.

Berkhamsted Castle has been much in the news locally recently. On the anniversary of the battle of Hastings last October Professor David Bates from the University of East Anglia unveiled the very fine bust of William the Conqueror, which had been commissioned by a local resident Jonathan Culverhouse, who wanted an appropriate constant reminder of the significance of the submission of the Saxons to William, Duke of Normandy. Unfortunately so far no appropriately acceptable site where the people of Berkhamsted and visitors to the town can see it, has been found.. Currently it is housed in Berkhamsted School, whence Professor Bates returned last week to give a lecture on the significance of the submission at Berkhamsted to a Hall filled to capacity.

The Visitor Room at the Castle was opened for the Easter weekend, Saturday

-Monday and in spite of the indifferent - weather nearly three hundred people came to the Centre. Sadly the moat is in a particularly sorry state at present and lack of rain in our area this spring has made the matters worse. There has been talk of the Castle becoming partly under local management. Exactly what that would entail is uncertain. There is also the possibility of a field adjacent to the Castle, but still within the ancient monument site becoming available.. Exactly who would take over the management, English Heritage, the Duchy of Cornwall or Berkhamsted Town Council or a newly established Castle Trust is uncertain. It seems likely that the overall responsibility would remain with English Heritage, but there might be the possibility of solving the difficulty of parking close to the Castle.

Meanwhile the Castle Visitor Room will be open from the beginning of May until the end of September from 10am-6pm. There is no charge. Schools and adult groups are welcome to visit the castle at other times throughout the year. In spite of what is said by English Heritage guided tours are available and provided by members of Berkhamsted History Society These are adapted to the needs of the group. We do not have a set charge for school groups but a donation is very welcome. We do charge a small fee for adult groups. These guided tours are available throughout the year.

Visitors to the Castle, especially visitors to the town from all over the world often ask for directions to the town museum and are incredulous when they hear that

we haven't one. For years we have been trying to find appropriate premises, which in this affluent town with property prices, which have rocketed, is virtually impossible. A small window of opportunity has opened and we are working on a way, which would gain us a successful lottery bid, where appropriate techniques are of the essence.

In this short article it is clear that a great deal is going on in Berkhamsted to draw people's attention to our rich historic heritage and our beautiful countryside which rests also on our history, but it is piecemeal, and disjointed to extremes. We haven't even a good information centre. We need a central hub where all these different initiatives can be brought together so that people can choose to identify the historic town centre, look at archaeological remains, visit the Castle, find the WWI trenches, or walk up to Ashridge. Museums of the old conventional type are failing everywhere we must provide a heritage hub, which highlights the stories which identify our town through the centuries, which use modern technology to preserve collections and keep them in appropriate conditions but make them available for researchers, genealogists and members of the public and above all make history alive for the next generation.

Would you support this venture of a Heritage Hub for Berkhamsted? Further enquiries from Giles Clark, [mailto: giles-bothy@btinternet.com](mailto:giles-bothy@btinternet.com) , Norman.groves@ntlworld.com or Jenny Sherwood KSherw9100@aol.com

Business is fizzing in Berkhamsted

The Berkhamsted and District Chamber of Commerce is the organisation that brings together the business firms in the town. It represents their interests to the various authorities and organises a series of activities to help the smaller businesses in particular to get themselves known. The BDCC has over 90 members across a huge range of businesses from language consultants and horse racing syndicates to the larger legal and accountancy firms.

The 5th April saw the first of a two-monthly event that will become a regular feature in local business life. A champagne breakfast was held at the Cricket Club on Castle Hill at 7.15 am. 50 businesses attended and there was a small waiting list.



The guest of honour and speaker was the Lord Mayor, Councillor

Tom Ritchie who talked about local authority life and how it impacted the business community.

Each of the businesses had 30 seconds to introduce themselves and what they did to the audience, and remarkably no-one overran.

Rumbles (late of Lower Kings road) provided a splendid breakfast. They are now building a broader catering business based on their position as resident caterers at the Cricket Club.



This was a successful and enjoyable event and showed the town's businesses to be a healthy and vibrant community. The next breakfast meeting will be at the Cricket Club in June where another interesting speaker will be heard.

John Gerry

<https://www.berkhamsted-chamber.co.uk>

Thank you Mikaela Morgan for the photos.



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Hemel Hempstead – Hemel Hempstead is a ‘place you can do business’, alongside many economic champions such as Amazon, Bourne Leisure, FFEI, Sopra Steria, Henkel and Britvic, who already call Hemel Hempstead home to their headquarters and continue to invest in the area.



Hemel Hempstead and surrounding areas is home to 7,300 businesses, with Maylands Business Park being the largest in the South East

83,200 residents are in employment (aged 16 to 74)

The average annual salary is 17% higher than the national average

66% of Dacorum’s population is educated to NVQ Level 2 and above

Close proximity to London, major motorways and four airports

The launch of the new Enviro-Tech Enterprise Zone, with the aim of creating thousands of new jobs focusing on environmental technologies, is just one of the many progressive steps taken by Dacorum Borough Council to evolve the town and create a more successful economy for the benefit of everyone locally.

With an availability of development land and the commitment and support of Dacorum Borough Council to ‘grow on’ its businesses, Hemel Hempstead is primed for growth in both service and manufacturing businesses.

Sally Marshall, Chief Executive for Dacorum Borough Council, says, “Dacorum Borough Council is proud to promote economic growth and prosperity of the local areas as a key priority. As a committed and fully engaged member of the Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors Scheme we will consult and encourage dialogue with HHBA as a key consultee when developing the Council’s policies and plans which shape the economic development of Hemel Hempstead and the surrounding areas.”

Maylands Business Park is the largest business park in the south east, currently home to 700 businesses and 20,000 employees. Development of the Enviro-Tech Enterprise Zone will further enhance Hemel Hempstead’s rich industrial and business offering. with major sites adjacent to each other at Maylands, and close to Junction 8 of the M1. These sites cover just over 78 ha in total.

Chris Taylor, Group Manager Strategic Planning & Regeneration for Dacorum Borough Council said: “The Hertfordshire Enterprise Zone will make a significant contribution to the cost of the transport improvements required to ensure that growth in the Maylands area, and the East of Hemel Hempstead generally, is sustainable in the medium- to long-term future. The Enterprise Zone will enable local economies to unlock key development sites, consolidate and provide infrastructure, attract business and create jobs.”

In addition, Prologis have recently submitted their planning application for the Prologis Park development on the Maylands gateway. The proposals will deliver new distribution warehouses and investment in the local road infrastructure. The scheme will secure over £80 million of private sector investment and when fully delivered will support around 750-1,000 jobs in the manufacturing and logistics sectors.



This scheme is in addition to offers for land of over 600,000 square foot on Maylands, including the 150,000+ sq ft Aviva Retail Scheme being given planning approval on Maylands Avenue, and the redevelopment of 140,000 sq ft of class A offices within the town.

Today the town is home to a flourishing and diverse com-

mercial centre, with excellent links to all of the major motorways between London and the North and well-connected for the four airports of Heathrow, Gatwick, Luton and Stansted.

Gary Stringer, Place Manager for the Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors said, “Hemel Hempstead is a special place to work, and also to live and enjoy. One of the roles of the Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors is to embody and share these sentiments in order to attract new businesses and create new jobs by enabling further economic growth and prosperity for the whole borough.”

For further information, visit the new website at www.investhemel.co.uk or contact Gary Stringer, Ambassador Place Manager, on tel: 01442 228808.

Your Berkhamsted Clergy

“Never cast a clout ‘til May is out”, is one of those country sayings which give some people a never-ending excuse for a trivial argument. Is it May the month? Is it May the hawthorn blossom? (Let’s make it quite clear there is no reference to the Prime Minister, so don’t start getting undressed when she goes abroad.) If May is the month, the advice is to keep your winter clothes on until after the 31st. Changeable weather and all that! If May is the hawthorn, then keep in touch with nature rather than the calendar and nature will signal with pink and white blossom when summer is beginning and it is safe to cast a clout.

May, or hawthorn, has a long history in mythology probably because it is associated with spring. It is highly valued by people who look for the spiritual elements in nature and is sometimes associated with fairies and magic. If you sit under a hawthorn tree the fairies may come and take you away!

One of the most famous is the Glastonbury thorn which marks a very ancient religious site. Legend has it that Joseph of Arimathea stuck his staff in the soil on his visit to Britain and it took root and flowered. It would be unwise to cast your winter clouts when this particular thorn flowers as it blossoms at Christmastime. We used to live fairly near the Hethel Thorn. This is reputed to be 700 years old, the oldest tree in East Anglia.

Although it is a rather straggly bush, a vestige of what it used to be, is protected in the smallest nature reserve in Britain, just a few metres square.

The Enclosure Acts of the nineteenth century often specified hawthorn hedges, presumably because thorn grows quickly and, being prickly is effective in keeping livestock in and peasants out. Alas, modern farming methods have resulted in the uprooting of many of those hedges.

For Christians the hawthorn can be a reminder of the crown of thorns which was forced upon Jesus’ head in an additional and unnecessary cruelty. Some people think you can hear the thorn trees creaking and crying of Good Friday. It is an important plant too because of all the people named after it - Thorn, Thornhill, Thornbury, Thornton, Hawthorn itself. Were the ancestors simply all prickly?

At this time of year I like to think of Joseph who came from Arimathea. You may remember he was one who helped take Jesus down from the cross, and then placed him in the tomb he had made for himself. Not only a gruesome task, but a generous act. The Gospels tell us he was a rich man, a respected member of the council but who did not agree with their action, and a secret disciple of Jesus.

If the flowering hedges of May makes May a month for remembering Joseph it becomes a time to appreciate people who get their hands dirty, doing things for us and for others which are less than pleasant. They are frequently unnoticed, and are often more than generous with their time, kindness and skills. If you are involved in such unpleasant work for others maybe you can identify with Joseph who was there when Jesus needed him.

May reminds us of the long tradition in our country of valuing creation and

seeking the presence of God in the world around us. This month the prickliest of plants finds its place in creation bringing swathes of beauty to our hedgerows, and the birds will be looking forward to the autumn, where the generosity of the hawthorn will be shown with an abundance red berries. Prickly people can also be beautiful and generous all the year round. All types have a place in God's creation.

Anthony Lathe



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Regular Church Activities

- 3rd Mon Pastoral Network, 7:45pm, The Court House. Contact Philippa Seldon 871534.
- 1st Tues Tuesday Club, 7:30pm A lively women's group with guest speaker. The Court House. Contact Rosslyn Laidler: tel 01442 879992
- Tues Chuckles Parent & Toddler Group, 10–11:30am. All Saints' Church Hall. Song Time or short service as announced. Contact Kate Spall 873470 .
- Tues St Peter's Choir, Children 5:15–6:15pm. St Peter's. Adrian Davis 01296 632263 or Jean Wild 866859.
- 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. 120 Valley Road. Tell us if anyone needs your prayers. Contact Margaret Burbidge 862139
- 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 David Burbidge 862139.
- 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. Carolynne Charman 869003

Regular Church Services

St Peter's

Regular Sunday services

8:00am Eucharist

9:30am Sung Eucharist and 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)

Key Church contacts:

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

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

Simon Vivian, Assistant Curate

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

This Month's Diary

Events at St Peter's Church or the Court House, Berkhamsted, presented by The Cowper Society supported by the Friends of St Peter's

Sun 1st May at 6.15am: MAY MORNING MADRIGALS sung from the Tower of St Peter's Church under the direction of Adrian Davis, followed by BREAKFAST (includes bacon butties!) in the Court House. Donations for breakfast please.

Sat 13th May 9.00am-9.00pm: SOUNDS TASTIC Music Festival in the Lady Chapel, St Peter's Church. Apply www.berkhamstedfestivalofmusic.co.uk

St Peters

Baptisms- None

Weddings - None

Funerals

7th March Irene May Taylor

13th March Joan Eustace

22nd March Baby Dorothy Helen Kirby

All Saints

May

7th Fourth Sunday of Easter

10am Morning Worship - Revd Rachael Hawkins

14th Fifth Sunday of Easter

10am Holy Communion - Revd John Kirkby

4pm Messy Church - Revd Rachael Hawkins & Messy Church Team

21st Sixth Sunday of Easter

10am Morning Worship - Richard Hackworth

25th Ascension Day (Thursday)

8pm Holy Communion - Revd Margaret Saunders

28th Seventh Sunday of Easter

8am Holy Communion - Revd Rachael Hawkins

10am Holy Communion - Revd Rachael Hawkins

Further information available from our church websites:

www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk and www.allsaintsberkhamsted.org.uk.

News from the Hospice of St Francis



News for May

As the blossom flowers and the

Bluebells appear, Spring is definitely in the air. To celebrate we have a host of outdoor activities coming up to help raise the over £5 million we need every year to provide our free, expert care for people living with life-limiting illnesses across Herts and Bucks and provide support for those close to them. Do support us if you can!

The Garden Party at Ashridge House – Sunday 11th June 1-5pm



Packed with Pimms, tasty cream teas, tons of fun

children's activities, a shopping village, hot and cold lunches and entertainment. Advance tickets are on sale from the Hospice main reception, our charity chops, number twenty and Returned to Glory at just £5 or they can be purchased on the day at the gate for £7 for adults. Children under 16 go FREE!

National Volunteers' Week – 1st – 7th June

With a theme this year of 'you can make a difference', we will be taking the opportunity to thank all our

volunteers who do just that. During the week we'll be giving our thanks to our nearly 1,000 strong team of volunteers; giving them certificates and badges for long service to the Hospice, and celebrating the variety of roles that volunteers hold. If you would like to join our team of volunteers you can visit stfrancis.org.uk/volunteer or for more information about volunteering contact 01442 869 557 or email gillian.austin@stfrancis.org.uk

Markyate Plant Sale



The 21st annual Markyate Plant Sale in aid of the Hospice opens at

10am on Saturday 20th May in the gardens of 64 High Street, Markyate. There will be a selection of colourful bedding plants, perennials, herbs, vegetables and hanging baskets on sale plus teas, lunches, music and entertainment!

Art for Wellbeing

We continue to use creative therapies to promote patient wellbeing and widen access to the therapeutic power of the arts for everyone in our local community.

Every first Monday of the month, we host an Open Studios afternoon (open to all) at our Spring Centre, focusing on a different art task each month, alongside a visit from a local artist.

We've just completed our second Art Bag Project, a collaborative initiative with Peace Hospice Care and Macmillan, inviting the public to take a moment out of their day to carve out a space and time with colourful scented soaps. A short film portraying the project and exhibiting the soaps will be released later in the summer.

We also run one-to-one and group art psychotherapy sessions for patients, carers, and people who have been bereaved, supporting them to use artwork to explore and process difficult emotions. For more information, please call the Spring Centre team on 01442 869550.

Other dates for your diaries:

Berkhamsted Golf Day – Friday 19th May at Berkhamsted Golf Club.

Bubble Rush Bucks – Sunday 9th July at Lowndes Park, Chesham.

Dacorum Steam and Country Fayre – Saturday 29th - Sunday 30th July at Green Croft Farm,, Potten End.

Further details at: www.stfrancis.org.uk/events or call 01442 869555

Facebook/TheHospiceofStFrancis **Twitter**:hospicstfrancis

Appledown Rescue's Dog of the Month



Wedge is a Spaniel cross who was born in 2015. This super friendly young lad has lots of energy! He would love to be part of an active family who would carry on with his training and has the time to give him the exercise he needs. Wedge is good with other dogs and would probably live with a female pending introductions. He came to us with a skin condition that is now controlled, but he will need careful feeding. He cannot live in Luton.

If you can offer Wedge or any of our other dogs a forever home, please call in at the kennels any day between 10 am and 4 pm, or phone for more details. Please note that there are restrictions on rehoming dogs to

families with children under seven years of age. Full details of the rehoming process can be found on our website, or please contact the kennels.

Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels, Harling Road, Eaton Bray, Beds LU6 1QY

01525 220383 e-mail: appledown.kennels@btinternet.com

Website: www.appledownrescue.co.uk



Poppy Appeal Organiser urgently needed in Berkhamsted

The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal Organiser in Berkhamsted has stepped down after a fantastic year in which the town raised a record £27,000 for the Berkhamsted Appeal.

The Poppy Appeal is one of the nation's most recognised and supported charity appeals. Every year the Royal British Legion sends out millions of poppies which are distributed to schools, shops and businesses. In November you will see some of the charity's voluntary collectors in your local town centre or supermarket with their tray of poppies. Although November may still seem a long way away the Poppy Appeal organisers are asking for your help – can you join the local Berkhamsted team?

The Royal British Legion's Community Fundraiser for Hertfordshire, Kate Mackay, said: "The Poppy Appeal Organiser is fundamental to ensuring the town has poppies this November."

"People in Berkhamsted are always so supportive and do dig deep for us. During our collections we have a great sense of reward as people always have a soft spot for the Poppy Appeal and our cause. We need a main organiser who will order the poppies, organize volunteers and help collect the tins and wreaths for the town and ensure we have the poppies in the village in time for this year's Poppy Appeal. We do hope someone in the area will come forward and help us by taking on this valuable role in Berkhamsted."

If you are interested in joining the Poppy Appeal team in Berkhamsted, please call the Appeal's Community Fundraiser Kate Mackay on 07920 861161 or email kmackay@britishlegion.org.uk

The Poppy Appeal is the largest single fundraising event in the Legion's calendar. Over 40 million poppies will be made and distributed for this year's Poppy Appeal across the UK and overseas by 350,000 dedicated collectors. The Legion provides wide ranging, and practical support to Armed Forces veterans as young as 19, and Armed Forces families in need, including crisis grants, family breaks, benefits and money advice and at times sadly, inquest advice. Every poppy helps raise the £1.6 million needed by the Legion each week to deliver practical help and advice to Armed Forces community.

Looking for volunteers to assist with the running of the Your Berkhamsted magazine. There are various roles and an opportunity to be creative. We need writers (short stories), local artists for our front cover, someone to help us with an evaluation project, help with distribution to name a few.

Please contact editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk for more information!



**China Trekkers
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Saturday 24th June 2017
Ashlyns School Berkhamsted

Bubbly Reception, 3 course meal & Band
7pm to Midnight

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In aid of The Hospice of St Francis
Dress to impress

Your Garden

Continuing on from last month and my visit to The Old Church House is Long Marston near Tring in Herts.



The owners had thoughtfully planted drifts of snowdrop, aconites & crocus on a small sloping

bank.

And who doesn't love the bark of this Acer griseum. One thing I love about winter is tree bark; normally shrouded by foliage at other times of the year, in winter with the garden stripped back, bark gets an opportunity to show off.



Dead children & pets no doubt. So often old houses with reasonable sized gardens

have personal cemeteries.. And this garden once held a church so was probably consecrated ground.

And a very handsome looking pot store.

The owners are also keen on alpines. Terracotta pots are perfect for alpines.



I think I have door bell envy-look at this fabulous thing. Must get one for Apple Tree

Cottage.

The daphne was in flower & smelling divine so much so it woke the early bees. I saw about six that day buzzing about taking advantage of an early nosh-up



Plenty of hellebores in flower too, mostly pink but there were a few pure

white ones. This one had its own personal raindrop.

I'm not sure what type of wildlife this box is for. Maybe woodpeckers, as the hole is too big for small birds who would be very vulnerable with a hole this size.





On the way out we took a look at the ancient Norman church tower. Once shrouded & overgrown with jungle, it's recently been restored & is now looking quite fine.

with a tidy up, bit of a sweep up, just a bit. I'm glad I popped out to see Old Church Cottage & I'm sure they were pleased with so many visitors. TTFN - do drop me a line with any garden design queries helen@reeleylandscapes.co.uk 07708 643313

There's a door so I suppose one can go in, but alas it was locked. I would have like to see the view from the top.



And on the way out I caught this patch of beauties doing their stuff. So

cheerful.

The garden was packed & at times it was difficult to navigate around the tiny paths. There was no lawn, which gets top marks from me as I'm no fan of lawns but I did feel the garden could have done



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Although the new library is 'still under wraps and behind hording', there is a notice on the existing library saying that it will close its doors for the final time next Saturday (the 29th April) and will reopen in its new premises on Tuesday 9th May with new opening hours which are:-

Monday: 09:30 – 17:30

Tuesday: 09:30 – 17:00

Wednesday: 09:30 – 17:00

Thursday: closed

Friday: 09:30 – 17:00

Saturday: 09:30 – 16:00

Sunday: closed

Note from Christopher Talbot-Ponsonby - Membership Secretary
membership@berkhamstedcitizens.org.uk

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Would you like to place an advert in the
Your Berkhamsted magazine? Prices are
very reasonable. Please contact:
advertising@yourberkhamsted.org.uk



The Bull revisited

A newly re-opened family run pub in the heart of Berkham-

sted, backing on to the canal. Serving breakfast, afternoon tea, lunch/dinner, coffee and cocktails. Also there is parking.

Berkhamsted is blessed with an enviable array of very different pubs.

Up till now, many people would not have counted The Bull amongst the top ten. “Wrong end of the town, rather rundown” were some of the comments. Obviously whether it is the right or wrong end of the town depends where you live, but it could not be denied that it was in need of an uplift.

Now an uplift it certainly has had! We visited The Bull to experience the changes that have taken place. They are all very positive. The style of a “proper” pub has been maintained with a new and successful ambience. We particularly liked the selection of old photos on the walls

- a veritable talking point.

Meals are served until 7pm, after which bar snacks and platters are available. We chose a cheese platter which was plentiful and delicious.

It is definitely worth mentioning that weekends and holidays see American pancakes added to the menu. Perfect excuse to return very soon.

The first Wednesday every month is given over to a curry quiz night in collaboration with the Curry Garden. £7 buys the curry with a £ to charity and

a £ toward the quiz prizes.

As Spring and Summer arrive, the attractive patio garden will come into its own!

All in all we were impressed with the “new” Bull. As well as benefitting from all the changes all the changes, it re-

mains a good place to have a drink. We would heartily recommend a visit.



John Gerry

CONTACT INFO

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Your Sport

World Championship win for Berkhamsted

Berkhamsted now has its very own world champion, after Sarah Marshall of Berkhamsted Bowls Club won the World Blind Bowls Championships in Cape Town, South Africa in late March. It was a terrific achievement for Marshall who only took up bowling when she had lost her sight, nine years ago. She opened up her World Championships with a 21-4 win over an Australian opponent before overcoming Scottish opposition by the same score-line on day two of the competition. In her third match, Marshall came up against the reigning world champion and favourite from the host nation South Africa. In this match she showed brilliant fight to come back from 18-15 down in the final end to eventually tie the game 18-18. Despite not getting the win it was a brilliant result that set her up for the rest of the competition. Marshall comfortably defeated Northern Irish opposition 21-2 in her fourth match to move 18 shots ahead of the South African she tied with the day before. In her final game of the championships she once again showed remarkable strength and will to win. She was 14-4 down against an opponent from Israel before going on to win 19-16 and seal the World Championships without losing a single match. She was only able to go to South Africa and participate in the competition after funds were raised through various events organised by Brian Ralphs, captain at the Berkhamsted Bowls Club. A

massive thanks was due his way and to the many who donated money as Marshall triumphed in Cape Town.

The club is now eager to build on Marshall's success and get more people involved with the sport, particularly with the growing reputation the club has built in recent years. Berkhamsted has a variety of members which take part in different levels of the game, from friendly bowls right through to county, national, and now international standard. In 2015 the club was awarded the 'English Bowls Club of the Year' from governing body 'Bowls England'. This came after previously finishing as runners-up in the award in 2012 and 2013.

The club, which is situated at Canal Fields, is both social and friendly, and with the season having just begun fully in April, is welcoming enquiries from anyone who would like to try bowls out. Berkhamsted has a very successful youth section, one of which is the biggest in the country and they are taking on members from the age of seven. It makes coaching available free of charge for all club members, whilst anyone who wants to try it out is welcome to free coaching during May on a Tuesday and Thursday between the times of 13.45 and 16.00, and also on a Friday between 18.00 and 20.30.

Matthew Dawson

Rayden Solicitors Raise over £4,000 for Herts Young Homeless



Award winning St Albans family law specialists, Rayden Solicitors, present the firm’s Charity of the Year, Herts Young Homeless (hyh) with a cheque for over £4000. Fundraising events over the past 12 months including: a firm bake-off; quiz night; child anxiety seminar; and jewelry sale helped contribute to the

final sum which was presented to hyh Head of Fundraising Kathryn Salmon. The whole Raydens team nominate and then vote for a charity of the year, every year. Hyh was chosen as they are a local charity making a significant positive impact on the lives of young people in Hertfordshire. Hyh works with other agencies throughout Hertfordshire towards improving local provision and preventing youth homelessness. Most of their work is with young people who have had difficulty in securing and maintaining safe, secure accommodation. Kathryn Salmon from hyh said ***“We are hugely grateful for all the support that Rayden Solicitors have given us, the work they have done has really helped us to increase our profile in the St Albans area and the money raised will go towards essential funds for young people in Hertfordshire”***. Her comments were echoed by Rayden Solicitors Senior Partner, Katherine Rayden, who said ***“Herts Young Homeless provides invaluable support and advice to young individuals across our county who are in a position of vulnerability. I am delighted that our staff were able to raise a sizeable sum for such a worthy cause”***.

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

www.raydensolicitors.co.uk

Copy Dates: 11 May 11 June 11 July

Your Berkhamsted Team

Editor and layout: Jacqueline Hicks, editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk
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