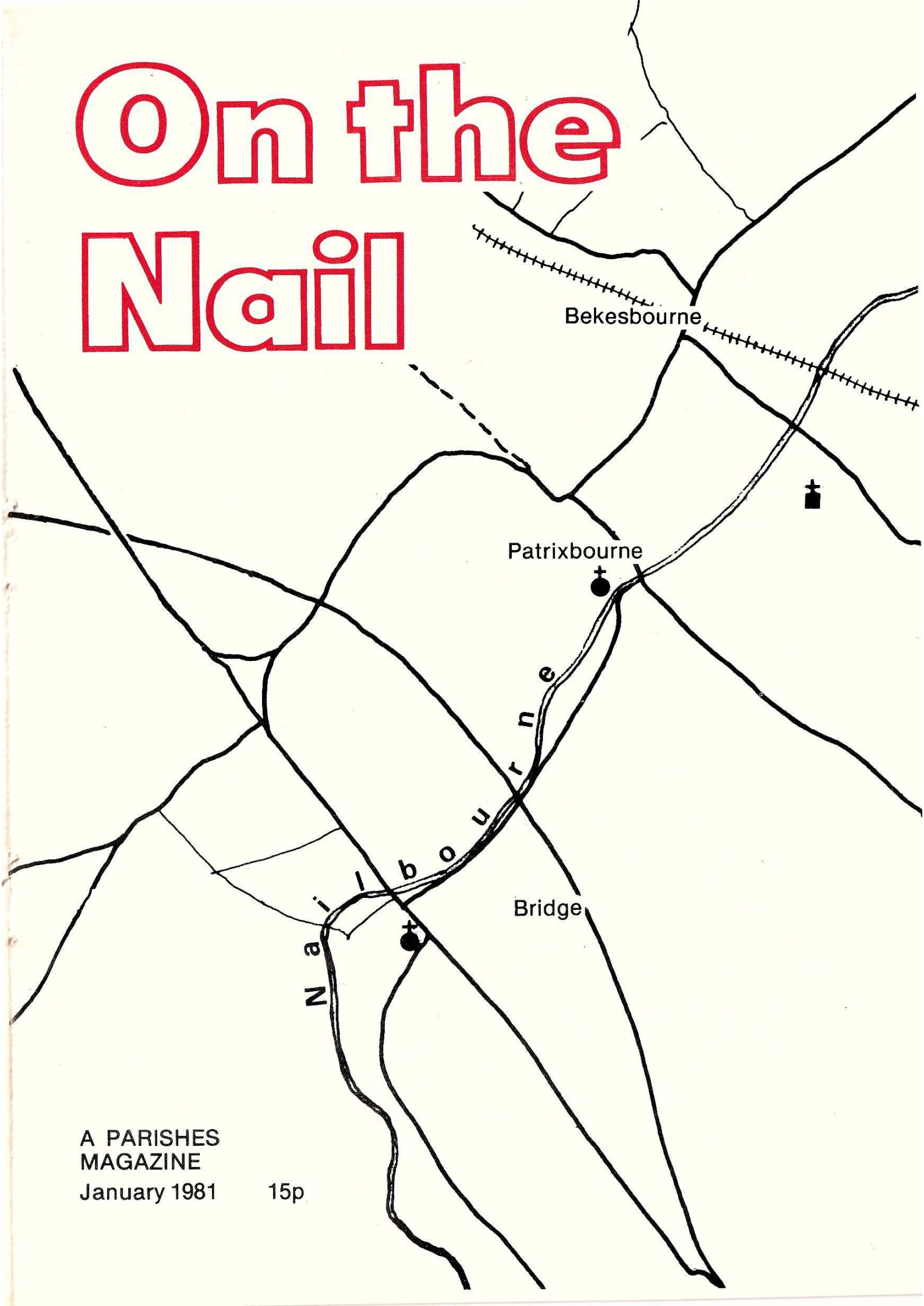


# On the Nail



A PARISHES  
MAGAZINE  
January 1981

15p

# Sunday Services in January

## BRIDGE

### 4th:

11am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 11th:

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

### 18th:

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 25th:

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, 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:** *4th*, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw will conduct the annual Covenant Service. *11th*, Mrs. M. C. Fairhurst, B.Ed. *18th*, Dr. John Rogers. *25th*, Mrs. H. M. Stewart.

## For your diary and prayer list

- 1st *THE NAMING OF JESUS* or *CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST*, commemorating the incident recorded in St. Luke 2.21. Pray for the church and for the world at the start of 1981.
- 4th *Second Sunday After Christmas*
- 6th *EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD*, a major church festival commemorating the coming of the Wise Men to Jesus. See St. Matthew 2 vv. 1-12
- 8th "PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND", Slides, Bridge Church, 8pm
- 11th *First Sunday After Epiphany*
- 14th Discussion Group, 20 Conyngham Lane, 7.45pm
- 17th *Antony of Egypt, Abbot, 356*
- 18th *Second Sunday After Epiphany*  
The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins
- 20th East Bridge Deanery Synod meets at 7.30pm. Please pray for the work of the synod and of the parishes of our deanery, especially our Rural Dean, David Naumann.
- 22nd *Vincent of Saragossa, Deacon & Martyr*, Littlebourne's Patron Saint  
Unity Week Service, St. Peter's, Bridge at 8pm
- 25th *THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL & Third Sunday After Epiphany*
- 27th Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meets in the Village Hall, 8pm



The monthly discussions which are held at 20 Conyngham Lane will resume on the 14th January 1981, at 7.45pm.

This year, instead of basing discussion on specific Bible texts, it is planned to widen the scope by introducing broader topics.

Consequently, the subject matter for our first meeting of the New Year will be, "Is it our Christian duty to become involved with politics?"

All are welcome.

*B. V. Whiting*

## Follow Yonder Star

What self-respecting Nativity Play would be without those three small boys decked out in tinselly dressing-gowns and cloaks, shiny paper crowns slipping over their ears, one hand clutching a glistening parcel and the other pointing upwards and outwards to an imaginary star? They make their stumbling way every year over loose wooden staging to the tableau that never changes, watched by a hall full of proud, smiling parents. "The Wise Men are led by the star of Jesus."

There was one interesting variation from the norm when on a December Sunday afternoon in a Cambridgeshire church the famous three sped up the nave to the stable at the front pedalling furiously on tricycles.

Yet the Church in this country has for centuries segregated the coming of the Three Kings from Christmas by commemorating their star-led journey on 6th January, rather than 25th December, i.e. at the very end of the twelve days of Christmas. At face value this is only logical, for if the star appeared at Jesus' birth and if they really did come "from Persian lands afar", as tradition has it, then it is not possible for them to have made the journey in a day. Moreover St. Matthew, who alone tells this story, clearly says that the Wise Men, when they arrived at their destination entered "the house", which is a further pointer to the undoubted fact that by that time the holy family had been able to find more suitable accommodation. In passing, St. Matthew also refers to Jesus as "the young child", thus hinting more at a toddler than a new-born baby. Be this as it may, the school Nativity Play would be distinctly impoverished without the Three Kings following hard on the heels of the Shepherds, and the final tableau incomplete without them.

The visitors from the east are accorded special honour over the local shepherds by having a day to themselves in the church's calendar. It is entitled 'Epiphany of Our Lord', the word Epiphany hailing from the Greek for 'manifestation', and it concentrates the commemoration not so much on the story itself as on what the visit of those strange easterners is believed to signify. If the shepherds represented the Jews, the Three Kings represent the Gentiles, so their coming to the Christ child is taken as a token of the coming of all mankind to his holy rule of love. As is often quoted in support of this belief, "And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." (*Isaiah 60 v. 3*).

But were they kings? St. Matthew calls them 'magi', a word that describes a mixture of primitive sorcerer and far eastern holy man. The Authorized Version says 'wise men', but subsequent translators have been more specific and identified them as what we now call astrologers: not to be confused with



astronomers. They were star-gazers, who studied the heavens the better to understand the ways of the world. The idea that they were kings probably derives from the text of Isaiah already quoted plus the composition of the gifts they offered to the infant Jesus. We assume there were three of them as three gifts were given.

Subsequent history has embellished these travellers from the land of the rising sun. They form the Italians' Father Christmas, the sixth century gave them the names Caspar, Melchoir and Balthazar, and the authorities of Cologne Cathedral claim to have their tombs. In 1951 an Italian American, Gian Carlo Menotti, wrote a children's TV opera, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, around the Kings and they seem to feature far more often on Christmas Cards than do the less colourful shepherds.

It is a pity that the feast of the Epiphany is overshadowed by Christmas, if only because the visit of the Magi does not receive due attention in its own right. The story is most fascinating, and the underlying truth that Christ came for *all* mankind is one that we, the present day Gentiles, should feel worth honouring every 6th January.

*As with gladness men of old  
Did the guiding star behold,  
As with joy they hailed its light,  
Leading onward, beaming bright,  
So, most gracious God, may we  
Evermore be led to thee.*

#### **FROM THE VICARAGE**

Thank you all very much for your Christmas cards, and thank you also most sincerely for the great kindness, generosity, hospitality and support which you have given us over the past year. A very happy and healthy new year, and our love, to you all in 1981.

*Raymond and Rosemary Gilbert*

#### **PLEASE NOTE—**

The annual Unity Week Service will again be in St. Peter's Church, Bridge, this time on Thursday, 22nd at 8pm. All Christians along the Nailbourne are invited to take this opportunity of worshipping together.

Coffee and conviviality afterwards in the Methodist Church.

Mrs. Grace Allan is showing slides of her "Pilgrimage to the Holy Land" in Bridge Church on Thursday, 8th January at 8pm. Commentary by David Kemp, a member of the pilgrimage. A warm welcome to all for this trip through the lands of the Bible.

## **Christmas is hardly over when . . .**

If you haven't already seen your first Easter Egg in the shops it won't be very long before you do. You know the commercial world: get one seasonal money-spinner out of the way and it's on with the next!



But if you are out to make a sale it pays not to hang about, so I make no apology for introducing the subject of Lent, even though it is a couple of months away. What has sparked it off is the publication of details concerning BBC Radio Medway's Lent Course for 1981, and the 'goodies' it contains. We had two groups in last year's course, involving about a dozen parishioners. This year we want to have more groups and more participants, because the course as outlined promises to be the best ever.

Of a general nature, the groups meet each Tuesday in Lent in various homes. Of vital importance, of course, is a radio receiver that can be tuned to Radio Medway on VHF (96.7 FM): the medium wave band is likely to be too crowded in an evening to get decent reception. The programmes start at 8 o'clock with an introduction and summary of letters received about the preceding week. This is followed at 8.10 by the presentation of the theme. We switch off at 8.30 and discuss the issues raised by the speaker for three quarters of an hour, switching on again at 9.15 for a phone-in, which also lasts 45 minutes. This last period is most interesting, because apart from giving us the chance to question the speaker it helps in a curious way to link the hundreds of groups that are assembled all over Kent and beyond.

Heading this year's distinguished list of speakers is **Malcolm Muggeridge**, the well-known broadcaster and former editor of *Punch*. He is followed by **Peter Timms**, who is Governor of Maidstone Prison and also in training for the ministry in the Methodist Church. He is very good value for money, as indeed is **Dame Cicely Saunders**, who speaks the next week. She is nationally known for her pioneering work in founding St. Christopher's Hospice, from which has sprung up the entire Hospice Movement. Canterbury's own Pilgrims Hospice stands in direct line from Dame Cicely's original foundation. The following week we shall hear from another woman of medicine, **Dr. Sheila Cassidy**, the Roman Catholic doctor who was imprisoned in South America and is now working in an English hospital, and the course ends with **Canon Paul Oestreicher**, Vicar of St. Paul's, Blackheath, in the diocese of Southwark and a well-known writer and member of Amnesty International. The overall theme to which this impressive list of speakers will address themselves is 'THE CHRISTIAN FAITH — What Difference Does It Make?' Individual subjects are as follows:

10th March	<b>BELIEF</b>	Malcolm Muggeridge
17th March	<b>FORGIVENESS</b>	Peter Timms
24th March	<b>DEATH</b>	Dame Cicely Saunders
31st March	<b>SUFFERING</b>	Dr. Sheila Cassidy
7th April	<b>FREEDOM</b>	Paul Oestreicher

Last year's highly successful groups met in the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Doug Hill, and we thank them for their most warm hospitality. It would be good if we could expand to say six groups this year, and invite to them those who don't come to church as well as those who do. How about a group or two meeting in Bekesbourne or Patricxbourne? At this stage it is rather important to get a number of homes in which to meet. All potential hosts and hostesses are asked to provide a room in which to meet and a radio set that gets a reasonably good signal from Radio Medway. Offers, please, to the Vicar, who will answer any questions you may have.







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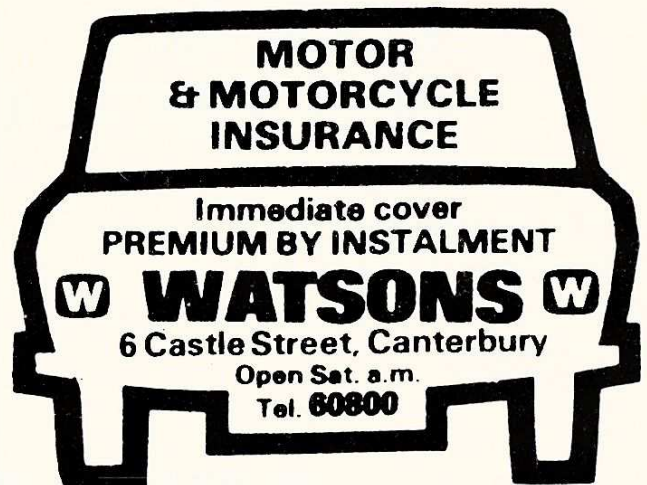
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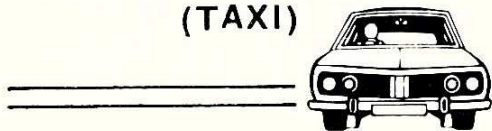
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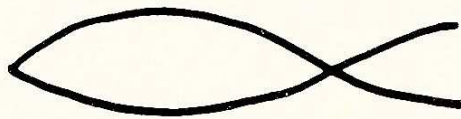
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Sutton: Canon Peter Naylor, Vicar of Maidstone.

### **'THE WAY' AHEAD**

'THE WAY', depends on three things for success — effective distribution, lively stories and articles, and advertising. If you help get it round the parish, or simply down your street or lane, it would reach 100,000 homes. More and more advertisers would use it and its future would be assured. Christian businessmen please note! Written contributions, cartoons, photographs and suggestions are always welcome and should now be sent to the newly appointed DIOCESAN COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER, Mr. DAVID ATTLEE, Greenhill House, Egerton, Ashford, Kent.



### **'FISH NEWS'**

At the informal meeting of volunteers on 25th November in the dual purpose room of The Close, Joan Warren gave a report on the running of the scheme, which had made rapid progress since it was first suggested back in March 1980. The contact point at Bridge Post Office seemed to be working well, and there had been close co-operation with the Health and Social Services.

Many volunteers had come forward to give help when needed and the scheme had been extended to take in the three neighbouring villages of Patricbourne, Bekesbourne and Bishopsbourne.

The encouragement of the Parish Councils, generous financial support from local people and enthusiastic help from the matron and staff of The Close had enabled the Luncheon Club to start in early October. The Club, which has been affiliated with *AGE CONCERN*, is proving a great success. Although the Social Services had put up the cost of meals, contributions by members and the proceeds of a small weekly raffle enabled the Club to be self-supporting.

A fortnightly Health Service chiropody clinic had been started with volunteers providing clerical help and transport when needed.

The Director of Social Services had applied for a small grant to cover administrative costs, but this had been turned down. It was decided to hold one coffee morning every May to cover expenses of the scheme. Mr. W. Johnson agreed to act as treasurer.

Mrs. Warren proposed that a committee be set up to run the scheme, but after discussion this was not felt to be necessary and she was asked to continue her work as organiser. She suggested that there should be an annual meeting each November when volunteers could get together to discuss the working of the scheme, and make plans for the future.

Warm appreciation of Joan Warren's work for the Fish Scheme was voiced at the meeting. Without her undoubted ability and drive this most valuable contribution to our community life would never have got off the ground.



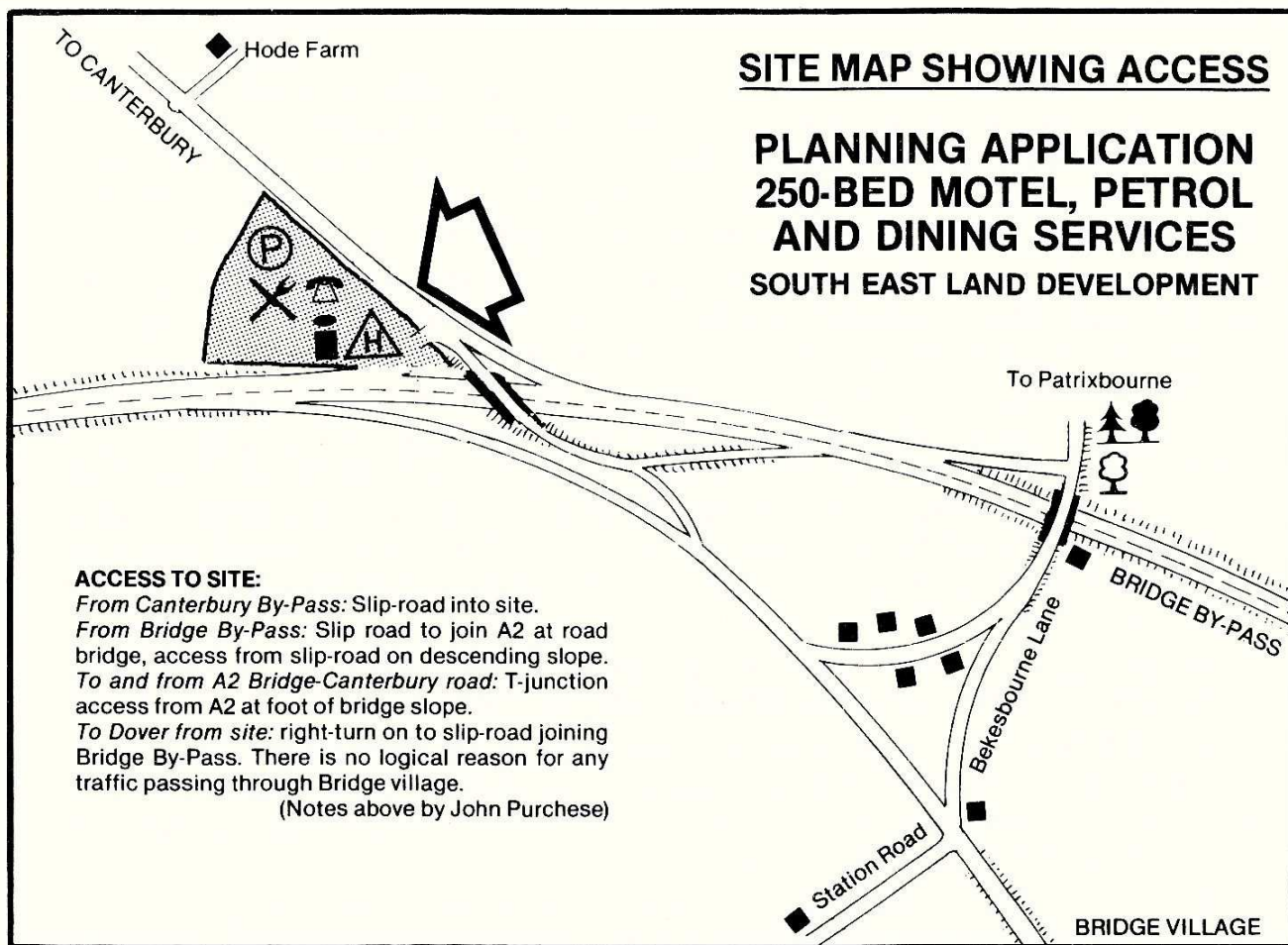
## PATRIXBOURNE PARISH MEETING

A special meeting of the Patrixbourne Parish Meeting will be held at 8pm on Friday 2nd January, 1981 at The Old Vicarage, Patrixbourne, by kind invitation of Dr. & Mrs. David Pratt.

### BUSINESS

1. To discuss a Planning Application by "South East Land Developments Ltd." for:
  - 250 bedroom Motel
  - Fast Food Dining Area
  - Petrol Services
  - Picnic Area
  - and supporting services.Site area 5 hectares approx.  
Site at the junction of A2 Canterbury by-pass currently under construction.
2. To decide on the amount of Rate Levy for 1981.
3. Any other business.

John Martin (*acting Clerk*)



### The Close

Matron would like to thank all friends, and helpers who contributed so generously to the recent Xmas Fair, thus making it an unqualified success.

*S. Taylor, Hon. Sec.*





The Close in Union Road, Bridge, has in one way or another been serving the community along the Nailbourne since it was built in 1835. It was first a Poor-Law Institute, probably a fairly forbidding place. But it was there to prevent people starving to death when they lost employment or lodgings or became too old to work, and it did save lives.

Now it is an old people's home, and old is the operative word because the average age of the residents is 82. That fact alone shows how much care and attention there is for anyone living there. The buildings may be old but the atmosphere — as David Crouch M.P. said after visiting The Close a few days ago — is cheerful and homely. The staff/patient ratio is almost one-to-one for the sixty-four residents, but many of the staff are voluntary helpers from round about the village, so the cost is actually lower than you could expect.

The KCC say they want to shut The Close this coming year as an economy (would you believe?) and transfer forty residents to completely inappropriate accommodation in Military Road. This building due for completion next Autumn has forty single rooms, which most Close residents detest as they are cut off from each other. It hardly needs adding that the building was not designed to house residents of The Close, but younger folk awaiting for Council accommodation elsewhere.

A properly designed home to replace The Close is supposed to be built in the next two to three years next to the C. of E. Primary School, Conyngham Lane. With the present financial pressures in the KCC this looks like a pipe dream for some time.

So, if the residents are moved to Canterbury what will we lose at Bridge? First, the residents themselves. Once they have left Bridge it is unlikely they will return. Second, the Meals on Wheels Service in the area would collapse because kitchens at The Close are used to cook the meals. The Luncheon Club which provides a hot meal every week for more than thirty old people in the village would go. The Chiropody Service would vanish. Third, the relatives and friends of residents would have to go to Canterbury to visit them — a high cost nowadays. Fourth, the staff would have to travel in and out to Canterbury — and running the Close is a twenty-four hour operation. Fifth, the Friends of The Close, which is a thriving group of helpers would vanish, together with many who do voluntary work that makes The Close so unique.

There are other reasons too why the move to Canterbury would be completely wrong. That is why *Close?* has been formed to help the Parish Council fight this bureaucratic nonsense, and that is why everyone living along the Nailbourne should help in the fight to retain The Close. You might need it yourself one day, and we have a duty to fight for those who are too old to fight for themselves. So, please support *Close?*



## BRIDGE & PATRIBOURNE CHRISTMAS MARKET

HELD ON 13th DECEMBER 1980

1979		1980
£		£
—	GIFT STALL (Mrs. Apps) .. .. .	16
33	FANCY STALL (Mrs. Bevan) .. .. .	14
68	TEAS — CAKES (Mrs. Williamson) .. .. .	44
30	PATRIX PANTRY (Mrs. Allan) .. .. .	29
21	GROCERIES (Mrs. Hill & Mrs. Rose) .. .. .	34
23	PLANTS & PRODUCE (Mrs. Jackson) .. .. .	43
6	JEWELRY STALL (Mrs. Johnson) .. .. .	8
26	WHITE ELEPHANT STALL (Mrs. Hulyer) .. .. .	36
—	STATIONERY STALL (Mrs. Pierce) .. .. .	20
12	TOYS — BOOKS (Miss Mason) .. .. .	4
11	CHRISTMAS TREE PRESENTS (Bridge School) .. .. .	9
6	DECORATIONS (Guides & Brownies) .. .. .	13
105	BOTTLE STALL (Mr. Rose & Mr. Hill) .. .. .	132
80	RAFFLE NET (Mr. Barley) .. .. .	101
—	STAMP STALL (Mr. S. Gilbert) .. .. .	4
17	SIDE SHOWS ( <i>not held this year</i> ) .. .. .	—
—	TREASURE TROVE MAP (Mrs. Buckmaster) .. .. .	4
—	GUESS THE NUMBER OF NUTS .. .. .	3
<hr/>		<hr/>
438		514
—	SALE OF THREE CANDLESTICKS .. .. .	35
35	DONATIONS .. .. .	6
<hr/>		<hr/>
473		555
6	LESS: HIRE OF HALL .. .. .	10
<hr/>		<hr/>
467		545

Once again an excellent result due to the work of the stall holders and the generosity of the parishioners. Our most sincere thanks to you all. *C.A.P.*

**Bekesbourne Christmas Market** was very successful, raising more than £150. We would like to thank all who made items to be sold, ran stalls, and came to buy, for their support of St. Peter's, Bekesbourne. It was a real village do, with welcome visitors from Bridge and Patribourne.

*John Purchase*

The CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY, as stated in the press, raised £1,100 at their Christmas Sale in Canterbury, and they sincerely thank all the helpers of Bridge who made and gave sweets, for the stall for the 2 cardigans for 2 of their families and for the cash donations.

*F.V.M.*

**Our thanks to Mrs. Grace Allan** for the enjoyable evening we spent at her home seeing the slides of the Holy Land — and her donation to the Choir Fund of St. Peter's, Bekesbourne.

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

3rd: Mrs. Hogben; 10th: Mrs. Watson; 17th: Mrs. Russell; 24th: Mrs. Grey;  
31st: Mrs. Beckett; February 7th: Mrs. Smith.

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*For the new cover design we are indebted to Bob and Sue Wyatt, Willow Lodge, High Street.*



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

### PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

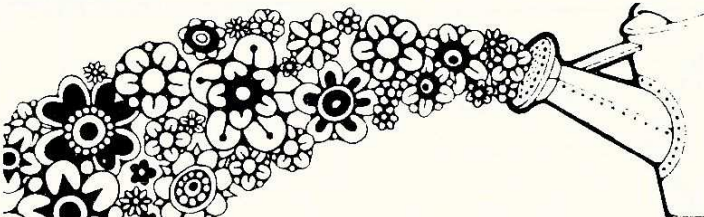
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Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, 'Tullymore', 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830472)  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. D.R. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830426)  
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Organist (Bridge): Mr. P. Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road, Bridge CT4 5NB (Bridge 830293)  
Organist (Patricbourne): 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

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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)  
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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, Patricbourne and Bekesbourne.

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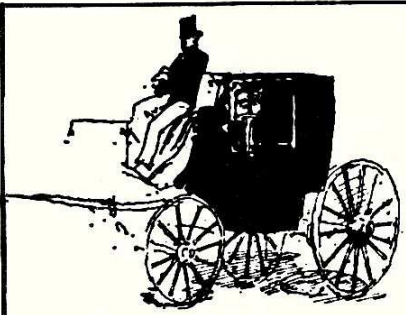
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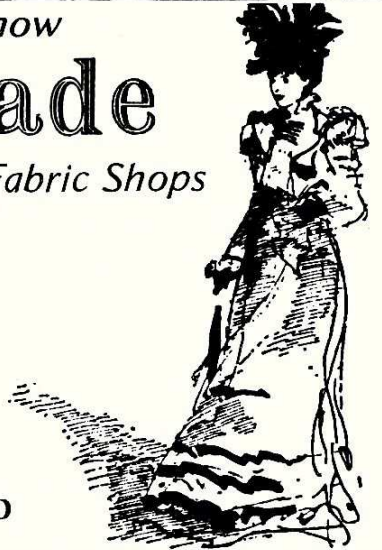
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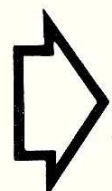
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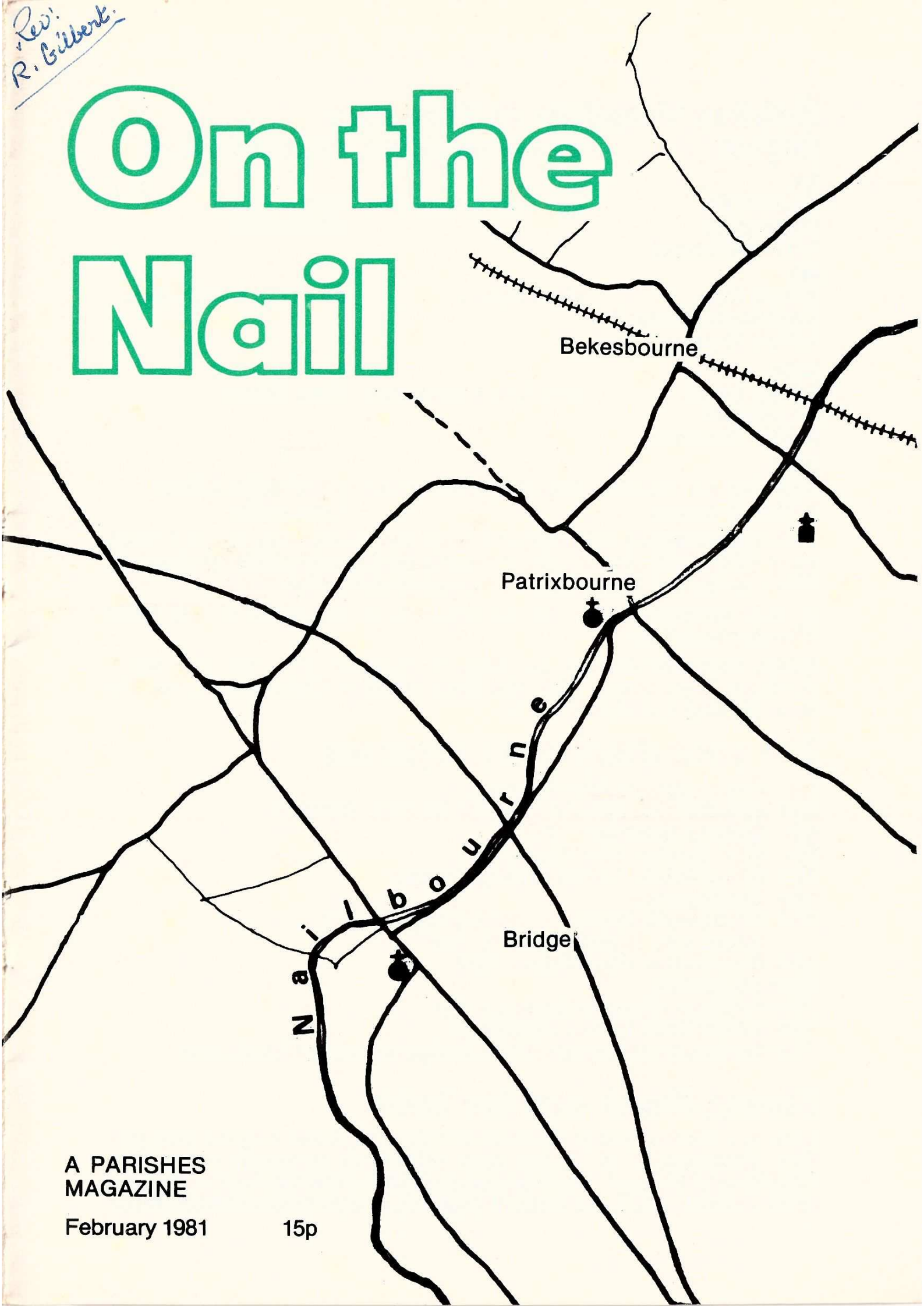
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# On the Nail



A PARISHES  
MAGAZINE

February 1981

15p



# Sunday Worship in February

## BRIDGE

### 1st:

11am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 8th:

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

### 15th:

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 22nd:

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, 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:** *1st*, Miss H. Forecast, B.A. *8th*, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *15th*, The Revd. Philip J. Child, B.D. *22nd*, The Revd. Wilfred J. Hill, M.C., B.Sc.

## For your diary and prayer list

- 1st *Fourth Sunday After Epiphany*
- 2nd *PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE*
- 6th *Queen's Accession, 1952*
- 8th *Fifth Sunday After Epiphany*
- 12th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm
- 15th *Septuagesima*
- 17th Bekesbourne Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm  
Bridge with Patricxbourne WI, 7pm
- 19th Bekesbourne PCC Meeting, 8pm
- 22nd *Sexagesima*
- 23rd *Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, c.155*
- 24th *SAINT MATTHIAS, APOSTLE*
- 25th Interchurch Discussion Group, Bridge Methodist Church, 8pm

## Saying thank-you for baby

There is a short service in the Book of Common Prayer with the long title 'The Thanksgiving of Women after child-birth commonly called The Churching of Women'. There appears to be little or no call for it in this part of the country, but in the north of England, at least up until about fifteen



years ago, it was in regular use. In my curacy days we would frequently arrive at church for daily Evensong to find a young mother waiting to be 'churched', and quite often she was on her way home from hospital, sometimes far from recovered from her confinement. It has to be admitted that by and large the demand for this service was not so much out of gratitude for a safe delivery as superstition. It was considered bad luck to enter a house after having a baby before first entering a church, and some of the older 'grannies' have been known to lock the mother out of her house until she had been to church. I well remember remonstrating with one mother who could barely walk; but she was adamant, feeling it wouldn't be right to go home without being churched.

The origin of the Churching of Women stems from the belief that bearing children rendered a woman in some way impure and therefore she was barred from the Holy Communion. This service readmitted her to communion, and that was the dominant reason for it, thanksgiving coming second. But this attitude to child-bearing goes even farther back than that, right to Old Testament times, as a glance at Leviticus 12. 1-4 makes abundantly clear.

The festival kept by the church every 2nd February, the Presentation of Christ in the Temple or Candlemas, is most often known as the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It centres around the story in St. Luke 2. 22ff when our Lord was taken to the Temple partly in accordance with the requirement of the law (see Exodus 13. 2 & 12) but also in order for Mary to perform the ceremony of purification demanded of all women after child-birth.

It does not do to make too close a comparison between ancient Jewish purification rites and the Churching of Women, yet the one thread runs through both, the idea that giving birth makes for uncleanness. Such a notion nowadays would be quite unacceptable, in church circles or outside, but the need for thanksgiving is by no means obsolete. Medical progress has made it no longer appropriate to speak, as the Prayer Book does, of "the great pain and peril of childbirth", but it is still not a forgone conclusion that all will be plain sailing. A thanksgiving is not inappropriate for the skill and attentiveness of the hospital staff, and certainly it is due for the precious gift of a child. On the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary we might offer prayers for all engaged in maternity work, for young mothers-to-be who, despite the expertise surrounding them must feel a little anxious, and also for future unmarried mothers whose problems are so great. And how about a prayer for the babies, that it may be true of them as it was of the child Jesus, of whom St. Luke wrote that he "grew and became strong; he was full of wisdom, and God's blessings were upon him." (2.40).

## Join this world-wide prayer

The Women's World Day of Prayer links Christians all around the world in a great wave of prayer that crosses both denominational and sexual barriers. It is not the prerogative of any one church or country, and despite its title is not a purely female preserve.

The custom of setting aside one day each year for concerted prayer is nothing new although the WWD must be unique both in its extent and in the



fact that the pattern of prayer follows the same order everywhere in the world. This year our own church is taking part and on the Women's World Day of Prayer, 1981, which is 6th March, the specially produced order of service will be held in St. Peter's Church, Bridge at 2.30pm. The address at the service will be given by Miss Constance Millington, a Diocesan Reader who for many years was Principal of the Bishop Cotton School, Bangalore, India. Worshippers at the Christmas midnight service at Bridge may remember her reading the Epistle and assisting at the communion. A warm invitation is offered to all-comers in the three villages and beyond, of all denominations and is timed so that mothers can attend and still collect children from school in the normal way.

The theme is Psalm 24 verse 1: "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof: the world and they that dwell therein." The organisers have issued this call to prayer, as a preparation for the service:

The service for the 1981 Women's World Day of Prayer was prepared by American Indian women, brought together by Church Women United, representing Indian tribes throughout the United States. Some are steeped in traditional ways of life. All have embraced the Christian faith.

According to traditional Hopi Indian belief, there is only one race, the human race, which is divided into two major groups — light and dark. To the dark-skinned people was given the gift of perception, the gift of knowing. To the light-skinned peoples was given the gift of recording and the gift of doing. Only when the two people come together at the centre and share their gifts would each receive a Greater Gift than either alone can give.

Therefore, Native American Indian women invite their sisters — dark-skinned and light-skinned — to come together for prayer on March 6, 1981, lifting their voices in praise and prayer to God the Great Spirit, the Creator and source of life.

*O Great Spirit,  
Whose voice is heard in the soft breeze  
and whose breath gives life to the world,  
we need your strength and wisdom.  
May we walk in beauty. May our eyes  
ever behold the red and purple sunset.  
Make us wise so that we may understand  
what you have taught us.  
Help us learn the lessons you have hidden  
in every leaf and rock.  
Make us always ready to come to you  
with clean hands and straight eyes,  
So when life fades, as the fading sunset,  
our spirits may come to you  
without shame.*

*(from a Native American prayer).*

## **FAMILY NEWS**

During Matins at St. Peter's, Bekesbourne on Sunday 21st December, 1980 **Nicola Fagg**, of 'Nuestro Hogar', The Hill was baptized and received into the church as a fellow member of the Body of Christ. She and her family were among the capacity congregation at the Carol Service on Christmas morning.



The August 1980 issue of *On the Nail* recorded the death of Ernest Deal, and now, some-what belatedly, we have to record the death of his brother, **Frederick Deal**, 17 Bridge Down. Canon Packer conducted the cremation service at Barham and our sympathy is extended to his only surviving sister, Mrs. Bastan, in her loneliness.

Shortly after Christmas, Mrs. **Anne Scales** died in Barham Nursing Home. A resident of Bekesbourne for many years, Mrs. Scales had been a regular churchgoer until increasing age and frailty made this impossible. After cremation on 5th January a memorial service took place at Bekesbourne, conducted by the Revd. Charles Harrington, and assisted by a past vicar, Canon Leonard Appleton.

On 9th January the vicar officiated at the cremation of **Henry John Stanton**, 1 Windmill Close, Bridge. Mr. Stanton had been in poor health for some time, as had Mrs. **Fanny Mahala Lemar** of 41 Union Road, Bridge. Mrs. Lemar died on Sunday, 11th January and she is buried in Bridge Churchyard with her late husband, having survived him a mere eight months.

At the time of going to press we heard of the passing of Mrs. **Blanche Barnard**, who lived with her daughter and son-in-law, Daphne and George Brasier at 5 High Street, Bridge. Funeral and interment in the churchyard took place on 22nd January.

We commend all who have departed this life to God's care and keeping and offer our prayers and condolences to all who mourn them.



## **DIOCESAN NEWS**

### **FIRST IMPRESSIONS** from the Bishop of Maidstone

“ . . . No one who travels along the main roads through Kent from London to Dover and Folkestone will get a good impression of the county”. So writes John Newman in his Introduction to the two volumes on Kent in Pevsner's “The Buildings of England”. They were the first books I bought after my appointment was confirmed. How right he is! And how true his comment that Kentish scenery, while not being spectacular, contains an extraordinary variety.

Kent seems to me already a very domestic place. There's hardly a view which is free of buildings, hardly a farm without its scattered collection of barns and cottages. And yet the county is amazingly rural — much more so than North Bedfordshire, that comparable area north of London which I know so well. What an attractive challenge all this presents to a new bishop! First the challenge of knowing and understanding these rural communities. Then the challenge of helping them to preserve what is good and precious within them in the face of rapidly changing circumstances, and increasing economic pressures.

+ *Robert Maidstone*

### **LOOKING FOR FRIENDS**

Our Diocesan Retreat House at Westgate-on-Sea, St. Gabriel's, has been subject to much alteration in recent years. It is now a comfortable, well-equipped House, efficiently run by the present Wardens, Mr. & Mrs. Barry.



The cost of running is high and an important source of income comes from "The Friends of St. Gabriel's" who pay an annual subscription of at least £2 and often help in other ways, not least of which is support through prayer. There is a serious need for more "Friends" at the present time. A "Friend" can be an individual or a parish. Please do join us by contacting Mrs. Tom Prichard, 5 South Close, The Precincts, Canterbury. Tel: 54678.

You will see listed below the 1981 Diocesan Retreats for Clergy and Laity:

**Priests Retreats:**

5th — 8th May  
10th — 13th Nov.

*Conductor:*

Fr. Austin Masters, SSM  
The Bishop of Willesden

**Lay Retreats:**

12th — 15th March  
15th — 17th May

Fr. Vincent Strudwick, SSM  
The Revd. Canon John De  
Sausmarez

18th — 20th Sept.

The Revd. Dr. Martin Israel

## VOCATIONAL CONFERENCES

For a number of years weekend conferences have been held in different parts of the Diocese with the aim of stimulating ministry — ordained and lay, among adults (17-25).

This year a similar conference is planned to be led by the Archdeacon of Maidstone in conjunction with the Assistant Director (Youth) to be held at Womenswold Training Centre on the weekend of July 7th - 9th. It will be designed both for young men who are thinking about Ordination and also for those who wish to explore their Christian Vocation. Further details will be made known in due course.

This year's *Vocational Conference for Sixth Formers* will be held at Jesus College, Oxford Tues. 7th April - Fri. 10th April. The Conference is for students of both sexes and the subject is "OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE at home and abroad". Students are asked to contribute £13 to include all meals and accommodation. Closing date for applications is Mon. 30th March, 1981. Application forms can be obtained from, and are returned to Miss Margaret Foster, ACCM, Church House, Dean's Yard, London SW1P 3NZ.

## USED GREETINGS CARDS

During 1980, large quantities of used cards were received at Diocesan House to help the Church of England Children's Society. The cards were re-made and sold, and well over £1,000 had been raised in this way by the end of the year.

The Society is most grateful for this help and further cards are always welcome. They may be left with Mrs. Pollard at Diocesan House. Items of jewellery are also greatly appreciated, as the sale of these also benefits the Society's funds.

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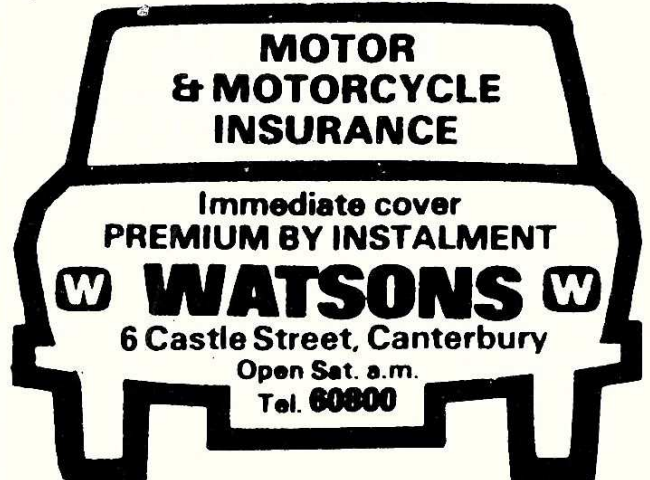
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God. We soon found out as we listened in Canterbury Cathedral to his Railway Sermon and at the end, in our hearts and almost with hand and mouth, we clapped and cheered.”

Captain PETER MANISTY, RN writes these words in a foreword to the sermon preached to commemorate the opening of the Canterbury and Whitstable Railway on May 3rd, 1830, newly published under the title above at 50p by the Association of Railway Preservation Societies. And anyone reading it must share his high excitement.

In Railway terms it is a real Clapham Junction of a sermon. It brings many strands of life and thought together and sends you off on unfamiliar journeys. It is social and transport history full of spiritual insights, opening our eyes to new visions and destinations for these days. It will, I hope, find its way on to the shelves of Christians and non-Christians alike, and provide refreshments for both. It should sell well on Church bookstalls too, with a profit of 20p a copy on the trade price. Enquiries to The Revd. E.J. Buck, Publications Editor, 40 Chapel Lane, Wymondham, Norfolk NR18 0DL.

## **TIME TO TALK**

*The first of the newly-constituted Discussion Groups met at 20 Conyngham Lane on 14th January. There was a good turn-out and thanks are due to Hilary and Barry Whiting for their hospitality. Barry presents the following resumé of the discussion, which readers may find interesting, on the theme “Is it our Christian duty to become involved in politics?”*

If politics is defined as the art or science of government then the group felt that Christians do indeed have an obligation to become involved, where involvement might at its simplest mean voting for candidates who practise a Christian code of ethics. Better still, they might themselves seek positions of influence at any or all levels of government.

It was thought that, in the end, the committed individual could be more effective in influencing opinion than organised, campaigning groups who adopt some kind of Christian label. Yet there is clear evidence that pressure groups can be extremely persuasive on occasions. But probably long term exposure to deeply committed Christian individuals proves the most effective. Is this not why totalitarian governments the world over have to resort to the persecution and imprisonment of Christians, whose spiritual muscle they see as a threat?

We concluded that there were inherent dangers in the formation of specifically Christian political parties, even if they were genuinely Christian in origin and composition.

The subject for discussion on Wednesday, 11th February is “Life after death”. We meet at 7.45pm.

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

The Institute meets in the village hall on the third Tuesday of every month at 7pm. New members and visitors are always welcome.

The February meeting will be on the 17th, when Mr. C.J. Cox of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds will give an illustrated talk on the subject of ‘birds’. The competition will be for a home-made bird-food pudding. J.E. Foster







## HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

I have the following comments on the **Revenue Accounts**:

1. **Planned giving** showed an increase of £1,010 compared with 1979. In 1981 the increase will be greater thanks to the full results of the "Christian Stewardship Campaign".
2. **Donations** increased by £317 thanks to several generous donations to both the Bridge and P/B Reserve Funds amounting to £240.
3. **Grants from Parish Councils**, an increase of £25. Both Bridge and P/B Councils increased their grants, for which we are very grateful.
4. **Social Functions**. The total receipts fell by £185 due to no Feté being held at P/B this year. However, the profit from the Summer Feté at Bridge and the Christmas Market showed a combined increase of £291 which partly offset the loss.
5. **The Parish Magazine**. We have actually made a *profit* of £52 this year (compared with a loss of £42 in 1979) thanks to the hard work of the distributors and John Barley, the advertising manager.

### Turning to the Capital Account.

At the beginning of 1980 we brought forward a balance of £1,150 from the Reserve A/c to cover the cost of re-wiring Bridge Church. At the end of 1980 we had a balance of £984 on the Reserve A/c but £900 has been transferred to a "Revenue Deposit A/c" to earn 11½% interest. We can do this because we know that money will be coming into the P.C.C. Account regularly from the greatly increased covenant and envelope schemes.

The results of the Christian Stewardship Campaigns have transformed the financial position of the P.C.C., without it we should not have had a hope of paying our 1981 "Share" of £3,600, an increase of £1,066 over the Quota for 1980.

C.A.P.

# PARISH PUMP

## Parish Council News

### BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Your correspondent has to confess that his preoccupation with some of the more secular aspects of Christmas preparations led to his missing the deadline with his notes of the December meeting of the Parish Council. The principal item on the agenda of that meeting was the

**Budget for 1981/82.** Members were very conscious of the need to limit expenditure as much as is reasonably practicable, but inflation involves a number of unavoidable price rises, and provision had therefore to be made for substantial increases in the cost of street lighting and maintenance, of insurance, and of the cost of maintaining the recreation ground. Additional expenditure here, necessary if the ground was to be kept in a reasonable condition, was also envisaged to cover fencing repairs and the clearance of moles. A small increase in the grant to the Parochial Church Council was decided upon. The estimated total expenditure for the next financial year is £4,210, only £335 above the estimate for the current year.

**Recreation Ground.** The lease of the extension to the ground, the final terms of which have not yet been agreed upon and where the Council is still seeking some improvement, fencing and the growing problem of mole infestation referred to above were amongst the subjects discussed. The mole problem poses particular difficulties, for the accepted methods of disposal involve the use of poisons unsuitable for use in a public park. Councillors also decided themselves to plant the trees provided by the City Council from Lottery funds.

**'The Close'.** The Council discussed further the threat to the future of 'The Close', heard a report of the work of the Action Committee, and resolved upon further representations to the Chairman of the Social Services Committee.

Other matters discussed were the proposed Motel on the Canterbury by-pass, the request for a representative from Bridge to advise Eastry Parish Council on methods of campaigning for a by-pass (Mr. Purchase has since said that he will do so) the new Sunday bus service, and the resurfacing work which has been commenced in Western Avenue.



**January Meeting.** The agenda of the January meeting was relatively short. Members heard that the life of 'The Close' had been extended to 1st April 1982, and decided to press for a firm assurance that no transfer of residents to Military Road pending the completion of the new premises at Bridge would be made. A decision to place a contract for fencing repairs to the recreation ground was taken, and it was also decided to seek the views of the sports clubs on the proposed bye-laws for the ground. A resolution to come before the meeting of the Kent Association of Parish Councils that the powers of District Councils on tree preservation should be extended to cover hedges, and that they should be able to delegate these powers to parishes, was felt to be well worthy of support; and it was decided to discuss with the Footpaths Officer the height of the steps of some of the stiles in the parish.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Thursday, 12 February, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Visitors are, of course, very welcome. *F.L. Edwards, Clerk*

## **BEKESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**City Lottery.** Bekesbourne has been granted £300 for repair and replacement of the recreation ground's seats from the City Lottery Fund. £200 was also granted from the fund to the Sports Club for purchasing new equipment. The Parish Council was pleased to support an application for a grant from the fund by the Bekesbourne Brownie Pack. The Council also decided to apply for money for fencing off an area at the entrance to the recreation ground for car parking. The trees allocated from the Lottery Fund have now been planted alongside the allotments, by the village hall and in the recreation ground.

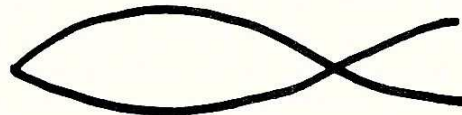
**Footpath.** The footpath from Bifrons Road to the hall is now completed and the Parish Council heard that there was no proposal to reclassify the road, although it had been widened in part.

**Grant.** A grant of £80 was made to the Parochial Church Council for maintenance of the churchyard.

**Annual Meeting.** This will be held on 28th April and it is hoped that once again a film will be shown. It is hoped that as many Bekesbourne villagers as possible will attend to hear a report on the work of the council over the last year and to ask questions.

**Next meeting.** The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on 17th February. The Council is always please to see residents at its meetings. *M. Gabbé*

## **“FISH” NEWS**



We are very grateful to the catering staff of *The Close* for the delicious Christmas Dinner they prepared for the Luncheon Club. We should also like to thank the people who gave gifts and donations to enable us to add the extras to make it a really memorable, festive occasion. It was a very happy affair, and gave much enjoyment both to members and helpers. We were particularly pleased to welcome the Vicar and Councillor Shirley, who have given us so much help and encouragement during the year.

We were very relieved to hear that the closing of *The Close* has been postponed and that the starting date of the new home has been brought forward.

The Chiropody clinic is being well used — we already have twenty people registered for treatment.

We are hoping to extend our visiting scheme this year, and would like to hear of housebound or elderly people who would welcome either regular or occasional visits from one of our volunteers. *Joan Warren*



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

### **PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE**

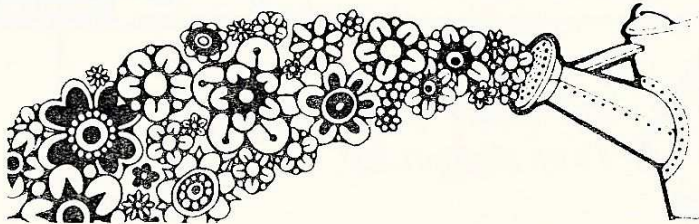
*Churchwardens:* Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Station Road, Bridge CT4 5AJ (Bridge 830218)  
Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, 'Tullymore', 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830472)  
*Hon. Secretary:* Mr. D.R. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830426)  
*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr. C.A. Potter, 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.

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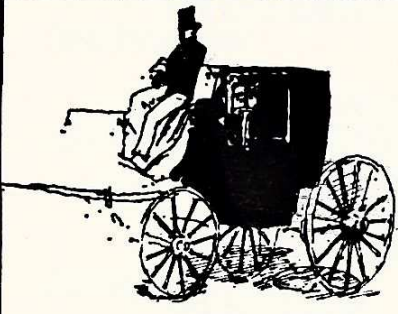
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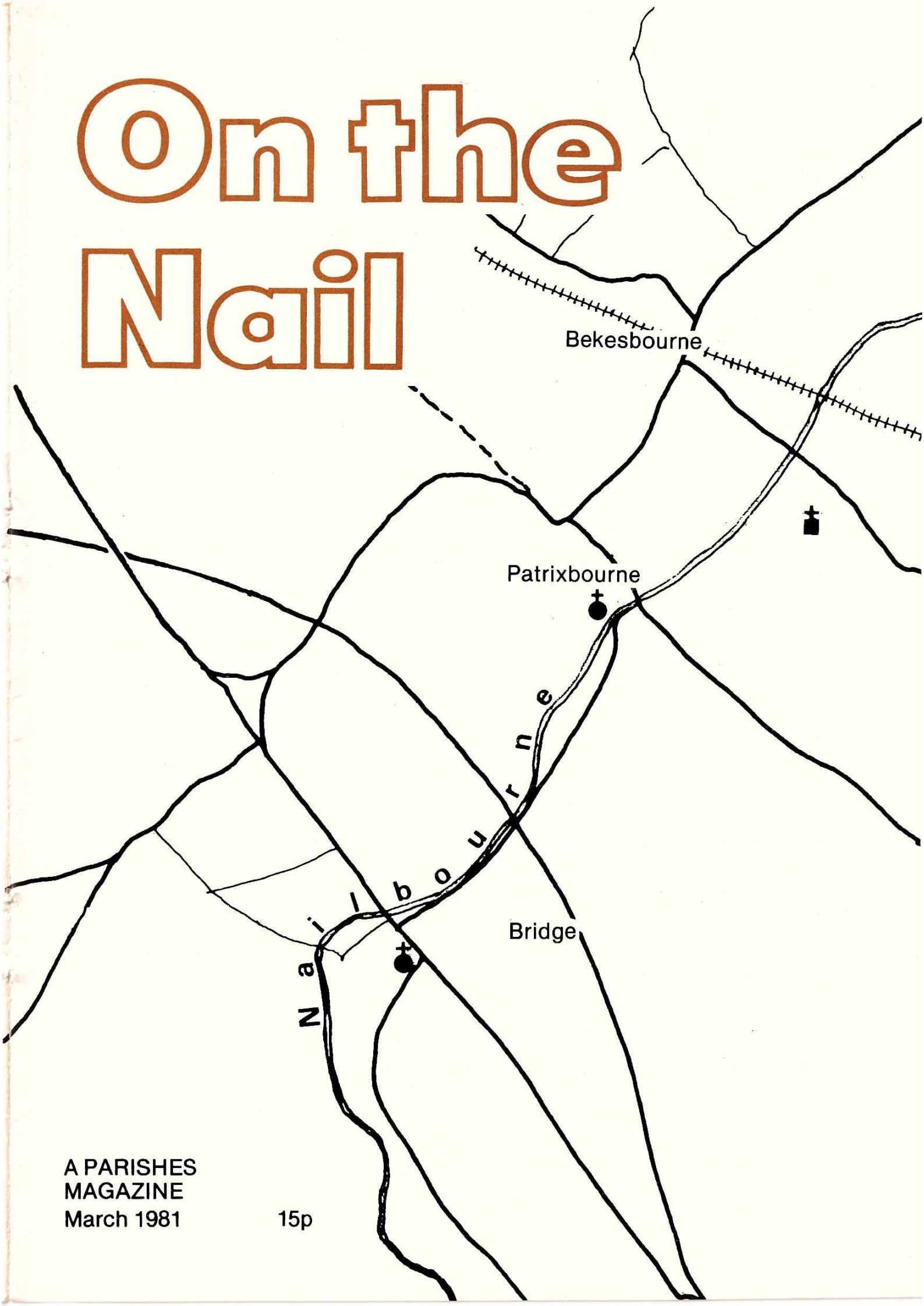
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# On the Nail





# Sunday Worship in March

BRIDGE                                      PATRIBOURNE      BEKESBOURNE

**1st:**

11am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

**8th:**

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

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

**15th:**

9.30am Parish Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins with Holy Baptism

**22nd:**

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion (*Canon Packer*)

**29th:**

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

8am Holy Communion

11am Mothering Sunday Service

**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:** *1st*, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *8th*, Mr. W. E. Ingall. *15th*, Mr. E. R. O'Mahoney, O.B.E. *22nd*, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *29th*, Mr. C. G. Robertson.

## For your diary and prayer list

- 1st *Quinquagesima*
- 2nd *Chad, First Bishop of Lichfield, 672*
- 4th *Ash Wednesday*
- 6th Women's World Day of Prayer Service, St. Peter's, Bridge, 2.30pm
- 7th *Perpetua and her Companions, Martyrs, 203*
- 8th *First Sunday In Lent*
- 10th BBC Radio Medway Lent Course begins
- 11th Discussion Group, 20 Conyngham Lane, 7.45pm
- 12th *Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome*  
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm
- 15th *Second Sunday In Lent*
- 17th *Patrick, Bishop, Patron Saint of Ireland*  
Bridge with Patribourne W.I. Meeting, 7pm
- 19th *Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
- 20th *Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, 687*



21st *Benedict of Monte Cassino, Abbot*

22nd *Third Sunday In Lent*

British Summer Time begins. Clocks go forward one hour.

25th *ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY*

27th Bridge Parish Council AGM, 7.30pm

29th *Fourth Sunday in Lent. Mothering Sunday.*

## Happy Families

March might fairly be called the Month of the Family for three reasons.

First, the 19th is the feast of St. Joseph, whose right to sainthood has nothing to do with the standard of his carpentry but is a just acknowledgement by the Church of his devotion to God in accepting Mary and caring for his family. See St. Matthew 1 vv. 18—25.

Then, the 25th brings us the feast of the Annunciation, which commemorates the visit to Mary of the Archangel Gabriel, with all that ensued. We know the story so well as it invariably appears in Christmas Carol Services and has inspired artists and musicians down the intervening centuries. The account can be read in St. Luke 1 vv. 26—38.

### Mothering Sunday

Thirdly, March almost always contains what is often incorrectly called Mother's Day but is really Mothering Sunday, and although this annual celebration is heavily biased towards mothers it is tantamount to being the Church's yearly commemoration of parent-hood and the family unit. In this respect the Holy Family provides us with a useful blue-print although few comparisons can accurately be drawn with to-day's Christian family, as we might expect. Our circumstances are so different: theirs were unique! Yet Mary's devotion to God and her motherly accomplishments can largely be followed by to-day's mothers, and we fathers can learn a great deal from St. Joseph's willing acceptance of his lot, his care for his wife and son and his trust in the purposes of God, hard as it must have been for him at the outset.

### Unhappy Families

Increasingly nowadays we hear of families for whom Mothering Sunday has lost its meaning, families that have come apart due to mother or father leaving home for one reason or another. In such cases it is all too easy to be judgmental and from the cosiness of a happy family to make dogmatic statements about those whose marriages have gone to pot, but it does not help anyone, least of all the couples concerned. Divorcees may say their separation was for the best in the long run, that it would never have worked and that in an odd way they are happier apart, but there must be considerable regret that what began so promisingly ended so traumatically. The figures quoted in the paragraph on page 5 are quite staggering and it is to be hoped the Marriage Guidance Council's plea meets with success. The Council does a great job, despite what some people think, and it is a thousand pities more couples do not make use of its expert services. For instance, it is not widely known that counsellors see couples whose marriages are *not* on the rocks, but who feel that a little counselling will benefit an already sound marriage. The suggestion



has been put forward that a consultation after about two years of marriage, when husband and wife have had some experience of the married state, could iron out any problems that may subsequently arise and which, unchecked, could lead to trouble later on. Would that more couples sought help before matters get too far out of hand.

\* \* \*

*Mothering Sunday this year is 29th February. Why not join the special Mothering Sunday Service in Bekesbourne Church at 11 o'clock? This is a highly popular occasion when children of all ages receive posies of spring flowers to give to their mother. Last year's oldest child was a pensioner.*

## Confirmation at Bridge Church

Those who attended the Deanery Confirmation Service at Adisham last November were tremendously impressed by the way the Bishop of Dover conducted the service, particularly by his Address, which though on the long side kept congregation and candidates in rapt attention from start to finish.

Bishop Richard will conduct *this year's* Deanery Confirmation, and we are privileged and fortunate to have the service in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Monday, 30th November at 7.30pm. The sacrament of Confirmation will be administered within the context of the Eucharist, which the Bishop will celebrate. By a most happy coincidence it will be the fifth anniversary of the Bishop's consecration in our Cathedral, which as Precentor I was involved in preparing for and at which I sang the Litany.

### Confirmation Preparation

It is time to begin preparing candidates for this Confirmation and potential candidates from both parishes are asked to contact me right away. They should not be less than 13 years of age at the time of Confirmation but, of course, there is no upper age limit. If there are any adults who are considering being confirmed I shall be pleased to discuss the subject with them and will prepare them independently of the younger candidates. But all potential candidates should realise that commencing the course of instruction does not automatically end in confirmation. In other words, the period of preparation is also a period for heart-searching, so even if you are not really sure confirmation is for you, at least give it a try. If in doubt, join the group!

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### OUR ARCHBISHOP'S DREAM



“Wherever you look in the world, its trouble spots have a large religious ingredient — Iran, Ireland, Jerusalem, Southern Africa — even the Soviet Union.

“I have a dream that religious leaders who ought to find so much common ground, might be more creative in representing the longing of people everywhere to live their lives and bring up their children without fear, and with a fair share of the world's goods. A naive dream you may



say, to think of Ayatollah, Chief Rabbi, Pope, Protestant, Moscow Patriarch, and Archbishop of Canterbury ever sitting down together. But who is being naive?

“The politics of confrontation have not achieved much. The world has never been a more dangerous place. Surely an Archbishop can be allowed to work for a vision.”

*The Archbishop was speaking at the Newspaper Conference luncheon in London on January 23rd*

### **IT'S ALL HAPPENING**

Two great ecumenical events are taking place in the diocese this year. The first is the Maidstone *Celebration of the Resurrection* on the 4th May, when most Maidstone area churches are involved in Worship, a Fair and a Concert. As it is Bank Holiday Monday, it should draw great crowds.

The second is the *Weald Crusade* in June/July. This will be based on Cranbrook where the meetings will be held in a giant tent on the Bell Field (June 26—July 12). Various preliminary rallies are taking place throughout the Weald, in churches of all denominations. Your prayers are asked for both ventures.

### **TREES ROUND THE CHURCH**

In many church yards there is room to plant more trees. If P.C.C.'s could plant one or more, this would make a significant contribution to reversing our declining tree cover.

What is possible in church yards could also perhaps be copied in some rectory and vicarage gardens. We need trees and so do countless birds, mammals, plants and insects. Can the Church help in beautifying town and countryside?

Leaflets on varieties, care, etc., can be obtained from The Tree Council, 35 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QN. Tel: 01-2351 8854.

### **EASING THE STRAIN ON MARRIAGE**

Local Marriage Guidance Councils are looking for people willing to train and give some of their time to this rewarding service. At present there is a particular need for men and women in South Kent to offer themselves for selection.

Over the country as a whole more than a million couples have been divorced in the past ten years, and there are now over 900,000 one-parent families. So the urgency of people's needs is pretty clear. If you are interested, please contact your local Marriage Guidance Council. Their Number is in the book.

On the same subject, an independent, confidential service for the use of clergy couples has been set up by the diocese. All clergy working in Kent, and their wives will shortly be notified about it.

**WESTMINSTER ABBEY** is holding an “Open Door” Project in preparation for Passiontide 1981 and individuals or parish groups are warmly invited. First, on Friday 3rd April, 7.30pm to 7.30am on Saturday 4th April, there will be a Night Vigil on World Suffering for young people, with drama, music and group activities as well as worship, prayer and silence.



On Saturday 4th April, the whole Abbey will be open for a silent Day of Prayer and Pilgrimage with a special guide leaflet. Coaches may set down and pick up on the forecourt. Further details from The Chaplain, 6 Little Cloister, London SW1P 3PL.

### **GETTING TOGETHER**

In the Gospels, Christ tells us to discern and interpret 'the signs of the times'. That will be the theme of the International Ecumenical Fellowship's Conference (July 16th—23rd) in the mediaeval Flemish city of Bruges this year.

Conference members will be accommodated in single rooms at the Bruges School of Catering: the amenities offered are simple and comfortable.

For further information please write to: IEF Regional Secretary, 24 Wellesley Road, Andover, SP20 2HF.

**B.B.C. Radio Medway's Lent Course** and Phone-In for house groups starts on March 10th with *Malcolm Muggeridge* speaking and answering questions on "Belief". The next Tuesday, *Peter Timms*, Governor of Maidstone Prison, speaks on "Forgiveness"; on March 24th *Dame Cicely Saunders* on "Death"; March 31st, "Suffering" by *Dr. Sheila Cassidy* who was cruelly imprisoned in Chile, and on April 7th, *Canon Paul Oestreicher* on "Freedom".

Programme notes, posters, handbills and personal invitations are available from B.B.C. radio Medway, 30 High Street, Chatham, Kent.

*NOTE* to new Group Leaders: A special training session will be broadcast on March 2nd from 8pm—9.15pm.

### **STEWARDSHIP WORKS!**

Eleven parishes are committed to campaigns this year and a further 25 have booked a speaker to explain this new scheme. John Macdonell, the adviser, has analysed the purely financial benefits of four of last year's initial campaigns, and they certainly seem to have been very effective. All have doubled their promised giving; two have more than trebled it.

Many a P.C.C. treasurer would be happy to see promised income increasing from £1,664 to £6,880, as in Patricxbourne with Bridge, with covenants up from 41 to 80.

### **LIVING AS CHRISTIANS**

"It's one thing to 'be' a Christian. It's quite another to live as one. For a start it's difficult."

To find the answers, several day conferences for laity are being held. The first is at St. Paul's, Maidstone on Saturday, 28th February; the second will be in Ashford on Saturday, 14th March. 10.30—3.30. The cost will be 50p to include coffee. (Bring your own food). Book through Canon David Clift (Industrial Chaplain) by the 18th or 28th February. Maidstone 52062.

### **LEARNING**

A training Day for the **MINISTRY OF HEALING**: Subject — Exorcism; Speaker — The Revd. D. Peterson. Thursday 19th March in Charing Church Barn. 10am. (H.C. in Church) to 3.30pm. Bring lunch, coffee supplied. £1 for the day.



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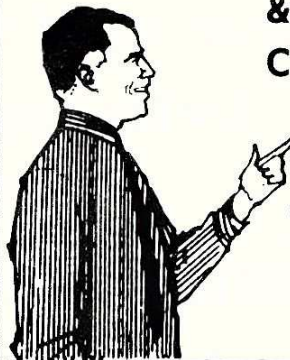
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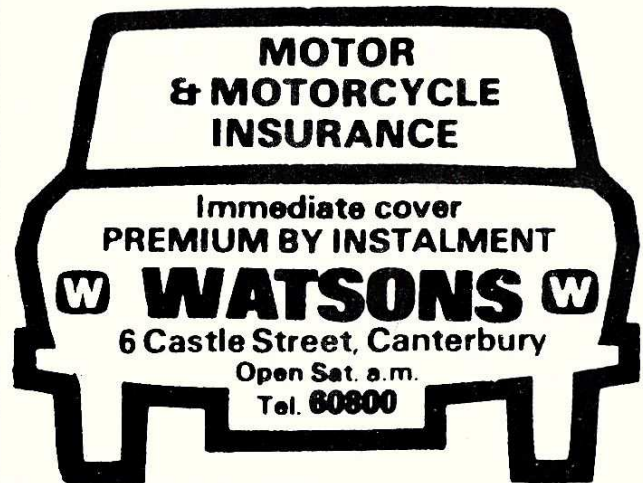
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## CANTERBURY "LIFE" GROUP

This year our Ecumenical Service is being held on the Feast of the Annunciation, Wednesday 25th March, at 8pm in the Parish Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Harbledown, Canterbury (Rector: the Revd. Cyril Munt).

The Preacher will be The Right Revd. Eric Wild, Bishop of Reading, a keen supporter of LIFE who has spoken at many of the meetings arranged by LIFE Anglicans.

During the past two years our educational work has expanded greatly, especially in local schools where we have given many talks, and where the emphasis is on teaching a positive reverence for life and a responsible attitude towards parenthood. It is worth mentioning that we can supply speakers for any group that would like to hear about our positive help for those who need it.

Any woman facing a difficult pregnancy, and who might be under pressure to have an abortion, can get free help and advice by 'phoning LIFE's number. This help does not end when her baby is born, but will continue for as long as our assistance is needed. Some of the mothers whom we helped seven years ago when our group had only just started still keep in touch with us and send photographs and news of their children.

We always have need of maternity and baby clothes in good condition to enable us to continue to provide help to those who come to us; and as we are now advertising our service in Yellow Pages that need will increase.

Any enquiries to John Purchase.

## NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

### Spring Programme

Wednesday 4th March.

'Growing for Showing'. A talk by Mr. Park, Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne, 8pm

Wednesday, 18th March

A talk by Mr. Stubbs. Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne, 8pm

Thursday, 2nd April

A.G.M. Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne, 8pm. Please make every effort to attend. Regret we were unable to obtain Bridge Village Hall.

Tuesday, 28th April

Spring Show at Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne. The future success of this new venture will depend on your support. It is hoped that every member will enter at least one class in the schedule that you should have received. If not 'phone Mrs. Sinnock, Bridge 830691. The hall will be open 6pm. Exhibits to be in place by 7.15pm. Refreshments available. Members and friends welcome. Admission charge 20p to cover refreshments.

*L. Sinnock, Secretary*

## 1981 — INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PEOPLE

I am pleased to be able to commend the International Year of Disabled People, 1981, of which I am Vice Patron. The year, proclaimed by the United Nations, sets out to change and improve attitudes towards disabled people, enabling them to be more integrated in society and enjoy the same opportunities that able bodied people take for granted.

"Disabled people" in this context means those who are physically handicapped, deaf, hard of hearing, blind, partially sighted, mentally handicapped or mentally ill. It also includes handicaps such as epilepsy and those linked with ageing.



The Church has a major contribution to make to the Year, both in supporting initiatives in each parish that help disabled people, and in looking at its own role. Are our churches easily accessible? Are separate services for disabled people, separating them from the rest of the community, really desirable? Could more loop systems be installed to help those with hearing difficulties? Can disabled people participate fully in church life, both as members of the clergy and the congregation? The International Year of Disabled People is an opportunity for us to consider these issues in partnership with disability organisations.

+ ROBERT CANTUAR

*The Social Responsibility Consultation of the British Council of Churches is producing a discussion leaflet "What's Your Handicap?" to suggest ways in which local churches could become involved in the Year. Copies of the leaflet may be ordered from the Revd. John Reardon, United Reformed Church, 86 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9RT. There will be a small charge for quantities. Information on the Year generally is available from IYDP, 26 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3HU (01-636 3464). In Kent: Mrs. Ann Frost, 8 The Parade, Staplehurst. 892639.*



## BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

**Street Cleaning.** The February meeting of the Parish Council heard from Cllr. Peter Lawrence of his discussions with the City Council regarding the Council's proposals for the improvement of the standard of cleanliness of the village streets, a matter first raised following the disappointing showing last year of the village in the Best Kept Village competition. The City and County were, it seemed, unable to agree on their own precise division of responsibilities, and Cllr. Lawrence had, therefore, been unable to make much progress. It was, however, agreed to pursue the matter.

**'The Close'.** The Council heard that the Chairman of the County Council Social Services Committee had written indicating that it was intended that the new building would be completed by 1st April 1982 or shortly afterwards, and that it was hoped that it would not be necessary to transfer any residents from 'The Close' temporarily pending the completion of the new building. Members were very glad to have these assurances, but they will, of course, continue to keep a watch on events.

Members also had before them the plans of the new Home, and endorsed the views of their Planning Committee who had said that they felt that the brickwork should match that of the houses in Conyngham Lane, suggested additional screening, and asked for separate access to the school on safety grounds.



**Annual Parish Meeting.** The Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, said that he would like to make the meeting, which the Council decided to hold on 26th March, as interesting as possible, and proposed the inclusion of reports on their activities from village organisations, and the showing of a film. Cllr. Eric Hawkins thought that display boards on which visual reports could be presented, might be preferable to the conventional form of report; and members felt it would be appreciated if tea or coffee were available. Final arrangements will be made at the next meeting of the Council on 12th March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, at which, as always, visitors are most welcome; but whether or not you find this date convenient, members hope that you will make a note in your diary to go to the Annual Parish Meeting on 26th March to hear a report on the work of the Council, and make any criticisms or suggestions that you may wish.

*F. L. Edwards, Clerk*

### **BEKESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Recreation.** Councillors were pleased to hear that the new slide had been erected at the Patribourne Recreation Ground. Thanks are due to Mr. John Austin and helpers.

It was also decided that a meeting should be arranged to decide on the siting of fencing and a gate at the Recreation Ground. This would be so arranged as to provide a small car park for weekdays, although the ground would be open during football and cricket matches. This would, it was hoped, deter joy-riders, who have been marking the turf, but still allow parking for those who wanted to use the ground.

£300 has been granted for renewal and purchase of new seats at the ground, from the City Lottery Fund.

**Footpaths and Roads.** The Council once again decided to write to the Highways Department requesting resurfacing of the footpaths under the railway bridge and outside 'The Unicorn'. They also felt it necessary to point out the poor state of repair of Bekesbourne Lane after the resurfacing eighteen months ago. This, it was felt, had been a most unsatisfactory job.

**Village Hall.** Users of the Village Hall had complained of the lack of adequate notice of the car park and a sign is to be erected. The possibility of lighting is also to be considered.

**Kent Association of Parish Councils.** A report from the KAPC was received concerning the proposal to suggest that hedges should be treated in much the same way as trees and be liable for Preservation Orders, in order to prevent their disappearance.

**Annual Meeting.** Bekesbourne Parish Council's Annual Meeting is on Tuesday, 28th April at 7.30pm when there will be an opportunity to discuss the work of the Parish Council. A film will be shown and refreshments will be available. All Bekesbourne residents are cordially invited.

*Margaret Gabbé*

### **BRIDGE PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

I will be holding a Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy at my house, 82 High Street, Bridge, on Tuesday 17th March, from 10am to 12 midday. Proceeds from which will go towards School funds. I look forward to seeing you all. Cakes and Fancy goods on sale.



On Friday 27th March we shall be having another Film Evening, at School from 6.30pm. Admission 50p adults and children. Coke and Crisps on sale.

Thank-you to those who supported our Valentine's Evening on February 14th. It was an evening thoroughly enjoyed by all.

*Bridget Hawkins, Sec. Bridge P.T.A.*

## **THE CLOSE**

Painting Party at 'The Close', 2 o'clock on 2nd March in the TV Room. Everyone welcome. Paint on cloth, glass etc. Very exciting — come and have a go! Free tea!

\* \* \*

*Barry Whiting gives a precis of the Discussion Group on 'Life After Death' held on 11th February.*

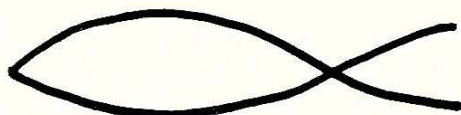
As one would have expected with such a controversial subject there was a great deal of animated discussion which led nowhere in particular. Many opinions were voiced and various suggestions floated, all of which indicated the interest and uncertainty which we have in this inevitable event.

Our talk did lead to the conclusion that at least one thing was certain, namely, that our behaviour in this world would surely affect our expectations in the next. It was agreed that we shall all be called to account sooner or later, perhaps judgement was being enacted upon us even now, as we struggle with our daily existence in this world.

A reluctance to admit the validity of recorded descriptions of death and beyond was evident. Obviously individuals interpret what they see and hear according to personal experience or what they hope to be the truth, but the group found difficulty in denying the existence of a spirit world. However, much emphasis was placed upon the dangers of seeking contact with the departed.

Despite all that was said, or because of it, the group concluded by expressing its readiness to "wait and see". Personally speaking, I thank God that we can voice our opinions without being branded as heretics and burned at the stake.

## **FISH NEWS**



We were very grateful to receive a donation of £20 from the collections made at the United Service in St. Peter's, Bridge in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This will be put towards running costs of the scheme which serves the whole community.

The Chiropody Clinic is getting so much work that we have been given a second fortnightly session.

We are making plans to take members of the Luncheon Club on a blossom tour, with a stop for tea at Chilham, on the afternoon of Wednesday, 6th May. We should also like to include other senior citizens who live alone or who have mobility problems. Please let us know by 20th March if you would like to come with us. The AGE CONCERN minibus has been booked. This has a tail-lift and can therefore take wheelchairs. There will be a coach for the rest of the party. More details will be given next month. Tel: 830233.

*Joan Warren*

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

This month's meeting will be held in the Village Hall on 17th March, when Mr. John Williamson will talk on 'The History of Bridge'. The competition will be a short poem about Bridge. All members and friends welcome.

*J. E. Foster*

## **ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE Cleaning Rota for March**

7th: Mrs. Russell; 14th: Mrs. Grey; 21st: Mrs. Beckett; 28th: Mrs. Smith; April 4th: Mrs. Stickells.



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

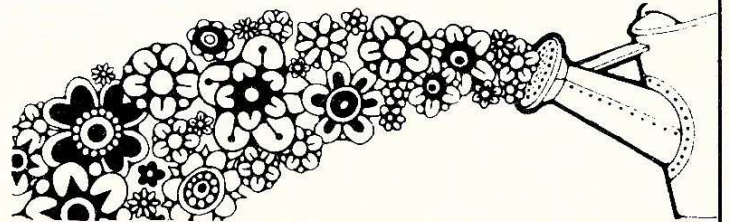
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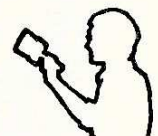
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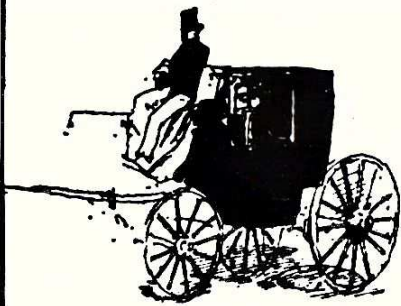


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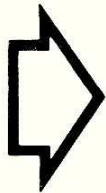


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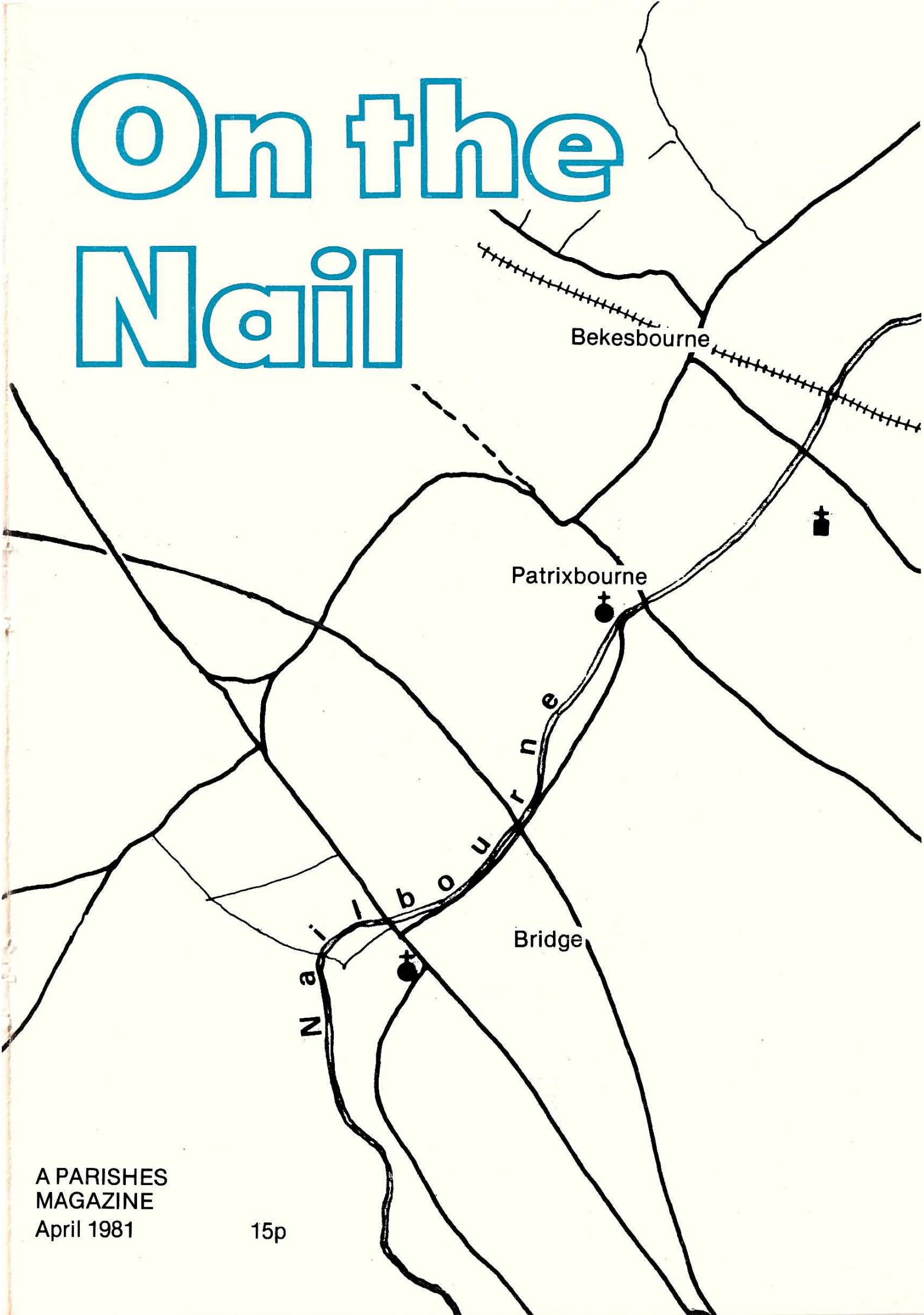
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# On the Nail





# Sunday Worship in April

BRIDGE

PATRIXBOURNE

BEKESBOURNE

**5th:**

11am Holy  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish  
Communion

**12th:**

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

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

**19th:**

*Details of Easter Day services are on page 3.*

**26th:**

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

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: *5th*, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *12th*, Mr. D.W. Dunn. *19th*, The Revd. Wilfred Hill, M.C., B.Sc. *26th*, Mr. Leslie Dron.

## For your diary and prayer list

3rd *Richard of Chichester, Bishop, 1253*

4th *Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Doctor, 397*

5th *Passion Sunday*

8th Bekesbourne Annual Church Meeting, Village Hall, 8pm.

11th Weddings of Mike Dennis and Nicola Stirling (Bridge), Martin Gall and Sheena Walker (Bekesbourne), Lane Boyce and Angela Finn (Bridge).

12th *Palm Sunday*

*(Details of Holy Week and Easter Services follow this Diary)*

14th Patrixbourne with Bridge Annual Church Meeting, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm.

21st Bridge with Patrixbourne WI Birthday Meeting, 7pm.

26th *First Sunday after Easter*, also called Low Sunday.

27th *ST. MARK, EVANGELIST.*

28th Bekesbourne Parish Council AGM, Village Hall, 7.30pm.

29th *Catherine of Siena, Mystic, 1380*

**Easter decoration** of Bridge Church will be done on Holy Saturday, 18th at 10 o'clock. All offers of flowers or help will be much appreciated. Anyone who would like to give a lily, would they give 75p to Mrs. Hunter, 24 High Street or Mrs. Apps, 34 High Street?



## **HOLY WEEK: 13th — 17th April**

**Bridge:** Tuesday & Wednesday — 9.30am Holy Communion  
Maundy Thursday — 8pm Sung Eucharist (Series 3)  
Good Friday — 2pm 'No body on earth but ours': a  
Service of Readings, Meditations and  
Prayers conducted by the Revd.  
Clive Barlow, Vicar of Ash.

**Patricbourne:** Monday — 9.30am Holy Communion.

**Bekesbourne:** Good Friday — 11am Matins.

## **Easter Day: 19th April**

**Bridge:** 9.30am Parish Communion with Holy Baptism.  
6.30pm Festal Evensong.

**Patricbourne:** 8am Holy Communion.

**Bekesbourne:** 8am Holy Communion,  
11am Matins with Holy Baptism.

**Bridge Methodists:** 11am The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw.

## **All Things New**

In 1960 I spent Holy Week and Easter with the Anglican Community of the Resurrection. Their motherhouse in Mirfield stands on a bleak Yorkshire hillside, which that week did little to alleviate the cold winds that howled persistently around its walls. As I recall we saw nothing of the sun.

Throughout the week we traced the events that followed our Lord's triumphal entry into Jerusalem until his death on the cross using the ancient and highly dramatic rites and ceremonies of the church. It was all intensely moving and for me each day gained in significance by the added audio-visual aid of the inclement weather.

On Easter Day we assembled at about 4am, stumbling to our places in the totally dark church. As the special ceremonies of Easter proceeded light came from dozens of candles, and by the time of the High Mass it was daylight. And what daylight, for that Easter morning the storminess of the week was gone, the winds dropped and, glory of glories, the sun shone brilliantly. Later that day I saw two students playing table tennis out of doors, such was the change in the weather. For me there will never be another Easter like it, for it was as though Spring with its mild weather had stayed its advent until the resurrection morning. The Lord was risen indeed!

When else could we celebrate Easter but at the spring of the year, when newness is the order of the day? New flowers, new leaves, new creatures: not the old done up, but all entirely new, fresh and vitalised. Surrounded by all this new life the Christian Church calls its faithful to celebrate the new, risen life of Christ, and as a consequence its own new risen life. As Spring is the starting-point of so much life, so Easter is the birthtime of the Christian Church, a time for new beginnings, new commitments, new hopes. So how apt that the Church from the very outset should have selected Easter as *the* time for the admission of new members, for in baptism we undergo a type of new birth, symbolised by the water, the rejection of evil and the profession of faith in Jesus Christ. We start a new life directed to God, as we become new



people through the power of God, a power that was unleashed because Jesus rose from the dead and is alive for evermore.

Holy Baptism will be administered at the main services at Bridge and Bekesbourne on Easter morning, and we shall welcome two new members of God's family on the very day we rejoice in our own new birth into this great company, brought about through the joyful resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. "Have you forgotten when we were baptised into union with Christ Jesus we were baptised into his death? By baptism we were buried with him, and lay dead, in order that, as Christ was raised from the dead in the splendour of the Father, so also we might set our feet upon the new path of life." (Romans 6. 3-4)

## Time and Talents

A great many friends from both our churches (twenty-one in all) signified their willingness to help with churchyard maintenance.

It seems an ideal time for a grand 'spring clean', and this is planned for consecutive Saturday mornings — 4th April for Bridge and 11th for Patrixbourne.

It would be greatly appreciated if as many as possible would join in on both days, bringing garden implements plus saws, billhooks, etc. From those of us who live near the churches a wheelbarrow or two would be a great help.

A lot needs doing, but 'many hands make light work' — let's all pitch in!

A. J.

## SUMMER FÊTE 1981

Representatives of the Bridge and Patrixbourne PCC have agreed with representatives of The Close to hold a combined fête at The Close on Saturday, 27th June.

Expenses will be pooled and the profits will be divided equally between the Parochial Church Council and The Close.

The PCC has decided that its share of the profit will be given to the Church Fabric Fund towards the cost of the repairs to the stonework at Bridge Church which have just been completed.

We believe a joint fête will be good for both the parties concerned and the church is most pleased to be associated with The Close in what will be its last such event in the old premises. At the same time we are convinced the supporters of Church and Close together with the village as a whole will rise to the occasion and make it an enormous success. Jot the date in your diary now and join in the fun on 27th June. A good time should be had by all.

\* \* \*

*In passing, the progress being made on the site of the new Close is cause for general jubilation. The speed of activity is quite breath-taking, and it is good to see a dream coming true.*



## FISH NEWS



The day-care organiser of Canterbury Age Concern visited the Luncheon Club with one of her members and presented us with a cheque for £25 to be used for the benefit of elderly residents in the area. We are grateful to them and also to the Forest of Blean Rotary Club and the Patricbourne Parish Meeting who have each donated £10 towards our running costs.

### **Blossom Tour**

Plans have been completed for the Luncheon Club tour of the orchards on 6th May. The coach will leave Western Avenue, Bridge (opposite Green Court) at 2.30pm. Transport will be arranged to the pick-up point where necessary. The mini-bus will collect housebound members from their homes and make a shorter tour joining the main party for tea at Chilham Fruit Farm Restaurant at 4 o'clock.

### **Holidays**

The Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation has produced an excellent guide for the disabled holiday-maker for 1981. It contains a mass of helpful advice and information as well as lists of holiday accommodation with suitable facilities, area by area. The guide was available at bookshops (price 50p) but was so popular it is already out of print! However, I managed to get a copy and can lend it out for a few days to anyone who is interested.

### **Gardening**

The gardening season is upon us again and I shall soon be getting desperate pleas for help. I have had no offers of help and urgently need volunteers. If you can spare even an odd hour of your time and energy it will help.

*Joan Warren*

### **BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE WI**

At the April meeting on 21st we shall celebrate the sixty-first birthday of the Institute. The competition is for an Easter Card, the best two going forward to the Group competition at Lyminge on 30th April.

*J. E. Foster*

### **1st BRIDGE BROWNIES AND GUIDES**

Bridge Brownies and Guides wish to thank everyone who so generously supported their jumble sale in February. The grand total raised was £81, and the two raffle prizes were won by Andrew Bruttwell and Mrs. N. Ashdown with tickets numbered 220 and 314.

*M. Ashdown & P. Simmons*

### **BRIDGE PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION**

Thank-you to all those who supported my Bring-and-Buy on March 17th, by their donations, cakes and attendance. A profit of approximately £66 was raised for school funds.

Spring Sale. April 4th. 2pm, Bridge Village Hall. Jumble, Nearly New, White Elephant, Toys, Books, Produce, Cakes — all donations welcome. Thank-you for your continued support.

*Bridget Hawkins, Sec. PTA*



## **PALATIAL FOOD**

Who says you can't sing on a full stomach? Certainly not, it would seem, the Royal School of Church Music, for they have produced a highly successful recipe book, several prints of which have sold like the proverbial hot cakes. It is called *Palace Kitchen*, the palace in question being Addington Palace, Croydon, the RSCM's headquarters, and it is available to readers of *On The Nail* for a modest price. There are two hundred recipes in it. Demand for this further reprint is likely to be heavy, so don't delay. Orders please to Mrs. Grace Allan (Canterbury 62695) and the sooner the better.

## **DISCUSSION GROUP**

Owing to a rather full calendar for April, the next discussion group meeting to be held at 20 Conyngham Lane will take place on 13th May. The subject: "What is Christian behaviour?"

*Barry Whiting*

## **Diocesan News**



### **A MESSAGE FOR PASSIONTIDE**

In my first parish there were several large blocks of flats. As in most of such tenements, human life was dehumanized. Neighbours had few incentives to meet, children had few opportunities to play together. Real human community was hard to find. But in one block there was a difference. A crippled man lived there, unable to leave, yet keeping the door of his flat permanently open, so that children and their parents came constantly in and out at all times of day, to talk to him and tell him of their troubles. That man became the human heart of a body which otherwise would be desperately short of love, and his sickness and handicap became in a very real sense true health for that community.

It is the illusion of the strong, the whole and the healthy to see themselves in the centre, and to see the handicapped as those on the margin. The truth is that both need each other. Isn't Lent and Passiontide about the way in which Christians seek to reflect this paradox, both of their faith and of their Master? "He saved others, himself he cannot save." To be faithful to our Gospel our congregations must always be the places both of the faith that rebels and of the faith that accepts. For ours is a faith which surrenders and a faith which fights—fused together in a single discipleship, modelled upon and made possible by, that once-for-all victory-in-defeat upon the cross of Christ.

+ *Robert Maidstone*

### **EASTER MONDAY PILGRIMAGE: Organisation**

Assemble before 10.30am in St. Augustine's College. 10.30am, Procession round City to Cathedral. 12 noon, Pilgrimage Eucharist. 1.15pm, Picnic lunch in Green Court. 1.45pm, Archbishop's "Question and Answer" Session. 2.30pm, Activities and Happenings—Drama, music, rock, Taizé film, etc. 3.30pm, Finish.

The event will begin on Easter Sunday evening when groups of young people will assemble with sleeping bags, etc., in various church halls in Canterbury. Pilgrimage offerings will go to the new Diocesan Youth Centre



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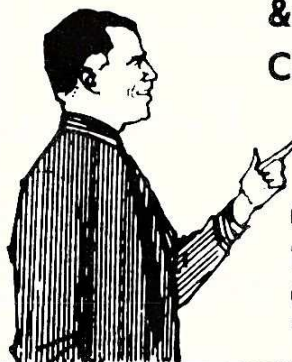
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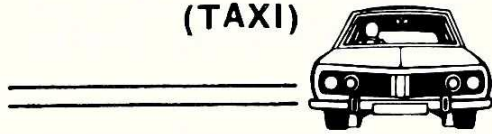
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at Womenswold. An opportunity for raising money prior to Easter is the Diocesan Sponsored Fast which could constitute the core of each offering. More information from the Revd. Bruce Hawkins, Diocesan House.

### **CAUTION TO COPYCATS**

The recent £4,000 fine imposed on an ancient public school for copying music highlights the dangers for PCCs, choirs and organists. Copyright is widely broken and is no longer easily enforceable. But we have to ask ourselves if these are worthy considerations when many publishers, authors and composers are happy to allow works to be copied free or for a very small fee, when they are consulted (even after infringements) by church organisations.

### **“MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL”**

T. S. Eliot's play will be presented on Good Friday, April 17th in Broadstairs Methodist Church, York Street. The producer is the Minister, the Revd. Roger Parsons. Free admission.

### **1981 KIRCHENTAG**

This is to be held in Hamburg from Wednesday 17th to Sunday 21st June. The general theme is “Be not afraid”. There are to be four study sections: *Finding Faith, Experiencing Community, Making Peace* and *A Credible Lifestyle*. Free hospitality and student interpreters will be available in German homes. Anyone wanting further information should write quickly to David Ratcliff at Diocesan House or Roy White at the ACTS Centre, who are organising a group visit.

**FLOWER FESTIVALS** are planned for:

CHARTHAM CHURCH — Sat. 2nd May to Mon. 4th May  
ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL — Fri. 19th June to Sun. 21st June  
WESTMINSTER ABBEY — Wed. 10th June to Fri. 12th June.

### **ATTITUDES TO DEATH** — a theology short course

A course of seven Thursday evening sessions, 30th April — 11th June inc. is to be held in Seminar Room 12, Rutherford Extension, University of Kent, Canterbury at 7.30pm. Subjects include bereavement, life after death and personal awareness of death, and the course will be a combination of lectures, film and group discussions. The Revd. Alan Race, the University Chaplain, is tutor; presenters will include Marian Muller and David Ratcliff. Cost £7.00. Applications to Ms. J. Bourne, Theology Courses Secretary, School of Continuing Education, Rutherford College, The University, Canterbury, Kent.

\* \* \*

On Ash Wednesday, 4th March the Vicar officiated at the cremation of **Maud da Costa**, a resident of The Close and on the following Tuesday the cremation of **Raymond Howells**, 8 Western Avenue. Mr. Howells had attended Bridge Church when failing health made visits to the cathedral impossible, but the whole of his working life was spent at Folkestone where he had been first Music Master and then Divinity Master at the Harvey Grammar School. We convey our deepest sympathy to his wife, Dorothy, who cared for him so lovingly, especially at the end.



Holy Baptism was administered during Bekesbourne Matins on 15th March to Elaine Ellis, Chalklands, Aerodrome Road and to Melissa and Tamsyn Hardcastle, The House, The Hill. The church was very full for this joyous occasion.

## Family Service at Bridge

Since Bridge's Junior Church ceased to function there has been nothing at the church specifically with children in mind. In order to redress the balance, therefore, a small group of parents and the vicar have been meeting to discuss what might be done.

We called in the expert advice of Mrs. Ann Schofield, the diocesan adviser on children's work, and she introduced us to the splendid facilities of the Christ Church College Religious Education Resource Centre, from which material may be bought or borrowed.

The outcome of our discussions is the decision to hold a monthly Family Service in Bridge Church, and the obvious time and date seems to be the first Sunday of each month at 11 o'clock. Family Services are not suitable in afternoons, and this is the only Sunday when the vicar is not otherwise committed. Not that I shall conduct the service on my own: it is intended to involve parents and children in the readings, prayers, etc.

The decision to make this a Family Service rather than just a service for the children is to enable the family to come to church as a family and also to afford parents the opportunity to bring along their pre-school age children. Then again, the church at large is stressing the value of family worship and where this is slanted particularly at the children the structure of the service needs to be fairly flexible, as we intend this shall be. We may decide on the occasional Communion Service, but in the main a different pattern may well occur each month and there will certainly be a single theme underlying each service.

We commence operations on Sunday, 3rd May and would like to take this opportunity of extending a warm invitation to all and everyone to come to the Family Service at 11am, when it is hoped that there may be the baptism of a young baby in the course of it. The service will not last above three quarters of an hour. Do share in the start of what we hope will be something big!

### **CONFIRMATION**

A reminder that Confirmation will be administered by the Bishop of Dover at Bridge on 30th November. Intending candidates please contact the vicar now.

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### ***On The Nail* — May edition**

Due to the date of Easter coming roughly at the time *On The Nail* would normally be printed contributors for the May edition are advised that copy must be in the hands of the Editor by Palm Sunday, 12th April.



## **EASTER COMMUNION**

*Come,  
People of God,  
Christ our Passover  
is sacrificed,  
and in sharing his banquet  
we pass with him  
from death to life!  
He has risen . . .  
he is going before us  
into his Kingdom!  
Alleluia!*

*Thomas Merton*

# **PARISH PUMP**

Parish Council  
News



### **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

#### **Annual Parish Meeting**

Arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting, to take place in the Village Hall on 26th March, formed the main item on the agenda for the March Parish Council meeting. The Chairman, Cllr John Hill, said that he had had a meeting with representatives of the various village organisations, and it was arranged that they would each have an opportunity to present brief reports of their work during the past year. The Chairman's report of the activities of the Parish Council would, as in the past, be the principal subject for discussion, and there would be ample opportunity for parishioners to raise any matter regarding the parish about which they might be concerned.

Refreshments would follow the meeting, after which a short film, made by Mr. A. Hammond, showing the village during several recent festive occasions, would be shown. Members hoped that the changed arrangements would add interest to the proceedings, and do something to ensure a better attendance than in the past.

#### **Recreation Ground**

The Council discussed again the proposal to make bye-laws to govern the use of the Recreation Ground, and approved a final draft to put before the Annual Meeting. On the problem of mole infestation, Cllr Keith Chapman told members that Mr. Brian Mummery had agreed to chain-harrow the ground in order to remove the mole-hills before the first mowing. Cllr Olive Knight raised the question of the level of charges made by the Council for the use of the ground, which she felt to be too low in present circumstances, and members agreed that these charges represented only a very small proportion of the total cost of maintenance. It was decided to review the charges in May, the new rates to take effect from the start of the winter season.



### **Canterbury/Rheims Twinning Association**

Members discussed a letter from the Association offering affiliation, with the possibility of 'twinning' arrangements with a village in the Rheims area, but decided against acceptance.

### **Councillor T. E. G. Hoare**

The Council unanimously offered its congratulations to Cllr Tim Hoare on his election as the next Deputy Mayor of Canterbury.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 9th April, at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall, and members hope for a good attendance from the public.

*F.L. Edwards, Clerk*

### **NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

Our first outing in 1981 is to Sissinghurst Castle, Cranbrook, Kent on Saturday May 30th. The garden was created by the late V. Sackville-West and has many interesting features including a Spring garden, Herb garden and Tudor buildings, and is well worth a visit.

The coach will make its first pick-up at Bishopsbourne Church, 12 noon; then Hawkins Newsagents, Bridge, at 12.10pm. Teas are available at Sissinghurst Castle; we will arrive home at 6.45pm. Admission £1.50 National Trust members free, Coach £2.00. Total £3.50.

If you would like to book a seat please contact either Mrs. P. Davidson, "Oswalds", Bishopsbourne (telephone: 830340) or Mrs. L. Sinnock, 2 Flint Cottages, Bourne Park, Bridge (telephone: 830691).

*Mrs. L. Sinnock, N.H.S. Sec.*

## **Danger at the Station**

### **How safe is our community?**

On Saturday, 7th March a venerable old bicycle parked at Bekesbourne Station was attacked. It was chained up and so resisted being stolen, but the assailants proceeded to smash the lights and other fittings. More disturbing is the fact that wires to the dynamo were systematically cut, and an attempt was made to remove the front wheel.

The fate of one old bicycle may seem trivial; indeed it was soon repaired. But this incident points to a number of worrying trends. The amount of damage to the station itself makes it clear that this is no isolated incident. How long will it be before one of the cars parked there (or elsewhere) is similarly attacked? If travellers decide that the risks at Bekesbourne Station are too great to continue using it, and British Rail tire of repairing the constant damage, it is only too clear what the outcome could be: the station will cease to be viable and will be closed. This may sound extreme, but it is possible. And when there is nothing left to damage at the station where will the vandals move to next? How safe is our community?

*Ed: This contributor wishes to remain anonymous for fear of further trouble, but he may care to know he is by no means the only sufferer, nor are motorists exempt from the vandals attentions. This is a combination of an un-manned station and the current social climate in which we find ourselves. Still it does no harm to highlight the situation every so often.*



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

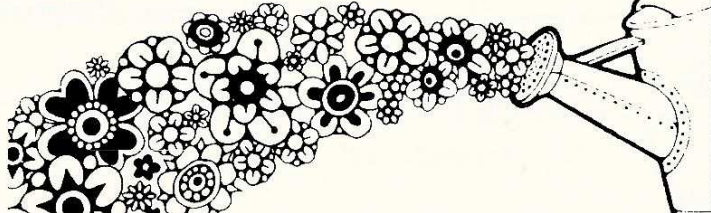
### PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

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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 (Patricbourne): 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, 36 Station Road West, Canterbury (Canterbury 66450)  
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, Patricbourne and Bekesbourne.

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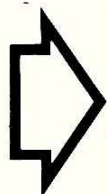


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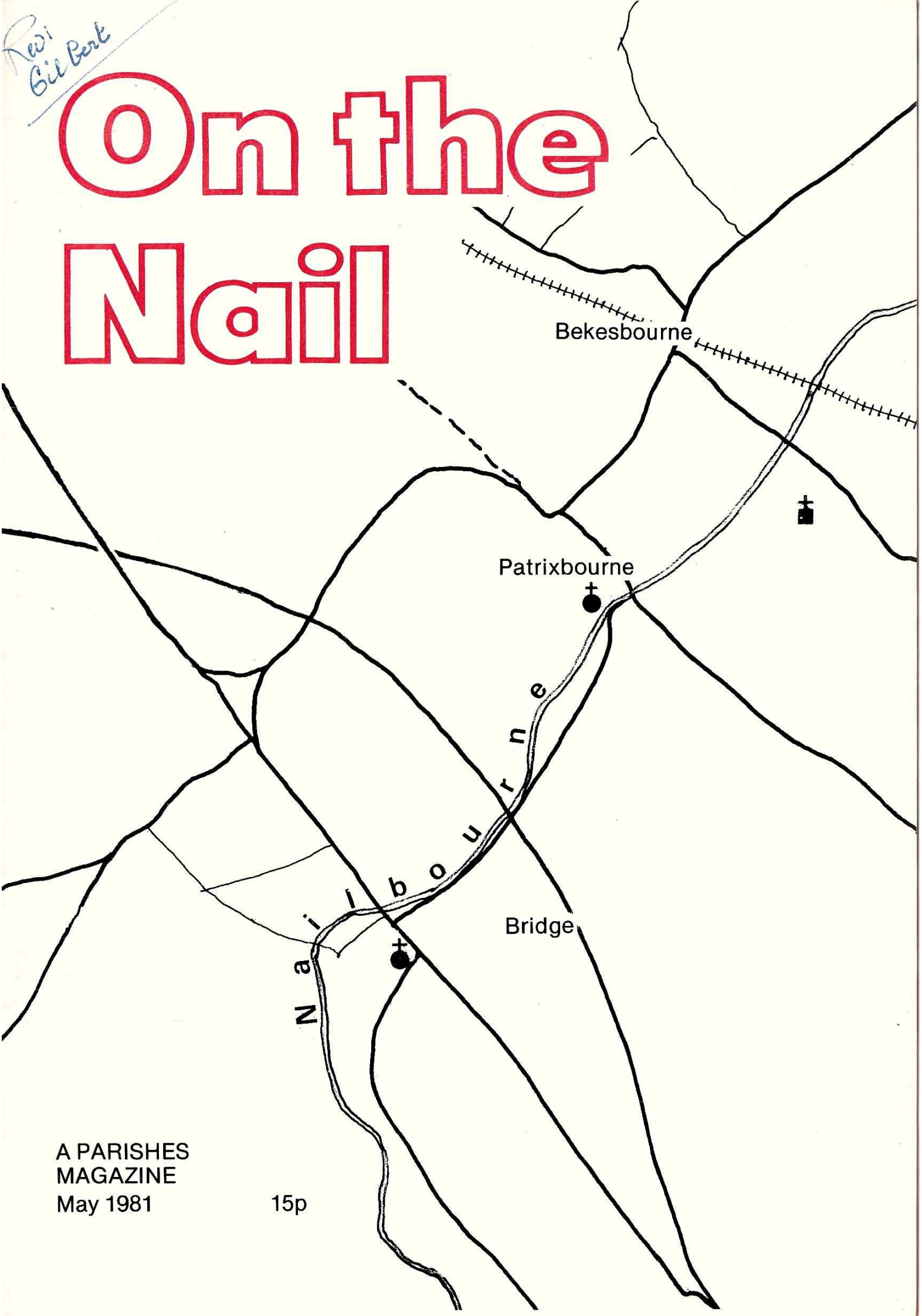
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*Rev. Gil Berk*

# On the Nail



A PARISHES  
MAGAZINE  
May 1981

15p



# Sunday Worship in May

## BRIDGE

## PATRIXBOURNE

## BEKESBOURNE

### 3rd:

11am Family Service

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

### 10th:

9.30am Holy Communion (*Series 3*)

6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

### 17th:

9.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

### 24th:

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins & Holy Communion

### 31st:

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 2.30pm.

Bridge Methodist Church in May: *3rd*, Mr. G.T. Dixon. *10th*, *Chapel Anniversary*, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *12th*, *Chapel Anniversary Continuation*, The Revd. T. Mervyn Willshaw, M.A., B.D., Chaplain of Kent College. *17th*, The Revd. Ian Laird. *24th*, Miss Eileen A.H. Tresidder, B.A. *31st*, Members Service.

## For your diary and prayer list

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

3rd *Second Sunday after Easter.* Bridge Family Service gets under way.

10th *Third Sunday after Easter*

11th Christian Aid Week begins.

12th East Bridge Deanery Synod meets.

13th Enid Wintle commissioned as Hospital Chaplain's Assistant.  
(See article on p.5)

16th Coffee Morning for the 'Fish' Scheme, The Close, 10.30am.

17th *Fourth Sunday after Easter*

19th *St. Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, 988*

Bridge & Patricxbourne WI Resolutions Meeting, 7pm

Interchurch Discussion Group, Methodist Church, 8pm



- 20th Archdeacon's Visitation at the Cathedral, 7.30pm  
 24th *Fifth Sunday after Easter, Rogation Sunday*  
 25th Rogation Day  
 26th *Augustine, First Archbishop of Canterbury, 605*  
 Rogation Day  
 Coffee Morning for Bekesbourne Church Flowers, 1 Hillside Cottages,  
 10.30am to 12 noon.  
 27th Rogation Day  
 28th *ASCENSION DAY*, which will be celebrated with a Sung Eucharist  
 (Series 3) in St. Peter's, Bridge at 8pm.  
 30th Bridge Choir attend a RSCM Diocesan Choirs Festival in the Cathedral  
 at 5.30pm.  
 31st *Sunday After Ascension Day*

## The King of Glory

On 6th February, 1952 Princess Elizabeth, elder daughter of King George VI ascended the throne; or put another way, she became queen. It was a sad day for her because her beloved father had died and she was half-way across the world at the time. She did not sit on the throne of England that day, let alone climb up into it. In fact the only ascension she made was by aeroplane as she was flown hurriedly back to London.

Whenever we talk of ascending the throne we are not describing a movement, any more than when we refer to a man reaching the top of his profession, being booted upstairs, hitting the highspots, reaching the summit of his career, scaling the ladder of promotion, being among the top brass. All these are merely forms of expression for saying a person has assumed a position of leadership, or taken authority in a certain sphere of activity. Where a sovereign is concerned talk about ascending the throne is merely another way of saying he has begun his reign.

In some circles metaphors of going up are used when actual movement is downwards. When most large houses had servants they were billeted in the attics. Should their circumstances change and they became householders they had their rooms lower down on the first floor. They went up in the world and therefore went down.

All this is to introduce the subject of the Ascension of Christ, which is celebrated on the 28th of this month. For many people, understanding of the Ascension is complicated by the highly graphic accounts in St. Luke's Gospel and in the Acts of the Apostles, especially the latter. There we are given to understand that the risen body of Jesus was carried up into the skies on a kind of celestial lift before the gaping gaze of the disciples. A number of explanations can be put forward to account for this story but what is certain is that no one of us is expected to take it literally. Here we have an account of the indescribable in a terminology appropriate to that part of the world in that era.

What St. Luke was concerned to establish was the definite truth that Christ is the King and on the feast of his Ascension the church acknowledges his sovereignty over all the world. We are not expected to engage in heavenly



mechanics nor to get bogged down trying to believe the unbelievable, but to rejoice in the fact that Christ assumed a position of supremacy over our lives which is his by right and which he will hold to all eternity. Rather than wonder bemused how he got there let us give thanks to God that his only Son reigns in our hearts and lives. Jesus assured us himself that he would be with us to the end of time so it cannot be that he has gone to heaven and left us on earth without his presence. Jesus is alive in the world to-day because he is God's righthand man (seated at the right hand of God) holding sway over the whole created order.

Christ is the King! O friends rejoice,  
Brothers and sister, with one voice  
Make all men know he is your choice.  
Alleluya!

## Family Joys

The ancient tradition of baptising at Easter was upheld this year at both Bridge and Bekesbourne with the baptisms of James Graeme Medhurst, 1 Park View, Mill Lane, Bridge and Annabel Elizabeth Clare Kingston, 72a Mickleburgh Hill, Herne Bay. Both sets of parents are members of the respective congregations, so Easter baptisms for their children were especially appropriate.

The vicar established a personal record by officiating at three weddings on the same day, also at Bridge and Bekesbourne. The happy couples were Michael Eric Dennis and Nicola Jane Stirling (Bridge), Martin Dennison Gall and Sheena Margaret Walker (Bekesbourne) and Lane Boyce and Angela Elizabeth Anne Finn (Bridge). We wish all couples much happiness in the future.

## . . . And further Joy



*Nell and 'Dick' on  
their Wedding Day*

*. . . and in their garden at 6 Dering Close, April 1981  
as they approach their Diamond Wedding day.*

Expressions of love and congratulations have been showered on that grand pair, Nell and 'Dick' Turpin, by their many friends in Bridge. The occasion was the 60th anniversary of their wedding on 28th April, and even by to-day's



standards it is an achievement to celebrate a Diamond Wedding.

Herbert Ernest Turpin and Beatrice Nellie Carpenter were married on 28th April, 1921 in St. Mary's Church, Balham High Road, South London by the Revd. Daniel Bryant. They travelled to and from the church in horse-drawn carriages, which just goes to show what a 'stylish marriage' it was, and the church fee for the ceremony was a staggering 16 shillings (80p). How does that compare with almost £40 for a church wedding nowadays? As Nell recalls it the vicar told her in the vestry at the signing of the registers that as she was a Sunday School Teacher they could have the wedding free. In typical style 'Dick' replies, "I got it on the cheap, but I've paid for it since".

The happy couple asked me if they might commence their celebrations by making their communion and so a special Holy Communion service was held in Bridge Church that morning at 10.30am, with a good number of their local 'fans' joining them. It is, I know, a great sadness to them that advancing age has largely put a stop to church attendance—something they have been used to throughout their long life together—but it is a mark of their commitment that they should wish to start their great day at communion.

Nell and 'Dick' (the nickname dates from his youth, I believe) are a splendid advertisement for the married state and though physically not as young as they used to be both have retained a youthful attitude to life, which surely accounts for their wide circle of friends and admirers. Many, many happy days to come, Nell and 'Dick'!

## Hospital Chaplain's Lay Assistant

Mrs. Enid Wintle, Orana, Brewery Lane is no stranger to hospital life. She trained as a State Registered Nurse at the Kent & Sussex Hospital, Tunbridge Wells and has worked over a period of some seventeen years at the Kent & Canterbury Hospital and the Mary Sheridan Centre. She is also an ardent member of Bridge Church, where she serves on the PCC and is a most regular communicant.

Through a scheme drawn up by local hospital chaplains, Enid, with nine others from the Canterbury area, has undergone six months training that will see her return to the wards, this time as a lay assistant to the Revd. Peter Heartfield, Chaplain at the Kent & Canterbury.

When Mr. Heartfield approached the Vicar about this proposed scheme he explained what a genuine help it would be to him to have lay assistants. His 'parish' covers not only the K & C, but also Nunnery Fields, St. Martin's Hospital, The Holt (Enid will work there) and our own Highland Court, and as his ministry includes staff as well as patients this presents him with an increasingly formidable task. Those who have had to go into hospital as in-patients know only too well of the ever-changing patient population, and how much they have appreciated a few minutes attention—about all he can spare—from the chaplain. With the aid of a team of lay assistants the church's work in the hospital world can go forward that much more thoroughly and some real pastoral care be given in conjunction with whatever course of treatment a person is receiving from the medical team.

The purpose in consulting the parish clergy was (a) because they would know of suitable candidates for this work, and (b) because the work of any one assistant would need to be enhanced by the supportive prayers of her



home congregation. There is the additional value of maintaining a link for the patient between hospital and home, particularly when the patient is from the assistant's own locality.

Bearing in mind what Peter Heartfield was looking for I had no hesitation in recommending Enid Wintle to him and she was only too willing for her name to be put forward.

The training course is now at an end and all those concerned are to be specially commissioned by the Bishop of Dover for their work. The commissioning service will take place in the chapel of St. Augustine's Hospital on Wednesday, 13th May at 7.30pm and the bishop is particularly anxious that a goodly number from the candidates' parishes should go along to support them. I am sure all our readers who have grown to know and love Enid in the three years she has lived in Bridge will want to be with her on this great occasion. She enters this work as a member of our church and thus will be operating very much as our emissary. Please come along on the 13th. The chapel is a large building, so there will be room for all-comers. Even if you cannot attend please pray often for Enid in this valuable voluntary work she has been called by God to perform within the sum total of the missionary outreach of his church.

## Some wishful thinking

### FROM THE BISHOP OF DOVER

The anonymous preface writer of the Church of England Year Book for 1981 suggests (somewhat fancifully, he admits) that 1980 and 1981 may be the Springtime of the Church. He advances several facts to justify his optimism, paying particular and well-deserved tribute to the achievements of the Archbishop during his first year.

I found this an encouraging thought at a time when many a parish treasurer would suggest that the church's hardest winter is still before us. Yet I believe that the optimist is right.

Springtime for the church is not the result of warmer weather or favourable conditions. New life comes by the Spirit, and his springtime is made possible by the commitment of believers when times are hard, rather than by the lesser demand of days which call for little effort.

In the forty days of Eastertide we celebrate the Apostles who went out into the world which was still as hostile and dangerous as that which put Jesus to death: but it had become for them a springtime by the confidence of their faith. The church's mood is not dictated by events or outward pressures, but by her faith, and hope and love. With those in rich supply the coming year will indeed be Spring.

+ *Richard Dover*

### Spanish holidays

Young people from Kent who are learning Spanish may not know that the Anglican Church of Spain—the Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church—owns a villa near Castellon de la Plana where young people's and family house-parties are run during July and August.

The other Anglican Church of the peninsula, the Lusitanian Church, has a seaside camping territory just south of Oporto, where Anglicans are welcomed. Details from the Revd. C.G.A. Woods, Bapchild Vicarage, Sittingbourne.



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# Christian Aid Week's Jubilee

## ONCE MORE—WITH FEELING

When young Alex Jagona left school in Kenya there was no work for him—nor for seven out of ten of all his country's school-leavers.

We can understand his disillusionment because here at home we are having the same distressing experience. But not on anything like the scale common to Third World countries.

Their governments cannot afford our sort of social benefits, so boys and girls leave home in the rural areas—where eight out of ten live—and head hopefully for the towns. A few find casual work there, but most do not. So they drift or go home.

Alex went home, where, on the initiative of the National Council of Kenya, a village polytechnic had been established. Training centres in villages instead of towns makes good sense in Kenya. It takes facilities where they are most needed, and discourages migration to overburdened towns. They were pioneered by the churches, so successfully that the Kenyan Government is now opening many more. In 1968 there were only four village polytechnics. By 1980 there were two hundred, training two thousand young people in farming, plumbing, carpentry, tailoring and other bread-winning skills needed by the country.

Alex Jagona was taught to grow maize and rear chickens. He then started his business— with one hen and a borrowed cockerel. Soon he had ten chickens which he fed on crushed maize which he grew himself. One year later his family was enjoying home-produced eggs and Alex, from what he earned by selling the surplus, had added ducks to his little farm.

It is quite possible that you helped Alex Jagona and others like him on their feet, because village polytechnics are among several Kenya Christian Council projects supported by grants from Christian Aid in Britain.

All over the poor world Christian Aid grants are financing church initiatives which create new opportunities through training schemes, agricultural development, community health programmes, refugee resettlement, social and legal counselling for the poor, and so on. And these hundreds of schemes serve all in need, whether Christian or non-Christian. So they are willingly supported by Christians and non-Christians here at home.

Christian Aid Week is when church people in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland invite the whole community to support the humanitarian work of Christian Aid. We will be doing it again this year (11th—16th May), the 25th Christian Aid Week. It is a silver jubilee which all church people will wish to observe with enthusiasm and generosity.

*Contributed*

## THE LATE RAYMOND HOWELLS

Upon the death of her husband, Mrs. Dorothy Howells suggested her relations and friends sent a contribution to the Bridge Church Repair Fund in lieu of floral tributes.

A total of £173 has been received in memory of Ray Howells.

We are most grateful to Mrs. Howells for her kind and practical thought.

*C.A.P.*



### **BERT FLOWER, kindly and generous**

Many parishioners will have been saddened when they heard of the death of Bert Flower on March 31st at the age of 60 years, after a long illness.

He opened his Men's Hairdressers in Bridge in 1948, and carried on until ill health forced him to give up business in 1973. This was carried on by his son James for another five years.

Although he was not a resident of Bridge, he was a highly respected member of the community, and very many people will remember his kindness and generosity. He was part of the life of the village for twenty-five years, and our sympathy goes out to his widow and family. *H.H.*

## **PARISH PUMP**

Parish Council  
News



### **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

#### **Annual Parish Meeting**

The Annual Parish Meeting, which took place on 26th March, was very much better attended than last year, and some fifty parishioners turned up to hear the report by the Chairman, Councillor John Hill, of the activities of the Council during the past twelve months. He paid tribute to the work of his predecessor, Cllr. Peter Lawrence, and to that of the late Clerk, Mr. Ernie Down, whose advice and assistance would, he said, be missed. He made mention also of the hard work which Cllr. Keith Chapman contributed to the management and maintenance of the Village Hall and the Recreation Ground, and to the invaluable efforts, not always fully appreciated, of Mr. and Mrs. Child in arranging the Hall lettings.

#### **Work of the Council**

The Council, the Chairman said, had had again to take up the problems of 'The Close' with the County Council; and he referred also to the proposed new motel, the work of the Planning Committee, traffic problems, and street maintenance and clearing. Other of the Council's tasks were dealt with in the reports of Cllr. Chapman of the work of the Recreation Ground and Village Hall Committees. He referred to the cost of the Recreation Ground extension, the problem of mole infestation, and the Council's proposals for bye-laws to govern the use of the Ground. These were afterwards approved by the Meeting. The Hall had had to be re-slatted, and repairs and redecorations had been carried out under the Youth Opportunities Programme at minimal cost to the Parish. The Hall was still the cheapest in the area, and further increases in charges were inevitable in the near future.

#### **Mary Gregory Trust**

Cllr. Peter Lawrence gave the Report of the Mary Gregory Trust. In view of the greatly reduced real value of its income, they wished to vary the basis of



its grants, but they were still awaiting the authority of the Charity Commissioners to do so.

Following the presentation of financial reports, short reports were given by the various village organisations, thirteen in all, a departure from previous practice which the Meeting appeared to approve. The Meeting then decided that the funds raised for the New Village Hall could most usefully be applied to the addition of committee rooms to the existing Hall; and agreed that the village should again enter the Best Kept Village and Trees in Your Village Competitions, despite an indifferent showing last year.

Before the Meeting moved on to refreshments, and to see Mr. Hammond's film of *Bridge at Play*, which he had edited specially for the occasion, Mr. Lewis raised the question of 'twinning' with a village abroad, and agreed to test village opinion in the matter. All those present agreed that it had been a most useful and interesting meeting.

### **April Council meeting**

The meeting of the Council which followed on 9th April endorsed the Parish Meeting's decisions to enter the two competitions, and made a special appeal to parishioners to do all they could to keep the village clean and tidy, and their trees cared for, this summer; and resolved to submit the proposed by-laws to the Home Office for provisional approval, as well as to seek the authority of the Charity Commissioners to apply the New Village Hall funds to the improvement of the existing Hall. Substantial additional money will be necessary for this, of course, for the raising of which a sub-committee of the Village Hall Committee will be responsible.

### **Lottery fund**

The Council considered requests from the Cricket and Tennis Clubs for assistance from the Fund, and made its recommendations to the City Council. Only a small sum, in fact, remains to be distributed at present of the parish allocation.

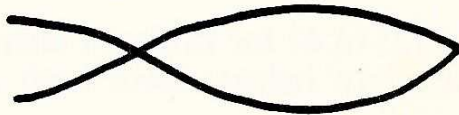
### **Royal Wedding**

Members felt that this occasion should not pass without suitable local celebration, and made some preliminary arrangements. The Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, would be glad to hear from anyone who feels that he, or she, could make a useful contribution to the organisation of the festivities.

The next meeting of the Council, open as usual to visitors, will be held in the Village Hall on 14th May at 7.30pm.

*F.L. Edwards, Clerk*

### **FISH SCHEME**



A Coffee Morning will be held at The Close on Saturday, 16th May from 10.30am to 12 noon in aid of the 'Fish' Scheme. This will be our annual fund-raising event. We hope that as many as possible will come to support our work in the community. There will be a raffle and bring-and-buy stalls for plants, gifts, cakes, etc.

Sgt. Studham, our local Police sergeant, visited the Luncheon Club on 30th March. He gave a talk on the work of the Police in the area, how they could help, and how to contact them. He warned against employing strangers who



came to the door asking for work—there have been several instances lately where elderly residents in the village have been charged exorbitant amounts for gardening, housework and odd jobs. He reminded members always to check credentials before allowing anyone into the house.

**Age Concern** has set up an advisory service for the hard of hearing. An experienced social worker for the deaf attends the Age Concern Centre in Castle Street, Canterbury, on the first Thursday of every month from 10—11am. She will give help in the following ways: Advise on how to get medical or audiological help; check hearing aids for obvious faults or remedy simple ones; advise on other aids available such as amplified telephones, bells and buzzers, flashing lights, television adaptors, etc. Mrs. Anne Hobson, who runs the Canterbury Hearing Advice Bureau will be visiting the Luncheon Club in June to give a talk on the problems of hearing loss, what help is available and how to get it.

*Joan Warren*

### **BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

At the March meeting Mr. John Williamson gave an interesting talk on the history of Bridge. The competition for the month, a short poem about Bridge, was won by Mrs. Iris Harris.

The May meeting, on May 19th, will be the Resolutions Meeting when members discuss and vote on resolutions to be presented at the Annual General Meeting at the Albert Hall. The competition is *A useful household hint*.

*J.F.*

### **FLOWER FESTIVAL TRAILER!**

Mrs. Olive Russell, 1 Hillside Cottages, Bekesbourne, will be holding a Coffee Morning, bring-and-buy, on May 26th from 10.30am—12 noon, in aid of Flowers for the Bekesbourne Flower Festival.

### **IN AID OF THE PILGRIMS HOSPICE**

Many thanks are extended to all the people who both helped and supported the Coffee Morning at 'North Hill', Bridge on the 7th April in aid of the Pilgrims Hospice, Canterbury. I am delighted to tell you that the amazing total of £380 was raised and paid to Roger Clarke, the Hospice Treasurer, who also expresses his thanks to all.

*Pauline Pope*

The Centenary Service of **The Church of England Children's Society** was held at Canterbury Cathedral on March 18th, with similar services all over England and Wales.

The house-to-house collection raised £114.47 for Bridge, Patribourne and Bekesbourne—a good effort. All fourteen helpers have been individually thanked.

Would anyone like to take a collection box? Even 2p a week mounts up.

A sponsored walk is being arranged from Thanington to Bridge over the new by-pass, but I have not yet heard the date. I hope a few young people can do this for a very worthwhile charity.

*F. V. B. Mason, Hon. Bridge Sec.*

**ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE**—Cleaning rota

2nd May, Mrs. Grey; 9th, Mrs. Beckett; 16th, Mrs. Smith; 23rd, Mrs. Stickells; 30th, Mrs. Hogben; June 6th, Mrs. Watson

*R.G.*



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

### PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

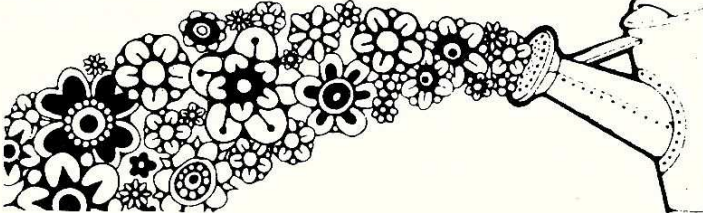
Churchwardens: Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Station Road, Bridge CT4 5AJ (Bridge 830218)  
Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, 'Tullymore', 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830472)  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. D.R. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (Bridge 830426)  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C.A. Potter, Field House, Station Road, Bridge CT4 5AJ (Bridge 830218)  
Organist (Bridge): Mr. P. Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road, Bridge CT4 5NB (Bridge 830293)  
Organist (Patricbourne): 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, 36 Station Road West, Canterbury CT2 8AN (Canterbury 66450)  
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, Patricbourne and Bekesbourne.

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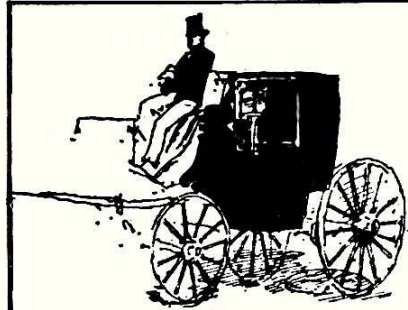
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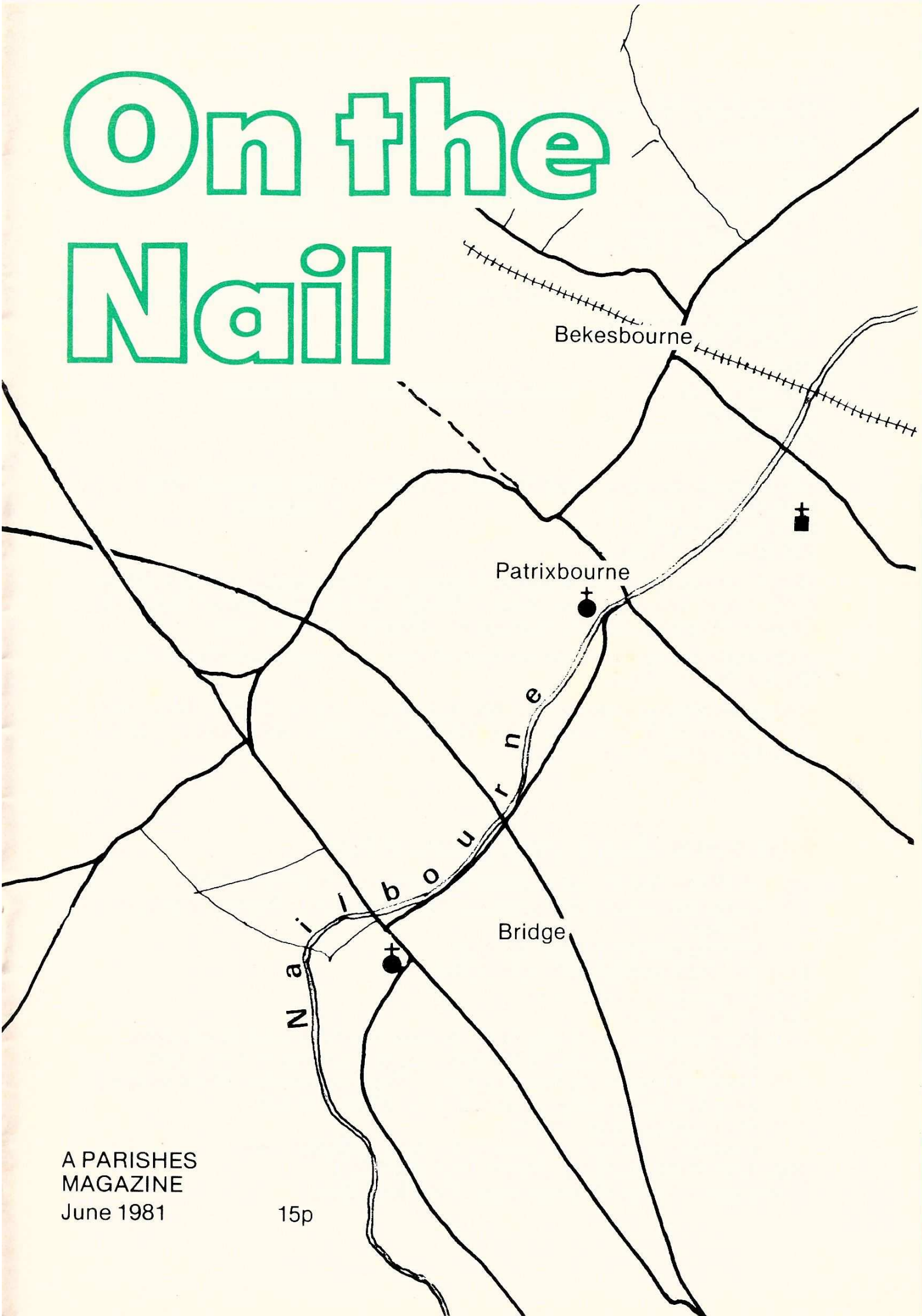
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# On the Nail



A PARISHES  
MAGAZINE  
June 1981

15p



# Sunday Worship in June

## BRIDGE

### 7th:

11am Family Service  
(*Series 3 Eucharist*)  
6.30pm Festal Evensong

### 14th:

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

### 21st:

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 28th:

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong with  
Induction (*Preacher:*  
*The Bishop of Dover*)

## PATRIXBOURNE BEKESBOURNE

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish  
Communion

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins & Holy  
Communion

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

A short informal service for the residents of The Close is held in the Chapel every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

**Bridge Methodist Church:** 7th, Mr. S.J. Rogers, M.A., D.Phil. 14th, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. 21st, The Revd. J. Raymond Goodburn, B.A. 28th, Miss D.M. Rosman, Ph.D.

## For your diary and prayer list

- 7th *WHITSUNDAY*, also called Pentecost, the Church's birthday.
- 9th Coffee Morning for Bridge Methodists, High Beech, Patricxbourne Road, 10.30am  
Bekesbourne PCC Meeting, 8pm
- 11th *ST. BARNABAS THE APOSTLE*
- 13th Bridge School Fete, 2pm
- 14th *Trinity Sunday*
- 16th Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC Meeting, Patricxbourne Church, 8pm.  
Bridge with Patricxbourne WI Meeting, 18 Conyngham Lane, 7pm.
- 18th *Thanksgiving for the Institution of the Holy Communion*. There will be a Sung Eucharist (Series 3) at 8pm in St. Peter's, Bridge.
- 21st *First Sunday After Trinity*  
Canterbury Clerkes in Concert, St. Peter's, Bridge, 8pm.
- 24th *THE BIRTH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST*
- 27th Church & Close Summer Fete, The Close, 2pm.



28th *Second Sunday After Trinity*

6.30pm Evensong at Bridge, during which the Parish Priest, the Revd. Raymond Gilbert will be instituted and inducted as Vicar of Patrixbourne with Bridge and Bekesbourne by the Bishop of Dover. Please support with your presence and prayers.

29th *ST. PETER, APOSTLE*, Patron of Bridge and Bekesbourne.

Roman Catholic Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter's, Bridge at 8pm.

30th Coffee Morning, 63 High Street, for Bekesbourne Flower Festival, 10.30 to noon.

## Show Some Spirit!

Lethargy and apathy are sad to see in anyone, but especially in the young, for with life and its innumerable opportunities before them they ought to be brimful of get-up-and-go. Yet, undeniably we have here two of the most common ills of to-day's society, both counter-productive, in that they drag us all down to a state of inertia, given half a chance.

It must have been something bordering on lethargy that got hold of the disciples of Jesus in the period just before Pentecost. They knew much was required of them, they had an inkling of what it was, but they had no urge to do anything about it. Then came Pentecost, bringing with it God's Spirit. They were lethargic no longer, the road forward was crystal clear and they felt themselves full of divine energy. Their fears were dispelled and they burst upon an astonished world, motivated by power from on high, destined to take the world by storm.

The coming of the Holy Spirit brought about a complete reversal in those first followers, which is only to be expected, with God's power coursing through their veins. And the fact of the matter is that the church to-day also has his power at work in each member, energising it, filling it with divine zip. If our demeanour suggests apathy more than inspiration, then perhaps we need to come to terms with the truth of our position, and realise that, like the disciples of old, we are in a missionary situation, that the modern world is crying out for that infusion of divine grace it is within our ability to give.

On Whitsunday we celebrate the first bestowal of the Holy Spirit upon Christ's followers. Let us really make merry in church on that day, because we are in line with them and have the same Spirit to energise *our* life. On 7th June and always show some Spirit!

## Family Service *by an enthusiastic parent*

On 3rd May the first Family Service was held in Bridge Church. Many people had expressed the need for a service which the very young members of the parish could understand and enjoy, and I am sure all those who were present will agree it was a very happy, worthwhile occasion, with over a hundred parents and children present.

There was a christening that day and the vicar took the opportunity to describe the service to the children so that they could understand the procedure. He then invited the children to stand round the font so that they could see Andrew baptised, thus making him a member of the Church.



It is planned that a Family Service will be held in Bridge Church on the first Sunday of each month. We do hope that all those who were not able to come in May will be able to come on 7th June, which is Whitsunday. The service will be a Series 3 Communion on this occasion, but it is specially for parents and children of all ages and a welcome is extended to even very young members.

### THE VICAR WRITES . . . .

Please don't be put off because this Family Service is a Communion. In churches where they have a Parish Communion every week the children are not excluded, and at the time of communion come to the altar rail with their parents to receive a blessing. I would very much hope they will do the same here on Whitsunday, or indeed on any other occasion children are at a communion service. If you are not confirmed keep your head bowed and your hands out of sight and then there will be no confusion. That is a useful tip if you go to another church, on holiday or when you are away from home.

Readers might like to know that the bread to be used on Whitsunday will be baked by a group of eager youngsters.

## Joys and Sorrows

The baptism referred to above was that of **Andrew Paul Le-Mar**, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Wells, 9 Green Court. On Sunday, 10th May **Fergus James Crichton Mount** was baptised at Bekesbourne.

The funeral of **Henry Wood**, father of Mrs. Pratt, the Old Vicarage, Patnixbourne took place on 15th May. A service in church was followed by cremation at Barham, conducted by the Revd. Joseph Pratt. The cremation of **Douglas Styles**, 64 Western Avenue was on 22nd May. Mr. Styles, who with his wife was a comparative newcomer to the village, died very suddenly. Our sympathy and prayers go out to all the bereaved.

## Combined Summer Fete

As already mentioned in the April issue and featured elsewhere in this one, our Summer Fete this year is a combined effort with Friends of The Close.

In addition to your support on the day we depend very much on the continuing generosity of our community to ensure a successful occasion. A circular is being distributed, followed up by the usual annual collection by our volunteer workers, but for any of you who so wish (or happen to be out when our workers call) donations for our stalls of groceries, drinks, white elephant, plants, cakes, etc., — but *please* no jumble — can be left with the following: Mr. K. Chapman, The Close, Mrs. E. Apps, 34 High Street, Mr. W. Rose, Church Cottage, High Street, or Mr. D. Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down.

A.J.

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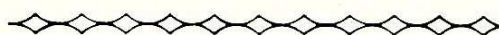
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## FLOWER FESTIVAL TRAILER — 2

Mrs. Ruth Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge will be holding a coffee morning, Bring & Buy on 30th June, 10.30am to 12 noon in aid of flowers for Bekesbourne's Flower Festival over the August Bank Holiday weekend.

**Coffee Mornings** will also be held at High Beech, Patrixbourne Road, from 10.30am on 2nd June, in aid of Methodist Church Funds and the Pilgrims Hospice, and at 33 High Street, Bridge on 30th July, 10am till 12 noon, for the Church of England Children's Society.

**Christian Aid Week** collections in this area produced £269.93, for which grateful thanks are offered. **Patrixbourne Church Choir Fund** wishes to acknowledge with gratitude an anonymous donation of 50 dollars.

## CANTERBURY CLERKES AT BRIDGE

Canterbury Clerkes began in 1975 at a house concert in Filmer House, Bridge. Since then they have toured various parts of this country, Holland, France and Germany. Plans are afoot for a tour of the USA and Canada, possibly next year. So from that original audience of thirty invited guests the Clerkes have sung to audiences of hundreds, thousands, if not perhaps a million or two, remembering their numerous TV and radio appearances and two LP records! Canterbury Clerkes have achieved that rare balance between the serious and the light, the sacred and the secular, often in one evening's programme. Each concert includes the spoken word in addition to music.

Surprisingly the Clerks have never sung in Bridge other than their first semi-private concert in Filmer House 6 years ago. That in Bridge Church on 21st June puts the matter right. Canterbury Clerks is the only professional male voice trio on the serious music scene. Come and hear them at 8pm on the 21st. Admission by programme, £1.

*P.D.G.*

## PLENTIFUL HARVEST

The Bishop of Dover concluded last month's episcopal letter with "the Church's mood is not dictated by events but by her faith, hope and love". I should like this month to take that theme a little further.

The faith, hope and love of the Church are in origin both divine and human. They are gifts of God, both to the Church and to Christians within it. But there are no closed shops or exclusive economic communities in the Kingdom of God; these things are for all the world. How do they become so? How can we become purveyors of faith, hope and love to the world? "New life comes by the spirit . . . by the commitment of believers", wrote the Bishop of Dover. And commitment is costly; it was so for Jesus, it must be so for you.

Does all this really work? In an article for a later edition of "The Way", I hope to relate how one of our Anglican dioceses which I recently visited — Singapore — has grown in less than ten years from a static community to a pulsating, dynamic one through the commitment and sacrifice of a tiny minority of Christians — less than five per cent in a population of two and a half million — open to the new life of the Spirit. First the Christian leaders and then the worshippers in the pew were revitalised in their personal faith. Since then many



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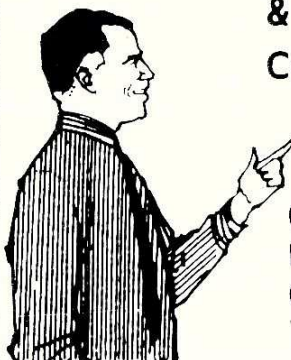
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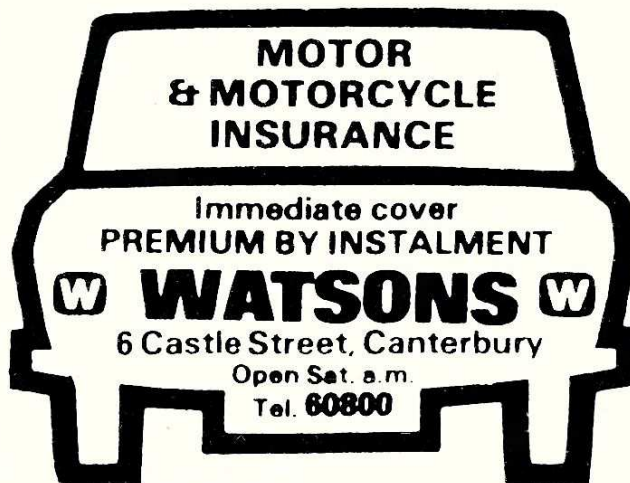
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thousands have been drawn into the Church, from alien religions and none. Many sick in mind, body and spirit have been healed; adult baptisms and confirmations have trebled; the whole Christian community has become a worshipping, learning, caring and giving community. For good measure, the Church in Singapore is no longer looking outside for financial assistance; it is a net exporter of funds to support needy Christian communities and causes elsewhere.

What God can do for his people in Asia — and in parts of Africa where a similar story could be told — he can do for England and for the Diocese of Canterbury. There is a sense in which it is up to us!

+*Stuart Croydon*

## **WHAT HAPPENS IN POLICE STATIONS**

A summary of the report on the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure entitled "the Balance of Criminal Justice" is published by HMSO at £1.95. Some of the proposals met with applause — such as the attempt to modify police powers in place of the 'Judges Rules' and the suggested tape-recording of statements by suspects. But the General Synod's Board for Social Responsibility, which did not give evidence before the Commission, is less happy about proposals to widen police 'stop-and-search' powers and to create a new ground of arrest for lesser offences where a person refuses to give his name and address. Michael Atkinson, writing in the Board's *April News & Notes*, says that many people still feel it will be too easy for suspects to be intimidated into confessing to crimes they did not commit (a notorious example came to light in March). The Board is considering publishing a commentary on the Report.

*(The above information comes from "News & Notes", a free monthly publication from the Board for Social Responsibility, Church House, Dean's Yard, London, SW1P 3NZ. Other publications of the Board are 'Newsletter', monthly, £1.92 from the same address and 'Crucible', quarterly, £3.80 per year from CIO Publications, Church House Bookshop, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3NZ).*

## **ADVANCE NOTICE**

Mrs. Grace Allan's Annual Dog Show will be held on 25th July. Details next month.

### **Bridge Village Appraisal**

A team of helpers are needed for the above project. If you would like to know more about it, and would like to help, please get in touch with Mrs. Knight, 5 Dering Close, telephone 830584.

### **Bridge Parent Teacher Association**

Our School Fete will be held on Saturday June 13th, at 2pm at Bridge School. The theme for the children's fancy dress is *Worzel Gummidge* characters. Pet shows, children's cake contest, many stalls and side shows. Try a ride on the swingboats, and B.M.X. bikes! Canterbury Majorettes display. Pony rides, and much more. We hope you will support us, and we will be extremely grateful for gifts for stalls, bottles, groceries, white elephant, raffle etc.

Thank-you and looking forward to seeing you.

*Bridget Hawkins, Secretary, P.T.A.*



# PARISH PUMP

Parish Council News



## **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

At the meeting of the Parish Council on 14 May, Cllr. John Hill was re-appointed Chairman for a further year; and Cllr. Mrs. Young, who was unable to attend the meeting following a motor accident, but had indicated that she was willing to serve a further term, was again re-appointed Vice-Chairman. All the members of the Council's committees were re-appointed, as was Cllr. Mrs. Knight as Footpaths Officer.

### **Recreation Ground**

The Council has felt for some time that the rents paid by the sports clubs for the use of the ground were uneconomical, and it was decided that from next autumn the football and cricket clubs should each be asked to pay £100 for the respective seasons. Members pointed out that the cost of maintenance of the ground has risen sharply, and that mowing alone now accounts for over £400 a year. The school is now also using the ground, as the building of the new Home has restricted the area available to them, and the Council agreed that the County should be asked to make a payment for this use.

### **Royal Wedding Celebrations**

Cllr. Peter Lawrence told members that he and Cllr. Eric Hawkins had done a considerable amount of preliminary work, and said that the Committee which was to be in charge of the festivities would be meeting on the following Monday. Members agreed that the Committee should be able to make arrangements without reference to the Council, which would hear a report at the June meeting, and that any profit from the celebrations should go to the fund for Village Hall improvements.

### **Proposed New Motel**

The Council heard a report from Mrs. P. Kirk, Chairman of the Nailbourne Protection Society, regarding the proposed Motel on the Canterbury by-pass. The Society was very concerned at the size of the complex, which they felt would be a gross intrusion of commercial activity in a rural area. The Society had communicated its views to the City Planning Officer, who had already agreed to keep the Council in touch with developments.

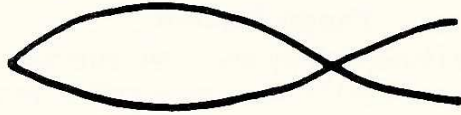
Amongst the other matters discussed were the revision of the bus company's timetables; the County Report on the Provision of Rural services; and the Best Kept Village Competition, when councillors learnt that members of the Women's Institute had each agreed to keep the frontage of their own properties tidy. The Council was, in the meantime, pursuing its efforts to obtain a financial contribution from the City to the cost of employment of a local sweeper.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 11 June, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Any member of the public will be very welcome.

*F.L. Edwards, Clerk*



## FISH NEWS



Other elderly residents joined Luncheon Club members for a tour of the orchards and surrounding countryside on 6th May. The weather was ideal and the countryside looked its best. A stop was made at Chilham for a cream tea, our party of 50 filling the restaurant.

Mrs. Anne Hobson, who runs hearing aid advice bureaux for AGE CONCERN, will be giving a talk at The Close on Monday, 15th June at 2.15pm. She will talk about the problems of hearing loss and the variety of aids and help available to the hard of hearing. This talk should be of great interest, both to those who have hearing problems and to others who have elderly friends or relations who need help. Everyone who is interested is most welcome.

May we thank all who supported the coffee morning and so contributed to the sum of £140.14 which was raised.

*Joan Warren*

## BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE WI

The meeting on 16th June will be at the home of our President, Mrs. Margaret Jones, 18 Conyngham Lane. There will be a coffee evening, Bring & Buy stall and raffles. Proceeds towards the coach fare for our visit to Halling WI in July, when we will be officially 'twinned' with that institute.

*J. E. Foster*

## TO DELHI WITH LOVE

Missionary giving can no longer be thought of in terms simply of money and manpower to the overseas church. Nowadays it is much more a two-way interchange between branches of the church in different parts of the world, share-and-share-alike between members of one family. Missionary activity thus stresses now the unity of Christians rather than their division into rich and poor.

In order to identify with this new-look in missionary outreach the parish of Patribourne with Bridge has established a direct link with the work of the Delhi Brotherhood in the Church of North India, by agreeing to sponsor an Indian boy for three years through the brotherhood's Child Care Programme.

The Church of North India, like that of South India, is still a comparatively new church formed through an exciting unity scheme, its membership comprising the former Anglican, Methodist, Congregationalist and other churches in North India. The Delhi Brotherhood is a community of monks that has involved itself in social development activities for many years within the CNI. At present there are about 200 children in the trans-Jumna colonies (sponsored through Action in Distress) who are being served by its schemes of education and child care. The boy we are sponsoring is called Pappu Jagnath. He is 10 years old and Hindu. We shall pay for his schooling at Deenabandhu Primary School, which is in the Seemapuri Resettlement Area. The school, run by the Delhi Brotherhood Society, is named after a former member of the brotherhood whose Indian friends called him 'Deenabandhu', which means Friend of the Poor.

As a preliminary, the brotherhood sent me the following details about Pappu and his background, with the promises of a photograph to reproduce in a subsequent issue of *On the Nail*.



### Pappu Jagnath

“Pappu Jagnath comes from a Hindu family and lives with his mother, Dropati Devi and father, Jagnath. He has one 6 year old brother who is not yet at school and one sister who goes to another school. His father works as a labourer and earns about 240 rupees a month (about £14). The family come originally from the nearby state of Uttar Pradesh and when they first moved to the Seemapuri Resettlement Area, about 8 miles from the centre of the city, east across the River Yamuna, they lived initially in a jhuggi on the plot of land allocated to them by the Dehli Development Authority — in size 22ft by 10ft. A jhuggi is a one-roomed house built of planks and mud with a roof of tin and grass. However, like many other families they have now managed to build themselves a brick house, although it is still not fully complete. It still only has the one room and there is no electricity, and water has to be fetched from a pump outside. Toilet facilities are provided in communal blocks situated around the colony. The family live, eat and sleep in the one room and in the colder winter nights it is common for families to sleep together under a rezai (a large quilt), whereas in the hot summer months sleeping outside is common. Cooking is done on a small coal and wood stove (a choola) and the basic diet is rice, chappatis and dahl (curried rice or pulses) with vegetables sometimes and very occasionally meat or fish. Families in this kind of resettlement area, who often lived in slums elsewhere before moving here, do not have many of the ‘luxuries’ of life and in Pappu Jagnath’s home there is not even a small transistor radio, which some families do possess. Television is very rare here.

“In school Pappu Jagnath is now in the second standard and his teacher is Miss Usha Masih. The subjects he studies are Maths, Hindi, English, General Science, Social Studies, Craft and Art, P.E., Sports and Yoga, as well as extra-curricular activities like singing, dance, drama and music. He is regular in his attendance of the school and punctual in arriving. He has a lively spirit, even if he is not one of the most academically bright children in the class, and in the last assessment he came 29th out of a class of 40. His favourite subjects are Hindi, English, writing and Maths, and he also enjoys clay modelling as well as making pictures with coloured paper cut out into shapes and stuck on to other paper. His enthusiasm comes out in games and P.E., in which he shows great interest. Unfortunately we do not possess a playground or a playing field at the school, so all our sports activities and P.E. have to be done on the large flat roof of the school. All in all Pappu Jagnath is good at any work and activity which requires something creative, rather than what requires steady study. He is making good progress according to his ability and we look forward to his progress while he is with us. Our school only goes up to V Standard and so we have to follow the Government Syllabus, because when children must leave to go up to VI Standard in a government school they have to take an examination before they can get entrance. However, we hope that we provide a more imaginative and pupil-centres approach than is the case in most government schools. As well as providing a good education for these children we also hope that the environment of the school is such that the children can begin to learn new values and outlooks, so that they can, in the years ahead, make their own contribution to life with a wider vision and enlarged sense of what is possible and worth striving for. The headmistress is an Indian lady, named Mrs. George, who is well qualified for this post and we are very fortunate to have acquired such an able person to guide and lead the life of the School.”

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At the **Patricbourne with Bridge Annual Church Meeting** on 14th April Messrs. Charles Potter and Peter Lawrence were unanimously re-elected Churchwardens, and the following were elected to the PCC by ballot: Miss J. Carpenter, Mesdames Grace Allan, Elsie Apps, Ann Hollister, Pat Hulyer, Joyce Hunter, Alicia Pentin, Kath Pierce, Diana Potter and End Wintle, Messrs. John Barley, Douglas Hill, Alan Jackson, Bill Rose, Leonard Sanford 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.



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, 10 Dering Road, Bridge, CT4 5NA  
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

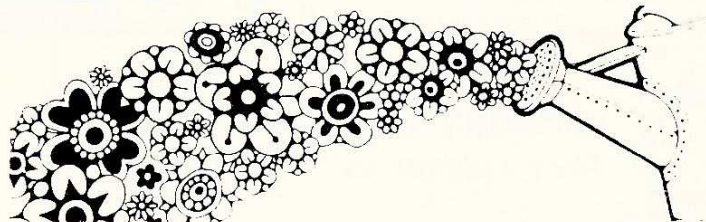
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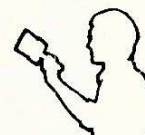
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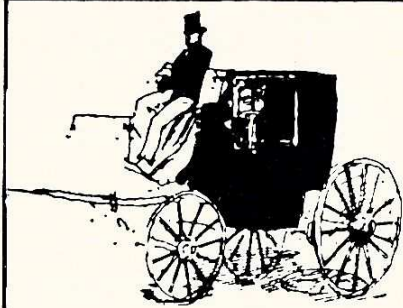
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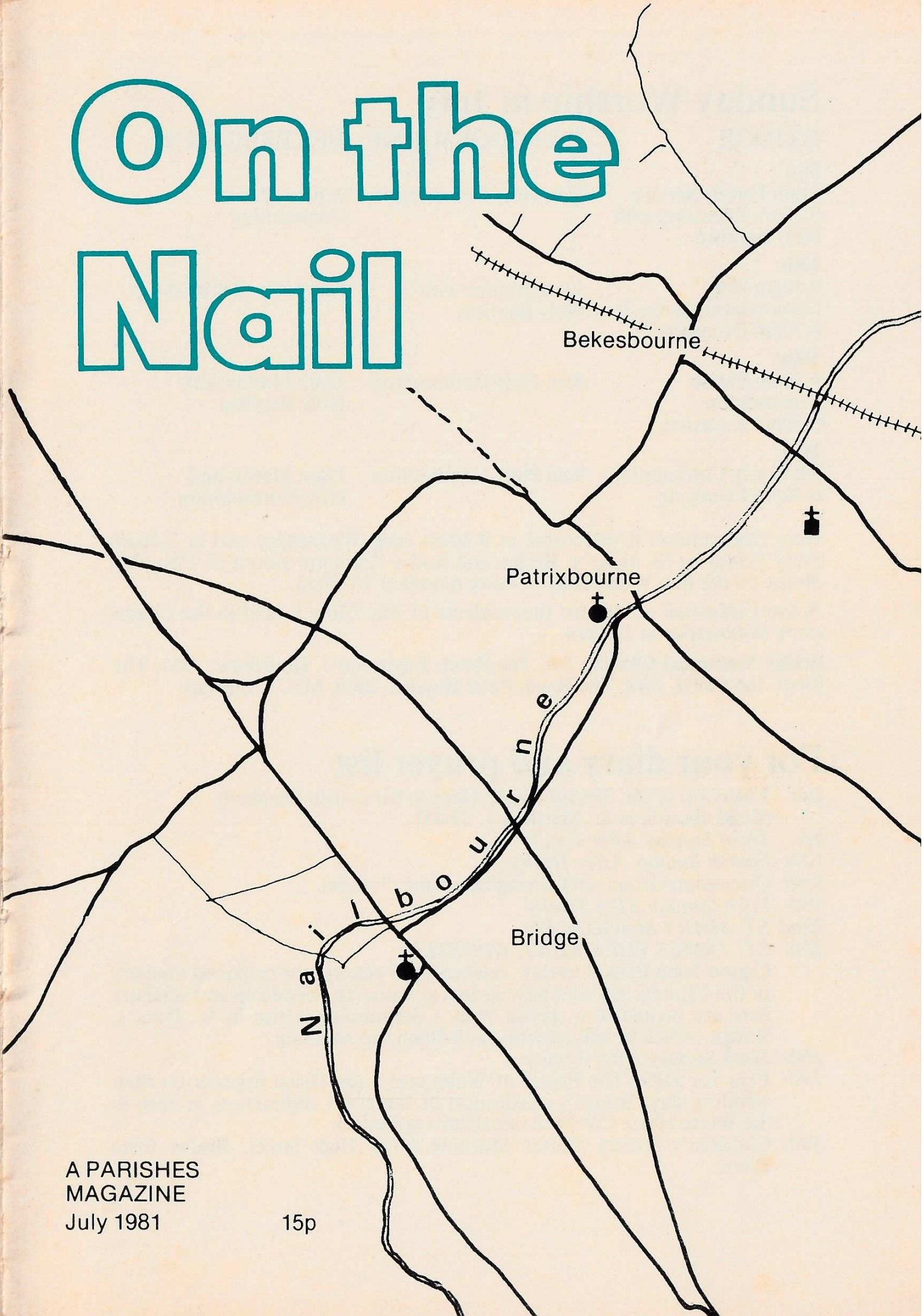
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# On the Nail





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8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish  
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**12th:**

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

11am Matins with  
Holy Baptism

8am Holy Communion

**19th:**

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins with  
Holy Baptism

**26th:**

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins and  
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 in the Chapel every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

**Bridge Methodist Church:** *5th*, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *12th*, The Revd. Ian Laird. *19th*, The Revd. Peter Boyden. *26th*, Mrs. J. Stewart.

## For your diary and prayer list

2nd *Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary* to her cousin Elizabeth  
(Read about it in St. Matthew 1. 39-45)

5th *Third Sunday After Trinity*

12th *Fourth Sunday After Trinity*

15th Discussion Group, 20 Conyngham Lane, 7.45pm.

19th *Fifth Sunday After Trinity*

22nd *ST. MARY MAGDALEN*

25th *ST. JAMES THE GREAT, APOSTLE*

Canon John Packer to-day celebrates 40 years in the ordained ministry of the Church. All who have grown to value his friendship and ministry here are invited to a special Holy Communion service in St. Peter's, Bridge, which he will celebrate at 9.30am this morning.

26th *Sixth Sunday After Trinity*

29th Pray for HRH The Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer on their wedding day. Bridge's celebration of the event commences at 8pm in the White Horse Car Park (see details opposite).

30th Children's Society Coffee Morning at 33 High Street, Bridge from 10am.



BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL  
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WEDNESDAY 29th JULY 1981  
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Further details later. Tickets will be £2.50, including Food

\* \* \* \* \*

*If you can give the Committee a helping hand, please contact Eric Hawkins  
at the Newsagents Shop*

*Note:* The Village Hall has been reserved on 29th July 1981, for the entire day, by the Bridge Parish Council. If any Organisation in Bridge, or group of villagers, wishes to use the Hall between 10am and 5pm for a Community function during this time please contact: Cllr Peter Lawrence, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge. Telephone: 830472.

## Royal Progress

It is said that Queen Victoria was genuinely surprised that her subjects should want to see their queen in public, and that the adulation they always gave filled her with unexpected delight. But then Queen Victoria was Queen Victoria, the epitome of aloof majesty!

Since Victoria's regal days royalty has undergone enormous changes, and never more so than during the reign of our present queen, who will surely go down in history as the first intimate, approachable monarch. If public appearances were a rare indulgence of her great-great-grandmother they are the everyday joy of Queen Elizabeth II, who is not content merely to be on display but likes to be among her people. She has adopted the American walk-about with enthusiasm, maintaining her royal dignity. The effect this new approach has had on the people is unbelievable and has done the anti-monarchist cause no end of harm. Were the royal family to stand over against the common herd and stick to being the kind of inaccessible spectacle their



forebears were, then of a certainty the royalty-bashers would gather ground rapidly. As it is our queen now presents, with her family, an image of monarchy that will stand for thousands of years. Of the crowds that always flock to greet her on royal visits a good many invariably go away brimming with pride because the queen stopped for a chat with them.

In an era, however, when few public figures are safe from the assassin's gun those responsible for the royal family's security have a much more arduous job, and we thought terrorism had reached the limits of its murderous audacity when those six shots rang out at the Trooping the Colour. How that young fellow escaped with his life I really do not know, for as it transpired he was in greater danger than the queen. But what a wonderful reaction from her majesty, who speedily regained her own composure and, after quickly assuring herself no one else was injured, brought her expert horsemanship to bear in calming her troubled mount. She shot even higher in the writer's estimation at least in those few jarring minutes! We got the full measure of her dedication when, subsequently, she made it perfectly clear that she would go on mingling in crowds, as good as saying that to give up this mode of contact would be to give up the job altogether, and *that* she had no intention of doing.

Most of us feel our royal family is part of us, that they are real people who possess all the normal human qualities, supreme among them being an ability to care. Would I be right in detecting a certain added aura surrounding our anticipations of the forthcoming royal wedding, an aura that is more than the traditional British love of state occasions in general and weddings in particular? And is it not due to this new attitude towards the sovereign and her family, which is bred of the numerous pointers to the fact that not only do her loyal subjects love her, but she loves them? Our good wishes and prayers go out to Prince Charles and Lady Diana. We shall be watching closely on the 29th, and we can affirm without risk of contradiction (Willie Hamilton excepted) that she is marrying into a jolly good family.

O Lord our Governor, we humbly pray thee to look with thy favour upon our country and to visit us with thy salvation. Graciously bless thy servant our Queen and every member of the royal family. Give wisdom and courage to our leaders; prosper the work of thy Church in our land; and so turn the hearts of our people to thyself that thy name may be exalted among us as our mighty God and Saviour; for the glory of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **COUNTRY GARDENS**

Mrs. Lois Whigham advises us that her gardens at Cobham Court, Bokesbourne, will be open to the public on Sunday 12th July and on Wednesday 14th, on both occasions from 2pm till 6pm, under the National Gardens Scheme. Part of the proceeds will go to the Pilgrims Hospice.

\* \* \*

The Discussion Group run by Barry and Hilary Whiting will be on 15th July, 7.45pm at their home, 20 Conyngham Lane. All are welcome!



## More from Delhi

*Last month readers were introduced to Pappu Jagnath, the Indian boy Bridge and Patnixbourne parish is sponsoring for the next three years, and briefly to the work of the Delhi Brotherhood, in whose school at Seemapuri Pappu is a pupil. Since going to print we were able to welcome one of the brotherhood to Bridge on Sunday evening, 21st June, when Fr. Kenneth Sharp was the preacher at Evensong.*

*This month we hear more of Pappu's school and of the work of the Brotherhood of the Ascended Christ, to give the Delhi Brotherhood its proper title. Copies of the latest News-letter from Delhi and the fourth annual report on the brotherhood's Social Development Work are in the churches. Please take a copy of each and return them when you have read them. The information on Deenabandhu Primary School is quoted from the report.*

### **DEENABANDHU PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The school opened with two classes in July 1979, since when two more have been added. Last year 140 children were studying in Standards I to IV. From July 1981 Standard V will be started, but the number of children will increase to 165 only, as we plan to reduce the size of classes. Mrs. T. George continues to be the Headmistress with a staff of five teachers (three trained and two non-trained graduates).

Since November 1980 there has been a radical change in the learning process, inspired and assisted by our friends in Action-Aid. The traditional teacher-centred way of education is being phased out in favour of encouraging the children to learn by discovering things for themselves. In this method the role of the teacher becomes that of being primarily a guide to the children, and this inevitably increases their work-load. They now have to prepare their lessons a week in advance, make the necessary aids for use in the classroom, and prepare individual lesson cards for each child. In accordance with this the sitting arrangements in classrooms are being altered, to enable the learning process to take place through group activities.

A room has been made into a library, which is essential for this style of education, and efforts are being made to build up a good collection of books in Hindi which is the medium of teaching, though good children's books are hard to find. Extra-curricular activities at present are yoga, painting and clay-modelling, as well as indoor games.

### **BROTHERHOOD OF THE ASCENDED CHRIST**

The Delhi Brotherhood is a religious community within the Church of North India. Before the CNI was formed they were known as the Cambridge Mission to Delhi. Rather like religious communities in this country the brotherhood live a life of prayer and works, though where the latter are concerned their resources are considerably less than their English counterparts. Add to this the fact that they live in a country where Christianity is a minority religion and you can see how dependent they must be upon the prayers and gifts of fellow-Christians from more affluent parts of the world. Our contribution is part of their child care programme, but their works extend over a far wider field than education, as you will see from the news-letter and report.



Fr. Kenneth, our recent visitor, works at Ludhiana and Rajpur and in organising Schools of Prayer, and next year the Head and Housekeeper, Fr. Ian Weathrall is coming to Britain. He and I met briefly when he was over for a conference at Christ Church College in 1979 and I shall endeavour to get him over to Bridge, with, hopefully, more notice, when he is here in 1982.

### FROM KENT TO DELHI

Fr. Amos Rajamoney, who wrote to introduce Pappu Jagnath to us, made the following suggestion in his letter, which I hope will appeal to many of you: "We hope in the years ahead that we shall keep in touch with you about Pappu Jagnath's progress through letters and through sending you our Annual Report, and we hope that Pappu Jagnath himself will be doing some drawing and writing which we can send to you. If you would like to write to him yourselves please write to 'Pappu Jagnath P/4, c/o the Delhi Brotherhood Society at The Brotherhood House, Court Lane, Delhi-110054'. Long letters will not mean a lot to children here but the best thing is to send a card which has some kind of interesting scene on it, perhaps English life, countryside, cities, Canterbury etc. The child can read your message in Hindi and then keep the card for his own collection."

How about it, especially some of our younger readers?

## Diocesan News



### Inheritors of the earth

Power and the exercise of power is one of the major problems of the world today. Everyone has power, and every relationship increases this power. A great many people long for power, while others shrink from exercising the powers they have. At the same time, however, in this as in many other things, Christians have to reckon with the teaching and the promise of Jesus, and Jesus taught that it is *not* the powerful, but the meek who shall inherit the earth. So for the Christian the exercise of power and meekness must somehow go together.

What, then, is meekness? Meekness is neither self-depreciation nor making little of the work one is doing. It is not a simple longing to be unimportant; it is not timidity or insipidity. Meekness is a quality of living characteristic of a man who knows he is participating in the creative activity of God, not as a pauper but as a son.

The meek person works reliably at the immediate task; is not disdainful if the task is small, nor boastful if it is large; does not heed the criticism made by others unless it shows how to improve the work. He or she must often criticise the work of others, but makes the criticism impersonally, because to the meek the work matters more than both the doer and the critic.

The meek are those who are not broken by flattery, or by monotony, or by the longing for recognition and recognisable results from their work. Rather they are the people who, in Jesus' words, inherit all the best things in the earth—that is they are participating in the ceaseless creative activity of God himself.

+ *Robert Maidstone*



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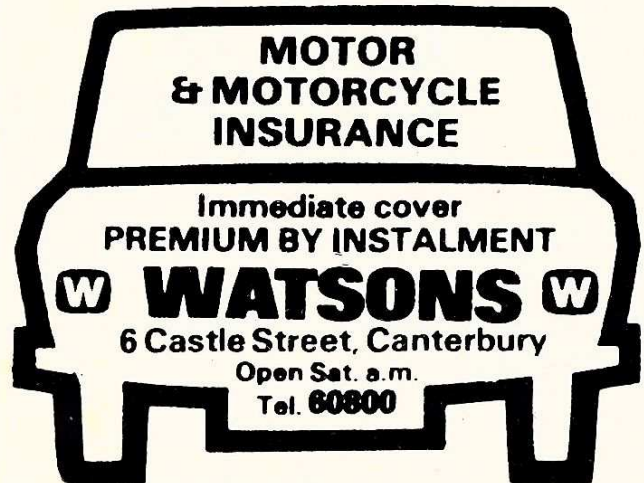
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### **Are you: aged between 17—24?**

Interested in exploring the Christian Faith and living it? Able to sleep in a sleeping bag? Free on the weekend of July 10th-12th? Then come to Womenswold, (our training centre) to do something about it along with MICHAEL PERCIVAL-SMITH, Archdeacon of Maidstone, and BRUCE HAWKINS. For details ring Bruce on Canterbury 64453. It will cost you £3.

### **Come to the party!**

East Charing Deanery invite you and your friends to an International Party with music, refreshments and a speaker on Friday evening July 3rd from 7.30—9.45pm. An illustrated talk on race-relations will be given by the Revd. DAVID JENNINGS, Community Relations Chaplain for the Diocese of Leicester. Admission £1.50 at the Friends Meeting House, Albert Road, Ashford. The evening has been arranged by the Deanery Council for Social Responsibility.

### **When I was in prison**

A Prison Christian Fellowship prayer group has been formed to support staff and inmates of H.M. Prison, Canterbury, meeting monthly in Canterbury, Ashford or Herne Bay. Other aims of the Fellowship, which has branches in many areas including Maidstone, are to build up a caring Christian response to prison problems and the rehabilitation of prisoners; and to foster and encourage helpful suggestions, with participation in groups and seminars where possible.

The Chaplain, COLIN GODFREY and convenor, DENNIS LITHGOW write: "Other areas of work will become clearer to us as we place ourselves under the guidance of the Spirit of Christ, for this is His work to be done at His pace". Details from Mr. Dennis Lithgow, 15 Lawrence Gardens, Herne Bay, Kent.

### **Embroidery old and new**

An exhibition with demonstrations, arranged by the East Kent Branch of the Embroiderers Guild in aid of the Asthma Research Council, will be held in the Cathedral Chapter House from Thursday 30th July to Wednesday 26th August, and open from 11am to 5pm (weekdays) and 1pm to 5pm (Sundays). There will be examples of patchwork, canvas work, lace, free stitchery, smocking and quilting, showing the use of these techniques in ecclesiastical work as well as in the home and on beautiful clothes. The exhibits range from the 16th Century to the present day.

Demonstrations on weekdays at 2pm: Mondays—Patchwork; Tuesday—Canvas Work; Wednesday—Lace; Thursday—Free stitching; Friday—Smocking; Saturday—Quilting. Admission by catalogue: price 30p.

### **Have a break . . .**

In a lovely Welsh manor house, in the hills near Dolgellau, available for letting all year round. 20% reduction for clergy September to May. Ideal for family holidays, retreats, study groups; it's heated and it sleeps eight. Marvellous bird-watching. Details from Mrs. H. Richards, 35 Poplar Road, Wittersham (235), Kent.



## Facing up to death

The subject of Christian Action Journal's spring number may come as a surprise to readers who have come to expect a concentration of Third World Topics. This time it deals, movingly and tellingly with "Death, Dying and Bereavement" here, in Britain, where it hurts most. It points at the fear underlying our Society—"If we in the West could breach our fear of death, would we need to be so rich?"

Articles range from "Coming to Life through Death" by a man who visits the dying; testimonies from a bereavement counsellor; GEOFFREY LAMPE on "Life after Death"; and the prickly subject of "To Tell, Not to Tell or What to Tell". A remarkable 50p worth; and many more. Order from bookshops or direct from 43 Holywell Hill, St. Albans, A1 1HE.



Whitsuntide Family Service communion bread in the baking. (*Photo: Simon Gilbert*)

**Coffee Mornings** come and go with rapidity at this time of year, and from the results of those which have gone so far this form of fund raising is on the up and up.

Bridge Methodists did well with theirs. Pat Grant, the Church Steward reports: "Work behind the scenes has been going on for some time, making marmalade, aprons, etc. This, together with the stalls on the day raised the wonderful sum of £136.50. A cheque for £80 has been sent to the Pilgrims Hospice. We would like to thank all the people of the village who supported this effort".

Mrs. Olive Russell would like to thank all those people who helped at, contributed to and took part in her coffee morning. It was a very happy affair



and raised £38 towards the Bekesbourne Flower Festival. The PCC would like, in return, to thank Olive for opening her home for what was a profitable and highly enjoyable morning.

Now please note that on 30th July (the day after the royal wedding) Miss Mason is holding her annual coffee morning on behalf of the Church of England Children's Society. It will be at her home, 33 High Street from 10am till 12 noon and the usual Bring-and-Buy and raffle will be included in the attractions.

*From the Deanery Synod's Mission and Unity Group comes the following:—*

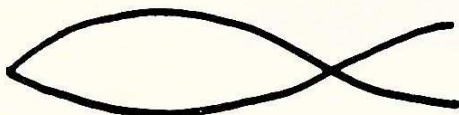
The **Deanery Missionary Festival** this year will be held at Littlebourne on Sunday 13th September. Although this is some way ahead may we suggest that you book this date in your diary *now!* The theme of our festival will be "Preach and Practice"—since we are associating it with the work of the Church Army which celebrates its centenary this year.

To give you some idea of the programme, the proposal is that we assemble in Littlebourne Church, except the children who will go straight to Littlebourne School (opposite), and at 3.30pm we shall listen to an address by the Revd. Michael Turnbull, the Chief Secretary of the Church Army. This will give topics for discussion, so at about 4pm we will divide into groups which will meet in the school. At 4.45pm the groups will report their findings. Meanwhile, Sister Peggy Boynes of the Church Army will have been involved with the children who hope to produce a 'contribution' for Evensong. Between 5pm and 5.30pm we shall eat our tea; (as usual, each parish should provide their own refreshments which will be pooled and Littlebourne will produce tea/soft drinks). The final part of the festival will be at 5.45pm—Evensong at which Michael Turnbull will gather up the afternoon's experiences. We do stress that this will be a family occasion: we want as many youngsters to come as possible.

The past three festivals have proved what a happy occasion it can be for congregations to join together once in a while. We want this to be an even greater success—but much depends on you! No car-parking problems—there is plenty of space at Littlebourne Primary School.

*The organisers want to know in the fairly near future how many children/young people will be taking part, also how many adults are willing to help with the children's activities. In addition budding recorder players are invited to declare themselves and take their instrument along. Think about it and let the Vicar know early in July. It should be a really worthwhile afternoon for all age groups!*

## **FISH NEWS**



May we thank all the people who helped to make our coffee morning such a success—the members of the Women's Institute who ran the stalls, Mrs. P. Kirk who made the coffee, Mrs. J. Monk who ran the raffle and all the members of the community who gave so generously. It was a most enjoyable morning and we hope that it will be an annual event.



Mrs. Anne Hobson, our local social worker for the deaf, visited the Luncheon Club on 15th June. In the afternoon she gave an interesting talk on the problems of hearing loss and how they can be overcome. She answered many questions and was able to help people to get better reception from their hearing aids. Several members of the audience asked for help either for themselves or for elderly relatives—Mrs. Hobson plans to visit them all at home in the near future. Anyone with a hearing problem can get help from the hearing advice bureau at the Age Concern Centre, Castle Street, Canterbury on the first Thursday of the month from 10am—11am; transport can be arranged, if needed.

*Joan Warren*

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Mrs. Russell .....	1st August .....	Mrs. Russell

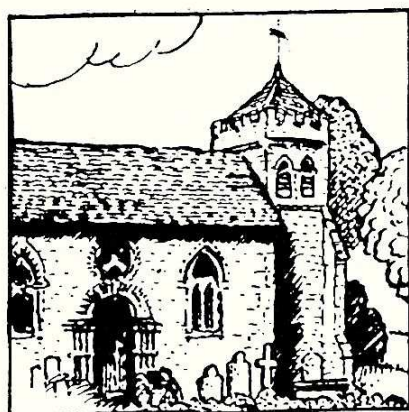
### **BEKESBOURNE SPORTS CLUB**

Bekesbourne Sports Club is marking its Diamond Jubilee this year with a celebration day on 8th August at Patricxbourne Recreation Ground. Among other entertainments will be special football and cricket matches, a beer tent, and a barbecue and disco in the evening.

It is hoped that as many Bekesbourne villagers as possible will be able to come and join in making the day a great success. Posters with more details will be seen around the village later.

The club would like to hear from any villagers who have information, mementoes, photographs, etc. about the club's activities in the past, in order to produce a booklet about the club. Please contact me on Bridge 830007.

*M. A. Gabbé*



## **Flower Festival**

Advance notice: Bekesbourne's Flower Festival will be held over the Bank Holiday at the end of August. Flowers, refreshments, stalls, organ recitals—please note the event in your diary. **Coffee Morning** to aid the funds: Tuesday August 4th, School House; 10.30—12 noon, thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Millyard.

*J.P.*



Vicar: 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 (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, 10 Dering Road, Bridge, CT4 5NA  
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 Vicar, 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

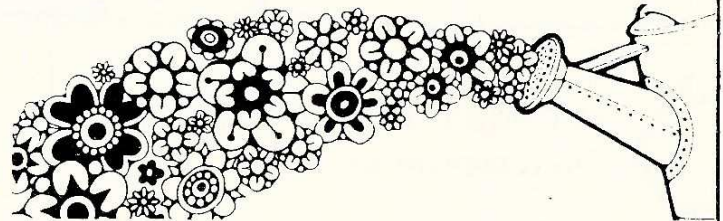
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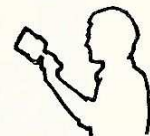
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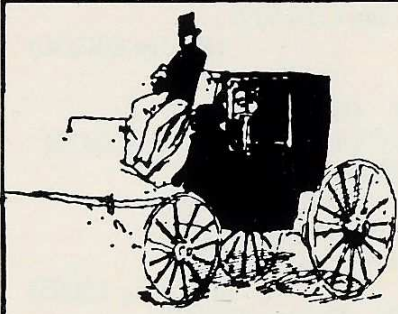


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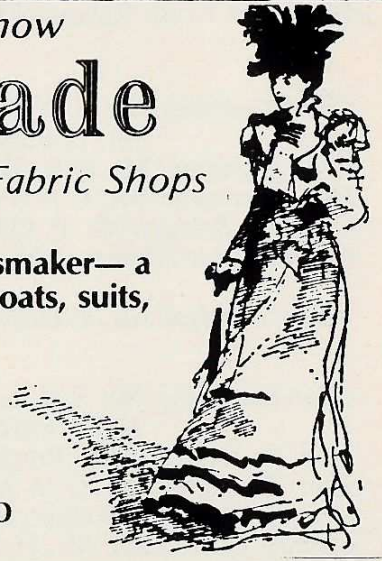




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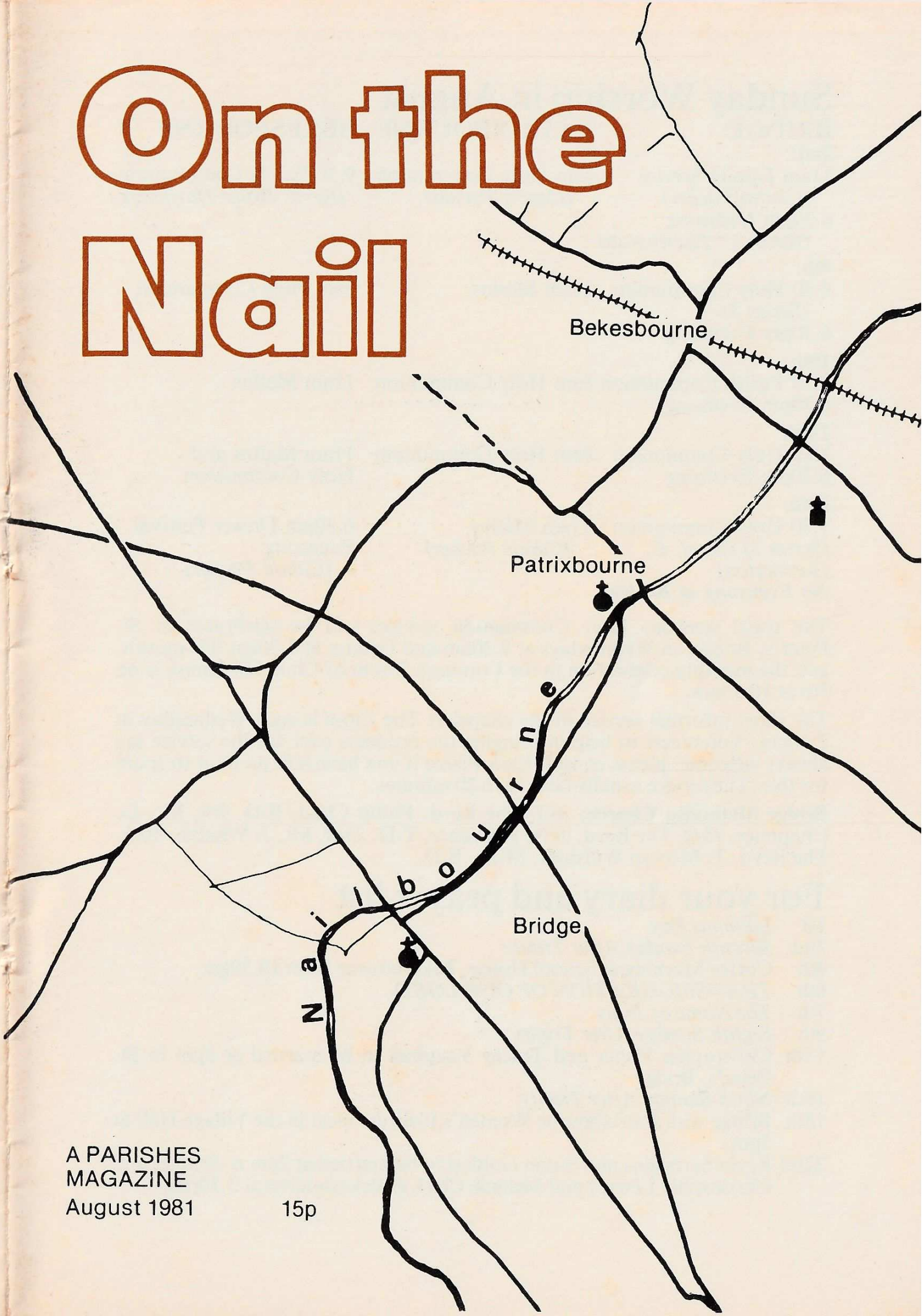
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# On the Nail



A PARISHES  
MAGAZINE  
August 1981

15p



# Sunday Worship in August

## BRIDGE

### 2nd:

11am Family Service  
(Canon Packer)

6.30pm Evensong  
(Revd. C. Harrington)

### 9th:

9.30 Holy Communion  
(Series 3)

6.30pm Evensong

### 16th:

9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

### 23rd:

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### 30th:

9.30 Holy Communion  
(Series 3) (Revd. C. Harrington)

*No Evensong at Bridge*

## PATRIXBOURNE

8am Holy Communion  
(Canon Packer)

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins  
(Canon Packer)

## BEKESBOURNE

9.30 Parish Communion  
(Revd. Bruce Hawkins)

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

11am Matins and  
Holy Communion

6.30pm Flower Festival  
Evensong  
(Canon Packer)

The usual weekday Holy Communion services will be celebrated at St. Peter's, Bridge on Wednesdays at 9.30am and Fridays at 7.30am this month, and the monthly celebration in the Common Room of Churchill House is on 5th at 10.15am.

The short informal service in the chapel at The Close is each Wednesday at 2.30pm. Volunteers to help in bringing the residents over for the service are always welcome: please consult Kath Pierce if you have half an hour to spare for this. The service usually lasts 15 to 20 minutes.

**Bridge Methodist Church:** 2nd, The Revd. Philip Child, B.D. 9th, Mr. G. Chapman. 16th, The Revd. Jesse Lawrence, T.D. 23rd, Mr. J. Whalan. 30th, The Revd. T. Mervyn Willshaw, M.A., B.D.

## For your diary and prayer list

1st *Lammas Day*

2nd *Seventh Sunday After Trinity*

4th Coffee Morning at School House, Bekesbourne from 10.30am

6th *TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD*

7th *The Name of Jesus*

9th *Eighth Sunday After Trinity*

15th Christopher Fisher and Tracey Vaughan to be married at 3pm in St. Peter's, Bridge

16th *Ninth Sunday After Trinity*

18th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute meet in the Village Hall at 7pm.

22nd Kevin Scroggins and Susan Goldup to be married at 2pm at Bridge, and Christopher Lewsey and Melanie Clark at Bekesbourne at 3.30pm.



23rd *Tenth Sunday After Trinity*

24th *ST. BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE*

29th **Bekesbourne Flower Festival** until 31st

30th *Eleventh Sunday After Trinity*

Evensong is at Bekesbourne at 6.30, not Bridge. No morning service at Bekesbourne.

31st Last day of Bekesbourne Flower Festival

## The makings of a Vicar

The induction ceremony that took place at Evensong on 28th June was a mere formality that could have been held in the privacy of the Bishop of Dover's chapel. Those representatives of the three villages who helped to swell the congregation in Bridge Church will be glad it wasn't.

The choir treated us to some splendid singing, the churchwardens carried out their escort duties with great dignity, the Rural Dean (newly installed as a canon of the cathedral) came to lend his support and was promptly given a job to do, and Richard our Bishop was, as always, in cracking form. How good it was to welcome him and how welcome he felt!

Sermons these days are seldom memorable, but Bishop Third's invariably are, and his words to the parishioners of Patrixbourne, Bridge and Bekesbourne, spoken without notes, to the point, and directly at the listener, brought us the gospel clearly and with tremendous feeling. "Do you love me? . . . Feed my sheep." Words originally spoken to St. Peter by the Lord are directly pertinent to the ministry of a priest, but, as the bishop pointed out, are just as applicable to all the people of God. The command is to love: the beloved are our neighbours! It was encouragement indeed for the 'new' vicar to hear his Bishop spell out the importance of understanding the Church's work to be that of *all* believers, not just the paid professional's.

The Lessons were read by Churchwarden John Purchase and Canon David Naumann, in both cases with warmth and meaning, and young choirboy Joseph Flavell found himself unexpectedly roped in as bishop's chaplain. Probably most people saw the bishop hand his staff to Joseph while he was inducting me, but few heard the dialogue that accompanied it. Bishop, handing staff to Joseph: "Will you look after this for me?" Joseph, wide-eyed and taking it all in his stride: "Thanks!"

One incident in the service was put in very much at the last minute, and that was the procession outside the church. The door was closed with Churchwardens, Rural Dean and Vicar on the outside and I placed my hand on the door handle (a very familiar object by now) as a sign of taking possession of the fabrics of the churches. I then tolled the bell to signify the same to the village at large. Someone afterwards said they thought the clock had gone wrong, so unprompted was this ceremony.

To round off the proceedings in truly family style Kath Pierce, Ann Hollister and Alicia Pentin served tea or coffee across the road in the Methodist Church to all who cared to partake, and we thank our dear friends in Patrixbourne Road for the use of their place of worship.

### **The facts of the matter.**

Many people have been confused as to why I was not made vicar to start with, and the short answer is that the parish clergy in the East Bridge Deanery had



to be reduced from nine to seven, which meant a certain amount of reorganisation of parish groupings. The tenure of office enjoyed by a vicar or rector is such that this would have been nigh on impossible without the agreement of the vicar concerned. By suspending the benefice (replacing a vicar with a priest in charge) the powers that be would be free to reorganise without such obstacle. Now that the deanery has been reorganised (happily leaving us untouched) there is no longer any need to withhold benefices, hence my move from parish priest to fully-fledged incumbent or vicar. This is simply a change of status, affecting me slightly and the parishes hardly at all. One parishioner summed up the situation admirably by saying: "I can call you vicar—as I've always done". Let it be said, however, that the rumour that got round in some quarters that I had been here so far on 'appro', for a probationary period was not the case.

### A Busy Weekend

In addition to the Induction that particular weekend saw the joint summer fête on the Saturday and the annual Roman Catholic Mass in St. Peter's, Bridge on the Monday, both notable events in their way.

The fête netted £903, a marvellous result when you recall the rain and cold that sent us indoors and it says a lot for the very happy liaison between Church and Close. All thanks to everybody concerned, and surely no-one will feel offended if I single out the two linchpins, Keith Chapman and Bill Rose, for special mention—least ways the answer to all problems on the day seemed to be "See Bill/Keith". Well done everybody: we showed 'em! (See the financial statement below.)

Fr. Peter Madden said Mass for the Bridge-Barham Group of the RC Church on the Feast of Ss Peter and Paul. They enjoyed coming to St. Peter's Church, Bridge and we certainly enjoyed having them, as always. Perhaps next year more of the home side won't feel shy about attending.

### BRIDGE AND PATRIBOURNE P.C.C. AND THE FRIENDS OF "THE CLOSE" COMBINED SUMMER FÊTE 27th June 1981

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White Elephant stall .....	46.00
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Tombola .....	28.00
Bottle Stall .....	151.00
Raffle .....	£277.00
Less cost of 1st prize and tickets .....	48.00
	<u>229.00</u>
	887.00
Side Shows and Draws .....	51.00
Sundry Donations .....	17.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>RECEIPTS 955.00</b>



*Deduct Expenses*

Public Address system .....	£17.00	
Canterbury Carnival Committee .....	10.00	
Canterbury Sea Cadets .....	5.00	
Faversham Majorettes .....	15.00	
Sundries .....	5.00	52.00
		<u>NET PROFIT 903.00</u>

In spite of a miserably cold day the Fête was well attended. We were most grateful for the generous support which produced such a satisfactory result. The profit was divided equally between the Bridge & Patricxbourne P.C.C. and the Friends of the Close.

*C. A. Potter*  
*W. K. Chapman*

## In sorrow and in joy

The current practice, by no means limited to our churches, of administering Holy Baptism in the course of Sunday worship is becoming widespread, and a good thing too, for what better than that new members of the family of the Church should be admitted while it is gathered. Recent baptisms are those of **Camilla Mary Pay**, Hode Oast House, Hode Lane on 21st June at Bekebourne, **Stephen David Thomas Parker**, 52 Bridge Down on 5th July at Bridge's Evensong, brother and sister **Christopher Murray** and **Allison Victoria Perry**, 37 Bridge Down on 12th July at Patricxbourne and **Anna Marie Betts**, "Netherbury", Aerodrome Road and **Lisa Anne Newington**, 78 Tenterden Drive, Canterbury on 19th July at Bekebourne.

The passing of **Norman Gray**, 29 High Street, Bridge after a mercifully brief illness leaves the village bereft of one of its most longstanding residents. The funeral service at Bridge Methodist Church was followed by interment in St. Peter's Churchyard. Together with his wife, who survives him, Mr. Gray was an ardent Methodist, and friends at the Methodist Church in Bridge and any others who may care to do so are invited to make a donation to the Kent & Canterbury Hospital as a tribute to him. Please give your donation to Mr. Pat Grant at the Methodist Church, Patricxbourne Road or at his home, 62 Western Avenue.

We record also the death of **Ernest Watson**, 2 Worcester Lane, whose cremation took place at Barham on 7th July. Though living outside the parish boundary Mr Watson and his wife Daisy are Bekebourne through and through, Mrs. Watson, her sister and mother being regular attenders at Bekebourne Church. Our deepest sympathy goes out to her and her family at this sad time. May the souls of all the departed through the mercy of God rest in peace!

\* \* \*

Stanley and Ruth Grey wish to thank all those people whose help, contributions and patronage made their coffee morning the success it was. They specially wish to thank the anonymous donor who slipped a not-insubstantial gift through their letter box. The splendid sum of £57 was raised towards the Bekebourne Flower Festival.

To add to your enjoyment and to swell the funds even further, Jane Millyard is having a coffee morning at School House, Bekebourne on Tuesday, 4th August from 10.30am. Do give her your support and help to make this year's Flower Festival even better than last year's, if that is possible!



# Diocesan News



## Sharing the Ministry

Over the past few weeks I have been meeting the churchwardens of the parishes of the Canterbury Archdeaconry. It has been an interesting experience to be presented with a brief account of one parish after another, and to get the layman's view of the local church. In the main I have been much encouraged. The problems of life are not proving insurmountable, and from many parishes I heard evidence of fresh vigour and enthusiasm.

But in the overall picture one general tendency causes me some uneasiness. It is that so much time is devoted to keeping the organisation going and the building in good repair that few church congregations have much time to spare for the problems of the world and the needs of the community beyond the church's walls. I had little to demonstrate that the local "church exists by mission, as a fire exists by burning".

It might be argued that churchwardens are inevitably more concerned with maintenance than with mission, and there were certainly some notable and glorious exceptions. But I believe that this is a valid criticism of the church as a whole.

The answer of a previous generation would have been to draft in more clergy. That is not within our power. If the church is to serve the purposes of God in to-day's world it must learn to see every member as a minister and servant of God. For too long we have been a clerically dominated church, dependent on the Vicar for all the ideas and most of the execution. In discovering the vocations of every christian we shall be closer to the vigorous missionary-hearted church of the first believers.

An important contribution to this essential learning process is offered by the two study days on "Shared Ministry" which have been arranged in the Kentish part of the diocese, on October 17th in Canterbury and on October 24th in Maidstone. Invitations have gone to every parish and I hope that all will be represented. Croydon has been engaged in its own study programme through the ACTS Centre.

Let this be a major concern of the whole diocese in the coming months, so that we may begin to mobilise what was described by our Partners in Mission as our "immense resources of manpower".

+ Richard Dover

## The New Archdeacon

The Archbishop has appointed the Reverend Canon John Arthur Simpson, M.A., Vicar of Ridge and Canon Residentiary of St. Albans, to be Archdeacon of Canterbury, in succession to the Venerable Bernard Pawley.

Canon Simpson, who is also Director of Ordinands and Post Ordination Training for St. Albans, will be installed in the Cathedral at Evensong on Saturday, 12th September at 3.15pm.

## Giving time to pray

Christopher Donaldson's excellent practical *Manual for those prepared to give TIME to pray* has been reprinted this year and is now obtainable again at 50p (plus 11½p postage) from The Parish Office, Broadwintar, Dorset. It is extremely useful in revealing the riches available in the A.S.B. to personal prayer. Some readers will remember Mr. Donaldson as a former rector of St. Martin's and St. Paul's, Canterbury.

## The Week of Prayer for World Peace

This is being held from October 18th to 25th, and this year's theme centres on *Hope*—hope for the needy, oppressed and disabled of the world, for all women, for racial harmony and for disarmament. Prayer leaflets with daily meditations and suggested initiatives, obtainable from the secretary of W.P.W.P., St. John's Vicarage, 14 Dane Bank Avenue, Crewe CW2 8AA (Tel. 0270-68835) at 6p per copy (s.a.e.) or £6 per 100 (post paid).



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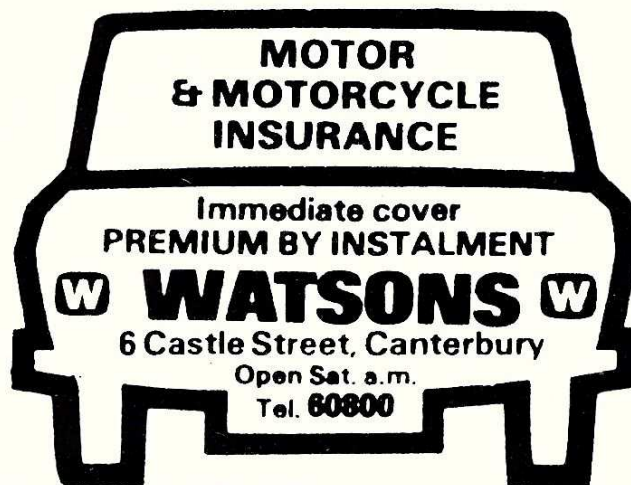
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### **A Healing Conference**

The conference, lasting three days (28 September—2 October 1981) is being held at High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire by the Guild of Health. Fully residential: £38.00 (£36.50 for members). Programme (s.a.e. please) and Applications, with £5 non-returnable deposit, from The Conference Secretary, The Guild of Health, 26 Queen Anne Street, London W1M 9LB.

### **Bedtime Listening**

Gerald Priestland's new Sunday evening religious programmes on Radio 4 start on September 20th at 10.15pm and should make good bedtime listening. He has recorded more than fifty hours of interviews all over the country to make the series, *Priestland's Progress*, which he describes as a 'plain man's pilgrimage through the landscape of the Christian faith'.

"Two main points stand out from the priceless wealth of detail", he says. "The first is the breadth of common ground between the churches to-day. The other was the strength and depth of the feminine experience of God, something far more direct and certain than typical male theologising."

### **Thanks from the Centre**

Mrs. E.M. Aylen, Director of the Religious Education Centre in Christchurch College, reports a good response to her Easter appeal for the Centre—gifts came in from parishes ranging from £2 to £25 and were gratefully received. One parish asked how to make a small standing order. This can be done by payment to Christchurch College, Maintenance No. 1 Account No. 0251008, Lloyds Bank Ltd., 49 High Street, Canterbury.

Incidentally, the Centre now carries supplies of the General Synod's Board of Responsibility publications, for sale or loan—very useful for parish discussion groups.

### **When will we learn?**

"What evidence is there that your church is deeply concerned with world-wide issues?" That is one of the disturbing questions for discussion in Canon Alan Dawkins' Study Paper for Parishes on the Brandt Report and the Mission of the Church. And he sets out dispassionately and highly readably the menacing problems facing mankind, and possible solutions, in the next few years. There is no doubt that every parish should be reading it, learning from it and acting on it. But will they? It's up to you. Obtainable (free with large s.a.e.) from Diocesan Council for Mission and Unity, The Vicarage, 38 Beltinge Road, Herne Bay CT6 6BU.

### **"The Way"**

Copy for the Autumn edition of the highly acclaimed diocesan newspaper *The Way* should be sent in by 27th August at the latest. Letters, contributions, pictures and ideas always welcome!

### **Maria Gross retires**

After seventeen years with Rochster and Canterbury Dioceses, Miss Maria Gross retires in November as Director of the Joint Diocesan Council for Social Responsibility. Her vision, capacity for hard work and organising ability were a major factor in establishing the Council and creating a new pattern for this vital work throughout Kent.

A presentation is planned after a special Thanksgiving Eucharist in Rochester Cathedral at 11am on Wednesday, 14th October to which all are welcome. The Celebrants will be the Bishops of Rochester and Dover. Donations (payable to the Joint Council) should reach Canon Michael Beek, Chairman, at 60 Marsham Street, Maidstone, before September 30th.



### **The quiet epidemic**

Senile dementia has only recently been recognised as a disease rather than a mere deterioration of the brain. It can attack anyone over the age of 40, through no known cause. Ten per cent of the over-65 generations suffer symptoms of memory loss and intellectual disturbance due to the illness. There is no known cure and provision for looking after the patient or aid for relatives is minimal.

It is therefore worth publicising the Alzheimer's Disease Society which aims to provide these reliefs. Registered in 1979 by a small group on the initiative of Mrs. Cora Phillips, S.R.N., who looked after her husband John (Vicar of Boxley in the '60s) through eight years of the illness, membership is open to all families of patients, doctors, social workers and any other interested person. Further information from Mrs. Phillips at 01-464 2694.

### **Television by Christians**

Christians concerned to bring more influence to bear on television have got together under Charles Cordle to form Lella Productions and The Trinity Trust. They plan to make films for national television which are "shaped, implicitly or explicitly, by an underlying commitment to the Gospel of Christ". Co-production agreements with the BBC and ITV are at present under discussion. Your prayers are asked. A quarterly prayer letter is available from Trinity Trust, 57 Duke Street, London W1M 5DH.

### **You must see this!**

If you still go to the cinema, please do not miss *Chariots of Fire* which is going the rounds this month. Its hero is a Christian, Eric Liddell, who won an Olympic Gold in 1924. The story is true, heartwarming, encouraging. It has gained high acclaim from the critics—and is attracting big audiences. You and your family should see it—if only as a way of saying thank-you to the men and women who made it.



### **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

At their June meeting the Parish Council agreed to an increase in the salary of the Clerk. Your correspondent has to confess that he followed this by failing to meet the Editor's deadline with his notes of the meeting. He offers his apologies to anyone who may have noticed the omission.

### **Best Kept Village Competition**

The June meeting was told that no further progress had been made in negotiations with the City Council on the employment of a local road-sweeper, and, as this was still the position at the July meeting, it would seem that this matter would not be resolved in time for this year's competition. It was therefore the more important for individual residents to do all they could to keep the village tidy.

The Council had also arranged with Miss Tomlin a painting competition for the school in connection with the *Trees in Your Village* competition, and four prizes, two in each group for infants and juniors, would be presented by Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young on 14th July. Winning posters would be displayed, in rotation, on the parish notice board.

### **Royal Wedding Celebrations**

Cllr. Peter Lawrence reported, in detail, at both meetings, on the arrangements for 29th July, when festivities would be held in the car park area of the 'White Horse', by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Stiles. Profits would go to the Village Hall Improvement Fund.



### **Recreation Ground**

The Tennis Club, who have recently had their courts resurfaced, have been granted a loan from the Kent County Playing Fields Association on condition that they obtain a lease from the Council; and in the circumstances the Council agreed in June to grant such a lease, subject to the agreement of the Conyngham Estate. A similar undertaking was given at the July meeting to the Cricket Club, who had felt that the increased rent which they were being asked to pay should be matched by an increased security of tenure.

### **'The Close'**

County Councillor Lawrence Shirley attended the July meeting, and introduced a discussion on the future of 'The Close' buildings. Members decided to pay a joint visit to 'The Close' before putting precise proposals to the County Council.

### **Proposed Motel**

Councillor Shirley also told the meeting that the City Council was pressing the County to support the plans for the proposed motel; and that it was hoped to hold a meeting in the Village Hall on 22nd July at 11.30am in order that residents could express their views to members. Adisham Parish Council have offered their support in opposing the present traffic arrangements for access to the motel.

### **Bus Services**

The revised 'bus timetables were discussed in June, and although otherwise little changed, the 8.09am schooldays service from Barham to Canterbury has been withdrawn. It was decided to raise this matter with the authorities.

### **Generally**

Cllr. Keith Chapman said that the Village Hall Committee had found it necessary to make certain small increases in hiring charges; and Cllr. Mrs. Olive Knight reported on the County Council's *Provision of Rural Services* Report. She felt that Bridge was well serviced, but thought that Civil Defence and the provision of work for young people were two spheres in which more could be done.

The Council is now to take its summer recess. The next meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 10th September, at 7.30pm. Members hope to see a good attendance in the public seats.

*F.L. Edwards, Clerk*

*The Vicar recently received this appeal for help from the Chaplain of the Kent & Canterbury Hospital with respect to Nunnery Fields Hospital:*

I am once again facing an acute problem in regard to the Service I hold at Nunnery Fields Hospital at 2.00pm on Sunday afternoons.

We sometimes have to get as many as 25/30 patients to the Service, most of whom have to be brought down in the lift in their chairs, and we really need three helpers each Sunday to get everyone to the Service.

I should be very grateful if anyone could offer help, however infrequently. Volunteers need to arrive about 1.30pm and are usually clear by 2.45pm.

*P.R. Heartfield*

### **FISH NEWS**

#### **Holiday Arrangements**

The Voluntary Help Scheme will continue to run as usual. The Luncheon Club will be closed for the whole of August. Meetings will start again on 7th September. The Chiropody Clinic is also closed for August as the chiropodist will be on holiday.

#### **Aids and Nursing Equipment**

The British Red Cross Society holds stocks of aids and nursing equipment on behalf of the Health Service (wheelchairs, walking frames and sticks, backrests, commodes, toilet rails, etc.) Articles can be borrowed free of charge from the BRCS Depot, Lower



Chantry Lane, Canterbury, which is open Mondays to Fridays 10.00am to 12 noon, tel: Canterbury 66145. It is advisable to book wheelchairs in advance if you need them for a holiday. This service can be very helpful for short-term illness or whilst waiting for aids to be supplied or for elderly visitors. Arrangements can be made for equipment to be collected if you have no transport.

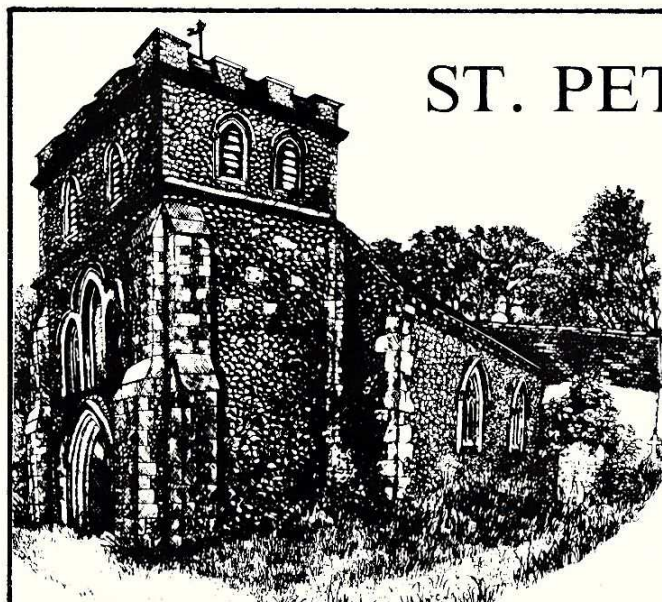
*Joan Warren*

### AN UNREPEATABLE OPPORTUNITY

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The Children's Society has been lucky enough to be granted the use of the new by-pass between the hours of 2.00 and 8.00pm on Saturday, 8th August and is inviting anyone who wishes to walk from one end of it to the other. The intention is two-fold, to introduce the public to this new road and enjoy new views of the countryside on the south side of the city, interesting aspects of the cathedral, etc., also to make a contribution to the society's work in this its centenary year. Walkers will be charged for the privilege, and it will cost £1 per family or 50p per individual. Interested parties (and who wouldn't be) can get further information from the Society's man in this area, Nicholas Woodcock, 16 Prospect Place, Canterbury, CT1 3JU (Tel: 55243).

Cleaning	ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE		Flowers
Mrs. Russell.....	1st August	.....	Mrs. Russell
Mrs. Grey.....	8th August	.....	Mrs. Purchase
Mrs. Beckett.....	15th August	.....	Mrs. Purchase
Mrs. Smith.....	22nd August	.....	Mrs. Smith
Mrs. Stickells.....	29th August	.....	Flower Festival
Mrs. Hogben.....	5th September	.....	



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---



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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

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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, 10 Dering Road, Bridge, CT4 5NA  
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 Vicar, 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

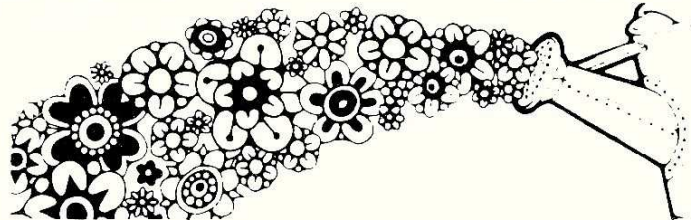
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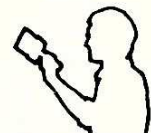
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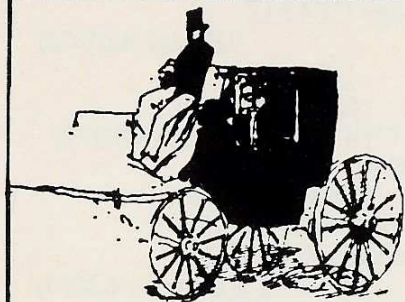


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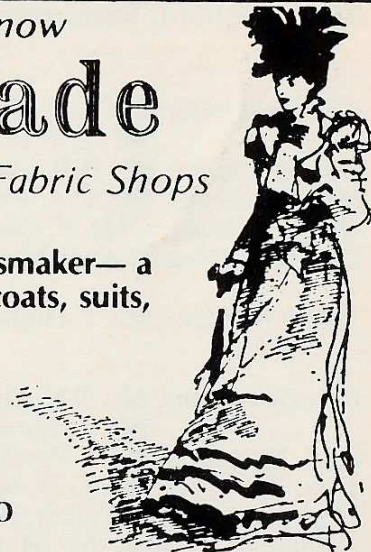


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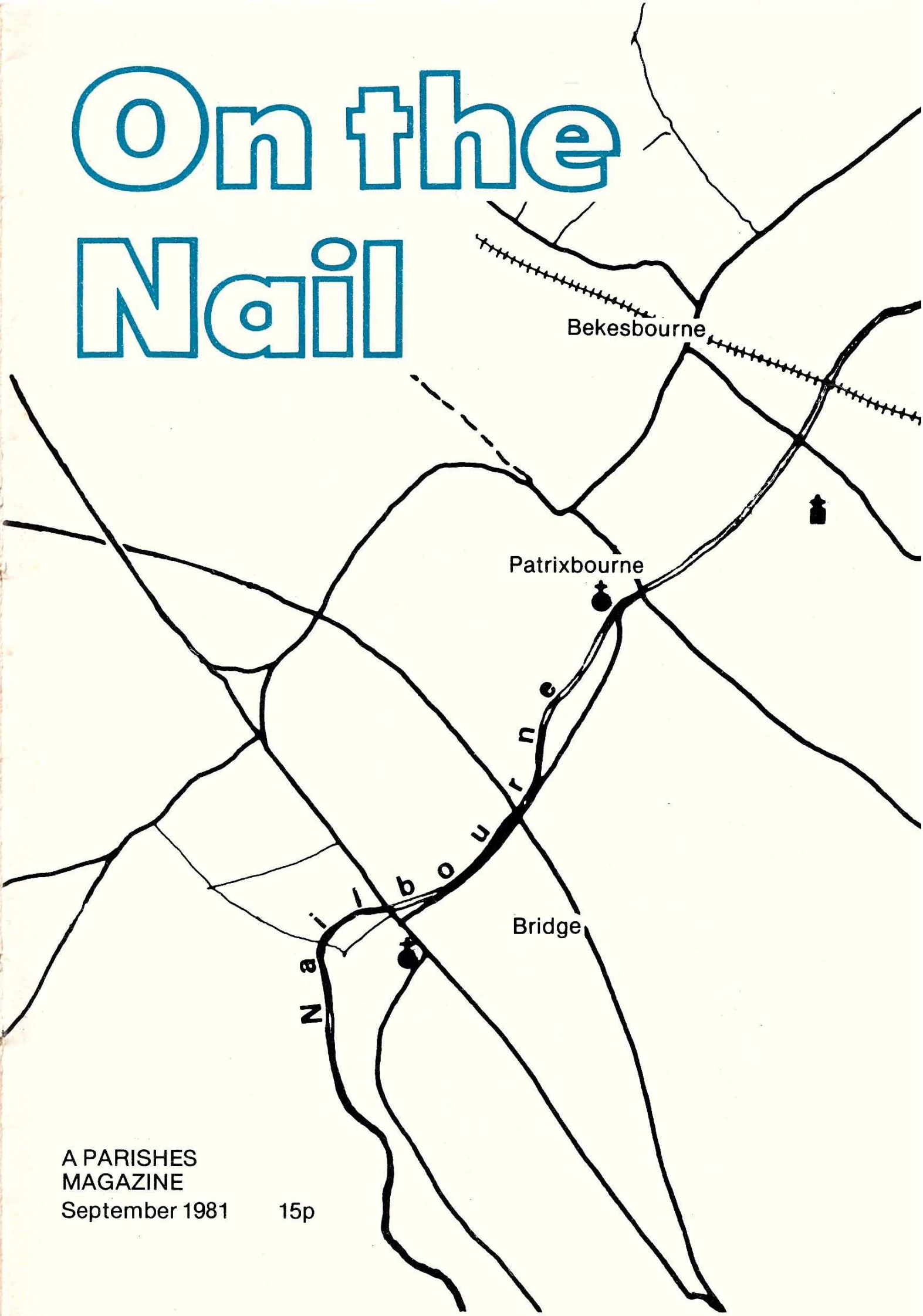
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# On the Nail





# Sunday Worship in September

## BRIDGE

## PATRIXBOURNE

## BEKESBOURNE

### 6th:

11am Family Service  
(*Canon Packer*)

8am Holy Communion  
(*Revd. D. Ratcliff*)

9.30 Parish Communion  
(*Revd. D. Ratcliff*)

6.30pm Evensong  
(*Revd. C. Harrington*)

### 13th:

9.30 Holy Communion  
(*Series 3*)

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

*No Evensong*

### 20th:

9.30 Parish Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am *Brownies Parade Service*

6.30pm Evensong

### 27th:

8am Holy Communion 9am Holy Communion 11am Harvest Thanksgiving Service

6.30pm Evensong

(*Canon David Naumann*)

Holy Communion is celebrated at St. Peter's, Bridge each Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (Series 3) at 7.30am, also on the first Wednesday of the month in the Common Room of Churchill House at 10.15am.

A short informal service for the residents of The Close is held in the chapel every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

**Bridge Methodist Church:** 6th, The Revd. J. Raymond Goodburn, B.A. 13th, Miss Hazel Forecast, B.A. 20th, *Harvest Festival*, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. 27th, S. John Rogers, M.A. D.Phil.

## For your diary and prayer list

1st *Giles, Abbot*

3rd *Gregory, Bishop of Rome, Teacher of the Faith, 604*

5th Darryl John Lobsey and Caroline Anne Upton to be married at St. Mary's, Patricxbourne, 12.30pm.

6th *Twelfth Sunday After Trinity*

8th *THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY*

10th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

12th Canon John Arthur Simpson to be collated as Archdeacon of Canterbury and installed as Canon Residentiary in the Cathedral at 3.15pm.

13th *Thirteenth Sunday After Trinity*

3.30pm, the annual Deanery Missionary Festival at Littlebourne, culminating in Evensong at St. Vincent's Church, 5.45pm. There will be no Evensong to-day at Bridge.

15th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute Harvest Supper, 7pm  
Interchurch Discussion Group, Bridge Methodist Church, 8pm

16th Discussion Group, 20 Conyngham Lane, 7.45pm

20th *Fourteenth Sunday After Trinity*

11am Bekesbourne Brownies will parade at church and their pennant will be blessed at this special service. It is hoped to make this an act of



worship for all the family. Do come, whether Brownie or not!

21st *ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE*

26th Jumble Sale for the Pilgrim's Hospice, Bridge Village Hall, 2pm

27th **Bekesbourne Harvest Festival** Service at 11am. The preacher will be our Rural Dean, Canon David Naumann.

This morning, in our cathedral, the Revd. Roger Smith, sometime organist at St. Peter's, Bridge is to be ordained priest. A number of Bridge friends hope to be with Roger on this momentous occasion but it is essential *all* of us, whether we will be in the cathedral or not, surround him and the other candidates with our prayers.

29th *ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS*

Roger Smith celebrates the Holy Eucharist for the first time this evening at St. Saviour's Church, Folkestone at 7pm. Preacher: The Bishop of Willesden.

## Be an Angel!

There is more to an angel than meets the eye! So there should be, for the quality that goes to make up an angel is one to be recognised chiefly by the understanding and not by sight. You cannot point to an angel, as you can a person, for despite the pious attempts of artists in stained-glass and monumental masons, no type exists that is immediately identified as an angel.

Yet angels do exist, and most people have entertained them at some time or other, howbeit unawares, for an angel is no more nor less than a messenger who delivers a message from God. 'Angel' means *messenger*.

So it follows that quite ordinary people are angels, by virtue of the role they play for God rather than by their appearance. We can forget the airborne creature with the flowing locks, the white gown and the anaemic features. That is purely a figment of imagination: artistic licence if you like! The instances of angelic visitations in the Bible are either in the course of dreams or from actual people of flesh and blood, sent by God with his message for a particular person. You, dear reader, could be called upon to assume the guise of an angel if God chose you, but I shouldn't begin to look for the wings to sprout. Nor should we assume being an angel is tantamount to a person being a model of goodness, for God does not select only the purest of us for the task of messenger.

But the feast of St. Michael and All Angels that we observe each 29th September is not a festival of human messengers but of those heavenly creatures the Bible and ancient tradition conceive of as specifically created by God for the ceaseless worship of the court of heaven. These are the seraphim and cherubim who inhabit the throne-room of heaven and rest not day or night as they offer never-ending praise to almighty God; the heavenly host of the first Christmas night, the vast throng of which the Book of Revelation speaks so ecstatically.

Nevertheless there is a tie-up between the heavenly worshippers and the earthly messengers, for both in their different ways serve God. For this reason the church has always chosen Michaelmas as a time when it ordains men to the sacred ministry. What could be more apt, for in a sense the clergy, by their appointed role, incorporate the qualities of both angelic forms. Theirs is the daily round of worship, offered to God morning and night in the



recitation of the Daily Offices of Matins and Evensong, and offered on behalf not only of themselves but their people. Theirs also is the role of divine messenger for in fulfilling their priestly function they stand for men before God and for God before men at the altar and in the pulpit.

Few clergy are angels, in the sense of being paragons of goodness, but then neither are those other people God calls to be his special messengers. Yet angels they all are, and there is a direct link between the angels of heaven and the angels of earth in that the worship of the church on earth is part of that perfection of worship offered by the church in heaven. Each time the Holy Communion is celebrated this unity of worship is given full expression in words which traverse not only continents but entire worlds.

“Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest!”

## Joan Chapman

The untimely and, in its way, tragic death of Mrs. Joan Chapman, 18 Western Avenue, shook the village of Bridge, as witness the very large congregation in church for her funeral, conducted in the vicar's absence by the Revd. Charles Harrington. Her husband, Keith and family, Gloria, Alan and Roger, gratefully acknowledge the many letters and cards of sympathy in their most sudden bereavement, and extend their thanks for the many donations, which will be passed to the Asthma Research Council.

Mrs. Iris Harris has contributed the following appreciation at the editor's request:

The adjectives that come to mind when thinking of Joan Chapman, who so sadly passed away recently, are 'cheerful', 'willing' and 'courageous'.



Despite the increasing severity of the asthma from which she had suffered for many years, and the discomforts caused by so much of the treatment, Joan soldiered on with commendable courage, effectively masking her trouble from the public gaze and always greeting her friends around the village with that characteristic smile and cheery manner. Nor did she let her ill-health deter her from serving her many interests in the life of Bridge. Like her husband, Joan was always ready to help! She was closely associated with the Senior Citizens' Club, worked for The Friends of the Hospital and did an enormous amount at The Close, helping with occupational therapy and in many fund-raising activities.

Joan was also an active member of the local Women's Institute, having served on the committee for several years, always giving assistance gladly



when asked. In fact, only a few days before she went into hospital in July she helped organise a tea-party and entertainment given by the Institute to patients from Highland Court, many of whom knew her quite well.

Joan will be remembered with great affection by a wide circle of friends in the village, particularly for her cheerful personality.

## In sorrow and in joy

In the first period of the Vicar's annual summer holiday no fewer than four funerals occurred. They were conducted by the Revd. Charles Harrington. That of Mrs. Joan Chapman is reported above, and the other three, all at Barham Crematorium, were those of Mrs. Katherine Isabel Crampton, 54 Union Road, Bridge, Percy Woodcock, Flat 2, Churchill House and Mrs. Edith Denchfield, Saxons, Beech Hill. In offering prayer for the repose of their souls we pray for those who mourn their passing.

We record with joy and all good wishes for the future the marriages of these: Tracey Vaughan, 1 Bourne View and Christopher Fisher, Strood, Rochester (15th August); Susan Goldup, 2 Bourne View and Kevin Scroggins, Kennington; also, Melanie Clark, Redwing, Worcester Lane and Christopher Lewsey, Whitstable (22nd August).

### CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The coffee morning held on 30th July raised £50.25, with many thanks to all the helpers, old and young. Half the amount was raised by the two teenagers who manned the Bring-and-Buy Stall.

The by-pass walk on 8th August was a great success, from the point of view of both the Children's Society and those who participated. There was a steady flow of people from 2pm to 6pm, some bringing their babies and others with dogs. At one time there were a hundred cars parked at the Bridge end. There was also an extensive sale of teas, refreshments and postcards. It was generally agreed that the walkers enjoyed the experience and the different views obtained from the carriageways. Over £200 was raised for the Children's Society, a truly worthwhile cause when it is realised that even to-day there are so many children in need.

*F. V. B. Mason, Hon. Secretary,  
Bridge Branch*



### TIME AND TALENTS

The follow-up to our churchyard clean-up at St. Peter's, Bridge in late spring was foiled by bad weather.

In the meantime several friends have battled nobly to keep the summer growth at bay, but it still needs a concerted effort really to give us a churchyard worthy of its surroundings and our village.

Everyone who would like to help is asked to come, armed with suitable implements, on Saturday, 5th September at 10am. Considering what we accomplished last time, we can really sort it out in one more morning of joint effort. See you there!

*A.J.*







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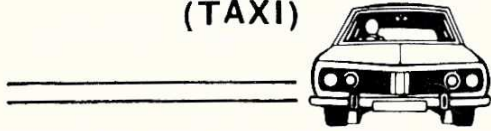
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ways and means to do something about it. Eventually the solution presented itself, and they got to work.

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### **And that's not all**

From time to time our three churches are given presents of one form or another for which the donors would be embarrassed to see their names in print. Thanks for these are generally accorded at the annual church meetings, when a collective and mutual thank-you is offered from all to all. Nevertheless readers of *On the Nail* ought to be told of any special gifts made or tasks performed, even if names are not mentioned.

One name that should be mentioned is that of David Farbrace, whose labours at Bekesbourne are many and varied, most notably in the churchyard and with the churchbells. He works hard for the church he has known and loved all his life and he does not stop when the autumn comes and the grass no longer needs cutting.

Specific mention of David's contribution does not in any way belittle or ignore the efforts of the faithful who in many ways render constant service on a purely voluntary basis and out of love for all three places of worship. We give expression to our family spirit in our care for the place where the family meets for prayer and worship Sunday by Sunday.

## **Diocesan News**



### **The July Diocesan Synod at Maidstone: a layman's perspective**

A pleasant sense of family permeated the start of this summer Synod, when Bishop Richard opened the day's business with a presentation honouring Canon Bernard Pawley on his retirement as Archdeacon of Canterbury. The Archdeacon being still in hospital, his wife, Mrs. Margaret Pawley, attended on his behalf. The hall was soon filled with appreciative laughter as the Bishop recalled his wit and wisdom both here and in the wider councils of world and papal church affairs. "That is our Bernard, the local man, very wise, a tremendous wit, and somebody on whose counsel and wisdom we and the whole church have relied."

The Archdeacon's own reply was read to us by his wife, after a touching speech in which she said her own thank-yous and described the high spirits with which her husband was meeting his illness.

#### **The Archdeacon's message:—**

"I had wondered how to communicate this message to you. It did occur to me that we might record a tape to be played over at this conference—a method which the Pope and I have used on several occasions . . .

First of all, thank you for your generous presentation. (I have written this in advance, without knowledge, but in confidence and expectation.) These thanks include an overall expression of gratitude to the hundreds of friends



whose fellowship we have enjoyed during these nine years. We shall continue to reside in the Diocese but not in the Archdeaconry of Canterbury, so that such agitation as we shall be capable of will be aimed at the Bishop and Archdeacon of Maidstone.

I have now met my successor, Canon John Simpson, who is a young and lively man, which will be a refreshing change for the Bishop of Dover, who has not had much assistance from me for nearly six months.

I am on a prolonged treatment of drugs, which will continue when I transfer myself first back to Canterbury and then to Warehorne. But to show you that I am mentally not in bad condition, let it be recorded that in the last few days I have read, and digested, the Annual Report and Accounts of the Church Commissioners; and only yesterday, the Report and Accounts of the Canterbury Diocesan Boards, which you are considering today.

To everybody, then, thanks and good wishes, but above all Praise to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who guides the Church faithfully in every age."

### **Down to Business**

After reading his message, Mrs. Pawley left for London, bearing the good wishes of everyone in the room. And Synod got down to business.

Arising from the minutes of the last Synod the Bishop of Maidstone announced that plans were being made for three Diocesan events to be held in the next three years. 1. For clergy and their families next year to meet the Archbishop, centring on a service in the Cathedral; 2. Deanery festivals and gatherings in 1983 for the same purpose; 3. A great residential conference for clergy and laity in 1984, possibly at one of the southern universities.

The Bishop of Dover then took us into the Presidential Address, modestly declining such a title for his speech, and prefacing it with appreciation for the Archbishop's frequent weekends in the Diocese. Dr. Runcie had recently told the General Synod that he "looks forward to becoming as familiar a figure in Wormshill, Wickhambreaux and Stodmarsh" as he was in the councils of the nation. "I marvel at the amount of work he does get through", said Bishop Third, "We should be most thankful that God has endowed him with the great gifts of wisdom and expression. I know he feels that the support of the Diocese is something very important to him personally, and we must make the remembrance of Robert our Archbishop in our prayers no formality".

### **Innovations**

He then went on to report on domestic matters:

1. A room is to be set aside in Diocesan House where people will be able to meet and relax when they visit Canterbury.
2. A fortnightly experimental meeting for Heads of Departments based in the office is planned for the autumn.
3. A monthly house Eucharist has been started for Diocesan Staff.
4. The Revd. Trevor Pitt of Elham has been appointed Vice-Principal of the Canterbury School of Ministry from this autumn term, when a third-year intake of students occurs. The Director, the Revd. Kenneth Mason, becomes the Principal.
5. The Bishop of Maidstone becomes Chairman of the Board of Ministry, with oversight of all training in the Diocese.

So ended the President's address which was followed by Question Time when finances seemed to take over, employing a disproportionate amount of Synod's time, to the extent that later items had to be postponed in order to get through the day's business. It started with a question about *Fairer Shares*, properly submitted by the East Bridge Deanery, as to why parishes with tiny congregations, or very large repair bills, or united benefices, were not being relieved of some quota payments on these grounds, as had been originally decided.



### **Bemused with Details**

In reply, Mr. Tom Denne, Chairman of the Board of Finance, plunged with us into a two page document of elaborate technicality which he first read aloud and then explained in detail. The gist of it seemed to be that the original plan, though well-intentioned, would not work. We emerged bemused with details of the 50/50 transitional year's extension, local adjustments and the family count, quite unable to generate a debate, and Question Time was over.

### **Getting Together**

After the financial Report and Accounts were received, the last subject to be raised before lunch was that of the proposed Covenant with other churches, to enable them and us to be reconciled and mutually acceptable. It is an important matter as Deanery Synods are required to give their views in the near future. General Synod has already given provisional approval to *Proposals for a Covenant*. A specialist speaker, Canon Martin Reardon, who is Secretary of the General Synod board concerned, ran through the working paper *Towards Visible Unity* with us at some length, in order that the salient points should be clearly understood by the Deanery representatives present. All members also received a cleverly devised summary sheet on the whole subject, prepared by the Diocesan Council for Mission and Unity.



### **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

#### **Royal Wedding Celebrations**

Although the Council is now in recess, members sponsored an event in celebration of the Royal wedding on the evening of 29th July in the grounds of the 'White Horse', with music, food and drink, and tombola. It was a very successful event, and thanks are due to those who contributed towards the success; in particular to Mr. and Mrs. Stiles, who made their premises available, Whiclar Wines for the provision of the stage, Mr. Greenaway for the electrics, Messrs Welch and Andrews for the electric power, Mr. Hawkins for organising the delivery of handbills, 'The Close' and the Village Hall Committee for the loan of coloured lights, GKN Mills for the free transport of scaffolding; and to Mr. McKeever for the provision of sheep pens, which proved equally successful in marshalling the three hundred villagers who attended, of whom some two hundred partook of the meal provided. The profit which, as we mentioned last month, will go to the Village Hall Improvement Fund, will be about £35 after VAT has been reclaimed.

#### **'The Close'**

Members visited 'The Close' on 7th August and were shown round by Cllr. Keith Chapman. A number of ideas for the future use of the buildings were discussed, and it was decided to consider these, with the help of plans, at the September meeting of the Council.

#### **Proposed Motel**

A public meeting in the Village Hall, attended also by County and City councillors, and chaired by Cllr. Laurence Shirley, showed strong opposition



by residents to any plans which would increase traffic on roads in and near the village, and the City Council, who had approved the proposed motel in principle, have accepted the points put forward by those opposed to the application on road safety and amenity grounds. They will now approve the application only subject to the construction of an access to the existing A2, and the provision of slip roads from the eastbound to the westbound carriage-way of the A2.

### **Gorsley Wood**

The Parish Council had strongly opposed the application of the owner for the felling of a substantial portion of the interior of Gorsley Wood on amenity and conservation grounds and in the interests of the bird population of this very substantial area of woodland. The City Council Planning Committee have indicated that they support this view, although they are willing to agree to the felling and replanting of an area of birch. This forms, however, only a small part of the total area, most of which the owner wished to fell and plough.

As was mentioned last month, the next meeting of the Council will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 10th September, at 7.30pm. Members look forward to seeing as many members of the public as possible at this first meeting after the summer break.

*F.L. Edwards, Clerk*

### **DEANERY MISSIONARY FESTIVAL**

The July issue of *On the Nail* gave advance publicity to the new-style Deanery Missionary Festival, which takes place on Sunday, 13th September at Littlebourne. This year's festival is centred on the Church Army, one hundred years old this year, and on this occasion has a department for children only.

At 3.30pm adults assemble in Littlebourne Church for an introductory talk from the Revd. Michael Turnbull, Chief Secretary of the CA, followed by group discussion in the school (opposite). The children go directly to the school for their own activity, all age groups coming together at 5pm for tea and 5.45pm Evensong.

My earlier appeal for numbers resulted in only one name coming forward, but I find it hard to believe only one person out of the three villages is interested. This festival is invariably worth patronising, and in the past parishes have joined in with a will. Canon Packer will be collecting names at the Family Service at Bridge, but the vicar will be glad to receive notification from any others in the week beginning 7th September, if not earlier.

<b>Cleaning</b>	<b>ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE</b>		<b>Flowers</b>
Mrs. Hogben .....	5th September	.....	
Mrs. Watson .....	12th September	.....	Mrs. Watson
Mrs. Russell .....	19th September	.....	Mrs. Millyard
Mrs. Grey .....	26th September	.....	Mrs. Page
Mrs. Beckett .....	4th October	.....	Mrs. Beckett

**Harvest Festival Services** take place at St. Peter's, Bridge on Sunday, 4th October at 11am (Family Service) and 6.30pm (Preacher: Canon Derek Ingram Hill) and at St. Mary's, Patricxbourne on Sunday, 18th October (not 11th) at 11am (preacher to be announced).



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

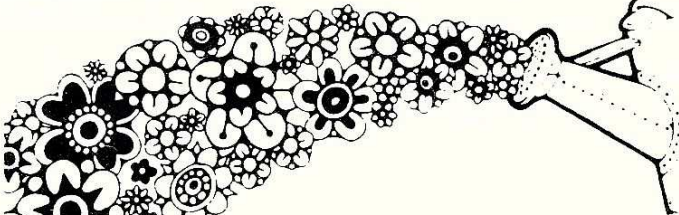
### PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

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, 10 Dering Road, Bridge, CT4 5NA  
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 Vicar, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

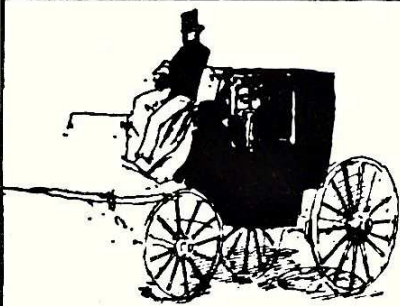
Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On the Nail* please send them to the Editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication. He would always welcome articles and photographs of general interest for inclusion in the Magazine which has a wide circulation in the three villages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

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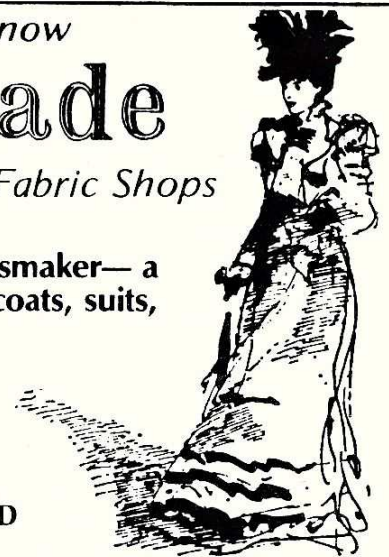
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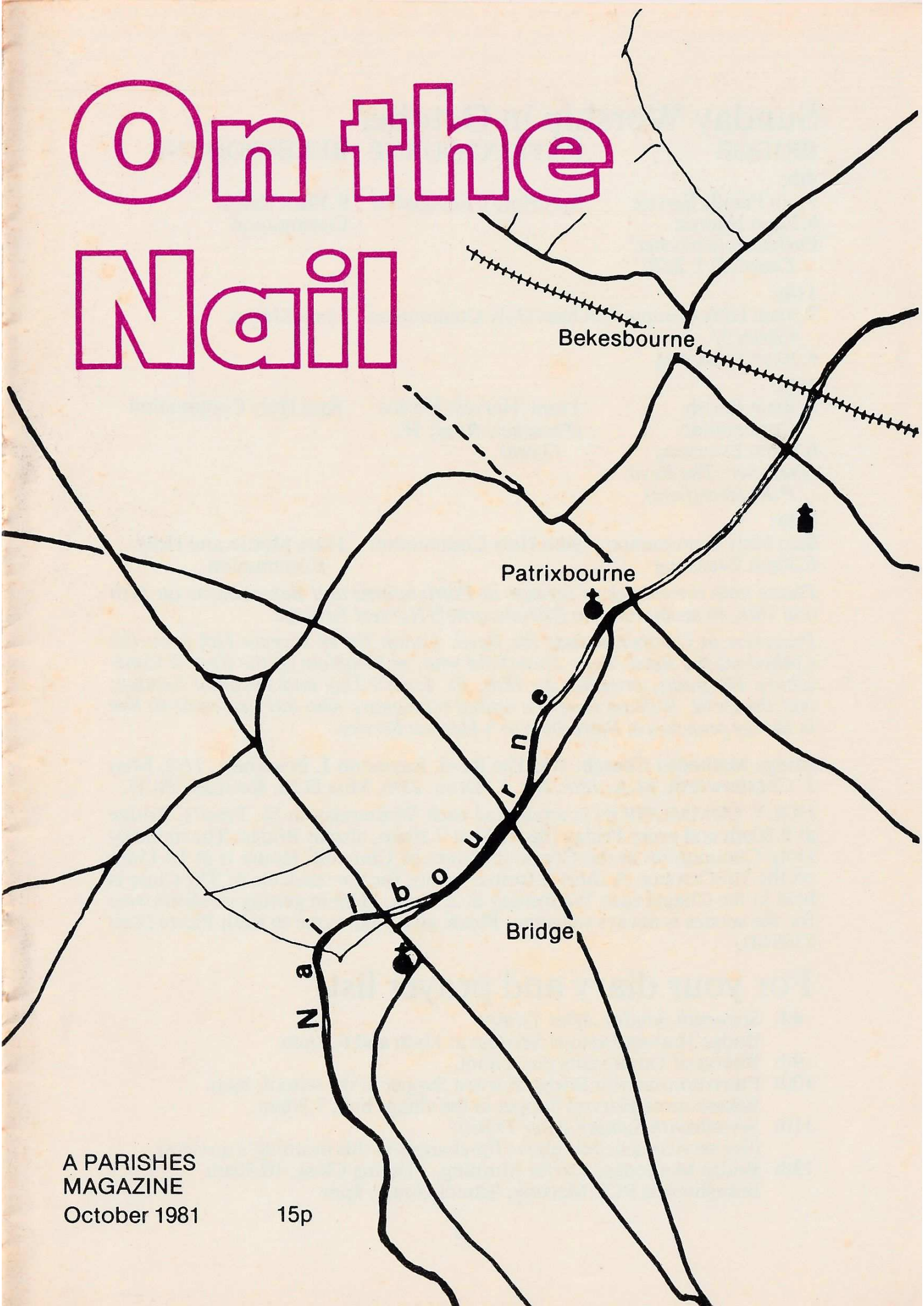
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# On the Nail





# Sunday Worship in October

BRIDGE

PATRIXBOURNE

BEKESBOURNE

## 4th:

11am Family Service

6.30pm Harvest

Evensong (*Preacher:*

*Canon D.I. Hill*)

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish

Communion

## 11th:

9.30am Holy Communion

(*Series 3*)

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

## 18th:

9.30am Parish

Communion

6.30pm Evensong

(*Preacher: The Revd.*

*P.R. Heartfield*)

11am Harvest Matins

(*Preacher: Revd. W.*

*Owen*)

8am Holy Communion

## 25th:

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins and Holy

Communion

*Please note the change of services at Patrixbourne and Bekesbourne on 11th and 18th, to accommodate Patrixbourne's Harvest Festival.*

*Preachers in October include the Revd. Canon Derek Ingram Hill from the Cathedral; the Revd. Peter Heartfield who, as Chaplain of the Kent & Canterbury Hospitals, preaches on 18th, St. Luke's Day and Hospital Sunday; and the Revd. William Owen, a retired missionary who has just come to live in Bridge preaches at Patrixbourne's Harvest Service.*

**Bridge Methodist Church:** *4th*, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *11th*, Miss J. Charlesworth, M.A. *18th*, Mr. L. Dron. *25th*, Miss D.M. Rosman, Ph.D.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated each Wednesday in St. Peter's, Bridge at 9.30am and every Friday (Series 3) at 7.30am, also at Bridge. The monthly Holy Communion in the Common Room of Churchill House is at 10.15am on the 7th October. A short informal service for the residents of The Close is held in the Chapel each Wednesday at 2.30pm. Help in getting residents over for the service is always welcome. Please give your name to Kath Pierce (Tel: 830844).

## For your diary and prayer list

4th *Sixteenth Sunday After Trinity*

Bridge Harvest Festival Services at 11am and 6.30pm

9th Bishop of Dover visits our school.

10th Patrixbourne with Bridge Harvest Supper in the school, 8pm.

Bekesbourne Harvest Supper in the village hall, 7.30pm.

11th *Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity*

(See services schedule above for changes in this morning's services)

13th Bridge Methodists Coffee Morning, 2 Dering Close, 10.30am

Bekesbourne PCC Meeting, School House, 8pm



- 18th *SAINT LUKE, EVANGELIST & Trinity 18*  
 Patrixbourne Harvest Festival, 11am
- 20th Coffee Morning at Parsonage Farm, Bekesbourne, 10am  
 Bridge with Patrixbourne WI Meeting, 7pm  
 East Bridge Deanery Synod meets at 7.30pm
- 21st Magazine Distributors Meeting in the Methodist Church, Patrixbourne  
 Road, 3.30pm
- 24th Dog Show, Wingham Village Hall, 1.30pm
- 25th *Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity*  
 British Summer Time ends. Clocks go back one hour.
- 27th Bridge and Patrixbourne PCC Meeting, Methodist Church, 8pm.
- 28th ST. SIMON & ST. JUDE, APOSTLES

## It's never too late!

Baptism without Confirmation is like a pencil entry in a diary: it is neither one thing nor the other! Yet the fact remains, whereas the vast 'Christian' majority of this fair land have been christened, only a tiny minority, relatively speaking, have been confirmed.

It is not the purpose of this present writing to examine the whys and the wherefores of this state of affairs, but to record the fact and suggest a way out of it where our local situation is concerned.

Generally speaking we are baptised because our parents thought we should be: we had no say in the matter. This tradition has gone on for centuries, such that it has become the norm. We now assume babies will be baptised within months of birth, but as to going on to confirmation, well, that is a long way away, and somehow we don't see the importance of it. Baptism's the thing!

The truth of the matter, however, persists that baptism without confirmation is a half-finished job, and our earliest forebears would have scratched their heads at a situation in which the process of initiation into membership of the Church should be so lightly discarded by well-intentioned people.

Nowadays we often talk in church circles of the right age for confirmation, and this suggests that at least where churchgoers are concerned eventual confirmation is taken for granted. Committed church members do not think of baptism as the be-all and end-all of Christian involvement, and often the clergy find themselves having to be certain that youngsters presenting themselves for confirmation are not doing it because mum and dad want them to, but out of real conviction. Truth to tell, there is no right age for confirmation, which is why those who have reached adulthood, even old age, without being confirmed should not feel they have missed the boat. Church membership should be foisted on no one, nor should a person contemplate confirmation until he or she feels ready for it. Even then a period of preparation has to be made before the bishop's hands are laid upon anyone and as well as being a time for learning the rudiments of the faith it is also a time for continuous self-scrutiny to see if this is for them or not.

No doubt there will be some reading this who were not confirmed in adolescence for one reason or another, yet may have been thinking of late about it. If you fall into this category and would like to talk over the problem do get in touch with me.



I should be most happy to explain the situation to anyone of adult years— younger people will be catered for separately in the new year. Please either give me a ring or call at The Vicarage. Remember, it is never too late!

## Thank you Peter!



For the second time St. Peter's, Bridge has bidden farewell to Peter Giles as its organist; his second stint coming to an end this September.

He became organist the first time in 1970 and held the post until the summer of 1975, when I was privileged to be guest preacher at the musical bonanza with which his reign (for want of a better word) came to an end. Then when his successor, Roger Smith left for ordination at Easter, 1980, Peter once again took over, since when we have felt the benefit of his sympathetic organ-playing and gentle excellence in handling the choir. His sensitive approach to the job of organist and choir-master has greatly enhanced our worship at Bridge, and we are most sorry to see him go.

Those who know Peter are only too aware of the great number and variety of activities in which he is currently engaged. He is senior lay-clerk (choirman) at the cathedral and is still heavily committed with the distinguished musical trio, *The Canterbury Clerkes*. He is now doing a lot of writing, having already a published novel under his belt and a book on the counter-tenor voice about to appear. I believe a second novel is on the stocks, which, if it is as gripping as *A Monster Unto Many*, will be compulsive reading. On top of all this is his school work at the Girls Langton, and it is an increase in his teaching schedule that decided him that something had to go. Regrettably it had to be us.

At least we can be glad the Giles family is not leaving Filmer House and we look forward to seeing them around as usual.

There is no news as yet of a successor to Peter, although two people have expressed an interest in the job, neither from Bridge.

\* \* \*

*While on the subject of comings and goings it is worth recording that there are now no fewer than four retired clergymen living in Bridge, a situation that makes me the envy of the surrounding district. In addition to Canon Packer and the Revd. Charles Harrington, we now have the Revd. C.B. Verity and his wife living in Conyngham Lane. They are the parents of Mrs. Ailsa Williamson. Then there is the Revd. William Owen and Mrs. Owen, who have come to live next door to the Harringtons in Bridge Down. Mr. Owen is a former CMS missionary. Welcome to both couples and to all newcomers to our villages.*



## In sorrow and in joy

His former customers and friends received with much sadness the news that Fred Woodward had passed away. His premises in Brewery Lane always seemed bursting at the seams with dismantled machinery and car batteries in various stages of repair, the buzz of recharging being a constant accompaniment to Fred's working day. Though not a Bridge resident he always seemed an essential part of the village scene and will be greatly missed, not least by those who patronised him. His cremation, coming during the vicar's holiday, was conducted by the Revd. Charles Harrington.

We rejoice with Caroline Upton, High Banks, Bridge Hill and Darryl Lobsey of Wimbledon on the occasion of their marriage at Patricxbourne on 5th September. Much health and happiness to them both!

Also among our joys we welcome into the family of God through baptism Josephine Ruth Page, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne, who is the daughter of Tom and Kate Page and the grand-daughter of Anne and John Purchase. Josephine's baptism took place in Bekesbourne Church on Sunday, 6th September, Canon Packer officiating.

## Here and there

Would anyone be interested in forming a Bridge branch of the **Royal British Legion**, asks Keith Chapman of all ex-service men and women? Several years ago there was a very strong branch and club in Bridge and this could be revived if enough members could be found. Interested parties please contact Keith at 18 Western Avenue (Tel: 830520) for further information.

The parish suppers that helped launch the Christian Stewardship Campaigns at Bridge and Bekesbourne last autumn were such pleasant affairs that the two parishes have been spurred on to revive the old custom of **harvest suppers** as part of the Harvest Festival.

Residents of Bridge, Patricxbourne or Bekesbourne are warmly invited to take part in one or other supper, both of which are on Saturday, 10th October at 7.30pm. Bridge and Patricxbourne's Harvest Supper is in the school hall: that at Bekesbourne will be in Bekesbourne Village Hall.

Obviously neither parish is in a position to stand treats again, and the organisers are confident the modest charge will not deter anyone from attending. The cost in either case is £1.50 per head and tickets are on sale now, at Bekesbourne from the churchwardens and at Bridge from The Vicarage or Mrs. Pierce, 7 Windmill Close. For catering purposes tickets must, of course, be purchased in advance.

Wingham Village Hall is again the venue for a **Dog Show** to be run by Mrs. Allan, this time for Bekesbourne Church funds on Saturday, 24th October. Schedules will be obtainable at the three churches and The Vicarage.

Two **coffee mornings** crave your support this month, both on Tuesdays. The first is at Miss Ethel Neame's home, 2 Dering Close on 13th from 10.30 to noon. There will be stalls and proceeds will, as usual, be shared by the Methodist Church in Bridge and a recognised charity. A week later, on 20th Mrs. Christine Ash is holding a coffee morning for Bekesbourne Church at Parsonage Farm, 10 till 12 noon. Your support for both mornings is eagerly sought!



**Folk Dancing** will be starting again after the summer break on 1st October at 8pm in the General Purpose Room at The Close, Bridge. Everybody is welcome to come along to join in or simply to watch. The caller will be Mr. Alf Matthews from Canterbury Folk Dance Club. If you have any enquiries please contact Mrs. D. Whittaker, 9 High Street, Bridge.

Bridge with Patricxbourne **Women's Institute** holds its monthly meeting on Tuesday, 20th at 7pm in the Village Hall, when there will be a talk on Cross-Channel Ferries from Captain Martin. The competition is a decorated pebble. The WI also offers advance notice of a coffee morning and display of crafts at the Village Hall on Saturday, 21st November from 10am to 1pm.

**Nailbourne Horticultural Society** is having a half-day outing to the gardens at Great Comp, Borough Green on Saturday, 10th October, leaving Bishopsbourne Church at 12 noon or Hawkin's, Bridge at 12.10pm. Returning by approximately 6pm, the cost is £2.50 per head, which includes entrance to the gardens. Tickets are available from either Mrs. Pat Davidson at Oswalds or Mrs. Anderson, Albany House, Bridge.

## Time and talents

The response to our churchyard clean-up at St. Peter's, Bridge on 5th September was, alas, disappointing; perhaps holidays, short notice and the hot weather had something to do with it.

The five who turned up did a splendid job of work (as anyone who walks around the churchyard can see) but if more of the 23 who originally signified their willingness had joined in, the impact would have been even more apparent.

Saturday, 24th October at 10am has been earmarked to finish off the job, so please make a note of it, spread the word around, and join in, with whatever tools you can muster.

A.J.

## Magazine distribution

Seldom does the opportunity present itself to pay tribute to those good people who every month attend to the frightfully important business of getting *On the Nail* out to the large circulation of readers in the three villages. The job they do is widely appreciated, if generally unsung, and to all concerned, thank you. I would especially single out the contribution performed by Mrs. Apps, who apart from having her own extensive round, parcels copies up for the distributors and in many cases taken them out to the distributors' homes.

At present there are 13 distributors in the three villages, but as a result of the Christian Stewardship Campaign a further 11 ladies indicated their willingness to join in. In order, therefore, to integrate these into the distribution and also relieve somewhat those already involved, I am calling a meeting of all 24 at Bridge Methodist Church on Wednesday, 21st October at 3.30pm. Please do try and attend, and I am sorry we cannot get such a large number into The Vicarage.

By way of preparation could I ask existing distributors if they would be so kind as to let me have an up-to-date list of those households who receive a magazine? The list you gave me earlier will be out of date by now. Thank you so much, and see you on the 21st!



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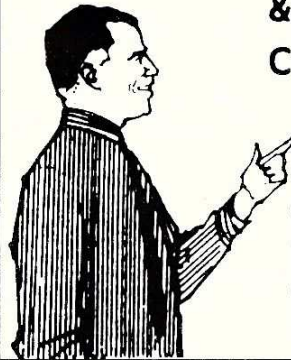
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# Bekesbourne Flower Festival

Once again the August Bank Holiday weekend saw the annual pilgrimage to the beautiful church of St. Peter, Bekesbourne, which was bedecked with a spectacular display of flowers, ranging from dark orange shades at the altar to white at the west end. As usual the font looked stunning, pale lemon and white flowers arranged like a cascading fountain, symbolizing the waters of baptism, and the delightful tiny arrangements at the pew ends came in for much appreciative comment. It really was a splendid sight to greet anyone fortunate enough to attend.

Our thanks to all who helped in flower arrangement, stewarding the church, manning the stalls and standing the expense themselves to cut the costs to a minimum. The cost of the flowers was covered by the coffee mornings, for which again our grateful thanks. To Mrs. Whigham our thanks also for the use of her garden at Cobham Court for teas. To Nicola and Fay Gillanders for their splendid effort with the mile of pennies: never before has it produced so much—£25. We also would like to thank Canon Packer for a beautiful festival evensong and David Farbrace and all who helped to make the churchyard so smart. Everyone who made even the smallest contribution has earned our gratitude for enabling us to make a net profit of £648.22

In this year of the disabled it is fitting to conclude with the words of a lady who had travelled some distance in a wheel chair, which she had to leave at the lych gate to climb laboriously the rest of the way and back: "It was worth every bit of effort involved. It is quite the best I have ever seen, and I should know, because I belong to a flower arranging club".

P.F.



## Diocesan News

### One World Week — and Brandt

There will be a **Public Meeting on Brandt** in Herne Bay Parish Church on Friday 23rd October at 8pm. Programme for the evening:—

*Facing up to Change: Britain and the Brandt Report* — a slide/tape presentation produced by C.W.D.E.

The Hon. David Crouch, M.P. will speak; there will be time for questions and discussion. Worship and prayers will be led by 1st Herne Bay (Christ Church) Rangers.

### The William Temple Lectures

The Centenary Lectures commemorating Archbishop William Temple (1881-1981) will be delivered at 8pm in the Quire of Canterbury Cathedral as follows:—

Thurs. 8th Oct. 'Archbishop and Theologian', by Bishop Michael Ramsey.

Thurs. 15th Oct. 'Social & Political Thinker' by the Revd. Peter Sedgwick, Lecturer in Theology, University of Birmingham.

Thurs. 22nd Oct. 'Pioneer of Christian Unity' by Bishop Oliver Tomkins.



### **Health and Healing**

Dom Benedict Heron, O.S.B. will be the speaker at the second annual meeting and conference of the Canterbury Council for Health and Healing on Saturday 17th October. The day starts at 10.30am in the Church Barn at Charing and ends with a Eucharist and Laying-on of Hands commencing at 3.15pm. Picnic lunches should be brought.

Dr. Derek Hall, Mrs. Avis Overton and Canon Ewart Roberts are conducting a weekend entitled *A Time of Health, Healing and Blessing* at St. Gabriel's, Westgate, from 6pm on Friday, 20th November to 2pm on Sunday, 22nd. Residential cost is £20. Bookings to the Warden, Mr. P. Barry, Thanet 32033.

### **'The Mustard Seed'**

A day centre for mentally handicapped adults in Canterbury, which has been using St. Peter's Methodist Church Hall for some time, has been given a house by Kent Social Services in St. John's Place, on condition that they furnish and refurbish and decorate it themselves. They cater for some 35 people on two separate days each week—teaching them cooking and crafts and giving them outings, and hope to open in September.

Furniture and long curtains are a great need at present, also small armchairs and work tables. Any help would be gratefully received by Linda Jackson, Secretary of Mustard Seed (for the Association of Mental Health) at 7 Cranborne Walk, Canterbury (51390).

### **Embroiderers' Success**

Some £4,000 will be contributed to the Asthma Research Council as a result of the beautiful exhibition of *Embroidery Old and New*, displayed last month in the Chapter House. 18,850 adults and countless children attended from all over the world. Special gratitude goes to the 308 stewards, 37 doorkeepers and 25 embroidery demonstrators, and to the Archbishop for lending the cope he wore at the Royal Wedding. The event was organised by the East Kent Branch of the Embroiderers Guild.

### **Religious Drama**

First venture of the religious drama group based on Chartham called Group 81 will be five performances of medieval and modern pieces in the following places:—

All Saints, Canterbury Saturday 24th October, 7.30pm

St. Mary's, Chartham Saturday 31 October, 7.30pm.

Lyminge parish church Saturday 7th November, 7.30pm (date to be confirmed)

Wye parish church Sunday 8th November, 7.30pm.

Christ Church College, Canterbury Saturday 14th November, 2.30pm.

Enquiries from volunteer actors, singers, helpers, etc. to Maurice Copus, Hatch House, Chartham Hatch, Canterbury. Future productions are hoped to include *The Firstborn* by Christopher Fry and *The Son of Man* by Dennis Potter.

### **What is the Gospel?**

A basic question for House Groups, Parish Study Groups or Chapter Meetings to investigate. There is now a D.C.M.U. Discussion Paper on this



subject by Canon Alan Dawkins and available from him at The Vicarage, 38 Beltinge Road, Herne Bay (Tel. 4906). The paper concludes with suggested group activity.

## Meaty Problems

The teacher had just told the class the story of the Prodigal Son. Then she asked them who they felt most sorry for.

“Please, miss—the fatted calf.”

\* \* \*

“Tell me children, what is the main use of cow hide?”

Dead silence, then one arm shot up. “Please, miss, to hold the cow together.”



### **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council met on 10 September after the summer recess.

#### **Proposed New Motel**

Members heard a brief report from Mr. John Purchase of the meeting called the previous evening by the Action Group. The developers had objected to the County Council's insistence, to which we referred last month, on the construction of access roads to the A2, and although a further report had been asked for, the Action Group felt that there was now some likelihood of the original proposals being agreed to, as the developers wished. The meeting, which had more than filled the hall, showed the strength of feeling in the village on the subject; and the Parish Council decided to write to the County Council strongly reiterating its previously expressed views regarding any proposals which allowed additional traffic on to the village roads.

#### **Recreation Ground**

The Council decided to accept compromise proposals on the compensation provisions of the draft lease for the extension of the recreation ground, and this will enable the matter to be completed, nearly three years after the start of negotiations. It was decided to defer discussion on the draft bye-laws, on which the Home Office had raised numerous observations; and following complaints from the cricket club regarding the length of the grass on occasions during the summer, the Council agreed that twenty cuts should be made during the next season, instead of the eighteen carried out up to the present.



### Best Kept Village Competition

Members heard that Bridge did not figure amongst the winners this year, but the judges' report, although somewhat critical on certain matters, including the litter in the vicinity of Lipton's shop, and the absence of communal effort, did not make any radical criticism of the state of the village.

### Future of *The Close* Buildings

Following the visit by members to *The Close* on 7 August, the Council discussed a number of proposals for the future use of the buildings, all of which are listed as of architectural interest. Traffic access to the site is restricted, and imposes limitations on its use, but the Council decided on a number of points to put to the County authorities.

### Village Hall

Councillor Keith Chapman drew attention to the fact that the lease of the Hall had only 26 years to run, and said that he felt that it would be undesirable to embark on any extensive scheme of improvements without a more secure tenure of the property. Members agreed, and decided to approach the agents for the landlords regarding possible purchase.

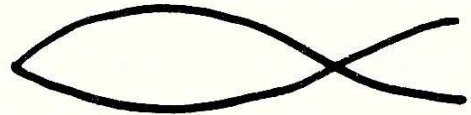
### Highways

It was decided to retain parish control of street lighting, rather than allow the City Council to take over responsibility; and to pursue with the appropriate authorities a number of highway matters.

The next meeting of the Council will take place in the Village Hall on Thursday, 8 October at 7.30pm, and members hope that last month's much improved public attendance will be maintained.

*F.L. Edwards, Clerk*

## Fish News



It is now over a year since we started our neighbourhood care scheme and it goes from strength to strength. (*Ed:* due to Joan Warren's unflinching effort.) Sixty people have offered to help—about half help on a regular basis and the other half can be called on when needed.

During the year we have answered many requests for help, advice and information. The Luncheon Club now has a waiting list and the Chiropody Clinic is working to capacity. We are building up a network of contacts with the elderly and handicapped members of our community.

We are very grateful for the help and co-operation we have had from the Social Services—this has enabled us to get prompt help from official sources when we have needed it to supplement our voluntary help.

We shall be having our annual meeting in November, when volunteers and other interested members of the community can discuss progress, problems and future plans. We would be grateful for your suggestions to improve our neighbourhood care scheme.

*Joan Warren*

### Cleaning

### ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE

### Flowers

Mrs. Beckett .....	3rd October .....	Mrs. Beckett
Mrs. Smith .....	10th October .....	Mrs. Smith
Mrs. Stickells .....	17th October .....	Mrs. Clifford
Mrs. Hogben .....	24th October .....	Mrs. Ash
Mrs. Watson.....	31st October .....	



Vicar: 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):  
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, 10 Dering Road, Bridge, CT4 5NA  
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 Vicar, 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

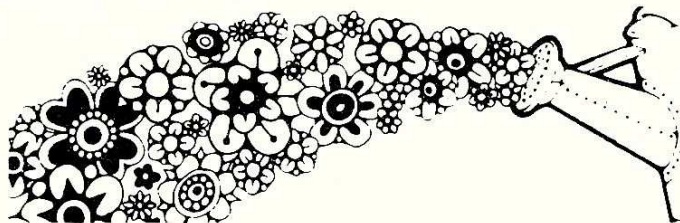
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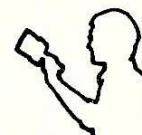
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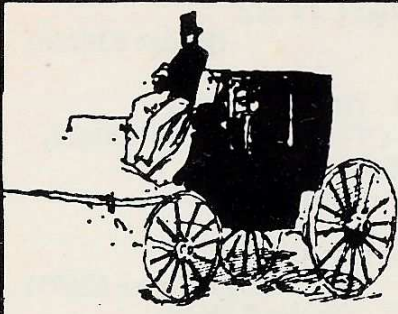


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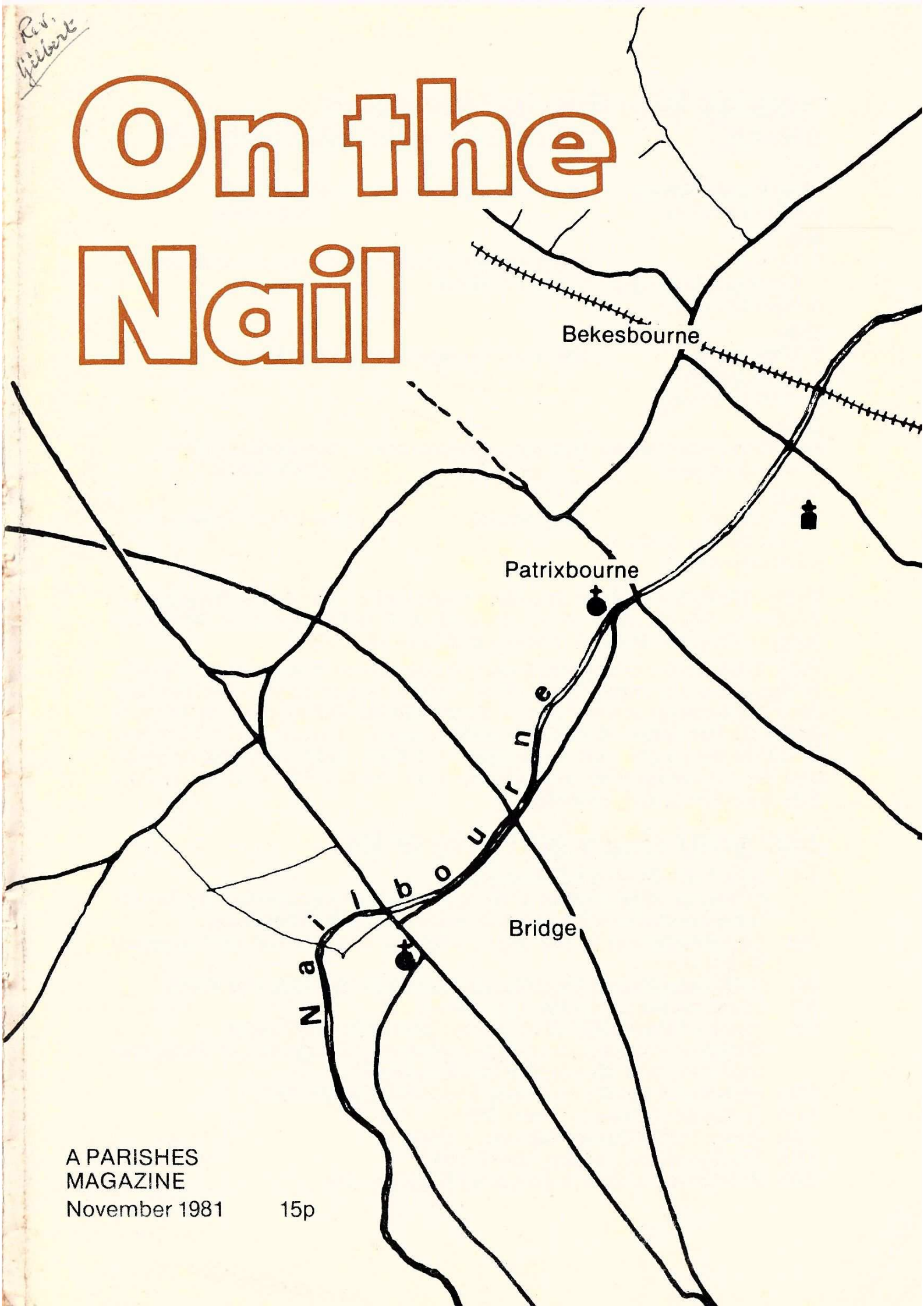
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# On the Nail



A PARISHES  
MAGAZINE  
November 1981

15p



# Sunday Worship in November

BRIDGE

PATRIXBOURNE

BEKESBOURNE

**1st:**

11am Family Service  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish  
Communion

**8th:**

9.30am Holy  
Communion *Series 3*  
6.30pm Evensong

11am Act of Remembr-  
ance & Matins

8am Holy Communion

**15th:**

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

**22nd:**

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins & Holy  
Communion

**29th:**

9.30am Holy  
Communion *Series 3*  
6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

**Bridge Methodist Church:** *1st, Holy Communion*, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *8th*, Mr. D.W. Dunn. *15th*, Mr. C.J. Robertson. *22nd*, Mrs. June Stewart. *29th*, The Revd. T. Mervyn Willshaw, M.A., B.D.

*Holy Communion* is celebrated each Wednesday at 9.30am in St. Peter's, Bridge and every Friday (Series 3) at 7.30am, also at Bridge. The monthly Holy Communion in the Common Room of Churchill House is at 10.15am on the 4th November. A short informal service for the residents of The Close is held in the chapel each Wednesday at 2.30pm. Help in getting residents over for the service is always welcome. Can *you* help? If so please contact Mrs. Kath Pierce (Tel: 830844).

## For your diary and prayer list

1st *ALL SAINTS' DAY & Trinity 20*

In honour of the festival of the holy people of Christendom the Family Service at Bridge will be a family eucharist, as on Whitsunday.

2nd *Commemoration of All Souls*, when we pray for our own departed loved ones.

4th Nailbourne Horticultural Society Film Show (See *Here and There*)

5th Fireworks Party (See *Here and There*)

8th *Twenty-First Sunday After Trinity: Remembrance Sunday*

Matins at Patrixbourne will be preceded by a short Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in the churchyard.

10th Interchurch Discussion Group, Methodist Church, 8pm.

11th *St. Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397*

12th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm

15th *Twenty-Second Sunday After Trinity*

20th *St. Edmund of East Anglia, King & Martyr, 870*



- 21st WI Open Morning, Village Hall, 10am (See *Here and There*)  
 22nd *St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr*  
 27th C of E Children's Society Christmas Gift Sale, The Old Palace, Canterbury  
 28th Bekesbourne Church's Christmas Market, Bekesbourne Village Hall, 2.15pm  
 29th *First Sunday in Advent*  
 30th *SAINT ANDREW, APOSTLE*

## Keep it simple

Gertrude was an old soul I used to visit as a curate. She was strait-laced and of a sad countenance, as the old Bible says. Her health was poor and she virtually lived on thin air. She was the one they were not going to rear, but such is the way of it, she was the sole remaining survivor of her family.

I called on her about once a month, yet despite her dreary voice and one-track mind, she was a tonic. It wasn't the jokes she told: she probably didn't know any. Nor was she a brilliant raconteur, having but the one theme, and a strictly religious one at that. Neither did she reminisce on an eventful and scintillating past, which she hadn't had. Yet it was what she said that I found bracing, arising as it did out of a quite extraordinary faith.

Gertrude was an epileptic, and her doctor had told her that on no account must she have a bath while she was alone in the house. But she was always alone. Her family had gone and the neighbours could take only so much of her religious talk. So in the interests of personal hygiene she ignored the doctor and bathed herself in the normal way. After all, as she never tired of telling me, she was not really alone because God was always there. "What I do is this. I get in the bath and then I say, 'Well, Lord, it's up to you now!' and I'm always all right."

You can smile, but Gertrude was in deadly earnest! She had that sort of faith. To her the psalmist was right: "God is our hope and strength: a very present help in trouble". The Lord was Gertrude's constant companion, her ever-present friend and protector. He was for all day and every day, not just for Sunday. She really trusted that God would deliver her out of potentially dangerous situations, that he would see that she didn't have a fit while she was in the bath. Nor did she!

Many's the time I have had a quiet chuckle about her faith, and even found myself wondering if she was not being too naïve. But the proof of the pudding is in the eating, and Gertrude's Lord *was* always there. I know because you had only to be with her to sense his radiance, to feel his presence—which is why I loved to visit that dismal, white-haired old lady who should have been dead long ago. After meeting her a few times I learnt what is meant by a simple faith that is rock-hard, even though to all outward appearances it is infantile. Gertrude's was not a childish faith at all: it was a *childlike* faith, the sort the Bible tells us is essential for aspirants to the kingdom of God.

## Here and There

**The Pilgrim's Hospice**, which was just a dream several months ago, is almost a reality. Its doors are still not open to residents but the domiciliary side of its work has been in operation for some time. The need for funds is as urgent as



ever despite the frequent fund-raising efforts sprinkled around the district. Two such events in Bridge, for which thanks are extended below, are indicative both of the enthusiasm for the hospice and a general desire to help get it off the ground. Let us not forget that once it is functioning properly it will need regular financial resources to keep going. The Pilgrims Hospice must not be treated as a nine-day wonder!

Mrs. Pauline Pope writes: "May I take this opportunity of thanking all those people who gave so generously to the jumble sale in aid of the East Kent Pilgrims Hospice in Bridge Village Hall, and to apologise to the many people from whom I was unable to take any jumble because the hall was simply not large enough to take it all!! The sale raised the sum of £166, which was a superb effort and I would like to thank all those people who helped, in particular Mr. and Mrs. G. Grabham and my own family. The winners of the raffle were Mrs. Kolhoff, Mrs. Raphael, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Young and Mrs. Govier".

Bridge Methodists' coffee morning and sale at the home of Miss Ethel Neame, 2 Dering Close did so well that they have been able to send £120 to the hospice fund. The actual takings are slightly in excess of £200, which is a magnificent result and an all-time record. Pat Grant, the Church Steward, wishes to place on record their thanks to all concerned, especially to Miss Neame who, with other church members has been engaged over the space of five or six months in making goods to sell. The fine total received is due also to the large number of villagers who packed Miss Neame's home. Well done, everyone!

#### **Gardeners' Delight**

The Nailbourne Horticultural Society announces that Dennes of Canterbury are giving a film show of general interest to gardeners in Bridge Village Hall on Wednesday, 4th November at 8pm and all are welcome.

#### **Local Pyrotechnics**

Attending a fireworks party is far and away the best and safest way to remember the fifth of November. The school PTA is once again staging such a party on Guy Fawkes night in Church Meadow, Brewery Lane. The bonfire will be lit at 7pm and the fireworks display takes to the air at 7.30. Entrance fee is £1 for adults and 50p for children. Soup, sausages, etc. will be on sale.

The Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Lorraine Prior would also like to give advanced warning of the proposed Family Christmas Party to be held in Bekesbourne Village Hall on Saturday, 12th December. Watch this space in December's *On the Nail* for more information.

#### **Not all Jam and Jerusalem**

If you have ever wondered what sort of things Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute get up to when they meet in the Village Hall every third Tuesday at 7pm you are invited to come and find out at a special open morning on Saturday, 21st November from 10am till 1pm. They will be staging an exhibition of arts and crafts and produce, and there will be a demonstration of work, a stall, raffle and some coffee. New residents are particularly welcome! November's regular meeting is the Annual Meeting which elects the President and Committee. The competition is for homemade sweets.

#### **Well worth the effort**

The approach of Christmas brings fresh resolves to spend less, and first on



the agenda nowadays tends to be a drastic pruning of the Christmas card list, if not the complete abandonment of it altogether. The chief cause is the price of postage, but what a pity it would be if this delightful tradition, often our sole contact with far-flung acquaintances, was to go.

One organisation that would certainly feel the effects is the Church of England Children's Society, which last year in Canterbury alone made £1,400 on the sale of remade cards. These cards are most attractive and sell at very reasonable prices. Old cards are collected in the parishes and remade by friends of the society over the course of the year.

If you would like to purchase your cards from the Children's Society you can do so from their stall in the foyer of the Marlowe Theatre on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10.30am to 12.30pm and on Fridays from 10.30am to 3.30pm. They will also be on sale at the society's annual Christmas Gift Sale, which is at the Old Palace, Canterbury on Friday, 27th November from 10am to 12 noon and is one of Canterbury's major pre-Christmas events.

To keep the pot boiling for next year a box will be placed in each of our three churches in January and if you are wondering what to do with the cards you receive this year, and don't mind parting with them, you are welcome to place them there for the Children's Society to recycle.

#### **Kent Trust for Nature Conservation**

The annual Coffee Morning in aid of the above trust will be held at 9 High Street, Bridge, the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. Whittaker, on Saturday, 7th November from 9.30am onwards. If you are unable to come the sales stall will be open on 7th, 8th, 28th and 29th November till 6pm.

#### **Dancing Days**

Folk dancing is continuing in the General Purpose Room at The Close on Thursdays, 5th and 19th November at 8pm. Caller: Alf Matthews from Canterbury. New dancers specially welcome!

#### **Plenty of notice**

From Sophia Taylor: "A Christmas Coffee Morning will be held at The Close on Saturday, 5th December from 10am to 12 noon, in aid of The Amenities Fund".

\* \* \*

WHATEVER YOU DO don't forget the churches Christmas Markets! Bekesbourne's is on the 28th of this month, and there is a piece about it on page 14. Then we have the Bridge with Patricxbourne Christmas Market in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday, 12th December. It opens at 2 o'clock and there will be all the usual attractions, stalls, side-shows, Christmas tree, raffles. Stall holders will be happy to receive any contributions you can offer. Perhaps intending donors would be so kind as to contact Bill Rose (830560).

## **Covenanting for Unity**

"The cause of Christian Unity at the present time, and indeed all through history," wrote William Barclay, 'has been injured and violated, and hindered, because men loved their own ecclesiastical organisations, men loved their own creeds, men loved their own ritual, more than they loved each other.'



The "Proposals for a Covenant" now being considered by the churches are intended to provide a fresh start for the Christians in the five participating denominations. If the Covenant is signed, members of the Church of England, together with the United Reform Church, the Methodist Church, the Churches of Christ and the Moravian Church, will recognise each others' membership and ministries, adopt the threefold ministry of bishops, presbyters and deacons, and at every level will seek to plan and act together, share each others' resources, and give a united witness. At the same time the conscientious reservations of individuals and congregations who find mutual acceptance and sharing difficult will be respected.

The present proposals do not envisage organic union. They might be described as a decisive step towards closer unity in life and mission. The purpose of the Covenant is to liberate the churches from their isolation and enable them to engage in a process of mutual enrichment, sharing together all the things that are valued; all the treasures of faith bequeathed as a heritage by the past to the present. But, most of all, the Covenant is intended to enable the churches to become more effective in Mission.

Inevitably, these Proposals raise some important and controversial questions concerning Episcopacy, the recognition of ministries, and the acceptance of women ministers of the other Covenanting churches. All these matters must be debated during 1981 for the following year is the year of decision.

*Contributed*

## Bridge Brownies Adopt & Cherish Project

If you have wandered down to the recreation ground off Patricxbourne Road between 4 and 4.30pm on a Tuesday afternoon in the past seventeen weeks, you will have seen the Brownies at work on the 'Adopt and Cherish' project. For the uninitiated the 'Adopt and Cherish' project is a national campaign sponsored by Lloyds Bank for the Girl Guide Association, in conjunction with the *Keep Britain Tidy* group. The idea is to adopt and cherish part of your own environment for a period of time, and Bridge Brownies have chosen a piece of the recreation ground from the seat by the tennis courts to the river's edge.

Over the past seventeen Tuesdays the Brownies have trimmed the grass and cleared the area of all litter, including a great deal of broken glass. As a result old folk and young folk can now sit on the seat in comfort and tennis players no longer have to hunt for lost balls in the long grass.

Our grateful thanks to all the shopkeepers who have sponsored the project and to all parents and friends who have sponsored individual Brownies. As this is the Year of the Disabled the Brownies have decided to spend fifty per cent of the money raised on the Home for Handicapped Children at Margate.

*M. Ashdown, Brownie Guider*

## Diocesan News

Home truths from abroad might well summarise the Report of the Partners-in-Mission consultation published recently. Among the more drastic changes mooted for consideration were the following:

- Disestablishment of the Church
- Abolition of patronage



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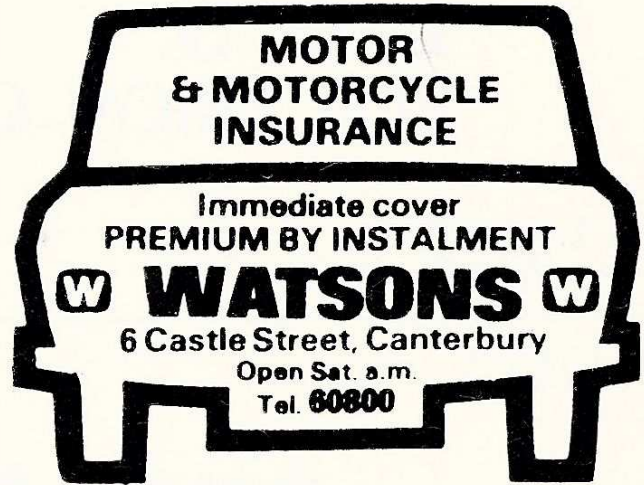
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- Abolition of the parson's freehold
- Withdrawal of financial support from the centre so that parishes are forced to become self-supporting
- Diversion of financial resources to align the Church in solidarity with the poor and under-privileged
- A switch to ecumenical theological training and ecumenical planning for buildings, pastoral re-organisation and deployment of manpower.

Well, reactions to this have been predictably varied. Some are horrified, others see it as something which should have been accomplished years ago. What is important, however, is to understand the background to these recommendations and to set them in perspective.

Mission today is by partnership, not by paternalism; and this Partners-in-Mission process is the Anglican Communion's way of welcoming a new missionary era. The Church of England has been slow in responding to change. As we know in Canterbury, diocesan and regional consultation have taken place. But over the years it was clear that these were not enough. And so at last for our own Church of England, a diverse group of Christians, lay and ordained, from other countries and other churches have taken a good look at us, and their findings form the subject of this report.

It's always salutary to receive loving yet candid criticism from others. It's always startling to see ourselves as others see us, and of course we must take these comments to heart and respond to them honestly and creatively. But it's just as important not to be overawed or disheartened by them. For the significant advances of the Church have not been the result of our own decisions about the mobilising or allocating of our "resources". That kind of language, appropriate for a military campaign or commercial enterprise, is not appropriate here. No. The significant advances have come through happenings of which the story of Peter and Cornelius (Acts 10) is a paradigm and example. In ways of which we have no advance knowledge, God opens the heart of a man or woman to the gospel. The messenger (the "angel" of Acts 10.3) may be a stranger, a preacher, a piece of Scripture, a dream, an answered prayer, or a deep experience of joy or sorrow, of danger or deliverance. Perhaps it could be even a Report to Synod. In any event it is always the free and sovereign deed of God who goes before his Church. And, like Peter, the Church can usually find good reasons for being unwilling to follow. But follow it must if it is to be faithful. For the mission is not ours but God's.

+ *Robert Maidstone*

### **Poppies for People**

Fifty thousand people, including many veterans of the 1914/18 war, now aged 80 or more, are still receiving help through the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal. Every Second War serviceman is at least 35 years older and many who were wounded or widowed are finding themselves less able to cope unaided. So the distance in time since the war years actually increases the demands on the Legion's funds year-by-year rather than diminishing them. . . Just a reminder that the Appeal is as contemporary today as ever it was.

### **You Fight World Poverty**

The Mexican Summit coming up on October 22-23 will be the first ever summit meeting of World Leaders to try and find solutions to the desperately serious problems afflicting both rich and poor countries concerning food,



trade, money and energy. The mass lobby of Parliament in May had a considerable impact on the politicians. But they should be made aware that many people are deeply disturbed at the way Britain and the U.S. have been blocking progress on international development issues.

If you want to influence matters—write to your M.P. telling him your concern and ask him to forward your letter to the Prime Minister. As a follow-up: Attend the meeting “What did the Summit achieve?” on Saturday 5th December at 10.30am at the Dominican Priory, St. Peter’s Lane, Canterbury and hear what Professor Evan Luard, who will have attended the summit, has to say.

### **Christian Television**

Look out for “Day One” and “Cliff”—on BBCtv, the first of two series of programmes devised by the Trinity Trust through Lella Productions as a Christian contribution to general television. Others in the pipe-line include “Gold and Glory”—a 13-part drama series about a London mounted policeman, Tom Gold and his horse Glory, “Take Joy”—a one hour special on C.S. Lewis; “Prime Time”—a weekly series of half-hour magazine programmes covering the world of pop culture and music. Individuals who would like to know more about Lella’s plans can borrow a special 16mm film (or cassette) from Trinity Trust, 57 Duke Street, Mayfair, London W1M 5DH.

### **Where in the World. . .**

The C.M.S. is looking for at least 200 people to lend their skills to churches overseas in short and long-term vacancies. Accountants, nurses, horticulturists are needed. Enquiries to Sue Knight, Overseas Service Department, C.M.S., 157 Waterloo Road, London SE1. Telephone: 01-928 8681.



## **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Street Cleaning**

The October meeting of the Parish Council heard that the Council’s negotiations with the City Council regarding the sweeping of the village streets had reached its twelfth month without any early prospect of the problem being resolved, for the City authorities say that they now wish to carry out a comprehensive review of the service before reaching a decision. The Council will continue to press the matter.

### **‘Trees in Your Village’ Competition**

Members heard with much pleasure from Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young that the judge had been very impressed with the village effort overall—regard is paid both to the care of existing trees and to the siting and planting of new trees. Bridge had been awarded third prize, and to mark the occasion the organisers, The Men of the Trees, will arrange the formal planting of a tree, to be selected by the Council, probably on the 22nd November. It will no doubt be remembered that a poster in connection with the ‘Trees in Your Village’ competition was the subject of a painting competition at the school in



the summer, and although only the winners were displayed in the parish notice board, all the entries were of a very high standard.

### **Recreation Ground**

The Council had proposed to make bye-laws to govern the use of the recreation ground, but the Home Office has objected to so many of the suggested provisions that the Council felt that, if these objections were accepted, the bye-laws would have little value. It was decided to seek the views of the Kent Association of Parish Councils.

### **Kent Association of Parish Councils**

Three resolutions are to come before the Annual General Meeting of the Association on 17th October, and the Council mandated its delegates, Cllrs. Mrs. Anne Young and Keith Chapman, on these resolutions. They deal with the protection of hedgerows, the parking of vehicles on footways and verges, and the excessive use of certain designated footpaths.

Other matters discussed included the latest position regarding the proposed motel development, following the Council's representations and the pressure from the Traffic Group; the Gas Board's laying of new mains in the High Street—the Board had undertaken to complete the work within three weeks; and the signposting of footpaths.

### **Next Meeting**

This will be held on Thursday, 12th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Members of the Council are, of course, always glad to see a good attendance of village residents.

*F.L. Edwards, Clerk*

## **Fish News**



**The Luncheon Club** celebrated its first birthday with a special luncheon on 5th October, and we were pleased to welcome Cllr. Mrs. Young, Cllr. John Hill and Mr. Derek Cartwright. Our members, who now number 38, join me in sending our thanks to all the people who have worked so hard in such a short time to make the idea a thriving reality. We are indebted to Matron for putting the amenities of The Close at our disposal and for her enthusiastic encouragement and help, and to her staff for all the extra work they have carried out with such good will. Our thanks are due to all our enthusiastic volunteers—to Mrs. Joy Monk and her helpers, who in our 44 meetings have served 1,257 meals; to Canon and Mrs. Packer and Mr. Grant for arranging the transport; to the drivers and to Miss Mason who acts as our cashier. Most of our members live alone or are housebound and 'Monday lunch' has now become a highlight in their week.

The Fish Scheme **Annual Meeting** will be held at The Close on Wednesday 11th November at 8pm. This will be an informal gathering to give volunteers and other interested members of the community an opportunity to discuss progress, problems and future plans for our neighbourhood care scheme.

**The Christmas Shopping Evening** for the elderly and housebound will be on Wednesday, 25th November, when Marks & Spencer, W.H. Smith, Woolworths and Barretts have kindly offered to open from 6pm to 7.45pm. Entry to the shops will be by invitation only. Applications for tickets should have been in by 23rd October, but unfortunately details arrived too late for last month's *On the Nail*. However, if you missed the date contact me at once (Tel: 830233) and I will do my best to get tickets.

*Joan Warren*



## Bekesbourne Organist — *As you were*

In the May 1980 edition of *On the Nail* we welcomed Morag Walker to the position of organist at St. Peter's, Bekesbourne in place of Stanley Grey. Now, reluctantly she has resigned to take a similar post at St. Stephen's Church, Canterbury, and we wish her well, at the same time thanking her for the tremendous amount of work and dedication she has put into the job at Bekesbourne. It is a mark of her enthusiastic commitment that she has cycled to and from the church, often twice a week, in all weathers, and for a time from Station Road West in Canterbury. In addition she has entered fully into the life of the church-in-the-garden, having done much to encourage the younger members of the choir and to provide musical accompaniment to two flower festivals. The PCC has expressed its appreciation and all of us whose worship has been enhanced by Morag's artistry say our own 'thank you' to her.

At the conclusion of the article announcing Morag's arrival I ventured the thought that "we have not heard the last of Stanley Grey", her predecessor. Stanley is in remarkable shape for an old-un (his words) who has been put through the medical mill. 1980 was definitely not his year and we missed our ebullient churchwarden as he languished far too often in a hospital bed. But 1981 has found him almost as good as new, so much so that we are to hear him again on the Bekesbourne organ that he loves so much. Stanley is back as organist—a job he missed dreadfully—so without an interregnum, such as poor Bridge is having to endure, it is all systems go.

<b>Cleaning</b>	<b>ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE</b>		<b>Flowers</b>
Mrs. Russell .....	7th November	.....	Mrs. Whigham
Mrs. Grey .....	14th November	.....	Mrs. Grey
Mrs. Beckett .....	21st November	.....	Mrs. Meades
Mrs. Smith .....	27th November	.....	No flowers
Mrs. Stickells .....	5th December	.....	No flowers



## Bekesbourne Christmas Market

A seasonal must for all! Help to supplement Bekesbourne Church's finances, and enjoy yourself into the bargain.

Talking of bargains there will be plenty in  
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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):  
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: Mr. S. H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT4 5LA (Bridge 830522)  
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 Vicar, 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

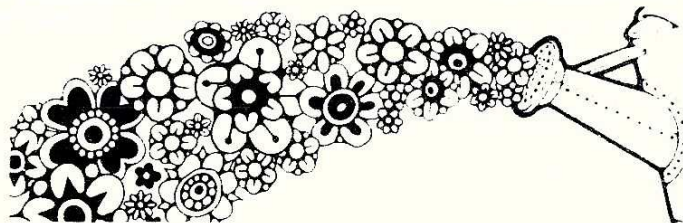
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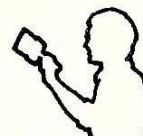


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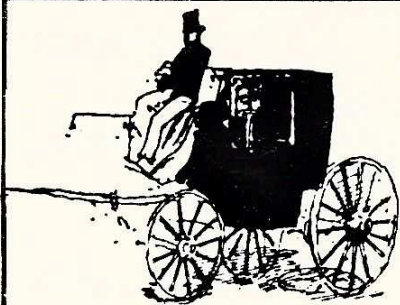


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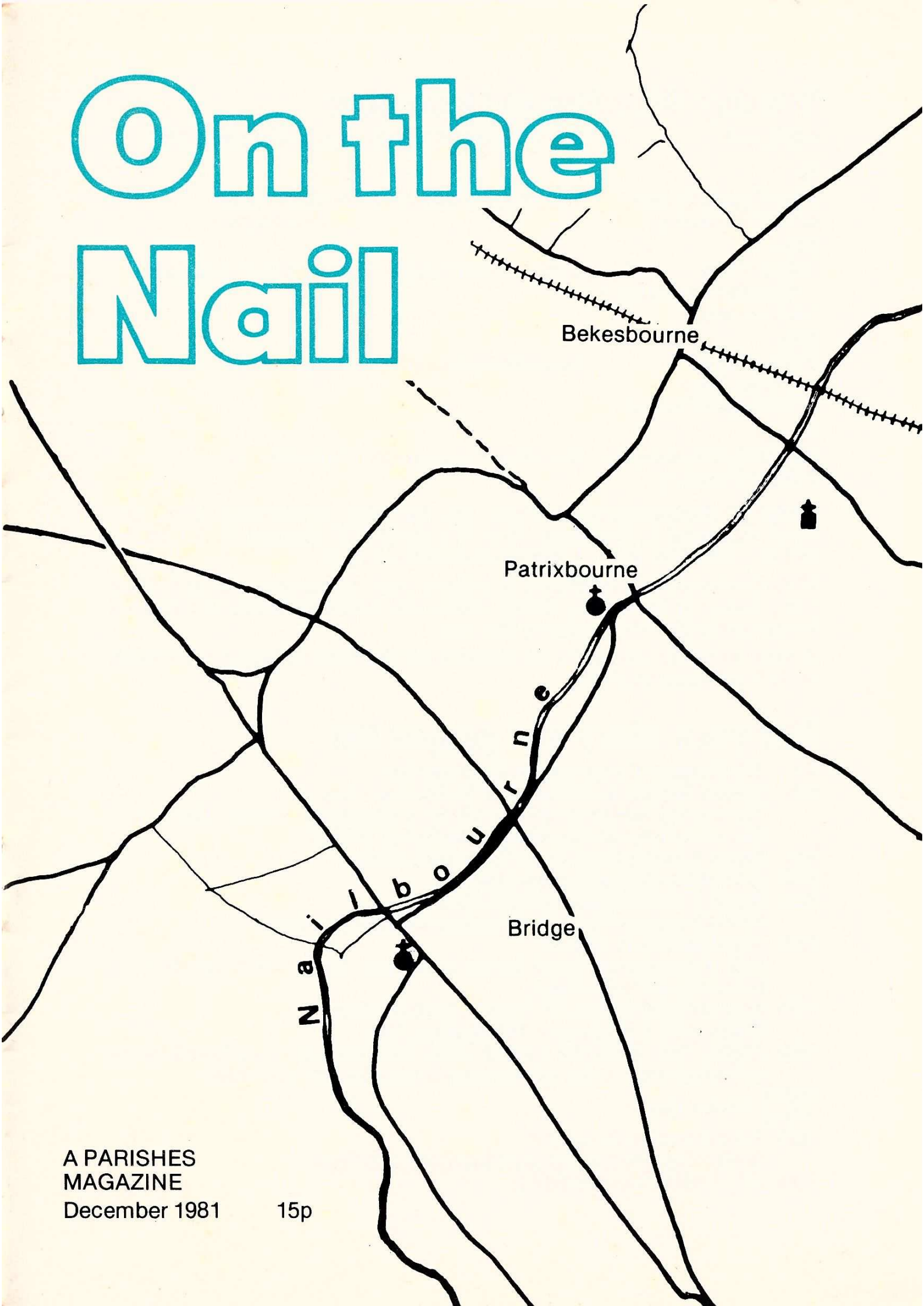
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# On the Nail



A PARISHES  
MAGAZINE  
December 1981

15p



# Sunday Worship in December

## BRIDGE

## PATRIXBOURNE

## BEKESBOURNE

### 6th:

11am Family Service  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish  
Communion

### 13th:

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

6.30pm Carol Service

8am Holy Communion

### 20th:

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Carol Service

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

### 27th:

8am Holy Communion  
3.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

**Bridge Methodist Church** at 11am: *6th*, Mr. E.R. O'Mahoney; *13th*, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw; *20th*, The Revd. P.F. Boyden, B.Sc., M.A., M.Litt.; *27th*, The Revd. J. Raymond Goodburn, B.A.

*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 at 10.15am.

A short informal service for the residents of The Close is held in the Chapel every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

## For your diary and prayer list

1st The Deanery Clergy meet at Goodnestone.

6th *Second Sunday in Advent*, also St. Nicolas's Day.

The Family Service at Bridge will be a Christingle Service. Don't miss this colourful, moving service—the first at Bridge!

9th Senior Citizens Party in the School at 1.45pm.

10th School Carol Singing from 6pm.

12th Bridge Christmas Market from 2pm.

PTA Christmas Party, Bekesbourne Village Hall, 7pm.

13th *Third Sunday in Advent*

N.B. Patricxbourne Carol Service at 6.30pm. There will therefore be no Evensong at Bridge today.

15th School Carol Service, St. Peter's, Bridge, 10am.

Bridge with Patricxbourne WI Meeting, 7pm.

16th *Ember Day* when the Church prays for those to be ordained to the sacred ministry at this Advent season (*see also 18th and 19th*).

18th } *Ember Day.*  
19th }

20th *Fourth Sunday in Advent*

Bridge Carol Service replaces Evensong at 6.30pm.

21st *ST. THOMAS, APOSTLE*



- 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** (*See display below*)
- 26th *St. Stephen, the first martyr.*
- 27th *ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST and Christmas 1*  
 (N.B. No Communion after Bekesbourne's Matins. Evensong at Bridge is at 3.30pm.)
- 28th *HOLY INNOCENTS' DAY*
- 30th No 9.30am Holy Communion.
- 1st New Year's Day. No 7.30am Holy Communion.

## Christmas Day Services

### ST. PETER'S, BRIDGE

8am Holy Communion

10.30am Holy Communion with Carols

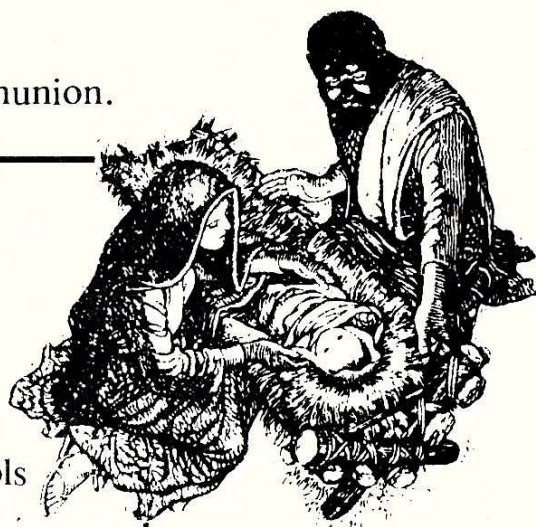
### ST. MARY'S, PATRIBOURNE

8am Holy Communion with Carols

### ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE

11am Family Service of Lessons and Carols

*"O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!"*



## Christmas—Sacred or Secular?

Two Christmas shoppers scurried past the crib scene in the shopping precinct. Both gave it a cursory glance, and one was heard to say, "They're even bringing religion into Christmas now!"

Seldom does the season of Christ's nativity pass without someone making the observation, "Of course it's a pagan festival really!" Frequently that remark is made to a clergyman, ostensibly to shock him. In fact it readily identifies the speaker as one who ate, drank and was merry over the Christmas period but did not set foot inside a church.

Yes, we know that 25th December was originally the feast of the birth of the invincible sun, we know that you can indulge in most of the Christmas trappings without actually bringing religion into it, and we know that most of the jollifications owe their origin to either the very German Prince Consort or the very English Charles Dickens. But where Christians are concerned it is primarily the feast of the birth of the Sun of Righteousness, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and whereas we accept with perfect ease the Christmas tree, the holly, the turkey, the presents, yes, and even the interminable TV



Christmas Shows, we do so in celebration of the coming of the God of love into the world and not to please a pagan deity.

Truth to tell, the committed Christian can cope with less of the over-indulgence. His faith encourages him to be less self-centred than most, not because of a holier-than-thou attitude but because the Love that came down at Christmas so infects him that he learns to think of others before himself. It is not in his nature to sate his own appetites while many go without the basic necessities. So he eats and drinks in moderation, enters into the traditional spirit of the festive season, goes to church and has a jolly good Christmas. He also gives more than a passing thought for the needy, for when all is said and done it is much more important that people should live, than that he should go completely berserk buying presents he can ill afford for people who don't need them or stuffing himself silly with rich fare.

Few of us are pagans: most would claim to be Christians! So treat Christmas as a Christian feast by putting Christ into Xmas. Let our over-indulgence be in Christian faith, actions and rejoicing! It *can* be done and, when you think about it, we all deserve a really good Christmas, don't we!

## In sorrow and in joy

We record with regret the death of **Ruth Edwards** of School Lane, Bekesbourne, who passed away on 14th November within seconds of my arrival at her hospital bedside. Miss Edwards was born in Perth, Western Australia although her childhood was spent in Yorkshire and Staffordshire. She came to Kent in 1938 and became a schoolteacher first in Hadlow, then at Barham and lastly at Aylesham. She took up residence in Bekesbourne in 1962 and quickly acquired the reputation of a churchwoman, helpful neighbour and wise counsellor. Despite the great discomfort her final illness put her to, Miss Edwards' mental faculties remained intact to the last. Two years ago she found herself in hospital after a near-fatal accident. She was making her way home along the road from the roundabout to the station, having done some shopping for a friend, when she was knocked down and almost killed. It was as a direct result of that experience that a footpath was finally built along that stretch of dangerous road. Miss Edwards' funeral was at Bekesbourne Church on 24th November, and cremation at Barham was followed by the interment of her ashes at Charing Crematorium, along with those of her mother.

The death of **Bernard Pawley**, our former Archdeacon, before he had been able to taste retirement, was greeted by friends and acquaintances literally all over the world as a bitter sadness. Few people realised what a truly great priest he was, but the clergy of his archdeaconry have lost a concerned pastor and owe a genuine debt of gratitude for all that God has done through Bernard and his wife Margaret. After a lifetime of giving in love it is a pity they weren't permitted a few years of happiness together, away from the ceaseless pressures of an archdeacon's job.

To brighter things, two marriages have taken place at St. Peter's, Bridge. On 24th October **Arthur Sharp** married **Rhoda Finch**, and thus gave Churchill House the very first wedding of two of its residents. Then on 21st November **Stephen Izzard**, 36 Union Road was married to **Sonia Goodwin**, our local police constable's daughter. We wish every blessing and much happiness to both couples!



# Diocesan News



There have been some encouraging signs this autumn of a new willingness on the part of the developed nations of the world to take seriously our responsibility to the Third World. The Brandt report has stimulated widespread debate, and at the time I write the Mexico Summit brings a positive note of hope.

The motive for this apparent change of mind is less heartening. The world has not been converted to unselfishness, but rather has come to realise that our own survival and prosperity is bound up with the fate of these unfortunates. Lord Carrington is reported as saying that a reduction of the disparity between rich and poor is not only morally right, but is also in Britain's own self interest.

Perhaps we could look for nothing better, for it is the business of government to be concerned for the well being of the nation it serves. But the business of the Christian church is more demanding.

At the festival of the birth of Christ we reverence the total self-giving of God. God was not made man because he had no choice. There was for God no profit to be looked for in Bethlehem, nor was the eternal well being of heaven in any way dependant upon the fate of the human race which inhabits this very small planet. Christ was not found in the palace of human power, nor even among the privileged citizens of the all powerful Roman Empire. In taking flesh for man's salvation he took his place among the poor. He was identified with them and all his life he was their champion.

The church has often found it easier to seek a place among the powerful from which to exercise her influence upon the world, and no one would lightly condemn her for that. There is a place for sincere believers among those who bear authority in a democratic society. But the place to which Jesus calls us to follow him is the place of servanthood and sacrifice. A total commitment, which is not a subtle path to an ever greater influence, but the surrender of power altogether.

A less than admirable motive may be acceptable if it leads statesmen to be thoughtful for the hungry, but it can have no place in determining the Church's concern. The grace of God compels us to see the starving as our own brethren and to be identified with them in love as Christ became identified with us. The Gospel of Christmas must impel us to a new generosity and compassion.

Yet the birth of Christ is not simply an example of loving humility for us to imitate. If that were so Christmas would bring more sadness than joy because we have failed so badly and fail still to live according to this measure.

Christmas is Joy, because here is the declaration of the nature of God. Our salvation is not founded upon our own poor achievements in charity, but upon him who "though he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor, that we through his poverty might be rich".

+ *Richard Dover*

## **Crisis at Christmas Pilgrimage**

In December hundreds of young people, and some not so young, will undertake a two-day pilgrimage from Canterbury Cathedral to Southwark Cathedral in London as part of the annual Crisis at Christmas campaign. This not only gives accommodation and warmth over Christmas to Britain's single homeless people, but will raise funds for individual projects to help them throughout the year. They are aiming at £100,000.

Money, clothing and food are always needed, and if you would like details of the campaign, the pilgrimage, or the many other events involved, please write to: CRISIS AT CHRISTMAS, St. Vincent's, 85 Carlisle Place, London SW1 (Tel: 01-834 3006).

## **All The Way**

Owing to the recession it has been decided to suspend publication of *The Way* for the time being, until a more certain method of financing its production can be devised. It ends on a high note, the last edition has been widely appreciated and praised.





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## A light unto my path

*The need for prayerful, regular and informed reading of the Bible is basic to the maintenance of our Christian health. What Dr. Nigel Allan writes is highly commended to all who either feel they don't read their Bible enough or neglect it altogether.*

As the year is now drawing to a close may I remind members of the Bible Reading Fellowship that subscriptions are due for the 1982 Bible readings *Awake to the Word*. Unfortunately, due to rising costs the subscriptions have



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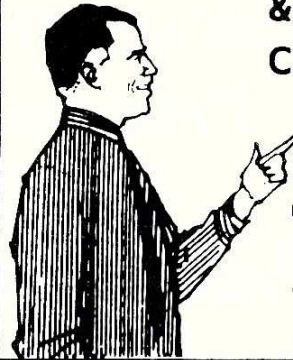
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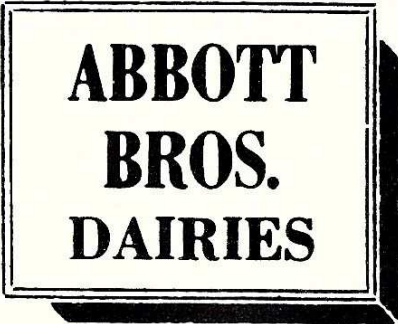
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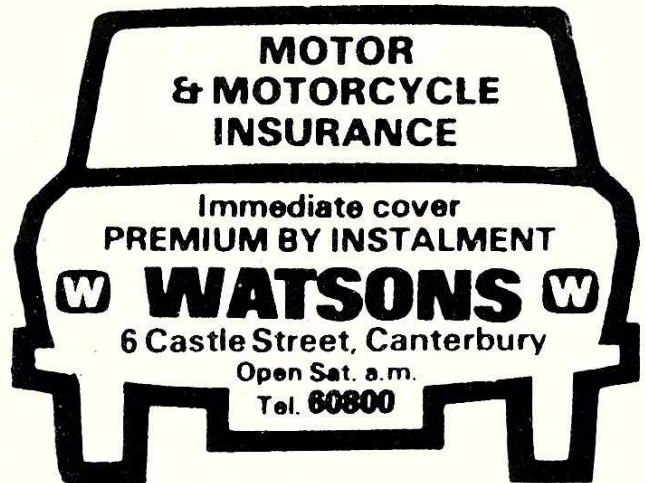
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been increased to £1.50 a year. However, in response to many requests from readers, the print in the coming year's notes is larger and clearer.

Since 1982 is the Diamond Jubilee year of the BRF we would like some more members from our parishes to join our fellowship. The BRF is a world wide community of Christian people who draw spiritual strength from regular reading of the scriptures, which are explained with great clarity in often thought-provoking notes.

Should anyone like to join or require further information I will be delighted to hear from them at Ard priory, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury (tel: 62695).

## Christmas at Bridge School

The party given by the school to our senior citizens is on 9th December at 1.45pm and the next evening the school will be out carol singing in the Green Court area from 6 o'clock. Residents in that area may care to listen out for the singers on 10th and if anyone cares to join in so much the better. They will be singing for the sheer joy of it and will not be collecting any money.

Two days later (12th) the Parent-Teacher Association will be welcoming allcomers to their Christmas Family Party in Bekesbourne Village Hall at 7pm. There will be entertainment for everybody, including a Disco, Film Show and games, and some super food, and tickets will be available at the school shortly.

The climax comes with the school's Carol Service, which this year takes place in Bridge Church on Tuesday, 15th at 10am and is open to all who care to come.



### BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

When the Parish Council met on 12th November, members were told that, after twelve months' negotiations, its request for financial help in order to arrange street sweeping in the village would now be considered by the appropriate Committee. They will, of course, pursue the matter should the Committee not agree.

#### 'Trees in Your Village' Competition

We referred last month to the very considerable achievement of the village in securing third place in this County competition, and Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young was able to tell members that she had now had the judge's written report. This mentioned particularly Mrs. Young's own contribution, the work carried out in the churchyard and in the property at the park gate, the planting and attention given to the young trees in the Recreation Ground, Miss Tomlin's work in the school grounds, and the care given to their trees by the Hunters. The tree planting, which we also mentioned last month, was to take place at 2.30pm on 22nd November.



## Kent Association of Parish Councils

Councillor Mrs. Young reported on the Annual General Meeting of the Association held on 17th October. The resolutions, to which we referred last month, were substantially agreed to, and the retiring President, Professor B. Keith-Lucas, spoke on *The Future of Parish Councils*, and described the Government's proposed restrictions on local government freedom to decide its level of expenditure as the greatest threat to local democracy for two hundred years, and of particular significance to the parishes, which represented the last bastion of non-party democracy. Cllr. Mrs. Young also gave a report on the recent meeting of the Canterbury area committee of the Association, at which a recent County report on Gypsy sites was discussed; and the danger which existed at the Bridge exit from the Canterbury by-pass due to the crossing of traffic to Bridge and Dover was referred to. Members were also concerned, and it was agreed to take the matter up with the County Council.

### Village Hall

The Council, who are very conscious of the need to improve facilities at the Hall, are nevertheless not anxious to spend substantial sums while it is held only on a relatively short lease. They therefore decided to discuss with the representatives of the Conyngham estate the possibility of purchase. It was also decided to deal with the clock, which Cllr. Keith Chapman reported needed repair, and to authorise him to deal with damage which vandals had caused to the gas supply.

The clearance of refuse from the Recreation Ground, and the draft by-laws which the Council propose for the ground were two of the seemingly perennial items which came up for discussion, while the future of 'The Close' buildings and the County Council refusal of planning permission for the Motel were also referred to. It was decided to take up group membership of the Council for the Protection of Rural England; and Mrs. Warren attended to give a report on the first annual meeting of the 'Fish' scheme.

### Next Meeting

This is to be held on Thursday, 10th December at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Members would be glad to see as many interested parishioners as possible.

*F.L. Edwards, Clerk*

## Fish News

Friends and helpers of the 'Fish' Scheme met at The Close on Wednesday, 11th November for coffee and to hear Mrs. Joan Warren report on the achievements of the first year and to discuss future activities.

Besides the Luncheon Club and Chiropody Clinic, many people in the four villages (Bishopsbourne being the fourth) had helped with transport, information as to what statutory services and benefits are available to people, as well as many other requests. The only gap seemed to be a shortage of gardening volunteers.

The scheme's financial position was sound, thanks to initial grants from well-wishing bodies and generous support from the Women's Institute and the community at large. (Accounts are available for inspection by anyone interested.) The Treasurer warned that next year would not be so easy, and his suggestion that car users should be invited to make donations equivalent



to 15p per mile (in line with the Canterbury Volunteer Bureau) was agreed to. Transport to the Luncheon Club is still free, due to a grant from Age Concern and the Social Services cover the cost of transport to Day Centres. Canon and Mrs. Packer were warmly thanked for organising Luncheon Club transport, Mrs. Monk for reigning over the dinner trolley and all the volunteers who had done so much during the past year. Mr. Shirley and his helpers were also thanked for manning the Scheme's contact point.

Mrs. Warren asked for help in coping with 'emergency' calls and after much discussion it was agreed to set up a rota of two members each week to be responsible for dealing with these. Miss Ford volunteered to arrange the rota for a trial period of three months. Mrs. Young undertook to deal with publicity requirements.

There was a strong feeling that we should try to recruit more helpers in Bekesbourne to avoid wastage of time and petrol in double journeys. We hope there will be a response to this need.

Thanks were expressed to the Matron and all who back us up at The Close, and finally the heartfelt vote of thanks to Mrs. Warren, voiced by the Treasurer, was warmly applauded by all present.

## Bekesbourne Church

Thanks are extended from Bekesbourne PCC to Mrs. Allan for staging the Dog Show on 24th October. £123 was raised for church funds.

Also Mrs. Christine Ash would like to thank all those who kindly supported her Coffee Morning either with donations, contributions or help, and especially those who actually turned up in the most appalling weather. A total of £37 was raised, for which Bekesbourne PCC says thank-you to Mrs. Ash.

### **Church cleaning, December:—**

5th, Mrs. Stickells. 12th, Mrs. Hogben. 19th, Mrs. Watson. 27th, Mrs. Russell. 2nd January, 1982, Mrs. Grey.

## Christmas in the villages

Christmas festivities at Bridge commence with the annual Carol Service on Sunday 20th December at 6.30pm and continue with a Midnight Eucharist starting at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day there will be celebrations of the Holy Communion at 8am (said) and 10.30am (with carols).

Patixbourne will have a Holy Communion with carols at 8am.

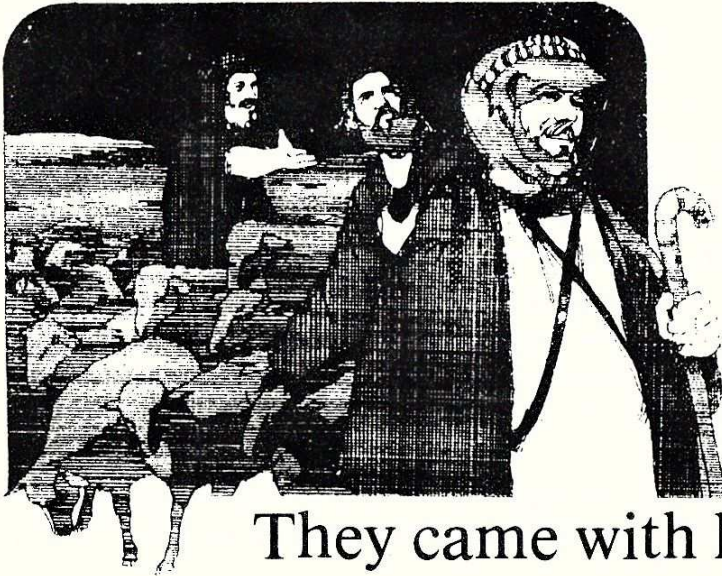
Of Bekesbourne's Christmas worship Stan Grey writes:

*On Christmas Eve Holy Communion will be celebrated with carols, commencing at 11.30pm. We do trust that very many of you will come to the service and fill this lovely old church.*

*On Christmas Day a Carol Service will be held at 11am. Do come and bring your children with you to add to the joy of this very special day.*

There will be a number of parishioners who through age or infirmity will not be able to get to church for their communion at Christmas. The Vicar is most willing to bring the sacrament to anyone in this situation. Please contact me to arrange a mutually convenient time and date.





## They came with haste

What drew you, shepherds, from the hill?  
Why have you come this way  
At dead of night, when all is still?  
What if your sheep should stray?

What is this talk about a light?  
Surely it was the moon.  
How could the sky appear more bright  
Than at the height of noon?

No light was visible down here.  
It must have been a dream  
That filled your rustic hearts with fear,  
And left you with this theme.

Why all this talk of heavenly song  
Incomparably sweet?  
What was it made you rush along  
This sleeping village street?

Whose new-born son is he the Host  
Would have you come to see?  
Is not a manger quite the most  
Unlikely place to be?

No, I will not go on with you,  
Nor be by nonsense led.  
You act like madmen through and through;  
Just leave me to my bed!

\* \* \*

Misguided man, your loss is great,  
Not for your eyes at morn  
The Saviour's form, in lowly state,  
Which shepherds now adorn

*Raymond Gilbert, 1973*



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

### PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

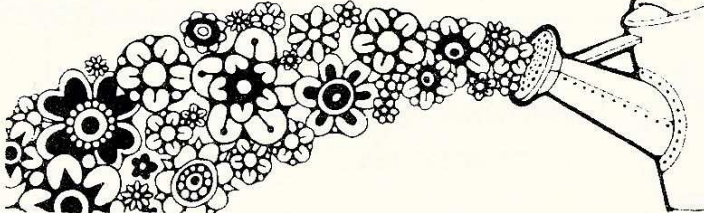
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Organist (Bridge):  
Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs. G. Allan, 'Ardpriory', Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD (Canterbury 62695)  
Verger (Bridge): Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne CT4 5JD (Bridge 830660)

### BEKESBOURNE

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Mr. J. Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (Bridge 830937)  
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Magazine Editor: The Vicar, 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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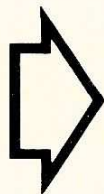
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