

the magazine for town and parish since 1872

yB

Your Berkhamsted

October to December 2022

800th Year Celebrations

**Rectory Lane
Cemetery 180th Year**

Hospice of St Francis News

**Dedication to Her Majesty
Queen Elizabeth**



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

In this issue...

WELCOME TO THE OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2022 EDITION OF YOUR BERKHAMSTED.

We are now in the last quarter of this year and it has been a year of celebration and mourning. Our edition is dedicated to Queen Elizabeth II, who has been part of everybody's lives. Berkhamsted welcomed her in 2016, when she came to visit St Peter's Church and Berkhamsted School, a fantastic day was had, with perfect weather and a great turnout of people wanting to see her. This year we had the Jubilee festivities, where we all celebrated by either watching the event on TV or having a street party. But sadly, we have now lost this amazing lady, who dedicated 70 years to our nation, I personally thought the funeral was such a fitting tribute and done to perfection. I watched all of it on TV that day. Berkhamsted is still celebrating the 800th Year of St Peter's and we are now celebrating the 180th of the Rectory Lane Cemetery so we have featured these too. I hope you enjoy this edition. Please note the What's On page and a Christmas add on will be listed separately in the next couple of weeks. 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

| | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Rambles from Berkhamsted | 3 & 5 |
| Local History ramblings | 8, 9 & 10 |
| Observations by Dennis Furnell (The Natureman) | 12 & 13 |
| Our Clergy | 14, 15, 16 & 17 |
| Hospice News | 18 & 19 |
| Garden Matters | 20, 21 & 22 |
| Rectory Lane Cemetery | 24, 25 & 26 |
| Photography Competition | 27 |
| Rectory Lane Cemetery 180th Anniversary | 28., 29, 30 & 31 |
| Her Majesty the Queen's Funeral | 32, 33 & 34 |
| Art Society Winter Exhibition | 36 & 37 |
| Open Door News | 38 & 39 |
| 800th Year at St Peter's | 40, 41 & 42 |

Front cover: Thank you Adam Hollier for the picture of the Her Majesty the Queen at her visit to St Peter's Church in 2016.

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



In May 2016 I wrote my own impressions of the Queen's visit to Berkhamsted. Somehow it feels like another halcyon age, almost fin de siècle. A matter of weeks later we had the Brexit vote and it seems nothing was ever the same again. It was a privilege to be a part of a piece of Berkhamsted history, and to take part in such a joyous occasion in even a small way.

The word that many of us used that day was 'surreal'. We couldn't quite believe it was going to happen, it certainly felt unreal as it happened, and looking back we felt had it really happened? Christopher Green never in his wildest dreams could have conceived of HM the Queen unveiling the newly restored memorial plaque to Elizabeth I herself. Perhaps the Lord Lieutenant could have been persuaded to interrupt her busy schedule. But the Queen? Our indefatigable musical director could never have imagined in his deepest sleep imaginings conducting a piece he had written himself for Her Majesty. After all, directing the choir in St Mark's Venice had been enough of a pinnacle hadn't it? And never in her remotest day dreaming could the parish flower

arranger in chief have foreseen that her first posy would be executed for our longest reigning monarch.

But all of this did happen on the most beautifully perfect day in May, as Berkhamsted hosted the head of state for the first time since Queen Victoria visited in 1842. Very few of us would remember that, I venture. The town turned out en masse to welcome Queen Elizabeth on this special day, and the atmosphere was so special and all-encompassing that it has left an aura of excitement hanging over us all, with otherwise only the bunting to remind us that it had ever happened.

There were of course the nay-sayers, the curmudgeons, the killjoys who gleefully told us on Three Counties Radio that nobody was interested in the royal visit. The huge crowds in the High Street, the rushing mass of Ashlyns students rushing across to the playing fields to wave Her Majesty off in her James Bond helicopter, indubitably proved them wrong in an

Cont Page 5

Eleven Plus Test Preparation, Maths and English tuition.

Holiday courses available.

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



Pen and Ink Tuition
Where Learning Is Fun

25 High Street, Chesham, Bucks HP5 1BG

01494 773300

www.penandinktuition.co.uk



THE OLD PASTURES

LUXURY ACCOMMODATION FOR DOGS

Icknield Farm, Icknield Way,

Tring, Herts HP23 4JX



Luxury heated accommodation for your dog

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

Holiday homes for small animals

DOG GROOMING

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

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

CATER FOR ANY SIZE DOG.

EASY PARKING.

FOR AN APPOINTMENT FOR GROOMING OR KENNELING PLEASE CALL:

01442 824856



**Will Kimberley
Garden Services**
01442 255784

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

Why not phone for a quote?

The 50 plus

Help to Maintain, Repair & Install



- › Plumbing › Electrical › Handyman › Appliances
- › Decorating › Gardening › Home Improvement
- › General Maintenance & More

Assurance Care

- › Sensor box to monitor activity levels of your elderly relative from your mobile



- › Non-intrusive, no camera, no voice recording

- › Detects movement, temperature & humidity



- › System learns expected data & notifies exceptions

- › Assists in maintaining independence

01494 784 448
www.the50plus.co.uk



emphatic and glorious way. It has been heard from well-informed circles that these were the largest crowds to gather at a royal visit for twelve months.

As a guest invited to the official unveiling of the memorial plaque and performance by the school and church choirs, it felt a little odd to the other side of the crowd barriers, to be looking up to the windows full of excited onlookers waving flags. In a goldfish bowl looking out. The sense of anticipation as the minutes ticked by to Her Majesty's arrival was palpable. A combination of an imminent



examination, awaiting the first visitor to your carefully planned dinner party, the early morning of the Petertide Fair. The rising crescendo of the crowd outside the church informed us that the moment had arrived. Cheers and shouts, an impromptu national anthem that gave you goose pimples and then the first glimpse of fuchsia pink, before there she was. Small, smiling, elegant. She had arrived in our church. She unveiled the plaque. She sat, holding tightly on to her posy of English tulips, listening intently and smiling broadly, as the choirs sang proudly, strongly, and beautifully. And then a few private words, and she had left the south door to her next engagement in the town, to mark the 475th anniversary of the Berkhamsted School.

Now we can sit at dinner parties, talk to work colleagues, listen to relatives. As they tell us that they saw such and such from a TV programme, that actor, you know from what's its name - we can smile inwardly with a glow of satisfaction, not smugly, but quietly. Ah yes, but I have met The Queen. What can possibly top that?

MAKING A DIFFERENCE *every day*



Here at Right at Home Hemel Hempstead, we make a real difference to people's lives every day, whether that is the clients we support to stay living in their own homes, their families or our wonderful team of CareGivers. We offer high quality care and support across Hemel Hempstead and beyond and specialise in dementia and complex care. We support people with a wide range of different things, from a weekly shopping trip through to full time live-in care.

Having 20 years' experience in the care sector, managing director of Right at Home Hemel Hempstead Tracy Shehan truly believes that everyone deserves the right to the highest quality care, the same sort of care that she would want for herself and her loved ones.

Whether ageing, recovering from an operation or a major injury, most of us would rather stay in our own home. Right at Home Hemel Hempstead helps adults maintain their independence and continue to live in the home they know and love.

Our difference:

- Our care calls are never rushed (3 hr minimum) to 24 hours
- We do not wear uniforms (discreet service)
- We have a 'No Stranger Policy'
- All CareGivers are introduced in advance

Our services include:

- Companionship
- End of Life
- Personal care
- Domestic / Household
- Hospital-to-home travel
- Long and short-term services
- Medication assistance
- Live-in care
- Assistance managing dementia/ Alzheimer's

To find
out more,
contact us
today



01442 953141 • www.rightathomeuk.com/hemel Hempstead

LOOKING FOR A FRESH START? START A JOB YOU'LL LOVE

We have a truly amazing team of CareGivers, who love their jobs because of the satisfaction they get from making a difference to our clients lives. Our team is diverse and from all sorts of backgrounds, many of whom have worked in care before but others who are trying something more rewarding. The one thing that ties us together is our values. If you are interested in joining our team, call us today and see where a career with Right at Home Hemel Hempstead could lead you.

"I wanted a job
where I could make a
genuine difference"



NOW SELLING
HEMPWORX

LISA HANNABY

HOLISTIC & SPIRITUAL THERAPIST

07912 874214

Rahanni Celestial Healing
Angelic Reiki, Crystal Healing Therapy
www.moonflower-holistics.co.uk
facebook.com/moonflowerholistics

CHAMPNEYS

BEAUTY COLLEGE

Champneys Beauty College offers courses in Beauty and Massage for School Leavers and Career Changers as well as further training for Qualified Therapists undertaken in the stunning grounds of Champneys, Tring.

We offer flexible study options including courses at weekends and in school hours, with opportunities for employment at Champneys on completion. We also offer treatments in our college salon.



To find out more or book an open day visit champneyscollege.com or call 01442 291333



teenTutors»

Still looking for a tutor?

We've got the answer with our online tutoring!

We are an exciting new online tutoring service based in Berkhamsted, specialising in maths and the sciences for years 7 to 11. What makes us special is our tutors – all outstanding A-level students waiting to tutor your teen in a safe online environment – and our superb customer care – it's really important to us that you are happy with our service.

Visit us today at www.teentutorsuk.com
or email us at admin@teentutorsuk.com
or give us a call on 01442 913159.

Thoughts During the Height of Summer



These thoughts written in the height of summer will not be read until early autumn, when Berkhamsted His-

tory Society has settled down to regular monthly meetings, hopefully held once more in person. We should not forget the hive of activity which has surrounded the celebration of the 800th anniversary of the foundation of St Peter's Church. In celebrating that foundation we are celebrating not just the church but the 800 years of a Christian community of a town which grew up from the castle and the market place since Saxon times on the old Roman road of Akeman Street. For many years now September has been a month when Berkhamsted looks at its history and its heritage and seeks to unearth its hidden history behind the closed doors. It is the month of the national Heritage Open Days organised by the Berkhamsted Local History and Museum Society. Events, usually with guided tours and with small exhibitions are held at various sites not normally open to the public. Certain tours are available every year but vary in their flexibility. There are nearly always tours of the historic town centre including Castle Street

where almost every house has a story to tell, but more recently we have brought in a tour on the neglected west end of Berkhamsted which although not the smart end of the town is not all industry and poverty but has many surprises. Once, the canal was seething with activity with wharves loading and unloading barges and even boats were built here in Berkhamsted. Join a guided tour and learn more of the 'Lost Wharves of Berkhamsted.' In recent years we have been able to include the arts and craft gardens of Amersfort Hall, the garden of which was planted by Gertrude Jekyll. Also, on the outskirts of Berkhamsted we take a step back in time and look at Berkhamsted Place, which although the mansion was demolished in 1967 has much to tell us and we can see the Great Barn as well. Why have we called Berkhamsted Place 'successor to the castle'? Why not continue onto the common and participate in the Battle of Berkhamsted Common which helped indirectly to prevent the enclosure of the common by the Brownlows and gave us the common as we know it today for the people of Berkhamsted to enjoy.

In recent years the Castle Trust has organised tours of the castle and the

Dacorum Heritage Trust has organised tours of the museum store, giving visitors the chance to see something of the rich artefacts and documents of Dacorum (including Berkhamsted) which are normally not readily available.

The National Film Archives at Kingshill are also open for the Heritage Open Days. These three tours now booked independently were all originally organised by the Berkhamsted History Society. Go to the national Heritage Open Days website for details of next year's events with booking arrangements etc and simply search under events for Berkhamsted. All HODs are free.

A comparative newcomer to the autumnal scene is the increasingly popular Chiltern Society Heritage Festival. This is not free, but this fact does not appear to deter the bookings, some events of which are quickly sold out. There is a variety of events which possibly could be said to show a wider interpretation of the word 'heritage'. The Amersham Theatre's history has been displayed by the Amersham Museum using documents and artefacts from the museum's collection. An

allotment in Long Marston, in a neglected state has been cultivated into a productive fruit and vegetable plot. Private tours of houses are arranged by owners. The Chiltern Society's Heritage Festival dovetails neatly into the Berkhamsted Heritage Open days, without any duplication or conflict of interest.

Before we move on to the last annual event of Berkhamsted's autumnal activities we should welcome the Berkhamsted Medieval Festival which ran over the Summer Bank Holiday weekend at the end of August. Organised by the Berkhamsted Chamber of Commerce it had a historic theme. It is to be hoped that it will bring local societies and businesses together to provide enjoyment for the community and perhaps set up entertainment for the children to replicate that formerly provided by the Round Table and the Lions which have now ceased to exist.

Although we have concentrated on regular events available in early autumn we should not forget the events adapted to meet the needs of the changing seasons which are provided by the Rectory Lane Cemetery Project

Cont Page 10



mainly but not exclusively for children and their families. Look out for their activities and if you wish to have a peaceful spot in which to contemplate climb up Rectory Lane Cemetery and find a seat on which to rest.

For those with a more literary bent we cannot overlook the Graham Greene International festival, which is held for four days around October 2nd every year, the date of the author's birthday. In spite of high running costs, travel and Covid restrictions the Festival has kept going through thick and thin and proved the cynics wrong, who said it wouldn't last. It is too soon to say yet whether this year has been successful and whether concerns about the rising costs of living and energy costs have held people back from booking. As we pass the bottom of Chesham Road and cast our eye up to St John's where

Graham was born we can reflect on the High Street, the canal, the castle, the station and the Common. We can think of the stories and films which depict our Berkhamsted and ponder on what draws so many people to our town each year to discuss his works. We need to remember those less fortunate than ourselves at this time of rising costs. We no longer dole out soup from the soup kitchen by the castle to the poor of Berkhamsted nor do local shopkeepers give Christmas fare to the residents of the workhouse but there are many who will have had to tighten their belts and are dependent on food banks this Christmas time. As we draw nearer to Christmas and the birth of the Christ child let us hope for a new beginning and perhaps a better time to come. A very Happy Christmas to you all.



Graham Greene Plaque and Castle Grounds

Abbeyfield

Where older people find care in housing

The Abbeyfield (Berkhamsted and Hemel Hempstead) Society Limited

Independent but unhappy living alone?

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

For further information contact:
Mrs Susan Pullen 01442 217578

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

PETER D HANNABY

Painter and Decorator

*Interior and exterior
work undertaken.*

*For competitive
quotations
please call:*

mb: 07765 250092
home: 01442 288956

T.A. LINGARD MOTORS

**BILLET LANE
BERKHAMSTED**

Tel: Berkhamsted 871911

- WELDING
- SERVICING
- BREAKDOWN
RECOVERY
- BODY REPAIRS

berkhamstedcarpetcleaning.co.uk

Berkhamsted Carpet Cleaning Ltd

**carpets
oriental rugs
upholstery**

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

**David Green
01442 876622
0788 405 8795**

Berkhamsted
Herts HP4 3JE

berkhamstedovencleaning.co.uk

Berkhamsted Oven Cleaning Ltd

**complete valet service for
all ovens, hobs
and extractors**

- professional • good value
- fully insured

**David Green
01442 876622
0788 405 8795**

Berkhamsted
Herts HP4 3JE

Observations by Dennis Furnell (The Natureman)

WHITE STORKS

The media is often full of doom and gloom when it comes to reporting about nature, but there are people who, not content with sitting on their hands and bemoaning the loss of wildlife, spend time and money in developing breeding programmes to try and reverse the effect that we are having on the hard-pressed natural world.

When I was a teenager (rather a long time ago) I had the good fortune to be employed as general dogsbody and number two on the film unit of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds; in the days before the Society migrated to their present home at a beautiful estate near Sandy in Bedfordshire. In my teens they occupied a gorgeous terraced Georgian house in Ecclestone Square in Victoria, London, a short walk from the railway station. I was paid a tiny amount, but would happily have paid them to work there in company with some of the greats of ornithology and natural history... people who laid the foundations of international conservation.

Avocets and ospreys were re-emerging after a time when they had been seen in the UK only as exhibits in glass cases, masterpieces of the taxidermist's art. The birds were beginning to build nests and rear young

and the RSPB filmed them for the membership to delight in.

Recently I was reminded of this feeling of natural history achievement when some close friends invited my wife Ann and I to their house on the estuary of the river Ardur in Sussex. I'm going to digress here because it's an area I know and love. During my National Service in the RAF I was stationed at Tangmere, a fighter station set in idyllic countryside. I have fond memories of my time there. However, back to conservation

Run by a group of conservation organisations, including the Knepp Estate, Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, Cotswold Wildlife Park (CWP) and the Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation, the White Stork Project aims to restore a population of at least 50 breeding pairs by 2030 through a phased-release programme over the next five years.... And a pair of white storks have been seen building a nest in an oak tree at the Knepp Estate in Sussex.

How lucky we were. I was standing on the balcony of our friend's riverside house doing a bit of birdwatching on the migrant waders on the far river bank when the gulls and oystercatchers set up their alarm calls. Looking down the river I saw what I thought

were a flock of gulls, but quickly resolved into a group of large birds that I thought might be common cranes. As they got closer, I saw to my delight, that they were white storks. Not just a pair or two, but a flock of something between fifteen to twenty birds. Apparently, that day the Knepp estate project had released 37 of these beautiful birds. With a two-metre wingspan, long beaks and trailing legs you can't miss them. Happily,

I had my camera and managed to get several shots of them as they circled above on the thermals.

The birds have been reared to be natural in behaviour and are now on their long migration to Africa. I wish them well and hope to see them on their return next spring when, it is hoped, they will create a new successful British population.

Dennis Furnell



Picture: White Stork

YOUR CLERGY



There was a lot going on in the tower of St Peter's, in the days following the death of Her Late Majesty Queen Eliza-

beth II. At some points the flag was at half-mast and the church bells were muffled, to mark this period of national mourning. At other points the flag was at full staff and the bells rang out unmuffled, to mark the accession of King Charles III. Mourning and acclamation, marked together in a single moment in time.

On Saturday I took my two children into Central London, to visit Green Park and Buckingham Palace. Having lived in London for twenty years, I know how palpable the sense of history can be at important moments for this nation, and I wanted them to experience something of that for themselves. What I hadn't realised when we'd set out from Berkhamsted, was that King Charles was to be formally proclaimed by the Accession Council at St James's Palace that morning, and therefore we'd have a chance to see the new king on his way back along The Mall. There too there was a slightly dissonant sense of commemoration and celebration

being marked simultaneously and in the same place. People who were visibly upset as they brought flowers to lay in memory of Her Late Majesty the Queen, then erupted in cheers and applause as King Charles was driven past on his way back to Buckingham Palace.

At first I found myself thinking that there are very few occasions in life when such a range of emotions find expression in response to the same single event. Most of the time, for most people, the important events in life are more emotionally monochromatic; moments of sorrow, or moments of celebration. We cheer and throw colourful confetti on wedding days, and we speak in hushed tones wearing funereal black when someone dies.

However, the more I thought about it, the more I realized that in fact that are all sorts of moments in our lives in which we hold together contrasting emotions. My eldest son started secondary school in September. Watching my children grow up is just such a joy and privilege (most of the time!); and yet as my son set off for school on his own for the first time, I felt a pang of loss for the boy who had once needed me to hold his hand as we made that journey each morning. My

Mum suffered from dementia in the last part of her life, and I can't deny that there weren't mixed feelings when she died; I didn't really want her to endure much more of what life had become for her, but at the same time it was a wrenchingly sad moment, and three years on there are still times when I find myself on the cusp of phoning her, and then remember that I can't. Perhaps moments of grief and gladness, celebration and sorrow, are not always as far apart as they might at first appear.

Quite by chance, as I took my youngest son to school this morning (thankfully he does still need to be

accompanied, but is growing increasingly agnostic about holding hands), he launched into a reflection on the happy occasions that mark each year. When he came to Easter, to the story of the Resurrection of Christ and of course the violent death that precedes it, he found himself on less certain ground; is this a happy story or a sad one?

Is this a happy moment or a sad one which we're living through right now? The truth is, it can be both, and more; thanksgiving for what has been, sorrow for what is lost, and hope for what is to come.

Fr Stuart



Parkinson's Knock Out

Exercise for Parkinson's

121 Training

Boxing for Parkinson's

Group Classes

www.parkinsonsknockout.co.uk
corinne@parkinsonsknockout.co.uk
07988 649275

YOUR CLERGY



St Peter's is currently celebrating its 800th anniversary, with a whole series of events largely centred on the church

building. There have been concerts, talks, exhibitions etc in the course of the year. I felt quite strongly there should be something about our Christian faith in the celebrations, and to that end I organised a series of events around the theme of 'Pilgrimage'. Ever since the earliest days of Christianity, Christians have gone on pilgrimage to certain holy places connected to specific events or people, and obviously the Holy Land is one such place. Egeria was a Christian woman and an early Christian pilgrim, who wrote a detailed account of her pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the late 4th century, and of course Holy Land pilgrimages have continued to the present day.

In May there was a screening of the film 'The Way' in the Court House, which tells the story of a group of people who randomly meet up on a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. They are all on pilgrimage for different reasons and in the course of the film share something of their struggles in life. In August there was a mini pilgrimage from St Peter's to

St Peter and St Paul's Church in Little Gaddesden. On the 5 mile walk many of us talked, shared and laughed together as we weaved our way through some beautiful countryside, especially as we walked through the Golden Valley, looking very golden after weeks of extremely hot and dry weather. In early September a group of us travelled to Douai Abbey in Berkshire for a day of quiet reflection on the theme of pilgrimage. The Abbey is home to a Catholic Benedictine community of monks, which was founded in Paris in 1615, uprooted during the French Revolution to Douai in Flanders, and finally settling in Woolhampton, Berkshire in 1903. Fr Anthony from St Peter's ably led us in our reflections on pilgrimage, speaking about setting off on pilgrimage and returning home.

Christian pilgrimage of course is a journey to a sacred place associated with the revelation of God and the life of a holy person. So Iona in Scotland is associated with St Columba, Santiago de Compostela in Spain is associated with St James, Canterbury is associated with St Thomas Becket and there are many other pilgrimage sites in this country, across Europe and further afield. The Christian faith itself is sometimes compared to a pilgrimage, a journey on which we set out at our baptism and continue throughout

our lives, encountering many different people and experiences, all of which enrich and deepen our faith in God. Our journey's destination on the mini pilgrimage was the church at Little Gaddesden, but our Christian pilgrimage has as its destination God. We are given the gift of life at our birth, and new life is given at our baptism, and on our faith journey throughout our lives we are in fact travelling back to God, changed people because of all that we have experienced on life's journey. Going on pilgrimage, however long it may be

and to whatever destination, can be in microcosm an experience of our journey with God, enriching and strengthening us as we return to daily life and work.

After reading this article you might want to think about going on a pilgrimage. The Pilgrim Trust is a registered charity which promotes pilgrimages in Britain. Log on to their website at britishpilgrimage.org for more information.

Fr David



Douai Abbey



Douai Abbey Church



#YourPreciousLife

STFRANCIS.ORG.UK



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.

Our free care has many forms – care at home, in our outpatient health and wellbeing Spring Centre or through specialised individual care in one of our hospice beds - and is defined by each person's need, needs that may change over time. Graded 'Outstanding' in our last CQC inspection (June 2016), our charity cares for an individual or family for however long we're needed – days, weeks, months or even years.

News and Events

Hospice Coffee Mornings and Craft Fayres

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 28th October. Pop along for a coffee and a chat 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. Find out more here: www.stfrancis.org.uk/CoffeeMornings

MAWM – October

Throughout October it's #MakeAWillMonth - This is a great opportunity to support your local hospice and get that all-important will off the 'to do' list! The Hospice are so grateful to their participating solicitors across Herts & Bucks who are waiving their professional will writing fees in lieu of a donation to The Hospice of St Francis. For full information on #MakeAWillMonth, simply register your interest via their website: www.stfrancis.org.uk/wills and they will send you full details when the campaign goes live and bookings open. You can also contact the Hospice Gifts in Wills team

at legacy@stfrancis.org.uk or call 01442 869555 for a chat.

The Mud Pack Challenge – Sunday 16th October

The Mud Pack Challenge finally returns in all its mucky glory! This year there's a new route, new distances and a load of new obstacles to keep you on your muddy toes! Make the mud matter and get filthy for The Hospice of St Francis in the wonderful surroundings of Ashridge House and National Trust woodland. Teamwork will help get you through so rally your work colleagues, inspire your friends and family, and prepare for some jovial rivalry as you tackle the course together, all whilst raising vital funds to support the Hospice! Visit www.stfrancis.org.uk/mudpack

Gifts & Crafts Winter Markets Potten End Village Hall, HP4 2RH - Saturday 19th November

The Eric Morecambe Centre, AL5 2FR - Sunday 27th November

The Hospice Winter Markets are back! Buy presents for your loved ones and support local businesses at the same time. There will be beautiful gifts, good food, warm drinks and fun for everyone. Businesses that will be at the winter market this November will be listed on the Hospice website once confirmed : www.stfrancis.org.uk/support-us/events/detail/winter-market

Christmas Carol Concert, St Albans Cathedral

Join the Hospice on Sunday 4th December, 3pm, for a magical afternoon of popular carols, guaranteed to get you in the festive spirit! With special performances from talented local choirs, this Sunday afternoon is the perfect opportunity to bring loved ones together in the spirit of Christmas. Please note that tickets will be on sale from 10am on Monday 26th September. Visit the Hospice website for ticket details: www.stfrancis.org.uk/support-us/events/detail/save-the-date-christmas-carol-concert

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, 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.

Garden Matters

On 1st September I visited Buckingham Palace. I had meant to visit in the past but never got around to it. This summer I had got myself organised and bought a ticket online and also decided to book onto the garden tour.

I arrived with a lot of tourists and waited in line to have my bag checked by security and walked through the airport style scanner.

I was given a headset so I could move through the rooms at my own pace whilst listening to interesting facts about each room and information about some of the priceless antiques. It was quite surreal to walk up the red carpeted steps into the palace, thinking about who had gone before me; royals, prime ministers, presidents, actors....

My ticket entitled me to visit the state rooms but first I had to climb more red carpeted stairs up the Grand Staircase. This was designed by John Nash and inspired by his experience working in London theatres. Some of the rooms I saw were the Throne Room which houses the pair of throne chairs made for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and The Duke of Edinburgh in 1953, the magnificent Ballroom is where investitures and state banquets are held, the Picture Gallery

has an amazing collection of paintings by Canaletto, Rembrandt, Titian & Vermeer to name a few and the White Drawing Room which is where the Royal family gather before big formal events and which has a secret door leading to the Queen's private apartments hidden behind a mirror. Finally, you exit out through the Bow Room, which less than two weeks after my visit, the Queen's coffin rested overnight before being taken to the Palace of Westminster.

I was privileged to see the Platinum Jubilee Exhibition at the palace. There were a series of portraits of Queen Elizabeth taken by the photographer Dorothy Wilding in the 1950s and some of the jewellery worn by Her Majesty. On display were the Delhi Durbar necklace & Cullinan VII pendant together with matching earrings – a beautiful mix of emeralds & diamonds, Queen Mary's Dorset bow brooch, the Vladimir tiara and the Diamond Diadem which was worn by the Queen on her coronation and to & from the State Opening of Parliament since the first year of her reign. The cream dress and purple robe made for the then Princess Elizabeth for her parents' coronation in 1937 together with her gilt metal coronet were on display too.

Unfortunately, we were not permitted to take any photographs inside the palace for security reasons or on the garden tour as we went alongside the Queen's private apartments. The walled 39-acre garden is the largest private garden in London. Apparently when the London Hilton on Park Lane opened in 1963 it boasted views of the Buckingham Palace Garden. However, Her Majesty planted plane trees which are fast growing so this fact didn't apply for very long! On the tour you are shown the 156-metre herbaceous border, which in September had asters, sedum and helianthus plants flowering. The Rose Garden, which mainly contains hybrid tea roses, still looked very colourful and the scent was wonderful. We were told that Harry Wheatcroft, the famed English rose grower had arranged the beds in the Victorian style in the 1960s. There are 25 beds, each one containing 60 bushes of the same colour and variety and no adjacent bed can hold the same colour rose. The roses are all pruned in November, rather than the spring, to ensure they are flowering for the first garden party in May. At the end of the garden tour we were allowed to explore the other side of the garden and walk near to the lake, created in the nineteenth century and originally fed from the overflow from the Serpentine in Hyde Park.

Little did anyone know that exactly a week after my visit Queen Elizabeth would pass away. I watched quite a lot of the coverage over the days following the sad announcement on television. I was particularly moved by the scenes of people watching the Queen's funeral cortege move from RAF Northolt to Buckingham Palace on 13th September. The crowds of people standing in the rain at the side of the A40, more people standing on the central reservation and the two stationary lines of traffic – buses, cars, lorries, vans & coaches in the outside lanes on the other side of the A40 was truly amazing.

On page 3 of this issue of Your Berkhamsted you can read Julian's account of when Her Majesty visited Berkhamsted in 2016. I was so honoured to be asked to make a posy that would be presented to the Queen. It was a truly wonderful day and we have such lovely memories of a remarkable lady.

Sarah Dawson



Queen's
Posy

Cont page 22



Buckingham Palace



Rear of Buckingham Palace



Buckingham Palace Lake

Getting your computer up & running again



ANDY ROBINSON

COMPUTER CONSULTANCY & REPAIRS

T 07885 966570

E andy@arcomputerrepairs.com

W www.arcomputerrepairs.com

36 Trevelyan Way Berkhamsted HP4 1JH



Are you a budding author? YB is looking for short stories or poems

written by our readers. 700 words and can be fact or fiction. If you would like a story featured - please contact:

Editor @yourberkhamsted.org.uk



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

Fair-trade coffee and tea

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

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

Reasonable prices - lots of space to relax

A friendly welcome awaits!

J Worley (Funeral Directors) Ltd

For Personal Attention
From Dacorum's Leading
Independent Family Funeral Directors
24 Hour Emergency Service

For A Caring & Sensitive Service
Please Ring

01442 - 253 465
48 Lawn Lane
Hemel Hempstead
HP3 9HL

Or

01442 - 870 326
344 High St.
Berkhamsted
HP4 1HT

Would you like to volunteer for us? Seek out your budding journalist or get involved in other ways. Such as research, marketing or just being part of a well established team. please contact:
Editor @yourberkhamsted.org.uk

Rectory Lane Cemetery



Our wonderful volunteers have continued to work in the cemetery – mowing the middle section, strimming and raking off the long grass in the wildlife

area as well as watering our patches of annual and perennial wildflowers there.



Berkhamsted Gardeners Society volunteers have been keeping the *Garden of Remembrance* looking beautiful. The Celebration of Life wall is steadily building with more individually inscribed tiles added. Information about the simple process to commission a tile is on our website <https://www.rectorylanecemetery.org.uk/sustain/memorialising/memorial-wall/> The fee of £78 contributes towards the costs of the cemetery upkeep, which is so vital now that Heritage Lottery Funding is finished.



More volunteers have become grave gardeners and we have also had team efforts from both Berkhamsted School students and ABC employees – resulting in six more graves prepared and planted up.



A group from Chiltern Society Volunteers - who have helped on many occasions in the past – have tackled rampant Virginia Creeper where we are going to be planting a native hedge in November. The roots were long and thick and six large builder's bags were taken to the green recycling!

Many people have been enjoying the beauty – and particularly the shade during the heatwave – and we have also hosted a number of Beaver, Cub and Brownie groups. The children learn about some of the people buried in the cemetery and some of the wildlife living here, including hedgehogs, bees and insects. If you belong to a group and would like a bespoke tour or visit to the cemetery we would be pleased to organise one for a donation.

Our honeybees have produced really tasty honey this year, no doubt down to all the flowers in our grave gardens and meadow area. Jars of the liquid gold are now being labelled up ready to raise funds for the cemetery. Anyone wanting to buy a jar should contact team@rectorylanecemetery.org.uk to arrange collection.

We were delighted to be judged worthy of the Green Flag Community Award for 2022 – which is a testament to all the work of our volunteers.

It's an exciting time for the Cemetery – with work on the urban meadow continuing, hedge planting in November and progressing our small ponds project in the wildlife area. If you're inspired by the idea of creating a vibrant wildlife resource for the whole community, why not join this award-winning project?

We would welcome more grave adopters, gardeners, weeders, mowers, strimmers, rakers, habitat builders, bird box monitors, compost turners, tree planters, pond builders, flint pickers, path sweepers ...

Cont page 26

- We have monthly work parties (first Sunday afternoon of the month from 2pm – 4pm).
- We have a weekly group that meets every Wednesday afternoon from 2pm - 4pm to tackle tasks and then have a cup of tea and a chat.
- And then there are tasks which you can do to suit yourself - particularly grave gardening and biographical research.

Contact team@rectorylanecemetery.org.uk for a chat about how you could be involved.

Appledown Rescue and Rehoming Kennels



We'd like to share a lovely story about a very brave dog called Ella. She came to us earlier this year underweight, neglected and suffering from terrible mange. With love and care she responded to treatment and we were very impressed by her sweet nature. She won the hearts of her prospective new owners during her recovery and when she was fully fit she set off for her new life. Not only has she become a much loved family pet but Ella also has a

job! Ella has become a therapy dog working with her owner in a special educational needs provision school. The children love her calm and gentle presence and she has helped some of them to overcome a fear of dogs. She will also be helping reluctant readers by sitting with them while they read to her. What a journey for a dog who came to us in such an appalling state! Her owner says 'this happy dog creates smiles wherever she goes'. I hope she has made you smile too!

To support our work you can make a one-off donation of £3 by texting APPLE to 70111, or donate via Paypal using the 'DONATE Support a Cause' option. Cheques 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!

three winners - £100 each

kindly sponsored by EIC Insurance Services



www.eicinsurance.co.uk



PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION 2022



Themes:

BERKHAMSTED

CELEBRATION

Categories:

Primary School

Secondary School

Open

Open to anyone living at an address with an HP4 postcode, or a pupil at a school in HP4.

Deadline: Friday 28th October



Full details and application forms here:

www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk/800th/photo-competition/

Rectory Lane Cemetery 180th Anniversary

Much has been made this year of the 800th anniversary celebration of St Peter's Church. We have enjoyed concerts, history talks, a thanksgiving service and one glorious, sun-drenched afternoon, a fun-filled fête in St Peter's churchyard. But did you know that another significant anniversary is taking place this year in the Great Berkhamsted Parish?

Tucked away behind the Rex Cinema lies Rectory Lane Cemetery. This Victorian burial ground was created as an overflow graveyard for St Peter's Church in 1842, and this year marks its 180th anniversary.

Until recently, Rectory Lane Cemetery lay forgotten and overgrown, until the Friends of St Peter's won Heritage Lottery funding for a major restoration project. Readers of *Your Berkhamsted* will be familiar with articles over the past few years reporting on the project bringing the area back to life as a green space for community events and nature conservation.

The cemetery came into being as a result of huge population growth during the Industrial Revolution. As the population grew, so too did the demand for burial spaces.

Cremation of the dead did not gain acceptance in Britain until the late 1880s, and churchyards all over Europe suffered from capacity problems. Here in Berkhamsted, St Peter's churchyard was filling up at an alarming rate, and new burial space had to be found.

Viewing the churchyard today, it is hard to imagine the crisis faced by the parish at the time. We see an open grassy space and park benches, a space to relax, or host a church fête. A rare photograph from around 1870 reminds us how the churchyard once appeared – a crowded array of headstones and monuments. When it was full, where were the town's departed to be buried?



St Peter's Churchyard

A short way down the High Street from St Peter's Church we find the opulent 1930s Art Deco Rex Cinema and the Gatsby Bar, saved from demolition in the late 1990s. The site was previously occupied by Egerton

House, a large Elizabethan mansion house with a large back garden and orchard. The Egerton name may be significant, as it suggests a connection with the Earls of Bridgewater at Ashridge. In the 1840s, the house and garden came up for sale.

A significant figure enters the story at this point – Charlotte Catherine Anne, Countess of Bridgewater (1763–1849). Charlotte was the widow of John Egerton, the 7th Earl of Bridgewater (1753–1823), and outlived him by 26 years. The 7th Earl had inherited the canal fortune from his predecessor, the 3rd Duke of Bridgewater (the famed “Canal Duke”), and upon his death, this now passed to Charlotte. Endowed with great wealth, Charlotte fashioned a role for herself as a generous benefactress. We can imagine her, perhaps, as the Dowager Countess from *Downton Abbey* (picture Maggie Smith in crinolines). Charlotte funded many local charitable causes – she founded a school at Ivinghoe, and she turned the cottage in Berkhamsted Castle into a soup kitchen for the poor. In 1842, she donated a parcel of land – the former Egerton House garden – to St Peter’s Church as a burial ground.

This act of Christian charity is recorded on a tall granite slab in Rectory Lane Cemetery commemorating its foundation on 11 October

The Countess was clearly well connected in high society, and used her influence to drum up additional donations from the great and the good. The foundation stone reads like a giant stone invoice, recording the donations from benefactors. At the top of the list, we find our own Rector, Rev John Crofts, an enthusiastic supporter of church renewal. During the Crofts incumbency, Jeffry Wyattville (the architect of Ashridge House) carried out the first major restoration of St Peter’s Church; and it was Crofts who demolished the old St Peter’s Rectory, birthplace of the poet William Cowper, and built a new, grandiose Rectory in its place. His donation of £50 to the cemetery is the equivalent of about £3000 today.



Countess of Bridgewater

Cont page 30



Countess of Bridgewater -
Commemoration Stone
Plot

Reading down the list we find the Rt Hon Mark, Lord Somerville, of Drum House in Gilmerton, Midlothian. The donation of a Scottish noble to an English town cemetery seems puzzling until we understand that he was the brother-in-law of the next name on the list, the Hon William Booth Gray of The Hall, a large Georgian mansion that once stood near to the present site of Swing Gate School. Lord Somerville was in Berkhamsted visiting his sister, Frances when he was persuaded to make a gift to the cemetery fund; the two brothers-in-law went halves, donating £25 each. Shortly afterwards, Lord Somerville died unexpectedly. He is commemorated by a handsome marble wall monument inside St Peter's Church, but his burial place is not certain. Somerville's fate was investigated in the April 1982 issue of the *Berkhamsted Review* by celebrated local historian Percy Birtchnell ("Beorcham"), who deduced that Somerville's grave

is a tombstone hidden in the grass at the top of the western churchyard steps, inscribed with only a large letter 'S' - probably one of the last burials in St Peter's Churchyard.

The names on the Rectory Lane Cemetery foundation stone continue – a gift of £50 from Harriot Grimston, Daughter of the Earl of Verulam (and later Countess of Caledon); £5 from Sir Charles Deacon, possibly a retired Indian Army officer from Watford; and £25 from Nottingham banker James Smith of Ashlyns Hall, a former churchwarden of St Peter's.

Below this, we find an early example of corporate sponsorship: a donation of £40 from the London and Birmingham Railway Company. Only three years earlier, the L&BR disrupted sleepy Berkhamsted with the construction of the new railway line. Navvies terrorised the genteel townsfolk with drunken fights in local taverns, and the railway had taken a chunk out of Berkhamsted's beloved Castle. It was like the HS2 of its day, and it seems likely that the L&BR's donation was made in an attempt to smooth over public relations.

The profitability of the canal network had been severely impacted by competition from the railways, and this is evident in the next line on the foundation stone, where we find the Grand Junction Canal Company, who forked out the princely sum of £6 and

10 shillings. It is safe to assume that their corporate responsibility budget was running very low indeed.

Countess Charlotte was a mover and shaker in high society, and her influence meant that she could play a leading role in the fundraising effort. It is also important to appreciate her ecclesiastical connections; her father-in-law was the Bishop of Durham, and possibly this relationship enabled her to secure a celebrity opening. The foundation stone records that the Cemetery was consecrated by John, Lord Bishop of Lincoln on 11 October 1842. For centuries, the Parish of Great Berkhamsted had been part of the Diocese of Lincoln, a vast Church of England territory that stretched from the Humber to the Thames, and although the diocesan lines were being redrawn at the time, the Bishop of Lincoln himself was invited. Charlotte's influence possibly explains why a bishop would make the 140-mile journey – presumably on the new-fangled railway – to open a 1-acre town cemetery.

The giant stone invoice is signed off at the bottom by the Rector and churchwardens, amongst whom we find Augustus Smith, the son of banker James Smith who later found fame as the antagonist in the so-called “Battle of Berkhamsted Common”. For a figure so significant in Berkhamsted's history, it seems odd

that this modest inscription, just inches from the ground, is one of only two memorials in the town that mention Augustus Smith by name.

On this 180th anniversary, an exploratory stroll around the newly restored Rectory Lane Cemetery is a rewarding activity for anyone interested in local history. Here we can trace the history of notable families and discover fascinating connections with local landmarks. Visitors can search the burials database on the mobile phone-friendly website whilst enjoying the tranquillity of a green space in the heart of town.

Discover more about the first 180 years of Rectory Lane Cemetery at: www.rectorylanecemetery.org.uk/about/history/cemetery



Cemetery Map

Robin McMorran

The Queen's State Funeral

Where were you when you heard the news? It's a story that most of us can share when we look back on the arresting moments in history in our lifetimes – September 11, the death of Princess Diana, the assassination of Kennedy. When the nation learned that the Queen had passed away, it was one of those arresting moments – perhaps you stopped what you were doing, set your mug of tea down, stood still in the supermarket. Those words on the car radio, "We interrupt this programme for the following announcement," were certainly enough to make me pull over and stop my car on the road to Bourne End. I knew instantly that a page was turning in the history book.

I felt compelled to attend the Queen's funeral procession in London. At its very least, this was an opportunity to witness and participate in history. How I would respond emotionally was yet to be discovered. The morning trains from Berkhamsted on Monday 19 September were quiet. Possibly, many had been deterred by the 10-mile Queue to see the Queen lying in state at Westminster Hall, apprehensive of vast crowds. After a short trip on the Tube to Green Park, I found those crowds; thousands were carefully funnelled into

the park. I had expected to be corralled into some obscure point in Hyde Park, but by some extraordinary fluke, I ended up at a vantage point on the Mall, right in front of Buckingham Palace.

The atmosphere was polite and friendly. People chatted and became momentary neighbours. When the funeral service began, it was relayed from Westminster Abbey to loudspeakers over the Mall. The chatting subsided, the crowd fell quiet. I felt a strange satisfaction standing among a crowd of a million people, all dutifully listening to the Abbey choir singing glorious Anglican church music. I joined in the hymns – I was almost alone, but nobody seemed to mind. Then, with the sun shining through the plane trees, the two-minute silence came. There is something mystically affecting when a multitude of that size can stand together in silence, no chatting, no laughter, one single purpose. That sense of unity was further emphasised when everyone joined in singing God Save the King – a spine-tingling moment to hear it sung on the Mall for the first time in 70 years

The procession from Westminster Abbey to Marble Arch was long. A seemingly endless array of military bands representing the many forces

of Commonwealth countries. The crowd was ten deep, and every passing band was obscured by a forest of hands holding mobile phones aloft to capture the moment in photos and videos (happily, I am blessed with height).

The approach of Her Majesty's coffin was heard long before it was seen. The lament of Highland bagpipes, the incessant slow beat of the giant military drum, the shining Household Cavalry, the State Gun Carriage hauled by Royal Navy sailors, the bearskins of the Coldstream Guards bowed in reverence, and at the centre of it all, Her Majesty's tiny coffin, draped in the Royal Standard with the Imperial State Crown glinting in the sunlight.... these were unforgettable sights and sounds. Whatever your thoughts on the Monarchy, this kind of stuff gets into your bones and stays with you forever.

I didn't linger too long in the aftermath, and worked my way back to Euston, returning home in time to watch the committal at Windsor Castle on television. Strangely, this part seemed more affecting. Perhaps it was the Harris anthem, Bring us, Good Lord, or the closeups of the King's face, red-raw with grief at bidding his mother farewell, or the simple finality of it all, but this was the bit that had me reaching for the Kleenex.

Certain moments over the whole ten days seemed to bring unexpected emotion to the surface – the procession from Balmoral, the service at St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh. For me, it was the sight of the Queen's coffin being unloaded from the plane at Northolt, the faces of the young men in the bearer party etched with grief and concentration, where military precision and love overlapped. Many know that I lost my own mother just before Christmas, and for millions of people, these events bore a special resonance, lost only on the most hard-hearted of republicans.

The final word goes to the former Bishop of London, Rt Rev Richard Chartres. Speaking on Radio 4 the night before the funeral, he said this: "There is in many people's lives a great reservoir of unexpressed grief, and we're not very good at helping one another to express that. Sometimes, we imagine that we're sparing people from pain when we try to hurry on to another subject. A death like [the Queen] does, I think, mean that people [...] are giving one another permission to express some of the grief that modern life makes it very difficult for us to show."

Robin McMorran

Cont page 34



The Queen's Funeral -
September 2022



The Queen's Visit to
Berkhamsted -
May 2016

Photo credit Adam
Hollier





CMWorkout

Exercise for Over 60s

121 Training

Group Classes

Outdoor Exercise

www.cmworkout.co.uk

corinne@cmworkout.co.uk

07988 649275

 **Chamomile Therapies**
Reflexology, Aromatherapy & Massage

I offer high quality Reflexology and Aromatherapy treatments for women of all ages from conception through to all life stages. The aim of my treatments is to create a nurturing environment where you can find stillness within and to switch off from the stress and strain of the outside

world. My approach to each client is completely unique and supports the body's natural self healing processes. My treatments are bespoke and are tailored to support you both physically and emotionally.

If you are interested in any of my treatments please do get in touch.

Jackie Garwood

Mob: 07969044884

www.chamomiletherapies.com

I am a full member of the Association Of Reflexologists (AOR) and the International Federation Of professional Aromatherapists (IFPA).

Visit the Berkhamsted Art Society Winter Exhibition

Berkhamsted Art Society warmly invites you to visit their annual winter exhibition and sale, which returns this November.



Lots to see and buy

It features the work of nationally and internationally renowned artists, local professionals and amateurs who just enjoy making art. Pieces include framed and unframed artwork, ceramics, textiles and glassware – a great opportunity to buy affordable original art. A wide selection of greeting cards is also available.

Meet the artists

The exhibition is a chance for the local community to meet and support local artists, who will be on hand to talk about their inspiration and process.

Activities for children

Pupils and teachers from local schools will be making a special visit on the Friday to explore the exhibition and meet some of the artists. A fun-packed day is on the cards!

There'll be creative activities for children to immerse themselves in if you visit any day, so be sure to bring all the family.

Get involved

It's also a chance for those who enjoy making art to find out more about the Society. Popular local artist Mary Casserley encourages anyone with an interest in art to join.

Mary says: "I have made some valuable friends and contacts through the regular social coffee mornings and demonstration evenings. I can brush up my life drawing skills and attend workshops. I hope to see you at the exhibition!"

Everyone is welcome and entry is free of charge.

Friday 4 November, 9am to 6pm

Saturday 5 November, 10am to 5pm

Sunday 6 November, 10am to 3pm

If you'd like to find out more about becoming a member of Berkhamsted Art Society for £25 a year, visit berkhamstedartsociety.co.uk



Photo credit: Brian O'Carroll

BERKHAMSTED ART SOCIETY'S WINTER EXHIBITION

PAINTINGS

PRINTS

CERAMICS

CARDS

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

DEMONSTRATIONS

FREE ENTRY

BERKHAMSTED CIVIC CENTRE



FRI 4 NOV 9AM–6PM
SAT 5 NOV 10AM–5PM
SUN 6 NOV 10AM–3PM

OPEN DOOR NEWS

Open Door, your community space and café continues to offer a huge range of services and activities to the community.

In addition to our regular exhibitions and café, and art, wellbeing, yoga, Pilates, qi gong classes & range of support groups (all listed at www.opendoorberkhamsted.co.uk/whats-on), we are so delighted to be throwing open the doors of the long awaited Open Door Community Pottery Shed! Based just around the corner from Open Door, the Pottery Shed makes the joy of pottery available to the community of Berkhamsted - whether that's throwing classes, hand building or pottery painting - there'll be something for everyone.



Check out our Pottery class schedule at www.opendoorberkhamsted.co.uk/potteryshed - we hope to see you soon!



Specific opportunities

We often have opportunities for specific paid or volunteer roles at Open Door - keep an eye out here or register for our newsletter to find out what's coming up.

Volunteer with us

Open Door is run almost entirely by volunteers, and we are always looking for enthusiastic people to add to our wonderful team. We welcome everyone, from all walks of life, to get involved - we have a whole range of ways you could help out:

- Working in our community café - welcoming visitors, serving refreshments and helping in the kitchen
- Baking delicious cakes, tray bakes, scones and biscuits (including vegan, gluten- and dairy-free options)
- Setting up exhibitions or activities
- IT, events and admin support
- Help with fundraising

You don't need to offer regular shifts to get involved - we value volunteers from all backgrounds and ages to help with regular shifts or occasional activities, projects or work parties. If you're interested, please contact our Volunteer Manager for a friendly chat, on volunteering@opendoorberkhamsted.co.uk, or pop in for a chat.

Donate or fund our work

Everything we do is funded by grants and donations. If you'd like to help us support the most vulnerable and isolated people in our community, you can make a one-off or monthly donation by clicking [here](#). Thank you so much!

We also welcome support in the form of grants, goods and services - please get in touch at info@opendoorberkhamsted.co.uk if you'd like to offer anything, or have a chat about how you or your friends, family or colleagues could support us.

A promotional poster for the 'Walk for Parkinson's' event. The background is blue with a large yellow semi-circle at the bottom. Two people are featured: a woman standing behind a man who is seated in a wheelchair. Both are wearing blue t-shirts with the Parkinson's UK logo. The text on the poster includes the Parkinson's UK logo, the event title 'WALK FOR PARKINSON'S', the location 'St Pauls Walden Bury, Hitchin', the distance '2 or 6 Miles, 10am', the date 'Sunday 11 September', the website 'events.parkinsons.org.uk/', the email 'walkstpaulswaldenbury', the phone number '0800 138 6593', and the hashtag '#WalkforParkinsons'. A 'FR' logo with 'Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR' is in the top right. Small text on the right side of the poster provides copyright and contact information for the Great Berkhamsted Parochial Church Council.

PARKINSON'S^{UK}

WALK FOR PARKINSON'S

St Pauls Walden Bury, Hitchin
2 or 6 Miles, 10am
Sunday 11 September
events.parkinsons.org.uk/
walkstpaulswaldenbury
0800 138 6593

#WalkforParkinsons

FR Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Copyright © 2019 The Great Berkhamsted Parochial Church Council. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced without prior written permission. Printed by: The Great Berkhamsted Parochial Church Council. Printed on 100% recycled paper. Printed in the UK. Printed by: The Great Berkhamsted Parochial Church Council. Printed on 100% recycled paper. Printed in the UK. Printed by: The Great Berkhamsted Parochial Church Council. Printed on 100% recycled paper. Printed in the UK.

Your Berkhamsted Team

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

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

Published by Great Berkhamsted Parochial Church Council. Registered charity no 1130108

The 800th Year of Celebration Continues



St Peter's Church continues to celebrate its 800th anniversary which runs until the end of the year!

Father Stuart Owen, Rector of St Peter's comments, "St Peter's has played host to a whole host of activities already in its 800th year and we have been delighted to welcome many new – and old – faces into the church to celebrate our grand age with us. Alongside the festivities, many have joined us to find solace in the tranquillity of the building, particularly during the recent period of national mourning for her Majesty the Queen.

"St Peter's remains open to all. It's a church for everyone and I would encourage local people to pop in if they're passing – have a look around, check out the 800th history exhibition all about Berkhamsted and its church, stop to light a candle or say a prayer, or join in with one of the remaining 800th events. We look forward to welcoming you."

OCTOBER

800th Photo Competition

Sponsored by EIC Insurance, St Peter's 800th photography competition with the theme of *Berkhamsted or Celebration* is open to all adults in HP4 postcodes and children attending HP4 schools. The closing date is Friday 28th October. Entry details [https://](https://www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk/800th/photo-competition/)

www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk/800th/photo-competition/

The Return of Fr Tim Pilkington – Sunday 23 October 9:30am Service

We welcome our former Rector, Fr Tim Pilkington back to worship with us in Berkhamsted. As part of our 800th celebrations, Fr Tim will be our guest preacher at the Sunday morning Eucharist.

800th Parish Dinner - Fri 28 October 7pm 2022

Join us in the historic Deans' Hall of Berkhamsted School for a special dinner to celebrate 800 years of St Peter's church in Berkhamsted. All welcome. Ticket details email stephen@lally.org.uk

All Saints Day and Bishop Alan – Sunday 30 October 9:30am Service

We welcome Bishop Alan, Bishop of St Albans, to celebrate All Saints Day at St Peter's Berkhamsted.

NOVEMBER

Strathspey Reels and Whisky Tasting - Sat 26 November 2022

An evening of Scottish country dancing and whisky tasting. More details soon.

Berkhamsted Festival of Light followed by Advent Carol Service - Sun 27 November 2022 4:00 pm

Advent Carols at 7pm

Visit Berkhamsted for the Christmas lights switch-on and see St Peter's church lit up by thousands of candles in a spectacular display. Free entry

with hot mulled wine and hot chocolate on sale outside – plus a special visit from Saint Nicholas, the original Father Christmas! The beautiful candlelit Advent Carol service with hymns and choral music starts at 7pm.

To donate to St Peter's 800th fund which is supporting local charities and helping to preserve the future of the historic church, <https://www.stpetersberkhamsted.org.uk/800th/appeal/>

Pru Murray



Clay Model of St Peter's created by the Berkhamsted Arts Society in July

Cont page 42

Father Tim
Pilkington at the
wet Petertide
Fair in 2015



Some intrepid
walkers on the
Parish Pilgrim-
age to Little
Gaddeson in
August

**Handleless Handbags?
Unzipp Holdalls/Travelbags?
Battered Briefcases?
Gaping purses/wallets?
Sad Vintage Leathergoods?**



**We are as near,
as your nearest
post office**

01753 862824



www.leathergoodsrepairs.co.uk



THE HANDY FOX



Kitchens
Bathrooms
Carpentry
Plastering
Plumbing
Gardening
Electrics
Tiling
Floors and doors
Painting and decorating
And much much more

Qualified,
Friendly,
Multiskilled
Tradesman

CONTACT ME:
T 0747507335
E HANDYFOX@HOTMAIL.COM

No job too small,
so just give
the fox a call

HALL HIRE

**Quaker Meeting House
289 High Street
Berkhamsted
HP4 1JA**

**Large room for hire
Seats up to 50
Use of kitchen and garden**

**Ideal for classes, groups etc.
Children's Parties
(under 12s)**

**for further information see:
www.berkhamstedquakers.org.**

S. Dell & Sons LIMITED

THE PROFESSIONAL REMOVERS

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




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






