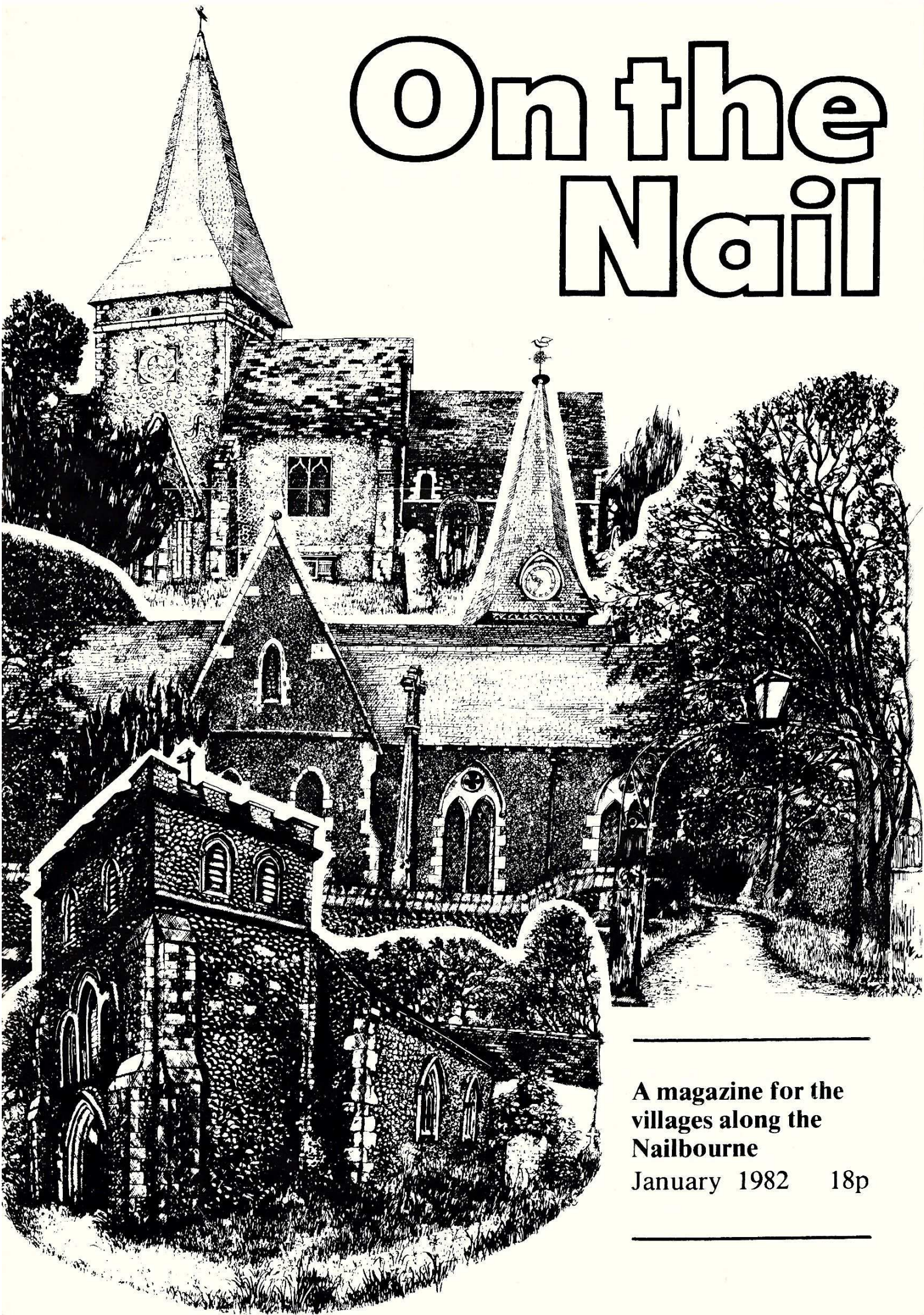


# On the Nail



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A magazine for the  
villages along the  
Nailbourne

January 1982 18p

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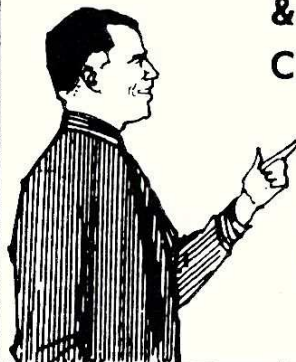
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# Sunday Services in January

BRIDGE

PATRIXBOURNE

BEKESBOURNE

## 3rd:

11am Family Service  
(Canon J. Packer)

6.30pm Evensong  
(Revd. C. Verity)

8am Holy Communion  
(Revd. C. Verity)

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
(Revd. C. Harrington)

## 10th:

9.30am Holy Communion 11am Matins  
(Series 3)

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

## 17th:

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong  
(Preacher: The  
Archdeacon)

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

**Bridge Methodist Church:** *3rd, Covenant Service*, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *10th*, The Revd. Jesse Lawrence. *17th*, The Revd. Ian Laird. *24th*, The Revd. Wilfred Hill, M.C., B.Sc. *31st*, Miss Eileen Tressider, B.A., Ph.D.

WEEKDAY SERVICES in January include celebrations of the Holy Communion in St. Peter's, Bridge on Wednesdays at 9.30am and Fridays (Series 3) at 7.30am, except that there will not be a Communion on 1st and 6th January. As 6th January is the feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord, and thus a major church festival, there will be a Sung Eucharist (Series 3) in Bridge Church at 8pm. The monthly service of Holy Communion at Churchill House is on the same day at 10.15am in the Common Room. The Close's weekly services are on Wednesdays at 2.30pm.

## For your diary and prayer list

1st *NAMING OF JESUS*, also called Circumcision of Christ (St. Luke 2.21) No 7.30am Communion at Bridge.

3rd *Second Sunday After Christmas*  
Pray for the Methodist Church on this important Covenant Day, especially for Bridge Methodists.

6th *EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD*

Instead of a said celebration of Holy Communion at 9.30am there will be a Sung Eucharist (Series 3) in St. Peter's, Bridge at 8 o'clock in the

evening. Come and celebrate the showing forth of Christ to the Gentile world, symbolised in the visit of the Wise Men from the east to the infant Jesus (St. Matthew 2).

10th *First Sunday After Epiphany*

12th The PCCs of both our parishes meet together in Bridge Village Hall at 8pm to discuss the proposed Covenant for Unity with the Methodist Church, the United Reformed Church, the Churches of Christ and the Moravian Church. Here is a most vital subject for personal as well as public prayer from all of us!

14th Bridge Parish Council meets 7.30pm

17th *Second Sunday After Epiphany*

The sermon at Evensong will be given by the new Archdeacon of Canterbury, the Venerable John Simpson. This will be our opportunity to welcome the Archdeacon to our parishes. Let's do it in style with a capacity congregation!

19th Bridge with Patricxbourne WI meet 7pm

East Bridge Deanery Synod meets to decide for or against the Covenant proposals. Please pray for our synod representatives, who are Nigel Allan, Charles Potter, John Purchase and Joyce Rose.

21st United Service in St. Peter's, Bridge at 8pm

24th *Third Sunday After Epiphany*

18th *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* until 25th.

25th *CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL* (Acts 9. 1—19 and in two other places. Can you spot them?)

26th Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meets, 8pm in Bridge Methodist Church.

31st *Fourth Sunday After Epiphany*

Pray for Canon David Naumann, our former Rural Dean, who is to be inducted into the living of Sandwich in St. Clement's Church at 3pm.

## Getting off to a good start

by

Pat Grant

*Steward of Bridge Methodist Church*

At each new year we usually make some effort to lose bad habits and form good ones. Resolutions such as these rarely stand the test of time in the hurly-burly of a busy life.

There is one challenge which can and should be taken up by Christians the world over. We have just celebrated the coming of Jesus Christ, and what better than to follow John Wesley's advice.

On 25th December, 1747 John Wesley strongly urged the Methodists to renew their Covenant with God. Since 1755 this service has taken place, and within the Methodist Church the first Sunday of the year is known as Covenant Sunday.

In preparation for the Covenant there are very searching responsive prayers of Adoration, Thanksgiving, and Confession during which one is brought face to face with one's own failings, lack of diligence and caring. The real testing is of course in the last section of the Covenant when all are committed

to serve utterly our God. It reads:

“I am no longer my own but Thine. Put me to what Thou wilt, rank me with whom Thou wilt, put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for Thee or laid aside for Thee, exalted for Thee or brought low for Thee; let me be full, let me be empty; let me have all things, let me have nothing; I freely and heartily yield all things to Thy pleasure and disposal.

And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Thou art mine and I am Thine. So be it. And the Covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.”

What a Challenge!!

\* \* \*

No one will be more surprised than Pat Grant to see his contribution from Bridge Methodist Church given such prominence in this first *On the Nail* of 1982. The fact was, however, that he says all that I would wish to say at this time, only infinitely better.

Few of us, I am sure, realised the challenge faced annually by members of the Methodist Church. I certainly did not. But having read what Pat has to say I could wish the Church of England would take a leaf out of Methodism's book and create some such yearly confrontation for its members.

Our trouble, as I see it, is that we get off much too lightly. We have a pretty extensive programme of observances to get through each year in the Church Calendar, but they are no more than commemorations of people or events from the past, and it is largely a take-it-or-leave-it affair. Some churches hold a renewal of baptismal vows on Easter Eve, but the custom is far from widespread and does not require such spiritual exertion or soul-searching from participants. Then there are the promises made at Confirmation; but there again one is sadly not aware of any heart-felt commitment, and it is a one-off declaration made as a group.

In my estimation the Church of England would benefit enormously from a regular compulsory renewal, and I would venture to suggest it would do the Roman Catholic Church no harm. When the reunion of christendom becomes a reality — please God one day it will — I trust Methodism's Covenant Day every year will be a part of it, using Wesley's format as quoted by Pat Grant. Perhaps we ought to take it into our systems even earlier: we could do with a challenge!

#### **UNITED SERVICE 21st January, 1982**

The custom of a united service within the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is well established in Bridge. In the past the service has been hosted alternately by the Anglican, Methodist and RC communities, but as St. Peter's Church is the only sizeable building in the village the sensible thing now seems to be the abandonment of this pattern in favour of a service prepared and conducted by all three bodies and using the Methodist Church in Patricbourne Road for

some form of get-together afterwards. This is what will happen again this year.

The service is on Thursday, 21st January at 8pm and as this would normally have been the Roman Catholic Church's turn to play host they will be providing the preacher, in the person of Fr. Peter Maddern. Fr. Maddern is on the staff at St. Thomas's and is the priest who cares pastorally for this part of their exceedingly large area of concern.

Whatever branch of the Christian religion you belong to, please feel welcome at St. Peter's, Bridge on the evening of the 21st and afterwards at the Methodist Church for light refreshments and conviviality.

## *On the Nail*

We are very fortunate in being able to produce a monthly magazine of the quality of *On the Nail*. I refer to format: others must judge of content!

For the past two years we have been able to distribute it for as little as 15p a copy. Unfortunately in 1981 it made a small loss. With this issue production costs have risen appreciably, so, in order to avoid a heavy deficit in 1982 we have had no alternative but to increase the cost by 3p a month to 18p.

Editorial policy is to produce a local monthly which contains material of church and general village interest and now, in addition, items of a wider concern through the Canterbury Diocesan News Service. The parish mag has something for everybody and we feel confident this modest price increase will not deter readers from renewing their subscription. At a mere £2.16 per annum it is good value for money.

Incidentally, the new cover is made from a montage of drawings of the three churches by Miss Gillian Harris, daughter of a Vicar of Herne Bay.

\* \* \*

**Frederick John Hogben** of 'Glencot', School Lane, Bekesbourne passed away suddenly in the early hours of Saturday, 12th December, 1981. The vicar conducted the funeral service at Barham Crematorium on Thursday 10th December. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his widow and family. May he rest in peace.

## Thanks to all concerned

Mrs. Joyce Hunter writes: "The **Poppy Day Appeal** in Bridge made the record sum of £239.89 last November. Thank you to all who gave so generously and to the helpers who made this amount possible."

Over at Bekesbourne, the Harvest Supper which was much enjoyed, raised £40 for **The Pilgrim Hospice**.

From Miss F.V.B. Mason, local Secretary of the **Church of England Children's Society**: "The Christmas Sale was held on 27th November and realised £1,448. It may sound a lot, but today it costs so much more to feed and clothe each child. Bridge contributed £43 by the sale of sweets (mostly homemade) and by donations. Thank you everybody for your generous help. I also have £4.50 towards a Christingle purse and in addition to sweets Mrs. Flynn provided four knitted jerseys for four members of our family."

**Bekesbourne's Christmas Market** continued to capitalise on its previous successes, raising the princely sum of £184.97 in what was a splendid afternoon's trading. Quite apart from the ultimate takings it was an exceedingly friendly village function and we do thank everyone for their support, irrespective of how given.

**Bridge & Patrixbourne Christmas Market** was also a record-breaker as the following statement shows. Here, too, a good time was had by all and an exceptionally big word of thanks must go to those who planned and executed the entire enterprise, even unto clearing up at the end — always the worst bit!

<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>
44 TEAS & CAKES. Mrs. Ford, Mrs. Flavell .....	109
29 "PATRUX-PANTRY". Mrs. Allan, Miss Carpenter .....	24
34 GROCERIES. Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Hill .....	44
— PRODUCE STALL. Mr. McKeever .....	20
43 PLANTS etc. Mrs. Jackson .....	35
20 STATIONERY STALL. Mrs. Pierce, Mrs. Monk .....	25
18 FANCY STALL .....	—
16 GIFT STALL. Mrs. Apps .....	27
4 TOYS AND BOOKS. Miss Mason .....	9
— WOODEN GIFTS. Mrs. Barley Jnr. ....	9
4 STAMP STALL. S. Gilbert .....	3
8 JEWELLERY STALL .....	—
36 WHITE ELEPHANT STALL. Mrs. Hulyer .....	34
13 GUIDES & BROWNIES .....	7
9 CHRISTMAS TREE PRESENTS. Bridge School .....	9
132 BOTTLE STALL. Mr. Rose, Mr. Hill .....	117
101 RAFFLE. Mr. Barley .....	105
7 SIDE SHOWS .....	12
518 .....	589
35 SUNDRIES .....	—
6 DONATIONS .....	5
559 .....	594
10 Less: Hire of Village Hall .....	12
<u>£549</u>	<u>£582</u>

Finally, Rosemary and the family would like to join me in saying 'thank-you' for the Christmas cards we received from parishioners. In doing so we wish everyone a happy New Year, together with our continued prayers for you all.

## Diocesan News

### Message from the Archbishop of Canterbury — New Year's Day 1982

I shall be spending New Year's Day in Rangoon in the course of a visit to Anglicans in Burma. It will make an interesting contrast with Christmas at Canterbury!

Over the past year I have come to regard the Old Palace at Canterbury as more and more my home — a place where I can unwind a little, while getting to know the clergy and lay people of the City and Diocese. These links of friendship, and this sense of being rooted in Canterbury are invaluable. A modern Archbishop has the privilege of travelling widely, meeting great numbers of people, and is engaged in a great range of activities, but sometimes he longs for contacts which are not so fleeting and which can ripen into friendship. Thank you for all your goodwill and especially for your prayers over the past year. I have been nourished by them and you.

Most of my time however is necessarily spent in the world of national Church and public affairs, and as I survey the diary for 1982 I see that much of my energies will be channelled into matters like Race Relations, the search for peace, housing policy and development issues.



“You and the Church are getting too political”, I was told the other day. This frequently repeated charge set me thinking about the principles by which we can judge whether a Christian leader is justified in intervening in public affairs. An Archbishop is not a politician and must not become one. A large part of his work is devoted to teaching the traditional faith and to building a united community, but an Archbishop, like any Christian leader, must tease out the implications of the faith for the day to day life of his community. He must be grit as well as cement.

I want to suggest four principles which should guide the Church, or indeed individual Christians as they decide whether or not to speak out and how to present their case.

1. Prince Albert in a letter to Samuel Wilberforce thought that a Bishop “should take no part in the discussion of State Affairs (for instance, Corn Laws, Game Laws, Trade or Financial questions) but he should come forward whenever the interests of humanity are at stake, and give boldly and manfully his advice to the House and country, (I mean questions like Negro Emancipation, Education of the people, improvement of the health of towns, against cruelty to animals, etc.)”

I sympathise with Prince Albert’s attempt to distinguish between State Affairs and questions in which “the interests of humanity are at stake”, but I believe that it is difficult to maintain this distinction in practice. Certainly a Christian leader ought not to be partisan or associated with any particular political line, but he should seek to discern the moral dimension which belongs to almost every policy or problem. Churchmen ought obviously to contribute to discussions about divorce or abortion, but it is also vital that they should discern the moral implications of a housing policy or our defence posture.

2. The Church has a special obligation to speak on behalf of the vulnerable and the inarticulate, and those whose bargaining power in society is weak. This is part of the reason why in 1981 I spent some time speaking on behalf of a great body of Christian opinion that was unhappy about the potentially divisive effects of the Nationality Bill.
3. We belong to a world-wide Church, and follow a Lord whose commandment is “Love thy Neighbour”. His answer to the question, *Who is my neighbour?* did not admit any limitation imposed by geography or political frontiers. Christians then have a special charge to foster the idea, that we are world citizens, and should discuss our problems in a global perspective. The questions of poverty and development discussed at the Mexico Summit are therefore a natural subject for Christian comment and action, and I very much hope that the Church in the coming year will not let this matter fall from the public consciousness. Much has already been achieved by small groups up and down the country, educating themselves and their neighbours about the facts of development. Attitudes have been changed, and the matter is now firmly on the political agenda. We must not permit it to be dislodged.
4. It would be strange if a Christian leader was not passionate as he looked at some of the things going on around us. How is it possible to be a Christian, to love God and his works and to see his finest creation — men and women — so starved that their brains shrivel, without passion? Who could view the spectacle of a world devoting its best

talent and a large proportion of its resources to the production of weapons of mass destruction, without passion? Who could witness men and women, God's masterpieces, belittled and under-valued because of their skin colour or sex, without passion?

Passion however is not enough. It can be merely destructive, adding to the din and obstructing progress. Self-righteous indignation is an opium which makes people unfit for useful work. Some people are shouting so loudly that they have made themselves deaf. They have made the world a more dangerous and less hopeful place.

We need to yoke passion, an urgent desire for change with a suspicion of sloganizing and a love of cool reason. Any Christian contribution to a public debate should be constructive, mindful of the complexity of the major problems which confront us, and not quick to impute malignity or discreditable motives to those from whom we differ.

Those who say that the Church is too involved in politics are balanced by those who believe that the Church is not sufficiently active. Much Christian work is of course unreported. I am frequently accused of having said and done nothing about disarmament, when it was one of my major themes for 1981 and will be again in the New Year. But I hope at least that my four principles might be a guide to the kind of contribution that the Church ought to be making in the public life of our country in 1982 if we are to be loyal followers of Jesus Christ.

With my blessing and all good wishes for the New Year.

+ *Robert Cantuar*

### **Late Night Company**

"Company" is the name of the new programme to fill the weekday late spot when TV South takes over from Southern Television on January 1st. It will aim to bring a few minutes friendly company to those viewers still awake at 12.15am. The first team of five presenters come from widely differing backgrounds but all share one thing — a definite belief in a living God. They are:—

The Revd. **Ken Gardiner**, vicar of Walderslade, Chatham.

Sister **Ann-Marie Stuart**, member of an RC religious Order of Canterbury;

Mrs. **Bridget Plass**, of Hailsham, Sussex, a housewife involved in the house church movement;

The Bishop of Lewes, Father **Peter Ball**, CGA;

The Revd. **Bob Gordon**, a URC minister with a roving commission in Sussex.

### **Synod and Renewal — on tape**

Mr. Edward Heath's remarkable address to Diocesan Synod on our attitudes to the Third World made a deep impression on those who were there, and numbers of requests for transcripts have been received. This has not been possible as it would run to many, many pages of typescript. But a very clear tape cassette is available, which includes the Archbishop's introduction to the subject. Deaneries, parishes and groups studying The Brandt Report will find it valuable and enlightening.

On the same day, at St. Augustine's Hospital, Chartham, Dom Benedict Heron, OSB, was recorded speaking on his experiences of spiritual renewal in the churches. This too deserves a wide hearing. Both tapes are available from Anchor Recordings, 76 The Street, Kennington, Ashford (Tel: 20958), at £2.00 each.

### **Adventure Weekend**

Sixteen people of all ages from 20 to 50 joined the Womenswold course on exploring ministry, and returned to work on the Monday full of enthusiasm for their new understanding. Maidstone Archdeacon Michael Percival Smith, who helped Bruce Hawkins and his team to run it, says there is no special secret to making a weekend like this go with a bang. People just start from where they are and minister to each other in fellowship and confidence. He and the other leaders all slept on the floor like the rest of them. They will be happy to help and advise other groups who are thinking of setting up similar courses.



### **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

The principal item on the agenda at the December meeting of the Parish Council was the

#### **Budget for 1982/3**

Although members were anxious to limit expenditure so far as was possible, and for this reason felt that they were unable to increase their grants to the Village Hall Committee and the Parochial Church Council this year, they had no alternative but to make provision for increases in the costs of street lighting, insurance, and of the maintenance of the Recreation Ground. Here, apart from an expected substantial increase in the cost of mowing, it was anticipated that additional expenditure would be incurred in the care of the trees and of mole clearance, the latter a continuing and growing problem. The Council has in the past years been successful in holding budget increases to modest figures, but this year's increase, though as low as was felt to be practicable, will amount to nearly £900.

#### **Village Hall**

The question of the purchase of the Hall, which had been the subject of negotiations with the representatives of Lord Conyngham since the last meeting, was discussed, and it was decided that both the purchase and the improvement of the Hall should be major items on the agenda at the annual Parish Meeting in March. In the meantime, Cllr. John Hill, the Chairman, is to prepare a leaflet explaining the Council's proposals, to be distributed prior to the meeting to each home in the village.

#### **Recreation Ground**

The tree presented to the Council to mark the village's third prize in the 'Trees in Your Village' competition was planted on 22nd November, when a cheque for £20 was also handed over by the organisers. The Council decided

that the disposal of this sum, together with the wider question of the village trees, should be discussed at the March Parish Meeting.

### Street Cleaning

The City Public Works Committee has, the Council understands, turned down its request for financial help to assist with the sweeping of the footways, and has said that they do not wish to make any exception to their present policy pending a comprehensive review. The footways are not swept at all at present, but the Council felt that they should await written confirmation of the City Council's decision before taking any further action.

### Briefly

The County Surveyor is looking into conditions at the Bridge exit from the by-pass at the Council's request; the Council has taken up membership of the Council for the Protection of Rural England; and has agreed to supply Television South with a monthly summary of its activities.

### Next Meeting

This will be held on Thursday, 14th January, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, and is — as always — open to interested members of the public.

*F. L. Edwards, Clerk*

### BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE W.I.

The Institute meets on the third Tuesday of every month in the village hall at 7pm. At this month's meeting Mr. J. Williamson will speak on *Tanning—a modern craft industry*. The competition is a design for a leather bookmark.

New members and visitors are always welcome.

*G. H. Price*

## Meet Eric Lindell

Despite the gloom and despondency that tend to beset church folk when the question of attendance figures arises the situation is not as bad as it is painted. And the same is true of candidates for the priesthood. The Church may well cry out for more ordinands, but that does not mean none is forthcoming.

Eric Lindell is in his final year at the University of Kent at Canterbury, reading theology. He hopes to go on to theological college to train for the ordained ministry once he has got his degree. Right now he is a resident of Bridge, occupying the flat in Lynton House once occupied by another budding priest, Tony Reader-Moore. In order to further his vocation it is vital that he attaches himself to a parish church congregation, and this he hopes to do here in Bridge. Eric, with his fiancée Sally, has attended Sunday worship as his studies permit, but it would greatly assist him to become more integrated into our community. I know both of them will receive a warm welcome, and perhaps you would remember Eric in your prayers. We need to pray more for our clergy and future clergy, just as we need to pray for more clergy!

Cleaning	ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BEKESBOURNE	Flowers
Mrs. Grey .....	3rd January .....	
Mrs. Beckett .....	10th January .....	Mrs. Farbrace
Mrs. Smith .....	17th January .....	
Mrs. Stickells .....	24th January .....	Mrs. Ash
Mrs. Hogben .....	31st January .....	

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 (Patricxbourne): Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriory, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD  
(Canterbury 62695)

Vergar (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.

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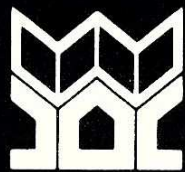
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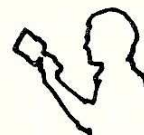
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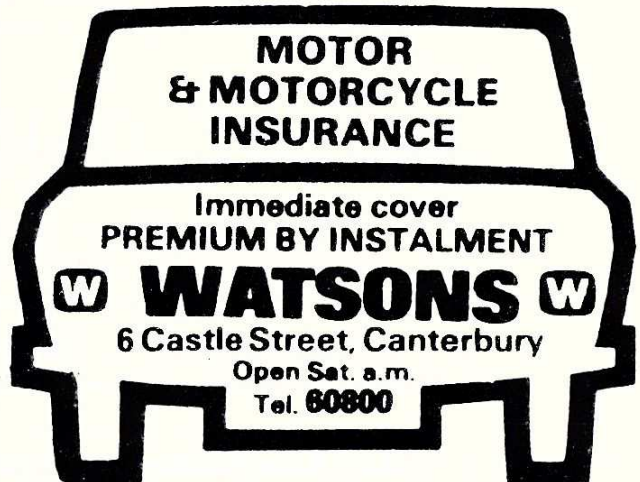
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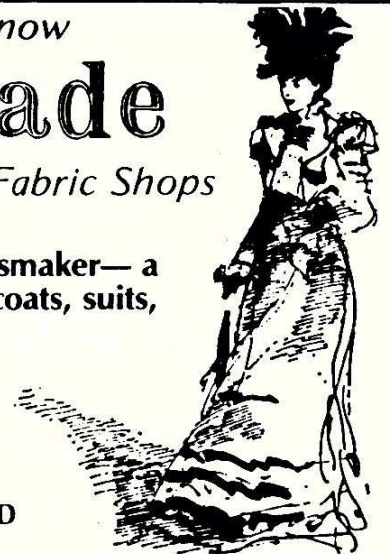
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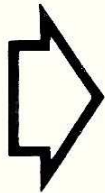
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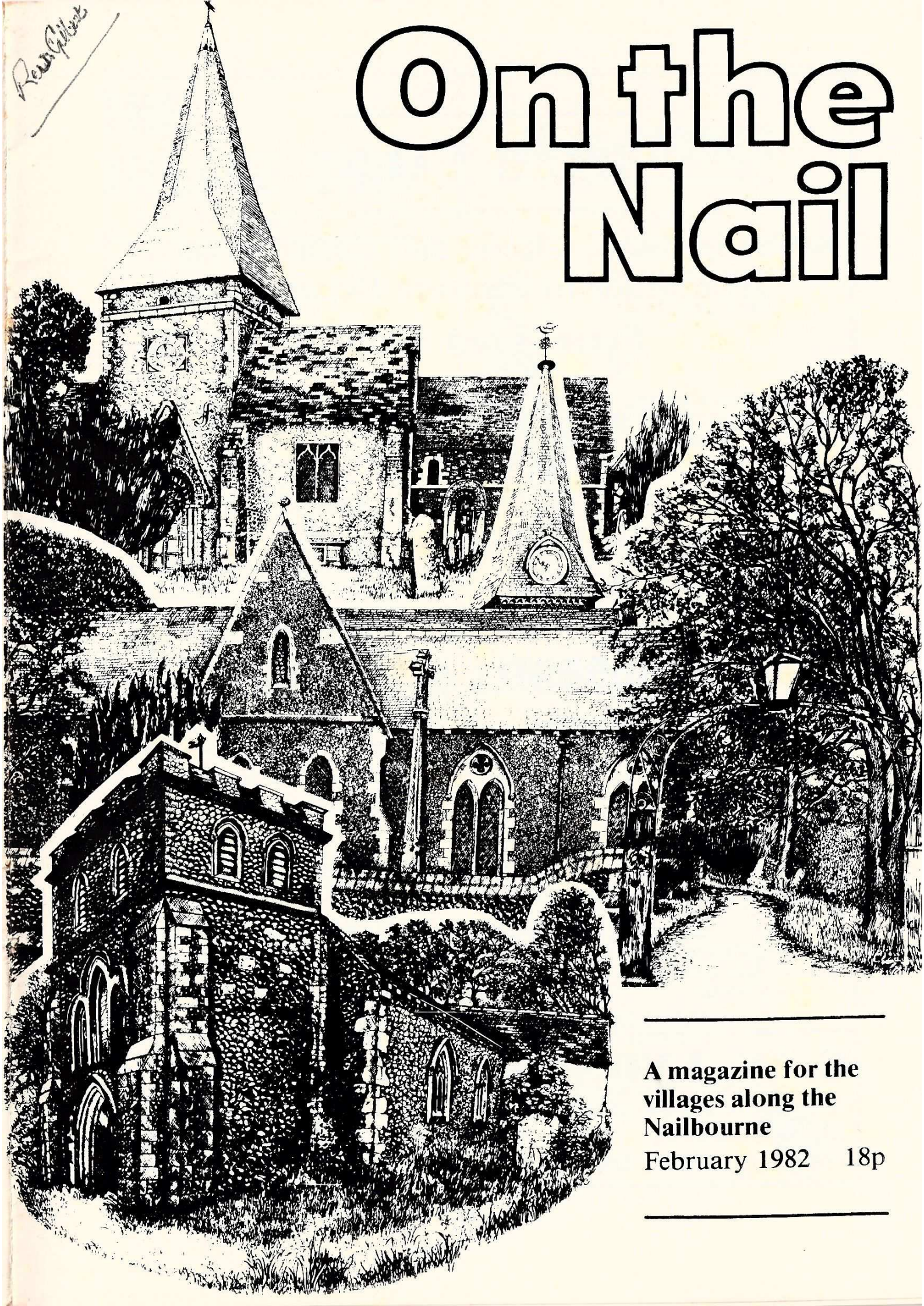
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**February 1982 18p**

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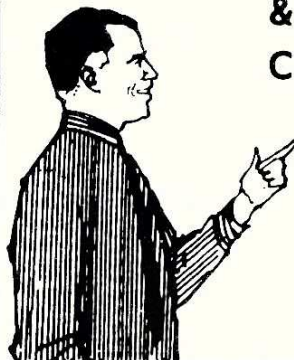
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# Sunday Worship in February

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
<b>7th:</b> 11am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong (Preacher: Miss W.M. Tomlin)	8am Holy Communion	9.30am Parish Communion
<b>14th:</b> 9.30am Holy Communion (Series 3) 6.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
<b>21st:</b> 9.30am Parish Communion 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am Thinking-Day Service with Holy Baptism
<b>28th:</b> 8am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion	11am Matins & Holy Communion

**Bridge Methodist Church:** 7th: The Revd. T. Mervyn Willshaw, M.A., B.D.  
14th: The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. 21st: Miss Hazel Forecast, B.A.  
28th: Mrs. J. Stewart.

WEEKDAY SERVICES in February include celebrations of the Holy Communion in St. Peter's, Bridge on Wednesdays at 9.30am and Fridays (Series 3) at 7.30am, and in the Common Room of Churchill House on the first Wednesday (3rd) at 10.15am. The Close's weekly services are on Wednesdays at 2.30pm in the Chapel.

## For your diary and prayer list

- 2nd *PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE*, also called the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Luke 2. 22 - 35).
- 6th Queen's Accession, 1952 'God save our gracious Queen'.
- 7th *Septuagesima*. Third Sunday before Lent  
This being designated Education Sunday, when the Churches join together to offer to God the work of education within the whole community, it seemed appropriate to invite Miss Tomlin to speak to us at Evensong, and I am sure very many will want to come and hear her. Our community is blessed in having a headteacher who is professionally top rank and also community-conscious and a committed Christian.
- 10th Interchurch Meeting, Methodist Church at 8pm. This seeks to draw together Christians of different churches on the basis that the way to eventual unity is trodden as far as possible in company with one another, seeing ourselves as neighbours in Christ.
- 13th Bridge & District Royal British Legion is holding a Jumble Sale in Bridge Village Hall at 2.15pm to raise funds for this newly-formed branch.
- 14th *Sexagesima*. Second Sunday before Lent

- 21st *Quinquagesima*. Sunday before Lent. Thinking-Day service attended by Bridge and Bekesbourne Brownies, Bekesbourne Church 11am.
- 24th *Ash Wednesday*. First Day of Lent
- 25th Confirmation Group commences, 6pm at the Vicarage. Young people of 13-plus who wish to consider confirmation please contact the Vicar or simply turn up at this introductory gathering. It is hoped to hold a Confirmation Service and first Communion at Bridge on St. Andrew's Day, Tuesday 30th November at 7.30pm, conducted by the Bishop of Dover.
- 28th *First Sunday in Lent*

## Enjoying God

A Church Army sister, shaking with mirth, recalled one of her problem girls staring at her with a quizzical look and saying, "You don't smoke, you don't drink and you've never got married — What a miserable life you must have had!"

Why do so many people think that to be religious you must be a dismal Johnnie and that somehow a sense of humour is misplaced in a church setting? Clergymen, who so often find themselves the butt of jokes, are expected to be serious all the time. We may use their supposedly quaint mannerisms and otherworldliness to have a good laugh but, so the belief goes, their calling is such that they must face every situation with a straight face and hold themselves aloof from the trivial flippancy of the work-a-day world.

No wonder people who hold this view are never seen inside a church, save for the boring part of a wedding and for funerals, which can never be funny affairs. Without giving church a try they conclude it must be a humourless experience and those who go must either be masochists or so guilt-ridden and afraid that they dare not stay away. Perhaps churchgoers do not always come out of church in the right vein, as if they have enjoyed themselves. Mind you, sometimes they haven't, not for want of trying!

It is this great feeling that the trappings of humour must invariably be frivolous and those of religion intensely serious, so never the twain shall meet. In point of fact humour is not always ridicule and mockery, nor religion dull and morose. Some of the greatest clowns cut really tragic figures, and got their laughs through wholly unfunny situations, and as for religion, well, like any serious circumstance it needs its lighter side to make it tolerable.

A sense of humour is a God-given gift, designed to make life bearable and arising out of the certainty, at least in my eyes, that God, who created humour, has himself a keen sense of humour. Someone has made the observation that God must be able to see the funny side of things or he would never be able to put up with us the way he does. Jesus, I am sure, laughed on many occasions, and I don't deem it blasphemous to attribute to him not merely a tolerable smile but a genuine belly laugh. Just imagine what it would have been like had he treated the disciples' internal squabbles and their ludicrous suggestions and ideas with the utmost seriousness.

Joy is a Christian quality, and laughter, providing it is not unkind jeering, is an essential ingredient in it. Those who share our worship know it is seldom devoid of humour, though never, I trust, is occasion given for the hollow laughter of the cynic. What humour there is arises out of the fact that, odd as

it may seem to some folk, we actually enjoy our worship, and this is vital to its value. We enjoy our worship because God is supremely enjoyable. Life is fun, and religion—a part of life—is also fun, and if people come to our services and don't detect this fun element in them there is something sadly amiss with them, and the sooner the matter is put right the better.

\* \* \*

BBC Radio Medway's Lent Course for 1982 is entitled *Enjoying God*, about which the preliminary notes have this to say: "The title comes from the phrase 'the chief end of man is to worship and enjoy God for ever'. Some of you felt that in previous years we have been a bit 'problem orientated' but this year we have come down firmly on the enjoyment of our religion and the enjoyment of God himself". This year's course, which takes place on the five Tuesday evenings of March, brings to the microphone a fascinating array of personalities, some of national renown. The first will be Lord Coggan, the former Archbishop, whose title is *He Speaks*. Then the Abbot of Buckfast, by birth a Man of Kent, deals with *He Loves*. The theme *He Creates* is in the hands of Gerald Priestland, the BBC's Religious Affairs Correspondent, who presented that superlative series entitled "Priestland's Progress" at the end of last year, and he is followed by TV cookery expert Delia Smith (with or without her inevitable freshly milled pepper) whose subject is *He Provides*. The course concludes with a programme called *He Shares* involving Tom Rogers, the minister of Gillingham Baptist Church.

We hope to make use of this course once again and I would like to know in the near future who would like to participate. Once I know how many want to take part I can send for copies of the programme notes (10p each) and work out groups. Last year we could almost have done with a third group as there was a quite encouraging response in Bridge. Could anyone get a group going in Bekesbourne this year? The programmes last from 8pm until 10pm and are made up like this:

- 8.00 — Introduction and Summary of Letters received about the preceding week's programme.
- 8.10 — Presentation of the Theme of the evening.
- 8.30 — Group discussion without the radio.
- 9.20 — 'Phone in to the presenter.

Last year one of our groups took part in the 'phone-in, the caller being Barry Whiting.

## Taking notice

St. Peter's Church at Bekesbourne nestles on its hill, a sight to behold, except from the road. Hidden among the trees many potential visitors have passed it by and gone away having seen nothing of it, perhaps not even realising it exists. Oh, there has been a noticeboard of sorts by the gate, but that could as easily have been a general village noticeboard, and even when posters have been affixed to it advertising church services they have seldom survived the passage of the first vandal. All of which is a great pity, because Bekesbourne Church is quite unique and deserves to be noticed.

Now all that is finished, as you will have seen if you have been along Old Palace Road since just before Christmas. In place of the old, tottering board there stands a brand-new, extremely imposing noticeboard that is both vandal-proof and aesthetically pleasing. This beautiful piece of craftsmanship is eye-catching in itself, as a good noticeboard should be, and announces to all who pass by that St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne is in the vicinity. The church has long deserved such publicity and the whole thing is the dreamchild of the parishioner who built it, erected it and gave it to the PCC free gratis and for nothing. Not wishing for publicity, the generous donor wants to remain anonymous but I hope he will accept, nonetheless, the heartfelt thanks of all who love and care about Bekesbourne Church. Do go along and see it: it is worth a visit in itself! Why not make it on a Sunday morning, when you can join us for worship at the same time?

\* \* \*

We record with much regret the passing of three Bekesbourne villagers this last month. **George Hume** of 'Tyrol', School Lane died suddenly around Christmas and we offer our sympathy to his widow. Mr. Hume's death is the third in School Lane in the space of as many months. Mrs **Elsie Garrett**, 'Beaulieu', Bekesbourne Lane also died unexpectedly suddenly in the first week of the new year. Cremation at Barham was preceded by a service in Bekesbourne Church, attended by many of her friends from Women's Institute days in Bekesbourne. All prayers and thoughts to her bereaved husband and family, as, indeed, to the family of Mrs **Annie Perrin**, 'Boundary Cottage', Aerodrome Road who passed away after a long illness on 18th January. A service in St. Peter's Church was followed by interment in the churchyard. The death of Mrs. **Stella Mavis Dickeson**, 46 Bridge Down came after a protracted illness which she was enabled to withstand at home, thanks to many friends who sat with her through the good offices of our 'Fish' scheme. We pray for all the departed and for those who mourn their passing.

## East Kent Pilgrim's Hospice

We have found the Sitting Service for the above to be so much in demand in the Canterbury Area that we now need more volunteers for both day and night sitting.

Anyone interested would attend four local evening courses to explain what will be involved, but briefly this service is to relieve relatives and friends of people who are chronically or terminally ill in their own homes so that they can have a rest, do some shopping or have a proper night's sleep. We are not a nursing service but act as 'friends of the family'.

Please help this very worthwhile cause if you feel able.

If you think you can help, or would like further information, please contact Mrs. Pauline Pope, 'North Hill', Bridge, Canterbury CT4 5AE (Telephone Bridge 830055) who is the Co-ordinator for the Canterbury Area as she would be pleased to help in any way possible. With many thanks.

*P. P.*

## BRIDGE BRITISH LEGION

The newly re-formed Branch of the Bridge and District Royal British Legion held its first meeting on the last Wednesday in December. It was decided that, in order to raise funds for the Branch, a jumble sale would be held in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday 13th February at 2.15pm. So come along and do both yourself and us a favour.

Anyone interested in knowing more about us is invited to attend our next meeting, to be held at the Close, Bridge on Wednesday 24th February, or contact Mr. Keith Chapman on Bridge 830520.



## Diocesan News

### The Big Decision

As we expected there have been a variety of arguments both for and against the *Covenanting for Unity* proposals. Most of us, I suspect, are still trying to weigh them up, but two in particular deserve our attention.

The first is the argument for doing nothing, for letting well alone. It says that each existing denomination should simply be loyal to its heritage and wholly tolerant of the rights of others. To tinker about with things is merely to create new divisions and distress . . . It looks convincing on paper, but it's 'No entry' for Christians. For our aim, if we seek to follow Christ's will, is not to let be, it's not even the reconciliation of two or three denominations, but the unity of all.

The second is the argument for doing something. It reminds us of the importance of actually convincing those who are sceptical that Christianity stands for reconciliation. It says that if in the world as it is the Christian Churches cannot put reconciliation into practice, then calling oneself a Christian will count for little, however grand one's vision of the future. Again the argument looks attractive. The snag is that it sits loose to history and overestimates the faith and courage of the Church.

The focus of God's saving action, his will to be known, loved and encountered, is always the world today, where decisions have to be taken by individuals and groups. And the significant moments of human life are precisely those moments of precariousness where there are different possibilities and freedoms. Perhaps then our prayers should be for those who make the ultimate decision about the Covenant on our behalf, that they may be given true vision, courage and insight at this critical turning-point in the life of our Church.

+ *Robert Maidstone*

### Pray for Poland

In a message from Lambeth Palace the Archbishop says:

I ask all Anglicans to pray for the people of Poland at this time. We want them to know of our deep concern for their country. We all hope that reconciliation can be achieved without further bloodshed and suffering.



### Parts of the body

“If a congregation is the Body of Christ, then the PCC is a limb or organ of that body. If it sometimes acts as a limb, what kind of limb is it? Is it a foot which has to keep kicking the body into action? Is it a hand which leads and guides? Or is it a fist which the body uses to shake at others? Is it a finger which beckons, or a finger which points?

If it sometimes acts as an organ, is it functional like a kidney, life-giving like a heart, or is it a seat of disaffection and just liverish?”

Taken from *There's No Need To Shout: A Reflection on Non-Technical Parish Communications*, by the Revd. Richard Lewis, and obtainable from him for 20p—from the Vicarage, Bishopston, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland.

*The following prize-winning poem on 'Bridge' came from a WI competition.*

*The poet is*

*Mrs. I. V. Harris:*

Back in the time of Caesar and his legions  
There was a settlement just here,  
Where the Roman army, fresh from other regions,  
Fought the Saxons, near the river.  
As time passed, the road from Dover  
Was used by travellers, and by armies,  
Or by flocks, each with its drover,  
Pressing on to Canterbury.  
Later still, the good Augustine  
Came to spread the Christian message,  
Urging men to put their trust in  
God, Who'd love and help them.  
So a village grew beside the river,  
And a Church was built with care,  
(Named for St. Peter) which became the giver  
Of help and learning to the humble poor,  
Who tilled the soil and reared the sheep  
For those who owned the land — and them!  
Until, at last, they lay to sleep  
In God's Acre, at peace at last.  
Centuries passed — great houses now stood fair —  
Bridge Place, so fine in its red brick,  
Where once young Painters, smart and debonair,  
Were given patronage to aid their work,  
And, on the hill, uplifted over all,  
Another mansion, owned by Polish Count,  
Who built, so local folk recall,  
A monstrous car which stormed through village streets,  
Known to all as Chitty - Bang - Bang!  
Finally, one day, with population doubled,  
The village street with Klaxons rang  
And trembled when Leviathans clawed their way  
Down to the coast to reach the roads of France.  
And then, result of constant campaigning,  
The By-pass came, and all turned out to dance,  
And all could tread the street unharmed.  
So now, once more, we live in peace,  
If peace it be, with cars and shops  
Where once were elms and fields' increase,  
And cottages with flowery plots.

## **Jumble, jumble!**

There will be a Jumble Sale for Patrixbourne and Bekesbourne Choir Funds at 78 High Street, Bridge (by 'bus stop) on Saturday 20th February.



## **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Street Cleaning**

The Parish Council met on 14th January, and members were told that the City Council had decided, in view of current financial restrictions, that they were unable to provide a grant to the Parish towards the cost of sweeping the footways. In the circumstances, members decided to proceed with arrangements for the work, and to meet the full cost from the parish rate. The matter will be taken up again with the City Council in twelve months' time.

### **Recreation Ground**

After negotiations lasting considerably more than two years, the lease of the extension to the recreation ground has been agreed, and was duly signed. Despite its long period of preparation, however, the Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, pointed out that the paragraphs of the lease did not follow the numbering sequence normally accepted, and that these had to be altered following a discussion with the landlord's solicitors.

### **Bekesbourne Road**

Members discussed the traffic dangers to children, and their mothers, attending the playschool in Bekesbourne Road. Although the road is outside the parish boundary, it was felt that, in the interests of the parish families concerned, an approach should be made to the highway authority to endeavour to persuade them to erect warning notices to drivers.

### **Other Matters**

The Annual Parish Meeting was arranged for Thursday, 25th March. The agenda will be discussed at the next meeting.

Cllr. Peter Lawrence told members that the Charity Commission had agreed to a revision of the scheme governing the Mary Gregory Trust, which would give the trustees greater flexibility in distributing the funds, now greatly reduced in value since the death of the benefactress over a century ago.

The appointment of a school governor, to be made jointly with Bishopsbourne, Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne was discussed; and the Council heard with pleasure that weather conditions had not adversely affected the activities of the Luncheon Club.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday, 11th February, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Five members of the public braved the arctic weather to attend the January meeting in a hall only a little warmer than the

High Street. It is hoped that better weather next month will mean a much larger public attendance.

*F.L. Edwards, Clerk*

## 'Fish' News

### **Luncheon Club**

A heavy overnight snowfall led to the postponement of the Luncheon Club Christmas Dinner on 21st December. However, our drivers braved the icy roads and collected all the members for a celebration on 23rd December. Cllr. Laurence Shirley, Cllr. John Hill, the Vicar and our Treasurer, Mr. W. Johnson joined members for a delicious lunch. Matron was presented with a posy and thanked for all the help that she and her staff had given to make the club such a success. May I thank all those who made contributions towards the party fare and all the helpers who worked so hard.

### **Canterbury and Villages Carers Support Group**

A support group has been set up to help those caring for elderly relatives at home. The group will help and advise on any problems that arise and provide day care, bathing facilities and chiropody at Connors House, Canterbury on Wednesdays. This scheme will be of particular help to those caring for an elderly person who is mentally confused.

It is hoped to provide sitters in the near future, so that carers can have a short break from their responsibilities. There is also a monthly meeting on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30 at the Age Concern Centre. I can give fuller details to anyone interested in joining the group or willing to act as a sitter

*Joan Warren (830233)*



*Don't forget young Pappu Jagnath, the Indian boy Patricxbourne with Bridge is sponsoring at Deenabandhu Primary School, Seemapuri. This photograph arrived recently: Pappu is at the back of the family group. Do write to him, a short letter on a picture postcard for preference: Pappu Jagnath P/4, c/o the Delhi Brotherhood Society, The Brotherhood House, Court Lane, Delhi-110054, India.*

## The Samaritans calling

The Canterbury and District Branch of the Samaritans, with Centres at 14 Ivy Lane, Canterbury and St. Paul's Hall, off Northdown Road, Cliftonville need your help. As you are probably aware one of the criteria of the Samaritan organisation is that volunteers remain completely anonymous and therefore it is very difficult for us to raise funds for our organisation, although of course we do.

What we need is a group of Friends who would raise money for us by raffles, coffee mornings, fêtes, dances etc. This can be done in your own Parish and we will help you all we can with publicity material, speakers, volunteers.

We need to keep going in Canterbury and Thanet. There is an attempted suicide every two and a half minutes. In this appalling situation we offer the despairing a breathing space. We have no magic wand to wave away problems and we offer no advice. Our role is to listen, to sympathise and understand.

If you think you can help us please ring and let us know. We will be very happy to give you as much support as we can. For further information please telephone Mrs. Anne Lehane on Chestfield 2212.

*Contributed*

## Women's World Day of Prayer

Throughout 5th March, 1982 Christian women from one hundred and fifty countries and islands will be worshipping, using the same prayers and hymns and reading the same lessons. This worldwide movement had a small beginning, even before 1887 when the movement was formally established. It began with an American Presbyterian Minister's wife, who suggested that a day be set aside for prayers for immigrant families who were in need. Eventually Christian women from other denominations asked if they might join in this day of prayer. From this start women from all over the world have carried the movement forward. This ecumenical joining together brings warmth, friendship and understanding throughout the world. England, Ireland and Wales established their membership in 1932, Scotland a little earlier.

Last year a service was held in St. Peter's, Bridge, but as this year is the 50th anniversary it would seem more sensible, particularly as we have been invited, to attend the special Golden Jubilee services in the Cathedral. The programme will consist of a service in the Eastern Crypt at 12 noon, conducted by the committee; lunch at 1.00pm in St. Thomas's Hall and a service in the Quire at 2.30pm at which the Bishop of Dover will give the address. The point is made once again that, despite its title, this is not a purely female day, and men are most welcome. I have been given a slot in the second service, hopefully not just to keep the Bishop company!

<b>Cleaning</b>	<b>ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BEKESBOURNE</b>	<b>Flowers</b>
Mrs. Watson .....	7th February .....	Mrs. Ash
Mrs. Russell .....	14th February .....	Mrs. Wraight
Mrs. Grey .....	21st February .....	Mrs. Purchase
Mrs. Beckett .....	28th February .....	<i>No flowers</i>

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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, Ardpriority, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD  
(Canterbury 62695)

*Verger (Bridge):* Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne CT4 5JD (Bridge 830660)

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*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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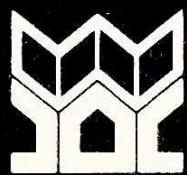
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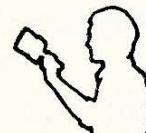
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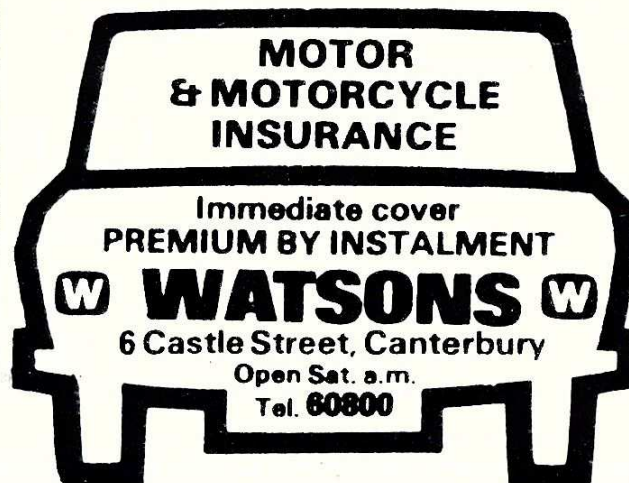
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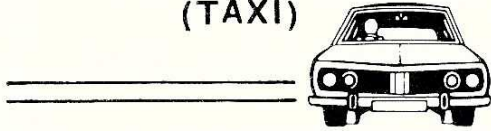
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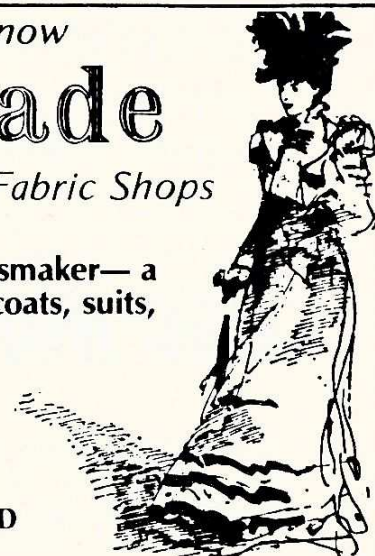
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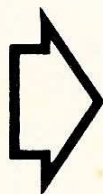
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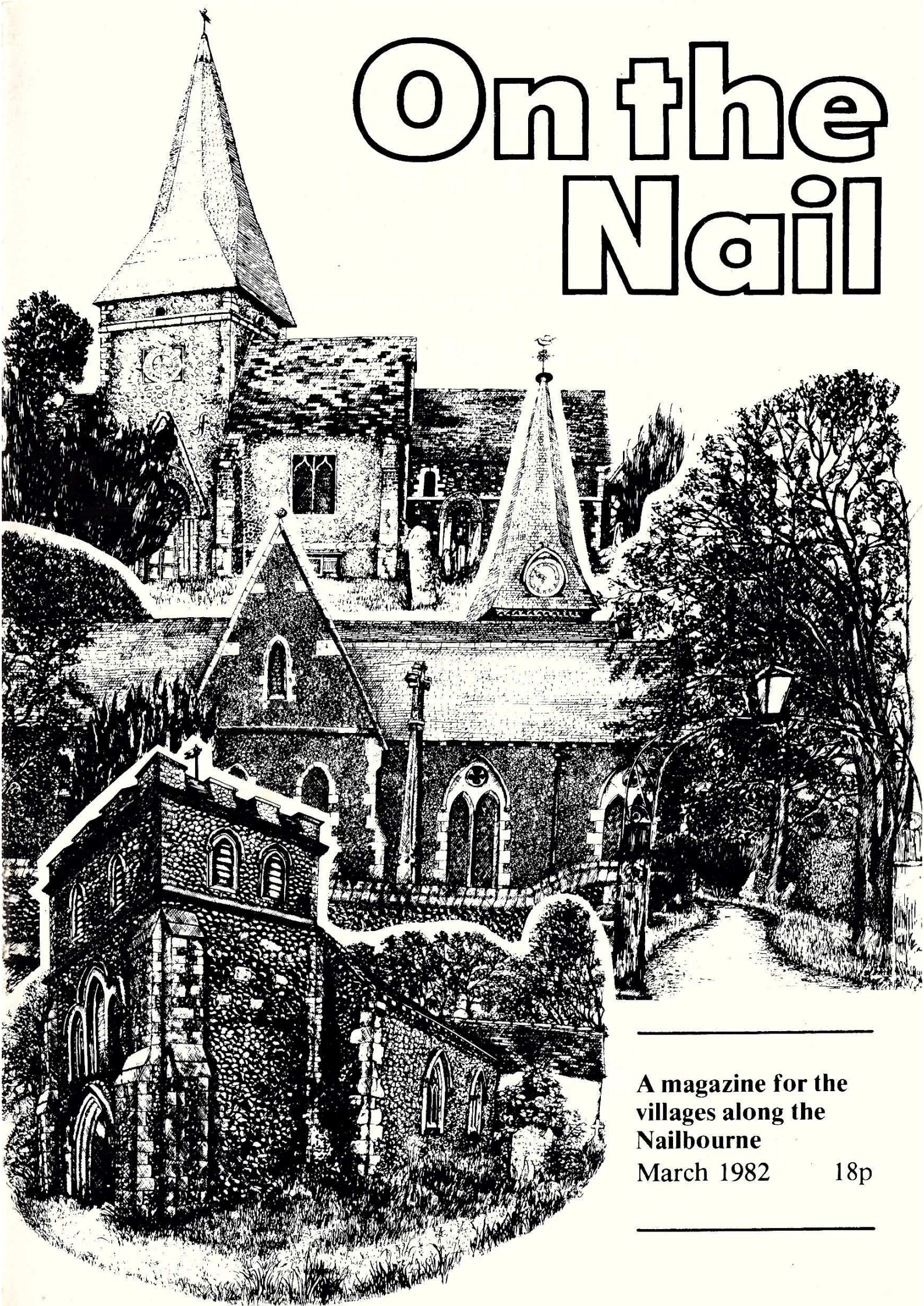
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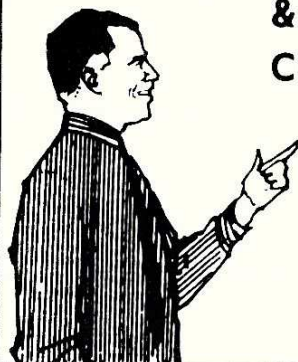
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# Sunday Worship in March

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
<b>7th:</b> 11am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30am Parish Communion
<b>14th:</b> 9.30am Holy Communion ( <i>Series 3</i> ) 6.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
<b>21st:</b> 9.30am Parish Communion 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am Mothering Sunday Service
<b>28th:</b> 8am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion	11am " <i>Cross of Christ</i> "

**Bridge Methodist Church:** 7th: The Revd. J. Raymond Goodburn, B.A.  
14th: The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. 21st: Mr. D.W. Dunn. 28th: Miss J.  
Charlesworth.

WEEKDAY SERVICES IN MARCH include celebrations of the Holy Communion in St. Peter's, Bridge on Wednesdays at 9.30am and Fridays (Series 3) at 7.30am, and in the Common Room of Churchill House on the first Wednesday (3rd) at 10.15am. The Close's weekly services are on Wednesdays at 2.30pm in the Chapel.

## For your diary and prayer list

- 1st *David of Menevia, Patron Saint of Wales, c601*
- 3rd Bridge School Governors Meeting. Pray regularly for our school.
- 4th Bekesbourne PCC Meeting, School House, 8pm
- 5th Women's World Day of Prayer. Cathedral Service, 2.30pm
- 7th *Second Sunday in Lent*. The Family Service is on the theme *The Springtime of Life* and will include Holy Baptism.
- 11th Bridge Parish Council Meeting
- 14th *Third Sunday in Lent*
- 16th East Bridge Deanery Synod on Christian Stewardship.  
Bridge with Patricxbourne WI
- 17th *Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland*
- 18th Nailbourne Protection Society AGM. The Barn, Kingston, 8pm
- 19th *Joseph of Nazareth, Husband of the BV Mary*
- 21st *Fourth Sunday in Lent*. Bekesbourne's annual Mothering Sunday Service is at 11am.
- 25th *Annunciation of our Lord to the BV Mary*.  
Bridge Parish Council AGM.
- 27th East Kent Pilgrims' Hospice Easter Fair, Village Hall, Bridge, 2pm.
- 28th *Fifth Sunday in Lent (Passion Sunday)*. Choral Meditation *The Cross of Christ* will replace Matins at Bekesbourne.

## ‘Prill Hawkins’

A capacity congregation assembled in St. Peter’s, Bridge on 15th February to honour the life of a much loved member of the community, who passed away on the previous Monday after a long and courageously-born illness. At the service, which preceded cremation at Barham, her daughter Marian read St. John 14. 1—6 and the prayers were led by a former Vicar, the Reverend Geoffrey Church. The Address, given by the present Vicar, is reproduced here.

“In the early days of Christian history, so the Bible tells us, there was a husband and wife team who, while not aspiring to sainthood, yet made a noteworthy contribution to the growth of the Church. The husband was a tentmaker called Aquila and his wife’s name was Priscilla. From what we hear of them they were leading lights in the church at Corinth and the chances are they also took an active interest in the general life of that neighbourhood.

“It does not require much imagination to discern a link between Priscilla of first century Corinth and Priscilla of twentieth century Bridge. For one thing both ladies were better known by shortened forms of their name, the one often called Prisca and the other, of course, Prill. But more than that, we might see the contribution made by Prisca to the church and community of her day mirrored in the contribution Prill made to *our* church and village.

“You never heard anything but good of Prill Hawkins, and the effect she had upon this community just by being the person she was far outstrips that of the more verbal and active of us. Someone has described her as kindness itself and certainly she was always welcoming and, even when dogged with ill health, a person who radiated joy. Her role in village life was never ostentatious, yet she presented a face to the world at large which was true to her character, that of a devoted and most supportive wife, a model mother and grannie and an exemplary villager.

“Prill was also a sincere Christian, and this accounts for all the rest. And let’s be quite clear: by calling her a Christian I do not mean that she was simply a person of high moral standing, though she was certainly that, nor a person of syrupy sentimentality, which she certainly was not. I mean she was a woman of the faith. She not only went to church, she did not just do things for the church, although in her quiet, unobtrusive way she did a great deal for this building and its worship, notably with needle and thread. No, Prill was not a Christian merely by name or the doing of good deeds, but because she was a part of the church community in much the same way as her namesake at Corinth. She joined the church in its main activity of worship and she supported it by her prayers. Also, in the way all true Christians do, she carried her faith and her love for God into her everyday life and, again with characteristic quiet perseverance, she witnessed that good confession that all who call themselves Christians are supposed to do.

“We give thanks to God, this day, for the life and example of Prill Hawkins and pray that he may grant each of us his grace to fulfil the baptismal vow to confess the faith of Christ crucified and manfully to fight under his banner against sin, the world and the devil and to continue Christ’s faithful soldiers and servants unto our life’s end.”

\* \* \*

The morning service at Bekesbourne on 21st February was a departure from the norm, in that we welcomed Bekesbourne and Bridge Brownie packs for a special service to mark their annual Thinking Day. In the course of the service, which was on the theme of *Promise*, **Robert Walter Payne**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Payne, 'Ty Newydd', Adisham Road was brought to the font, and, in the sacrament of Holy Baptism, made 'a member of Christ, the child of God, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven.'

On 17th February, St. Peter's, Bridge witnessed the funeral of a former resident, Mrs. **Lily Alberta Stevens**, whose body was subsequently laid to rest in the churchyard with that of her husband.

## Time and Talents

The churchyard at Bridge was hugely improved by the efforts of our volunteer workers last year. To keep up with the good work — specifically a general tidy-up and clearing of the last overgrown portion — a "spring clean" is planned for Saturday, 20th March.

It will be appreciated if as many helpers as possible come along to Bridge churchyard at 10am on this date, bringing whatever implements they can.

A.J.

## Happy Families

**The Children's Society announces *Family Week 1982***

"When I grow up and get a job I'm still going to live here as I've fallen in love with you and dad", — Richard aged 8.

Richard was talking just six months after he went to live with his family. He is a young spastic lad who loves football and space projects.

He has his own piece of garden and is watching his own flowers grow.

For most of Richard's young life things did not seem to grow very fast. But the seeds of love in Richard's life have germinated now and they are growing.

Richard has a family and it is the most precious gift he has ever had.

Most of us take the gift of our family for granted. For many children like Richard it is a very special day when it is their own front door they open when they get home from school, when it is their own mum and dad who tuck them into bed at night.

The Church of England Children's Society cares for over 5,000 children every year. Many are like Richard hoping for a home and a family, others have their own families but for many reasons they are not happy families.

We believe in families and we believe that all the children in our care should have the opportunity of the love and care of family life.

The Society cares for children through its family and community centres where it is part of the community helping children and families to grow together; through its residential homes, many of which specialise in the care of the handicapped; through homefinding teams where we find homes for many older children or those disabled in any way; through teenage units where we help young people to grow towards independence; through special schools and centres where we can care for children with special needs.

The Church of England Children's Society is now embarking on its second century of caring for children. It has helped many children to have a happy family during that time.

When Linda wrote thanking the Society for "the gift of my parents" she said "I could write pages of their patience and devotion but it will suffice to say thank you to the Society for giving me such wonderful parents and thank you mum and dad for all you've done and all you continue to do".

For Richard, Linda, all the children who have a family and for all those who do not, we have put aside a week every year for families.

Family week 1982 is from 28th March to 3rd April. During that week there will be a house to house collection in your parish as in all parishes throughout England and Wales. We ask that you help generously. Your generosity will help other children like Richard. Help plant the seeds of love in a child's life.

*Contributed*

## Real Life Story

This month sees the publication of a remarkable paper back by Mrs. **Pennie Kidd**, wife of the new rector of Chartham. In it she describes her life over 22 years during which undiagnosed multiple sclerosis combined with childhood bereavement to carry her deep into recurring despair. Her vivid descriptions of her sensations and of how God found her and held her are deeply moving. The development of that relationship and her eventual healing are a source of hope and inspiration to the reader. A wonderful book, with a foreword by the Archbishop. Title *I'm Smiling as Hard as I Can* by **Pennie Kidd, S.R.N., R.M.N.**, Mowbray's £1.75.

## Framework for Faith

This is the proposed title of a new Diocesan course for adults. Planned to start in the Autumn, it will be available across the diocese at a local level. It will be a **BASIC COURSE** and much of it will take place in small groups meeting in members' homes. Each group will have a tutor.

*What is it for?* The aim of the course is to help those who wish to become more knowledgeable about fundamental Christian beliefs; be more articulate about what they believe; take an active part in the sharing of ministry; prepare themselves for deeper theological study. It will be a flexible course designed to supply something more than any one local church can provide, yet simple enough for everyone to join in.

*How will it be organised?* Each year there will be three terms, and in each term two different subjects will be offered. Each term will consist of six 2-hour sessions in local groups, and a one day seminar for all those who have studied a particular subject.

*What will the subjects be?* In the first term, participants will be able to choose between *The People of the Book* (an Introduction to the Old Testament) and *Christian Marriage and Family Life*. In subsequent terms, the following subjects will be offered: Christian Worship; Challenges to Christian Belief; A History of our Faith; Prayer; An Introduction to the New Testament; The Christian and Society; Christian Beliefs; Ministry; Personal Relationships; Communicating the Faith.

*What happens next?* If you would like to know more **write to:** Framework for Faith, Diocesan Education Committee, 1 Lady Wootton's Green, Canterbury CT1 1TL. Details and application forms will be ready after Easter.



## Hospice Support — A Constant Need!

*With the East Kent Pilgrims' Hospice due to open this year a one-time dream becomes a reality. Its future is very much in our hands. The following article has all the details:*

The East Kent Hospice has acquired premises at 56, London Road, Canterbury, alterations have been made and the Hospice with 20 beds will be opened in 1982. (Domiciliary teams will be attached and operate throughout East Kent, so that patients may also be treated at home and helped to live normally for as long as possible, knowing that the intensive care of the Hospice itself will be available when it is needed.)

The Hospice will need a guaranteed income of at least £200,000 p.a. for four years. Each bed will cost about £250 a week at current rates and only gradually will funds start to build up from the contributions of patients, from relatives' donations and from legacies. In opening, commitment will have been made to those who will come to work in the East Kent Pilgrims' Hospice and more especially, to the community at large.

### **The Night/Day Sitting Service**

Our Hospice night/day Sitting Service (which is entirely voluntary) is now fully operational — however, more sitters are needed and if anyone is interested please contact Pauline Pope (address and telephone given below).

If any reader knows of a family or person who would like some help and support from the night/day service, please contact The East Kent Pilgrims' Hospice, 56 London Road, Canterbury, Kent (telephone Canterbury 57766) or Mrs. Pauline Pope, "North Hill", Bridge (telephone Bridge 830055) and we will arrange help.

### **Open Days at the Pilgrims' Hospice**

The Hospice will be open on three Saturdays in March, the 6th, 13th and 20th from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. when guided tours will take place and refreshments will be available.

### **Easter Fair (in aid of funds for the Hospice)**

An Easter Fair (bring & buy) in aid of the above will be held in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday 27th March from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tea/Coffee will be on sale

The many stalls will include:— Books, Records, Bric-a-Brac, Cakes & Produce, Easter eggs and gifts, Toys, Jewellery and as-new clothes.

We would be grateful for any contributions towards the above stalls and these can be left with Mrs. Child at the Village Shop or Rosemary at the Chemist/Post Office (marked for the East Kent Pilgrims Hospice please). Or 'phone Bridge 830055 in the evenings or weekends and I will be pleased to arrange collection.

Many thanks in anticipation of your support.

*Pauline Pope*

*Co-ordinator for the Sitting Service Canterbury Area.*



# 'On the Nail' Post Bag

Chaplain's Office,  
Kent & Canterbury Hospital,  
Canterbury CT1 3NG

## GIVE A CROSS FOR LENT

During my hospital ministry I have used to great advantage the little wooden crosses which can be held in the hand. These bring great comfort and relief to patients who are worried, frightened or in pain. The feel of the cross in the hand can bring great peace at any time but particularly, perhaps, in the middle of a long dark night.

Until now I have been able to obtain a supply of these crosses free or at nominal cost but this facility is no longer available to me and my supply is exhausted.

This is not something which the National Health Service will fund and I now have to look to private sources if I am going to continue with the use of these crosses.

I have, therefore, thought of what I am calling a 'Give a Cross for Lent' campaign. All I ask from each of you is 40p — the cost of one cross.

Should you feel able to help in this way would you please hand in your 40p to

Mrs Enid Wintle,  
'Orana', Brewery Lane,  
Bridge

who has kindly offered to be your parochial collecting agent, or to your Vicar.

I would not like to have to stop using these crosses as I know their great benefits. Please help if you can.

PETER R. HEARTFIELD  
*Resident Chaplain*

## Bekesbourne and 'On the Nail'

If you know of any of your neighbours in Bekesbourne who would like to receive a copy of *On the Nail* each month, please tell me and I will gladly arrange for it to be delivered (Bridge 830256).

During my annual collection of magazine money recently, some people have commented on the lack of Bekesbourne news in *On the Nail*. The magazine has a wide, regular circulation in the three villages and is a good place to advertise events, air your views, etc. — so come on, Bekesbourne! Items should be sent to the vicar by 15th of the month before publication.

*Jane Millyard*

## Diocesan News

### **What Should We Learn From the Charismatic Movement''**

'The Charismatic Movement in the Church of England' is a Report on the significance of this movement, called for by a resolution of the General Synod in November 1978. The Report examines the roots of the movement and its continuing growth. It does so with remarkable candour and freshness of style indicative of an assurance and a readiness to learn from past mistakes

all too commonly absent from our debate and discussions in the Church of England. If the Movement's mistakes have stemmed largely from excess of zeal, let it be said that they are no worse, even if more obvious, than those of inertia.'

After a short historical survey of its genesis (which pays insufficient tribute to the outstanding and single-minded contribution of the Revd. Michael Harper sustained over many years) the report contains a number of vignettes — factual accounts and evaluations of the charismatic movement in a number of parishes and institutions during the period under review. It then deals with two key questions:

- 1) Does the Movement bear witness to something of authentic New Testament Christianity which traditional main-stream church life has been missing or has obscured, namely renewed supernaturalism, a sense of seeing and feeling God at work?
- 2) Is it possible that an institutionalised, intellectualised, practice of Christianity has left a thirst which only the springs of charismatic renewal can satisfy?

Historically the Church of England has tended towards a very structured life, hierarchial in its ministry, formal in its liturgy, conservative in its temperament and sacerdotal in its clericalism. The pentecostal strand of New Testament Christianity has emerged at intervals but has always been peripheral to general church life. The Charismatic Movement challenges us to look afresh, with critical eyes, at the place we give to the Holy Spirit in doctrine and experience, and what we can learn from this Report. Thus it looks briefly in this light at Worship, Experience-centred religion, Shared ministry, Unity, Mission and Fellowship.

The Church of England claims to be both catholic and protestant. Ought we to find a place for this third strand which stresses the experience of the Spirit? This would lead to a renewed sense of the power and presence of God in our lives, a new openness, flexibility, and expectancy; a renewed experience of the sheer reality of God.

The same week that this Report was published saw the publication of another official report: that of the Partners in Mission Consultation of the General Synod's Board for Mission and Unity *To a Rebellious House* which referred to the Church of England as being shackled by its own archaic institutions and structures. Perhaps the simultaneous appearance of these two reports was more than a coincidence. Is God saying loud and clear that the key to the Church's problems of mission and unity and in much else lies not in laborious man-made strivings but in individual and corporate openness to the Holy Spirit? An Appendix at the end of the Report deals with the rapidly growing "house church movement" to which many devout and committed younger Christian families are gravitating and which is enviably free from many of the impedimenta of the main-stream churches, to practise the very principles and to experience the power and gifts of which the Charismatic Movement is making the Church aware. All too often in the past, new movements of the Holy Spirit in the Church have been blocked or frustrated by inertia, fear and faithfulness, and have found their way into new sects and denominations. Are we wise, humble and responsible enough to avoid that error this time?

+ Stuart Croydon



Before the commencement of formal business at the Parish Council meeting on 11 February, the Chairman, Councillor John Hill, expressed the great regret of the members at the death of Mrs. P. Hawkins, the wife of their former chairman; and Cllr. Peter Lawrence paid tribute to the many qualities by which she would be long remembered. The Council stood for a minute's silence in her memory.

#### **Street Cleaning**

The Chairman told members that they were still not able to write a final instalment to this long-running serial, for although he had inspected some equipment at the City Council yard, there remained some divergence of opinion amongst City Council officers as to what, if anything, they might be able to make available on loan. He was, of course, still pursuing the matter.

#### **The Future of 'The Close'**

It will be remembered that members have been concerned about the future use of 'The Close' buildings, and they were therefore glad to see the plans of a prospective purchaser, a co-ownership housing association, whose scheme for the property, the Chairman said, would involve a conservative conversion to sixteen dwelling units and five craft workshops. This would be very much in line with the preferences which the Council expressed to the County Council in September; and members hope that the County will agree to the sale to the association.

#### **Recreation Ground**

The Council agreed to the minor lopping of some trees to facilitate the mowing of the Recreation Ground, and agreed to a proposal by Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young that she should be responsible for maintenance work generally, with the assistance of Cllr. John Anderson. It was also arranged that the help of the mole-catcher should be again enlisted to deal with a problem that shows no sign of abating.

#### **Annual Parish Meeting**

As mentioned last month, this will be held on Thursday, 25 March. It was decided not to show a film this year, for members felt that the main item on the agenda, the purchase and extension of the Village Hall, would itself prove a sufficient attraction. As last year, however, refreshments will be served during the course of the evening.

#### **Generally**

The Council's representations regarding the safety of children attending playschool in Bekesbourne Road has met with success, for the County Area Surveyor had already erected "Children Crossing" signs in the road; Cllrs. Mrs. Olive Knight and Mrs. Anne Young will be attending a County Conference on the Provision of Rural Services in April; and it was decided to take certain steps to deal with parking on the double yellow lines outside Lipton's store. The Council also heard a report from Mrs. Warren on the continued progress of the 'Fish' scheme.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday, 11 March, at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. Members of the public, will, as always, be welcome.

**RELIEF WARDEN WANTED** Sheltered housing scheme, Canterbury area. Calm, capable, kindly person required, possibly retired, to act as Relief on Warden's days off and holidays, by keeping a friendly eye on 14 tenants, ladies, and coping with emergencies. No cooking or cleaning.

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## 'Fish' News



### **Blossom Tour**

Plans are being made to take members of the Luncheon Club on a blossom tour on the afternoon of Wednesday, 5th May. We should like to include other senior citizens who live alone or who have mobility problems. Please let me know by 27th March if you would like to come with us.

### **Chiropody**

The main Canterbury Chiropody Clinic has moved from Whitstable Road to the new Health Centre at the bottom of the Old Dover Road. This is a NHS Clinic which gives free treatment to children, expectant mothers, disabled people and those over retirement age. Appointments can be made by telephoning Canterbury 54435. Our Bridge Clinic will be carrying on as usual and will move to the new home in Conyngham lane when The Close shuts down.

### **City Centre Access**

A permit has been obtained which enables us to take people who have mobility problems to doctors, opticians, dentists, etc. within the restricted areas of the city. Please let me know if you need transport arranged to keep an appointment (Bridge 830233).

*Joan Warren*

## **NAILBOURNE PROTECTION SOCIETY**

The A.G.M. will be held on Thursday, 18th March at 8.00 pm. in the Barn, Kingston. Present and new supporters will be welcomed. Nominations for office should be communicated to the Secretary.

The Nailbourne Protection Society has earned the respect of Planning Authorities in its objectives of preserving the beauty and attractiveness of the Nailbourne Valley. The Society has "won" every campaign it has fought. Your Valley and Your Village are too precious to be spoilt by inappropriate developments.

We always need your support and strength. Membership is only £1 per year. Support our endeavours with your membership; we will do the work.

*Ian Taylor, Secretary*

**BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE** monthly meeting is on 16th March, when Mrs. Care of the Potato Marketing Board will give a cookery demonstration. The competition — cookery dish using potatoes. Please all enter for this!

*G.S. Price, Hon. Sec.*

**BEKESBOURNE CHURCH CLEANING:** 7th, Mrs. Smith. 14th, Mrs. Stickells. 21st, Mrs. Hogben. 28th, Mrs. Watson.

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 (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.

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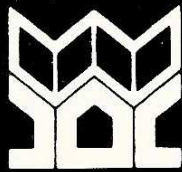
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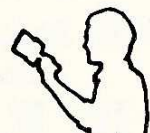
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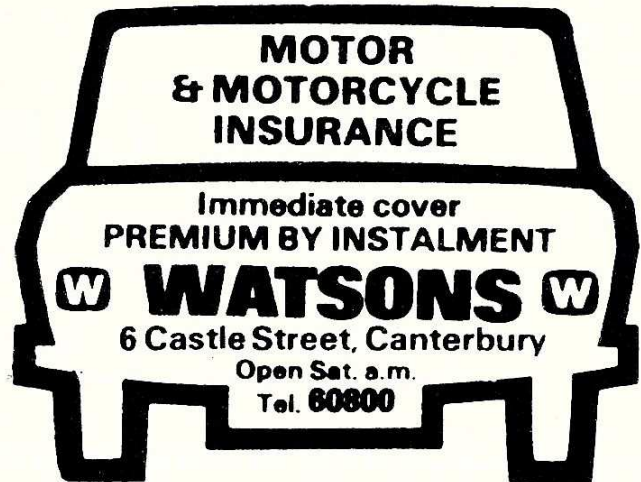
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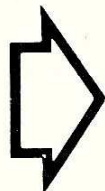
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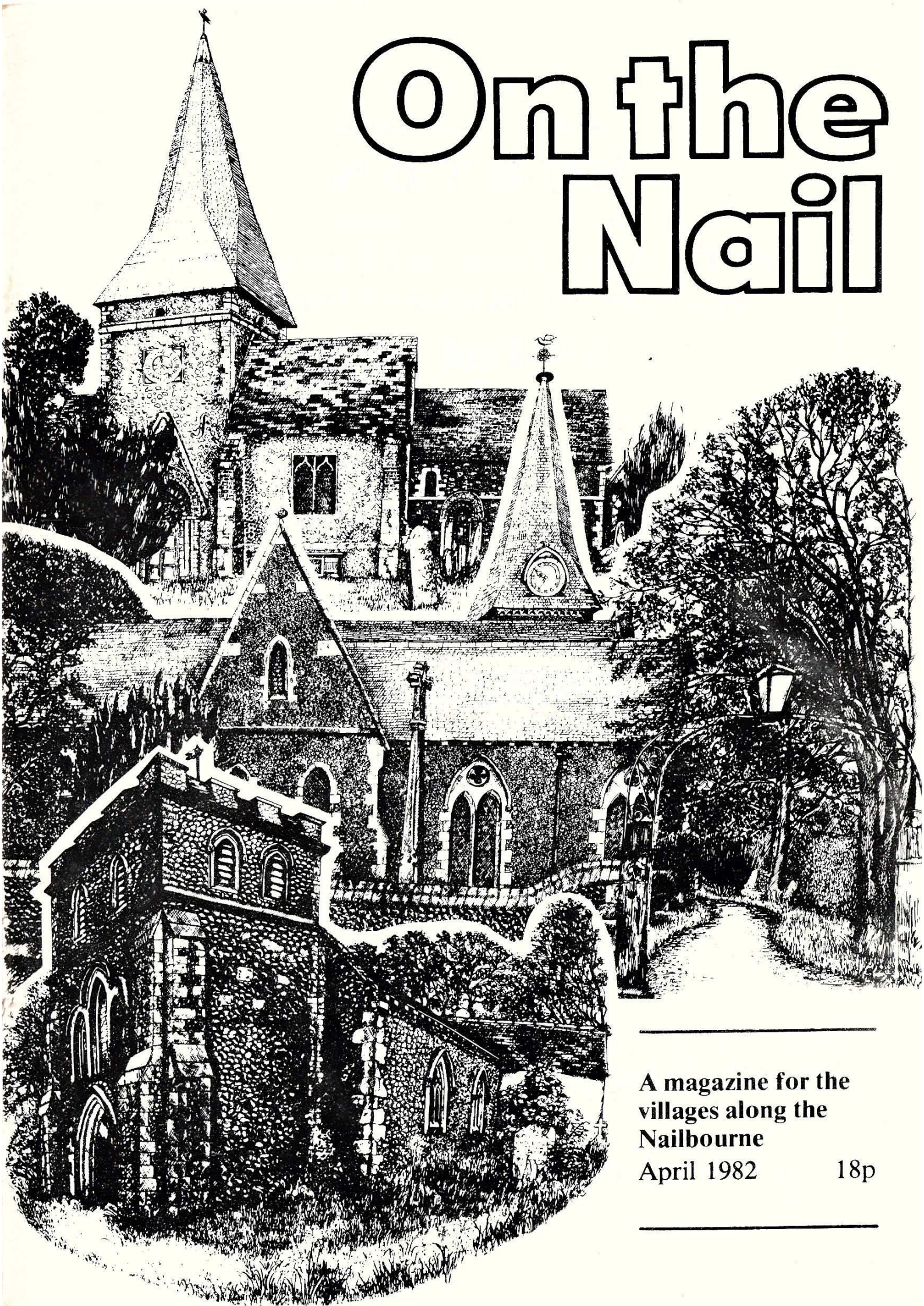
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April 1982

18p

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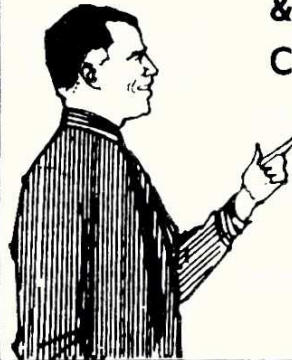
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# Sunday Worship in April

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

**4th:**

11am Family Service  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish  
Communion

**11th:**

*Details of Easter Day services are on page 5*

**18th:**

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
(Revd. C. Harrington)

8am Holy Communion  
(Revd. C. Verity)

11am Matins  
Canon J. Packer

6.30pm Evensong

(Revd. C. Harrington)

**25th:**

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins with Holy  
Baptism &  
Communion

**Bridge Methodist Church** at 11am: *4th:* The Revd. Peter Boyden, M.A., M. Litt. *11th:* The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *18th:* Mr. Leslie Dron. *25th:* Mrs. Hilary Fairhurst, B.Ed.

WEEKDAY SERVICES include celebrations of the Holy Communion in St. Peter's, Bridge each Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (Series 3) at 7.30pm, but *please note* there will be no weekday services in Easter Week, i.e. 14th or 16th April. The monthly Communion for Churchill House is in the Common Room on 7th at 10.15am. Due to the move from The Close to the new premises the weekly services this month will be subject to cancellation. Helpers will be advised from week to week.

## For your diary and prayer list

- 1st Bekesbourne Annual Church Meeting in the church at 8pm
- 3rd Bridge School PTA Spring Fair, Village Hall, preceded by an Easter Bonnet Parade and competition for children and adults in the forecourt of Rogers Garage, to be judged at 1.45pm
- 4th *Palm Sunday* The Family Service will start with a palm procession from the Bishopsbourne Road adjoining the churchyard. Assemble there for an 11am start  
(*Details of Holy Week and Easter observances on page 5*)
- 5th Patricxbourne Parish Meeting annual assembly in the Old Vicarage (by kind permission of Dr. and Mrs. Pratt) at 8pm
- 6th Patricxbourne with Bridge Annual Church Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 8th Bridge Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 10th Decorating of Bridge Church for Easter at 10am. Lilies this year are 90p. Anyone who would like to give a lily is asked to give 90p to Mrs. Hunter, 24 High Street or Mrs. Apps, 34 High Street.
- 17th Wedding of Robert Sharp and Morag Walker at Bekesbourne, 2.30pm

- 18th *First Sunday After Easter*, also called Low Sunday.  
 19th Bekesbourne Village Hall AGM, 8pm. All villagers welcome!  
 20th Bridge with Patrixbourne WI Birthday meeting.  
 23rd *St. George Patron Saint of England*  
 25th *Second Sunday After Easter*  
 26th *ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST*, transferred from 25th
- 

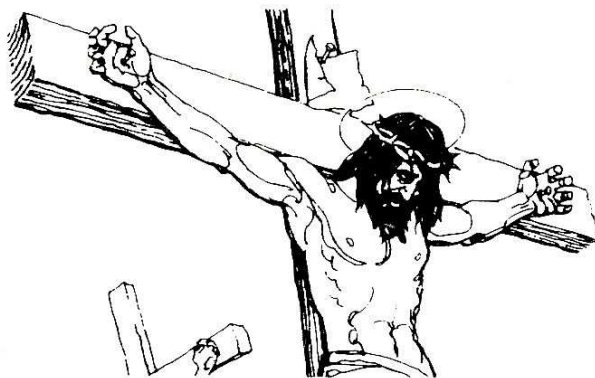
Easter Day is the one day in the year when all confirmed members of the Church of England should feel obliged to make their communion. Abundant provision is made in the three churches for every preference to be catered for, including the increasing number who prefer the modern service.

#### Holy Week:

- Bridge: Tuesday & Wednesday — 9.30am Holy Communion  
 Maundy Thursday — 8pm Sung Eucharist (Series 3)  
 Good Friday — 2pm Devotion for the Last Hour, conducted by the Rural Dean, the Revd. Desmond Sampson.
- Patrixbourne: Monday — 9.30am Holy Communion  
 Bekesbourne: Good Friday — 11am Matins

### EASTER DAY

- Bridge: 8am Holy Communion *The Revd. W. Owen*  
 9.30am Family Communion (Series 3) } *The Vicar*  
 6.30pm Festal Evensong
- Patrixbourne: 11am Holy Communion with Hymns and Sermon  
*The Vicar*
- Bekesbourne: 8am Holy Communion *The Vicar*  
 11am Matins, followed by Holy Communion *The Revd. C. Harrington*
- Bridge Methodists: 11am The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw



## The Cross — Stupid or Stupendous?

Is it to be wondered at that those first century Jews should have reacted with such horror to so distasteful and offensive an idea; or that that same event should have caused their contemporaries in the Greek world to treat it as sheer lunacy? I mean to say — the notion that a man skewered to a common gallows in the form of a rough wooden cross might be the living, yes, living Saviour of the world, the founder of a world-shattering movement that he would personally oversee into the distant future! Is this some kind of joke?

Certainly to anyone of a sceptical frame of mind the cross of Christ, seen simply as the doing to death of a youthful Jew, lacks punch. It is not the foundation great causes are built on, nor can it be said to inspire confidence in the victim. Good Friday on its own cannot be other than a crushing defeat, the end of the line for that sad figure pierced by nails and a sword. What was it he said, "It is finished"? You bet your life it's finished, done for, kaput!

Yet the Christian Church flourishes and abounds almost 2000 years after the event the disbeliever so scathingly condemns. The day on which it happened is branded for ever as 'Good' Friday — because, in the long run, Christ nailed to the cross was a *good* thing and from it much good has flowed. "The tree of defeat became the tree of glory, and where life was lost, there life has been restored." And the happening that brought about this transformation in our interpretation of the crucifixion was the resurrection of that same Jew from the dead. As you could not have Easter Day without Good Friday so it needs Easter Day to make sense of Good Friday. The resurrection is the vehicle through which Jesus' crucifixion shines out as stupendous victory and not stupid loss of life. Because of Easter the cross-event becomes central to Christian faith, the instrument of shameful death assumes the role of an object of beauty and hope, and the man who hung upon it is known to be alive and active in his followers now in 1982.

"It is finished" Jesus was heard to cry shortly before he died, but it was not the cry of someone who has witnessed the downfall of all his hopes and aspirations. It was the shout of triumph, for what he really said was something like, "It is brought to fruition. The deed is done." The Easter hymn expresses it correctly:

"The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
Now is the Victor's triumph won!"

\* \* \*

*Holy Baptism* was administered during the Family Service at Bridge on 7th February to Shelley Emma Tamsitt, 7 The Downs, Chartham and, until very recently, 16a High Street, also to James Nicholas Hansen, 66 High Street.

## To Poland with Love

Money for relief work is always welcomed, but here is a more personal medium by which aid can be got to poor, struggling Poland.

Bruno Socki is an ex-patriot Pole resident in Dover. Recently he did a mercy trek to his hometown of Grandziadz with a Luton lorry laden with much needed basic supplies. Lorry, ferry passage and cargo were all donated: the latter consisted of clothing, toiletries (soap is extremely scarce in Poland), non-perishable foodstuffs, washing powder, disposable nappies, cotton wool, disinfectant, disposable hyperdermic syringes, etc. It was a perilous journey to make, but he did it in four days, taking as co-driver a retired clergyman, the Revd. James Snell.

The warmth of his welcome was heart-rending, and he recalls hospital doctors with tears of gratitude in their eyes and children from the local orphanage proudly displaying their 'new' clothes.



*Bruno Socki and some of the aid parcels*

Picture *Dover Express*

The only injury he sustained was a badly cut shin, which had to be stitched in the hospital at Grandziadz. Conditions were very bad, there being nothing with which to keep equipment and gowns clean. Bruno tells of medications being in such short supply that the doctor had only enough pain-killer to anaesthetize one side of the wound while his leg was sutured.

But Bruno is not to be deterred, and despite a recent spell in the Kent & Canterbury Hospital (not the leg, this time) plans are well ahead for a return trip sometime over Easter, *and* one after that, if at all possible. This is where we can help! Already Bridge School (Bruno visited them) have collected a great deal, but everyone who reads this ought to have the chance to bring desperately needed relief to the stricken people of Grandziadz. Usually it is the larger cities of Poland that receive the help — places like Warsaw, Gdansk, Cracow — which is why Bruno centres his missions upon the smaller town from which he came and where his parents still live. Can you donate something for Grandziadz, with love, particularly such mundane (to us) commodities as soap, disinfectant, good, warm clothing, cotton wool, tea, detergent, or anything else you can think of in that line please? Goods can be left at either the Vicarage or with Mrs. Ruth Dawson, Soldanella, Bekesbourne Hill (Tel: 830754). Mrs. Dawson will gladly arrange to collect any gifts from your home or shop. And please pray for the people of Poland and for all engaged in the mammoth task of bringing aid to that great nation. Pray, too, for Bruno Socki as he makes his second journey.



A letter has been received from the Chaplain of the Kent & Canterbury Hospital thanking all who contributed to his "Give a Cross for Lent" appeal. Over £20 was donated by readers of *On the Nail* alone.

# Save the Children Fund Week

**26th April — 1st May**

There are so many children in the world today, in this country but especially overseas, desperately in need of food, water, shelter, medical help and education, that surely no one can fail to want to support our fund. Are there perhaps a few able-bodied friends over 16 years old, who would do so by selling flags for an hour or two in Canterbury on 1st May? If so, please ring 830457 or contact me at Beech Cottage, Beech Hill, Bridge.

*Anne Young*

## On the Move

22nd April will be a significant day in Bridge's life, for that is the date on which those at The Close move house to the new premises next door to the school. If you would like to share in the excitement Mrs. Holway, the Matron, would love to hear from you, because she is anxiously looking for help with the move. Potential helpers please contact her as soon as you can, preferably by 5th April. Either pop in at The Close or telephone 830265, and please don't be slow at coming forward!

## And Finally . . .

The recent, protracted illness of Elsie Apps, from which she is recovering very slowly, has brought home to worshippers at Bridge Church precisely what a stalwart job she has done over the years in keeping the church clean. Others have helped her, but she has shouldered the majority of the burden herself, and we are very grateful for her unstinting service.

The time has come, however, when we can no longer expect her to keep up the pace — we are none of us getting any younger — and having sounded out those who offered church cleaning as part of their Christian Stewardship we are looking for further help in order to form a proper cleaning rota. Some of the young mums of the village are in our sights, and if you are willing to give a hand from time to time please say so to the Vicar, who will be delighted to include you in the reckoning.



## Getting the Message

In an earlier letter the Bishop of Maidstone drew attention to some of the pungent comments about the Church of England which had been made by overseas visitors in the recent national *Partners in Mission Consultation*. Now that their full report has been received by the General Synod, I have been asked to draw out some of its implications for the local church, and indicate what it suggests should be the priorities for thought and action in our parishes. This is not a difficult task, since although the Consultation was chiefly concerned with national institutions the Report devotes a whole section to the local church. Among the major themes are these:

1. Our people need to be taught how to pray: we must not assume that they know. Spirituality must be deepened.
2. "The Church of England is busy about many things, but not sufficiently concerned with our Father in Heaven, and to teach our fellow countrymen that He is there,



real and alive and eternal.” (David Edwards in the Synod Debate.) By hard study and by prayer we must recover confidence in the gospel.

3. The business of the church is mission. It is for that end that our faith must be made strong. Mission is the work of the whole church, and therefore, the Partners declare, “the whole people of God, laity as well as clergy, must be trained for their shared ministry.”
4. Christian Stewardship is essential to the Church’s mission because only those who are generous in giving discover the spiritual liberation and personal blessing which flow from it. Christian commitment involves the giving of the whole self in free and spontaneous response to God’s love.

Prayer: study: shared ministry: Christian Stewardship. There is nothing very new in that. Those who remember our own P.I.M. Consultation in 1979 will recall that our visitors said much the same thing. They are the themes that we are already seeking to concentrate upon as a diocese.

The fact that we now find them repeated to us is no reason to shrug them off as ‘old hat’, but rather to ask ourselves whether we have yet listened to this clear voice of the Spirit.

Perhaps their reiteration will persuade even the most resistant that the courses, studies, and programmes offered by the diocese are not just bright ideas put about by officials who have nothing better to do than think up new burdens to lay upon their parish brethren, but an essential strategy for the renewal of the Church\*.

+ *Richard Dover*

\**Please note.* Details of this autumn’s new courses for adults “Framework for Faith” will be available from the D.E.C. after Easter.

## **Christian Family Conference**

Bookings are already in progress for this year’s Christian Family Conference, to be held on Canterbury Rugby Club ground with camping facilities on adjoining farmland, from Saturday 24 to Saturday 31st July 1982. Morning programmes: Bible studies and Seminars: afternoons free: evening meetings with speakers including **Douglas McBain**, **Jean Darnall** and **Roger Forster**; plus organised sessions for young people. Booking forms from **Mrs. P.O. Morris, 381 Old London Road, Hastings, Sussex.**

## **Family Church Handbook**

A very useful handbook for churches that have family worship has been produced by a group of lay people in the diocese of Sheffield. Apart from having lots of practical ideas about everything from hymns to wall hangings it has a questionnaire to help churches evaluate what they are doing, and four sample forms of service. Obtainable from **Education Team, Diocesan Office, Barkers Pool House, Burgess Street, Sheffield.** (Price: £1.)

## **Nancy — a Recollection**

I expect that many of you have been watching the TV serial about Lady Astor, a brilliant, clever woman who came from America to make a terrific impact on the people of this country.

My memories of Nancy take me back to my childhood when she was a familiar figure in Plymouth. Nancy battled for women. Her cause took her to Parliament — it also took her into the pubs of Plymouth where she made a personal stand against the husbands who spent their wages on drink whilst their wives and children had too little food and clothing. She opened a centre, Virginia House, situated in one of the poorer parts of Plymouth, which offered help and services for women and children — it was still operating a few years ago.

The war years hit hard at the city of Plymouth — and there was Nancy, giving support and practical help. She organised centres for Servicemen and Sunday evening entertainments for them at the Palace Theatre which she attended and enhanced with her witticisms! She visited the victims of the ravages of the Blitz, and when VE-day came at last, there she was, on Plymouth Hoe, dancing with the people of Plymouth!

My last memory of Nancy was when I sang in the choir at the Civic Memorial Service held in the city after her death. The Astor family were there in the front pew alongside the Lord Mayor, but it was the people of Plymouth who created the atmosphere, having come to say farewell. It was a very moving occasion as so many of us had known her, not as the first woman to be elected to the House of Commons and the wife of a wealthy peer of the realm, but as a woman who had loved, understood and helped so many.

*Barbara Tomlin*

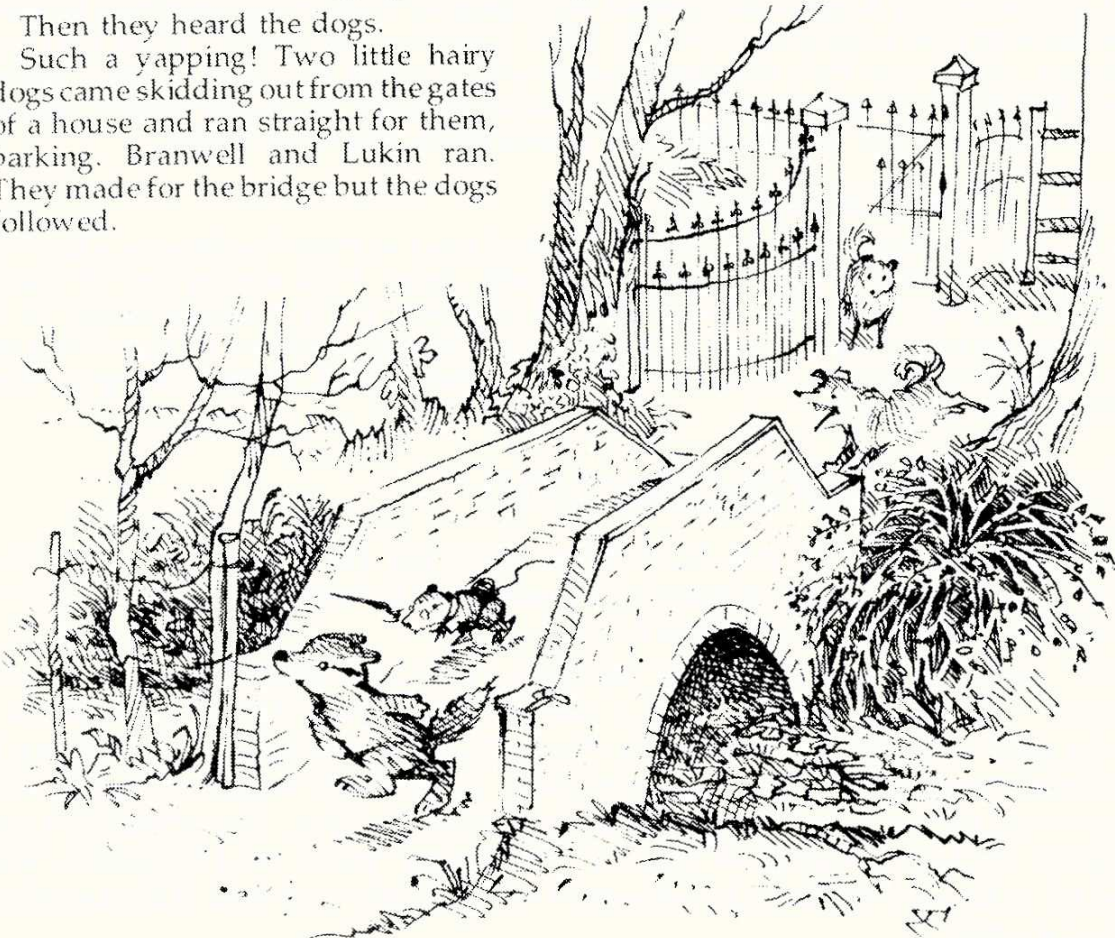
## Now Read On . . .

### A Book Review

Those of you who are not in the habit of buying children's books may not be aware that our villages are featured in the latest book by local author Peter Firmin. *The Winter Diary of a Country Rat* tells of Branwell, a rat, and Lukin, a little wolf, who travelled from Howletts Zoo to Canterbury, through Bekesbourne, Patricxbourne (where they are befriended by a Lady Artist in a garden with a mulberry tree ...) and Hode Lane. Their adventures culminate in a meeting with the Archbishop as he walks to the annual Christmas Eve Carol Singing in the Longmarket.

Then they heard the dogs.

Such a yapping! Two little hairy dogs came skidding out from the gates of a house and ran straight for them, barking. Branwell and Lukin ran. They made for the bridge but the dogs followed.



The story is illustrated with delightful line drawings of local interest — like the bridge by the ford at Bekesbourne, complete with Old Palace dogs! The friends' adventures are interspersed with stories of the places they pass — the Well Chapel, for instance — and with double page spreads in colour from Branwell's diary.

This book should appeal to a wide age group of children (and local adults), particularly those who can follow Branwell's route to Canterbury. It is published by Kaye & Ward in hard-back at £4.95.

*Jane Millyard*

## Bridge Senior Citizens Club

Newcomers to Bridge, who are of pensionable age, may care to know of the Senior Citizens Club which meets in the Village Hall, High Street, Bridge (next to the Village Shop) every Tuesday afternoon from 2.30 to 4.30pm.

The purpose of the club is to provide companionship in comfortable, cheerful and warm surroundings, to help members to continue to play a role in the life of the community, to keep up or awaken their interests and to give them the opportunity to put to account their aptitudes and skills.

Tea is served during the afternoon and a small membership fee is paid weekly.

Outings are arranged during the year, and, at Christmas, members enjoy a Christmas dinner at The Abbot's Fireside, Elham.

New members will be made very welcome, and transport, when *necessary*, is provided.

For further information ring 830584.

*O. Knight, Club Organiser*



## BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

### Street Cleaning

At the Parish Council meeting on 11 March, members heard once more that it had not yet proved possible to make arrangements for the sweeping of the village streets, for the City Council had still to decide if any equipment could be lent to the Parish. The Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, is continuing to press the matter, and remains hopeful of an early solution to the problem.

### Village Hall

The Council's intention to purchase and then improve the Hall, of which all parishioners have had an explanatory leaflet prepared by the Chairman, were greatly strengthened by the news, given to members by the Chairman, of an extremely generous donation by a prominent village resident. This, together with two other substantial gifts, is an encouraging start to proposals full

details of which are to be put to residents at the Annual Parish Meeting on 25 March.

### Recreation Ground

Cllr. Keith Chapman told the Council that all the playground equipment had had its annual safety check, but that it needed painting, and he was seeking estimates for the work. The Council also welcomed the news that Mr. Charles Shaw, of the "Red Lion", had started to collect for a rocking horse to add to the existing equipment. The mole problem had been dealt with; and it was decided to ask Mr. Brian Mummery if he would again be prepared to chain harrow the ground before the first mowing in order to deal with the many mole-hills. Cllrs. Mrs. Anne Young and John Anderson were carrying out maintenance work on the trees.

### Generally

The Council mandated Cllr. Peter Lawrence, who is their delegate, on the resolutions to be discussed at the Annual Conference of the National Conference of Local Councils; it was decided to make the usual annual donation of £10 to the Kent Association of Youth Clubs; the continued deficiencies in the lighting of the High Street were discussed; Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young gave a report on the progress of the "Fish" scheme; and final arrangements were made for the Annual Parish Meeting on 25 March.

The next meeting of the Council is on 8 April at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. It is hoped that interest stimulated by the Annual meeting will ensure a good attendance of residents.

## BEKESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on Tuesday April 27 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Villagers are cordially invited to come along and hear about the work of the Parish Council and to ask questions. The business part of the meeting will be followed by the showing of a new film about the work of the County Council and refreshments will be served.

## 'Fish' News



The **Blossom Tour** coach will leave Western Avenue (opposite Green Court) at 2.15pm on Wednesday, 5th May. Transport will be available to the pick-up point. Arrangements have been made for disabled members to travel by car and join the main party for a cream tea at Chilham.

Our annual fund-raising **Coffee Morning** is on Saturday, 5th June. Please book the date now.

Miss Tomlin has kindly offered to have the **Luncheon Club** at the *School* on 19th and 26th April. Our first meeting in the new home will be on 10th May.

The **Chiropody Clinic** will be held at the new home on and after 29th April.

*Joan Warren*

### Cleaning

### BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

### Flowers

Mrs. Russell .....	4th April .....	<i>No flowers</i>
Mrs. Grey .....	11th April .....	<i>Easter Day</i>
Mrs. Beckett .....	18th April .....	Mrs Farbrace
Mrs Smith .....	25th April .....	Mrs Smith

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, Ardriory, 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, Patixbourne and Bekesbourne.

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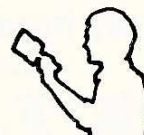
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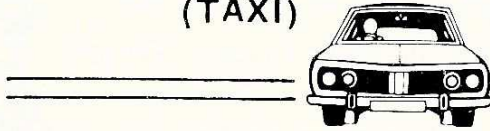
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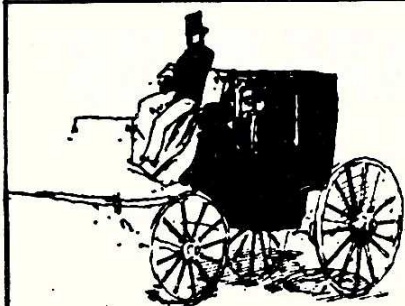
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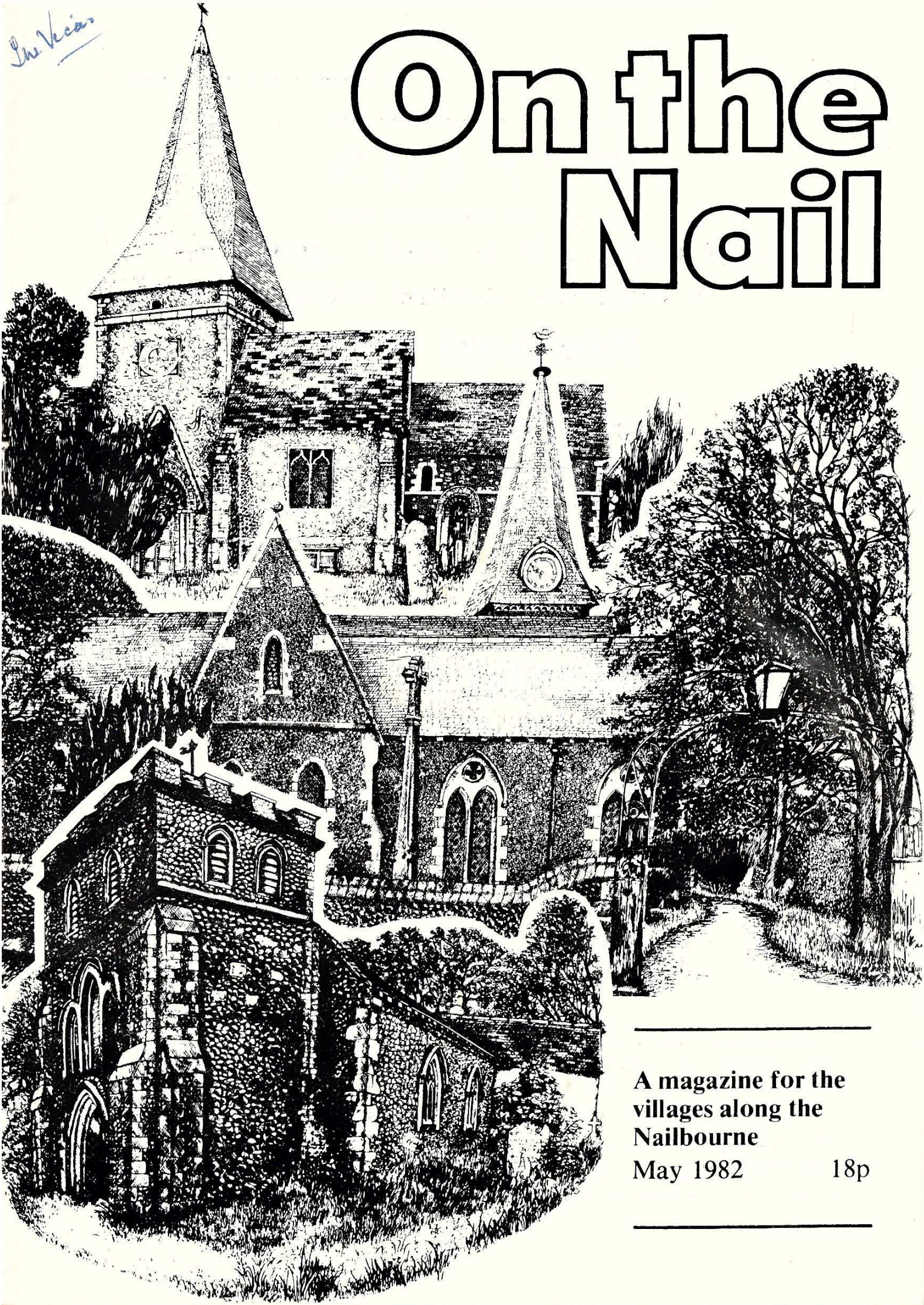
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*The Vicar*

# On the Nail



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villages along the  
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May 1982

18p

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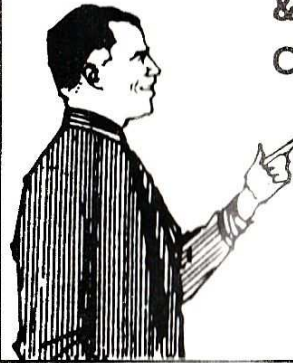
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# Sunday Worship in May

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
<b>2nd:</b> 11am Family Service with Baptism 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30am Parish  Communion
<b>9th:</b> 9.30am Holy Communion ( <i>Series 3</i> ) 6.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
<b>16th:</b> 9.30am Parish Communion 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am Matins
<b>23rd:</b> 8am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion	11am Matins & Holy Communion
<b>30th:</b> 9.30am Family Communion ( <i>Series 3</i> ) 6.30pm Festal Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion

**Bridge Methodist Church:** *2nd:* The Revd. Wilfrid J. Hill, M.C., B.Sc. *9th:* The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *16th:* Mr. M. Garlick. *23rd:* Miss J. Charlesworth, M.A. *30th:* Miss J. Knight.

*Bridge Methodists are celebrating the 88th Anniversary of the present building on Sunday, 9th at 11am and Tuesday, 11th at 7.30pm. All are welcome!*

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated each Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (Series 3) at 7.30am in St. Peter's, Bridge. The monthly celebration at Churchhill House is on Wednesday, 5th at 10.15am.

## For your diary and prayer list

- 1st *ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES, APOSTLES*
- 2nd *Third Sunday After Easter*
- 9th *Fourth Sunday After Easter*
- 11th East Bridge Deanery Synod meets for the first time this evening.
- 12th Churchwardens and Sidesmen of both parishes are urged to attend the Archdeacon's Visitation in the Cathedral at 7.30pm
- 16th *Fifth Sunday After Easter: Rogation Sunday*  
This day, on which the Church traditionally blessed the crops, Matins at Bekesbourne will be preceded by a short service to bless the land.
- 17th The Pilgrims Hospice Service of Dedication at 4pm
- 19th Bridge School Governors meet at 4.30pm  
Discussion Group, 20 Conyngham Lane, 7.45pm

- 20th **Ascension Day** will be marked by a celebration of the Holy Eucharist (Series 3) in St. Peter's, Bridge at 8pm. This major festival of the Church tends to get overlooked, coming as it does on a weekday and not being accompanied by a public holiday. Let us redress the balance and meet to honour Christ the King on his ascendancy. The Friday morning Communion this week will not be held.
- 22nd *1st Bridge Guides Coffee Morning*, 6 Bridgeford Way, 10am till noon.
- 23rd *Sunday After Ascension Day*
- 25th Interchurch Group meets at 8pm in the Methodist Church. This is not a closed group and all, of whatever denomination, are most welcome.
- 29th Pray for His Holiness Pope John Paul II, whether or not he visits Canterbury today.
- 30th **WHITSUNDAY**, also called Pentecost. On the Church's birthday all Christians should make the effort to worship with the Church, the temple of the Holy Spirit.

## “God is Spirit . . .”

Among the many imponderables of the Christian religion the idea of the Holy Ghost is one which may cause the dithering enquirer to wonder if it is really worth the effort. Certain disciples St. Paul found in Ephesus declared to him, “We have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” (*Acts 19.2*) For quite a lot of present-day disciples the feeling is, “We have certainly heard enough about the Holy Spirit — would to God we hadn't!”

The reasons why we have these hang-ups about the Holy Spirit are not difficult to understand. For one thing that word ‘Ghost’, which still crops up from time to time, despite modern biblical translation, has too many connotations of phantoms, spooks and things that go bump in the night for comfort. To imagine God as a Holy Ghost can fill one with fear, implying that God is a creepy being likely to pop out at you when you least expect him, causing your hair to stand on end. I am sure it does not help anyone to suggest God is a spectral manifestation, out to ensnare unsuspecting humanity, hovering behind your left ear, watching your every move.

But is ‘Spirit’ any better? Does not that word also invoke ideas of the paranormal, the stuff of seances, ‘one knock for no, two knocks for yes’? Indeed it may do, but the likelihood is that whatever terminology we employ for the third person of the Trinity we shall never be wholly free from such confusions. It is another case where mere words are insufficient: the impossible task of expressing the inexpressible!

We are by nature sceptical creatures, preferring to look for snags, never happier than when the points against outweigh those in favour. It comes of understanding religion as something to discuss rather than to enjoy as a most satisfying mode of life. The early Church, the immediate descendents of those who shared the first Whitsun experience, do not appear to have spent much time talking about their new-found faith, they were too busy living it, enjoying it and basking in the realisation that God was with them powerfully at work in their lives. They knew that God was active in their midst, bestowing upon them hidden reservoirs of strength, pointing the way ahead,

stimulating them to deeds of valour that in the normal run of things were beyond them. They felt they were no longer in control, that they were taken over, in the most marvellous way subservient to a force that enabled them to do what the Lord had done, i.e. by word and deed to bring healing and reconciliation to the world about them. What is more, this was an individual experience, not just one for the body as a whole.

With such an awareness of the presence of God in their lives they felt themselves to be alive as never before, and the more they opened themselves to God's will the freer and happier they became. There was within them that which craved for release and expression, and it was as those first faithful souls let God have his way that the gospel was preached powerfully and large numbers were added daily to the Church. How to speak of such an overwhelming experience, to give voice to it, but by using some such words as "God is Spirit". Inadequate, of course, but where the Spirit of God is concerned words always will fail us — let the truth behind those stumbling words do the speaking for us. Let God the Holy Spirit act: the words will come!

### **Pentecost now!**

We are seeing in the Church today a resurgence of the effects the Spirit of God can have upon the life of even the most ordinary of us, and it is due quite a lot to the readiness of Christian people to let God loose in their lives with no questions asked. We have been — many still are — very bothered about the outcome of a too open approach to God, fearing we are tampering with the unknown, or that God may make demands of us beyond what we would be prepared to give. Undoubtedly good old English reserve handicaps us a lot, plus the sense that religion is too respectable to contaminate it with the kind of extremes the charismatics are renowned for.

The truth remains, however, that as the Church in the world we are all supposed to be at the mercy of God, available to him, and the prayer, "Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me" should be on everyone's lips. Indeed, unless the Holy Spirit is given free rein the Church will never be what God wants it to be, nor will it fulfil the purpose for which he created it.

I encourage everyone to read slowly and meditatively the best statement on all this that was ever produced, Romans chapter 8, from which I venture to quote these words by way of an *aperitif*:

*"Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ lives in you, the Spirit is life for you because you have been put right with God, even though your bodies are going to die because of sin. If the Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from death, lives in you, then he who raised Christ from death will also give life to your mortal bodies by the presence of his Spirit in you."*

\* \* \*

On Low Sunday, at Bekesbourne, the Revd. Canon John Packer baptised Ruth Edith, daughter of Robert and Francesca Geering (née Purchase).

## **Points from the Archbishop's Address Diocesan Synod 27th March 1982**

### **On Religious Education**

On several occasions Lord Butler, before he died, urged me to make the improvement in the standards of religious education one of the themes of my period as Archbishop of Canterbury. He also warned me several times about some of those in the Church who tended to undervalue and underuse the opportunities offered by the existence of church schools and the provisions for religious education made in the 1944 Act. I hope that I have heeded that advice, for it sometimes seems to me that, if only the Church would use its opportunities for religious education, in the widest sense, not just in schools, it would not need to expend so much energy in attempting to contrive ways or contacting our unbelieving contemporaries in special efforts of evangelism.

### **On the Papal Visit**

The Cathedral service will have an ecumenical character. It will be a celebration of Faith and a wide representation of all the Churches that have been invited, including the members of the Canterbury Christian Council. As far as the Diocese is concerned, every Deanery will be duly represented through its Rural Dean and Lay Chairman of Synod. The Cathedral precincts will hold up to 5000 people and every parish in the Diocese has been approached so that parish groups may attend. In this way I hope that the Diocese will not feel left out of what is, after all, a more than purely Diocesan event.

### **On The Covenant**

I shall listen to the representative clergy and laity of my Diocese with great care. I have often repeated the phrase, 'Nothing is real unless it is local'. Your debate will help me to focus more clearly on the pastoral and theological issues of the Proposals as they actually affect congregations and clergy, and I shall be the better equipped to take part in the General Synod debate in July having listened to this one in Canterbury. I know you will understand that someone in my position would be a bore if he simply repeated his general supporting speech given last year in the General Synod. And someone like myself would cause confusion in leadership if he attempted a premature rehearsal of what he will say in July.

## **Christians and Nuclear Weapons**

*The Dean of Canterbury writes:*

The moral issues involved in the possession and possible use of nuclear weapons have concerned Christians since the dropping of the atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. The debate has, of course, wide political implications which must also concern Christians, and the moral issues here too are complex.

To give an opportunity for Christians to inform themselves and to discuss these matters, a meeting has been arranged at the United Reformed Church Hall, Canterbury, on Wednesday, 19th May, at 8 p.m. Speakers will be the Revd. Dr. Kenneth Greet (Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council), the Dean of Canterbury, the Very Revd. Victor de Waal, and Monsignor Owen Hardwicke (Catholic representative).

## **Bell for Disarmament**

To mark the start of the great debate on Disarmament in the United Nations assembly, church bell-ringers all over the world are invited to sound a peal at 5pm on Monday June 7th. President Reagan will be visiting this country at that time.

## **Ordinands:**

Your prayers are asked for the following June Ordinands.

### *As Non-Stipendiary deacons:*

STEPHEN BARKER (Cranbrook); BRIAN BARNS (All Saints, Maidstone); HANDEL BENNETT (St. Margaret-at-Cliffe); DAVID BOND (Otham and Langley); JOHN KNELL (Holy Trinity, Sheerness).

### *As Deacon and Curate:*

ANTHONY READER—MOORE (St. Mildred, Addiscombe); PAUL MAYERSON (New Romney); GEOFFREY PEARSON (St. John, Folkestone); PETER COWELL (St. Saviour, Folkestone); CHRISTOPHER CODDGE (St. Leonard, Deal); STANLEY UNDERHILL (St. Edward, New Addington).

### *As Priests:*

Revd. JOHN HEWES (St. Andrew, Buckland); Revd. GARETH MILLER (St. Mary, Addiscombe); Revd. JOHN OWEN (Christ Church, South Ashford); Revd. DAVID PAGET (Holy Trinity, Sheerness).

## **Bridge's New Organist — Mr. Dennis Mathew**

It's been a long, long time, but at last St. Peter's, Bridge is back in business where a regular organist and choirmaster is concerned.

Mr. Dennis Mathew, who with his wife Jean lives and works up at Bromley during the week, spends every weekend at their cottage in Chartham, to which ultimately they intend to retire. Since coming this way he has shared with two others the job of organist at St. Mary's, Chartham, but as that is only a morning commitment he answered an advertisement in the East Kent Organists Association leaflet for the post at Bridge.

It means Sunday evenings only, but that is something Bridge has been used to for many years. Happily Martin Miles will be able to continue with our morning services.

By the time you read this Mr. Mathew (note the spelling) will have made a start, and in wishing him and his wife welcome we look forward to getting Bridge Church's music back on a settled basis.

In expressing a deep debt of gratitude to the Revd. Roger Smith for bearing the brunt of this long interregnum I would also wish to applaud the members of the choir for soldiering on so valiantly not knowing from one week to the next who would be in charge. The unsettled period is now over and I do hope those who found the situation difficult to cope with will rally round and help to restore Bridge Choir to its previous high standard. Mr. Mathew will do what *he* can but we could do with many more singers, especially at the younger end. Choir practice is at 5pm every Sunday except the third in the month, with Evensong to follow.



# Welcome to the Pilgrims Hospice



June will see the hospice well and truly opened, two days before the official opening ceremony by the Queen Mother. From the *Diary and Prayer List* you will note that the Service of Dedication by Bishop John Jukes, RC Bishop of Strathearn and the Bishop of Dover is on Sunday afternoon, 16th May at 4 o'clock. The sitting service has, in fact, been operative for some months, but now the in-patients department will also be working, and we wish every blessing to the Pilgrims Hospice and all who will be involved in it. Many people were touched by the national press photographs of Archbishop Runcie at St. Joseph's Hospice, particularly by the one of a coloured lady with a radiant smile holding on to the archbishop's pectoral cross. For many of us it is inconceivable that someone who is facing death should find anything to smile about, yet such is the approach a hospice makes to its work, those last weeks or days are often the most peaceful, contented, and — yes — joyful in a person's life. Patients may go there to die, but there are ways of dying, and the hospice movement exists to pave the way for a Christian death, the best death of all, free from pain and from that most injurious of attitudes that tries to sweep death and everything to do with it under the carpet, as if it does not really exist.

The Pilgrims Hospice is *our* hospice, whether we ever have cause to call on its services or not, and we in these villages ought to acknowledge with gratitude the tremendous amount of time and energy that Mrs. Pauline Pope, a Bridge resident has put into the project. Only in March she was the chief organiser of an Easter Fair which many villagers enjoyed in the Village Hall, and which, including two donations of £50 each in recognition of the sitting service, produced the mammoth total of £602.88. She wishes thanks to be accorded to Mrs. Grabham and to the members of her own family, not to mention all who supported her with their presence; but we would like to say 'thank you, Pauline' for *all* your work for this most deserving cause.

One final reminder, that the hospice is going to continue to need financial support just to keep it going. Starting up is one thing: carrying on is another! Let us keep it in mind both in our giving and in our praying! God bless it!

## PARISH PUMP



### BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The April meeting of the Parish Council was attended by over twenty members of the public, the largest attendance that most councillors could remember, and although most were there in order to voice a complaint affecting residents in Riverside Close — one with which the Council deputed Cllrs. Tim Hoare and Mervyn Gulvin to deal — it is to be hoped that they found the rest of the meeting interesting enough to induce them to attend future meetings.

#### Street Sweeping

The road sweeper's trolley for which the Chairman of the Council, Cllr. John

Hill, has been pressing the City Council has at last been delivered — two, in fact, have been supplied, although one is in very poor condition, and both need attention. It does, however, appear that this long-running serial may be nearly at an end.

### **Village Hall**

The Council has obtained authority to borrow the purchase price of the Hall, and members felt that, although a substantial part of the purchase price has been raised, it would be preferable, if the donors agreed, that the whole of the price should be borrowed, and the donations applied to planned improvements.

Councillor Keith Chapman, for whom this was his last meeting prior to his removal to Sturry, said that the music and dancing licence had been renewed, and that he had also asked for an estimate for the provision of new doors.

### **Recreation Ground**

The Council accepted a tender for the painting of the children's play equipment and the bridge over the Nailbourne; and it was reported that the County Council had reduced the charge for the mowing of the ground by £50 to take account of the use by the school of a part of the ground during the summer.

### **Generally**

The Council endorsed the decision of the Parish Meeting to enter the Best Kept Village and Trees in Your Village competitions; Cllr. Peter Lawrence submitted a report on the recent National Association of Local Councils conference which he attended on the Council's behalf; Cllr. Tim Hoare reported that the patrons of the 'Red Lion' had raised £190 towards the cost of a rocking horse for the recreation ground play area; and Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young, who was in the chair in the absence of Cllr. John Hill, dealt with the support by the Kent Association of Parish Councils for the preparation of village appraisals, and asked that any resident interested should get in touch with Cllr. Mrs. Olive Knight.

### **Cllr. Keith Chapman**

Before closing the meeting the Chairman paid a warm tribute to the outstanding contribution which Cllr. Chapman had made to the work of the Council, both at meetings and practically, and detailed some of the principal jobs for which he had been personally responsible. She was sure that he would be badly missed, a sentiment echoed by other members.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, 13 May, at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. Members hope for another good attendance on that occasion.

## **Patricbourne with Bridge Parochial Church Council, 1982-3**

Following the Annual Church Meeting on 6th April the PCC as follows, was elected: *Churchwardens*, C. A. Potter and H. P. M. Lawrence. *Deanery Synod Representatives* (elected for two years and *ex officio* PCC members), Mrs J. H. Rose, Messrs. C. A. Potter and S. Pike. *Church Councillors*, Miss J. Carpenter, Mesdames F. E. Apps, J. Goodwin, P. Hulyer, J. Hunter, A. Pentin, K. Pierce, D. M. Potter, E. E. Wintle, Messrs. C. J. Barley, D. R. Hill, A. Jackson, W. C. Rose, L. W. Sanford, B. V. Whiting & J. J. Williamson. In addition the newly elected council co-opted Mrs. A. Hollister.

## Who's for Tennis? — Bridge Tennis Club

At the Annual General Meeting, held in The Close on 31st March, the Club Chairman reported that last year's play had been successful for the men's Winter League team, who had won their section, and likewise, the 'friendly' mixed and ladies' team had had a good season. The new court surface put down by Matchmaker Ltd. had proved a wise investment and he thanked all members for their support at fund-raising events because the club had been able to pay two thirds cash. Canterbury Council Lottery had also assisted the funds with a donation of £170.

The 1982 Season is to get under way officially on 24th April, with an American Tournament for all members and newcomers who will be most welcome. Subscriptions, payable by 31st May, are to remain the same as last year, i.e. £22 Family; £10 Adults; £4 Junior, and should be sent to Tony Pratt, 1 The Cottages, The Street, Barham.

A new venture this season will be *Teenage Tennis*, starting 23rd April, when it is hoped those who received coaching on the basic course will go on to improver stage with extra coaching between 5 and 7 pm, followed by a *Family Session* when adult members will join in for play.

Coaching for juniors will start on 11th May at 6 pm. Mrs. Joan Hill, 10 Conyngham Lane will welcome new members for a six-weeks programme, ending with a tournament, which is usually fiercely contested!

Anyone who feels that some exercise will be beneficial — and an alternative to jogging — is welcome to join us all on Wednesday evenings at 6 pm and Saturday afternoons from 2.15. See you on court, hopefully!

*H.J. Whiting, Hon. Secretary*

## Help the Guides help Poland!

On Saturday, 22nd May from 10 am to 12 noon the *1st Bridge Guide Company* is holding a Coffee Morning with cakes, raffle, Bring & Buy, etc. at 6 Bridgeford Way. The money raised will enable us to buy much-needed supplies for the people of Poland. Please help us to help them by supporting the Guides. See you there!

*Teresa Harvey*

## 'Fish' News



Our annual Coffee Morning will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 5th June from 10.30 am to 12 noon. We hope that as many people as possible will come to support our work in the community. There will be a raffle and Bring & Buy stalls for plants, cakes, gifts, etc.

We are most grateful to the Patricbourne Parish Meeting for their generous contribution towards our running costs.

The move from The Close to the new home has had to be postponed and a new removal date has yet to be fixed. The Luncheon Club and Chiropody Clinic will continue at The Close for the time being and members and patients will be notified about changes as soon as possible. People who have offered help with the move will be contacted as soon as the new date has been arranged.

*Joan Warren*

# Creating Signs of Hope

Last year in Britain the dole queue grew a little longer, inflation remained in double figures and rates increased.

But though many people were less well-off, generosity and compassion were not in short supply. When eight men perished heroically with the Penlee lifeboat in December thousands of people spontaneously sent gifts of money amounting to over £2½ million for the bereaved families.

And earlier in the year, in May, the public had responded to the annual Christian Aid Week appeal for the world's hungry and oppressed millions by contributing more than £4 million.

So people still recognise needs greater than their own. However, although the lives of thousands were made more bearable by relief and development projects supported by Christian Aid in all the world's poorest communities, the causes of human deprivation remained. And they will continue to take their toll as inevitably as will the winter seas off the Cornish coast.

In Africa the number of refugees topped five million, adding to the problems of host countries like Somalia and Angola where chronic poverty was already exacerbated by drought. On the credit side there were signs of recovery in Zimbabwe and improvements to nutrition and health in Kampuchea and Uganda's Karamoja region — all areas into which Christian Aid had put large sums of money.

And yet, and yet . . . thousands still flee from oppression in El Salvador where another 12,000 civilians were killed in 1981. Many still have to live with the devastating reality of racial discrimination in South Africa and enforced poverty in several Latin American countries, the Philippines and South Korea. Helped by Christian Aid the churches are active in these areas, too, but development is obstructed by the restrictions of opportunities open to the poor.

Even in the many Third World countries which struggle to overcome endemic poverty like that which plagues India and Bangladesh, hard times still lie ahead because of the inability or unwillingness of the developed and richer nations to share the world's wealth and resources more equitably. This was plain from the limited outcome of the 1981 'Mexico Summit' of 23 heads of state.

But, as ever, while broad advances are blocked, countless small groups and communities stimulated and guided by their local churches improve their lot by working together in schemes of agriculture, marketing, health care, trade training and education temporarily financed through Christian Aid grants.

It is to create such signs of hope in a world of need that this May (10th — 15th) the churches of these islands will again be campaigning for public support in Christian Aid Week.

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Mrs. Grey .....	30th May .....	Mrs. Grey

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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. D. Mathew, 27 Rivercourt, Chartham CT4 7JN (Chartham 548)  
**Organist (Patribourne):** Mrs. G. Allan, Ardriory, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD  
(Canterbury 62695)  
**Verger (Bridge):** Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne CT4 5JD (Bridge 830660)

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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:** 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, Patribourne and Bekesbourne.

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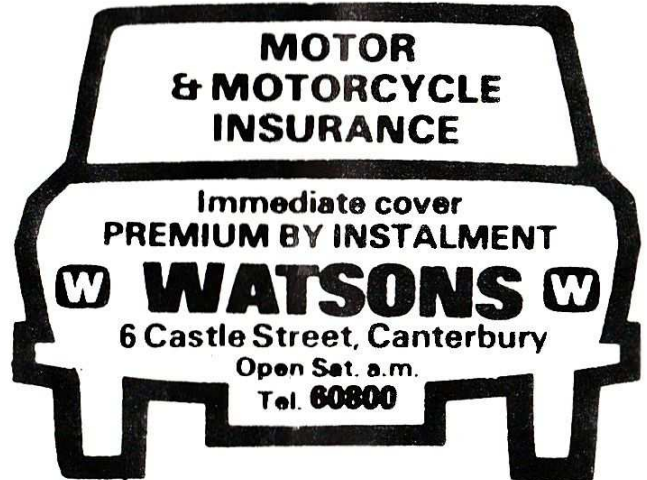
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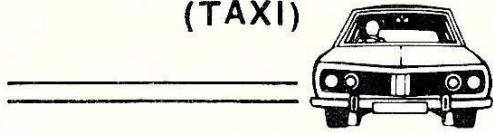
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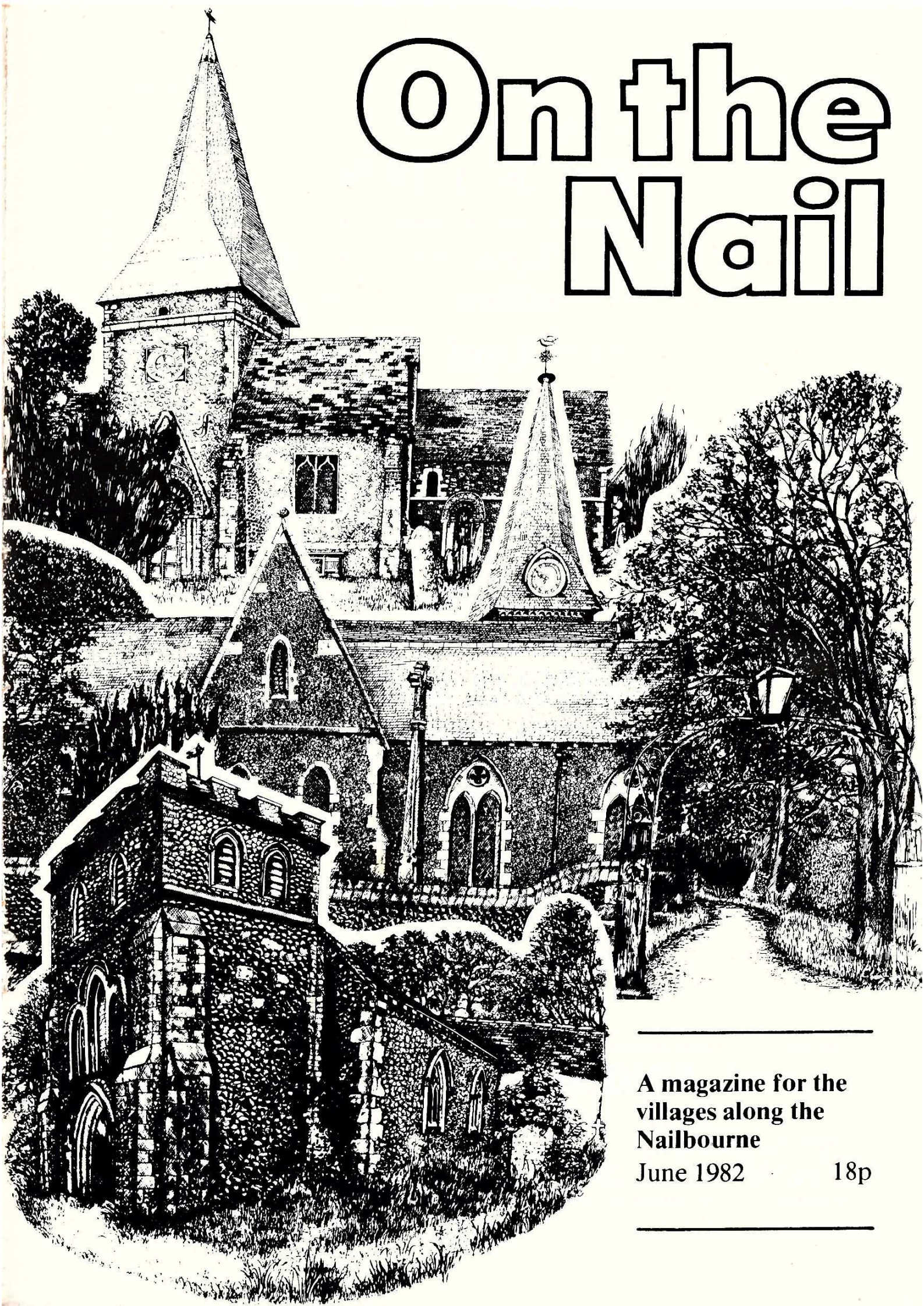
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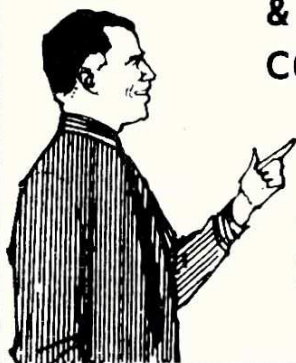
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# Sunday Worship in March

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

**6th:**

11am Family Service  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish  
Communion

**13th:**

9.30am Holy  
Communion (*Series 3*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Pr:*  
*Sister Marian*  
*Hawkins, CA*)

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

**20th:**

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins (*Pr: The*  
*Revd. Paul Rose*)

**27th:**

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins & Holy  
Communion

**Bridge Methodist Church:** *6th:* Mr. D.W. Dunn. *13th:* Mr. R. Santer. *20th:* The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *27th:* Mr. E.R. O'Mahony.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated each Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (Series 3) at 7.30am in St. Peter's, Bridge. The monthly celebration at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 2nd at 10.15am.

## For your diary and prayer list

5th 'Fish' Coffee Morning, Bridge Village Hall, 10.30am

6th *Trinity Sunday*

9th Adult Confirmation Preparation commences at the Vicarage, 7pm. Enquiries to the Vicar, or just turn up.

10th *Corpus Christi*, Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of the Holy Communion. This will be marked with a celebration of the Eucharist (Series 3) in St. Peter's, Bridge at 8pm. No Friday morning Communion this week, therefore.

11th ST. BARNABAS THE APOSTLE

12th: Patricxbourne Church Concert, 7pm.

13th *First Sunday After Trinity*, also Church Army Sunday. This being their centenary year as well, the preacher at Evensong will be Sr. Marian Hawkins, a Church Army Sister and a true 'daughter' of Bridge.

16th Discussion Group, 20 Conyngham Lane, 7.45pm

19th Bridge School Fête from 2pm. Concert by *The Occasional Singers* in St. Peter's, Bridge, 7.30pm. (See further details on page 7.)

20th *Second Sunday After Trinity*

We welcome as preacher to Bekesbourne Church the Revd. Paul Rose, Precentor of the Cathedral.

22nd Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC Meeting, St. Mary's, Patricxbourne, 8pm.

24th *BIRTH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST*

29th *ST. PETER THE APOSTLE* and Patron of Bridge and Bekesbourne. There will be Holy Communion at Bridge at 9.30am. This will replace the normal Wednesday celebration this week. Also the Bridge-Barham Group of the Roman Catholic Church will hold its traditional Peter-tide Mass in Bridge Church at 8pm. Although intercommunion still does not exist, those who normally attend Bridge Church are strongly urged, if at all possible, to support this Mass and to make our Roman brothers and sisters feel welcome.

## Christian action for a world in need

*One hundred years of service by the Church Army should not go unnoticed, particularly in Bridge, which has provided one of the army's sisters. Marian Hawkins, daughter of Harry and the later Prill, will preach in her home church at Evensong on Church Army Sunday, 13th June. The following article is supplied by C.A. Headquarters:*

100 years since its beginning finds this Army still at the Sharp End. Love is still the key to its ministry. Its Officers are highly trained and dedicated. In a very real sense this work is done on behalf of the whole Church. In its 2nd Century it will still require young men and women with a lively faith to be trained for the work and the support through prayer, interest and financial backing of the Church at large.

In an interview earlier this year, Lord Coggan said "The work of the Church Army is vitally important for two main reasons. Firstly because a large part of the population of our Islands here are basically unevangelised, they have not got hold of what we in the Church believe to be the Good News of God in Christ, and, therefore, to reach out to them in their need, their ignorance and often their hopelessness, is the task of the Church Army and through their great Social work too.

"Secondly, I see the Church Army as a kind of Gadfly touching the conscience of the members of the Church to the primary importance of evangelism."

How does the Church Army seek to fulfil these two functions today? Each week it is estimated that they care for and minister to some 30,000 people; housing the single homeless, with the unemployed, working in Inner Cities and the countryside, caring for the elderly, involved in Youth work, active in Prisons, helping the poor at the Sharp End with modern areas of concern over addiction, race and moral pressures, believing that with God all things are possible. Without the Spiritual dimension Church Army would be merely a well-meaning Charity.

Love is at the heart of the nature of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Church Army will go on loving people into taking God seriously. It is their task; it is also ours.

\* \* \*

At the time of going to press the villages are still getting used to the idea that Miss Wendy Tomlin is leaving Bridge School for The Downs School at Walmer at the end of this term. Many appreciations will be made of her time here, which has been outstanding, and *On The Nail* will carry its own in the July issue.

## Joys and sorrows

We welcome into the family of God through Baptism Amy Moon, "Bolderwood", Aerodrome Road, Bekesbourne and Michael David Simnett, Lynton Cottage, 79 High Street, Bridge, the baptisms taking place in the respective churches on 25th April and 2nd May.

Shortage of space led to the omission from our last issue of a note about the wedding on 17th April at Bekesbourne of Robert Sharp and Morag Walker. Robert is a member of the PCC and Morag, of course, was organist until about six months ago. We wish them well for the future.

William Crowe, The Cottage, Aerodrome Road, Bekesbourne, died after a long and extremely trying illness and the Vicar conducted the cremation service at Barham on Friday 14th May. May he rest in peace.

## Here and there

The recent collection which Miss Mason organised on behalf of the **Church of England Children's Society** gave quite a fillip to its funds. In her capacity as Honorary Branch Secretary she writes, "With sixteen helpers the house to house collection realised £144.02 and the boxes £46.06. In addition St. Bart's, Sandwich, through the Revd. C.W. Harrington, donated £5.05. The Society thanks you on behalf of the children you will benefit." She also draws readers' attention to the Society's recently opened shop, Rudolf's, 6 Palace Street, which is well worth a visit.

In similar vein, **Christian Aid Week** produced £240 in our three villages, and although this is down on last year Mrs. Katy Cobbett describes it as a pleasing result. Having run the local collection for several years now she has reluctantly come to the conclusion that it is time someone else took over. In thanking her for her work I would like to take the opportunity to ask if any reader feels able to assume the responsibility for arranging this annual collection in 1983. Please contact the Vicarage in the first instance.

One more charitable event is brought to your notice by Mrs. F.E. Apps, Hon. Sec. of the Bridge branch of the **League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals**. "We are holding a Coffee Morning on Thursday, 24th June, by the kind invitation of Mrs. Filmore, at her bungalow, 5 Western Avenue, Bridge, between 10.30am and noon. There will be a Bring & Buy stall and raffle. We hope to see many friends, both old and new. Please do your best to help us make this a great success, thereby helping our hospitals."

Included among the list of those to be ordained by the Archbishop this Petertide in the Cathedral is Anthony Reader-Moore. Tony, when at the university, occupied a flat in Lynton House, Bridge, which makes him, if only temporarily, a local. He is to be assistant curate of St. Mildred's, Addiscombe, Croydon. Pray for him particularly on Sunday, 27th June, when he will be made Deacon.

**Bridge School Fête** this year is on 19th June and judging by the list of attractions will be well worth a visit. It is organised by our extremely go-ahead PTA and would there were more space to tantalize you with the goodies on offer. Why not go and see for yourself! Opening time is 2pm!

Two concerts of widely different appeal are to be given this month. The first, comprising homespun talent, will be in **Patricxbourne Church** on Saturday, 12th June, starting at 7pm. This is the third such event, moved from its previous autumn slot to one in which patrons can enjoy not only the performance but also the pleasure of a summer evening in a lovely church. Admission is free and there will be coffee and biscuits at the conclusion.

The second is on Saturday, 19th at 7.30pm in Bridge Church and is given by a brand new singing group, which is called **The Occasional Singers**. The singers are made up of Cathedral Minor Canons and others from Canterbury and meet every Monday just for the joy of singing. This our first concert and apart from organ solos by our conductor, David Flood, we shall welcome a local resident, Edward Weatherall, clarinet. Once again no charge will be made for admission, but there will be a retiring collection for Bruno Socki's Polish relief trips.

## Topic of cancer

*Muriel Packer, from personal experience, tackles the scourge of the age.*

In the nineteenth century it was consumption! Tuberculosis, as we now know it, was then so feared that an atmosphere was created which cannot have helped in the battle against this disease. Yet that battle was won!

The same dread is often apparent in the present-day reaction towards cancer, the same hopelessness which makes the very word taboo. Three personal experiences have helped me and my family to see it in a different light. In 1927 my 70-year old grandmother was treated for breast cancer and in 1947 for a facial cancer. She continued to lead an active and purposeful life until her eventual death at the ripe old age of 100.

This early contact with successful treatment of cancer helped me in my own experience of the disease six years ago, when a consultant frankly told me that I was either six months pregnant or had a growth. At the age of 57 and eagerly awaiting the birth of our first grandchild I was unlikely to be pregnant, so . . . ! Because of my teaching commitment I attempted to defer an operation, but it was not to be, and three months after it, with equal frankness, the consultant told me the growth had been malignant. He hoped it had been fully removed and assured me of continuing support over the coming years in case of any recurring trouble. I gratefully acknowledge my immense debt to both doctors and nurses and my deep appreciation of their understanding and professional expertise.

These were experiences of the successful treatment or removal of cancerous growths. There is another success story in the fight against this disease. Last month's *On the Nail* carried an article on the new Pilgrims Hospice in Canterbury, with a special tribute to Pauline Pope's invaluable work. For 15 years John and I have had close contacts with Manchester's St. Ann's Hospice and we have seen the joy and the peace which dedicated skill can bring into the last days, weeks or months of cancer patients. St. Ann's is a happy place where the fear associated with cancer and death has been replaced by an atmosphere of quiet confidence.

To this confidence we can all contribute by our care and thought and our prayers, so that the aura of fear so common when disease threatens may be transformed into one of trust and tranquility.

## Time & Talents — Patrixbourne Church Repairs

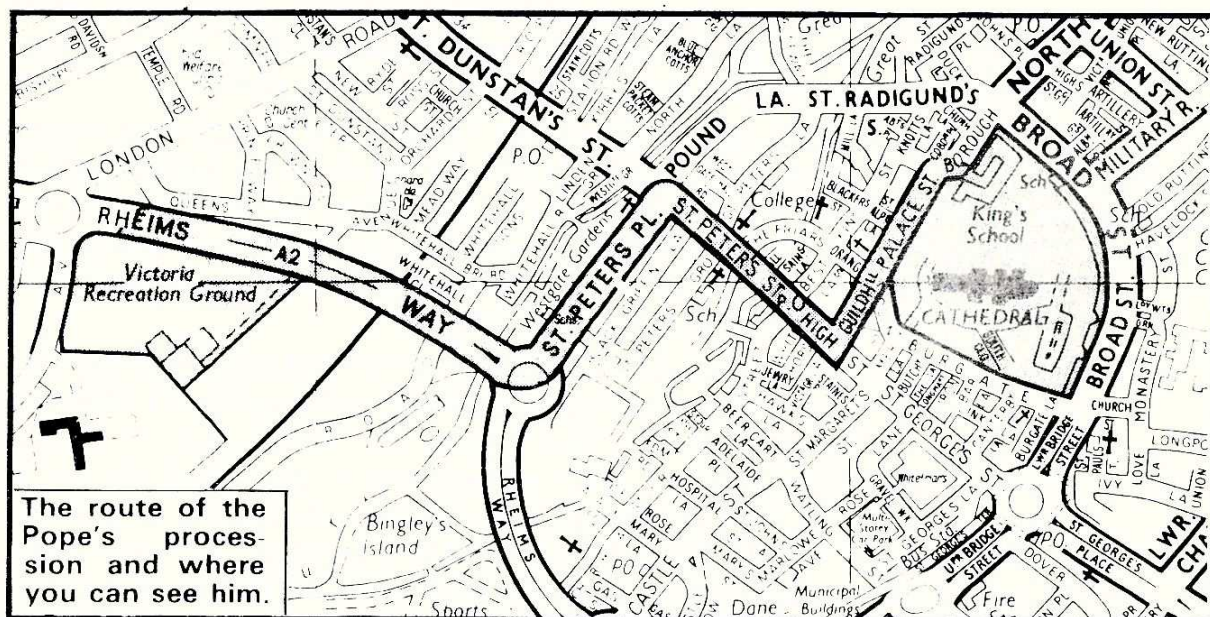
On 7th May repairs to the interior of St. Mary's Church, Patrixbourne, begun in the spring of 1981, were completed, and the result is a sight to behold.

The work chiefly comprised the repair and re-decoration of extensive areas of defective plaster on the interior walls, but in the course of this work patches of faulty woodwork came to light, and these were dealt with accordingly.

Messrs Charles Robertson and Bill Rose, ably assisted by a small number of helpers, carried out the work to a very high standard. The cost of materials was £64, the timber repairs cost £287 and the total of £351 was paid out of revenue without calling upon reserves.

This is an excellent example of the employment of 'Time and Talents', an important aspect of Christian Stewardship and the PCC wishes to record its thanks and appreciation for this valuable work.

C.A.P.



## The Pope in Canterbury

The visit of the Pope from Poland to our city is an act of love. It is a gracious act. "Quite clearly there is a need for a new kind of creative love to operate, liberating the churches from their isolation, and gathering them into a living fellowship." The visit is an "affirmation of hope for the world, a symbol of man's search for Unity, a reminder that the ultimate goal of men is to share together and for ever the blessing of God."

## 1st Bridge Guides

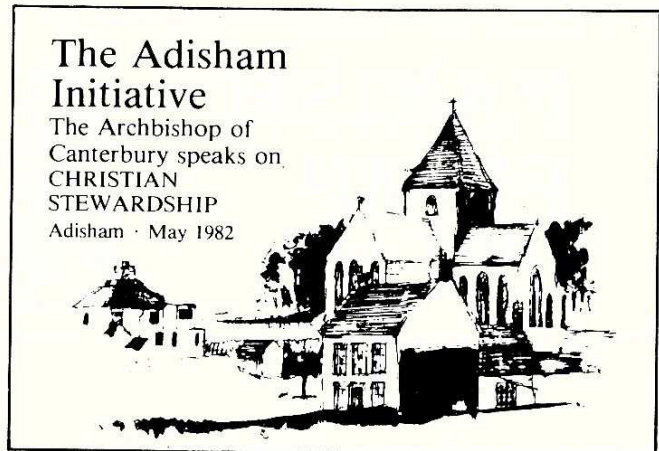
We raised the grand total of £45 at our Coffee Morning on Saturday, 22nd May.

The money will be given to Bruno Socki for his next trip to Poland, to take relief to his home town.

T. Harvey



*The neighbouring Parish of Adisham was chosen last month by the Archbishop as the place where he would launch his Diocesan-wide initiative on Christian Stewardship. Dr. Runcie's sermon is being issued to all parishes in the near future, both as a text and a recording. The illustration shows the cassette cover.*



## The Church and Healing

### ANOINTING

Fifty-five priests and many more laity attended the Archbishop's Maundy Thursday ceremony of Blessing the Oils in the Quire of Canterbury Cathedral. In his address he said:

"I would like to think that the anointing of the sick was more widely practised in our Church. It is a powerful sign and those who employ it often have remarkable memories. I remember when I was a parish priest anointing someone who was struck down with multiple sclerosis years ago, and in that case the onset of the disease was arrested. It does not always happen in that way but each year now, and she's still alive, on the anniversary of her first anointing, she is anointed again in thanksgiving, in confidence that whatever comes in the future, God is with her for her well being. The sacraments are not magic, but they are real and they change situations . . .

"The symbol of oil is very simple. It's a medicine, and emollient, it soothes what is sore, it softens what is stiff, moistens what is dry. This is the kind of healing Christ brings to his people, banishing sores and stiffness, dryness, awkwardness, from the body and the spirit. And it is merit of the new Alternative Prayerbook that it recovers this custom which is followed by the majority in Christendom."

### —AND PRAYING

Canterbury Council for Health and Healing are sponsoring day seminars in Croydon and Maidstone shortly. In Croydon at the ACTS Centre there will be five consecutive Friday seminars from June 4th to July 2nd entitled "Lord, teach us to pray". Leaders, who will share their experience of prayer, are John Hawkins, the Revd. Geoffrey Harding, the Revd. Victor Julian, Sister Denzil, DCSSA, Dr. Derek Hall.

The Seminars last from 10.45am to 3pm. Fee £3.00 — details from the Revd. Brian Branch, 52 Selhurst Road, South Norwood, SE25 5QD.

The Maidstone seminar on July 3rd will hear four speakers discussing "What does healing mean to you, and how can the community help?" The speakers are Dr. Marshall, Canon Ewart Roberts, the Revd. Maurice Kidd and Mrs. Penny Kidd. It starts at 9.45am at St. Paul's Church Hall, Boxley Road, Maidstone.

*The Diocesan News Service*

# PARISH PUMP

Parish Council  
News



## **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May both the Chairman (Cllr. John Hill) and the Vice-Chairman (Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young) were unanimously re-elected. The Council decided, however, to defer until the June meeting the filling of the vacancy caused by the resignation of Cllr. Chapman - no two electors having requested an election - and the appointment of members to the various committees.

### **Village Hall**

The Public Works Loans Board had agreed to lend the purchase price of the Hall to the Council, and a draft lease had been received from the solicitors to the Marquis of Conyngham. The Council agreed that a committee should examine the financial options and report to the next Council meeting. The committee would discuss also other matters relating to the purchase and improvement of the Hall.

### **Recreation Ground**

A complaint had been received regarding the condition of the fence at the rear of the play area, and it was decided that the chain link fencing, a portion of which is missing, should be repaired. The Council agreed also to the request by the headmistress of the school, Miss M. Tomlin, for the use of part of the ground on two days a week during the summer. The care of the trees was also discussed, and support given to a request by the Football Club to the City Council for a grant from the Lottery Fund.

### **Street Sweeping**

Readers will not be surprised to learn that a few problems still exist. The street trolleys and equipment are ready, but the Council is still awaiting details of the charge to be made by the City Council for the collection of the filled refuse bags. However, it should be possible to announce the completion of arrangements next month.

### **Generally**

The Council also dealt with a complaint by Liptons regarding the serious extent of fouling by dogs of the small green area at the side of the shop on which the Parish Council notice board stands; heard a report by Cllr. Mrs. Young on the 'Fish' scheme and Luncheon Club activities; and discussed the need for repairs to the footway, as well as dealing with, as members do each month, the planning matters which have been referred to them by the City Council for recommendations.

The next meeting will be held on 10th June at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The public are, as always, very welcome.

## **BEKESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

At the Annual Parish Meeting on 27th April more than forty people attended to hear the Chairman, Cllr. Ian Johnston give his annual report on the Council's activities.

He reviewed the spending of Lottery money in the parish: some is still available from Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne's allocations and he asked for suggestions for other uses to which it might be put, chiefly in the Recreation Ground area. New gates and fences at the Ground had been funded from this scheme.

He reported that the City Council had decided to build the ramp up the slope at the bottom of the Wappings footpath; this would come from the next financial year. Cllr. Johnston praised the work of the Bekesbourne Brownies in keeping the path neat and tidy again this year.

A letter had been sent to the City Council to thank those responsible for the recent clearing of footpaths in the village as the Parish Council had been impressed by the workmanship.

The perimeter fencing at Howletts Zoo had now been replaced in line with the recommendations of the Court Order to do so. It was felt that this was a great improvement.

The Parish Council had also made representations to the Highways Department regarding the Bridge exit from the by-pass as it was felt that the crossing traffic on and off the by-pass here was dangerous.

It had been decided to enter the Trees in Your Village Competition this year. The judges would give advice on trees, their care and planting and it was felt that Bekesbourne stood a good chance of doing well in the competition with so many beautiful trees in the village.

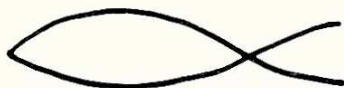
The Boundaries Commission were still considering the re-drawing of parish boundaries, but it was most unlikely that Patrixbourne would join Bekesbourne to become a joint parish. The recommendations had involved a rather large Parish Council and Bekesbourne had written to state that it felt 10 members would be adequate.

After the business part of the meeting a film 'Caring for the County' was shown and refreshments were served.

The next meeting of the Council will be on 1st June at 7.30pm to which villagers are welcome.

*M.A. Gabbé*

## **'Fish' News**



The annual Blossom Tour struck lucky with the weather and the fifty-two participants greatly enjoyed seeing the orchards and countryside, and did justice to a delicious cream tea at Chilham. It was regrettable that the seating capacity of the restaurant meant we couldn't take all who wanted to come.

Our volunteers have been very busy during the past month helping the staff at The Close to prepare for the move to the new home. A lot of people have put in many hours of hard work — I am very grateful to them all for their willing help.

The Luncheon Club will be needing more drivers when we move to Conyngham Lane. A mileage allowance is paid by Age Concern and the club meets every Monday except for August and Bank Holidays. We have a core of regular drivers and others who give occasional help. All offers will be welcome!

Dont't forget the 'Fish' Coffee Morning on 5th June.

Joan Warren

## Community Service Volunteers

*The following was gleaned from Canterbury Volunteer Bureau's occasional news sheet 'VOLUNTEER'. Some young readers may find it answers their needs.*

Community Service Volunteers is an organisation in London which recruits volunteers between the ages of sixteen and thirty for placement in a project serving the community away from their home area. The project is responsible for providing the CSV with board, lodging and pocket money. The duration of the project is from four months to a year and most CSVs are between school and university. After application to CSV the prospective volunteer is interviewed and then placed within a month on a suitable project somewhere in the country. No one is turned down, the interview is held so that the volunteer is placed on a project he/she will enjoy and be quite capable of undertaking. Placements are guaranteed for all applicants.

At present there are four Community Service Volunteers in Canterbury. Two of these are based at The Social Services Department — Helle Andreasen, who is with the Rehabilitation Team, and Richard Glaze, who works in Intermediate Treatment. Ruth Bailey is a CSV with the Association for the Independence of the Disabled and Jill Homes is based at the Canterbury Volunteer Bureau. Ruth has lodgings in Whitstable and the other three CSVs share a house in Canterbury.

Anyone interested in hearing more about CSV, or who would like an application form, should write to Community Service Volunteers, 247 Pentonville Road, London N1 9NJ.

### BRIDGE CHURCH CLEANING IN JUNE

10th, Mrs. J. Mummery & Mrs. H. Pike. 17th, Mrs. B. Wood & Mrs. S. Legge. 24th, Mrs. P. Spencer & Mrs. M. Field.

Cleaning	BEKESBOURNE CHURCH		Flowers
Mrs. Beckett .....	6th June	.....	Mrs. Millyard
Mrs. Smith .....	13th June	.....	Mrs. Clifford
Mrs. Stickells .....	20th June	.....	Mrs. Beckett
Mrs. Hogben .....	27th June	.....	Mrs. Purchase

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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 (Patribourne):** Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriory, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD  
(Canterbury 62695)  
**Verger (Bridge):** Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne CT4 5JD (Bridge 830660)

### **BEKESBOURNE**

**Churchwardens:** Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT4 5LA (Bridge 830522)  
Mr. J. Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (Bridge 830937)  
**Hon. Secretary:** Mr. J. Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (Bridge 830937)  
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**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, Patribourne and Bekesbourne.

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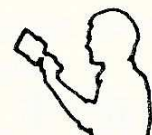
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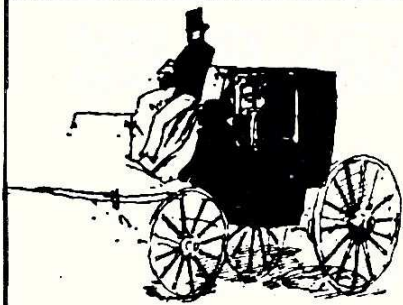
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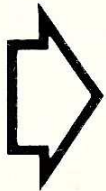
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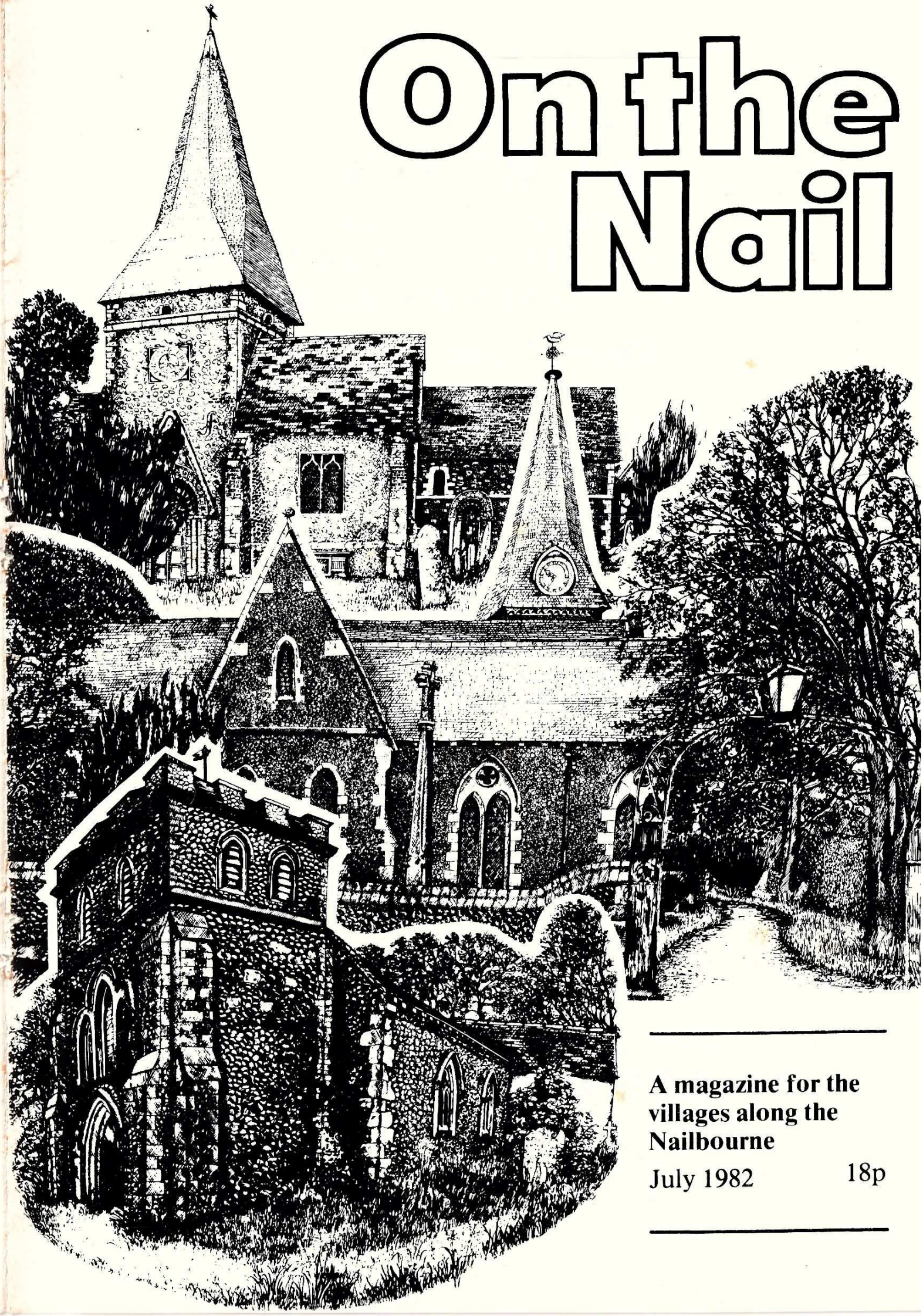
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# On the Nail



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A magazine for the  
villages along the  
Nailbourne

July 1982

18p

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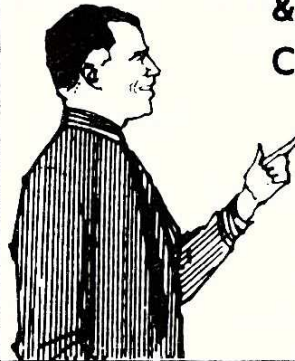
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# Sunday Worship in July

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

**4th:**

11am Family Service  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish  
Communion

**11th:**

9.30am Family  
Communion (*Series 3*)  
*No Evensong at Bridge*

11am Matins with  
Holy Baptism

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

**18th:**

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
6.30pm Evensong (*Revd.*  
*W. Owen*)

8am Holy Communion

11am "*Songs of Praise*"

**25th:**

8am Holy Communion  
(*Canon J. Packer*)  
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins with  
Baptism & Holy  
Communion

**Bridge Methodist Church:** *4th:* The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *11th:* The Revd. J. Raymond Goodburn. *18th:* Mr. J. Whalan. *25th:* The Revd. Peter F. Boyden.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated each Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (Series 3) at 7.30am in St. Peter's, Bridge. The monthly celebration at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 7th at 10.15am.

A short informal service for the residents of The New Close is held each Wednesday at 2.30pm. Visitors from the village are warmly invited to attend.

## For your diary and prayer list

4th *Fourth Sunday After Trinity*

7th General Synod vote on Covenant.

10th Bridge & Patricxbourne Church Fête from 2pm (*See display p.9*)

11th *Fifth Sunday After Trinity*

N.B. Evensong today is at Bekesbourne, not Bridge, to coincide with the opening of Cobham Court gardens. Prayers today will be offered for seafarers, in conjunction with the Missions to Seamen's observance of Sea Sunday.

17th Pray for James Martin and Anne Sutton, new residents of Bridge Down, to be married at Bridge.

18th *Sixth Sunday After Trinity*

"*Songs of Praise*" (the congregation's choice of hymns) replaces Matins at Bekesbourne. Requests to the churchwardens as soon as possible, please!

A service to mark the opening of the Pilgrim's Hospice will be held at 6.30pm in the Nave of the Cathedral. All welcome!

20th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute meets.

21st Discussion Group, 20 Conyngham Lane, 7.45pm

22nd *ST. MARY MAGDALENE*

Bridge School-leavers' Service in St. Peter's Church at 10am.

- 24th Pray for these couples, to be married today at Patricbourne and Bridge respectively: Hugues Holvec and Margaret McKeever, Stephen Pocock and Elizabeth Stirling.
- 25th *ST. JAMES THE GREAT, APOSTLE & MARTYR Trinity 7*  
Pray for Olivia Kingston, to be baptised at Bekesbourne during Matins
- 29th 10am to 12 noon *Church of England Children's Society* Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy, 33 High Street, Bridge.
- Aug.  
1st The Family Service will be a Family Eucharist with Holy Baptism. We welcome as preacher at Evensong Fr. Ian Weathrall, Head of the Brotherhood of the Ascended Christ, Delhi.

\* \* \*

## After the euphoria has died down

Scarcely had the papal helicopter disappeared from view on its way to Wembley before they were at it. "Yes, it was a marvellous service, a great moment in history, but let's wait until the excitement is over before making any assessment of it." "The Pope's visit did a lot of good, but don't think unity is just round the corner." Isn't it strange how certain people seem incapable of counting their blessings without itemizing their even more plentiful sorrows! Some Christian folk will never let you enjoy yourselves without drawing attention to the snags still remaining. It's like the old music hall comedian: "Is everybody happy? — I'll soon put a stop to that!"

Of course one Pope in an Anglican Cathedral will not heal the breaches of centuries, and we all know there is a long way to go before unity between the Anglican and Roman Churches, but at least let us thank God for any movement in the right direction, and let us greet it with unaffected delight. Christian unity is the will of God for us and we have good reason to be jubilant in the face of any event that points towards it. It was a super day, it has altered for good our attitude towards our Roman Catholic/Anglican counterparts and I, for one, am going to think back to Canterbury on 29th May, 1982 with affectionate joy.

### **Towards Visible Unity**

The next big step on the ecumenical ladder is to be faced by the General Synod of the Church of England on 7th of this month, when it decides whether we enter into a Covenant for Unity with three of the free churches or not. A 'yes' vote will not mean unity as such, but a much greater understanding between the covenanting churches, a greater working together and, most significantly, a reconciliation of respective ministries.

Please pray fervently for the central governing body of the C of E on that day. Better still join us at the 9.30am Holy Communion at Bridge when the eucharist will be offered for the unity of the Church, with the covenant vote very much in mind.



## Wendy Tomlin — A Popular Headteacher

When the news broke that Miss Tomlin was leaving Bridge School, it is no exaggeration to say that the whole neighbourhood reacted with surprise and sadness. Such is her popularity in the villages the idea that some day she would move on is one we preferred to ignore. Indeed, most people hoped she would stay for the remainder of her working life. However, with her career to think of, this could not be and, with very mixed feelings, we wish her well at The Downs CE Primary School, Walmer, when she takes over as Head in September.

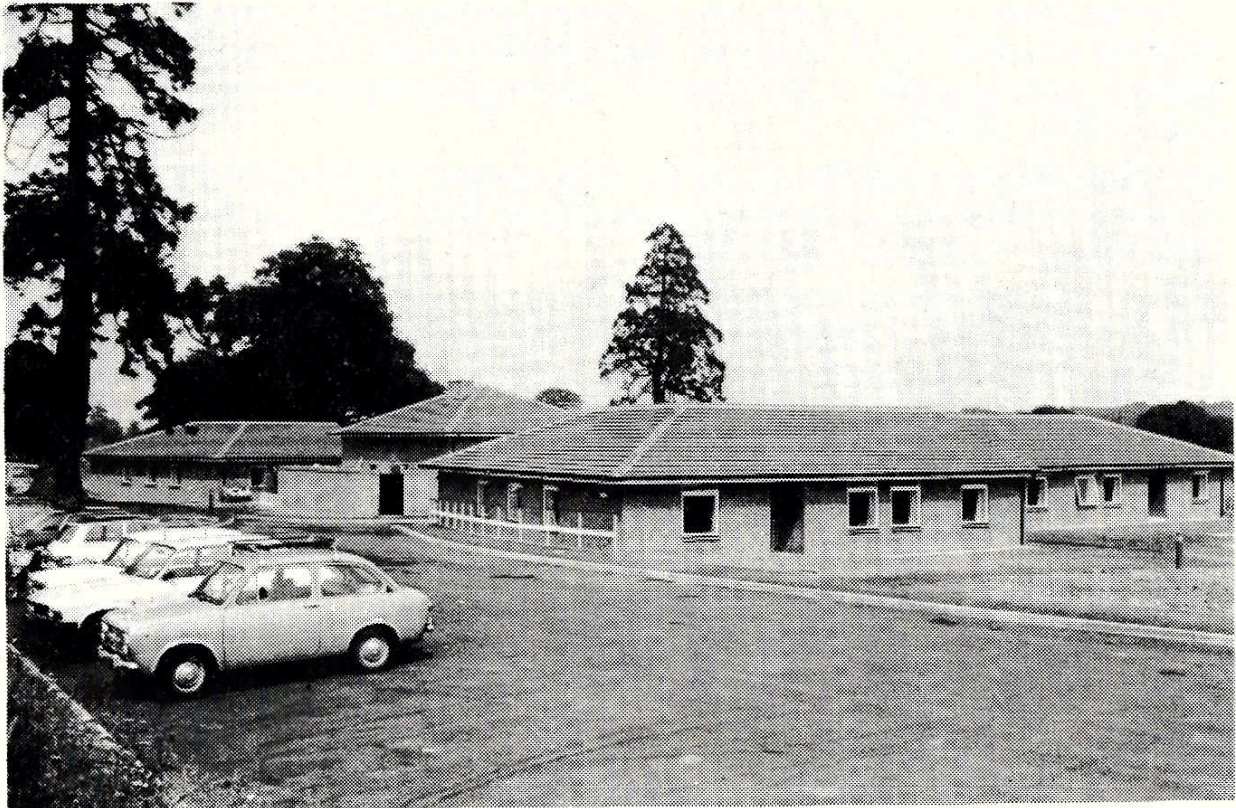
Wendy Tomlin came to Bridge nine years ago and in that time has built a school community that is the envy of the Division. Our children could not have had a better start in life, having spent their most formative years in an atmosphere of firm discipline, sound teaching from a highly competent staff and supremely pleasant working conditions that are most conducive to the enjoyment of work and play. Under Miss Tomlin's overall leadership learning is far from arduous and generally fun, and in addition to what might be called the academic side she has presented her charges with some worthwhile directives towards life in general, particularly from the Christian standpoint.

Parents have always found her a caring Head with a great pastoral concern for the children and their families. Above all she has been approachable, and that is half the battle.

But her contribution to village life as a whole has not been minimal, and despite being a lifelong resident of Dover, she has identified herself fully with all of us, particularly with the older age group. Her concern that the school should not cut itself off from its new neighbours shows her understanding of the need for young and old to intermingle and that the so called barrier between them does not really exist.

The hallmark of Wendy Tomlin's time with us has been her great wisdom, exhibited in her dealings with staff, parents, children and the ever-welcome visitors, and the origin of that wisdom is a deep commitment to the Christian faith. We can thank God for Miss Tomlin's influence for good upon all of us.

It may be that readers of *On The Nail* might like to show their appreciation of Miss Tomlin in a tangible way. Parents will be making their own presentation, but if there are any others who do not fit into that category but would like to say thank you I shall be happy to receive donations at the Vicarage, preferably in cash, before mid-July.



## Here and There

History was made when, on Ascension Day (20th May) **The New Close** commenced operations. The job of moving from Union Road to Conyngham Lane presented Matron and her staff with a mammoth task and they were extremely grateful for the help they received from villagers, as Mrs. Holway acknowledges elsewhere in this edition of *On The Nail*.

A large number of interested well-wishers patronised the coffee morning and were very impressed by the new premises. The residents settled into their fresh surroundings with comparative ease and are enjoying the panoramic views from the central lounge, which includes hills, fields, and the school playing-field (a great attraction when the children are out there). Even the Bridge by-pass has its interest, with the frequent and very varied traffic it carries. We wish good success to The New Close and trust the links the old home had with the community outside its walls will be even stronger and villagers will always feel welcome to visit the residents in their new setting.

The situation over the name The New Close is explained in the Bridge Parish Council notes (see page 10) but there are those who will regret something more original and imaginative could not have been found to mark this fresh departure in Bridge's care for the elderly. The present writer feels Conyngham House would be an appropriate name, bearing in mind its location, and the Post Office could hardly object to that. However, if the subject is closed, that must be that!

At the other end of the age range, I must apologise for failing to record the baptism on 25th April of **Laura Kate Robinson** at Bekesbourne. Laura's parents were married at St. Peter's , although they now live in London. Canon Perry officiated.

Residents of Churchill House will be sorry to hear of the death of **Mrs. Alba Jones**, a former tenant, in hospital at Herne Bay. The vicar conducted the cremation at Barham on 22nd June.

Mrs. Lois Whigham wishes readers to know that her gardens at **Cobham Court** will be open on Sunday, 11th July and Wednesday, 14th July from 2 to 6.30pm. Tea will be available and picnics can be enjoyed in the meadow. The proceeds will be divided between the National Gardens Scheme charities and the Pilgrims Hospice. To coincide with this annual opening St. Peter's Church, normally regrettably locked, will be open to visitors and on the Sunday Evensong will be held there, instead of at Bridge. The service is at 6.30pm.

At the monthly meeting of the **Women's Institute** Mrs. Harridene will give a demonstration of weaving on rings and hoops: sounds intriguing! The competition is an embroidered initial on a handkerchief.

## Sea Sunday — July 11

On July 11th we are asked by The Missions to Seamen to remember and pray for seafarers, their families and all the people around the world who work to ensure that no seafarer, however far away from home, is beyond the care of the Church.

When seafarers go to work they have to leave their homes and families behind. In a sense they put themselves outside society in order to do their jobs. But it is not only isolation from people ashore that seafarers have to face. The Penlee lifeboat disaster brought home to all of us the dangers of the sea. In fact, in the same month that the eight Penlee lifeboatmen and the eight people aboard the Union Star died, another 46 seafarers lost their lives around our coasts.

The Anglican Church's Missions to Seamen and the seafarers' societies of other denominations try to make sure that seafarers, who give up so much and face so many dangers on our behalf, do not feel they are rejected or forgotten as soon as they leave their own communities.

Through a network of full-time staff in large ports, and parish clergy in small ports, backed up by local Christian volunteers, the Churches set out to give a Christian welcome to seafarers who are far away from their own families, friends and neighbours.

People all over the world rely on seafarers for at least some of the things they use daily, but certainly in this island nation of ours we are greatly dependent on ships and seafarers to take goods to and from our shores. So let us play our part in making sure seafarers are not forgotten — wherever we may live, whether by the sea or inland — by asking God's blessing on them and their families on Sea Sunday.

*Contributed*





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This edition of *On The Nail* was in production when news came through of the sad deaths of three parishioners. Mrs. **Clare Sullivan**, 9 Ford Close, Bridge passed away after a brief but severe illness. A cook at Bridge School, Mrs. Sullivan leaves a husband and two daughters. Cremation at Barham was on Thursday, 24th June, the service being conducted by the Vicar. He also officiated at the cremation of **Thomas Naptin**, 'Palma', Beech Hill, Bridge on Monday, 28th June. Mr. Naptin had been unwell for some considerable time and is survived by his wife. The sudden death of **Bernard Whigham**, 7 St. Mary's Road, Patricbourne came as a shock to his family and wide circle of friends. Interment in Patricbourne churchyard was preceded by a service in St. Mary's Church, conducted according to the rites of the Roman Catholic Church by Fr. Jeremiah Cronin of St. Thomas's, Canterbury. The Vicar was also a participant at this ecumenical service which a few years ago would have been unthinkable.

## PARISH PUMP

Parish Council  
News



### BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The June meeting of the Council dealt first with the two matters deferred at the previous meeting — the filling of the vacancy caused by the resignation of Cllr. Keith Chapman, and the appointment of committees. They co-opted Mr. Ken Greenaway to the Council vacancy, and in appointing members to committees, decided to amalgamate the Sports Committee with the Recreation Ground Committee.

#### Street Sweeping

It was once again a little premature to anticipate, as we did last month, the completion of the street sweeping arrangements. Only on the day of the Council meeting did the City Council notify their charges, after numerous telephone calls; and the Council has still to obtain a supply of suitable bags from them. It would, perhaps, be prudent not to forecast that matters will be going smoothly by the July meeting.

#### Village Hall

The Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, told the meeting of the visit which the Improvements Committee has had from Ms. M. Perridge of the Kent Voluntary Service Council, who has spoken on the procedure by which the Council could seek grant assistance for the proposed work to the Hall. Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin has drawn up plans for the improvements, and will obtain the estimates which are required if the grant application is to be pursued.

#### Recreation Ground

The lease of the extension, which has been in negotiation for over three years, has at last been completed. Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young has inspected the trees, and has made arrangements for some to be re-staked and for others to

be cleared of weeds; and the Council agreed with her that the willows by the Tennis Courts should be cut back in the early autumn. The Council also agreed that in view of the heavy increase imposed last time, the fees for the use of the football and cricket pitches should remain unchanged this year.

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

The Chairman reported that despite their efforts and those of County Councillor Laurence Shirley, the County Council had decided in favour of a commercial housing redevelopment of the buildings rather than the Housing Association, preferred by the Council, who would have introduced a craft element.

So far as the new Home is concerned, residents in Conyngham Lane have had to endure extremely unpleasant smells from the incinerator, and it was decided to take the problem up with the appropriate authorities.

The County Council have confirmed 'The New Close' as the name of the Home. This was, it seems, the wish of the staff, and the Post Office objected to the Council's suggested 'Bifrons Park'.

The next meeting of the Council will take place on 8 July, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, and visitors will be very welcome.

*F. L. Edwards, Clerk*

## **BEKESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Recreation Ground**

It was decided to apply for Lottery Money for the repair of the Sports Club gang mowers. The Sports Club's care of the ground was on behalf of all members of the community who use the ground.

The Sports Club's application to use the ground for a Barbecue on 8th August was approved.

The play equipment at the Recreation Ground is in need of repair and it was decided to deal with this as soon as possible.

### **Planning**

An application to enlarge the gorilla enclosure at the zoo was viewed unfavourably due to noise disturbance to local residents, smell and sewage disposal problems.

### **Station**

British Rail hope to move the gate on the 'down' side platform to a flatter area when they put other repairs into effect later this year.

### **Re-elected**

Cllr. Ian Johnston — Chairman      Cllr. Bob Smith — Vice-chairman  
The next meeting is on 7th September at 7.30pm.

*M. A. Gabbé*

*Correction: In last month's 'On The Nail' the paragraph on p.11 dealing with The Boundary Commission should read to the effect that Bekesbourne and Patribourne WILL join up as one parish in the review.*

# 'Fish' News



The 'Fish' Coffee Morning on 5th June raised the magnificent sum of £152 to cover running costs for the next year. I am most grateful to members of the community for their generous support and to Mrs. Monk and Mrs. Lawrence for making the coffee, Mrs. Jones for organising the raffle and Mrs. Hollands, Mrs. Packer, Mr. Pomroy, Miss Price, Mrs. Roe, Mrs. Rowland, Mrs. Young and Miss Vince for running the stalls.

We send thanks to Bishopsbourne Parish Council for their £10 donation to our funds.

During the past month the Luncheon Club has been held at the school and our thanks go to Miss Tomlin and her staff for their hospitality.

*Joan Warren*

## The New Close

Having moved to our new abode, I wish to say thanks with heartfelt gratitude to all my staff, Mrs. Warren and all the volunteers who helped in this big task.

I would also like to thank Miss Tomlin and staff for helping with the Luncheon Club and to the schoolchildren for our lovely welcome in the hall.

*Diana Holway, Matron*

### BRIDGE CHURCH CLEANING IN JULY

*15th, Mrs. J. Mummery & Mrs. H. Pike. 22nd, Mrs. B. Wood & Mrs. S. Legge. 29th, Mrs. P. Spencer & Mrs. M. Field. Please contact Mrs. Apps (830371) if unable to do the date allotted.*

<b>Cleaning</b>	<b>BEKESBOURNE CHURCH</b>		<b>Flowers</b>
Mrs. Watson .....	4th July	.....	Mrs. Whigham
Mrs. Russell .....	11th July	.....	<i>Checking only</i>
Mrs. Grey .....	18th July	.....	Mrs. Clifford
Mrs. Beckett .....	25th July	.....	Mrs. Farbrace

TWO SUCCESSFUL CONCERTS were held last month. The first was staged in St. Mary's, Patricxbourne by the church organist, Mrs. Grace Allan and brought together a collection of local performers in an hour of music and light entertainment. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was experienced in a friendly, intimate atmosphere and £14 was collected for church funds.

The following Saturday, 19th June about fifty people formed the audience for the very first concert of The Occasional Singers in St. Peter's, Bridge. Under their conductor David Flood, Assistant Cathedral Organist they sang church music and madrigals in two groups, between which Edward Weatherall, 28 Western Avenue played two movements from Mozart's Clarinet Quintet and David Flood made the organ sparkle with Bach's Toccata in F, a piece with a fast and furious pedal passage. A retiring collection produced £31.62 for Bruno Socki's next trip to Poland with relief for his fellow-countrymen.

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### **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. D. Mathew, 27 Rivercourt, Chartham CT4 7JN (Gt. Stour 548)  
**Organist (Patricxbourne):** Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriority, 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.

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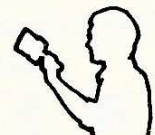
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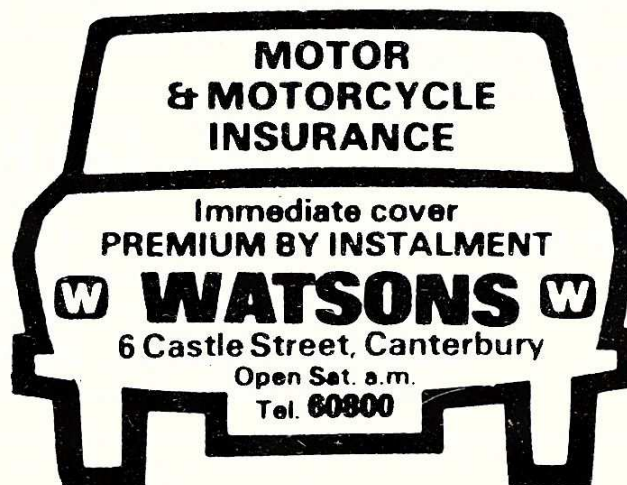
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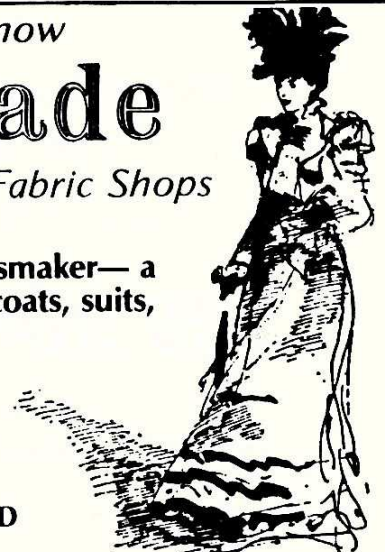
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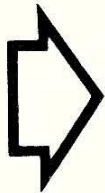
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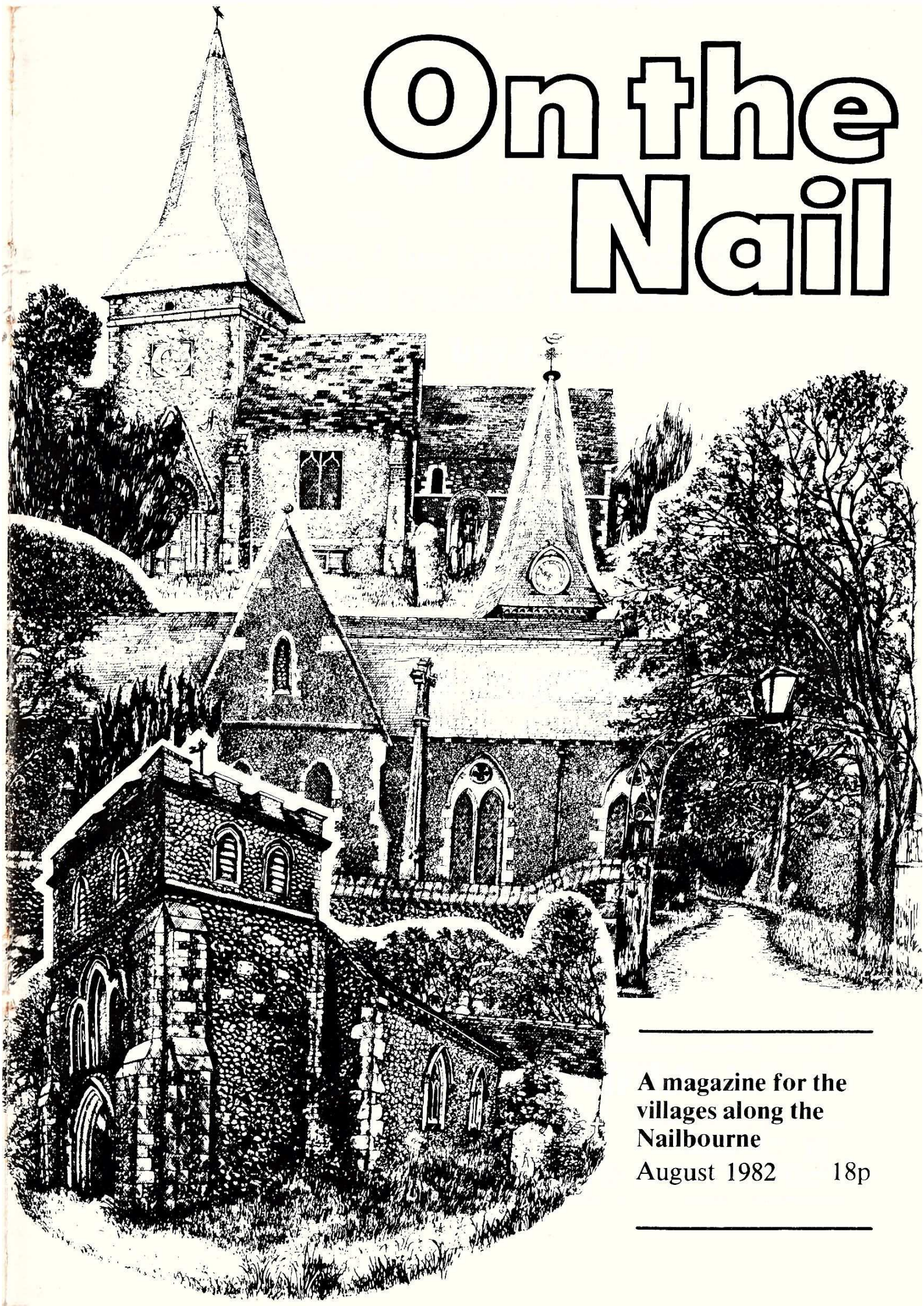
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# On the Nail



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A magazine for the  
villages along the  
Nailbourne  
August 1982 18p

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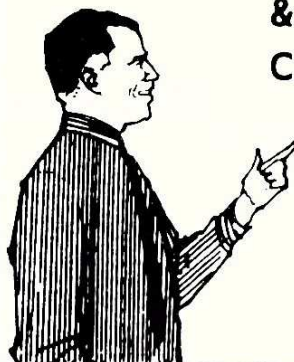
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# Sunday Worship in August

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

**1st:**

11am Family Eucharist  
& Baptisms

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish  
Communion

6.30pm Evensong (*Pr:*  
*Fr. Ian Weathrall,*  
*OBE, BAC*)

**8th:**

9.30 Family  
Communion (*Series 3*)

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

**15th:**

9.30 Parish  
Communion

8am Holy Communion

11am "Songs of Praise"

6.30pm Evensong

**22nd:**

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins &  
Holy Communion

**29th:**

9.30am Family  
Communion (*Series 3*)

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

**Bridge Methodist Church:** *1st:* The Revd. Norman Parsons. *8th:* Miss K. Knight. *15th:* The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw. *22nd:* The Revd. Wilfrid J. Hill. *29th:* Dr. John Rogers.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated each Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (Series 3) at 7.30am in St. Peter's, Bridge. The monthly celebration at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 4th at 10.15am.

A short informal service for the residents of The New Close is held each Wednesday at 2.30pm in the main hall.

## For your diary and prayer list

**1st Eighth Sunday After Trinity**

11am The Family Service will be a Family Eucharist with Holy Baptism. 6.30pm Evensong will have, as preacher, Fr. Ian Weathrall, Head of the Brotherhood of the Ascended Christ, Delhi. The Delhi Brotherhood runs the school at which Pappu, our Indian boy, is a pupil.

**6th Transfiguration of our Lord**

**8th Ninth Sunday After Trinity**

14th Bridge Churchyard tidy-up, 10am.

**15th Tenth Sunday After Trinity**

18th Methodists' Coffee Morning 10.30am.

**22nd Eleventh Sunday After Trinity**

Matins at Bekesbourne will be replaced by the second "Songs of

Praise'' of this summer. Choice of hymns to Stanley Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge (830522)

24th **St. Bartholomew the Apostle**

29th **Twelfth Sunday After Trinity**

\* \* \*

## Happy Holidays

If you have school age children the likelihood is you will be either away or busy preparing to go away when this magazine arrives. Should you be able to glance at it before your departure, let me wish you a happy holiday full of all the ingredients you look for in a successful holiday. However, if you have just got back from Tenerife-on-Sea or the Costa del Bognor Regis please read on just the same.

Holidays are now big business, but it was not always so, particularly in those distant days when a holiday meant a week at the seaside with full board at Mrs. Bloggs' Boarding House, accompanied by a list of don'ts as long as your arm and HP sauce on every table. Mrs. Bloggs' demise has meant the end of an era: no more set meals and dark glances if you so much as set foot in the house between them, come rain or come shine.

Go right back to square one and, of course, a holiday would be completely unrecognisable. Then it was simply a holy day, the emphasis being on both the holy and the day. Holidays of Obligation they were called and their only resemblance to the weeks-long package tours of today was a rest from servile work, i.e. activity which entailed concentration on the body rather than the mind. A holy day was not just a day-off, it was a day in which all your efforts were centred upon observing the religious festival around which it was fixed.

Nowadays it seems customary to classify a holiday as a time off not only work but worship, a practice common amongst people who the rest of the year are most regular at church. Why this should be I cannot imagine. Rather than treat your holiday as a holiday from God, see it as a golden opportunity to worship with another congregation, to sample what will no doubt be a different approach to worship than that of your home church. Sadly, if you are holidaying on the continent, you may find this a less than meaningful experience, owing to the language difficulty and problem of Christian disunity, but in this country it may afford you the chance of sizing up your own local church, with a view to improving both the quality of worship and the degree of community sense it has. Clearly, such a critical approach should not be uppermost in anyone's mind when sharing another church's worship, but the extent you are made to feel welcome might give a pointer or two to your own attitude to strangers when at home. At least avoid letting your holiday drive a wedge between you and your God, from whom no one can afford the time off.

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**As the editor will be holidaying when the September *On The Nail* goes to press would contributors please send material for that one issue straight to John Purchase.**

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# Bridge Churchyard Clean-up — Time & Talents

Although our previous efforts substantially improved things, the lush growth of weeds and grass over the last months has given our churchyard a very unkempt appearance. Some of you may well be on holiday but enough volunteers will surely be available for a very necessary tidying up. Please join us, if you possibly can, on Saturday, 14th August in Bridge churchyard at 10am, bringing whatever implements you can — billhooks and slashers, etc. are especially needed — to restore things to their former neatness.

A.J.

## Here and There

The annual **Church Fête** was held under threatening skies, but happily the threat did not turn into a promise. Most people agreed the clouds made for a more comfortable afternoon; a blistering sun would have been unbearable. With all the usual stalls, plus a bit extra in the Side Show department, we are exceedingly grateful for a commendable result. Mr. Potter, with characteristic attention to detail, has supplied the following breakdown, and thanks can be universally expressed for the splendid figure of £639, the profit at the end of the day.

Receipts	£
Teas & Cakes .. .. .	71
Groceries .. .. .	73
Produce Stall .. .. .	45
Soft Drinks.. .. .	6
Patixbourne's Stall .. .. .	76
Children's Books & Toys .. .. .	14
Plant Stall .. .. .	36
Toiletries .. .. .	14
White Elephant .. .. .	56
Bottle Stall .. .. .	113
Prize Draw .. .. .	125
Wine Raffle .. .. .	12
Cake Raffle .. .. .	6
Side Shows .. .. .	59
Donation .. .. .	2
	<u>£708</u>
Expenses	
Canterbury City Band .. .. .	£50
Escapologist.. .. .	10
Hire of School .. .. .	7
Hire of Loud Hailer .. .. .	<u>2</u>
	£69
Grand Total	<u><u>£639</u></u>

**Evensong at Bekesbourne** on 11th July was a most pleasant departure from the norm and was greatly appreciated by all who took part. Stanley Grey wishes to thank the Bridge Choir on behalf of their Bekesbourne counterparts for all the help they gave. Thank you also, Stanley, for your never-failing care and enthusiasm!

Barry Whiting advises us that there will be no Discussion Group at 20 Conyngham Lane this month, and that the next one is on 15th September at 7.45pm.

To keep it in the family, so to speak, Hilary Whiting writes: "Before the annual emigration of Bridge residents to watering places national and continental, will you make a note that before school starts again, there will be a **Tennis Club Barbecue and Disco** in the Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne, on 4th September from 8pm to midnight. All are welcome to an evening of good value for money, with tickets at £3, obtainable from Hilary Whiting, John Hodgson or any member of the committee."

Back to this month, **Bridge Methodists** are holding a Coffee Morning and Stalls at 'High Beech', Patricxbourne Road on Wednesday, 18th August from 10.30am to 12 noon. A warm invitation is extended to all, and proceeds will again be shared with the Pilgrims Hospice.

Mrs. Elsie Apps, in her capacity of Hon. Sec. and Treasurer of the Bridge Group of the League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals, would be grateful for gifts of toys or children's books which could be sold at the **Hospital Fayre**. They may be left at either 34 High Street or 'Orana', Brewery Lane by the end of August.

Members of the **Nailbourne Horticultural Society** are reminded of the Summer Show at the Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne on 14th August. Please support it with your entries. Anyone who has an entry for the Gardens Section please give it to Mrs. Sinnock, Flint Cottages or Mrs. Davidson, 'Oswalds', by 5th August.

## Joys and Sorrows

In the sacrament of Holy Baptism (Christening, if you prefer) a person is made

a member of Christ  
the child of God, and  
an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven.

The sacrament was administered twice last month, on the 11th July in St. Mary's, Patricxbourne to **Gemma Louise Smith**, 2 Renville Cottages and on 25th July in St. Peter's, Bekesbourne to **Olivia Rosemary Kate Kingston**, 72a Mickleburgh Hill, Herne Bay. Olivia's parents lived in Aerodrome Road until a couple of years ago and were members of Bekesbourne Church.

Both Christenings were held within the context of Matins, in accordance with contemporary directions from the General Synod, which require that persons should be baptized during public worship.

Present at Bekesbourne Matins on 25th July were **Kathleen and Derek Hogben**, who had been married in St. Peter's Church twenty-five years ago to that very date. It is a delightful custom, and well worth encouraging, to return to the church where you were married on one of your special wedding anniversaries. I should be only too pleased if this kind of thing became accepted practice and would be most happy, if it did not coincide with a Sunday, to arrange a small commemorative ceremony for any couple who wanted it. I commend the idea to any who are approaching their Silver, Gold or even Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

All good wishes and blessings to the three couples who were married in our

churches in July. **James Martin and Anne Sutton**, 46 Bridge Down are both newly-weds and new residents. They were married at Bridge on 17th July and have quickly and easily settled in to their friendly neighbourhood. A week later there were weddings at Patricbourne and Bridge, those married being **Hugues Holvec** from Rheims and **Margaret McKeever** from Renville Farm, **Stephen Pocock** from Faversham and **Elizabeth Stirling**, 62 High Street, Bridge. Stephen's priest father presided at the latter wedding.

It is good when the joys far outweigh the sorrows, as they do this month, but we must record the very sad death of Mrs. **Doris Trott**, 'Willows', Patricbourne Road just three weeks after she and her devoted husband retired here from running an after-care home at Chartham attached to St. Augustine's Hospital. She had suffered from ill-health for a long time but was still comparatively young. Our deepest sympathy to her husband and mother, also the two sons who survive her. May she rest in God's peace!

*Abbé Michel Quoist says, "If we knew how to look at life through God's eyes, we should see it as innumerable tokens of the love of the Creator seeking the love of his creatures. The Father has put us into the world, not to walk through it with lowered eyes, but to search for him through things, events, people. Everything must reveal God to us. Long prayers are not needed in order to smile at Christ in the smallest details of daily life". He offers these verses as examples of the manifestations of God's love.*

#### **The Telephone**

I have just hung up; why did he telephone?

I don't know . . . Oh! I get it . . .

I talked a lot and listened very little.

Forgive me, Lord, it was a monologue and not a dialogue.

I explained my idea and did not get his;

Since I didn't listen, I learned nothing,

Since I didn't listen, I didn't help,

Since I didn't listen, we didn't communicate.

Forgive me, Lord, for we were connected,

And now we are cut off.

#### **The Brick**

The bricklayer laid a brick on the bed of cement.

Then, with a precise stroke of his trowel spread another layer

And without a by-your-leave, laid on another brick.

The foundations grew visibly,

The building rose, tall and strong, to shelter men.

I thought, Lord, of that brick buried in the darkness at the base  
of the big building.

No one sees it, but it accomplishes its task, and the other bricks  
need it.

Lord, what difference whether I am on the roof-top or in the  
foundations of your building, as long as I stand faithfully  
at the right place?

## **BBC Radio Medway comes to Bridge**

"Home in Kent" is a radio programme on the lines of Radio 4's "Down your



Way' for which Radio Medway Producer David Cornet visits a village in Kent, interviews the residents and asks for their choice of music. Interview and music then form the twice-weekly programme from whatever village has been selected.

David has recently visited Bridge, where he interviewed about ten local people, and thus "Home in Kent" comes to Bridge at the end of August. The dates and times of transmission are Sunday, 29th August at 10.30am and Tuesday, 31st August at 6pm, the latter being a repeat of the former. As we have discovered with the Lent Course Radio Medway puts out, Bridge is not an easy place to get their programmes, especially in the evenings, but perhaps those with expensive equipment wouldn't mind recording the programme for those who haven't. At least we must try our best to listen in to ourselves. The places on the dial for getting Radio Medway are VHF (essential for evening listening) 96.7-FM; 290 MW, 1034 kHz.

## Miss Wendy Tomlin—just au revoir

School and village bade a most fond and generous farewell to Miss Tomlin on Wednesday 21st July in a packed school hall and on Sunday, 25th July in Bridge Church after Evensong. The school community presented her with an electric typewriter and a gold watch and the villagers with a beautiful crystal fruit bowl. Neither event was altogether sad, the predominant emotion being one of joyful thanks for so much, and Miss Tomlin *did* assure us, "You haven't seen the last of me!".

## The Pope in Canterbury — some reflections

Two months later and still people are eulogising about that great event of the Eve of Pentecost, 1982. And small wonder, for not only was it an historical first, it gave an entirely new slant on the Pope from a far country, who found himself in a wholly different environment and adapted to it with commendable ease.

At the beginning of an article in *The Times* of 3rd June, the Archbishop quoted a journalist who said that in their meeting and the service they shared in Canterbury "the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury blocked the way back". Dr. Runcie went on to say, "There can be no return to that period of English history when the Pope was perceived primarily as a political figure, a deadly enemy to the constitutional customs of this country . . . There is also no way back for the British churches. The Pope's agreement to take part in a service, which put the accent on the faith and hope we share, makes it more difficult for Christians in this country to return to a perception of the religious map which is dominated by faults and divisions." Of John Paul himself, the Archbishop spoke of the the impression he made by his attentiveness and the kind of questions the Pope asked about contemporary English attitudes, especially among the young. " 'In Canterbury a Pope obeys,' he said humourously after I had encouraged him to take a rest after lunch. This was the way in which he conquered the hearts of all present by his courtesy and humility."

From these reflections by the man who was closest to the Pope during his visit we pass to those of a Bridge resident who was fortunate enough to get a

seat in the Cathedral for the Celebration of Faith.

“This was a splendid example of a ceremony which the Anglican Church knows how to stage. It was sacramental theatre at its best. The conventional theatre mostly stages drama depicting fiction as though it is truth, the Church has sometimes been accused of putting over truth as though it is fiction. Here we had the outward and visible expression of inward ‘amazing grace’, which strangely warmed all hearts taking part in it, another act in ‘The greatest drama ever staged’ as Dorothy L. Sayers described the Christian story.”

At the beginning of the service, as the Archbishop greeted the Pope as our ‘Beloved brother in Christ’, this participant records: “Behind me sat Fr. Eric Doyle, with some fellow Franciscans from the Study Centre at the university. He was watching the proceedings from a TV screen in front of him. At this point he dropped down on his knees, buried his head in his hands, then threw them into the air in a charismatic moment of ecstasy.”

### **‘From Rome to Canterbury’**

In the course of his Address Pope John Paul II said:

My dear brothers and sisters of the Anglican Communion ‘whom I love and long for’ (Phil. 4:1), how happy I am to be able to speak directly to you today in this great Cathedral! The building itself is an eloquent witness both to our long years of common inheritance and to the sad years of division that followed. Beneath this roof Saint Thomas Becket suffered martyrdom. Here too we recall Augustine and Dunstan and Anselm and all those monks who gave such diligent service in this church. The great events of salvation history are retold in the ancient stained glass windows above us. And we have venerated here the manuscript of the Gospels sent from Rome to Canterbury thirteen hundred years ago. Encouraged by the witness of so many who have professed their faith in Jesus Christ through the centuries — often at the cost of their own lives — a sacrifice which even today is asked of not a few, as the new chapel we shall visit reminds us — I appeal to you in this holy place, all my fellow Christians, and especially the members of the Church of England and the members of the Anglican Communion throughout the world, to accept the commitment to which Archbishop Runcie and I pledge ourselves anew before you today. This commitment is that of praying and working for reconciliation and ecclesial unity according to the mind and heart of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

\* \* \*

Soon after the papal visit to Britain I had cause to order more altar breads for the three churches. We get them from Thicket Priory in York, which is a RC Carmelite order of nuns, and in my letter to the Prioress I remarked on the Pope’s visit, asking if any of the sisters saw him when he visited York. I print her reply, for reasons which should be obvious when you read what it is now possible for a Roman Catholic to write to an Anglican:

Dear Reverend Father,

Thank you for your letter kindly ordering Altar breads from us.

The Pope’s visit was indeed tremendous — and seems to create a deep bond between all who followed it or were able to attend one of the ceremonies. It is

a joy to hear that you were at Canterbury. Nearly all our community saw him — though not all together! We are able to pool experiences from Roehampton, Heaton Park and Edinburgh (meeting for religious) as well as York! It remains simply for us to open our hearts and our lives to this tremendous gift of grace which God has given us all through the Pope.

We are so grateful for your prayers, and assure you of ours.

United in love of Christ, and in gratitude to Him,

Yours sincerely,

Sister Mary, O.D.C.



## **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

The July meeting of the Parish Council heard that the City Council, in its recommendations to the Boundary Commission, had accepted the Council's proposals for the revision of the Parish boundaries with only minor changes. These will, if endorsed by the Commission, take the boundary on the north and east to the by-pass, and transfer a substantial area to the south to Bishopsbourne.

### **Street Sweeping**

The village's volunteer road sweeper has now been able to start work, though under difficulties, as the bags supplied by the City Council are not suitable for his trolley, also supplied by the City Council. The Council hopes, however, to resolve this problem.

### **'The Close'**

Following the acceptance by the County Council of a tender by a building company for 'The Close' buildings, the Council wrote to them asking if they would consider the introduction of craft workshops into their redevelopment plans; but the Council heard that they were not prepared to do so. The complaints regarding smells from the incinerator at the new buildings remain so far unresolved. Members did not accept the explanation offered by the County Council that sour earth turned over in landscaping was responsible, and the County authorities will investigate further.

### **Village Hall**

Councillor Mervyn Gulvin explained his revised plans for the Hall, which provide for a bigger kitchen than originally envisaged, together with additional storage space. He had applied to the City Council for planning permission, and would make an application for grant aid in due course.

## Recreation Ground

It was agreed to accept a quotation for the repair of the fencing on the south east side of the ground, and also to seek an estimate for dealing with the weeds on the boundaries.

### Generally

It was agreed that the potential traffic dangers at the junction of Bekesbourne Road and Town Hill, previously raised unsuccessfully with the traffic authorities two years ago, be taken up again; and to raise the question of flooding, following heavy rain, in Union Road, and that of an overgrown footway on Bridge Down, with the appropriate authorities.

The next meeting of the Council will take place after the summer recess on 9th September, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, and the public will, of course, be welcome as usual.

*F. L. Edwards, Clerk*

## 'Fish' news

The Luncheon Club will be closed during August but all the other services will carry on as usual. Don't forget that if you need help a message can be left at the Post Office (Tel: 830201) or contact me (Tel:830233).

If you have new neighbours please tell them about our scheme and let me know if they would like a 'Fish' card.

*Joan Warren*

## Pre-School Playgroup in Bridge Village Hall

We hope to start a playgroup this September in the Village Hall. Mrs. Webb, who has cared for many Bridge children out at Kingston for years, has very kindly undertaken to organise Tuesday and Thursday mornings, in addition to her continuing groups at Kingston on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Although the Village hall is not ideal something must be done for the village children whose mothers haven't any transport and whom I cannot take in my home playgroup because of limited space. But we do need equipment. Please look out any simple jigsaws, games, books, dressing-up clothes, old tricycles or scooters — anything to help get us going. I will gladly come and collect toys. So, if you can help or would like your child to come to the group, please telephone me - 830298.

*Anne Rooke*

### BRIDGE CHURCH CLEANING

*12th*, Mrs. J. Mummery & Mrs. H. Pike. *19th*, Mrs. B. Wood & Mrs. S. Legge. *26th*, Mrs. P. Spencer & Mrs. M. Field. If unable to do these dates please contact Mrs. Apps, 34 High Street (830371).

### Cleaning

### BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

### Flowers

Mrs. Smith .....	1st August	.....	Mrs Smith
Mrs. Stickells .....	8th August	.....	Mrs. Ash
Mrs. Hogben .....	15th August	.....	Mrs. Ash
Mrs. Watson .....	22nd August	.....	Mrs. Watson
Mrs. Russell .....	29th August	.....	Mrs. Russell

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. D. Mathew, 27 Rivercourt, Chartham CT4 7JN (Gt. Stour 548)  
*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)  
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*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.

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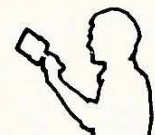
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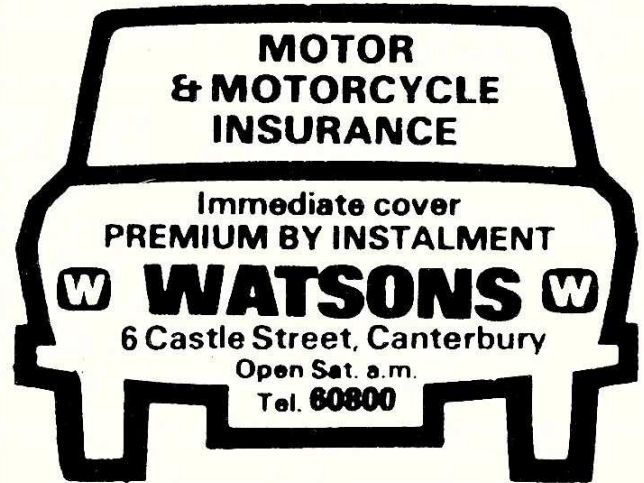
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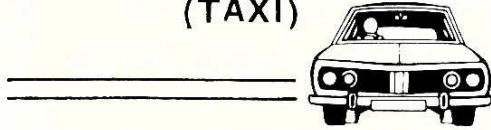
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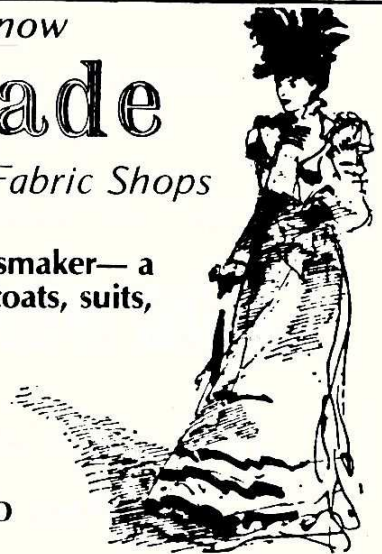
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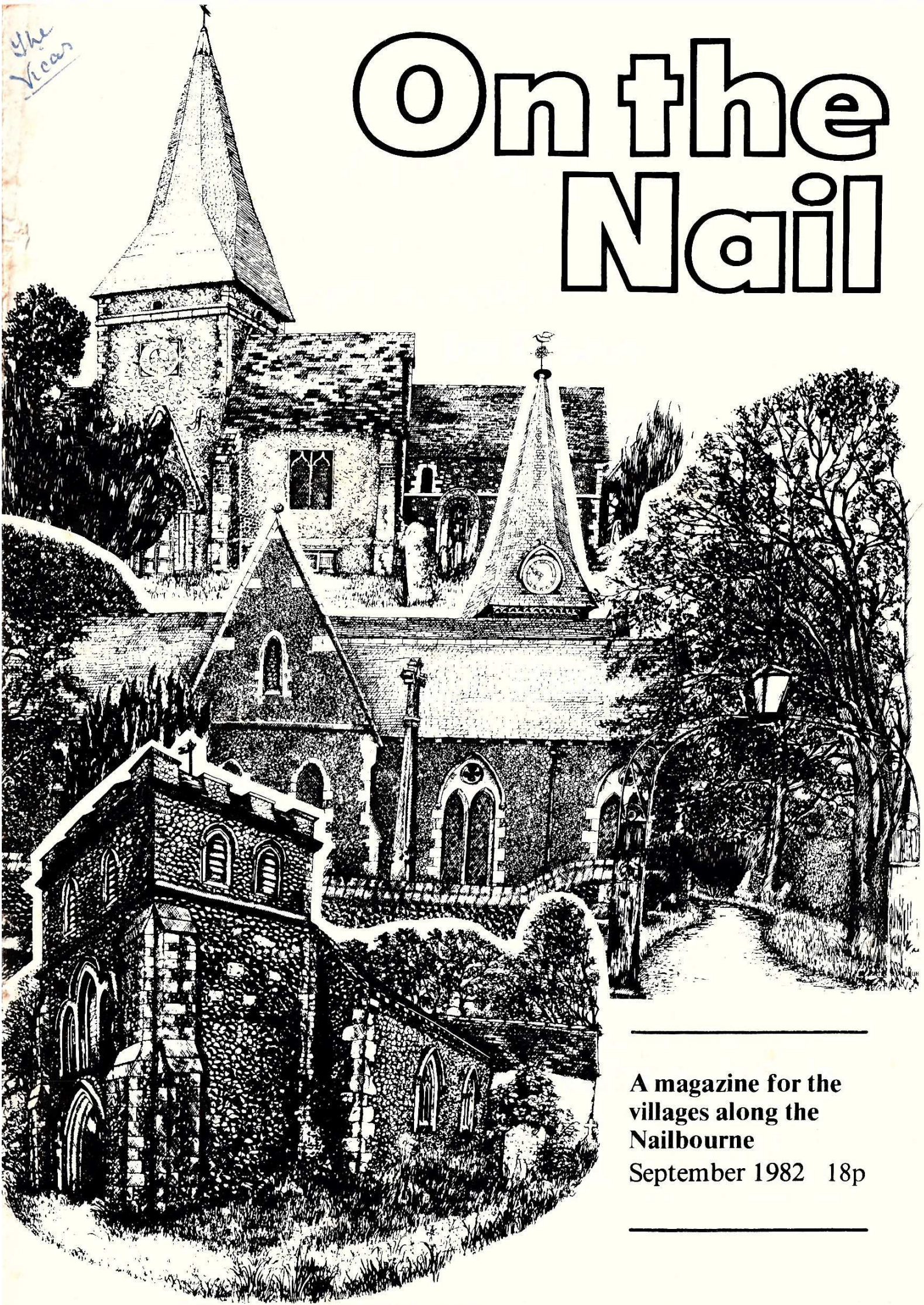
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*The  
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# On the Nail



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September 1982 18p

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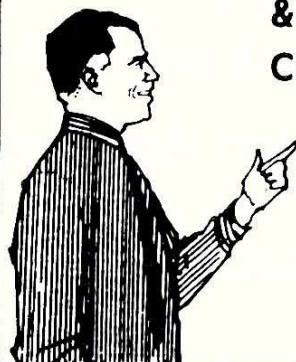
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# Sunday Worship in September

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
<b>5th:</b> 11am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion
<b>12th:</b> 9.30 Family Communion ( <i>Series 3</i> )	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
<i>No Evensong, due to the Deanery Missionary Festival at Ash (see p.8)</i>		
<b>19th:</b> 9.30 Parish Communion 6.30 Evensong	11am Harvest Matins	8am Holy Communion
<b>26th:</b> 8am Holy Communion 6.30 Evensong	9am Holy Communion	11am Harvest Matins & Holy Communion

**Bridge Methodist Church:** *5th:* Mrs. H. Fairhurst. *Harvest Festival, 12th:* The Revd. Peter Taylor. *19th:* Miss J. Charlesworth. *26th:* The Revd. H. Jesse Lawrence. *The Harvest Festival continues on Monday, 13th at 7.30pm, when the Revd. Peter Taylor conducts a Service of Thanksgiving, to which all are most welcome.*

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated each Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (Series 3) at 7.30am in St. Peter's, Bridge. The monthly celebration at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 1st at 10.15am.

A short informal service for the residents of The New Close is held each Wednesday at 2.30pm in the main hall. Visitors from the village are always most welcome to join in.

## For your diary and prayer list

*Harvest Festival Services take place at Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne this month (see above). In order to accommodate both at 11am a certain amount of reshuffling of the monthly services scheme has been necessary. Bekesbourne's third Sunday Matins will now move to the second Sunday of October.*

- 5th Thirteenth Sunday After Trinity**  
This month's Family Service at 11am will be conducted by Canon John Packer.
- 8th The Blessed Virgin Mary**  
The Adult Confirmation Group reassembles at 6.30pm.
- 9th** The Junior Confirmation Group reassembles at 6.30pm.
- 12th Fourteenth Sunday After Trinity**  
There will be no Evensong so that as many as possible can attend the Deanery Missionary Festival at Ash. Please try to join in this celebration, which, each year, gets better and better.
- 14th** Coffee Morning and Bring-and—Buy, School House, Bekesbourne, 10.30am—12 noon.

14th Bekesbourne PCC meets at 8pm.

19th **Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity**

Patricxbourne Harvest Festival at 11am.

At Evensong a party from the parish of St. Martin, Canterbury will be sharing our worship as part of their desire to link up with their neighbouring parishes during the course of the year. Do come and give them a warm welcome!

21st **St. Matthew the Apostle**

Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meets in the Methodist Church at 8pm.

22nd Discussion Group, 20 Conyngham Lane, 7.45pm.

24th Canterbury Group, Kent Trust for Nature Conservancy; Barn Dance, Bridge Village Hall 8—11pm.

25th Churchill House Bring-and-Buy, 10.30am—12.30pm.

26th **Sixteenth Sunday After Trinity.**

Bekesbourne Harvest Festival at 11am.

29th **St. Michael and All Angels.**



## Harvest Festival Services

**Bridge Methodist Church**

12th September at 11am

13th September at 7.30pm

Preacher: The Revd. Peter Taylor

**St. Mary's, Patricxbourne**

19th September at 11am

Preacher: Canon J. W. Packer

**St. Peter's, Bekesbourne**

26th September at 11am

Preacher: The Revd. Clive Barlow,  
Vicar of Ash

**St. Peter's, Bridge**

3rd October

11am Family Service

6.30pm Harvest Evensong

Preacher; The Revd. Desmond  
Sampson, Vicar of Wingham w  
Elmstone, Preston and  
Stourmouth, and Rural Dean

## The Joy of Harvest

“All good gifts around us  
Are sent from heaven above;  
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,  
For all his love.”

Hardly the best hymn in the book, and, despite its forming an essential part of the traditional *English* Harvest Festival, a German hymn set to a German tune. Yet numberless Church of England parishes up and down the land would not feel they had done the season justice without singing Jane M. Campbell's translation of M. Claudius' 'Wir pflügen und wir streuen'.

Perhaps, when you think about it, the churches' harvests are more inspired by old customs to be upheld than thanks to be offered. This, at least, is the impression people might get, for our sense of gratitude for the flora with which we decorate our churches is seldom as strong as our sense of the picturesque and the time-honoured. The latter is patently obvious, whereas the former is rather less so.

This is not a carping criticism of Harvest Festivals and is certainly not an attempt to wean the faithful off them. Quite the contrary! It is perfectly right that we should retain this popular link with our more earthy past and share, as far as we can, in the joy of harvest-home. And why shouldn't we make our buildings look especially attractive once a year by the addition of fruit and vegetables, which, for all our freeze-dried, prepacked convenience food stuffs, still, and always will, comprise the basis of our dietary needs? Vegetable marrows, grapes, apples, potatoes, sheaves, let's gather them in, and the more the merrier; and having done so, let's celebrate in the familiar way the joy and bounty of the annual harvest, *Wir pflügen* and all.

The element of thankfulness is not absent either, even in more urban parishes, for even where the products of the farm go through a lengthy (I won't say necessarily wholesome) process before consumption it is still the labours of the farmer and his work force that started the entire business. We can — I would say must — acknowledge with gratitude the combined efforts of the agriculturalist and the good Lord, which go to provide our daily food and therefore our very existence.

We may make the comment that the church's harvest celebrations do not always coincide with the culmination of the harvest of the land, but that is scarcely possible. The actual harvest extends over many weeks and it is impossible to establish a date on which it might be said it is complete in the sense that the farmer's work is done. Like a woman's work, this stage is, after all, never reached! Rather let us continue the practice of a church Harvest Thanksgiving with all the old ingredients and maybe a few new ones, at a time when the harvest is in full swing and we are used to making our yearly thanksgiving.

Don't forget, of course, that we keep a Harvest *Festival*, i.e. a time of joy and celebration, and even when the dominant theme is one of thanksgiving we can at least make our thanksgivings in a festive spirit, for harvest-time is a time of joy; the joy of life received, the joy of life sustained, the joy of future hopes and the sheer joy of being alive.

“Lord of the Harvest, it is right and meet  
That we should lay our first-fruits at thy feet  
With joyful Alleluia.”

## Joys and Sorrows

Last month's Family Service was a Family Eucharist. I appreciate that some find a Communion Service somewhat inhibiting, particularly if they are not confirmed, but I believe it right that an act of worship that is aimed specifically at the family should, from time to time, be centred around the Christian's time-honoured and Christ-given family service, the Eucharist. The use of the new form of service and the setting up of the Lady Chapel altar in the middle of the church do much to enhance such an act of worship and

help to make it a truly family event.

Within this service **Nicholas Peter Hopkins**, 1 Pippin Avenue, Highland Court and **John James Whitten**, 28 Bridge Down were admitted into the great Christian family by Baptism. Again, in order to welcome them within the family circle, so to speak, the baptisms were performed at a small portable font (previously used at The Old Close) on the top chancel step, with the respective parents and godparents ranged on either side. A real family occasion, in more ways than one!

On 8th August, the vicar administered Holy Baptism to **Matthew Marc Mackay**, 39 Ince Road, Sturry in St. Peter's, Bridge.

Mrs. **Mary Nickalls**, 24 Western Avenue passed away at the age of 91 and the Vicar officiated at the crematorium and at the preceding service in Bridge Church, where Mrs. Nickalls had worshipped in earlier years. St. Peter's Church was also the setting for the funeral service of **Tom Deakin** who was landlord of The White Horse for over twenty years until he retired about two years ago. In the Vicar's absence, due to holiday, the Revd. Charles Harrington officiated and many old friends and customers paid their last respects. Cremation followed at Barham.

## Obituary—The Revd. Bob Penney



The Revd. Bob Penney and Margaret, his wife, pictured in the Vicarage garden while he was Vicar with us.

It is with great regret that we record the death of the Revd. Robert Affleck Penney, the Vicar of Patricbourne with Bridge and Bekesbourne from 1958 to 1963. The funeral service at Hythe was attended by some two hundred and fifty people—and this was a measure of the love that so many had for Bob.

Ordained in 1955 he was first Curate of St. John's Church, Shirley, moving to Bridge to become the first Vicar of the plurality of Patricbourne with Bridge *and* Bekesbourne. After five most successful years he was asked to tackle a run-down parish in Croydon, and this task he cheerfully undertook only to have his health suffer as a result. Bob returned to East Kent to a living at Petham before retiring with ill-health.

For those who did not know the Penneys (and what a privilege it was to know them), possibly the notes in the parish magazine at the time of their leaving for Croydon will best give a taste of this great priest and family man.

“Of the Vicar and Mrs. Penney, what can we say? Unassuming friendliness and a sincere interest in all the things that go to make the life of a rural community. Work!!! Both have an enormous capacity for work. Work of all sorts! Business efficiency in a business world had been their task previous to their call for God, and they used this ability to the full for the benefit of their parishes while with us. On the other side, a pick and shovel, or a lawn mower and shears—nothing was too hard or too big to tackle, and we have seen how possible it is to look after the welfare of a big family and at the same time be spick and span and ready to entertain at a moment's notice.”

During his time with us Bob Penney sold the three old vicarages and built a new vicarage without any charge on the parishes, improved the position of

the pulpit in Bridge church, opened up an ancient window at Patricxbourne getting stained glass presented and fitted by the Cathedral Glass Works, and converted Bekesbourne church from smelly gas-lighting to electricity and shifted the Chancel Screen to the west end to provide a choir vestry.

We remember Bob Penney with great affection, and send our sincere condolences to Margaret and his family, who all did so much with him for the parishes that formed his cure. J.P.

## “With love, gratitude and prayers”

*Miss Tomlin writes:*

Since joining the village in 1973 I have been on the receiving end of such kindness, support and consideration, it is difficult adequately to thank everyone. During these last few years in particular your affection and generosity have deeply touched me; thank you for all such expressions.

My ‘sojourn’ amongst you has personally and professionally brought great joy and fulfilment — a richness centred in relationships. Projects, schemes, events and activities, however valid, are of little purpose unless people are counting too. Always, always in Bridge and its surrounds I have been met with a willingness to relate closely and honestly to one another, to work enthusiastically together, and to turn problems into opportunities and points of growth. Children, parents, grandparents, neighbours, PCCs, PTAs, councillors, shop-keepers, governors (and spouses), senior citizens — you have all been just great.

Bridge School has always been a super place to be; the foundations laid so firmly by my predecessors together with splendid and stable teams of talented and committed staff have, and will continue to provide a secure, happy and productive community — not just for children, but for grown-ups too.

In July your article kindly referred to my Dovorian attachments (being a Dover war-baby makes you like that!). First headships must have the same effect — Bridge and my little family — you have captured a very large slice of my heart! The steady growth of so many friendships amongst you will encourage frequent visits to this very special place.

Meanwhile please accept my love, gratitude and prayers. Take care of each other, and may God’s richest blessings dwell among you all.

*Wendy*

## Deanery Missionary Festival, 1982

This year’s festival is on Sunday, 12th September and, in honour of its septo-centenary, is taking place at Ash. It starts in St. Nicholas’ Church at 3.30pm and I hope that many from our villages will want to attend. A communal tea is taken, each participant contributing towards the ‘eats’. There is plenty of car parking space at the Village Hall and those with sandwiches, scones or cakes are asked to hand them in at the hall on arrival.

The theme for the afternoon is “Celebration—Enjoying God” and after an introduction we will go into groups to develop these aspects of the theme: Drama, Music (Choral and Instrumental), Art (Collage), Cooking, Prayer, Celebration and Joy from the Scriptures. Mrs. Anne Plumptre, who chaired the preparation team, stresses that the festival is aimed at the whole family, so no-one need feel they are not catered for.



After a 5 o'clock tea in the Hall the festival goes back into church for a Service of Praise at 6pm, the form of which will be determined by the work each group has produced. The Revd. Eric Smith, Vicar of St. George's, Deal will preach at the service, which will last under the hour. Choirs are not being asked to robe this year, but those opting for the Instrumental Music Group should bring their instrument with them. Anyone keen on cooking or art should bring suitable protective clothing.

If you know definitely that you will be coming (transport can be arranged) would you please let me have a note of the fact so that I can let the organisers of the festival know. It is not compulsory that you do so, but will give some idea of possible numbers. Don't stay away because you didn't let me know. It sounds an interesting, not to say worthwhile festival, with something for everyone!

## Items in brief

Canterbury Group of the Kent Trust for Nature Conservancy is holding a Barn Dance in Bridge Village Hall on Friday, 24th September from 8 to 11pm. The caller will be Alf Mathews and tickets, which include refreshments, cost £1.30, 50p for children.

Our project to buy two stock gates for the Sandwich Bay Reserve is going well and proceeds from this dance will enable us to finalise the cost.

On 2nd October a Cheese and Wine evening will be held at Sondes House, Patricbourne (by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. A. Godman) from 7.45 for 8pm to 10pm. Tickets are £1.75 and a short talk on local history will be given by Mr. John Williamson.

Tickets for both the above events are obtainable from 9 High Street, Bridge (830285)  
*Dot Whittaker*

Mrs. Whittaker also advises us that Folk Dancing will start again on the first and third Thursdays in September in Bridge Village Hall from 8 till 9.30pm. The caller is Alf Mathews and everyone is welcome to join in.

\* \* \*

There will be a Coffee Morning and Bring-and-Buy at School House, Bekesbourne, on Tuesday 14th September from 10.30am to 12 noon, in aid of Bekesbourne Church. We have not had a fund-raising event this summer, so would welcome as many people as possible.  
*Jane Millyard*

\* \* \*

A successful Coffee Morning was held on 29th July in aid of the Church of England Children's Society at 33 High Street, Bridge. We realised £61.20, and the Society is very grateful to all the people who supported it, and to all the helpers particularly the teenagers and the children.  
*F. V. B. Mason*

\* \* \*

Churchill House will be holding their Annual Bring-and-Buy on September 25th from 10am to 12.30pm. Please come along to support this cause, and bring-and-buy what you can!

\* \* \*

The full text of the Archbishop's Address at the Falklands Service in St.

Paul's Cathedral, is available from D.C.O., Diocesan House, Lady Wotton's Green, Canterbury. Please send a stamped, addressed envelope.

## Methodist change

“Dear Friends,

It is with great sadness that I write to say farewell to all my friends in Bridge. As you may know, at the end of August we move to Southborough, which is between Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge.

We have had four extremely happy years in the Canterbury area, and I would like to thank everyone most sincerely for the friendship and support they have given me over those years. I have valued this highly, not only from my own Methodist Church in Bridge, but also from the Anglicans and Roman Catholics and I shall always remember you all with great affection. Particularly may I thank Raymond Gilbert for his friendship and fellowship.

My successor, the Revd. Peter Taylor, will be starting on 1st September and I know you will give him all the support that you have given me.

Pam, Julie, Diane and Anne join me in sending you all good wishes for the future.

Ray Bradshaw.”

### AUTUMN FAYRE

Bridge and Patricxbourne Womens Institute will be holding an Autumn Fayre and Exhibition of W.I. Arts and Crafts on Saturday, October 2nd, 2pm—5pm at the Bridge Village Hall. Refreshments will be served, and there will be a sale of home and garden produce, and items of arts and crafts. Proceeds from the sale will be divided between the Village Hall Extension Fund and the East Kent Hospice. O.I.K.

### ST. PETER'S, BRIDGE—CLEANING ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER

9th September: Mrs. B. Wood and Mrs. S. Legge

16th September: Mrs. P. Spencer and Mrs. M. Field.

23rd September: Mrs. J. Mummery and Mrs. H. Pike.

● *From an 1817 traveller's guide book we see how you crossed the Channel in those days. The extract is taken from a book called:*

#### THE TRAVELLER'S GUIDE TO FRANCE AND THE NETHERLANDS

The Paris Royal Mail goes from the Angel, St. Clement's, every Wednesday and Saturday mornings at one; and Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday at a quarter before seven in the morning.

The Dover Mail goes from the Angel Inn, St. Clement's, every evening at seven; Sunday, a quarter before seven. The Dover Union Coach goes from the Bolt in Tun, Fleet-Street, every morning at seven; noon, at twelve; and evening at six. This coach goes on to Deal, Margate and Ramsgate.

Dover coaches also go from the Cross Keys, Wood-Street, Cheapside, and Golden Cross, Charing-Cross, morning and evening.

On your arrival at Dover, you will not be long detained for a packet, as there are several, both French and English, besides the mail packets, constantly going.

It is to be remarked, that no two maps or persons agree about the distance across the channel; we have, however, carefully avoided the extremes and by consulting the best authorities, have endeavoured to give them as correctly as possible.

The distance, however, from the north turret of the keep of Dover Castle, to the spire of Notre Dame Church at Calais, is found by trigonometrical adjustment to be 137,452 feet, or 26 miles 57 yards. The passage is seldom of more than seven or eight hours duration, but is much more frequently performed in four, and sometimes two hours with a fair wind. A few trifling refreshments, therefore, is all that will be necessary.

Calais has a good port, and is well fortified; its citadel is one of the largest in the kingdom. The different appearance of this town from any in England, although at so short a distance, strikes the English traveller forcibly on his landing: the houses are spacious and lofty, and built with a grey-coloured stone; the streets are tolerably wide, but there are no flag stones for the accommodation of pedestrians; there are few showy shops, and the town altogether has a monotonous appearance.

The Public Buildings are few: they are the Hôtel de Ville, or Town Hall; the Tour du Guif, or Watch-Tower, where a man is constantly watching for the protection of the town; two dilapidated churches; foot and horse barracks, and the public cisterns, wherein, for want of springs and wells, the inhabitants collect rain-water, the only water they use.

There is a market held in the Grande Place every Saturday, where silversmiths and Exchange brokers attend—who change gold, silver and bank notes according to the rate of exchange.

When the packet arrives, the custom-house officers take your luggage to the custom-house to examine it; they demand eighteen sous for each trunk, portmanteau, or parcel, large or small; and when the search is made they carry them to your inn or residence, and make another demand of ten sous each for portage.

The post office is in the Rue de la Harpe: the mail sets off for Paris every day at one o'clock, P.M. and arrives from Paris every morning between five and six. The letters are dispatched for England every Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; you must pay sixpence with each letter.

*Bon voyage!*

### **SONGS OF PRAISE AT BEKESBOURNE**

The popular series we mount during Trinity each year continues. The third and final service this year is on Sunday 10th October at 11am. Would those who have a hymn they would like sung please contact Mr. Stanley Grey at 63 High Street, Bridge (*Tel: 830522*) and give him details?

## **Fish News**



**Chiropody Clinic** patients will be delighted to hear that from September there will be an extra treatment session every month. Hopefully this will mean a shorter gap between appointments.

**The Luncheon Club** will start again on September 6th.

Complaints are often made about the difficulty of obtaining accurate information about benefits and services provided by the authorities. Two useful publications are available which give clear and concise information:—

**The Health Service**—The National Consumer Council has recently published a leaflet which explains very simply the services provided by the NHS and outlines our rights and obligations as patients. Copies of this leaflet (which summarises the book *Patients' Rights*) can be obtained free of charge from the Community Health Council, 2 Oaten Hill Court, Canterbury (*Tel: Canterbury 66011*).

**Retirement**—Age Concern publish a booklet called *Your Rights* which is packed with information about services provided to help cope with the problems of living on a pension. This booklet, which is published annually, is available from W.H. Smith, price 55p—or from the Canterbury Age Concern Office at the WRVS centre in Castle Street.

I have copies of both these publications.

*Joan Warren*



## Harvest Home

When the reaping was finished—before mechanisation—the Last Load and the Corn Dolly were brought home in triumph in a great harvest-wain decorated with flowers and boughs of oak and ash, and drawn by four or six garlanded horses. The men rode on top of the load, shouting, singing and blowing horns.

That evening the Harvest Home Feast was held for all who had taken part in the harvest. This usually comprised roast meat, plum puddings, apple pies and unlimited supplies of ale or cider. After the meal there were toasts to the farmer and his family, followed by singing and dancing.

The Harvest Festival is quite modern. It began in 1843, when the Revd. R. S. Hawker, Vicar of Morwenstow in Cornwall, revived in that parish the ancient thanksgiving and service of Lammass, long faded from the Church's Liturgy. From that local beginning the custom spread widely, and is now an established part of the Church's calendar.

Bekesbourne will be celebrating both of these events again this year. The Harvest Home Feast will be in the Village Hall on Saturday 9th October at 7.30pm. Tickets are now available at £1.75 from Lynn Shaw, Aurum Parva, The Aerodrome; Jill Gillanders, Cala, The Aerodrome, or Ruth Dawson, Soldanella, Bekesbourne Hill.

The Harvest Festival Service is at 11am in St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne on Sunday 26th September.

*Lynn Shaw*

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*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, Patricbourne and Bekesbourne.

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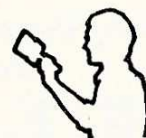
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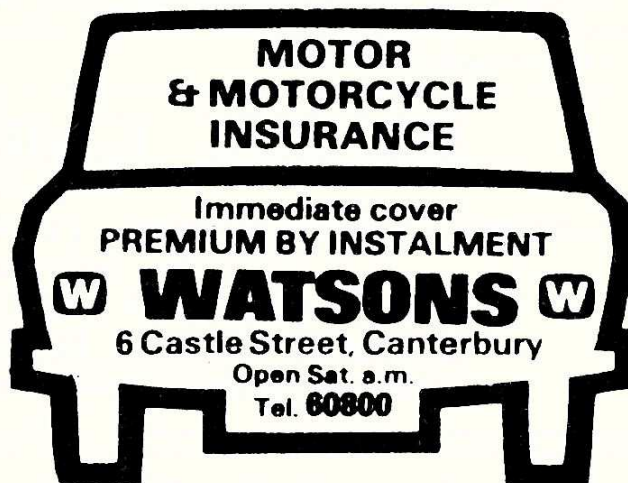
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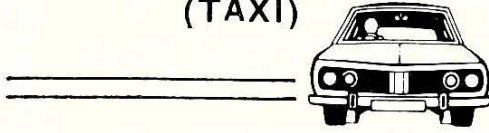
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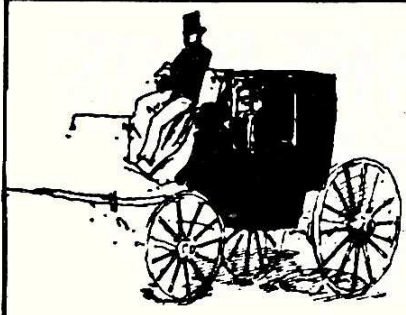
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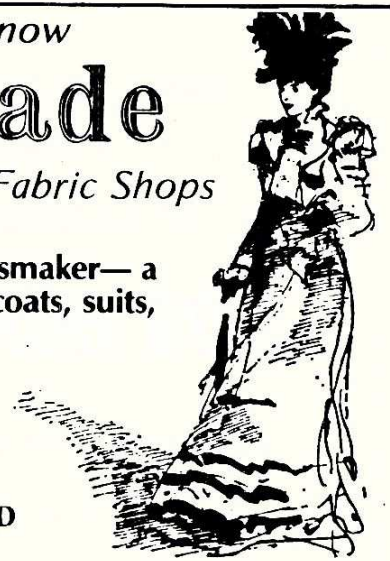


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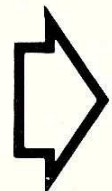
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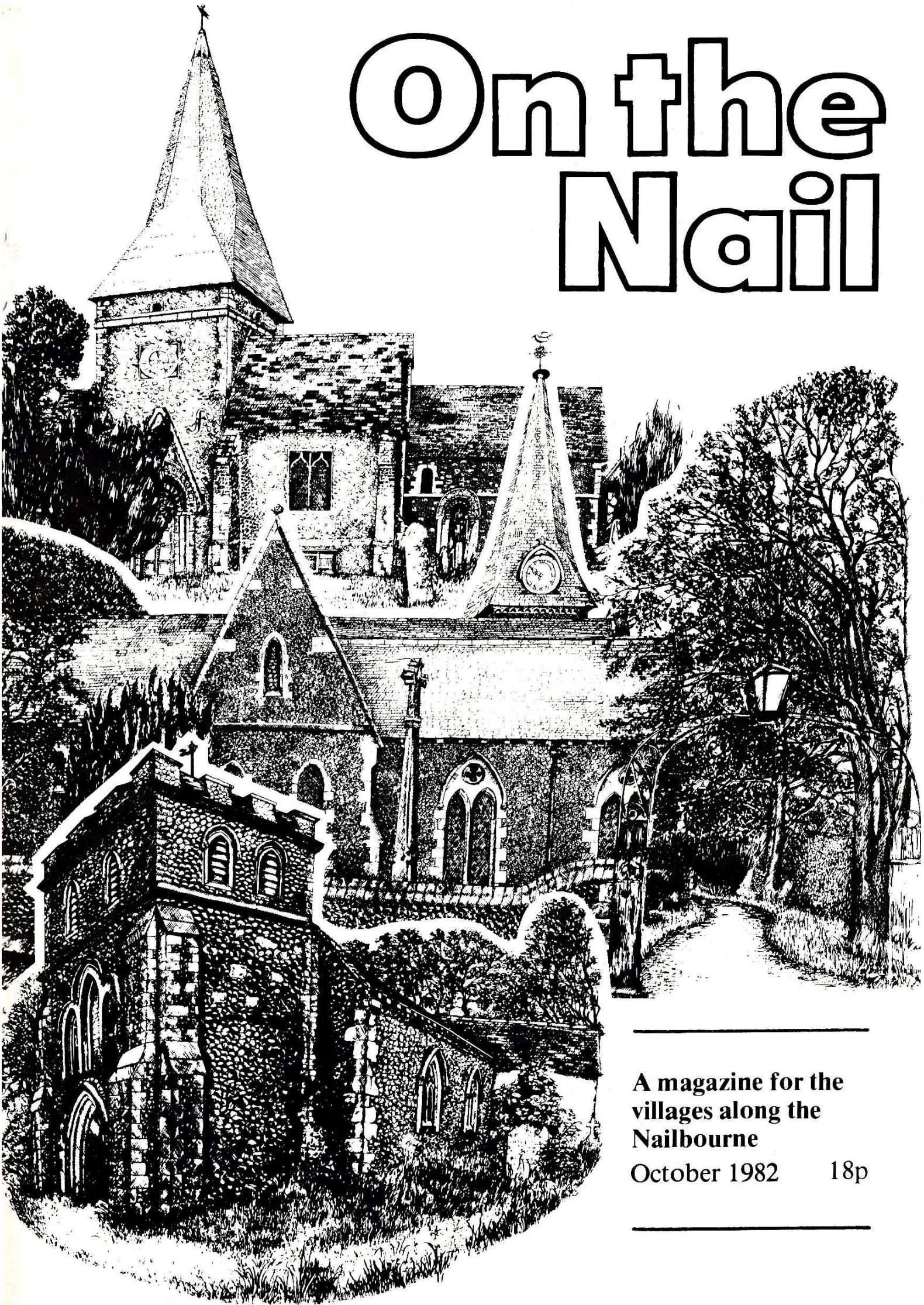
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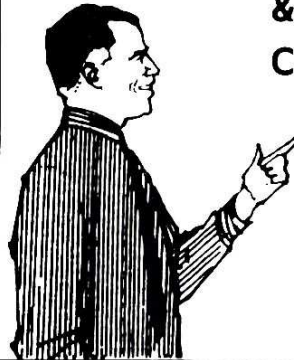
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# Sunday Worship in October

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
<b>3rd:</b> 11am Family Service 6.30pm Harvest Evensong (Pr: <i>The Rural Dean</i> )	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion
<b>10th:</b> 9.30 Family Communion ( <i>Series 3</i> ) 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am "Songs of Praise"
<b>17th:</b> 9.30am Parish Communion 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am Matins
<b>24th:</b> 8am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion	11am Matins & Holy Communion
<b>31st:</b> 9.30am Family Communion ( <i>Series 3</i> ) 6.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion

*Please note the changes on 10th at Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne, of which prior notice was given in last month's 'On the Nail'.*

**Bridge Methodist Church:** 3rd: The Revd. Wilfred J. Hill, M.C., B. Sc. 10th: Mr. E. R. O'Mahoney. 17th: The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. 24th: Miss K. Knight. 31st: Dr. G. Chapman.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated each Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (Series 3) at 7.30am in St. Peter's, Bridge. The monthly celebration at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 6th at 10.15am.

A short informal service for the residents of The New Close is held each Wednesday at 2.30pm in the main hall. Visitors from the village are always most welcome to join in.

## For your diary and prayer list

### 3rd **Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity**

Harvest Festival at Bridge, observed at both the Family Service (11am) and Evensong (6.30). The preacher at the latter service will be our Rural Dean, the Revd. Desmond Sampson, who is also Vicar of Wingham with Elmstone, Preston and Stourmouth. Gifts of fruit and vegetables for church decoration will be most gratefully received in time for the decorating on the morning of Saturday, 2nd.

### 4th *St. Francis of Assisi, 1226*

5th East Bridge Deanery Chapter (i.e. all the clergy of the deanery) meets at Nonington. Please pray regularly for your clergy.

- 9th Pray for Jeannie Frame and Nigel Watson who are to be married today in Bridge Church.  
7.30pm Harvest Home Feast, Bekesbourne Village Hall.
- 10th **Eighteenth Sunday After Trinity**  
See above for changes in the services at Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne.
- 12th Interchurch Group meets at the Methodist Church, 8pm. This will be the first meeting with the new Methodist Minister so a good attendance will ensure a good welcome. Would that many more people came along for this valuable get together of the various denominations.
- 13th *Edward the Confessor, 1066*
- 15th *St. Theresa of Avila, Mystic, 1582*
- 17th **Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity**
- 18th **St. Luke The Evangelist**
- 20th Discussion Group at 20 Conyngham Lane, 7.45pm.
- 24th **Twentieth Sunday After Trinity.**
- 28th **St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles**
- 30th Dog Show at Wingham for Bekesbourne Church Funds.
- 31st **Twenty-First Sunday After Trinity**

## Peter Taylor, New Methodist Minister

As readers will be aware the Revd. Ray Bradshaw moved from Bridge Methodist Church in August and we are now happy to welcome his successor, the Revd. Peter Taylor. Peter is already in harness and we wish him every blessing in his work here.

Not everyone will know what an onerous job he has taken on, for Bridge Methodist Church is only a small part of his overall sphere of operation. In addition he serves Barham, Stelling, Old Wives Lees, Shalmsford Street and Hersden, the latter being an ecumenical experiment of several years' standing with the Anglican Parish and the Revd. Peter Gausden, Vicar of Hersden. I believe he also does some work with the Young People's Fellowship at St. Peter's in Canterbury.

I personally look forward to working with Peter as closely as possible where our paths coincide and ask prayers for both of us as we seek to serve those committed to our charge.

Now read what Peter has to say about himself, by way of introduction.

\* \* \*

"I stirred up one from the north and he has come". So wrote Isaiah (41.25), an Old Testament prophet. Could he have been speaking about me, Michael Peter Taylor, a northerner? I am grateful to be able to say something about myself as I come among you as a Methodist minister. I have always been called Peter.

My parents come from the North Yorkshire coastline, and presently live there in Saltburn. However, I was born in Sale, Cheshire and lived there until we moved to Saltburn; 'we' consists of my two sisters, my brother, my parents and myself.

After attending the local Grammar School in Redcar I went to Sheffield University in 1975 to read metallurgy. It was during this time that I began my

training as a lay preacher in the Methodist Church, preaching and completing the exams by the end of 1977. For a variety of reasons I became more disillusioned with the idea of a career in metallurgy and more interested in working full time for the church. And so began the long trek which has ended here in Kent.

While going through the rather lengthy Methodist procedure of candidating for the ministry (interviews, exams, etc.) I worked first in a hospital as a domestic assistant, and later in a British Steel canteen. My training took place at Hartley-Victoria College in Manchester where I was active as Secretary and President of the college student body, and in the football team (left side of midfield) and obtained my second degree, a BD.

To complete this picture, I am single and look after the manse myself (anyone fancy some extra housework?). I like young people of ALL ages. I enjoy all sorts of music, and have been know to sing and act in the past. Looking outside my bedroom window, I suppose that I will take up gardening in the future. As for the future, who knows? I look forward to working in this area with you all. And I hope that what another Old Testament prophet wrote will not come true; "I will remove the northener far from you, and drive him into a parched and desolate land." (Joel 2.20).

*Clearly Peter is less reticent than the prophet Ezekiel, who was told, "Mortal man, look towards the south. Speak against the south," only to plead "Sovereign Lord, don't make me do it!" Mind you, Ezekiel had his reasons: "Everyone is already complaining that I always speak in riddles." (20.45, 49) English northerners are usually renowned for their plain speaking, are they not. Anyway, welcome to these warmer climes, Peter, especially to Bridge and its environs!*

## Joys and Sorrows

The second Sunday Family Communion at St. Peter's, Bridge is fast becoming a major event in the life of the parish; a truly family occasion. The tendency at the end of the service to remain in conversation led my wife to lay on a cup of coffee, and this has been a great boon, so much so that it is now a regular part of the second Sunday morning service. With contributions from members of the congregation we have been able to buy a set of matching cups and saucers for the church and now the coffee is made and served by a rota of willing helpers.

A further contribution to the success of this monthly celebration has been the use of the Lady Chapel altar brought into a free-standing position at the front of the nave, and on a few occasions the inclusion of a hymn at the Offertory. The use of Series 3 with the ASB collects and readings is perhaps the largest contributor towards the liveliness of this Communion Service.

Last month's service was further enhanced by the inclusion within it of the baptism of Jonathan Peter Barley, grandson of John and Irene. On this occasion we sang three hymns and the baptism was administered at a portable font on the top chancel step, in full view of the whole assembly.

September was happily devoid of its sorrows, except for the interment of the ashes of a past resident, Mrs. Matilda Ellen Cole in the grave of her first husband, who died thirty-one years ago.

# What, Christmas already?

Well not exactly; but it's not all that far away, and certainly time to be thinking of the inevitable pre-Christmas functions, e.g. Christmas Markets.

Bekesbourne Church's Christmas Market is on Saturday, 4th December in the Village Hall, and the following Saturday, 11th, Patricxbourne with Bridge Christmas Market will take place in Bridge Village Hall.

Part of this early notice is to be sure you put the dates in your diary right now, and partly to advertise a meeting to prepare for the Bridge Market. The PCC, at its recent meeting, expressed a wish, if possible, to give a new look to proceedings, and perhaps introduce some new blood into the personnel running it. Hastily let me say this is in no way a vote of no-confidence in those who have organised the highly successful markets of the past. The thinking behind it is to bring in more of the newer residents and young families who, via such as the Family Service, are becoming more involved in the life of the church, and who may have some fresh and original ideas.

A meeting has thus been called to make plans for this year's Christmas Market at Bridge and to it we invite all who would like to give a hand on 11th December, whether you have been involved in the past or not. Nothing is cut and dried, so if you are eager to help or bursting with ideas come and join us at the Vicarage on Friday, 15th October at 7.30pm.

# Clergy wives are people, too

By Rosalind Runcie

There is not a typical wife of a doctor, lawyer, or dentist, so why should there be a depressing and unflattering identikit image of a clergy wife? Usually this is of a drab and uninteresting human being, ground into submission by her husband's job, running all the parish groups and generally being a do-gooder. It is high time that someone tried to show that this image is out of date.

Reveal that you are married to a clergyman, when meeting strangers, and you would be surprised at the reaction. People, especially other women, can be astonishingly rude.

Sometimes they are patronizing and tell you that you don't look like a clergy wife. What is the answer to that backhanded compliment? Or they tell you that they don't believe you, or give you pitying looks which are meant to be sympathetic. Sometimes they are quite put out to find that their ideas of this mythical beast, the clergy wife, are no longer applicable.

The days of running round the parish dispensing calves-foot jelly, whatever that is, have gone. I know many clergy wives with responsible jobs who earn as much if not more than their husbands, but who also help in the parish.

Of course there are plenty of wives, not just clergy wives, who want to stay at home and are blissfully happy running it and the family. If this makes them feel fulfilled, then no one should criticize or sneer at them.

But there are also plenty of women who have spent years in specialized training, who want to use whatever talent they have rather than give it all up to be an unpaid second curate. It is these women whom I would like to defend from the mutterings and eye-brow raising of those who feel that one is duty

bound to be at one's husband's side — an extra, but unattached limb, so to speak.

This can and does cause resentment to some of us. After all, no surgeon's wife unless she happens to be a surgeon too, is expected to take over her husband's operations. I should not be happy for my solicitor's wife to draw up legal transactions for me, so why should a clergyman's wife, without any theological training, be expected to answer deep theological questions on ecumenism and so on?

It is not that we are disinterested in these subjects, but that we are better qualified to talk about our own interests.

Fortunately I have a very understanding husband who knows that I would shrivel up and become morose if I could not teach and play the piano. As a result I have raised a large sum of money for a variety of charities, not always connected with the Church.

I know clergy wives who are teachers, nurses, doctors, dressmakers, shop assistants, journalists and sculptors.

I am not asking clergy wives of the world to unite and rebel. They have minds of their own and should be allowed to use them without any emotional or social pressure. But I am asking that people allow us to be ourselves and not expect us to be cardboard cut-outs of the standard model clergy wife, which is so firmly implanted in most people's minds.

*The author is the wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury.*

*Times Newspapers Limited, 7/8/1982*



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from:—*

Lynn Shaw, 'Aurum Parva' or  
Jill Gillanders 'Cala' in The  
Aerodrome, Bekesbourne;  
Ruth Dawson, 'Soldanella',  
Bekesbourne Hill — or Ron  
and Peggy Beckett, 2 Riverside  
Cottages, Bekesbourne.

*Proceeds to local charity.*

## Theft from St. Mary's, Patrixbourne

On the night of 23rd/24th August thieves broke into Patrixbourne Church via the north door and stole the pair of carved wooden armchairs which stood on either side of the sanctuary.

Happily we can report that both chairs and thieves are now in police custody, the chairs subsequently to be returned to where they rightfully



belong. In these days when this country's excellent police force seem to be able to do nothing right, at least in the eyes of certain people, it is a real pleasure to be able to thank them for their speedy and successful action.

## Bits and Pieces

Two successful **Coffee Mornings** are reported, the first being that held annually by Bridge Methodists. £170 was raised and split between the Methodist Church's funds and the Pilgrim's Hospice. Pat Grant wishes thanks to be expressed particularly to members of the WI and the Wednesday Club for the help and assistance they gave.

The second coffee morning was that held by Mrs. Jane Millyard at School House, Bekesbourne. On this occasion £64 was produced for the funds of St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne and thanks go from the church to Jane and from Jane to all who supported the event.

"Back in the summer," writes Ruth Dawson, "a concert took place in Bridge Church. The collection on this occasion was in aid of **Polish Relief**, the £36.62 collected being for medical supplies, which will be taken on the next trip to Poland. I would like to thank all who so kindly donated to this worthwhile cause".

The next meeting of **Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute** is on 19th October, and will comprise an illustrated talk by Mr. Alan Moat on the Langdon Bay Archaeological Project.

**Nailbourne Horticultural Society** is running an outing to Leonardslee Gardens, West Sussex on Saturday, 16th October. The cost is £4.25 (admission included) and the coach leaves Bishopsbourne and Hawkins newsagents at 10 o'clock, returning about 6pm. Anyone interested in joining please hand your name to any of the following: Mrs. Apps, Mrs. Davidson, Mrs. M. Jones, Mrs. L. Sinnock, Mrs. J. Anderson or Mr. and Mrs. Barley.

Advance notice is given of the **Senior Citizens' Club Autumn Bazaar** for the Amenity Fund, in Bridge Village Hall on 2nd November at 2pm. Contributions are invited and can be received on Tuesday afternoons at the hall, when visitors and prospective members are most welcome.

The following is contributed on behalf of **Bekesbourne Youth Club**:

Bekesbourne Village Hall Management Committee have asked the Youth Club Leader, Mr. Ray Fisher, to postpone the September re-opening of the Youth Club, as they feel too much damage was caused to the Village Hall during the previous session. The Youth Club has previously met each Wednesday evening from September to May, and has tried to offer opportunities of recreation to boys and girls from the age of 11 years upwards. Mr. Fisher feels that more supervision would maybe encourage the committee to re-consider and would welcome any offers of assistance, as he has been solely responsible for the club to date. Anyone who wishes to comment on the Youth Club or offer help, is welcome to do so, before 30th September if possible, to 18 Bifrons Road.

During the recent tidy-up of Bridge Churchyard, a yale key with a green plastic label bearing the number "65" was found in the grass on the left hand side about half way along the path of the new part. Its owner can recover it from the Vicarage.

## Bridge Churchyard

The various 'blitzes' by working parties over the last two years have vastly improved the churchyard at Bridge. However, at the last one, in August (very poorly attended, alas, probably due to holidays, etc.) it was strikingly apparent that the summer growth of weeds and grasses in the new portion, creates a wilderness which can only be controlled by regular tidying, and which must be sadly discouraging for the few who still tend family graves.

Most of this area, unlike the old part, is not amenable to mechanical cutting, and the question arises "What can we do about it?" The answer could be some kind of 'Adopt a Grave, or Graves' scheme.

If a sufficient number of helpers would undertake to keep a small area tidy throughout the year (which in essence means perhaps an hour's work every couple of weeks in the summer months) the problem is solved. The heavier work would, of course, still be tackled by occasional working parties.

Would you be willing to take part in such a scheme? If so please indicate your willingness to the Vicar or to me (Tel: 830489) and, if the response is what we hope it will be, we can organise the work on an ongoing basis, and effect a permanent transformation of the new churchyard.

*Alan Jackson*

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

The Parish Council resumed its meetings on 9th September after the August recess, though finding a number of its pre-holiday problems still unresolved.

#### **Village Hall**

The council's solicitors expect to be able to finalise the purchase of the Hall within the next week or two. Planning permission for the proposed improvements has been granted, and an application for grant aid for the project has been submitted to the City Council. The Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, will be writing to all village residents when purchase has been completed setting out the Council's proposals, for if any financial aid is to be given by the City and County Councils they will require first that a substantial sum is raised locally.

In the meantime, the Hall has to be maintained, and to meet the requirements of the Fire Department that the Hall should be safe for a new playgroup, Cllr. Ken Greenaway has carried out a considerable amount of

work, at no cost to the Hall funds, to the heaters and exit doors.

### **Recreation Ground**

The fencing by the children's play area has now been replaced. Unfortunately, the clearance of the weeds here has revealed to the local vandals the location of the stop tap to the water supply, and on a number of occasions they have turned the water on, flooding the corner of the adjoining field. The Council decided to solve the problem by cutting off the supply at this point. The Council also agreed to a request by the Tennis Club to plant a screen of trees on the Patricbourne side of the courts.

### **Generally**

Although the Kent County Council supported the Council's representations regarding the Bekesbourne Road/Town Hill junction referred to last month, the Ministry of Transport was unwilling to change its attitude in view of the absence of accidents at the junction; a quotation for the repair of the Coronation seat by the Nailbourne was accepted; Cllr. Tim Hoare is to make further enquiries with a view to the replacement of the Bridge Hill/Bridge Down stairway with a less hazardous structure; Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young reported that she had conducted the judges of the 'Trees in Your Village' competition around, and was awaiting their decision, though she was able to give the Council some of their comments; and further pressure is to be put on the County Council, who have still not solved the problem of nuisance from the incinerator at The New Close.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday, 14th October at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, and will be open, as usual, to any interested member of the public.

## **BEKESBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Lottery Fund**

At its meeting on 14th September the council was pleased to hear that the Sports Club had received money from the Lottery Fund to mend the gang mowers for mowing the recreation ground. Money will also be needed from the fund to pay for the swings' repairs and repairs of the seats which are now in hand. The possibility of aiming at building a tennis court on the recreation ground was to be looked into.

### **Bus Service**

The council was also pleased to note that there would be no cuts in the bus service in Bekesbourne.

### **Parish Review**

At a special meeting of the council the proposals for the new Parish Boundaries had been considered. Three observations had been sent to the City Council: a) that in the new parish of Bekesbourne and Patricbourne at least six councillors should represent Bekesbourne, to allow for the continuation of the policy of making sure each area of the village was represented; b) the Zoo Car Park and 'Rufflans' be added with the rest of Howletts Zoo Park into Bekesbourne Parish; c) Cowhouse Cottages should be transferred to Bekesbourne Parish.

### **Downside Villas: Spare Land**

It was agreed that some time and money should be spent on clearing up and cutting this site.

### **Station**

The council decided to keep pressing British Rail to do something about the state of the station, as they had said they hoped to do.

### **Recreation Ground**

The roundabout has been temporarily repaired and the council agreed more permanent repairs should be put into effect as soon as the manufacturers had been contacted. The Sports Club's possible application for a club bar in their pavilion would be a good idea, agreed council members.

### **Bramling Limeworks**

The council decided to write objecting to the application to extend the categories of tipping at Bramling Limeworks on the grounds of increased traffic. Too many lorries were already using unsuitable roads, it was agreed.

### **Zoo**

Plans for the extension to the Gorilla enclosure had been approved by the City Council, taking into account some of the Parish's observations.

### **Trees**

The judge for the Trees in Your Village competition had looked round Bokesbourne and seemed pleased with what he saw, it was reported.

The next meeting is on Tuesday, 23rd November.

## **'Fish' News**



Our neighbourhood care scheme has now been running for two years. Our AGM will be held in November, when I will be reporting on our year's work and we will discuss future plans. We are planning to set up a committee to help run the scheme and each parish council has been asked to appoint a representative. Additional members will be elected at the meeting.

The Luncheon Club has started again after the summer break. We need a few more people on our rota of helpers. Now that the long school holidays are over, perhaps there are a few more people available. If you can help please contact Mrs. Joy Monk (*Bridge 830057*)

The Volunteer Bureau is holding its Christmas Shopping Evening on Wednesday, 24th November. Several of the large stores have a special evening session for handicapped and elderly people, and transport, wheelchairs and escorts can be arranged. Application for tickets must be in by 20th October. Please let me know as soon as possible if you wish to be included on our list (*830233*)

*Joan Warren*

### **ST. PETER'S, BRIDGE—CLEANING ROTA FOR OCTOBER**

7th October: Mrs. P. Spencer and Mrs. M. Field  
14th October: Mrs. J. Mummery and Mrs. H. Pike  
21st October: Mrs. B. Wood and Mrs. S. Legge

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. D. Mathew, 27 Rivercourt, Chartham CT4 7JN (Gt. Stour 548)  
**Organist (Patricbourne):** Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriority, 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, Patricbourne and Bekesbourne.

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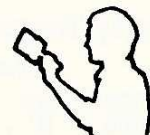
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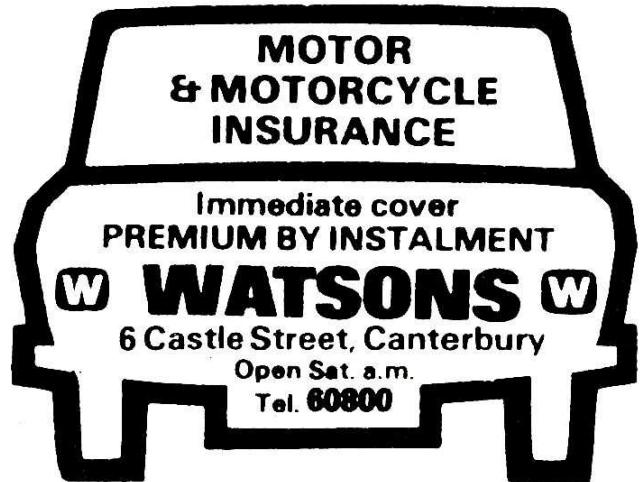
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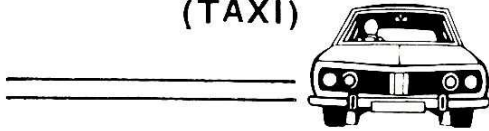
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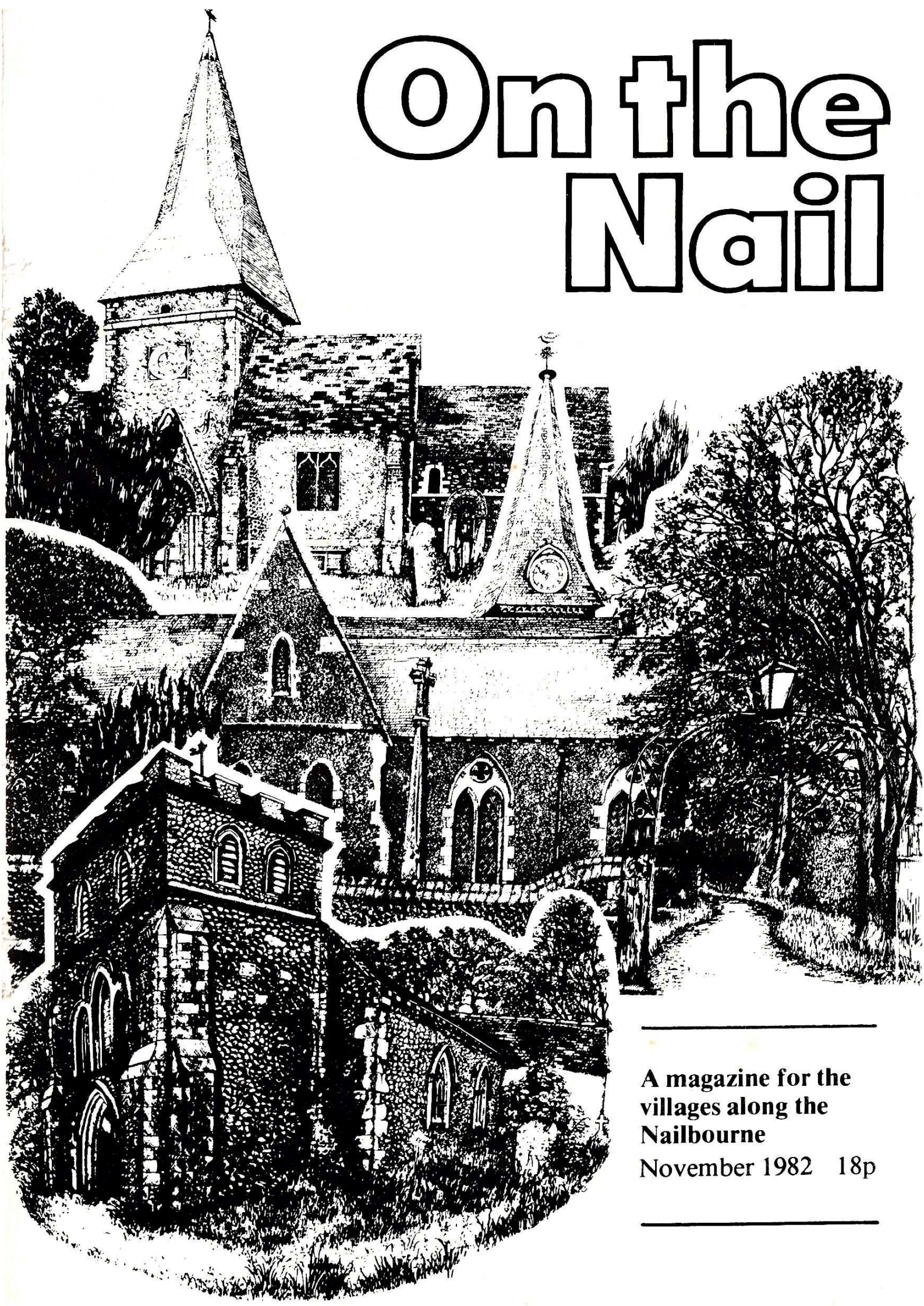
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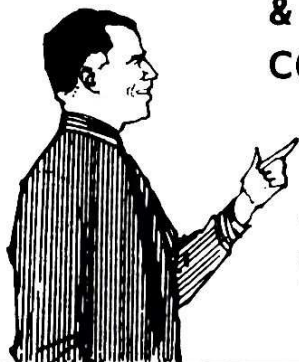
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# Sunday Worship in November

Beginning this month and continuing throughout the winter, Evensong will be at the new time of 4pm.

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
<b>7th:</b> 11am Family Service 4pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30am Parish Communion
<b>14th:</b> 9.30am Family Communion ( <i>Series 3</i> ) 4pm Evensong	11.15am ' <i>Service of Remembrance</i> '	8am Holy Communion
<b>21st:</b> 9.30am Parish Communion 4pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am Matins
<b>28th:</b> 8am Holy Communion 4pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion	11am Matins & Holy Communion
<b>5th December:</b> 11am Family Service 4pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30am Parish Communion

*On Remembrance Sunday, 14th, the re-formed Bridge & District Branch of the Royal British Legion will parade at a short Act of Remembrance at Bridge's Village War Memorial in the Churchyard. We assemble shortly before 11 o'clock in order to keep the traditional Silence. The parade will then attend a Service of Remembrance in St. Mary's Church, Patricxbourne at 11.15am. This replaces Matins.*

**Bridge Methodist Church** at 11am: *7th:* Dr. John Rogers. *14th:* The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *21st:* Mr. D. W. Dunn. *28th:* Miss J. Charlesworth.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated each Wednesday at 9.30am and on Fridays (*Series 3*) at 7.30pm in St. Peter's, Bridge, and in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of the month at 10.15am.

A short informal service for the residents of The New Close takes place every Wednesday at 2.30pm in the Main Hall. Visitors are most welcome to attend.

## For your diary and prayer list

- 1st **All Saints' Day**
- 2nd *Commemoration of All Souls*
- 5th School PTA Bonfire Party, Church Meadow, 6.45pm.
- 6th Pray for Tina Epps and Grahame Patterson who are to be married today.
- 7th **Twenty-Second Sunday After Trinity**
- 11th *Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397*  
Pray for our neighbours in Christ at St. Martin's, Canterbury on their Patronal Festival.

- 12th Church of England Children's Society Christmas Sale in The Deanery from 10am to 12 noon.
- 14th **Twenty-Third Sunday After Trinity**, also *Remembrance Sunday*.  
See above for this year's special arrangements at Bridge and Patrixbourne.
- 17th *Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680*  
Discussion Group at 20 Conynham Lane, 7.45pm
- 20th Coffee Morning and Christmas Fayre at The New Close, 10 till 12
- 21st **Sunday Next Before Advent**
- 23rd Coffee Morning for Patrixbourne Dog Show, Ardpriority, 10-12 noon.
- 24th Bridge School Governors' Meeting
- 27th Dog Show at Wingham Village Hall for St. Mary's Church, Patrixbourne.  
Study Day on 'Shared Ministry' to be attended by the Vicar and four members of our congregations.  
Bridge Group of The League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals Christmas Market, Village Hall, Bridge, 2pm.
- 28th **First Sunday in Advent**
- 30th **St. Andrew the Apostle**  
7.30pm Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion in St. Peter's, Bridge.

"Confirmation", says The Revised Catechism, "is the ministry by which, through prayer with the laying on of hands by the Bishop, the Holy Spirit is received to complete what he began in Baptism, and to give strength for the Christian life." And that, in a nut shell, is what will happen in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on the evening of St. Andrew's Day, 30th November, to some 8 adults and 4 children.

For the majority of people in this country whose connection with organised religion is extremely loose, they got as far as Baptism (not, usually, from free choice) and that is where it ended. That they got no further is doubtless because their parents got no further, believing that so long as a baby is christened (common parlance would say 'was done') honour is satisfied.

But Baptism is only the beginning of a process that is more akin to going to primary school than to signing on at the doctor's. Baptism is where you start on the Christian way of life, but for most people it is also where they end, and that is a great pity. 'If a job's worth doing, it's worth doing well!' Would that more who ask for their children to be christened appreciated that that dictum applies to initiation into the Church as well, and took steps to point their youngsters in the direction of church attendance (bringing them, not sending them) and, in due time, Confirmation.

Those who present themselves for Confirmation are letting themselves in for a period of real testing and heart-searching, when they not only come to grips with the teaching of the Church, but also, if they decide to go ahead, find themselves standing up for what they believe before the Church community and — it is bound to happen — before the non-churched world outside. At the same time, however, they are opening their lives to the influence of the Holy Spirit and that means direct help from God in living a Christian life and, hopefully, the joy and excitement of belonging to the people of God as members of a close-knit community in which love is the

over-riding quality that holds them together. Where they do not experience this the particular church to which they are attached stands bitterly condemned, for it is not living up to its name.

Of the twelve who will receive the ministry of Confirmation at the end of the month all but three are from our parishes, so the service will be very much a local affair. One of the candidates was not baptised in infancy and she will receive Baptism at the hands of the Bishop of Dover before Confirmation. But all the candidates have a right to demand the support of the congregation to which they will belong and the very structure of the service, which is set within the context of the Holy Communion, requires that the sacrament is administered before the people of God. We must be there to welcome our new members and to set them off on the right foot by sharing with them in the Communion of the Body and Blood of Christ, that strengthening food without which we cannot hope to fulfil our Christian calling. It is the Christian family feast, the characteristically Christian function, given by Christ himself and intended to be used and enjoyed. Let's see that it is!

St. Andrew's Day will be a great day for us all and certainly for those upon whose head the Bishop will lay his hands. Members of the Church communities in Bekesbourne, Patixbourne and Bridge please be there to support them with your prayers and the warmth of your reception. The service starts at 7.30pm and there will be a reception afterwards in Bridge Village Hall for everybody. And, in the meantime, pray for those to be confirmed: Julia Simnett, Catherine Hodgson, Jacqueline Creed, Avril Austin and Patricia Winwood; Sarah Millyard, Richard Creed, Nicholas Dawson and Tessa Williamson.

## And afterwards . . .

Members of the adult Confirmation Group have expressed a wish to continue meeting periodically and a number of members of the congregation have asked for some form of refresher course, so, in order to cater for both, a monthly discussion group will be formed in the new year, when we shall hope to study a book concerned with the life of a Christian in the world today. Watch this space for the date of the first meeting, together with details of the book to be read.

## Joys and Sorrows

Saturday, 9th October witnessed the wedding in Bridge Church of **Jeannie Frame**, 3 Dering Road to **Nigel Watson**, and we wish them every blessing in their future together.

It is thankfully rare that we have to record the passing of two residents who lived directly opposite one another. The first was **Mr. Edgar (Mel) Mallinder** whose cremation took place at Barham on 30th September. Friends remarked that Mr. Mallinder never really got acclimatised to life after the sudden death of his wife in 1979. We extend our sympathy to his son David, who lived with him at 20 Union Road.

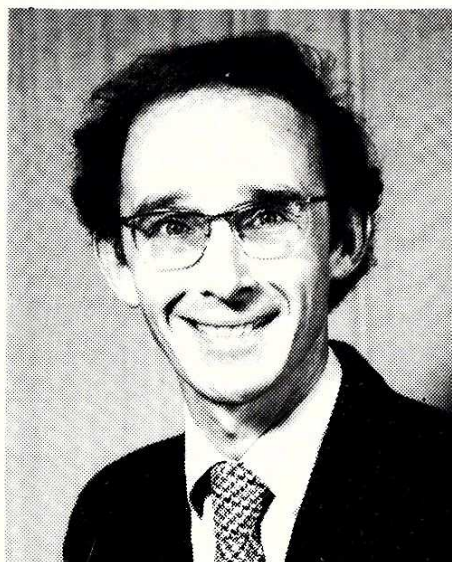
With the death of **Mrs. Nora Mockett**, 15 Union Road, Bridge has lost one of its best-loved characters. A familiar figure in the High Street Mrs. Mockett was a great supporter of village events and her cheerful presence will be much missed by all who knew and loved her. She is particularly mourned by her

dear husband and close companion, to who we express our sorrow at his great loss.

## The New Head

By now it is widely known that Bridge Primary School's next Headteacher will be Mr. Brian Farley, and *On The Nail* welcomes him to his new post, which he takes up in January.

Mr. Farley comes to us from Abbey Primary School, Bexley, where he is currently the Deputy Headteacher. He is a family man with two children, all of whom are looking forward to living in this area after their move from Dartford where they live at present. Our new head is also a committed churchman, being actively involved in the work of his local Baptist Church, and is very keen to continue the excellent link between church and school that his predecessors forged.



## Around the Villages

The success of the many fund-raising enterprises that take place in our locality never ceases to amaze me. The excellent results of some of them are here recorded in letters of thanks, the first from Miss F.V.B. Mason:

“The children of Bridge School collected £20 for the **Church of England Children's Society** as part of their Harvest Thanksgiving, which, with the £40.10 from the sale of produce realised £60.10, for which the Society is very grateful. The next event is the Christmas Gift Sale in The Deanery, Canterbury on 12th November, for which I shall be glad to receive contributions of sweets.”

From Michael C. Shaw:

“Thank you to all those who supported the Bokesbourne Harvest Home Feast. It was a very enjoyable evening, with plenty of food and entertainment from singers, dancers, dramatists and the John Purchase sound archives. As a result of your generosity a profit of £95.63 was made. This has been given to the Association for the Independence of the Disabled (Canterbury), the Church and the Sports and Social Club.”

As a delighted participant in this event I would like to add the thanks of all the patrons to Lynn Shaw and her very hard-working band of helpers for a great evening. A lot of prior planning went into it and we are most grateful for all they did. And let's not forget those who muscled in on the washing-up after the meal.

A coffee morning to raise funds for **Bokesbourne's Dog Show** was planned too late for *On The Nail*, but Mr. and Mrs. Broadwater, in whose home the coffee morning took place, have written to thank those who supported and helped them to raise the sum of £41.06

Thanks are also extended by the Canterbury Group of **Kent Trust for Nature Conservation** for the £51 raised at their September Barn Dance. This is to provide stock gates for Sandwich Bay Reserve. Mrs. Whittaker reports also a successful Cheese and Wine Evening that was enjoyed by 120 people and draws readers' attention to the Annual Christmas Sales Stall and Coffee Morning at 9 High Street, Bridge on Saturday 6th November, Sunday 7th, Saturday 27th November and Sunday 28th, to which everyone is welcome.

The *new* **Bridge Village Pre-School Playgroup** run by Mrs. Webb for 3 to 5 year olds is now underway and flourishing. Sixteen children now attend two mornings a week (Tuesdays and Thursdays) in the Village Hall. An enthusiastic group of Mums help Mrs. Webb at every session and are busily arranging fund-raising activities for urgently needed equipment, but they would, however, still be delighted to receive any outgrown toys, books, games and puzzles so if you can help please ring Sylvia Horgan (Chairman) 830672 or Carole Reece (Secretary) 831138.

The Secretary of the **School PTA** writes about their Bonfire Party:

"The event will as usual be in Church Meadow, Brewery Lane on 5th November. Tickets will be the same as last year namely £1 for adults and 50p for children. Hot soup, hot dogs, crisps etc. will be on sale throughout the event. The lighting of the bonfire will be at 6.45pm and the firework display will commence at approximately 7.15pm. During the afternoon there will be a judging of the Guy competition and as it is half-term this will not be in school but at the field at 3pm. Anyone wishing to take part in the Guy competition should bring their guy along at that time."

Notice has been received of four more social functions that deserve support. Two of them take place on the same day, i.e. 20th November. In the morning from 10 till 12 **The Friends of The Close** are holding a Coffee Morning at The New Close in Conyngham Lane, at which there will also be a Bring & Buy, Christmas Gifts and Cards, wrapping paper and decorations, a cake stall, raffles and tombola. Then at 2 o'clock the **1st Bekesbourne Brownies** have a Christmas Fayre in Bekesbourne Village Hall. On 23rd November there will be a Coffee Morning at the home of Mrs. Allan, Ardpriority, Bekesbourne Lane from 10am till 12 noon to raise funds for **Patricxbourne Dog Show** at Wingham Village Hall on 27th. Lastly, **Bridge Folk Dance Group** invite villagers to their regular meetings in the Village Hall on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 8pm, and particularly to the Christmas Evening on 16th December. If you want further details either turn up or telephone 830285.

And finally, Bridge Group of **The League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals** are holding their Christmas Market on Saturday, 27th November at the Village Hall, starting at 2pm. Do come and have a cuppa! Also, on December 2nd they are holding their Annual Whist Drive at Bekesbourne Village Hall. Play commences at 7.30pm. Transport can be arranged from the Red Lion corner, Bridge; please contact Mrs. Apps, 34 High Street, Bridge (830371).

## The Family Service in December

The Christingle Service that was so much enjoyed last December at the Family Service is this year being held over until 2nd January. Instead, on 5th December at 11am the Family Service will be a Christmas Gift Service, which



needs some explanation and preparation.

The giving of gifts is a sign of the love between the giver and the receiver, and at Christmas this takes on an added significance because we celebrate God's most loving gift to us of his only Son Jesus Christ. We would like the gifts at our Family Service to be from one family to a resident of The New Close which would also be given with love.

What we would like you to do — as a family — is buy a small gift for one of the residents of The New Close, gift wrap it in Christmassy paper and attach an easily removable label saying what is inside. This last is so that the staff can see that your gift gets to the most suitable person. You may also wish to put your own 'To ... From ...' label on, in which case we suggest you put your name on and leave the other blank for the staff to add later when they have divided all the parcels up. Then bring your gift to the Family Service on 5th December, when one member of your family (or two if it saves a squabble) will be asked to present it to Mrs. Holway, the Matron, in the course of the service. The gifts will, of course, be kept till Christmas Day.

For your guidance there are up to 40 residents at The New Close, of whom 34 are ladies and 6 men, and it is suggested that you choose your gift from the following list which Matron has provided: sweets (soft preferably), chocolate, pop-socks, stretch stockings (not tights, please) hankies or tissues, talc, toiletries, small ornaments.

We would like very much to be able to ensure that every resident has a gift of his or her own to open on Christmas Day. It does not have to be expensive; the main thing being that each person shall have a small token of love from a local family on the great Christian festival of love. We do hope you will want to take part in this service and hope to see you all on 5th December, if not before.

## Shared Ministry      Who shares what with whom?

*The following article, from the Diocesan News Service, paves the way for a future form of ministry that is not likely to pass us by. The outcome of the Study Day on 27th November will be made known to the PCCs in the first instance. Where we go from there God will no doubt tell us if and when we ask him.*

“The priest now has the exciting task of helping people to discover their gifts and then encouraging and enabling them to use them.” That is the result of shared ministry as one vicar in the diocese experiences it.

This month brings the second round of workdays for parishes to explore the subject which has become a vital one for the future of our Church, and will test laity and priesthood to the full.

One town vicar tells how ‘Vicarcentric’ ministry (where everything depended on him) placed such heavy demands on him that “it became impossible to minister at depth over an adequate length of time to any individual”. “Sharing the ministry with others — to the housebound, baptism and marriage preparation etc. — ensures people are getting the care they need.”

“It does not make me less busy because I become involved in the training and support of the ministers and until they are operational, I am doing two jobs ...”

The difficulty for laity is that they have become used to leaving it to the Vicar. Indeed often they “would not presume” to “minister”, and do not see it as part of their faith. It is only when they lose their incumbent that they realise that they too are called to serve the spiritual needs of their neighbours.

Shared ministry, then, is more than just helping the vicar with church chores. Lay people are being called to ‘minister’ themselves so that, as a lay contributor puts it, “every aspect of our lives in the parish demonstrates that we are the Body of Christ”.

A tall order indeed! And it brings us to the other question — how do you see it working in a rural or a town environment?

To take the country parish first, a parishioner writes:

“First, by assessing honestly our gifts, and acknowledging our weaknesses, praying for the guidance of the Holy Spirit to make best use of what is available. Second, by planning our needs in each scattered hamlet or small village, and with God’s help choosing the right people to sustain the body of Christ in each area, supported by the authority conferred by all its members, including the clergy.”

And in town, one vicar states:

“The many requests in our town for funerals, baptisms and weddings were transformed by shared ministry from being something of a chore for the vicar to becoming an opportunity on the part of the whole Church for evangelism.”

## Church Christmas Markets

Don’t forget to book 4th December for Bekesbourne Church’s Christmas Market in the Village Hall at 2.15pm. Items for the stalls are eagerly sought and John Purchase (830937) will be only too keen to hear from anyone who can help in this capacity.

Bridge and Patricbourne Church’s Christmas Market is on 11th December at 2 o’clock and for this event also we will be glad to receive contributions for the stalls, including homemade cakes, items of stationery, groceries, bottles (full, of course) and many others. There will also be a stamp stall for the philatelic connoisseur (how about that!) and John Barley would like to hear of anyone who is interested in stamp collecting and knows a good stamp when he sees one, to man the stall. Even if you are not able to help, make a note of the date and come and see us sometime in the afternoon.

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### **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council met on 14th October and found, not for the first time, that matters which it has expected to have resolved were still outstanding.

## **Village Hall**

The most important of these concerned the purchase of the Village Hall, which they had expected to have been completed shortly after the September meeting. Purchase should, however, be finalised shortly, after which the Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, will write to all village residents, as we mentioned in last month's notes. In the meantime, Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin has sought tenders from a number of contractors for the planned improvements.

Cllrs. Mrs. Anne Young and Ken Greenaway have spent a complete day clearing out the store at the Hall and restocking, a not particularly pleasant job for which the council was grateful.

## **Recreation Ground**

It was reported that the trees planted by the Tennis Club as a screen for the courts have already been the subject of attention by local youths, although the damage — so far — has not been serious. Concern was expressed about damage to the waste bin at the play area, where vandals have scattered rubbish around. Cllr. Gulvin undertook to examine the alternative types of bin available for replacement.

The Cricket Club had drawn attention to the recent increase in activity by moles, and it was agreed that the service of the mole-catcher might again be sought. The Cricket Club has agreed to make a contribution towards the cost of the work.

## **'Best Kept Village' Competition**

The village had not, as members already knew from press reports, gained any awards this year, although the judge's report contained no serious criticism. Certificates of commendation have not, however, yet been awarded, and we hope that Bridge may be felt, with the help of its volunteer road-sweeper, to have achieved this standard.

## **Generally**

Discussion and correspondence with the County Council concerning the nuisance caused by 'The New Close' incinerator is still proceeding, so far without any benefit to the neighbouring householders; members expressed themselves pleased with the repairs to the Coronation seat made by John Knight & Sons; the Council mandated Cllr. Mrs. Olive Knight, their delegate to the Annual General Meeting of the Kent Association of Parish Councils, concerning the resolutions to come before that meeting; and the Chairman, Cllr. Hill, agreed to accept an invitation from Mr. W. McKeever on behalf of Messrs. S. W. Mount & Sons to see the results of ten years' marking to preserve hedgerow saplings.

The Council's next meeting will be on Thursday 11th November, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, and the public will, as always be welcome to their deliberations.

## **'Fish' news**

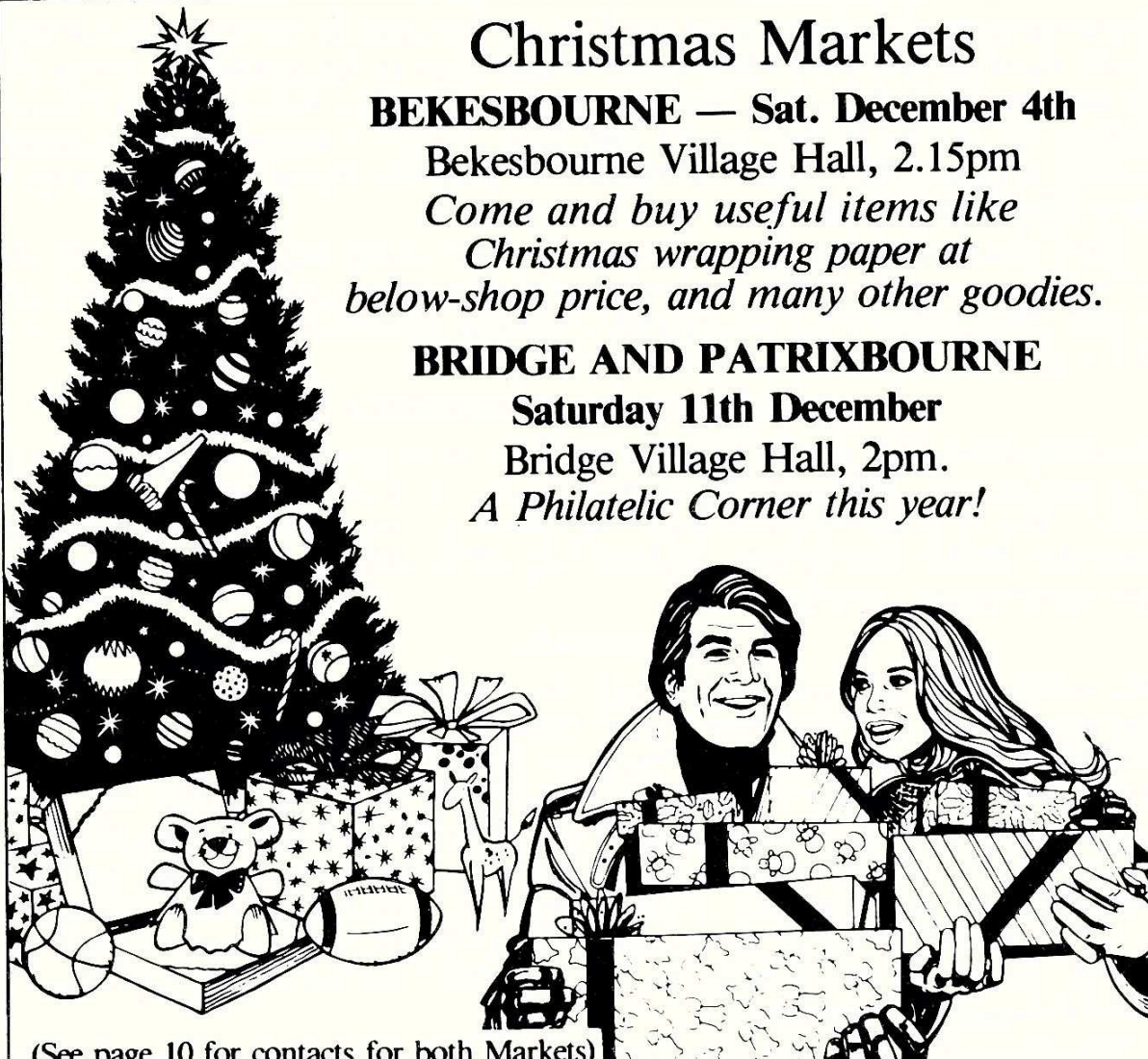


Our AGM will be held at 7.45pm on Thursday 18th November in the Village Hall. This will be an open meeting to enable residents of the four villages to discuss the neighbourhood care scheme and make plans for the future. We

want to hear your views and suggestions. Are you satisfied with the scheme? How can we improve it? What other services do you think we need? Please come and support us!

The Luncheon Club held its second birthday party on 11th October. The catering staff of The New Close provided a delicious celebration meal. This was followed by a much-appreciated musical entertainment by the children of Bridge School, with additional contributions from Mike Windess, Tony Luckhurst and our treasurer Bill Johnson. Members have asked me to send their thanks to all the people who worked so hard to make this such a happy and enjoyable occasion.

Joan Warren



## Christmas Markets

**BEKESBOURNE — Sat. December 4th**  
 Bekesbourne Village Hall, 2.15pm  
*Come and buy useful items like  
 Christmas wrapping paper at  
 below-shop price, and many other goodies.*

**BRIDGE AND PATRIBOURNE**  
**Saturday 11th December**  
 Bridge Village Hall, 2pm.  
*A Philatelic Corner this year!*

(See page 10 for contacts for both Markets)

## St. Peter's, Bekesbourne - rotas

<i>Cleaning</i>		<i>Flowers</i>
Mrs. Smith .....	November 7th .....	Mrs. Whigham
Mrs. Stickells .....	November 14th .....	Mrs. Wraight
Mrs. Hogben .....	November 21st .....	Mrs. Wraight
Mrs. Watson .....	November 28th .....	<i>No flowers</i>
Mrs. Russell .....	December 5th .....	<i>No flowers</i>

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. D. Mathew, 27 Rivercourt, Chartham CT4 7JN (Gt. Stour 548)  
**Organist (Patricbourne):** Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriority, 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, Patricbourne and Bekesbourne.

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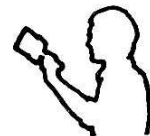
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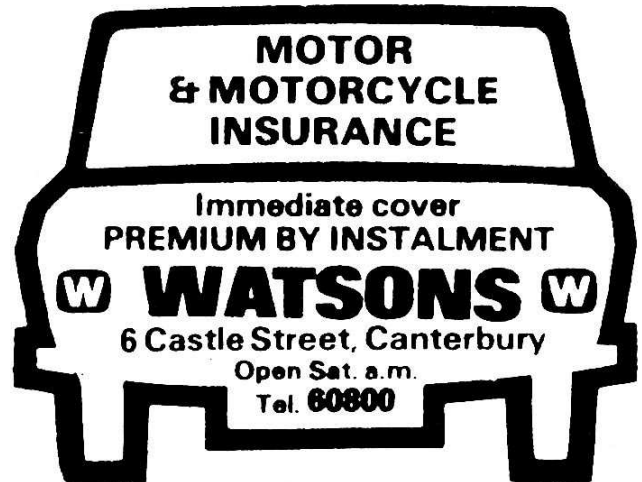
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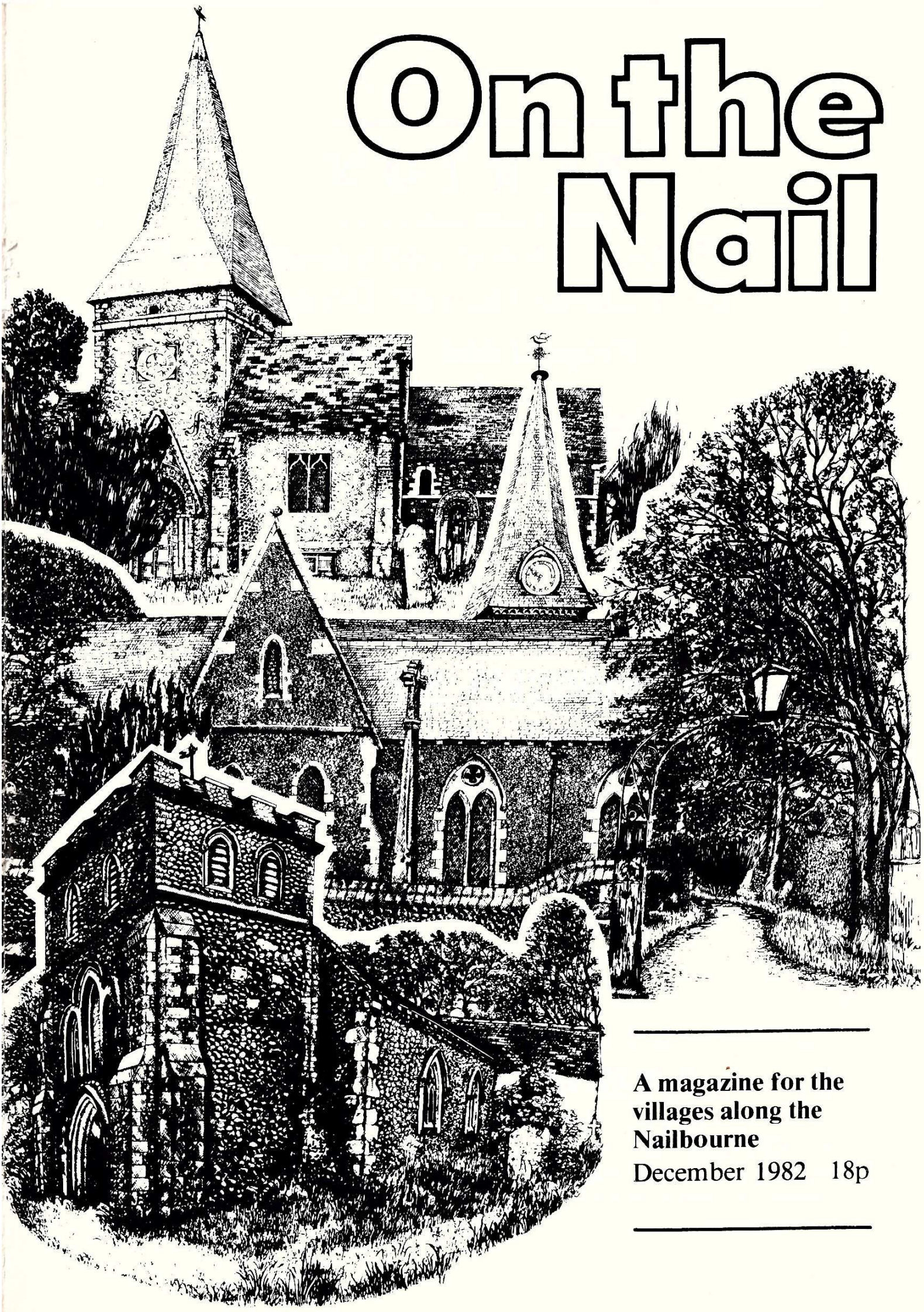
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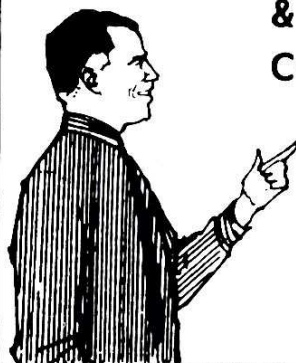
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# Sunday Worship in December

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

**5th:**

11am Family Gift Service

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

4pm Evensong

**12th:**

9.30 Family Communion 11am Matins  
(Series 3)

8am Holy Communion

4pm Evensong

**19th:**

9.30 Family Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am Matins  
(Series 3)

4pm *Carol Service*

**26th:**

9.30 Holy Communion No Service  
(Series 3)

No Service

No Evensong

*Please note the change of services on 26th, which are made because it is the day after Christmas Day.*

**Bridge Methodist Church** at 11am: *5th:* Mr. J. Whalan. *12th:* The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *19th:* The Revd. Evelyn Henson, B.A. *26th:* The Revd. Wilfrid J. Hill, M.C., B.Sc.

**Holy Communion** is administered in St. Peter's, Bridge every Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (Series 3) at 7.30am, the exceptions this month being Friday, 24th, Wednesday, 29th and Friday, 31st, when there will not be a service. The monthly celebration for Churchill House is on Wednesday, 1st at 10.15am in the Common Room.

The weekly service for the residents of The New Close is on Wednesdays at 2.30pm, but there will not be a service on 29th.

## For your diary and prayer list

4th Bekesbourne Christmas Market, Bekesbourne Village Hall from 2.15pm.

5th **Second Sunday in Advent**

Don't forget the Family Gift Service at Bridge, at which gifts will be brought for residents of The New Close. There will also be slides of Bethlehem, presented by Dr. John Butler.

7th Pray for the clergy of the East Bridge Deanery who meet in chapter this morning.

11th Bridge & Patricxbourne Church Christmas Market, Bridge Village Hall from 2pm.

12th **Third Sunday in Advent**

17th Patricxbourne Church Carol Service at 7pm.

19th **Fourth Sunday in Advent**

Bridge Church Carol Service at 4pm.

24th **Christmas Eve**

First Communion of Christmas at Bridge and Bekesbourne commencing at 11.30pm.

25th **CHRISTMAS DAY** (*See below for details*)

26th **St. Stephen the First Martyr**

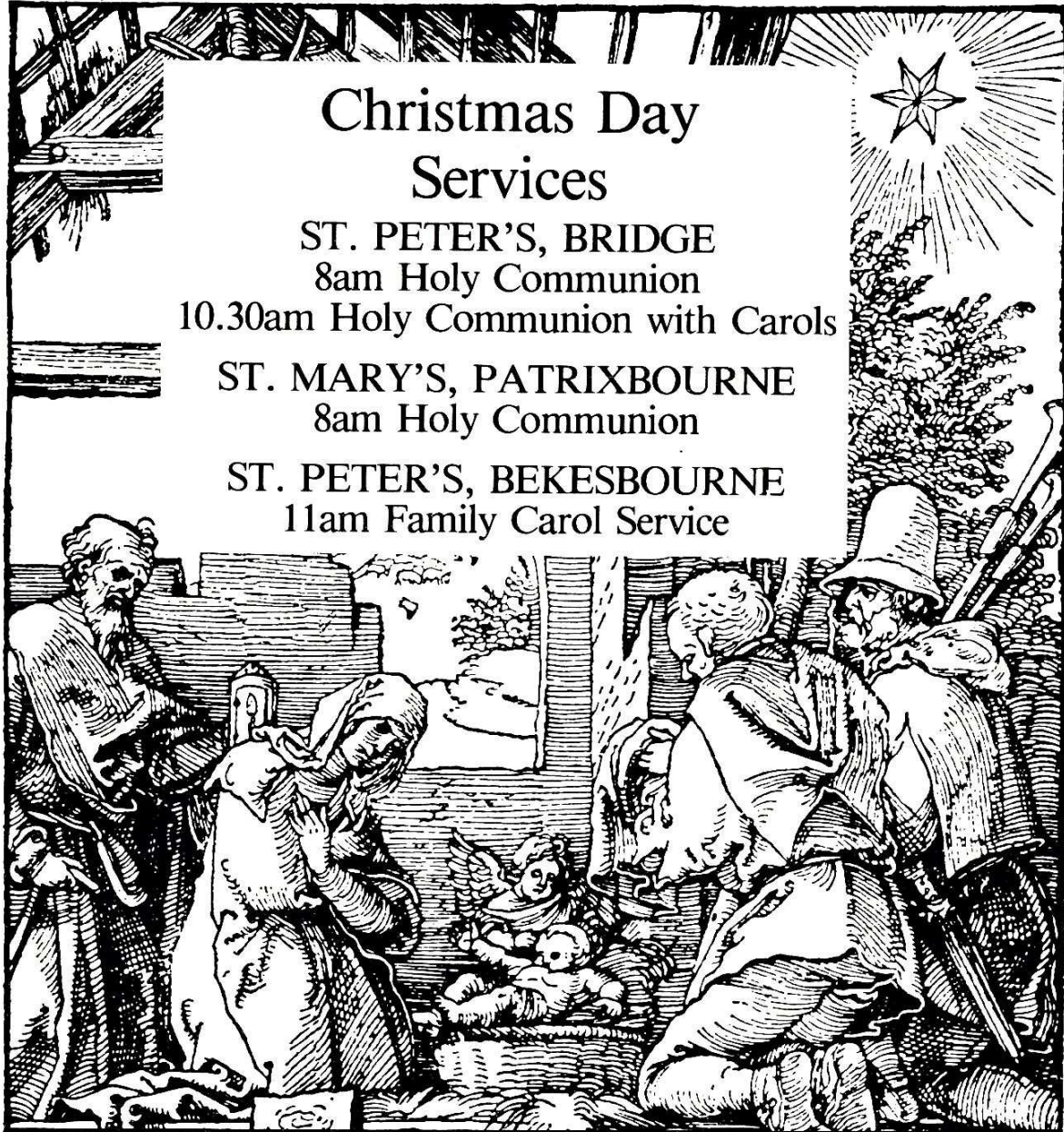
There will be only one service, 9.30am Holy Communion (Series 3) at Bridge: no service at either Patrixbourne or Bekesbourne.

27th **St. John the Evangelist**

28th **Holy Innocents**

January

2nd The Family Service will be a Christingle Service.



## Crisis at Christmas

Preparations were in progress for the school's annual nativity play, but due to repeated naughtiness after he had been given a fair warning, it was necessary for Sidney to be deprived of the star part of Joseph. Instead, he was to be the innkeeper.

The teacher in charge knew Sidney from of old and was aware that somehow or

other he would wreak vengeance on her. Came the day of the performance she did not relax her vigil for one moment, despite the fact that all seemed to be going well, and as the story unfolded on stage she grew more and more wary. When would Sidney show his hand? He was a child who knew how to nurse a grudge.

It was his big moment. Joseph and Mary approached the inn door and Joseph knocked. Mine host breezily opened the door and when Joseph asked if there was any room for him and Mary the innkeeper stood to one side and with a gesture of eager benevolence announced, "Yes, plenty: come on in!"

\* \* \*

The truth of the situation, as we well know from St. Luke's gospel, was quite the contrary. Mary laid her son in a manger, "because there was no room for them in the inn." In a way, the chief characters in the Christmas story were no better than refugees. With all available space already occupied by others of Joseph's family the offer of the stable was a kindly one and what it lacked in comfort and hygiene it more than compensated for in that privacy so needful for the birth of Mary's baby.

Yet at the time the Holy Family was as good as homeless, forced to take whatever the innkeeper offered, and, sad to say, far too many people nowadays find themselves in a comparable situation. And whereas Jesus' parents did have a home to return to after the census these do not. They, in a welfare state, are permanently without a home, spending their days looking for anything that might serve as a shelter for the coming night. For them there is never any room, unless it be under a railway arch or in a shop doorway.

\* \* \*

It is to help such as these that the *Crisis At Christmas* appeal is launched every year. The money raised serves two purposes.

A quarter of it goes to provide CatC's Open Christmas, a mammoth work of mercy that provides for London's homeless the traditional Christmas fare, plus shelter, warmth, clothing and medical care from 23rd to 29th December. One of the organisers explains the size of the operation:

'At the Open Christmas we need a lot of practical help and as much food and clothes as we are offered. Any good secondhand MEN's clothing, including underwear, socks and shoes, is a welcome gift. Any type of food — tinned, packeted, dried, or (just before Christmas) fresh can be used. We use lots of tea, sugar and dried milk — serving 7000 cups of tea a day — so we need a great deal of packets. (Last year, because of the bad weather, many of our food parcels could not be delivered, and I can tell you the store cupboard looked very bare at the start of the Open Christmas.) Volunteers are needed to help prepare for the Open Christmas before opening, to work the 8-hour shifts during the event, and also, we welcome any offers of help with the massive clearing-up operation from December 29 onwards.'

Three quarters of the appeal money, however, is spent on long term relief, on the understanding that for so many the crisis does not end at Christmas but goes on all the year round. The beneficiaries this time are spread all over the country and the money is apportioned out to various centres who collectively are able to help an estimated 43,000 single homeless people.

It is hard to realise that such a situation exists in the twentieth century and in the United Kingdom at that, yet the fact is there are so many who, for one reason or another, remain untouched by the social services that we believe are so all-embracing.

If you are looking for a worthwhile charity this Christmas, let me commend *Crisis At Christmas*. They rely on us to be able to offer their guests a warm invitation to come on in, for there is plenty of room.

CRISIS AT CHRISTMAS,  
St. Vincents, 85 Carlisle Place,  
London SW1P 1NL Tel. 01-834-3006

## Magazine Distributors

Mrs. Apps and her gallant band render a sterling service in getting *On The Nail* out each month and the church wishes to place on record its thanks to them. It is, in fact, a form of ministry the full potential of which has yet to be thoroughly worked out. Would all distributors please try to attend a meeting in Bridge Methodist Church on Wednesday, 15th December at 2.30pm? Once again, it would help enormously if you could provide me with an up-to-date list of your round before we meet. I would be grateful if you could make every effort to attend this important gathering.

## Carol Singing

*Come now with joy and greet the call:  
'Tis Christmas once again!  
The time is here when one and all  
Should swell the joyful strain!*

On Tuesday, 21st December, we shall meet at the telephone box outside the old post office in School Lane, Bekesbourne at 7 o'clock to sing along School Lane and Bekesbourne Lane. On Thursday, 23rd, we shall meet outside School House at 7 o'clock to sing along the Adisham Road and at the Aerodrome. Do come and join us, bringing a torch or a lamp. Refreshments will be provided for those who survive the course.

*Lynn and Michael Shaw*

## And in Bridge . . .

the Parish council, as you will see from Parish Pump, is organising three evenings' Carol Singing in aid of the Village Hall improvements.



### Christmas Markets

**BEKESBOURNE — Sat. December 4th**  
Bekesbourne Village Hall, 2.15pm  
*Come and buy useful items like  
Christmas wrapping paper at  
below-shop price, and many other goodies.*

**BRIDGE AND PATRIBOURNE**  
**Saturday 11th December**  
Bridge Village Hall, 2pm.  
*A Philatelic Corner this year!*

A damp and clinging mist  
covers the hill,  
the cloudy earth revolves  
on from All Souls  
to Advent's preparation for the birth,  
the sun's renewal  
unconquered still.  
The ground exhales  
its moist and reassuring smell  
of dark fertility,  
its answer to the coming threat  
of winter death.

R.H.

## Family Album

We offer our sincere good wishes for their future to Grahame Patterson and Tina Epps, who were married in St. Peter's, Bridge on 6th November. The following were received into the Christian fellowship through the sacrament of Holy Baptism: Thomas and Matthew Sperling, 44 Bridge Down, Hannah Parker and her cousin, James Dice. The latter are grandchildren of Muriel and Tim Hoare.

## Christians aware — Kenya

*Catherine Hodgson, one of last month's confirmation candidates, here writes of the experience of a life-time. Her photograph appeared in 'Church Times'.*

In August this year I joined the *Christians Aware* group in a visit to Kenya for four weeks. We arrived as guests of the Kenya Anglican Youth Organisation in the Diocese of Mount Kenya South, only one week after the attempted coup. As soon as we arrived, Alfred Chapman, Vicar of the diocese, took us to an African church service in a very modern Nairobi church where the joyous singing was overwhelming. The group stayed three days in Nairobi, based in the poverty-ridden outskirts. On walking through this area we soon realised the high standard of living that we are used to at home. When you hear a transistor radio blaring out from the middle of these horrific slum conditions you question the whole meaning of development. Peter, a Kenyan from the elegant Masai tribe, showed us around Nairobi and explained customs and buildings. We saw President Kenyatta's grave, the parliamentary buildings and Nairobi Cathedral. We also went to Nairobi Game Park, the Starehe Boys Centre, a tribal dance centre and the Christian Industrial Training Centre.

The work camp venue was changed to Thika because of rebels to the north, and there we built an agricultural centre out of timber. The colours of the countryside and the vast open spaces were strikingly different from England (especially when giraffes wandered through the work camp!) We worked hard for a week in the scorching sun and then at the weekend Louise, David and I travelled to Nyeri to stay with Janet and her family of the Kikuyu tribe. We walked through coffee and tea plantations and were continually entertained with Kikuyu tribal songs and we ate much arrowroot, sugar cane and bananas. On Sunday we went to a church service in a tiny village outside Nyeri and two other large church services where we met and talked with each of the congregations. Then we worked hard throughout the next week to finish the buildings within the specified time. We managed this successfully and held a communion service the following Saturday at 11pm in the middle of the African bush under a starlit



southern hemisphere sky. The next day the Bishop of Mt. Kenya South held a garden party for us at Muranga to celebrate the building's completion. Then we went on a 'bus safari through Western Kenya seeing Lake Victoria, Mount Elgon and Masai land (where young warriors with their plaited hair, red cloaks and spears would challenge your curiosity and your camera! We travelled back to Nairobi for two more days then came home on Kenyan Airways.

*Christians Aware* hopes to entertain members of the Kenyan Anglican Youth Organisation in August 1983. We have shared many hard-working and very happy times and hope that the seed planted when KAYO and CA first met and worked together is beginning to grow up into a strong plant with deep roots.



*Left: A Masai elder. Note the ear-rings! The ear lobes are pierced in childhood and the holes enlarged with wooden pegs until in maturity the lobe hangs right down.*

*Below: Giraffe seen against a threatening sky in the Rift Valley to the west of Nairobi. They browse on the flat-top acacia family of trees found in East Africa.*

*Photos: J.P.*



## The Bible Reading Fellowship

We were very pleased to welcome last year two new members to our Fellowship — one of them a teenager. Unfortunately the increase in our little group has not been matched nationally since due to a decline in the number of readers and rising costs the prices for 1983 have risen. *Daily Notes* and *Discovery* both now cost £2.00 per annum.

The BRF believes it still has a function to perform in the 1980's. God is as always alive with us and those who use the scriptures prayerfully and expectantly do find a word from Him within its pages. I have heard the comment that regular reading of the scriptures places a certain stress, almost an imposition on busy lives. Rather than dismayed I am encouraged by this comment for it shows that at least it is felt a few extra minutes ought to be laid aside regularly to read and study God's word. The

various publications of the BRF, geared to suit all ages, help us to do this. They guide us day by day through the scriptures with readings and notes elucidating them, all thoughtfully planned by those who have studied the Bible at great depth over many years.

This coming year we hope for a further increase in our Fellowship. There will be a selection of BRF literature on display at the back of Bridge Church. In addition to this the special book for next Lent produced by BRF has been written by Delia Smith, known to millions from T.V. cookery programmes. Some of you will also be familiar with her from her *Radio Medway* broadcast last Lent. In her book *A Feast for Lent*, she shares her insights from the Bible and her living faith.

I shall be very happy to help any prospective or current readers and welcome your comments to pass on to the BRF headquarters in London.

“For all the ancient scriptures were written for our own instruction, in order that through the encouragement they give us we may maintain our hope and fortitude.”  
Romans 15:4 (NEB)

## The Revd. Peter Taylor says . . .

“You’re not like a *normal* vicar — you laugh.” So spoke one lad I met at a youth club recently. But he is wrong; normal vicars, ministers, priests *do* laugh. But this lad does not think so. Is this the influence of T.V. with its Dick Emery protruding-teeth vicar, its old money-minded priest, and its Derek Nimmo scatty tea-drinking curate? Possibly. But the general image of a minister (and probably the churchgoer too) in that lad’s mind is not one which impresses him, though evidently something about me did impress him.

There are people who impress us too. It may be those with a sense of humour, or those who are prepared to listen to us, or those who are sincere, or those with money or strong principles. What impresses many people most are those to whom they can relate because they are prepared to accept them as they are. Now that is not easy. For if I accept someone as fully as I can at the time, that does not make them accept me at all; indeed I may be rejected, and rejection hurts.

At Christmas we remember that God in Jesus showed that he accepts us as we are. And we remember that he was rejected and that led him to a cross. Those who follow Jesus will inevitably feel the pain of finding themselves rejected by those they seek to accept, be it friends or family, neighbours or strangers, those inside or outside of the church.

My hope is that some day that incorrect T.V. image of a christian will be replaced by the idea of a person to whom others can relate because they are prepared to accept people as they are. Maybe this idea will filter down even to a certain youth club member. Maybe one day he will say to me, “I’m glad you’re like all the other vicars — you laugh too.”

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

The Parish Council met for its monthly session on 11 November, and the matters dealt with included:

## **Village Hall**

The Contract for the purchase of the Hall had at last been received from the Solicitors, and the Chairman and two members duly signed. If no problems arise, therefore, the Hall will belong to the Parish within the next few weeks. Money will be needed for the planned improvements to the Hall as well as for the repayment of the loan for the purchase, and the Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, outlined the suggestions he would be making to residents in his circular letter.

The Council had decided, as the first of its fund raising exercises, to organise carol singing around the village on 14, 15 and 16 December, and members agreed on the following arrangements for assembling —

14 December — Entrance to Highland Court

15 December — Outside the Post Office

16 December — Outside Liptons

All at 7p.m.

Councillor Peter Lawrence will provide carol sheets and hurricane lamps, and members hope for a large and enthusiastic turn-out. It is not expected, of course, that everyone will be able to join on all three evenings.

## **Recreation Ground**

Cllr. Ken Greenaway told members that he had anchored and secured the seat by the children's play area, and had cleared up the scattered rubbish on this part of the ground. Cllr. Lawrence drew attention to the fact that one of the swing seats was damaged, and that the others were wearing, and it was decided that they should be replaced. It was agreed that the painting of the play equipment, which it had been hoped to carry out this autumn, should be deferred until the spring; and Cllr. John Anderson reported that the willow trees by the tennis courts had been lopped and lightly pruned, and some work carried out to the other trees on the ground.

## **Bridge Hill to Bridge Down Stairway**

Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin showed the Council his plans for the reconstruction of the Bridge Hill/Bridge Down stairway, with which the Council has been unhappy since its erection. Members were pleased with the proposals, and he was asked to check that they were acceptable to the gas and electricity authorities before the matter was put to the Highways Department.

## **Generally**

Cllr. Mrs. Olive Knight reported on the proceedings at the Annual General Meeting of the Kent Association of Parish Councils; members expressed their satisfaction with the work of the Council's volunteer road sweeper; and Cllr. Eric Hawkins raised the question of the dumping of rubbish in Mill Lane. This latter is a subject of repeated complaint, and the offenders would appear to be certain neighbouring householders. However, if those concerned note this, they may perhaps decide to dispose of their rubbish in a proper manner in the future.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday, 9 December, at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, and will be open as usual to interested members of the public.

## **Fish News**



When we set up our neighbourhood care scheme we discussed the problems of housebound and elderly people getting help in an emergency or when the weather was bad and they could not get out. I now have a supply of cards that can be put in a window to summon help. These cards are red, with large white lettering, one side saying "PLEASE CALL" and the other "SOS. I NEED HELP NOW". Members of the Luncheon Club and Senior Citizens Club have been given these cards. If you have elderly neighbours or relatives, please make sure they have a card.

If you see one of these cards displayed in a window please respond accordingly. A 'phone call to the Post Office (830201) or to me (830233) will bring a volunteer to help if you haven't time or cannot deal with the situation yourself.

Joan Warren

## Good Results

Miss Mason writes to tell us that the amount raised at the annual Christmas Sale on behalf of the Church of England Children's Society exceeded a thousand pounds, to which the sweet stall provided £45.85. "It is the first time any sweets have been left over and we have raised a further £1.45 from the sale of these and hope for £1 for the remainder."

Miss Mares reports that the sum of £101.40 was raised at the autumn bazaar for the Senior Citizens' Club. "Members would like to thank everyone who contributed to this most acceptable total by donation of goods for raffling, goods for sale, and by their personal effort in so many ways, not least — those who came to buy."

## Abbeyfield (Canterbury) Society

The Abbeyfield Society is a national body, founded as an expression of Christian concern for the lonely elderly and is a co-operative effort by people of faith and goodwill.

Local Societies provide family sized houses in which a small number of elderly people have a bed-sitting room which they furnish themselves, so that they have their own familiar possessions around them. Each room has a wash basin, minor cooking facilities as main meals are provided by a resident Housekeeper. At present there are nearly 800 houses and 6,000 residents. Some help is available from the Government via Housing Association Grant and residents are expected to pay the cost of their accommodation.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is Patron of the National Society and all members believe:—

"That elderly people have an important role to play amongst their families and friends and the community;

That many elderly people suffer from loneliness and insecurity;

That within the community the individual has an essential part to play in helping elderly people in special need."

The Abbeyfield (Canterbury) Society which is a registered charity has been formed recently and plans are actively under way to start the conversion of a building in the area.

Your support is needed now in this worthwhile project and you are invited to become a "Friend of Abbeyfield". Please contact Mrs. M. Thompson, Chairman, "Friends of Abbeyfield", Lower Kenfield House, Petham, Nr. Canterbury, Kent. Telephone:— Petham 340.

## St. Peter's, Bekesbourne — rotas

<i>Cleaning</i>		<i>Flowers</i>
Mrs. Russell .....	December 5th .....	<i>No flowers</i>
Mrs. Grey .....	December 12th .....	<i>No flowers</i>
Mrs. Beckett .....	December 19th .....	<i>No flowers</i>
Mrs. Smith .....	December 26th .....	
Mrs. Stickells .....	January 2nd .....	Mrs. Watson

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, 7 St. Mary's Road, Patricxbourne CT4 5BY (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, 7 St. Mary's Road, Patricxbourne CT4 5BY (Bridge 830218)  
**Organist (Bridge):** Mr. D. Mathew, 27 Rivercourt, Chartham CT4 7JN (Canterbury 731548)  
**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.

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PATRIXBOURNE with BRIDGE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Accounts for 1981

REVENUE ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS				PAYMENTS			
1980	Planned Giving			1980	Salaries — Organist & Verger		362
2002	Gross Covenants	5658		359	Assisting Clergy		96
638	Envelope Scheme	1425	7083	57	Bridge Junior Choir		53
1652	Church Collections		846	39	Church Services		80
147	Church Boxes		145	502	Light and Heat — Bridge	487	
387	Donations		457		—ditto— P/b	77	564
281	Investment Income		295	455	Insurance		665
162	Fees		234	198	Churchyards		278
80	Bridge Parish Council Grant	90		209	Repairs & Maintenance — Bridge	67	
50	P/b Parish Meeting Grant	50	140		—ditto— P/b	193	260
8	War Graves Commission		—	103	Organs & Piano		113
	Social Functions			2534	Diocesan Quota & Deanery Levy		3596
732	Combined Summer Fete			640	Vicar's Working Expenses		672
	(PCC's half share)	451		240	Donations to Missions and Charities		459
130	P/b Dog Show	70		119	Sundry Expenses		72
37	P/b Concert	—		—	Parish Magazine (Loss)		22
549	Christmas Market	584	1105	419	Christian Stewardship Campaign Exps.		—
36	Parish Magazine (Profit)		—	984	Balance c/f to Capital a/c		3013
<u>6891</u>			<u>10,305</u>	<u>6891</u>			<u>10305</u>

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

Balance b/f from Revenue a/c	3013	Major Repairs to Churches	
		Bridge External Stonework	3617
		P/b Choirstalls	268
		Less Sundry Grants — Marshall's	
		Charity	500
		I.C.B.S.	50
		Transfer from General Reserve	1780
			<u>2330</u>
			1555
		Net Transfers to Sundry Reserve	
		a/cs	
		General Reserve Deposit a/c	773
		P/b —ditto—	170
		Bridge Organ Fund (TSB a/c)	185
			1128
		Revenue Deposit a/c	360
Opening Balance on Current a/c (1/1/81)	<u>131</u>	Balance c/f on Current a/c	<u>101</u>
	<u>3144</u>		<u>3144</u>

Checked and found correct: *G.S. Oliver*

PCC RESERVES AS AT 31st December 1981

CHARITIES & MISSIONS SUPPORTED BY PCC IN 1981

1980	General Reserve	£1256	Vicar' Nominations	
2145	Patricxbourne Church Reserve	577	USPG	£75
360	Bridge Organ Fund	206	CMS	50
13	Revenue Reserve Deposit a/c (including £244 interest)	<u>1335</u>	Sue Ryder Polish Appeal	75
<u>900</u>		<u>3374</u>	East Kent Pilgrims' Hospice	<u>50</u>
<u>3418</u>				250
			Special Collections	
			C/E Children's Society	
			(Christmas)	55
			Save The Children Fund	
			(Christmas)	55
			St. Luke's Hospital (Easter)	30
			Christian Aid (Harvest)	20
			Agricultural Benevolent Assoc.	
			(Harvest)	10
			Royal British Legion	
			(Remembrance Sunday)	19
			Bridge "Fish" Scheme	
			(Unity Week Service)	<u>20</u>
				<u>459</u>

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

1981 was the first full year in which Christian Stewardship was operating in our parish. The result, in financial terms, is high-lighted by an increase in planned giving (covenants and the envelope scheme) from £2640 in 1980 to £7083 in 1981, an increase of over £4443. This was off-set by a fall of some £800 in church collections, but at £846 collections in 1981 did remarkably well.

The net increase of some £3600 on planned giving plus the £1100 raised by social functions enabled us to do the following things in 1981:

1. Nearly to double our giving to missions and charities to £459.

2. To pay our Quota of £3596 regularly and promptly. This was an increase of £1000 over the 1980 Quota.

3. To pay out of our revenue £1555 towards the cost of major repairs to the two churches.

4. To transfer £1100 to build up our depleted reserves.

In 1982 our Quota has been increased by a further £1000 to £4597. Thanks to the response to the Christian Stewardship Campaign we shall be able to take this in our stride.

*C.A. Potter*

## PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE AND BEKESBOURNE

You will have seen from the Press this week that we have reproduced in full colour a painting of Bifrons, Bridge, as it was at the start of the eighteenth century. This painting was bought some years ago by the Center for British Art at Yale University in America, where it hangs in the Paul Mellon Collection.

Luckily for us Miss Joan Carpenter saw a small reproduction in *Country Life* at the time of the sale, and this information—via Canon John Packer—reached the ears of Bekesbourne PCC. We wrote to America and got permission to reproduce the picture for the benefit of the churches in the plurality. The church of St. Mary's, Patrixbourne, features in the painting.

The first money from sales will pay the costs of reproduction, thereafter the cash will go to the church selling the picture and could generate some £2,500 for the churches.

Each print is in full colour on heavy canvas textured paper 16½" x 12⅛", and has an explanatory leaflet giving some history of Bifrons supplied with it. Where it has to be posted a cardboard tube will also be provided. Cost: £3.50 including VAT.

Copies available from the Churchwardens or from A. & J. Purchase Limited, Cow Lane, Canterbury CT1 3RW—who will collaborate with the PCC Treasurers in the venture.



## ORDER FORM

*for postal application to A. & J. Purchase Limited*

Please supply ..... copies of *Bifrons Park* @ £3.50.

I enclose cheque/P.O. for £.....\*

Name: .....

Address: .....

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.....

\*Please make cheques payable to A. & J. Purchase Ltd.