

# On the NAIL



NAILBOURNE



A MAGAZINE  
FOR BRIDGE  
PATRIBOURNE  
AND BEKESBOURNE

JANUARY 1980

Price 15p

# Sunday Services in January

BRIDGE

PATRIXBOURNE

BEKESBOURNE

**6th:**

11am Matins

11.45 Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Sung

Communion

**13th:**

9am Holy Communion 11am Matins

(Series 3)

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

**20th:**

9.30am Parish  
Eucharist

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

**27th:**

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

11.45 Holy Communion

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated at 9.30am each Wednesday, and at 7.30am every Friday, at St. Peter's, Bridge.

A short informal service is held each Thursday afternoon for the residents of the Close.

Holy Communion is celebrated in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am.

Morning Service at Bridge Methodist Church is at 11.00am each Sunday.

## For your diary

1st *The Naming of Jesus or The Circumcision of Christ*

4th Fr. Jeremiah Cronin to be instituted as Parish Priest of St. Thomas's RC Church, Canterbury at 7.30pm. Please pray for him to-day, and for his ministry, which includes residents of our villages. Your own Parish Priest will be attending the Mass of Institution.

6th *Epiphany of Our Lord*, when we think of the visit of the Wise Men to the infant Jesus. It is one of the Church's major feasts.

13th *First Sunday after Epiphany*

15th Bridge with Patrixbourne WI meet, 7.00pm.

18th Week of Prayer for Unity begins

20th *Second Sunday after Epiphany*

23rd United Service in Bridge Parish Church, hosted by the Methodist Church

25th Farewell Eucharist to the Archbishop at 7.30pm in the Cathedral

27th *Third Sunday after Epiphany*

29th Patrixbourne with Bridge PCC Meeting

*All unsigned articles are by the Parish Priest, who is also the Editor.  
He offers:—*

## POINTS TO PONDER

In heralding 1980 (though not, we are told, the nineteen-eighties) we herald also the first edition of *ON THE NAIL*. Whether it was the build-up to Christmas or fear of the unknown is a moot point, but contributions have not been forthcoming on anything like the scale we want. I cannot believe it is lack of ideas or of a story to tell, so come on, get writing!

Our December edition carried a report of Bekesbourne Parish Council's disappointment over the path from Bifrons Road to the Village Hall. If it is fuel for the fire that they want then Miss Ruth Edwards of School Lane has sadly provided it by being the victim of a hit-and-run accident that landed her in hospital over Christmas with multiple injuries. How many more such cases does the Highways Department want before it changes its mind?

In Church circles January is the month in which the traditional Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is held. All sincere Christians should pray that each succeeding unity week will be the last one; not through apathy but unity. Meanwhile a service for unity will be held in Bridge on Wednesday 23rd at 8.00pm. It will be in St. Peter's Church although where Anglicans are concerned it will be an away fixture. This year is the turn of the Methodists to be hosts, but due to lack of space in their Patricxbourne Road church the Parish Church has been put at their disposal for the service, their own church being the venue for coffee and get-together afterwards. I have been invited to preach and I hope that that will not deter anyone from attending who would normally do so. Do come and make this switch to a larger building justified.

Five years ago to the day that Donald Coggan was enthroned as 101st Archbishop of Canterbury, on 25th January, a diocesan service of farewell will take place in the Cathedral at 7.30pm. It will take the form of a Eucharist (another name for the Holy Communion) and we are all invited to attend. A presentation will be made to the Coggans during the course of it.

Mention of presentations reminds me of a wonderful Midnight Service at Bekesbourne on Christmas Eve which will live long in the memories of those of us who were there. Immediately after the final carol John Purchase made a presentation on behalf of the parish to Stanley and Ruth Grey, marking their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Christmas Day. It was a moving 'family' occasion, at the conclusion of which I was privileged to give them both God's blessing — using the form of blessing from the Marriage Service — as they knelt side by side where all brides and bridegrooms kneel at their wedding. You really should have been there!

Space did not permit the following article by Mrs. Joan Warren of Bridge Down to be included in last month's issue, but perhaps it will strike home better now than then, for it involves everyone who lives in Bridge. Residents of the Bournes may also glean an idea or two from it, so read on and think on.

## To the rescue

Surveys of handicapped and elderly people have shown that many of them could be helped by volunteers. The recent public expenditure cuts have highlighted this need for voluntary help.

The Canterbury Survey of Handicapped People found that many people in need did not know how to get help or even that it was available. At that time, many people came forward with offers of help but no organisation existed to put them in contact with those needing it. At a public meeting following the survey, it was decided that a Volunteer Bureau should be set up to put volunteers into touch with the needy. The City and County Councils supported this financially. The office, which opened in 1973, is manned by volunteers and the Council's grant is supplemented by fund-raising activities.

Volunteer Bureaux have been set up in Whitstable and Herne Bay and 'Good Neighbour' and similar schemes in Sturry, Blean, Littlebourne and Chartham. Some time ago the Canterbury Organiser, Mrs. Jill Munday, approached the Parish Council about the possibility of setting up a similar scheme in Bridge as she was getting requests from social workers, health visitors and voluntary organisations for help in the village. A lot of voluntary work is already done in Bridge, but preliminary enquiries found that there is a need for even more.

A recent Parish Meeting decided to ask Mrs. Munday to extend the work in Bridge and to appeal for more local volunteers. It was proposed that information about the work of the Bureau and the help available should go to every household in the parish, and that this should be coupled with a search for unmet needs and an appeal for local volunteers. It is hoped that letters concerning this will go out in January and that people will help housebound neighbours living alone to return their completed forms. There are many ways of helping people and all age groups can play a part. Offers of occasional help are just as valuable as those of a more regular nature.

Since it opened the Canterbury Bureau has answered over a thousand requests for help each year. It has set up self-help groups and clubs, found individuals to do work not covered by existing volunteer groups, acted as a liaison centre for established voluntary organisations and set up a pool of volunteer drivers (to whom expenses are paid) which can be called upon by people who are unable to use public transport and by the social services and hospitals. Over thirty different types of voluntary help can be offered. Tasks undertaken range from helping in emergency to regular visiting, escorting the blind, helping with Meals on Wheels, gardening, providing 'granny-sitters', fetching prescriptions and organising Christmas shopping trips for the elderly and handicapped.

The Canterbury Volunteer Bureau is at 7a Dane John (Tel: 52278) and is open Mondays to Fridays from 10.00am to 12.00 noon. If you are in urgent need of help now, please contact the Bureau.

Step forward the volunteers! There's a job for you!

*Joan Warren*

## Around and about

Hilary and Barry Whiting inform one and all that the first Bible Study session for 1980 will be held in their home, 20 Conyngham Lane, on Wednesday, 16th, and thereafter on the third Wednesday of each month. You don't have to be a biblical egg-head to attend; merely an honest enquirer anxious for any help available in comprehending the scriptures, and which of us is not?

Campanology is a very big word, but you don't have to be enormous to be a bell-ringer. Enthusiasm is first on the list of requirements, and if you are a beginner, a willingness to be taught how to grasp your sally firmly. The Bekesbourne team, led by Mr. Harry Collard of 1 Mumpas Cottages, Little Pett, is keen to show you the ropes, and they have six to choose from. Anyone who has ever thought that they might like to learn the art of bell-ringer, or who has rung before and would like to take it up again (I'm told it is a skill you never lose), is warmly welcome in the ringing chamber at the church on Tuesday evenings from 7.00pm to 8.00pm.

Readers may be interested to know that on leaving the Cathedral your Parish Priest was appointed an Honorary Minor Canon. This does not mean I am *Canon* Gilbert, but that I can be called upon when required and if time permits to sing the occasional Evensong. It also allows me to attend Cathedral services robed as of right, and should stand me in good stead when the new Archbishop is enthroned.

In my study are the two cushions Mrs. Cremer raffled at the Bridge Christmas Market. No, I didn't win them, but we don't know who did. Will the owner of ticket number 126, an orange ticket, please call for them. If they are not claimed by their legitimate owner they will be put up for raffle in the summer.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is the expected follow-on in later life to that of Baptism, the two forming part of one whole, the means by which a person is fully initiated into membership of the Church. Children who have reached the age of thirteen and who wish to take this big step forward in their Christian life should ask their parents to let me have a note of their names, so that we can fix a time to start the fairly lengthy course of instruction involved. Intending candidates should realise at the outset that taking the course does not automatically end in Confirmation (either they or I may decide they are not ready) but it does indicate a strong desire to go on to regular, active membership of the Church. However, more of this anon.

We have to acknowledge the passing of three ladies from Bridge, each of whom left her own characteristic mark on our lives. Norah Mallinder died most unexpectedly on 30th October and left more than her husband and son bereft. The Altar Fund set up in memory of her stands at upward of £100. Some of it will be used to restore to working order the aumbry in the North wall of the sanctuary in Bridge Church. An aumbry is a small wall safe in which is kept the reserved sacrament, from which the Communion is taken to the sick. Marjorie Munns' death was not entirely unexpected, she having suffered a blood disease for several years, but she too will be greatly missed, having made her own quiet witness to her Lord, even during her final illness. News came on Christmas Eve of the death of Mrs. Kate Wass,

whose son lives in Union Road. We offer our sincere sympathy to him and his family. May all three ladies rest in peace.

## BRIDGE AND PATRIBOURNE CHRISTMAS MARKET

1978 Held on 8th December 1979

£		£
38	Gift Stall (Young Wives) .....	33
37	Teas - Cakes (Mrs. Williamson) .....	68
50	"Patric Pantry" (Mrs. Allan) .....	30
51	Groceries (Mrs. Rose) .....	21
10	Plants - Produce (Mr. Jackson) .....	23
18	(Produce)	
10	Jewellery Stall (Mrs. Johnson) .....	6
26	White Elephant (Mrs. Hulyer) .....	26
15	Christmas Tree Presents (Bridge School) .....	11
11	The Brownies .....	6
12	Toys - Books (Miss Mason) .....	12
81	Bottle Stall (Mr. Hill) .....	105
60	Raffle (Mr. Barley) <i>Less cost of tickets and First Prize</i> .....	80
—	Cushion Raffle (Mr. Cremer) .....	6
11	(Christmas Cards)	
15	Side Shows (Mr. Jackson) .....	11
<u>445</u>		<u>438</u>
37	Sundry Donations .....	35
482		473
5	<i>Less hire of Village Hall</i> .....	6
<u>477</u>	PROFIT .....	<u>467</u>

Congratulations to all concerned, another excellent result, only slightly down on last year which was an all time record. C.A.P.

*While on the subject of Christmas markets, Miss Mason reports that the annual Church of England Children's Society Christmas Sale at the Deanery realised £900, her sweet stall alone producing £15.94. She thanks Mesdames Hill, Packer, Wreight and Wood for their contributions.*

## RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

Ticket	Prize	Name of Winner
1190	Christmas Hamper	Mrs. Storrs, 1 Bridgeford Way, Bridge
504	Carving Set	Mrs. Cowie, c/o 72 Bridge Down
754	Whisky	Mrs. Dollar, Filmer Road, Bridge
683	Coffee Set	Mr. Payne, 18 New Ruttington Lane, C'bury
40	Bottle Gin	Mrs. Macdonald, 2 Whitelocks Close, Kingston
275	Voucher (P. Jordan)	Lady S. Aspinall, Howletts, Bekesbourne
604	Voucher (B. Welch)	Mrs. Sullivan, 9 Ford Close, Bridge
749	Bottle of Sherry	H. Hawkins, 20 Windmill Close
771	Bottle of Cinzano	Mr. C. Potter, Field House, Bridge
210	Bottle of Ginger Wine	Mr. J. Fox, Chalk Pit Farm, Bekesbourne
510	Bottle of Wine	Mrs. Cowie, c/o 72 Bridge Down
365	Tin of Biscuits	P. Beckett c/o National Coal Board
496	Box of Chocolates	Taylor, Flat 6, Bridge Hill House
1508	Voucher (Barbaranne)	Mrs. P. Hulyer, 8 Bridge Down
990	Basket of Fruit	Mrs. Morgan, 52 Union Road, Bridge
12	Tins of Lager	Mr. Carter, 14 Twiss Avenue, Hythe
978	Silk Scarf	Mr. Lamb, c/o National Coal Board

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# PARISH PUMP

Parish Council  
News



## BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The December meeting of the Parish Council heard Mrs. B. Wear of the Canterbury City Planning Department speak on the preparation of a Village Appraisal. She pointed out that a great deal of work had already been done both by the Parish and City Councils, and apart from the collating, analysing and writing up of the material, the major additional task was the carrying out of a street by street survey identifying outstanding features — both good and bad — in the village. The completed Appraisal would enable the Council to clarify its aims for the future development of the village, and to measure projected changes against these aims. There was general acceptance by the Council of the desirability of an Appraisal, not only for the reasons mentioned, but also to give the Council a better understanding of residents' needs and wishes, and to help it to formulate positive measures for village improvement. For example, the opening of the by-pass had created an opportunity for High Street improvement of which we had so far taken no advantage. Nevertheless, it was felt that the original survey, conducted before the opening of the by-pass, was in some important respects out-of-date, and that it might be more satisfactory to carry out a new survey of the village if the Appraisal was to reflect faithfully village needs.

The strong representations which the Council had made to the County regarding 'The Close', the Chairman Cllr Lawrence reported, had had an early result. The Chairman of the Social Services Committee had visited the Home, and it was now hoped that it would continue in being, and that some needed improvements would also be carried out.

It was agreed to approach the Police regarding the behaviour of persons using the Village Hall, and also to discuss with the Hall Committee what measures could be taken to eliminate a problem of noise both inside and outside the Hall, which had been growing rapidly of recent months.

The next meeting of the Council, which will discuss the ensuing year's budget, will take place on Thursday, 10th January, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Visitors are, as always, welcome.

## ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BEKESBOURNE — Cleaning Rota for January

Mrs. Hodgkiss .....	5th
Mrs. Smith .....	12th
Mrs. Stickells .....	19th
Mrs. Hogben .....	26th
Mrs. Watson .....	Feb. 2nd

## **BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE W. I.**

At our December meeting about fifty-five members and several guests enjoyed a talk by Mrs. Webb on her experiences as a 'Blue Bell' Girl. After coffee and mince pies, we ended our meeting singing Carols by candlelight. The competition for Six Mince Pies was won by Mrs. Dawson, and the Raffle was won by Mrs. Child.

The January meeting will be held on the 15th at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. Mr. J. B. Whiting will give a talk on 'First Aid in the Home'. The monthly competition will be the Best Bloom in the Garden. Our New Year Party is on the 12th of January at 7.30pm. All members are welcome.

*J. E. Foster*

## **THANKS**

My wife and I have received such a lot of good wishes to mark our Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary that we thought that we should thank you all so very much for your very great kindnesses.

To all our friends and neighbours in all three parishes may we say a simple thank-you, and may God bless you all as he has blessed us both.

To our Vicar a special word of thanks for the Blessing he pronounced on us both, and to our friend John Purchase.

I repeat the simple words on behalf of us both — thank-you.

*Ruth and Stanley Grey*

**The Poppy Day Appeal** this year amounted to £193.39. Thank you, to all who gave so generously, and to the collectors who made this sum possible.

*J. Hunter*

**Bekesbourne Church's Christmas Market** at the end of November netted £183.14. Thanks to all concerned on both sides of the counter.

**A carol singing session** held by Bridge Choir collected £10 for the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children, and that from the only two roads we were able to cover on a bitterly cold night. Some warming Christmas cheer at the vicarage when it was all over thawed out freezing tissue.

He drew a circle that shut me out—  
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.  
But Love and I had the wit to win:  
We drew a circle that took him in.

*Edwin Markham, 1852—1940*

# Corporal Paddy and his problem

## *A true story*

The year was 1946, and the R.A.F. station at Honiley, near Coventry, which had a year before been a busy testing ground for Ground Control Approach for aircraft was now slowly closing down. The airmen were being posted away to more useful jobs, and the transmitter station some two miles from camp was left in the hands of Corporal Paddy and his Leading Aircraftsman — me.

There was not a great deal to do beyond daily checks of the equipment, and Paddy was becoming irritated. Moreover, his wife in Ireland had been blessed with a son, and the strain of separation was beginning to tell on the couple. So, in the underground concrete structure that housed the line of gleaming transmitters, each as tall as a wardrobe, Paddy began to scheme.

“There should be a place in the village” he said, “where Joan and the child could have a room. I might even get a living-out pass, and then it would be fine”.

I agreed. Quite a few airmen lived out, and with things so quiet, there should not be any snag if Paddy applied.

So he wrote to his wife and fixed a date, sending her the tickets for the trip, and began to go down to the village to find some digs.

After ten days, and no sign of a place where he could rent a room, Paddy began to look anxious. His wife, who was overjoyed at the prospect of living with him again, was due to sail to Liverpool in another week. We both began to search, going from house to house on our old bicycles. We had no luck; there just wasn't a room to be had in Honiley, Balsall Common or anywhere near enough to the station.

The day before Joan was due to arrive, Paddy sat at the table, his head in his hands, morosely looking at the calendar.

“Look!” he exclaimed suddenly, “Would you mind sleeping down here for a few days? I've been thinking: we must convert the hut where we keep the spares into a billet.”

The hut, a brick structure, stood at the entrance to the site over which loomed the two one-hundred towers carrying our aerials. I replied that probably it could be done, and we began to clear out the spares and rubbish like maniacs, burning what we could, and generally tidying up the site. When all was ready, Paddy set off for Liverpool, while I washed up the saucepans and crockery with which we cooked our meals at the remote site. We only went into camp for rations and pay, so Paddy's scheme to tide him over was not too rash.

However, when a taxi drew up next day, with a pram tied to the roof, misgivings began to creep into my mind.

Another twenty-four hours and there were lines of nappies between the aerial masts, curtains across the hut windows, a carpet along the side of the transmitters; and baby clothes spread to air on top of the output stages of the old 1189 transmitters which used to heat up rather a lot.

Things went very smoothly I suppose, for about three weeks. We built an electric oven out of an old receiver case, and had hot roast lunch on Sundays; our shirts were ironed at night when the three of us sat down below in the transmitter room, listening to the radio and playing cribbage.

The cookhouse never realised that we were drawing now nearly twice the rations that we had before; the corporal in charge of bicycles let us have a spare machine for Joan and one night we borrowed the 16mm projector from the Gas Unit to show films in the hut above ground.

Milk was being delivered, and the local grocery van called three times a week since Joan registered with the village shops on arrival. The telephone was the only problem, for only Paddy or I could answer it. And it was the telephone that led to the downfall of the whole scheme. Paddy went up to Flying Control one day to check the telephone switchboard there, promising to ring when he had finished so that lunch could be put on.

The 'phone bell rang at about one o'clock, so Joan picked up the receiver.

"I'm just putting it in the oven darling" she said brightly into the mouthpiece.

"You're *what!* Who the devil's that?" exclaimed the Station Signals Officer at the other end.

Joan, horrified, slowly replaced the receiver.

The 'phone rang again, sharply. I answered it miserably.

"Yes, sir. No, sir. Er— Yes, a woman, sir. *Yes!* sir."

Minutes later the officer strode up the gravel path from the gate, observed the line of nappies in horror, the baby in his pram in silence, and the curtains with disbelief.

Paddy was nearly courtmartialled. The crimesheet took two minutes to read out fully to the Commanding Officer when Paddy stood before him next morning, his hat off, and a burly S.P. at his elbow.

The Signals Officer cleared his throat, and read out in detail what he had found. The C.O. coughed violently and hid his face behind a handkerchief when the nappies and curtains were mentioned. Eventually, he heard from Paddy what had happened, and having found him technically guilty of heaven knows how many breaches of King's Regulations, sent the others all out.

"Now, look Paddy", he said, "I know how you feel about this, and how things built up a bit too much for you. Why didn't you see the station welfare officer? Anyway, go and see him now, and see if he can find you a place to be with your wife. I will scrub the charges, so that's that. But for goodness sake, go back and get rid of that laundry line, or you'll have us the laughing stock of Group!"

So, Paddy went; and I am glad to say that the welfare officer did find him a billet in a nearby village — and that at any rate solved Paddy's problem, but left me wondering which tin to open for dinner.

*J.P.*

*Parish Priest:*

The Revd. Raymond Gilbert, A.K.C., The Vicarage, 23 High Street, Bridge  
(Bridge 830250)

**PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE**

*Churchwardens:*

Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Bridge (Bridge 830218)

Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, 'Tullymore', 72 Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830472)

*Hon. Secretary:* Mr. D.R. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830426)

*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Bridge (Bridge 830218)

*Organist (Bridge):* Mr. R. Smith, Wellington House, Canterbury Road, Lydden,  
Nr. Dover (Shepherdswell 830781)

*Organist (Patricxbourne):* Mrs. G. Allan, 'Ardpriory', Bekesbourne Lane,  
Canterbury (Canterbury 62695)

*Verger (Bridge):* Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne

**BEKESBOURNE**

*Churchwarden:*

Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge (Bridge 830522)

*Hon. Secretary:* Mr. J. Purchase, 'Mill Cottage', Bekesbourne (Canterbury 61508)

*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. G.D. Millyard, 'School House', School Lane, Bekesbourne  
(Bridge 830256)

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*Magazine Editor:* The Parish Priest

Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On the Nail* please send them to The Editor by the 20th of the month preceding publications. He would always welcome articles and photographs of general interest for inclusion in the Magazine which has a circulation in the three villages of Bridge, Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne.

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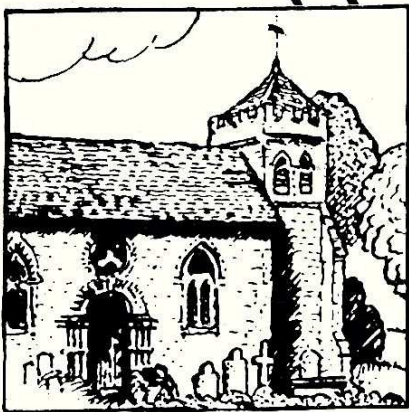
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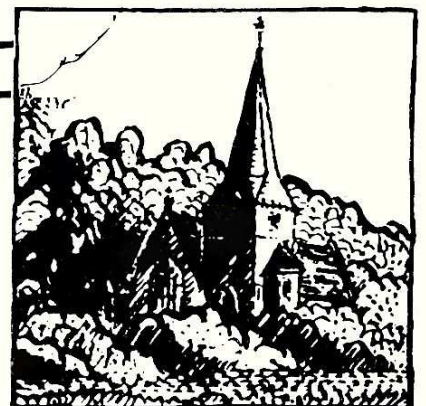
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# On the NAIL



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AND BEKESBOURNE

FEBRUARY 1980      Price 15p

# Sunday Services in February

BRIDGE

PATRIXBOURNE

BEKESBOURNE

## 3rd:

11am Sung Communion 8am Holy Communion 9.30am Sung  
6.30pm Evensong Communion

## 10th:

9am Holy Communion 11am Matins 8am Holy Communion  
(Series 3)  
6.30pm Evensong  
Preacher: The Archdeacon

## 17th:

9.30am Parish 8am Holy Communion 11am Matins  
Eucharist  
6.30pm Evensong

## 24th:

8am Holy Communion 9am Holy Communion 11am Matins  
6.30pm Guide & Scout Service 11.45 Holy Communion

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated at 9.30am each Wednesday, and at 7.30am every Friday, at St. Peter's, Bridge.

A short informal service is held each Thursday afternoon for the residents of the Close.

Holy Communion is celebrated in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am.

Morning Service at Bridge Methodist Church is at 11.00am each Sunday.

## For your Diary

- 2nd *Presentation of Christ in the Temple* commonly called *The Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin*
- 3rd *Septuagesima*, 9th Sunday before Easter
- 5th Bekesbourne Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm.
- 6th *Accession of Queen Elizabeth II, 1952*
- 10th *Sexagesima*, 8th Sunday before Easter.  
Archdeacon of Canterbury preaches at 6.30 Evensong in Bridge Church
- 14th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm.
- 16th Bridge School P.T.A. Valentine's Dance
- 17th *Quinquagesima*, 7th Sunday before Easter and Last before Lent  
Holy Baptism at Bridge, 3.00pm.
- 19th Bridge with Patribourne W.I. Meeting
- 20th *Ash Wednesday*, the First Day of Lent  
Holy Communion at Bridge, 9.30am.
- 21st Series 3 Teach-in at Bridge Church, 8.00pm.
- 24th *First Sunday in Lent*
- 26th *St. Matthias, Apostle* (Transferred from 24th)
- 28th Series 3 Teach-in at Bridge Church, 8.00pm.
- 29th *Ember Day*, when we pray for those who are preparing for ordination.

# Forthcoming Attractions

**Holy Baptism**, through which we become members of the world-wide Church, is essentially a family affair, when those who constitute the Church in a given area welcome their new member. Even when, as is generally the case, the person being baptised is a babe-in-arms the Church ought to be present. This means either holding Baptisms during a service or the Church-people turning out at a special time to see the new-comer safely admitted. The latter will be the case, hopefully, when on Sunday, 17th February, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Andrews of Meadow Close, Bridge is baptised in St. Peter's Church at 3 o'clock. It is a new departure, I realise it, but I hope as many of the congregation as can will attend Matthew's christening, when he will be made

a member of Christ,  
the child of God, and  
an inheritor of the Kingdom of Heaven.

**Confirmation** completes the process of entry into the full life of the Church. May I remind those of 13 years and upwards who have not been confirmed but would like to consider it, that a course of instruction will be starting shortly. See me as soon as you can, even if you are only *thinking* about Confirmation.

**Matins at Bridge** on first Sundays is being replaced for the time being by a service of Holy Communion with hymns and a sermon. This means there will be no 11.45 Communion. We start on 3rd February at 11.00am.

**Canon Bernard Pawley** is better known as our Archdeacon, but he will not be on archidiaconal duties when he visits Bridge Church on Sunday, 10th February. He will be the preacher at Evensong, and comes by invitation. It will be his first non-official visit, and I hope everybody will turn out to welcome him. He always has something interesting to say and possesses a great wit.

**During Lent 1979** tens of thousands of people from Kent and parts of Essex and Surrey took part in the first Radio Medway Lent Course. Some listened at home on their own, but most took part in locally arranged house groups. The exercise is to be repeated this year, and I hope we can arrange several house-groups in the villages. First priority is for houses in which to meet, where there is a radio receiver that can pick up Radio Medway. Technically we are outside their range, but a good VHF set, preferably high up, should be able to get a signal. The station broadcasts on 96.7 FM. It also uses 290 Medium wave, but that may not be much use in the evening. Give it a try and let me know if you will be prepared to host a group. The broadcasts go out each Tuesday in Lent (26th February to 25th March inclusive) at 8.00pm. There is a half hour's talk, then three-quarters of an hour for group discussion, after which we tune in for a 'phone-in', to which anyone may contribute. The first course was a tremendous success, particularly in the last section, when it dawned on everyone just how big an operation they were involved in, with house-groups meeting all over the South-East of England. Names of potential hosts and participants to the Vicarage by mid-February, please! This could be a great uplift to our parish life!

**Series 3** is a collection of services in the language of the twentieth century.

Properly understood the Communion Service Series 3 is truly remarkable, and to experience it in its right setting is most stimulating and refreshing. Unfortunately it has received a bad press of late, with the result that a good many church people are condemning it outright, usually from hearsay or through experiencing it without prior explanation. We use Series 3 at the Holy Communion on the second Sunday of each month and every Friday morning at Bridge, but the number of people who attend is lamentably small. This is a great shame, because apart from the amount of work that went into its compilation, we are missing a great deal. In order, therefore, to give Series 3 its due, and hopefully to correct a number of misapprehensions connected with it, I am proposing to conduct a series of explanatory sessions in Bridge Church on Thursday evenings at 8.00pm., commencing on 21st February. Several of you have already expressed a keen desire for some sort of teach-in on this new service and I hope that many more will come along and learn what it is trying to say. One fear I must allay at this juncture: Series 3 does not spell the end of the Book of Common Prayer, as so many misguided folk imagine. The 1662 Prayer Book will see all of us out, make no mistake about it.

## Powerful and Effective

On the table just inside the door of Bridge Church you will find a wooden box with a slot in the lid. This is not for money, as you might suppose, but for prayers.

The idea is to extend the prayer-life of our Church (the people, not the building). Not that we do not pray already, but that we should pray more and in a more informed way.

At every church service we pray for the villages, but unless we know of specific needs this prayer has to be of a very general nature. There must be circumstances or people you know of where the benefit of some solid, concerted prayer by the Church would do a power of good. The Prayer Box is there for you to inform us of matters for prayer. All we invite you to do is write the intention (not a whole prayer) on a slip of paper and pop it in the Prayer Box. We will do the rest!

With this scheme the Church's prayer will become more urgent and more meaningful because it will be with specific aims in mind. Don't sign your prayer-paper unless you want, and in the more delicate cases a Christian name is sufficient to pin-point the need without identifying the one in need.

For the time being your prayer requests will be offered with other prayers at the 7.30 Communion on Friday mornings. This service follows the new order, which, among its many attributes, affords more scope for spontaneous intercession.

Don't underestimate the power of prayer. When the Bible tells us 'a good man's prayer is powerful and effective' it means it, and I know many readers will be able to quote examples where prayer has worked for them. Use the Prayer Box as often as you wish (the church is open every day from about 9.00 in the morning to 4.30 in the afternoon) and help the Church to help you to help those in need, even if the need is well outside our parish boundaries.

# *On the Nail* Mail-bag

The Editor,

20 Conyngham Lane,  
Bridge

Dear Sir,

I was interested in Joan Warren's article 'To The Rescue', in January's edition of *On the Nail*.

About a year ago a few of us gathered together with Canon Perry to discuss ways in which parishioners might answer the Archbishop's call to visibly commit the Church to a practical contribution to the life of the Community.

A number of ideas were put forward, but, as so often happens, little or nothing resulted.

One of the suggestions which I hoped might get off the ground was, in fact, that of a type of 'good neighbour' scheme which would probably have served those very purposes which Jill Munday and Joan Warren are proposing.

At that time much difficulty was foreseen in the implementation of any such plan, and certainly it would have required detailed organisation on the part of a number of dedicated people.

The principles upon which the scheme could have been founded were three-fold: (1) the belief that this community, like any other, contains a wealth of experience and expertise, often lying dormant, from which individuals in need could benefit; (2) the belief that the Church could be seen to be taking the initiative in co-ordinating the the resources in a spirit of Christian service; and (3) it could be an opportunity for members of other Churches to unite in a common Christian cause.

I am personally ashamed to think that I have allowed the ideas which we 'kicked around' then to stagnate. It should have been a wonderful occasion for the Church to take its collective jacket off and get stuck in.

May I suggest therefore, that if readers of this magazine agree that the Church should take the initiative, perhaps some of us might return to the problem of implementing some kind of 'good neighbour scheme' in this parish.

*Barry Whiting*

**Patricbourne Choir**, thanks to Mrs. Grace Allan's never-flagging zeal, now wears robes, and splendid they all look in them. Mrs. Allan has worked extremely hard to raise the necessary money for them, and she deserves all our accolades for having succeeded. Come and see for yourself on 10th at 11.00am.!

**The Friends of the Close** are holding a Jumble Sale on Saturday, 23rd February at 2.00pm at the Close. Admission: 2p.

**WANTED** — by the Management Committee a piano in reasonable condition for Bridge Village Hall. Any offers?

— by the WRVS more helpers for the Trolley Shop Service at the Close. This service operates at 2.30pm every Friday. Volunteers are asked to help one Friday afternoon for one hour once a month.

Enquiries to Mrs. O. Knight, 5 Dering Close (Tel: 830584)

*O. Knight*

# BRIDGE with PATRIBOURNE P.C.C. ACCOUNTS

Year to 31st December 1979

## REVENUE ACCOUNT

<u>1978</u>	RECEIPTS	1978	<u>1978</u>	PAYMENTS	1978
858	Church Coll'ns Bridge	1076		<b>Salaries</b>	
1275	Patribourne	510	1586	Organist	216
	<b>Free Will Offerings</b>			Verger	87
321	Envelope Scheme	433		Junior Choir, Bridge	44
1281	Covenants, incl. Tax	1187	1620	Assistant Clergy	9
20	<b>Ch. Wall Boxes</b> Bridge	31		Church Services	53
61	Patribourne	43	74	Choir Expenses	8
88	Donations		70	<b>Light and Heat</b>	
260	Investment income		273	Bridge	376
95	Burial & Marriage Fees		59	Patribourne	77
	Parish Council grants			Insurance	413
	Churchyards—Bridge	65		<b>Repairs and Maint'nce</b>	
	Patribourne	40	105	Bridge Church	56
572	Summer Fête at Bridge		523	Patribourne Church	63
483	Christmas Market		467	Organs and Piano	90
	Concert at Patrib'rne		9	Church Yards	225
				Diocesan Quota	434
			1250	<b>Incumbents</b>	
				Canon Perry Easter Off.	119
			108	„ „ Working Expenses	503
			745	Rev. R. Gilbert's	
				Working Expenses	108
				<b>Sundry Donations</b>	
			30	Missions	25
			68	Charities	89
				<b>Sundry Expenses</b>	
			22	Vicar's Petty Cash	16
				Subs. payable	9
				Archbishop's Gift	10
			53	Sundries	11
				<b>Exceptional Items</b> (net	
				after Bekesb'rne share)	
				Canon Perry's Farewell	
				Party	56
				Revd. R. Gilbert's	
				Licensing Service	57
				<b>Parish Magazine</b>	
				Cost of printing	382
			5	Less: Subs. & Adverts.	340
			440	Bal. c/f to Capital A/c	517
4491		4786	4491		4786

## CAPITAL ACCOUNT

440	Bal. b/f from Rev. A/c	517		Purchase of 59 C.B.F.	
	E.I.O. Repayment of			Fixed Interest Bonds	65
	storm Damage,			<b>Trustee Savings Bank</b>	
	Patribourne Ch. 1978	27	450	General Res've Deposit	650
	Compensation for loss		111	P'b Reserve Deposit	10
	P'bourne candlesticks	20			
	Less cost of lacquering		511	Closing Bal. 31/12/79	949
	replacements	8	12		
40	Patribourne Festival		526		
101	P'bourne Dog Show		97		
250	Sale of Christmas cards		10		
647	Opening Bal. 1/1/79		485		
		1674			1674

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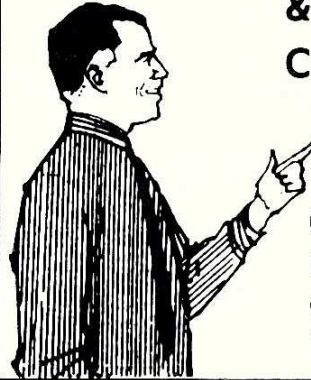
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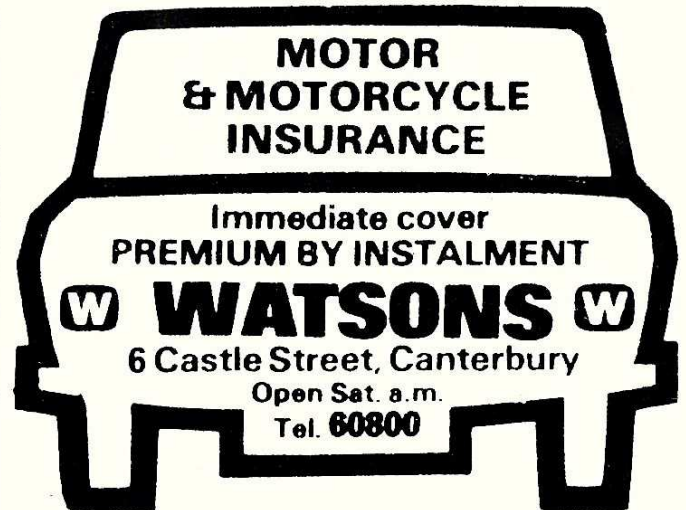
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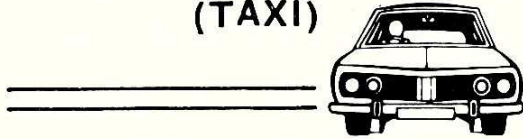
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## **THE HON. TREASURER'S REPORT ON THE P.C.C.'s ACCOUNTS FOR 1979**

1979 again proved to be a successful year for the finances of the P.C.C.

Dealing first with the "Revenue Account", Church Collections at £1,586 showed an increase of £311 over the previous year. This is the first time that the collections at Bridge Church have exceeded £1,000 and Patricbourne Church collections £500. Covenant income fell by £94 but this was more than offset by a rise of £112 from the Envelope Scheme.

The receipts from fund raising activities in which the people of Patricbourne played a worthy part, amounted to £1,632 during the year, an increase of £276 over 1978, which was itself a record.

On the 'Payments' side of the Account there was a net increase in expenditure of £458 chiefly due to an increase in the Quota of £258 and exceptional payments of £113 in connection with the change in the incumbents. During the year we were able to put aside £660 to the reserves, and we finished with a credit balance of £949 compared with £485 in 1978.

So far as it goes this is very satisfactory, but the position for 1980 shows a radical change. The finances of the parish are dominated by an *increase* in the Quota of no less than £1,026 to an amount of £2,534. This may seem an exceptional figure but from now on we shall have to learn to cope with Quotas on this scale. If we are to survive as a parish in the future it is essential that the rate of planned giving should increase very greatly.

Finally I would draw your attention to the following extracts from the Archbishop's address to the November meeting of the Diocesan Synod.

*C.A. Potter*

### **CANTERBURY DIOCESAN SYNOD — PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS**

. . . We are facing a serious situation in the financial affairs of the diocese which leaves me no option but to speak. I must therefore ask you to consider certain important matters.

The Church lives out its life in the real everyday world. This is a world where in recent years inflation in so many areas has become a festering sore. . . For the Church, as for other voluntary societies, it is causing most serious problems. At the very time when our people are having to face the constraints it puts on their standard of living, they are being asked to find an ever increasing amount of money for the work of the Church. The cost of repairs to churches has soared in recent years, and year by year the normal maintenance costs of the Church and its work continue to rise. But the point at which inflation has bitten most deeply is the Quota, and in recent months increasing concern has been expressed by Parish and Deanery Treasurers.

It is therefore not at all surprising that the proposal to raise the Quota for 1980 by 41% should have produced considerable alarm. . .

My primary purpose in speaking about this now is to say that after the most careful consideration of all the arguments I believe that the Diocesan Board of Finance and the Archbishop's Council are right to make their recommendation for the increase in Quota. It seems to me that this proposal is sheer realism. And the reason I give this proposal my wholehearted support is because the extra money is chiefly required to bring up the stipends of the clergy to a reasonable level. Earlier this year the Central Stipends Authority and the dioceses reached a consensus of opinion that clergy stipends in 1978 were below what they should have been by between £700 and £1,000; and it was agreed that there should be a catching-up operation in as short a time as possible. I rejoice that the Diocese of Canterbury is responding so quickly to that call. . . The Increase in the Quota is primarily due to our concern to make proper provision for the clergy who are the living agents of the Church's work. . .

If only more of our people would recognise their vocation to give carefully and responsibly to God's work the problem of finance would disappear overnight. But at the moment, whilst the giving of some is generous, the giving of others is lamentable and we must be prepared to say this. It will be vital for all our parishes to meet the rise in the Quota. Any substantial failure by parishes to do this will have the most serious consequences for the work of the Church in our diocese. . .

Please make sure that our people know not only of the increase in the Quota but the reason why it is necessary. And urge them to make their giving to God's work both regular and realistic.

The recently published document *A Resourceful Church* points out that although in the ten years to 1976 regular giving by Church members rose by 86%, in real terms it did not rise at all but fell by a third. It goes on to say, however, that there is no reason for us to be disheartened because the Church, through the commitment of its members, does have the resources to meet the challenge ahead. It suggests that the question we must ask ourselves is whether our own giving to the Church has matched the rise in prices and the increase in our own income.

The question that now confronts the Diocese of Canterbury is this: shall we accept the obligation and the privilege to contribute to God's work on a regular and realistic basis?

*Ed: Space would not permit the whole Address to be reproduced. Copies of the full text are available if anyone wishes to read all that the Archbishop said. His remarks are addressed to us in Bridge, Patricbourne and Bekesbourne. We must take them to heart.*

### **BRIDGE PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION**

Our Valentine's Dance will be on Saturday February 16th at Bridge School Hall. Tickets £2.50 per couple. Dance to Disco by Mr. Toombes. Always a good evening. Make up your own table party and organise your own food and drink, American Supper Style. Raffle will be held. Hope to see both old and new faces there.

*Bridget Hawkins, Sec.*

### **BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE W.I.**

At our January Meeting Mr. B. Whiting from the British Red Cross gave an interesting and informative talk on *First Aid in the Home*.

The competition for the Best Bloom in my Garden was won by Mrs. Oliver, and the raffle won by Mrs. Turpin. At our Christmas Party we enjoyed entertainment by some of our members and party games ending with a sing-a-long.

We would like to congratulate the daughter of a member who was 'runner-up' in a *Home and Country* competition and was Highly Commended in a *Blue Peter* competition.

Congratulations too to Mr. and Mrs. K. Chapman who celebrated their Ruby Wedding on Boxing Day.

Our next meeting will be on February 19th when Mr. B. Hawkes will talk on a *Journey Around Britian*.

*J.E.T.*

### **ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BEKESBOURNE**

**Flower Rota:** Would anyone wishing to help with the flower arranging please fill in their name on the form on the church door?

**Cleaning rota for February:** Mrs. Watson, February 2nd; Mrs. Russell, February 9th; Mrs. Grey, February 16th; Mrs. Hodgkiss, February 23rd; Mrs. Smith, March 1st. R.G.

## **BRIDGE YOUNG WIVES**

On 13th February we shall be having a meeting in the Methodist Hall, Patrixbourne Road, commencing at 7.45pm. Details to be given later.

**27th February.** Open evening. A representative from the Church of England Children's Society will be showing some films, and giving a talk on the work of the Society. All are welcome. *E. Bevan, Hon. Sec.*



## **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

The meeting of the Parish Council on 10th January heard with pleasure that the Best Kept Village Competition Committee of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England had decided to award a Special Commendation to Bridge. The Commendation Certificate is to be framed by Councillor Mrs. Young and hung in the Village Hall.

The budget for 1980/81 was the main item of business at the meeting. It was decided to make an increase in the grant to the Village Hall Committee, and also to increase the payment made to the Parochial Church Council to assist in the upkeep of the churchyard. Some provision had also to be made for repairs to the roof of the Village Hall, and the cost of planting trees on the boundary to the extension has meant that more money will have to be spent this year on the maintenance of the Recreation Ground. The costs of insurance and of public lighting are also likely to rise very substantially, and provision has had to be made for these increases. The Council has, however, endeavoured to keep its overall spending as low as practicable, and its total estimated expenditure of £3875 is only £700 over the sum precepted last year.

At the request of the City Council, the Council discussed again the proposals it made two years ago for the revision of its boundaries, and decided, with one minor amendment, to adhere to its earlier recommendations. It also discussed proposals by the Bishopsbourne Parish Council to realign the boundary on the southern side of the Parish in a more westerly direction, but members felt that while they would not oppose these proposals they could not actively support them, and preferred to leave a decision on the matter to the Boundary Committee.

Councillor Mrs. Young, who has been collecting waste paper in Beech Hill for the New Village Hall funds, told the Council that she now has accumulated over half a ton of paper which contractors were picking up on the following Monday. She will continue collecting.

The next meeting of the Council, at which it is hoped to decide on the

course of action to be taken in the preparation of the Village Appraisal, will be held on Thursday, 14th February, at 7.30pm. in the Village Hall. Visitors will, of course, be welcome.

*F.L. Edwards*

### **THE CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**

I was very fortunate to be able to attend the Christingle service at Canterbury Cathedral on the 28th December, to present the purse from St. Mary's Church, Patixbourne for The Church of England Children's Society. I joined lots of other children from different Parishes who were sitting in the Nave.

The service began with carols and prayers. When they had been sung the Bishop of Maidstone spoke to us and asked us to remember always that Jesus said, "I am the light of the world". Jesus also said, "You are the light of the world".

It was now time for the Christingle procession. We walked up the aisle in a darkened Cathedral holding our lit Christingles in front of us. At the top of the Nave we held our Christingles up high above our heads as we sang the final carol.

The Christingle represents:—

The world (orange)

The four Seasons (sticks)

The Fruits of the Earth (raisins, etc.)

The Blood of Christ shed for the World (red band)

Jesus, the Light of the World (lighted candle).

*Elizabeth Hollister*

### **MRS. ROSE WONFOR**

With Rose's death, one of the older 'characters' of Bridge has departed. She had not been well for some months, but always tried to keep cheerful.

She lived for many years at No. 4 Mill Terrace, the garden of which was her pride, her work and her relaxation. She had a great zest for life, despite much sadness and struggle in earlier years. She would tell tales of hop-picking with a young family, and of laundering the shirts of some twenty officers during the war, some of whom were billeted with her. She never lacked courage and took great joy in making ends meet, and in offering a cup of tea or a meal to her visitors. She wrote a good clear hand and always used a well-turned phrase. Rummage sales were her delight and she would often be seen at the top of the queue for entry into the hall. Many will remember her work for the Bridge Village Hall and for the old Bridge school, where she got up at a very early hour to light the iron stoves in the classrooms.

Her fair hair, blue eyes, good complexion and upright carriage must have made her a beauty in her youth. She rode or pushed her bicycle round the village until quite recently, when she resorted to shopping in Bridge or in Canterbury by taxi. One of her summer treats was to sit in the sun of the Westgate Gardens, having taken a packed lunch to eat there. At the By-pass celebrations she was to be seen in the procession striding out with her hop-picking gear and wheelbarrow. The *Kentish Gazette* caught a good picture of her thus. Rose Wonfor will be much missed.

*A.M.S.*

## SAGA OF 1980

There was a man in the land of Bridge, who lived at a place called *Cedars*, who sang in the Church Choir. And his name was Tim. And Tim said unto his wife, Muriel, "Is it your wish that we should gather unto ourselves the members of the choir, so that we may sing and be merry as is our usual custom". And when Muriel said it was, she began to send out invitations to the people of the choir and to other various friends.

So it came to pass that on the first Sabbath of the year the feast took place. Muriel and her two daughters, Madeleine and Pamela, had prepared the food and made it very plenteous, and Tim had sufficient wine to gladden the hearts of multitudes of men. Thus the feast began, first by drinking and eating, then by eating and drinking, and when all hearts had been sufficiently gladdened Tim said, "Go ye all into the music room where the piano is waiting to be played".

Now the new priest-in-charge of the parish was there and he played carols upon the instrument of strings, so did Peter Giles and so did Stanley Grey. And all the time the people sang, sometimes loud enough to make the rafters ring, but at other times with a goodly sound if the priest required it. And when Madeleine had sung a solo there was more time to eat, drink and be merry.

So the time came for the feast to end, and the assembled company joined their hands together for to sing, not too sadly, *Auld Lang Syne*.

Now the priest-in-charge who was not yet used to the ways of Bridge, asked if this occurred each year. And when they all with one accord said this was so, the priest said, "I must needs go to my place to enter it in my diary, lest I miss it next year".

.....

But to be serious for one sentence, at least! We all thank you very much and sincerely Tim, Muriel, Madeleine and Pamela for a wonderful evening.

W. J.

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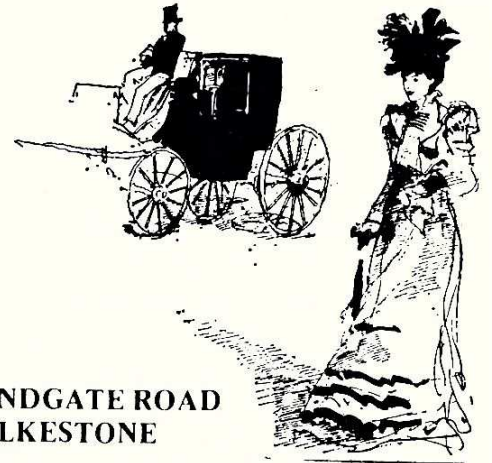
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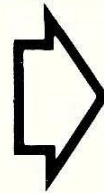
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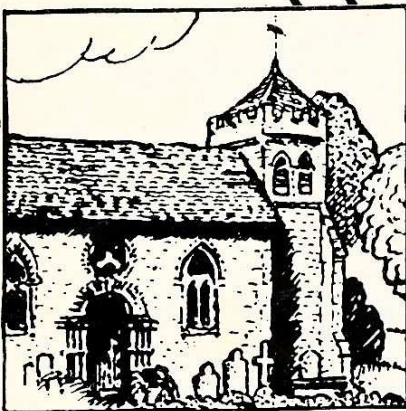
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# On the NAIL



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FOR BRIDGE  
PATRIBOURNE  
AND BEKESBOURNE

MARCH 1980

Price 15p

# Sunday Services in March

BRIDGE

PATRIXBOURNE

BEKESBOURNE

## 2nd:

11am Sung Communion 8am Holy Communion 9.30am Sung  
6.30pm Evensong Communion

## 9th:

9am Holy Communion 11am Matins 8am Holy Communion  
(Series 3)  
6.30pm Evensong

## 16th:

9.30am Parish 8am Holy Communion 11am Mothering Sunday  
Eucharist Service  
6.30pm Evensong

## 23rd:

8am Holy Communion 9am Holy Communion 11am Matins  
6.30pm Evensong 11.45 Holy Communion

## 30th:

9am Holy Communion 11am Matins 8am Holy Communion  
(Series 3)  
6.30pm Evensong

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated at 9.30am each Wednesday, and at 7.30am every Friday, at St. Peter's, Bridge.

A short informal service is held each Thursday afternoon for the residents of the Close.

Holy Communion is celebrated in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am.

Morning Service at Bridge Methodist Church is at 11.00am each Sunday.

## For your diary

- 1st *Ember Day: St. David's Day*
- 2nd *Second Sunday in Lent*
- 5th Bekesbourne PCC Meeting, 8pm.
- 6th Series 3 Teach-in at Bridge Church, 8pm.
- 7th *St. Perpetua & her Companions, Martyrs, 203*  
Bridge Group, Hospital Friends AGM, 7.30pm.
- 9th *Third Sunday in Lent*
- 12th *Gregory the Great, Bishop & Teacher*  
Volunteer Bureau Meeting at The Close, 8pm.
- 13th Series 3 Teach-in, 8pm.
- 16th *Mid-Lent Sunday: Mothering Sunday*
- 17th *St. Patrick's Day*
- 18th *King Edward the Martyr*
- 19th *St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
Inter-Church Discussion Group, Bridge Methodist Church, 8pm.
- 20th Magazine Distributors Meeting, 2.30pm.
- 23rd *Fifth Sunday in Lent: Passion Sunday*

25th *Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Archbishop Runcie is enthroned in the Cathedral.

30th *Palm Sunday*

31st *Monday in Holy Week*

*Details of services in Holy Week and Easter will appear in our next issue.*

## Learn something in Lent

The bride-to-be had just got back from seeing the Vicar. "He says we can't have the organ 'cause it's Lent" she told her no-nonsense mother. "Who's he lent it to?" came the sharp retort.

Not so very long ago the church would have refused to conduct a wedding, organ or not, in the period Ash Wednesday to Easter Eve, because all forms of celebration and festival were banned. Lent was essentially a time of fasting and penitence, and to have held weddings or other forms of jollification would have been contrary to the spirit of the season.

The extent of the Lenten fast varied from place to place and from time to time. During the earliest centuries of Christian history it was very strict indeed, limited to one meal a day, taken towards evening, with flesh-meat, fish, eggs and milk products definitely off the menu. Weight-watchers' clubs would have had a distinctly lean (sorry about that!) time of it. However, as the centuries rolled on so the rules about the Lenten fast were relaxed, until nowadays the fast where food is concerned has all but disappeared.

Truth to tell, the idea of fasting was nothing to do with over-weight or bodily well-being, but was primarily a *spiritual* exercise, on the basis that before you could produce a harvest of the mind you had severely to prune the body. The faithful fasted in order to release the mind and soul for higher thoughts. You took your mind off your body to attend the better to spiritual needs.

The contemporary approach to Lent is that it is more profitable to take things on rather than give things up, so we are encouraged to see this season as less a time of abstinence, more a time of spiritual renewal. To this end present-day Lents find parishes up and down the land engaging in all kinds of additional activities designed to stimulate the mind rather than deprive the body. Study groups are set up, special courses of addresses are held, and Christian writers keep us well supplied with books to make us think and pray more consistently.

We are encouraged to use the period of Lent as a time for sharpening our spiritual weaponry through more fervent prayer and through study of the faith, and there is a good precedent for doing so. The origins of Lent are closely tied up with the ancient Christian custom of admitting new members to the Church at Easter. Before they were baptized and confirmed (then all one, the new members being adult) they were put through a long and searching course of instruction that lasted the equivalent of our Lent. So has grown up the notion of using Lent nowadays for a refresher course: hence the lectures and discussion groups and books.

Fasting in the former sense is neither practical nor acceptable to modern man, at least the letter of it, but the spirit of the fast is still very pertinent,

and while Lent 1980 is still with us it might be a good idea to avail ourselves of the opportunity it presents for some refreshment of the mind and soul and spirit. In a way this will require that we make a fast, though not from food but from some of the things with which we fill our time in the normal run of things. A good motto for us might be: "Learn something in Lent"!

## Joys and Sorrows

**Matthew Andrews** was duly baptized at St. Peter's, Bridge on Sunday, 17th February and quite a goodly number of church-members came to welcome him into the family. It was a very joyful occasion and even baby Matthew raised no vocal objection.

**Harry Stone** of 2 Vine Cottages, Bekesbourne passed away last month, aged 85 years. The vicar conducted the service at Barham Crematorium on 19th February. May he rest in peace and his dear widow know the comfort of God's presence with her always.

**Fred Smith**, also of Bekesbourne, died just as this magazine was going to press. He was a stalwart member of the Church and had served many years on the PCC, latterly as Treasurer, until his deteriorating health forced him to resign. Fred was a kindly, quiet man who did his level best to help the Church. We send our deep sympathy to his wife and family.

## Robert our Archbishop

Those who find themselves at home on the afternoon of Tuesday, 25th March will be able to switch on their TV set and witness the splendour of the enthronement of Robert Alexander Kennedy Runcie as our Archbishop: viewers will see more than many who will be crowded into the Cathedral for the service.

Of course we are all speculating as to what he will be like, and we have more cause than most to do so, because our relationship with him will not be that of the nation to the Primate of All England, but of parishioner to bishop. The diocese of Canterbury has always regretted that it sees far less of its 'bishop' than any other, resenting the amount of his time that must be devoted to national and international religious concerns. But by now we are resigned to this state of affairs, and immensely grateful for the opportunities when he can come among us as our chief pastor. Our prayers for him on the 25th will be none the less sincere through having to share him with the Anglican Communion at large.

It was a tremendous joy when Archbishop Coggan came to Bridge to see me in, particularly so when you recall how he had to speed away from the reception back to London ready for the next call on his time. It will equally be a delight to welcome our new Archbishop to Bekesbourne on 1st June—about which much more anon.

Meanwhile, pray hard for him. Patricbourne with Bridge and Bekesbourne give him a hearty and loving welcome and will continue as a Church to pray for Robert, our Archbishop.

**Magazine Distributors** please note! There will be a meeting of Magazine Distributors in the Vicarage on Thursday, 20th March at 2.30pm. Please let

me know if you cannot come, as a guide to numbers.

**Patricxbourne with Bridge Annual Church Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, 16th April in the Village Hall at 8pm. All on the Church Electoral Roll should endeavour to be there.

## 'On the Nail' Mail Bag

46 The Street,  
Ash

The Editor,  
Dear Sir,

During the past year about fifteen schools (both boys and girls) have had talks from LIFE about abortion and respect for human life. The talks have usually been preceded by the showing of a film *The First Days of Life*, which is not about abortion but about becoming a parent. Any parents who may have been told about this film by their children, and anyone else who would like to see it for themselves, are welcome to attend a special showing on the evening of Tuesday 25th March (the Feast of the Anunciation) at 8pm in the parish room of St. Peter's Church, High Street, Canterbury. The film will be preceded by Evensong, and if you would like to come but need transport please phone LIFE: Canterbury 52424 or contact me: Mr. M. J. Young, 46 The Street, Ash (Tel. Ash 812280).

Some of the girls who have turned to LIFE for help recently have babies due during the next month or so and various items of baby equipment are needed urgently for them. We are particularly short of nappies, a carry-cot, cot sheets and blankets, shawl, baby clothes and baby-seat, and if you have any of these items that you could give us we would be very grateful. Please contact LIFE or me (see above). Thank you.

*Matthew J. Young*

The Editor,  
Dear Sir,

Monday is my 'busy' day—regular morning and afternoon commitments in Canterbury leaving not enough time to get home for lunch, but a bit too much time to spend on lunch in the city. This last week I was feeling sad and oppressed by a worrying problem which has been on my mind for some time. Oh, yes, I pray about it every day, but on this day I felt impelled to go into the Cathedral at lunch time to think it over, and see if the special atmosphere there could, as it were, give my prayers special impetus and extra power.

It would be nice to record that this did happen and my problem was solved. It didn't and it wasn't; but at least the vastness of that wonderful place did help to put my problem a little more in perspective and made me feel that, as with an earthly father, God sometimes says "Yes", sometimes "No"—or sometimes "Wait a while".

So, if you have a problem why don't you pop into the Cathedral and think about it. And, if you haven't any worries—then go in anyway and thank God for making you so lucky!!

*(Name and address supplied)*

2a Meadow Close,  
Bridge

The Editor,  
Dear Sir,

Most of your readers will, I am sure, be aware of the valuable work carried out by the Marriage Guidance Council, work the need for which has steadily grown over the years. The National Council is grant-aided by the Home Office, and the Canterbury branch receives some financial support from the County; but although the counsellors give their time voluntarily, and many of those they help contribute financially, there is still a substantial deficit which has to be bridged by the individual efforts of the Council's own supporters. This gap is now steadily widening as expenses increase; and, of course, we cannot expect any more help at the present time from the County.

The Council has a small number of Friends who support its work; and I am at present their only representative in Bridge. We would like to expand this organisation by setting up separate groups in the villages, and I should be very glad to hear from anyone who would be prepared to join such a group in Bridge and help towards the continued success of the Marriage Guidance Council, which I am sure you will agree makes a vital contribution towards the stability of family life.

My telephone number is 830291.

Yours sincerely,

*E. Edwards (Mrs.)*

### **GOOD NEIGHBOURS**

Following the recent distribution of forms regarding offers and needs for neighbourhood help in Bridge, a meeting has been arranged for those interested at The Close in Bridge. People who replied will receive an invitation to this, but everyone interested is warmly invited to attend. The meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th March at 8pm. We hope to discuss one or two problems which have emerged and see what action may be needed in future.

*Jill Munday*  
*Canterbury Volunteer Bureau*

### **BRIDGE PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION**

Thank-you to all those who supported our January Sale. The net profit was approximately £92.

Events in March:

*Film Evening Friday 14th March at Bridge School at 7.00pm.*

“Charlotte’s Web”. Coke and crisps will be on sale. 50p adults, 30p children to cover the cost of the film. These film evenings have been very popular, and we hope that you will attend. All proceeds from this will go towards the Bridge Instrument Fund.

*Friday 21st March. Coffee Morning and Raffle at Bridge School in aid of Bridge Instrument Fund.*

*Berbrooke Fashion Party and Coffee Evening 27th March at 8.00pm, at*

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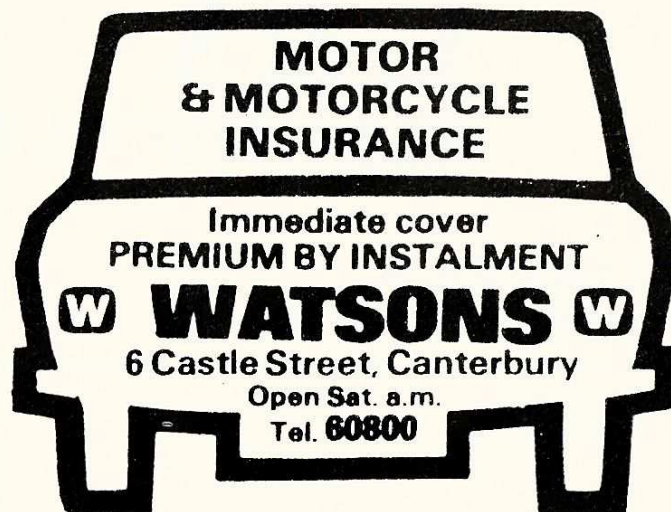
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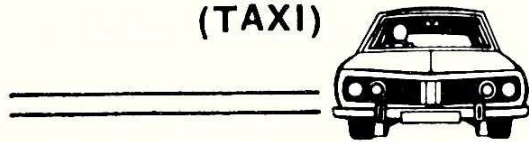
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*Bridget Hawkins, Sec.*

### **KITCHEN SINK**

The Village Hall Committee asks "Has anybody got such a thing as a double-drainer stainless steel sink top?" Our very able Chairman would be most grateful for one. He has the sink but no top, and he does want to get it fixed so that our Village Hall kitchen will look much smarter. Please, all friends of Bridge, look in your glory-holes or under-stairs cupboards. Contact any Committee member or phone Bridge 830520.

*F. E. Apps*

### **BRIDGE YOUNG WIVES**

*March 12th.* The Group will be paying a visit to the local Bakery. All members wishing to attend must be outside the Bakery at 7.30pm sharp.

*March 26th.* The Group will be visiting the Marlowe Theatre to see the Canterbury Amateur Operatic Society's production of "The Sorcerer" and "Trial by Jury".

*E. Bevan, Hon. Sec*

### **NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

The quiz against Elham Horticultural Society arranged for Thursday 13th March at Bishopsbourne will now take place on the same date at St. Mary's Church Hall, Elham, at 7.30pm.

The Society's A.G.M. has been postponed from Thursday 10th April until Wednesday, 30th April at the Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne at 8pm. Do come along to the Bridge Village Hall on Thursday 27th March at 8pm. when Mrs. Celia Sutton will give a flower arranging demonstration.

*M. E. J.*

### **ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BEKESBOURNE**

*Mothering Sunday* Family Service, Sunday 16th March at 11.00am. Please come and bring your children to this very lovely service. It has always in the past been so very well attended; let us make this one the best ever.

Stanley Grey, Churchwarden, is away in hospital undergoing major surgery. We know that everyone will wish him well, and remember Stanley and Ruth Grey in their prayers.

### **ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BEKESBOURNE - Cleaning Rota**

Mrs. Smith, March 1st; Mrs. Stickells, March 8th; Mrs. Hogben, March 15th; Mrs. Watson, March 22nd; Mrs. Russell, March 29th; Mrs. Grey, April 5th.

*R. Grey*



### **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

Members of the Parish Council at their meeting on 14th February were glad to hear from the Chairman, Councillor Lawrence, that their representations regarding the future of the residents of 'The Close' had proved successful, for he had been told by the Chairman of the Social Services Committee that, instead of the new Home in Canterbury previously proposed, it had now been decided to build the Home on the site adjacent to the Primary School originally earmarked for this purpose. Provision for the development had been made in the 1981/82 Capital Programme. Members hope that pressures for further economies in local spending will not prevent a start being made within the next two years.

As readers will remember from earlier notes, the roof of the Village Hall is in need of extensive repairs, and Councillor Chapman put a number of estimates for the work before members. These ranged from over £2,000 for the complete reslating of the roof, to about £500 for treatment with a plastic material. Members agreed to seek further advice regarding the latter method, which, if it met the claims of its sponsors, would represent a substantial economy for the village.

The Council also considered tenders for the planting of a screen of trees, to a plan prepared by Councillor Mrs. Young, at the eastern end of the extension to the Recreation Ground. It is hoped that this will be carried out in the near future if Lord Conyngham agrees.

Several other matters of real concern to the village were also debated. It was decided to support Mr. David Crouch, M.P., in his campaign for an early start on a flyover at the Barham Crossroads; and to back the Boxley Parish Council in pressing the County for more effective conservation measures for the North Downs. Nearer home, the Council endorsed the attitude of the Parent-Teacher Association in its opposition to the new school transport charges, and promised its backing; and agreed to make a donation of £50 to the School Instrument Fund.

The Annual Parish Meeting, at which the Chairman will give his report on the work of the Council during the past year, and at which any parishioner can make his or her contribution on any matter of Parish concern will take place in the Village Hall on 13th March at 7pm. It is hoped that every village resident who can do so will endeavour to be present.

*F. L. Edwards*

### **BEKESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

Good news and bad news at Bekesbourne Parish Council's February meeting: Patricxbourne's quota of the City Lottery Fund will be used to attach a slide to the climbing frame in the recreation ground. The City Council are prepared to consider the Parish taking over the vacant land at the end of Downside Villas, and lottery money may be available for fencing

the site to make it into a safe play area.

The Village Appraisal is now being distributed to every household and it is hoped that as many people as possible in the village will come to the Annual Meeting in April to discuss the results. Your views are welcome.

One item is already in hand: the Bus Company is prepared to consider directing some Bridge buses through part of Bekesbourne. The Council has been asked to find out what number of people might make use of such a service. Please let your nearest Councillor know if you are at all interested, and tell your neighbours.

The bad news is that there was no further definite action on the Bifrons Road—Village Hall footpath. The Parish Council consider this their highest priority. Miss Edward's tragic accident in December need not have taken place had there been a footpath to walk on. Villagers are asked to support the Parish Council in any way they can to get this footpath laid before any more accidents happen.

Next Council meeting, Tuesday March 25th. Annual Parish Meeting, Tuesday April 22nd.

*Councillor Mrs. Gabbé*



### **'PAY ON THE NAIL'**

The very apt title of *On the Nail* for the Parish Magazine immediately calls to mind the familiar expression 'Pay on the Nail'. This saying originated in the City of Bristol where to this day may be seen four brass pillars known as *nails*, they stand in the open, outside the Corn Exchange.

They have flat tops with raised edges, and farmers displayed their samples of grain upon them. When their business was concluded the merchants would then 'pay on the Nail'.

The oldest Nail dates from Elizabeth I, the second 1594, the third 1625 and the fourth 1631

*Elsie W. Anderson*

### **THE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF CANTERBURY HOSPITALS Bridge Group**

Our A.G.M. will be held on Friday 7th March, in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm. We invite all friends to come along. There will be a Bring-and-Buy Stall, and refreshments of Cheese and Wine will be served.

We look forward to seeing you. Bring a friend.

*Frances E. Apps,  
Hon. Sec. & Treas.: Bridge Group L. O. F.*

## **BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE W. I.**

There was a good attendance at our February meeting when Mr. B. Hawkes took us on a *Journey round Britain* with a talk and slides.

The Speaker at the meeting on March 18th will come from the Dover Harbour Board.

*J. E. Foster*

### **Preachers at Bridge Methodist Church for March**

2nd Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw

9th Revd. William S. Liddle

16th Miss J. E. Anderson

23rd Revd. Peter J. Gausden

30th Revd. Philip J. Child, B.D.

### ***A WORD FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY***

Have you ever considered who your family really is?

Often today we use the phrase 'family unit' to describe husband, wife and 2-4 children, who once bought a Morris family saloon from their local garage and washed it on Sunday afternoon having been to church in the morning and eaten a roast for lunch; today it is more likely to be a Toyota or Datsun washed when one or two of the neighbours are at church and cold meat at midday.

Perhaps your family is mother, father, wife, husband, children, grandchildren, uncles and aunts—what is called 'the extended family'. Oh you are lucky if that is so! Modern life has meant to most of us that the extended family has evaporated and that many 'family units' have found the strain and stresses too much and have collapsed, leaving each member isolated from each other, the community and God.

Though the Church of England Children's Society Family Week (this year MARCH 16-22) is only two years old, our founder, Edward Rudolf, recognised ninety-nine years ago how important the family was and what duty the Church had towards each member of His family. Rudolf recognised that the isolation children experienced because of poverty or because parents were unable to give them the loving care they needed would rob both child and family of the opportunity to fulfil their rightful place in His world. To combat this evil, Rudolf set about creating two Families: one recognisable in the small family homes in which children lived up and down the country and the second a wider Family of God's caring people in the parishes who supported those homes. "The many are saved by the few and the few are saved by the one Jesus Christ our Lord"; that is the work in which we are still today engaged.

The Society's daily task is to bring comfort here on God's earth to all—all families have problems and each member has his own problems. As a wife or mother, husband or father supports children and friends, so the Society offers comfort and help to children and families given to its charge by our Lord God.

St. Paul urged early Christians to make use of their God-given talents; the Society follows that dictum. Without the financial help of its supporters, work could not be done on the scale it is. Over 4,300 children and their families know that the Church of England Children's Society is doing God's work on His earth. There are many more who need the help, and the financial success of Family Week means that more can and will benefit. When you meet someone collecting for the Society please remember our two families—one the children, the other you, their friends.



*Patrixbourne Church Choir in their new robes, pictured after Matins on 10th February.*

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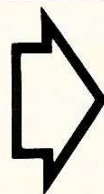
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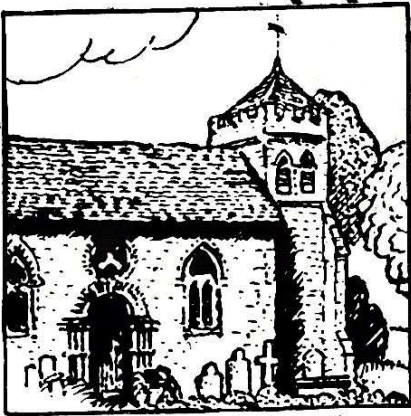
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# On the NAIL



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PATRIBOURNE  
AND BEKESBOURNE

APRIL 1980

Price 15p

# Sunday Services in April

BRIDGE

PATRIXBOURNE

BEKESBOURNE

**6th:**

*Details will be found on page 4.*

**13th:**

9.30am Holy

Communion (*Series 3*)

6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

**20th:**

9.30am Parish

Communion

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins, with  
Holy Baptism

**27th:**

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

11.45 Holy Communion

Preachers at Bridge Methodist Church at 11.00:—

6th: Reverend Raymond J. Bradshaw; 13th: Mr. J. Allen; 20th: Mr. R. Santer; 27th: Miss E. Tresidder, B.A.

**Holy Communion** is celebrated at 9.30am each Wednesday, and at 7.30am every Friday, at St. Peter's, Bridge.

A short informal service is held each Thursday afternoon for the residents of the Close.

Holy Communion is celebrated in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am.

## For your diary

*(Details for Holy Week and Easter appear elsewhere)*

13th *First Sunday after Easter*, also called Low Sunday

16th Patrixbourne with Bridge Annual Church Meeting in the Village Hall at 8 p.m. *(All on the Electoral Roll should keep this date.)*

19th *St. Alphege, Archbishop of Canterbury & Martyr, 1012*

20th *Second Sunday after Easter*

21st *St. Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1109*

23rd *St. George, Patron Saint of England*

Bible Study Group, 20 Conyngham Lane

25th *ST. MARK, EVANGELIST*

27th *Third Sunday after Easter*

28th Annual Assembly of the Patrixbourne Parish Meeting, 8 p.m.

29th Bekesbourne Annual Church Meeting in the Village Hall, Bekesbourne at 8 p.m. *(All on Bekesbourne's Electoral Roll should keep this date.)*

*See individual notices elsewhere for other events of general interest.*

## Would you believe it!

You could have knocked me down with a feather! There I was trying to make the best of it. I had gone back to work: they always say there is nothing like work for helping you to get over an upset. Mind you it was putting it mildly to call his death an upset: it was a crying shame, a perfect disgrace. I would have told them so, but you never know, they might have turned on *me*, and I must admit I'm a bit of a coward at heart. Well, you can't be too careful, I always say, and one martyr's plenty to be getting on with!

Anyway, there I was back on the job when the news filtered through to me. Now I ask you, what *was* I to think? He was dead: we all knew that. Yet there they were when I got back, capering about all over the place, laughing and crying at one and the same time, acting as if they were possessed. If I hadn't known them all like the back of my hand, well, I would have been very worried about them. As it was I nearly turned tail and ran. It was all so unbelievable. I had never seen them like that before.

When they spotted me in the doorway (which they had carelessly left unlocked, I might add) they swooped on me as one man, and began hugging and pommelling me till I thought I would end up a mass of bruises, and all the time they were shrieking with laughter like a pack of loonies. I tried shouting to calm them down but it must have been all of five minutes before I managed to get through to them. It seemed hours. Not that it made much sense, as it turned out, for it struck me as being the most incredible rigmarole I had ever heard, and what was more, I thought at the time, in rather bad taste.

Then I saw *him* among them sharing the joke, and I made my way across to him to see if he could work his old magic and knock some sense into them. I had just got up to him when the shock hit me. He was dead, whatever they might say, so who in heaven's name was *this*? He looked at me and called me by name, and it's a wonder I didn't drop dead there and then. Someone, a crackingly good mimic, was taking the rise out of me, *that* was obvious, and I didn't find it the least bit funny. But before I had a chance to tell whoever it was what I thought of him and his pranks he spoke again, telling me to look at his hands and the nasty wound in his side. I rocked back on my heels and my legs turned to jelly, but only for an instant. The next minute I also was making an exhibition of myself, weeping tears of joy. It WAS him! He was alive: he really was!

Call me mad if you like: they called me *Doubting* Thomas! But as true as I stand here the Lord was back from the dead, and I knew — we all knew — he would never die again.

## As a result . . .

The message of Easter is well expressed in the ancient Easter greeting that was passed excitedly around the early Christians: "The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed!" The death on Good Friday was no defeat but a resounding victory, for Christ was raised to life again that very Sunday and he is still alive in 1980. This is the Gospel, the good news, that the Church proclaims

all day and every day, and the personal experience of every Christian man, woman and child bears it out. This is why Easter is the supreme Christian festival and why every Sunday is a little Easter Day. Come and join the celebrations of this glorious day, and savour the spirit of joy that infects all life.

### **HOLY WEEK: 31st March — 4th April**

Bridge: Tuesday & Wednesday — 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion  
Maundy Thursday — 8 p.m. Sung Eucharist  
Good Friday — 2-3 p.m. 'The Last Hour', a meditation on the Cross.

Patricxbourne: Monday — 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion

Bekesbourne: Good Friday — 11 a.m. Matins

### **EASTER DAY: 6th April**

Bridge: 8 a.m. Holy Communion (*Revd. C. Harrington*)

11 a.m. Parish Communion with Holy Baptism (*The Vicar*)

6.30 p.m. Festal Evensong (*The Vicar*)

Patricxbourne: 9 a.m. Holy Communion (*The Vicar*)

Bekesbourne: 8 a.m. Holy Communion (*The Vicar*)

11 a.m. Matins and Holy Communion (*Revd. C. Harrington*)

Bridge Methodist Church: 11 a.m. The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw

\*\*\*\*\*

**Church decorating** takes place at Bridge and Bekesbourne, Saturday 5th April from 10 a.m. and at Patricxbourne on Good Friday from 3 p.m. Offers of help and/or flowers welcomed on all sides. Easter Lilies cost 70p each. Anyone who would like to donate one to Bridge should contact Mrs. Hunter, 24 High Street, or Mrs. Apps, 34 High Street, cash in hand.

**Bekesbourne Flower Rota** for the rest of April is: 13th, Mrs. Ash; 20th, Mrs. Millyard; 27th, Mrs. Russell.

### **Easter Offering to the Vicar**

In the past it has been the custom to give the church collections on Easter Day to the incumbent, but for some years now at the request of a majority of the parochial clergy these gifts have been pooled. Individual clergymen have received no benefit, as their stipend augmentation has been reduced to take account of the amount they have received by way of Easter offering. Moreover, now that P.C.C.s are expected to pay their incumbent's working expenses, there is no longer the same need for the Easter offering.

At a meeting held on the 22nd May 1979 the Patricxbourne with Bridge P.C.C. decided that in future, subject to agreement with the new

incumbent, the practice of giving the Easter collections to the vicar should be discontinued. Mr. Gilbert has agreed to this.

At a meeting of the Patrixbourne with Bridge P.C.C. on 29th January 1980, it was agreed that the Vicar should be authorised to nominate a mission or charity to which the collection at the main service on Easter Day should be donated.

*C. A. Potter*

Dates, times and places of the Annual Church Meetings of Patrixbourne with Bridge and Bekesbourne are in *For you diary* on page 2. Attendance at these meeting depends on whether your name appears on the Electoral Roll or not. (Note: this is different from the civil Register of Electors.) You must be on the Electoral Roll in order to attend, and if you *are* on the Electoral Roll you should regard attendance as obligatory. It is at the Annual Church Meeting that members are elected to the Parochial Church Council. Nominations must be submitted on the correct form, which can obtained from P.C.C. Secretaries or the Parish Priest. Nominees must be on the Electoral Roll and their consent to be nominated for office must be obtained.

### **Patrixbourne Parish Meeting**

The Annual Assembly will be held at "The Old Vicarage", by kind permission of Dr. and Mrs. Pratt, at 8 p.m. on Monday, 28th April.

*J. W. Martin, Acting Clerk*

The Editor,  
*On the Nail*,  
23 High Street,  
Bridge, Canterbury,  
Kent, CT5 4JZ



## **Mail Bag**

2 Bridge Down

The Editor,  
Dear Sir,

Response to the recent questionnaire on voluntary help was disappointing — only 40 forms were returned out of the 560 sent out.

However, the meeting called by Mrs. Jill Munday of the Canterbury Volunteer Bureau to discuss plans for the organisation and co-ordination of voluntary help was very well attended. Volunteers and other interested members of the community met with representatives of the health and social services and gaps in the present provision of help were discussed. It was decided that the village should have its own scheme to provide voluntary help. Suggestions were made that the possibility of setting up an emergency

alert system and a luncheon club should be explored.

An outline of the proposed scheme will be reported when more details have been worked out. Anyone interested in helping with the scheme or wanting information is invited to contact me at the above address .

*Joan Warren* (Tel: 830233)

The Editor,  
Dear Sir,

Following the notes on the Good Neighbour scheme which have appeared in *On the Nail*, may I add a few of my own based on my experiences as a volunteer driver. According to the poster in the Chemist's at Bridge, we are much in demand and apart, of course, from a car, the only equipment required is a large scale map of Canterbury and occasionally Ordnance Survey Sheet 179. It must be admitted that the aged and infirm can be a bit irritating at times and some degree of patience is necessary plus a willingness to understand the problems of people who may be handicapped in many different ways.

You may arrange to take on a regular duty or, as in my case, be on the reserve list for the occasional duty or emergencies. One emergency that did occur was when a party from an old folk's home was going to a matinée at the Marlowe and it was found almost at the last minute that no transport had been arranged. The Volunteer Bureau was equal to the task and the whole exercise went off on time and without a hitch.

As a comparative newcomer to the district, I have found this to be a most interesting way of improving my knowledge of the district, while some journeys, such as one out to Waltham on a fine spring afternoon, can be a joy in themselves. Above all, however, is the satisfaction that comes from doing something, small though it may be, to carry out one of Christ's commandments, and the pleasure of meeting some excellent people committed to the care of those less fortunate than themselves.

*R. F. B.*

<p><b>PARISH PUMP</b> Parish Council News</p>	
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### **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Annual Parish Meeting is the parishioners' opportunity to hear of the Council's work on their behalf during the preceding year, to offer comment and also to raise any other matters concerning the village. Attendance at the meeting on 13th March was exceedingly disappointing, particularly as Bridge has a record of good attendance at annual meetings. Councillor

---

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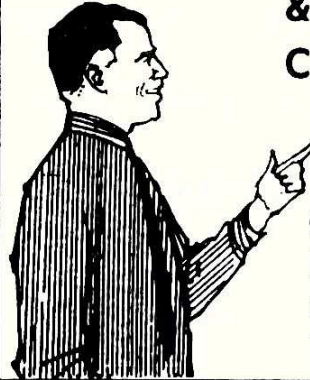
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Fagg, Chairman of Kingston Parish Council and of the Kent Association of Parish Councils, was present, and was doubtless surprised at the meagre turn-out. County Councillor Shirley was also present.

Councillor Lawrence, in his Chairman's Report, touched on many items: the partially successful, if expensive efforts to improve the appearance of the village for the *Best Kept Village* Competition by the provision of skips. Bridge obtained a Commendation. In the *Trees in Your Village* Competition, we came eleventh. Cllr. Lawrence took this opportunity to emphasise the importance of our trees, and the need for vigilance to ensure their preservation. He referred also to the extension of the Recreation Ground which was carried out last year, and the work of maintenance on the existing ground; the affairs of the Village Hall, and the extent of the work which Cllr. Chapman has carried out here with respect to both. He reported, too, on the County Council's decision following the Council's representations, to build a new Old People's Home in Bridge instead of removing it to Canterbury; on the Parish Review; the proposed Village Study; and on other tasks with which the Council has dealt in the past year.

He then presented the report of the Mary Gregory Trust, the income of which is intended to provide Christmas grants to the poor, but which inflation has robbed of much of its value. Financial reports were also presented to the Meeting, as was the Report of the New Village Hall Committee, who, the Chairman, Cllr. Hawkins said, are seeking to extend their membership in order to give new life to an exciting project which now seems to be lacking enthusiasm.

Cllr. Hill told the Meeting of the plans afoot for the preparation of a Village Study, and parishioners took a full part in discussion on this and the other matters on the agenda. Despite the small numbers attending, the Meeting proved both interesting and useful.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is in the Village Hall on Thursday 10th April, at 7.30 p.m., and we hope that some of those residents who were unable to attend the Annual Meeting will manage to be present.

*F. L. Edwards, Clerk*

## **BEKESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 22nd at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. The main item of discussion will be about the Village Appraisal results, a copy of which has recently been put through everyone's door. Please come and voice *your* opinion. Last year's meeting was very well attended, so please try to come and make this year's meeting as lively and interesting.

### **Footpath from Bifrons Road to Village Hall**

An on-site meeting took place recently between members of the Parish Council and representatives from the Divisional Surveyor's office, the police and the 'bus company, to discuss safety on the road from Bifrons Road to the Village Hall. The result has been an assurance that a footway will be constructed early in the financial year 1980-81 and that work will begin with removal of the hedge alongside the road.

### **Downside Villas: spare land**

A letter has been received from the City Council's Housing Committee

approving in principle the Parish Council's taking a lease on the land at the end of Downside Villas, with a view to making it into a play area. The lease would be for a minimum of seven years and at a peppercorn rent. This should enable the Parish Council to get on with the work involved and give more weight to our request for a grant from the lottery run by the City Council, to pay for this.

*Mrs. M. Gabbé*

### **Thanks!**

Stanley and I would like to thank all our friends for their kind thoughts and prayers during Stanley's recent stay in hospital. I am happy to say he is making progress and hopes to be in circulation before long.

*Ruth Grey*

### **St. Peter's, Bekesbourne — Cleaning rota for April**

Mrs. Grey, April 5th; Mrs. Hodgkiss, April 12th; Mrs. Smith, April 19th; Mrs. Stickells, April 26; Mrs. Hogben, May 3rd.

### **Bridge with Patixbourne W. I.**

On the evening of 12th March, a party of members visited the local bakery.

The President welcomed two new members to the Monthly Meeting on 20th March when the speaker was Mr. Udden from Dover Harbour Board. Mrs. Pleasance Kirk judged a competition for a 'jug made from Plasticine'; the best two by Mrs. Dawson and Mrs. Vaughan going to a further competition at the Group Meeting to be held at Lower Hardres on 21st April.

The next meeting will be the Birthday Meeting in the Village Hall on April 15th.

*J. E. Foster*

### **Nailbourne Horticultural Society**

April 30th A.G.M. Bishopsbourne Village Hall 8 p.m. Tea, Raffle.

May 17th Outing to Wakehurst Place, Sussex 9.30 a.m. — 7 p.m. Seats £2.50 each may be booked with Mrs. Davidson, Bishopsbourne or Mr. John Barley and Mrs. M. Jones at Bridge.

July 8th Bishopsbourne Village Hall at 8 p.m. Mr. Parks will discuss the preparation of exhibits for showing.

Members are reminded that Subscriptions became due on January 1st. Family membership £1 per annum. Single membership 50p.

*M. E. J.*

### **Fund-raising**

We are asked to give notice of two fund-raising events: a Bring-and-Buy at Beech Cottage, Beech Hill on 24th April at 11 a.m. for the *Save the Children Fund*, and a Coffee Morning on behalf of Bekesbourne Church at 'Anderida', School Lane, on 15th April 10.30 a.m. — 12 noon. Mesdames Young and Fitzgerald, the respective hostesses, crave your support for these two worthy causes.



*The Revd. Charles Harrington writes on a Holiday with a difference*

Congratulations on a very much improved Parish Magazine. In the February issue of *On the Nail* there was an article under the heading *Saga 1980*. This is about another "Saga 1980", the story of a working holiday as chaplain to four hundred SAGA Senior Citizens, covering Christmas and the New Year.

SAGA is one of the world's most experienced tourist companies specialising in holidays — summer and winter, in all parts of the world — for the over Sixties.

In the winter months, in co-operation with hoteliers anxious to keep their hotels in service at a slack time, a month's holiday is offered at very low rates. This includes full board at good hotels, return air flight, railway tickets to the airport of departure, and in some places nine free excursions during the holiday. It is not surprising that some find it cheaper than living at home, and many move around from one SAGA holiday to another.

This is not intended as a free advert for SAGA but to tell the tale of an adventure in Christian missionary enterprise. We are often reminded that the whole function of the Church is Mission, it exists to reach out to its non-members, as well as ministering to its own.

The Intercontinental Church Society has provided resident chaplains over many years for British Embassy staff overseas and other Britishers abroad.

Now that so many English people are travelling overseas on package tours, air travel has become a world-shrinker. This inspired idea of SAGA, to organise a shared holiday for those of maturer years, alerted members of the staff of the I. C. S. to extend their overseas chaplaincy service to take in these holidays for SAGA Senior Citizens. SAGA does a very professional job in looking after the physical needs and requirements of its clients, with some attention to cultural pursuits as well, but man does not live by bread alone, and there are deep spiritual needs to be catered for abroad, as well as at home.

While there are resident chaplains overseas, and Church buildings, they are often not located where many SAGA hotels are situated. Parish priests cannot be absent from their parishes for a month at a time and certainly not during major Christian Festivals. No priest ever retires but many can be available, as Senior Citizens themselves, ministering to their own age group on holiday.

And so, the end of last year and the beginning of this, saw my wife and myself stationed at the Hotel Ponent, Cala d'Or, Majorca, along with many other retired priests, and their wives, working in other parts of Europe. This year was not altogether a holiday in the sun in Majorca; we seemed to take some of the English weather with us, rain and storms, snow on some mountains, and boiling seas. The Mediterranean in winter can be very stormy, but we had sunny days, and more important, many interesting contacts.

In the Hotel Ponent we found a multi-national clientele; some four hundred Germans, some French, Dutch and Scandinavians as well as three hundred and fifty English Senior Citizens. This varied as it was a somewhat shifting population. West Germany actually subsidises many of theirs, and offers free holidays to selected people from October to May, with a Lutheran Chaplain and Nurse to minister to their needs.

This collection of German and British Senior Citizens who have lived through two world wars on opposing sides, provided a seed-bed of possible tension and antagonisms. Many suffered from our bombing, and we, from theirs; they lost relatives, so did we. There was, however, much evidence of very good friendliness,

and a forgetting of the past, but there was occasional tension, and it revealed itself at times of close proximity, with some, on both sides.

But shared Christian convictions made possible a combined service of Lessons and Carols, sung and spoken, both in German and English, on Christmas Eve in the hotel music room. This provided an excellent opportunity to forget all the hatred and antagonism of former years during this Festival of Peace and Goodwill. Combined services could not be continued because of cultural and language barriers, but it was possible to establish the fact that whatever national loyalties may mean, we are all on the same side in the battle for a Christian world.

A Lutheran service followed our Anglican service of Holy Communion (Series 3) in the music room each Sunday morning. Communicants of other churches at home were invited to join us as communicants; others who were not, came to the services, which were well attended. Many Germans joined us, and on occasion we attended their service. Each Sunday evening there was a hymn service with an address.

The chaplains were there not only to take services, but to be available at all times when needed. I hope we did not impose our attentions on others, or invade their privacy; but I was there to be buttonholed, to provide a listening ear, and to speak some sort of sense when it was necessary.

One SAGA client said to me, "I believe in giving God and His Church a holiday when I am on holiday!" But of course the good lady could not do so. Nobody ever can, for none of us can ever be where God is not. (See Psalm 139)

In consequence of 'age concern' a full time nurse had to be provided. I found the English nurse most helpful and useful in notifying me of needy and sick people. Many are lonely, anxious and worried, and they find that a holiday does not always give relief from pressures at home, and can sometimes actuate them as they have more time to think. They need a listening ear, and sometimes a shoulder to cry on. This the chaplain and his wife can often provide.

It is strange that people on holiday rarely believe that they might be confronted with the challenge of death. Human bodies, like machines, wear out, we do not live for ever here, and on this holiday four people died. One dear old man of 80 whose wife of 79 had angina should have been prepared for anything, but he was certainly not prepared to confront death as a possibility. His wife was playing whist at 8 p.m. and died at midnight. They had been married for fifty-four years and this was a terrible shock. He frankly admitted there had been little contact with the Church during their long life together. "Why should this happen to me?" was his plaintive cry. But why shouldn't it? This happens to us all, soon or late. It *had* happened to me. There is nothing more certain than that our loved ones will die, and this earthly life come to an end. His wife's body was taken back to England for burial, which is the usual practice. He had good friends to accompany him on his sad journey, and a letter on his return revealed that one's words did not fall on stony ground; and putting him in touch with his parish priest at home helped.

In contrast, another husband on the loss of his wife did not seem unduly perturbed. The nurse informed me that his wife's body would be flown back from Palma on January 1st, and one assumed he would be returning with it. However, it transpired, much to my surprise, that he had not returned. He said his wife would not want her death to spoil his holiday, so the body had been placed in an undertaker's fridge at Santanyi, a near-by village, and it would be flown back with the luggage when we all returned on the 18th January!

So, living with Senior Citizens on holiday is a useful opportunity of seeing human nature at its worst and best. It would certainly seem that the majority of people today, in youth or age, have their priorities in the wrong place. But such a holiday away from life's pressures, surrounded by so much beauty — and Majorca is a lovely island — does provide opportunities for the more thoughtful and sensitive to ask searching questions about life's meaning and its purpose. It was a privilege to offer friendship in the Service of Him who came to bring abundant life for us all.

*Parish Priest:*

The Revd. Raymond Gilbert, A.K.C., The Vicarage, 23 High Street, Bridge  
(Bridge 830250)

**PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE**

*Churchwardens:*

Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Bridge (Bridge 830218)

Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, 'Tullymore', 72 Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830472)

*Hon. Secretary:* Mr. D.R. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830426)

*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Bridge (Bridge 830218)

*Organist (Bridge):* Mr. R. Smith, Wellington House, Canterbury Road, Lydden,  
Nr. Dover (Shepherdswell 830781)

*Organist (Patricxbourne):* Mrs. G. Allan, 'Ardpriory', Bekesbourne Lane,  
Canterbury (Canterbury 62695)

*Verger (Bridge):* Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne

**BEKESBOURNE**

*Churchwarden:*

Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge (Bridge 830522)

*Hon. Secretary:* Mr. J. Purchase, 'Mill Cottage', Bekesbourne (Canterbury 61508)

*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. G.D. Millyard, 'School House', School Lane, Bekesbourne  
(Bridge 830256)

*Organist:* Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge (Bridge 830522)

*Captain of the Bells:* Mr. H. Collard, 1 Mumpas Cottages, Little Pett, Bridge

*Magazine Advertising:* Mr. C.J. Barley, 49 Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830612)

*Magazine Editor:* The Parish Priest, who is responsible for unsigned articles

Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On the Nail* please send them to The Editor by the 20th of the month preceding publication. He would always welcome articles and photographs of general interest for inclusion in the Magazine which has a wide circulation in the three villages of Bridge, Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne.

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# On the NAIL



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MAY 1980

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# Sunday Services in May

BRIDGE

PATRIXBOURNE

BEKESBOURNE

**4th:**

11am Parish  
Communion

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish  
Communion

6.30pm Evensong

**11th:**

9.30am Holy  
Communion (*Series 3*).

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

**18th:**

9.30am Parish  
Communion

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

6.30pm Evensong

**25th:**

9.30am Parish  
Communion

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins and Holy  
Communion

6.30pm Festal Evensong

**Bridge Methodist Church at 11am:—**

4th: Miss D. M. Rosman, Ph.D. with Young People's Department of St. Peter's Methodist Church. 11th: *Chapel Anniversary* The Revd. Raymond Gilbert. 18th: The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. 25th: Mr. G. H. J. Champion, B.A.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated at 9.30am each Wednesday, and at 7.30am every Friday, at St. Peter's, Bridge.

A short informal service is held each Thursday afternoon for the residents of the Close.

Holy Communion is celebrated in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am.

## For your Diary

1st *ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES, APOSTLES*

Bridge Summer Fête Preparation Meeting in the Vicarage at 8pm.

3rd Pray for Andrew Shaw and Catherine Hope, to be married at Bridge, 3.30pm.

4th *Fourth Sunday After Easter*

9th Open Meeting on Christian Stewardship, Bridge Village Hall, 8pm.

11th *Fifth Sunday After Easter*, called Rogation Sunday, when prayer is offered for the fruits of the earth. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 12th to 14th, are also Rogation Days.

14th *ST. MATTHIAS, APOSTLE*, who was elected to replace Judas Iscariot.

15th ASCENSION DAY, which will be commemorated with a Sung Eucharist (*Series 3*) in St. Peter's, Bridge at 8pm.

18th *Sunday After Ascension Day*

25th WHITSUNDAY, also called Pentecost. A major feast day, when all should make their Communion.

# A LOOK AHEAD

1st to 8th June is the week of Bekesbourne's Octocentennial Festival, when we celebrate the 800th anniversary of the appointment of the first known Vicar of Bekesbourne in 1180. It begins with a great service of thanksgiving on Sunday, 1st at 6.30pm. in the church. The structure of the service will be that of Evensong and the Preacher will be the Archbishop. Details of this celebration of 800 years of unbroken worship are:—

**Sunday 1st June:** The Service of Thanksgiving, with the Archbishop preaching, and meeting the congregation afterwards.

**Monday 2nd June:** 8pm. Concert by the CANTERBURY TEMPLE SONGSTER BRIGADE — the popular Salvation Army from Canterbury joining our celebrations. This concert will be free, but a collection will be taken at the end.

**Tuesday 3rd June:** 8pm. Recital of Organ Music by DAVID FLOOD, Assistant Organist at Canterbury Cathedral, playing the church organ, described by Allan Wicks as "a nice little Bevington"! Admission by ticket: 50p.

**Thursday 5th June:** 8pm. Special Parish Eucharist to mark the unbroken 800 years' of worship, celebrated by the Vicar, the Revd. Raymond Gilbert.

**Saturday 7th June:** 5pm: Late afternoon Concert by the Senior Choir of the Finchley Children's Music Group. The F.C.M.G., who are this month holding a 21st Birthday Concert at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London, have recorded with the London Symphony Orchestra, appeared at Covent Garden, the Aldeburgh Festival, and been on BBC Television and Radio. For this major event tickets are £1; remember there are only 115 seats in the church!

**Tickets** will be available from Mr. S. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge; John Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne and other sources listed on the posters soon to appear — from May 10th. (*See also p.14*).

Members of Patrixbourne with Bridge PCC please note that the meeting planned for Tuesday, 10th June at 8pm. will take place in Bridge Church, and not the Village Hall.

Patrixbourne and Bridge Summer Fête will be on Saturday, 7th June at the school.

Bridge Methodists will be holding a Coffee Morning on Tuesday, 3rd June at High Beech, Patrixbourne Road, by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. F. Wimpory. Proceeds in aid of Methodist Homes For The Aged.

**Patrixbourne with Bridge Annual Church Meeting** on 16th April was attended by a record number of parishioners. Messrs Charles Potter and Peter Lawrence were elected Churchwardens, and the following were elected to the PCC by ballot: Miss Joan Carpenter, Mesdames Grace Allan, Elsie Apps, Ann Hollister, Pat Hulyer, Joyce Hunter, Alicia Pentin, Susan Pratt, Diana Potter and Enid Wintle; Messrs John Barley, Ernest Down, Douglas Hill, Alan Jackson, Bill Rose and John Williamson. The three Deanery Synod representatives (not elected this year) are *ex officio* members of the

PCC, and are Mrs. Joyce Rose, Mr. Charles Potter and Dr. Nigel Allan. Your regular prayers for the work of the Church Council are most essential.

## That's the Spirit!

Are you any good at remembering birthdays? Some people are hopeless and will even forget their own until the cards arrive. Others virtually live and breathe birthdays, carrying a whole list of them around in their heads from one year's end to the next; while others keep a Birthday Book to remind them of those birthdays it would never do to overlook.

The curious thing about birthdays, as far as I am concerned, is why we keep them at all, because what we are celebrating is an event that the person involved did nothing to bring about. We did not have any say in our own birth, let alone choose the day, so what is there to celebrate each year? And why do we congratulate eighteen-year-olds as if surviving that number of summers is any great achievement in this day and age? Is not the reason a desire to set aside a special day each year on which someone can be given extra love and honour, a day to call their own, choosing their birthday because it marks a particular point in their life. We respect a person on the anniversary of the commencement of his or her life.

The Church has *its* birthday, which we call Whitsunday, or Pentecost; a yearly recollection and celebration of its beginnings. We can gauge its significance by listening to our Lord's last words to his followers: "Go forth . . . and make all nations my disciples . . . and be assured, I am with you always, to the end of time". Those ringing tones remind us in Patix-bourne, Bridge and Bekesbourne that Jesus is still present with his disciples, because fifty days after his resurrection his power entered the lives of his first friends and has been with their successors down the intervening centuries, right up to the present. We call that power the Holy Spirit, and through his activity within each Christian person the work of Christ goes on.

The Christian life is life in the Spirit of God, for he dwells in us, converting a hopeless situation into one of virilant hope, making a spiritual silk purse out of a sow's ear, providing the driving force necessary to a fruitful Christian existence that is centred upon others before self but on God first of all. The Holy Spirit who first entered the Church (people, not buildings, remember) at Pentecost, is readily accessible to us all, if only we believe the gospel and take the vital step of faith that will unleash him upon us. Once we open ourselves to God's advances in this way our lives will become transformed, as were those of the first Christians on that greatest of all birthdays, which we celebrate this year on 25th May. Why don't you come and join the party?!

## Our joys and sorrows

Bekesbourne Church was filled to capacity for the wedding of **Paul Knight and Elizabeth Lennox** on the afternoon of 5th April. Paul hails from Little Chalfont, Buckinghamshire where he was a ringer at his church. Elizabeth's family home is in Aerodrome Road, and she was a member of Bekesbourne Church Choir before she moved away to study and work.

The main Eucharist of Easter Day at Bridge was a splendid service, made more so by the inclusion of the Baptism of **James Alistair Hopkins** of 1 Pippin Avenue and of **Daniel Vaughan Brasier** of 'The Archways', Conyngham Lane. We are indebted to the Cathedral for the loan of cards with which the large congregation could follow the Baptism Service. All who were present on this occasion can appreciate how well Easter, the Communion and Baptism go together.

Matins at Bekesbourne on Sunday, 20th April was similarly enhanced by the Baptism of **Hannah Judy Page** of Marley Farm Bungalow, Kingston. Proud Grandparents are Anne and John Purchase. Canon Packer administered the Baptism with characteristic exuberance, surrounded by a bevy of children. A good time was had by all, and baby Hannah seemed to raise no objections.

A goodly number of relations and friends gathered in Bridge Church on 1st April to pay their respects to a very courageous Christian lady. **Maude Spanton** had been greatly upheld by the prayers and presence of a wide circle of friends during her very sad illness, which she bore with incredible patience. Her husband Percy cared for her with tremendous devotion and skill, and whereas we must give thanks for Maude's release from bitter pain and discomfiture, our sympathy goes out to Percy in his loss. May she find rest in God's eternal peace.

### **CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

A joint open meeting of the Patnixbourne with Bridge PCC and the Bekesbourne PCC will be held on Friday 10th May 1980 at 8.00pm at Bridge Village Hall; to hear from Mr. J. M. MacDonell, the Diocesan Stewardship Advisor.

Christian Stewardship is an important subject about which we should be fully informed. All members of our congregations are warmly invited to attend this meeting.

*C. A. Potter*

**BRIDGE METHODIST CHURCH** celebrates its anniversary with services on Sunday 11th at 11.00am and Tuesday 13th at 7.30pm. The Revd. Raymond Gilbert will conduct the Sunday service, and Tuesday's is conducted by Mr. T. J. Cooper, with piano solos from Jonathan Giles. All are most welcome on either or both occasions.

*Christian Aid Week begins on 12th May. Don't shrug off this annual appeal as just another charity. The national organisers ask:*

## **Will we never learn?**

Acute poverty is generally man-made, largely unnecessary and wholly unjust. It is a negation of basic human rights and also, to Christians, a denial of the knowledge that all human beings are equal in the sight of God.

Not only must Christians therefore not connive at it but in obedience they are bound to alleviate it and, where practicable, remove its causes. Hence the involvement of the churches in development as well as in relief.

Like human need itself, that involvement is world-wide. In the poor world it is manifested in programmes of community health, agricultural

development, training in family welfare, self-help and leadership, refugee and disaster relief and rehabilitation. In the rich world it is manifested in public education and fund raising for the programmes in areas of need.

Non-Christians involve themselves, too — out of a sense of what is fair and just, and out of compassion. So the churches, acting in faith and obedience, can and do make common cause with all who champion the poor, the distressed, the disadvantaged and the oppressed.

In particular they do this every May in Christian Aid Week, informing the whole local community about the needs and about Christian Aid as an effective channel for help — and as the British churches' own official agency. This year's Christian Aid Week is 12—17th May.

About half a million church people voluntarily give their services in this campaign. As they seek to interest and involve others they inevitably encounter the occasional sceptic who says 'Poor countries should look after their own people; it's not our problem'.

No Christian can accept that 'it's not our problem'. And non-Christians should now know that it is self-interest which contributed to the present plight of the poor world — and still does. In the form of protective trading policies it starves poor countries of the capital needed for development. Poverty, like political suppression, breeds despair and animosity, and in a number of countries has paved the way for Marxist and totalitarian experiments.

So ponder the plight of the hungry and poor, and reflect that to leave their needs unmet perpetuates suffering and may eventually create widows and orphans, political prisoners and refugees. That is what keeps happening. Will the world never learn?

### **SUPPORTING THE CHILDREN**

The Church of England Children's Society collection realised £90.45 with the additional envelopes put through my door after March 24th. Thank you all very much for your generous support and my grateful thanks to all who collected in a bitterly cold week.

*F. V. B. Mason*  
*Hon. Parish Secretary*

### **BEKESBOURNE COFFEE MORNING**

Mrs. Fitzgerald would like to thank everyone who supported her coffee morning, which raised £26.25 for Bekesbourne Church. Special thanks to Mrs. Coombes and Mrs. Russell for all their help.

## **Striking a new note**

A glance at the list of church officers at the end of *On the Nail* will reveal two new names. Roger Smith has been succeeded as organist at Bridge by the man whom *he* succeeded, former organist Peter Giles, and we are delighted and fortunate to have him back, organists being scarce at the present time.

With great reluctance and after much heart-searching Churchwarden Stanley Grey has relinquished the post of Organist at Bekesbourne Church,

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a position he has held for a very long time with distinction and enormous personal pleasure. His place is taken by Miss Morag Walker, a student at Christ Church College, Canterbury and organ pupil of the Cathedral Assistant Organist, David Flood. Morag took over rather earlier than anticipated due to Stanley's recent spell in hospital, and we are fortunate to have her skill and enthusiasm. But somehow I don't think we have heard the last of Stanley Grey, who has played the organ at Bekesbourne and Bridge for too long just to abandon it completely.

# PARISH PUMP

Parish Council  
News



## BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting of the Parish Council on 10th April confirmed the recommendation of the Parish Meeting to enter again this year the Best Kept Village and Trees in Your Village Competitions, but deferred a decision on the provision of skips to assist in keeping the village tidy until the City Council had replied to a request for help with the cost.

Work on the re-roofing of the Village Hall, which will cost some £2,000, has commenced, Councillor Chapman informed the meeting; but other work of repair is also necessary, as the entrance doors need to be replaced, and part of the flooring has rotted. He was, however, hopeful that the cost to the village could be minimised by getting some of the work done by voluntary labour. These problems added point to Councillor Hawkins' information that the Annual General Meeting of the New Village Hall Committee would be held on 2nd May at 7.00pm at the 'Red Lion'.

The Council also heard that the mowing of the Recreation Ground would cost substantially more this year, and street lighting and maintenance charges are also to rise steeply.

Councillor Mrs. Young told the Council of the proposed Public Enquiry in June into the refusal by the Canterbury City Council to grant permission to a firm to dump industrial waste in the old railway cutting between Bishopsbourne and Kingston. This refusal was strongly supported by the Nailbourne Protection Society, on which she represented the Parish Council, and members felt that the Parish should add their support, not only to help preserve our countryside, but also because there was some likelihood of tipper lorries using the village on their route to the tip. It was decided to write to the City Planning Department strongly supporting their opposition to the tip, and to let neighbouring parishes and the Protection Society know of the Council's action.

The next meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 8th May, at 7.30pm. Members hope that more village residents will attend now that the weather is improving.

*F.L. Edwards, Clerk*

## **BRIDGE NEW VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE**

The Annual General Meeting of the above Committee will be held at the Red Lion, Bridge, on Friday 2nd May, 1980 at 7.00pm. It would be much appreciated if interested local organisations would send a representative to this meeting.

*M. E. J.*

## **BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE W. I.**

At the April meeting the W.I. celebrated the 61st Birthday with refreshments, entertainment by the Drama Group, and Games arranged by Mrs. Knight and Mrs. Down. Mrs. N. Sharman made a fruit-cup and Mrs. C. Berry and Miss M. Wraight cut a Birthday cake which was made by Mrs. Foster. The Competition for the 'Best Bloom in my Garden' was won by Mrs. Flanders, and the Raffle won by Mrs. Herbert.

At the start of the meeting, the President Mrs. M. Jones paid tribute to the late Mrs. M. Spanton who was a W.I. member for over forty years.

The next meeting is the A.G.M. Resolutions Meeting, on May 20th in the Village Hall at 7.00p.

*J.E. Foster*

<b>Cleaning</b>	<b>ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE ROTAS</b>	<b>Flowers</b>
Mrs. Hogben .....	May 3rd.....	Mrs. Hogben
Mrs. Watson.....	May 10th.....	Mrs. Grey
Mrs. Russell.....	May 17th.....	Mrs. Johnston
Mrs. Grey.....	May 24th.....	Mrs. Millyard
Mrs. Hodgkiss.....	May 31st.....	Mrs. Farbrace
Mrs. Smith.....	June 7th.....	Mrs. Johnston

## **Think of our Lord . . .**

speaking to you and saying:

You do not have to be clever to please me; all you have to do is to want to love me. Just speak to me as you would to anyone of whom you are very fond.

Are there any people you want to pray for? Say their names to me, and ask of me as much as you like. I am generous and know all their needs, but I want you to show your love for them and me by trusting me to do what I know is best.

Tell me about the poor, the sick, and the sinners, and if you have lost the friendship or affection of anyone, tell me about that, too.

Is there anything you want for your soul? If you like you can write out a long list of all your needs, and come and read it to me.

Just tell me about your pride, your touchiness, self-centredness, meanness and laziness. Do not be ashamed; there are many Saints in Heaven who had the same faults as you; they prayed to me and, little by little, their faults were corrected.

Do not hesitate to ask me for blessings for the body and mind; for health, memory, success. I can give everything, and I always do give everything needed to make souls holier.

What is it that you want to-day? Tell me, for I long to do you good. What are your plans? Tell me about them. Is there anyone you want to please? What do you want to do for them?

And don't you want to do anything for me? Don't you want to do a little good to the souls of your friends who perhaps have forgotten me? Tell me about your failures, and I will show you the cause of them. What are your worries? Who has caused you pain? Tell me all about it, and add that you will forgive and forget, and I will bless you.

Are you afraid of anything? Have you any tormenting, unreasonable fears? Trust yourself to me. I am here. I see everything. I will not leave you.

Have you no joys to tell me about? Why do you not share your happiness with me? Tell me what has happened since yesterday to cheer and comfort you. Whatever it was, however big, however small, I prepared it. Show me your gratitude and thank me.

Are you determined to run into no temptations? Have you made up your mind about bad books and bad friendships? They disturb the peace of your soul. Are you going to be kind to that one who has hurt you?

\* \* \* \* \*

Well, go along now. Get on with your work. Try and be quieter, humbler, more submissive, kinder; and come back soon and bring me a more devoted heart. Tomorrow I shall have more blessings for you.

*Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield*

*Love bade me welcome; yet my soul drew back,  
Guilt of dust and sin.  
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack  
From my first entrance in,  
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning  
If I lacked anything.*

*"A guest," I answered, "worthy to be here."  
Love said, "You shall be he."*

*"I, the unkind, the ungrateful? Ah, my dear,  
I cannot look on Thee."*

*Love took my hand, and smiling, did reply,  
"Who made the eyes but I?"*

*"Truth, Lord, but I have marred them: let my shame  
Go where it doth deserve."*

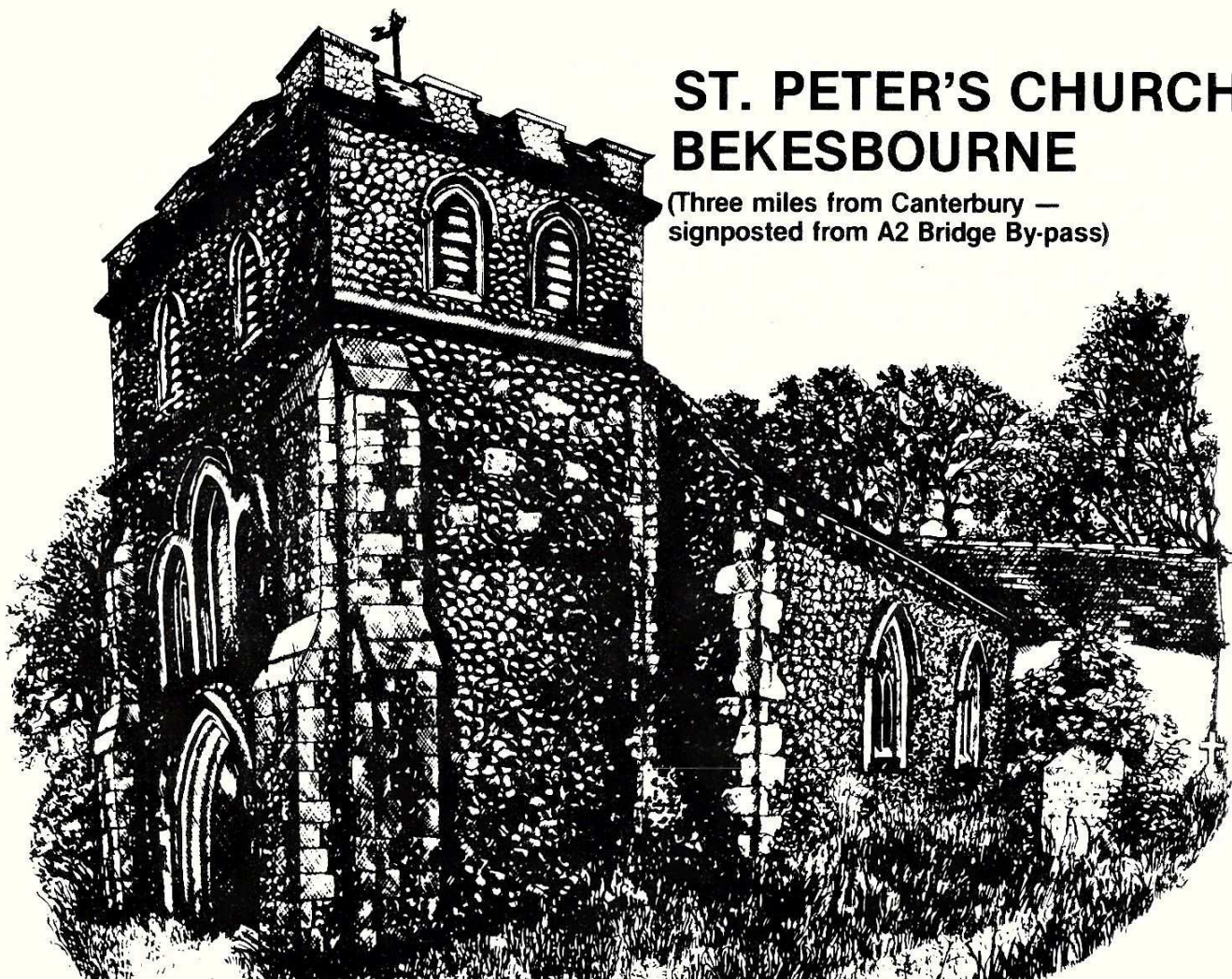
*"And know you not," says Love, "who bore the blame?"  
"My dear, then I will serve."*

*"You must sit down," says Love, "and taste my meat."  
So I did sit and eat.*

George Herbert, 1593-1633

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## OCTOCENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

**SUNDAY 1st JUNE: 6.30 p.m.**  
SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING. Preacher:  
The Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, the  
Most Reverend Robert Runcie.

**MONDAY 2nd JUNE: 8 p.m.**  
CONCERT by CANTERBURY TEMPLE  
SONGSTER BRIGADE (Salvation Army).  
Admission free to this popular Concert.

**TUESDAY 3rd JUNE: 8 p.m.**  
RECITAL by DAVID FLOOD, Asst. Organist,  
Canterbury Cathedral. Admission by ticket:  
50p.

**THURSDAY 5th JUNE: 8 p.m.**  
SPECIAL PARISH EUCHARIST to celebrate  
800 years of unbroken worship. Celebrant:  
The Vicar, the Reverend Raymond Gilbert.

**SATURDAY 7th JUNE: 5 p.m.**  
LATE AFTERNOON CONCERT by the  
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*Churchwardens:*

Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Bridge (Bridge 830218)

Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, 'Tullymore', 72 Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830472)

*Hon. Secretary:* Mr. D.R. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830426)

*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Bridge (Bridge 830218)

*Organist (Bridge):* Mr. P. Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road, Bridge  
(Bridge 830293)

*Organist (Patricxbourne):* Mrs. G. Allan, 'Ardpriory', Bekesbourne Lane,  
Canterbury (Canterbury 62695)

*Verger (Bridge):* Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne

**BEKESBOURNE**

*Churchwarden:*

Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge (Bridge 830522)

*Hon. Secretary:* Mr. J. Purchase, 'Mill Cottage', Bekesbourne (Canterbury 61508)

*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. G.D. Millyard, 'School House', School Lane, Bekesbourne  
(Bridge 830256)

*Organist:* Miss M. Walker, Swanton Farm, Sturry (Littlebourne 473)

*Captain of the Bells:* Mr. H. Collard, 1 Mumpas Cottages, Little Pett, Bridge

*Magazine Advertising:* Mr. C.J. Barley, 49 Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830612)

*Magazine Editor:* The Parish Priest, who is responsible for unsigned articles

Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On the Nail* please send them to The Editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication. He would always welcome articles and photographs of general interest for inclusion in the Magazine which has a wide circulation in the three villages of Bridge, Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne.

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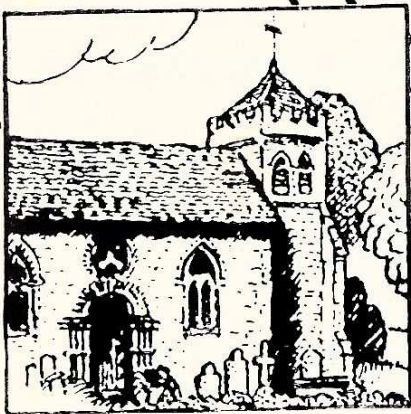
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# On the NAIL



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PATRIBOURNE  
AND BEKESBOURNE

JUNE 1980

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# Sunday Services in June

## BRIDGE

### 1st:

11am Parish  
Communion  
(No Evensong)

### 8th:

9.30am Holy  
Communion (*Series 3*)  
6.30pm Evensong

### 15th:

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 22nd:

9.30am Holy  
Communion (*Series 3*)  
6.30pm Evensong

### 29th:

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
(No Evensong)

## PATRIXBOURNE

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

## BEKESBOURNE

6.30pm Evensong  
(*Preacher:*  
*The Archbishop*)

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins &  
Holy Communion

*PLEASE NOTE — Services on the fourth and fifth Sundays have been interchanged, to allow Bekesbourne to celebrate its Patronal Festival at a more popular hour. There will be no Evensong at Bridge that day, as we shall be joining other parishes in our Deanery at Cathedral Evensong. See details of this on page 3.*

**Bridge Methodist Church at 11am:—**

1st: Mr. John Whalan; 8th: Joint Service at Barham Methodist Church; 15th: Mr. Antony Law; 22nd: Rev. Raymond Bradshaw; 29th: Rev. Wilfred J. Hill, M.C., B.Sc.

**Holy Communion** is celebrated at 9.30am each Wednesday, and at 7.30am every Friday, at St. Peter's, Bridge.

A short informal service is held each Thursday afternoon for the residents of the Close.

Holy Communion is celebrated in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am.

## For your diary

1st *Trinity Sunday*

6.30pm Festal Evensong at Bekesbourne  
Preacher: The Archbishop

2nd Canterbury Salvation Army Songsters Concert, Bekesbourne Church, 8pm.

3rd Organ Recital at Bekesbourne Church by David Flood, Assistant Organist at the Cathedral, 8pm.

- 5th *Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of the Holy Communion*  
Parish Eucharist at Bekesbourne, 8pm, celebrated by the Vicar
- 7th Bridge & Patricbourne Summer Fête at the school from 2pm. Concert  
by Finchley Children's Music Group, Bekesbourne Church, 5pm
- 8th *First Sunday After Trinity*
- 10th Patricbourne with Bridge PCC Meeting, Bridge Church, 8pm
- 11th *SAINT BARNABAS, APOSTLE*  
9.30am Holy Communion, St. Peter's, Bridge
- 14th Annual Dog Show for Patricbourne with Bridge Church Funds,  
Wingham Parish Hall, 1.30pm (*further details p.12*)
- 15th *Second Sunday After Trinity*
- 22nd *Third Sunday After Trinity*
- 24th *Birth of St. John the Baptist*  
Bekesbourne PCC Meeting, School House, 8pm
- 25th }  
27th } *Ember Days*, when prayer is offered for those to be ordained to the  
28th } ministry of the Church as Deacons and Priests
- 28th Bridge School Fête, from 2pm
- 29th *ST. PETER, APOSTLE*, Patron Saint of Bridge and Bekesbourne  
Churches

## Bekesbourne 1180-1980

From first to last this June belongs to Bekesbourne, and we share the celebrations to mark the eight hundredth anniversary of the appointment of the first 'vicar'. The programme of events from 1st to 7th should by now be familiar to a wide circle of friends and well-wishers, and we look forward to welcoming patrons from far afield to participate in them. The opening service, with its very distinguished preacher, will draw a large congregation, and it has been necessary to restrict seating in the church to ticket-holders only. But do not despair, for the service will be relayed out to the churchyard and we shall ensure that those who merely *hear* the Archbishop when he preaches, will be able to *see* him after the service at a gathering in the garden of Cobham Court, which Mrs. Whigham has very kindly made available to us. Older residents of Bekesbourne will be interested to know that three past vicars have accepted an invitation to attend, i.e. Canons Appleton and Perry and Archdeacon Michael Brown. The Revd. Robert Penney would have been with us, but celebrates his ruby wedding on 7th June, and is therefore required in the bosom of his family.

At the end of the month Bekesbourne has a further cause for celebration, along with Bridge Church, for 29th is St. Peter's Day and therefore the Patronal Festival of both churches. In order that they shall be fittingly observed the pattern of Sunday services has been adjusted on the last two Sundays of the month, and I would draw your attention to the Sunday Services list on page 2 of this issue of *On The Nail*.

By a happy co-incidence our Deanery of East Bridge has arranged a Cathedral Afternoon on Sunday 29th, which should provide our churches with a most enjoyable time. The programme begins with Evensong sung by the Cathedral Choir at 3.15pm (I have been invited to conduct the service as

an Honorary Minor Canon and also Parish Priest of two of the only three St. Peter's Churches in the deanery), then tea in the Archdeacon of Canterbury's garden at which the Archbishop may be present, and a specially arranged programme in the Crypt conducted by Jim Brasier, Vesturer (i.e. Head Virger) of the Cathedral. For tea we are asked to take our own food, but cups of tea will be provided by the Cathedral Catering Committee. I hope members of all our three congregations will join in, and nearer the time it will be helpful to know a fairly accurate figure, for catering purposes. There will be no evening service at Bridge that evening. Do note this event in your diary, and bring the family.

**Bekesbourne's Annual Church Meeting** was held in the Village Hall on 29th April. The PCC was re-elected en bloc with the addition of Mrs. K. J. Fitzgerald. At the election of churchwardens that preceded the ACM, Mr. Stanley Grey was re-elected and the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Wilfred Mowll was filled by the PCC Secretary Mr. John Purchase, who has already made his mark in Bekesbourne Church's life in more ways than one.

## “You are the Rock!”

What would you have done in the circumstances? Twelve good men and true were required for a task of mammoth proportions and of world-shattering significance. They would be called upon to set the most influential organisation in the world on its feet, to recruit members to it, to establish a code of practice, to write the rules and appoint executives. Clearly it called for the keenest brains of the day coupled with a business acumen second to none. Exceptional gifts would be needed for an exceptional job. The firm, once set in motion, would have to continue for a very long time. It would have to enlarge, and any talk of ultimate winding-up operations or bankruptcy was an anathema. So, I ask, how would you have gone about it?

When Jesus tackled the job, he went about it in entirely the wrong way, and the men he chose were wholly unsuited to the task. He picked a customs man, and no doubt a crooked one at that. Perhaps he would have made a reasonable accountant, if he could be persuaded not to embezzle the funds, but he was not given the job of treasurer. That went to a real hot-head with ideas above himself and a will of his own: no use for team work, surely! Then he chose a starry-eyed young lad, a mere stripling, weak as water and totally lacking in any charisma or abilities as a leader of men.

But surely his biggest mistake was to choose four common-or-garden fishermen. What on earth could *they* know of business? It is highly unlikely that they could read, let alone express themselves cogently, and what their thinking-powers could be like one did not dare to imagine; especially the big fellow with the mouth to match. He had drive, that's for sure, and he owned the fishing fleet, but did that qualify him to lead the rest, or set himself up as spokesman in *this* enterprise?

When you stop to think about it, the twelve apostles Jesus selected to lead the embryo Church, possessed none of the gifts we would have looked for. They were quite the most unlikely men for such an important work, and somehow St. Peter stands out as the sorest in a collection of sore thumbs. That he should have been singled out for a position of such responsibility

seems unbelievable, for he was not without his faults, and Jesus must have been aware of them at the time he chose Peter. From what we know of Peter he was the sort of chap who speaks first and thinks later, a brusque, ham-fisted brute of a man whose brawn far outstripped his brain. He was thoroughly dependable in the normal run of things but could be surprisingly unreliable when the chocks were down. Yet he proved his worth many times over, and showed Jesus knew what he was doing when he numbered 'the Rock' among his closest followers and greatest apostles.

The finest lesson Bridge and Bekesbourne's Patron Saint has to teach us is what can be achieved when you acknowledge yourself to be the Lord's man, for it does not matter how limited your abilities, how scarce your gifts, if God calls you to his service (and there is no one he doesn't call) he sees that you acquire the essential gifts for the job. If we think Peter was ill-equipped for Christian service, what price ourselves?

---

**Bridge Brownies** are cleaning the brasses of their parish church as a project, and making an excellent job of them. They will be continuing until the end of term. Would some kind person or persons like to carry on the good work when their project is ended? Offers, please, to Mrs. Elsie Apps, who will gladly show them the ropes — or should I say brasses.

Local members of 'Save the Children' Fund Committee are truly grateful for the generous support at their Bring and Buy on 24th April. They were able to hand over £103 to the Canterbury treasurer as Bridge's effort for SCF Week.

## Our joys and sorrows

**Catherine Hope** of 30 Western Avenue, Bridge was married to **Andrew Shaw** of Broomfield, Herne in St. Peter's, Bridge on 3rd May, and although it means she has moved out of the parish we wish them both well in their new life together. This was the first wedding here at which the new Marriage Service was used — at their request.

We have heard this week of the death of **Ethel Kingsford**, after a long illness. Ethel lived in Bekesbourne all her life, (she and her husband attending the village school) until a few years ago when on her husband's retirement they went to live at Tyler Hill. We missed her lively company so much when she moved away. Ethel will always be remembered at St. Peter's, for the kneelers she made, and also the lovely crib scene we always use at Christmas. Our sympathy goes to her husband Stanley.

**Cecil Mummery**, 8 High Street, Bridge died rather suddenly and we extend our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Mummery. Bridge Church is bereft of a regular attender. Cremation at Barham was preceded by a service in the Church. This was also the case at the funeral of Mrs. **Margaret Sloggett**, 18 Windmill Close, Bridge, who passed away on 10th May. She and her surviving husband are comparatively new to Bridge, though not to each other, having celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Mr. Sloggett in this sad loss of a dear wife and companion. May the souls of all the departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

**Confirmation Preparation** serves two purposes. It provides instruction in the practice of the Christian faith from the point of view of the Anglican Church, and also affords potential Confirmation candidates the opportunity to decide if they really are ready to commit themselves to God in the fellowship of his Church through the sacrament of Confirmation. A course of instruction will commence in the Vicarage on Wednesday, 2nd July at 6 o'clock. Thirteen year olds and upwards who would like to consider being confirmed and thus becoming full members of the Christian Church are asked to turn up, whether or not they have told me beforehand, and any young people who have been confirmed but would like a refresher course are particularly invited to come along as well.

**Christian Aid Week** house to house collections in the three villages produced the splendid total of £206.43. Bridge School collected in addition about £40 from a sponsored walk and what the children gave out of their pocket-money. Well done everybody!

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## BEKESBOURNE OCTOCENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

**SUNDAY 1st JUNE: 6.30pm**

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING. Preacher: The Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend Robert Runcie.

**MONDAY 2nd JUNE: 8pm**

CONCERT by CANTERBURY TEMPLE SONGSTER BRIGADE (Salvation Army). Admission free to this popular Concert.

**TUESDAY 3rd JUNE: 8pm**

RECITAL by DAVID FLOOD, Asst. Organist, Canterbury Cathedral. Admission by ticket: 50p.

**THURSDAY 5th JUNE: 8pm**

SPECIAL PARISH EUCHARIST to celebrate 800 years of unbroken worship. Celebrant: The Vicar, the Reverend Raymond Gilbert.

**SATURDAY 7th JUNE: 5pm**

LATE AFTERNOON CONCERT by the Special Choir of the FINCHLEY CHILDREN'S MUSIC GROUP. (The F.C.M.G. have recorded with leading orchestras, appeared on television and radio in Britain and overseas). Tickets: £1.

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The Church will be open during the week, and on view will be AN EXHIBITION of drawings by children of Bridge Church of England Primary School.

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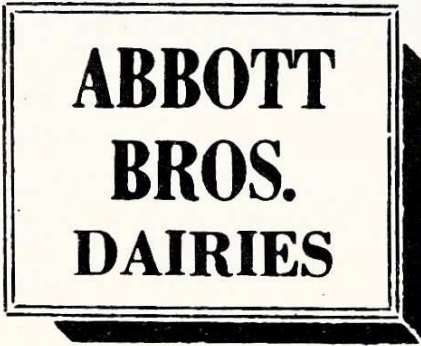
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## **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **New Chairman**

The Parish Council at its May meeting appointed its Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year. Councillor Peter Lawrence indicated that he did not wish to offer himself for election again, and Councillor John Hill was appointed in his stead. Councillor Mrs. Young was re-appointed Vice-Chairman, and all the members of the Council's committees were also re-appointed. It was decided in addition that a member of the Council should take special responsibility for footpaths and bridle-ways in the Parish, and Councillor Mrs. Knight was given this task.

### **Village Hall**

Cllr. Keith Chapman reported the completion of the work to the Village Hall roof, and said that arrangements had been made for the decoration of the Hall by the Youth Opportunities Project, who would also carry out floor repairs. The only cost falling on the Village Hall Committee would be for materials. The work, which would be carried out in June, might necessitate the closing of the Hall for a week.

### **New Village Hall Project**

Cllr. Chapman also reported on the Annual General Meeting of the New Village Hall Project Committee, of which he is now Chairman. It would be very difficult for the Committee to carry on its work if the village did not show more interest in the proposal, but it had been agreed to review the matter in six months' time.

### **Recreation Ground**

He also told the Council that the Recreation Ground had now been treated with weed-killer and fertiliser, and efforts had been made, not very successfully, to deal with mole infestation. The Scouts, the Chairman said, had raked the mole-hills flat.

### **Other Matters**

The Council also heard that the Ministry had turned down its application, which was supported by the County Council, for 'Stop' signs at the Bekesbourne Road junction with Town Hill; reviewed the City Public Transport Plan for 1980/81; and decided to renew its grant of £10 to the Kent Association of Youth Clubs.

Members were glad to see more visitors in the Hall on this occasion, and hope for an even larger attendance at the next meeting on Thursday, 12 June, at 7.30pm.

*F. L. Edwards, Clerk*



The **Annual Dog Show** organised by Mrs. Grace Allan for Patrixbourne with Bridge Church Funds is on Saturday, 14th June in Wingham Parish Hall at 1.30pm. Tea, refreshments and the usual stall will be available. Entry forms obtainable from the three churches, the Vicarage or Mrs. Allan.

### **THE CLOSE**

Wanted. Wool and materials for the making of articles for our Christmas

Fayre, 21st November, 1980.

The "Friends of The Close" are forming a working party — this does not mean endless meetings, but we are asking for people to make things at home to give to our various functions. Can you find a few more minutes to help us carry on our work? The working party meets on 25th June at "The Close" at 7.30pm. We will supply any materials required if you are willing to help us.

Our thanks go out to all who help us.

*B. Hayes*

**Bekesbourne Choir** is in urgent need of a cupboard, chest of drawers or suitable receptacle in which to keep its sheet music up at the church. It will need to be damp-proof. Can any kind person help, please?

**St. George's flag** is flown on or by England's parish churches on days of celebration, whether of national or religious importance, in preference to the Union Jack. The familiar red cross on a white background looks right when flying next to the local church. Bridge's flag is a red cross on an off-white, if not brown background, because it is old and worn. The church *does* have more pressing needs, but if someone felt they would like to give us a new flag we wouldn't say 'no': in fact we would be very grateful.

#### **BRIDGE PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION**

**Friday 20th June**, Film Night at Bridge School, 6.30-8.30. Admission Adults 50p, Children 30p. Coke & Crisps on sale.

**Saturday 28th June. Bridge School Fête, 2pm.** The theme is *Cowboys & Indians*. Fancy dress competition, Kings School Band, many side shows, tombola, various stalls. Contributions very welcome please, for prizes, stalls & tombola. Watch out for further information from posters. We really want to make this year's fête a bumper one and will value your support and help in any way. Many thanks and looking forward to seeing you all.

*Bridget Hawkins (Sec.)*

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Mrs. Watson.....	June 28th .....	Mrs. Purchase
Mrs. Russell.....	July 5th .....	Mrs. Whigham

#### **PETER**

For a while, Mark, lay your scroll aside.  
I need your eyes. When I'm dictating  
I think in words. That kind of thinking  
Blurs what's behind the words. You see,  
I'm no scholar, friend — nor ever will be.  
Words come hardly to me, very hardly.  
Though I have fought them for our Master's sake,  
I'll never be their master. Talking is natural.

But when I watch you setting down my speech  
In black and white, it puts my tongue in fetters.  
So this evening, Mark just let me say  
My memories to you. I want to recall  
This clearer than the rest — it most concerns me.  
I would remember and re-live  
What happened on the road to Caesarea,  
Those years ago.

We were walking despondently towards the city  
Discouraged and alone. Driven from Galilee,  
Each had his own regrets. Yes, even he  
Was sorrowful — I sensed it — saying little,  
Scarcely answering. . . . Then all at once  
The sound of water. We raised our heads,  
And, rearing over us, a cliff of limestone,  
Brilliant in sunlight. Streaks of iron, like blood,  
Ran down it, and from a cave  
Half down the rock, the Jordan river  
Descending from the heights of Hermon  
Poured out its spring-clear waters. We stopped,  
Seeing the city of Caesarea  
Behind a lace of spray — the trees,  
White roofs and towers. It should have lifted us,  
That sudden vision. Somehow it didn't.  
It made us more despondent. For I thought —  
Or was it he who thought and I who felt him? —  
This water that is born so hopefully  
Ends in the Dead Sea's useless desolation.  
Abruptly he asked, 'Who do men say I am?'  
We answered variously, 'John the Baptist, risen',  
'Elijah or Jeremiah', 'One of the prophets'.  
Silence, the water speaking. Then he asked:  
'Who do *you* say I am?' Another silence —  
Only a moment, but enough to tell  
Our disillusionment. I cried —  
No, rather I heard the words drawn from me —  
The voice was not my own: 'You are the Christ,  
Son of the living God!' He turned to me  
Transfigured. His face was God's.  
'Peter' (he named me then), 'You are the rock  
On which I build my church. The gates of hell  
Shall not prevail against you.' Oh, Mark,  
Men have their moments. — That was mine,  
The phrase I'd lived for. Since then  
I have betrayed it — doubted, denied,  
Deserted him. But always  
Those words return, with their background  
Of falling water, each time  
More powerful than before. For he saw me,  
Not as I was, but as I might become.  
His faith has hardened me. In course of time  
The rock has petrified. When that hour comes  
When I must follow him who questioned me,  
I shall not fail again. The gates of hell,  
As he once prophesied, shall not prevail.

*Clive Sanson, from 'The Witnesses'*

*Parish Priest:*

The Revd. Raymond Gilbert, A.K.C., The Vicarage, 23 High Street, Bridge  
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Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, 'Tullymore', 72 Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830472)

*Hon. Secretary:* Mr. D. R. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830426)

*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. C. A. Potter, Field House, Bridge (Bridge 830218)

*Organist (Bridge):* Mr. P. Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road, Bridge (Bridge 830293)

*Organist (Patribourne):* Mrs. G. Allan, 'Ardpriory', Bekesbourne Lane,  
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*Churchwardens:*

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*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. G.D. Millyard, 'School House', School Lane, Bekesbourne  
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*Organist:* Miss M. Walker, Swanton Farm, Sturry (Littlebourne 473)

*Captain of the Bells:* Mr. H. Collard, 1 Mumpas Cottages, Little Pett, Bridge

*Magazine Advertising:* Mr. C.J. Barley, 49 Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830612)

*Magazine Editor:* The Parish Priest, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On the Nail* please send them to The Editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication. He would always welcome articles and photographs of general interest for inclusion in the Magazine which has a wide circulation in the three villages of Bridge, Patribourne and Bekesbourne.

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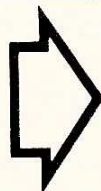
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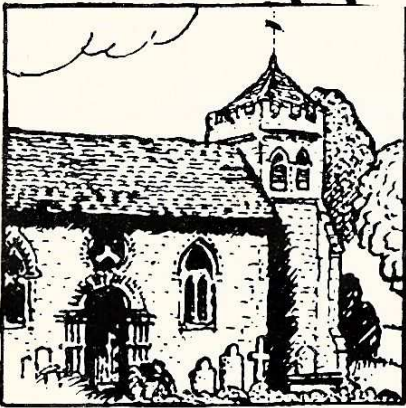
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# On the NAIL



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JULY 1980

Price 15p

# Sunday Services in July

## BRIDGE

### 6th:

11am Parish  
Communion with  
Holy Baptism  
6.30pm Evensong

### 13th:

9.30am Parish  
Communion (*Series 3*)  
6.30pm Evensong

### 20th:

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 27th:

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

## PATRIXBOURNE

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

9am Holy Communion

## BEKESBOURNE

9.30am Parish  
Communion

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

11am Matins & Holy  
Communion

**Holy Communion** is celebrated at 9.30am each Wednesday, and at 7.30am every Friday, at St. Peter's, Bridge.

A short informal service is held each Thursday afternoon for the residents of the Close.

Holy Communion is celebrated in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am.

**Roman Catholics** please note that Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on St. Peter's Day, Sunday, 29th June at 7pm by Fr. John Bliss. There will be no Evensong at Bridge that evening due to the Deanery Evensong at the Cathedral that afternoon.

## For your diary and prayer list

2nd *Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary* to Elizabeth (see St. Matthew 1. 39-45).

Confirmation Preparation commences at 6pm in the Vicarage

3rd *SAINT THOMAS, APOSTLE*

Inter-Church Discussion Group in Bridge Methodist Church at 8pm

5th Mr. Ray Garland and Mrs. Margaret Cope to be married at Patrixbourne Church, 3.30pm

6th *Fifth Sunday After Trinity*

Baby David Walder to be Baptised during the Parish Communion at Bridge

10th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm

13th *Sixth Sunday After Trinity*

20th *Seventh Sunday After Trinity*

22nd *SAINT MARY MAGDALENE*

25th *SAINT JAMES, APOSTLE*

26th Berend Wiersum and Carolyn Kent to be married at Patrixbourne, 12.30pm, and Glyn Salmon and Linda Child at Bridge, 2pm

27th *Eighth Sunday After Trinity*

# ARCHBISHOP VISITS BEKESBOURNE



*The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend Robert Runcie approaches St. Peter's Church for the special Service of Thanksgiving, on Sunday June 1st.*

Photograph: *Kentish Gazette*

## Bekesbourne's Bonanza

Bekesbourne's Octocentary was celebrated in fine style, as those who participated in any or all of the events will readily agree. To have our Archbishop visit us was simply marvellous, and I think most at any rate of the congregation that filled St. Peter's Church to overflowing had at least a brief word with him at the reception afterwards. We are most grateful to Mrs. Lois Whigham for so kindly opening her home and garden to us: what better setting could there have been? The Archbishop's excellent sermon is reproduced in this issue of *On the Nail* as it deserved wider publicity.

The Salvation Army Songsters kept up the pace of the festival on the Monday night with a concert-cum-act-of-worship that made the ancient rafters ring and the audience/congregation rejoice with them. David Flood's organ recital the following evening, though a very different experience was none the less well supported, and deservedly so, for he gave us a rare musical treat. The Parish Eucharist on the Thursday was extremely well attended, and the festivities ended on the Saturday with an unforgettable concert by the Finchley Children's Music Group that received a good write-up in the *Kentish Gazette* from the paper's chief music critic. All thanks to our many patrons, but an enormous 'thank you' to John Purchase whose brainchild it was and who spearheaded the entire enterprise. What's the next cause for celebration, John?

# In the Name of God!

*Archbishop Robert Runcie's sermon in Bekesbourne Church on 1st June, 1980.*

"He gave gifts unto men . . . for the building up of the body of Christ." (*Ephesians 4 vv. 8b & 12b*)

There are two ways of looking at life. You can take it for granted or you can take it with gratitude. The second is the Christian way, and that's why we have met together to give thanks for 800 years of continuous worship in this beautiful and historic place. And all the thoughtful, yet very homely arrangements make me feel very welcome, and I am glad about that, because as you know this used to be one of the Archbishop's homes; and though I am not looking for any more, this is not the one I would have given up.

On this Sunday last year I was a long way from here. I was in the Soviet Union, and strangely enough at a village, and a rare one. There was a church festival for the local saint. As you know it is a country which, for over sixty years has had an atheist government. The children are taught to despise believers at school: no opportunity to talk about religion on radio or television or in the press. It is meant to be withering away, and is simply allowed in one or two churches, in one or two places. Yet on that Sunday there was a ceaseless flow of singing, praying pilgrims, which might have put some of our self-conscious flower festivals to shame. They were by no means all old women or tiny children. I believe that the miracle of the living Church in that country — nourishing the soul of a people, producing from time to time a Solzhenitsyn — is due to their sense of worship, a sense of belonging in a communion of saints which is greater than any political arrangements or social circumstances. So let nobody ever say that the keeping of festivals, the cherishing of sacred buildings, the sense of our unity with the saints of other ages — that these are simply the churchy side of Christianity. They are its very heart and its life.

Our situation is different. We have freedom to influence the life of our country through preaching and teaching and criticism, through sharing in political action or social care. But this freedom is also a temptation: a temptation to think that talking and social action and political influence are in themselves the purpose of the church. So we can easily neglect the heart of prayer, a sense of God, a devotion to Jesus, the holy place, and pride in the company of the saints across every age and land. And if we do that we may call ourselves a Christian country, but the heart will have ceased to beat. For as someone said, "Nothing is real unless it is local." That is why the local church and the local festival should be signalling a message, the message of the gospel.

I have been reading a book recently, in which the author applies five tests, to see whether a church in its teaching and in its life is genuinely signalling the gospel. They are biblical tests: Cranmer would have approved of that! They are like chemicals being tipped one after another on a piece of metal, to test its claim to be pure gold.

First test, does your message come over as something old yet also fresh? The one who hears the gospel in the New Testament constantly responds with surprise. "I haven't thought of that before." There is a parallel here with the way beauty always comes as fresh disclosure. We don't say, when the leaves are golden in autumn, "Mm! Just like last year!" We are astonished each time it happens. Watch a superb performance of a famous play. We don't say, "Same old Hamlet!" So one essential test of our words and our witness to the faith, whether it is about Christian marriage or prayer or speaking about life after death; does it come over as something new, or are we trying to nourish people on something like curled-up sandwiches, stale cake, tired clichés or dreary worship? 'They were all astonished when they heard Jesus speak saying, "What's this? He doesn't speak like the religious officials."'

Second test. Does it disturb? The gospel is an affront to the way we live, and upsets things we take for granted. Now if we are never offended, if a vicar is never a nuisance, and if what he says always seems commonsense, very good: it may be a case of the bland leading the bland!

When Jesus taught they were not only astonished, they took offence at him; and Paul preached Christ crucified, a stumbling-block. And remember, you should expect it not only to shake others, but constantly to break up our own assumptions as to who are righteous, who are blameable. Niceness is very agreeable, but niceness is not the gospel!

And then third, is it something of great expectations, greater than our hopes! — whether you are coping with a sick person or an evil regime or a broken marriage. And does this faith call out everything? Jesus never spoke of a *fraction* of our possessions, but ‘sell all you have and give to the poor’. And in the same way his *promises* were excessive: to have the kingdom, to inherit the earth, to see God. Saints are extraordinary people, whether St. Francis or Mother Teresa, because the gospel they live by leads to excess. I like that passage in the gospels where Jesus is thought to be overdoing it, and his family go out to rescue him. We might imagine their conversation: “We’re all for religion, we’re all for his becoming a rabbi, but this extreme stuff . . . !” It is the kind of thing people still say when a girl decides to become a nun, or a graduate goes off to Campuchea. “If only she could meet a nice man” or “If only he’d settle down”.

Fourth test. Does it bring joy? The gospel is not only fresh, disturbing and excessive, but *good* news, and if we believed it we should be set free from fear and dismal thoughts. The man in Jesus’ parable sells all he has in joy, and the convert, typical in the Book of Acts, hears the gospel, is baptised and goes on his way rejoicing. There have been expressions of Christianity which have been solemn and miserable, but they are distortions and the way in which this church has sung with praises tonight should be an echo of the joyfulness that has radiated from this place over the centuries. I have a friend who says that joy is a word which is only used by parsons, and they put on a special tone of voice when they say it, and a kind of sagging jaw. Whether that is true I know not, but there is a quality which is in short supply, and it is quite different from breezy heartiness, and truculent resentment, of which there is a plenty around. It is a kind of serenity born of confidence, and the great saints and teachers of faith have always had that. Even someone like Martin Luther whom we think of as a rather serious person once said, “As I drink my glass of German beer the gospel runs its course.” And someone of a rather more sentimental character once said, “Joy is the flag that is flown from the citadel of the heart when the King is in residence.” And our King is the King of love: which brings me to the last test.

Does it promote love? The gospel brings release from the slavery of self-centredness and opens out the possibility of living for others. Anything that claims to be the gospel and produces bigotry, prejudice, blaming, is no good. ‘He who loves not his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment have we from him, that he who would love God must love his brother also.’

Now these five tests of a church witnessing to the gospel through the ages — they are all necessary. It is not like an examination: only two to be attempted! But someone said to me the other day, when I mentioned these five tests, “Oh, I can tell you, if there is a church that is doing something new, something disturbing, and is making excessive claims, it won’t produce joy and love, it will produce tension, suspicion and division.” But that is to miss the whole point of the Christian faith. We are given the unity of all these things by Christ. We don’t contrive it, but we can receive it, for he has given these gifts unto men.

So if I hear news about the church here, in this parish, I hope that sometimes I will hear, “Mmm — they’re doing new things there!” But that won’t be everything. I hope I may hear, “They’re not afraid to stick their neck out there, and make a stand; perhaps even be unpopular!” And that has been quite a tradition, that has kept the church going over the years in the past. Perhaps they may even say, “They’re a bit mad, you know!” That is not a bad thing to be said of any group of Christians. I *know* it will be said “They’re a cheerful lot at Bekesbourne, and they have good festivals” and let it always be said, “They are a loving, caring and sensitive church”, but altogether. And then you can say, “Here is the body of Christ. Here is a partnership in

the gospel. And that is what has kept the faith alive in Bekesbourne these 800 years." So may God bless you in your witness to that same gospel which planted the faith in this lovely place so many years ago. Amen.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our request for a new flag of St. George for Bridge Church in last month's issue of *On the Nail* brought a quick result, and our sincere thanks are due to Mr. R. W. Fisher of Bridge Down who had the very thing and has made us a present of it. We are most grateful.

\*\*\*\*\*

We record with regret the passing of two elderly parishioners of Bridge who lived quite near to one another. Mr. **Frank Lemar**, 41 Union Road, had lived in the former miller's cottage for almost sixty years. He died on Whit Sunday in the Kent & Canterbury Hospital, and cremation was preceded by a service in Bridge Church on 30th May. Our sympathy and prayers go out to his widow and family. Mr. **Alfred Roper**, 19 Dering Road, had been in failing health for a considerable time, but his death came very suddenly and leaves a devoted wife bereft. May the souls of the departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

\*\*\*\*\*

There will be a Coffee morning in aid of the *Church of England Children's Society* on Thursday July 31st at 33 High Street, Bridge, 10am to 12 noon. Bring and Buy Stall.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Beckett are holding a Coffee morning at 3 Riverside Cottages, Patrixbourne, on Wednesday 16th July from 10.30am to 12 noon in aid of *Bekesbourne Church Flower Festival*.

### Patrixbourne with Bridge Church Summer Fête Accounts

Teas & Cakes		£76
Groceries		84
Produce Stall		31
Ices & Soft Drinks		30
Patrixbourne Store		47
Children's Books		17
Plant Stall		35
Toileteries		28
White Elephant Stall		75
Bottle Stall		143
Raffle	£158	
<i>Less cost of tickets &amp; 1st Prize</i>	33	125
Side Shows		64
Donations		5
		<hr/> 760
<i>Less:</i> Hire of School	10	
Canterbury City Band	35	
Sundry Expenses	4	49
		<hr/> 49
Net surplus		<hr/> <hr/> £711

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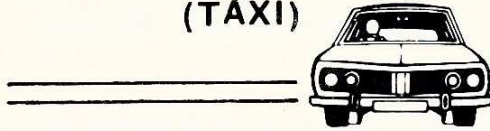
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This was an excellent result, a profit of £711; compared with £523 last year, which was itself a record. Of course, once again we were blessed with a lovely day, and we made the most of it. We have beaten inflation! Well done everyone!

*C. A. Potter*

### **Patricxbourne Dog Show**

On 14th June, Mrs. Grace Allan, assisted by people from Patricxbourne and Bridge organised a most successful Dog Show in Wingham Village Hall to raise money for Patricxbourne with Bridge Churches. There were over 200 entries. The profit after meeting all expenses amounted to £104.13, of which £10 was given to Patricxbourne Choir Fund and the balance to the general funds of Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC. We are most grateful to Mrs. Allan for this substantial contribution — a sterling effort indeed!

On July 10th, 11th and 12th, The Archbishop's School will be presenting one of the most ambitious productions we have ever attempted. We have been fortunate enough to secure the amateur rights to the new rock musical, 'Ulysses', by Ken Pickering and Keith Cole. This is a lively, high-spirited and thoroughly entertaining musical which should provide a delightful evening for all the family. Based on the legend of the wanderings of Ulysses and his encounters with a variety of fabled monsters, the production is full of memorable music and action, rather in the style of 'Joseph's Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'.

This will be the only opportunity to see an amateur production for the foreseeable future, as the professional rights have now been sold, and a national tour of the show is planned with the possibility of a West End run to follow.

Our own pupils will be providing the singing, dancing and acting, but we have secured the services of a top professional band, directed by the composer, Keith Cole, to provide the highest standard of music.

We are naturally very keen that as many people as possible should have the chance to see *Ulysses*. We have been able to keep the cost of tickets to 80p (Front of Hall) or 60p (Remainder) and we strongly advise that you book early through the school to avoid possible disappointment.

*Derek S. Hadman, Headmaster*

### **Who'd a thought it!**

Seen outside the Salvation Army Citadel in Selby, Yorks,

If you think God is far away,  
guess who has moved.

<b>Cleaning</b>	<b>ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE ROTAS</b>	<b>Flowers</b>
Mrs. Russell .....	July 5th .....	Mrs. Whigham
Mrs. Grey .....	July 12th .....	Mrs. Millyard
Mrs. Hodgkiss .....	July 19th .....	Mrs. Purchase
Mrs. Smith .....	July 26th .....	Mrs. Smith
Mrs. Stickells .....	Aug. 2nd .....	Mrs. Farbrace

# PARISH PUMP

Parish Council  
News



## **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Best Kept Village Competition**

The judges for the annual Best Kept Village Competition made their preliminary visit to Bridge on 9 June, and the Parish Council at its meeting on the following Thursday was concerned that the village should improve on its showing last year, when it earned a Commendation but was nevertheless criticized by the judges for the presence of litter in a number of areas. The Council decided against repeating the temporary provision of skips which was made last year, but it will instead supply, free of charge, yellow trade refuse sacks for the use of those residents who have difficulty in disposing of garden rubbish. These sacks will be available at the 'Bridge Fruit-Veg' shop in the High Street.

The Chairman, Councillor John Hill, made a strong appeal to residents to do all they can to keep the streets of the village clean, and in particular not to use the road verges and wooded areas for the dumping of refuse; and to discourage others from such anti-social activities. This appeal was given added point by Councillor Mrs. Young's complaint of the condition of the verges of Town Hill, which, she said, were littered with rubbish. Councillor Hill added a further appeal to dog owners to ensure that their pets did not foul the footpaths; and he hoped that these high standards would be maintained throughout the year.

### **Recreation Ground**

Councillor Keith Chapman told the Council that the young trees on the Recreation Ground extension, which badly needed water, had been watered on the previous Sunday, after considerable difficulty in locating the supply. A problem had also arisen in connection with the mowing of the area between the trees and the fencing. A quotation, which the Council accepted, of £322 for the mowing of the ground during the season, had been received from the County Council.

### **Other Matters**

In opening the meeting, the Chairman paid tribute to the work of his predecessor in the Chair, Councillor Peter Lawrence, who, he said, had given a long period of vigorous leadership to the Council, having served three separate terms since 1965.

The Council also discussed the proposed sale by the Conyngham Estate of part of Side Hill Wood; the Public Enquiry into the application by a firm to use the old railway cutting south of Bishopsbourne for the dumping of industrial waste; and the new Rural Policing policy of the County Constabulary.

It was good to see a further increase in the number of visitors at the meeting. Members hope that they found the discussion interesting, and that they will, with others, be able to be present at the next meeting on Thursday, 10th July, at 7.30pm. *F. L. Edwards, Clerk*

## **BEKESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Annual Parish Meeting held at the end of April, was again very well attended. There was much lively and interesting discussion and the Chairman, Cllr. Ian Johnston, said he was pleased to welcome them all. At the end of the meeting a film about conservation in Kent was shown.

Many of the points raised were discussed at the May meeting of the Parish Council, at which the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman (Mr. Robert Smith) were re-elected.

Under discussion were lorries parking in Bekesbourne Lane, necessary tree-felling at Patricxbourne recreation ground, and planning matters. A letter from Mr. John Aspinall of Howletts Zoo, stated that the wild boar problem would now be finally dealt with and that the perimeter fences of the zoo would all be replaced in 1981.

An addition to the Village Appraisal regarding the desirability of development in the village is to be made. Arising from the Appraisal, the Council heard that East Kent Bus Company was prepared to listen to ideas for re-routing a bus through the village, but not enough people had expressed a desire to use this service. The idea is to be postponed.

In July the Parish Council meets again on the 22nd, in the Village Hall. Any villagers are welcome to come and raise points themselves. *M. Gabbé*

## **Jumble Sale**

A Jumble Sale will be held on Saturday June 28th at 2pm, in the Village Hall, Bekesbourne to raise funds for Littlebourne Playgroup. Many children in Bekesbourne have and do attend the playgroup, so please come and support us. Any offers of jumble will be welcome and can be collected. Phone Bridge 830007 or 830875.

*The presence in Bridge of a member of the Unification Church prompted those of us who have pastoral responsibility for the village to issue a note of warning. The following information comes from the Christian Literature Association, and is here reproduced to explain our concern:*

## **The Moonies**

The Unification Church (nicknamed the "Moon Children" or "Moonies") was founded by a Korean ex-Presbyterian, Mr. Sun Myung Moon. He was born in 1920 and during his adolescence experienced a vision which led him to launch a new religion, a religion strongly centred upon himself. He has said: "The whole world is in my hand and I will conquer and subjugate the world."

The Unification Church began in Korea, but Mr. Moon soon made the United States the centre of his commercial (the movement is said to be worth 75 million dollars) and religious operations. Membership there, and in this country is mainly young and middleclass. Throughout the world it is said that there are 2 million members (most of them in their twenties) who have pledged their lives to advance the cause of Mr. Moon.

The Unification Church refers to the Bible with apparent approval. But it holds (as against the Bible) that Jesus was a failure and that God has sent a new Messiah to carry out what Jesus was unable to achieve. This new Messiah (they suggest) is Mr. Moon and he is destined to father a new race of humanity free from sin. Members of the UC are taught to revere Mr. Moon as their spiritual father. They set up a photograph of him before which they offer worship.

Christians accept Jesus as God's only true Messiah. His victorious life has ensured God's forgiveness and God's salvation as available for all humanity. Jesus taught us to regard God — and God alone — as our heavenly Father. Jesus formed his disciples into a Church, he promised them the guidance of his Spirit and told them to proclaim his message and to baptise new members. He also warned them against false Messiahs.

The UC points to the undoubted corruption, unhappiness and division in the world and professes to provide a remedy. Its propaganda is aimed at young people, when they show interest they are subjected to intensive doctrination. This consists of long persuasive lectures combined (it is said) with lack of privacy and lack of sleep so that — in a state of mental fatigue — they identify with Mr. Moon's objectives.

The UC are said to be hostile to the family and to alienate children from their parents. This is to be expected because the organisation exalts Mr. Moon as the ideal and exclusive father-figure. He is served with fanatical devotion. Mr. Moon, like an authoritarian father, demands total obedience and assumes the right to control the lives of members and even to choose their marriage-partners.

You are warned not to have anything to do with the UC and not to under-estimate its powers of persuasion. If you want to review your spiritual values and your style of life look again at the claims of the traditional Christian Church. They are based on the Bible and on reason. Be determined in your search, and approach your own, or some other, friendly priest for help. If one of your children, or a relative, becomes involved with the UC you should remember: don't rely on pleas and arguments. Don't get angry. Be patient even if you are seriously provoked, and — at all costs — keep open all possible lines of communication. Keep on being loving.

— *From the Church Literature Association*

### **St. Peter's Church, Bridge — Choir Gown Fund**

I certify that the net proceeds of the Junior Clothing Exchange Sale, held in Bridge Village Hall on April 30, 1980, amounted to **£57.25**.

These proceeds have been handed over to the Choir Secretary to augment the funds for the provision of new Choir Gowns.

*Douglas R. Hill*



### ***NO WEALTH IN US***

A trendy *Church Times* correspondent claims he conducted a survey in the Old Kent Road, asking "Do you prefer Cranmer's language to that of the modern prayer book?"

Ninety-eight per cent didn't know what he was talking about, one per cent were incoherent, and one per cent said, "Never mind his language; if Millwall could get him at the right price they should buy him".

*Parish Priest:* The Revd. Raymond Gilbert, A.K.C., The Vicarage, 23 High Street, Bridge  
(Bridge 830250)

#### **PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE**

*Churchwardens:* Mr. C. A. Potter, Field House, Bridge (Bridge 830218)  
Mr. H. P. M. Lawrence, 'Tullymore', 72 Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830472)  
*Hon. Secretary:* Mr. D. R. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830426)  
*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. C. A. Potter, Field House, Bridge (Bridge 830218)  
*Organist (Bridge):* Mr. P. Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road, Bridge (Bridge 830293)  
*Organist (Patricxbourne):* Mrs. G. Allan, 'Ardpriory', Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury  
(Canterbury 62695)  
*Verger (Bridge):* Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne (Bridge 830660)

#### **BEKESBOURNE**

*Churchwardens:* Mr. S. H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge (Bridge 830522)  
Mr. J. Purchase, 'Mill Cottage', Bekesbourne (Bridge 830937)  
*Hon. Secretary:* Mr. J. Purchase, 'Mill Cottage', Bekesbourne (Bridge 830937)  
*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. G. D. Millyard, 'School House', School Land, Bekesbourne (Bridge 830256)  
*Organist:* Miss M. Walker, Swanton Farm, Sturry (Littlebourne 473)  
*Captain of the Bells:* Mr. H. Collard, 1 Mumpas Cottages, Little Pett, Bridge  
*Magazine Advertising:* Mr. C. J. Barley, 49 Bridge Down, Bridge (Bridge 830612)  
*Magazine Editor:* The Parish Priest, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On the Nail* please send them to The Editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication. He would always welcome articles and photographs of general interest for inclusion in the Magazine which has a wide circulation in the three villages of Bridge, Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne.

**FLOWERS**

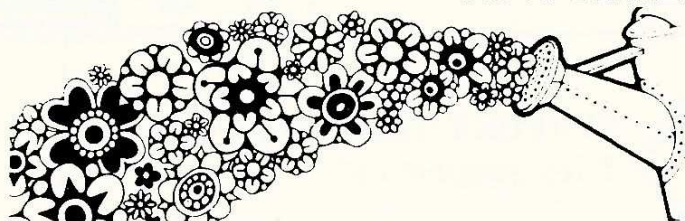
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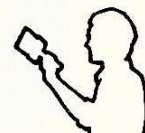
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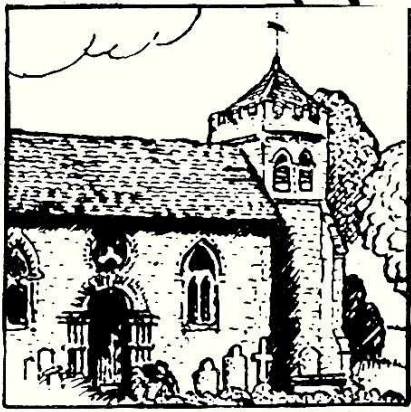
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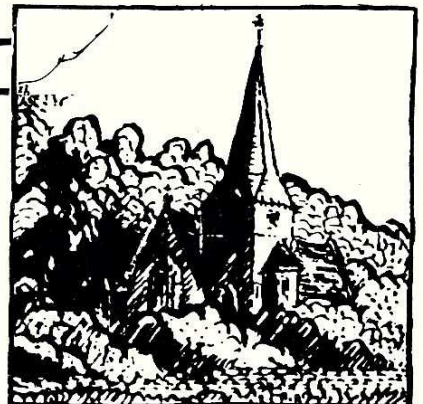
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# On the NAIL



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AUGUST 1980

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# Sunday Services in August

## BRIDGE

### 3rd:

11am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 10th:

9.30am Parish  
Communion (*Series 3*)  
6.30pm Evensong

### 17th:

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 24th:

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 31st:

9.30am Parish  
Communion (*Series 3*)  
6.30pm Evensong

## PATRIXBOURNE

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

## BEKESBOURNE

9.30am Parish  
Communion

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

11am Matins & Holy  
Communion

8am Holy Communion

*Services between 30th July and 15th August inclusive will be conducted by the Revd. C. Harrington, who should be contacted in cases of emergency.*

**Holy Communion** is celebrated at 9.30am each Wednesday, and at 7.30am every Friday, at St. Peter's, Bridge.

The Thursday service at The Close will be suspended for the month of August.

Holy Communion is celebrated in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of the month at 10.15am.

**Bridge Methodist Church:** 3rd, Revd. Wilfred J. Hill, M.C., B.Sc.; 10th, Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw; 17th, Revd. Norman Parsons; 24th, Miss Eileen Tressider M.A.

## For your diary and prayer list

3rd *Ninth Sunday After Trinity*

4th 80th Birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother. May she long remain her happy and glorious self!

6th *TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD*

7th *Name of Jesus*

10th *Tenth Sunday after Trinity*

17th *Eleventh Sunday after Trinity*

23rd—25th Bekesbourne Flower Festival

24th *ST. BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE and Twelfth Sunday after Trinity*

28th *St. Augustine of Hippo (not Canterbury), Teacher of the Faith, 430AD*

29th *Beheading of St. John the Baptist*

31st *Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity*

# Christian Stewardship Campaign, 1980

In October our parishes will be launching Christian Stewardship Campaigns. The idea is to demonstrate in a practical way our commitment to the fundamental Christian truth that God is the creator and sustainer of all that exists; that he is the giver of the basic necessities of life, from our personal property to the air we breathe.

Each person has at least one skill or aptitude which may either earn him his living or keep him amused. The Christian faith teaches that whatever our special talent it comes from God and thus should be used in his service. This does not mean it ought only to be used in specifically Christian works, i.e. to do with the church, but in gratitude for our gift we might put it at the church's disposal, according to the time available to us. The forthcoming campaigns will enable each of us to decide in what way our ability might be of use to the local church, and how much time we can comfortably give the church in the use of it.

Christian Stewardship also embraces our material possessions. These too are God-given, and the campaigns will encourage us to express our gratitude for them by making some return to the church, in the form of a regular monetary contribution.

The essence of stewardship is that all we have in time, abilities and property is loaned by God: they are means to an end, not ends in themselves. Thus the campaigns will emphasise this Christian truth, and afford us the opportunity to react to it. "All things come of thee, O Lord" we are reminded in the Old Testament, and as faithful stewards of God's bounty we are called to reply, "and of thine own do we give thee".

Watch this space in subsequent issues of *On the Nail* for more details about the Christian Stewardship principle and our own special campaigns. Meanwhile the following Christian Stewardship Prayer is reproduced in the hope that you will use it frequently for the campaigns as a whole and for your own individual response when the time comes.

O God, who of thy goodness hast given us so many gifts by which our lives are enriched, teach us to use them with care and understanding in faithful stewardship; and, under thy guidance, to give back to thee such a portion of our time, talents and wealth as shall be acceptable for thy works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Obituary—Mr. H.S. Shorey**

Harry Stuart Shorey was born in South London in 1882. After schooling he worked for a time with a chartered accountant, but not finding this congenial he joined the Civil Service in the Land Registry.

Here he stayed happily up to the start of the first World War in 1914. He volunteered at once for Army service and was posted to a Cycle Corps. After some months in this unit he was transferred to the East Yorks Regiment as a sniper, but was soon to be captured by the Germans. Typically he had stayed in a shell-hole to comfort a mortally wounded comrade until the man's death, and then found himself surrounded by enemy infantry. The rest of the war was spent in a P.O.W. camp in Bavaria. He had married in June 1907, and

Harry got word to his wife Alice by persuading a camp guard to post her a letter!

Released in 1918 Harry Shorey returned home. The Land Registry had been evacuated to Bournemouth, but he was sent to Leeds, where his family joined him, to work for the War Damage Commission.



When this work was done he returned to London to continue with the Land Registry until retirement in 1946, when he moved to Bekesbourne at Whitsun.

Here, he and Alice quickly gained friends, and St. Peter's benefited from his hard work as Churchwarden for many years. Possibly the best tribute to his tenure of office was given by the (then) Priest-in-Charge, the Revd. M.R.W. Brown who wrote in 1950, "I must say how much I feel the parish owes to you for your quiet and efficient work as People's Warden. I hope very much that you will long be able to retain this office, and that you will be drawn into more and more Church work—for the good of the parish and the people".

Harry Shorey was Churchwarden for more than twenty-eight years. In June 1977 he and Alice received a telegram from the Queen on the occasion of their Platinum Wedding anniversary.

Alice died in the summer of 1979 at the age of 98, the same age to which Harry lived, both after a life of service. *Resquiescat in pace.* *J.P.*

## Our joys and sorrows

Among our joys (though nothing to do with being hatched, matched or despatched) mention must be made of the glorious St. Peter's Day, when a goodly number of all three congregations attended Evensong in the Cathedral at 3.15, had tea in the Archdeacon's garden afterwards (plus a visit from the Archbishop) and a look behind the scenes at the workings of the cathedral. Then to top it off nicely, Bridge Church entertained the local Roman Catholic community for a Mass celebrated by Fr. John Bliss on what was for them the Feast of Ss. Peter and Paul. The vicar was organist, and the singing was lusty to say the least. The Lady Chapel altar was moved to the front of the Nave for this occasion; the Roman Catholic Church likes its priests facing the people and using, therefore, a free-standing altar. We were thrilled to discover what a beautiful old altar it is beneath its frontal. Fr. Bliss is shortly to leave St. Thomas's, after ten years as assistant priest, in order to become Parish Priest of Coulsdon, Surrey. Our prayers and blessings go with him.

**John Drayson** and **Muriel Durtal** were married at Bridge on 28th June and the very next Saturday, 5th July, **Ray Garland** and **Margaret Cope** were

married at Patrixbourne. May God bless both couples.

Amongst the departed we record with regret the passing of Mr. **Harry Shorey**, a tribute to whom appears above. The vicar conducted the service at Barham Crematorium, as earlier the same day he had officiated at the funeral of **Ernest Deal**, a Barham farmer who retired very recently to Bridge Down with his brother and sister. May they both rest in God's peace!

Ending on a joyful note, we record the baptism of **David Alexander Walder**, 10 Dering Close, at the Parish Communion on the 6th July.

As with countless Bridge residents David was christened at the stone font, tucked away in its dark corner under the steeple. Most of us pass it without a second glance, but one visitor to the church took more than a passing interest in it, and as a result sent the following letter to the vicar from his home at Church Cove, The Lizard, Cornwall. Mr. V.C. Bosustow is a Serpentine Stone Worker.



“My wife and I recently spent part of our holiday near Canterbury and, passing your Church at Bridge, decided to look around it. We thought it was very attractive, but what delighted us most was the font which is described on your ‘items of interest’ board as ‘porphorant’ stone.

“Upon inspection I found that it was, in fact, serpentine stone and was probably made at a serpentine factory which once existed at a tiny cove and hamlet known as ‘Poltesco’. The nearest village to Poltesco is Ruan Minor, which is about two miles from here. The

Bosustow family have worked in serpentine stone for at least three generations and my grandfather Bosustow was one of the last to work at Poltesco.

“The serpentine font is a very outstanding piece of workmanship and I am wondering if there are many other serpentine fonts of such size and quality anywhere? You will probably know that serpentine stone is unique to this part of Cornwall, and stone of the size and quality to make such a font is, to my knowledge, quite unobtainable now.

“I understand that such a huge piece of stone, as was used to make the font, was turned by a water-wheel. These days, of course, we use lathes powered by electricity, for making small ornamental things.

“I trust the above will be of interest to you and that it will add to the local people's knowledge of their Church and be of special attraction to those who visit. The font is quite priceless and beautiful and should be recognised and treasured as such. We certainly treasure the two photographs we were able to take of it.”

#### **Patrixbourne Dog Show—Correction**

Due to a typographical error the amount raised by the Dog Show was incorrectly given in last month's *On the Nail*. We apologise for this mistake

which robbed the Show of £36. The actual profit was £140.13, £10 of which went to the Patrixbourne Choir Fund.

### **There's money in them there Coffee Mornings!**

Peggy and Ron Beckett wish to thank all those people whose help and contributions made their Coffee Morning such a success, both socially and financially. Even the sun shone and a total of over £40 was raised towards the Bokesbourne Flower Festival.

The members of Bridge Methodist Church would like to thank all those who supported the Coffee Morning at High Beech, Patrixbourne Road. The amount raised was £120.08 which has been forwarded to the Methodist Homes for the Aged. Thank you for your support and donations.

Still on money matters, a retiring collection at Bridge Methodist Church on 29th June raised £13 for the East African Emergency Fund.



## **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Public Enquiry**

The Parish Council, and village residents generally, have been very concerned at the application of a firm to use a section of the old railway cutting for the dumping of refuse. Members were therefore very glad to learn, at the meeting on 10th July, that the appeal by the firm concerned against the refusal of the City Council to give planning permission had now been withdrawn.

### **Village Hall**

Councillor Keith Chapman told the Council that the prepayment meters in the Hall needed replacement, and it was proposed instead to install new standard meters. It would as a result be necessary to revise the hire charges to cover the cost of heating and lighting previously paid separately by hirers. The redecoration of the Hall by the Youth Opportunities team had been completed, and members agreed that they had done a very good job. The cost had been only £52 for paint, after deduction of the very generous discount given by 'Homeware Plus'. The team were proceeding with the relaying of the floor in the male lavatories.

### **New Village Hall Project**

Councillor Chapman said that the Committee proposed the holding of a public meeting on 31st July, in order to take advantage of any fund-raising possibilities on August Bank Holiday. The Council, however, thought the summer not the best time for such a meeting, and decided instead on Thursday, 25th September, at 7.30pm. It is hoped that this meeting will

---

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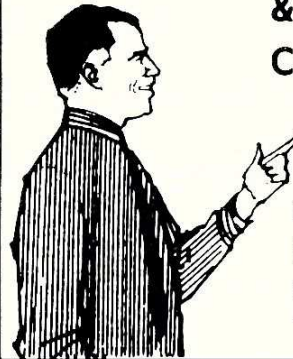
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attract some new enthusiastic recruits to the work of raising money for the new Hall.

### **Recreation Ground**

Members expressed some dissatisfaction with the mowing of the ground by the County Council, and as the problem of cutting the area between the trees and the fence had not been resolved, decided to ask for a site meeting with the Area Superintendent. Complaint was also made that the Water Authority had not replaced all the turf after the laying of their new main across the ground, and they were to be asked to complete the work.

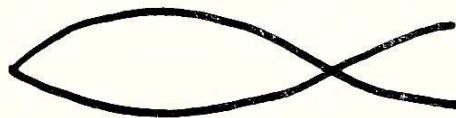
### **'Fish' Scheme**

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mrs. Warren reported on the progress of the scheme of assistance to those in need of help, sponsored by the Volunteer Bureau. Cards giving details would be distributed to each house in the village in the near future.

There will be no meeting of the Parish Council in August. The next meeting will be on Thursday, 11th September, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, and members hope again to have a good attendance of visitors to listen to their discussions.

*F. L. Edwards, Clerk*

### **THE FISH SCHEME**



In 1961 a scheme was evolved at Headington, near Oxford, by a vicar and a doctor to fill gaps they found in the state welfare services and the need for short-term help in domestic emergencies for the elderly. They used the fish sign of the early Christians as their emblem. The "Fish Scheme" has spread throughout the world and one has now been set up in Bridge.

*Local Volunteers* have offered to give neighbourly assistance in time of emergency or need.

*Over longer periods* they will give practical help to the elderly, to anyone who is handicapped or housebound and to mothers of young children.

*Transport* can be arranged for the housebound to visit the shops, hair-dresser, chiropodist, clubs, etc.

*Information* is available about help offered by local services and voluntary organisations.

This is a mutual help scheme — if you can offer help in any way please ring Bridge 830233.

Councillor Shirley has agreed to make the Post Office, and his telephone Bridge 830201, the contact point for the scheme. It will pass on requests for help to one of the four people holding lists of volunteers.

Requests for help have already been coming in. We have arranged a rota of drivers to bring in housebound members of the Senior Citizens Club, and provided drivers and help to answer other calls.

Plans are afoot to open a luncheon club in October for the housebound and elderly who live alone. Matron has offered the use of the Close for the Club and her staff have offered to do the cooking.

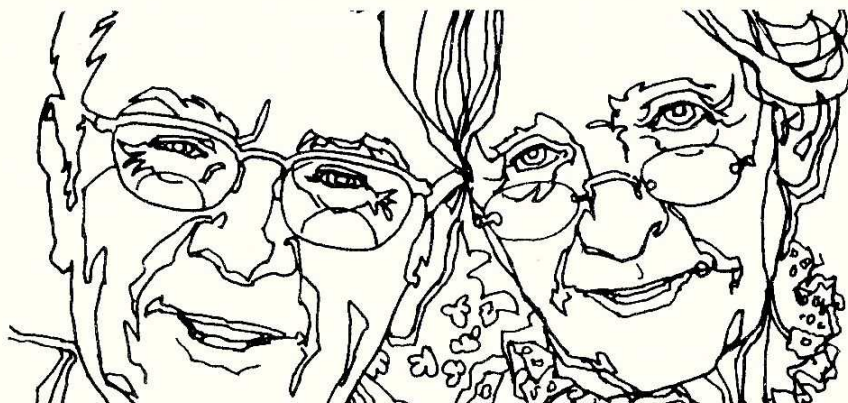
Applications are now being made for grants to cover the initial outlay for cutlery, crockery, etc. Volunteers will be needed to help with transport, serving and washing-up.

Negotiations are taking place for a chiropody clinic to be held in the village.

As it is expected that residents of Bishopsbourne, Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne will want to join the luncheon club and visit the chiropody clinic it is suggested that the scheme should be extended to include these villages. We shall need volunteers from each village to respond to local calls.

A coffee morning with a bring and buy stall is planned for September to raise funds for the voluntary help scheme and luncheon club.

*Joan Warren*



### **THE EAST KENT HOSPICE PROJECT — WHAT IS IT?**

A Hospice is a place of CARING rather than curing where those in pain may find relief, where those who are terminally ill may die with love and dignity and where the families of the patients may themselves be assisted through difficult times. It differs from hospital which is primarily engaged in curing patients.

Hospices are non-denominational and non-sectarian, for patients with or without financial resources and there are no barriers of age, class, race or colour.

The object of the East Kent Hospice Project is to establish such a Hospice to serve the needs of the community in this area. It is intended that it will be centrally located, probably in Canterbury, although at this stage the final location and site has yet to be decided. Domiciliary teams will be attached to the Hospice and operate throughout East Kent, so that patients may be treated at home and helped to live normally for as long as possible, knowing that the intensive care of the Hospice itself will be available when it is needed.

A considerable sum of money is required to set up, staff and administer a Hospice both in the initial stages, for the construction or purchase of suitable accommodation and later for all the usual day to day running costs. It is hoped that some financial support may become available from national and charitable organisations in due course, but your help is needed too, please. The first appeal is for £500,000.

If you would like to help or have more information please contact:

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**“HOSPICE 1980”**

Heavenly Father, whose Son showed compassion and mercy upon the suffering, bless the work of the East Kent Hospice Project.

Comfort and relieve all those enduring pain and those who are terminally ill and inspire many to support, through prayer and giving, the plan to bring hospice care to this area.

Guide and direct through the power of your Holy Spirit those involved in the planning of this Project and grant that, through its work and endeavours, we may bring to the suffering your spirit of healing, your spirit of peace and hope, of courage and endurance.

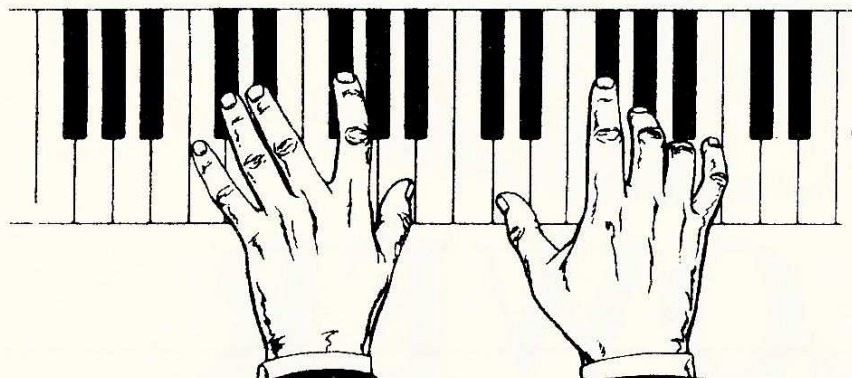
We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

**Bridge with Patrixbourne W.I.**

The next meeting will be on August 19th, when there will be a talk on British Apples. Our institute will be entertaining members from the Hawling Institute. Bridge and Patrixbourne members please remember to bring some food.

*J. E. Foster*

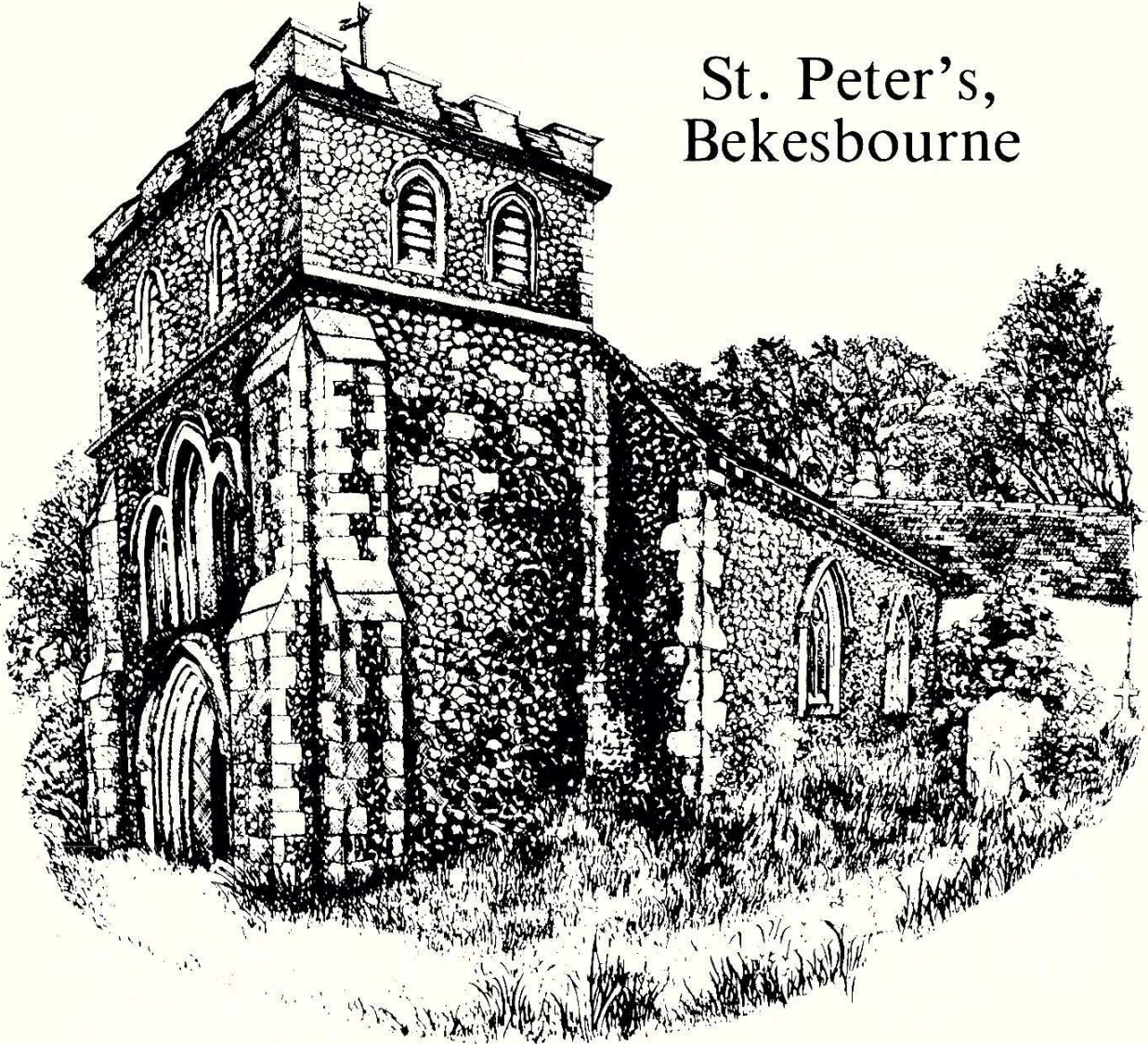


I should like to thank all of our friends at Churchill House who were kind enough to contribute money towards our Bridge School Instrument Fund. You were extremely generous to our cause raising £50 in all, a wonderful gesture indeed. You may like to know that we raised over £900 altogether and that most of the instruments are now in use at the school. We look forward to the time when we can entertain you again. In the meantime, very sincere thanks to you all.

*Mike Windess, Deputy Head*

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Mrs. Russell .....	Aug. 22nd .....	Flower Festival
Mrs. Grey .....	Aug. 30th .....	Mrs. Beckett
Mrs. Hodgkiss .....	Sept. 6th .....	Mrs. Beckett

St. Peter's,  
Bekesbourne



# FLOWER FESTIVAL

Saturday 23rd, Sunday 24th and  
Monday 25th August 1980

10.00am—7.00pm daily (11.00am Service on the Sunday)

*FLOWERS ★ STALLS ★ DISPLAYS*

**A Coffee Morning in aid of the Flower Festival is being held on Tuesday August 12th, 10.30am—12 noon at 1 Hillside Cottages, Bekesbourne, by Mrs. Olive Russell. Please support this enterprising Coffee Morning.**

Parish Priest: The Revd. Raymond Gilbert, A.K.C., The Vicarage, 23 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JZ  
(Bridge 830250)

### PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

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Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, 'Tullymore', 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830472)  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. D.R. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830426)  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Station Road, Bridge CT4 5AJ (Bridge 830218)  
Organist (Bridge): Mr. P. Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road, Bridge CT4 5NB (Bridge 830293)  
Organist (Patribourne): Mrs. G. Allan, 'Ardpriory', Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD  
(Canterbury 62695)  
Verger (Bridge): Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne CT4 5JD (Bridge 830660)

### BEKESBOURNE

Churchwardens: Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT4 5LA (Bridge 830522)  
Mr. J. Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (Bridge 830937)  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. J. Purchase, 'Mill Cottage', Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (Bridge 830937)  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. G.D. Millyard, 'School House', School Lane, Bekesbourne CT4 5ER (Bridge 830256)  
Organist: Miss M. Walker, Swanton Farm, Sturry CT3 4AX (Littlebourne 473)  
Captain of the Bells: Mr. H. Collard, 1 Mumpas Cottages, Little Pett, Bridge CT4 5PD  
Magazine Advertising: Mr. J. Barley, 49 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830612)  
Magazine Editor: The Parish Priest, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On the Nail* please send them to the Editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication. He would always welcome articles and photographs of general interest for inclusion in the Magazine which has a wide circulation in the three villages of Bridge, Patribourne and Bekesbourne.

FLOWERS

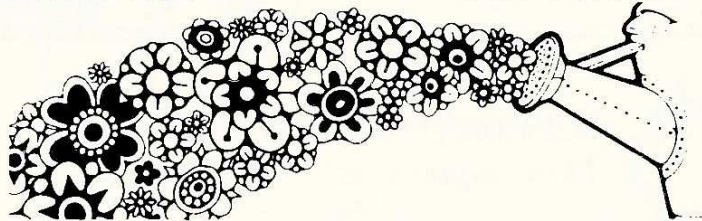
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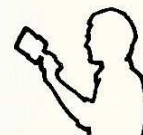
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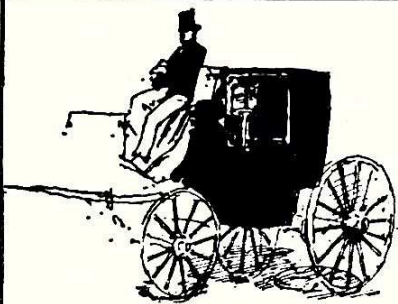
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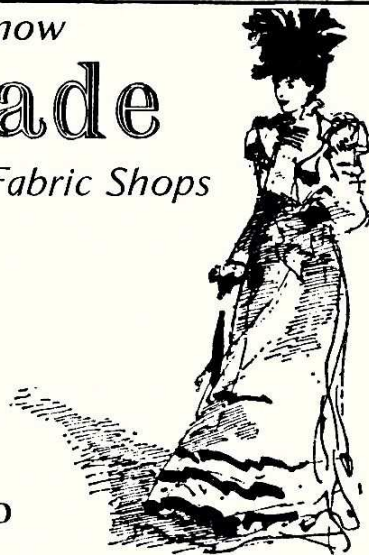
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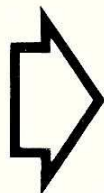


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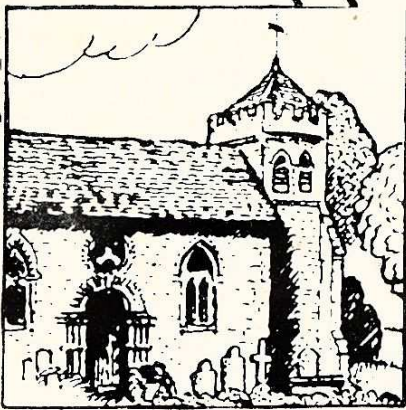
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# On the NAIL



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SEPTEMBER, 1980      Price 15p

# Sunday Services in September

## BRIDGE

### 7th:

11am Parish  
Communion  
6.30p.m. Evensong

### 14th:

9.30am Parish  
Communion (*Series 3*)  
(*No Evensong*)

### 21st:

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 28th

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

## PATRIXBOURNE

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins  
(Harvest Festival)

8am Holy Communion

9am Holy Communion

## BEKESBOURNE

9.30am Parish  
Communion

8am Holy Communion

11am Songs of Praise

11am Matins & Holy  
Communion

**Holy Communion** is celebrated at 9.30am each Wednesday, and at 7.30am every Friday, at St. Peter's, Bridge.

Holy Communion is celebrated in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of the month at 10.15am.

**Bridge Methodist Church:** 7th, Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw (Harvest); 14th, Miss Joan Charlesworth, M.A.; 21st, Mr. John Whalan; 28th, Revd. Wilfred J. Hill, M.C., B.Sc.

## For your diary and prayer list

1st *Giles of Provence, Abbot, c.720*

7th *Fourteenth Sunday After Trinity*

8th *Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

11th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm

13th *Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage & Martyr, 258*  
Concert, Patricxbourne Church, 7.15pm

14th *Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity*

Patricxbourne Harvest Festival Service, 11am

Deanery Missionary Festival at Wingham, 4pm (*No Evensong at Bridge*)

20th Diocesan Eucharist in the Cathedral, 11am

21st *ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE & Trinity 16*

Songs of Praise, Bekesbourne, 11am

Bridge Harvest Festival Evensong, 6.30pm

24th Interchurch Discussion Group, Bridge Methodist Church, 8pm

24th

26th } Ember Days, when prayer is offered for those to be ordained to the  
27th } sacred ministry of the church

28th *Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity*

Pray for Roger Smith, to be made Deacon in the Cathedral this morning.

## Countdown to Stewardship

The Christian Stewardship campaigns in our three villages get underway at the end of this month, and although the bulk of the activities take place in October, it is not too early to run through the sequence of events. The dates apply to Patrixbourne with Bridge only, but the actual 'order of batting' is common to all three villages.

Invitations to a parish supper will be sent out at the end of September, and it will be on Friday, 17th October in the school. At the meal (which will be free) a brief explanation of the campaign will be given, so that all our guests know exactly what is involved. Two days later at one of the Sunday services in Bridge Church a band of church people will be commissioned as parish visitors, and it will be their task to call on parishioners in their homes to assist them in making whatever pledges of time, talents and money they feel able to take on. The visitor who calls on you will in no way pressurise you, nor presume in any way to suggest how much you ought to promise: by the time he comes, in any case, you will be fully in the picture as to the purpose of his visit.

The campaigns end with a Service of Thanksgiving, which in the case of Patrixbourne with Bridge will be on Sunday, 9th November, and then it is down to work for all of us. Envelopes will be issued for weekly donations which commence from Sunday, 16th November.

### **The Church and Stewardship**

A Christian Stewardship Campaign helps the church in three chief ways. It provides aid with maintenance and repair of the fabrics. A lot of jobs need doing in and around a church building which can easily be done by those whose church it is, without calling in expensive professional help. This cuts costs, although the object is not to cash in on some cheap labour, but mainly it provides opportunities for some loving, caring involvement in the local church. It is *our* church, and even though we may not class ourselves as church-goers, a time is sure to come when we make use of the building, perhaps for a wedding or a baptism or funeral. Work of the kind envisaged does much to forge a link with this part of our heritage.

Then a stewardship campaign can enhance the regular worship of the church, perhaps by enlarging congregations, certainly by stimulating family feeling — a necessary element in the spiritual life and work of the church.

Thirdly, through the practice of stewardship the church's financial status is placed on a more secure footing. With people promising a certain weekly contribution to the church the Treasurer can plan ahead because he knows how much money he will have coming in. In addition we hope receipts will be so much greater, and we need to increase our incomings. We are a long way from making a profit: it is enough work trying to make ends meet as it is.

### **You and Stewardship**

A Christian Stewardship Campaign is not just to help the church, it is to

help us to live out the Christian gospel and so become better Christians than we already are. The Bible teaches us that all we have comes to us in trust from God: that we are not owners of the world or possessions, but stewards of them. Stewardship encourages us to offer periodic thanks to God for his many bounties by putting a fraction of our God-given time, abilities and money at the disposal of his church. Our promises are thus aids to our own Christian life as well as to the working of the church.

### **Ready for Off**

The Stewardship Committee, under the guiding hand of John Macdonell, the Diocesan Stewardship Adviser, and the chairmanship of our own John Barley and John Purchase, have been hard at work for several weeks. Please bolster them up with your prayers now and your practical support when the show finally gets on the road. Great times lie ahead for all of us!

## **Our joys and sorrows**

We report two weddings since last month's *On the Nail*, both on the same day. **Berend Wiersum** married **Carolyn Kent** of Hode Farm in St. Mary's, Patribourne and **Glyn Salmon** and **Linda Child** of the Village Shop, Bridge, were married in St. Peter's Church on Saturday, 26th July. A further coincidence, and surely a unique one, was that the two brides were born on the same day and in the same hospital. It would be indelicate to say when that was, however. We wish both charming couples much happiness and blessings in the future.

In the middle of Bekesbourne Flower Festival **Alice Marie Draper**, "Jagerheim", Station Approach, was baptised. As the official font was doing duty as a flower vase, she was christened in the small bowl that normally stands within it, but this made not a scrap of difference to the sacrament, the essentials being water and the invocation of God the Holy Trinity.

During the Vicar's holiday, **Kathleen Douglas**, better known to Bekesbourne Church folk as 'Nurse' Douglas, passed away. She had lived away from the village for some years, but before that was a most loyal and devout member of the church and of its PCC. In accordance with her wishes she was buried in the churchyard, and Canon Perry, at the Vicar's invitation, conducted the ceremony. **Joseph Crick**, 15 Bifrons Road, died very suddenly in the Accident Centre at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital on 11th August. No further information is to hand about funeral arrangements, but we extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

The accident at Howletts Zoo Park in which **Brian Stocks**, The Old Post Office, Bekesbourne Lane lost his life was one which the uninformed among us feel is something to which zoos must be susceptible. But this is not the case. Our Sympathy goes out to Brian's family, and also to Mr. John Aspinall, the zoo's owner, whose park renders a great service not only to the fun-loving public who visit Howletts, but to the preservation of wildlife on a world-wide basis.

As we were going to press we heard of the very tragic death of 12 year old **Rodney Kollhoff** of Filmer Road. Rodney was on a fishing expedition with

his younger brother when he fell into the water and was drowned. Our thoughts and prayers are with his grieving parents, brother and grandparents. May God bless and keep them all.

THOU, O god, art not the God of the dead,  
but of the living.

In thy resurrection, O Christ, we celebrate ours.  
The gift of thy life, O holy Spirit, is not for a season,  
but for ever.

As long as thou art with thy servants, thy children,  
they are with thee; they lose nothing by dying.

They depart out of the world, but not out of thy family.

They vanish from our sight, but not from thy care.

One sun hath set upon them, but a greater is risen.

They are not dead; nay, it is death that hath died in them.

They leave behind the mortal, to put on immortality;  
theirs is entrance into healing, into rest, into glory.

Lord, thou hast made, endowed, redeemed, employed thy children  
thou canst not desert nor annihilate them,  
canst not but be gracious eternally.

Thou forgettest not the dead whom we forget;  
thou rewardest the benefactors we never knew.

Thou who holdest worlds in life  
holdest them.

O Father, O Saviour, O Giver of Life,  
by thy mercy, thine unalterable love,  
gather thy sons and daughters together unto thyself,  
those who have taken thee for their strength,  
those who have served thee with sacrifice,  
those who have offered thee thanks and praise.

May they rejoice in the Jerusalem of grace and peace,  
and praise thee among the choirs of the blessed,  
in joy without end.

*E. Milner-White*

## Around and About

If you missed Bokesbourne's Flower Festival you missed quite an aesthetic experience. St. Peter's Church is a lovely church in its own right, but once Mrs. Pam Farbrace and her helpers had finished, it was transformed into something even more beautiful. Those who visited the festival saw floral art at its very best, and the band of arrangers are to be congratulated and thanked for some skilful artistry, not to mention some extremely hard, taxing work: staging flower festivals is no easy task. Thank you all so much. As a result of your efforts a lot of people enjoyed a sight of great loveliness, and our church benefited to the tune of £400 plus.

What a month! The end of the summer holidays plus the recommencement of so many activities that have lain dormant for a few weeks make every September busier than most months. This one is no exception!

Spare a thought for those children who start school for the first time. Those who will be attending our school are luckier than some, for its marvellous atmosphere minimises what can often be a traumatic experience. The best of luck to those who move to a new stage in their education outside our parish boundaries, and good success in your future, wherever it may take you.

Two other new beginnings this month are noteworthy. Bridge's erstwhile organist becomes the Reverend Roger Smith when he is made Deacon by the Archbishop in the Cathedral on the 28th. Also this month we welcome the new Bishop of Dover. About Bishop Third's move from Maidstone the Archbishop writes: "On 26th March I was welcomed to the Diocese in a very moving service in the Cathedral which for me was one of the highlights of the year. On Saturday, 20th September at 11am we are to have a similar opportunity at a Diocesan Eucharist in the Cathedral to share in the beginning of another new ministry when the Right Reverend Richard Third is commissioned as Bishop of Dover. Bishop Richard will also be authorised to take a fuller share in the leadership of the whole Diocese than has hitherto been the case and I shall be preaching on the character of his new responsibilities. I hope some representation from the parishes will be present. I can think of no better way to express our unity and our support for each other in this new effort to carry forward the work of God in this Diocese." We are extremely fortunate in our new Bishop and I hope many from Bridge, Patrixbourne and Bekesbourne will be at the Cathedral on the 20th. We are invited to take a picnic lunch to eat in the Precincts after the service. I will have a list for you to sign at each church between now and then, as the Cathedral authorities want to know how many to expect.

Harvest Thanksgiving Services this month are at Patrixbourne on 14th at 11am and Bridge on 21st at 6.30pm. Guest preachers are respectively the Agricultural Chaplain for Kent, Jesse Sage, and David Maple, Rector of Dymchurch and sometime Bridge organist. On the night before Patrixbourne's festival Mrs. Allan has arranged a concert in the church, commencing at 7.15pm, with all local talent. Admission is free but there will be a paper collection (not I.O.U.s) afterwards.

The annual Deanery Missionary Festival at Wingham Church is on the 14th, commencing with a service at 4pm. The preacher is the Archdeacon of Rochester, the Venerable Derek Palmer, whom some will remember as the link-man in this year's Radio Medway Lent Course. After a 5.15 tea (bring your own 'eats') there will be group discussion leading to questions which will be put to the Archdeacon. The whole festival should be over at 6.45pm. Collections at the service, after expenses, will be divided between USPG and CMS.

### **More about Coffee Mornings**

Mrs. Olive Russell's coffee morning for Bekesbourne Flower Festival made £38.15, for which thanks to all, especially Pam and Melanie Turner and Mrs. Coombes, and Miss Mason's raised £48.03 for the Church of England Children's Society. She wishes to thank particularly those who helped "whose ages ranged from 6 to 60 years". Forthcoming C.M.s include one at Beech Cottage, Beech Hill on 10th September, 10.30 to 12 noon given by Cllr. Mrs. M.A. Young for the "Fish" Scheme and equipment for the Luncheon Club in connection with the newly-formed Volunteer Bureau. Another one will be held at 2 Dering Close on 7th October, same times, for the East Kent Hospice Project and Bridge Methodist Church.

Aerodrome Road friends and neighbours of the late Mr. Harry Shorey contributed £15 for floral tributes to him, of which £5.65 was spent on flowers and the rest donated to the East Kent Hospice Project. In a letter of thanks the Revd. Henry Voller writes: "No doubt you know that a building

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has been secured for the Hospice and we all hope that it will not be long before it is operational, when it will be a fitting memorial to those who have passed over”.

### Bridge with Patixbourne W.I.

The Harvest Supper will be on 16th September in the Village Hall, when the speaker will be Mr. Bill Rennells, BBC2 Newcaster and Presenter. Members are asked to bring cakes or savouries, please. On Thursday, 25th September Mrs. C. Down will present a Film Show entitled “Beautiful Britain” in aid of Institute funds. All are welcome to this meeting in the Village Hall, at which refreshments will be served. Look out for the poster!

*J. E. Foster*

## Bridge Choir Fund

Cost of material and labour for 4 ladies gowns	88.00
Donations received and gratefully acknowledged	60.00
	28.00
Proceeds of Clothing exchange held on 30th April	57.28
Deducted for outstanding	28.00
	£29.28

This balance forms the initial opening of a Society Account and will be used for any future choir necessities. Needless to say any further donations towards this fund will be greatly appreciated.

*W.C. Rose, Hon. Choir Secretary*

# PARISH PUMP

Parish Council  
News



### BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

**Village Hall:** There was no meeting of the Parish Council in August, but since the July meeting the Youth Opportunities team have completed the repairs and redecorations to the Village Hall. The Council has written to the Project Supervisor of the Programme to thank him for the excellent work of his staff, most of whom were very young and on their first paid employment. The work which included the complete redecoration of the hall and the laying of a new solid floor in the male lavatories, has been carried out at a cost to the village of less than £100.

The earlier job of re-roofing the Hall cost in total £1952. The Council had, however, applied for a grant from the Lottery Fund, and a very welcome contribution of £580 has now been received from the Canterbury City Treasurer.

**Recreation Ground:** A site meeting has been held with officials of the County Council, at which Councillor Keith Chapman and the Clerk represented the Parish Council, to discuss the complaints of the Parish Council concerning the standard of mowing of the ground which the County Council carry out on a contract basis. The County representatives have agreed to endeavour to make some additional cuts, and to deal with areas previously omitted because of mole infestation. It will, however, still be necessary for the Parish Council to make separate arrangements for the cutting of the area between the fence and the trees on the extension, and to deal with the strips near the boundaries which the County has declined to cut because of the depositing of rubbish which would damage their machines.

The Water Authority has now replaced the turf removed when the new main was laid across the Recreation Ground, but there remain some dead patches caused by the delay.

**New Village Hall Project:** Readers will remember that in last month's issue of *On the Nail* it was mentioned that a Public Meeting to discuss the New Village Hall proposals and their progress was to be held on Thursday, 25th September in the present Village Hall. Unfortunately this date proved unsuitable, so the meeting will now take place at the Village Hall on Thursday, 23rd October at 8.00pm. It is most important that this meeting should be a success if the proposals are to be realised, and the help of as many villagers as possible will be needed. Note the new date in your diary, and please make every effort to come along.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 11th September, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, and members hope that the recent good attendance of visitors will be maintained.

F. L. Edwards, *Clerk*

### **BEKESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

At the July meeting the Parish Council decided to support Mount's appeal against planning refusal for a farm shop in Bekesbourne. This was the most asked-for facility in the recent Village Appraisal and the City Council's view that it would be "detrimental to a rural area" seemed a little strange, although they did also give traffic hazard reasons to support their refusal. The Parish Council felt that these were also doubtful however and that a shop was just what Bekesbourne wanted.

More than a £1,000 is still available from the City Lottery Fund to Bekesbourne for recreational and leisure projects and the Council heard that village organisations could also apply for money with their support. This will be on the agenda of the next meeting, in September.

The slide attachment, purchased with lottery money, is still awaited after many enquiries to the suppliers: it is hoped to erect it as soon as it arrives. It was ordered in February!

The highway department are waiting confirmation of more money for the Bifrons Road to Station Road footpath, but have earmarked this as their next project. They have also been asked to clear the footways under the railway bridge and outside The Unicorn.

The Parish Council has written to British Rail complaining about the deplorable state of the railway station which those who use it have to put up with. It was realised that vandalism was the main cause but felt that because

of this most of the users have to suffer. The station is deteriorating rapidly and becoming an eyesore.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday, September 23rd at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

*Mrs. M. Gabbé*

## HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Bridge Methodist Church:

Sunday 7th September, 11.00am

Monday 8th September, 8.00pm

} Revd. Raymond J.  
Bradshaw

St. Mary's Church, Patrixbourne:

Sunday 14th September, 11.00am

*Preacher:* The Revd. Jesse Sage, Chaplain to Agriculture and Rural Society in Kent

St. Peter's Church, Bridge:

Sunday 21st September, 6.30pm

*Preacher:* The Revd. David Maple, Rector of Dymchurch with Burmarsh and Newchurch

St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne:

Next month

## Bekesbourne Flower Festival

Anyone who climbed the hill to the lovely little Church of St. Peter, Bekesbourne during the weekend of the Flower Festival will, I feel sure, agree that their efforts were well rewarded. Once inside the West door they were confronted by a spectacle of real beauty in an atmosphere of complete peace and tranquility.

The Chancel was bedecked with startling arrangements of copper beech leaves, red gladioli, dahlias and carnations which contrasted well with the light stone work. An added touch were the little sprays on the open hymn books.

In the two lovely arrangements at the steps a few pink spray chrysanthemums were added to carry the colour theme through to the Nave where there were some ten beautiful arrangements, mostly of gladioli, carnations, dahlias, chrysanthemums ranging from deep pink at the front to

white at the back.

Once again the Font looked absolutely splendid in shades of white, cream, pale lemon, light orange and pale bronze gladioli, carnations, dahlias, lilies, trailing vine and periwinkle leaves.

The lovely little posies on the pew ends, which came in for much comment, were mainly of wild flowers. After the great clear-up before the Festival the odds-and-ends were used for four colourful arrangements in the Choir Vestry and the Belfry.

Two ladies out for an afternoon drive, who came upon the scene, said on leaving that they had seen many festivals—including some very big ones—but that they felt privileged to have seen this particular one, which was quite beautiful.

Our thanks are due:

First to the happy band of ladies who arranged the flowers (Mrs. Christine Ash, Mrs. Peggy Beckett, Mrs. Pamela Farbrace, Mrs. Ruth Grey, Mrs. Elizabeth Johnstone, Mrs. Jane Millyard, Mrs. Anne Purchase and Mrs. Joy Smith).

Mrs. Grace Allan for the hymn book sprays.

Mrs. Smith for sitting at her post at the Lych Gate for practically the whole of the three days, ably assisted from time to time by Mrs. Olive Russell and Mrs. Joan Fitzgerald.

Mrs. Purchase, Mrs. Grey, Mrs. Millyard and Mrs. Gladys Griggs for their wonderful work in manning the tea tent.

Mr. David Millyard for providing the tent, and all the odd jobs that he did.

Mr. David Farbrace for all his efforts tidying and cutting the Churchyard, fetching and carrying the crockery, etc., and a number of visitors, and not forgetting the odd dog-minding.

Mr. Ron Beckett for guarding the silver, etc. Mr. and Mrs. John Ash for providing the containers and supply of fresh water.

Miss Morag Walker and her friends for playing the organ and for helping out as and when necessary. Sarah and Michelle Stamp for weeding the path and removing the nettles. Sarah and Nicholas Millyard for all that they did.

Mr. Stanley Grey for getting discharged from hospital for the weekend to give us his moral support. Mr. John Purchase, without whom no event at St. Peter's would ever get off the ground, for everything.

Lastly, but by no means least, to everyone who helped in any way, either by making items for the stalls or buying therefrom, making donations, buying tickets or merely just coming along to have a look.

Thank you all. Our efforts enabled us to raise over £400 for the Church Fabric.

*P. F.*

## **BEKESBOURNE ROTAS FOR SEPTEMBER**

### *Cleaning*

Mrs. Hodgkiss  
Mrs. Smith  
Mrs. Stickells  
Mrs. Hogben  
Mrs. Watson

September 6th  
September 13th  
September 20th  
September 27th  
October 4th

### *Flowers*

Mrs. Beckett  
Mrs. Smith  
Mrs. Johnstone  
Mrs. Purchase  
Mrs. Watson

Parish Priest: The Revd. Raymond Gilbert, A.K.C., The Vicarage, 23 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JZ  
(Bridge 830250)

### PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens: Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Station Road, Bridge CT4 5AJ (Bridge 830218)  
Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, 'Tullymore', 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830472)  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. D.R. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830426)  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Station Road, Bridge CT4 5AJ (Bridge 830218)  
Organist (Bridge): Mr. P. Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road, Bridge CT4 5NB (Bridge 830293)  
Organist (Patribourne): Mrs. G. Allan, 'Ardpriory', Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD  
(Canterbury 62695)  
Vergier (Bridge): Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne CT4 5JD (Bridge 830660)

### BEKESBOURNE

Churchwardens: Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT4 5LA (Bridge 830522)  
Mr. J. Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (Bridge 830937)  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. J. Purchase, 'Mill Cottage', Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (Bridge 830937)  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. G.D. Millyard, 'School House', School Lane, Bekesbourne CT4 5ER (Bridge 830256)  
Organist: Miss M. Walker, Swanton Farm, Sturry CT3 4AX (Littlebourne 473)  
Captain of the Bells: Mr. H. Collard, 1 Mumpas Cottages, Little Pett, Bridge CT4 5PD  
Magazine Advertising: Mr. J. Barley, 49 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830612)  
Magazine Editor: The Parish Priest, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On the Nail* please send them to the Editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication. He would always welcome articles and photographs of general interest for inclusion in the Magazine which has a wide circulation in the three villages of Bridge, Patribourne and Bekesbourne.

FLOWERS

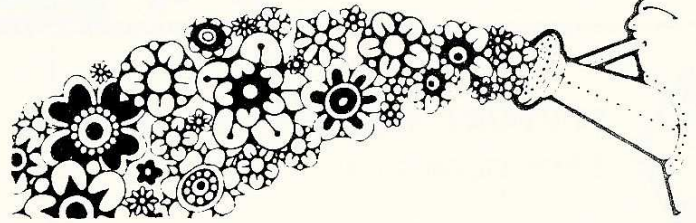
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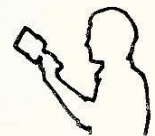
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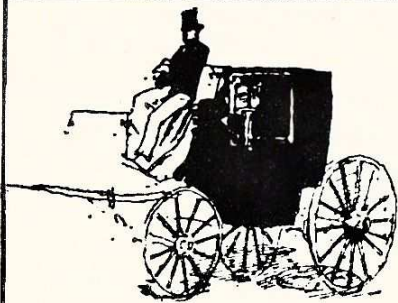
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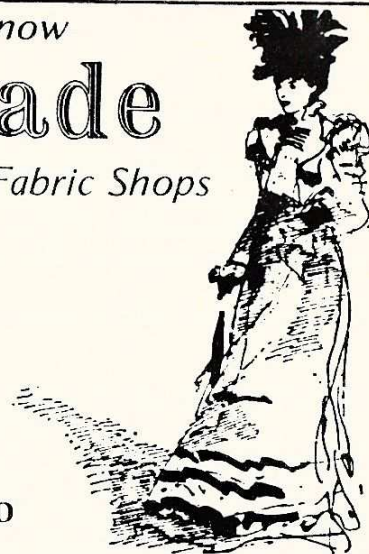
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# On the NAIL



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FOR BRIDGE  
PATRIBOURNE  
AND BEKESBOURNE

OCTOBER, 1980

Price 15p

# Sunday Services in October

## BRIDGE

### 5th:

11am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 12th:

9.30am Holy  
Communion (*Series 3*)  
6.30pm Evensong

### 19th:

6.30pm Sung Eucharist & Commissioning of Visitors *No service*

### 26th

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

## PATRIXBOURNE

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

*No service*

9am Holy Communion

## BEKESBOURNE

9.30am Parish  
Communion

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins  
(Harvest Festival)

11am Matins,  
Commissioning of  
Visitors & Holy  
Communion

**Holy Communion** is celebrated at 9.30am each Wednesday, and at 7.30am every Friday, at St. Peter's, Bridge, and in the Common Room of Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am.

A short informal service for the residents of The Close is held every Thursday at 2 o'clock.

**Bridge Methodist Church:** 5th, Revd. Raymond Bradshaw; 12th, Revd. Norman Parsons; 19th, Revd. Raymond Goodburn; 26th, Mr. E.R. O'Mahoney.

## For your diary and prayer list

- 1st Bridge PCC Meeting, 8pm in Bridge Church
- 4th *St. Francis of Assisi, 1226*  
Bridge School PTA Autumn Sale, 2pm in Bridge Village Hall
- 5th *Eighteenth Sunday After Trinity*
- 7th Bridge Methodists Coffee Morning, 2 Dering Close  
Bekesbourne PCC Meeting, 8pm in School House, Bekesbourne
- 9th Bridge School Harvest Service in St. Peter's Church at 10am  
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm in the Village Hall
- 12th *Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity*
- 13th Bekesbourne Social Club AGM in the Village Hall, 8pm
- 17th *St. Etheldreda, Abbess of Ely, 673*  
Patricxbourne with Bridge Stewardship Campaign Supper
- 18th *ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST*
- 19th *Twentieth Sunday After Trinity*  
Bekesbourne Harvest Festival Service at 11am  
Parish Eucharist with Commissioning of Visitors in Bridge Church,  
6.30pm. (*No service at Patricxbourne to-day*)

- 20th Bekesbourne Stewardship Campaign Supper  
 21st East Bridge Deanery Synod  
 23rd Bridge New Village Hall Meeting in the present Village Hall, 8pm  
 26th *Twenty-First Sunday After Trinity*  
 End of British Summer Time: clocks go *back* one hour  
 Bekesbourne Commissioning of Visitors at Matins, 11am  
 28th *ST. SIMON & ST. JUDE, APOSTLES*

*PLEASE NOTE that there will be no morning service in Bridge Church on Sunday, 19th October, and no service at all in Patribourne Church that day. This is to give a good send off to the Stewardship Campaign by commissioning the visitors and sharing a Eucharist as a parish and at a more relaxed hour. This arrangement will serve the added purpose of giving Bekesbourne the run of the field for its Harvest Thanksgiving Service, at which the preacher will be Canon Clifford Pollard, the Diocesan Director of Education, and successor in that post to our former Vicar, Canon L.G. Appleton.*

## As Stewards True

This is the month in which our first ever Christian Stewardship Campaign gets under way. Please pray hard about it, using, if you find it helpful, the Stewardship Prayer printed below.

As stewards, we have certain obligations to God which cover every aspect of our life. The campaign will provide us with help and guidance in fulfilling them.

### **Stewards of Time and Talents**

You don't have to be a craftsman endowed with a super-abundance of skills and technical know-how before you can experience a sense of indebtedness to God. Even those of us — the majority — with no noticeable talents, can feel gratitude to the Lord for the ability to use our hands and our brains, and for the time in which to do so. Most of us are only too conscious of the value of time, and frequently wish we had more of it. This probably accounts for the idea that we ought always to be doing something, and that time spent sitting around is time criminally wasted. But there is a proper place in life for leisure, although it must be kept in due proportion. What *is* criminal is to leave no time for God. Ponder this last thought, and see how you can give time in your life for work and play, and yet leave enough for God, its giver. This way you will be a true, grateful steward of God's precious gift of time.

There is, of course, a tie-up between time given to God and showing our gratitude to him for whatever aptitudes or prowess he has allotted us. We can exercise a stewardship of time and talents at one and the same time, and ideally this is done in some form of Christian service, perhaps through the medium of the Church. Your stewardship visitor will discuss this with you when he calls, but you are asked to give it some thought beforehand, and see how much time and what practical gift you can put at the church's disposal.

### **Stewards of Money**

To be true stewards of God's gifts we must include that other department of life of which as Christians we believe God is the author, our possessions, notably our money.

Money is a means to an end. Let the first expression of that end be the service of God through the medium of his church. Christian stewards help the church to help them, by setting aside a fixed contribution to the church, so that it may exercise its stewardship properly as they exercise theirs. Here again the visitor will be available to help you, although he will not presume to suggest how much any one family should give.

### **Good gifts around us**

There is a strong link, it strikes me, between stewardship and the harvest of the land which is being gathered right now, for despite the extremely heavy work-load of the farmer and the thought that must inevitably go into it, the actual growth is in God's hands. A successful harvest marks a successful co-operation between God and man, in which man must acknowledge that God is the prime giver. Through the practice of stewardship this all-important liaison is given a wider application as we welcome God into our life, no matter how removed it is from the world of agriculture.

Put God firmly into your life by putting your life firmly into his hands, by accepting him as your God and Father, as the Lord and giver of life, and by resolving to work in harmony with him and his purposes for the world.

### *STEWARDSHIP PRAYER*

O God, who of thy goodness hast given us so many gifts by which our lives are enriched, teach us to use them with care and understanding in faithful stewardship; and, under thy guidance, to give back to thee such a portion of our time, talents and wealth as shall be acceptable for thy works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **ERNIE DOWN**

**ERNEST GEORGE DOWN, M.B.E.**, died aged 79 at the Kent & Canterbury Hospital on Monday 15th September, 1980, after a short illness.



Affectionately known by his many friends and acquaintances as Ernie, he will be remembered hereabouts as 'a man of the district'; his record of work for the community at large, and Bridge in particular, is quite outstanding. However, perhaps Ernie would prefer us to remember his as a Railwayman. This was his life! First with the "Southern" and then, with the advent of British Rail, with the Southern Region.

Born at Faversham, the son of a Policeman, he attended various Schools in the area, wherever his father was stationed for the time being. His railway career started at Canterbury East Station in the Goods Office, and after many different appointments and Wartime Service with the Rail

network, it ended at Waterloo Station where he was the last man to hold the rank of Station Master (the appointment is now Area Manager). In January 1963 he was made M.B.E. in recognition of his Services to the Railway Industry. Referring to his Waterloo days he used to relate with some satisfaction that he was the last man in the job to be kitted out with "my own top-hat and claw-hammer coat — for to greet the Kings, Queens, Princes, Princesses and Prime Ministers of the World, and to bid them farewell, on behalf of the Railway, when they left"!!

In retirement Ernie maintained close contact with British Rail events; his passion was taking trips on the new High Speed Passenger Trains, a transport innovation established after he retired: sorting out a journey and the attendant timetable complexities, for those of limited experience, was a pastime which gave him much pleasure and satisfaction, as did the reunions organised with former colleagues and associates throughout the region.

In 1966 Mr. & Mrs. Down, who were married for 54 years, came to live in Bridge Down. First they created their beautiful garden, then quickly both became involved with the community. Ernie was elected a Parish Councillor and later took on the job of Clerk to Bridge Parish Council, until June last year, having completed some 8 years service; meanwhile he became Hon. Secretary to the Canterbury Branch of the National Association of Local Councils. He was elected to the Patricbourne with Bridge Parochial Church Council, was Sidesman at St. Peter's Church, Bridge and had been Hon. Auditor to the P.C.C. for the three years before his death. He was also an active member of the Horticultural Society.

These are some of the more formal activities with which he was involved, between times Ernie Down was always more than willing to lend a hand with anything; if he could help he would, and he did so.

We shall miss him in this District.

Mr. Down is survived by his widow, Con, to whom we extend our condolences and sympathy. *H.P.M.L.*

### **BRIDGE PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION**

*AUTUMN SALE*, October 4th, Bridge Village Hall, 2pm.

We would welcome all your Nearly New, White Elephant, Outgrown school uniform, Raffle prizes, plants, and cakes, for our sale. Collections will begin on Saturday 27th September, or articles can be brought to the village hall on the morning of the 4th October, or brought to Newsagents during the week.

Watch out for details of our next P.T.A. event in November, our bonfire party. Thank you for your support, and look forward to seeing you,

*Bridget Hawkins, Sec. P.T.A.*

**Bridge Methodist Church Coffe Morning** on Tuesday 7th October at 2 Dering Close, Bridge. Stalls with ideas for Christmas presents, cakes etc. Your support will be much appreciated. Proceeds will be shared between the East Kent Hospice and Church Funds.

*P. Grant, Chapel Steward*

## FISH SCHEME

May we thank everyone for the generous support they gave us at the 'Fish' Coffee Morning on September 10th. We raised the splendid sum of £80.40, which will go towards the running of the 'Fish Scheme' and to buy equipment for the luncheon club. In addition we have had two donations of £10 each.

I should like to thank Mrs. Young for her hospitality and all the hard work she put into making the morning such a success. My thanks too to Mrs. Kirk and Mrs. Sandford for making the coffee and Mrs. Jones for running the raffle.

*Joan Warren*

## BEKESBOURNE SOCIAL CLUB

Bekesbourne Social Club will hold a General Meeting in the Village Hall on Monday 13th October at 8pm. This meeting is necessary because interest in the club has fallen to the point where we do not have enough committee members to carry on running it. We have usually held a summer fete and spring and autumn fayres, neither of which was possible this year.

Will anyone interested please attend this meeting as a decision must be made as to whether we can carry on or if the club must be finally wound up.

*K.J.F.*

<b>Cleaning</b>	<b>ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE ROTAS</b>	<b>Flowers</b>
Mrs. Watson .....	Oct. 4th .....	Mrs. Watson
Mrs. Russell .....	Oct. 11th .....	Mrs. Russell
Mrs. Grey .....	Oct. 18th .....	Mrs. Fitzgerald
Mrs. Hodgkiss .....	Oct. 25th .....	Mrs. Ash
Mrs. Smith .....	Nov. 1st .....	Mrs. Farbrace

## BADMINTON CLUB

The new season has started and the Club will welcome all new players, whether they are novices or 'old hands'. Rackets may be borrowed so why not come along and make the feathers fly. Actually we do not use feathered birds; it takes two geese to give the 16 matched plumes for a single shuttle so they are just too expensive. The plastic ones are nearly as good — good enough for the likes of us. The first move in the game is to rouse yourself from that Monday-evening-after-the-weekend-before torpor and appear at the Village Hall from 7.30pm.

Badminton is fun — its simply smashing.

*Dermot Stewart, Chairman*

**The Close.** Advanced notice is given of a Christmas Fair to be held at The Close, Union Road, Bridge, on Friday 21st November at 6pm in aid of the Amenities Fund.

Your support would be appreciated.

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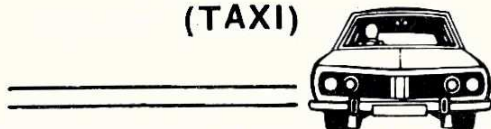
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# PARISH PUMP

Parish Council  
News



## **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council resumed its meetings after the summer recess on 11th September, and heard with regret of the very serious illness of Ernie Down, until last year their Clerk and previously a Council member. Since the meeting, members have been very sorry to learn of Mr. Down's death, and have written to express their sympathy with Mrs. Down. They also resolved to convey their sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Kollhoff, whose son Rodney was recently accidentally drowned near Fordwich.

### **Best Kept Village Competition**

Members felt that the Report of the judges was the worst the village had had. It described the High Street as 'unkempt', and the children's play area, the lay-by, and the river bank as dirty. The housing areas, however, were said to be well looked after and litter-free. The Council discussed a number of proposals which might improve matters next year.

### **Village Hall**

Complaints of excessive noise from the Hall had been received from nearby residents, and the Council heard their views, as well as those of the pop group about which the complaint was made. It was decided that the Village Hall Committee should be asked to consider the frequency with which bookings should be made for live music and disco entertainments.

### **Recreation Ground**

Councillor Peter Lawrence told the Council that he had been on the Recreation Ground when the grass had last been cut, and the operator appeared to have no difficulty in cutting the areas which the County Council had said could not be dealt with. Cllr. Lawrence also reported that one of the young trees at the rear of the pavilion had been broken down, and that the fencing between the ground and Riverside Close had been flattened to give easy access to the ground. It was agreed to view the site and to deal with the matter at the next meeting. Increased charges for the use of the ground were also decided upon.

### **Traffic in Mill Lane/Brewery Lane**

Residents had complained of excessive speeds of vehicles through the ford and excessive use of the road as a short cut, and the Council decided that an approach should be made to the County Council for the erection of 'Access Only' signs.

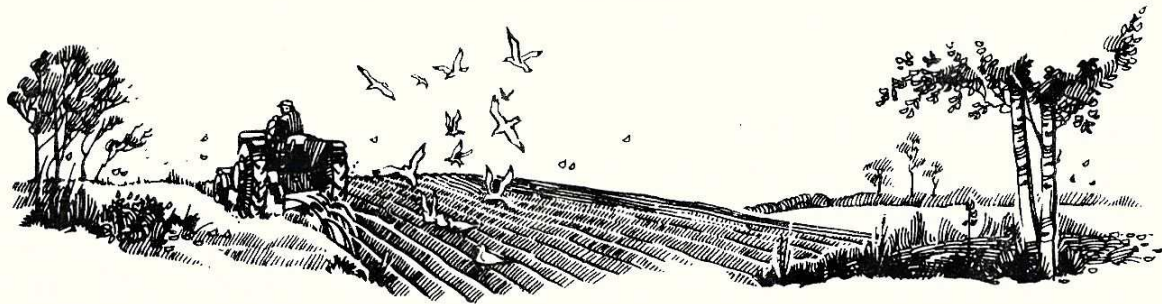
### **'Fish' Scheme**

Mrs. Warren, at the invitation of the Chairman, gave a further report on the

progress of the scheme, and said that it was hoped to open the luncheon club for the housebound and those living alone on 6th October. The Council thanked Mrs. Warren for her work and efficient organisation on behalf of the village.

The next meeting of the Council will take place on Thursday, 9th October, at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall. Visitors will, as always, be very welcome.

*F.L. Edwards, Clerk*



### SEASONAL CHOICE

Which season do you like the best? It is a question that can only really be asked of country dwellers, because apart from the change in temperature and the length of daylight the different seasons pass largely unnoticed by those who live in the centre of towns.

Even in what remains of rural England folk are not so ready to commit themselves when it comes to stating a preference, for when you really think about it each season has its own appeal, and having settled on one the other three cause you to think again about their unique attributes. Spring, the time of new life, of fresh beginnings claims our allegiance because it spells the end of dark Winter and the advent of hot (we hope) Summer. It also heralds the start of gardening and keeping the grass cut; a job not everyone likes, even in the country. Summer's charms are legion, provided each one is turned on us at the right moment. We don't mind cool rainy days if we are at work and that work is indoors, and we naturally accept gladly hot sunny days when we are on holiday, but the reverse is quite unbearable. The trouble is, with *our* climate, the latter is the most likely.

Winter is not without its alluring side, for a blanket of snow can look extremely lovely, and a brisk walk across country on a biting January morning is a most exhilarating experience. And then there is the cosy, fire-side warmth of an evening, made more attractive if the weather outside is doing its worst. Conversely there are heavy fuel bills, gruelling journeys if you have to travel, icy draughts and penetrating winds.

In Kent, Autumn is particularly spectacular. The warm weather so often drags on into October, and there is the rich abundance of the harvest to gather and enjoy. Even the threat of Winter fails to detract from the fruit, the vegetables, the berries and the colour, for Autumn is characterised by its colour. Any doubts about the season in which we now find ourselves must surely be dispelled by the very evocation 'Ode to Autumn' of John Keats, which is reproduced opposite for your enjoyment. For me it says all there is to say about this time of year, the time of Harvest Festivals, when our churches are ablaze with 'mellow fruitfulness'. We enjoyed those at Patricbourne and Bridge last month. Come and revel in Bekesbourne's this month.

## ODE TO AUTUMN

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness!  
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;  
Conspiring with him how to load and bless  
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run;  
To bend with apples the mossed cottage-trees,  
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;  
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells  
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,  
And still more, later flowers for the bees,  
Until they think warm days will never cease,  
For summer has o'er-brimmed their clammy cells.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?  
Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find  
Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,  
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;  
Or on a half-reaped furrow sound asleep,  
Drowsed with the fume of poppies, while thy hook  
Spare the next swath and all its twined flowers;  
And sometime like a gleaner thou dost keep  
Steady thy laden head across a brook;  
Or by a cider-press, with patient look,  
Thou watchest the last oozings, hours by hours.

Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?  
Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,  
While barrèd clouds bloom the soft-dying day,  
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;  
Then in a wailful choir, the small gnats mourn  
Among the river shallows, borne aloft  
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;  
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;  
Hedge-cricket sing; and now with reble soft  
The redbreast whistles from a garden-croft,  
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.





# HARVEST FESTIVAL

at

Bekesbourne Church

Sunday 19th October, 11am

Preacher: Canon C. F. Pollard,  
Diocesan Director of Education



The editor welcomes articles from readers on any topic of a local or general interest. They should be in his hands by 15th of each month. Now's your chance to fulfil that ambition to appear in print. What about anecdotes of a local historical nature—when we were kids, etc?

*Parish Priest:* The Revd. Raymond Gilbert, A.K.C., The Vicarage, 23 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JZ  
(Bridge 830250)

### **PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE**

*Churchwardens:* Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Station Road, Bridge CT4 5AJ (Bridge 830218)  
Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, 'Tullymore', 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830472)  
*Hon. Secretary:* Mr. D.R. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830426)  
*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Station Road, Bridge CT4 5AJ (Bridge 830218)  
*Organist (Bridge):* Mr. P. Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road, Bridge CT4 5NB (Bridge 830293)  
*Organist (Patixbourne):* Mrs. G. Allan, 'Ardpriory', Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD  
(Canterbury 62695)  
*Verger (Bridge):* Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne CT4 5JD (Bridge 830660)

### **BEKESBOURNE**

*Churchwardens:* Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT4 5LA (Bridge 830522)  
Mr. J. Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (Bridge 830937)  
*Hon. Secretary:* Mr. J. Purchase, 'Mill Cottage', Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (Bridge 830937)  
*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. G.D. Millyard, 'School House', School Lane, Bekesbourne CT4 5ER (Bridge 830256)  
*Organist:* Miss M. Walker, Swanton Farm, Sturry CT3 4AX (Littlebourne 473)  
*Captain of the Bells:* Mr. H. Collard, 1 Mumpas Cottages, Little Pett, Bridge CT4 5PD  
*Magazine Advertising:* Mr. J. Barley, 49 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830612)  
*Magazine Editor:* The Parish Priest, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On the Nail* please send them to the Editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication. He would always welcome articles and photographs of general interest for inclusion in the Magazine which has a wide circulation in the three villages of Bridge, Patixbourne and Bekesbourne.

**FLOWERS**

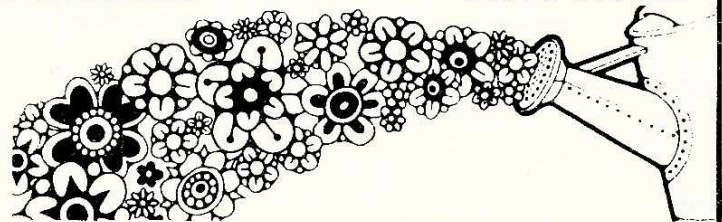
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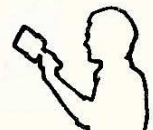
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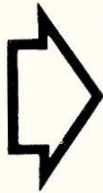


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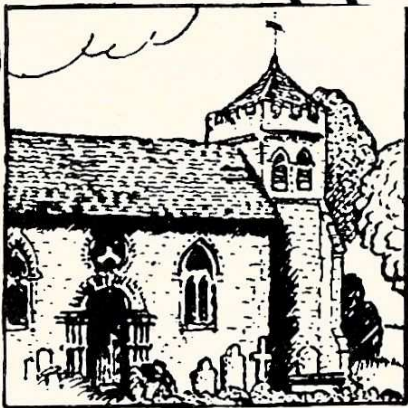
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# On the NAIL



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FOR BRIDGE  
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AND BEKESBOURNE

NOVEMBER, 1980    Price 15p

# Sunday Services in November

BRIDGE                                      PATRIBOURNE      BEKESBOURNE

**2nd:**

11am Parish  
Communion

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish  
Communion

**9th:**

8am Holy Communion  
*No 6.30 Evensong*

3pm Evensong  
(Stewardship  
Thanksgiving)

11am Service of  
Remembrance

**16th:**

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Eucharist  
(Stewardship  
Thanksgiving)

**23rd and 30th:**

9.30am Holy  
Communion (*Series 3*)  
6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

**Holy Communion** is celebrated at 9.30am each Wednesday, and at 7.30am every Friday, at St. Peter's, Bridge, and in the Common Room of Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am.

A short informal service for the residents of The Close is held every Thursday at 2 o'clock.

**Bridge Methodist Church:** 2nd, Members Service; 9th, Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw; 16th, Mr. D.W. Dunn; 23rd, Revd. Wilfred J. Hill, MC., B.Sc.; 30th, Revd. H. Jesse Lawrence, T.D.

## For your diary and prayer list

1st *ALL SAINTS' DAY*

2nd *Twenty-Second Sunday After Trinity*  
Commemoration of All Souls

6th Deanery Confirmation at Adisham Church, 7.30pm. Please pray for these who are to be confirmed from these parishes: Nicola Cotton, Amanda Ash, Helen Ash, Caroline Pratt, James Pratt, William Herbert. They will make their first Communion at the service, which takes place within the context of the Holy Eucharist. The new Bishop of Dover is confirming.

8th *Saints and Martyrs of England*

9th *Twenty-Third Sunday After Trinity:* Remembrance Sunday  
11am Service of Remembrance with the Royal British Legion at Bekesbourne  
3pm Patribourne with Bridge Stewardship Campaign Thanksgiving Service at Patribourne. No Evening Service at Bridge.

11th *Martin of Tours, Bishop, 397*

16th *Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Trinity*  
11am Stewardship Campaign Thanksgiving Service at Bekesbourne

- 17th *Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680*  
 20th *King Edmund of East Anglia, Martyr, 870*  
 21st 7pm Christmas Fair at The Close  
 22nd 2.15pm Bokesbourne Christmas Market (Village Hall)  
 23rd *Sunday Next Before Advent*  
 Service schedule as for a second Sunday (*see page 2*)  
 30th *Advent Sunday*

## Progress in Stewardship

What determines success where stewardship campaigns are concerned? Clearly we need to wait a little longer before venturing an assessment of our campaigns, but they certainly got off to a flying start.

The suppers will linger for a very long time in the memory of all who participated. 120 sat down to a splendid meal in the school hall at Bridge, and the atmosphere of happiness and family enjoyment was electric and quite contagious. Some 30 shared an equally sumptuous supper in the village hall at Bokesbourne, where again family unity was the order of the day. Brief talks followed both suppers, and contented guests wended their homeward way, taking with them a brochure about the campaign and a slip of paper on which they could record their time and talents commitment.

The one and only service in the parish of Patricxbourne with Bridge, a Sung Eucharist in St. Peter's Church at 6.30pm on Sunday, 19th October was a never-to-be-forgotten occasion in which 72 members of both villages made their communion together and witnessed the commissioning of the visitors. It was also a 'first' in that three of our young men acted as servers with great dignity, and enhanced the service greatly by their presence. We also had an Offertory Procession in which the gifts of bread and wine, plus the collection were brought ceremonially from the back of the church to the altar, symbolising that the gifts are offered by us the people to God, who returns them to us charged with his power in the Holy Communion. As gratitude has already been extended to those who engineered the suppers (Mrs. Apps and Mrs. Jackson at Bridge and Mrs. Purchase at Bokesbourne) a word of thanks must also be given to Mrs. Gladys Flynn, Sacristan at Bridge for much care and love spent in getting things just right for the service. She really lived up to *her* high standards, and enjoyed herself enormously into the bargain.

At the time of going to press Bokesbourne's commissioning service has still to take place, then we can look forward to the Thanksgiving Services with which the campaigns, though not, of course, stewardship, come to an end. One takes place at Patricxbourne on Sunday, 9th November at 3pm, and Bokesbourne's is the following Sunday at 11am. Do come and support this last event of whichever campaign you have been associated with.

*The Bishop of Dover sent the following message which was read at the two parish suppers, and it is here reproduced as we feel it deserves a wider audience:*

I am grateful for the opportunity to send a message of encouragement to the parishes of Bridge, Patricbourne and Bekebourne as you embark on this important and demanding venture.

The Christian Stewardship Campaign sets before the church members of today the same basic questions that Jesus put to those who came to be His disciples: Are you prepared in any real sense to deny yourself? What are the things that you love more than you love me? Will you set yourself to the task from which there is no turning back?

With a handful of men who were thus totally committed, Jesus overturned the world.

I am deeply convinced, that in the power of Christ, His church can be equally effective in transforming the society of today: but He can use as His instruments only those who are as totally committed to Him as were the first disciples.

Stewardship does concern the realistic giving of our money: but that is only a yardstick of our willingness to give to His service our whole selves, our work as well as our leisure, our activity in the world as well as our activity in the church.

I pray that you may be helped to face this fundamental challenge through your Stewardship Campaign, and so come to share that renewal of faith and joy which is Christ's promise and Christ's gift.

+ RICHARD DOVER

## Tragedy

Tragedy struck in October, when Anthony Michell, Lynton House, Bridge Hill was killed in a motor accident while on holiday in France. His sudden death came as a tremendous shock to so many in Bridge, who were eagerly looking forward to his impending retirement, when we would enjoy his presence amongst us on a more permanent footing. He and his wife, Joanna attended Bridge Church, and they very kindly put their house at our disposal for the clergy to robe in on the occasion of my licensing service a year ago.

It is a pity that some drunken characters on their way home in the small hours of a Sunday morning could not have spared Mrs. Michell further anxiety and picked someone else's window to shatter, glass and frame: preferably their own.

An interment took place in the old part of Bekebourne Churchyard, when Evelyn Morphett's body was laid to rest with that of her brother. She was an old Bekebourne resident, although she had had to spend her latter years in The Holt.



## Rite for To-day

Whatever you think of the new services (and, let us be honest, few of us have had sufficient experience of them to think very much) the 10th of this month is a red letter day in the history of the Church of England, for on that day the Alternative Service Book is published and fifteen years of experimentation come to a triumphal conclusion.

History is being made, because the ASB, as it is already called, is the first service book to receive official authorisation for use in the Church of England since the Book of Common Prayer appeared in 1662. A draft Prayer Book was prepared at the beginning of this century, which was intended to replace the 1662 book, but at that time our church could only change its forms of service by Act of Parliament, and the parliament of the day threw it out. This was the so-called Deposed Book of 1928.

Three hundred years is a long time for a church to be restricted in its forms of worship to a set pattern with no possibility of variety, so we ought to be thankful that in our day and after very careful and expert revision, which has involved consultation with other churches, plus frequent recourse to the people via the synods a modern service book is provided as an accompaniment to the Book of Common Prayer. It is worth stressing that this is the book that the people have asked for, and is not one that has been imposed from on high. Also it is not a new Prayer Book, brought in in the same vein as would have been that of 1928. This is an *alternative* service book which is designed not as a replacement for the 1662 book, but as a companion volume to it. The three hundred year old Prayer Book is in no danger of extinction, even if some parishes will be drawn more to the ASB than the BCP (these initials!).

Even if we prefer to stick to what we know let us welcome the ASB as an event quite unprecedented in our life-time, and realise that it is offered as an attempt to make worship meaningful and of the essence of the world in which we find ourselves. I hope the price will not put people off: from £3.50 upwards!

### **What's in the ASB!**

Morning and Evening Prayer, Holy Communion, Baptism, Confirmation, Ordinal (Services for ordination of Deacons, Priests and Bishops), Calendars, Collects, Bible Readings for the Communion, plus services for Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child, Thanksgiving after Adoption, Marriage and Funeral Services. Some editions have the Psalter, which is also in a new form.

## Remember November

This month is invariably a great one for remembrance. It starts on the very first day, when the church keeps the Feast of All Saints; an annual commemoration of all whom the church canonized in times past and now bear the prefix 'St.' Many of these find an individual festival in the course of

the year, but most either have to make do with a passing glance, as it were, or nothing at all. On 1st November we honour *all* the champions of the faith, that great cloud of witnesses as the author of the epistle to the Hebrews described them.

The very next day is All Souls Day, and then our remembrance is of all who have departed this life in the faith and fear of God. It is our own dead whom we call to mind and for whom we pray each 2nd November, and it is customary to remember them by name as far as possible at the communion on that day. This year it is a Sunday, which makes remembrance easier, and I should be glad to receive the names of your own departed loved ones to be read out at the communion services.

A further 'saintly' commemoration this month is provided on the 8th, when the saints and martyrs of England are remembered.

"Remember, remember the fifth of November" though it might be better just to treat it as a time for fireworks and, if we are careful in the use of them, enjoyment. It always strikes me as a bit barbaric burning a Guy Fawkes in effigy, but the fireworks and hot dogs are fun, especially in front of a huge bonfire on a cold night. That is one night I wouldn't be a fireman, though!

The last of November's remembrances is one of those annual traditions in church life that for obvious reasons did not feature in the Prayer Book Calendar: Remembrance Sunday. Every year some young clergyman or other gives a knock at it on the strength of the fact that fewer of us have anything to remember. They feel the annual harping back to world wars, tinged with nostalgia as well as sorrow, is the wrong emphasis, and would replace it with a yearly day of celebrating peace. Well, it may come to that; but not yet. Thirty-five years is not *that* long ago, and while many who lost relations or comrades continue hail and hearty and not very old it would be callous in the extreme to try and steer them away from this annual remembrance in gratitude of what was done for so many by so few. Even with a month of remembrances Remembrance Sunday with its time-honoured customs has its place.

This year the Royal British Legion comes to Bekesbourne Church for a special Service of Remembrance, which commences at the war memorial in the churchyard in time for the two minutes silence at 11 o'clock.

## Here and There — *by various contributors*

The Bridge Group of the **League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals** is having its Christmas Bazaar (and coffee) on 5th December in Bridge Village Hall at 7pm. The Secretary, Mrs. F.E. Apps writes: "We do hope to see all our old friends and new. Come and get your Christmas Gifts and meet your friends. Spend a couple of happy hours with us."

**The Church of England Children's Society's** annual Christmas Gift Sale is on Friday, 21st November from 10am until noon at The Old Palace, Canterbury. From now the society will be selling remade Christmas &

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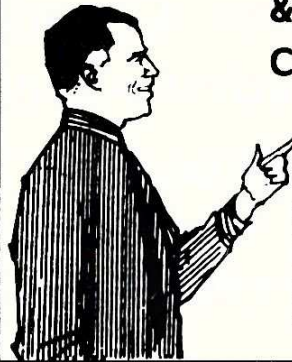
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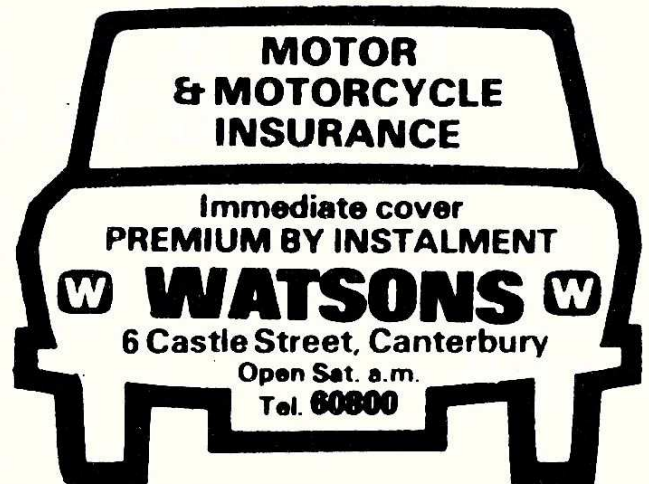
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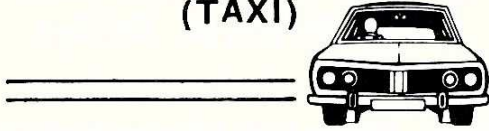
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Mrs. G. Harvey invites you to a Coffee Morning at 6 Bridgeford Way on Saturday, 22nd November from 10am till 12.30pm in aid of **Kent Trust for Nature Conservation**. There will be a sales stall and raffle. For the same cause Mrs. D. Whittaker will have an open weekend at 9 High Street, Bridge for the sale of gifts, cards, etc., as follows: Friday 31st October - 2-6pm; Saturday 1st November & Sunday 2nd - all day; Monday 3rd - 2-6pm and Sunday 30th - all day.

Wendy Blanchet, Secretary writes, "**The Littlebourne Players** held a special meeting on 7th October at Weir Lodge, when members regrettably agreed to cancel their November Pantomime. This was due to the fact that there were so few acting members available for casting, so until new members were found it would seem that a revue would be the only production possible for next spring. On recruitment of new members suggestions were made of advertising in neighbouring parish magazines and in the Kentish Gazette, and a promotions party is to be held in the Littlebourne Memorial Hall on 19th November for anyone interested in joining us. Admission by free ticket from Wendy Blanchet, Tudor Cottage, Littlebourne 632. Do please come forward and support us if you have any hankerings after 'treading the boards'."

**Bridge Methodists** wish to express their deep appreciation of the support given at the Coffee Morning organised by Miss Neame and her band of helpers. "We were delighted with the really wonderful result of £181.25! A cheque for £100 has been forwarded to the East Kent Hospice. Thank you for your donations, work on the stalls, the making of gifts and goods — and for the buying of them."

**Focolare** is probably a new word to you. It is an ecumenical religious movement founded by Chiara Lubich, an Italian Roman Catholic, that endeavours to live out the Christian gospel to the letter as well as the spirit. That this is no cranky organisation is borne out by the fact that Chiara was awarded the Templeton Prize for progress in religion in 1977, that she has been received by His Holiness the Pope and is to be received by our Archbishop in November. A meeting to introduce the Focolare Movement is being held on Saturday, 29th November at 2.30pm in the New Lecture Theatre of Christchurch College. A film will be shown describing the work of the movement, including work for ecumenism in England. It should be a most enlightening gathering. Are you coming?

*"We are not living in the age of a great saint;  
We are living in the age of Jesus:  
Jesus present among us,  
Jesus living in us,  
who enables us  
to create the Christian community  
in a spirit of unity and love."*

*Chiara Lubich*

# PARISH PUMP

Parish Council  
News



## **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

Members of the Parish Council at the October meeting heard an account of the service with the Council, from 1968 onwards, of the late Mr. Ernie Down, both as Member and Clerk, from Cllr. Peter Lawrence, who was Chairman when Mr. Down was first elected to the Council; and all then stood for one minute as a tribute to his memory.

### **Village Hall**

Cllr. Keith Chapman reported that the Village Hall Committee had considered the matter of lettings for musical entertainments following complaints which had been made of excessive noise, but had felt that the complaints were not justified, and had, therefore, decided to recommend that no change should be made in existing practice; and the Council agreed.

### **Recreation Ground**

Members have been concerned for some time with the matter of vandalism on the Recreation Ground, and agreed to give consideration to more effective ways of barring access to the ground by vehicles crossing the bridge in Patricbourne Road, and to stronger fencing where the ground abuts on Riverside Close. They decided also to consider at the next meeting adopting bye-laws to govern the use of the ground. The Council also accepted an offer from the City Council of ten trees for planting; and heard from Cllr. Keith Chapman that he had arranged to repair a defective swing.

### **Footways**

Cllr. John Anderson gave a detailed report on the state of the village footways, and disclosed a state of fairly widespread disrepair. It was decided to seek a discussion with the City Council on the subject. The Council also considered a request that barriers should be erected on the footpath to Patricbourne at the junction with Riverdale Close.

### **'Fish' Scheme**

The Council heard a further report from Mrs. Warren on the progress of the 'Fish' scheme, of which details appear elsewhere in this issue of *On the Nail*; and she was congratulated by the Chairman, Cllr. John Hill.

### **Kent Association of Parish Councils**

The Annual General Meeting of the K.A.P.C. is to be held on 18th October, and the Council mandated its delegates, Cllr. Mrs. Margaret Young and Cllr. Mrs. Olive Knight, on the resolutions to come before the meeting.

The next meeting of the Council will take place on Thursday, 13th November, at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall, and members hope to see a good attendance of visitors.

*F.L. Edwards, Clerk*

## **BEKESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Aerodrome Houses**

The Council decided not to oppose the application for houses to the rear of EKP Warehouses at the aerodrome. It was agreed that houses would be preferable to light industrial development for which the site already has outline planning permission. The Council will want to keep an eye on the detailed planning application.

### **Howletts Zoo**

Although the Council was most concerned about recent incidents at the Zoo, it was decided to wait until after the inquest on October 23rd before taking any action, although a letter has been sent to Mr. Aspinall.

### **Slide**

The Recreation Ground slide has at last arrived and should soon be erected: it *was* ordered in February!

### **Footpath**

The Council were more than pleased to see the work beginning on the Bekesbourne Lane footpath and hope it will be tarmaced, especially as the road is likely to become even more busy when the Canterbury By-pass opens. It is expected Bekesbourne Lane will be used as a short-cut from the Sandwich/Deal area to pass Canterbury.

### **Lottery Money**

Applications for City Council lottery money for village hall decoration, new recreation ground seats and equipment for Bekesbourne Brownies were supported by the Parish Council. Ten trees from the City Council will be planted in the Hall Car Park and the Recreation Ground.

### **Farm Shop**

The Parish Council has written to the Minister of the Environment supporting a full appeal against planning refusal for a full farm shop in Bekesbourne Lane. The City Council is against the idea, but it was felt Bekesbourne really needs a shop — after all we have none.

### **Fish Scheme**

The Council welcomed the beginning of the Fish Scheme and agreed to support it in all the ways it could and to encourage Bekesbourne residents to volunteer to help in the scheme.

### **Railway Station**

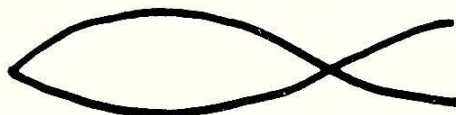
The Council noted that British Rail have mended the shelters at the station and partially obliterated some of the graffiti, but felt this would only last until the next bout of vandalism.

### **Next meeting**

Tuesday, December 9th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Members of the public are always welcome to come and express their views.

*M. Gabbé*

## "FISH" NEWS



### **Luncheon Club**

The first meeting of the Luncheon Club was held on October 6th. Some of the housebound members were having their first trip out for a long time and were delighted to meet people they had not seen for years. The Club meets every Monday at The Close. Membership is made up of residents who are housebound or handicapped, elderly people living alone and the recently bereaved. Although we can serve thirty luncheons we have started with twenty-three members — this has enabled us to get to know each other, to develop our routines and to leave places for those we may not have contacted.

We were very pleased to welcome the Chairman of Bridge Parish Council, Cllr. John Hill to our second luncheon and we are grateful for the help and support we are getting from the Parish Councils.

The members would like to join me in sending our thanks to Matron of The Close for her enthusiastic help which enabled us to set up the Club, to her staff for the additional work they are undertaking in preparing the meals and to Cllr. Keith Chapman for his practical help in making alterations and building cupboards. I should like to thank Mrs. Pleasance Kirk for her help and advice, Canon and Mrs. Packer for arranging the transport and all the volunteers for their help and support.

### **Chiropody**

Plans are progressing for a Chiropody Clinic to be held once a month in the village. There should be more definite news of this in the next issue.

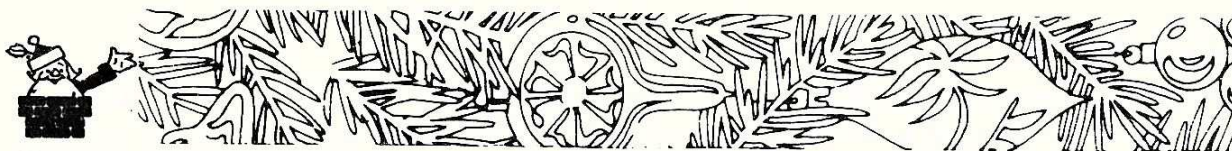
### **Christmas Shopping Evening**

There will be a shopping evening for the elderly and physically handicapped on Wednesday, November 26th. Marks & Spencer, Barretts, W.H. Smith and Woolworths have kindly offered to open their stores from 6.00 to 7.45pm. Applications for tickets should be made to me (Tel: Bridge 830233) or direct to the Canterbury Volunteer Bureau (Tel: Canterbury 52278) without delay. Transport and wheelchairs can be arranged for ticket holders. I should be grateful for offers of help from drivers.

### **CANTERBURY VOLUNTEER BUREAU**

The Volunteer Bureau has moved from 7A Dane John to 45 North Lane, Canterbury. The telephone number is the same: Canterbury 52278. Office hours: 10.00-12.00 (Mon.-Fri.)

*Joan Warren*



### **BEKESBOURNE CHRISTMAS MARKET**

The Christmas Market for St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne, is on Saturday 22nd November in the Village Hall starting at 2.15pm. There will be lots of bargains to buy, as those who came last year will agree. Anyone who has items for the stalls please contact John Purchase, Mill Cottage. (830937).

Parish Priest: The Revd. Raymond Gilbert, A.K.C., The Vicarage, 23 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JZ  
(Bridge 830250)

### PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens: Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Station Road, Bridge CT4 5AJ (Bridge 830218)  
Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, 'Tullymore', 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830472)  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. D.R. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830426)  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Station Road, Bridge CT4 5AJ (Bridge 830218)  
Organist (Bridge): Mr. P. Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road, Bridge CT4 5NB (Bridge 830293)  
Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs. G. Allan, 'Ardpriory', Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD  
(Canterbury 62695)  
Verger (Bridge): Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne CT4 5JD (Bridge 830660)

### BEKESBOURNE

Churchwardens: Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT4 5LA (Bridge 830522)  
Mr. J. Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (Bridge 830937)  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. J. Purchase, 'Mill Cottage', Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (Bridge 830937)  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. G.D. Millyard, 'School House', School Lane, Bekesbourne CT4 5ER (Bridge 830256)  
Organist: Miss M. Walker, Swanton Farm, Sturry CT3 4AX (Littlebourne 473)  
Captain of the Bells: Mr. H. Collard, 1 Mumpas Cottages, Little Pett, Bridge CT4 5PD  
Magazine Advertising: Mr. J. Barley, 49 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830612)  
Magazine Editor: The Parish Priest, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On the Nail* please send them to the Editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication. He would always welcome articles and photographs of general interest for inclusion in the Magazine which has a wide circulation in the three villages of Bridge, Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne.

FLOWERS

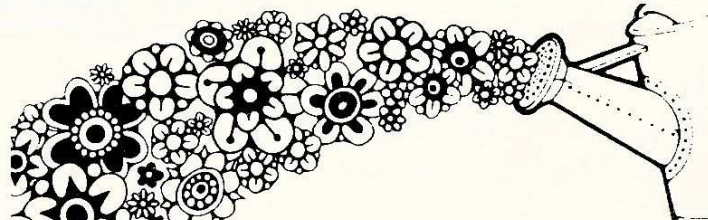
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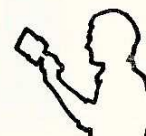
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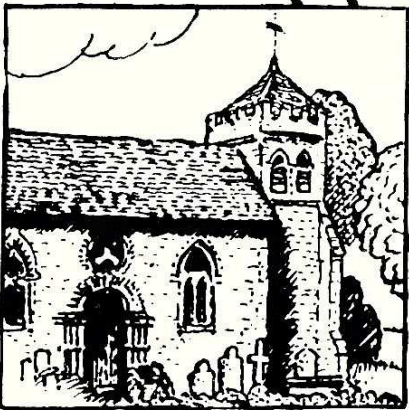
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# On the NAIL



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PATRIBOURNE  
AND BEKESBOURNE

DECEMBER, 1980    Price 15p

# Sunday Services in December

## BRIDGE

### 7th:

11am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 14th:

9.30am Holy  
Communion (*Series 3*)  
6.30pm Evensong

### 21st:

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Carol Service

### 28th:

8am Holy Communion  
3.30pm Evensong

## PATRIXBOURNE

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

9am Holy Communion

## BEKESBOURNE

9.30am Parish  
Communion

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins with  
Holy Baptism

11am Matins

**Holy Communion** is celebrated at 9.30am each Wednesday, and at 7.30am every Friday, at St. Peter's, Bridge, and in the Common Room of Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am.

A short informal service for the residents of The Close is held every Thursday at 2.30pm.

**Bridge Methodist Church:** 7th, Miss J. Charlesworth, M.A.; 14th, Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw; 21st, Miss J. Anderson; 28th, Miss E. Tressider, B.A.



## For your diary and prayer list

- 1st *SAINT ANDREW THE APOSTLE* (transferred from 30th November)
- 5th League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals, Bridge Group Christmas Bazaar, Bridge Village Hall, 7pm
- 6th *Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c.326*, the original Father Christmas
- 7th *Second Sunday in Advent*
- 9th Bekesbourne Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm
- 10th *Ember Day* when prayer is offered for those to be ordained to the sacred ministry (*see also 12th and 13th*)
- 12th *Ember Day*
- 13th *Ember Day: Lucy, Virgin & Martyr*  
Patricxbourne with Bridge Christmas Market from 2pm
- 14th *Third Sunday in Advent*
- 16th Bridge with Patricxbourne W.I. meeting
- 19th Patricxbourne Carol Service, 7.30pm
- 21st *Fourth Sunday in Advent*
- 24th *Christmas Eve*  
The First Communion of Christmas will be celebrated at 11.30pm in St. Peter's, Bridge and St. Peter's, Bekesbourne

25th **CHRISTMAS DAY**

Bridge: 8am Holy Communion

10.30am Holy Communion with Carols

Patricxbourne: 8am Holy Communion

Bekesbourne: 11am Family Carol Service

26th *SAINT STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR* (No 7.30 Communion)

27th *SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST*

28th *Sunday After Christmas & Holy Innocents' Day*

(N.B. Evensong is at 3.30pm)

*The Vicar is most willing to bring Christmas Communion to the sick and house-bound by arrangement.*



## OFF WE GO!

Now that our Christian Stewardship campaigns are things of the past we must be careful not to assign Christian Stewardship itself to the past. From now on all three churches will be run on strict Stewardship lines, which means no more collections at services other than on special occasions such as Christmas Day and the Unity Week service, but more than that it means a whole new involvement of many more people in the day to day running of the churches. The reports of the Time and Talents leader at Patricxbourne with Bridge and of the Treasurer show just what the campaign produced there, and it all bodes well for the future. An equally encouraging account of Stewardship at Bekesbourne could be given, although with that campaign closing a week later the full situation is not known. What we do know, however, gives us cause for rejoicing.

### TIME & TALENTS — Bridge and Patricxbourne

As an integral part of our Christian Stewardship campaign the request for your Time and Talents has been very gratifying. So much so, in fact, that a great deal of sifting and collation is necessary before firm plans can be made to use the time and abilities offered to best advantage. If it takes a little time to get around to those you have proffered please don't think that they have been forgotten.

In the meantime, our grateful thanks for your offers of help, and a confident prediction that with this help our churches and our community will benefit very substantially.

Statistics are at best a little dry, and sometimes misleading, but just to give you a flavour of the response, the following selected items show the willingness of parishioners to pitch in and help, or to continue their existing tasks and activities.

Churchyard upkeep .....	18	Volunteers	
Church painting/decorating .....	20	''	
Church cleaning .....	15	''	
Parish Magazine distribution .....	20	''	
Organising Fund-raising efforts .....	38	''	
Visiting 'The Close' .....	21	''	(Continued)

Grass cutting .....	11	Volunteers
Church maintenance .....	15	”
Needlework & vestment repair .....	10	”

Once things get under way you will be contacted personally, or appropriate announcements will be made in *On the Nail*.

Alan Jackson

## MONEY

The following figures compare planned giving in the year 1979 with the present position after the completion of the campaign.

		<u>1979</u>		<u>1981</u>
<b>Covenants</b>				
Number of donors .....	41	£872 net	76	£3,880
Tax Recoverable .....		359		1,164
Total .....		1,231		5,044
<b>Envelope Scheme</b>				
Number of donors .....	19	433	40	1,110
Total planned giving .....	60	1,664	116	6,154
<b>Collections</b> .....		1,586		400
		<u>£3,250</u>		<u>£6,554</u>

*Note:* In future, collections will be largely absorbed by the increase in planned giving. The figure of £400 is purely an estimate.

Thus the number of donors has increased from 60 to 116, and the income from covenants and envelopes has increased from £1,664 to £6,154. The average rate of giving has increased from 54p per week to £1 per week and the total income from planned income and collections has doubled.

There is no doubt that this is a very satisfactory result and that we have gone a long way to achieving *one* of our objectives: to encourage more realistic giving by the laity of the parish.

As a result of the campaign we have become solvent and we should be in a position to make larger donations to missions and charities, but if we are to keep pace with inflation we shall have to continue our efforts.

C.A.P.



## Christmas Is Coming

— and with it the inevitable round of requests for help from the charities. Of course we can't support them all, but if Christmas is the season of good-will, and that good-will doesn't stop short at giving our friends a drink, then we will wish to give a helping hand to at least one of the many deserving causes currently clamouring for a contribution. May I suggest two that are well worth considering.

**Christian Aid** usually claims our attention for a week each May, but its work goes on throughout the year. The following has been put out by its London HQ under the title "THE SAME OLD WORLD."

Before feasting this Christmas some people will fast — not to make room for extra helpings of turkey or plum pudding but as a reminder that plentiful food is accessible to only a minority of the earth's people.

Such thoughtfulness does not mar the joy of Christmas but enhances it as a festival of sharing and giving. It helps towards an understanding of God's purpose, reminding us that the world into which Jesus was born is the world into which all God's children are born: a world of power politics in which families flee as refugees, in which innocents are slain and men and women are betrayed, beaten and executed for their beliefs; a world of scarcity, hunger and selfishness.

Sometimes those who obey the command to love and serve their neighbour without regard to race, creed or politics are accused, as Jesus was, of meddling in the affairs of society, of being 'political'. But all they are doing — and all that He was doing — is caring for God's children.

Every Christmas, mindful of the world into which Christ enters anew, Christian Aid turns to the churches for the renewed support of all Christians in the work it has been appointed to do on their behalf and in Christ's name. That work entails helping all in poverty, distress or fear: not just those whom it is popular or politically expedient to help.

So please remember Christian Aid in your fasting and your feasting, in your praying and in your sharing.

Our own **Church of England Children's Society** naturally relies on Christmas to give its funds a real boost; Christmas is its chief fund-raising season. The annual sale took place in the Old Palace, Canterbury at the end of last month, but its most colourful effort takes place on Sunday, 28th December, when the Christingle Service and Purse Presenting takes place in the Cathedral at 3pm. Last year two purses of money were presented from our villages, and the children who took them enjoyed the service enormously, as one of them reported in this publication. At this year's service the purses will be received by the Archbishop, and I can see there will be a big demand for tickets. The Children's Society want at least £5 in each purse, and I need to order them at the beginning of December. Any children who would like to attend this exciting service and think they can raise the £5 necessary for a purse should give me a ring quickly. Accompanying adults are also given tickets, but for obvious reasons the fewer of them there are the better. It would be good to have more than two this year, especially as the Archbishop is going to be there.

## Imprisoned for the Faith

With continual news of the Church under persecution in many parts of the world, we read in the Church Missionary Society's quarterly *YES* that the Revd. Iraj Mottahedeh is still in detention in Iran. Iraj was a student at St. Augustine's College, Canterbury in 1967-8 and some residents may still remember his helping to celebrate the Christmas Eucharist at St. Peter's, Bridge. He and his family joined another family in Bridge to share Christmas festivities. A wise and compassionate steward of the people he served, let us not forget him in imprisonment.

*Contributed*

# On the Nail Post-bag

The Editor  
Dear Sir,

3 Riverside Cottages,  
Patricxbourne

I have read with deep interest your introduction to the Alternative Services Book "Rite for Today"; and this letter is not to discuss the pros and cons of this book as such, except to state in passing my own deep affection for the security, comfort and beauty of the Book of Common Prayer. After all, these were the qualities which persuaded me to become a member of the Anglican Church.

While I feel that several of your statements could properly be challenged, I will quote only the one where you say, regarding the new book, "this is the book that the people have asked for."

Press and television reports over the past year in particular, have shown just how many people there are who do *not* want this new book, although there are some who have said they were "prepared to accept it" — a very different thing from asking for such a change!

The last thing I wish to do is to create faction within our little community, but it would be interesting indeed to know how many out of our three villages either asked for, or want, the Alternative Services Book.

Yours faithfully  
Peggy Beckett

## CLOSING THE CLOSE

The Editor  
Dear Sir,

The Close,  
Union Road

At this moment in time it has been decided that we move into Military Road, November, 1981. We were told this is until Bifrons Park is built!?!

The plan is totally unsuitable for the confused elderly, with virtually no garden and near to the main road. It only accommodates 40 residents, we have 64 and a waiting list. *If* Bifrons Park is built it means moving twice in a matter of months.

There are many outside doors for our wanderers to get out of, each single room has a basin, we have 2 only that are always getting the taps turned on and overflowing. What will Harry Hyde do without a garden or be unable to visit friends in the village and Bridge won't be the same without Millie or Ethel!

Bus fares for staff not in Canterbury will be paid for 4 years by the Council! What a waste.

We shall lose all the goodwill in the village, plus the flourishing luncheon club which helps 24 plus elderly people to have a hot dinner each week and the Whist Drives on Monday evenings and Meals on Wheels.

If The Close is left empty for any length of time it leaves nothing to the imagination.

The elderly confused do not like moving from room to room let alone to 2 different places in a short time.

After all the money that has been spent on upgrading the kitchens, why cannot we be left here for another year and residents run down by natural means? Where are the Council going to put 24 confused incontinent residents? — I'm sure St. Augustines cannot take them or any other hospital.

The meeting of the Council re monies etc., is in January. We are hoping we can change their minds for everyone's happiness. Will or can you help us?

D. M. Holway, Matron

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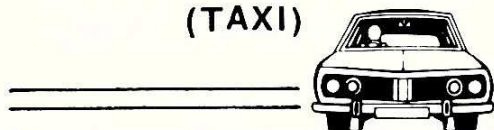
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The Editor  
Dear Sir,

10 Bridge Down

Would you please find space in your next *On the Nail* to thank all residents of Bridge Down for the kind response concerning the Age Concern envelopes. The total collected being £11.36.

Yours sincerely,  
M. Turnham (Mrs.)

### NUNNERY FIELDS HOSPITAL

The Editor  
Dear Sir,

Kent & Canterbury Hospital

I am desperately in need of volunteers to help to get patients to their weekly service, which is held in the Day Hospital area each Sunday at 2pm.

I know that it is a most awkward time but, with hospital routine and visiting hours commencing at 3pm, I have little option.

It is quite possible to draw up a rota so that nobody is asked to do too much too often. They would need to be at the hospital by 1.30pm and would be away before 3pm.

Most of the patients are in wheelchairs and with long corridors and the fact that there is one lift which holds only two chairs the exercise is time consuming; the only answer is to have a good supply of voluntary help.

For the past two years the good people of All Saints Church have been supplying helpers but they do need help and a bit of a rest.

Would you kindly publicise our need amongst your people; any offers would be most welcome.

*Peter R. Heartfield, Chaplain*

### “FISH” NEWS



Volunteers are meeting on 25th November to discuss present arrangements and future plans. Although we now have over 50 people who have offered to help when needed, we are anxious to hear of new volunteers, especially from Bokesbourne, Patricxbourne and Bishopsbourne, which have now joined the “Fish” Scheme.

Membership of the **Luncheon Club** has increased to 31. We still need one or two more drivers to help on a regular weekly or fortnightly basis. Members have been invited to stay on and join The Close residents at their fortnightly film show.

The first **chiropody clinic** was held at The Close on 6th November. This is a National Health Service clinic, which will be held on alternate Thursday afternoons. Treatment is free for people over retirement age, for anyone who is physically or mentally handicapped and also for expectant mothers and for children. If you need an appointment please leave your name and address at the chemist’s counter at Bridge Post Office (Tel: 830201). Transport can be provided if needed.

The **transport** service is for people who are housebound and elderly people with mobility problems or poor eyesight, who cannot use ordinary transport. If you use this service we do ask for a small donation to the “Fish” Fund to cover the cost of phone calls and petrol.

*Joan Warren*

# PARISH PUMP

Parish Council  
News



## BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Questions of village amenity figured largely on the agenda of the Parish Council at its meeting on 13th November. The possibility of arranging additional street cleaning was discussed, while Councillor John Anderson, who reported on his tour of the village with a County Council surveyor, was able to say that he had secured agreement to the early repair of virtually every defective footway in the village, as well as the erection of safety barriers on the footpath to Patrixbourne at the Riverside Close junction. The latter work has already been carried out.

### New Village Hall Project

Councillor Keith Chapman told the Council that the special meeting called on 23rd October had attracted only a little over twenty residents, and in view of the clear lack of local interest, it was agreed at the meeting that the Project funds should be placed in the care of the Parish Council, and set aside for an alternative project to be decided at the Parish Meeting next year.

### 'Trees in Your Village' Competition

The judge's report of the 1980 competition had given Bridge 17th place. More planting was suggested in the Recreation Ground, and along the river, while criticism was made of maintenance standards in some areas, notably in the churchyard. The Council decided that some of the trees to be supplied by the City Council from lottery funds should be used as replacements in the Recreation Ground, and to discuss further the siting of the rest.

Other matters dealt with included trouble caused by patrons of the Country Club; North Downs conservation; the draft Public Transport Plan for 1981/2; and the future of 'The Close'. Mrs. Warren also gave the Council a further report on the continuing very satisfactory progress of the 'Fish' scheme.

*F. L. Edwards, Clerk*

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Cleaning	ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE ROTAS	Flowers
Mrs. Grey .....	Dec. 6th .....	Mrs. Ash
Mrs. Beckett .....	Dec. 13th	
Mrs. Smith .....	Dec. 20th	Christmas Decorations
Mrs. Stickells .....	Dec. 27th	
Mrs. Hogben .....	Jan. 3rd	

*COME TO THE FAIR!*

# CHRISTMAS MARKET

SATURDAY, 13th DECEMBER

BRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

FROM 2.00pm

★ Christmas Tree and Gifts.

*All the fun of the Market with*

*the usual Stalls:—* Plants ★ Sweets

★ Bottle ★ Groceries ★ Stationery

★ Fancy Goods ★ Books ★

White Elephant ★ Toys ★ etc.



*Afternoon tea with cakes galore.*

★ Try your luck at the sideshows  
and the Grand Christmas Draw!

**WALK UP! WALK UP!**

*Help to make this an all-time record!*

**SEE YOU  
THERE!**

*Gifts for the Draw and Stalls  
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Ring 830560.*



## **BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP**

Readers of the BRF notes "Awake to the World" will be aware that they are coming to the end of the final booklet for 1980 and that the annual subscription of £1.80 is now due for 1981. The BRF is a world wide fellowship which endeavours to stimulate our thoughts about God, His relevance in our lives and the world in which we live by making the study and reading of the Bible a part of our way of life.

All new readers are very welcome and should anyone wish to see the BRF's many excellent publications please contact me at Ardpriory, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury, telephone 62695.

*Nigel Allan*

## **BETHLEHEM**

### *GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO*

WHAT is this wonder which openeth the heavens  
with hosts and hymns of angels?

Who is this babe, rough-lying in the straw  
beside the cattle?

And who this infant, born of a woman,  
to whom shepherds and kings kneel?

This is a Shepherd, the chief Shepherd, the good Shepherd,  
Shepherd of all mankind,  
who giveth his life for the sheep.

And this a King, the King of Kings,  
sovereign of all souls,  
whose kingdom can have no end.

Who in the day of eternity and splendour  
subsisted in the form of GOD ;  
yet chose the bitterness of a mortal lot  
for us, for me,

THE LORD GOD ALMIGHTY,  
my Shepherd, my King, my all.

Let us also go unto Bethlehem  
singing the hymn of knowledge  
and of adoration.

### *GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO.*

*Eric Milner White*

## **CHRISTMAS DAY AT BEKESBOURNE**

On Christmas Morning at St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne, we are holding our traditional family service. Children are always most welcome, and we warmly invite all those who can to come up the hill to St. Peter's to join in our thanksgiving and praise to God. Remember — 11am at St. Peter's, Bekesbourne.

*Stan Grey*

Parish Priest: The Revd. Raymond Gilbert, A.K.C., The Vicarage, 23 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JZ  
(Bridge 830250)

### PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens: Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Station Road, Bridge CT4 5AJ (Bridge 830218)  
Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, 'Tullymore', 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830472)  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. D.R. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830426)  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Station Road, Bridge CT4 5AJ (Bridge 830218)  
Organist (Bridge): Mr. P. Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road, Bridge CT4 5NB (Bridge 830293)  
Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs. G. Allan, 'Ardpriory', Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD  
(Canterbury 62695)  
Verger (Bridge): Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne CT4 5JD (Bridge 830660)

### BEKESBOURNE

Churchwardens: Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT4 5LA (Bridge 830522)  
Mr. J. Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (Bridge 830937)  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. J. Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (Bridge 830937)  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. G.D. Millyard, 'School House', School Lane, Bekesbourne CT4 5ER (Bridge 830256)  
Organist: Miss M. Walker, Swanton Farm, Sturry CT3 4AX (Littlebourne 473)  
Captain of the Bells: Mr. H. Collard, 1 Mumpas Cottages, Little Pett, Bridge CT4 5PD  
Magazine Advertising: Mr. J. Barley, 49 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830612)  
Magazine Editor: The Parish Priest, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On the Nail* please send them to the Editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication. He would always welcome articles and photographs of general interest for inclusion in the Magazine which has a wide circulation in the three villages of Bridge, Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne.

FLOWERS

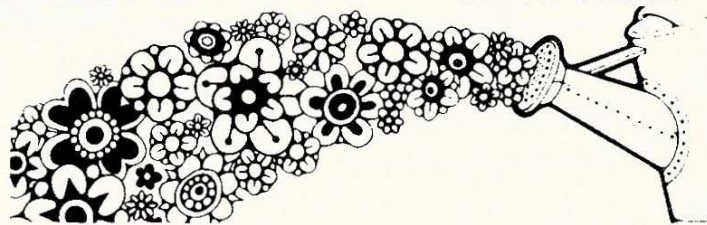
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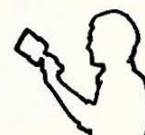
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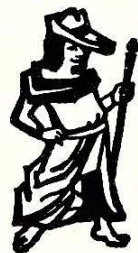
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