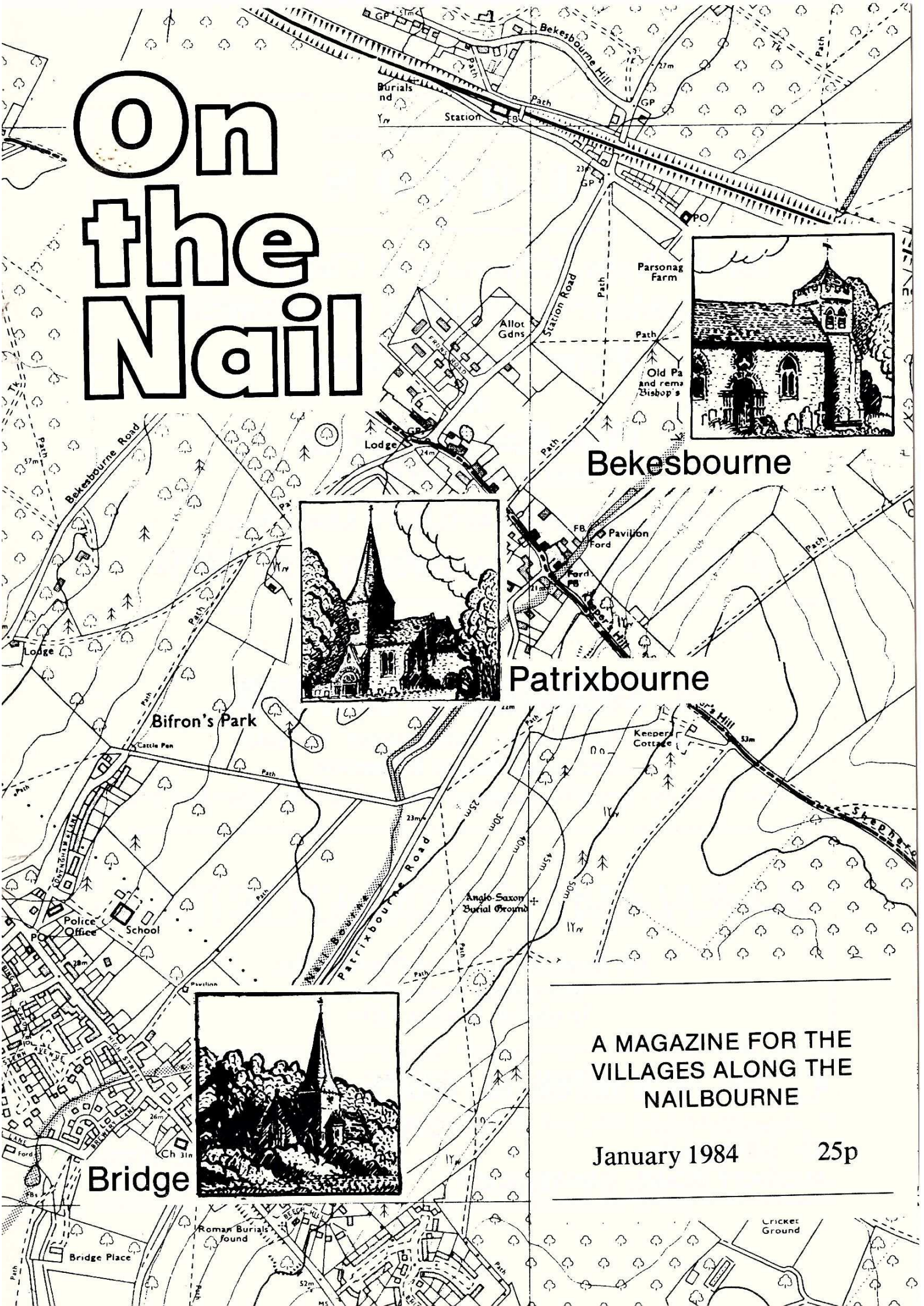


On the Nail



Bokesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE
VILLAGES ALONG THE
NAILBOURNE

January 1984 25p

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Sunday Worship in January

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
1st: 11am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion
8th: 9.30 Family Communion (Series 3) 6.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
15th: 9.30 Parish Communion (Series 3) 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am Matins
22nd: 8am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion	11am Matins & Holy Communion
29th: 9.30 Family Communion (Series 3) 6.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
5th Feb: 11am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *1st*, Mr. G.P. Chapman, Ph.D. *8th*, *Covenant Service*, The Revd. J. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *15th*, Miss J. Charlesworth, M.A. *22nd*, Mr. S.J. Rogers, M.A. D.Phil. *29th*, The Revd. Wilfrid Hill, M.C. B.Sc.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge every Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (Rite A) at 7.30am, and in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am. Parishioners are always most welcome at the short, informal act of worship that is held each Wednesday at 2.30pm in The New Close. It lasts under the half hour and the residents are always pleased to see a new face.

For your diary and prayer list

- 1st **Sunday after Christmas**
The Family Service is a Christingle Service.
- 2nd **Naming of Jesus** or *Circumcision of Christ* (Transferred from 1st)
- 6th **EPIPHANY**
Sung Eucharist, St. Peter's Bridge, 8pm. There will be no 7.30am celebration today.
- 8th **First Sunday after Epiphany**
- 12th Bridge Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm
- 15th **Second Sunday after Epiphany**
- 13th *St. Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, Teacher, 367*
- 17th *St. Antony of Egypt, Abbot, 356*

That's the Spirit — Lent Course '84

Motorists on the A2 between Canterbury and Dover get plenty of notice that *BBC Radio Kent* is now in business. I only hope they have better success tuning into the station than we do at the Vicarage. *Radio Kent*, as you probably know, has replaced *Radio Medway*, the idea being that eventually it will cover the whole of Kent and not just the western end of the county. Unfortunately, in my experience, 'eventually' is the operative word!

Happily the demise of *Radio Medway* has not spelt the end of the very popular Tuesday evening courses in Lent; although a few changes will be observed this year, from what a little bird tells me. For one, I noticed in a recent *Church Times* that Derek Palmer has ceased to be Archdeacon of Rochester and has, in fact, moved right out of the area, so we can expect a different voice presenting the programmes next year.

Details of the 1984 Lent Course are to hand, and in response to the large number of requests to move from last year's course concerning the life of Christ to its natural sequel, the theme will centre on the gift of the Holy Spirit and the story of the expanding Church as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. With each of the five themes there will be a suggested Bible passage to be studied, and the speakers will be the Revd. Michael Harper, author and speaker on charismatic matters, Cindy Kent, singer and broadcaster, Dr. Donald English, General Secretary of the Methodist Home Mission Division and Bishop Maurice Maddocks, who has recently been appointed to the newly-created post of Adviser for the Ministry of Health and Healing to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. On the final evening an invited panel will conduct affairs.

What about us?

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The New Close A Word of Thanks

May I thank everyone who helped with, gave and came to our Christmas Coffee Morning, which raised £137 for our funds. Also to all the children and families who gave Christmas presents to our residents in the course of the Family Service at Bridge on 4th December. We thank you all.

D. Holway, Matron

Though the opera nowhere specifically attributes Amahl's cure to the child the kings seek, the implication is too obvious to ignore. For me, however, its message is all to do with that text, "It is better to give than to receive". As Amahl handed his life-support to the Christ child, because his need may be greater, so his dependence upon it is removed. This, I am sure, was at the back of Menotti's mind, and we must remember his Italian background. In Italy it is the three kings and not Santa Claus who bring the children's presents.

Colin Edward Herschel Perry — A True Pastor

Dr. Roger Hunter provides the following tribute to a faithful priest and much-loved Vicar of Patrixbourne with Bridge and Bekesbourne.



Colin's death after so relatively short an illness was a great shock to everyone. Last winter he had been travelling up and down to Dover Borstal every day to attend to the spiritual and everyday problems of the young inmates there and then suddenly the fatal disease struck without any warning.

We remember him with gratitude and affection as our vicar for sixteen years. He carried out his duties in the best Anglican traditions, true to the time-honoured rites, and he showed sympathy and compassion in caring for the sick in both body and mind. His appointment as Canon was a just reward for a lifetime of service. He had also spent many years looking after the inmates of our prisons and

had great experience in that field. He said to me that he could have written an authoritative book on the subject — a pity he never did. Latterly he had been caring for young offenders at Dover and was only sorry that reorganization of the service would mean he could not continue with that work. In the end his illness forced his retirement. He seemed to have a genuine feeling for the young, even the violent young blacks whom he said it took courage to go and see alone in their cells.

Colin was a real expert in antiques, especially in silver, of which he had an extensive knowledge, not to mention Swansea and Nantgarw porcelain. He so enjoyed wandering round the sale and auction rooms looking for the unrecognised bargain, which he often managed to acquire.

Lastly one thing that not many people may know about, his prowess as a Rugby player. In his younger days he played regularly as hooker for Swansea, one of the great Welsh clubs. Later he played for Yorkshire, getting his county cap, but he always remained faithful to Swansea and Wales. He used to watch every International with me on TV and I find it hard to imagine this coming season without his expert comments and his obvious undiluted joy when Wales won, which they did all too often.

He told me once that he believed fully in the existence of guardian angels. May his own guardian angel have welcomed him home.

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Joys and Sorrows

The large congregation that attended found the St. Andrew's Day service of Holy Communion with Confirmation both moving and stimulating. Following the current trend the number of adults confirmed far outweighed the young candidates and we were delighted to welcome candidates from Ham Street, Aylesham, St. Saviour's, Folkestone, the University and Eastry. From our own parishes there were Lynn Reeves, Sheila Fenn, Rosemary and Simon Cheng, Alison Sinnock, Jennifer Clarke and Catherine Ash. Mrs. Ann King provided refreshments afterwards in the school hall (the Village Hall being otherwise occupied) and we are most grateful to her and her helpers, including a few men, for this opportunity to meet one another and Bishop Hughes, who confirmed in the absence of Bishop Isherwood.

We welcome to the Christian family the following who were baptized recently:

Frances Marie Reeves (Lynn's daughter), 38 Conyngham Lane
on 20th November at St. Peter's, Bridge

Robert John Moon, 43 Union Road on 4th December at Bridge

Paul William Betts, Netherbury, Aerodrome Road at Bekesbourne
Church.

We record the passing of Beatrice Anne Taylor, sister of our own Elsie Apps, and Dorothy Gore, both of them church supporters in their time. Mrs. Taylor died after a period of increasing ill-health, which she bore with courage. Mrs. Gore had been a resident in The New Close for some time, prior to which she lived with her daughter at 48 High Street.

A tribute to the late Canon Colin Perry appears on page six.

Church Electoral Roll

This year all the parishes in the Church of England have to prepare a new Electoral Roll (N.B. this is not the civil Register of Electors), which means that everyone's name is removed and can only be entered on the new roll if the appropriate form is completed. The Electoral Roll is intended to be a list of active, concerned members of the Church in the parish, and before deciding whether you wish your name to be included on the new roll, it is suggested that you weigh up the following points made by the Bishop of Dover:

Under the provisions of the Synodical Government Measure, the Electoral Roll is revised annually, and an entirely new Roll has to be prepared in every parish for presentation to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in 1984.

The Electoral Roll should reflect as accurately as possible the strength of the congregation. This will largely be the regular worshipping church, but will include also those who are housebound.

Those who do not worship regularly but wish to identify themselves with the Church have a legal right, if they are suitably qualified, to have their names on the Electoral Roll.

Those who ask for their names to be entered on the Roll are reminded that the cost of the work of the Church must increasingly fall on the members in the parish; and Church members share a total responsibility in worship, service, and committed giving.

● *Further to the Chuch Electoral Roll item on page eight, please note that the Electoral Roll Officer for Patribourne with Bridge is Mrs. Pat Hulyer, 8 Bridge Down; and for Bekesbourne, John Purchase of Mill Cottage.*

Bridge Village Playgroup held an Open Morning on Saturday 3rd December. The morning proved to be a great success and we are most grateful to all who supported us and helped in any way.

Evelyn Andrews

Young people, this is for you!

The Parish Priest of Littlebourne, David Steven, is arranging a Deanery Youth Weekend at the Diocesan Youth Centre, Womenswold (the old school) from 23rd to 25th March, 1984, and any of our young people between the ages of fifteen and eighteen are specially invited. The set-up at Womenswold is self-catering and you will need to take a sleeping bag. If you are interested contact the Vicar right now! Don't delay because there is a limit to how many they can take. It should be great!

The holiday of a lifetime

For Americans this is the European Tour, for which they save hard over many years and 'do' Europe in a matter of weeks.

Where I am concerned the holiday of a lifetime would be a trip to the Holy Land, and I suspect that I am not alone in that. If this is within your sights you will be interested in the idea that has just been mooted of a Deanery Holy Land Tour in May, 1985. This is not the kind of holiday to take alone and without being part of an organised party, because such a trip has the nature of a pilgrimage. Christians visiting the sites where the faith first took root must inevitably expect more than a cursory glance and will want a qualified, sympathetic guide to conduct them around, with a priest to lead those devotions all will surely be led to make as they stand where the Lord stood. The benefit of making such a pilgrimage with members of the deanery family is obvious.

Think about it, and if you are interested and really see this as a possibility, contact me.

Royal British Legion Bridge & District Branch

Poppy Day Appeal 1983

A total of £327 was raised. This was even better than last year. Thanks go to all the voluntary workers, who gave their time so kindly to raising this excellent amount for such a worthy cause.

Future Events

The branch will be holding a monthly meeting throughout 1984 on the last Wednesday of each month, starting on 25th January, at 8pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

Jumble Sales will be held on Saturdays, 4th February and 7th April respectively, starting at 2pm in the Village Hall.

An American Supper will be held on Saturday, 3rd March at 8pm in the Village Hall. Details to be announced.

Look around you, at the gifts of God:
the clear sky, the pure air, the tender
grass, the birds; nature is beautiful
and sinless, and we, only we, are sinful
and foolish, and we don't understand that
life is heaven, for we have only to under-
stand that, and it will at once be fulfil-
led in all its beauty, we shall embrace each
other and weep.

From The Brothers Karamazov by Fedor Dostoyesky

Bridge & Patricbourne Women's Institute

The first meeting of the WI in 1984 is on Tuesday, 10th January at 7pm in the Village Hall, and will include a talk by Alicia Pentin on the work of the Citizens Advice Bureau. The WI provides an excellent meeting-place for the ladies of the villages and newcomers are always most welcome to our very successful branch.

Unity Week 18th - 25th JANUARY

The feast of the Epiphany, which is kept every 6th January and marks the end of Christmas, is in one sense a festival of unity. The Wise Men from the East represent the non-Jewish world, brought into the picture at the birth of Christ to show that this child is to be the Saviour of the whole world. The traditional Christmas tableau that includes both Shepherds and Wise Men, though an anachronism yet witnesses to that unity of mankind that God envisaged when he sent his only-begotten Son into the world. Right from the very beginning, therefore, we are urged to see that unity is of the essence of God: he is greatly in favour of it!

The fact that the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity follows hard on the heels of the Epiphany serves to remind Christians that this godly unity properly includes the various Christian churches and that their unity is God's declared will for them.

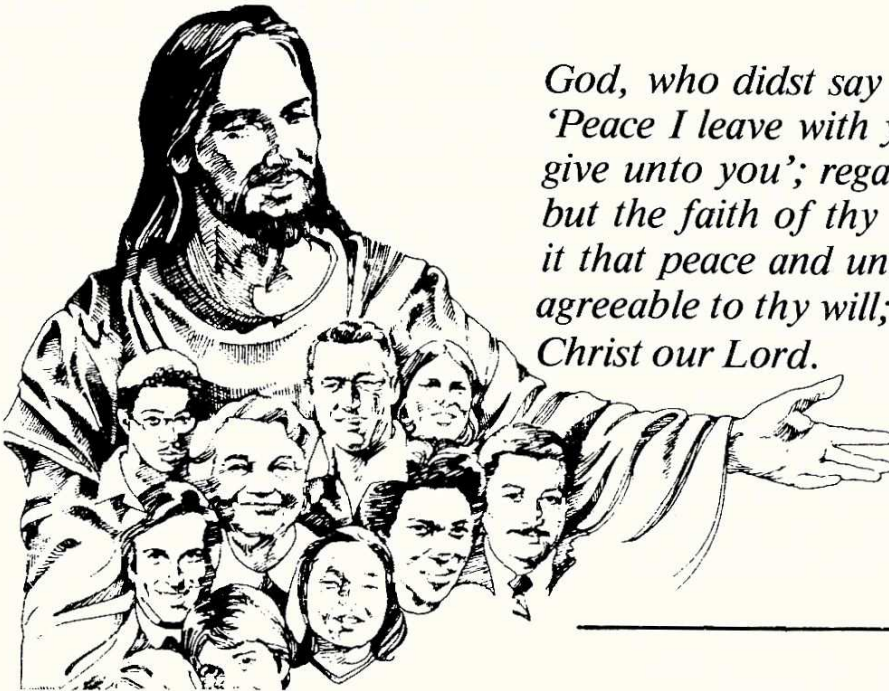
Yet still, within the churches, you hear people state that they don't agree with it, and it is a very sad reflection upon both them and their particular church, which has clearly encouraged this insular outlook. To put the record straight, it is unity that is required of us, not our uniformity; the attitude that sees all Christians as members of one body, able to share worship and works in common, yet able also to worship as best suits their personal needs. I make no bones of the fact that whereas I quite enjoy the Methodist hymn sandwich type of service once in a while, the idea of being permanently stuck with it, week after week, would not be to my liking. The converse also applies, for there are many good Methodists who feel the same way about our, to them, elaborate forms of worship: just occasionally, yes, but for good and all, no thank you!

Uniformity in worship is no more desirable than it is in so many other areas of life. At the worst it destroys one's individuality and is boringly monotonous! Moreover it is in stark contrast to unity, which is of the essence of humanity, because it is the natural outcome of a world in which love is the seasoning and variety the spice of life.

* * *

A foretaste of that unity within the Church to which we should all look forward is enjoyed every year at our local United Service. This year it is on 19th January at 8 o'clock in St. Peter's Church, Bridge and we welcome for the first time as preacher Peter Taylor, the Methodist Minister for the area. Do make a point of coming to share both in this joint act of worship and in the time for tea-and-chat afterwards in the Methodist Church, and let us make a further effort towards that unity which is God's will for his Church.

The coming of the eastern sages to Bethlehem is a pointer to the basic unity of mankind to which Jesus' life and ministry was wholly directed. It is inconceivable that this unity should not embrace his Church also.



God, who didst say to thine apostles, 'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you'; regard not our sins, but the faith of thy Church, and grant it that peace and unity that is agreeable to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The principal concern of members at the December meeting of the Parish Council was the

BUDGET FOR 1984/5.

This was considered in the light of a letter from the City Treasurer asking that

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grass, the birds; nature is beautiful
and sinless, and we, only we, are sinful
and foolish, and we don't understand that
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Vicar: The Revd. Raymond Gilbert, A.K.C., The Vicarage, 23 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JZ (Bridge 830250)

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Churchwardens: Mr. C.A. Potter, 7 St. Mary's Road, Patricxbourne CT4 5BY (Bridge 830218)

Mr. D.R. Hill, Red Deer, Bridge Down, Bridge CT5 5BA (Bridge 830426)

Hon. Secretary: Mr. L.W. Sanford, 11 Windmill Close, Bridge CT4 5LY (Bridge 830411)

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, Ardprory, 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

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Magazine Editor: The Vicar, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

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

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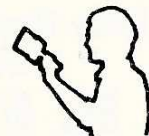
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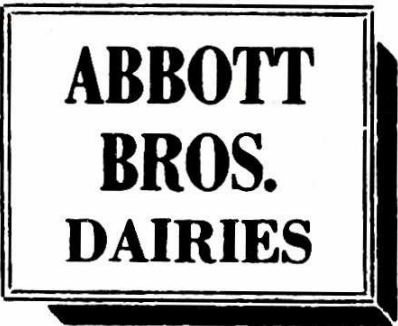
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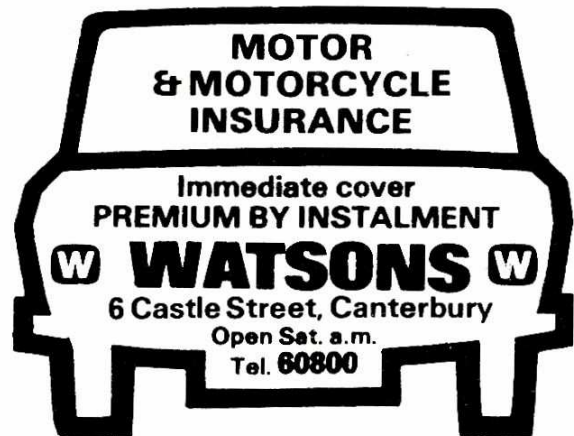
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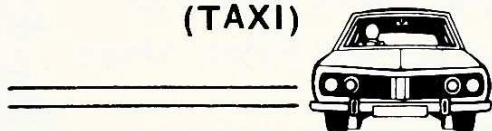
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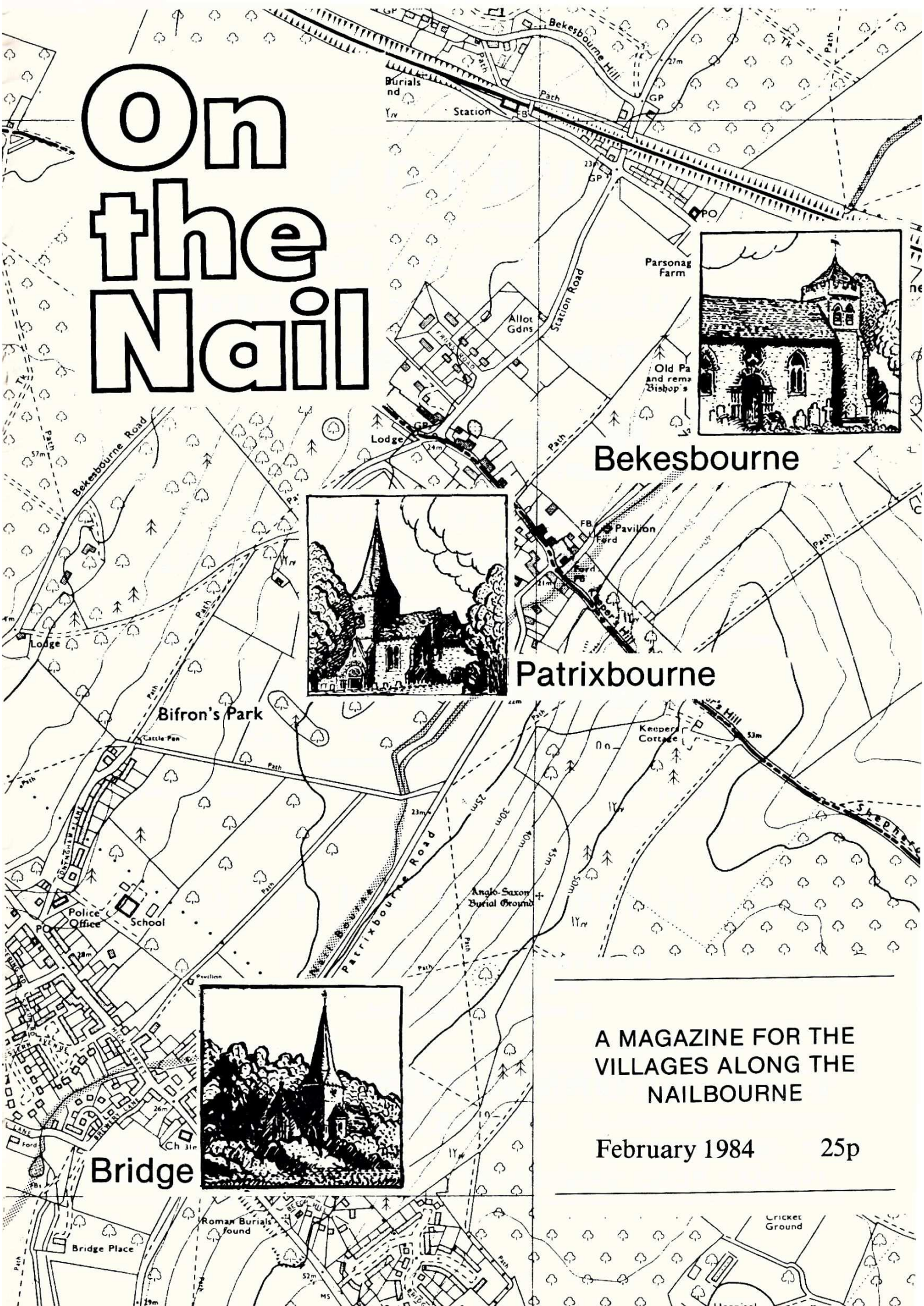
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On the Nail



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Bridge

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February 1984 25p

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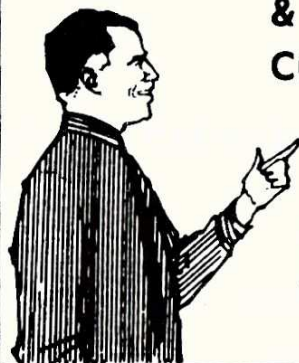
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Sunday Worship in February

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

5th:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

12th:

9.30 Family Communion 11am Matins
(*Series 3*)
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

19th:

9.30 Parish Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am Matins
(*Series 3*)
6.30pm Evensong

26th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong
Preacher: Revd. M.
Peter Taylor

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins & Holy
Communion

4th March:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *5th*, Mr. Leslie Dron. *12th*, Mr. E.R. O'Mahony. *19th*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *26th*, Mr. R. Santer.

Weekday Worship The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays at 9.30am and Fridays (Rite A) at 7.30am, also in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am. A short informal service is held each Wednesday at 2.30pm in The New Close. Primarily for the residents, we are nevertheless always very glad to welcome visitors from outside at this service.

For your diary and prayer list

- 1st Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meets in The Hunter Room, 7.30pm. Members please note the new time.
- 2nd **Presentation of Christ in the Temple**
- 5th **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**
- 6th *Queen's Accession*
- 7th Clergy of the Deanery meet at Nonington this morning. Interchurch Group, Methodist Church, 8pm
- 9th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 12th **Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**
- 19th **Septuagesima Sunday** *9th before Easter*
- 21st Bridge & Patricxbourne Women's Institute meet, Village Hall, 7pm
- 23rd *St. Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c.155*
- 26th **Sexagesima Sunday** *8th before Easter*

Keeping our Options open!

The Church of England is currently preoccupied with the question of the marriage in church of divorced persons whose previous partner is still alive, and it is high time *On The Nail* entered the fray.

Option — what?

Let's be quite clear, it is not whether divorcees ought to be allowed to marry in church that is at stake, but the proposed procedure that it is suggested should be applied before the wedding day. Believing, as it does, in the lifelong nature of marriage, the church would not feel justified in marrying the victims of the divorce courts with quite the freedom it does others, for such marriages need very careful thought. It would not be happy to marry divorced persons as of right, but only after considerable pastoral discussion with the couple concerned.

This being so seven schemes were presented to the General Synod, to be brought into use before marriage was entered into. Called Options A to G each one set out to ensure that the ground would be decently and delicately prepared whereby the seriousness of the couples' intentions might be determined before ever the wedding date was fixed. Synod rejected Options A to F outright and sent Option G for the diocesan bishops to mull over and decide upon, as being the least of seven evils.

Most of the bishops felt that before voting it would be helpful to discuss Option G with their clergy, who — after all — would be at the sharp end if it were eventually passed for use. The outcome of their consultations, taking the country as a whole, was a resounding rejection by the clergy of Option G. Our own diocese threw it out by the overwhelming margin of 148 to 6, though readers should not be hoodwinked by the Press into thinking of it as an open revolt against the Archbishop. *The Times* Religious Affairs Correspondent was as guilty as anyone of this piece of mis-reporting and the Bishop of Dover wrote a very forthright letter to *The Times* correcting the misunderstanding Clifford Longley's page one article produced.

What is wrong with Option G?

Your vicar was one of those who turned down Option G because the highly involved procedure sounds quite unworkable. It would involve couples in long and very searching enquiries by the incumbent into the reasons for the first marriage's failure, whether it really was a marriage at all, and what their attitude is towards this proposed marriage. A long penetrating application form, together with a fee, would be dispatched to the bishop, who would add his bit to the form before passing it on to an independent panel of from three to five people for their consideration. They would recommend for or against this marriage taking place in church and would send their findings to the bishop, who would make the final decision. He would convey it to the incumbent who would have the task of passing the bishop's Yea or Nay on to the couple. Only then, and assuming permission is granted, could a date be fixed for the wedding. All this, it is estimated, would take at least six months. If permission is refused the couple would have no right of appeal and three years would have to elapse before they could apply again. I can just see them waiting that long to get married!

I found it impossible to vote for such a scheme that seems fraught with

upset and misery, not to say incompetent to complete the application form or to probe for answers to its questions.

Ever since I came to these parts I have been sympathetic to the idea that the Church should marry divorcees. Several couples, knowing a church wedding was out of the question, have asked for a service of blessing after being married in a Register Office and I have given a great deal of time preparing for such a service. For me, and I sense for the couple, the happiness of the occasion is accompanied by the stigma that prevents the whole ceremony taking place in church, and I long for this situation to be resolved.

Of the couples whose marriage I have blessed all approached their new marriage with sincerity and much obvious forethought and I cannot believe that anyone would go through a second marriage in a casual off-hand style.

What Option G does not seem to allow for is the fact that undoubtedly one of the marrying parties is likely to be approaching their first marriage and it seems unjust to subject them to a scrutiny one would not make of other marriages. In saying which, however, it was interesting that the clergy of the Canterbury diocese made strong representations to the Archbishop for some form of preparation to use with people contracting their first marriage. Prevention is better than cure.

By the time you read this the bishops will have decided the fate of Option G and General Synod casts its vote this month. It may turn out that this article has been a waste of effort, and in a way I hope so, but as this matter concerns a possible major change in the Church's practice and as the Press has had a field day getting its wires crossed, I thought you ought to know what is being considered, and also where your own priest stands on this issue. Let us pray that, as in all things, God's will is done!

Christmas Market '83

The recent indisposition of Churchwarden and Treasurer Charles Potter — we are glad to see him making such a good recovery — meant that we were unable to publish the results of the Bridge & Patixbourne Christmas Market in our January edition of *On The Nail*.

Rather belatedly, therefore, and with sincere thanks to all who supported, we can now announce that the market made a net profit of £522. This is £11 short of 1982's figure, but commendable notwithstanding.

* * *

Looking forward to sunnier days, and with thanks to the school's Parent Teacher Association for the invitation, the former pattern of school and church each having a summer fête is being rationalised this summer by holding a joint fête in the school grounds. A likely date is 30th June, but more anon.

We believe this to be a sensible move and the PCC were happy to accept the PTA Committee's offer. It is doubtful whether a village this size can really support two summer fêtes, hence the intention that the combined resources of both bodies, which duplicate at times, will be focussed on the one date and event.

Remember Pappu?

Pappu Jagnath is the Indian boy Bridge and Patricxbourne sponsor with his education at Deenabandhu Primary School in the Seemapuri Resettlement Area of Delhi.

Periodically letters pass between us and Pappu via the Delhi Brotherhood Society, which runs the school, and this kind of contact is important for several reasons. First, because it is too easy just to get the Treasurer to send a cheque off to Delhi once a year and then forget about it. We decided, however, that rather than send a given sum to the Brotherhood to do what they like with, we would prefer to sponsor a particular child. This brings our giving down to the personal level because it means one specific person, in this case, Pappu, relies on this corner of Kent in distant England for his schooling. It also broadens his horizons because he now has friends here all his own and that, for a boy like Pappu, is very special indeed. Then it also shows a young Hindu boy that Christians are caring people, and that goes a long way to assist the Brothers in Delhi in their missionary outreach.

All this falls down, of course, if letters cease to arrive from England, especially when many of his friends receive regular correspondence from *their* English aunties and uncles, as they think of us.

Dear Reader, do you think *you* could write to Pappu? Not a long letter — his English is virtually nil — but if you could include pictures to show what it is like here, or a family photograph to show what *you* are like, it would go down really well. Children might care to draw something or tell Pappu about school-life in Bridge. See what you can do! Pappu's address is:

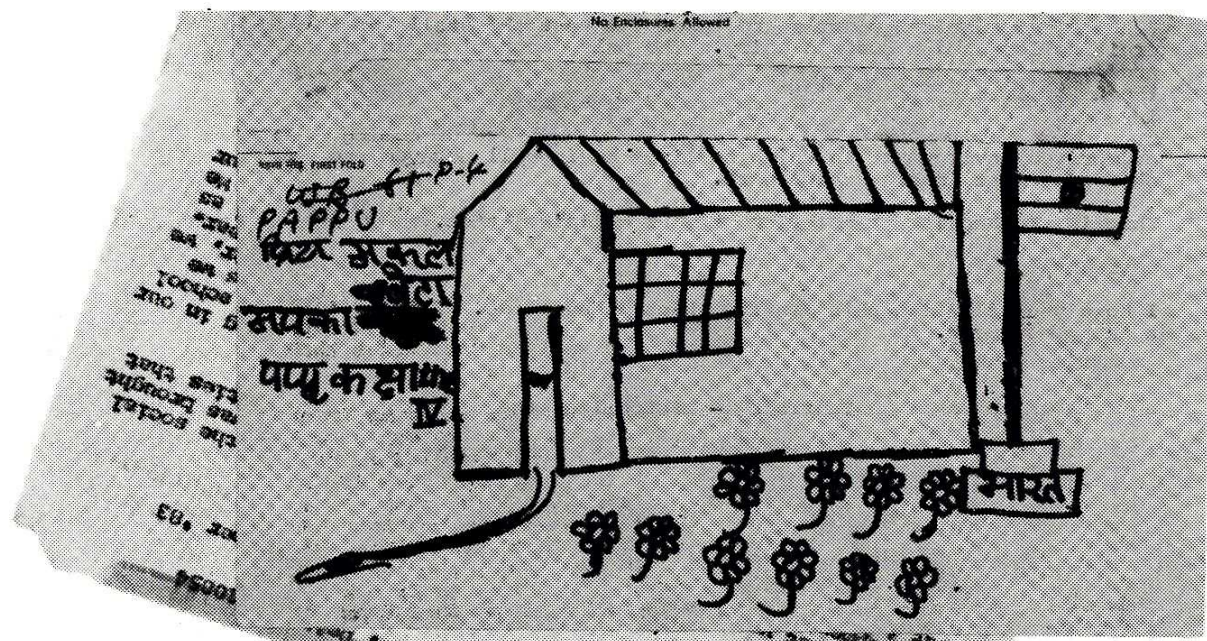
Pappu Jagnath P/4,
c/o The Delhi Brotherhood Society,
The Brotherhood House,
Court Lane,
Delhi - 110054



Fr. Amos Rajamoney wrote this about Pappu's life at home, which I am sure you will find interesting:

“Seemapuri is a very colourful place. Women sit by water pumps washing and beating their clothes clean. In the narrow streets cows and pigs wander between the stalls of the banana sellers. The dusty pot-holed main road is congested with cycle rickshaws and bullock carts. Whenever a bus arrives there is a chaotic scramble to get on board. Pappu lives near Shahidnagar and his journey to school lasts about five minutes and takes him past the stalls of the fruit sellers and a buffalo dairy. The only decorations in his home are a few faded black and white photos of his relatives. He helps the family by fetching water and cleaning the floor of the house. In the evenings he plays with his five brothers and sisters and has dinner at 7.00 before going to bed at 8.00. In spite of coming from a deprived environment in which he lives he is well behaved and shows interest in his school work.”

In his brief letter, which Fr. Amos translated into English, Pappu hopes we like the drawing he has made, and which with the letter is reproduced on the next page.



Confirmation preparation

Looking towards a service of Confirmation at St. Nicholas's, Ash on 6th December I would ask anyone who is thinking about Confirmation to contact the Vicar now. December seems a world away, but candidates for admission to full church-membership need to make a careful preparation, which must include not only instruction in the faith but also a self-examination over a long period to see whether or not this is for them.

The course for adults on the last two occasions has proved of inestimable value, as I am sure any of them will attest, but it needs time: much more where younger people are concerned. So it is not too early to start working up to the Confirmation next December.

As I have written above, the period of instruction is also a time to weigh up the pros and cons as they affect individual people, so even if you are only tentatively considering Confirmation join the group nevertheless. Final decisions can keep for later.

A call to the children

Repeated enquiries about a Sunday School at Bridge stimulated Hilary Pike to call together a number of interested 'mums' to see what they could come up with. Details remain to be worked out — and there are a lot of them — but it is highly likely that the Junior Church banner in the Lady Chapel will soon regain its usefulness and some form of instruction be offered our children of a specifically Anglican content. A venue is being urgently sought but it is intended to run the children's activities concurrently with the 9.30 Eucharists in the Church and to bring the children into the service at the Offertory.

Some such title as Junior Church is envisaged rather than Sunday School and it will be held on all Sundays but the first, when the very popular and well-supported Family Service takes place. That will continue at 11 o'clock.

Listen out and watch this space for further details!

THE SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB, BRIDGE

The Senior Citizens' Club will resume its weekly meetings at the Village Hall, Bridge, on Tuesday March 6th at 2.30pm. Weekly sub. 20p.

The Annual General Meeting will be held the following Tuesday afternoon, March 13th. New members welcomed.

* * *

Radio Kent is here — loud and clear



The old *BBC Radio Medway* gave place last year to *BBC Radio Kent*, indicating its intentions of becoming the local radio station for the whole of the county. Unfortunately reception was no better in East Kent: after all, what's in a change of name!

From the beginning of the year, however, *RK* has started to live up to its new name and listeners in Bridge (ever the radio and TV blind spot) can now receive their signal loud and clear.

The explanation is the opening of a new transmitter specifically to cover this area, and for once Bridge is perfectly situated to receive it because the transmitter is just along the Nailbourne at Littlebourne.

RK, in a publicity leaflet, tells us that the station will be broadcasting the main *Radio Kent* output on 774 kHz, 388 metres. There are also plans for a new VHF transmitter at Dover. To enable the programmes to reflect the flavour of the whole county, extra studios are being built in Canterbury.

All Clear for Lent Course

The new transmitter means life will be so much easier for the *Radio Kent* Lent Course from 13th March to 10th April, for we shall no longer be restricted to homes on the higher ground around the village. It does not mean that we won't want to use our previous venues but the opportunity now presents itself of going the rounds each Tuesday, rather than inflicting ourselves on the same household every week.

The *RK* Lent Course has been growing in popularity and we have so much wanted additional homes in which to meet so that individual groups do not get too large. Now that the world of Bridge is our oyster where reception is concerned I hope offers from 'down in the dip' will be forthcoming, more groups will be formed and many more people will participate.

With the course comprising our main activity church-wise I hope we can interest lots more this year, and that it will take on a greater ecumenical membership than previously. The course is designed for people of all denominations or none, so please give it some thought where your own Lenten observance is concerned.

In order to get sufficient copies of the course booklet please indicate your desire to join in by contacting either Kath Pierce (830844) or me at the earliest opportunity. She would also be grateful for offers to host an evening. We don't expect to come to one house for all the sessions, so don't feel you would be committing yourself for five successive Tuesdays.

That's the Spirit!

As reported in last month's *On The Nail* this year's course is entitled *That's the Spirit*. The programme planners have responded to the large number of requests to move from last year's course concerning the life of Christ to the natural sequel — the gift of the Holy Spirit and the story of the expanding Church as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. The five Tuesday evenings from 13th March cover the following subjects: Receiving, Sharing, Speaking, Healing and Renewing. Each session follows the order:

8.00pm Introduction, Summary of Letters, and Scripture Reading

8.10pm Presentation of Theme

8.30pm Music Programme for those listening individually

(This is the discussion time for groups)

9.15pm to 10.00pm Phone-in on MEDWAY 811111.

Now's the time

With a late Easter we have longer to prepare for Lent this year. Nevertheless, the better the preparation the better the Lent, so while there is still time why not mark off the Tuesday evenings of Lent and join one of our parish groups. Kath Pierce is dying to hear from you, so why not give her a call right away and join in this Kent-wide link-up?!

“Another half-penn’orth, please!”

by the Revd. M. Peter Taylor

A little Yorkshire lad was feeling desperately hungry many years ago. He walked into a grocer's shop and asked for a half-penn'orth of broken biscuits. The kind old lady filled the lad's cap with broken cream crackers. Looking wistfully at him she handed back the halfpenny. The lad looked up at her, and said, “Another half-penn'orth please”.

One of the problems about being generous in any relationship is that others can, and often do, take advantage of it. We all know the sort of person who is far more ready to take from us than they are to give to us. I do not just mean unsavoury characters, but ordinary people who are always on the look out for sympathy and attention, often complaining and trying to be the centre of everything. Most of us do not mind being generous if it does not end up as being expected, and having someone who even demands our generosity! This does not seem to be fair. How do we react to these people? Do we say No, or are we prepared to give once or twice, but not to make a habit of it? Do we say Yes, but make it clear that our goodness should not be presumed upon, or do we say Yes and keep on saying Yes hoping that they will not take it the wrong way? It is not an easy choice, is it? What we are really looking for is a two-way relationship, give *and* take.

Now, what about our relationship with God? Is that two-way? Or do we turn to him largely when we want him to be generous to us, expecting (demanding?) him to say Yes at every occasion. Surely this is a bit unfair of us. Are we going to give to God our time, our effort, our lives, or are we going to let him be until some crisis occurs, when we seek him out and say, “Another half-penn'orth, please”.

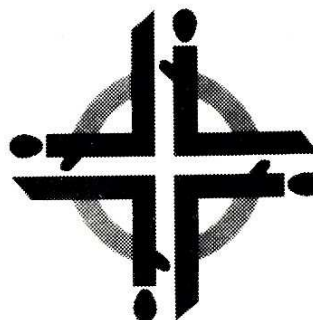
Women's World Day of Prayer 2nd March, 1984

The Theme of this year's service is 'Living Water from Christ, our Hope'. It was composed by the Women of Sweden and will be used at our local observance of the WWDP in St. Peter's Church, Bridge at 2.30pm on 2nd March.

This year the Speaker will be Mrs. Ann Plumptre, who is a Licensed Reader in the diocese and a member of East Bridge Deanery Synod. The service will be led by Miss Gwyneth Price and is an ecumenical act of worship to which women of all denominations are cordially invited. It should be over in under the hour, for those who have to meet children out of school

This is the new symbol adopted in 1982 by the International Committee of the Women's World Day of Prayer and in March 1983 by our own National Committee.

At the centre is the Cross, the heart of our faith, with the four praying figures from the four corners of the earth, joined together by the circle of God's love.



Framework for Faith

The next term of this diocesan study course is announced and will begin in the first week of May. Intending students *must* register by 1st April: for administrative purposes this is positively the last date and applications after then will not be accepted.

On offer this time are courses on either Worship or Church History and publicity material should be available by 1st February. I would hope to include it in next month's *On The Nail*.

**PARISH
PUMP**
Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on 12th January in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall. The improvements to the Hall are now complete apart from a number of relatively minor additional matters which it has been found necessary to add to the work originally agreed upon. These are to be dealt with at a meeting of the appropriate committee.

appropriate committee.

Annual Parish Meeting

It was decided to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday, 22nd March, and to include in the proceedings, if possible, the showing of a film. The details of the agenda will be discussed at the February meeting of the Council.

Recreation Ground

Councillor Peter Lawrence had made arrangements with Mr. McKeever for the latter to spread fertiliser for the Council on the Recreation Ground in the early spring. However, the Council decided after further discussion not to carry out the work this year, as they felt that this might encourage still further the moles whose invasion of the ground is particularly extensive this year and now threatens the cricket square. The possible winding-up of the Bridge Lions Football Club was noted with regret, but it was agreed that, if the Club proved unable to continue, every effort would be made to make the pitch available to another club. It was also decided to seek advice on the possible improvement of the existing chain barrier to the entrance to the ground from Patrixbourne Road.

Kent Association of Parish Councils

Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young told members that she had been appointed by the Canterbury Area Committee to the Police Advisory Committee for the Canterbury Division. She undertook to raise matters which members referred to her, including those discussed at the meeting. The Council appointed Cllr. Mrs. Young to represent them at the Biennial National Conference of Local Councils to be held at Plymouth in April.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall on Thursday 9th February. Visitors are, of course, always welcome at Council meetings; and it is hoped that all residents will note the date of the Annual Parish Meeting — 22nd March — and resolve to come along and air their views on any subject concerning the village.

F.L. Edwards, Clerk

'Fish' News



The Luncheon Club kept the festive season with a traditional Christmas Dinner on 19th December. Our guests on this occasion were Cllr. John Hill, representing the Parish Councils, Mr. David Oliviere, the principal social worker from the Canterbury Social Services Partment, and Miss Wraight, representing the community. Our thanks go to the catering staff for the magnificent meal they prepared, to those who made generous donations to cover the extras and to the volunteers who worked so hard, as they always do. In addition we would like to thank the residents and care staff of The New Close for allowing us to share their home throughout the year.

Many people will be sad to hear of the retirement of **Derek Cartwright**, the social worker responsible for the care of the elderly in this area. Many of our residents have benefited from his practical help, kindness and understanding. Derek represented the Social Services at the first meeting when it was decided to set up the 'Fish' Scheme and the Luncheon Club, and he has given us great help and support ever since. We send him our thanks and very best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

The next **Coffee Pop-in** will be in the Village Hall, Bridge on Wednesday, 8th February from 10.15 - 11.45am. We are gradually building up a nucleus of regulars: if you haven't 'popped in' yet, do join us. Although the original purpose was to set up a regular meeting place for retired people, there is always a welcome for anyone else who cares to come in. If you need transport, please let me know!

Joan Warren (830233)

BEKESBOURNE CLEANING ROTA:

February 4th, Mrs. Watson; 12th, Mrs. Russell; 19th, Mrs. Grey; 26th, Mrs. Beckett; March 4th, 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, 7 St. Mary's Road, Patricxbourne CT4 5BY (Bridge 830218)
Mr. D.R. Hill, Red Deer, Bridge Down, Bridge CT5 5BA (Bridge 830426)

Hon. Secretary: Mr. L.W. Sanford, 11 Windmill Close, Bridge CT4 5LY (Bridge 830411)

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, 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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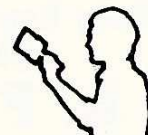
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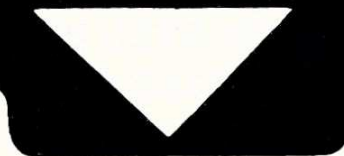
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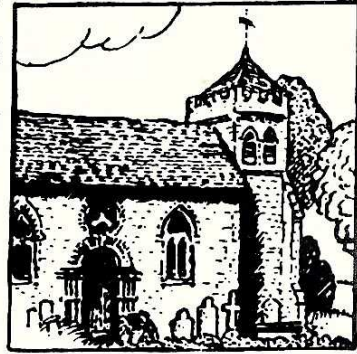
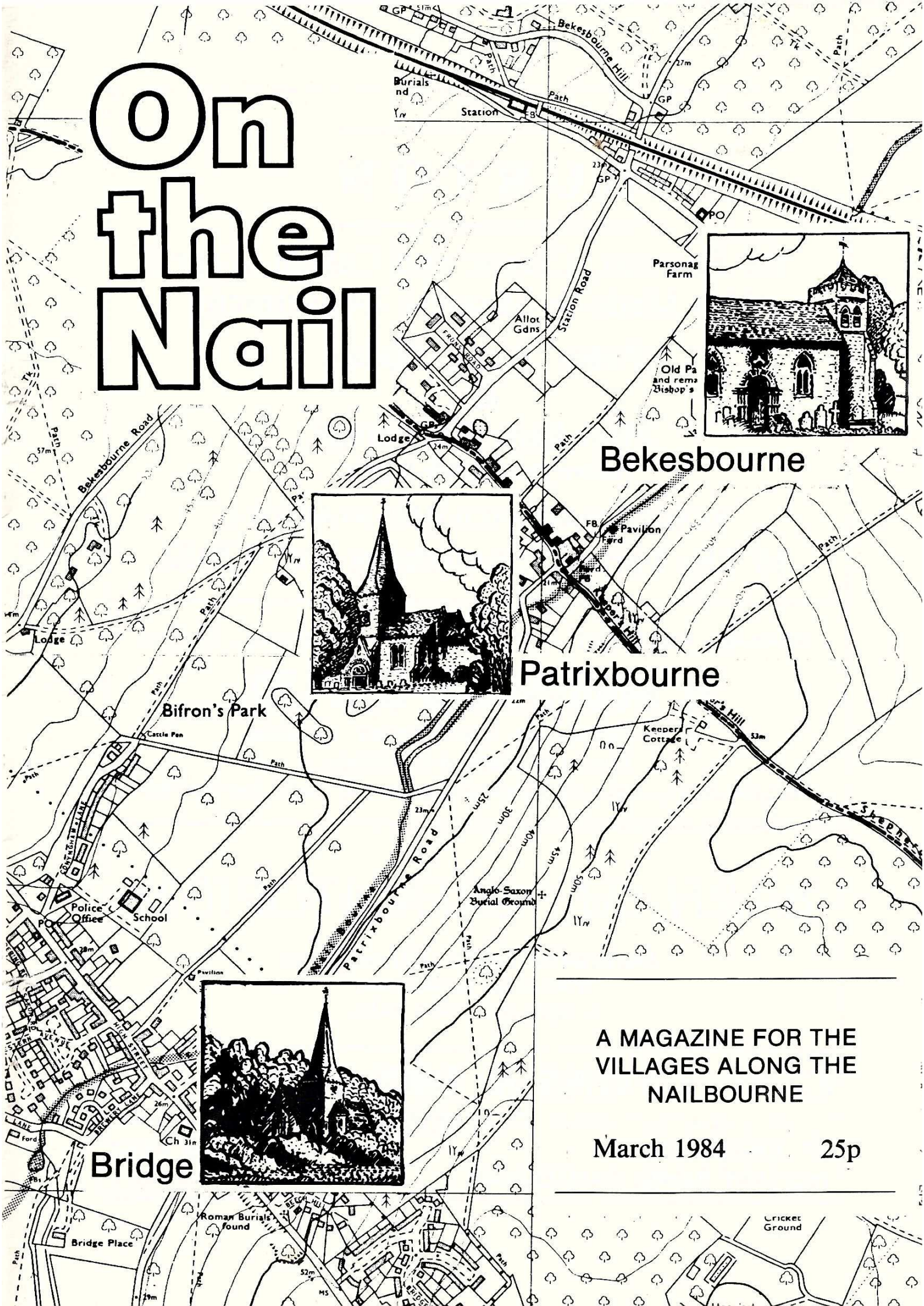
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patricbourne



Bridge

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Sunday Worship in March

Bridge	Patricbourne	Bekesbourne
4th: 11am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion
11th: 9.30 Family Communion (Series 3) 6.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
18th: 9.30 Parish Communion (Series 3) 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am Matins
25th: 8am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion	11am Matins & Holy Communion
1st April: 11am Family Service	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *4th*, Miss J.M. Anderson, *11th*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B. Met., B.D. *18th*, Mr. C.G. Robertson, *25th*, Miss E.A.K. Tressider, Ph.D.

Weekday Worship: The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays at 9.30am and Fridays (Rite A) at 7.30am, also in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am. A short informal service is held each Wednesday at 2.30pm in The New Close. Primarily for the residents, we are nevertheless always very glad to welcome visitors from outside at this service.

For your diary and prayer list

- 1st *St. David, Bishop, Patron Saint of Wales, c.601*
- 2nd *St. Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary, 672*
Women's World Day of Prayer Service, St. Peter's Bridge, 2.30pm
- 4th **Quinquagesima Sunday** *7th before Easter*
- 7th *Ash Wednesday First Day of Lent*
The School Governors meet, 4.30pm
- 8th *Edward King, Bishop of Lincoln, Teacher, Pastor*
Bridge Parish Council, 7.30pm
- 11th **First Sunday in Lent** *6th before Easter*
- 13th *Radio Kent Lent Course, 8pm*
- 17th *St. Patrick, Bishop, Patron Saint of Ireland, c.460*
Pray for Garry Post and Claire Gilham to be married at Patricbourne today.
- 18th **Second Sunday in Lent** *5th before Easter*
- 19th **St. Joseph, Husband of the B. V. Mary**
- 20th *St. Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, 687*
Bridge with Patricbourne W.I., 7pm; *Radio Kent Lent Course 8pm*
- 21st *Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1556*

22nd Bridge Parish Council AGM, The Village Hall, 7.30pm
25th **Third Sunday in Lent** 4th before Easter
British Summer Time begins. Clocks go **forward** one hour.
27th *Radio Kent* Lent Course, 8pm

Looking to the future

It is well over three years since our two parishes embraced to the full the stewardship principle, with its call on our time, abilities and money; and it is thanks entirely to the generous response then made that the Christian faith here is advancing, our church buildings are reasonably sound and we have been able to keep our heads above water financially.

But 1980's record Stewardship results will not serve for good and all. Newcomers to our churches deserve the opportunity to develop their own stewardship commitment and those who were in at the beginning need to give theirs a re-appraisal. Fresh incentives for service are appearing which were not covered in the initial programme and — do we need reminding? — inflation we always have with us.

The Parochial Church Councils of both Patrixbourne with Bridge (one parish) and Bekesbourne wish to place on record their gratitude for all that past experience of stewardship has done for the work of the Church. They also believe that the time has come to renew our giving in the three areas of stewardship and have decided that late Spring of 1984 is the right time for it.

Back to first principles

As was made abundantly clear the first time round, living the true Christian life and living according to the principles of stewardship amount to the same thing, for the call to stewardship is a call to the life of a Christian, based on the command to love God and our neighbour (*see Luke 10. 25-28*).

It acknowledges first and foremost that God is supreme over all things, that he made man in his own likeness to worship him and enjoy him for ever, and that the world's resources are given to sustain us. The Christian sees the world as God-given and, in gratitude for the gift of life and the means to preserve it, the Christian dedicates his life to God. One way he does this is by offering back to the Giver tokens of his thankfulness, using something of the time at his disposal, the skills he possesses and the money he owns, in the service of the Church of Jesus Christ, as represented in the local community: by exercising a good stewardship in fact.

Down to Brass Tacks

What this amounts to in practice is each family or church member taking the opportunity which will be presented to them of promising a carefully worked out quantity of time, talents and money for the local church to use. Future articles will try to explain in further detail.

For now, let us advise you that a Stewardship Renewal will be operated by both parishes, starting in May, that it will be different from 1980's campaign and you will be kept fully in the picture as to how you can become involved.

Watch this space and please commit Stewardship Renewal to your prayers in the ensuing interval. The following may prove useful.

Jesus, Lord and Master, teach us and all your people so to follow the pattern of your manhood that we may learn to interpret life in terms of giving, not of getting; to be faithful stewards of our time and talents and all that you have entrusted to us; and to take every opportunity of serving the needs of others and advancing your kingdom in the world, for the glory of your name.

* * *

A concerned reader was anxious to discover why no Joys and Sorrows were recorded in last month's *On The Nail*. This was not an editorial oversight, but due in part to January being an unpopular month for christenings and weddings, and also to the happy situation of there having been no deaths in either parish.

February is also a no-go month for baptisms and marriages, but three deaths have to be recorded. The Vicar officiated at Barham Crematorium twice on 2nd February, in the morning at the funeral of **George Cruttwell**, 1 Western Avenue, sadly mourned by his wife and family, and in the afternoon for **Arthur Sharp**, Churchill House. Mr. Sharp and his wife, Rhoda were only married two years ago at a quiet ceremony in St. Peter's, Bridge: it was the first wedding by residents of Churchill House.

Again, the Vicar was at Barham for the cremation of **George Ronald 'Ron' Smith** on 13th February. Mr. and Mrs. Smith moved into 3 Windmill Close on the same day the Gilberts moved into the Vicarage, and in that short time came to appreciate the unique atmosphere of Bridge. Ron had suffered a handicap for a number of years

We send our deepest sympathy to all who mourn their loved ones and pray that through God's mercy all the departed may rest in peace.

Something to look forward to

It was originally intended to hold another Spring Supper in Bridge, but the impending Stewardship Renewal has made it necessary to think in terms of a Harvest Supper instead.

Sunday School — *We're off!*

Much thought and planning, including a most useful morning at the RE Centre, Christ Church College, have meant that the long-awaited Sunday School is about to get under way. The first session will take place on Sunday 11th March.

We are grateful to the Methodist Church Council for allowing us to use their Patricbourne Road premises and it is intended to meet there each Sunday morning, except the first in the month, at 9.30am. Children of 4 years old and upwards are welcome, but we regret that we cannot take under-fours as yet.

Stories, activities, songs will be part of the staple diet. Teaching will be specifically Anglican and designed to integrate the children into the worshipping life of the Church. Most weeks they will be taken on to church to

join parents at the Eucharist in time to be blessed at the altar rail during the communion.

Please commit this thrilling new venture to your prayers.

That's the Spirit

Groups are rapidly being formed for this year's *Radio Kent* Lent Course, but there is still time to join if you wish to. Please contact Kath Pierce (830844) right away.

Each session lasts from 8pm to 10pm, and if you wish to listen in on your own, rather than join a group, remember that the new Littlebourne transmitter is now in full operation. Tune your radio to either 774kHz or 388 metres on the medium-wave band. Those on high ground should still be able to get a clear signal on 96.7Mcs VHF.

The complete five weeks, under the title *That's the Spirit* are:—

13th March	RECEIVING	The Revd. Michael Harper, Author and speaker on Charismatic matters
20th March	SHARING	Cindy Kent, Singer and Broadcaster
27th March	SPEAKING	Dr. Donald English, General Secretary of the Methodist Home Mission Division
3rd April	HEALING	Bishop Morris Maddocks, Adviser for the Ministry of Health and Healing to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York
10th April	RENEWING	Steps to Renewal in the Local Church with an invited Panel.



United Service—*Where were the Anglicans?*

If it is true that statistics can be used to prove anything, then one conclusion that could be drawn from the United Service in Bridge Church on 19th January is that Anglicans are more interested in Natural History than their Methodist or Roman Catholic friends. Why? Well there was a new David Attenborough series on *BBC1* which coincided with the service; and in the absence of land purchases needing instant examination, yokes of oxen to be proved or new brides as pretexts to have us excused then the suggested conclusion would be as good or as bad as any other. This of course brings to mind the parable in Luke XIV of the man who made his great supper only to get last-minute excuses from his expected guests — one that illustrates the vice of poor manners as well as why the chance of coming to the party was extended to the highway-tramps and hedgerow-dwellers. So also with the ideal of Unity among Christians — if we mean what we say about hoping to be at that particular party when it finally happens, then we need to remember that even the planning stages need the support of physical presence. That the service was moving needs no restatement: but we of the Anglican congregations in our two parishes were pitifully few, despite being 'hosts' in the sense that it was one of our churches that was being used. Can one not wonder

what the hearers of the parable would have made of it also had a bit about the 'great man' and his close family not turning up themselves?

Of course, another good consequence that would flow from a larger attendance from our own parishes is that it would stop those of us who were there from being so smug about it!

G.H.R.

Playgroup News

Bridge Village Playgroup is in its second years in the Village Hall. Twenty children from 2½ to 5 years old enjoy a variety of activities and visits. Recently a local librarian visited for a special storytime and the older children have visited the primary school. For further details contact Sharon Sperling on Bridge 830042, or drop in the Village Hall on a Tuesday or Thursday morning between 9am and 12 noon.



Playgroup activities: A true likeness

Watch out, Delia Smith!

CANTERBURY & VILLAGES CARERS' SUPPORT GROUP

Our Sitting-in Service has been increasingly in demand. To ensure we can continue to help the Carers of elderly people through this service, we urgently require more Volunteer Sitters.

Our Service aims to give Carers a short break by providing them with a sympathetic and responsible Sitter to stay with the person in their care. The amount of time given by Volunteers need not be great: two or three hours occasionally would be welcome. A short training course is provided so previous experience is not essential.

We would be happy to give further details. Contact either me or Mrs. Eunice Hughes at:— c/o 70 Stour Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2NW. Tel: Canterbury 51741/53946.

David Oliviere, Chairman

Happy families make happy children

The Church of England Children's Society believes that 'happy families make happy children'.

Happy families are like the Hancock family who live near our family centre in Swansea. Stevie was not yet a year old when his mother died but his dad was determined that Stevie and his brother and sister would stay with him.

The family centre was able to help by looking after Stevie during the day and by taking the older children into the after-school club. Dad collects all three on his way home from work — a family together.

Happy families are like the Nicolls family, whose mentally handicapped son, Stewart has found a 'second home' through a scheme offering respite care for the families of mentally handicapped children in Newcastle. Stewart spends holidays and weekends with his friends. There is someone ready to care for him in emergencies, like the time when Mrs. Nicolls was rushed to hospital when Mr. Nicolls was away on business.

The Children's Society cares for almost 6,000 children and families every year throughout England and Wales.

Meeting the needs of those children, young people and their families is no easy task in today's world. So many people are affected by the destructive despair of unemployment, homelessness, isolation and loneliness, truancy and delinquency, mental and physical handicap, separation amongst families and family difficulties of many kinds.

The Children's Society provides a comprehensive range of child care, always alive to innovation, prepared to explore new avenues to help those in need. It works through family centres and community projects, teenage hostels, specialist care for mentally and physically handicapped youngsters, both in residential and community settings, children's homes and fostering and adoption.

With roots firmly embedded in the Anglican faith, *The Children's Society* believes that the total care of a child must include giving him or her the opportunity of spiritual growth. It means that whatever problems may face families and children in need, it is the Society's mission to show them they are part of God's family. It is a mission that is carried through parishes all over the country who show their Christian love and concern for those in need of care through their prayers and gifts.

During Family Week, 1st to 7th April, *The Children's Society* asks everyone throughout England and Wales to think especially of families in need, through prayer and gift.

There are many ways in which you can help in your parish: a coffee morning, a bring and buy sale, a garden party, organising a door to door collection depôt or helping with a collection.

If you would like to help please contact your parish representative, Miss Mason, 33 High Street, Bridge, who will be able to tell you about the different ways in which you can help. If you would like more information about our work please write to our head office at The Old Town Hall, Kennington Road, London SE11 4QD. Telephone: 01-735 2441.

Contributed

THE PATRIBOURNE PARISH MEETING

The Annual Assembly of the above (which should not be confused with the 'Parochial Church Council') will be held at 8pm on Thursday 5th April 1984 at The Old Vicarage, Patribourne, by kind permission of Dr. & Mrs. Pratt.

J. Martin, Acting Clerk

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The Royal British Legion raised £112 at their recent Jumble Sale. Particular thanks go to all those who gave their time so willingly towards raising this excellent amount.

The next sale will be on Saturday 7th April, again in the Village Hall at 2pm. Please give it your support.

R. Hearn

* * *

Corrymeela

—a Gaelic word meaning *THE HILL OF HARMONY*.

Corrymeela is a Community of about a hundred men and women, mostly lay, of all Christian denominations, who annually dedicate themselves to be **instruments of God's peace**. All the work undertaken by the Corrymeela Community is an attempt to work out their commitment in their society to heal the breaches — social, political and religious — in Northern Ireland today.

CORRYMEELA'S OPEN VILLAGE

On the windswept and beautiful North Antrim coast near Ballycastle is Corrymeela's residential centre where over a hundred people can be accommodated in the various areas on the site. There is Coventry House, the Main House, the Youth Village and the Cottages. All these are brought together by *An Crof* (pronounced 'cree') another Gaelic word meaning 'the heart'. This beautiful and imaginative building is the worship and communal centre. In it the different groups staying on the site can meet and share.

CORRYMEELA HOUSE

In Belfast, situated near the University in one of Belfast's few mixed areas, is the non-residential nerve centre of Corrymeela's city work. It, like the Ballycastle Centre, is a place of meeting, a place of hope and peace. As well as the secretarial staff, Corrymeela House is the base for Corrymeela's community worker and youth worker.

ALL OVER NORTHERN IRELAND

The work of Corrymeela can never be confined by walls or limited to localities. Its influence is boundless and is spreading all the time through members, friends, helpers and the many people who visit Corrymeela each year.

CORRYMEELA'S WORK

A child from the dark depressing ghetto land of Belfast had a great week at Corrymeela. On her departure as she was about to board the minibus for Belfast, she looked out to sea and said, "Goodbye sea". Then looking up to the clear blue sky she said, "Goodbye sky". Lastly she looked at her new friends, helpers and leaders, with whom she had played and worshipped; to them she said, "Goodbye God". She then climbed into the 'bus for her journey back to her closed ghetto community.

● *The story of Corrymeela to be concluded next month—Ed.*



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council at its monthly meeting on 9th February found that a few matters still remained unresolved following the completion of the Village Hall improvements, and members dealt with these, which included the heating and the provision of new chairs and tables for the Hunter Room, cleaning arrangements and the lighting of the rear entrance. They found that a considerable number of chairs had been taken up to the Hunter Room from the main hall and had not been returned. They hope that the provision of new chairs will make this unnecessary in future; and that if additional chairs are again required before the new ones are delivered, they will be returned to the main hall by the organisation using them.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Council decided on the details of the agenda of the Annual Meeting on 22nd March. The report by the Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, on the work of the Council during the year, will be the principal item; and it is understood that Mr. Hammond, whose film of Bridge in festive mood was so well received at the meeting in 1981, hoped to have a further film ready by the date of the meeting. In view of this, and remembering that the meeting three years ago did not finish until nearly 11pm, members decided to omit reports from village clubs this year; though there will of course, be the opportunity to deal with any matters which club members feel should be raised. As previously, refreshments will be served during the course of the evening.

Proposed New Hotel

Exactly twelve months after learning that developers proposed to apply for planning permission for a seventy-room hotel on a site north of the flyover from the A2, permission which was only recently granted, the Chairman reported that he had had a letter from the developers' architects intimating that

they intended to ask for an increase in the size of the hotel to a hundred rooms. Although the site is in Patricbourne parish, members were concerned at this early stepping-up of the plans, and while they would not necessarily oppose the extension, they decided to seek further information from the architects and the City and County Councils.

Generally

It was agreed to erect a new steel barrier at the Patricbourne Road entrance to the Recreation Ground; Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young reported on Kent Association of Parish Councils matters, as a result of which the Council agreed to seek insurance cover for legal advice, and to examine closely the wording of the new Government circular on Green-Belt land, which was expected to be re-issued shortly; and Cllr. Mrs. Margaret Jones referred to the difficulties of two residents with wheel-chairs, a matter on which the Council decided to approach the Highway Authority with a view to lowering the kerb at a number of strategic points in the village.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday, 8th March; and, as mentioned above, the Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday, 22nd March at 7.30pm in the main hall of the Village Hall. Members hope that as many people as possible will come along to this annual opportunity to air one's views on parish affairs.

F.L. Edwards, Clerk

Bekesbourne Parish Council

Recreation Ground

At the January Meeting of the Council it was decided that the roundabout and swings are both to be repaired with, it is hoped, contributions from both Bekesbourne and Patricbourne's City Lottery allocations. If the repair of the swings is too costly they may be replaced by a smaller, new frame.

Railway Station

It was noted, with relief, that there had been some improvements and repairs carried out at the station. The wheelchair/pram access was now in operation.

Allotments

These are to be tidied up and made ready for use by the City Council's Community Programme workers, and ploughed over. Plots will be available to rent by residents of Bekesbourne and by those in other parishes. Please apply to the Parish Clerk, Mr. Croucher; telephone Canterbury 65924.

Downside Villas

Land next to Downside Villas is also to be tidied up under this scheme and the 'bus shelter painted.

Lorries

Results of a Highways Department survey had indicated no real increase in heavy traffic using Bekesbourne Lane. Councillors were not satisfied that the survey was comprehensive enough and are asking for further reports. Coal lorries in particular are using the road, sometimes in convoys of three or four.

Planning Applications

An application to build a detached house at the Aerodrome had been allowed, but local residents were disappointed at the decision. There was some discussion at the meeting with a representative from the area, but it was agreed that once permission was granted it was difficult to do anything. Another application for three houses to the rear of the Unicorn had been turned down on the grounds of poor access.

Rates

It was agreed not to increase the Parish Rate in 1984 as the allowed increase from the City Council under the Government guideline was so small.

Annual Parish Meeting

Residents will be informed by leaflets of the date of this meeting, at which there will be a speaker, and refreshments will be served.

M. Gabbé

'Fish' News

The 'Fish' Committee will be meeting on March 7th to prepare for our Annual General Meeting on April 5th. Please let me know if you have any ideas for improving our neighbourhood care scheme — we would welcome your suggestions.

Members of the Luncheon Club were please to have a farewell visit from Bill Mockett. After several months in hospital following a major operation, Bill has now gone to stay near his daughter, grandchildren and great-grandchildren on the Sussex coast. He would be delighted to have letters giving him local news (I have his new address).

The next Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday March 14th from 10.15am to 11.45am in the Village Hall.

Key Community Programme — Under this scheme the Manpower Services Commission offers work to unemployed young adults as an alternative to receiving unemployment benefit. They are employed on community projects including doing gardening, decorating and household repairs for elderly and handicapped people who cannot do it for themselves. No charge is made for this service except for materials. Last year several of our local residents benefited from this scheme. If you cannot manage your gardening, may I suggest that you let me know as soon as possible so that requests can go in before demands get heavy. I will pass on requests for other help whenever the need arises.

Joan Warren (830233)

BEKESBOURNE CLEANING ROTA FOR MARCH

Mrs. Smith, March 3rd; Mrs. Stickells, March 10th; Mrs. Hogben, March 17th; Mrs. Watson, March 25th; Mrs. Russell, April 1st.

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

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Churchwardens: Mr. C.A. Potter, 7 St. Mary's Road, Patricxbourne CT4 5BY (Bridge 830218)

Mr. D.R. Hill, Red Deer, Bridge Down, Bridge CT5 5BA (Bridge 830426)

Hon. Secretary: Mr. L.W. Sanford, 11 Windmill Close, Bridge CT4 5LY (Bridge 830411)

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, 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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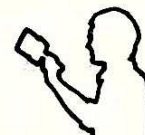
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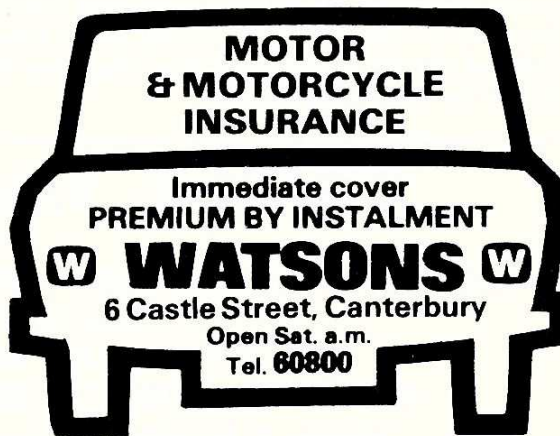
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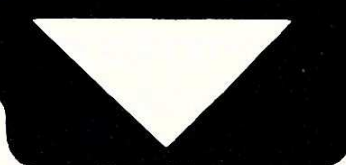
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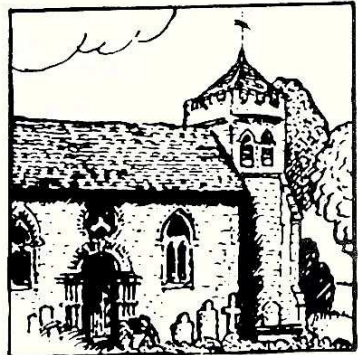
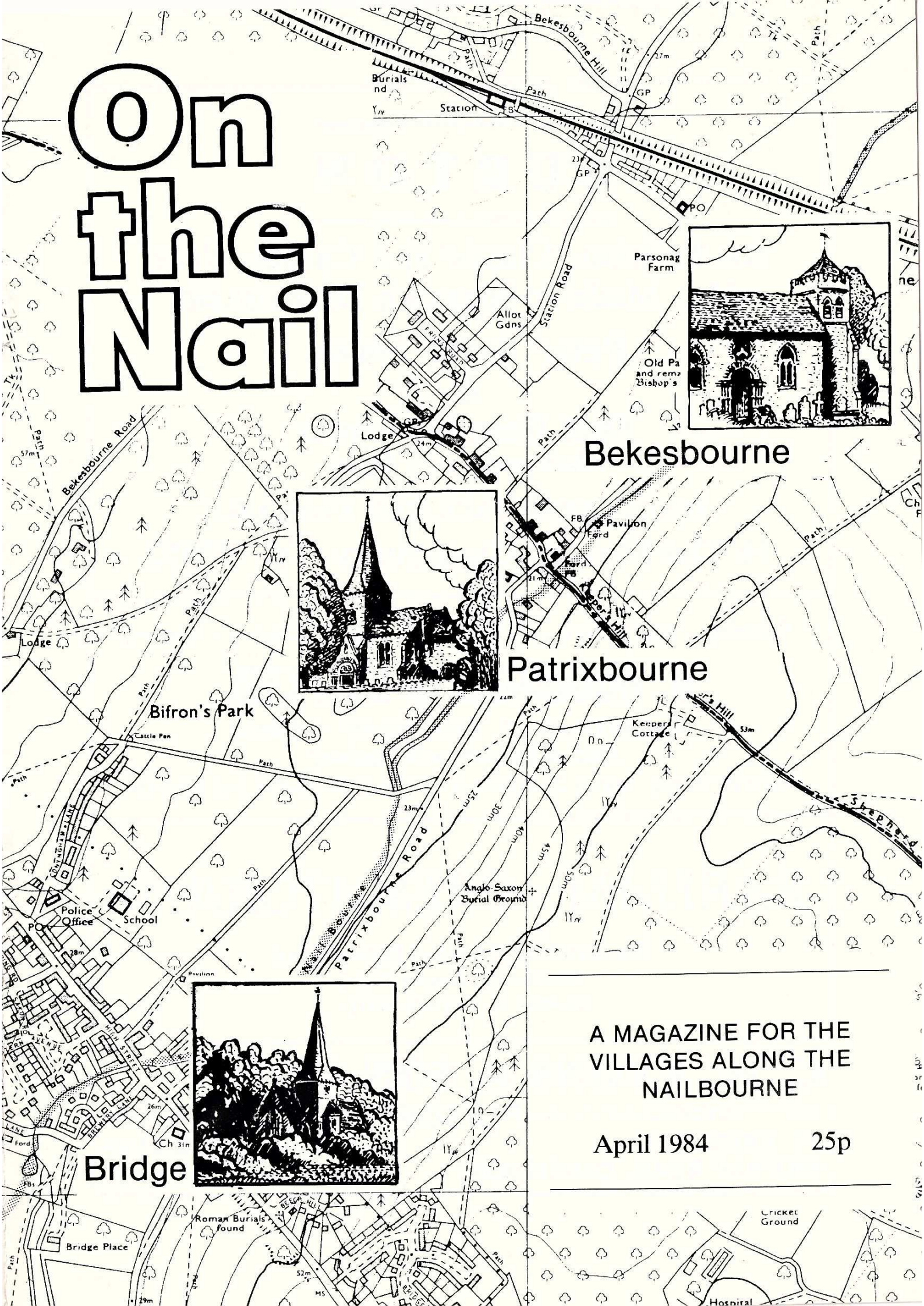
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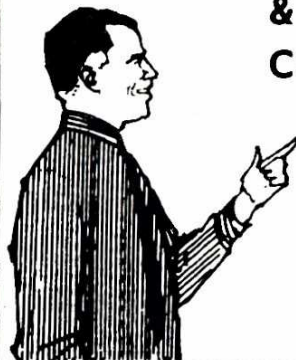
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Sunday Worship in April

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

1st:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Mothering Sunday Service

8th:

9.30 Family Communion
(Series 3)
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

15th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(Series 3)
6.30pm "The Passion of Christ" by Arthur Somervell

11am Matins
(The Revd. David Maple, Archbishop's Chaplain)

22nd: Details of Easter Day opposite

29th:

9.30 Family Communion
(Series 3)
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

6th May:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Stewardship Commissioning Service
(The Bishop of Dover)

8am Holy Communion

11am Stewardship Commissioning Service
(The Bishop of Dover)

JUNIOR CHURCH meets every Sunday except the first in the Methodist Church at 9.30am. All children between 4 and 11 years are welcome.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *1st*, Mrs. H. Fairhurst, B.Ed. *8th*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *15th*, The Revd. Ralph Pritchard, B.A. *22nd*, Mr. W.E. Ingall. *29th*, The Revd. John Turner, B.A.

Weekday Worship: The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays at 9.30am and Fridays (Rite A) at 7.30am, also in the Common Room at Churchill House on the first Wednesday of every month at 10.15am. A short informal service is held each Wednesday at 2.30pm in The New Close. Primarily for the residents, we are nevertheless always very glad to welcome visitors from outside at this service.

For your diary and prayer list

- 1st Fourth Sunday in Lent** *Mothering Sunday*
11am Bekesbourne's customary Mothering Sunday Service will be conducted by The Revd. Canon C.F. Pollard.
- 3rd** Bekesbourne Annual Church Meeting, Parsonage Farm, 8pm.
Radio Kent Lent Course, 8pm.
- 6th** Passiontide School Service, St. Peter's Bridge, 10am.
- 8th Fifth Sunday in Lent** *Passion Sunday*
- 10th** *Radio Kent* Lent Course, 8pm
- 12th** Bridge Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm

15th **Palm Sunday**

The Revd. David Maple will officiate and preach at Matins in St. Peter's, Bekesbourne. Currently the Archbishop's Diocesan Chaplain, David was for a time organist at Bekesbourne.

See below for full details of Holy Week and Easter Services

17th Junior Church Coffee Morning and Bring-and-Buy, 1 Dering Close, 10am. Bridge with Patrixbourne W.I. Birthday Meeting, 7pm.

18th Patrixbourne with Bridge Annual Church Meeting, 7.30pm.

21st Pray for Teresa Harvey and Paul Philpott to be married this afternoon in Bridge Church.

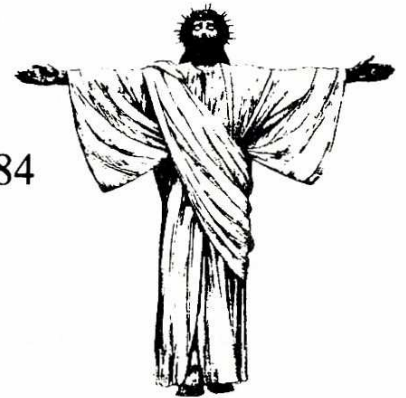
22nd **EASTER DAY**

23rd Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage: Assemble Bridge Church at 9.30am to walk to Canterbury. Bring your own lunch. All welcome.

29th **First Sunday after Easter**

May

6th Please note that the Bishop of Dover will be with us at Bekesbourne (11am) and Bridge (6.30pm) to preach and Commission the visitors in connection with Stewardship Renewal.



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER, 1984

Monday, 16th

9.30am Holy Communion (Patrixbourne)

Tuesday, 17th and Wednesday, 18th

9.30am Holy Communion (Bridge)

Maundy Thursday, 19th

8pm Sung Eucharist, commemorating the Last Supper (Bridge)

Good Friday, 20th

11am The Cross of Christ (Bekesbourne)

2pm The Last Hour, Devotions conducted by the Revd. David Steven, Parish Priest of Littlebourne.

EASTER DAY, 22nd

Bridge: 9.30am Family Eucharist } *The Vicar*
6.30pm Festal Evensong }

Patrixbourne: 8am Holy Communion *Revd. W. Owen*

Bekesbourne: 8am Holy Communion
Canon C.F. Pollard

11am Matins and Holy Communion
The Vicar

“Christ once raised from the dead dies no more.”

Stewardship Renewal '84 — Time and Talents

All too often the stewardship of time and talents comes a poor second to that of money where the Church is concerned. The reason is not difficult to see, because money occupies far more of our waking hours than consideration of time and whatever personal skills we may have.

Time

Time is something we take for granted because, well let's face it, it is inescapable. Some protest they never have enough; the workaholics who yearn for a 25-hour day. Others lament having it on their hands, because they have nothing very much to do. For all of us time travels at an irregular pace, depending on what we are about. It seems to race along when we are enjoying ourselves or approaching something we dread. On the other hand an impending celebration or glad reunion is heralded by a frustrating period of waiting that we think will never end. 'A watched pot never boils.'

Time provides a limp excuse when we want to dodge something or get out of a potential commitment we don't fancy. "I'd love to, but I really don't have the time." There's no answer to that! Conversely, it is always those we would rather *not* involve who have all the time in the world.

Such are the tricks time plays upon us, but it is part of God's creation, it pervades all life and we ought to make the most of. Stewardship Renewal sets out to be of help in the management of time. Can the Church be of service?

Talents

You may never have thought of yourself as talented, and, compared with people like Steve Ovet, Dame Janet Baker or Mike Yarwood you probably aren't. Nevertheless most of us have something we are best at. We all have some ability that enables us to get by without being confined to a life-support system, and for that we ought to thank God. His gift of life itself is an ability, a talent, even when it doesn't lead to anything very spectacular or famous. Stewardship Renewal would like to offer you the chance to utilise your talents so as to help you return thanks for them, and also make a valuable contribution to the work of the Church. Can you be of service?

Think on!

Next month Stewardship Renewal starts in earnest! In the meantime you might like to give some thought as to how best you can serve God through his Church and where the time to do so is to come from. This is not a matter for a snap decision: it needs times! See if, in a busy life, you can find it, for yourself and for the Church!

This, that and the other

Junior Church

Sunday, 11th March was a milestone in our Church life with the re-opening on entirely new lines of Bridge's Junior Church. Great excitement accompanied the first session in the Methodist Church when some thirty-four children assembled with equally excited teachers to set off this fresh venture.

Spearheading the enterprise is Hilary Pike, ably assisted by Pennie Spencer and Sylvia Wraitt; and a number of others are to join a rota of teachers.

In order to ease the burden of paying for necessary equipment a Coffee Morning *cum* Bring-and-Buy is to be held at 1 Dering Close on Tuesday, 17th April from 10am till 12 noon, to raise funds. Do please support it!

Mothing Sunday

Although it is not a date for an 11am Service, Bekesbourne Church will follow its custom of many years and have a special Mothing Sunday Service on 1st April. Always a popular occasion, we hope those who traditionally support it will do so this year, despite Bridge's Family Service taking place at the same time and obviously adopting the same theme. We confidently expect support for both will be plentiful.

TV Vicar

The Cathedral currently being without a Precentor—my successor left in January—your vicar has been asked to return on a number of occasions over Easter to cope with some of the special singing rôles that are the Precentor's lot and which call for a certain amount of expertise. Principal among them is the *Exultet*, an extended piece of solo, unaccompanied singing that features in the ceremonies of Easter Eve and which takes place around midnight on Holy Saturday.

If you have never been to an Easter Vigil you have missed a wonderful experience, for it is a service quite unlike any other in the Church of England. This year you will be able to attend from your armchair because the service at the Cathedral is to be televised live on BBC2. Not only can you, therefore, savour this beautiful ceremony with the lighting of the New Fire and the Paschal Candle but also see your vicar on the box in a starring rôle. The ceremony is to be recommended; modesty forbids me to comment on the latter, but I thought you would like to know!

God's Signature —by The Revd. M. Peter Taylor

Do you ever receive letters from people whose signature you cannot decipher? Some of these are little more than scrawls, and the only resemblance to their names is the capital letter. I suppose they become like that because they are used so much, on cheques, letters and for other times when something unique to a person is called for; even typed letters have a signature at the bottom to give that personal element. It is also a sign of commitment—if a legal document is signed then it becomes binding. It may sound strange, but I think of Jesus Christ as God's Signature. Let me explain myself.

We are deep into Lent, with Easter looming large, and at this time we remember the death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It may seem odd that we remember something that happened so long ago in such a special way. What makes Jesus Christ so special? One of the reasons that we do this is because we see in him something of God himself, something of his deep, rich love for all people.

Why did God choose to show that love in this way? What better way is there to show love than to do so in the form of a human being? It is so personal a way, one which we can easily understand. What sort of love does Jesus show us? It is the love of total commitment. In Jesus we see no half-heartedness, no short measures. When he could have done with some sleep

and rest, Jesus so often spent time in prayer with God, or allowed time for people to come to him. He gave his all as he preached to the crowds, as he taught his disciples, as he healed the sick, as he challenged the complacent and the proud.

In Christ we see something that is personal and unique to God, and it is a sign of God's commitment to us—God's Signature. At Easter we celebrate the total commitment of Christ—that is, how he was prepared to give his all for the sake of others, for the sake of God. Perhaps this Easter we should look at our own commitment to others, to God; examine how and where we give our time, talents and money. Maybe we need to change the pattern of our giving, and maybe as for God's Signature, our signatures will need to be in the shape of a cross.



A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

by the Rural Dean

Some Greeks were among those who had gone to Jerusalem . . . they went to Philip and said, "Sir, we want to see Jesus".

John 12, vv 20 — 21

For almost three thousand years people have nurtured ambitions to visit the holiest of all cities—Jerusalem. Many have made long journeys to do so; many have waited years to save enough money to do so. Few who have achieved their ambition have been disappointed—I certainly wasn't. To visit the holy places whose names are so familiar to us from our reading of the gospels is an experience of a life time; just to look at the Mount of Olives or the garden of Gethsemane, to stand at or within a few yards of the place where Jesus was crucified, to see the traditional site of the empty tomb make the events which we hear and sing about spring to life. The whole life of Jesus takes on a new meaning: his ministry is put into perspective.

Whilst the cities have grown and there is the inevitable commercialisation, the countryside is much as Jesus would have seen it—rough and mountainous. The road from Jerusalem (2,300 ft above sea level) to Jericho (1,300 ft below sea level) follows the same route and is just as lonely except for the occasional Bedouin camp. In Spring, I believe the countryside is very beautiful.

I am sure that there are enough people in our Deanery who would like to make this pilgrimage. It would need to be for 12 to 14 days, otherwise it is too difficult to fit in all the places without it being hurried. I am thinking of May, 1985. With inflation running at 400% per annum in Israel it would be foolish to be precise about cost. I reckon each person must be prepared to save £600 (on the basis of sharing a bedroom with someone else).

For all who are interested, an illustrated talk will be given jointly by Mr. Norman Wareham and me in Preston Village Hall on Tuesday, 17th April at 7.30pm. Please come whether or not you are contemplating a pilgrimage.

Desmond Sampson

Youth Group

A discussion group for young people began during the Christmas holidays. It was most successful and was well attended by young people between the ages of thirteen and eighteen. The discussions covered a wide range of subjects and it is hoped that the group will continue to meet through the Easter holidays. The first meeting is to be at 14 Brewery Lane on 18th April at 7.30pm. All young people are welcome to come.

We are also holding an all-night Cook-in to raise money for charity. The idea is for the group to cook through the night on Good Friday in order to sell their cakes on the Saturday. PLEASE COME AND BUY THE CAKES on Easter Eve, Saturday 21st April, from 9.30am onwards in the Village Hall, Bridge. The cakes will be reasonably priced and by supporting us you will be helping the young people of Bridge and Patricbourne to support charity.

Alicia Pentin

Good Works

A child receives a 'pat on the back' from a relation, a friend or a teacher for something which has been completed or worked out: a small acknowledgement of something well done or bravely attempted.

In more subtle ways adults, too, need encouraging. They have a need to be shown that the world acknowledges what is good. For Christians, this means gratitude for everything achieved through God, who made the world and all who live in it.

Jesus said to his followers: 'Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven'. This is not a demand for results rewarding to ourselves, but a request that what we do should reflect the goodness of God.

Anyone who gives money to *Christian Aid* for a new pump or standpipe in India, for example, naturally wants to know that water is gushing out at the other end—not so that the donor sees value for his money, but so that God's children are fed.

Christian Aid is not just a provider; it is more of a pump primer, an enabler. It is a partnership of people, reaching across frontiers and faiths, aiming to support local groups and families in what they can do to improve their food and water supply, their jobs, their state of health, and their ability to live life to the full.

Depressing though most world news is, there is an antidote of hope in much of what the churches in areas of poverty and strife manage to achieve. Good is seen to work. It is our privileged task to contribute money to it and in *Christian Aid Week* to invite our whole community to do the same.

Muriel Packer brings this from Christian Aid down to the local scene:

May 14th to 19th, 1984, is Christian Aid Week. This is when we are all asked to prime the pump and enable Christian Aid to continue its support for so many people in desperate need of help. We need enablers in our parishes—volunteers for the house-to-house collections so that we may be sure that everyone who is willing to contribute is given the opportunity to do so.

Anyone over the age of sixteen can collect envelopes and younger people can help to distribute them

We already have a devoted hard core of volunteers but need more to be sure of covering the whole of Bridge, Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne. Can you help? If so, please ring me as soon as possible so that I can plan our campaign.

Muriel Packer (830364)



Corrymeela

- The conclusion of the article in last month's *On The Nail*.

CORRYMEELA—a Gaelic word meaning THE HILL OF HARMONY

Corrymeela is common ground, a place where both sides of the sectarian divide feel at home and at ease. All are accepted in the open friendly atmosphere which is so evident everywhere, especially in the kitchen area where tea is always on the go, bringing people together and breaking down the many barriers. All sections of society visit the centres, find rest, peace and — above all — hope for a way forward through the violence and troubles in Northern Ireland.

The programme at Corrymeela throughout the year is diverse and often challenging. Tullio Vinay from Agape who opened Corrymeela in 1965, said that Corrymeela was to be a challenge to the conditioning of people's minds. A little girl informed one of the leaders that her mother knew what was wrong with Northern Ireland. "It's them Protestants." "But I'm a Protestant", replied the leader. "Not when you're at Corrymeela", stated the girl. At Corrymeela you do not need to whisper. Fear is no longer the predominant emotion. Love and trust develop to take its place and a people find the possibility of real freedom of thought.

On the occasion of his unique mission of peace to Ireland, the Pope said:

"Every human being has inalienable rights that must be respected. Each human community — ethnic, historical, cultural or religious — has rights which must be respected. Peace is threatened every time one of these rights is violated . . .

On my knees I beg you to turn away from the paths of violence and to return to the ways of peace. You can claim to seek justice. I too believe in justice and seek justice. But violence only delays the day of justice. Violence destroys the work of justice. Further violence in Ireland will only drag down to ruin the land you claim to love and the values you claim to cherish."

CORRYMEELA LINK

Corrymeela Link is the appointed agent for the Corrymeela Community on this side of the Irish Sea. The Links services existing support and encourages and co-ordinates new interest from the Shetlands to the Channel Islands. Speakers, films, slide/tape features, exhibitions, literature and other information and educational services are available on application. Your interest and your support are vital if the work of the Corrymeela Community is to grow and to develop. Having read this it is hoped that you will want to find out more about the work of peace and reconciliation. Your enquiries will be very welcome. Please contact The Co-ordinator, Corrymeela Link, P.O. Box 118, Reading.

Contributed

N.S.P.C.C.

A new fund raising group has been formed in Bridge under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Irene Roe of Conamore, Patricbourne Road, Bridge (Tel: 830891).

Any support or assistance for this worthy cause—the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children—would be most welcome. *I.A. Roe*



Bridge Parish Council

The March meeting of the Parish Council opened, as previously, with matters concerning the

Village Hall

and members were told by Cllr. Ken Greenaway that a few small items to meet the requirements of the Fire Department were still outstanding, and that the existing licence would lapse at the end of the month if this work was not carried out soon. The Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, agreed to speak to Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin, the architect, on the subject. Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young undertook to draft formal conditions to cover the letting of the Hall, and to make enquiries regarding new folding tables for the Hunter Room. Twenty-four folding chairs would be ordered, and a grant sought from the Lottery Fund.

Recreation Ground

Bridge Lions Football Club have confirmed that they will not be playing next season, and the Council had before it an application by Brymore Sports F.C. to use the ground, together with a letter from Cllr. Gulvin, an official of the Sunday League, asking that arrangements be made for the pitch to be allocated by the League. Members favoured the club's application, but agreed to look further into the matter.

Streets and Footways

Complaints had been made to the Council regarding the state of Union Road as a result of the two considerable construction jobs at present being carried out there, and it was agreed to

take the matter up with the contractors; while further complaints had been made about dumping of refuse on the wide verge in Mill Lane. This latter is a perennial problem and councillors commented that some well-known local inhabitants were among the offenders, on this site and elsewhere in the village. They make a strong appeal to the persons concerned to desist from this unsocial practice, and hope that on this occasion the appeal will meet with a better response, following as it does the Chairman's letter about street sweeping.

Generally

The Council decided that they could not support an application from the PTA for a grant from the Lottery Fund for the provision of secondary lighting and illuminated exit signs at the School Hall; to increase part of their insurance cover; and noted that the County Council did not consider the increase in the size of the new hotel, to which we referred last month, would make a significant difference to the traffic flow; while members were particularly gratified that the Badminton Club, which had had some reservations regarding the improvements to the Village Hall, had written to the Chairman to express their appreciation of the new amenities.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall, at 7.30pm on Thursday, 12th April, and will deal with, amongst other matters, those raised at the Annual Meeting on 22nd March.

F.L. Edwards, Clerk

Nailbourne Protection Society

Strong representations were made at the Public Inquiry at Bossingham on 14th and 15th February, against the proposal to grub out Quilters and Featherley Woods and convert to arable land. At the Inquiry it was claimed on behalf of the Appellant that standard trees would not be grubbed out. The Appellant was represented by a Q.C., and did not give evidence himself.

Bossingham Hall was packed at the commencement of the Inquiry and a good public attendance was maintained until the close at 4.30pm on the second day. Many organisations and individual members of the public spoke against the proposals.

The Nailbourne Protection Society collected and submitted a total of 587 letters of objection. Many thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Childs of Bridge Village Shop (who collected 164), Mr. Percival of Barham Post Office (107), Ray and Jean Davies of Bishopsbourne Post Office (91), and the 225 others.

A decision is now awaited from the Secretary of State for the Environment. It must be hoped that our lovely Kent countryside will not be defaced permanently on account of one person's financial gain.

Ian Taylor, Hon. Sec.

'Fish' News

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday April 5th at 7.30pm. Everyone will be welcome at the meeting—it is an opportunity to discuss the working of the scheme and to plan improvements.

The Blossom Tour will be held on Wednesday 2nd May. The coach leaves Bridge at 2.15pm for a trip through the country, stops at Chilham for a Cream Tea, and returns at about 5.00pm. Priority will be given to elderly people living alone or who have difficulty getting about. Transport by car to the pick-up point can be arranged. Please contact me by 20th April if you would like to come with us.

The next Coffee Pop-in will be on Wednesday 11th April in the Village Hall from 10.15 to 11.45am.

Joan Warren (830233)

NAILBOURNE PROTECTION SOCIETY A.G.M.

A short A.G.M. of the Society will be held at Kingston Barn on Friday 6th April 1984 at 7.30pm followed by an address, "THE NAILBOURNE RIVER", by Mr. C. Cotton of the Southern Water Authority. This will be an opportunity to understand the geology of the Valley and the reasons why the Nailbourne River sometimes flows.

Members and non-members welcome. Ample parking. Refreshments. Inquiries to Mr. Ian Taylor, Hon. Sec., 3 Whitelocks Close, Kingston (830039).

CLEANING ROTA FOR ST.PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE

April 1st, Mrs. Russell; 8th, Mrs. Grey; 15th, Mrs. Beckett; 22nd, Mrs. Smith; 29th, Mrs. Stickells.

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, Patricbourne CT4 5BY (Bridge 830218)

Mr. D.R. Hill, Red Deer, Bridge Down, Bridge CT5 5BA (Bridge 830426)

Hon. Secretary: Mr. L.W. Sanford, 11 Windmill Close, Bridge CT4 5LY (Bridge 830411)

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C.A. Potter, 7 St. Mary's Road, Patricbourne CT4 5BY (Bridge 830218)

Organist (Bridge): Mr. D. Mathew, 27 Rivercourt, Chartham CT4 7JN (Canterbury 731548)

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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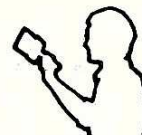
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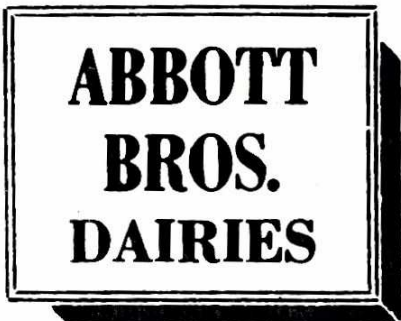
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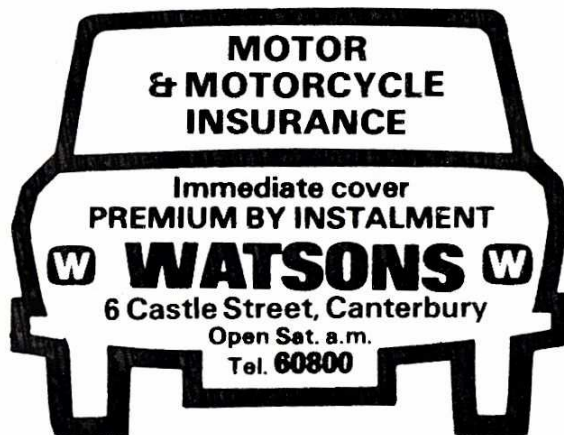
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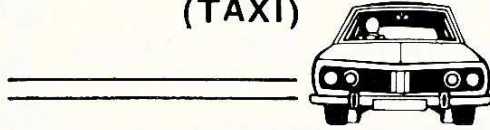
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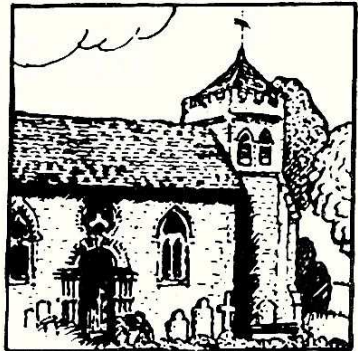
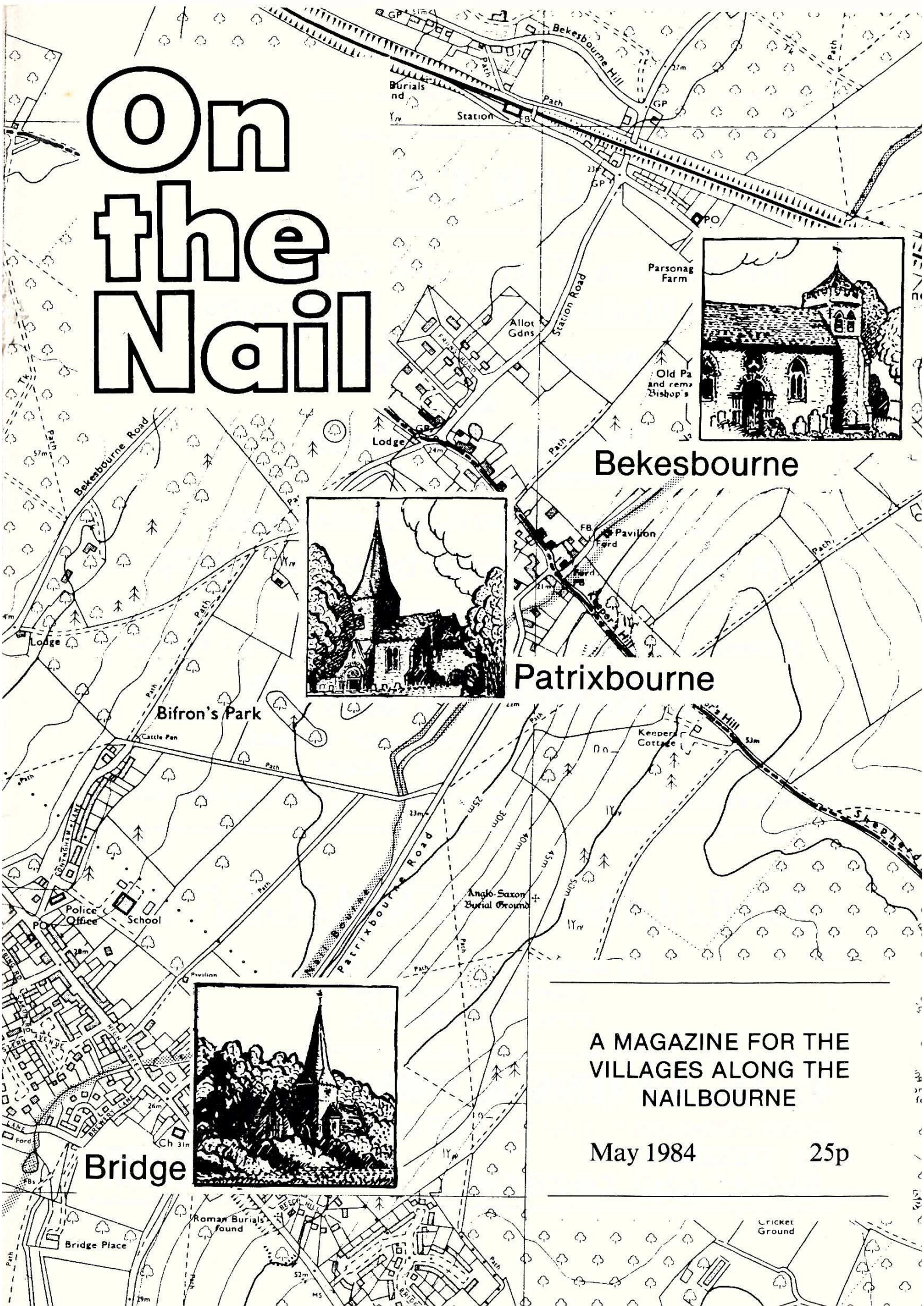
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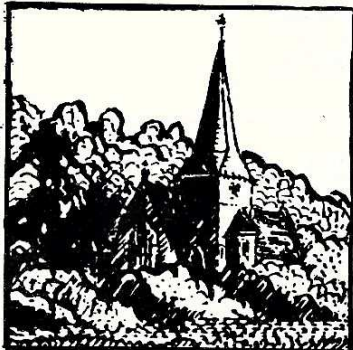
On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

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May 1984

25p

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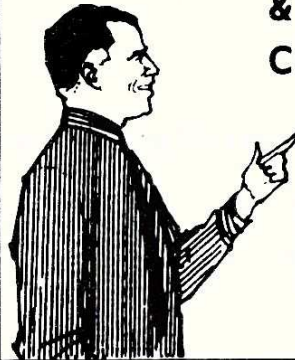
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Sunday Worship in May

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

6th:

11am Family Service
(Miss M. Ambrose)

6.30pm Stewardship
Commissioning
Service
(Bishop of Dover)

8am Holy Communion

11am Stewardship
Commissioning
Service
(Bishop of Dover)

13th:

9.30 Family Communion
(Series 3)

6.30pm Evensong &
Commissioning of
Christian Aid
Collectors

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

20th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(Series 3)

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

27th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins with
Holy Communion

3rd June:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

JUNIOR CHURCH meets every Sunday except the first in the Methodist Church at 9.30am. All children from 4 to 11 years are welcome. Where appropriate parents may care to join the 9.30 service in St. Peter's Church while their children are at Junior Church.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 6th, Dr. D. Rosman. 13th, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. 20th, The Revd. Ian Laird. 27th, Church Anniversary, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor. N.B. The 90th Chapel Anniversary Celebrations will begin on Tuesday, 22nd at 7.30pm, when the speaker will be the former minister, The Revd. Raymond J. Bradshaw.

Weekdays: Holy Communion is celebrated on Wednesdays at 9.30am and Fridays (Rite A) at 7.30am in St. Peter's, Bridge; also on the first Wednesday at 10.15am in the Common Room, Churchill House. A short informal service at The New Close takes place each Wednesday from 2.30pm till 3, to which non-residents are always most welcome.

For your diary and prayer list

1st **St. Philip & St. James, Apostles**

2nd *St. Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, Teacher, 373*

6th **Second Sunday after Easter**

Stewardship Renewal Visitors will be commissioned by the Bishop of

Dover for both parishes. (*For times, see service list above.*) It is imperative that we all attend these services as appropriate, unless it is absolutely impossible for us to do so. For one thing we must be there to welcome our area bishop, but chiefly the visitors depend on our prayers and support in the task they have volunteered to assume. Please don't let them down!

8th *Julian of Norwich, Mystic, c1417*

The Archdeacon visits our parishes from 2.30pm

10th: The Bishop of Dover visits our parishes from 5 - 7.30pm. Bridge Methodists hold Coffee Morning and Sale in The Church, Patricbourne Road 10.30 - 12 noon. Bridge Parish Council meets 7.30pm.

12th WI Promotion Day, Bridge Village Hall, open to all-comers.

Pray for Lorraine Phipps and Timothy Mackey, to be married at Patricbourne today.

13th **Third Sunday after Easter**

During Evensong those who have volunteered to conduct the Christian Aid Week house-to-house collection will be commissioned for that task.

15th Churchwardens and Sidesmen from both parishes are requested to attend the Archdeacon's Visitation in the Cathedral, when they are formally admitted to office.

Bridge & Patricbourne WI, Village Hall, 7pm

20th **Fourth Sunday after Easter**

25th *Venerable Bede, Priest, Monk of Jarrow, 735*

26th *St. Augustine, First Archbishop of Canterbury, 605*

27th **Fifth Sunday after Easter Rogation Sunday**

29th Ecumenical Group meets in the Methodist Church, 7.30pm. All are welcome to this open group which exists to foster relationships with members of other churches.

30th Canterbury Diocesan Synod invites the public to attend a debate on *The Church and the Bomb* in the Cathedral Nave at 7.30pm. The Archbishop will be in the Chair and guests speakers include Bishop Mark Santer and the Revd. Richard Harries, Dean of King's College, London.

31st **ASCENSION DAY**

Holy Eucharist (Rite A) in St. Peter's, Bridge at 8pm

STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL '84—Money

“You can say what you like, but it's all to do with money!” Such is the glib way some people — and perhaps you are one of them — size up Christian Stewardship. Well I suppose if that's how you insist on seeing it there isn't very much point in arguing. Except — and it must be said — you've got it all wrong!

First principles

Christian Stewardship involves giving back to God regularly and proportionately of our time, our abilities and our money in grateful response for all God's goodness to us.

That is the basis on which Stewardship Renewal '84 is being run and that is the message we will be trying to get across. If it was just your money we were

after we would not be going to all this bother: I could think of any number of instantaneous and highly productive fund-raising schemes. Also, if it was all to do with money your Church would say so: after all it is not in the business of hoodwinking.

Saying which, of course, we *are* concerned with money for several reasons: first, the Church would be sunk without it; secondly, every parish in England has its financial commitments (and who hasn't); thirdly, money is part of God's world and is therefore a cause for thanksgiving; fourthly, money figures in all our lives and a consideration of Stewardship that neglected it would not be true to the principle; fifthly, money is not a dirty word and giving it forethought is not a sub-Christian activity.

So your Church makes no bones about asking you to bring monetary giving into the reckoning. The Church needs money, and the opportunity to budget that planned giving affords enables the Church as a body to make a good stewardship of it. It is not up to me to blind you with figures; suffice it for me to solicit your support in this aspect of Stewardship also. I know you will rise to the occasion!

Family Chat — Joys without number

Mothers

It was with a certain amount of trepidation that Bekesbourne and Bridge held Mothering Sunday services at the same time. We might have known our fears would be unfounded, for in the end both churches enjoyed capacity congregations and services that heartened everyone present.

At Bridge we had a charming little song/hymn from the children of the Junior Church, the baptism of a future member and flowers galore. Most of us felt we had never known the like.

Bekesbourne's traditional, highly popular service was left in the very capable hands of Canon Clifford Pollard, Diocesan Director of Education, who greatly relished the occasion. Churchwarden Stan Grey thought the flowers were even better than last year, and it was he who was instrumental in involving more of the youngsters in the service. The following prayer, written specially and off her own bat by Helen Ash, also featured in the service, and is here reproduced because I feel it deserves wider publication.

Dear Lord,

We pray for those in this world who have no homes,
no families,
no resources.

Thank you for everything we have in our lives.

Let us also pray for those who have no food and for those who suffer from famine, floods and drought.

Let it be possible for those more fortunate like ourselves, to use the resources that you have given us to help others.

Let us show mercy for the poor, compassion for the sick and let us be generous in our ways and able to share our knowledge of family love to others' advantage, so that we can all benefit. Amen.

Children

Junior Church is settling into a regular pattern that is far from being a rut. On the second Sunday the church congregation has ample time after its post-service coffee to pop across to the Junior Church and share the closing minutes of their time. The following week the rôles are reversed and it is the children who march over to the church behind their banner to join the Parish Communion at the Offertory. This means that the two ages of the community come together on two occasions each month, and this is deemed a most important link to make. On the fourth Sunday Junior Church has it to themselves.

I must place on record the deep gratitude we owe to our Methodist friends for letting us use the chapel in this way, although I know—because he told me—that Pat Grant the Church Steward is every bit as excited about it as we are, and sees it as the answer to Methodist as well as Anglican prayers. The work of the Holy Spirit is certainly discernable in this ecumenical venture. *Deo gracias!*



The Church of the future
Photos: Stephen Pike



Joys and Sorrows

Baptized at Bridge's Mothering Sunday Family Service was **Elizabeth Claire Johnson**, 'Owletts', Beech Hill.

Patricbourne Church was the scene for the wedding on 17th March of **Claire Gilham** and **Garry Post**.

Recently bereaved are the families of **Philip Pattenden**, Garden Cottage, Meadow Close and **Albert Richardson**, 12 Brewery Lane. Our sympathy goes out to them in their sad loss, together with the prayer that the souls of the departed through the mercy of God may rest in peace.

* * *

We hope, from time to time, to include in On The Nail reports from Bridge School that may be of interest to a wider public. Here we go with the Head-teacher's first digest of

SCHOOL NEWS

The last term saw eight five-year-olds join the school in the reception class. The dark and cold January days went by with little interruption to school routine.

At the end of January the class of oldest children, accompanied by Mr. Windess and some parents, visited the Imperial War Museum as part of their project on the years 1936 - 1953.

In mid-February on a cold Friday morning all the Juniors went to the Gulbenkian Theatre to see a most interesting scientific drama entitled *The Snatch*. Some of the older children followed this up by carrying out some scientific work on pulleys and levers.

This term there has been an open invitation for parents to assemblies on Friday mornings. Among other things, they have seen an assembly on Dr. Barnado organised by a student on teaching practice with J3, a Brass Group directed by Mr. David Cutting, some musical items including *Swingin' Samson* (J4) and the reception class with an "Incham" dance-drama. The pre-Easter Service was held in the church on 6th April.

We look forward to a new term and opportunities that it will create for the children of Bridge School.

Brian Farley

THE PASSION OF CHRIST

The place of Evensong on Palm Sunday, 15th April was devoted to an excellent performance of *The Passion of Christ* by Arthur Somervell, given by Bridge Church Choir and members of The Occasional Singers. Soloists were Bettina Walker (Soprano), Helen Floyd (Contralto), Raymond Gilbert (Tenor) and Bill Rose (Bass) and the performance was directed by Dennis Mathew, who also played the organ.

Arthur Somervell, who studied under Stanford and Parry, was a contemporary of Elgar and was in the great tradition of English choral composers. It was a pity that more people could not have attended this musical meditation.

J. J. Williamson

Churchyard upkeep

By the time you read this our Spring Blitz on the churchyard (notice of which had to be by word of mouth) will have taken place, hopefully with noticeable results. Of course one stint won't serve for the season, so in an attempt to keep everywhere looking tidy, as any churchyard should, we are trying to interest able-bodied readers in our 'Adopt-a-Grave' scheme. The idea is that volunteers (and we hope you will join us) offer to care for an untended grave or group of graves.

The scheme met with a limited, although enthusiastic response last year, and we would like, if possible, to expand it until no area of the churchyard is left to become a wilderness again. It would be splendid if those who still lovingly tend family graves did not see their efforts surrounded by an unkempt waste-land. Could we appeal particularly to anyone who has family buried in Bridge churchyard, it may be parents, to lend a hand in this way.

If you are able and have the time to 'Adopt-a-Grave' do please get in touch with the Vicar or with me on 830489.

Alan Jackson

Here and There

A Beauty Demonstration by Ricemans of Canterbury was organised by the local fund-raising group of the NSPCC. Held in the home of Mrs. Irene Roe the evening was well supported and raised £40. *Evelyn Andrews, Secretary*

The Royal British Legion's Jumble Sale on 7th April raised £58. The help given by the many volunteers, who not only contributed items for sale but also helped on the day itself, was much appreciated. *Richard Hearn*

HOSPITAL

The AGM of the Bridge Branch of the League of Friends was held on 29th March. The Chairman, Colonel R.F. Hearn was re-elected for another year, together with all the other members of the committee who offered themselves for re-election. The branch's activities over the past year were reviewed and the very considerable assistance which the League was giving to the hospitals in the Canterbury area was highlighted.

It was proposed that the branch should now realise some of its assets and put aside £2,500 to purchase a major item of equipment for the Kent & Canterbury Hospital. This will now be processed. The Chairman stressed the need for still wider support and the need for volunteers not only to help in the League's fund-raising activities, but also to serve on the committee.

The next fund-raising activity will be a Scrabble Drive in the Village Hall on Thursday, 14th June at 2.30pm. Please come and support this new venture.

R.F.H.

HOSPICE HELP

Bridge Methodists are holding a Coffee Morning and Sale on 10th May from 10.30am to 12 noon at The Church, Patricbourne Road. The proceeds will go to the Pilgrim's Hospice and Drought-stricken Africa. Please support this venture.

BRIDGE TENNIS CLUB

At the well-attended A.G.M. on March 28th, 1984 in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall, two members did not stand for re-election: John Hodgson retired as Chairman after five years at the helm, and Alan Stingemore similarly as a Committee member. Both were warmly thanked for their contribution to Club efforts in playing matches and all fund-raising events.

The new officers are: Dermot Stewart, Chairman; Tony Pratt, Treasurer; Hilary Whiting, Secretary; and the Committee are Steven Clare, John Harris, John Hill, Rachel Holland, Jim James, Clive Medhurst, Pat Sandercock and Steve Sutton. Co-oped members are Anna Grice and Anne-Marie Harrison. Joan Hill was thanked for all her time spent in coaching new players, and will be taking another group of interested beginners in May this year.

The Season will commence on April 28th with an American Tournament starting at 2.00pm. Any new members will be welcome to come along and join in!

H. W.

BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

1984 is Promotion Year, and as our contribution we are having an 'Open Day' in the Village Hall on Saturday, 12th May from 10am to 12.30 and from 2 to 4.30pm. Do come along and see what we get up to. We certainly sing *Jerusalem* and make jam, but we also work in the community and do lots of other interesting things too. There will be displays of crafts, demonstrations, a stall, raffle, tea and coffee.

M.E.J

BRIDGE SCHOOL EMERGENCY

The news, recently broken, that our school is to lose a teacher next September has spurred the Parent Teacher Association into action.

Falling numbers (the Education Office estimates 148 by Spring 1985) means we no longer qualify for a head teacher and six assistants, and one must be redeployed by next term. Local concern fears for the effects of this reduction on the standards at the school, which means a less satisfactory education for our children. It is also a sad prospect to be forced to lose a member of a team that has rendered such exemplary service over many years.

The PTA thinks the official estimate is way out and based on insufficient knowledge of local housing and potential, and consequently calls on the whole community to prove its point. They are asking us all to find fourteen children to bring the roll up to the required standard and so preserve the status quo.

Have you a child who will be five in a year's time? If so, have you registered him or her at the school? Admission is not automatic, so get into touch with the school right away if you haven't already done so. What about that HOUSE SOLD notice next door? Do the new people have children of Bridge School age that the school ought to know about? It would add to their welcome to be told of the fine primary school at Bridge.

The prospect immediately ahead is gloomy indeed and threatens the good name of the school, not to mention the livelihood of one member of staff. The PTA is determined to find these missing children for surely they must be *somewhere* in the wide catchment area we have. Sadly, time is not on our side! We know *you* are, so do what you can! There is a lot at stake!

Christian Aid Week May 14-19, 1984

The theme for this year's week is *Good Works*. This is not just an exhortation to *do* good works. It is also a statement of faith, supported by facts: facts like the success of rehabilitating children crippled by polio at the Centre for Re-education in the town of Tenkodogo in Upper Volta; facts like the nine out of ten people who can now read and write in Nicaragua as against two out of ten in 1978; facts like the health service set up in a poor and neglected area of India to train someone from every village as a health worker. These and many other projects all over the world are supported by Christian Aid on the principle of encouraging local initiative to meet local needs. These are the 'Good Works' in which we are privileged to play our part during Christian Aid Week 14-19 May. The 'Good Works' are taking place, our task is to provide the funds.

This is the month when we are giving especial thought and prayer to Stewardship renewal and it is surely appropriate that Christian Aid Week falls in the middle of this month. There could be no greater challenge to our commitment to our church than the words of the patron saint of Bridge and Bekesbourne in his first letter: "That they may by your good works glorify God". Patricxbourne might add Mary's words from the Magnificat: "He hath filled the hungry with good things". This is our faith. Let us show it in our deeds.

Muriel Packer



Bridge Parish Council

Bridge School

At the April meeting of the Council Mrs. A. King, Chairman of the School PTA spoke to members on the staffing position at the school. The roll of pupils had fallen to 148, and the Education Officer had said that this would necessitate the transfer of a teacher at the start of the new term in September. The staffing figure was based on the assumed number of pupils next April, and no allowance had been made for additional pupils from, for instance, the new development at 'The Close', although an increase to only 160 would have enabled a teacher to stay. The age spread in each class would be increased by the transfer, as would class sizes, already too large. The Council decided to take the matter up with the Education Officer, after seeking any information which the developer of the Union Road property might have regarding the families likely to occupy the new dwellings; and Mrs. King would be glad to hear from anyone whose child is likely to start at the school by next April.

Village Hall

Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin said that outstanding problems at the Hall appeared to have been solved, though the heating of the Hunter Room remained very unsatisfactory, and he would arrange to have the heater checked. The Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, had organised the delivery of the piano donated by Mr. Mockett to the Hall, and Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young said that it had been checked and found to be in tune despite its move.

Streets and Footways

Cllr. Gulvin said that he hoped to be able to tell the next meeting that the work to the Bridge Hill/Bridge Down stairway was under way; while Cllr. Mrs. Margaret Jones reported that the Highways Department representative had inspected the footways where the Council wished the kerb to be lowered for wheel chairs, and had undertaken to do the work in the near future.

Generally

Mrs. Joan Warren gave an account of the work of the 'Fish' Scheme for the preceding twelve months, and members expressed the gratitude of the village for

her hard work and organisation, which Cllr. Raymond Gilbert said, had been referred to at the Kent Association of Parish Councillors' course which he had attended with Cllr. Mrs. Jones; the Council was critical of some aspects of the road access to the new hotel already agreed to by the County Council, and would let the planning authority have their views; and it was reported the village

had been entered for the 'Best Kept Village' and 'Trees in Your Village' competitions, as agreed at the Annual Parish Meeting.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday, 10th May, and members hope the warmer weather will help to attract more public interest in their deliberations.

F.L. Edwards, Clerk

Fish News

At the Third Annual General Meeting of the Fish Scheme Cllr. Mrs. M. A. Young thanked the organisers and volunteers for all their hard work during the year, the Parish Councils for their support, and those who had funded the scheme by their generous donations. Special mention was made of the staff and residents of The New Close for their help and hospitality to the Luncheon Club and Chiropody Clinic, and Cllr. L. Shirley and his staff at the Post Office for taking emergency calls.

The Voluntary Organiser reported on the year's activities, after adding her thanks to those of the Chairman. Two new projects had been started during the year. The monthly Coffee Pop-In for retired people had proved to be very popular. As well as providing a useful social contact, it gave the opportunity for people to seek information about help and services. Plans are now being made for a monthly afternoon meeting for Whist and Scrabble, to be organised by Mrs. Olive Knight. More recently a fortnightly library service for the housebound had been started in conjunction with Kent County Library.

The Luncheon Club continues to thrive, having served 1,377 lunches at 46 sessions during the year. The volunteer drivers had covered almost a thousand miles bringing in the 31 members who had limited mobility.

The Chiropody Clinic provided an excellent service for the villages. Seventy-six were now registered for treatment— almost half of these have to be brought in by car as the NHS domiciliary service has been suspended.

Transport. More use was being made of the scheme by residents unable to use public transport or where no transport was available. These calls were mainly for medical appointments or hospital visiting.

Welfare Calls. There had been a considerable increase in the number of people who had been helped, and referrals for aids and services. Many hospital visits had been made, contact kept with relatives and care planned for those returning home. Four of the volunteers had attended a training course at Nunnery Fields Hospital in helping discharged patients.

Plans to bring young people into the scheme had been successful. They had given help at the Luncheon Club during the school holidays, which had proved popular.

The Treasurer, Mr. W. Johnson presented the annual accounts. Excluding mileage allowances paid by the Social Services and Age Concern, the scheme had cost £248.41. The income for the year was £288.31 giving a balance of £39.90 which had gone into the reserve fund. Detailed accounts are available for inspection on request.

The Annual Coffee Morning and Bring-and-Buy Sale will be on Saturday 2nd June in the Village Hall from 10.00am to 12 noon. This is our only fund-raising event — please come and support us

Joan Warren, 830233

ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE — Cleaning rota for May

Mrs. Hogben, 6th; Mrs. Watson, 13th; Mrs. Russell, 20th; Mrs. Grey, 27th and Mrs. Bennett, 3rd June. Our thanks to the team who do this work unsung every month.

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. D.R. Hill, Red Deer, Bridge Down, Bridge CT5 5BA (Bridge 830426)

Hon. Secretary: Mr. L.W. Sanford, 11 Windmill Close, Bridge CT4 5LY (Bridge 830411)

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, Ardprory, 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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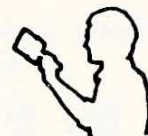
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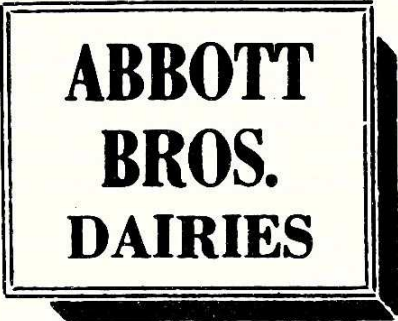
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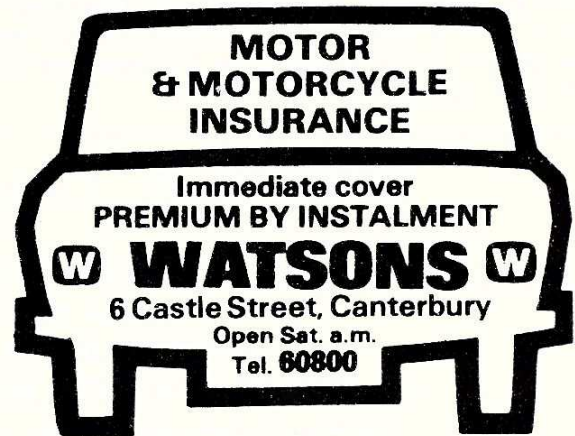
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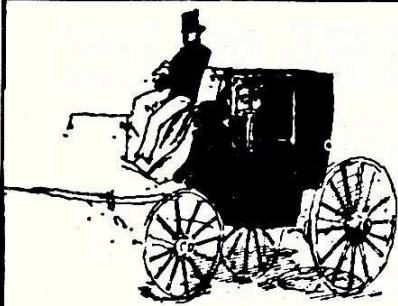
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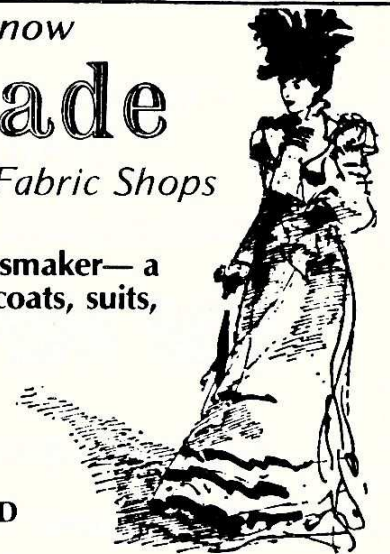
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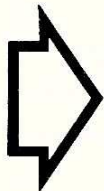
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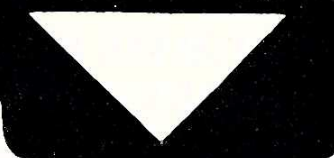
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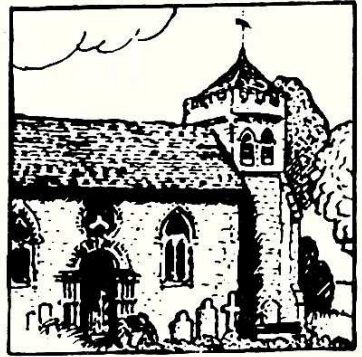
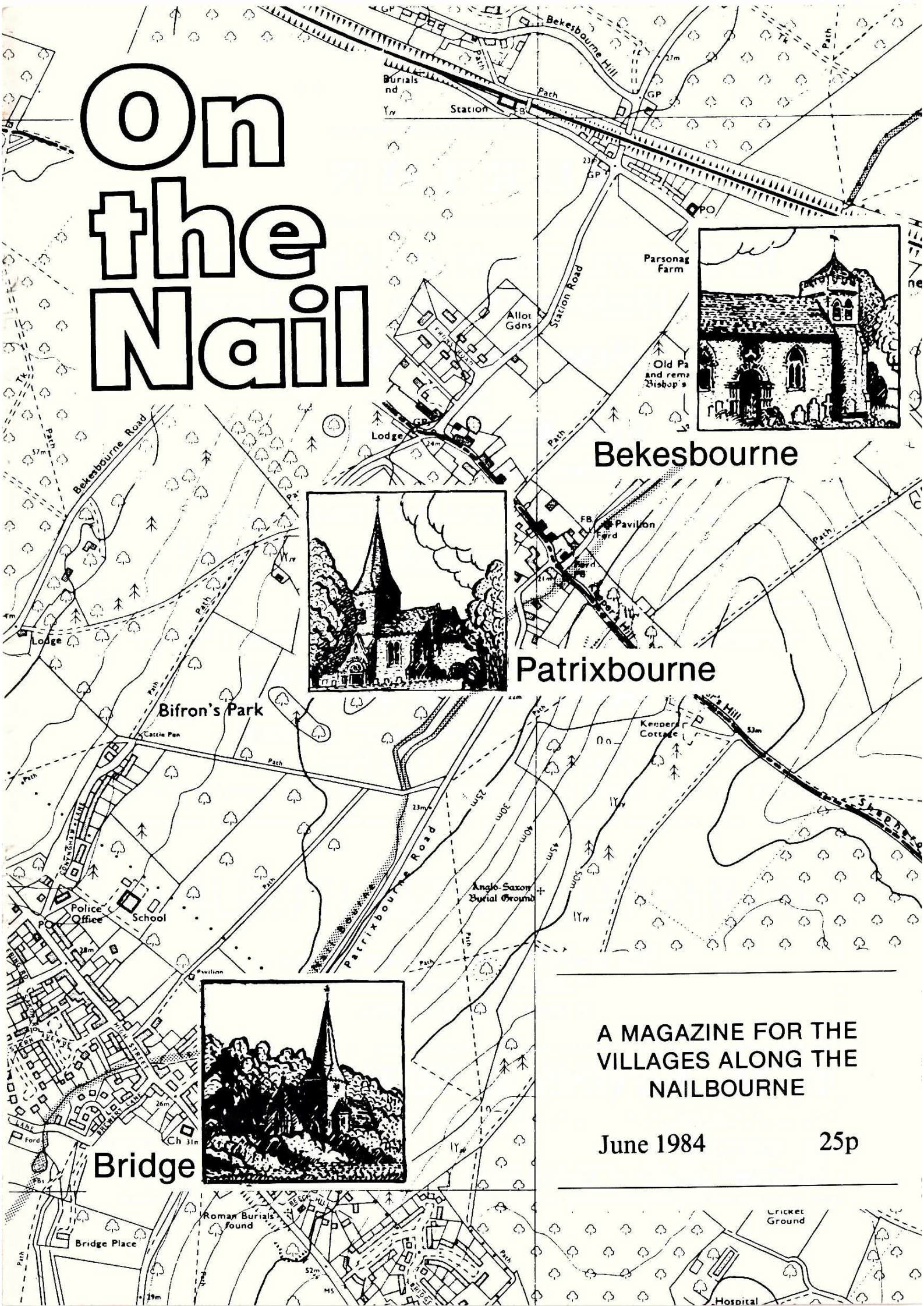
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Sunday Worship in June

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

3rd:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

10th:

9.30 Family Communion
(Series 3)
6.30pm Joint Steward-
ship Thanksgiving
Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

17th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(Series 3)
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

24th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins & Holy
Communion

1st July:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

JUNIOR CHURCH meets every Sunday except the first in the Methodist Church at 9.30am. Children from all three villages who are between 4 and 11 years old are welcome to attend. Where convenient parents may care to join the 9.30am service in St. Peter's Church.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *3rd*, Miss J. Anderson. *10th*, Mr. L. Dron. *17th*, Miss K.J. Knight. *24th*, The Revd. David Salmon.

Weekdays: Holy Communion is celebrated on Wednesdays at 9.30am and Fridays (Rite A) at 7.30am in St. Peter's, Bridge; also on the first Wednesday at 10.15am in the Common Room, Churchill House. A short informal service at The New Close takes place each Wednesday from 2.30pm till 3, to which non-residents are always most welcome.

For your diary and prayer list

1st *Justin, Martyr at Rome, c.165*

2nd 'Fish' Scheme Coffee Morning & Bring-and-Buy, Village Hall, 10am

3rd **Sunday after Ascension Day**

5th *St. Boniface, Bishop, Missionary, Martyr, 754*

Coffee Morning for the Exemption Dog Show at 'Cala', Aerodrome Road, Bekesbourne 10.30am till noon.

East Bridge Deanery Synod meets this evening. Our representatives are John Purchase, Charles Potter, Joyce Rose and Stephen Pike.

9th *St. Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary, 597*

10th **Whitsunday, also called Pentecost**

Evensong at Bridge will be a joint service of thanksgiving for Stewardship Renewal, to be shared by both our parishes. Bridge looks forward

to welcoming the congregations of Patrixbourne and Bekesbourne to this service and also to light refreshments afterwards in the Village Hall.

- 11th **St. Barnabas the Apostle**
13th 'Fish' Scheme Coffee Pop-in, 10.15am
Patrixbourne with Bridge PCC, The Hunter Room (*not* Methodist Church), 7.30pm
14th Bridge Parish Council meets, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
16th Exemption Dog Show for Bekesbourne & Patrixbourne Church Funds, Wingham Parish Hall, 2pm. Entry forms in the two churches.
Pray for Karen Johnson and Leslie Deveson to be married today at Bridge.
17th **Trinity Sunday** *Pentecost 1*
21st Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion
22nd *St. Alban, first Martyr of Britain, c.209*
Scrabble Drive, Village Hall, 2pm
24th **Birth of St. John the Baptist** *Pentecost 2*
27th School Governors Meeting
28th *St. Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, Martyr, c.200*
29th **St. Peter the Apostle**, Patron of Bridge and Bekesbourne
Roman Catholic Mass in St. Peter's, Bridge at 8pm. (Following the success of last year, there will be joint Communion. The Vicar will administer from the Reserved Sacrament to Anglican members of the congregation.)
30th Bridge Summer Fête commences at 2pm. Please support this combined church and school occasion.
Pray for Darel Pearson and Tracy Pyman to be married at Bridge Church.

The Spirit of Stewardship

At the time of going to press Christian Stewardship Renewal is in full flow and we are eagerly awaiting the outcome for both the spiritual and material areas of church life. The fruits of all our labours will be realised by the time you read this, and we are hopeful of a rewarding renewal of the stewardship we made three years ago. Confident of a lively response a get-together is planned for the evening of Whitsunday, 13th June, when both parishes meet in Bridge Church for Evensong in Thanksgiving for Stewardship Renewal. By 'both' parishes I mean, of course, the church people of Bridge, Patrixbourne and Bekesbourne, for we want this service to take place on the ecumenical principle that what we can, we do together. The renewal has gone on in parallel and elements of it have been special to each parish, but thanksgiving crosses all boundaries, parochial and otherwise, so the idea is for us all to assemble in the one place, at the one time and for the one objective.

For those still clueless about Christian Stewardship, the aim over the past weeks has been for everyone with church affiliations of any kind to examine their Christian commitment and see if what they have been offering to the Church of their time, abilities and money is truly representative of their

gratitude to God for all he has given them under those three headings. By the time you read this fresh pledges in all three departments of life will have been made and we meet on the evening of Whitsunday at 6.30pm to offer concerted thanks to God both for specific and personal gifts and also for the gift of his Church, into which those thanks and gifts can be suitably channelled.

Whitsunday is a really apt choice for this joint service, being the occasion when the Christian Church as a whole celebrates the precious and dynamic gift of power from on high, implanted by God in the entire body and also in the lives of individual members. The gift of the Holy Spirit has been shown over the centuries to be indispensable to the ongoing existence of the Church, and never more so than in these days. His active presence in the lives of individual Christians accounts for whatever talents we possess and it is in his strength that we are able to use them with particular reference to the mission of the Church, which is also his concern.

Even if Christian Stewardship has passed you by, or you still cannot understand it, do join the happy throng for this special service on this special day and rejoice with us in what, today, the Spirit is saying to the churches. We shall go on to light refreshments in the Village Hall — a further chance for fellowship in the Holy Spirit.

Our joys and sorrows

We place on record two happy occasions, both weddings. On Easter Eve, 21st April, Bridge Guider and former Choir-member **Teresa Harvey** married **Paul Philpott** in St. Peter's Church. The Guides provided a splendid guard of honour as the newly-weds left the church. St. Mary's, Patricxbourne was the venue when **Lorraine Phipps** was married to **Timothy Mackey** on 12th May. We wish every happiness to both couples!

Bekesbourne Church has witnessed no less than four funerals over a period of a fortnight. On Tuesday, 8th May the Revd. David Steven, Parish Priest of Littlebourne officiated at the funeral of **Albert Morris Jarvis**, 34 Jubilee Road, Littlebourne, whose body was laid to rest in the churchyard with that of his wife, who died almost half a century ago. Two days later the Vicar conducted the funeral of Mrs. **Paulette Gladys Jean Cornwell** of 5 Lackenden Cottages, who died suddenly at the early age of 60 years. A service in Bekesbourne Church for the late Mrs. **Tyley** was followed by cremation at Barham, the Revd. C.W. Harrington officiating. This was on Thursday, 17th May. Then the Vicar, assisted by the Revd. Peter Pearmain of St. George's Place Baptist Church, Canterbury, presided at the funeral of **Mark Christopher Berthoud**, who died tragically at the tender age of 24. Christopher had spent most of his boyhood with Mr. and Mrs. Banks, when they lived at Springfield. The funeral service on Wednesday, 23rd May was followed by interment in the churchyard.

Two most welcome visitors

It was a rare delight to have the Bishop of Dover in our midst on two occasions in the same week. He came first to commission Stewardship Renewal Visitors and to preach at the special services held at Bekesbourne

and Bridge on Sunday, 13th May, and it was a great source of sadness to us that so few came to support them and welcome our bishop: it was his first official visit to Bekesbourne, too.

The following Thursday Bishop Third was again with us, this time as part of a general visitation of the Deanery by the Bishop and the Archdeacon. The Archdeacon spent an afternoon with the Vicar and both sets of Churchwardens and the Bishop called on three homes, one in each village. It was good to have them but we wished it could have been for rather longer. Still, they have many calls on their time, so we mustn't be greedy!

Bridge Summer Fête—*Exciting new venture*

The combined resources of the School PTA and the Church have come up with a bonanza of a Summer Fête the like of which the village has not known for a long time; and you must not miss it!

To set the ball rolling there is to be a general Fancy Dress Parade through the High Street — and we do mean 'general', for this is an occasion for old and young alike, with no one excluded. The name of the game is enjoyment for one and all! Suitably togged, all you need do is present yourself at the Red Lion Car Park ready to move off, led by the Air Force Cadets Band at 1.30pm.

Oh, and whatever you do, don't forget to bring some money with you, because there will be plenty to spend it on, as you will see from the display on page 9! OK? Right? See you, then!

Noticeboard

Bridge Folk Dance Groups meet at the Village Hall on 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. Everyone welcome. Enquiries: 830285.

Joyce Hopkins

The Church of England Childrens' Society Family Week realised £160, and the boxes £44. Thank you everybody for all your help and all your gifts. There will be a coffee morning at the end of July.

F.V.B. Mason, Hon. Sec

The result of the Coffee Morning and Sale held at Bridge Methodist Church was £117.07 — a resounding success! We would really like to express our sincere appreciation of the support given by all within the village and beyond. Cheques for £60 each have been forwarded to The East Kent Hospice and Drought-stricken areas of Africa.

Pat Grant

Still on Coffee Mornings, Junior Church raised the splendid sum of £65.87 at theirs on 17th April, for which many thanks to all who supported them.

If any parishioner has a copy of the Revd. Richard Bevan Pyper's *Notes on the history of Bekesbourne* and would be willing to sell it, please contact R. J. Goulden of 156 Addiscombe Road, Croydon, Surrey, who wishes to give it as a present to his wife for her birthday. His wife was before her marriage a Pyper; the Revd. R.B. Pyper being her great-uncle.

Inspiration

Inspiration.

As I sat down and wondered what to write I hoped I would receive some inspiration. This word is used quite a lot today. An artist is inspired to paint a masterpiece; a poet finds inspiration to pen some marvellous line of verse; the detective has an inspired idea which leads him to the murderer; an athlete's inspiration means that he breaks the record.

Something seems to come suddenly into people, greater and beyond them, stirring them to heights of achievement unavailable to them otherwise. Of course, the extra ingredient has to be added to what is already there. After all, not all can paint — you only have to see my stick-men to know this! Not all can write poetry, and you need a certain kind of mind to piece together clues in a crime case. I'm not fit enough to break any records, and even when I was, there were always others faster than me. So there is something already there, but it needs that added extra on top if we are to attain things greater than our natural abilities.

We call this added extra — inspiration.

Inspiration literally means 'breathing in', something quite natural. The word reminds us of spirit, and they are connected. For instance, a spirit of adventure led some to explore dangerous parts of the world; they were inspired.

The Holy Spirit is God's Spirit and it is seen in people inspired to do God-like things. This same Spirit is that added extra which gives rise to all the great and good things that people do beyond themselves — artists, poets, detectives, athletes and folk like you and me. This Spirit inspired the first disciples to overcome their fear and tell others of the goodness of God seen in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The time when the Church remembers this special occasion is Pentecost or Whitsuntide.

If only we could breathe in that same Holy Spirit this Pentecost, what might we be inspired to do?

M. Peter Taylor

Next year in Jerusalem!

The hopeful cry with which every Jewish Passover meal ends could become a reality for readers of *On The Nail* because plans are afoot to join a pilgrimage to The Holy Land next May. The party leader will be Norman Wareham, who is a licensed Reader and accomplished pilgrimage guide of many years standing. Anyone who is interested in this voyage of a lifetime please contact the Vicar, who hopes to make the trip. If there is sufficient interest it may be possible to arrange an evening when Mr. Wareham can show slides of the Holy Land and answer questions about the pilgrimage. Estimated cost is in the region of £600.

Patricbourne Church

Cleaners wanted

St. Mary's Church, Patricbourne is a gem of Norman architecture and increasingly sought after by walkers and pilgrims to Canterbury from the Channel ports, especially with the formation of the new Pilgrim Trail of notable East Kent churches. Quite apart from it being a functioning church we want to keep it neat and tidy for our visitors. Currently the cleaning is falling to the faithful and —let's face it — ageing few, and I do mean 'few'. Hence this appeal for volunteers to be responsible for a section of the church or for the occasional pre-Sunday clean-up. If you can help please contact Mrs. Diana Potter, 7 St. Mary's Road (830218).

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- ★ BAND
- ★ PRIZE DRAW
- ★ TEAS
- ★ FUN FOR ALL



A fresh slant on Russia

I have just returned with a party that has visited Russia under the auspices of a newly formed association known as 'East West Reach'. This is an attempt to build bridges of understanding between East and West by reaching out beyond Governments to People. The party was made up of a cross-section of people with differing outlooks, but held together by a passionate concern for the peace of the world and the breaking down of barriers.

We went out with mixed feelings about Russia. Of course we were all influenced by the general negative attitude put over by the mass media. Can any good thing come out of Russia? Some things did, and I mention them here.

1. The first impression was that of a most beautiful country — wide open spaces, parks, broad avenues and boulevards lined with trees and washed down by water carts every night. We saw magnificent buildings, all witnessing through museums and art galleries to the historic past. I think Kiev is the most beautiful city I have ever seen.

And what an impact, to be in a country with no unemployment and jobs advertised everywhere. This is the only advertising you see; no other adverts ministering to greed and avarice, no graffiti on walls, no pornography in evidence and a very small crime rate, muggings unheard of.

You can travel anywhere in the cities for 4 Kopecs (4p). Opera, Ballet and Theatre with seats at a quarter of the cost of our own and very professional productions by gifted artistes. The hotels are magnificent and comfortable with excellent service. Food is adequate, but not up to Ritz and Savoy standards! We saw few police in evidence, and when approached we found them courteous and helpful.

Russia is no paradise on earth, there were many deficiencies and weaknesses, but we felt ourselves to be in a very caring and well-run country.

2. Russia is basically a deeply religious country. There are no inhibitions regarding belief; you can believe, or not believe as you wish. Complete freedom in worship, but restrictions on propaganda. The whole atmosphere has been influenced by Russia's religious past through the Eastern Orthodox Church.

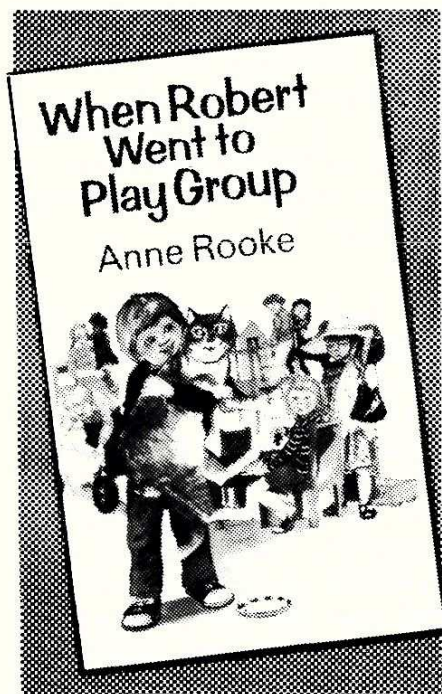
Some of us went to a 7.00am service on a Monday morning in a Cathedral in Leningrad; no seats, but hundreds standing and difficulty in finding a place. The Orthodox Liturgy takes two hours, and the congregation was there as a prelude, and preparation for the day's work.

3. An abiding impression was that Russia is much less of a threat to world peace than you imagine. There is a desperate longing among all sections for a world free from nuclear weapons and an end to all war. After all the USSR suffered more from the last war than any other nation. Leningrad lost seventy-five percent of its buildings, two million people were killed, some six hundred thousand — names unknown — were buried in a mass grave. Kiev suffered equally tragic losses. The amazing thing, that stunned, was the story of the rebuilding of their devastated cities, exactly as they were. Even the Czar's Palace in Leningrad was rebuilt exactly as it was. They want to safeguard their treasures, restored at such great cost in human labour.

They have no desire for more territory, they cannot cope with what they have and most of their vast resources are as yet untouched. They have no need for a war, but they will defend their country at any cost if they are attacked, even though they recognise that in a nuclear war the world will become one vast graveyard. We joined in peace processions with thousands of people of all ages, carrying a slogan in different languages, 'For Peace and Life'.

The Pope has recently announced that he wants to make a pilgrimage to Russia. He has said, "I want to meet my Russian brothers". The whole purpose of 'East and West Reach' is to make it possible for all brothers East and West to meet each other.

Charles Harrington



When Robert Went to Play Group . . .

It seems a very long time ago since I read to my children. I remember the test of a good book, however, was whether it made me squirm inside by the way the author 'spoke' to the children.

There is certainly no danger of this happening with Anne Rooke's recently published collection of stories about the happenings at a village play group. Each very short story is set at just the right level to appeal to three to six-year olds, with splendid touches of humour which makes the reading of them such fun.

Robert quickly settles into life at kind Mrs. May's play group, helped by the presence of Hector the cat. I wonder how many local children will recognise themselves in the tales of the visit to the big school, the tortoise at the play group or the outing to the ploughing match?

Delightful line drawings by Lesley Smith illustrate the stories on nearly every page.

When Robert Went to Play Group is published by Hodder & Stoughton at £4.95.

J.M.

LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF CANTERBURY HOSPITALS, Bridge Group

Please note that the Scrabble Drive which we had hoped to hold on the 14th June will be held on Friday 22nd June at 2.00pm, the Hall not being available on the previously anticipated date.

If there is anyone in the Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne areas who could spare a little time to do the annual collecting of subscriptions, I would be most grateful to hear from them. We have had some marvellous Friends in the past, but they — like time — have moved on. The address to contact if you can help is: 34 High Street, Bridge (830371).

Frances E. Apps, Hon. Sec./Treas. Bridge Group L. O. F.



Bridge Parish Council

Bridge Parish Council held its Annual Meeting on 10th May, and unanimously re-elected its Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, and Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young. The members of the various Committees were also re-appointed, and Cllr. Peter Lawrence was elected as an alternate delegate to the Kent Association of Parish Councils, with Cllrs. Mrs. Young and Revd. Raymond Gil-

bert. Cllr. Mrs. Young, who had attended as the Council's representative, gave members a report of the proceedings of the National Conference of the Association of Local Councils at which a number of resolutions of importance to parish councils were dealt with.

Recreation Ground

The Chairman said that he had had a cheque for £625 from Mr. Charles Shaw

as a donation from the 'Red Lion', for the purchase of a rocking-horse for the play area in the Recreation Ground. Members expressed their thanks for this exceptionally generous gift, and asked Cllr. Hill to convey to Mr. and Mrs. Shaw and their customers the Council's gratitude for their efforts on behalf of the village children. It was decided that the rocking-horse and the slide — an earlier gift from the 'Red Lion' — should each carry a plaque indicating the donors. Members also noted that the new barrier gate was in position, and hoped that this would reduce the number of unauthorised intrusions by motor vehicles.

Village Hall

Cllr. Mrs. Young told members that she had provided a first-aid kit from the proceeds of her waste paper collection; while a number of members voiced some dissatisfaction with the heating arrangements, and especially the lack of heating to the kitchen and lavatories, Cllr. Tim Hoare favouring the installation of a gas-fired boiler, giving the opportunity to extend heating to radiators in the main hall. The Chairman said that he would discuss the points raised with Cllr.

Mervyn Gulvin. Cllr. Ken Greenaway had carried out electrical and plumbing repairs in the lavatories and had repaired one of the tables, and the Council passed a vote of thanks to him for these and the many other jobs which he had carried out on their behalf.

Bridge School

The Council had taken up with the Education Authority the question of the staffing at the School, but had not been able to persuade them to defer the proposed reduction in staff. No response had yet been received from Mr. David Crouch, M.P., to whom the matter had also been referred. Members felt that little more could be done at present, but it was agreed that further information regarding the families who would be moving into the new dwellings at The Close would be sought from the developers, when this was available in the next month or so, and the matter looked at again in the light of this information.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday, 14th June, and visitors will as always be welcome.

F.L. Edwards, Clerk

'Fish' News

In spite of promises of rain from the weather forecasters, the afternoon was fine for our annual Blossom Tour. A party of fifty-one enjoyed a coach trip through the country, with a stop for tea and shopping at Chilham.

Our Annual Coffee Morning and Bring-and-Buy Sale will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 2nd June from 10.00am to 12 noon. There will be a raffle and stalls for cakes, preserves, groceries, plants and gifts.

The next Coffee Pop-in will be on Wednesday June 13th from 10.15am to 11.45am in the Village Hall.

Joan Warren (830233)

BEKESBOURNE TAIL-PIECE . . .

Mr. and Mrs Gillanders are holding a Coffee Morning for the Exemption Day Dog Show at 'Cala', Aerodrome Road, on Tuesday 5th June, 10.30am to noon. This is to help finance the Dog Show, which in turn will be helping both Bekesbourne and Patribourne Church funds — please support it.

Cleaning rota for June: Mrs. Beckett, 3rd; Mrs. Smith, 10th; Mrs. Stickells, 17th; Mrs. Hogben, 24th; Mrs. Watson, July 1st. And our thanks to the Flower arrangers for their beautiful contributions to worship week by week.

S. G.

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

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Churchwardens: Mr. C.A. Potter, 7 St. Mary's Road, Patricxbourne CT4 5BY (Bridge 830218)

Mr. D.R. Hill, Red Deer, Bridge Down, Bridge CT5 5BA (Bridge 830426)

Hon. Secretary: Mr. L.W. Sanford, 11 Windmill Close, Bridge CT4 5LY (Bridge 830411)

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, 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)

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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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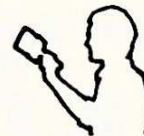
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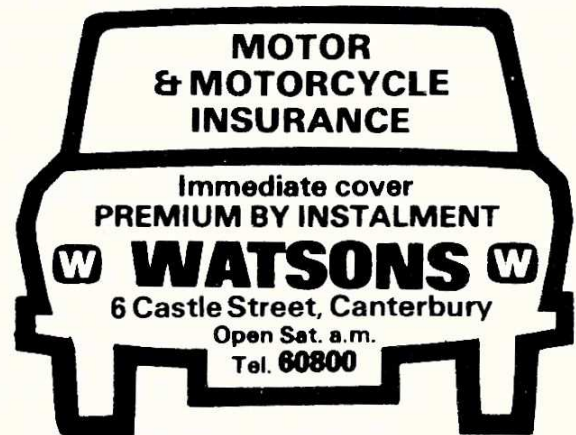
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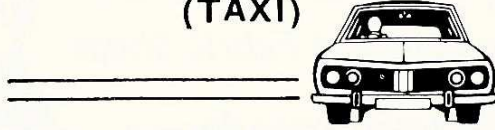
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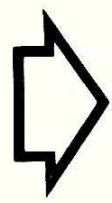
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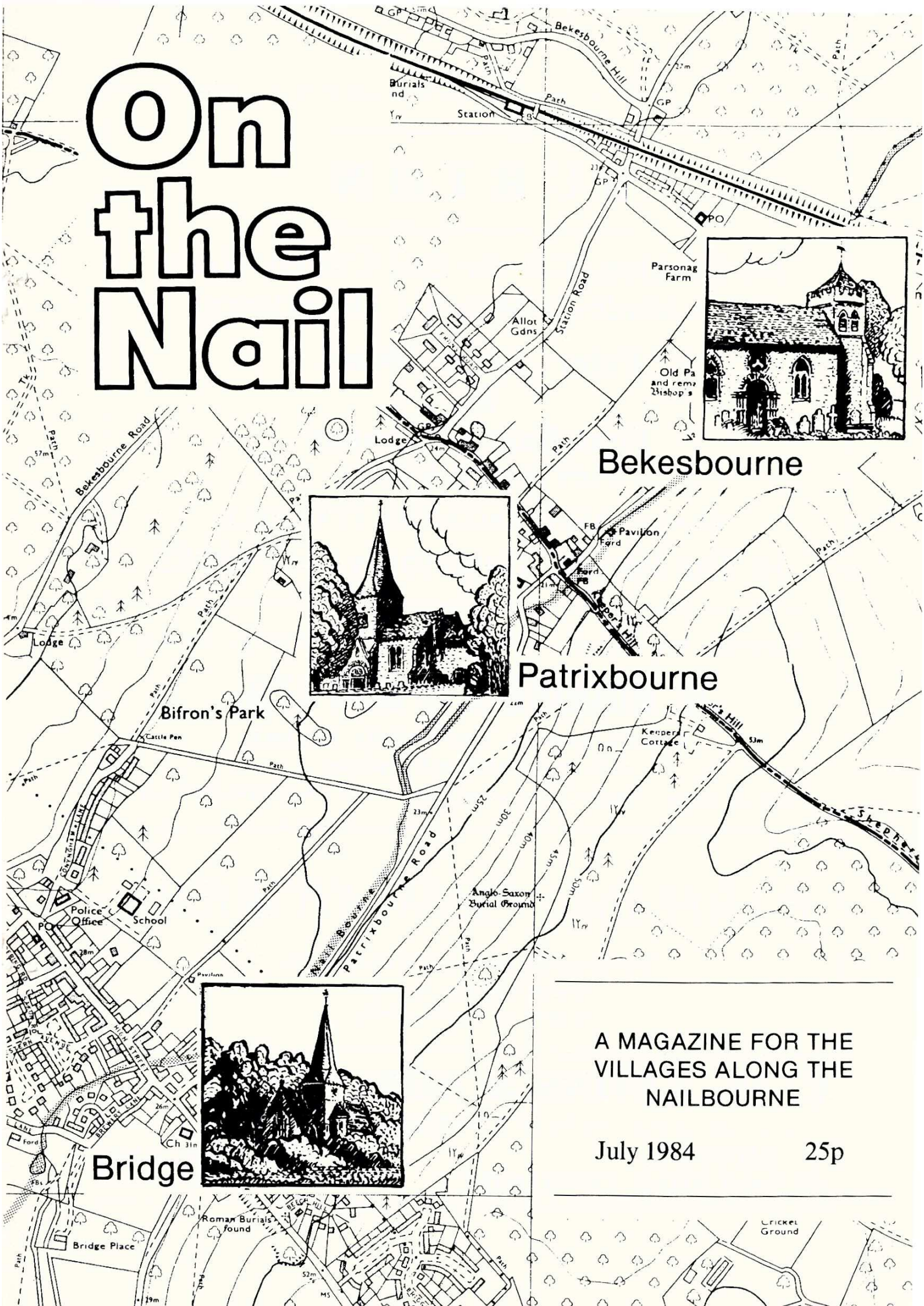
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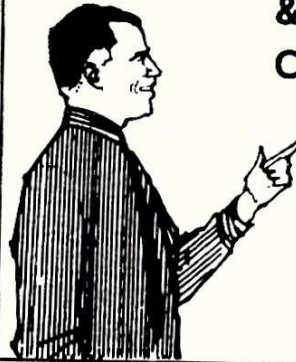
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Sunday Worship in July

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

1st:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

8th:

9.30 Family Communion 11am Matins
(Series 3)
No Evensong

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Concert

15th:

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

22nd:

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

29th:

9.30 Family Communion 11am Matins 8am Holy Communion
(Series 3) (The Revd. Clive
Barlow, Vicar of Ash)

5th August:

11am Family Service 8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion
6.30pm Evensong

JUNIOR CHURCH meets every Sunday except the first in the Methodist Church at 9.30am. Children from all three villages who are between 4 and 11 years old are welcome to attend. Where convenient parents may care to join the 9.30 service in St. Peter's Church.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *1st*, Mr. W.E. Ingall. *8th*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *15th*, The Revd. R. Wood, B.D. *22nd*, Miss J. Anderson. *29th*, Mr. S. Kentish.

Weekdays: Holy Communion is celebrated on Wednesdays at 9.30am and Fridays (Rite A) at 7.30am in St. Peter's, Bridge; also on the first Wednesday at 10.15am in the Common Room, Churchill House. A short informal service at The New Close takes place on Wednesdays from 2.30pm till 3, to which non-residents are always most welcome.

For your diary and prayer list

1st **Second Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 3*

6th *Thomas More, Martyr, 1535*

8th **Third Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 4*

The Occasional Singers are giving a concert in Bekesbourne Church at 6.30pm in aid of church funds. The main work in the concert will be the Byrd Four-part Mass. There will be no Evensong at Bridge.

10th Pray for the clergy of this Deanery who meet this morning at Ash.

11th *St. Benedict, Abbot of Monte Cassino, c.550*
Coffee Pop-in, Village Hall, 10.15am.

- 12th Bridge Parish Council meets, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
 15th **Fifth Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 6**
 Cobham Court Garden open 2 — 6pm
 17th Bridge & Patricxbourne WI, The Village Hall, 7 pm
 18th Cobham Court Garden open 2 — 6pm
 22nd **St. Mary Magdalen Pentecost 7**
 25th **St. James the Apostle**
 Teenagers Discussion Group Barbecue, 7.30pm
 26th *St. Anne, Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
 27th Children's Society Coffee Morning, 33 High Street, 10am
 29th **Sixth Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 7**
 Matins at Patricxbourne will be conducted by the Revd. Clive Barlow,
 Vicar of Ash.
 31st Interchurch Group, Methodist Church, 7.30pm

The calendar for the month that always precedes this article bears the title *For your Diary and Prayer List* and the thought may occasionally cross your mind why.

A close look at it will reveal that it is very detailed, and the reason for this is that it is designed to serve a number of purposes. For one thing it contains the Church's calendar; a list of Saints and their feast days which are observed not just by us along the Nailbourne but throughout the worldwide Anglican Communion and, in most cases, by other Christian Churches as well.

Special prayers and readings are used in services on these particular days, chosen to fit in with the Saint or event commemorated. We call them Feast Days not because we take the opportunity to have an almighty binge but because they are days for celebration and added rejoicing.

* * *

Recognition of the company of the Saints is an important part of Church life because of the special place they occupy. They are the great Christians of former times who, for one reason or another, were accorded a place of prominence on account of their exemplary lives. Some of them won the martyr's crown, some were great teachers, others distinguished themselves by the quality of their praying. We remember all those who began as Jesus' disciples and went on to be the chief apostles of the early Church. We also celebrate holy people of later years who were given the prefix *St.* through the process of canonization. The alternative Prayer Book also includes the names of saintly people of more recent times who made their witness after the Church had ceased to canonize, so are not called Saint.

The inclusion of these names as and when their day crops up both help us to remember them and also to see the vast, never-ending chain of sanctity that joins them and us. We belong to a Church that crosses frontiers both of space and time for we are part of the communion of the saints that stretches on both sides of the divide we call death.

* * *

For your Diary and Prayer List also includes forthcoming events that may be of interest to readers, whether the events are 'religious' or not. So not only is

it a Church calendar it is also a village diary and we try to include in it all the events of which the Editor is notified by the 15th of the previous month. I hope this also makes *On The Nail* more than a church magazine, and indeed what the cover of each issue states — ‘a magazine for the villages along the Nailbourne’.

From time to time you will notice items which do not strictly fall into either of the aforementioned categories, like synod meetings and dates of marriages with names. These are included both to let you know they are taking place and also, if you are not likely to be directly involved in them, to solicit your prayers for the events or people concerned.

* * *

The title of the calendar makes an assumption that is unlikely to be true in all cases — perhaps not in most — that you have a prayer list. If this is so where you are concerned I would urge you to think about starting one, particularly if you are a church person. The importance of prayer for the Christian cannot be overstressed: in fact it has been put on a par with breathing. It certainly helps others to know that they are being bolstered up by prayer. So the calendar in this magazine, as in every issue, is also the beginnings of a personal prayer list, to which you might like to add your own particular people and concerns. What a powerhouse of prayer we would be if everyone were to draw up his or her prayer list and — which is obviously necessary — used it. How about starting now for the sake of all who live on the Nailbourne?!

Our joys and sorrows

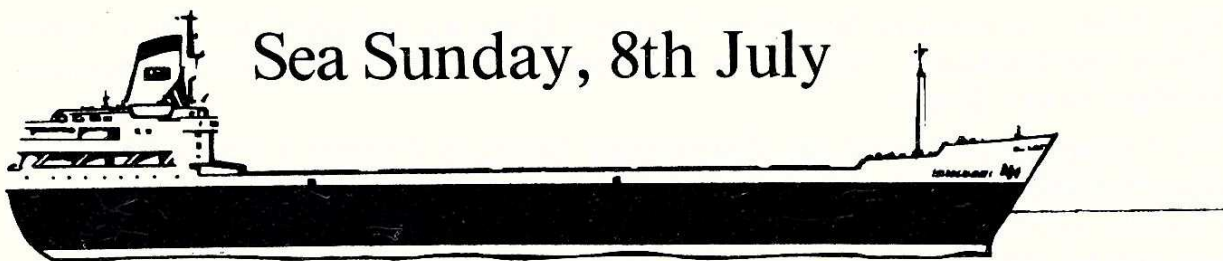
Bridge church and village has lost a popular member in the passing of Mrs. **Marjorie Francis** of 24 Conyngham Lane. Though much less involved in recent years due to increasing ill-health Mrs. Francis, in her more active days, was a pillar of the community. A funeral service in St. Peter's Church was followed by cremation at Barham. We extend our condolences to Mr. Francis.

Saturday, 16th June was the wedding day of **Leslie Deveson** of Kingston and **Karen Johnson** of Highland Court Cottages and we wish them well in their future together.

Confirmation 1984

Once again a number of our young people have started a course of preparation for Confirmation, with a view to attending the service at Ash on 6th December next. This may sound a long way away but the course, if it is to be thorough and useful, cannot be skimped. As it is, the weeks ahead are considerably less than some churches take to complete the necessary instruction.

Let me issue my periodic invitation to any adults who are contemplating taking this step towards full church membership to get in touch with me right away. The members of the last two adult groups got a lot out of our meetings and it is always good to prepare them for this sacrament. Please be assured it is never too late to be confirmed, as was surely indicated by the preponderance of adults at Bridge's last two confirmation services, quite a fair proportion coming from other parishes.



Sea Sunday, 8th July

Sea Sunday is a chance to share in the Church's ministry to seafarers and their families. Seafarers are often forgotten members of the community. Their jobs take them away from their homes and families and everything this means in terms of security and stability.

Seafarers' vital job

Sea Sunday is aimed at increasing awareness of seafarers, of the vital job they do in bringing us things we need, of their families who are left at home, and of our mission to them.

There are approximately one million merchant seafarers around the world. They not only have to brave the dangers of the sea, but when in port they are often preyed upon and exploited. If they have problems or are in any kind of distress they have to cope alone, possibly thousands of miles from the support of families and friends, and receiving bad news away from home can lead to the worst kind of anxiety and worry.

The Church offers security and stability for seafarers as they move around the world. It is there to welcome them when they arrive in port, to provide help in times of emergency and counselling for those with problems.

The help the Church offers to seafarers of all races and creeds is both spiritual and material: it is a ministry of practical concern and a ministry of proclamation. The Gospel teaches Christians to care for men and women in their totality and this the Church sets out to do for seafarers.

The Roman Catholic Church carries out its ministry to seafarers through the Apostleship of the Sea. The Anglican Church reaches out to seafarers through The Missions to Seamen. The British Sailors' Society is inter-denominational but it largely represents the Reformed Church tradition.

One mission

In many ports these three societies work together to minister to seafarers. By doing so they show that the mission of the Church is one mission and ensure that the best use is made of limited resources. They also join together to sponsor Sea Sunday.

The Apostleship of the Sea
Atlantic House
Hardman Street
Liverpool L1 9AT

The British Sailors' Society
Commercial Union House
406/410 Eastern Avenue
Ilford, Essex LG2 6NG

The Missions to Seamen
St. Michael Paternoster Royal
College Hill
London EC4R 2RL

Noticeboard

The Garden at Cobham Court, Bekesbourne will be open under the auspices of the National Gardens Scheme, on Sunday, 15th July and Wednesday, 18th July from 2 — 6pm. Admission 60p. Tea will be available. Proceeds are shared between the National Gardens Scheme Charities and the Pilgrims Hospice.

Miss Mason is holding her annual Coffee Morning on behalf of The Church of England Children's Society on Thursday, 27th July from 10am till noon at 33 High Street, Bridge.

The Group Librarian of the Canterbury Division Central Library writes to inform readers that the Library Service will be holding storytime sessions for children aged 4 to 8 years at the Green Court Mobile Library Stop. The sessions are on Thursdays, 2nd, 9th, 16th and 24th August from 4 to 4.30pm.

Music-lovers will be interested in a concert at Bekesbourne Church on Sunday 8th July at 6.30pm. To be given by the Occasional Singers under their conductor David Flood, the concert will include a performance of the very beautiful Mass for Four Voices by William Byrd. Admission is free but there will be a collection on behalf of Bekesbourne Church.

School News by Brian Farley

As we approach the end of the school year we are most aware that it has been a very busy and interesting time. There are some activities still to be undertaken, including a trip to the Field Studies Centre by first year juniors with Mrs. Vye, a visit to the Thames Flood Barrier by second and third year children with Mrs. Herbert and Mrs. Austin, and a three day educational visit to France by third and fourth year children with Mr. Windess and Mrs. Herbert.

The infants had a lovely time at Chilham Castle early in June. Another noteworthy event was the participation in the London Marathon by a parent, Joe Street. He raised over £400 for the PTA. We are, of course, very grateful for his efforts on our behalf. To inspire the children Mr. Street has presented a cup to the school, which will be awarded on sports day to the child who has contributed the most to the day in terms of effort, irrespective of whether he or she won any event.

Finally, may I thank everyone who has helped the school in any way to achieve the aims of making it a happy place, giving children a sound and satisfactory education.



Photograph courtesy of Kentish Gazette

Marathon runner Joe Street (centre) presents his cup to Mr. Brian Farley, head of Bridge Primary School. On the left is Mrs. Maggie Field secretary of the P.T.A.

St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

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at 6.30pm

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Mrs. Joan Warren, Organiser of the 'Fish' Scheme and Luncheon Club, in wishing to draw readers' attention to the proceeds of the Coffee Morning and impending Coffee Pop-in on 11th June, wishes to alert us to a problem of our time. She writes:—

We all know that white stick means that the person carrying it has impaired sight. But how many people know that red bands on a white stick indicate the person is deaf as well as blind? If you see someone with one of these sticks please take extra care — you cannot attract the deaf-blind person's attention by shouting or sounding a horn.

This 'Let's Pretend' Story was written by Stephen Turner, who is in Mrs Parson's class at Bridge School. He read it in front of the whole school, plus a party of parents, at a recent Friday morning assembly.



One terrifying night an evil wizard was flying. He could not see very well. He banged into a tree and dropped a book in the leaves. The rustling sound sort of made some words. The words were:

“Ip dip apple pip
Make this tree enchanted quick.”

The wizard said, ‘Oh bother’.

One of the creatures that lived in the tree was fantastic Mr. Mole. When he went to the Mole Shop to buy a new pair of boots he didn't want to catch a cold, so he put on his scarf and hat. He always went out the back door in case the wizard caught him and put him in his potion. However, he came to live in the tree because the wizard hypnotised him. So off he went, but he forgot to go out the back door. He got caught by the wizard. The wizard was just about to drop him in the mixture when Mr. Mole whistled for his friend Squirrel. Mr. Squirrel, who was also hypnotised, jumped down and tickled the wizard's nose. The wizard sneezed and blew Mr. Mole out of the potion.

That example of a seven-year-old's vivid imagination (as Stephen read it it was even better than it looks in print) just goes to show the following could have happened, though the venue was not Bridge School.

The class was set the task of drawing a picture of The Flight into Egypt. Going through them all afterwards with the individual artists the teacher commented on one child's picture of an aeroplane with three people in it. “Who is this?” asked the teacher, pointing to the one in the back. “Mary.” “And this one?” “Joseph” “Well, who's this at the front?” “That's Pontius the pilot.”

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council met on 14th June, and learned from a written report submitted by Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin, who was unable to be present, that it now appeared unlikely that the Community Programme Scheme would be able to carry out the reconstruction of the Bridge Hill/Bridge Down stairway on the Council's behalf. The Council decided to seek tenders from other contractors, but it was clear that any alternative will involve considerable additional cost.

Village Hall

Cllr. Gulvin was able to give rather better news regarding the Village Hall, for the redecoration of which he had made provisional arrangements with the Community Service Officer. The work, it is anticipated, will be carried out in October/November this year. The Council approved his proposals with some minor amendments and went on to discuss problems in connection with letting policy, and the storage of equipment belonging to organisations using the Hall.

Recreation Ground

Members heard from the Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, that the Conyngham Estate were proposing to raise the rent of the Recreation Ground. The rent was due for review during the current year, and according to the terms of the lease was to be based on that of agricultural land. The agents had proposed a new rent of £375 p.a. — a more than six-fold increase. Cllr. Hill pointed out that the figure was nevertheless a reasonable one

for agricultural land, and although Lord Conyngham had not yet approved the suggested increase, the Council could not anticipate his offering a lower figure.

The Council went on to review the fees charged to the Sports Clubs, which had been fixed at £100 for both cricket and football clubs three years before. It was agreed that these should be raised to £125 from the start of the football season, and to ask the tennis club to pay a £25 fee from next January.

The Chairman told members that the rocking-horse donated by the customers of the 'Red Lion' was now in position in the play area, one of the customers having volunteered to install it. He had done a first-class job, the horse being firmly set in a deep concrete bed.

Medical Services

The Canterbury and Thanet Community Health Council had written to remind the Council of their willingness to receive representations regarding any of the medical services provided in the area, and to offer to provide a speaker to explain the rôle of the Health Council. Members decided to accept the offer and to ask for a speaker at the October meeting at which a good attendance of residents might be hoped for in order that the fullest advantage be taken of the speaker's visit.

The next meeting of the Council will be held in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday, 12th July. Visitors will be as welcome on this occasion as at the October meeting.

F.L. Edwards, Clerk

The Discussion Group for Teenagers will be starting again during the summer holidays. The first meeting will be on Wednesday, the 25th July, when a Barbecue is planned. It will be at Mrs. Pentin's house — 14 Brewery Lane, Bridge, and will start at 7.30pm. Any young people between the ages of 14 and 20 will be welcome.

Fruit of the Coffee Bean

Whoever first thought of Coffee Mornings deserves a knighthood (or more likely a DBE) for when it comes to raising money they take an awful lot of beating. In the last month three have been held in this vicinity and every one produced a splendid financial result.

Two Coffee Mornings were held to raise funds for the Dog Show on behalf of Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne Churches. One took place at 'Cala', Aerodrome Road and made £46.83 and a comparable sum was made at the first one, which was held at Sondes House, Patricxbourne. Grateful thanks to Mesdames Gillanders and Godman for placing their homes at our disposal.

The third Coffee Morning was the annual one the 'Fish' Scheme holds as its sole fund-raising event. On this occasion the sum of £144.23 was realised, and here too thanks are due to both organisers and patrons.

Christian Aid Week 1984

Good works! The goodwill of the twenty volunteers who collected in our parishes and of the 563 households who contributed made it possible for this year's total to reach £356.45, an increase of £56 on last year's total, when for the first time we passed £300.

This was largely due to a 50% increase in the Bekesbourne collection and to two donations. Perhaps we can achieve a 50% increase in the total next year! It is a joy to know that there will be more children able to work their village pumps with the enthusiasm shown by the girl on this year's *Christian Aid Week* poster and that our parishes have played a part in making this possible.

Thank you everyone who contributed in any way towards this "Good Work".

Muriel Packer

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

The Society is arranging a day outing by coach to Hampton Court on Saturday 18th August, which is the Saturday following the Annual Show. The outing will be open both to non-members as well as members of the Society and those interested should contact for further details or bookings either:

Kathy Walder
10 Dering Close
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Tel: 830761

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Mr. D.R. Hill, Red Deer, Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830426)
Hon. Secretary: Mr. L.W. Sandford, 11 Windmill Close, Bridge CT4 5LY (830411)
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C.A. Potter, 7 St. Mary's Road, Patricxbourne CT4 5BY (830218)
Organist (Bridge) Mr. D. Mathew, 27 Rivercourt, Chartham CT4 7JN (731548)
Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriory, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD (62695)
Vergers (Bridge): Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne CT4 5JD (830660)

BEKESBOURNE

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Mr. J. Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (830937)
Hon. Secretary: Mr. John Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (830937)
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. D. Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne CT4 5ER (830256)
Organist: Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT4 5LA (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 (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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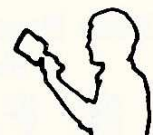
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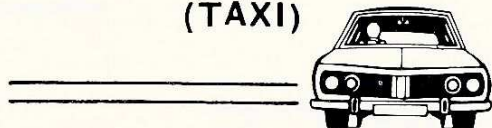
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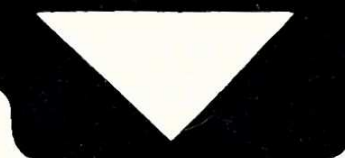
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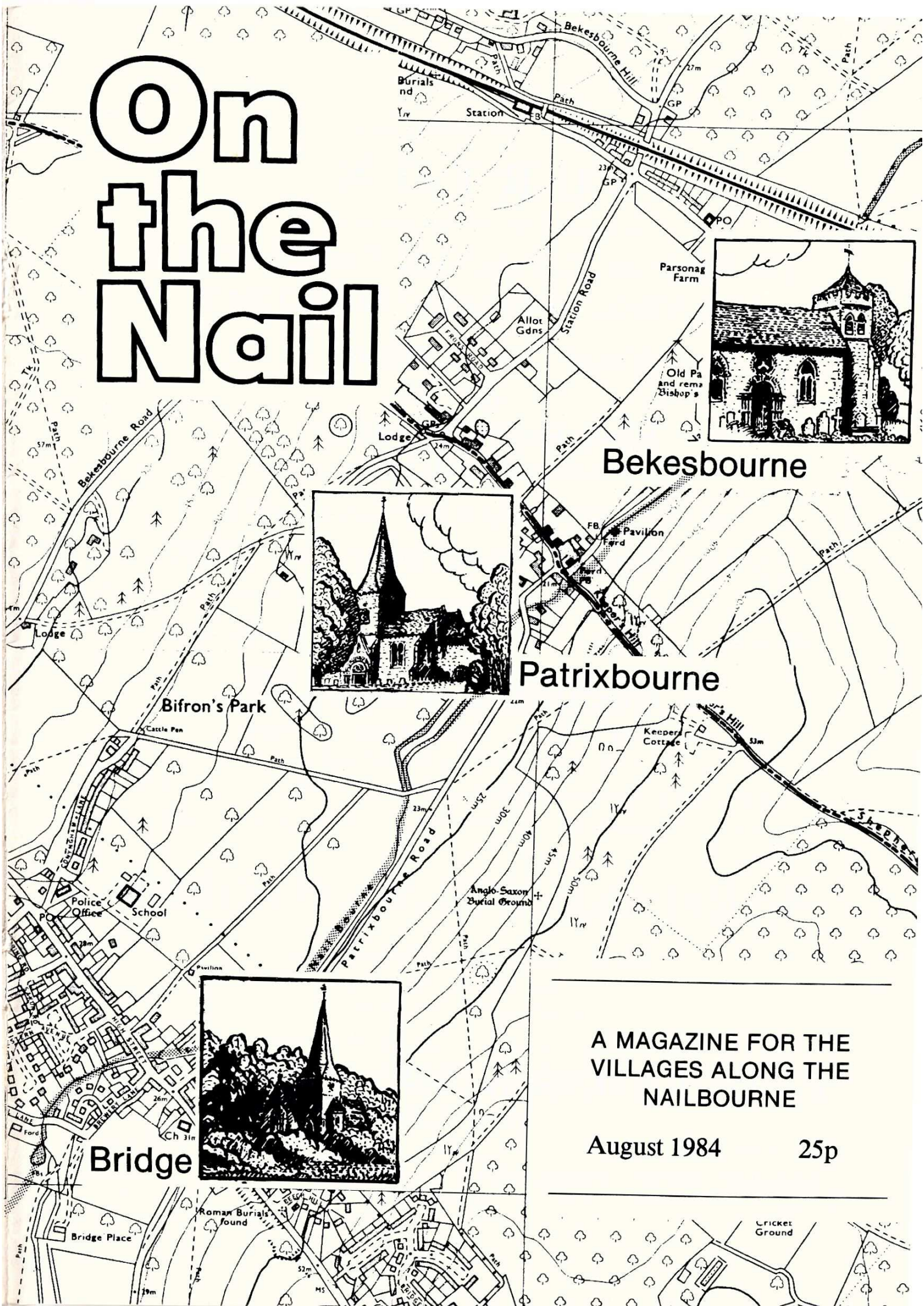
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Sunday Worship in August

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

5th:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

12th:

9.30 Family Communion 11am Matins
(Series 3)
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

19th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(Series 3)
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am *Songs of Praise*

26th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins and Holy
Communion

2nd September:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

JUNIOR CHURCH will *not* be meeting during August, but recommences on 9th September at 9.30am in the Methodist Church, Patricxbourne Road. Children from all three villages who are four years old or upwards are welcome to attend.

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

HOLY COMMUNION at St. Peter's, Bridge will be celebrated on the following weekdays only in August: Wednesdays, 1st and 8th at 9.30am, Fridays, 3rd and 10th at 7.30am. The monthly Communion at Churchill House is on 1st at 10.15am. The short informal service at The New Close will continue to be held each Wednesday at 2.30pm and, as usual, non-residents will be very welcome to join in.

For your diary and prayer list

4th *St. Dominic, Priest and Friar, 1221*

5th **Seventh Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 8*

6th **Transfiguration of our Lord** (*Read about it in St. Luke 9: 28-36*)

8th 'Fish' Scheme Coffee Pop-in, Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am

10th *St. Laurence, Deacon and Martyr, 258*

11th *St. Clare of Assisi, Virgin, 1253*

Remember in your prayers Angharad Wetherell and Martin Roberts, to be married at Patricxbourne this afternoon.

12th **Eighth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 9*

13th *Bishop Jeremy Taylor, Pastor and Teacher, 1667*

19th **Ninth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 10*

- 20th *St. Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, 1153*
- 21st *Bridge & Patrixbourne WI meet at 7pm at 6 Bridgeford Way*
- 24th **St. Bartholomew the Apostle**
- 26th **Tenth Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 11**
- 28th *St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, Teacher, 430*
- 31st *St. Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 651 — also John Bunyan, Author, 1688*

Forward all Stewards!

Stewardship Renewal is rather like a wedding ceremony: it is what follows that matters!

Now that the excitement of the renewal is over we must all avoid the potential danger of thinking that Christian Stewardship as such is finished and we can now get back to the old way of doing things. Renewal, after all, was each of us, in families or as individuals, making promises for the future with respect to our time, abilities and money. The real task starts now that the renewal has been made!

Nevertheless, you will doubtless be wondering how we did; or in real terms, to what the Church can look forward in the future.

Time for Talents

As was the case in 1980 when our parishes first embraced the Christian Stewardship principle in earnest, it will be quite a while before many of your time and abilities pledges can be put into practice. The work of processing and collating the many promises is still in progress, and once that is done it is highly likely that a further period will elapse before everyone can set to work.

Obviously many talents have been functioning already for some years but we do ask fresh offerers not to feel unwanted if they don't hear from us straightaway.

The Financial Forecast

It might be thought that a report on the pledges of money would be less problematical but here too it takes time to work out the many details before an overall figure can be arrived at. In this department, of course, the money is *promised*: it is not yet actual. But in neither parish is it possible to give a final figure right now.

The likely situation at Bekesbourne is an increase in annual income of between £200 and £300, bringing the total to somewhere around £1,700.

The following provisional picture is presented by Mr. Potter with respect to Bridge and Patrixbourne, but let it be stressed that it *is* provisional:

Position as at 14.7.1984

69 Covenants renewed worth			£5,125 net per annum
15 New Covenants worth			462 net per annum
<u>84</u>		TOTAL	<u>£5,587</u>

Position as at 31.12.1983

78 Covenants worth			£4,270 net per annum
Less 8 Covenants not renewed in 84 ..			<u>258 net per annum</u>
			£4,012

N.B. The above figures are shown 'net' because they do not include the income tax recoverable.

Thus compared with the adjusted 1983 figure there will be an increase of £1,575 in the total net annual income from covenants.

There has been a small reduction in the number of donors via the non-covenanted envelope scheme, but it is probable that receipts will be similar to those of 1983, about £1,100.

Sticking to our principles

Behind the above comments and statistics is the underlying Christian Stewardship principle that all who name the name of Christ are called to make their entire life an offering in token of gratitude to God whose donation to his people is incomparable. We owe him our very existence and ought surely, therefore, to give expression to our gratitude in whatever way we can: service of our fellows through the medium of the Church being but one.

Joys and Sorrows

At the time of going to press **Geoffrey Eric Taha** from Whitstable and **Eloise Jane Lobsey** from Sydney, Australia are to be baptized in St. Mary's Church, Patricbourne on 22nd July, and this happy event is recorded now in anticipation. The respective parents were married in Patricbourne Church, the grandparents being the Lapages of Bridge Down and the Uptons of Bridge Hill.

On 30th June **Darel Pearson**, The Station House, Bridge married **Tracy Jane Pyman** of Harbledown in St. Peter's Church, Bridge, and we wish them well in their future together.

The Vicar officiated at the funerals of four Bridge residents. That of **John William Swan**, 47 Union Road was at Barham Crematorium on 12th June. The body of Mrs. **Edith Maria Friend**, formerly of Bourne View was laid to rest in Bridge Churchyard the following day after a service in church. The sudden death of **Harry Hawkins**, 20 Windmill Close took everyone by surprise and the church was filled to capacity for his funeral on 12th July. An obituary appears elsewhere in this issue for, as a mourner was heard to say, "Harry was Bridge". A service in church for the late Mrs. **Lily Ethel Honney**, 34 Western Avenue was followed by cremation at Barham. This took place on 12th July. We pray for all the departed and also for those who mourn their passing.

Kent Trust for Nature Conservation

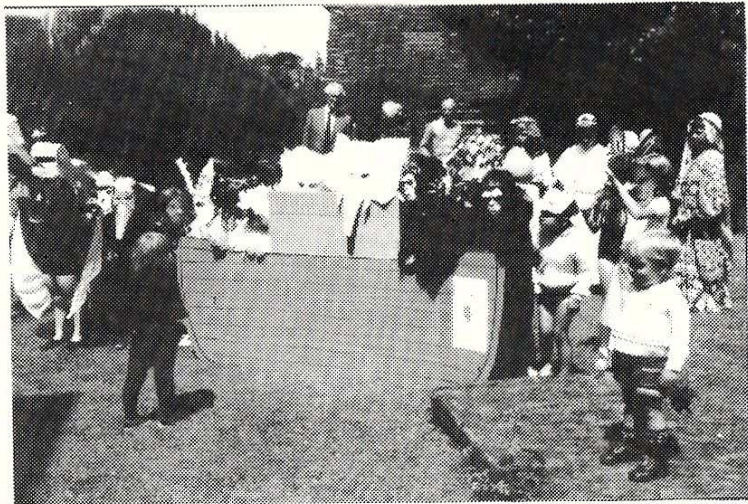
Congratulations!

Few people in Patricbourne, Bridge and Bekesbourne, indeed throughout Kent, do not know of the work done by Dot Whittaker for the Kent Trust for Nature Conservation. Recently she was presented by Lord Brabourne with a special award for her outstanding effort in boosting sales of gifts to over £24,000, organising jumble sales, barn dances, cheese and wine evenings and for raising money for special projects. Fifty new members have also been recruited.

We can be proud of people like Dot and her band of helpers who feel our countryside is worth all the time and energy they are able to offer. *J.H.R.*

Taken at the flood

The children of Junior Church gave what we hope will be the first of many presentations when, at the Family Service in July they enacted the story of Noah and the Flood. To my eternal regret I was unable to see it, so am not well placed to give a report of it, but I did pop into the church while they were rehearsing and was amazed to see gorillas, elephants, donkeys, you name it going into the



ark two-by-two. From subsequent accounts given by members of the very large congregation it was a huge success and made for a thoroughly enjoyable, fun-packed service. Hats off to the ladies who staged it, having previously devoted much loving thought and hard work to building animal masks and a very convincing ark, not to mention putting the children, some of them quite small, through their paces. Those of us who missed it are clearly the losers as can be seen from the photograph. Dare we hope for a second performance?

Bridge Summer Fête *A great success . . .*



Photo: Mrs. M. Field

Mrs. Alicia Pentin judging the Fancy Dress Competition at Bridge Fête.

What an inspired idea of the school PTA committee to suggest that Bridge and Patix-bourne School and Churches get together to produce one summer fête instead of having one each, as in previous years! The pessimists who said it would never work and that we would both come out losers witnessed their doom-laden predictions shattered by what must surely be the biggest and best fête the village has ever seen.

From the outset it was wisely decided that the only way to proceed was to pool our resources and work together as one. This we did with quite stupendous results both in takings (an all-time record that left churches and PTA with £715 each) and in developing relationships. The weather, of course, was perfect, but even so it was clear to all that many more people had come to the fête, that they had stayed longer and spent more.

Next year there will be a different PTA committee, but I hope and trust that they will wish this initial experiment to continue in 1985. Manwhile from the present committee and from the Parochial Church Council a big thank-

you is extended to all who in any way contributed to the success of Bridge Summer Fête 1984.

HARRY HAWKINS— A Village Man

Born in Bridge, he commenced his education at our C of E Primary School (then in Patix-bourne Road), thereafter he worked here, he lived here and after retiring from his business he *continued* to live here. That is a potted history of the life and times of Harry Hawkins, who died peacefully at his home on Saturday, 7th July. Everybody knew him, and *he* knew most of them!

After leaving Bridge School Harry went to the Simon Langton Boys School in Canterbury. Then, deciding to follow father's footsteps into the retail haberdashery trade, he served his apprenticeship with Lefevres (now Debenhams) and with Deakins the outfitters in Canterbury. Thereafter he joined his father, George Hawkins, in his general drapers store in Bridge High Street, eventually taking over the business and running it with 'Prill' his wife, who died two years ago.

Meanwhile, in 1937 they purchased the news agency which was next door. In 1976 Harry closed down the drapers store and then retired to live at 20 Windmill Close.

At school Harry played in the cricket team. His enthusiasm for the game continued afterwards as a playing member of Bourne Cricket Club, and when the Bridge Club was formed he presented a cup to them.

Before the 1939-45 war Bridge had a volunteer Fire Brigade. Harry was one of their number and at the outbreak of hostilities he was the brigade commander: indeed, the last man to hold that post, because the unit was then disbanded.

The Bridge Brigade was particularly famous because their fire engine was a converted Rolls Royce motorcar, registration number LS 164. Anecdotes of the Bridge Fire Brigade's exploits abound and none were told better than those related by Harry — when persuaded to do so!

Throughout the war years Harry served in the Fire Service and in May 1942, when a unit commander, he was awarded the B.E.M. for his gallant action when dealing with fire and bomb damage during a particularly severe air-raid over Canterbury.

A Parish Councillor for many years he was Chairman when the negotiations to provide the Recreation Ground reached fruition, and when the Village Hall (then known as the Reading Room) needed a new roof, Harry figured prominently in the fund-raising efforts.

A Bridge man and man of Bridge, he is survived by his son, Eric and daughters Marian and Barbara, to whom we extend our sympathy. *H.P.M.L*



Photo: Kentish Gazette

Churchyard transformation

If you have not visited either Patrixbourne or Bridge Churchyards recently can I suggest you do so for both have had a lot of time and energy expended on them. The change is more noticeable at Bridge because, let's face it, it was in a far worse condition, but this in no way minimises the work done at Patrixbourne.

In these difficult times the PCC felt it could no longer justifiably spend money on keeping the grass at the back of St. Mary's Church cut and reluctantly agreed that in the absence of volunteers it would be left to grow. It was then that four anonymous people stepped in and decided to attend to the matter at their own expense. The result is that Mr. Moon of Firdown Cottages who previously cut the grass at Patrixbourne is continuing to do so and the outcome is there for all to see. The quartet do not wish their names to be known but I am sure that they will read this and accept our most grateful thanks for their generosity. We thank, also, Mr. Moon for this sterling work, not to mention many other ways in which he and Mrs. Moon contribute to St. Mary's Church.

The problem of getting Bridge Churchyard straight has been a perennial one and whereas the many past appeals for help through working parties and 'Rent-a-grave' have met with a modicum of success it has always been difficult to keep up the momentum. Now, due to a recent call for help from anyone with relatives buried in the churchyard, a tremendous clearing operation has been completed by one man and him a pensioner. Mr. Jarrett, 2 Lynton Place, quite off his own bat and because he wanted something to do, set to work on his own without a word to a soul and has transformed what had been a wilderness into a recognisable and very presentable graveyard.

Through Mr. Jarrett's good offices a great weight has been removed from our minds and we are most concerned that, like Mr. Moon, he should know how much his labours are appreciated. To both gentlemen, very many thanks!

GARDEN CHARITIES SUCCESS

The Opening of Cobham Court Gardens by Mrs. L.M. Whigham last month saw more than four hundred visitors. The National Gardens Scheme charities gained more than £200, and the Tea and Cakes stall run by Mrs. Jean Bett and Miss Caroline Jarvis netted £80 for the Pilgrim Hospice. The church was also opened and manned by the Churchwardens, and visitors there gave over £50 towards church funds. Well done everybody.

J.P.

Hymns at Bekesbourne

Anyone with a taste for hymn-singing or an interest in the origins of some of the best-loved hymns should make a point of being in Bekesbourne Church on Sunday, 19th August, when, at 11am another of our traditional *Songs of Praise* sessions is due to take place.

In the interim the Organist, Stanley Grey will be open to offers from anybody who has a hymn they would like included, so do get in touch with him as soon as you can. All the hymns sung on these occasions are requests, so don't be backward at coming forwards.

The Revd. M. Peter Taylor asks ***Is enough enough?***

There is a true story about a boy who received a fairly average amount of pocket money. One day his father came to him and said that it was time for him to have an increase, but the boy refused because he said that he had got enough already. This has made me wonder what really is 'enough'. It is very difficult for us to know, because our ideas of what is enough are based upon what we think we need, and that obviously differs from person to person; what one thinks is a necessity another considers to be a luxury.

In the early Church Paul wrote to a young minister called Timothy and here is his advice: "If we have food and clothes, that should be enough for us" (1 Tim 6.8). Well it is easy for Paul to say that, and we feel that somehow he is right, but just food and clothes are not enough, are they?

We need shelter — sleeping out in the open is possible but no fun (I mean without tents, etc.). We need transport of some kind to get us to shops and work. We need telephones in case of emergencies. How many of us could bear life without furniture, cookers, fridges, let alone what we might describe as luxuries? It is all very well saying there are those in the world who do not have these things, but then they do not live in a society which needs them.

How should we treat what Paul says? Should we dismiss it as not applying to us. Should we sit in our chairs and feel guilty? Should we throw out our chairs for fear of slipping into the trap of calling items like TVs and freezers necessities, not luxuries, however important? No. Paul did not tell Timothy that he was not allowed to live in a house, but that he should be content with food and clothes, and so treat all else as a bonus.

Does this not speak to those who go on strike for more money? Or to governments all too keen to spend money in the wrong places? Or to employers whose only motive is profit? Or do we really believe that enough is enough?

If so, won't someone tell that little boy?

A brief glimpse at

The Saints of August

St. Dominic (4th)

Born in Spain, St. Dominic (1170-1221) was the founder of the Dominican order of Friars Preachers. The order was devoted to preaching and teaching anywhere and everywhere. A man of great vision, he had a deep compassion for every sort of human suffering, and saw the need to use the resources of learning in the service of Christ.

St. Laurence (10th)

Laurence (died 258) was one of the seven deacons of Rome under Pope Sixtus II, and was martyred on 10th August only four days after the Pope himself. According to tradition, when asked to hand over the Church's treasures, he assembled the poor and sick; and was later put to death by roasting on a grid.

St. Clare of Assisi (11th)

Born in Assisi, Clare (c1194-1253) followed St. Francis in his life of poverty and service. He himself drew up the way of life for Clare and the community she gathered around her. One of the foremost medieval contemplatives, she was for women's orders what Francis was for men's.

Jeremy Taylor (13th)

Jeremy Taylor (1613-67) was successively Fellow of All Souls, Oxford, a chaplain to Charles I and a country priest. After the Restoration he became Bishop of Down and Connor in Ireland where he worked amid much opposition to reconcile both Presbyterians and Roman Catholics to the national church. He wrote many works, of which *Holy Living* and *Holy Dying* are still widely read.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux (20th)

Born in France, Bernard (1090-1153) entered the Cistercian order, itself a reform of the Benedictines. He became abbot of Clairvaux and reformed the Cistercian order itself, conforming it more closely to the monastic ideals of poverty, chastity and obedience. He wrote many spiritual works and much theology and spent his time trying to reconcile the divisions of the church of his day.

St. Augustine (28th)

Not to be confused with St. Augustine of Canterbury his namesake (354-430), was born in North Africa and was a brilliant young man whose life was unsettled. Largely through the prayers of his mother, St. Monica, he became a Christian, and later a leading bishop and teacher of the faith. He was a great preacher and writer; his autobiographical *Confessions*, and the analysis of Christian Society *City of God* are important theological and spiritual works.

St. Aidan (31st)

An Irish monk of Iona, Aidan (died 651) was chosen as a missionary for Northumbria and consecrated Bishop of Lindisfarne. With the help of King Oswald, he journeyed far and wide establishing missionary centres and a monastery for the training of English clergy.

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The last meeting of the Parish Council prior to the summer recess was held on 12th July, when it was confirmed that Mr. P.M. Topham, Secretary of the Canterbury and Thanet Community Health Council, would attend on 11th October to explain the rôle of his Council, and to hear from members the local community's views of the Health Service. This meeting, like all Council meetings, will be open to the public, but in view of the importance of the subject, the Council decided to give the occasion extra publicity, and to invite all interested local residents—and there can be few without any interest in the Health

Service—to hear Mr. Topham's talk.

Village Hall

Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young told members that a new Scout troop was to be formed in Bridge, and that they would meet in the Hall. They expected an initial group of ten to fifteen boys. Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin reported that while the contractors had started on the final items of work to which he had referred in his previous report, they had not yet finished; while members raised several other matters still requiring attention, including the provision of grab handles in the toilet for the disabled.

Recreation Ground

Cllr. Tim Hoare referred again to the indifferent standard of cutting this year, and the Cricket Club had written on the same subject. The matter had, however, been taken up with the County Council, who carry out the work on a contract basis, and the last two cuts had been done more carefully. The County Council had also said that they would endeavour to coincide the cutting with the home matches of the Cricket Club.

Streets and Footways

Cllr. Gulvin hoped to have some quotations for the reconstruction of the Bridge Hill/Bridge Down stairway at the next meeting; and Cllr. Hoare said that the Direct Labour Force of the City Council were also prepared to tender for the work. He also said that the County Council had given an undertaking to

clear the overgrown footways on Town and Bridge Hills. Proposed amendments to waiting restrictions agreed with the County Council and the Police are incorporated in notices posted in the village; and the Council decided, in view of the much increased cost of reinstatement, to increase substantially its insurance on the street lighting equipment. The County Council has recently lowered a number of footway kerbs for users of wheelchairs, but Cllr. Mrs. Margaret Jones said that these kerbs were still too high, and the matter will be taken up again with the County Council.

The next meeting of the Council, after the summer break, will be on 13th September at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall. Visitors, always welcome, will find the new chairs rather more comfortable than the old.

F.L. Edwards, Clerk

Noticeboard

Members of the Womens Institute are reminded that the August meeting on 21st will be held at 6 Bridgeford Way and not in the Village Hall.

'Fish' Scheme holiday arrangements are as follows: Transport and Welfare Services will carry on as usual throughout the holiday period. The Coffee Pop-in will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 8th from 10.15 till 11.45am. Visitors are always welcome! The Chiropody Clinic will be closed on 6th and 13th September, as the Chiropodist will be on holiday. This year The Luncheon Club will be closed for the whole of August to give catering staff, helpers and drivers a well-deserved break.

At last Bridge's involvement in the young people's uniformed organisations is complete with the commencement of a local Scout Troop. Any young lads keen to join this well-established international movement for boys can meet the leaders any Wednesday evening in the Village Hall after Cubs. Here's to a successful troop! Good scouting!

Mrs. Evelyn Andrews says: Bridge Village Playgroup's AGM was held on Wednesday, 11th July. Sharon Sperling, Vice-Chairman, gave a report of the year's activities. The Committee for the year 1984/5 is as follows: Rosy Green, Chairman; Jean Johnson, Vice-Chairman; Evelyn Andrews, Secretary; Ann Medhurst, Treasurer; Lorraine Flisher, Rota Secretary. After the meeting a Barbecue was enjoyed by forty parents of the playgroup children. On Thursday, 12th July a party of twenty-eight children accompanied by sixteen adults visited Howletts Zoo. The outing was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Rota for Church Cleaners at Bekesbourne for August: Mrs. Stickells, 5th; Mrs. Hogben, 12th; Mrs. Watson, 19th; Mrs. Russell, 26th; and Mrs. Grey, September 1st. Our thanks to all these ladies.

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

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens: Mr. C.A. Potter, 7 St. Mary's Road, Patricxbourne CT4 5BY (830218)
Mr. D.R. Hill, Red Deer, Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830426)
Hon. Secretary: Mr. L.W. Sandford, 11 Windmill Close, Bridge CT4 5LY (830411)
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C.A. Potter, 7 St. Mary's Road, Patricxbourne CT4 5BY (830218)
Organist (Bridge): Mr. D. Mathew, 27 Rivercourt, Chartham CT4 7JN (731548)
Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriority, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD (62695)
Verger (Bridge): Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne CT4 5JD (830660)

BEKESBOURNE

Churchwardens: Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT4 5LA (830522)
Mr. J. Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (830937)
Hon. Secretary: Mr. John Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (830937)
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. D. Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne CT4 5ER (830256)
Organist: Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT4 5LA (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 (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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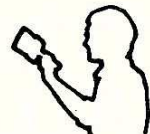
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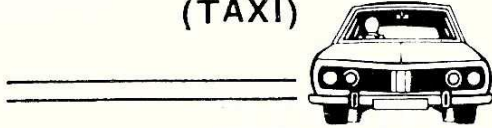
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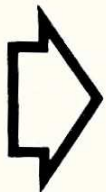
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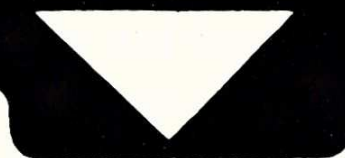
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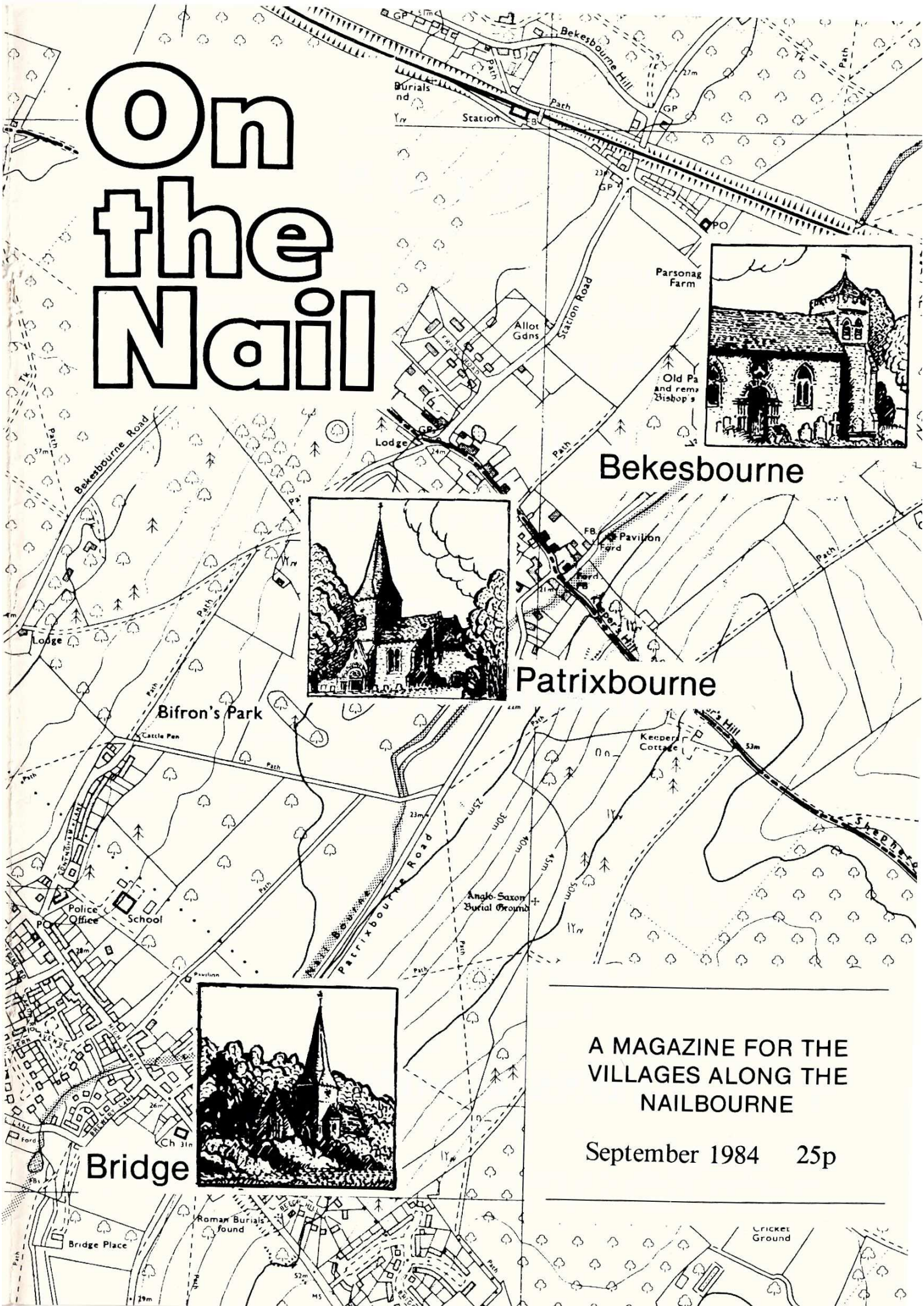
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Patricxbourne



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Sunday Worship in September

Bridge	Patricbourne	Bekesbourne
2nd: 11am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion
9th: 9.30 Family Communion (<i>Series 3</i>) 6.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
16th: 9.30 Parish Communion (<i>Series 3</i>) 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am Matins
23rd: 8am Holy Communion <i>No Evensong</i>	9am Holy Communion	11am <i>Harvest Festival</i>
30th: 9.30 Family Communion (<i>Series 3</i>) 6.30pm Evensong	11am <i>Harvest Festival</i>	8am Holy Communion
7th October: 11am <i>Harvest</i> Family Service 6.30pm <i>Harvest Festival</i> Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion

Please note there will be no Evensong on 23rd September, due to the Deanery Family Festival that afternoon at Barham.

Junior Church meets in the Methodist Church, Patricbourne Road each Sunday except the first at 9.30am. Children from 4 years and upwards are welcome.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *2nd*, The Revd. Peter Boyden, M.A., M.Litt. *9th*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *16th*, Miss J. Charlesworth, M.A. *23rd*, The Revd. Ian Laird. *30th, Harvest Festival*, The Revd. John Turner, B.A.

Weekdays. Apart from Wednesday, 5th and Friday, 7th September Holy Communion will be celebrated on the other Wednesdays at 9.30am and Fridays at 7.30am in St. Peter's, Bridge. The monthly Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 5th at 10.15am and the services at The New Close are on Wednesdays at 2.30pm.

For your diary and prayer list

- 2nd **Eleventh Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 12**
Bridge's Family Service will be conducted by Canon C.F. Pollard, Diocesan Director of Education. We anticipate the usual strong support for this monthly occasion.
- 3rd *St. Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher, 604*
- 4th Pray for Bridge & Patrixbourne CE Primary School and for all other schools who commence their new school year today. Pray especially for children who start school today or begin at their new school.
- 8th **The Blessed Virgin Mary**
The New Close Coffee Morning, 10.30am
- 9th **Twelfth Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 13**
- 11th Patrixbourne with Bridge PCC meeting, Methodist Church, 7.30pm.
- 13th *St. Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr, 258*
Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 14th *Holy Cross Day*
- 15th Bridge Churchyard Working Party assembles at 10am.
- 16th **Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 14**
- 17th- 19th Pray for the Residential Diocesan Conference at Sussex University
- 18th Bridge with Patrixbourne WI meeting, Village Hall, 7pm.
- 21st **St. Matthew the Apostle**
- 23rd **Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 15**
Bekesbourne Harvest Thanksgiving, 11am
The Deanery Family Festival takes place at Barham, commencing at 3.30pm and concluding with an Act of Worship in Barham Church at 6.30pm. The preacher is Canon Derek Ingram Hill. Activities similar to those last year at Bridge are planned, and I hope a goodly representation from our three villages will turn up to enjoy the fun. If possible please bring something to eat for tea, which can be added to the communal pool. There will not, of course, be an evening service at Bridge.
- 25th *Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, 1626*
- 27th *Vincent de Paul, Founder of the Vincentian Order, 1660*
- 29th **St. Michael and All Angels**
- 30th **Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 16**
Patrixbourne Harvest Thanksgiving, 11am
Bridge Methodist Church Harvest Festival, 11am
- 1st October Bridge Methodist Church Harvest Festival (continuation)
Mrs. M.R. Brice, B.A., 7.30pm



The Cross in Celebration

Every 14th September the Church keeps what it calls Holy Cross Day. It is an unusual observance and positively unique, in that it does not slot easily into any of the accepted categories of holy days. Nor is it readily apparent how we ought to keep it. For instance, is it a fast or festival? Should we treat it as we do Good Friday or is it a cause for celebration?

The Exaltation of the Cross

Holy Cross Day has an alternative name — The Exaltation of the Cross — and within that title is to be found the solution of our problem in the word ‘exaltation’. That word has a distinctive ring about it, for after all exaltation is far from being a sombre activity. So we are left with a title that clearly suggests a day of gladness and rejoicing.

Yet for some committed Christians the idea of enjoying a commemoration of the cross is thought to be poor taste. After all, they are being asked to make merry (howbeit in a churchy sense) around the gallows on which Jesus died an agonising death after a biased trial on a trumped-up charge. Surely there is something vaguely sick about gloating over that sort of horrendous happening!

Well, if that was all the cross meant I couldn’t agree more. On its own the cross spelt curtains for the carpenter of Nazareth. It nipped his young and potentially promising life smartly in the bud, and it takes a twisted mentality to find in that a cause for rejoicing.

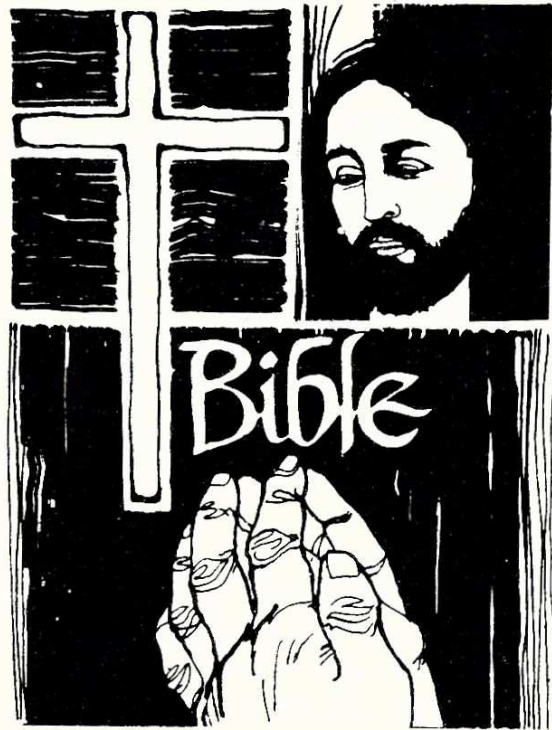
The final outcome

However, we are encouraged, whenever we contemplate the cross of Jesus, to see beyond the immediate horror of the situation to its final outcome. After Good Friday came Easter Day. He who died was restored to life just three days later, and he is *still* alive and — if we will allow him — active in our affairs. The Christian gospel (the word means ‘good news’) is that in his death on the cross Jesus paid the enormous price of our sins — yes, ours in twentieth century Kent — and through his resurrection he brought us new life, which will never end, which would remain intact despite our eventual death.

Seen in the light of this glorious gospel that first century instrument of torturous death on which was crucified the Son of God, is the means of abundant life for us, eternal life (*i.e.* life that not even time can eradicate). So all our hope is centred upon it, and whereas at the time it indicated the utter despair of a lost cause, seen in the light of Easter it is the one and only gateway to that standard of life it was always God’s will to give us.

The wondrous cross

Is it any wonder that we have adopted the cross as *the* Christian symbol and that we set up crosses in our churches, making them in most cases objects of great beauty and material value? It certainly points to the rightness of setting a day aside independent of Good Friday on which to keep festival in honour of ‘the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died’.



Ave Crux

Thou art welcome, Holy Cross of our God!
Thou bringest light :
thou showest the wisdom of God and the power
of God.

Thou bringest love ;
for so God loved the world
that he gave his only-begotten Son
to bear thee and to be borne by thee.

Thou bringest life,
on whom the Saviour is lifted up to die
and to draw all men unto him.

Thou bringest freedom and forgiveness,
through the nails which held thy Lord to thee,
through the precious Blood
which angels gathered and men drink.

Thou hast set a throne on the soil of our earth
whereon men can see the heart of God,
and bow and adore.

Lord Jesus, let me not fear nor hesitate to take from thy
hands
the disciple's cross ;
and carry it, whatsoever its weight or pain,
with all the sons of faith.

Let me follow the Master's way and the Master's will,
to thy goal, thy glory.



The New Close

The many visitors to The New Close in Conyngham Lane, now in its third year, will bear witness to the high standard of care given by Matron and her staff, who frequently have to work under pressure and shorthandedly. The happy and peaceful atmosphere of the home is just what is needed for its elderly and at times confused residents.

It is good that links are maintained with the wider community through casual visitors, people who just pop in for a chat or to keep in contact with a particular resident. Those of us who turn up for the weekly service on Wednesday afternoons greatly appreciate a fresh face (and voice) and I would like to invite all and sundry to this brief act of worship, conducted on very informal lines, to which the residents always look forward eagerly. As chaplain I value the occasional eucharists which we hold and which, I feel sure, add their own special blessing to the fine work that goes on in The New Close day by day.

The staff are always most appreciative of all that is done to aid them in their work and to give that something extra to the comfort of their charges. Recently cakes and clothing were given by the Conservative Club following the Cobham Court opening and assistant matron, Muriel Lawler asked that their grateful thanks should be conveyed through *On The Nail* for 'a very kind gesture much appreciated by all'.

Don't forget the Friends!

Mention of The New Close would be incomplete without recording the valuable and valued contribution made to its life by the official Friends of the Close, who at their recent Annual General Meeting decided to stage a number of events on its behalf.

First on the list is a Coffee Morning on 8th September at 10.30am, including a Tombola and Raffle. A Christmas Coffee Morning is planned for 8th December, also at 10.30am — and an evening of Christmas Songs by candlelight on 19th December at 8pm, together with mince-pies and drinks.

Matron Di Holway says, "We would be grateful for any gifts towards raffles, etc." and she adds a word of thanks to everyone who over the past year has given help and comforts for the residents.

Joys and sorrows

The following have been made Members of Christ, the Children of God, and inheritors of Eternal Life through the sacrament of Holy Baptism: **Louise Alethea Andrews**, The Purlins, Meadow Close, and **Peter Raymond Davies**, 6 Bourne View. They were christened in the course of the Family Service on 5th August. Also, at a service at St. Peter's, Bekesbourne the same day, **Eleanor Jane Page**, **John William Page** and **Richard Anthony Page**.

On 11th August **Angharad Wetherell**, 27 Bridge Down married **Martin Paul Roberts** in St. Mary's Church, Patrixbourne.

Villagers received with sorrow the news of the death of former greengrocer **Norman Turner**, formerly of Bridge High Street but latterly 4 Dering Close. His wife can be assured of our sympathy. The sudden death in France of **Francis Whigham**, Bourne Park Cottages came as a shock to his many friends and acquaintances. A devout Roman Catholic, Francis was laid to rest beside his late brother Bernard in Patrixbourne Churchyard after a Funeral Mass at St. Thomas's Church, Canterbury. Fr. Jeremiah Cronin celebrated the Mass and the Vicar read the Biddings and also shared with Fr. Cronin the interment at Patrixbourne. We record also the sad passing so soon after her husband, of Mrs. **Clara Pattenden**, Garden Cottage, Bridge Hill. May the souls of the departed through the mercy of God rest in peace and may those who mourn their passing receive the assurance of his love and comfort.

Bridge Churchyard — the next stage

In last month's *On The Nail* we read of the dedicated volunteers who have worked so hard to tidy up, and indeed transform, the churchyards at Bridge and Patrixbourne. However, there is still work to be done, and to that end we plan to assemble a working party at St. Peter's, Bridge on Saturday, 15th September at 10 o'clock.

Stewardship Renewal produced a number of names of people who, under Time and Talents, offered to assist with churchyard maintenance, and we invite them plus any others who care to join them on this occasion. No further invitation will be offered, so please do your best to come, and bring your tools with you. Thank you, in anticipation of a good response.

A.J.

St. Peter's, Bekesbourne also needs some clearance work done, and Churchwarden John Purchase will be contacting those who offered to help in this way, to fix a mutually acceptable Saturday for a purge of rubbish and weeds.

J.P.

Children's Society

The Coffee Morning in aid of the *Church of England Children's Society* was a great success, realising £55. Thank you all helpers and also the people who gave so generously to the Bring-and-Buy.

F.V.B. Mason, Hon. Sec'y



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BBC Radio Kent, our own local radio station, has now got a VHF frequency operative in East Kent, and for those who have the necessary equipment *RK* can now be heard on 102.8 FM. All this bodes well for the Lent Course '85, preliminary details of which appear on the third page of the *Diocesan News Service* inset with this issue of *On The Nail*.

The Saints of September

Gregory the Great (3rd)

St. Gregory (c540-604) was one of the greatest of the early popes. His activities were not only ecclesiastical, liturgical and musical, but he was also a wise statesman. He it was who sent St. Augustine and forty monks on their mission to England in which he took a keen interest. Significantly he was the first to call himself 'servant of the servants of God', a title which clearly shows his conception of religious authority.

Cyprian (13th)

A barrister and teacher in public oratory in Carthage, Cyprian (c200-258) became a Christian at about the age of forty-six, but two years later was made a bishop. His people loved him for his goodness, and he was renowned for his rule not to come to decisions without consulting his clergy and people and gaining their approval. He was the victim of persecution, and his trial and martyrdom are recorded in contemporary documents. They make stirring reading!

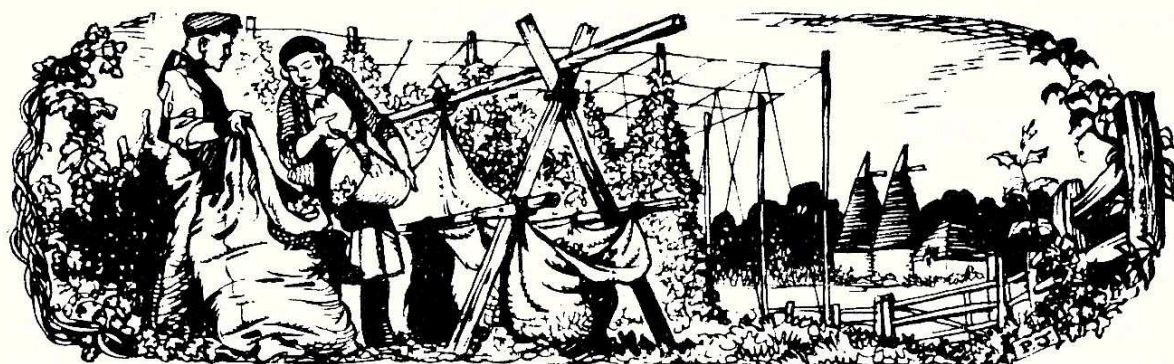
Lancelot Andrewes (25th)

After a ministry in Cambridge, at St. Giles Cripplegate, St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey, Lancelot Andrewes (1555-1626) was successively bishop of Chichester, Ely and Winchester. His saintly and apostolic character and his learning and reputation as a preacher made him the foremost and most respected churchman of his day. His main contribution was his quiet influence through which the Catholic character of the reformed Church of England was vindicated. A contemporary said of him, 'Doctor Andrewes in the school, Bishop Andrewes in the pulpit, Saint Andrewes in the closet'.

Vincent de Paul (27th)

Born in South-West France, St. Vincent (c1580-1660) was ordained priest in 1600 and resolved to devote his life to works of charity. He did much to relieve the sufferings of prisoners on the galleys, and founded several religious orders, including the Vincentian Order of missionary priests and the Sisters of Charity whose work was entirely with the sick and the poor. This latter was the first order for women which was not entirely enclosed, and marked the beginning of much more direct involvement of the religious life in work among the poor and oppressed.

The parable of the Hop-garden . . .



As the season of hop-picking comes round, it is worth recounting a point made by the Archbishop, Dr. Runcie, when preaching at Holy Innocent's Church, Adisham — the smallest parish in the diocese to adopt Christian Stewardship.

He said, "In some parishes where it is well understood that Stewardship is an essential part of Christian discipleship, there is nonetheless a reluctance to embark on a formal programme, as you are doing. They say, 'Well, it can be left to the parishioner, or to the Rector's sermon, or to the magazine. We do not need experienced help from outside'. I would like to challenge that attitude with an illustration from the Kent hop gardens, which as a newcomer I try to watch and understand at this time of year, May. I hope I do not get the technicalities wrong.

"The process known as 'stringing', as many of you will know, has just been completed and the hop plants are climbing up the strings. I am told they can grow six inches in a day, always winding anti-clockwise round the string. Until they are about six feet up from the ground they need help in their climb. Afterwards they are on their own. Now, if the farmer failed to provide the strings, the hops would not die; they would still grow a bit, but nothing like six inches a day, because they would be deprived of the air and sun and they would never reach their full potential. And I see a Stewardship Programme or Mission as the enabling string which can help the members of a parish to grow up in their discipleship."

No-one can tell how much of an 'enabling string' they can be when they do something to help the parish or a parishioner.

J.P.

**PARISH
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Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The next meeting of the Council, after the summer break, will be on 13th September at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall. Visitors, always welcome, will find the new chairs rather more comfortable than the old.

F.L. Edwards, Clerk

BEKESBOURNE CLEANING ROTA: September 2nd, Mrs. Grey; 9th, Mrs. Beckett; 16th, Mrs. Smith; 23rd, Mrs. Stickells; 30th, Mrs. Hogben.

SENIOR CITIZENS will want to know that the 'Fish' Scheme Coffee Pop-in is on Wednesday, 12th at 10.30am in the Village Hall, Bridge, and that the Luncheon Club resumes operations on Monday, 3rd.

Framework For Faith

... provides at local level a series of short courses in the Christian Faith and its practice. It is for those who wish to know more about Christian beliefs and the ways these can be lived out in daily life. Each course is organised by the Diocesan Education Committee in co-operation with others from the Deaneries.

The next course gets under way in October but now is the time to apply to be on it. Two topics are on offer, and you can choose between "Prayer" and "The Christian in Society".

Full details are available in all three churches, together with Registration Forms. Please take one if you are interested.

Previous courses, which are run on a Deanery basis, have been highly popular, and apart from the helpful and interesting course content have been the means of people from different parishes getting to know one another.

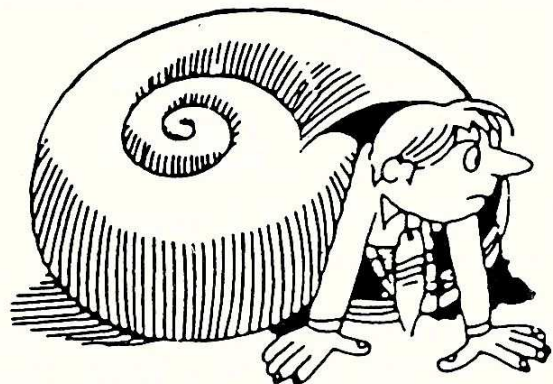
The Framework For Faith Subjects

You can choose which subjects you wish to study. Each Autumn and Spring two units of the Course will be available. Material is being prepared on a variety of subjects. Already four units have been studied.

Introduction to the Old Testament
Christian Marriage and Family Life
Christian Worship
The Church in History.

Other subjects planned include:

The Healing Ministry
Introduction to the New Testament
Challenges to Christian Belief
Christian Ministry
Communicating the Faith
Basic Christian Beliefs
Lay Visiting in the Parish.



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Magazine Editor: The Vicar, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

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

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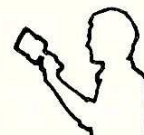
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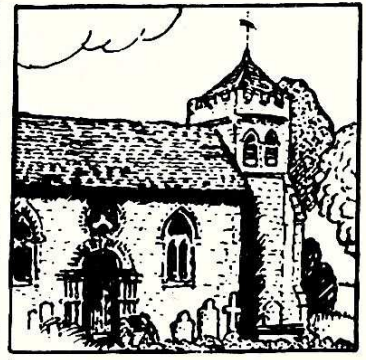
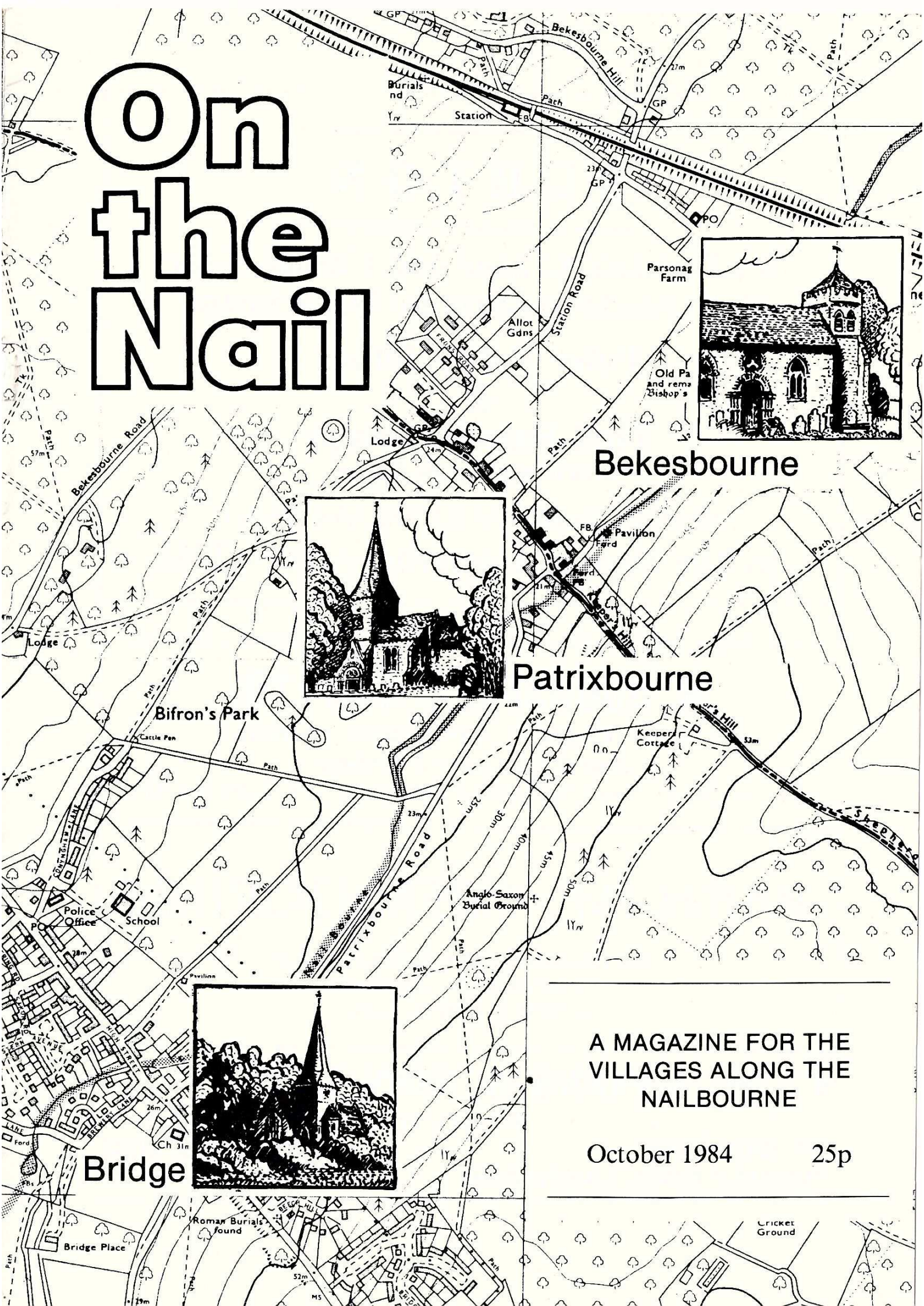
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Bekesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

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October 1984 25p

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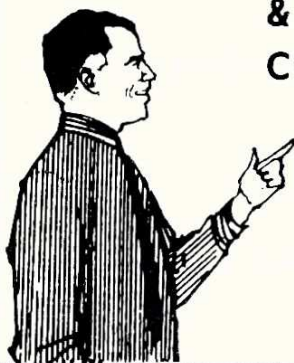
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Sunday Worship in October

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
7th: 11am <i>Harvest Family Service</i> 6.30pm <i>Harvest Festival Evensong</i>	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion
14th: 9.30 Family Communion <i>(Series 3)</i> 6.30pm Evensong <i>(Revd. W. Owen)</i>	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
21st: 9.30 Parish Communion <i>(Series 3)</i> 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am <i>Songs of Praise</i>
28th: 8am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion	11am Matins
4th November: 11am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion

Junior Church meets each Sunday at 9.30am in the Methodist Church, Patricxbourne Road, except the first. Children from 4 years and upwards are welcome. Whenever appropriate parents are invited to join the worship in St. Peter's Church, which the children come to on the third Sunday.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *7th* Miss K. Knight. *14th*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *21st*, Mr. S. Day. *28th*, Mr. C. Robertson.

Weekdays. Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesday mornings at 9.30am, on Fridays (Rite A) at 7.30am and at Churchill House on the first Wednesday at 10.15am. A short informal act of worship is held at The New Close every Wednesday at 2.30pm. Non-residents are always most welcome to attend.

For your diary and prayer list

- 2nd Pray for the clergy of the Deanery who meet in Chapter at Bridge today. Pray for the parish of Adisham and the Revd. Alan Frostick, Vicar of Aylesham who will be licensed as its parish priest this evening.
- 4th *St. Francis of Assisi, 1226*
Bekesbourne PCC Meeting, School House, 8pm
- 7th **Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 17**
Bridge Harvest Festival services take place today.
- 10th *Paulinus, Bishop, Missionary, 644*
- 11th Bridge Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm (See 'Parish Pump' for details of the special guest from the NHS who will address the meeting.)

- 13th Bridge & Patrixbourne Harvest Supper in the School, 7.30pm
- 14th **Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 18*
- 15th *St. Teresa of Avila, Mystic, 1582*
- 16th Bridge & Patrixbourne WI Harvest Supper
East Bridge Deanery Synod this evening.
- 17th *St. Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, Martyr, c.107*
- 18th **St. Luke the Evangelist**
Pray today for the restoration of the Church's Healing Ministry and for the work of the Canterbury Council for Health & Healing.
- 21st **Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity** *Last after Pentecost*
Instead of the usual sermon at Evensong a film will be shown of the work of Burrswood Home of Healing, Groombridge, Kent. The story of Dorothy Kerin is widely known, how she was miraculously cured on her death bed and went on to conduct a healing ministry based at Burrswood with its Church of Christ the Healer which she built. That great work continues and the film gives us an insight into it. It is a most beautiful film and I do urge every church person, whether you normally attend Evensong or not, to be with us this evening. It is a film not to be missed.
- 23rd Interchurch Group meets in the Methodist Church at 7.30pm. From the turn out last time we met, this is fulfilling a genuine need and Christians are growing in fellowship and love across the denominational frontiers. Do join us this time! It's not highbrow stuff!
- 28th **St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles** *Trinity 19*

Call to Heal

St. Luke's-tide, which occurs each October, re-awakens the Church to one of its more serious shortcomings, the loss of its Healing Ministry.

In the Gospels we read about our Lord's own ministry to the sick and abundant examples are there quoted to show how significant that side of his work was. Also in the Gospels and in the Epistles too we are shown how this ministry was passed on to the early Church, so that through the hands of those first Christians Christ's healing was continued.

What is worth noting is how, in those early days, healing formed an integral part of the Church's ministry: so just as they taught the faith and met for worship, so they healed in the power of Christ—that living Christ to whose presence in the world their very existence witnessed.

Unfortunately, in the middle ages this aspect of the Church's ministry was permitted to lapse so that nowadays we tend to regard the Healing Ministry as something tacked on by certain clergy and congregations who go in for that kind of optional extra.

In order to redress the balance our own Church of England has set up the Council for Health and Healing and the two archbishops have appointed Bishop Morris Maddocks to advise them on this neglected aspect of Church life.

Increasing numbers of parishes up and down the land are endeavouring to reinstate healing into their ministry, whether by holding specific healing services or by making provision in the normal Sunday eucharist for those who

wish to receive the laying on of hands. Others are approaching it with rather more caution and, for the time being, restricting themselves to the formation of healing prayer groups.

Space will not permit a more detailed examination of this very large subject, but it must be remarked that the Church's Healing Ministry is not a gimmick, nor does it aspire to the performance of miraculous cures, or to oppose the medical profession. In fact it does what its Lord did, which is to minister to the whole person, bringing the peace of Christ to all. Surely that is what the Church is for, when all is said and done!

* * *

Our own diocese is offering help and encouragement to parishes through the Canterbury Council for Health and Healing, of which the Archdeacon of Maidstone is the Chairman and I a member. The council's Annual Meeting takes place on Saturday, 20th October in the Church Barn, Charing and it is open to all-comers. The business meeting takes place in the morning, then, after a picnic lunch, a talk will be given by Mother Frances Dominica, founder of the first hospice for children in Oxfordshire. The day culminates in a eucharist in Charing Church at which the ministry of the laying on of hands is offered for all those who wish to receive it. Why not come along, if only for the afternoon?

STILL ON THE SUBJECT Enid Wintle writes. . .

Some of you may remember that just over three years ago the Vicar wrote an article in *On The Nail* regarding the Hospital Chaplain's Lay Assistant scheme, that the Revd. Peter Heartfield was starting at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, to assist him there and at the four Hospitals for which he was responsible. We were commissioned on May 13th, 1981, after six months' training.

We work as a team with the Chaplain and meet together regularly to discuss our work. We also meet for worship in the Hospital Chapel.

Each Assistant has his or her own particular ward to visit, and in this way we keep in contact with the same patients. The work is very enjoyable and rewarding. The Nursing Staff welcome our visits as we have time to listen and talk to the patients. Many find comfort in the fact that the 'Church' cares, and I am sometimes greeted with, 'Oh, you are the one from the Church'. Although some people may be doubtful of our visits at first, they frequently smile at the end and thank us for coming. As everyone knows there are many lonely people who have no visitors, and we can by regular visits fulfil a need for them. We also provide a link between the nursing and medical staff and the relatives. As volunteers we are able to stand aside, and so perhaps give a ministry that doctors and nurses are rightly too busy to give, and the relatives too involved. The work of healing is a work for all concerned. The part of the Chaplain and his assistants is to unite the whole under God.

Joys and Sorrows

The last and most pleasant duty I performed before my holiday was the wedding at Patricbourne of **Angharad Wetherell**, 27 Bridge Down and **Martin Roberts** of London. On my return I officiated at the baptism of **Camilla Lucy Mount**, Mudhole, Oakleigh Lane, in St. Peter's Church, Bekebourne.

Two sad deaths took place during the first half of my holiday. The first was

that of **Walter Scarborough**, to whom a tribute appears elsewhere. The second was that of **Rosalind Verity**, daughter of the Revd. Cecil and Mrs. Verity, sister of Ailsa Williamson. Though not a resident Rosalind was frequently at her parents' home in Conyngham Lane and invariably attended worship with them at the week-ends. Cremation at Barham was preceded by a service in St. Mary's Church, Patrixbourne.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Sharon Sperling writes to inform readers that the *new* Mother, Baby and Toddler Morning Club meets every Tuesday in the Methodist Church, Patrixbourne Road from 10 o'clock till 11.45. All visitors are welcome and refreshments will be available.

* * *

Evelyn Andrews, Bridge Group Secretary wishes to report that the group raised £109.64 in August for the NSPCC at Latimers Market, Ivy Lane, Canterbury and to offer the Bridge Group's thanks for all who gave their support.

* * *

Miss Mason gives advance information that the Church of England Children's Society annual Christmas Sale takes place in the Deanery on 16th November, from 10 o'clock till 12 noon. She would be grateful for donations of sweets for the Bridge stall.

* * *

Also giving plenty of warning of their future events is the Bridge Branch of the Royal British Legion. In chronological order these are:— Poppy Day, 10th November, when everyone's generous support is once again canvassed— Act of Remembrance at Bridge's War Memorial in the churchyard on Remembrance Sunday, 11th November at 10.45—The Branch AGM in The Hunter Room, 28th November at 8pm, at which all members are requested to attend—a Christmas Bazaar on 1st December in Bridge Village Hall from 2 o'clock—a Christmas Party in the Village Hall also on 1st December at 7.30pm.

Bridge & Patrixbourne Harvest Supper

In view of previous successes it has been decided to hold another Harvest Supper this autumn. It is to be held in Bridge School Hall on Saturday, 13th October at 7.30pm. The cost of the tickets will be £2 and they may be obtained from Kath Pierce or the Vicarage.

If any elderly person, who would like to come along, needs transport, please let any member of the PCC know, so that a lift may be arranged. Only a limited number of tickets are on sale, so buy early to avoid disappointment.

A.P.

A lift to Church

Looking ahead, particularly with regard to the encoming winter months, we are endeavouring, through Time & Talents, to arrange car transport to Bridge and Patricxbourne Churches for the elderly and infirm. This is intended to cater for those who wish to attend services but would otherwise find it difficult or impracticable to do so.

If you know or are aware of any such person who would be glad to be included in this arrangement, will you please inform Alan Jackson, the Time & Talents organiser (830489) or me. We will then be in a position to take up the matter directly with the person concerned and make suitable arrangements accordingly.

D.R. Hill



It's all their fault! by the Revd. M. Peter Taylor

As the nights begin to draw in we approach one of the most dreary times of the year. It will not be long before we will be eating our evening meals with the aid of artificial light. It is an unpleasant time of year for many, especially those who miss a loved one, or those who feel lonely. They are trapped in the dark with only memories for comfort. When there comes an unexpected knock on the front door it is often left unanswered. No-one dares to go out alone in the dark for fear of being attacked, for although mugging and raping do not occur at every moment, they nevertheless occur more frequently. The darkness all around us leads us to be afraid.

Who are to blame? Often we blame young people, because they are the most common offenders, but why do they do it? Clearly it cannot simply be a need for money or sex, though these could be a factor. Do people attack strangers only because they feel like it and think that they can get away with it? Is it a lack of self-control? These are all part of the reason, but the finger of blame must also point to our society.

Over the years we have become an increasingly mobile society and one of the effects of this has been to disintegrate local community life. Villages are filled with newcomers; vast housing estates are thrown up with little or no community life. This leads to a very impersonal and hostile society, which unfortunately many young people react against violently. This does not excuse their violence, but it often leads adults to condemn young people wholesale, or judge them according to their appearance (eg all skin-heads are nasty characters).

A punk was refused entry onto several London buses, so had to walk five miles to his destination. It was an eye-opener for him, to be judged and condemned, because he was a respectable Methodist medical student on his way to a 'dress-up-as-a-punk' party. If adults condemn young people so easily, should we be surprised if some retaliate? We are wise to be careful, but let us not become paranoid.

Walter Howard Scarborough, OBE

Walter Scarborough, who died on 16th August at the age of 87, was a small man in height, but in every other respect a veritable giant.

His long career with what was then Post Office Telephones was crowned with success from first to last. What he did not know about telephones was not worth knowing and the many tributes that showered upon him when he retired from the post of Telephone Manager, Canterbury also bear abundant evidence to his distinguished work. What is also remarked upon again and again in those farewell speeches was his impeccable dealings with his staff and his almost miraculous ability really to know each one of them. This is borne out in the



following tribute provided for *On The Nail* by the present General manager Canterbury Area of British Telecom, Mr. R.K. Chapman.

Walter Scarborough came to Canterbury in 1945. His career, up until this time had been that of a professional engineer. His new appointment gave him the opportunity to pursue his other great interest, the welfare of people.

He had a staff of some 2,000 people and made sure that he knew them all by their first names. He founded the Canterbury Telephone Area Benevolent Society and to this day the Society gives financial assistance to people on the Area staff who are in need. He encouraged the practice of first aid throughout the Area and teams still compete for a trophy bearing his name. He also founded the Canterbury Branch of the Post Office Veterans and was their President until he died.

Away from his Post Office duties he was a keen Rotarian, a prison visitor and for the last 34½ years a Member of Management of Cripplecraft/Strode Park.

He was a fine engineer and was the longest serving Telephone Manager Canterbury Telephone Area has had. He retired in 1959 but it will be for his service to others that he will be most remembered.

Behind all Walter did lay his Christian faith and his trust in the Lord God, who indeed ruled and governed his days. One who spoke at his retirement party said this: "You have brought your Christian faith with you in the morning and lived with it throughout the day". At that same function Walter himself said to his staff and other guests, in characteristic tone: "More is wrought by prayer than we realise and I advise those present never to begin or end the day without it".

Fellow members of the Bridge congregation loved and respected their elder statesman and he lived the Christian life as it should be lived, with the love of God on his sleeve for all to see. He was not being boastful, but knew that Christians are meant to blazon their faith, in the hope that others may catch it

and also come to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We offer our deepest sympathy to his widow and family who, in the midst of their genuine sadness at losing a loved one, can be assured that he is among those blessed souls who enjoy the nearer presence of God: a cause for real joy.



One of the recent innovations that would have gladdened Walter Scarborough's heart is the Junior Church's rapid rise to popularity. Hilary Pike, one of the 'gang of three' who run it, has produced these snippets from Bridge Junior Church, which you will be delighted and amused to read:

We are glad to say that our numbers are still increasing. We now have thirty-nine regular members, all of whom, helpers included, are enjoying ourselves enormously.

We were sad to say good-bye in July to Kirsty Hogarth, who had made such an invaluable contribution to the teaching and worship of the Junior Church. We wish her, Alasdair and their little girls much happiness in their new home.

Last week two of our enterprising seven-year olds, Sarah Mummery and Emma Young, held a Bring & Buy Sale in the back garden and raised the sum of £1.27½ for "the poor and needy". What a charming thought! Well done, Sarah and Emma! We have decided, after consultation with the two girls and the other children to send the money to the Africa Famine Appeal, with the money from our weekly collections.

One of the most amusing moments we have had at Junior Church arose when we asked if anyone knew who Simon Peter was. "Yes", said one of our four-year olds, "they do *Blue Peter* on television". For those who don't watch the programme Simon Groom and Peter Duncan are the presenters of *Blue Peter*!

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Our ability to befriend those who are in need is limited only by our income. This comes from investments (the giving of former generations), annual subscriptions and donations from members or parishes, and legacies.

If readers of this article could help us in one of the above ways the Corporation (established by Act of Parliament in 1972 by the amalgamation of the Poor Clergy Relief Corporation and the Friend of the Clergy Corporation with H.M. The Queen our Patron), would be enabled to carry on the work, which for 140 years has proved so beneficial to the whole ministry of our Church. Legacies, which could include the gift of houses, are particularly welcome.

Donations or enquiries should be addressed to: **The Secretary,
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Bridge Parish Council

The Council resumed its meetings on 13th September after the summer recess, and heard from the Chairman, Cllr John Hill, that the most senior citizen of the village, Miss Mary Wraight, who celebrated her 100th birthday on the 7th September last, had been presented by him on behalf of the Council with an angle-poise table lamp and a basket of flowers, the latter prepared by Cllr Mrs. Margaret Jones. The rest of the village will have an opportunity to see this pleasant ceremony at a later date, as Mr. Hammond, who has twice given film shows of village events at annual Parish Meetings, made a film of the occasion.

Village Hall

The Council discussed a draft of letting conditions prepared by Cllr Mrs. Anne Young, and approved this with minor amendments. Future hirers will be asked to certify that they agree to the conditions set out. It was also decided to ask the Village Hall Management Committee to set up a sub-committee to deal with day-to-day management matters, in order, it is hoped, to take some of the work and responsibility at present falling on Mr. and Mrs. Child.

Recreation Ground

Cllr Peter Lawrence reported in writing that he had repaired the infants' swing seat and checked the shackles and pins of all the swings. He had also greased the moving parts of these and the other equipment. Complaint was made of the amount of rubbish left on the play area, and it was decided to ask the City Council

to provide a waste bin additional to that at present standing in the lay-by. Cllr John Anderson said that only one of the three new trees planted in the spring had survived, and it was decided to replace them.

Streets and Footways

The Council approved a proposal by Cllr Tim Hoare that the City Council should be asked to name the road to the new development at the rear of Churchill House 'Hawkins Court' in memory of the late Mr. Harry Hawkins; and Cllr Hoare said that he had arranged a meeting with an official of the City Direct Labour organisation to discuss a possible tender for the rebuilding of the Bridge Down stairway on the Council's behalf. A request to the Education Department that a School Crossing Patrol be provided at the High Street junction with Conyngham Lane had received a discouraging reply, although the Education Officer had agreed to seek the views of the Police.

Best-kept Village Competition

The report of the judges this year pulled fewer punches than usual. They commented that there was no sign of community effort and that the condition of the village left a lot to be desired; and they referred in particular to the litter in the main street, the condition of the river bank, the war memorial, and the grass growing at the road edges. It is clear that the village has little prospect of a further success in the competition without a much greater effort.

The next meeting of the Council will be held as usual on Thursday, 11th October, at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall, where the Secretary of the Community Health Council is to speak

about the Health Service and to hear local opinions. This is an opportunity of which it is hoped that as many residents as can will take advantage.

F.L. Edwards, Clerk

● The present Clerk of the Parish Council, Mr. F.L. Edwards, is relinquishing the post at the end of March, and the Council therefore will be seeking a new Clerk. The job is a part-time one, and the salary is at present £583 p.a. The duties include attendance at the monthly meeting of the Council, preparation of agendas and minutes, the conduct of correspondence, and on occasions advising the Council on procedural matters. Some local government experience would be helpful, but is by no means essential, for many of the Council members themselves have had a long experience of Council work and would give their new Clerk every assistance. Anyone interested should get in touch with the Chairman, Cllr John Hill, 10 Conyngham Lane, Bridge.

National Health Service

As is mentioned in the Parish Council notes, Mr. P.M. Topham, of the Canterbury and Thanet Health Council is to speak on 11th October on the National Health Service. He is anxious to hear local opinions of the adequacy of facilities provided by G.P.s, transport and ante-natal services, etc., as well as of community services such as health visiting, district nursing and midwifery. Mr. Topham will be speaking to the Parish Council, but members hope that interested local residents will turn up to add their comments and criticism.

MISS MARY WRAIGHT

Miss Mary Wraight would like to thank most sincerely all those who sent their good wishes and gifts to her on the occasion of her Hundredth Birthday Anniversary.

'Fish' News

Our neighbourhood care scheme is now in its fifth year. Please make its existence known to any new-comers. If you have lost your original 'Fish' card, replacements are available at the Post Office.

The next 'Fish' Committee Meeting will be on Wednesday, 17th October. If you have any suggestions for improvements or new projects please let me know before the committee meets.

The Luncheon Club has started up again after the summer break. Sadly, we have lost two of our members—Mrs. Brinkler and Miss Flint.

The next Coffee Pop-in is in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 10th October from 10.15am to 11.45. Although this event was started primarily for retired people, we are always happy to welcome any local residents, even if they have not yet 'come of age'!

Joan Warren, 830233

St. Peter's, Bekesbourne—Cleaners

October 6th, Mrs. Watson; 13th, Mrs. Russell; 20th, Mrs. Grey; 27th, Mrs. Beckett; 4th November, Mrs. Smith. Thank you all for your fine work. S.G.

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

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Mr. D.R. Hill, Red Deer, Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830426)
Hon. Secretary: Mr. L.W. Sandford, 11 Windmill Close, Bridge CT4 5LY (830411)
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Organist (Bridge): Mr. D. Mathew, 27 Rivercourt, Chartham CT4 7JN (731548)
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Time & Talents: Mr. A. Jackson, Cosby, Higham Lane, Bridge CT4 5AY (830489)
Verger (Bridge): Mr. J. Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne CT4 5JD (830660)

BEKESBOURNE

Churchwardens: Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT4 5LA (830522)
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Magazine Editor: The Vicar, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On The Nail* please send them to the Editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

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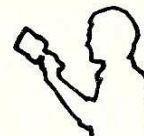
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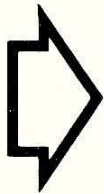
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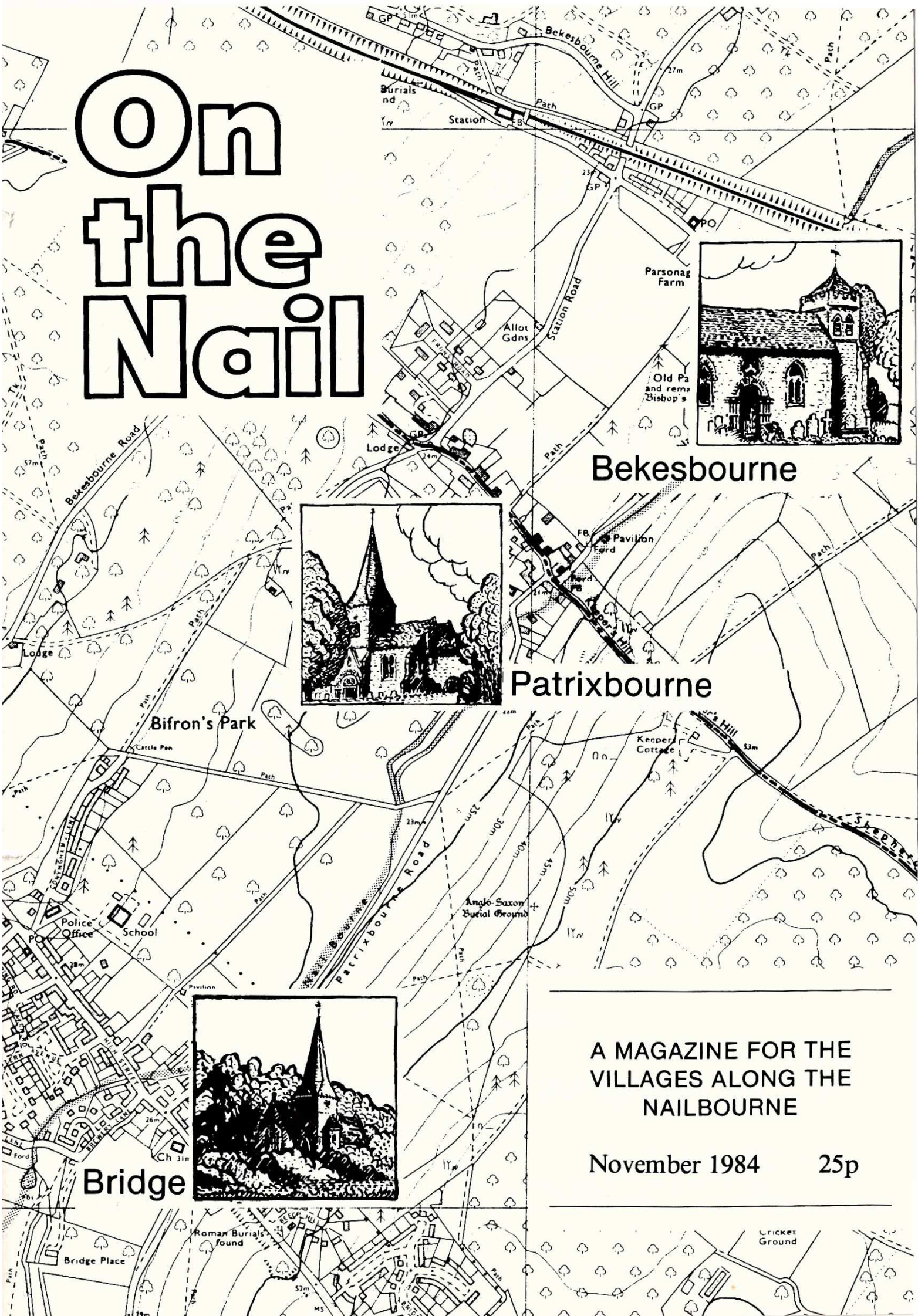
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On the Nail



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November 1984

25p

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Sunday Worship in November

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

4th:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

11th:

9.30 Family Communion
(*Series 3*)
6.30pm Evensong

11.15 *Service of
Remembrance*

8am Holy Communion

18th:

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

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

25th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

2nd December:

11am Family Gift
Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

Junior Church meets every Sunday but the first in the Methodist Church, Patricxbourne Road at 9.30am. All children from 4 years and upward are welcome to become members.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *4th*, Mrs. H. Fairhurst, B.Ed. *11th*, The Revd. Wilfrid J. Hill, M.C., B.Sc. *18th*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *25th*, The Revd. John Turner, B.A.

In the week Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge every Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (Rite A) at 7.30am. There is a monthly celebration at Churchill House on the first Wednesday at 10.15am. A short informal act of worship takes place each Wednesday afternoon at 2.30 in the New Close. Primarily for the residents, it is always a joy to have non-residents to share this service and especially to help them find their place in the hymn book. If you have half an hour to spare do join us any Wednesday!

For your diary and prayer list

1st **All Saints' Day**

2nd *Commemoration of All Souls*, when we pray for our own dear departed. Names of those you would like commemorated can be either handed to the Vicar or placed in the Prayer Box in Church, and they will be read out at the Eucharist.

3rd *Richard Hooker, Teacher of the Faith*

4th **Trinity 20** 8 before Christmas

8th *Saints and Martyrs of England*

Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm

10th School PTA Bring & Buy, Bridge Village Hall, 10am to 12 noon

- 11th **Trinity 21** *7 before Christmas* Remembrance Sunday
 A brief Act of Remembrance and Wreath-laying will take place at the Bridge War memorial in the Churchyard at 11 o'clock. Morning Worship at Patricbourne will be a Service of Remembrance commencing at 11.15am.
- 13th *Charles Simeon, Pastor, Preacher, 1836*
- 16th *Margaret of Scotland, Queen, Wife, Mother, 1093*
- 17th *St. Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680 : St. Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200*
 Bridge Churchyard Working Party, 10am
 Guide Dogs for the Blind Jumble Sale, Bridge Village Hall.
- 18th **Trinity 22** *6 before Christmas*
- 20th *St. Edmund of East Anglia, King, Martyr, 870*
 Senior Citizen's Club Autumn Bazaar, Bridge Village Hall, 2pm
- 24th Bekesbourne Church and Brownies Christmas Market, Bekesbourne Village Hall from 2.15pm
- 25th **Sunday next before Advent** *5 before Christmas*
- 28th School Governors Meeting
 Royal British Legion AGM, The Hunter Room, 8pm.
- 30th **Saint Andrew the Apostle**

A Month to Remember

Memory has been defined as the faculty by which we forget things. So, on that score, remembrance has its own part to play by jogging our defective memories by the use of an assortment of ruses that can extend from tying a knot in one's handkerchief to making an entry in an appointments' book.

It is as an aid to memory that the Church has its calendar of Saints' and other Holy Days. A glimpse at November in the almanack might lead us to suppose it was compiled with remembrance uppermost in mind. Beginning on the first day of the month we are brought to offer praise and thanks to God for the great Saints of Christendom and to recall those paragons of the Christian virtues who have been given the prefix St. precisely because they lived such exemplary lives, and in so doing left us a working example of what it really means to be a Christian.

The very next day we are bidden to commemorate all departed Christians and so to remember the example set by our own kith and kin. This remembrance will have a very personal appeal for it will draw our minds back to those who helped formulate our faith as they gave us an awareness of the living God in our midst. On the 8th a particular remembrance is made of the Saints and Martyrs of England, numbered among them being such worthies as St. Alban, the first English martyr, St. Aidan of Lindisfarne and the Lady Julian of Norwich.

* * *

November's remembrance is by no means limited to the religious, however, though in what category you can include Guy Fawke's Night is a moot point. At the risk of stirring a hornet's nest about my ears I can't help but wonder if it is not a little barbaric to 'remember, remember the fifth of November'. There is something rather disturbing in burning anyone in effigy, even a long

dead plotter whose name was not Guy Fawkes in any case. Would it serve any useful purpose or be less inhuman to burn in effigy a present-day would-be bringer-down of governments? No, I am not agin fireworks, although if only for safety's sake I would like to see their use restricted to the organised display, such as that in Church Meadow run by the PTA.

* * *

Perhaps *the* remembrance for which November is chiefly noted is that which makes us mindful of the fallen in battle, who lost their lives in the cause of freedom. The annual Remembrance Day, properly entered into, will keep before our eyes the cost of that freedom which we enjoy, despite strikes and the other strictures of contemporary life.

For once the eleventh day of the eleventh month falls on a Sunday so our Remembrance ceremonies will take place on Armistice Day. This year we shall revert to the pattern of two years ago, keeping the two-minutes silence during an Act of Remembrance and Wreath-laying at Bridge War Memorial, and then go over to Patixbourne for a special Service of Remembrance at 11.15am. Those wishing to join the first ceremony, along with the Bridge & District branch of the Royal British Legion, should assemble in the churchyard at 10.55am in order to keep the silence at the eleventh hour.

* * *

For Christians every Sunday is a day of remembrance in that we weekly commemorate the greatest event in world history, the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Not only the faith of the Church but the life of every Christian depends on that momentous happening in that it affords good grounds for what we can know from experience, that Christ lives here and now in whatever circumstances we may find ourselves.

Autumn

Cool, misty mornings, grass soaked with dew
Leaves in the hedgerows of every hue
Trees decked with berries, orange and red
Gathering martins weave overhead,
Seed-heads of poppies, ripe heads of corn
Nuts for the squirrels, toadstools on lawn.
Summer has gone, but memories remain
The Season has changed — it's Autumn again.

This poem by a Bridge member won the prize at the Women's Institute Group Meeting

Bridge Organist's departure

Dennis Mathew, who became Organist of St. Peter's Church, Bridge in May 1982 left us at the end of last month to become Organist at St. Augustine's Hospital.

Dennis brought his own very distinctive style to Sunday Evensong and will be greatly missed by everyone, not least the choir. In his time the anthem

repertoire was considerably enlarged, the choir having found itself singing not only in English and Latin but even French. On top of the weekly service load Dennis directed an augmented choir (which included the Cathedral Assistant Organist on the tenor line) in a performance of Somervell's *Passion* that added a new dimension to our Passiontide devotions; and in some light, secular music after the Harvest Supper. He has much appreciated his associations with Bridge Church and we are most grateful for his musicianship on the one hand and his friendship on the other. The question of his successor is in the melting-pot but we hope an appointment will be made in the near future. Meanwhile, thank-you Dennis, for everything!

* * *

Now is surely the time to pay a long-overdue tribute to Martin Miles, who has played for us on two mornings a month for nearly as long as I have been Vicar.

Martin is a master at The King's School, though not in the music department. He is extremely modest about his competence musically speaking but I can assure you, if you have not heard him for yourself, that his abilities with choir training and on the organ are considerable. Moreover, his sensitivity towards the worship, be it the Family Service or Parish Communion, is very marked. He is always concerned that his music shall enhance the services and to that end practises with a diligence rarely found in a parish church musician. Summer or winter Martin is on the organ seat working at the forthcoming service at least two hours beforehand. I know he'll think I am overstating the case but it is high time his dedication to Bridge Church and its worship received public recognition. Long may this association continue! Thank you, Martin!

Joys and Sorrows

Three baptisms are recorded, all taking place at Bekesbourne, beginning on 7th October with the christening of **James Dennison Gall**, whose parents were married in the church and now live at Portsmouth. A week later saw the baptism at a joint service of **William Paul Draper**, 'Jagerheim', Station Approach and **Jonathan Michael Fagg**, 'Nuestro Hogar', The Hill.

St. Peter's Church, Bridge was the setting for the marriage on 29th September of **Michael Ebbitt** and **Helen Winter**. Michael attended the church when he lived for a time in Patricxbourne Road. He was Catering Officer at The Chaucer Hospital and his father, the Revd. Robert Ebbitt assisted at his son's wedding. Two weddings on successive Saturdays were held in St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne. The first, on 6th October was between **Sandra Holliday**, 20 Bifrons Road and **Thomas Smith** of Littlebourne. Then on 13th October the church was filled for the marriage of **Amanda Hodgkiss** and **Nigel Walker**. Amanda's mother is a regular worshipper at Bekesbourne and was, for a time, on the PCC. Our sincere good wishes to all three couples, with the prayer, used at each service, that "the Lord mercifully grant you the riches of his grace, that you may please him both in body and soul, and, living together in faith and love, may receive the blessings of eternal life."

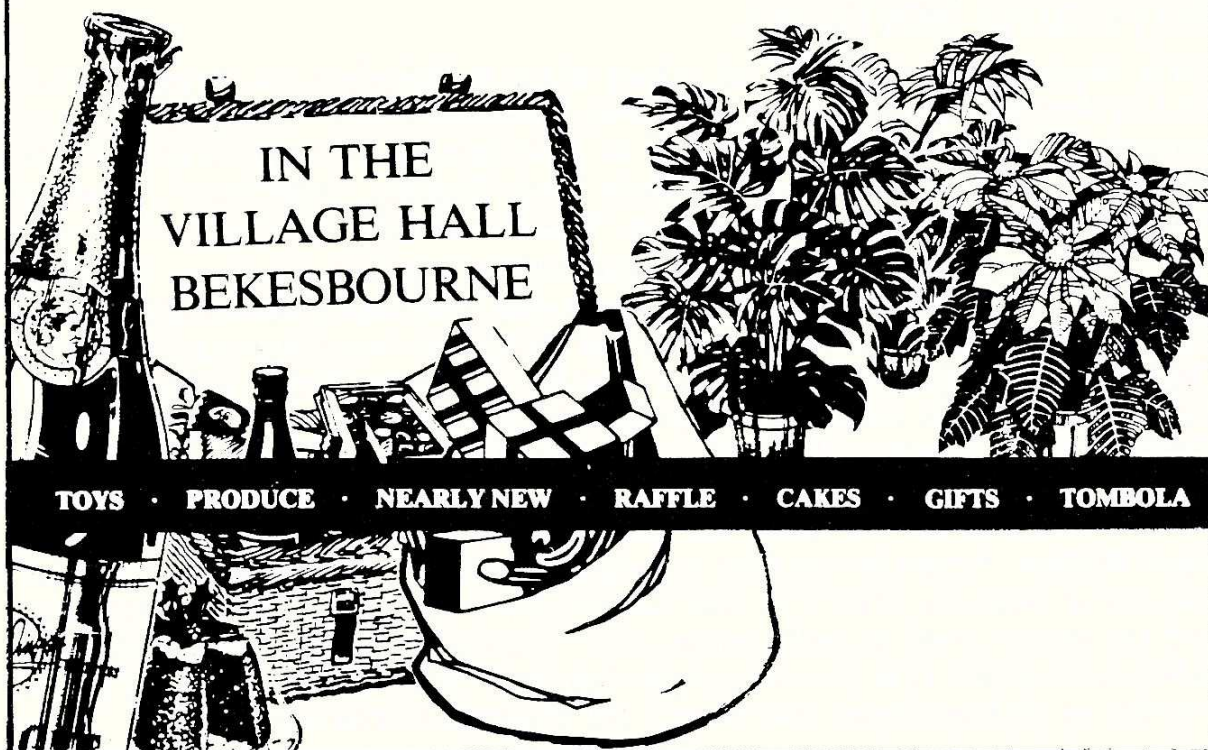
Bridge Methodist Church has lost two of its staunchest members in the

passing of Mrs. Ivy Morgan, Silver Leaves, Bridge Hill and Mrs. Alice Gray, 29 High Street. Services in the Patricbourne Road Church on 27th September and 18th October respectively were followed by interment in the churchyard.

St Peter's, Bekesbourne & Bekesbourne Brownies

CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 24th November 2.15 p.m.



Bridge Churchyard — TIME AND TALENTS

Our last churchyard clean-up in September was well attended and concentrated on those parts of the old area which had not been touched for many years. Results, as you may have seen, are quite striking.

One overgrown corner remains, and once this is tidied up the churchyard will look better than, probably, at any time in the last half century, particularly as the dedication of Mr. Jarrett has transformed the new part. To do this work one last push is planned this year on Saturday 17th November at 10 o'clock. Please make a note of the date and come along with your implements.

A.J.

Ed: All this talk of the churchyard's transformation is incomplete without an acknowledgement of the beautifully landscaped ashes plot in the south-west corner of the old yard. Cyril Hogben has been quietly working away at it over two seasons and has rendered it a picture of neatness and charm (if such a word is applicable to a graveyard). It is a real labour of love and we are grateful to Mr. Hogben for it.

On The Nail Noticeboard by various contributors

The children of **Bridge School** have designed Christmas Cards and these have been printed and are on sale at the school for £1 a pack of 10—with envelopes. They will also be on sale at the Bring & Buy from 10 till noon at the Village Hall on Saturday, 10th November, all in aid of PTA funds.

* * *

Church of England Children's Society Christmas Gift Sale in the Deanery, Canterbury is on Friday, 16th November from 10am till noon. Miss Mason will be pleased to receive gifts of sweets for the Bridge stall.

* * *

An Autumn Bazaar will be held in the Village Hall, Bridge on Tuesday, 20th November at 2pm, in aid of the **Senior Citizens Club**.

* * *

Bridge Village Playgroup Jumble Sale in September raised £105 for funds. Our thanks go to all who helped and supported us in any way.

The number of children attending on Tuesday and Thursday morning is 26, with three supervisors and two mother helpers. Playgroup is now entering its third year and details are being finalised for a "4s Morning". This will be a morning each week set aside for those children who at four years of age are entering their final year before starting school. Mr. Farley the Headteacher and Mrs. Riley the Reception Teacher at Bridge School have both suggested ideas for the morning, which will prepare the children for school. If you have a child of suitable age and are interested in the "4s Morning" please contact Evelyn Andrews, 830960

* * *

On 3rd October a Harvest Fair was held at the *Plough and Harrow*, organised by the licencees, Mr. and Mrs. Crowhurst in aid of **Guide Dogs for the Blind**. Mr. Jim Tassett was responsible for selling and auctioneering the produce, ably assisted by Messrs. Clark and Tamsett. A doll, complete with several sets of handmade clothes, was presented and raffled by Mrs. Mullins, while another raffle was run by her son and daughter. The wonderful sum of £270 was achieved.

A Jumble Sale is to be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 17th November and any suitable items for this sale would be greatly appreciated.

* * *

A **Kent Trust for Nature Conservation** Christmas Sales Stall will be open on Saturday, 3rd November; Sunday, 4th; Saturday, 24th and Sunday, 25th from 9.30am to 6pm, and from 7th December to 18th December inclusive from 2pm to 6pm at 9 High Street, Bridge (Tel: 830285).

* * *

Bridge Folk Dancing Group will meet for dancing in the Village Hall at 8pm on Thursdays, 8th and 22nd November and 5th December, and our Christmas Dance Evening is on Thursday, 20th December. New dancers welcome, any age.

* * *

Bridge School PTA announces its annual **Fireworks Party** in Church Meadow, Brewery Lane on Monday, 5th November, starting at 6.45pm with the lighting of the bonfire and going on to the fireworks at 7.15pm. Hot dogs and soup will also be on sale.

* * *

The **Senior Citizens Party** which is usually held this term at the school will take place towards the end of the Spring Term, 1985.



Bridge Parish Council

The meeting of the Parish Council on 11th October was preceded by a talk given by Mr. P.M. Topham, Secretary of the Canterbury and Thanet Community Health Council, on the work of his organisation. He outlined its constitution, and its functions in representing the views and interests of the public to the Area Health Authority. Residents and members of the Council took the opportunity to raise various matters of concern with him after his talk.

Village Hall

Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin had prepared the final account for the improvements to the Village Hall, and this was approved by the Council, which also arranged that the redecoration of the main hall, due to start shortly, should be discussed between Cllr. John Hill, the Chairman, Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young, the Vice-Chairman, and Cllr. Gulvin in the near future; while Cllr. Ken Greenaway, the secretary of the Management Committee, reported that

he had called a meeting of the Committee to set up the working sub-committee to which reference was made in last month's notes.

Recreation Ground

The Chairman reported that Mr. John Knight had asked for the use of the football pitch on some occasions during the season when it was not required by Brymore Sports F.C. The Council agreed to this, subject to the payment of a reasonable fee to the Council and, if necessary, to the Club for the use of their equipment. Cllr. Peter Lawrence told members that all the swing seats had again been damaged by vandals. It was arranged that these should be removed during the winter period and replacements obtained for the spring; and it was also agreed to make arrangements for the moles, now active again, to be dealt with, and for the boundaries of the ground, including the river bank, to be tidied up.

Streets and Footways

Two tenders had been received from contractors for the reconstruction of the Bridge Down/Bridge Hill stairway, and the lower of these was some £1,500 above the sum budgeted in the estimates, which had been based upon the assumption that the work would have been carried out by the Manpower Services Commission. The

additional expenditure would add about 1½p to the parish rate, already a high one, and it was agreed that the Chairman should write to all Bridge Down residents, asking for the promise of a contribution to the cost of the work, which it was felt could not otherwise be carried out. This was thought to be the most equitable approach to the problem, particularly as a number of Bridge Down residents live in Patricbourne parish, and would not otherwise have an opportunity of contributing. A firm decision as to whether to proceed with the work will be taken at the November meeting in the light of the response to the Chairman's letter. A number of matters regarding the condition of the highways were also raised, and it was agreed to take these up with the appropriate authorities; while Cllr. Peter Lawrence reported that it appeared that the City Council were unwilling to adopt the name of 'Hawkins Court' for their new development, though Cllr. Tim Hoare would be pursuing the matter.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday, 8th November, in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall, when members hope to hear that the response of Bridge Down residents to the Chairman's letter has been a generous one.

F.L. Edwards, Clerk

Some Saints of November

Martin 11th

Best known through the story of his giving up half his cloak to a naked beggar in whom he recognised Christ, St. Martin (?315-397) gave up his career as an officer in the Roman army, saying "I am Christ's soldier, I am not allowed to fight". He became one of St. Hilary's clergy at Poitiers and later Bishop of Tours. In the fight against heresy he was gentle, concerned for the truth and careful to distinguish between heresy and the heretic. Passionate for the building up and unity of the Church he was one of the first non-martyr saints to be venerated.

Hilda 17th

Hilda (614-80), a Northumbrian princess, was baptized by St. Paulinus and became a nun under the Celtic leader St. Aidan. Her great foundation was at Whitby, where she ruled over a double monastery of both men and women. Her example of peace and charity spread far beyond the walls of the abbey, and her advice was sought by rulers as well as ordinary men and women. It was at Whitby Abbey where the great Synod was held to decide on Celtic or Roman church customs.

Hugh 17th

Hugh (?1135-1200) was sent as a monk from Burgundy to take charge of the first Carthusian house to be founded in England. He became a close friend of King Henry II and was appointed bishop of Lincoln. He was defender of the rights of the people, especially the poor, and a great protector of the Jews against hostility and persecution. A model of pastoral care, he also built much of the present cathedral at Lincoln.

Edmund of East Anglia 20th

Nominated as king while still a boy, Edmund (c840-69) was crowned king of Norfolk in 855 and of Suffolk a year later. As king he won the hearts of his subjects by his care of the poor and his steady suppression of wrong-doing. When attacked by the Danes he refused to give over his kingdom or to renounce his faith in Christ. He was tied to a tree, shot with arrows, and finally beheaded. His relics lie at Bury St. Edmunds. He must not be confused with St. Edmund of Abingdon, who was Archbishop of Canterbury and after whom St. Edmund's School is named.

Bridge Guides win Shield

On Saturday, 22nd September Canterbury Rural Guides gathered at Kingsmead swimming pool to compete for the District Shield. Each company was represented by an excited team waiting at the pool side for the off, and enthusiastic parents cheering from the stands. All races were 'fun' events including pyjama, canoe and porpoise races, with a team relay.

As the starting gun fired the stadium erupted in cheers and the Guide friendship soon emerged, as all competitors were encouraged by every company until they reached the finish. Bridge Guides really made themselves known, with the whole company shouting and cheering to the finish of every race. Our girls gave of their best and we were rewarded by winning the competition by 10 clear points. Everybody had an enjoyable evening and one that will be remembered for a long time.

Teresa Philpott, Guide Guider

'Fish' News

Members and guests celebrated the fourth anniversary of the Luncheon Club with a special luncheon on 8th October. We were delighted to have Miss Wraight with us as one of the guests, Mrs. Clare, our local Health Visitor, was able to join us and hopes to visit again on another occasion to get to know more of the members. We should all like to send our thanks to the catering staff at The New Close for the splendid meal they prepared and to the care staff and residents for their hospitality.

The next Coffee Pop-in will be on Wednesday, 14th November in the Village Hall from 10.15 to 11.45am.

Joan Warren (830233)

Bekesbourne rota for November

Our grateful thanks to the church cleaners; this month they are: Mrs. Smith, 4th; Mrs. Stickells, 11th; Mrs. Hogben, 18th; Mrs. Watson, 25th and Mrs. Russell, December 2nd.

S.G.

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

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens: Mr. C.A. Potter, 7 St. Mary's Road, Patricxbourne CT4 5BY (830218)

Mr. D.R. Hill, Red Deer, Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830426)

Hon. Secretary: Mr. L.W. Sandford, 11 Windmill Close, Bridge CT4 5LY (830411)

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C.A. Potter, 7 St. Mary's Road, Patricxbourne CT4 5BY (830218)

Organist (Bridge)

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

Time & Talents: Mr. A. Jackson, Cosby, Higham Lane, Bridge CT4 5AY (830489)

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

BEKESBOURNE

Churchwardens: Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT4 5LA (830522)

Mr. J. Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (830937)

Hon. Secretary: Mr. John Purchase, Mill Cottage, Bekesbourne CT4 5HD (830937)

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. D. Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne CT4 5ER (830256)

Organist: Mr. S.H. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT4 5LA (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 (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.

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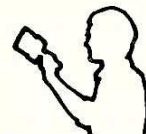
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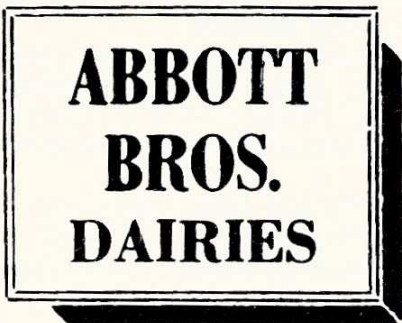


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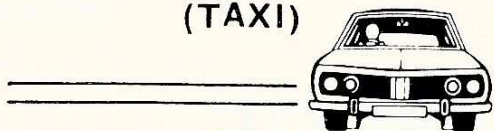
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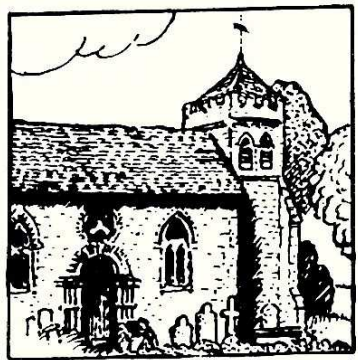
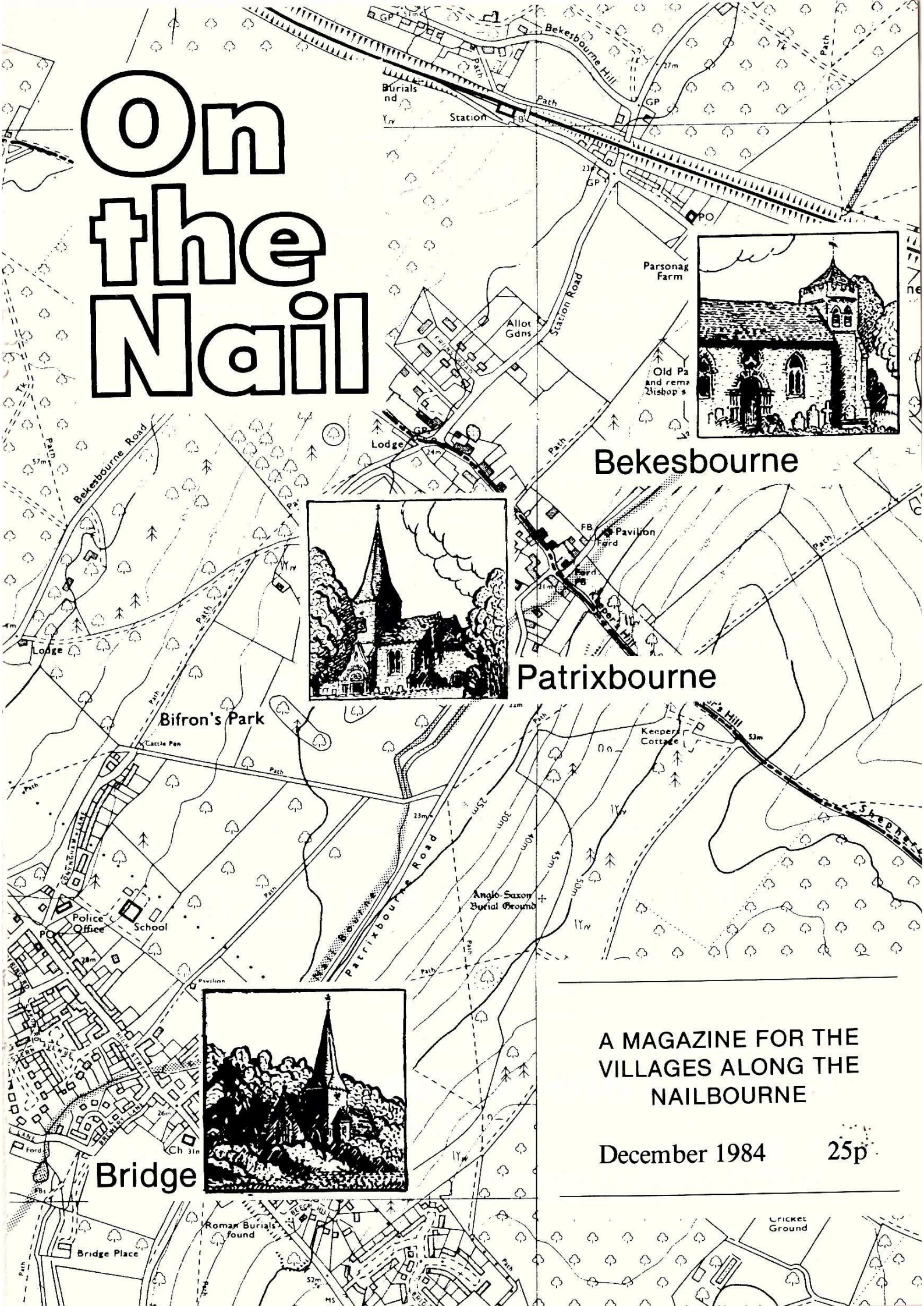
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On the Nail



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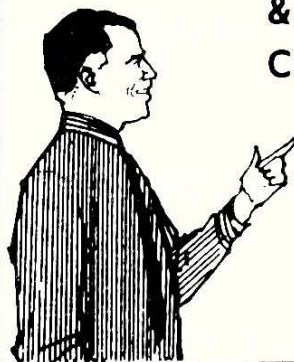
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Sunday Worship in December

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

2nd:

11am Family Gift Service

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

9th:

9.30 Family Communion
(Series 3)

11am *Advent Carol Service*

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

16th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(Series 3)

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

6.30pm Evensong

23rd:

8am Holy Communion

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

11am *Junior Church Nativity Play*

(*The Revd. C. Verity*)

6.30pm *Carol Service*

30th:

9.30 Family Communion
(Series 3)

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

6th January:

11am *Christingle Service*

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm Sung Eucharist
(Series 3)

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *2nd*, The Revd. Ian Laird. *9th*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *16th*, Dr. John Rogers. *23rd*, No Service. *30th*, Miss Joan Charlesworth, M.A.

Weekdays: Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge every Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (Rite A) at 7.30am, but there will be no services on Wednesday, 26th or Friday, 28th. The monthly Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 5th at 10.15am and residents of Hawkins Court (Churchill Close) who would like to join us are most welcome to do so. We meet in the Common Room, which is the first door on your right just inside the main entrance. The weekly informal service at The New Close is on Wednesdays at 2.30pm, with the exceptions of 19th, when a half-hour Carol Service will be held at 7.15pm, and 26th, when there will not be a service.

For your diary and prayer list

2nd First Sunday in Advent

The Family Service will be the gift service, when families are invited to bring a Christmas present for a resident of The New Close. Please bring

it gift-wrapped and leave the label to be completed by the staff. Your presents will be distributed on Christmas Day. The school musicians will be performing at this service.

3rd. *Francis Xavier, Missionary, 1552*

4th Pray for the Deanery Clergy's Chapter Meeting this morning at Littlebourne. Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meets in the Methodist Church, 7.30pm.

6th *St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c.326*

Please pray for these from our parishes who are to be confirmed this evening at St. Nicholas' Church, Ash by the Bishop of Dover: Alexa Clark, Fay Gillanders, Michala Harlow, Wendy Lewis, Eleanor Pearson, Louise Potter. It would encourage the girls enormously if as many of Bekesbourne and Bridge congregations as can went along to support them. The service, which takes place within the Eucharist, begins at 7.30pm.

7th *St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher, 397*

8th Coffee Morning at The New Close, 10.30 — 12 noon.

9th **Second Sunday in Advent**

Instead of Matins at Patricxbourne we shall have the service of readings and hymns for Advent which has been used on previous occasions.

12th Coffee Pop-in for Senior Citizens, Village Hall, 10.15 — 11.45am.

13th Magazine Distributors Meeting, Methodist Church, 2.30pm.

14th *St. John of the Cross, Mystic, Teacher, 1591*

15th Bridge and Patricxbourne Christmas Market, Village Hall, 2pm

16th **Third Sunday in Advent**

19th Carols at The New Close, 7.15 — 7.45pm. Members of Bekesbourne Choir will lead the singing (and maybe do a bit on their own) and there is an open invitation for you to join us. Mince pies to follow!

21st **St. Thomas the Apostle**

Patricxbourne Church Carol Service, 7.30pm

23rd **Fourth Sunday in Advent**

Bridge Junior Church is staging a Nativity Play in the church at 11am.

Bridge Church Carol Service by candlelight, 6.30pm

24th **Christmas Eve**

First Communion of Christmas is celebrated at Bridge and Bekesbourne commencing at 11.30pm

25th **CHRISTMAS DAY** (*See display overleaf for details*)

26th **St. Stephen the First Martyr**

27th **St. John the Evangelist**

28th **Holy Innocents**

29th *St. Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1170*

30th **Sunday after Christmas**

31st *John Wyclif, Theologian, Reformer, 1384*

Remember in your prayers today the Bishop, Archdeacon, Clergy and People of the Croydon Archdeaconry on this last day for them in the diocese of Canterbury. Tomorrow they become part of the diocese of Southwark.

BEKESBOURNE CLEANING ROTA FOR DECEMBER

Mrs. Russell, 2nd; Mrs Grey, 9th; Mrs. Beckett, 16th; Mrs. Smith, 23rd; Mrs. Stickells, 30th and Mrs. Hogben, January 6th.

Christmas 1984

ST. PETER'S, BRIDGE

11.30pm Midnight Eucharist &
Blessing of the Crib
(The Vicar)

8.00am Holy Communion
(The Revd. W. Owen)

10.30am Choral Eucharist with
Carols (The Revd.
D.W. Ratcliff)

ST. MARY'S, PATRIBOURNE

8.00am Holy Communion
(The Revd. C. Verity)

ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE

11.30pm Midnight Eucharist
(The Revd. J. Bond)

11.00am Family Carol Service
(The Vicar)



“Love came down at Christmas”

The truth sent from above!

As a student in Wiltshire I was invited to attend the local primary school's Nativity Play. I watched the familiar story unfolded before me, culminating in a splendid tableau of the Nativity scene: Mary and Joseph were surrounded by the shepherds, wise men and myriads of angels, the focal point being the manger. Then Mary, pointing towards the crib, uttered the unforgettable line: “There he lies in sincere *insolence!*”

Telling the old, old story

Tradition has it that the Nativity play should always be performed by the younger children, and although adult Nativity plays do take place I can't imagine they attract audiences with anything like the pulling power of the lower infants. It isn't just the story-line that seems better suited to junior performers but the sheer enjoyment of seeing small children swathed in towel headgear, tripping over long dressing-gowns, delivering their lines with a seriousness seldom matched by the delighted onlookers. And there is just the chance of a minor hiccup — nothing too traumatic — that gives an added charm and makes dad glad he decided to come after all.

How miserable it would be if Nativity plays ceased to be put on when the resources were available to do so! It is highly unlikely anyone will be

converted to the Christian faith through watching one but they do bring a great deal of joy and pleasure to both sides of the footlights, not to mention anxious producers back-stage. In a way Christmas would not be Christmas without at least one such play, and I am delighted to be able to announce what I hope will be the first of many such plays to be staged in Bridge Church by the children of the Junior Church at 11 o'clock on Sunday 23rd December. You *must* come! Bridge Methodists have already cancelled their service that day in order to attend.

The Children's Feast?

The comment is often made vis-à-vis Christmas that it is a time for children, the implication being that were it not for the children no one would have any reason for keeping it. Now whereas there are many aspects of the traditional English Christmas festivities that seem geared to the younger age bracket it would not be true to assume that Christmas as a whole is a child's festival. Adopt that attitude and you exclude childless adults from it altogether. Perhaps it is only the harassed mothers who, let's face it, bear the brunt of the preparations, who feel like this. I could never understand why my mother was always glad when Christmas was over — until, that is, I grew up. "You have to do something for the kiddies" was the dictum of parents suffering wartime austerities, but even in peacetime this underlying dislike of Christmas is still to be found.

It's understandable, of course, but the fact of the matter is that Christmas is really for everyone because underlying the somewhat fairy-tale plot of the Nativity play is the momentous truth of Christmas in particular and Christianity in general, that in order to save mankind from the consequences of his sin God chose to inhabit this world, and did so in the person of Jesus, the Prophet of Nazareth in Galilee, who was born of the Virgin Mary and cradled in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn.

Certainly the Church does not treat Christmas as the children's feast nor does it proclaim the wonder of Christmas to be a baby in an ox's stall. Instead the Church in both its teaching and its liturgy (service contents) directs our thoughts to the truth behind the script of the Nativity play, to this salient truth of God dwelling among men in order to bring men back to God. The late poet laureate got the measure of the situation in his poem *Christmas*, when after a lengthy tour of the customary festive scene with tinsel and useful presents, he homed in on the truth of Christmas —

"That God was man in Palestine,
And lives today in bread and wine."

Magazine Distributors

At the end of another year we offer our grateful thanks to those ladies who, month by month, come rain or shine, make sure that your copy of *On The Nail* arrives through your letter-box in good time for you to have all the news and know what's going on before it's happened. Thank you all!

The annual get-together of magazine distributors will take place on Thursday, 13th December at 2.30pm in the Methodist Church. Once again, it would be helpful for me to have a list of each round before we meet and I hope it will be possible for every distributor to be present.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Miss Mason informs us that the **Church of England Children's Society's** Christmas Sale in Canterbury Deanery on 17th November realised £1,227 and she wishes to convey her gratitude to all who contributed sweets. The **Children's Society** happily continues its valuable work all over the country and the Canterbury area is always very supportive of it. Apart from the aforementioned sale there is the annual Christingle Service in the Cathedral on 28th December, which is highly productive of funds, and to which this parish invariably sends at least two purses of money. We also give half our Christmas collections in Patricbourne and Bridge to the society and Miss Mason holds a coffee morning in July to help swell their funds.



Bridge Junior Church goes from strength to strength and gets involved in as many activities as it can. Not wishing to be left out of the Ethiopian Appeal the children took home work cards on which to enter jobs done for mums and dads, relations and neighbours, in aid of the appeal. In some instances they gave a week's pocket money to Ethiopia. As a result they collected £50.68 as their contribution to the relief workers' funds.



Mention of Ethiopia reminds me of the splendid one-day appeal to the Bridge churches launched on 27th October and which produced a staggering £2,173. The story behind that is worth putting on record, for it was an example of the village churches (Methodist, Roman Catholic and Anglican) working together in a most practical way.

The **Interchurch Group** met the previous Tuesday and Pat Grant opened the evening with prayer for Ethiopia and a discussion on Christ's command to love our neighbours as ourselves. This quickly turned to the disaster that had been covered by the television news that evening with graphic detail, and very soon we began to ask what we, as the Christians of Bridge, could do to help. Various ideas were put forward on the austerity lunch, bring and buy lines, but all the time the urgency of the situation kept coming home to us. As someone remarked, 'Help is needed yesterday!'

Here was a case of the need for money and fast, so we decided to open the Village Hall the following Saturday during shopping hours, circularise the village and rush some posters. Speed was of the essence!

Throughout the Saturday the hall was manned by representatives of all three churches in turn, and, well, the result you know! It was a most encouraging response and surely an indication of the degree of caring exhibited by the residents of Bridge and surrounding villages. While the money was on its way to the British Red Cross I was being interviewed by *BBC Radio Kent*, who had got to hear of your generosity. Well done everyone!



The Bridge and District branch of the **Royal British Legion** wishes to offer thanks on behalf of the legion as a whole for the wonderful response to the Poppy Day Appeal in the village, which raised £341. The hard work put in by the volunteer collectors was very much appreciated.

The Bridge & District branch of the **League of Friends** of Canterbury Hospitals has donated £2,000 towards the purchase of a Mecanards Plate Mounted Pool Lift for the physiotherapy department at the K & C. The money was raised by subscriptions and donations from the members of the local branch. The head of the department has expressed her sincere appreciation for this gift.



Bishopsbourne Parish Council are inviting applications for the post of Parish Clerk. An interest in the village and surrounding area is essential, and candidates should have typing facilities, their own transport, and some knowledge of local government procedures would be helpful. Any reader who would like to apply should do so in writing to the Chairman, Mrs. Pat Davidson, "Oswalds", Bishopsbourne.

You mustn't miss it!

BRIDGE AND PATRIBOURNE
CHURCH

CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 15th December
from 2 p.m.

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Joys and Sorrows

At the Family Service on 4th November these babies were baptized: **Maria Frances Legge**, The Firs, Town Hill; **Hannah Claire Lovelock**, Gordon Cottage, 39 High Street; **Luke William Brodie**, 61 Bridge Down.

On 1st November the Vicar officiated at the funeral and burial in the churchyard of **Richard Smith**, a former Bridge resident. Following cremation at Barham, the ashes of Mrs. **Ida Colbeck** were laid to rest in the grave of her parents Walter and Louise de Cent, also in Bridge churchyard.

'Fish' News

At our recent committee meeting we were delighted to welcome Mrs. Robertson as our new representative for Patricxbourne.

Our transport scheme brings elderly people in to the Luncheon Club, Chiropody Clinic, Senior Citizens Club and day centres. We also provide transport to medical appointments and collect shopping and prescriptions in case of illness. Some drivers undertake regular tasks whilst others are on our list for occasional trips or emergency calls. We are anxious to enlist the help of more drivers, particularly in the Bekesbourne area. Volunteers are paid a mileage allowance of 15p per mile to cover petrol and expenses (this is in line with the Canterbury Volunteer Bureau). Please help if you can!

We understand some people are having difficulty in making Home Help payments by post because they have no bank account. If the card and cash are brought to the Coffee Pop-in, the payments can be made by means of the Fish bank account. The next Pop-in is in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 12th from 10.15 to 11.45am.

Joan Warren (830233)

THE ANGELS FOR THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

'Run, shepherds, run, where Bethlehem blest appears,
We bring the best of news, be not dismayed;
A Saviour there is born, more old than years,
Amidst the rolling Heaven this Earth who stayed:
In a poor cottage inned, a Virgin Maid
A weakling did Him bear, Who all upbears;
There He in clothes is wrapt, in manger laid
To Whom too narrow swaddlings are our spheres.
Run, shepherds, run, and solemnize His Birth.
This is that night — no, day, grown great with bliss,
In which the power of Satan broken is;
In Heaven be glory, peace unto the Earth.'

Thus singing, through the air the angels swam,
And all the stars re-echoèd the same.

William Drummond (1584 - 1649)

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The principal item on the agenda of the Council at its meeting on 8th November was the future of its proposal to reconstruct the Bridge Hill/Bridge Down stairway, and a number of residents of Bridge Down attended in response to Cllr. John Hill's circular letter, to which reference was made in last month's notes. Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young, who took the chair in Cllr. Hill's absence, outlined the financial position of the Council following the decision of the Manpower Services Commission not to carry out the work. The Council did not wish to exceed the Government's spending restrictions if at all possible, nor to increase the already high parish rate. About a dozen replies had been received to Cllr. Hill's letter, of which about half offered or sent money. There were three objections. A number of those present contributed to the subsequent discussion, Mr. Johnson denying the suggestion that residents were apathetic, saying that the apparent lack of interest was due to the fact that the matter had now been the subject of discussion for twenty years. He thought a ramp would be preferable to steps.

Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin said that a ramp would be more expensive than steps, would have to run up the hill, and would encounter difficulties with the main electricity cable. In view of the suggestion by Mr. Fairweather that the County Surveyor's Department might now be prepared to take a more accommodating attitude, Cllr. Peter Lawrence proposed that the matter be raised again with the Highway Authority, and that individual letters of support from residents should be included. This was agreed to, as was the suggestion that Cllr. Laurence Shirley should be asked to lend his support.

Village Hall

Cllr. Gulvin reported that the re-decoration of the Hall would be delayed until January or February, as the Community Service Officer could not arrange to start as early as he had hoped; and Cllr. Mrs. Young said that a sub-committee to deal with day-to-day matters, consisting of Mr. Round, Mrs. Green, Mr. Cartwright and herself had been set up by the Management Committee. Mr. Cartwright, who lives at 78 Riverside Close, had agreed to be responsible for the bookings in place of Mr. and Mrs. Child, for whose services in the past members expressed their gratitude.

The late Mr. Harry Hawkins

Cllr. Tim Hoare said that the Public Works Committee of the City Council had agreed to reverse their previous decision, and adopt the name of *Hawkins Court* in memory of the late Mr. Harry Hawkins, as the Parish Council had proposed. Mr. Eric Hawkins was, he said, very pleased with the decision, and would now be willing to provide a memorial seat and a tree if the City Council approved.

Generally

Cllr. Mrs. Young reported that the village had not secured a placing in the 'Trees in Your Village' competition, although the judge's report had not been at all unfavourable; and complaints regarding planning decisions, the recreation ground, and High Street parking were also discussed.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday, 13th December, at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall. Perhaps it is optimistic to hope that the attendance of local residents will match that of the November meeting.

F.L. Edwards, Clerk

Bible Reading Fellowship

How often do you read your Bible? Do you read it systematically or do you tend to gravitate towards your favourite passage? Whatever your answer the need for informed Bible reading is paramount to a Christian way of life and no doubt we could all increase our efforts in this direction. Two things are needful, an intelligent approach that chooses a translation for its clarity rather than its beauty, and expert guidance from a Bible scholar. The answer to both is to be found in the Bible Reading Fellowship, as Nigel Allan explains.

Many of you will have seen from the literature displayed at the back of Bridge Church that our familiar *Awake to the Word* and *Brief Notes* produced by BRF are to be replaced as from next month. It is hoped that the new series will increase the habit of regular Bible reading and meet the needs of readers in the closing decades of the twentieth century.

Daylight has replaced *Awake to the Word*. This new publication offers a longer commentary than its predecessor but includes the actual passage to be read and concludes each reading with a short prayer or thought for consideration. It is ideal for readers accustomed to a daily reading and provides the opportunity for further study by supplying references to other Bible passages. One of the contributors during the first third of the year is Canon Joseph Robinson, Master of the Temple, who will be remembered from his days as Canon Residentiary of Canterbury Cathedral.

Discovery is to be discontinued and its place taken by a new *Ready for Sunday* series of daily readings planned for 1986 or '87. It is hoped in the meantime that the *Daylight* series will be used by readers of *Discovery* as it is written with the younger as well as the older reader in mind and provides an excellent introduction to the practice of daily Bible reading.

Guidelines is a completely new series which is devised for those who do not necessarily wish to have a daily reading, although it can just as readily be used each day if required. The writers develop a continuous commentary, removing the restraint of the daily note so that the narrative can flow. It is hoped this will appeal to younger readers who may be attracted by a publication which is not limited by a rigid daily pattern.

If we take our faith seriously we must surely study the scriptures upon which it is based. The BRF offers us an excellent opportunity to develop our understanding of the Bible and to draw strength from its timeless truths in a world of great uncertainty and doubt. I have a supply of *Daylight* for all readers of *Awake to the Word*, annual subscription £2.55, and will be very happy to supply details of BRF's many other excellent publications. Last year we had a disappointing response, let us hope we can welcome many new readers to our fellowship in the coming year.

“Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.” *Ps. 119 v105.*



A coffee morning will be held at **The New Close** on 8th December from 10.30am till noon. Also available will be gifts, Christmas Crackers, wrapping paper, cakes, tombola and refreshments. Proceeds for the amenity fund for residents.

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Magazine Editor: The Vicar, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On The Nail* please send them to the Editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

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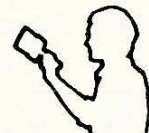
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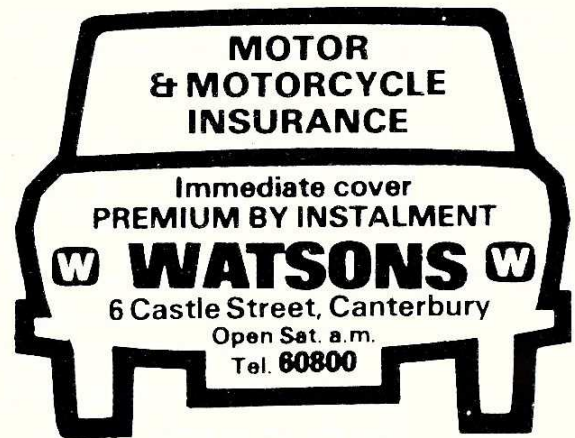
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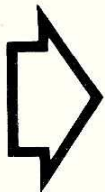
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