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**yB**

**Your Berkhamsted**

**April/May 2019**

**Dennis Furnell – talks about  
The Red Kite**

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## *In this issue...*

### **WELCOME TO THE APRIL/MAY 2019 EDITION OF YOUR BERKHAMSTED.**

As I write this the clocks will go forward this weekend and we are in the throes of spring. There is a warm feeling of new beginnings. In this edition we have our resident writers producing articles on history, nature, art and news in and around Berkhamsted. The Friends of St Peter's will be using some of its National Lottery Grant to support apprenticeship training. This is great news! Congratulations to The Hospice of St Francis who are 40 years in June and we will continue to support this wonderful local charity for many years to come. There are four bank holidays during these next two months and we have given you plenty to keep occupied with our 'what's on' page shows events in April and May in and around Berkhamsted. Please look out for YB tweets on @Yourberkhamsted. Do get in touch if there are any ideas or stories you may have, either to publish or additions/changes to the magazine for consideration. And please give us your feedback on the new features.



**JACQUELINE - [EDITOR@YOURBERKHAMSTED.ORG.UK](mailto:EDITOR@YOURBERKHAMSTED.ORG.UK)**

<b>Berkhamsted in the news</b>	<b>3 &amp; 5</b>
<b>What's On</b>	<b>6,7,8 &amp; 9</b>
<b>Earlier historians</b>	<b>10, 11, 12 &amp; 13</b>
<b>The Red Kite</b>	<b>14 &amp; 15</b>
<b>Our Clergy</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Parish Pages</b>	<b>18, 19 &amp; 21</b>
<b>Berkhamsted Bowls Club</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Hospice News</b>	<b>24 &amp; 25</b>
<b>Rectory Lane Cemetery News</b>	<b>26 &amp; 27</b>
<b>Per Tutti</b>	<b>28 &amp; 29</b>
<b>Art Review - Pierre Bonnard – The Colour of Memory</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>The Berkhamsted Walk 2019</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Ashlyns School Sports Success</b>	<b>32 &amp; 33</b>
<b>Scouting in West Hertfordshire</b>	<b>34 &amp; 35</b>

**Front cover:** Thank you Sarah Dawson for the lovely front cover. Taken at Patchwork, 22 Hall Park Gate, Berkhamsted. Open under the National Garden Scheme 5th May and 18th August 2-5pm.

*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



In the last issue Matt Dawson explained the complexities of the English football pyramid, only slightly less complex than a project plan for the multi-pyramid complex at Giza – a multi-tender project that came in time and on budget largely because death was the alternative – and indeed the purpose. Which leads me to Bill Shankley's famous quote- "Some people think football is a matter of life and death. I assure you, it's much more serious than that." Anyhow, [thecoldend.blogspot.com](http://thecoldend.blogspot.com) (featured before in this column) gives us the lowdown on clubs other than Berkhamsted Raiders that are applying for step seven to six promotion. They include another local team Bovingdon, and a little further afield Letchworth Garden City Eagles and New Salamis, who in fact are based in N22, Enfield's neck of the woods.

Salamis puts me in mind of the famous naval battle of that name – one

of the key battles in my Famous Battles of World History book I had as a child. Not Enid Blyton and Beatrix Potter for me – oh no, it was strategy and tactics. The Battle of Salamis was fought between an alliance of Greek city-states and the Persian Empire in 480 BC. Despite being severely outnumbered the Greeks won a decisive victory. The Persians were headed up by King Xerxes, who is a very useful fellow in games involving words, being one of the very few people of note whose name begins with the 24<sup>th</sup> letter of the alphabet.



Is it valid to include Malcolm X, even though he began life as Malcolm Little? Probably so, given that, as he put himself, "Little was the name that the white slave-master ... had im-

posed upon [his] paternal forebears". Who knows what his original family name might have been. His conversion to Islam led him to adopt a third name following his completion of

**Cont on page 5**



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the Hajj, becoming known as el-Hajj Malik el-Shabazz. He was to be shot to death in 1965, another victim of American assassination in that decade.

Malcolm’s mother was in fact from Grenada one of the many islands of the Caribbean Sea. The island was ceded to Britain by the Treaty of Paris of 1763, which concluded the Seven Year’s War. This also gave Britain many of France’s possessions in North America, though at the same time Britain agreed to protect Roman catholicism in the continent, conscious of not wanting to antagonise the French and causing yet another

conflict. The Treaty is very much a critical moment in the history of Canada. The war also illustrated that Britain and France had less stamina for fighting, rather more realistically agreeing that a seven year war was rather more sustainable than one lasting one hundred, by the end of which no one left alive could remember what they were fighting about. Actually, it turns out that if you include weekends, bank holidays, bad weather, the wrong kind of leaves and mercenary strikes for better working conditions, the 100 Year’s War only in fact lasted seven years after all.

**Julian Dawson**

Drawings of Berkhamsted by Jenni Cator



# What's on

Berkhamsted Artisans, Arts & Crafts Market (**1<sup>st</sup> Saturday every month**)  
10am to 4pm. The Town Hall, 196 High Street, Berkhamsted, Herts, HP4 3AP  
Lift access at back. If you would like a stall contact Claire - Mob: 07968 627 179;  
Email:  
[berkhamstedmarket@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:berkhamstedmarket@hotmail.co.uk);  
[www.greatmarkets@vpweb.co.uk](http://www.greatmarkets@vpweb.co.uk)

Tring Farmers Market (**Alternate Saturdays**). The Marketplace, Brook Street, Tring 9.00am - 12.15pm. Tring Farmers Market promotes local food for local people. For more info email:  
[enquiries@tringfarmersmarket.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@tringfarmersmarket.co.uk)  
[www.wea.org.uk](http://www.wea.org.uk). (Adult Learning Courses) £74 for a 10-week course, 2 hours a week. 0300 3033464; information 872432

## April

**Mon, 1st and Tues, 2nd April 8pm: Faces Places** - Pioneer filmmaker Agnès Varda joins photographer JR on a whimsical tour of rural France, creating a mosaic of memories with massive posters. Dirs: Agnès Varda, JR/2017/France/Cert 12A/89min/Subtitles. Civic Centre.  
[www.berkhamstedfilmsociety.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedfilmsociety.co.uk)  
Annual sub: joint £65, single £35. Visitors £5 at door (no conc) 863155

**Weds, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 6.30pm: Memory Loss** - Free public meeting. Worried about your or a relative's memory loss? Is it normal? Is it treatable? Can it be slowed down? Come and find out. Civic Centre

**Sat, 6th April 10am to 4pm: Book Fair** - A huge selection of second hand books of all sorts on display. Court House. Free admittance. 01442 862011

**Sat, 6th April 7.30 pm: Following last year's success another play** - Brilliance. **Potten End Village Hall**. Farnham Maltings Tickets Danny Bonwitt Tel: 01442 862974,  
Email: [bonwitts@talktalk.net](mailto:bonwitts@talktalk.net)

**Sun 7th April 2pm: La Forza Del Destino** - An arts LIVE screening from the Royal Opera. A drama of obsession, vengeance and tragedy. The Vyne Theatre, Berkhamsted.  
[www.berkhamstedartscentre.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedartscentre.co.uk) £10-15.

**Weds, 10th April 10.30am to 12.30pm: Signs of Spring** - Join the knowledgeable volunteers for a walk around the woods to spot the signs of spring. No need to book. 01442 851227. <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge-estate>

**Weds, 10<sup>th</sup> April 6.30pm: BDCC AGM** - The Clock Room, Berkhamsted Town Hall, 196 High Street, 6.30pm. Free for members. The 2019 Business of the year will be awarded at the AGM. Noted wine expert Father Mike Eggleton will run a wine tasting from 7-8pm.

**Mon, 15th and Tues, 16th April 8pm: Frantz** - After WW1 a relationship develops between a German woman and a Frenchman. They experience complex personal conflicts with no easy answers.

Dir: Francois Ozon/2016/France/Cert 12A/114min/Subtitles/B&W. Civic Centre.

[www.berkhamstedfilmsociety.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedfilmsociety.co.uk) Annual sub: joint £65, single £35. Visitors £5 at door (no conc) 863155

**Weds, 17<sup>th</sup> April 9am-12 noon: Berkhamsted and Tring Sewing Bee** - Bring your own equipment and materials. Please book your place as space is limited. Northchurch Social Centre, Bell Lane. £5 payable on the day. fiona4mkenna@hotmail.co.uk

**Mon, 29<sup>th</sup> to Tues, 30<sup>th</sup> April 8pm:** Call Me By Your Name - A powerful portrait of first love. Over a life-changing summer a precocious 17-year-old and a graduate student discover awakening desire. Dir: Luca Guadagnino/2017/Italy,USA/Cert 15/132mi. Civic Centre. [www.berkhamstedfilmsociety.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedfilmsociety.co.uk)

Annual sub: joint £65, single £35. Visitors £5 at door (no conc) 863155

**Mon, 29th - 17th June 10.30-12.30: Post war British film and society.** Explore how hopes for a reconstructed society were represented on film. Look at issues of change, conflict and continuity across genres of films from the 1940s to the early 1960s. **Friends' Meeting House.** [www.wea.org.uk](http://www.wea.org.uk) £45 for a six week course, two hours a week. 0300 303464

**Mon, 29<sup>th</sup> April 7.45pm:** AGM and talk by Dr Beverley Nenck (Curator, Medieval Collections, British Museum). The Music Room, Berkhamsted School, Mill Street. Visitors £5. 01442 875597. [www.berkhamstedarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedarchaeology.co.uk)

## Our Lent Appeal



At a time of joyful celebration in the Church calendar we ask if you might consider doing something for international relations...making a small but significant contribution towards greater understanding worldwide.

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**St. Peter & St. Paul's Church,  
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**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2019, 7.45 p.m.**

**Spring Concert**

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

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**Sun 19th May Sat 25th May**

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**French - Sat 6th April**

**Moroccan - Fri 12th April**

**Moroccan - Sat 13th April**

**Winter Spanish - Fri 26th April**

### **Save The Date - Easter Weekend**

**Friday 19th - Sunday 21st April**

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## **May**

**From 27th April** - A three-week festival with a packed programme of seasonal events and activities to get you walking, exploring and enjoying Tring in spring. <http://www.tringtogether.org.uk>

**Weds, 1<sup>st</sup> May 10.30am to 12.30pm:**  
**Bluebells** - A gentle stroll through some of the best bluebell woods in

Ashridge. The volunteers have plenty of knowledge and are brimming with facts about these well-loved flowers. Ling Rd carpark. 01442 851227.

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge-estate](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge-estate) £3.

### **Thurs, 2<sup>nd</sup> May to Sat, 4<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm:**

Berkhamsted Youth Theatre presents Honk! - Ugly looks quite a bit different from his darling duckling brothers and sisters. The other animals on the farm are quick to notice and point this out, despite his mothers' protective flapping. Along the way, Ugly meets a whole flock of unique characters and finds out that being different is not a bad thing to be. Court Theatre, Tring.

[www.courttheatre.co.uk](http://www.courttheatre.co.uk) Tickets Beechwood Fine Foods, Tring, Berkhamsted Imaging, The Court Theatre. £10, concessions £8, Thurs – all tickets £5

### **Mon, 6<sup>th</sup> May 12-5pm: Aldbury May Fair**

- Traditional May Pole dancing, crowning of the May Queen, Morris Dancers, pony rides, crafts and Fairground Rides. Array of stalls, art exhibition and plenty of wonderful food and drink on offer.

<https://www.facebook.com/AldburyMayFair> 07890 494333

**Weds, 8<sup>th</sup> May 7.30 pm:** The Dream of Gerontius by Elgar - Performed by The English Philharmonia Chorus (Berkhamsted and Chorleywood Choral Societies and The Leconfield Singers) and Orchestra, Soloists Kathleen Wilkinson, Colin Judson and Njabulo Madlala. Royal Festival Hall, London.

[www.berkhamstedchoral.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedchoral.co.uk) Royal Festival Hall Booking Office £15 – £37.50, 25% reduction for concessions. 07500

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[www.WeGotTickets.com/amchor](http://www.WeGotTickets.com/amchor)

Perfect Pitch, Chesham; The Record Shop,

Amersham [www.amchor.com](http://www.amchor.com)

## Sun, 12<sup>th</sup> to Sat, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2.30 pm: Berk-

hamsted Art Society – Spring Art Exhibi-

tion - a wide range of members artwork

in all media, including ceramics, to view

and for sale. Civic Centre.

[www.berkhamstedartsociety.com](http://www.berkhamstedartsociety.com)

## Sat, 18<sup>th</sup> May to 2<sup>nd</sup> June - Chilterns

**Walking Festival** - The programme will feature over 80 guided walks and activities, mostly free of charge. Expect plenty of family friendly options with a focus on landscapes, wildlife and local stories.

<https://www.visitchilterns.co.uk/walkingfest>

## Sun, 19<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm. Bolshoi Ballet

**Double Bill** - An artsLIVE screening from the Royal Ballet: Within the Golden Hour, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui and Flight Pattern. A must-see for lovers or students of contemporary dance. The Wyne Theatre, Berkhamsted. £10-15.

[www.berkhamstedartscentre.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedartscentre.co.uk)

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## Earlier historians and the tales the owners of their books have to tell



Most Berkhamsted residents, who profess to have an interest in the history of our ancient town will have at least

a copy of the two books by Percy Birtchnell, the first shorter version, published in 1962 and the second 'A Short History of Berkhamsted', a much enlarged and revised edition published in 1972. Both of these were published by the author but printed by the Clunbury Press, itself disappeared into the annals of history. But what about the several earlier historians whose works adorn the bookshelves of many? Four particular works come to mind; the first of which, 'Two lectures on the History and Antiquities of Berkhamsted', given to the Mechanics' Institute in the winter of 1854-5. These lectures were later printed at the request of those who had heard them. John Wolstenholme Cobb gave these lectures whilst he was a young curate at St Peter's, an incredible feat of research and production, which he said that he had produced 'only in the short intervals which parochial engagements allowed.' The preface to the second edition was written in 1883 after he had moved away for a

returning as Rector of St. Peter's in 1871.

Cobb's 'History & Antiquities' is still available at book fairs and on EBay. It was also one of the books on local history which was reprinted and published by Nick Potts of 'Book Stack', an independent bookshop we no longer have. Cobb's History is probably the book that is offered to the Society more than any others by people who are turning out the attic prior to downsizing. Some copies are even accompanied by interesting handwritten notes by previous owners who have done further notes on their own relevant research. Many others have the advantage of including the name of the original owner which since that name often belongs to a well-known Berkhamsted resident adds again another dimension to the story. The most recent copy of Cobb received is inscribed on the frontispiece 'George Chilton 1883'. George then is likely to have been the original owner of this second edition. We learn from further research that George ran a grocery business in the town; and checking with another useful reference book, R.A. Norris' 'Berkhamsted St Peter', we learn that George was a churchwarden from 1890-19. This little book was compiled



by R.A. Norris, sometime churchwarden, in 1923, and at the time cost 4/6. It purports to contain 'some notes historical and descriptive of the church and its surroundings, the monuments, memorials and possessions therein'. Moreover it claims to contain 'much new matter and several illustrations, some of which are published for the first time.' I have always found it an invaluable reference book for information on St Peter's. An enlarged update to be produced in 2023 would be of great value for ecclesiastical and local historians. Who was the owner of this little book? On the frontispiece is inscribed 'J. Matthews Holmdene, Angelfield Road.' This was James Matthews of H&J Matthews, Builder and Undertaker, whose premises were in Castle Street where the Fire Station now is. James obviously had a real interest in the history of Berkhamsted because in addition to Norris' book he had Henry Nash's book 'Reminiscences of Berkhamsted' which I find, a fascinating and invaluable book giving a detailed impression of Victorian Berkhamsted. Writing in 1890 Henry Nash looks back 50 years to the early days of Victoria's reign, commenting on the most significant events of the time. Although Nash, known as the 'Grand Old Man' of Berkhamsted is writing from his point of view it is not written in a judgemental way and certainly adds to our knowledge of

the town and era. This is printed by W. Cooper & Nephews. Nash's 'Reminiscences' is another of the books reprinted by Book Stack but this copy belonging to James Matthews is the original book, which one rarely sees. On this occasion James adds 'Berkhamsted' to his address. Has he been lending his copy further afield?

The fourth book in this little collection is quite hard to come by. Maybe only a limited number was produced in the 1930s and we do not know the exact date of publication. Sometime in the 1930s the Commons Open Spaces and Footpaths Preservation Society, at that time based at 71 Egleston Square, Westminster SW1 published this book by George H Whybrow, OBE. He was a founder member of the Berkhamsted History Society and this book remarkable for the depth and thoroughness of its research has not been replaced by any other work. The book deals with the early history of the Common arising from the hunting park of the Castle, traces its history detailing the attempts at enclosure in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and the 'Battle of Berkhamsted Common' in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century and ends with the purchase of part of the Common by the Berkhamsted Golf Club.

**Cont on page 12**

This article refers to books written by residents of Berkhamsted dealing with aspects of local history but, of course Berkhamsted has been noted through the ages for historians of international repute, who have lived here for short periods of time. Notable among these is G.M. Trevelyan, who wrote the text for the 1922 Castle pageant and played the part of Chaucer. In the context of this article he wrote the following in the preface to Whybrow's book. 'As a former resident in Berkhamsted and a haunter of the Common, and as one who had a hand in forming the present connection between the Common and National Trust, I feel entitled to recommend to the public this historical study by Mr Whybrow. The story of the midnight assault on the fence is one of the most famous events in the movement carried on by the Commons Preservation Society. It is here retold, together with interesting historical and antiquarian detail about earlier times which the author's scholarship has drawn together.'

Among the Society's collection we have a grangerised edition of Cobb's work, a book with empty pages, placed at intervals, for an owner to insert his own illustrations or comment on the text. The version we have has had added a number of prints appropriate to the text, but what can we learn from other additions which appear in books, pencilled

comments, newspaper cuttings, extracts from magazines, or even a shopping list? Were they written by the original owner or a later owner of the book? Some insertions may simply be bookmarks. For others the reason is clear but if only cuttings and extracts included a date, they would be so much more valuable! The Cobb, which had belonged originally to George Chilton contains two extracts from the *Berkhamsted Review*. They are articles by Percy Birtchnell about the life and work of Cobb and another about his funeral. There is no date but from various advertisements and references they are likely to be from the 1970s, so definitely inserted by a later owner. Nash's book has an interesting collection of insertions, the first a bookmark with a religious text, simply that. A dog-eared scrap of paper looks like somebody's physics notes with references to light and magnetism but on the other side are 'Notes from Reminiscences of Berkhamsted by Henry Nash' and reference to Highfield Road being called the Pightle and further notes on John Tawell. The paper has been placed where there are references to Tawell.

The remaining cuttings, sadly without dates nor the name of the newspaper from which they come, appear to have been inserted because they refer to well-known Berkhamsted families or interesting incidents which have been mentioned by Nash in his

text. One reports the death and funeral of Mrs Ezra Miller, daughter-in-law of Frederick Miller who purchased Pilkington Manor. Another refers to the exile of Louis XVIII, of France, at Hartwell House, his acquaintance with Polly Page of the Kings Arms and her subsequent visit to France. The final cutting relates more directly to the Matthews family in that it reports the case of Matthews v. Matthews heard in

Chancery, an internal family dispute. More research is required to learn more of this. Finally, on a page, where it is reported that the late Mr William Longman was unsuccessful in his bid to be elected onto the School Board, someone has inserted an 'In Memoriam` to Thomas Longman 1804 -1879. Again more research is required. Old books have often much to tell.

**Jenny Sherwood**





## The Red Kite

It is thought that much of Henry VIII's courtship of Ann Boleyn took place in the Hertfordshire countryside and woodlands of Ashridge. Had he cared to cast his eye skywards for a few moments he would have seen a bird that was very much part of the Tudor landscape, the red kite.

In the Middle Ages, when the idea of town hygiene was to shout 'look out' as slops were emptied from upper windows into the gutters below, and the town midden was as foul a place as you could imagine, scavenging red kites were in their element; so common in the local countryside that people probably hardly gave them no more than an admiring glance. In 'Cymbaline', one of Shakespeare's plays, there is a warning to washerwomen to beware their washing in the kites' breeding season.... *"The mother kite in compassion to their distress, will steal lesser linen, as caps, cravats, ruffles, or any other such small matters as she can best fly with, from off the hedges where they are hanged to dry after washing, and carry them to her nest, and there leave them, if possible to move the pity of the first corner, to cut the thread, and ease them of their misery."*

When urban hygiene improved, however, and food waste was no longer

lation declined dramatically. Large, impressive creatures, with a wingspan of nearly two metres, they sport a hooked beak and long sharp claws at the end of their yellow legs and gained a false reputation for taking domesticated animals. Not true, they are carrion-eaters and when there is no carrion to be had will mostly hunt worms and insects. Unfortunately, this misguided reputation meant that they became a target for shepherds, gamekeepers and everyone who kept lambs, gamebirds, chickens and rabbits and were killed off until only a tiny relic population remained in the Welsh mountains. As a teenager, I filmed them for the RSPB film unit, but their survival as a British breeding bird was in serious doubt.

Fifty years ago, the idea that the red kite could become one of the most frequently seen large raptors was just a dream. Happily, as more people became interested in the conservation of our native wild creatures, it was suggested that kites might be reintroduced using birds from healthy populations in their strongholds in Europe and Scandinavia. The idea grew into a reality and in the 1970's red kites were introduced from Scandinavia. Unfortunately, the Scandinavian population are migratory and they all flew off to warmer climes. Eventually birds from a Spanish

population were introduced as they don't migrate and are closer, genetically, to our own population.

Stokenchurch, just outside Aylesbury, was chosen as the reintroduction site and a group of young red kites were kept in open aspect cages and fed remotely in order to avoid imprinting on humans. I was there when the first birds were released into the

nearby beechwoods. Unlike other birds of prey such as osprey, kestrels or buzzards, red kites are communal breeders and often set up several nests in the same woods.... Henry VIII would be utterly unfamiliar with modern-day Berkhamsted, but should he look skywards he would still see his familiar red kites.

**Dennis Furnell**



**Picture: Red Kite— by Dennis Furnell**

### **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](mailto:kathleenlally21@gmail.com)

## The Week That Changed The World



For Christians of every denomination, the week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> April & ending on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> is THE greatest week in

2019. This is HOLY WEEK which begins with Palm Sunday until Easter Sunday and is the climax of the Christian Year. It certainly overshadows Christmas, for Christ was born in order to die and rise: if he had not risen from the dead there would be little point in celebrating his birth.

Over the centuries the Church has celebrated these seven days with great solemnity. They are known as the GREAT WEEK. In fact the three days from Thursday night until Sunday morning are celebrated not simply as separate days but as one huge feast. In Latin this is called the “**Triduum**”, or the “Three-day Feast”. SO for Christians it is a time not just to turn up on Palm Sunday and collect the Palm Cross and then disappear until Easter Day and collect the Easter egg, for Jesus did not ride into Jerusalem, swan around for a few days and then just rise from the dead. No, there are important events which he went through for us, so surely we can be with him throughout the Triduum.

This is a week that changed the world and can once again change you

and me. The drama of our faith unfolds as the week goes on, and we recall our pledge to let the salvation of which Christ gained for us on the cross to take effect here and now in our daily lives. It’s something not to be missed, something to be participated in as fully as possible. Certainly you would be well repaid if you attended the three sections of the Triduum in your own Church: you would be very welcome to join us at St Peter’s where we always pull all the stops out to reflect the changing mood of these days, and please note in our schedule the activities for families and children.

DO please have in mind one key idea: all of this is more than a trip down memory lane to the time of Jesus. We do not simply recall a dead hero and his bravery. We ask the Holy Spirit to come upon us so that what Christ achieved for us in that first Holy Week may be real and effective in our lives. We seek to actuate it, to make it really present so that it can take hold of us and change us.

SO that’s what this week is all about, what we do and why we bother so much about it. It will be my last Holy Week as your parish priest, so do join us.

Have a great week & a joyous Easter.

**Fr. Tim**

**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 14<sup>th</sup> Apr 7.00pm at St Peter's: CHORAL CONCERT Chiltern Chamber Choir Baroque Masterpieces by Jan Dismas Zelenka with Bridgewater Sinfonietta and Kathryn Jenkin, soprano; Jeanette Ager, alto; Phillip Conway-Brown, tenor; Christopher Foster, bass. Tickets £15, U18s free from Brown & Merry, chilternchamberchoir.com or on the door.

Thu 25<sup>th</sup> Apr 7.30pm in St Peter's Lady Chapel: CHROMA RECITAL - Renaissance and contemporary music for clarinet, cello and viola da gamba - Tickets £16/£13 concs; Friends £14/£11; U18s Free

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> 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 in the Court House. Donations for breakfast please.

## **Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels FUN DOG SHOW!**



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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, 9.30-11:30am. 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 9:30–11:15am. 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 (day off Friday), Team Rector, St Peter's, 879739

Simon Vivian, Assistant Curate. 01442 864199. [curate@greatberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:curate@greatberkhamsted.org.uk)

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



## This Month's Diary

### St Peter's - Easter

15th April Monday in Holy Week 8:00pm Holy Eucharist

16<sup>th</sup> April Tuesday in Holy Week 8:00pm Holy Eucharist

17th April Wednesday in Holy Week 8:00pm Tenebrae. A meditative choral service of bible readings and psalms sung on the Wednesday of Holy Week in preparation for the great three days before Easter; the name of the service ('shadows') refers to the gradual extinguishing of the candles and lights in church as the prophecies are read and the psalms are chanted.

18th April MAUNDY THURSDAY 8:00pm Sung Eucharist of the Last Supper, followed by vigil. We recall the institution of the Holy Eucharist on the evening before the trial and crucifixion of our Lord. This service is in marked contrast to the rest of Holy Week, a light shining through and beyond the darkness of Good Friday. At the vigil, we are invited to contemplate our Lord's Passion and watch with him in Gethsemane.

19<sup>th</sup> April GOOD FRIDAY

11:00am All Age Reflection. An opportunity to think about the message of Good Friday as a whole family. Short talk and interactive prayer activities suitable for children.

2:00pm Liturgy of Good Friday. We most solemnly recall Jesus' trial and execution, leaving us to wait...

20th April EASTER EVE

2.00pm An Easter Celebration: following on from the all age reflection on Good Friday - for children up to 10 years: under 5's to be accompanied by a parent or carer. Come and have some fun exploring the Easter story.

8:00pm The Easter Vigil Eucharist. The First Eucharist of Easter, the Resurrection of our Lord, when light triumphs over darkness.

21st April EASTER DAY We celebrate God's triumph and promise of Eternal Life for the whole Christian Community.

8:00am Holy Eucharist

9:30am Sung Eucharist



Cont Page 21

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

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

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# All Saints

## April

<b>7th</b> 10. am	Passion Sunday Morning Worship Revd Rachael Hawkins
<b>14th</b> 10am	Palm Sunday Holy Communion Revd John Kirkby
<b>15th</b> 8pm	Monday of Holy Week Reflective Worship Ruth Treves Brown
<b>16th</b> 8pm	Tuesday of Holy Week Reflective Worship Audrey Cox
<b>17th</b> 8pm Week	Wednesday of Holy  Reflective Worship David Williamson
<b>18th</b> 7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Reflective Service of Holy  Communion Revd Rachael Hawkins
<b>19th</b> 11am	Good Friday Service for Good Friday Revd Brian Tebbutt
<b>21st</b> 10.30am	Easter Day Holy Communion Revd Rachael Hawkins
<b>28th</b> 10am	Second Sunday of Easter Holy Communion

# May

<b>5th</b> 10am	Third Sunday of Easter Morning Worship Judith Bell
<b>12th</b> 10am  4pm	Fourth Sunday of Easter Holy Communion Revd John Kirk Messy Church Revd Rachael Hawkins & Messy Church Team
<b>19th</b> 10am  4pm	Fifth Sunday of Easter Café Church (Christian Aid) Revd Rachael Hawkin Service of Wholeness and Healing Revd Rachael Hawkins, Audrey Cox & Tracy Robinson
<b>26th</b> 8am  10am	Sixth Sunday of Easter Holy Communion Revd Rachael Hawkins Holy Communion Revd Rachael Hawkins
<b>30th</b> 8pm	Ascension Day (Thursday) Holy Communion Revd Rachael Hawkins
<b>Every Tuesday</b> 9am 9.30am	Morning Prayer Eucharist
<b>Every Friday</b> 4pm	Evening Prayer

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## Berkhamsted Bowls Club

With the refurbishment of the club house successfully completed, we are now ready to start the new season with our Open Days scheduled for April 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. We welcome all players of all ages, abilities and sexes making it the perfect sport for all members of the family to enjoy together. Bowls is not only a sport as here in our friendly club we organise varied and active social events. We are committed to welcoming new members, helping those that might otherwise feel isolated, using our club as a gateway to creating lifelong friendships and to help us all lead a healthier lifestyle. In our club disabled and non-disabled are actively encouraged to join in, in fact, we are especially proud to include in our membership disabled players one of which is now a world champion!

Coaching is provided in a game that provides good all round physical activity for the body and the social side boosts psychological and emotional health. Bowls is primarily aerobic and provides valuable cardiovascular exercise as well as stretching muscles and in addition exercises your brain as you try to outwit your opponent. Every attempt is made to ensure that we are an active member of the local community, so for further information please visit our web site at [www.berkhamstedbowls.co.uk](http://www.berkhamstedbowls.co.uk) or contact John on 01442 866463. We can be found over the Waitrose bridge, next to the play park in Canal Fields.

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## News from the Hospice of St Francis



April  
2019

### We're 40! Wow!

We're 40 years old this June! We're privileged to have touched so many lives in our community over the past 40 years and we'd love your continued support so we can be here for the next 40 years.

Back in 1979, faith, belonging and coffee stirred *The Originals*, a group of dedicated and driven volunteers led by Pam Macpherson, to start a Hospice. Then, on 6<sup>th</sup> June a silent prayer vigil, held at St Peter's Church in Berkhamsted (our official birthday!) was the catalyst that spurred more supporters including people like Angela Russell-Smith, Erica Hughes, Beryl Langley, and Vera Pullen into action.

We'll be holding a prayer vigil at St Peter's church in early June (keep a look out for further information!) to mark our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary plus we will be out around town on our actual birthday on 6<sup>th</sup> June. In the meantime, check out our website for more stories from our 40 years and to share your stories and precious memories of the last 40 years with us - [stfrancis.org.uk/40](http://stfrancis.org.uk/40)

### Join our Birthday Skydive!

Like us, are you celebrating a special birthday, anniversary or date this year? Mark the occasion whilst supporting us by joining our Birthday Skydive on Sunday 7 July. We'd love your support!

'Snowball' coffee mornings raised £20,000 by March 1980. Not bad for a minimum donation of 25p; £1.25 in today's money! This led to the first patient home visits and in our first full year we looked after 21 people.



**Heidi Norris**, 80, who participated in the first Snowball coffee mornings, from Berkhamsted, recalls: "Pam Macpherson was very determined and worked so hard. She galvanised everyone. She was unstoppable!"

### Let's Talk about Dementia

Join us to talk about dementia at the Civic Centre, Berkhamsted on Wednesday 1 May at 7.30pm. Speakers include Dr Tammy Angel, Clinical Director of Elderly Care at West Herts Hospitals Trust and our own Medical Director, Dr Sharon Chadwick, who will address issues such as planning ahead so you get the care that you want and how palliative care teams can help to support you. Open to all, including health care professionals, tickets cost £10. [Stfrancis.org.uk/dementiatalk](http://Stfrancis.org.uk/dementiatalk)

### Care for Carers

Brenda Scott-Oldfield, from Wigginton, is a full-time carer to her husband Bob, 71, who has a rare brain disease causing him to fall without warning. Our Carer team

put together a bespoke support programme. Brenda said, *"I attended the Hospice's Care Towards the End of Life Course. It was useful to hear other people's experiences, access information on legal matters and focus on my own well-being. Since then I've taken part in a Practical Caring Course, which provided useful tips on things like back care and how to move someone when they're in bed. Knowing there is always someone there I can ask for advice as I face the future and as Bob's illness deteriorates is hugely reassuring."*

To find out more about referring yourself for support either for yourself as a carer, or as a patient, visit: [stfrancis.org.uk/care](http://stfrancis.org.uk/care)

### Spring Workshops!

From floral displays to reupholstering, we have workshops this Spring to suit budding interior designers and crafters at our pre-loved furniture and homeware showroom Returned to Glory in Berkhamsted. [Stfrancis.org.uk/returnedtoglory](http://Stfrancis.org.uk/returnedtoglory). And, for latest 'finds' and trend news, don't forget to follow @ReturnedtoGlory on Facebook.



### Bubble Rush – Sunday 12 May, Gade-bridge Park, Hemel Hempstead

Anyone from tots to teens, grown-ups to grandparents, can have fun running 5km through masses of multi-coloured bubbles, fundraising and creating special memories together. Aram Kamjoufor, six, from Hemel Hempstead said *"I'd never run as far as that before and it was hard but I really enjoyed the bubbles. The best thing about them was that they turned my skin green!"*

[stfrancis.org.uk/bubbles](http://stfrancis.org.uk/bubbles)



### Forthcoming Diary Dates

Markyate Plant Sale – Saturday 18 May  
Ashridge Garden Party - Sun 23 June,  
1pm – 5pm, Ashridge House

To find out more about all the ways you can support us throughout 2019 visit

[stfrancis.org.uk/events](http://stfrancis.org.uk/events)

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

Facebook: The Hospice of St Francis

Twitter: @hospicstfrancis

Tel: 01442 869555



## Friends of St Peter's sponsor Heritage Stonemasonry Skills Apprentice

The Friends of St Peter's is using some of its National Lottery Grant to support apprenticeship training. It is sponsoring Will Yendell's fees at Stratford Building Crafts College, where he is undertaking a Level 3 Masonry qualification with Additional Heritage Units. In this way he has been able to gain hands-on experience to restore and conserve historic stonework both in a teacher-led environment at College and through a placement at the Cemetery.

Will, who lives in Wigginton, had always been interested in Church Architecture and began his training as a stone mason while still working at his former profession as an electrician. With a government grant he was successful in gaining his Level Two Bankers Masonry certificate at the Building Crafts College in Stratford, East London.

At one of the Heritage Open Days he met James Moir, Project Manager of Rectory Lane Cemetery, who was very keen to utilise his skills and get him involved in the conservation work needed. In 2018 Messenger Conservation were appointed to conduct the work on 19 key memorials and James approached the company to take Will on as their apprentice

during the summer, when he was not at college studying for the next stage of his qualification.

Will says "I found this experience particularly valuable – I saw things that I had read about but had not experienced – for example working with a block and tackle. I was able to, not only observe, but practise these skills in a real public setting rather than in the classroom. A lot of this type of work is about conserving stones ensuring that they don't deteriorate any further so working with a team of 4 experienced masons was a gift. "

He will be completing the 18-month training period in September 2019, but the Cemetery has already begun to reap the benefit of his newly acquired skills. He has completed the restoration of four memorials that had been vandalised, re-carved the inscription on the Memorial Arch, and even become a teacher himself by inviting visitors on open days to try their hand at stone-carving.

"I am also very grateful to the Friends of St Peter's for their support for my studies and travel costs and I am delighted to be continuing working on an exciting project like Rectory Lane Cemetery", he adds.



Some of Will's work on the Hughes memorial was seen in the last issue of YB.

If anyone would like to discuss the repair or refurbishment of individual monuments at Rectory Lane Cemetery, they should contact James Moir, Project Manager via

[jamesmgmoir@aol.com](mailto:jamesmgmoir@aol.com)

Nash Grave Beforehand

Elaine Mercer



Nash Grave Restored

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**Editor**  
[@yourberkhamsted.org.uk](mailto:@yourberkhamsted.org.uk)

## Per Tutti comes to Berkhamsted

Per Tutti comes to Berkhamsted and I wanted to give you an insight to the people behind the new venture.

Olga and Jovan met 15 years ago while working in the restaurant industry. Now husband and wife they realised they could make a good partnership with Jovan being the chef and Olga managing - they started to look for a suitable premises locally to where they live. This was a real challenge and after many years of searching they made a big step and opened doors to the St Albans branch 3 years ago. This has been very successful and Per Tutti St Albans has many loyal and regular customers.

They spotted the Berkhamsted site by chance and they only had a very vague idea of having another site. They were sitting in the

traffic outside when the lovely building caught their eye. So having gone to see it and with long negotiations, paperwork and a renovation project that took almost a year, finally on

13th February, Per Tutti Berkhamsted opened the doors to the public.

Olga explained "We have felt extremely welcomed and we are starting to get to know the local people more and more every day and starting to feel we are part of the Berkhamsted community now."

Olga also says " We have three children ages 2, 4 and 6 years, so every day is a rollercoaster; it is hard work, tiring and challenging, but it is all worth it when you see your customers leaving Per Tutti with a smile on their face and say that they will be back. We absolutely love what we do and are very passionate about the food and service we provide.

We welcome 'ALL' (that's what Per Tutti means in Italian), party groups, families, business gatherings... etc."



Having gone to the soft launch back in February, Olga really did welcome me and my friend. The décor is lovely and stylish, with a warm feel to it and has a lot of attention to detail. There



is a room for private dinners too. They also do BYO (Build your own) steak night every Wednesday.



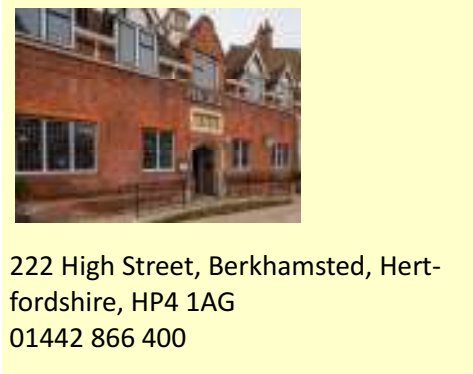
The menu has a delicious array of dishes and it was very hard to choose. I opted for the 'BRUSCHETTA AL POMODORO' £5.90 cherry vine tomatoes, pesto, red onions & basil on garlicky toasted ciabatta drizzled with extra virgin olive oil - it was so fresh I felt the tomatoes had only just been picked. Then for main I chose 'SPAGETTI BOLOGNESE' £9.50 slow cooked traditional rich beef ragu. Beautifully presented and very tasty, I knew I had made a good choice. They also offer yummy desserts. Full menu is on the website.

The restaurant was busy and had a great ambiance. Service was second to none. I will definitely be going again and recommending to friends and family, although I think you will need to book at weekends.

Have a look at the website for details.

<https://www.pertuttirestaurant.co.uk>

<https://www.pertuttirestaurant.co.uk>

[illegible]

## Art Review

### Pierre Bonnard – The Colour of Memory

Back in January I had the pleasure of acquainting myself with Pierre Bonnard, at an exhibition of his work at Tate Modern. His paintings depict the domestic life he shared with his companion, Marthe de Meligny, and glimpses of their private world which are remarkably intimate. As with other artists of his generation he used the relatively new technology of photography. The informal photos that he and his wife took of themselves as modern Adam and Eve in their garden helped him move away from the stock poses of models.

When he was in his mid-forties, around 1912, he embarked on a new direction in his paintings that explored the possibilities of colour in a new way – it is this that inspires the title of the exhibition. Inspired by Matisse he took raw colour to enrich exciting combinations. The Great War was to interrupt his life even at the age of 46, but his army life allowed him to continue with his art – A Village in Ruins near Ham painted in 1917 is haunting in its depiction of the Somme struggle.

After the war, and the death of his mother which also led to an end to holidays at childhood haunts, his painting was to become more subtle

and photographic – with scenes of the moment given surprising and fresh perspectives. His house at Vernonnet provided much of the background for such work, and illustrate contrasts between interior and exterior, and artificial and natural.

I was fascinated by Pierre Bonnard's paintings, which gives one a fresh outlook on everyday scenes. You still have time to make your own interpretation. The exhibition closes on 6<sup>th</sup> May.



**Julian Dawson**

## The Berkhamsted Walk 2019

The 50th Berkhamsted Walk last year was a stunning success. We were supported by our local M.P.

David Gauke, Justice Minister, by the Chief Executive of The Children's Society and the Mayors of Dacorum and Berkhamsted. See chairman Ann Browning introducing them to the waiting walkers outside the Court House.

The weather was perfect, the bluebells at their bluest, the beech leaves just bursting and the brand new routes delighted all our supporters. The final total raised for the charity was £8205. The prize for the highest sponsorship was again won by Felix Partridge, now aged 8, who walked the whole 18 miles, gaining £570 from admiring friends and family. What a hero!

Not resting on our laurels, the Berkhamsted Committee is now planning the 51st Walk on Sunday, 12th May. As always there will be the three options of the Challenge at 18 miles for the really hardy, the 12 mile Bluebell Walk for the delights of Spring in Ashridge forest and the 6 mile Fun Walk with a Quiz to keep



youngsters forging ahead.

The 12 and 18 mile routes start from the Court House, next to St. Peters Church, HP4 1AX, between 10am and 11.30am. The 6 mile course starts

at Ashridge College, HP4 1NS from 11am to 2pm and free parking is available at the College. Checkpoints every 3 miles to make sure no one is lost and where we serve drinks and sell biscuits.

So please download a sponsor form and register at [www.berkhamstedwalk.com](http://www.berkhamstedwalk.com), pick one up from the churches, from Berkhamsted Library, Cafe Epicure or the Complete Outdoors Shop in Bourne End. Or come along on the day and donate your contribution to this amazing charity, which is doing all it can to enhance the lives of children in this country suffering from neglect, abuse or in poverty and crisis.

***This is also a call for former walkers and supporters of the walk to volunteer for checkpoint duties - if they are no longer able to walk but wish to be involved.***

**Ann Browning**

## Ashlyns School Sports Success

Ashlyns has had another flying start to the school year, with numerous sporting successes! Having just passed the mid-point of the 2018-19 academic year, we thought it would be nice to reflect upon our triumphs.

Football, a favourite for many, has seen both our U14s girls and boys reach the semi-finals of the County Cup; our boys even made it to the last 32 of the National Cup! This is down to the relentless energy and dedication they have brought to every game. The girls have further excelled as our U13 A and B teams remain completely unbeaten in the District Leagues; they have played incredibly well as a team and truly made the school proud. Finally, our emphatic U12s earned themselves a place in the final 64 of the National Cup, proving themselves an impressive up and coming group, most definitely one to watch.

Next, over to the world of netball where our sporting success continues. Ashlyns' seasoned senior netball team have already succeeded in winning the Plate Final, putting all those years of playing to good practice. Our Year 7 and Year 9s seem to be following in their footsteps as the former have won the B League already this year while the latter remain unbeaten in the District League. Again, these successes have sprouted from the consistent dedication of players and coaches, many of our senior players doing both. Long may it last!

Time now to look towards the school's tantalising table tennis tekkers which

have been put to good use this year, especially by our U12 and U13 girls; both teams have battled on to the National Finals, having dominated and won the Regional Finals. Our amazing U12s also stand as District and County champs. All of Ashlyns would like to wish them the very best of luck going forward.

Moving now to our indoor athletics competitors to see they have done their side proud once more. U12 boys took a solid 2nd place while U13 girls placed at 3rd, both at the District Indoor Athletics Finals.

In futsal news, U12 boys showed intense determination at District Finals, finishing 4th, while our U12 girls really were unsurpassed, dominating both 1st and 2nd place. This up and coming sport is really gaining traction throughout the school.

Jumping over to trampolining, our U12 girls entered the district competition and came away with an impressive 2nd place, exhibiting great control and finesse in their routines. Hopefully the sport continues to thrive within the school.

To finish up, our hard-working handballers stand as District Champions and are currently training for the County Finals later this year. We're sure they'll continue to do the school proud, just as so many of our other competitors and players have!

It's been a great year so far and we're really looking forward to seeing what the rest of it brings!



Year 9 boys football team



Girls table tennis team

# Join the Great British Spring Clean

Be part of the pick

**22 MARCH - 23 APRIL 2019**

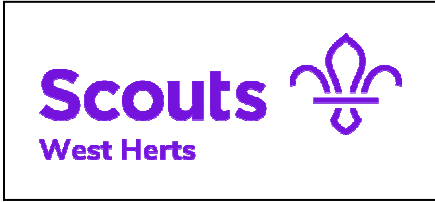
**Join us this March for the Great British Spring Clean**

Dacorum Borough Council invites individuals, volunteer groups, schools and workplaces to take to the streets and become litter heroes! For support setting up a litter-picking event (including borrowing litter-pick sticks and bags), visit:

[www.dacorum.gov.uk/gbspringclean](http://www.dacorum.gov.uk/gbspringclean)



## Scouting in West Hertfordshire



Adventure is at the heart of the Scout Movement and around 750 young people between the ages of 6 and 25 in Tring, Berkhamsted and the villages are involved in this movement. Many groups have waiting lists due to their success. Activities on offer range from sailing and caving to camping and activity weekends.

A group of Scouts aged 14 plus have just returned from the most challenging competition of the year, Peak Assault. The competitors used their orienteering skills, physical ability and mental strength to navigate their way across unforgiving terrain 'clipping' as many checkpoints as they could within the allotted time. The competitors also carried all the equipment they needed for a night on the hills.

Earlier in the year 2 groups spent time at the Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland where adventurous activities can be undertaken with Scouts from many other countries in order to encourage peace and international friendship.

Coming up is the Monopoly Challenge. A life-sized version of the popular game, to take place in London. This fantastic range of opportunities is designed to challenge and enrich the lives of young people, and is open to girls and boys of all abilities and backgrounds at very low cost.

This is all made possible by a large band of volunteers of all ages. Training schemes are available which mean that adults can also get as much out of Scouting as the young people because the skills developed have relevance to working or personal lives.

For all involved, lifelong friendships are made, as activities are shared.

West Herts Scouts are currently looking for people to take on a very important role: Treasurer.

- The District Treasurer monitors the financial position of the District, reporting to the District Trustees; he/she also provides financial advice to the District Trustees, manages the Bank Accounts and Savings, prepares the annual accounts and financial summary, arranges for an independent examination and contributes to related areas such as Subscriptions, Gift Aid and insurance. Ongoing help and advice is available on any aspect of the role with which the new Treasurer may be unfamiliar.

If you think you might fit this role or if you would like to get involved in some way please contact Ian Cutler (West Herts Scouts District Commissioner) [iancutler49@gmail.com](mailto:iancutler49@gmail.com)



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[www.yourownhomecare.co.uk](http://www.yourownhomecare.co.uk)

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