

the magazine for town and parish since 1872

yB

Your Berkhamsted

August/September

**The Heather Club - offering
support for Dementia Sufferers**

Blossom and Wild Review

Heritage Open Days



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

In this issue...

WELCOME TO THE AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2020 EDITION OF YOUR BERKHAMSTED. Having gone through nearly 6 months of uncertain times there seems to be a little bit of normality with shops and restaurants opening – albeit still adhering to rules of masks and social distancing, which of course is how it should be, we all need to keep each other safe. We visited a lovely new Tea Room and this is the place to go for indulgence (see page 16/17). September is normally a hive of activity, but unfortunately this year the Graham Greene



Festival will not be running, although the Heritage Open Days are going ahead – please see the information for this on page 10. Dennis Furnell talks about the tiny tigers in the grass – the Stoat and the Weasel – refreshing to see that nature is still going it's merry way. We have also done a piece on the Heather Club and if anyone is touched by Dementia this may hit close to home – I do hope this helps in some way. 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 features.

Jacqueline - ybeditor@greaterberkhamsted.org.uk

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Front cover: Thank you Mitzie Green for your wonderful picture of Sunflowers.
www.mitziegreen.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.

Rambles from Berkhamsted by Julian Dawson



We can only look to the future as best we can, so it is heartening to see the plans of Berkhamsted & Hemel Hempstead Hockey Club who according to mynewsmag.co.uk are wanting to transform their facilities at Cow Roast. Plans include an artificial floodlit pitch to enable evening matches. The club, who have actually been at the venue for 110 years, have submitted their plans to Dacorum and have received many letters of support, some from other local sporting clubs. This is mainly due to the lack of synthetic grass pitches in the area. The floodlights will act to maximise the significant investment.

One of our regular walks in the last few months has been out to Marlin Chapel Farm, past the ruins that give the farm its name. britishlistedbuildings.co.uk is an excellent site to find information about lost little treasures. The flint ruins of the Chapel of St Mary are probably 13th century standing beside an ancient roadway to the west of a moated manorial enclosure, now the farm. The site is now fenced and overgrown, picturesque in the old style – one almost expects to see a fellow with a tricorne hat and breeches to bid you a good day whilst

walking his hunting dogs.

If one was to continue in a circular direction back to Berkhamsted one would walk through the Royal Forestry Society woodlands of Hockeridge and Pancake woods; fs.org.uk. The double bank mound near Hockeridge Bottom actually demarcates the county boundary with Buckinghamshire. Once a source for timber, including much used for George VI's coronation, it was decimated by overuse in the Second World War. It was then designated for home building. They were rescued by the great-granddaughter of the Duke of Wellington. Mary Wellesley bought the woods in 1952 and set about restoring the woodland.

I have lived in Berkhamsted long enough to remember days without a bypass, when the A41 traffic crawled through the town. The new road was actually opened as far as the Berkhamsted stretch goes in September 1993. Some of you may remember when the Tring bypass was named the A41(M) when it opened in 1973 – that explains the wide hard shoulders. It was downgraded in 1987

Cont. page 5

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- I have a dilapidated OS map showing the short stretch of motorway under construction. Apparently the A41(M), planned to run from Tring to Watford, was due to continue over the top of Hunton Bridge Roundabout, and then would have ended in the area of Berrygrove, or M1 junction 5. (pathetic.org.uk).

At least the road still exists. Not so the Hemel to Harpenden railway known as the Nickey Line. Opened in

June 1877, it was closed to passengers in 1947 on the eve of nationalisation, before being completely closed in 1963. Most of the route survives as a footpath and cycle route. The last of the track wasn't actually removed until 1982. It isn't clear where the nickname of the line originated, but it is possible it is named for the parish of St Nicholas in Harpenden through which it passed, according to disused-stations.org.uk.



Picture - Nickey Line
by Peter O'Connor - Anemoneprojectors

Drawings of Berkhamsted by Jenni Cator

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Berkhamsted and the Slave Trade



During the demonstrations for 'Black People Matter' and the desecration of statues commemorating those

who were considered great in their time against the background of their age I was asked whether Berkhamsted has any statues to those who had accumulated wealth through the slave trade. Berkhamsted has no such statue but we have a memorial to one who no doubt had become very wealthy with help of the slaves who worked on his estates in the West Indies. We must remember that the use of slaves to work on sugar and other plantations was perfectly legal and was considered essential for the wealth of the nation.

We turn to St Peter's Church, the church which reflects the history of our town and of the nation. There in the chancel on the south side is a memorial to one Charles Gordon, Esq, who departed this life in 1829. The inscription reads as follows: 'In loving memory of Charles Gordon Esq., of Braco Island of Jamaica and of this place'. R.A. Norris when writing his valuable little book in 1923, price 4/6, saw fit to add the following comment, 'Last owner of the Manor House

otherwise Pilkington's, before the property was broken up. He is buried in a vault belonging to the house under St Catherine's Chapel. Also buried there were Eliza Ann, his third daughter and Mary his wife who lived until 1839. After the death of Mrs Gordon the Pilkington estate was purchased by Frederick Miller a local upholsterer who divided the house into three parts and sold off various parts of the estate to provide for his numerous children and grandchildren. The inscription 'FM' on the house adjacent to Dean Incent's house is an example of this.'

Apart from the fact that Charles Gordon owned the extensive property of Pilkington, with land stretching back beyond the canal between Castle Street and Ravens Lane and property in London what evidence do we have of his extensive wealth? Mrs Mary Gordon was a member of the Great Berkhamsted and Northchurch Association for the security of persons and property, which had been founded in 1794. Obviously, because any loss or damage she suffered led to her making much larger claims than anyone else and severely strained the coffers of the association she was asked to withdraw her membership.



Advocates of slavery believed that they were saving Africans from an uneducated savage existence but there is evidence of art and culture and technology before the time of slavery. As Gordon was gaining his wealth in Jamaica the movement to abolish slavery was gaining momentum. William Cowper, the poet and son of the Rector of St Peter's, was asked to pen a simple verse:

*'Man from England bought and sold me,
Paid my price in paltry gold
But, though slave they have enrolled me
Minds are never to be sold.'*

It was, however, to be through Parliament that the movement for the abolition of slavery was finally successful. Local people were well represented in a petition to parliament in 1830; *"To the Sheriff of the County of Hertford we the undersigned, Freeholders of the County of Hertford request you to call a meeting of the Freeholders and inhabitants of the County, to consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament to take*

measures for the early abolition of slavery throughout the British Empire." The petition was signed by John Eales, surgeon Richard Steel, Quaker Thomas Squire, James Smith of Ashlyns Hall and Astley Paston Cooper of White Hill.

The Anti-Slavery Society had fought to gain a great deal of public support and their efforts gave the final push to pass the Act for the Abolition of Slavery in 1833. This, however, was only achieved by the inclusion of compensation to the planters for the loss of their property (their slaves). To R.A. Norris writing in 1923 and to Henry Nash in his 'Reminiscences' in the 1890s the fact that Charles Gordon was the last occupant before the Manor was split up was of greater significance than that he became wealthy because of the slave trade. Events cannot be judged in isolation but need to be assessed against their historical background.

Jenny Sherwood



BERKHAMSTED'S HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

11TH -20TH SEPTEMBER 2020

The Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society has organised the Heritage Open Days for more than twenty years, arranging guided tours of Berkhamsted and bringing aspects of its hidden history to the light of day. The programme for this year because of the uncertainty of the situation and the unpredictability of arranging something two months hence has been particularly difficult to arrange. We have always prided ourselves on the personal, individual touch and the connection of the tour leader with the event. Now in some instances we must depend on a virtual reality rather than the human touch and something is lost thereby. Nevertheless, we have decided in most cases that this is better than nothing.

All being well we shall include guided tours of Berkhamsted's historic town centre, and of the Lost Wharves of Berkhamsted and perhaps tours of Old Hall and the Chapel, Berkhamsted School. Going further west we may have 'Berkhamsted's West End and the Baptists of Northchurch', new for this year. 'The Battle of Berkhamsted Common' will be fought this year digitally with an audio trail which you can enjoy wet or shine. We hope also that two former Foundlings will give us their memories of their childhood in the Foundling Hospital in Berkhamsted. Children and young people can take their parents with them and learn more of the Canal and the Port of Berkhamsted. Bookings are required for all events and are absolutely FREE.

For an update on the times and requirements for this year's HODs please check the website for Berkhamsted Local History & Museum Society, the National Heritage Open Day website, www.heritageopendays.org.uk or contact Jenny Sherwood direct on KSherw9100@aol.com or by phone 01442 865158 The full programme will be made available as soon as possible.

Jenny Sherwood 16th July 2020

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Observations by Dennis Furnell (The Natureman)

Tiny Tigers in the Grass

There are many creatures in the countryside that live their busy lives unnoticed by us and only occasionally do we get a chance to see them. For instance, the tiny, chocolate-brown weasel or, perhaps, a sandy-coloured stoat. These small predators of mice and rats are the tigers of the grass jungles of the English countryside. I've spent some time studying them and by making the sound of a mouse in distress by sucking air over the back of your hand you can sometimes tempt either of these beautiful creatures out from cover.

It's not all that easy to tell the difference between them, especially as you usually only get a glimpse of them, perhaps flashing across the path. A weasel is about 4" (10cms) from its pointed snout to the tip of its stumpy brown tail. Dark brown, a creamy white underside with spots and wavy brown fur under the neck and chin. The body is long and sinuous and the feet quite large for so small a creature. I've had the doubtful pleasure of nursing injured weasels back to health, my reward being a painful nip accompanied by a fierce screaming call. They are utterly fearless and utterly fascinating.

As I mentioned, weasels are miniature tigers of grassland and hedgerows, hunting mice and voles. They are mouse-shaped themselves and can slip down the runs of wood mice and short tailed field voles; they will even tackle a fully grown rat. Brave, and fearless weasels won't be tamed.

Stoats are larger. A fully grown male is twice the size of a weasel. Pale brown or sandy in colour they have a wider pointed head and longer tail with a tip of black fur. Stoats have the ability to change colour in winter from their brown summer pelage to pure white; only the tail retains its black tip, but this change takes place only in the high hills and mountains of Scotland where snowfall is more regular. Every year, on these northern mountain sides stoats turn white and are then known as 'ermine'. It's this white fur and black-tipped tail that adorns (and I use the word advisedly) the robes of the nobility.

More inventive than weasels, they will trick a rabbit into watching their antics as they caper about and jump in the air until the inquisitive rabbit comes close enough, then they strike like lightning and can kill with one well aimed bite. Stoats can be handled, albeit with great care and a pair of thick gloves, indeed, they can

become almost tame. Move too fast, however, and a bitten finger is the reward.

I admire both of these brilliant little predators, but for them the numbers of small rodents would be unchecked. They serve us unseen, which is just what suits them.

There's a silly joke that I like ... "How do you tell the difference between a stoat and a weasel? It's easy; a weasel is weaseily identified and a stoat is stoatally different."



**Picture:
Stoat
by Dennis
Furnell**



**Picture:
Weasel
by Dennis
Furnell**

Our Clergy



Week after week we all find difficulty with the Covid Virus since early March. This still contin-

ues today with many people afraid even to chat 2 meters apart. Many have found living without an external contact very difficult. BUT there have been some joys also, I found myself chatting to people in front and behind me as we queued at the supermarket and other places, people I did not know and somehow the support and encouragement we gave to carry on safely has meant a great deal to them and me.

I have managed to say morning or afternoon to so many people, some smiled and replied whilst others looked and you could see the question, in their eyes, why me? Why me??? Why not?

If we live within this community, this nation which we all belong to and any failure to acknowledge each other seems to cause breakdown in communications and that causes us also to feel we don't belong. Our thoughts and ideas then become valueless. In that way we don't matter in our minds and so we adopt a position of

'don't care less ' not only to others but also to ourselves. So, we fail to even love ourselves!

This virus has caused us to express not only our love to people whom we value but also to those who receive our greetings whom we may not know. It shows that everyone matters.

For two thousand years this world has tried to follow the love and greeting of a man who lived thousands of miles away, in a culture which we may not fully understand, using a language we don't know and fully understand BUT he greeted the poor, the rich, the locals, the foreigners and even those which society rejected for one reason or another. His love was so great, that he chose to be killed for the love he exhibited for those countless millions who followed him. Then, now and into the future.

It seems to me that one of the great assets of this virus is that it has opened the door so that we can follow Jesus' example of free expression of love to everyone.

Fr Chris Rogers



A prayer for all those affected by the coronavirus:
Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

Back to church - Booking for August

In order to attend the Sunday 9.30am Holy Communion service your place must be booked using the links below. This is to streamline the process to make it easier to capture the information we need for the NHS 'Track and Trace'. I will endeavour to acknowledge bookings within 48 hours, but I'm sure there will be enough space for everyone in August.

Sunday 9th August <https://forms.gle/osqDdGdXxQVY8eMs6>

Sunday 16th August <https://forms.gle/tv3okQ78cda5Riny7>

Sunday 23rd August <https://forms.gle/FKX6pfWpM3rynKqg8>

Sunday 30th August <https://forms.gle/25Knj8JenyHwCnwF7>

If you book a space but subsequently find that you are unable to come, please do let me know so I can release it for someone else. **Hillary**

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St Peter's is also open for private prayer. During August this will be Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10am - 2pm.

Also Wednesday morning Holy Communion

Fr Joe will lead a service of Holy Communion at 8.30am on Wednesday mornings in August. No need to book in advance, but as with Sundays, you will need to leave your contact details for Test and Trace. Communion will be taken by the priest only and the congregation may join in spiritual communion by saying the words on the printed sheet.

Review of Blossom and Wild

During this pandemic it is great to see new ventures are still opening.

One of these is Blossom and Wild, a Fine Tea and Cake Parlour for pure indulgence or for a cup of tea.

Owner Maddison Jones attributes the beautiful décor to her love of travel and seeking out eateries with their unique surroundings and passion for fabulous food. This has helped shape her vision to create the magical place here in Berkhamsted.

All the cakes and sweet treats are handmade and teas are brewed the traditional Eastern Way.

You can go along for tea and cake or even a glass of Champagne - I have been told that scones will also be on the menu soon too and not just for Afternoon Tea.



Afternoon Tea is available as follows:-

Blossom and Wild Signature Afternoon Tea starts at £32 or add - Champagne, wine, prosecco, G&T or beer - prices available on menu online

You can also have:

- Gluten Free Afternoon Tea
- Vegan Afternoon Tea
- Vegetarian Afternoon
- Children's afternoon Tea

Children can have their afternoon tea served on a ferris wheel..



Afternoon Tea will include finger sandwiches, scones and mini desserts.

For that special occasion you can also hire the whole Parlour. A nice intimate space to enjoy with family and friends. Whether you are celebrating a birthday gathering or perhaps enjoying your hen night out with the girls. Many reasons to treat yourself and those close to you.

I opted for tea and cake and my friend had a latte and cup cake. If you choose a slice of cake make sure you are hungry as a slice is ample for two people. My cake had beautiful texture and was full of the flavour of chocolate and oreos. Not good for the waistline though.



You must book Afternoon Tea in advance.

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News from Rectory Lane Cemetery

We are so nearly there! The team at the Cemetery are as keen to welcome the community back into the Cemetery as everyone is to see the transformation for themselves.

We look forward to inviting you through the magnificently restored entrances into this beautiful green space, to come and try the accessible paths and dramatic new seating, and to experience the sculpted Garden of Remembrance, see the Sextons Hut fully restored and visit the wildlife area. Here you will also find a welcoming new facility to perhaps tempt you to join our volunteer helpers who are the lifeblood of this Lottery Funded Project. We will be inviting views on the planting schemes which will follow in the Spring.

In September, we plan to lead a series of small group guided tours in advance of the celebratory opening event next year, which has inevitably been postponed due to the current situation. **Places on these Heritage Open Day tours on 12, 13, 16, 19 and 20 September will need to be booked.** Go to <https://www.rectorylanecemetery.org.uk/news/Heritage2020> for details. They will be led by James Moir, Project Manager and Kate Campbell, Community Engagement Officer.

In the meantime, the following will give a sense of the transformation that has taken place as a result of a challenging seven-year journey which has brought £1.2 million of investment into this previously sadly neglected space.

Below - Gates Piers before and after



Below - Sexton Hut - before and after



Below - Memorial before and after



Meanwhile, we continue to invite experts to visit and record the flora and fauna living in the Cemetery. Recently Wendy Thompson of the *Bumblebee Conservation Trust* visited and reported: *"I had not seen as many bumbles in the cemetery before and was delighted to see five different species on the same visit ... this time*

last year I had only seen one of each." Wendy identified Red-tails on hawkweed and clover, White-tails and Buff-tails on thistles and hawkweed and Common carders on lavender and trefoil.

And we were delighted to discover an orchid growing.

Elaine Mercer



Caption: Astrid Biddle, botanical surveyor with Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust with our single Pyramidal Orchid



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We have been very busy since reopening after lockdown and we are delighted that many dogs who had been in kennels for longer than we would have hoped have now found loving homes. But for Marble, Levi, Yasmine and others the wait continues. If you are interested in offering a dog a secure and happy home please download an application form from our website. There is lots of information about the adoption process on the website too.

Albums of photos and information on some of the available dogs can be found on our Facebook page, but please bear in mind that not all the dogs have albums and we have frequent new arrivals, so it is worth sending in a form. Our experienced staff make every effort to match the right dog with the right owner. Viewings are now by appointment only.

For adoption information and application form visit our website

www.appledownrescue.co.uk

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Visit the Your World exhibition at Open Door

Every day for 11 weeks, Open Door Community Space shared the lockdown art of the people of Berkhamsted in their 'virtual exhibition' Your World. Now they're open again, they've brought together all the pieces for a real life exhibition.

During lockdown, many people struggled to adjust to the strange and worrying times - or found themselves with more time on their hands. For some, creativity provided an outlet and an escape.

Recognising this, Open Door asked the Berkhamsted community to send in their lockdown art, which they shared - a piece a day - at facebook.com/opendoorberko and instagram.com/opendoorberko.

So many of you took part - from children to professional artists! And now you can see the fantastically diverse collection 'in the flesh' at Open Door. A lot of the pieces are for sale, as well as prints and cards - helping raise funds for the charity.



**360-364 High Street - opposite Vah
Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays
- 11am to 2pm - until 9 September**

Tea, coffee and cake are available at the donations cafe, and you are welcome to sit in the lovely garden.



Your thoughts about Open Door

Open Door have grown quickly over the last three years, and are now reviewing their services and premises. They'd love YOUR help in shaping their next phase. To answer a few questions - even if you don't know much about what they currently offer - please visit www.opendoorberkhamsted.co.uk. The survey closes on 21 August - thank you.



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Saturday 12th September 2020 - Bike 'n Hike

Last year St. Peter's raised £1,233.75 in sponsorship money. Chris Clegg, the organiser for St. Peter's, would be pleased if you could:

- Ride or walk on the day
- Sponsor riders and walkers
- Help at the church for one hour on the day

Please contact him on 01442 875818 or candjclegg@hotmail.co.uk, and see more information about the event on:

www.bedshertshct.org.uk/bikenhike

Cholesbury Camp and Hawridge Walk

Author - Lou Johnson

Length - 4.4 miles / 7.2 km

Ascent - 300 feet / 91 metres

Grade - easy

Start - OS grid reference SP932071

Lat 51.7548470 + Long -0.6511751

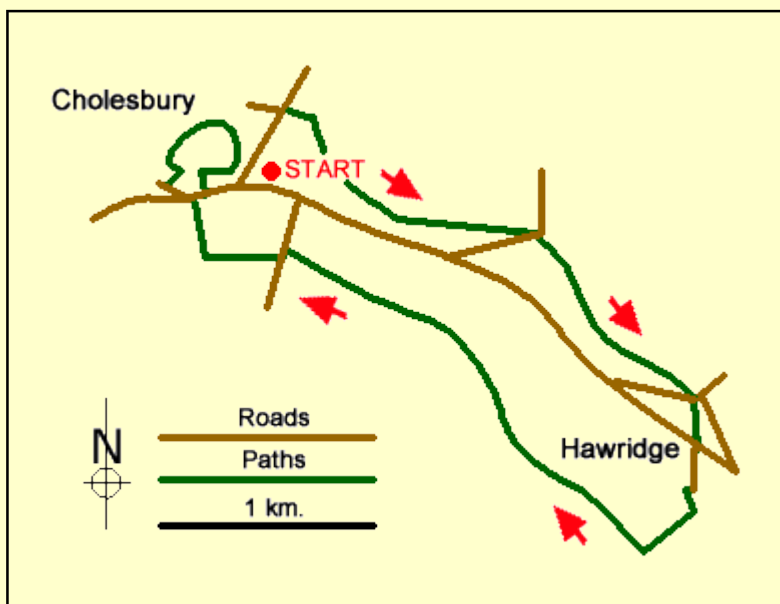
Postcode HP23 6ND (approx. location only)

This Chilterns walk is an ideal way to spend a few hours exploring the countryside to the east of the village of Cholesbury. Parking is available adjacent to the cricket pitch (grid ref. SP932071). After parking and with your back to the cricket field, turn right and walk the short distance to the road junction. Turn right (signed Tring and Wigginton) and follow this road for about 400 metres passing a side road on your left to reach a signed footpath on your right (just before a large house on your left). Turn right here and follow the footpath heading left keeping the boundary to Cholesbury Common on your left. Follow this path, ignoring paths on your right heading across the common for just over a kilometre to reach a lane (grid ref. SP943069).

Cross the lane and continue on the clear path into Hawridge Common again keeping the boundary to the open access area on your left. Ignore paths leading off to the right and continue through light woodland to reach a lane at Vale Farm (grid ref. SP949062). Continue straight ahead here along the lane and take the rising footpath on your right through woodland to reach a road junction (grid ref. SP950060). Cross Cholesbury Lane and take the lane signed to Hawridge Church. Follow the lane past St Mary's church on your left to

the end of the lane. Take the signed footpath leading down an enclosed path between houses and into open fields. Turn left at the first footpath junction and in a short distance turn right and descend into the valley.

Turn right along the valley path and follow this for about two kilometres of pleasant walking to reach Ray's Hill (grid ref. SP933068). Cross the road and take the footpath opposite. At the first footpath junction turn right and climb gently up to the main road through Cholesbury. Turn left and take the first road on your right (Parrot's Lane). Bear left into a driveway to the Church. Bear left onto a signed footpath that leads around the impressive earthworks of Cholesbury Camp and follow this in an almost complete circle to return to the main road through the village. Turn left and continue past the Village Hall on your left to return to the start.



Sourced from www.walkingbritain.co.uk

The Heather Club

"Memories, light the corners of my mind, misty water coloured memories, of the way we were."



Memories can bring a happy tear to your eye but struggling to remember or recall a loved one's name can evoke a range of emotions; from fear, anxiety, to a feeling of isolation and confusion.

Only a few months ago we couldn't imagine not hugging a friend or a family member and doing all the things we took for granted. Suddenly we've experienced being isolated, lonely or scared of what the future holds.

This is the reality for many people living with the early onset of dementia or memory loss. Unfortunately, it affects 850,000 people in the UK. Caring for someone with dementia can put a huge strain on the families,

partners and carer's own mental health. Women are twice as likely to provide care and have often given up work as a result and can spend as much as 100 hours a week on average caring for a partner or relative.

So, you can imagine a few hours of respite is vital to their own wellbeing. Services and help you relied on previously may now not be available. What are the things we can do to reassure your family member or person with memory loss during these times? Research shows that memories of a melody remain long after a name, face or words are forgotten. It can boost people's mood and alleviate anxiety. The power of music can evoke a memory or even just a feeling of joy and a way to connect again. When words fail, music speaks.

Other little changes around the house can actually make it less daunting and pre-empt any worries. Something as simple as lighting can help prevent confusion and reduce the risk of falls. Natural lighting is best so open the curtains and if possible, cut back any shrubbery that may block the light.

Reducing extra noise can be tricky but adding soft furnishings such as a carpet instead of a wooden floor will help. Sometimes reflections in a

mirror are confusing. Clocks with large displays and contrasting colours to help distinguish surfaces from one another are helpful as sometimes the ability to discern colours is impaired. So, having a brightly coloured toilet seat in a monotone bathroom is a great example.

Labelling cupboards and doors with the added signs of taking care to wash your hands often to prevent spreading the Corona virus is key. You don't want to cause distress, but it's important to keep to as many of the government guidelines as possible. Hopefully these things will become routine and build confidence and reduce stress. Don't be hard on yourself as a carer; you're doing your best which is difficult enough. Every effort or gesture however small is beneficial.

Elderly relatives would take great comfort in a card or a letter in the post. A drawing from a grandchild, a picture of a happy time together. Don't underestimate these small acts of kindness. Never a truer saying is relevant today. "Don't put off till tomorrow, what you can do today"

There is light at the end of the tunnel. Services will resume and many local community groups like The Heather Club in Hemel Hempstead will look forward to welcoming you with open arms into a safe and respectful environment where you can feel part of something again, eat a home cooked meal, take part in singing and dancing and reminisce about old times with the wonderfully warm and friendly staff.

"It's the laughter we'll remember, whenever we remember..... The way we were "

Aisling Pinchin helps run the social media for The Heather Club which is based in Hemel Hempstead. The Heather Club is a day care centre for adults with dementia offering sociability and stimulation to people living with early stage dementia and memory loss. For more support and advice please visit us on our Facebook page 'The Heather Club'.

Your Berkhamsted Team

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Features: Julian Dawson, Committee: Sarah Dawson, Circulation: Jane Morgan

Advertising: advertising@yourberkhamsted.org.uk;

Bread Pudding Recipe

Ingredients

8oz old bread
brown or white
Water to soak
8oz dried fruit
2oz suet
2-3tbspn mixed
spice
2oz soft brown
sugar
1 beaten egg
1 tbspn
granulated sugar



Instructions

Break the bread into small pieces and put into a bowl
Pour over the water and leave for 30 minutes then drain
Heat the oven to 180C
Mix the bread and milk mixture together with a fork
Grease a 7" tin
Add all the fruit , brown sugar , suet ,egg and spice to the bread
and mix really well to combine
Pour into the prepared tin and flatten the top
Bake in centre of the oven for 1-1.5 hrs
Take out of oven and sprinkle over the granulated sugar
Leave to cool in the tin then cut in squares

THE 22nd GRAHAM GREENE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL, 1st – 4th OCTOBER 2020 CANCELLED

It is with very great regret that we have to announce that the **Graham Greene 2020 Festival** has been cancelled owing to the on-going global coronavirus pandemic. The Trustees delayed taking this decision until they felt there was no other option, ever mindful of those who travel some distance to attend.

The Trustees were cognisant with the fact that social distancing regulations, even if they were relaxed somewhat by October, would mean that the numbers attending events would have to be severely restricted. The serving of meals and refreshments together with other social events which are so much a part of the festival experience, would have to be severely curtailed or more likely cancelled altogether.

It was also agreed that a 'Virtual Festival' was a non-starter.

The Chairman of the Graham Greene Birthplace Trust, Giles Clark, has described the cancellation as, 'an enormous and wounding disappointment'. It is certainly that but rest assured that the Trustees earnestly hope that the **Graham Greene International Festival** will be back with renewed vigour in 2021. In saying that, they wish to acknowledge the work of Michael Hill who was to have directed this year's festival. Mike had made it clear, some time ago, that 2020 would be his last year in the role. So, on behalf of all who, over the years, have appreciated Mike's intelligent and entertaining performances in this key role, delivered in his unmistakable, booming Yorkshire brogue, we take this opportunity to thank him most sincerely.

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Learning from Lockdown

Take part in our sustainability survey and tell us how lockdown affected you.



Find out more: www.dacorum.gov.uk/sustainability
Participants have a chance to win £25 of gift vouchers.

We have put together an online survey looking at how peoples behaviours have changed due to lockdown and how some of these changes can have positive environmental impacts. We want to understand these changes more so that we can help to support these going forward within the community.

As a thank you for completing the survey, we will have a prize draw giving participants the chance to win £25 worth of gift vouchers.

The closing date for the survey is midnight on 31 August 2020.