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YB

Your Berkhamsted

Oct/Nov 2021

A Home For Bugs

**Rectory Lane
Cemetery**

Open Door News

**Climate Change
Action**

**Things to do in
your Garden**



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

In this issue...

WELCOME TO THE OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2021 EDITION OF YOUR BERKHAMSTED.

The dark nights are looming in and summer has been and gone very quick this year. Not memorable for the weather for sure. Dennis Furnell can brighten things a bit with his piece on 'A Home for Bugs'. And Sarah Dawson shows us how to get the garden ready for winter and adds her colourful pictures. There are quite a few pages on Rectory Lane Cemetery, but there does seem to be a lot going on there. Plus Jenny Sherwood gives us her autumnal thoughts to get us in the mood for this next season. Enjoy the read. 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@GREATBERKHAMSTED.ORG.UK

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Front cover: Thank you Sarah Dawson for your lovely picture of an In Remembrance flower pedestal.

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



Several sources, including Mail Online UK, DailyAdvent.com, Property Industry Eye and many others reported on property supply hotspots with Berkhamsted and Newmarket topping the list of sought-after towns where buyers outstrip suppliers. Berkhamsted came in second place with an increase of 58% in sales being agreed, and a drop of 57% in new sellers. Estate Agent Networking reported that average asking prices in three of the hotspots – Newmarket, Berkhamsted and Bushey – were up by 9% since 2019. A graphic in the Mail illustrates that the top ten towns were all south east of a line from the Wash to Dorset.

Newmarket, which tops the list, is of course famous for horse racing. Indeed it is considered the birthplace and global centre of thoroughbred horse racing. It has over 50 horse training stables which are home to 3,500 race horses. It is also home to the National Horse Racing museum. It has royal connections since James I's visit in February 1605 – it didn't make a particular impression on him, calling it a "poor little village". How times have changed. Charles I had a more

important visit in 1642 when a parliamentary deputation demanded his surrender of the armed forces. "By God, not for an hour". Patton was even more taciturn when he replied "Nuts" when asked to surrender at Bastogne.

Disappointingly Berkhamsted FC are already out of the FA Cup. They made a bright start against Essex side Coggeshall Town, home to a tithe barn, beating them 1-0 away. But another away tie in the First Qualifying Round saw them losing by the same score to Walthamstow. However at time of writing they remain unbeaten in the Southern League Division 1 Central, winning five and drawing one of their matches with a game in hand on table toppers North Leigh. Other teams in the league include AFC Dunstable, Thame United and Biggleswade. Colney Heath are currently bringing up the rear.

berkhamsted-history.org.uk reported that the Berkhamsted Local History and Museum Society were opening a mini-display of vintage food gadgets

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during the month of September. Visitors had to guess what the gadget did. The exhibits mainly dated from before the age of electricity and food processors, and formed part of this year's Edible England theme of the Heritage Open Days 2021. Highlights of the Open Days included virtual events. The tours visited three Victorian churches - St John's Ranmoor, St Mark's Broomhill and St Mary's Walkley – which not only share a similar birthdate but also a remarkable collection of stained glass.

Ranmoor is in a suburb of Sheffield. The church replaced one destroyed by fire in 1887. Flockton & Gibbs designed the new building incorporating the old tower and spire. Michael Palin was baptised in the church and regularly attended as a child. So not surprisingly he names it in his top seven favourite churches. His father was chorister and bell ringer there. Another church on his list is St Peter's, Wenhaston. It has a wall painting of the Last Judgement dating back to the reign of Henry VIII.



Florian Christoph, "Make a run", Newmarket, 03/05/14

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‘Seasons of Mists and Mellow Fruitfulness’ some autumnal thoughts.



By the time you read this, most of Berkhamsted's busy autumnal activities will have taken place. The Berkhamsted

Local History & Museum Society will be assessing the success of the Heritage Open Days, looking for ways of improvement, if possible, reinstating those that used to be held in the pre-Covid restriction days and as always thinking up new ideas of hidden histories. Could we include Edgeworth House? How many people know where it is? Only those on foot would have seen the house tucked away behind the brick wall. Shall we consider unearthing its hidden history? As another event, what about the Mansion at Castle Village, formerly known as Berkhamsted Hill or Britwell with its fine Japanese garden? Changes of names of buildings and their earlier residents are quickly forgotten. The main feature of HODs is the fact that they are free. No costs are involved for those who wish to partake of what is on offer.

However, following shortly afterwards is the Chiltern Heritage Festival which includes Berkhamsted. There is a charge to participate in these events

but that does not seem to deter those who love the Chilterns for its scenery, history and architecture. It nearly always includes one or two for Berkhamsted.

Berkhamsted also has a very rich literary heritage; many writers have chosen to live here. Some have been born here. Notable among them is Graham Greene and the poet and hymn writer William Cowper, who also merits a Festival. Sadly, the Cowper Society no longer exists to keep his memory alive. Have we another John Wolstenholme Cobb to step forward and revive his memory?

For Graham Greene, there is a Festival, which from very small beginnings is now truly international in its scope. It takes place every September/October, when speakers and participants congregate to listen, discuss and watch films, to commemorate our best known local author.

In assessing these events, we cannot ignore the effect of the Covid restrictions of the last two years. The tour of Ashlyns School by two foundlings in person has been replaced by a recorded tour and is one of the affected events. However, is a virtual tour without the actual person so effective

as a fully interactive tour led in person by two foundlings? Being pre-recorded there can be no dialogue between participants and the guides. Such a virtual tour normally needs to omit certain aspects or at least shift the emphasis. Will some aspects of events fall by the wayside? Uncertainty has hung over all these events and the skill of the organisers, and the patience of those participating is much to be admired. On-line presentations have been used to great effect and have prevented the outright cancellation of events, the former Foundling Hospital, is a case in point. We know that the crypt beneath the chapel contains fine sculpted monuments of former governors and secretaries of the Hospital, but the foundling mentions only his own favourite and there is not time to develop the theme further.

A number of local organisations have avoided the total cancellation of events by presenting Zoom Meetings. When these are well chaired and allow for questions and answers they have certain advantages over the in-person lecture. Anyone interested in local history can choose to 'attend'

regardless of geographical distance. If the weather is cold and wet, watching and hearing a talk in the comfort of one's own home might be a greater attraction. A new season of monthly talks recently began for many of Berkhamsted's local organisations. These are, for the first time in almost two years, tentatively being held 'in person' but also with some restrictions in place. It will be interesting to see whether the lure of the subject and the meeting of those who wish to meet up with friends and colleagues overcome the inconvenience of Covid restrictions. Will the usual meeting attendance of 80 plus dwindle to about 50? Time will again tell. To provide for both eventualities I know of one organisation which is holding an 'in person' meeting and using a zoom meeting simultaneously.

Readers of Your Berkhamsted will no doubt be aware that Berkhamsted History Society has a large collection of artefacts detailing our history through the centuries. This is housed currently in the Dacorum Heritage Trust Museum store under museum conditions.

Cont. Page 10



Access for research purposes and for the people of Berkhamsted has become increasingly restricted in recent years. Covid restrictions have severely exacerbated the situation. It is imperative that we safeguard our collection and future artefacts by digitisation thus bringing our valuable heritage to the people of Berkhamsted and preserve it for posterity. In order to digitise our collection, we need a readily accessible base, scanning and photographing equipment and a dedicated

team of trained volunteers. Amongst our collection are results of the research of earlier members such as Percy Birtchnell, George Whybrow, Philip Heather, Col Wilson and Eric Holland.

These documents should not be shut away or virtually inaccessible to the people of Berkhamsted. Digitisation must be the answer, guarding our collection making it more accessible to all.



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Observations by Dennis Furnell (The Natureman)

A HOME FOR BUGS

It's been a strange year so far with the marvels of vaccinations and, hopefully, the decline of Covid-19. The virus has brought out some wonderful examples of human kindness, which has helped to restore faith in basic goodness in the face of adversity. It has also bought a much wider appreciation in the value of nature and the countryside to our wellbeing. My day-to-day involvement with the natural world allows me to observe changes and developments over the seasons; indeed, I can never remember being absorbed by the world of all things vegetable, animal and mineral.

I have a particular interest in insects and for a special birthday present, a friend of mine, a retired engineer by profession, made me a brilliantly designed Bug Hotel. I've seen them for sale in garden centres and in nature magazines, but never ever quite got round to buying one, despite telling myself that I should have one. I carefully positioned it about 5' high off the ground and fixed it to the trunk of a small pedunculate oak planted from an acorn in 1976 and it has evolved into a prized entomological hall of residence in our small, but ecologically-rich, garden.

Back in the spring, I waited expectantly for the first solitary bee or wasp to take up tenancy, but the weather was not kind to them and the bug hotel remained empty. Happily, the weather changed, and the first solitary bee began the task of converting the leaves on our rose bushes into perforated copies of the bus tickets that were a feature of bus travel in the last century.

As the year matured so did the bug hotel with a multitude of solitary bees and wasps, all of them vital to pollination. Our wild garden buzzed with life. When lockdown was eased, my friend, who was so generous with his skills, was able to come and see all the activity for himself and was amazed at just how busy it was.

Now as the year winds down the bug hotel has become a junior bug dormitory with virtually every cube and cane filled with resting wasp and bee larvae; the doors to their dormitories safely plugged with chewed leaves and mud. These tiny scraps of insect life are the key that will unlock our gardens in the spring. The warming world will change the way we garden and some of the plants too, as well as plants in the wider countryside, but these useful, fascinating bugs may save them from the depredations of we humans.



Picture: Bug Hotel by Dennis Furnell

Remembrance



In the coming months we are called to remember those, whom we knew and loved individually, on All

Saints and All Souls Days, as well as national thanks on Remembrance Sunday.

I don't know if you have ever seen a vineyard. In my travels, in this world, I have seen, visited and even sampled the wine in the UK, Europe, Africa and South America vineyards. I have seen vineyards where the vines have been cut right back to the 'trunk'. They look like dead pieces of driftwood sticking out of the dry earth, from which it seems impossible that anything green and fruitful could ever grow again and yet, the wines tasted in the following years were remarkable.

So, no matter how harsh the pruning, of the vine might be, and no matter how impossible it might appear somehow the vine was alive and full of potential, since it is firmly rooted in the warm earth. It simply rests, and is not dead.

At times Jesus used to tell stories about vines, which were to represent himself, and the branches represent

people who welcomed him. That welcoming of Jesus was always about LOVE. He then sacrificed his life because of his love for you and me. His earthy death somehow gave heavenly growth for each of us.

Jesus' death revealed His great love for humankind, culture and peace and in a strange way that connects also with those who lost their lives via conflict and/or war – so on the 11th day of the 11th month at 11am, when the first world war stopped, it's right that we should stand together and remember those who gave their lives for our peace and love. Again, the picture of those heavily pruned vines, the old stumps of wood, sticking out of desolate fields, are potent reminders of the stark, desolate landscapes that were the battle-fields in the war years.

Remember, Jesus spoke to his disciples and friends to prepare them for the trauma of separation. The trauma of death and bereavement is extensive in our communities and lives.

From personal experience I can remember the absolute total loss and desperation I felt when those I loved and cared for died. My life seemed empty, and I wondered where was God's love? As time passed, I realised that I had been given a greater love

and that changed me. I saw hope for the future as somehow, at another point I knew we would be united spiritually in a greater place. Somehow that pain turned to absolute love.

Whatever our feelings are when we experience death of loved ones, slowly that pain which we experience changes into love and respect.

So, as we live through these autumn months of 2021 let us remember those whose lives enriched not only for ourselves but also this country and society which we live in.

Fr Chris Rogers



Poppies at St Peter's Church

In 2022, St Peter's will be 800 years old!

From the occupation of the castle to the arrival of soldiers in WW1 and major life and civic events up to the present day, St Peter's has been a constant presence in Berkhamsted for 800 years!

We want to celebrate this momentous occasion with the whole town!



WHAT WE'RE PLANNING

It's early days but we have many ideas for events to mark the anniversary from picnics to time capsules, historical displays to commemorative services.

We are exploring the option of holding a St Peter's Festival in the summer of 2022 (when hopefully Covid-19 will be behind us) and coinciding with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We are looking for organisations and local businesses you represent to get in touch to tell us how you'd like to be involved.

Would you like to put on a music event, hold a yoga session in the churchyard, run a craft or creative session in church or organise a book talk, dog show or wine tasting? We'd love to hear your ideas so we can start to plan a schedule.

LOVE YOUR CHURCHYARD!

With all of us spending more times outside these days, we'd like to revitalise our churchyard as part of the 800th celebrations.

As many of you know, the churchyard is a green sacred space at the heart of the community, bounded on all four sides by listed buildings of beauty and significance to the town; the church of 1222, the School of 1544, the 16th century Court House and early Victorian private dwellings. It also contains several ancient trees which give it a unique character.

What are your ideas for enhancing the space? How can we encourage more community visits?

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Join Us! We'd love more people to get involved with the 800th activity. If you'd like to volunteer to help or are bursting with ideas, please get in touch!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING TOGETHER!

Berkhamsted Art Society

Berkhamsted Art Society in Association with Dacorum and Chiltern Potters Guild presents - **Earth, Air, Fire, Water – Connecting clay with the elements**-Kate Malone MBE.

A Zoom talk by renown potter, ceramicist and former judge on Pottery Throw Down she will reveal how she uses her sketch pad to draft her ideas and creations.

Berkhamsted Art Society kicks off its 2021/22 programme of talks and events with a Zoom Talk from Kate Malone on Tuesday 19th October at 7.00pm. Members can access this event free, but it is also available to non-members via Eventbrite for £6.84.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/177468522127>

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A talk by Kate Malone

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News from Rectory Lane Cemetery



Rectory Lane Cemetery

BERKHAMSTED

At the end of August Berkhamsted residents of all ages took part in the creation of a historic work of art in a collaboration with community arts

organisation Open Door.

This month's theme? Collaboration and Celebration

The restored and landscaped Cemetery is being discovered by more and more people. Since the beginning of the year an average of 7,500 trips per month are being made. The zoning of the cemetery into three distinct areas:

- lower, Victorian area for events and activities
- middle area around the Garden of Remembrance for commemoration
- upper area for wildlife habitat and study has made it a unique venue for commemoration, wellbeing, music, art, poetry, theatre, wildlife study, social history and community volunteering.

Increasingly, we are collaborating with other organisations too and this is really important as we move on from the Lottery Funded phase of the project. The Cemetery needs both people and financial resources if it is to continue as a community space.

Down Rectory Lane was created to mark the beginning of the town's emergence from the Covid-19 pandemic and saw many local residents come together to capture their feelings of loss, and their hopes for the future.

Members of the public were invited to embroider words and phrases onto fabric swatches, to be woven into two handmade wooden looms. A team of Open Door volunteers were on hand to help sew their messages, and children could also write or draw their thoughts to be included.

Open Door Manager Joan Fisher said: *'It's been an incredibly special couple of days and we were bowled over by the enthusiasm of local people to take part, and the range of heartfelt messages that they have created. There were many poignant moments as people came together and chatted over their sewing, but also lots of big smiles and laughter, fun and even some dancing!'*

Live music provided inspiration and entertainment to the participants, from local musicians Don Perera, Hamish Currie and the Blue in Green jazz quartet. There was also storytelling at the Read In Peace seat and a big selection of Open Door's renowned cakes and other delicious refreshments.



The beautiful hand-made looms were worked on at the event and also later, weaving in everyone's contributions. They will be exhibited at Open Door in January 2022.



Almost without drawing breath but able to re-use the gazebos before taking them down, we held our annual **Bonkers About Bees** session the very next day.

This is always a popular event as visitors can discover everything they ever wanted to know about honey bees and wild bees and also buy our latest honey harvest - this time from our two Duke of Edinburgh students who were helping on the day.

Our beekeeper brought along lots of beekeeping paraphernalia and a 3D hive which families could explore.

Our Bumblebee Conservation Trust Walker chatted to visitors about all the different bumbles she has noted on her monthly surveys around the cemetery - reporting that the numbers and diversity of bumbles has increased - Common carder bee, Tree bumblebee, Early bumblebee, White-tailed bumblebee, Buff-tailed bumblebee, Red-tailed bumblebee...

The Herts & Middlesex Trust's wild bee volunteer shared his knowledge and this year we were joined by the Hertfordshire County Recorder for Hymenoptera (Bees, Wasps and Sawflies) who was able to talk about the importance of all insects as pollinators, some of which are less well-understood or appreciated - like wasps and hoverflies!



The following weekend a **Service of Dedication for the War Memorial** was held.

This special service was held in conjunction with the Berkhamsted and Tring Branch of the Royal British Legion, and was led by Fr Stuart Owen, Rector of St Peter's. Together, the town gathered to inaugurate the

memorial, and to dedicate it before God to the memory of those commemorated here.

The ceremony had been delayed for some months by the lockdown during the COVID-19 pandemic, but all involved were pleased that it was possible to hold this event during the Royal British Legion's Centenary year.

The ceremony included a parade by the Berkhamsted Tring & District Branch of the Royal British Legion, led by HM Lord Lieutenant of

Hertfordshire Robert Voss, and with representatives of the armed forces, a dedication by Rev Michael Eggleton, RBL Branch Padré, and a ceremonial wreath-laying by local school children.

The Garden of Remembrance War Memorial was created in 2020, as part of the restoration project. A plaque bears the names of 49 people buried in Rectory Lane Cemetery who died as a result of injuries fighting in the First and Second World Wars. It has three totems bearing the messages 'Lest we Forget', 'Rest in Peace' and 'Live in Peace', and the garden has been planted out with Japanese cherry trees as a symbol of our hope for peace. The Memorial has also been added to the Imperial War Museum's War Memorials Register, a comprehensive national register of over 90,000 UK war memorials and the names of the individuals they commemorate.



The following Sunday the lower Cemetery was once again the venue for a free community event - celebrating *Edible England* as part of the 2021 *Heritage Open Days*. We held a Victorian Picnic.

We were delighted to see some visitors had dressed up appropriately for the era. One little family had come all the way from Aylesbury, costumed up, on the bus! Another had made a special hat for the occasion.

Everybody enjoyed historically enlightening family entertainment provided by costumed interpreters Historical Huzzahs who took on the roles of John Edward Lane - the renowned horticulturalist and entrepreneur - and his wife, and a delightful performance recreating a scene from a historic cricket match which pitted Berkhamsted butchers against Berkhamsted bakers (Meat vs Flour) by Berkhamsted Youth Theatre. A fascinating tour of Butchers, Bakers,



The Lord Lieutenant was particularly keen after the ceremony to meet those responsible

for the restoration of the Cemetery and the landscapers who created the Garden of Remembrance and installed the Memorial.

Brewers and More was also created for visitors around the relevant memorials by one of our genealogist-guides.

Visitors were also able to chat to the Countess of Bridgewater (our benefactress), Mr Henry Nash (historian), Mrs Emma Dolling (strawplaiter and one of Lane's fruit pickers), Polly Page (who ran the King's Arms) and Mary Ann Robinson (confectioner from Castle Street shop).

With donations from Darvells Bakery and home-made cakes from our volunteers we were also able to supplement people's picnics with tea and Victoria Sponge.

Although we didn't have our project photographer on hand, we did manage to get a lot of lovely pictures, thanks to Maria Kennedy, Liam Stephenson and others.



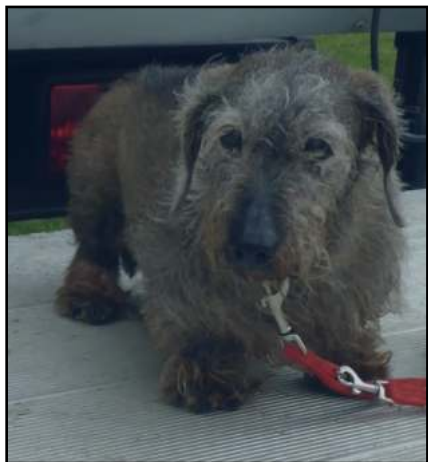
We were delighted to learn this week that the restoration project is a finalist in two categories of the **Landscape Institute Awards 2021: Community Engagement & Heritage and Culture**. We look forward to discovering our final position at the online ceremony in November.

We have come to the end of the Lottery Funded phase of the project. Over the last four years, as well as undertaking the restoration and landscaping of the cemetery itself, we have tried to take the community on the journey too - by hosting events and activities, sharing news and stories through bulletins and on social media and by inviting everyone to visit and use the cemetery and all it has to offer.

We are looking forward to involving you in the next phase of the project - to sustain the restored Cemetery for the community in the future.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR
SUPPORT

Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels



Meet Fergus and Sherman, two elderly best friends with very different stories. After his owner died, Fergus the Dachshund came to us so sad and confused, he was unable to settle into a foster home. Meanwhile, severely neglected Sherman was found tied to a bench, requiring surgery to remove his teeth and a tumour. Like Fergus, his needs made finding him a home unrealistic. However, the two old boys soon became inseparable, and have taken up permanent residence at Appledown as part of our 'Kitchen Crew'. Now enjoying a new lease of life, they spend their days trotting around behind the scenes and keeping an eye on the staff! We think that all dogs, regardless of age, deserve to live their best life. Will you help us to care for dogs like Sherman and Fergus?

It's easy to make a one-off donation of £3 simply by texting APPLE to 70111, or donate via Paypal using the 'DONATE Support a Cause' option and search for Appledown Rescue. Donations by cheque are very welcome too!

Appledown Rescue & Rehoming Kennels, Harling Road, Eaton Bray, Beds

LU6 1QY e-mail: appledown.kennels@btinternet.com Website:

www.appledownrescue.co.uk

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram!

JOBS FOR THE GARDEN

Traditionally Harvest festival is 'celebrated' in September or October. At St Peter's Church we marked the festival on 3rd October this year. It is a time to give thanks for the food grown on the land and safe harvesting of crops.

Autumn is a lovely time to get out in the countryside, walking through crunchy dry leaves, the beautiful colour of the trees around you and looking for different types of fungi. Don't be too quick to cut back perennial plants as they provide an important habitat for wildlife but do keep on top of weeding.



Harvest Festival Flowers

OCTOBER

Prune climbing and shrub roses by a third to prevent wind rock. Clear any fallen rose leaves to prevent black spot over wintering.

Collect seed from hardy perennials, such as astrantia and achillea. Sow the seed immediately in seed trays, over winter and pot up when seedlings are big enough, ready to plant out next year.

If you didn't get around to planting bulbs last month, it's not too late to plant daffodils and crocus.

Empty spent hanging baskets and pots and replant with winter colour; pansies, violas, hardy cyclamen, hellebores and winter aconites make a good display. Reuse the old compost as a mulch on the garden.

Clean out your greenhouse and wash all the glass.

Lift dahlia and begonia tubers after the first frost to over winter in a frost-free place.

NOVEMBER

Plant tulip bulbs in pots and borders planting them at least twice their depth.

Make sure tender plants are under cover and kept frost free.

If the weather has been mild give your lawn a last cut of the year but raise the blades.

Raise pots off the ground on to pot feet or bricks to prevent water logging.

Plant currant bushes and raspberry canes.

Plant bare root roses. They are cheaper than pot grown and will flower in their first spring/summer.

Keep bird feeders topped up to encourage a variety of birds into your garden.

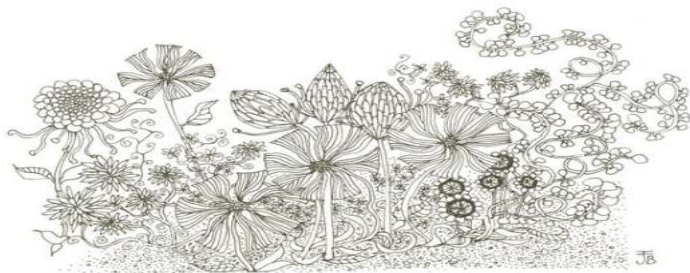
Sarah Dawson



Hidcote Manor



Autumnal Garden - Hidcote Manor



News from Hospice of St Francis



October 2021

The
Hospice
of St
Francis

relies upon community fundraising to help fund the £5 million needed each year to provide **free** care. By supporting the Hospice, you are helping more people in the local community to feel safe and supported through a life-limiting illness and to live their precious life well.

News and Events

Shop For Good

The Hospice has launched a new exciting online shop – ‘Shop For Good’. This innovative online offer has well-being, eco, sustainability and ‘doing good’ at its heart. Keep up to date with the shops launch by following them on Instagram: @shopforgood_hosf or visit: www.shop-for-good.org.uk

Books For Good

Looking for a quirky gift? Then why not sign up to Chapter Two’s ‘Books For Good’ book subscription! Receive one pre-loved book every month chosen by book expert and Chapter Two manager, Mark. Each book arrives beautifully wrapped

with a special Chapter Two book-mark. Visit: www.stfrancis.org.uk/shop-with-us/chapter-two/books-for-good to register.

Ashridge House Fun Run

Sign up to Ashridge House Fun Run on Sunday 17th October! Get your running shoes ready for an exclusive 5k or 10k run in the stunning grounds of King Henry VIII's private residence, Ashridge House! All entries will receive a bespoke handmade wooden finishers medal! All abilities are welcome; this is not a timed event. www.stfrancis.org.uk/support-us/events/detail/ashridge-house-fun-run

Hospice Coffee Mornings

On the last Friday of the month (except December), The Hospice of St Francis hosts a Coffee Morning in the Hospice Bistro and a Craft Fayre in the Acorn Suite. The next event is Friday 29th October. Pop along for a coffee and a chat and to find out more about the Hospice and the work that they do. All proceeds from the Craft Fayre go to the Hospice. **Contact:** Reception on 01442 869550 to book your place.

And finally...

Accessing our Care – Self Referral

The Hospice of St Francis is there to help in any way they can, with care provided **Free**. If you, or someone you know, is living with cancer or a life-limiting illness such as a heart, lung, kidney or neurological condition we might be able to support you. (We support from early diagnosis and through treatment and remission). Please fill in our short referral form online:

www.stfrancis.org.uk/selfrefer

Follow us on Facebook

@TheHospiceofStFrancis, Instagram **@HospiceStFrancis**, Twitter **@hospicstfrancis** or call us on **01442 869555**.



Ashridge House Fun Run

Get Creative for the Climate

Dacorum Borough Council is calling on local artists to get creative for the climate and take part in their Climate and Ecological Emergency Exhibition.

The exhibition is being held throughout November to tie in with COP26 - the global climate change conference, which is being hosted by the UK.

The initiative is being launched in collaboration between the Dacorum Climate Action Network and Herts Visual Arts and will feature creative pieces from artists from around the borough. It is hoped that the art will help to encourage Dacorum's residents to reflect on the challenges that lie ahead of us, but also provide an opportunity to learn about the available solutions, and inspire people to get involved in local climate action.

A recent landmark climate report from the IPCC gave a code red to humanity and highlighted that we only have a very short window of time to take action on reducing our emissions if we are to avoid the most catastrophic impacts of climate change.

In the past 50 years, wildlife populations have fallen by over 60%. This is partly due to climate change, along with various other human-influenced factors such as habitat loss, pollution and over-consumption.

At the exhibition there will be a range of information about what residents can do to reduce their own carbon footprint and other action that they can take locally to support biodiversity.

All visual art is welcome for submission, including drawings, paintings, photography and poetry. The original pieces will be used for the exhibition.

The deadline for photos of artwork to be uploaded to the online submission form is Sunday 24 October.

Creative pieces will then be selected and the Climate and Ecological Emergency Exhibition will be held in Dacorum Creatives Gallery in the Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead town centre throughout November.

To find out more details, visit: www.dacorum.gov.uk/dacorumcan

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Join the new Dacorum Climate Action Network

Dacorum Climate Action Network is a new initiative that will be bringing together individuals and organisations to ‘think global and act local’ to help tackle the Climate and Ecological Emergency.

The network, which is being launched by Dacorum Borough Council, will help to facilitate meaningful change by educating, encouraging and enabling people to make positive environmental changes in their everyday lives.

Dacorum Climate Action Network (Dacorum CAN) is aimed at both individuals and organisations and is open to everyone who lives, works and plays in Dacorum and pledges to take positive environmental actions. The network will support its members to understand and take action on environmental issues locally.

Joining Dacorum CAN is completely quick, free and simple – just fill out a quick registration form: www.dacorum.gov.uk/dacorumcan

All organisations are welcome, including community groups, schools, businesses, charities, and more.

We also have a Facebook group to join too: www.facebook.com/groups/dacorumcan

Benefits of joining the network

- Receive information and advice about positive environmental actions
- Stay up-to-date on local environmental initiatives – via social media, monthly newsletters and meetings
- Discover local environmental events with our online Dacorum CAN event calendar
- Be inspired by local Sustainability Superstars
- Collaborate with like-minded local people
- Discover local groups and initiatives
- Learn about organisations and services that help to achieve positive environmental targets
- Access environmental webinars and training

Additional benefits for organisations...

- Amplify the impacts of your environmental projects and campaigns
- Free promotion of your environmental events via the Dacorum CAN event calendar
- Find volunteers to help support your local environmental initiatives
- Discover funding opportunities
- Collaborate with other like-minded groups

Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services, Cllr Graham Barrett said *"The recent IPCC report which gave a code red to humanity shows how urgently we all need to work together to reduce our emissions. I encourage every individual and organisation in the borough to join the Dacorum Climate Action Network and pledge to make positive environmental changes!"*

Find out more about joining Dacorum Climate Action Network and other Climate Emergency initiatives the Council are doing: www.dacorum.gov.uk/dacorumcan



Your Berkhamsted Team

Editor and layout: Jacqueline Hicks, ybeditor@greatberkhamsted.org.uk

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

One off events, courses and workshops

Meet the artists

Saturdays 9th & 16th October, between 11-1

Our current exhibition brings a riot of colour and dynamic shapes to the gallery space at Open Door, with a joint exhibition of work by two very talented Berkhamsted artists. **The Colour and the Shape** - an exhibition of new works by Catherine Hay and Anil Mistry. Catherine and Anil will be in the Gallery on both Saturdays - 9th and 16th October, between 11-1, should you like to come and chat with them.

No need to book - pop in for a cuppa, chat with the artists and browse their amazing artwork

Lino printing short courses with Russell

A choice of 2 session courses:

Fridays 15th & 22nd October, 10.30-12.00

Fridays 29th Oct & 5th November, 10.30-12.00

£30 for the two sessions

Join Russell for a Reduction Lino Print course - the course will be made up of two sessions - during the first session you will learn the printing process, and in the second session you will develop your own ideas.

Book your place now at www.bookwhen.com/opendoor

Photography short courses with Russell

A choice of 2 session courses:

- Saturdays 16th & 23rd October, 10.30-3pm

- Saturdays 30th October & 6th November, 10.30-3pm

£60 for the two sessions

During the two sessions of this practical, creative course, Russell will cover both digital and analogue, as well as black and white photography. You will learn how to make and use a pinhole camera, and the manual operation of an SLR film camera, as well as processing your own film and making prints in Open Door's very own darkroom.

For more information and to book, go to www.bookwhen.com/opendoor

Discovering Drawing with Maud

3 session course - Mondays 18th & 25th October & 1st November, 1:30-3pm

£30 for the three sessions

Back by popular demand, artist Maud Eager is running another fantastic Discovering Drawing course, starting on the 18th October. Join Maud and enjoy discovering what is possible - these courses are for absolute beginners and those with a bit more drawing experience, and demonstrate that there are many different approaches to drawing rather than a one-size-fits all! Even if you've done a course with Maud before, it's still worth joining as there's lots more to discover and experiment with!

For more information and to book, go to www.bookwhen.com/opendoor

Repair Café

Saturday 6th November, 9:30-12:30 (first Saturday of every month)

Donations welcome

Throw it away? No way!

Do you have something that needs fixing? Prefer to mend it than throw it away?

You're invited to pop in with your broken things and let our experts take a look – you can even enjoy a cuppa and a cake whilst you wait – either inside, or in our lovely garden.

We ask for a voluntary donation in exchange for your repair, and any refreshments.

No need to book!

For more information see our <https://www.opendoorberkhamsted.co.uk/repair-cafe.html> page.

Advance notice - Open Door will be closed for essential maintenance

Monday 15th - Saturday 20th November 2021





Floors Castle Garden by Sarah Dawson