

Aug. 2nd 2001

BEKESBOURNE

Correspondent: Jill Thomas,
Cobham Court, Bekesbourne CT4
5ET, phone 01227 832573, e-mail
s.thomas@which.net.

Church: Pat Kusel will lead Family
Service at 10am on Sunday.

Winners: In the July draw for
Bekesbourne 100 Club, D. Lowther
won £15; D. Crow £25; and Zan
Clifford £50.

Cricket: On Sunday, St Lawrence
and Highland Court Under-11s play
Street End at 9.45am. Bekesbourne
play Tilmanstone away at 2pm.

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BISHOPSBOURNE

Correspondent: Malcolm Mitchell,
The Old Cottage, Bishopsbourne
CT4 5HT, phone 01227 830645, e-
mail 2mitchells@supanet.com

Parish church: Holy Communion
will be celebrated at St Mary the
Virgin Church on Sunday at
9.30am.

Parishioners unable to attend are
invited to any of the following
services being held on Sunday in
the Barham Downs united
benefice, of which Bishopsbourne
is part:

8am, Holy Communion, St John
the Baptist, Barham; 11am, family
service, St Giles's, Kingston; 6pm,
evening prayer, St John the
Baptist, Barham. There is also
morning worship at 9.45am at
Barham Methodist Church.

Meeting: Following on from the
Barham Downs benefice
conference at Canterbury Christ
Church University College
recently, a special meeting of the
St Mary's Parochial Church
Council will be held in the church
on Sunday following the 9.30am
Communion service.

Main topic for discussion will be
the revised pattern of services
throughout the benefice, which
was one of the many topics
discussed at the conference.

It is hoped that all members of the
PCC will attend to give their views
on whether the times of services
should be changed or remain as
they are at present.

Confirmation: Because so many
want to be confirmed, several from
Bishopsbourne, the East Bridge
Deanery Confirmation service,
scheduled for Bridge parish church
on September 12, has been
transferred to Canterbury
Cathedral.

There are nearly 40 candidates,
some of whom will also be
baptised. The choirs from churches
around the deanery will join to
sing at the service, at which
Confirmation will be carried out by
the Bishop in Canterbury, the Rt
Rev Stephen Venner.

The Rector, the Rev David Roper, is

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urging all churchgoers to attend and support the candidates.

Daily prayers: The rector is drawing up a complete list of the congregations in the Barham Downs united benefice. When complete, it will be used during morning prayers each weekday so that congregations can pray for them.

The list will run alphabetically with five or six families being included each day.

Anyone who has particular needs or requests for prayer is invited to speak to the parish clergy for inclusion. Mr Roper can be contacted on 01227831340, the curate, Lindsay Llewellyn on 01227454704, Mary Ambrose on 01227 830856 and Lizzie Hopthrow on 01227 830070.

Weather: Rainfall in the area during June was well below the seasonal average. Local weather recorder Charles Fagg reports rain fell on only 10 days during the month, giving only 26mm in total, which, he says, was less than half the average of 57mm for June.

Sponsored ride: The four churches making up the Barham Downs united benefice are calling for volunteer cyclists. They are needed to take part in the Friends of Kent Churches sponsored ride on Saturday, September 8, from 10am to 6pm.

Participants (whether cyclists or walkers) are sponsored for each church they visit in that time span, half the money going to the Friends and half to the church on whose behalf the rider or walker is taking part. Forms will be available shortly.

Parish magazine: Copy for the September edition of the parish magazine for Bishopsbourne and Kingston should be with the editor, Carol Arter, 6 Greenacre, Kingston (phone 01227 830068) by Wednesday, August 15.

Dancing: Conviviality was expected in The Street, outside the Mermaid Inn last night (Wednesday) when the Dead Horse Morris team was to entertain with traditional songs and dances.

Working party: The parish council is hoping to organise a village working party to tackle the clearance of undergrowth along the Nailbourne river bed over the weekend of August 25 and 26.

The objective is to rid the watercourse of growth that could impede the free flow of the river and so avoid a repetition of last winter's flooding if there is heavy rainfall in the autumn.

All villagers will be advised of the working party but the chairman of the parish council, Malcolm Mitchell, The Old Cottage, The Street (telephone 01227 830645, e-mail 2mitchells@supanet.com) would welcome the names of those willing to take part in advance.

The stretch of Nailbourne involved is that behind the Conrad Hall and the Neame Meadow recreation ground, both of which are heavily overgrown with grass, brambles and other shrubs.

Watch out: Neighbourhood Watch is advising everyone to be on their guard against someone offering to perform tree surgery at their premises. Watch says residents are being targeted by the driver of a white van who claims to be a tree surgeon and are urged to treat him with suspicion.

Information about the van and its driver should be sent to PC Paul Cheeseman, of Canterbury Police intelligence unit on 01227 762085.

Neighbourhood Watch is also warning builders against leaving their vans unlocked following a spate of thefts of tools throughout the Canterbury area, including Bishopsbourne.

Police say they are seeking a young man, with short dark brown hair and a dark T-shirt, who was spotted peering into the back windows of several vans before breaking into a Ford Escort van.

Police advise that tools should be removed from vans whenever possible or kept in fixed steel containers. Vehicles should also be fitted with burglar alarms.

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BRIDGE

Correspondent: John Anderson, 7 Dering Road, Bridge, Canterbury CT4 5NA.

Summer show: The Nailbourne Horticultural Society show was held in the Bridge Primary School Hall. Although the number of entries were down, like most shows this year owing to the inclement weather last winter and spring, the

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judges remarked on the high standard of the exhibits.

The President John Anderson thanked the new show secretary Joan Stingemore, chairman Roger Austin, and all the members of the committee for their hard work, in making the event such a success.

The winners were: Han Kolloff with The Champion Cottage Gardener Cup most points in sections 1-22 Vegetables, Tankard winner class 22 Vegetables, Blee Cup most points overall in flowers and vegetables. Liz Oakey Silver Rose Trophy most points in classes 23-27 Flowers. Sarah Louise Prestige Cup most points in classes 38-42 Floral Art and the Silver Plate Prettiest Small Garden. Jean Oakey Hawkins Cup Best Novice Exhibit. Joyce Hopkins Fremmins Challenge Cup Most points in classes 43-46 Cookery.

Jean Foster Silver Salver most points in class 51 Handicrafts. Jane Shorrocks Silver Rose Bowl most Picturesque Garden. Every entrant received a prize. The judges were: John Laurie, vegetables and flowers. Jill Snashell, floral art. Diane Ridsdale, cookery. Pat Pratt, handicraft and Children's. Roger Austin, gardens. Unusually every one of the 147 exhibits received some award.

WI: The rain washed out the July garden meeting, but members who braved the elements in the evening enjoyed a social meeting in the village hall with the refreshments intended for the afternoon. There will be a coffee morning, bring and buy stall on Wednesday, August 15, at 26 Western Avenue, Bridge from 10.30am to noon to which everyone will be made welcome.

FISH scheme: Coffee pop-in will be held in the Bridge Village Hall on Wednesday, August 8, 10 to 11.15am.

Church news: It is with regret that the resignation of Dr Peter Giles as the Director of Music at St Peter's Church, Bridge has been announced. In the time that he has spent here, the standard of music has been greatly enhanced and he will be sadly missed. Everyone wishes him well in his future appointment, and all the other projects with which he is involved.

Church services: Sunday 8am BCP Communion, Rev Paul Filmer, St Mary's Church, Patixbourne. 10am Holy Communion, Rev John Shorrocks, St Peter's Church, Bridge. Other churches in the Bridge group; 10am Family service, Pat Kusel, St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne. 10am Holy Communion, Rev Paul Filmer, St Mary the Virgin, Lower Hardres. Bridge Methodist Church, 11am service led by Mr P. Burt.

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