

the magazine for town and parish since 1872

YB

Your Berkhamsted

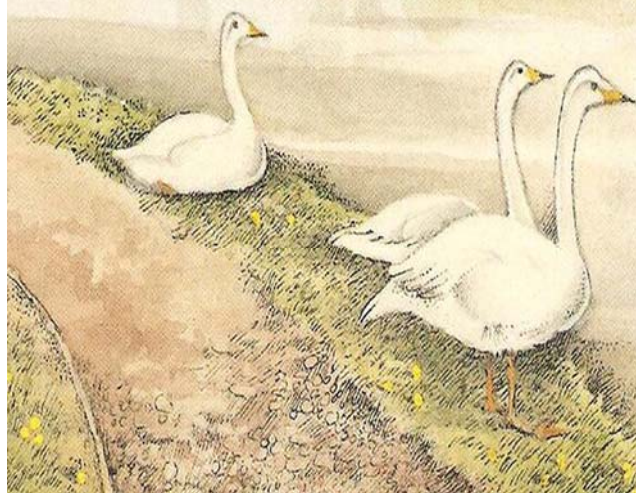
January 2018

Review on the 'Enlightened Princesses' Exhibition

Recycling of Christmas Trees and more

**Walking the Great Wall of China
by Donna Francis**

Open Door New Premises



50p

Alma Duncan Rafter

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

In this issue...

WELCOME TO THE JANUARY 2018 EDITION OF YOUR BERKHAMSTED.

And here we are at another new year. A time for looking forward, but also reflection. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year celebrations and made it a time for giving. In this edition we have a great story by Donna Francis, who took on the challenge with others to walk the Great Wall of China for the Hospice of St Francis – Donna gives us the highs and lows and she will probably agree with me but it has also been a life changing experience. We also have information on the new Open Door premises – this is a great community meeting place open to all. Plus information on where to recycle your Christmas trees, venues for getting fit in the New Year and much more. I am hoping this year, some of you may be tempted to get involved with the magazine, as we need more volunteers – a time to learn new skills and be part of a team - please contact me if you feel you could help. The 'what's on' page shows events in January in and around Berkhamsted and also look out for YB tweets on @Yourberkhamsted. Last but not least, 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@yourberkhamsted.org.uk



Berkhamsted in the news

3-5

What's On

6-7

Exhibiton Review

9

Berkhamsted Museum and History Society

10-11

Ashlyns School Sports Leadership programme

12-13

Christma Recycling

14

Your Clergy

16-17

Parish Pages

18-19

Hospice News

20-21

Word Search/Berkhamsted School

22

Open Door—New premises

24-25

A fit and healthy 2018

27

Walking the Great Wall of China

28-29

Front cover: Thank you to Cuckoo Fair Cards for supplying the wonderful picture of the Canal and Railway Station in Berkhamsted painted by Alma Duncan Rafter. All prints are available at the Way Inn. <http://www.cuckoofaircards.co.uk>

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



The local phenomenon that is Berkhamsted Raiders have entered a team into the English football league pyramid, making their debut in the Spartan South Midlands League (SSML) Division Two. Their home matches are played at the Ashlyns Astro. It must be said that to put a positive spin on it, they are finding their feet. lutontoday.co.uk reports a 6-2 drubbing at the hands of Totternhoe. But as is Raiders wont, they went down fighting to the last. Character building. Meanwhile Berkhamsted FC continue their table topping feats in the SSML Premiership. hertsad.co.uk reports on top of the table rivals Biggleswade who are hoping our local team's run of form will come to an end. Berkhamsted's good start was also reported in yourlocal-guardian.co.uk, celebrating their 13 match unbeaten run. In fact the top of the table clash with the Bedfordshire outfit ended in a share of the spoils, as Berkhamsted suffered from injuries and suspensions.

As I write this Christmas shopping was just getting into gear. mirror.co.uk helpfully pointed out the Christmas present buying faux pas. It quotes a Paul Routledge shopping in

Sharlands department store in Berkhamsted. Does anyone know what happened to that emporium? Please do let us know. The purchase of a brnylon nightie, the epitome of 70s chic, did not go down well. *"What do you expect me to do with this?" she scowled. "Talk about a passion killer. It makes me look like Nora Batty. And the static will set fire to the sheets."* The newspaper suggest purchasing House of Fraser gift cards (other gift cards are available). To be honest, a sixth sense is always required with a spouse's Christmas offering, otherwise brownie points are inevitably docked.

Berkhamsted's Festival of Lights took place on 26th November, and hertfordshirelife.co.uk included the event in its pre-Christmas programme of unmissable events. As I put finger to keyboard I am limbering up to help person the St Peter's mulled wine stall which will involve plenty of quality control.

Awards ceremonies come two a penny these days. I myself attended the Construction Manager of the Year

Cont on Page 5

Eleven Plus Test Preparation, Maths and English tuition.

Holiday courses available.

Tuition tailored to suit your child's learning needs, after school and on Saturdays.



**Pen and Ink
Tuition** 
Where Learning Is Fun

25 High Street, Chesham, Bucks HP5 1BG
01494 773300

www.penandinktuition.co.uk

David Giddings Landscapes

Qualified Plantsman

Garden Renovation

Lawn Care

Fencing

Pergolas

Trellis

*Year Round Garden
Maintenance*

01525 220 912

07811 972 525

www.dgiddingslandscapes.co.uk



THE OLD PASTURES

LUXURY ACCOMMODATION FOR DOGS

Icknield Farm, Icknield Way,

Tring, Herts HP23 4JX



Luxury heated accommodation for your dog

Only 8 large kennels giving your dog the extra care and attention they deserve. All dogs are walked twice a day.

Holiday homes for small animals.

DOG GROOMING

BATHING, CLIPPING, TRIMMING, HAND-STRIPPING, NAILS AND EARS. WEEKEND APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE. EASY WALK

IN, NON-SLIP SHOWER IDEAL FOR OLDER AND BIGGER DOGS. WE CAN

CATER FOR ANY SIZE DOG.

EASY PARKING.

FOR AN APPOINTMENT FOR GROOMING OR KENNELING PLEASE CALL:

01442 824856

The **50** plus

Maintain, Repair & Install
For all your property needs

Plumbing
Electrical
Handyman
Appliances
Drains, decorating & more



01494 784 448

Book a timed appointment -
online or by telephone
Go online to book and see pricing
Free estimates
Discount club

www.the50plus.co.uk



Awards in September at Grosvenor House. So it won't surprise you that there is a Hospice Awards event. ehospice.com reports on the honours, with the Innovation in Care award being won by the The Palliative Care Referral Centre: a joint partnership between: Peace Hospice Care, Watford; Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust; The Hospice of St Francis, Berkhamsted; Rennie Grove Hospice Care, St Albans.

berkhamstedtoday.co.uk expresses what many of us are anxious to know. When *will* work start on our new Lidl store. Though diggers have been spotted, there is a deafening silence from the supermarket as they studiously ignored our local journalist's deadline for copy. Our editor knows how that feels, ahem.



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

S.Dell & Sons^{LIMITED}

THE PROFESSIONAL REMOVERS

**NEW CONTAINERISED WAREHOUSE
IN OPERATION & OPEN FOR INSPECTION
BETWEEN 9AM & 4PM
HOLDING UP TO 600 CONTAINERS**



SILVERDALE HOUSE, CANALSIDE, NORTHBRIDGE ROAD, BERKHAMSTED, HERTS HP4 1EG
TEL: 01442 863959 or 01753 891151 FAX: 01442 862163


BS EN 12522
Licence No. 12345


BS EN 14001
Licence No. 12345


BS EN 14001
Licence No. 12345


BS EN 12522
Licence No. 12345




BS EN 12522
Licence No. 12345

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 the Hertfordshire Libraries for young and old

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/events-and-things-to-do>

Mon 8th & Tue 9th Jan @ 8pm:

Berkhamsted Film Society. Lion. In India a 5-year-old gets lost far from home. Adopted by an Australian couple, 25 years later he sets out to find his original family. Dir: Garth Davis/2016/Australia,USA,UK/ Cert PG/118mins. Civic Centre. www.berkhamstedfilmsociety.co.uk
Annual sub: joint £65, single £35. Visitors £5 at door (no conc); tickets 863155

Wed 10th Jan @ 8-10pm:

Berkhamsted Lcl Hist & Mus Soc. Stories from the Graves. In the Baptist graveyard, Bell Lane, Northchurch, local historian Tim Proust digs deep. Town Hall. www.berkhamsted-history.org.uk.
Annual sub: joint £15, single £10, visitors £3 (no conc); DC, 874598

Thurs 11th Jan to 29th Mar @10.30am -

12 .30pm: Course - Those Wonderful Women Scientists. A course of study on the lives and work of a number of women scientists. Venue tba. www.wea.org.uk. £74 for a 10-week course, 2 hours a week. 0300 3033464; information 872432

Sat 13th Jan @8 - 10.30pm: TJ Johnson (p, voc), Al Nicholls (ts), Tony Pitt (g, ban), Jay Darwish (b), Wesley Gibbens (d). Civic Centre. www.berkhamstedjazz.co.uk.

Mon 15th Jan to 26th Mar: Course - Commonwealth Writing. Literature course with Michael King. 289 High St www.wea.org.uk. £74 for a 10-week course, 2 hours a week. 0300 3033464; information 872432

Tue 16th Jan @ 8 - 10pm: Berkhamsted Art Society. Landscape/Seascape Painting. A demonstration of painting either a landscape or seascape in watercolour by Charles Evans. Civic Centre. www.berkhamstedartsociety.com
Visitors £3 at the door

Tue 16th Jan to 27th Mar @10.30am -

12 .30pm: WEA Berkhamsted. Myth, Magic and Folklore: Stonehenge Decoded An introduction to the archaeology, anthropology and archaeoastronomy of Stonehenge and Avebury through interpreting myth and fairy tales. 289 High St. www.wea.org.uk. £74 for a 10-week course, 2 hours a week. 0300 3033464; information 872432

Wednesday 17th Jan @ 9am-12pm - Sacred Heart Church Hall, Park St, Berkhamsted. Meets third Wed of the month (not Aug). Bring your own sewing, patchwork, quilting, crochet, embroidery or knitting along. Session includes tea and coffee. £5. Contact fiona4m-ckenna@hotmail.com or see Instagram group: #berkhamstedsewingbee

Mon 22nd Jan 7.45pm: Precious Possessions. Dr Alexandra Fletcher, Dept of Ancient Near East, the British Museum, talks about luxury objects in the ancient Near East and Mediterranean. Music Room, B'sted School
<http://berkhamstedarchaeology.co.uk>. Annual subs £15, couples £20, juniors £5; £1 on the night for members, £5 for visitors

Mon 22nd & Tue 23rd Jan @ 8pm: Le Quattro Volte. Set around an ancient village in Calabria, this mesmeric drama sees the turning of the seasons through the eyes of an ageing goatherd. Dir: Michelangelo. Frammartino/2010/Italy/ Cert U/88mins/subtitles. Civic Centre. www.berkhamstedfilmssociety.co.uk. Annual sub: joint £65, single £35. Visitors £5 at door (no conc); tickets 863155

Saturday 27 Jan @ 7pm: Burns Night Charity Dinner Dance - Berkhamsted Town Hall, 7pm, £35. Raising funds for Home-Start Hertfordshire and the Town Hall Trust, the evening includes a 3-course meal (haggis starter), piper, dancing to The Hayloft, poetry and toasts. Contact: 07901515381

Showing at the [The Vyne Theatre, Berkhamsted Arts Centre](http://www.vynetheatre.co.uk)
www.vynetheatre.co.uk

Sun 14th Jan 6:00 PM: Young Marx - National Theatre LIVE
Live recording

Sun 21st Jan 3:00 PM: Romeo and Juliet The Bolshoi Ballet.
Live recording

Sun 21 Jan 7:00 PM: Rigoletto - The Royal Opera
Live recording

Tring

Wednesday 17th Jan 8pm: Waddesdon's Gardens 1874-1922 - High Street Baptist Church, Tring, 8pm, £4. Catherine Taylor, head archivist at Waddesdon Manor, talks about Baron Ferdinand Rothschild and 'moving mountains'.
www.tringlocalhistorymuseum.org.uk



Escape the High Street. Drop into the Court House for coffee

Fair-trade coffee and tea
with a choice of home-made cakes
and scones served in the Court House
(by St Peter's Church)

9.30am till 12 noon every Saturday
except the first in the month

Reasonable prices - lots of space to relax

A friendly welcome awaits!

Abbeyfield

Where older people find care in housing

The Abbeyfield (Berkhamsted and Hemel Hempstead) Society Limited

Independent but unhappy living alone?

Abbeyfield provide very sheltered houses at
Potten End
Hemel Hempstead
Leverstock Green

For further information contact:
Mrs Susan Pullen 01442 217578

Registered Charity No. 262424. Registered Office 175 High St. Berkhamsted

PETER D HANNABY

Painter and Decorator

*Interior and exterior
work undertaken.*

*For competitive
quotations
please call:*

mb1: 07765 250092
home: 01442 288956

T.A. LINGARD MOTORS

BILLET LANE
BERKHAMSTED

Tel: Berkhamsted 871911

- WELDING
- SERVICING
- BREAKDOWN
RECOVERY
- BODY REPAIRS



Will Kimberley
Garden Services
01442 255784

- Grass cutting
- Hedge trimming
- Patios cleaned
- Gutters cleared
- All cuttings and
clippings removed
- References available

Why not phone for a quote?

berkhamstedcarpetcleaning.co.uk

Berkhamsted Carpet Cleaning Ltd

carpets
oriental rugs
upholstery

- residential & commercial
- professional • good value
- fully insured

David Green
01442 876622
0788 405 8795

Berkhamsted
Herts HP4 3JE

berkhamstedovencleaning.co.uk

Berkhamsted Oven Cleaning Ltd

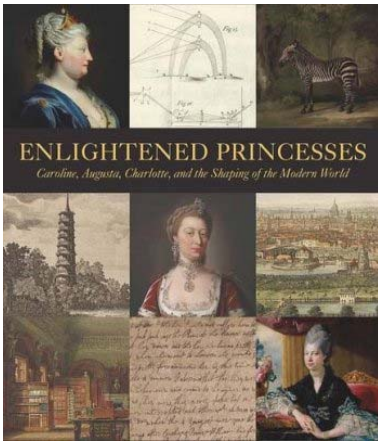
complete valet service for
all ovens, hobs
and extractors

- professional • good value
- fully insured

David Green
01442 876622
0788 405 8795

Berkhamsted
Herts HP4 3JE

Exhibition Review



In October I played tourist and paid a visit to Kensington Palace. Their most popular exhibition of the year was not surprisingly *Diana: her fashion story*, which was actually a delight for anyone with an ounce of fashion sense. However, my trip was particularly focussed on three earlier princesses who did so much to shape the 18th Century. *Enlightened Princesses* explored the lives of three German princesses married into the British royal family and whose wide-ranging interests placed them at the heart of the enlightenment then under way.

How many of you have heard of Caroline of Ansbach, Augusta of Saxe-Gotha and Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz? Caroline was wife to George II, Augusta was married to his son Frederick, whilst Charlotte was spouse to mad king George III. It was Caroline who helped encourage the practice of inoculation by ensuring her own children were amongst the first to be protected against the scourge of smallpox. She also played a part in the establishment of Thomas Coram's Foundling Hospital, an institution always close to our hearts in Berkhamsted.

They knew such luminaries as Sir Isaac Newton, George Frederick Handel and William Hunter. Many such men were engaged to teach their children, encouraging their enlightening education.

It is almost giddy to see the displays of art, science and medicine that were brought together for the first time at the Palace. It consisted of almost 200 objects owned by the princesses, including many highlights from the Royal Collection, the Yale Center for British Art and the royal collections of Denmark and the Netherlands. This exhibition does so much to show that these inspirational women deserve much more than just to be known for their links to a mad king.

Julian Dawson



THE MARKET HOUSE AND TOWN HALL (Part 2)

The meeting of the townspeople together with Lady

Marian Alford, representing the guardians of Earl Brownlow, agreed to accept the recommendation of Lady Alford and Earl Brownlow that the design of Edward Buckton Lamb was the most suitable for the new Market House 'on a portion of the site recently purchased for this purpose.' It was further resolved that the building should be erected at the expense of the subscribers to the fund, and 'to transfer part of the site to the Duchy of Cornwall subject to a grant to the subscribers of a lease of the premises and tolls of the market and other rights for a term of 99 years, of the new Market House at an annual rent of one shilling.'

The site for the Market House and Town Hall had been obtained at a cost of £825 by William Hazell, the town's leading grocer. He played an active part in local affairs, held the office of surveyor and was chief promoter of the Gas and Water companies.

We have already hinted at some of the controversy surrounding the

building. A small minority found fault with the site, the building itself, the money raising efforts and what they considered as the excessive expenditure. An anonymous pamphlet, scurrilous and venomous, was widely circulated and accused the management committee of resorting to a 'system of begging, toy-selling and Aunt-Sallying' the pamphlet considers, until their patience and the pockets of the public are nearly exhausted.

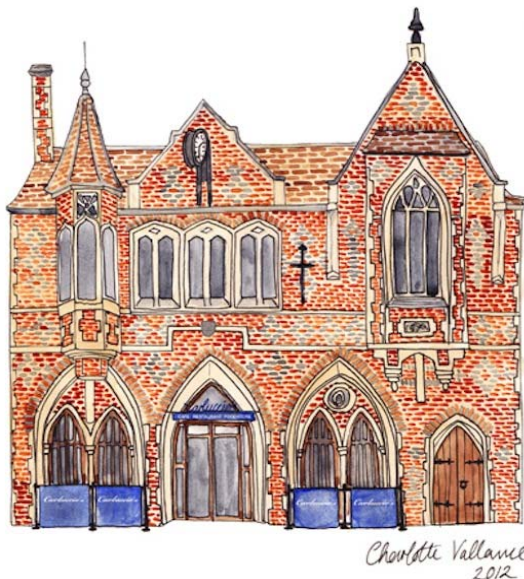
'The pamphlet continues that the selected site was strongly objected to by many of the older residents. This was ignored and the excuse made, it should be moved away from the nearby public house. Now, even before the market is open for business it appears that a tenant on the school property adjoining is being turned out to build a public house. (Long-standing residents will remember the White Hart) Moreover, the property of those in the locality of the old Market House will depreciate in value. He now turns to the building itself. 'It looks more like a Chapel for any professor of the high church fraternity....the entrance is very much too far from the road for loading and unloading corn or for a carriage to draw up and for persons to alight without being exposed on the pathway'.

'Altogether, this new building is placed in the worst position for business or convenience. None of this would have happened if a suitable building had been put on the old site or opposite adjoining the King's Arms. At this place there is a public road (Snob's Alley) the entrance to which is a covered gateway. This is now Prince Edward Street.

In spite of these objections, the new Market House and Town Hall were built on the chosen site and in spite of all problems and vicissitudes it still stands and flourishes today. It is unusual, if not unique in that it is controlled by the Berkhamsted Town Hall Trust and Market Fund and not by the local council. The Trustees of this

charitable trust have the responsibility to abide by the wishes and dictates of the original trustees set up in 1860 to provide a Market House and Town Hall for the 'use and benefit of the town of Berkhamsted and Northchurch.' This places an onus of responsibility on the Town Hall Trust and the Committee but at the same time provides a certain safeguard of the interests of the people of Berkhamsted and Northchurch it is important to remember that the Town Hall was built by public subscription and with the aid of money raised by an event in the Castle Grounds, a truly community effort.

Jenny Sherwood



Thank you Charlotte Vallance for the wonderful picture of the Town Hall - <http://charlottevallance.blogspot.co.uk/>

Ashlyns School Sports Leadership programme

Sports Leaders Programme

Ashlyns School Sports Leadership programme runs a comprehensive qualification pathway, offering the Level One award in Year 10 and Level Two in Year 11, with the Level Three award being offered in Sixth Form.

The programme has consistently been a very popular option for our students as it offers a different level of experience in Sport. Alongside the three awards, our Key Stage 3 students take part in the Young Leaders award, which gives them their first introduction to developing leadership skills.

These nationally recognised qualifications enable our students to extensively develop transferable skills which can be used in a sporting environment and also prepare them for further/higher education and/or employment.

The following modules are covered within the programme:

- Developing leadership skills
- Plan, lead and evaluate a sporting session
- Assist in planning and leading a sports/physical activity event



Community Events

As well as working for the in-house qualifications, the Sports Leaders represent Ashlyns in the community with their presence at a variety of different sporting (and non-sporting!) events. A few notable events that have involved our community are detailed below.

Sports Leaders Roadshow 2015

In July 2015, Ashlyns Sports Leaders visited seven primary schools in Berkhamsted to deliver a multi-sport activity event. Ninety-one sports leaders were sent to the seven schools across two days. In total, forty-two classes took part, with an estimated 1100 primary school children participating.

Each Leader worked tirelessly to ensure that every student had fun and took part. There was much praise for the roadshow from both teachers and parents alike. Ms Wager, lead coordinator for PE at Potten End School, said “how well they engaged with the children, organised and planned the activities, whilst being positive role models”.

Mrs Stace, Headteacher at Westfield Primary School, also commented that “the children thoroughly enjoyed their time with your Leaders and the staff were very complimentary of them all. As always they did Ashlyns proud”.

Fundraising for Local Charity

Our Sports Leaders Council has been the shining light of our Sports Leaders programme for the past three years. They have consistently helped raise the profile of the programme in the local area and

have fundraised for excellent local causes. In February 2015 and 2017, fifteen members of the Council completed the London Underground Tube Challenge, where they had to visit all 270 underground stations and run 14 miles between lines. The challenge was completed in 19½ hours, with the Leaders independently raising £2500 for the Hospice of St Francis. It is an amazing challenge that showed our Leaders' natural determination and commitment to an excellent cause.



Outside the Hospice of St Francis



Please Alight Here! – Heathrow Terminal 5!

Ashlyns Nursing Home

Thirteen Sports Leaders from Years 8 to 10 created a new link with Ashlyns Nursing home. They spent four hours interacting with the residents, who ranged in age from 75 to 103, by playing board games and sharing stories. The students played games including Jenga and

Monopoly. Experience was obviously an advantage as none of our leaders were able to win! Leaders, Molly Jeffries and Chloe Chamberlain summed it up beautifully by saying that *“we walked in there as acquaintances and came out as friends. We have had an amazing experience and wish them well in the future”*. The initiative gave our students an opportunity to do something very different and fulfilling and created a different link within the town.

Community Club Links

Berkhamsted Raiders Football Club is a local football club who wanted to create a formal link with Ashlyns Sports Leaders. Sport England were offering funding for girls' sport, with football high up on the priority list, and this is where three of our female Leaders came in, including Niamh Euman. The club offered her access to FA coaching badges as an incentive as they knew the value of female coaches to inspire the younger girls.

Niamh has successfully passed her Level 1 and 2 leadership qualification and is currently on her Level 3 course and the Sports Leaders Council, so she has had experience; however, what Niamh lacked was confidence in delivering independent sessions, in particular in new environments. This opportunity gave Niamh the chance to stretch herself and become a confident leader whilst gaining qualifications that will be invaluable for her future career in Sport.

David Jones

Christmas Recycling

Christmas tree recycling

If you have a real Christmas tree, you can bring it along to be recycled at one of our chipping points on **Sunday 7 January 2018** so that it can be turned into plant bedding:

Town	Address	Time
Berkhamsted	Water Lane car park (behind Tesco), HP4 3AP	9.30am to 4pm
Hemel Hempstead	Cupid Green Depot, Red- bourn Road, HP2 7BA	9.30am to 4pm
Tring*	Tring Garden Centre, HP23 5HF	10.30am to 4.30pm

*This is a drop-off point. Chippings can be collected from here on Monday 8 January between 9.30am and 12.30pm.

Chippings are great at preventing weeds in your garden. Bring a bag along if you would like to keep yours.

If you live in Tring, Berkhamsted or Potten End and Frithsden, then 1st Tring Scouts, 1st Berkhamsted Scout and 1st Potten End Scout groups are offering to collect trees from your home for a minimum donation to the scout groups. For a collection from: Berkhamsted (not including Northchurch or surrounding villages) please leave a message on 07910 937497 or email 1stberkotrees@googlemail.com

Tring or Aldbury, please email tringscoutsxmastrees@hotmail.com

Potten End or Frithsden please email scoutsxmastreecycle@gmail.com

If you cannot make this date, you can also take your tree to an HWRC. Trees left at any other recycling sites will be treated as fly-tipping and you could be prosecuted.

You can recycle these festive items in your blue-lidded bin:

- Wrapping paper and greetings cards (without glitter or 3D decorations)
- Cardboard packaging
- Sweet and biscuit tins
- Plastic biscuit trays
- Glass condiment jars (rinsed out)
- Aerosol sprays (empty)
- Steel food cans and Aluminium drink cans
- Aluminium foil sweet wrappers, mince pie cases and oven trays (recycle aluminium foil in a tennis-ball sized lump where possible)
- Juice cartons (such as Tetra Pak)
- Glass wine and beer bottles

Info from Dacorum Council webpage



**BETTER HEARING
STARTS HERE**

HEARING PROBLEMS? *or maybe just Ear Wax?*

Visit us for a complete inspection of your ear canal and eardrum. If there is any amount of wax, we'll remove it for you using safe and extremely effective methods of Dry Removal or Microsuction (gentle suction).

CALL US ON 01442 389949

we offer appointment times at short notice to suit you.

Halo Hearing Solutions, a family-run business, provide the highest standard of hearing care to the local community, offering you the best products and service that match your requirements. Visit us for:



FREE HEARING ASSESSMENTS

- Latest Hearing Technology
- Tinnitus Solutions
- Hearing Protection Products
- Service, Tuning & Batteries



CALL US TODAY ON 01442 389949

or visit one of our clinics to discuss how we can meet your hearing needs.

NEW CENTRE:

Halo Hearing Solutions
3 Lower Kings Road
Berkhamsted
HP4 2AE

Clinic:

Delite Chemist
4 Money Hill Parade
Rickmansworth
WD3 7BQ

Clinic:

Kings Langley Eyecare
12 High Street
Kings Langley
WD4 8BH

Your Berkhamsted Clergy

Fr Tim writes: For many years here at St. Peter's we have enjoyed the assistance of retired priests, not least Fr. Anthony Lathe. Just recently we have been joined by Fr. Chris Rogers who, in addition to presiding and preaching at the Sunday Eucharists will also be officiating at funerals and other occasional services. I have asked Fr. Chris to offer a short biography of himself.



Fr Chris writes:

Born just inside of the Peak District, near Penistone, in West Yorkshire. The

youngest of six, (two brothers and three sisters). Educated at the local church school, onto a church foundation Grammar School within Penistone then to Sheffield Polytechnic for a Metallurgy Degree. A Management Degree and finally one in Theology came later.

I have worked for HM Government and also British Steel before Theological College [NOC]. I was made Deacon in 1981 and Ordained Priest in 1982, both in Derby Cathedral.

My title parish was in Saints Augustine of Canterbury and Hippo, Chesterfield followed two years later with a second curacy in Derby, both being very demanding inner city parishes. Within 1985 I was given the Rectorship of Whitwell in North Derbyshire where for nearly 10 years I became both a country parson and also began a specialised ministry. This totally new ministry, at the request of the Bishop of Derby, concerned AIDS and the care of individuals and their families. This ministry took me to many places within the UK and Africa.

After a very successful ministry in Whitwell I was requested to accept a post as Vicar of West Burnley in the Diocese of Blackburn. To be honest it was not the easiest part of my ministry with over half of Burnley being in my Parish and with a staff of six clergy also.

In 2000 I was requested to apply for the Parish of St Hilda, Ashford in London Diocese by the Bishop of London. The move from Lancashire to London with Princess [my cat] seemed a long way but without any doubt the best move I made in my ministry. It was not the easiest of parishes but over the many years ministering there the church family

grew and became much closer and friendly. It was a sad day on 1st January 2017 when I climbed the pulpit steps at the end of Mass to announce my retirement in the following months as I was 70 in March 2017. For many it was a shock except for a very few very close members of the Ministry Team and Churchwardens.

From September 2016 I had been looking for a retirement house and after over 350 possibilities, I requested and achieved my present home in Lochnell Road within Berkhamsted.

This allows me to continue my fol-

in London whilst keeping trusteeship of two charities also. Travel has always played a major role in my life and that will continue seeking wonderful places, new cultures and food to sample and explore. St Peter's has clearly become my spiritual home. It was therefore a great delight to be offered a Licence for St Alban's Diocese and a possibility to offer clerical help to the parish and area. I am not a replacement but an addition to ease the heavy load of the Ministry Team.



Appledown Rescue's Dog of the Month

Described by one of our volunteers as a 'happy little banana', Dominic Littlewood is a Staffordshire Bull Terrier who was born in 2008. He may be a more mature gentleman but he is still full of life, loves his walks and, as you can see from the photo, he is a very cheerful fella. He has a friendly and affectionate nature with people but would prefer to be an only pet. Dominic can be left for short periods if well exercised first. He cannot live in Luton.

If you can offer Dominic or any of our other dogs a loving and secure home, please drop in at the kennels or call us any day between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Please note that there are restrictions on rehoming adult 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 **Follow us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram**

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 Ruth Treves Brown, 3 Sherwood Mews, Park Street, Berkhamsted HP4 1HX. Tel 863268.
- 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. Peggy Sear 01296 584530.
- 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.

Mon 22nd January at 8.00pm: TALK in the Court House. Cowper Society Winter Talk no 2 – Sidney Perera, The Ottoman Empire. Free entry. Retiring collection.

St Peter's

Baptisms

26th November - Mila Rooney
Noah William John Towe
Essie Penelope Forster Smith
William James Wright
Sophie Jane Wright

Weddings - None

Funerals

1st November Joan Odette Collier
7th November Bryan Wright
Richard Michael Casserley

All Saints

7th (The Baptism of Christ)
The Epiphany
8am Holy Communion - Revd Rachael Hawkins
10am Morning Worship - Richard Hackworth

14th Second Sunday of Epiphany
10am Holy Communion - Revd John Kirkby

21st Third Sunday of Epiphany
(Sunday in Week of Prayer for Christian Unity)
10am Morning Worship - Malcolm Lindo
4pm Messy Church - Revd Rachael Hawkins & Messy Church Group

28th Fourth Sunday of Epiphany
10am Covenant Service (with Holy Communion) - Revd Rachael Hawkins
4pm Service of Wholeness and Healing with Holy Communion
Revd Rachael Hawkins, Tracy Robinson and Audrey Cox

Further information available from our church websites:

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

News from the Hospice of St Francis



**The Hospice
of st francis**

**January
2018**

*Thousands
of members
of our local*

*community in Berkhamsted and beyond
ran, walked, danced, cycled or even
jumped out of a plane for us last year,
helping to raise the over £5million we
need each year to deliver care for more
than 2,000 people across West Herts and
South Bucks affected by life-limiting ill-
ness.*

*We are enormously grateful to all those
individuals, businesses and community
organisations who support our fundrais-
ing effort. Without them we wouldn't be
able to continue to provide care and sup-
port for patients and families who need
us, like Brenda Scott-Oldfield.*

Brenda, 63, from Wigginton, took part in The Hospice of St Francis' Care Towards the End of Life Course and Practical Car-ing Course, which run in the health and wellbeing Spring Centre, after becoming a full-time carer for her husband Bob, when he was diagnosed a year ago with rare brain disease Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP).

Brenda says the support she receives from the Hospice's Spring Centre gives her enormous peace of mind, knowing she is not alone as Bob's condition deteriorates. "Knowing there is always some-one there I can ask for help or advice and that I am not alone as I face the future and as the illness gets progressively worse is hugely reassuring. When Bob said he didn't want to die at home, the



Hospice was the first place I thought of," she said.

If you, or someone you know, have cancer or an-

other life-limiting illness and feel you might benefit from our Spring Centre's free services, please ask for a referral from your GP, call 01442 869550 or visit www.stfrancis.org.uk/springcentre where you can see a full calendar of Spring Centre groups and therapies.

Challenge yourself in 2018!

The Hospice fundraising team has lots of opportunities for people who want to do something amazing in the New Year and help the Hospice raise the over £5million it needs each year to fund its free care. You could....

Give Up 2 Give Back!

Feeling as stuffed as the Christmas turkey after overdoing it on the mince pies and mulled wine? If you need some motivation to get back into shape after spending too long on the sofa over the festive season, why not start the New Year by giving something up to give back to a good cause?

You can earn virtual medals along the way or, when the temptation becomes too much, you can even take a day off by paying a cheat fine. Get friends and family to sponsor you and get 2018 off to a flying start by helping to raise vital funds for the Hospice. For full details and to sign up visit www.stfrancis.org.uk/giveupgiveback

Join our Trek to the Sahara

Make 2018 the year you step out of your comfort zone and challenge yourself for charity. We're looking for intrepid adventurers to join our next fundraising trek to the Sahara from 10th - 17th November.

The week-long trek, led by experienced guides, will involve two full days and two half days trekking 30km across ancient dried up river beds, sand dunes and vast sun-baked plains before setting up camp for the night and sleeping under a blanket of stars.

It will end with a two-day community project in Marrakech helping to improve conditions at a local centre for street children, a medical day clinic or a home for the elderly.

Jan Hill, 59, from Boxmoor, who took part in the Hospice's Trek to Nepal in October 2015, said: "I wanted to achieve the challenge physically and raise money to enable the Hospice's vital care to continue. It was an experience of a lifetime and difficult to put into words. The trek team spirit was so strong and we will be friends for life."

For more information email claire.jones@stfrancis.org.uk , call 01442 869555 or visit www.stfrancis.org.uk/treksahara

Take to the skies and Skydive for us!

Are you or someone you know after a hair-raising, adrenaline-fuelled challenge? Do you fancy jumping out of a plane at 13,000ft? Why not push the boundaries and take to the skies for The Hospice of St Francis?

We're looking for daredevils to take a leap of faith for us by taking part in a sponsored tandem skydive on 18th March at Hinton Airfield, Brackley.



There's a £50 registration fee and participants are asked to

raise a minimum of £350 in sponsorship.

For more information on all our events and challenges visit www.stfrancis.or.uk

Facebook: thehospiceofstfrancis

Twitter: Hospicstfrancis

Exhibition Display Opportunity

If any local charity or organisation would like to use the Long Room of the Court House (the room at the front) to mount a short exhibition or display on a Saturday morning between 9am and 12 noon this space is available free of charge. To check availability and make your reservation contact Kathie Lally at kathleenlally21@gmail.com

Star Wars

P	E	A	E	C	H	E	W	B	A	C	C	A	T
A	E	U	B	H	T	I	S	W	O	D	T	O	O
S	M	S	A	S	K	A	E	I	O	S	R	S	O
K	P	O	D	E	A	T	H	S	T	A	R	A	B
Y	I	N	N	E	R	I	T	F	D	A	A	R	I
W	R	L	U	C	A	S	I	O	W	R	W	R	W
A	E	I	S	O	I	D	T	R	A	K	O	B	A
L	C	A	O	B	E	N	A	C	N	K	O	I	N
K	T	O	O	J	S	T	T	E	A	S	K	E	D
E	E	N	A	E	S	B	O	K	K	K	I	I	T
R	E	D	W	K	A	E	O	A	I	I	E	O	C
K	W	H	E	U	F	I	I	H	N	I	E	H	O
W	C	I	A	L	A	L	N	T	D	L	E	I	A
H	A	N	S	O	L	O	E	Y	O	D	A	O	B

KENOBI
YODA
DROID
OBI-WAN
STAR WARS
ANAKIN
EMPIRE
TATOOINE
HAN SOLO
CHEWBACCA
SITH
SKYWALKER
LUCAS
LEIA
DEATH STAR
FORCE
JEDI
WOOKIEE
LUKE

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/45/>

Berkhamsted School and Festival of Light

The Berkhamsted Festival of Light was one of the first opportunities to trade to the public. Each team set up a stall to showcase their products among the high street festivities. Berkhamsted students generated sales of over £800 during the evening, and secured further leads and pre-orders for their products.

Berkhamsted and Dacorum Chamber of Commerce assessed each of the Young Enterprise teams and declared 'Paw Prints' the overall most successful business, and the winners of the 'Best Innovative Product' award.

Paw Prints - Christmas Tree decorations and personalised products for dogs and cats.

The Holder Company—Modern, handmade, concrete holders such as candle holders and plant pots, for use in and around the home.

LUX - Upcycled glass decorations with battery operated lights.

Moments - Specially designed Christmas cards, picture frames and Chinese fans.



NFU Mutual
INSURANCE | PENSIONS | INVESTMENTS

30% OFF HOME INSURANCE

IF YOU HAVEN'T CLAIMED IN 4 YEARS

And if you come to claim,
there are no forms and
no quibbles.

You won't find us on comparison sites.

For a home insurance quote call us on

01442 270000

or pop in and speak to us at
NFU Mutual Office, Boxed Farm, Berkhamsted
Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP1 2SG

www.nfumutual.co.uk/hemel-hempstead

No Claims Discount applies to NFU Mutual Standard Home Insurance.

Our Agents are approved representatives of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited (No. 111982), Registered in England, Registered Office: Tiddington Road, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 7BL. Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. A member of the Association of British Insurers. For security and training purposes, telephone calls may be recorded and monitored.

STRONGS PRINTING AND PHOTOCOPYING SERVICE

Plan Copying B/W A2 to A0
Photocopying A4 - A1 colour

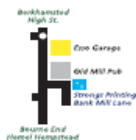
Full Colour Digital Printed Leaflets

A4	A5	A6
x100 for £30	x100 for £20	x100 for £15
x200 for £45	x200 for £35	x200 for £25
x500 for £75	x500 for £52	x500 for £39
x1000 for £120	x1000 for £80	x1000 for £60

Full Colour Digital Business Cards

x100 single sided £31
x100 double sided £46
x1000 single sided £79
x1000 double sided £113

Photocopying Colour & B/W
Laminating / Stapling / Hole Punching
Binding (GBC, Perfect & Saddle Stitch)
Design:
Full Apple Mac Design Studio
Artwork / Scanning / Repro
Printing:
NCR Sets & Books / Letterheads
Compliment Slips / Business Cards
Leaflets / Brochures / Folders / Posters



Strong's Printing Services, Bank Mill Wharf, Bank Mill Lane, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 2NT
Telephone: 01442 878592
Email: tony@strongs-printing.co.uk www.strongs-printing.co.uk

Open Door

Ceri Lindo tells the story of Berkhamsted's latest community space

At the end of 2016, we saw a small notice in the window of what was *Dar Papillion* at the north west end of the High Street. It offered the premises to a charity for an agreeable rent. So, in January 2017, just before we set off on an antipodean adventure, the lease was signed on behalf of The Way Inn Trust.

It was decided to call the space *The Open Door* - an extension of *The Way Inn*.

The vision is to expand the outreach of The Way Inn, to provide a place of welcome and security for local people, and somewhere for therapy, art and healing to occur. All kinds of ideas came together at an open meeting last March, many diverse needs and hopes were written on paper. I think that it probably goes without saying that I would love it to be a café too.

It is, in modern jargon, a community hub. A space that is available for all kinds of groups and individuals to use for all kinds of reasons. A short description of the spaces available includes the large window-fronted area downstairs and

spaces along the side of the building which will hopefully be used by the *Repair Shed* - a charity that encourages men to make new objects out of recycled wood, and to repair broken tools. A small room and kitchen complete the downstairs.

Upstairs, another light-filled room goes along the front of the building, with two smaller rooms at the back overlooking the garden. The garden is a gem; large and totally overgrown and uncared for, it offers wonderful possibilities for frustrated apartment dwellers. Hacking and hewing and weeding and clearing and digging and landscaping will come before planning and planting.



We are now open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10.30am till 4pm. If you haven't been to visit or to one of our charity coffee mornings, do pop in - it would be lovely to see you. And, if you want, we'd be delighted to give you a guided tour of the spaces.

Of course, like so many things, the bottom line is money! As we move towards the end of our first year, the rent will increase. So we will need money to pay for this, to pay rates and other services. Our hope, though, is that, as soon as possible, the various rooms will be rented out sufficiently to cover these costs. So, if you have any ideas - or if you need a room yourself - do come and see us.

But, as well as income, we also need to keep the door open. And, to do that, we need volunteers. Are you able to come and make a cup of coffee or tea, and sit and chat with passers-by who pop in?

Or perhaps you've got other skills and talents that you might be able to offer to *The Open Door*. There are all kinds of business needs we have to cover, from keeping the premises clean and maintained to projecting numbers and keeping the books up to date.



Whatever you're able to offer, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please come and join us. It's going to be a fantastic ride!

For more information, please contact:

The Open Door, 360-364 High Street, HP4 1HU

Ceri Lindo - 07795 058474

Joan Fisher - 07778 399353

<http://www.upstairsgallery.co.uk/the-open-door.html>

West Midland Trains (replacing London Midland)

West Midland Trains are to operate two new railway brands for and to the Midlands, the North West and London.

In the Midlands the **West Midlands Railway** brand is a local railway placing **Birmingham** at the centre of its network. Running the majority of the local services, as well as direct trains to many of the surrounding towns and cities.

Our **London Northwestern Railway** brand serves the **London to Liverpool** route on the west coast, stopping at **Birmingham, Milton Keynes** and **Northampton**, with the West Midlands at its heart.

Both services are operated by West Midlands Trains Ltd, a joint venture, owned by Abellio, Mitsui and East Japan Railway Company (JR East).

Details taken from www.wmtrains.co.uk – please also use for timetables and information.

Getting your computer up & running again



ANDY ROBINSON

COMPUTER CONSULTANCY & REPAIRS

T 07885 966570

E andy@arcomputerrepairs.com

W www.arcomputerrepairs.com

36 Trevelyan Way Berkhamsted HP4 1JH

BOOKS PURCHASED

HARDBACK BOOKS
WANTED OLD OR NEW
LARGE OR SMALL
AMOUNTS
HOUSE CLEARANCE
DISCRETION ASSURED
PROMPT PAYMENT

01442 832910

DJ PROCTOR

McCLEANS DECORATORS

INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR

ESTABLISHED 1985

**EXCELLENT LOCAL
REFERENCES
FREE ESTIMATES AND
ADVICE**

**PHONE 01582 696032
MOBILE 07957 848222**

**For Personal Attention from Berkhamsted's
only independent family business**

J. WORLEY
(FUNERAL DIRECTORS) LTD
344 High Street, Berkhamsted
FUNERAL DIRECTOR and
MONUMENTAL MASON

● GOLDEN CHARTER PRE-PAYMENT PLANS ● 24 HR EMERGENCY
SERVICE ● COMPETITIVE PRICES ● PRIVATE REST ROOM

Telephone Day/Night Berkhamsted 870326

A fit and healthy 2018

Now it is the New Year! Do you want to get fit? Lose weight. Exercise more. It will normally take about 21 days to change/start a new habit. Here are some hints and tips and local resources to assist you.

Lose weight

- Eat plenty of vegetables to help you feel full.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Stay busy sometimes boredom can create the urge to eat
- Sit down and eat, don't eat on the go
- Don't skip meals
- Join a slimming club

Slimming World

Sacred Heart Church, Park Street, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, HP4 1HX
Mondays - 7:30pm
Linda - 07921 512596

Weight Watchers

Civic Centre

161/163 High Street, Berkhamsted, HP4 3HB
Tuesday - 9.45am
Angie Ross - [03456777788](tel:03456777788)

Exercise more

- You do not have to spend hours in a gym – 30 mins; 3 times a week is a good start. This can improve your mental and emotional health.
- Don't beat yourself up if you miss a day – just start the next day.'
- Keep your expectations real – don't expect too much too soon.

- Too busy – just bursts of 10/15 mins can help
- Too tired – energy begets energy and with regular exercise you will start to feel energised
- Do something you enjoy – walking, swimming or a team sport

Join a club or sports centre

Sportspace Berkhamsted

Lagley Meadow, Douglass Gardens
Berkhamsted
Hertfordshire
HP4 3QQ
01442 507100
www.sportspace.co.uk/sportspace-berkhamsted

The Fitness Society

172-176 High Street,
Berkhamsted,
Hertfordshire,
HP4 3AP
01442 878000
info@thefitnesssociety.co.uk

Chapel Gym

The Chapel,
Chapel Street,
Berkhamsted.
HP4 2EA
01442 866685
info@thechapelgym.co.uk

The Health Hub

Northbridge Road
Berkhamsted,
HP4 1EH
01442 862565 info@thehealthhub.net

Walking the Great Wall of China

Donna Francis gives us an open and honest review of her recent challenge for charity.

Please describe brief Itinerary?

A physically strenuous and mentally challenging 5 day trek along The Great Wall, including both refurbished and untouched sections, including the wonderful Jinshanling range where we walked to the Zhuanduokou Pass. We climbed the golden rock face (not far from Crouching Tiger and Sleeping Dragon ranges) to the Watching Tower of Beijing on the Simatai range and visited both the polar opposites of the Mutianyu section built in 1404 and HuangHuaCheng (Yellow Flower) section high above a lake and dam with views for miles and miles. People often asked me – how far did you walk each day.....i can safely say it was not always the distance that mattered, it was steepness, volume of steps and the sheer effort that mattered. We probably walked on average around 10-15km a day but sometimes that could take ALL day!

It is interesting the misconceptions of The Wall – it cannot be seen from space and it doesn't go all the way across China. It is in fact just a little more 6700km long if you add all of its disparate sections and only approx.. 20km of that is in any way refurbished!

This link takes you to a map of where the Wall exists.

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/9d/Map_of_the_Great_Wall_of_China.jpg

What did you do to prepare for this challenge? And over how long a period?

Our group were keen to bond and prepare as a unit. That's how we were going to make this work. We walked together every other weekend for the 10 months or so leading up the trip and in between we all focussed on building up our core strength whether that be at boot camps or in the gym or in your front room....we knew it was going to be tough and I was often seen walking or running up the escalator stairs every time I went into London for a business meeting!

How did the Great Wall of China compare to your expectations?

I don't think you can actually prepare for your emotions really. I learnt that lesson



when on a 6 day dog sled trip across the ice valley in arctic Lapland a few years ago. Physically we were good and mentally we were strong but trust me when I say

that even for the toughest of us up there, we all had a wobble or a touch of anxiety on the more tricky precarious sections where there was no room for error, or just simple tears of joy at what lay before us. That roller coaster of appreciating just how privileged you are to be where you are and see what you are seeing!

What were your highlights?

There were many, but the moment that sticks out for me and I think for many of the group was when we walked at sunset in the Hebei Province north of Beijing. We didn't have much time as we had to get off the wall before night fell and had to negotiate a very difficult Tower entry and exit but it was worth it to be sat watching the land before us almost go to sleep in the haze in the sinking sun.

What were your low points?

One of our crew slipped on some arid soil on a descent one day, fell awkward and sadly broke her leg and ankle, but stoic as ever she got strapped up and stayed with the group (waiting at the bottom for the next 2 days). It did bring it home that this was no day trip...we were on a serious challenge and concentration and careful footing was to be given the attention it deserved.



What did you do on down time?

Most days we trekked for nigh on 8 hours, so apart from getting washed and fed and watered, you were too physically tired for much else. We did however manage to squeeze in a fantastic whistle stop tour of the great sights of Beijing. Tiananmen Square, The Forbidden City

(which is huge!), and acrobatics which was truly amazing. On our way back to the UK we also stopped over for 2 days in Hong Kong.....enough time for me to know that I must return there to explore this amazing city more.

How did you raise the money? How much have you raised so far?

The Group altogether have raised a little over £62,000! That's a great achievement and will help the Hospice deliver vital services both medical and palliative for a few months. The need is never ending. I partnered with a friend to raise £6,000 between us and we have kept the fund open on our return as we continue to spread the word. So far, we have reached the level we have through a combination of efforts from the kind donations from friends, family and our many work colleagues. We did also undertake other activities like a Lady's day event, we had a stall on the market in Berkhamsted High Street, we joined forces with the very supportive pub The Bull in summer to put on an event. We dressed up and did some bag packing in St Albans which was great fun....but clearly showed my skills at bag packing to be lacking!

Link to our Page is:

www.justgiving.com/operation-trekchina17

One thing you missed in UK? (besides person or dogs)?

Many of the group will say they missed the food of home..... but I think most will agree that what we missed the most was the toilet facilities! Say no more!

Would you do this again?

Absolutely! I'm already thinking what I might want to do next!



Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire – The Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors gathered for their last meeting of 2017 at Tring Park School for the Performing Arts, on Thursday 23 November, to hear from several exciting speakers on the latest developments taking place within Hemel Hempstead and the surrounding areas – including a detailed analysis of the new Local Plan for Dacorum, a key document in shaping the future of the borough.

Gary Stringer, Place Manager for the Ambassadors, opened the meeting by introducing the latest Business Ambassadors to join the initiative including: Longdean School, Igloo Creative, NBM Technology, Smiths Detection and Squire Estates.

The Ambassadors were subsequently given an introduction to the school by Principal, Stefan Anderson, along with details of their future plans, and entertained at the end of the evening by five musical theatre students, with tunes from 42nd Street, Westside Story and Anyone Can Whistle. The school, which has a full academic programme, is now home to 360 pupils, two thirds

In-depth presentations followed by Vince Williams, BID Steering Group Chair and Marlowes Shopping Centre Manager; Mark Gaynor, Corporate Director, Housing & Regeneration, Dacorum Borough Council with Lee Walker Associate Director, Research and Development, Central Management Ltd; Shaping the Future – Dacorum's Local Plan Consultation Proposals from James Doe, Assistant Director, Planning, Development & Regeneration, Dacorum Borough Council.

Vince Williams, BID Steering Group Chair and Marlowes Shopping Centre Manager outlined the results and plans for the BID (business improvement district) within the town centre, including the three core priorities of selling the Hemel experience, caring for our town and finally, to ensure it is a safe and welcoming environment. The BID is intended to drive visitor numbers to the town and extend the amount of time they stay, thereby increasing spend with the local businesses and promoting the town as a key retail and leisure destination.

Mark Gaynor, Corporate Director, Housing & Regeneration for Dacorum Borough Council outlined the potential for a further BID for Maylands Business park with the Ambassadors to discuss further at subsequent meetings.

James Doe, Assistant Director, Planning, Development & Regeneration for Dacorum Borough Council talked in some detail about the needs for future housing delivery and the challenge of finding

appropriate sites within the context of much of the Borough being covered by the Green Belt.

The Council is consulting on a major increase in new housebuilding in accordance with the Government’s proposals to significantly boost the supply of housing. Historically, the area has been experiencing growth of around 350-375 new homes each year. Dacorum’s new Local Plan consultation sets out three growth options of between 602 to 1100 new homes per year. The Council looks forward to receiving the views of businesses and the public, and from this intends to prepare preferred proposals by Spring 2018.

James also indicated three potential locations for new business and employment development near Tring, Hemel Hempstead and Kings Langley.

James commented “We have worked hard to ensure an open and inclusive process for public consultation, with six public exhibitions at key locations over the past two weeks.

“We are conscious that infrastructure is always one of the biggest challenges to delivering new housing; we’ll do our level best to secure this through the forward planning process.”

Finally, James encouraged the Ambassadors to visit and comment on the new local plan

at: www.dacorum.gov.uk/home/do-it-online/consultation-feedback/current-consultation before the midnight deadline on Wednesday 13 December.

Jean McLeish, Head of Defence Marketing at Sopra Steria, and Chair of the Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors’ board concluded the presentations by thanking the host and speakers and looking forward to an “enhanced town centre, shaped by the businesses that operate in Hemel Hempstead.”

The next Ambassadors meeting will take place at BSI Kitemark House on Thursday 1 February 2018. For further information on the Hemel Hempstead Business Ambassadors, visit www.investhemel.co.uk or contact Gary Stringer, Ambassador Place Manager, on tel: 01442 228808.

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

Copy Dates:	11 Jan	11 Feb	11 Mar
Your Berkhamsted Team			
Editor and layout: Jacqueline Hicks, editor@yourberkhamsted.org.uk			
Features: Julian Dawson, Matt Dawson; Advertising: John Gerry, 07774 850508,			



For all your roofing and guttering needs

Maintenance
Repair
Replacements

Free Inspections

- ✓ Tiles, slate and flat roofs,
- ✓ Guttering, down pipes, drainage
- ✓ Fascia, soffit board and cladding replacement, repair and cleaning
- ✓ Chimney care, repair & rebuild - new pots & cowls
- ✓ Parapet wall repairs & rebuild
- ✓ Lead work - flashings – ventilation
- ✓ Roof carpentry - dormers - roof windows
- ✓ Specialist brickwork, brick repairs and pointing
- ✓ Scaffolding and towers for access

Office

36 Maynard Road, Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire HP2 4TR

Office: 01442 407 523

Direct: Carl Britton 07709 763 280

Email: carl@brittonroofing.co.uk

Web: www.brittonroofing.co.uk