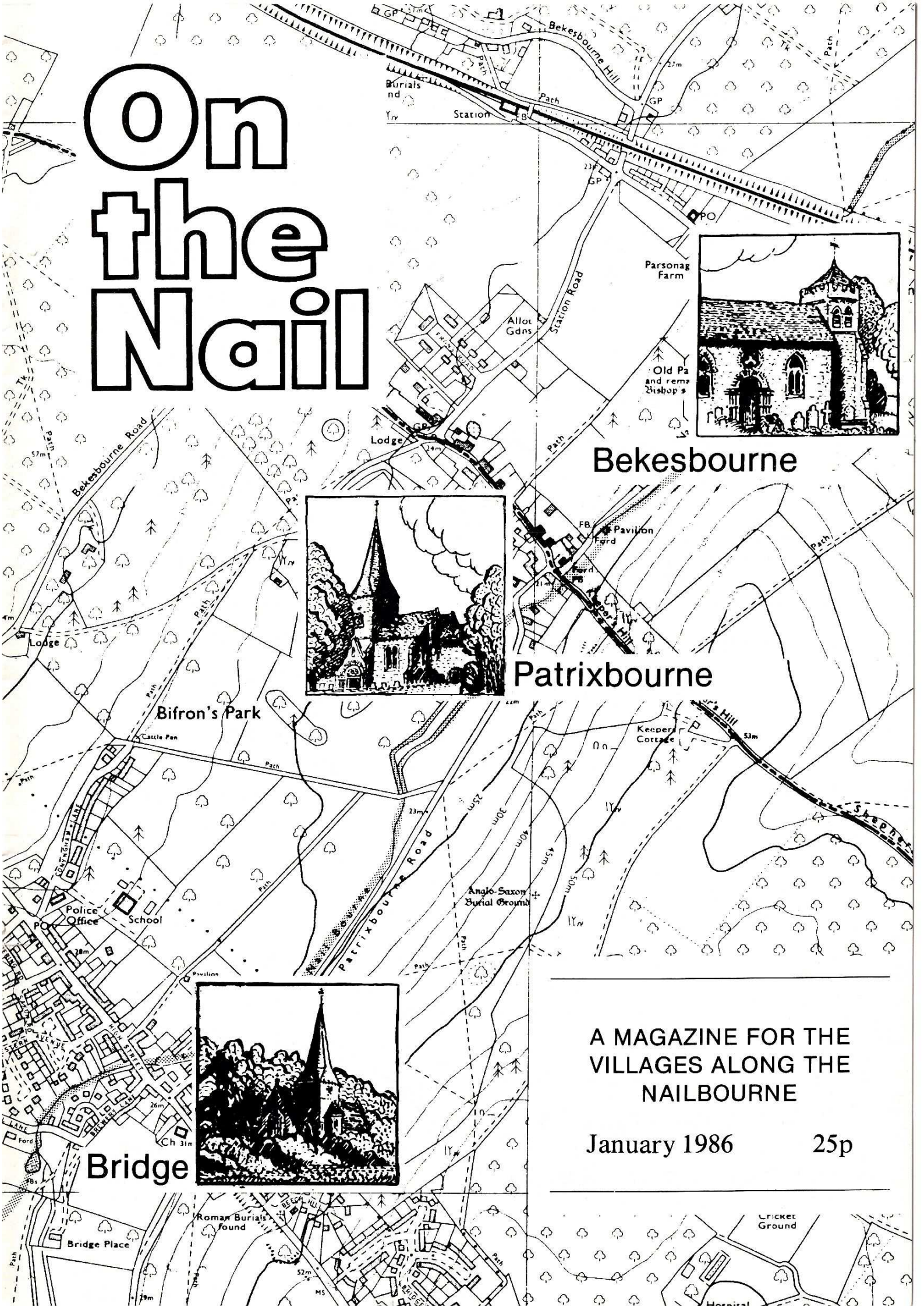


On the Nail



Bekebourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE
VILLAGES ALONG THE
NAILBOURNE

January 1986

25p

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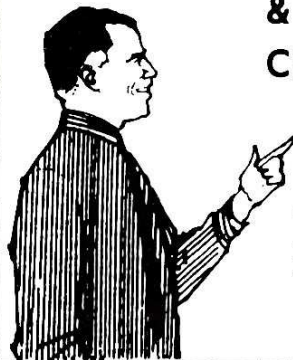
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Sunday Worship In January

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

5th:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

12th:

9.30 Family Communion
(Series 3)
6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

19th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(Series 3)
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

26th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

2nd February:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

We shall welcome the Mayor of Canterbury, Councillor Mrs. Hazel McCabe, to the Parish Communion at Bridge on 19th January.

Junior Church reassembles in the Methodist Church at 9.30am on 12th after the Christmas break.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *5th*, Miss J. Charlesworth, M.A. *12th*, *Covenant Service*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *19th*, Mr. W.E. Ingall. *26th*, Mr. S. Day.

Weekday Services are as usual, except that there will be no 9.30 Communion on New Year's Day at Bridge and the monthly celebration at Churchill House will, for this month only, be on the *second* Wednesday, 8th, at 10.15am. The service at The New Close is each Wednesday at 2.30pm, except the first.

For your diary and prayer list

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

5th **Second Sunday after Christmas**

The Family Service is on the Epiphany theme of the visit of the Wise Men, and will include a procession of gifts (gold, incense and myrrh) to the crib.

6th **Epiphany of Our Lord**

12th **First Sunday after Epiphany**

13th *St. Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, Teacher, 367*

14th East Bridge Deanery Synod meets in Bridge Village Hall

17th *St. Antony of Egypt, Abbot, 356*

18th Week of Prayer for Christian Unity until 25th

19th **Second Sunday after Epiphany**

Parish Communion at Bridge attended by the Mayor of Canterbury

- 21st *St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr, 304*
 7pm: Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute meets in the Village Hall for a talk, 'New Light on old Canterbury' by Mrs. Lyle. The competition is for a winter arrangement not to exceed 8 inches in diameter.
 8pm: Bekesbourne Parochial Church Council meets at School House
- 23rd United Service in St. Peter's, Bridge, 7.30pm
- 24th *St. Francis de Sales, Bishop, Teacher, 1622*
- 25th **Conversion of St. Paul**
- 26th **Septuagesima** 9 before Easter
- 27th *St. John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, Teacher, 407*
- 28th *St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Teacher, 1274*
 Interchurch Group meets, Methodist Church, 7.30pm

The Forgotten Feast

Once upon a time there was no Christmas! Just imagine—no Christmas! It hardly bears thinking about!

Nevertheless it was so, because the Church centuries ago believed it was more important to celebrate our Lord's baptism than his birth, around which a great deal of legend existed anyway. So before the Church had Christmas on 25th December it kept the Epiphany on 6th January.

Actually it still does, of course, though the manifestation around which the festival revolves is no longer that of Jesus at his baptism but to the Wise Men from the east. Epiphany (from the Greek for 'manifestation') thus focusses our minds nowadays on the incident recorded in St. Matthew chapter 2 and most of us did not even realise it once celebrated Christ's baptism by John the Baptist in the River Jordan.

Why the *forgotten* feast? Well, for one thing Epiphany is a funny word to wrestle with. But the main reason must be the priority which the Church now gives, as it has done for about fourteen hundred years, to Christmas in December. Only the Armenians now keep Christmas on 6th January, elsewhere 25th December, a former pagan festival, holds sway.

Each year Christmas seems to get bigger and bigger, at least from the commercial angle, and we anticipate it so much earlier (Christmas decorations in the shops early in November last year) that by Boxing Day not only has Christmas come to a sudden halt but we have had so much of it that we are glad of the fact. The idea that we should keep the full twelve days is frankly abhorrent, so a further festival on 6th January really doesn't stand a chance.

The trouble is that we not only anticipate Christmas, we anticipate Epiphany as well, by the inclusion of the three kings and their epic pilgrimage in nativity plays and carol services and on the majority of Christmas cards, where they feature more often than the shepherds.

Poor Epiphany! We have already kept it by the time it arrives and we have no wind left to remember the eastern magi on their own, as they surely deserve. Well, we intend to remedy matters this year by holding a special Epiphany Family Service at Bridge on 5th January (it's only one day early!) when the 'kings' from Junior Church's nativity play will be resurrected to bring their gifts from the east (of the church) to the crib and we shall recall how the wonderful news of the birth of a Saviour was brought to Gentiles (the Wise Men) as well as Jews (the shepherds). Can you join us?

Rosemary and Raymond Gilbert would like to thank you for your Christmas greetings and support on so many occasions. May we take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy and Blessed New Year.

Just before Christmas the vicar recorded a week of 'Thought for the Day' for *BBC Radio Kent*. The talks will be broadcast on successive weekdays, Monday to Friday, starting on 13th January. Each one is broadcast round about 6.50am and again at approximately 7.50am.

* * *

ON THE NAIL will continue to be published each month in 1986, bringing information of local events and club news, articles of general and church interest, and reports on village activities in Bridge, Patricbourne and Bekesbourne. For the third successive year we have been able to keep the price at 25p per copy, which we believe to be excellent value for money.

On The Nail is your magazine and the editor is always on the look-out for articles from readers. We have some interesting people with a story to tell, living along the Nailbourne. Why not use *On The Nail* to tell it? Copy must be with the editor, who is the vicar, by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

We like *On The Nail* to pay its way, but unfortunately it failed to do so in 1985. Help us to keep the magazine on a firm footing by encouraging new readers, and if you happen to be reading someone else's copy can we urge you to take one of your own—it's useful to keep for future reference, especially where the Diary column is concerned. Can we also suggest those who pay for a year's supply do so at the beginning of the year if at all possible and thus aid our cash-flow problems?

Mrs. Beatrice Gertrude Dorothy Parfitt, who died on 4th December aged 88, was laid to rest in Bridge Churchyard, following a service in church on 11th December. Mrs. Parfitt, whose last Bridge address was 10 Dering Road, had lived in the village for most of her life. Her remaining months were spent at Barham.

The Ants

The Club will be meeting again on Sunday 19th January, 1986, at 14 Brewery Lane, Bridge at 9.30am.

Last term we went on a Nature Trail; baked bread for the Harvest Festival; saw how the stained glass is restored and were taken on a guided tour of the Cathedral. We also had a disco in the Village Hall for about fifty children and raised £20 for the R.S.P.C.A..

Next term we hope to produce a play to show to the old people at the Close; to invite a person from the Deaf Institute to visit us with an interpreter; to go to the animal reprieve centre and to have a sponsored walk to raise more funds for the R.S.P.C.A..

Any children between the ages of 9 - 14 years are welcome to join our Club.

Caroline Pentin

Youth Club

The enthusiasm is there amongst 12 to 16 year olds in the village to start up a youth club in the Village Hall, but they desperately need adult volunteers to supervise their activities. If anyone is interested in helping these young people in their venture would they please contact Mrs. Brennan, of 15 Union Road, Bridge. (Tel: 830313)

M.A.Y.

You shall be my witnesses

A glance at the 'Diary' for January printed on page 4 might at first give the impression nothing much is happening in January: where village activities are concerned that is so. Ecclesiastically, however, there is quite a full programme of saints' commemorations, *and there is Unity Week.*

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, to give it its full title, has been observed for many years. When it began churches up and down the land entered into the spirit of it with enthusiasm. It spelt a change in attitudes between different churches and promised great things in the future. Some of these hopes were realised but many were not, with the result that as the years passed Christians who had originally been so enthusiastic lost a lot of their impetus, and nowadays we are getting to the stage when traditional united services in the week of prayer for unity have been played out and sadly abandoned. Comments have been made along the lines that such services never really got anywhere, they lacked drive or—and this is a good sign—other more exciting moves were made, compared with which the old-style united service was pretty small beer.

Be that as it may, we in Bridge still feel there is room for a united service, even though the three main churches in the village (Roman Catholic, Methodist and Anglican) meet at regular intervals and foster good relations in other ways. The United Service this year is on Thursday, 23rd January at 7.30pm in St. Peter's Church, with refreshments and further conviviality afterwards in the Methodist Church. We hope you will come along and share it with us!

The form of the service has yet to be decided but a first class order of service has been produced, along with daily readings and prayers for the week, and we may well use it. Its theme is 'You shall be my witnesses', which is a quotation from the Acts of the Apostles. The words are Jesus', spoken in his final charge to the apostles before his Ascension and directed to the embryo church then and the many branches of Christendom to-day.

The service was prepared by an ecumenical group from Slovenia in Yugoslavia, comprising members of the Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Orthodox and Pentecostal Churches—a concerted act of witness in itself.

* * *

After the Week of Prayer our own local interchurch group meets for one of its customary evenings, when the emphasis is largely on developing further the good relationships we already enjoy with one another across the denominational divide. It is an open group, with no fixed membership, so anyone can come and we hope many more will decide to do so. The meeting is on Tuesday, 28th January at 7.30pm in the Patricbourne Road church. See you there!

Cash need for Breast Screening

Readers may possibly remember that in July last doctors concerned with cancer research called for a national programme of breast screening for women, and said that such a programme would save 3,000 of the 14,000 women who die annually from breast cancer. No such programme seems likely in the present state of NHS finances, but East Kent is lucky in having a voluntary organisation for women over thirty-five, the East Kent Unit for Breast Screening, providing a service at Kent & Canterbury and Margate Hospitals.

The Unit is a registered charity, and charges £12. The full cost, however, is £25, and the difference is covered by various fund-raising activities. Money is always urgently needed, and Mrs. E. Edwards, of 2a Meadow Close, Bridge (Tel: 830291), would be glad to hear from anyone who would be willing to make a donation—or even regular donations—or who could help in raising funds. The local Unit has little reserves, and unless income can be increased, the project could be in danger.

E.M.E.

With grateful thanks . . .

The Christmas Coffee Morning held at The New Close on Saturday, 30th November, raised a substantial sum of money for the Amenity Fund, and was a happy social occasion. The generosity and efforts of all concerned are greatly appreciated.

O.I. Knight

The Autumn Bazaar of the Senior Citizens' Club raised the sum of £111 net. Members wish to thank all who contributed in so many ways to the success of the day. Their help is greatly appreciated.

M.E. Mares, Hon. Secretary

Many brightly-wrapped gifts were gratefully received for the residents at The New Close at a Family Service on 1st December, 1985. Once again everyone was very generous and each resident received at least two presents to help fill their stockings.

On behalf of all at The New Close, thank you all very much, your kindness is appreciated.

Miriam E. Phipps

Very many thanks from Bridge Village Hall Committee to the steadfast band of helpers who collect and bring old newspapers to Beech Cottage garage. We have sold over six tons in 1985 and so contributed £123 to Village Hall expenses as a result of their efforts.

M.A.Y.

Which bone are you?

Wishbones—who spend all their time wishing someone else would do the work?

Jawbones—who do all the talking, but very little else?

Knucklebones—who knock everything that everybody else does?

Backbones—who bear the load and do the work?

Contributed

Out of the mouths of babes . . .

Helen House at Oxford is the only hospice for children. Like all hospices it exists to help its young patients and their families come to terms with serious illness and its likely outcome. Here is a little boy's ideas about life and death that will leave you amazed.

“One day I was talking to Mummy and she told me about my illness and what could happen and I wasn't afraid. I said to her: ‘I am glad I am talking about it with you. I feel better. Some children might not feel very happy about talking about dying and things, it might make them afraid. But from my point of view, I find it helps me . . . it brings out my courage and things. What I do is I keep myself busy. I have a tutor coming in now every day. We do things together like Maths and stories. I mean I'm doing a story at the moment called ‘The Ghost of the Headless Butler’. I've made it up myself and I've made the gang up myself. It's a very good story actually. I like it very much. You shouldn't sit there worrying about dying and things because it's a complete waste of time. If you get a pain or something you think, ‘Well, it's a bit sore, but I'll keep going on’.

“I'm not actually waiting for the day I go—I am too busy. I don't want to think about myself, about how poorly I am, how sick I am. I mean there's others even worse than me. I don't want sympatheticness; my brother and sister treat me like an eleven-year-old brother and I don't know what I'd do without them. I'd rather have that than be treated like a sissy or something. At first when Mummy told me, I was, I can truly say, a bit frightened. But then, as I am getting older [he is 11!] I am beginning to understand and see through it. I think the most frightening thing about dying is when your heart goes or when you think you're not going to breathe again, you're never going to see life again and that you won't ever see this world and you won't ever go into another one. But that is completely wrong because you're not actually dying, you're going into a sleep and your leaving your reflection behind—your body. I'm sitting here, but this isn't me, this is just my reflection. But when you die your real self leaves your body and goes into another world where you live happily. It's a much happier place, as God told us, but he's kept it a secret. It's a very special secret and I'm looking forward to that day when I do see it—no sickness, no pain, no tears, just full of happiness and joy, with God and all the other angels and saints.

“Dying isn't really dying, it's just like coming from an old room into a new room which is the new place where you're going to live, which is heaven, where you came from. Where you came from you have to go back to, that's your real home and that's my idea. It's like somebody telling you to close your eyes, then saying ‘Open’. There's a big surprise for you!! You open your eyes and you're in another place, so beautiful God can't describe it to us. It's the adults who find it very hard to understand—they're afraid and don't want to face God, which is really the completely wrong thing. Jesus said, ‘You're all children, you might be adults but you're still children to me, and really you're not behaving like little children, you're sort of behaving like afraid’.

“There's lots to thank God for, even dying people and deaf people and people that are very sick, even the able-bodied people. There's lots to look forward to whether you're living or dying, 'cos the thing you'll be looking forward to mostly is that new life, that life, that secret . . . and I'm really glad

that Jesus kept it a secret, because it will give us a surprise, it will give us such a big surprise. I mean, we only know one thing about it, we only know it's a beautiful place."

Christian Resources Exhibition

ST. MARY'S CENTRE · DOVER

On Saturday 25th January, 1986, Dover Christian Council are holding a Christian Resources Exhibition at St. Mary's Centre, as part of the programme of activities for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 1986. The Exhibition will have an ecumenical flavour, with national exhibitors from all aspects of Church life.

The Exhibition will be open from 10am until 4pm, and admission is free of charge. The twenty-plus exhibitors will offer information, advice, literature, teaching aids, and new ideas which will be of interest to Group leaders, Sunday School leaders, Lay Preachers, Youth and Organisation leaders, Community workers, prayer and discussion groups, Church members, and friends of all ages. Refreshments will be available continuously throughout the day, including a snack lunch. There is a large Council Car Park behind the Hall, and a multi-storey Car Park within five minutes' walk. St. Mary's Centre is a modern well-heated Hall adjacent to the pedestrian precinct in the centre of the town.

It is hoped to arrange organ music and Prayer for Unity at intervals during the day in St. Mary's Church, adjoining. Members of Dover Christian Council will be present to welcome fellow-Christians. We invite you to this Christian Exhibition and occasion during Unity Week 1986.

Alan Walker, Secretary, Dover Christian Council

'Fish' News

TRANSPORT

Up to the present time we have been able to meet all requests for transport, but with this side of our scheme expanding we do need help from some more drivers. We have to have a rota of drivers for the Luncheon Club, the Senior Citizens' Club, the chiropody clinic and day care, as well as covering for hospital and other medical appointments, hospital visiting and emergency calls. Can you help? Even if you could drive only once a month or in an emergency it would be a great help.

This month's Coffee Pop-in will be in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 8th January from 10.15 to 11.45am.

<i>Cleaning</i>	ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE	<i>Flowers</i>
Mrs. Grey	4th January	Mrs. Grey
Mrs. Beckett	11th January	
Mrs. Smith	18th January	Mrs. Millyard
Mrs. Stickells	25th January	



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday the 12th December, when they dealt first with various matters arising from the last meeting. They heard that Highland Court Farm was looking into the possibility of erecting road signs that would clearly indicate the way to the Farm and prevent lorries entering Bridge Down, but meanwhile the Clerk was to ask Kent County Council if they would consider erecting another 'No Through Road' at the left-hand side of Higham Lane. The Clerk was to write and thank Chapman & Humphreys who had kindly tidied up the area underneath the Bridge Hill/Bridge Down Stairway as a display of good faith. The Council were pleased to learn from SEGAS that permanent reinstatement of the trench in the High Street had been carried out at the same time as the replacement gas main had been laid, which would avoid a further disturbance at a later date. The work currently in progress was the connection of the properties in the High Street to the new main.

Recreation Ground

The Council agreed to accept the County Council's estimate of £12 for spraying the weeds along the edges of the ground, but to make no arrangements for tidying the boundaries until it was seen how effective the spray might be. Cllr. Peter Lawrence reported on a site meeting he and Cllr. Tim Hoare had attended with representatives from SEEBOARD and the agents for the Conyngham Estate, to agree on the route of the electricity supply cable to the new sheltered housing development in Riverside Close. The cable, buried to a depth of 18" or more, was to run from Conyngham Lane, along the school pathway to the Recreation Ground and then follow the touchline of the football pitch to clear the tree roots before entering the development. Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young reported that the oak tree had been planted in the far corner between two conifers which would provide protection for it initially.

Planning

The Council were to object to an application for a change of use to include retail wine sales at the former Bridge-Blean R.D.C. Depot at Mill Lane, and had also made representations on an application for a change of use from Industrial/Residential to warden supervised bed-sit accommodation at Brookside Lodge, Patricbourne Road because although they had no objections in principle to re-developing the site, they questioned who the occupants of the accommodation might be since it could create an imbalance in the village's population in the case of the units being, say, for the elderly, and they had accordingly asked the City Council to hold a site meeting. They had no observations to make on an application for an extension and internal alterations at 49 Union Road and noted that permission had been granted for the change of use to architects' and estate agents' offices at 90/92 High Street and for the projecting hanging sign at 88 High Street.

Generally, the Council agreed to support an application from the 1st Bridge Guide Company for £70 from the City Council's Lottery Fund towards the purchase of camping equipment. It was decided to invite a representative from the Police to talk on 'Neighbourhood Watch' Schemes at the Annual Parish Meeting, which it was proposed to hold on Thursday 24th April, 1986. The Clerk reported that she had been informed by Mr. B. Mummery of Great Pett Farm that he intended to fell and remove dead trees only from an area of woodland lying to the right of the Patricbourne Road immediately before entering the village of Patricbourne and then to replant with deciduous trees. Mr. Mummery had ascertained that such work did not require planning permission and was anxious that residents should be aware of and understand his intentions.

Finally, in view of the intervening festive season, the Council decided not to meet again until Thursday 13th February at the usual time of 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K.A. Walder, Clerk

The Leprosy Mission



It's not a killer. Nor is it the world's most common disease—although about fifteen million people have it. So why a special mission to leprosy sufferers?

Wellesley Bailey, the founder of the Mission, simply wanted to 'bring the consolation of the Gospel' to the most shockingly degraded and dehumanised people he had ever encountered. Today, that motivation still holds good.

Years of painstaking care and research have brought the disease into the modern arena with chemotherapy that cures, reconstructive surgery that mends, and vaccine experimentation that should ultimately prevent leprosy.

But in many countries, leprosy sufferers are still refused treatment, irrationally ostracised and left to beg on the streets. Children are hidden away until it is too late, and deformity has set in.

It is a disease that deadens pain in the hands and feet, leaving its victims defenceless. It is a disease you avoid mentioning—like cancer or AIDS in this country.

So it is obvious why healing leprosy was a miraculous thing in Jesus' day. It was a sign that He was the promised Messiah. It was a hallmark of His disciples too—a verification of the good news they were preaching about the kingdom of heaven. It must have been astonishing, and very persuasive, to see. It was also an unmistakable expression of God's love.

Much the same is true today, as thousands are released from an awful disease by loving and God-centred care. It is shameful, though, that this can still be said, for curative drugs have been available for some forty years. Poverty may be with us always, but leprosy really should not.

Like many other diseases which are under control in the affluent world, it persists unnecessarily in the poor, due to the double evil of ignorance and lack of resources.

In stark terms, about three-quarters of the world's leprosy sufferers have no access to treatment.

They do not require much—just £5 would cover the cost of drug therapy for most of them. Add to that the Mission's team of prayer partners, paramedics, doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, social workers, occupational therapists, evangelists and administrators, and you begin to see something of Christ's body mobilising itself to reach out with His healing.

THE LEPROSY MISSION PRAYER

Almighty Father, the giver of life and health, look mercifully on those who suffer from leprosy. Stretch out your hand to touch and heal them as Jesus did during His earthly life. Grant wisdom and insight to those who are seeking the prevention and cure of the disease; give skill and sympathy to those who minister to the patients; reunite the separated with their families and friends; and inspire your people with the task set before The Leprosy Mission, that it may never lack either the staff or the means to carry on its healing work, in accordance with your will, and to the glory of your holy name. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Contributed

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. Sanford, 11 Windmill Close, Bridge CT4 5LY (830411)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr. M. Miles, 7 The Precincts, Canterbury CT1 2EE (462947)

Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriority, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD (462695)

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. J. 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. H.P.M. Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830472)

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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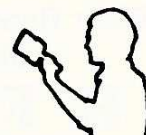
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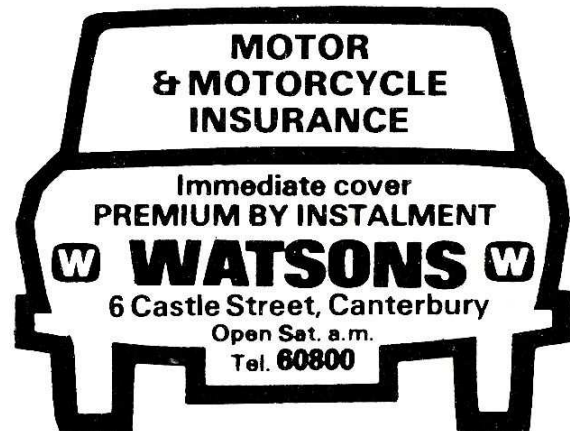
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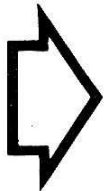
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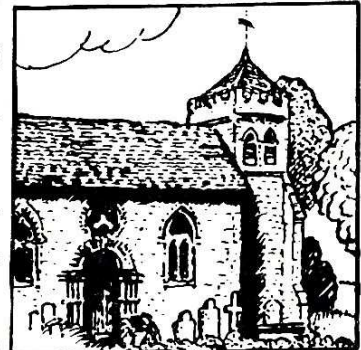
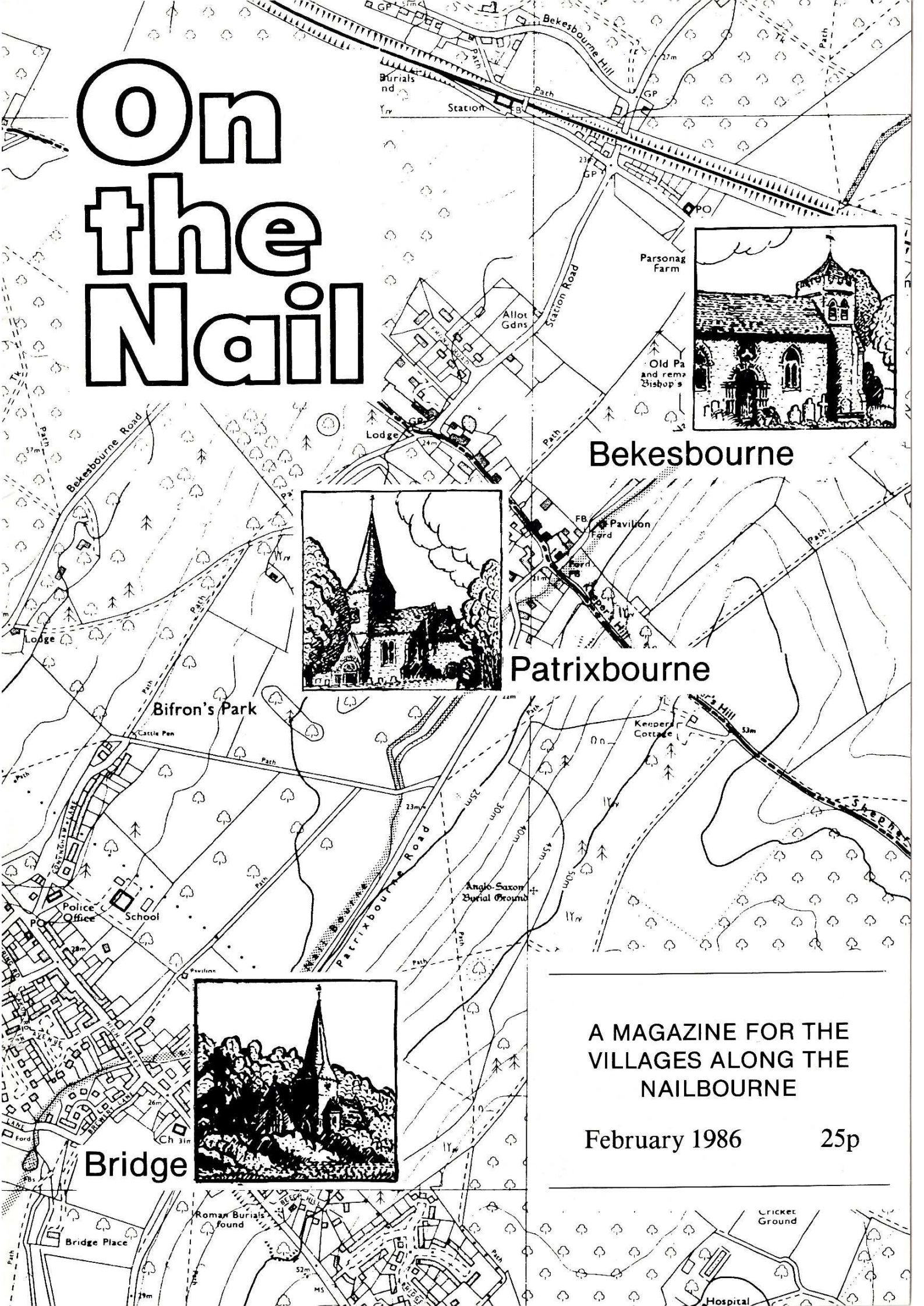
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On the Nail



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Patrixbourne



Bridge

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February 1986

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Sunday Worship in February

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

2nd:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

9th:

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

8am Holy Communion

16th:

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

23rd:

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

2nd March:

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

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *2nd*, Mr. L. Dron. *9th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *16th*, Mr. S. Kentish. *23rd*, Mr. D. Morton. *2nd March*, Dr. S.J. Rogers, M.A., D.Phil.

Weekdays: Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge every Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (ASB Rite A) at 7.30am, also in the Common Room, Churchill House on first Wednesdays at 10.15am. Though chiefly for the residents it is always good to welcome visitors on this occasion. The service lasts under half an hour.

For your diary and prayer list

- 2nd **Presentation of Christ in the Temple** Sexagesima
- 4th Pray for the clergy of East Bridge Deanery and for their chapter meeting this morning at Wingham.
Patricxbourne with Bridge Parochial Church Council meets in the Methodist Church at 7.30pm.
- 6th *Queen's Accession, 1952* God save our gracious Queen!
Playgroup Pancake Race and Coffee Morning, 10.45am
Health and Healing Prayer Group, St. Peter's, Bridge, 7pm
- 8th Pray for Jayne Arnison and Chris Tutt who marry today at Bridge.
- 9th **Quinquagesima** *Sunday next before Lent 7 before Easter*
- 12th **Ash Wednesday**
'Fish' Scheme Coffee Pop-in, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am.
- 13th Bridge Parish Council meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 14th *Keep Sunday Special* meeting, Christ Church College, 7.30pm
- 16th **First Sunday in Lent**
- 18th Bridge & Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7pm

20th Health and Healing Prayer Group, St. Peter's, Bridge, 7pm
23rd **Second Sunday in Lent**
27th *George Herbert, Priest, Pastor, Poet, 1633*

For Health and Healing

At a time when people are getting health-conscious and doctors are adopting a more holistic approach to their work, it is encouraging to find the Church also becoming alive to the dimension of health and healing within its areas of concern.

Not that this is anything new. The Church always had a healing ministry in its early days. Sadly, and for a number of reasons, this side of its work dwindled away to nothing, with the result that the recent re-emergence of a healing ministry has been greeted with suspicion from many quarters, accompanied by accusations of exhibitionism and even wizardry.

But Christianity is all to do with making lives whole, in the widest sense, being the vehicle God has chosen to bring humanity back into relationship with him. He sent his Son Jesus Christ to save sinners, i.e. to make them healthy — 'salvation' = 'wholeness' = 'health'! So the Church has a healing ministry willy-nilly, and this must be directed at the physically and mentally sick as well as those who are spiritually infirmed. It also embraces situations that need to be healed, such as family squabbles and political unrest.

There are several ways the Church can minister healing, of which the recognized channels are the sacrament of unction (anointing with holy oil) and the laying on of hands. Perhaps the more common means is through prayer: indeed, the Church has always prayed for the sick as part of its normal intercession. This is a ministry that every Christian can share and which does not require ordination or some other form of authorisation.

For several months a special time of prayer for health and healing has been set aside in Bridge Church on Thursday fortnights, when a handful of people meet for twenty minutes or so to pray for the sick and suffering. In this way we are beginning to venture into the Church's healing ministry, and are doing so in the most effective way possible. Won't you join this important work for God? The prayer group is not a closed one but is open to all-comers. Please see the diary page for the next gathering.

On The Nail Noticeboard

The WI's February meeting on 18th consists of a talk by Mrs. C. Browne on Strode Park and a competition for a jar of orange marmalade.

* * *

Anyone who is interested in joining the Bridge Baby-Sitting Group, or just having a chat with other mums, is very welcome to come for a cup of coffee at 62 Bridge Down on Wednesday, 19th February between 10.15 and 12 noon.

If you are unable to come but would like to know more about the group please contact Maggie Fairweather on 830320.

* * *

Bridge Playgroup would like your favourite recipe! They are compiling a Village Cookbook and would be very pleased to have a variety of recipes from people in the area. Please take your written recipe to Playgroup in the Village Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or to Sharon Sperling, 44 Bridge Down; Lorraine Flisher, 52 Riverside Close; Jenny Fairweather, 49 Union Road or Tina Draper, Jagerheim, Station Approach, Bekesbourne by the closing date, 31st March.

* * *

HOLY BAPTISM was administered to **Oliver Charles Westley Hutson** in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Sunday, 1st December, 1985. Oliver is the son of Robin and Judy Hutson of Paget, Bermuda, and the grandson of Joan and Churchwarden Douglas Hill, Red Deer, Bridge Down.

* * *

BRIDGE AND PATRIBOURNE CHRISTMAS MARKET was a great success and belated, though nonetheless sincere thanks are extended to all who had a hand in it, whether in organising or patronising it. A record sum of £620 was raised, which just goes to show how popular and enjoyable it all was.

Plans are already afoot for the joint Church and School Fête, which is to be held on Saturday, 14th June at the school.

Lay assistance at Holy Communion

For many years it has been customary in certain circumstances for bishops to grant permission for members of local church congregations to assist the priest by administering the chalice at Communion services.

The purpose behind this growing practice is not merely to help out an already overworked priest but to provide a vehicle of ministry within the worshipping community.

In the light of increased congregations at Bridge it seemed opportune to introduce this lay involvement, as a result of which the Bishop of Dover has authorized Stephen Pike to administer the chalice as need arises.

The PCC gave its unanimous support to this innovation at its December meeting and following the bishop's official sanction Stephen was able to commence this ministrations at the Parish Communion on the occasion of the mayor's visit last month.

Mayor at Bridge Church

It was the Mayor's idea that she should visit St. Peter's Church, Bridge for a Parish Communion and we were delighted to welcome her on 19th January, together with her husband.

Mrs. McCabe is a committed member of her local church, which she serves in the added capacity of sacristan (as Mrs. Gladys Flynn does so splendidly here), and on top of sharing our worship she read the New Testament lesson and joined as many of the congregation as could manage it for coffee in the vicarage afterwards.

I discovered early on that it was the mayor's birthday and we marked the occasion with a small presentation of a card from Junior Church and a posy of flowers, which were given to her at the end of the service by David Walder and Lucy Wilmshurst.

Canterbury is singularly fortunate in this year's mayor, who I firmly believe is a fine example of the truth that Christian commitment *does* make a difference to one's life generally.

Rural Dean's move

Church people in this deanery of East Bridge were very sorry to hear that Desmond Sampson, our Rural Dean and Vicar of Wingham with Elmstone, Preston and Stourmouth is leaving at the end of April to become an assistant in the parish of Hythe.

He has been a very active and concerned Rural Dean and it is to his leadership and insight that we owe the strong deanery feeling that characterises church life in this area. It will not be easy replacing him.



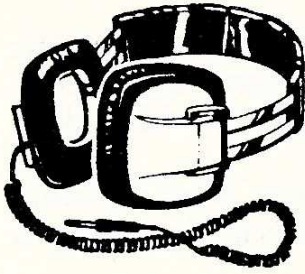
Keep Sunday Special!

On Thursday, 9th January a nationwide campaign was launched to persuade MPs to oppose government plans for the abolition of all controls on shop opening hours. Called *Keep Sunday Special* the campaign organisers have mustered a formidable array of 'big guns', among them peers of the realm, church leaders and members of parliament, to confront the nation with the enormity of what is proposed.

Obviously Sunday as a day of worship figures prominently in the campaign but the organisation is also concerned to keep Sunday as a special day of the week for religious and non-religious alike, simply as a day of rest. It is felt that if the Sunday Trading bill becomes law the traditional Sunday that we have known for so long will disappear and our people will be starved of a much-needed respite from the weekly grind. Everyone needs at least one day off a week and the same applies to the nation. Whether that day includes a church service is, in one way, immaterial, although an industrial and commercial life that plodded relentlessly along without a break would make it exceedingly difficult for those who *do* wish to go to Church (not the minority some would have us think) to do so without affecting our job prospects.

To bring the maximum pressure to bear on our elected parliament an official petition is being assembled, with forms readily available for people to sign. Copies will be about the villages and in the churches and it is hoped that all who read this will want to sign their objection to the planned bill.

In addition an open meeting at which people can air their views, either for or against the issue, will be held on Friday, 14th February in Christ Church College at 7.30pm, and it is hoped that David Crouch, our own MP, will attend. Do try yourself to attend this one of many meetings being held that day all over the country by the *Keep Sunday Special* campaign.



BBC Radio Kent Lent Course 1986

The arrival of another Lent means the return of our BBC local radio station's consistently popular course and we shall again be meeting in groups in some of the homes of Bridge.

This year's course, though following the usual pattern, is on a far grander scale than ever before, as the following information from *Radio Kent* explains.

On 4th February, 1985, at Lambeth Palace, the leaders of twenty-three churches in Britain launched an initiative for a three-year interchurch programme. They invited all churches to discuss at local and national level active ways to promote mutual understanding and to explore the barriers which separate them.

As a vital part of this process local churches have been invited to share in a nationally co-ordinated programme through local radio stations. *BBC Radio Kent* has chosen the speakers, and the programmes are produced locally, but a common form of questionnaire will enable the findings to be evaluated at national level.

Let's try and enlarge our own participation in this exciting venture, which involves Christians of all the churches represented in our villages. As usual Kath Pierce has agreed to organize the groups and their venues, so do contact her if you would like to be included. Ring 830844 afternoons or evenings, or see her at church.

The course is entitled 'What on earth is the Church for?' and the speakers together with their individual subjects are as follows:—

11th February	"Why believe in God?"	Canon Derek Palmer, Home Secretary of the Board for Mission and Unity and Organising Secretary of Lent '86
25th February	"What did Jesus come for?"	The Rt. Revd. Peter Ball Bishop of Lewes
4th March	"Why did the Church begin?"	Fr. Aelred McLaughlin, Order of Friars Minor
11th March	"Why different churches?"	Dr. Pauline Webb, BBC's Overseas Religious Broadcasting Organiser
18th March	"What now?"	Dr. Colin Morris, BBC's Head of Religious Broadcasting

Each evening lasts from 8 till 10 o'clock.

The New Refrigerator

by The Revd. M. Peter Taylor

For some time now Sharon and I have been thinking about buying a new fridge; the seal on the old one had started to go and the loss of cold air must have meant an increase in electricity consumption. Purchasing was not an easy decision as it was the same fridge my parents gave me when I first came to Canterbury over three years ago. More importantly it was this very same fridge that helped me to read, as I trotted around the house before I went to school and spelled out words before saying them out aloud. When I came to the fridge I would place my fingers by the label and say, "P-R-E-S-T-C-O-L-D — PRESTCOLD!" So it was almost as if here was a family heirloom that I was consigning to the scrapheap. Not suprising then that I did not relish the idea of being parted from it. It is my experience that a lot of life is like that, for we do not like to part with those special objects or ideas which have a particular place in our past, though they might have become redundant or even harmful.

When we began to look around at new models we soon discovered that our old one had quite a small capacity, and when we brought the new one home what we put in seemed to be dwarfed by the empty space, which led Sharon to say that we need only have bought a fridge door! So now we have something which has much more to offer than we need at present. This also reminds me of life, for often when we put aside those things we say we cannot do without, we find in their place comes something which not only matches our needs but exceeds them. Certainly I find this true when God is involved for he often calls us to start again, and richly rewards us when we wholeheartedly say YES.

Children may bless us as well, for I hope 'Tricity' is easier to spell!

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The Archbishop's School is a Church of England Voluntary Aided Secondary School which offers a traditional education to G.C.E. 'O' Level and C.S.E. standard to pupils aged 11 - 17. The main criterion for entry is commitment to Christian worship and education on the part of the parents and children. Application forms may be obtained from the Vicar, who will be pleased to supply an assessment form relating to your commitment to Christian worship required in connection with the application. Completed applications should be received at The Archbishop's School by Thursday 24th April.

Women's World Day of Prayer

This annual event is on 7th March and we shall hold the customary service in St. Peter's, Bridge at 2.30pm. The speaker will be Mrs. Captain Sylvia Watts of the Salvation Army in Canterbury.

'Fish' News

Members of the Luncheon Club and their guests celebrated with a Christmas Dinner on 16th December. We were delighted to welcome back some of our 'retired' members for the occasion. As usual the catering staff provided a delicious meal and we are grateful to them and to all those who gave help, gifts and donations.

Illness amongst the residents and staff at The New Close has caused a temporary halt to our Luncheon Club meetings but we hope it will be short-lived and that the invalids will make a speedy recovery. Meanwhile, we are hoping to make alternative arrangements for a weekly gathering.

This month's Coffee Pop-in will be in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 12th from 10.15 to 11.45am.

Joan Warren, 830233

Bekesbourne Magazines

If anyone in Bekesbourne knows of newcomers to the village, would they please let me or their magazine distributor know, as *On The Nail* serves as a good introduction to the villages.

Could I repeat the Vicar's request about early payment for magazines? It would be a great help if everyone could pay me or their collector early in the year (or when asked) — I really don't have time to chase up late payments around the village!

Jane Millyard

Bekesbourne Church Flower Festival

The custom of holding flower festivals in St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne is well-established and they are always most popular, drawing patrons from quite far afield.

After a two-year break the PCC has decided to stage another Flower Festival in 1986, on this occasion over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend rather than the August one. Now is the time, therefore, to enter it in your diary. The dates are Saturday, 25th May; Sunday, 26th and Monday, 27th.

As usual during the festival Evensong on the Sunday will be at Bekesbourne instead of Bridge at the usual hour of 6.30pm and I am delighted to announce that the Archdeacon of Canterbury, the Venerable John Simpson has eagerly accepted my invitation to preach. This will be his first visit — long overdue!

More publicity will follow, but we feel you will want to know about this early so as not to miss it.

Bekesbourne Church Cleaning and Flowers

The rota of cleaners for February is as follows: *1st*, Mrs. Hogben. *8th*, Mrs. Watson. *15th*, Mrs. Russell. *22nd*, Mrs. Grey. Flowers on *1st* — Mrs. Rosemary Mount, whom we welcome to the flower rota. After that we are in Lent, when there are no flowers in church.



Bridge Parish Council

Bridge Parish Council did not meet in January, but parishioners are invited to the next meeting, which is on 13th February in The Hunter Room of the Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

Bekesbourne Parish Council

At its last meeting the council discussed these items of business.

Lottery Money

It was agreed that both the projects which required money—for Bridge Guides and for The Cubs were worthwhile but that a decision on how much to make available could not be made until after April, when it was known how much money was being given to the parish from the lottery.

Downside Villas

The lease of the triangular piece of land adjacent to the council houses on Adisham Road is up for renewal from the City Council. The Parish Council decided not to renew their lease and make the land revert to the responsibility of the City Council.

'Fish'

An increased grant was sent to the 'Fish' Scheme funds.

Footpaths

Some paths were still in need of clearance but the Council was pleased to hear the 'Wappings' footpath had been cleared by the City Council. The Council heard that very little money was available from the city for footpath clearance.

Drains

A letter was to be written to the County Council requesting clearance and maintenance of drains on the Hill. The amount of water coming down the Hill was becoming dangerous in the winter weather.

Allotments

There was some discussion about the rents of allotments. It was decided to advertise more widely the availability of allotments. Anyone, either in the parish or outside it, wishing to rent an allotment (situated adjacent to Bifrons Road) should contact the Clerk, Mr. Andrews, at Ashwood Farmhouse, Mill Lane, Preston-next-Wingham, who will give details.

M. Gabbé

MEMORIALS IN CHURCHYARDS

This re-issued Directive issued under the authority of His Honour Judge John Newey, Q.C., The Commissary General of the Diocese of Canterbury applies to our churchyards, of course, and is reproduced for the guidance and information of all parishioners.

1. No memorial, plaque, or container to hold water and flowers, or other object may be introduced into a Churchyard without permission.
2. The Incumbent may in the exercise of authority delegated to him by the Commissary General grant permission if he thinks fit for:—
 - (i) A memorial in the form of a headstone or cross at the head of a grave, provided:—
 - a) that it be made of oak or teak, or of unpolished Portland, Hopton Wood, Purbeck, York, Nabrasina, or other stones, descriptions of which have been communicated to the Incumbent by the Commissary General in writing;
 - b) that it be no larger than 4 feet high, 3 feet wide and 6 inches thick and no smaller than 2 feet 6 inches high, 1 foot 8 inches wide and 3 inches thick, except that if commemorating a child who died under the age of 12 years, it may be smaller than the minimum size other-

wise required; a base forming an integral part of the memorial may protrude 2 inches in any direction and may rest upon a slab laid below ground level;

- c) that the memorial does not include any raised kerbs, railings, plain or coloured chippings, built-in vase containers or figure statuary, open books, bird baths or similar objects.
 - d) that any inscription on a memorial be suitably worded and clearly but plainly lettered, without painting or leading;
 - e) that no advertisement or trademark be inscribed on a memorial, except that the individual craftsman's name (not that of his company or firm) may be inscribed at the side or reverse of a headstone or cross in lettering similar to the inscription and no larger than ½ inch in height.
- (ii) A tablet over cremated remains in an area of the Churchyard set aside for the burial of cremated remains, in respect of which there is an existing faculty permitting tablets with the permission of the Incumbent, provided:
- a) that the tablet be no larger than 1 foot 9 inches square. Except that where existing tablets in the area are 2 feet square or 2 feet by 1 foot any additional tablet may be 2 feet square or 2 feet by 1 foot;
 - b) that the tablet be of unpolished stone identical to stones used for existing tablets within the area;
 - c) that any inscription on a tablet be suitably worded and clearly but plainly lettered, without painting or leading;
 - d) that no advertisement, trademark, or name of craftsman or of his company or firm may be inscribed on a tablet.
3. The Incumbent may in the exercise of authority delegated to him by the Commissary General grant permission, if he thinks fit, for a container to hold water and flowers provided:—
 - (i) that the container be of a size, shape and material approved by the Incumbent;
 - (ii) that it be placed in the ground immediately in front of a memorial or plaque;
 - (iii) that its top does not protrude above the level of the ground.
 4. Application for the Incumbent's permission must be made in writing and contain a full description of the proposed memorial, tablet or container for flowers, including particulars of its measurements, materials and design, and of the wording, size and style of any inscription. The Incumbent may require the submission of a drawing of the proposed memorial, tablet or container for flowers.
 5. The Incumbent may at any time seek the advice of the Diocesan Advisory Committee and/or of the Diocesan Churchyards Consultant concerning any application submitted to him.
 6. The Incumbent may instead of deciding an application which is within the scope of his authority refer it to the Commissary General for decision.
 7. If the Incumbent refuses his permission for an application, the Applicant may apply by petition to the Commissary General.
 8. Applications for permissions which are outside the scope of the Incumbent's authority must be made to the Commissary General by petition.
 9. Before making decisions the Commissary General will ordinarily receive advice from the Diocesan Advisory Committee and/or the Diocesan Churchyards Consultant.
 10. Artificial flowers are not permitted under any circumstances and if introduced may be removed by the Incumbent, Churchwardens or anyone acting with their consent.

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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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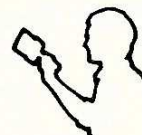
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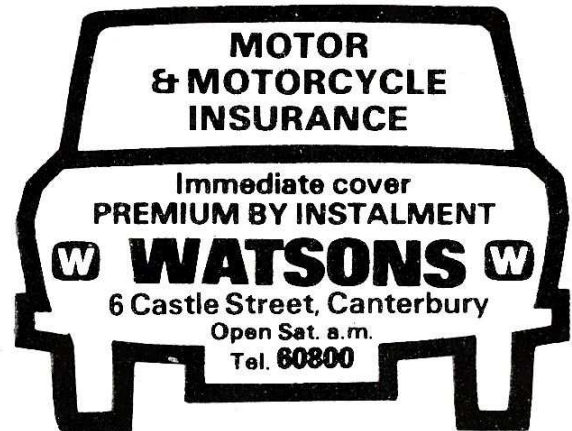
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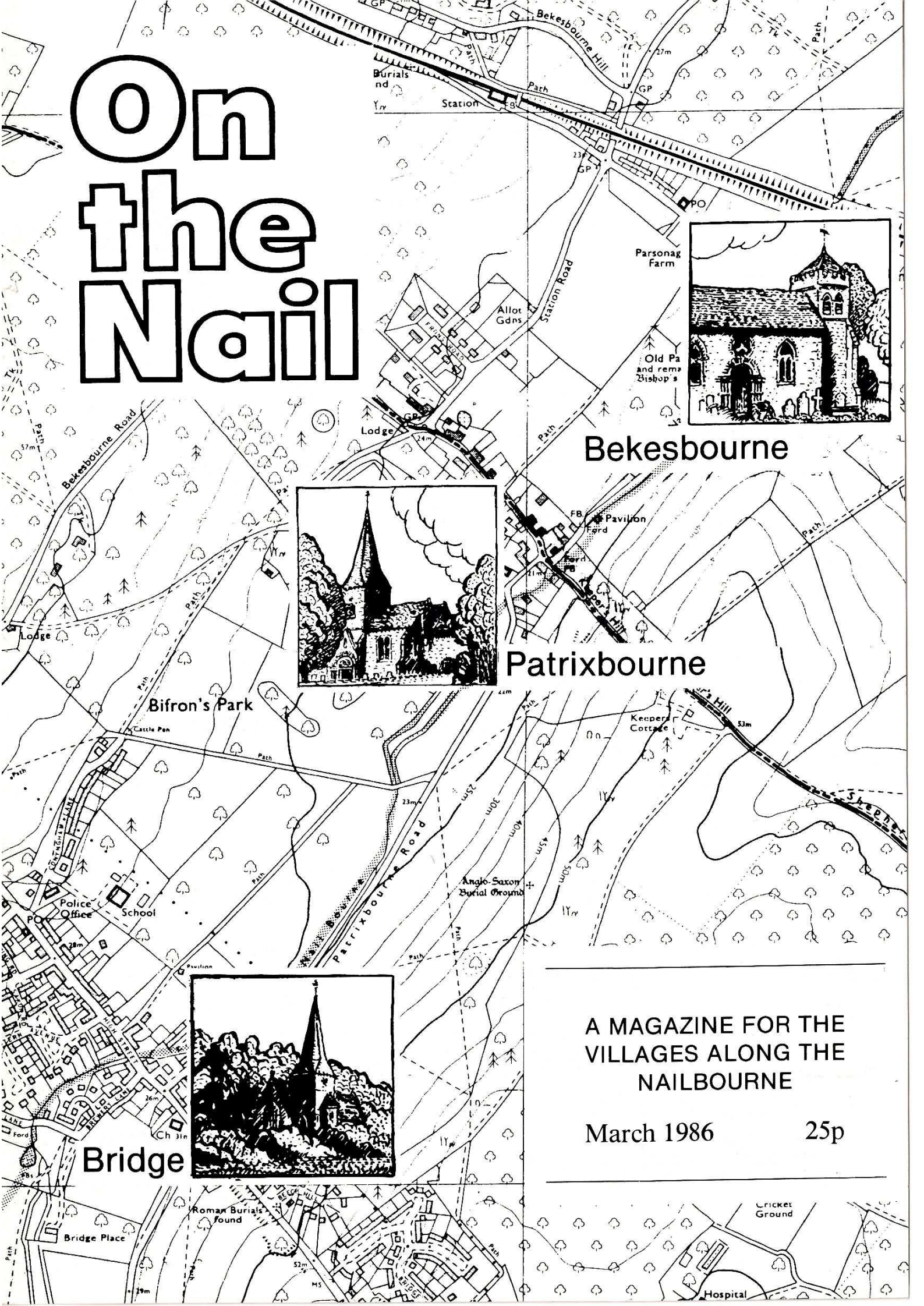
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On the Nail



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Patricxbourne



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March 1986

25p

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Sunday Worship in March

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

2nd:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

9th:

9.30 Family Communion
(Series 3)
6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins (*Revd.*
C. Verity)

11am Mothering Sunday
Service (*The Vicar*)

16th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(Series 3)
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

23rd:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Special Evening
Service for Palm
Sunday

9am Holy Communion

11am Palm Sunday
Eucharist with
Hymns and Sermon

30th: *See Holy Week and Easter Day services below.*

6th April:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

N.B. Two alterations to the normal Sunday pattern, both on 23rd. At the PCC's request and for this month only there will be Communion instead of Matins on Palm Sunday at Bekesbourne. It will be an extended celebration with the distribution of palms, hymns and a sermon. At Bridge Evensong will be replaced by a special service for Palm Sunday and Holy Week, including the singing of the Passion.

Junior Church meets every Sunday but the first in the Methodist Church at 9.30am. This month also they will not meet on Easter Day.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *2nd*, Dr. S.J. Rogers, M.A., D.Phil. *9th*, Mr. J. Whalan. *16th*, Miss K.J. Knight. *23rd*, Mr. E.R. O'Mahony. *30th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D.

For your diary and prayer list

1st *St. David, Bishop, Patron Saint of Wales, c.601*

2nd **Third Sunday in Lent**

Bridge Family Service will be conducted by the Guides and Brownies.

5th School Governors Meeting

6th Folk Dance Group, Bridge Village Hall, 8pm

7th *St. Perpetua and her Companions, Martyrs, Carthage, 203*

Women's World Day of Prayer Service, St. Peter's, Bridge, 2.30pm

8th *Edward King, Bishop of Lincoln, Teacher, Pastor, 1910*

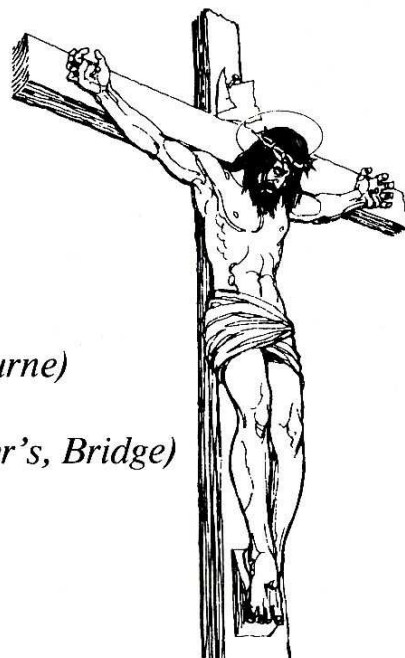
Pray for the Diocesan Synod today at Christ Church College.

9th **Fourth Sunday in Lent** *Mothering Sunday*

Matins as usual at Patricxbourne, also Mothering Sunday Service at

Bekesbourne, attended by Junior Church. No 8am Communion at Bekesbourne.

- 12th Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 16th **Fifth Sunday in Lent** *Passion Sunday*
- 17th *St. Patrick, Bishop, Patron Saint of Ireland, c.460*
- 18th Bridge & Patrixbourne W.I., Village Hall, 7pm
- 19th **St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
- 20th *St. Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, 687*
- 21st *Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop, Martyr, 1556*
- 23rd **Palm Sunday**



Holy Week & Easter 1986

Monday, 24th March:

9.30am Holy Communion (*St. Mary's, Patrixbourne*)

Tuesday, 25th March:

9.30am Holy Communion (*ASB Rite A*) (*St. Peter's, Bridge*)

2.30pm School Service* (*St. Peter's, Bridge*)

Wednesday, 26th March:

9.30am Holy Communion (*St. Peter's, Bridge*)

2.30pm New Close Service

Maundy Thursday, 27th March:

7.30pm Holy Eucharist (*ASB Rite A*) in commemoration of the Last Supper (*St. Peter's, Bridge*)

Good Friday, 28th March:

11.00am A choral meditation on the Cross (*St. Peter's, Bekesbourne*)

2.00pm *The Last Hour* — A meditation conducted by Canon John Bond, Head of Religious Studies at Christ Church College (*St. Peter's, Bridge*)

EASTER DAY, 30th March:

8.00am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)

9.30am Family Eucharist (*Series 3*) (*Bridge*)

11.00am Sung Communion (*Patrixbourne*)

11.00am Matins & Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
(*The Revd. W. Owen*)

6.30pm Festal Evensong (*Bridge*)

“Christ revealed the resurrection by rising to new life”

**Parishioners from all our churches are very welcome to attend the Bridge School Service in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on the Tuesday in Holy Week at 2.30pm. N.B. British Summer Time begins on Easter Day. Clocks should be put forward one hour.*

EASTER COMMUNION can be brought to the sick and housebound in their homes. Please contact the vicar to make the necessary arrangements.

Isn't it the end!?

Death, you will often hear people say, is the end. That's it; there is no more!

Let me tell you (or if you knew already, remind you) of a time when, for a change, death was *not* the end — not completely, that is.

The story began centuries ago in hotter climes than ours. A young man of about thirty had gained considerable notoriety, and whether people liked or loathed him they certainly had heard of him. The simple country folk were drawn to him partly because of the refreshing things he said and partly on account of his remarkable gifts of healing, and not a few just took to him as a person.

Those whose reaction to him was one of hatred were by and large the religious leaders, who found him unpredictable and downright heretical. His healing miracles disturbed them, betokening as they did a hidden power that had them foxed; and he *would* make use of them on the Sabbath, which was anathema to respectable people such as they deemed themselves to be. But it was his teachings that really aggravated the situation, because they could not determine where he got his ideas from. Under the guise of an accredited rabbi he spoke with undoubted authority words that were discordant to orthodox ears.

The outcome was that as this young fellow's influence spread authority's hold on the situation started to slip, and if they didn't act quickly who knew where it might not end. So they engineered his death and achieved their objective with surprising haste. The details are still available for those who want them but suffice it to say that one Friday at noon the man was taken outside that walled city to the recognized place of execution and there nailed to a cross. He bore the agony of crucifixion for three hours, then died and was given speedy burial in deference to religious scruples. That, the religious pundits surmised, was the end of him! So perish all upstarts!

But it *wasn't* the end of him — not by a long chalk! On the third day after his supposed end the young man came back to life again — *actually rose from the dead*. The effect of this on his friends was naturally astounding. They were over the moon, could scarcely believe it. He was risen — no doubt in their minds about it! Death, for once, was not the end. In fact, it was very much a beginning, the commencement of a whole new order of things, because, as they were to discover in the days to come, death need never again be an end, for him, for anyone. He told them, "Because I live you will live also", and they knew it for a fact.

As I say, all that took place a long, long time ago, but the passage of time has done nothing to dull the impact or the truth of what happened one Sunday morning early, miles away from these shores. For still today death need not be an end if we trust that young man who died, was buried and rose again. Actually we can know that very experience for ourselves: it has sustained the Church down the centuries and will do so for all the centuries to come. Because of Easter once there is always Easter now! Have a happy Easter!

EASTER LILIES

If anyone would like to give a lily to Bridge Church this Easter they will cost £1.75 each. Would you please give your money to either Mrs. Hunter, 24 High Street or Mrs. Apps, 34 High Street.

J.H.

Anyone who would like to give a lily for Easter at Bekesbourne Church in memory of a loved one or would like to make a donation towards one can do so by placing their contribution in an envelope marked 'Easter Lilies' and leaving it in church or handing it in at Parsonage Farm any time before 28th March.

C.J.A.

Good Friday

the cruel cross
lifts his body high
in agony
for the world to see
his skin is torn
by the piercing nails
thrust through the flesh
of his wounded limbs
blood from his side
fills the sacred cup
and crown of thorns
lacerates his head
the sky grows black
the earth is shaken wide
his sacrifice
is our victory
so on the cross
tortured and betrayed
he trod on death
for all mankind.

Roger Hunter

Christ in the Tomb

They took the body down from the Cross and one of the few rich men among the first Christians obtained permission to bury it in a rock tomb in his garden . . . It was well that the tomb should be sealed with all the secrecy of an ancient eastern sepulchre and guarded by the authority of the Caesars . . . (For) it was the end of a very great thing called human history; the history that was merely human. The mythologies and the philosophies were buried there, the gods and the heroes and the sagas. In the great Roman phrase, they had lived. But as they could only live, so they could only die; and they were dead.

On the third day the friends of Christ coming at daybreak to the place found the grave empty and the stone rolled away. In varying ways they realized the new wonder; but even they hardly realized that the world had died in the night. What they were looking at was the first day of a new creation, with a new heaven and a new earth; and in a semblance of the gardener God walked

again in the garden, in the cool not of the evening but the dawn.

G. K. CHESTERTON (1874 - 1936), *The Everlasting Man*

Joys and Sorrows

The Baptism of **Sam Alexander Mount**, Mudhole Cottage, Oakleigh Lane, Bekesbourne took place in St. Peter's Church on Sunday, 2nd February. **Jon Carden Cruttwell**, 1 Western Avenue, Bridge is the first child of Junior Church to be baptized as a member. This was on Sunday, 23rd February at Bridge, and several Junior Church children came to support him.

With the snow lying thick on the ground **Jayne Arnison**, 3 Western Avenue married **Christopher Tutt** in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on 8th February, and the snow was just what Jayne wanted. We wish them every blessing.

The sudden death of **Gordon Boag**, 31 Bridge Down came as a very great shock to his wife and also to those of the Interchurch Group who had enjoyed his company an hour earlier at our 28th January meeting. Gordon had made a valuable contribution to the evening, had walked gently home and died soon after. Though an Anglican Gordon had supported his wife, a Catholic, throughout their married life and it was a mark of the esteem in which he was held by that church that his cremation at Barham was preceded by a Funeral Mass in St. Thomas's. I was privileged to read the Gospel, lead the Intercession and assist at the final commendation, an involvement which, as Gordon's vicar, I valued enormously. It was an ecumenical gesture thoroughly in keeping with Gordon's outlook on church unity.

At the time of going to press the deaths have occurred of **Bob Smith**, Holly Tree Cottage, Bekesbourne and **Albert Wright**, formerly of Churchill House, Bridge. Bob is due to be buried in Bekesbourne churchyard on Tuesday, 25th February and no doubt many friends will assemble in St. Peter's Church to pay their respects to a real Bekesbourne man who served the community in which he lived long and faithfully. The contribution he made through the Parish Council and as the first chairman of the Village Hall Committee will not be forgotten. Albert Wright will be laid to rest with his late wife in Bridge churchyard on the same day. Both gentlemen had been gardeners by profession. May the souls of the departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Confirmation, 1986

If there are any potential confirmation candidates now is the time to begin the lengthy preparation involved.

Where young people are concerned I shall want to make a start immediately the Easter Holiday is over. Candidates should be at least twelve years of age now, and the decision to consider confirmation should come from them and not their parents. A commitment to regular church attendance will be required of members of the confirmation group but the actual decision whether in the end to be confirmed can be made towards the end of the course of instruction. So, if you are uncertain to begin with, join the course and see how you feel later on. Would-be candidates must also be prepared to devote half an hour a week to meeting with the group. Names to the vicar as early as possible, please.

There are a number of adults who have not been confirmed but have become associated with the church for some time.

Continued on page 9.

I would invite them to consider taking this step and will gladly advise and instruct them independently of the younger candidates. Please give me a call if you wish to pursue the matter further. Previous adult confirmation groups have proved both enjoyable and instructive and have helped cement friendships within the Church. Let's talk the matter over in private to begin with.

Graces human and divine

Kath Pierce submitted the following reflections which were stimulated by my 'Thought For The Day' on grace before meals. The word comes from the latin 'gratia', which means 'thanksgiving'.

I expect many people have a favourite grace, whether humorous or not, recalling fond memories of a particular time in their life, at school or university or at home. Would the readers of *On The Nail* like to share some of their favourite graces?

This grace I remember my father saying at a Sunday School treat in the presence of the Bishop of Chelmsford. Fortunately he had a sense of humour!

"For what we are about to receive and for what some have already snatched, may the Lord make us truly thankful."

A favourite grace that Brownies sing at the table on Pack Holiday is Johnny Appleseed.

"The Lord is good to me,
And so I thank the Lord
For giving me the things I need,
The sun, the rain and the appleseed.
The Lord is good to me.

"And every seed that grows
Will grow into a tree.
And one day soon
There'll be apples there,
For everyone in the world to share.
The Lord is good to me."

Another firm favourite with the Brownies is an old Sussex Grace which is sung as a round.

"Bees of paradise,
Do the work of Jesus Christ,
Do the work that no man can."

For short graces how about these?

"This happy meal will happier be
If we, O Lord, remember thee."

"For all this food and our joy
Giver of all we thank thee."

"Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest,
And bless what thou hast given us."

This must be the shortest grace!

"Heavenly pa, ta!"

Over to you! If you know any unusual graces the editor will be glad to hear from you. Let's see if we can compile a list of them for a future 'On The Nail'.

Women's World Day of Prayer

This annual event, as you will see from the diary, is on 7th March. It is in no way a local observance but shared all over the world, the special order of service being used everywhere. This year's service was produced by women of Australia, who, like the participants, come from all Christian Churches. In Switzerland, which I recently visited, the day is called Welt Gebets Tag, which is simply 'Day of Prayer'; a much more apt title when, as I believe the British organizers intend, it is meant to include men as well as women. Recently I was sent a copy of the Swiss order of service and sent my Swiss friends a copy of the one we shall be using here. Though my contribution is restricted to playing the organ it will really seem like a *world* day of prayer, knowing that the same prayers and readings are being used in Bridge and St. Mark's, Basel.

The Bridge service on 7th March is at 2.30pm and as in previous years will be finished in time to collect children from school. We shall welcome as speaker Mrs. Captain Sylvia Watts of the Salvation Army in Canterbury and anticipate the usual popular service full of interest and Christian fellowship. Ladies particularly, do join this pleasant occasion. The theme is **Choose Life**.

Australian Introduction

The women of Australia inform us that 'Australia consists of an island continent with a second island lying off the south coast. It has an area of three million square miles and stretches from just south of the Equator to about latitude forty-five degrees South, so that it has a great range of climate. A large part of central Australia is desert, but there is excellent farming country lying between the desert lands and the coastal ranges. The bulk of the population, however, lives in the coastal plains, mainly in the suburbs of cities and large country towns.

'Aboriginal people have lived in Australia for about 40,000 years. They probably migrated from South-east Asia when the two continents were joined by a land bridge. When European settlers arrived in the late eighteenth century, the aboriginals were a nomadic, stone-age people living in tribes. As a result of conflict between the two races, most of the aboriginal culture has been destroyed, and it is only in recent years that we have come to discover its value to all Australians.

'Our population figures have now reached 15 million with aboriginals comprising just over one per cent. Australia is a self-governing member of the British Commonwealth, acknowledging the Queen. Although more than half of us are still of British stock, we have since World War II encouraged and subsidized European migrants, and in recent years, migrants from Asia have been admitted in limited numbers. There are now one hundred and forty ethnic groups in Australia, speaking nineteen major languages.

'Almost eighty per cent of our people are nominally Christian, though less than twenty per cent are regular church attenders. About fifty per cent are evenly divided between Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches, and the other thirty per cent belong to a variety of nonconformist churches. But there are, in fact, some fifty Christian denominations or other faiths practised in Australia, some of Eastern origin. Christians are learning to work together. Movements such as the Australian Council of Churches, Australian Church Women and Women's World Day of Prayer are helping us to concentrate on our common cause rather than on our differences.'



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council had their first meeting of this year on Thursday 13th February where they discussed matters under the usual headings.

Recreation Ground

Members heard that due to an error by Kent County Council in the measurement of the Recreation Ground site, which had only come to light at the very end of last year, the Parish Council had been over-charged for the gang mowing of the area since the 1981/82 season. The Councillors agreed with the City Council's proposal to rectify the situation by no charge being made for the mowing in 1985 or for the initial eight cuts in 1986.

Streets and Footways

The Council were informed that Bishopsbourne Parish Council were attending to the insurance claim and repair of the bus shelter opposite Higham Lane which had been overturned towards the end of January, just before Bridge had agreed to take over responsibility for its maintenance. Councillors were concerned at the number of street lights in the village, both in the High Street and the side roads which were not working satisfactorily and the Clerk assured them that noted faults were reported to the relevant authorities. If any parishioners have complaints about any of the street lights, please would they let the Clerk know.

Village Hall

Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young reported that the Village Hall Committee hoped to make a further contribution to help pay off the loan for the purchase of the Hall in the near future.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Council discussed arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting which is to be

held this year on Thursday 24th April. After the business of the meeting is dealt with, the Crime Prevention Officer for the Canterbury Area will give a talk on 'Neighbourhood Watch', a matter which is of interest to and concerns all householders in the village. Councillors felt that the meeting should be given as much publicity as possible.

Planning

The Council raised no objection to the application for change of use from residential to home for the elderly, The Old School House, Patricbourne Road (CA/85/1339/BRI) subject to the final plans being satisfactory and to certain car parking problems being resolved. Several planning applications had been granted since the last meeting, including extensions to dwellings at 'Owletts', Beech Hill, and 49 Union Road, the conversion of garage/workshop and dwelling and erection of new building to form warden-supervised accommodation, Brookside Lodge, Patricbourne Road, the erection of a replacement pavilion and changing rooms at the Recreation Ground, while the Department of the Environment had dismissed the appeal by Wiltshier Property Co. Ltd. for their proposed development on land to the rear of 'The Close', Union Road. Councillors expressed their concern at various signs which had appeared recently on buildings in the village and the Clerk was to take these matters up with the planning authority. Finally, the Council noted that residents of 'The Close' in Union Road had formed a Residents' Association.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday 13th March at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room when it will hopefully be a bit warmer!

K.A. Walder, Clerk

Neighbourhood Watch!

At the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 24th April, the Canterbury Police Crime Prevention Officer will be telling you how to protect your homes from burglars, and help the community at the same time. **Please come along to hear the details of a scheme which works well in many parts of Kent.**

Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute

At the March meeting on the 18th at 7pm in the Village Hall Mrs. J. Reade opens Box No. 4 — The 30s. The competition is for a doll dressed as a Bride (not to exceed 12 inches high when complete). All visitors will be made welcome.

Elizabeth Stewart

Bridge Folk Dance Group

Mrs. Whittaker reminds interested persons that the Folk Dance Group will be resuming its activities on 6th March at 8pm in Bridge Village Hall, with Alf Matthews as caller. Dance Evenings will be held on first and third Thursdays in April, May and June. New dancers are welcome and further information is available on 830285 or 830652.

Best Kept Village Competition 1986

It will soon be time to consider entering the 'Best Kept Village' Competition for this year. Would anyone interested in forming a committee to promote the village of Bridge in the competition please contact the Clerk, Mrs. K. Walder, Tel 830761. An entry from the village will get the full support and backing of the Parish Council.

K.A.W.

'Fish' News

The Luncheon Club was unable to meet on 10th February because of a heavy snowfall but quite a few people braved the weather for the Coffee Pop-In two days later.

The Blossom Tour will be on Wednesday, 7th May. Priority will be given to people who are housebound or who cannot use public transport, but there will be seats to spare for other residents who wish to go on the trip. This year we hope to visit orchards in the Faversham area and to visit the Kent Garden Centre at Upper Harbledown, where we will have a cream tea. Our treasurer, Bill Johnson, who is organising this year's trip, has arranged for us to have a 10% discount on any purchases we make from the Garden Centre. Full details will be available next month.

Other dates for your diary: Coffee Pop-In, Wednesday, 12th March.
Annual Coffee Morning, Saturday, 7th June.

Joan Warren, 830233



Who's kidding who?

I often wonder how many sayings attributed to famous people really came from their lips. For instance, did someone actually ask Pope John XXIII how many people worked at the Vatican, and did he actually reply, "Approximately half"?

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. Sanford, 11 Windmill Close, Bridge CT4 5LY (830411)

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

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Captain of the Bells: Mr. H. Collard, 1 Mumpas Cottages, Little Pett, Bridge CT4 5PD

Magazine Advertising: Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830472)

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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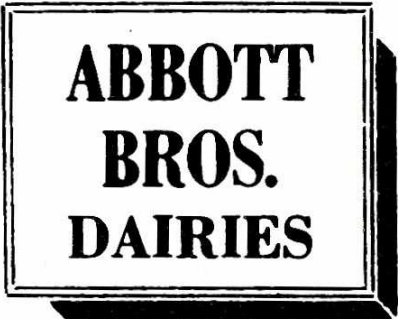
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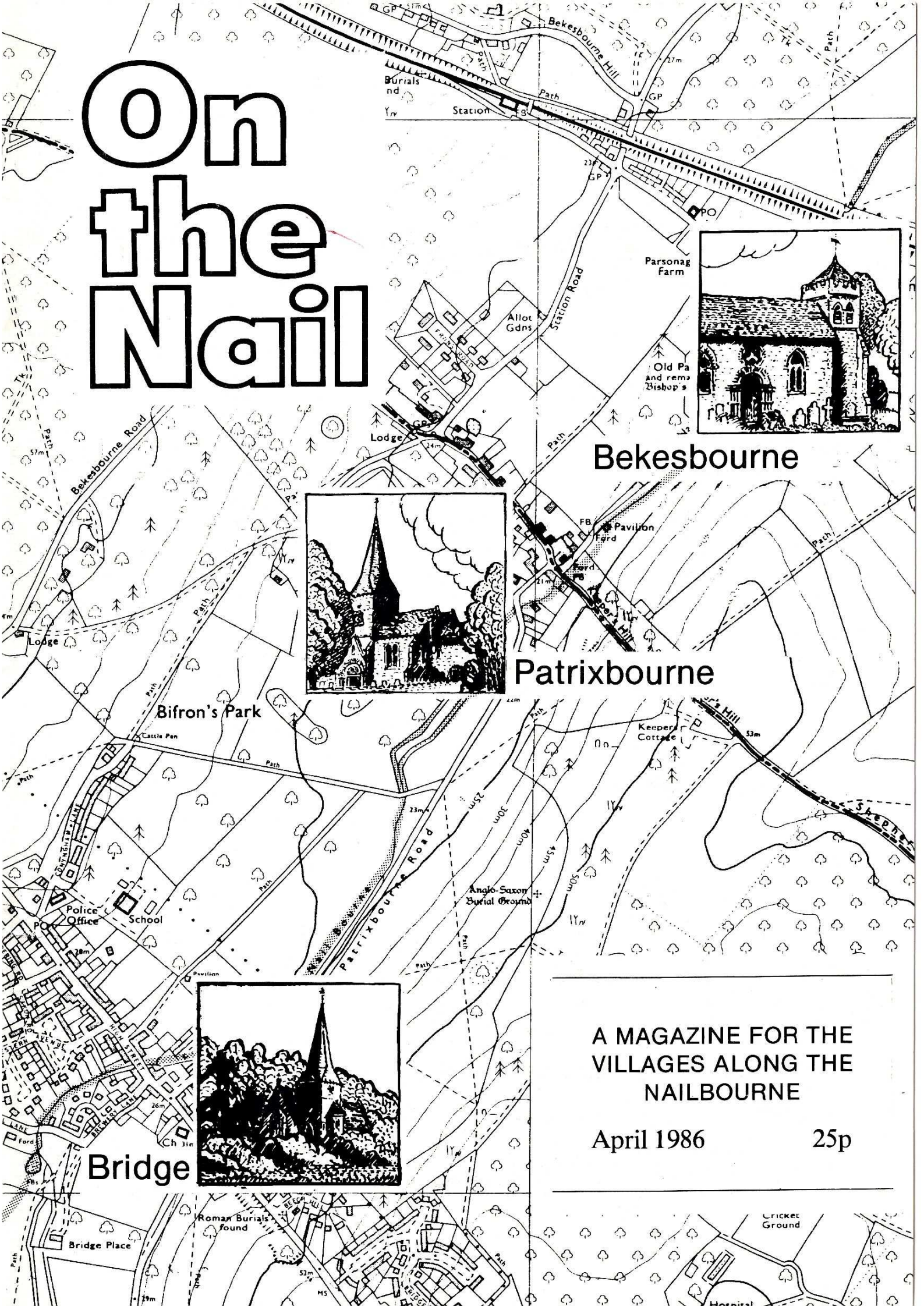
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

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April 1986

25p

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Sunday Worship in April

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

6th:

11am Family Service
(*Canon J. Packer*)

8am Holy Communion
(*Revd. C. Verity*)

9.30 Parish Communion
(*Revd. W. Owen*)

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

13th:

9.30 Family Communion
(*Series 3*)

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

20th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(*Series 3*)

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

6.30pm Evensong

27th:

8am Holy Communion

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

6.30pm Evensong

4th May:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *6th*, Mr. F.R. Smith, B.Sc. *13th*, Miss J Charlesworth, M.A. *20th*, Mr. C.G. Robertson. *27th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd. Michael Walling.

Weekdays: Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge every Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (ASB Rite A) at 7.30am, with the exceptions of 3rd and 5th of this month. The monthly celebration of the Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 9th at 10.15am. N.B. For this month only it is on the *second* Wednesday. The weekly service on Wednesdays at 2.30pm in The New Close *will* take place, except on the first Wednesday, 3rd.

For your diary and prayer list

1st **Tuesday in Easter Week**

2nd **Wednesday in Easter Week**

3rd **Thursday in Easter Week**

4th **Friday in Easter Week**

5th **Saturday in Easter Week**

6th **First Sunday after Easter** *Low Sunday*

7th **Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary**

8th Bekesbourne Annual Church Meeting, Parsonage Farm, 8pm

9th *William Law, Mystic, Non-Juror, 1761*

(Non-Jurors were members of the C of E who after 1688 scrupled to take the Oath of Allegiance to William and Mary on the grounds that by doing so they would break their previous oath to James II and his successors.)

- 10th Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
 12th Pray for David Anderson and Michele Hollingsbee who marry today at Bridge.
 13th **Second Sunday after Easter**
 14th Patrixbourne Parish Meeting, The Old Vicarage, 8pm
 15th Interchurch Group, The Methodist Church, 7.30pm
 Bridge with Patrixbourne WI Birthday Meeting
 18th Patrixbourne with Bridge Annual Church Meeting, The Methodist Church, 7.30pm
 20th **Third Sunday after Easter**
 21st *St. Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1109*
 22nd Blood Transfusion Service, Red Lion Car Park, 2 - 4.30, 5.30 - 8pm
 23rd *St. George, Patron Saint of England, Martyr, 4th century*
 24th Bridge Parish Council Annual General Meeting, 7.30pm
 25th **St. Mark the Evangelist**
 26th East Kent Badger Group Jumble Sale, Bridge Village Hall, 2pm
 Patrixbourne Concert, St. Mary's Church, 7pm
 27th **Fourth Sunday after Easter**
 29th *St. Catherine of Siena, Mystic, 1380*

23rd April — A Proud Day for England

Those of a cynical or anti-English disposition might well say how typical it was of England to adopt as its patron a saint about whose very existence there is an element of doubt: the point being that some historians dispute that there ever was a St. George. In point of fact the real issue tends to be rather of the nature of his precise identity, where he lived and what made him a saint, than whether he was the fictitious creation of a story-book mind.

Evidence seems to exist that St. George was a man who abandoned one army for another: that he gave up the rank of tribune in the armies of imperial Rome to enlist as a soldier for Christ. He served his new master in Palestine, where he suffered a martyr's death some time in the fourth century. The crusaders adopted him as their figurehead and brought his name and deeds to prominence.

Even if this soldier saint is a product of make-believe, his character is such as to render him a fitting patron, and his fighting spirit is worth emulating, for it was based on solid biblical precedence.

Christians are exhorted to 'fight the good fight of faith' and generally to see themselves as warriors in the battle against evil that Christ made his own. Is this where the dragon came in? Moreover, the battle we are to wage is of an offensive not a defensive nature. Our Lord does not expect us to cower behind certain spiritual battlements called the Bible or the faith, and wait to be attacked. He urges us to get out into the fray and dictate the course of the conflict. We are to confront evil head-on, and armed with our spiritual armour, fight "in the strength which God supplies through his eternal Son".

Taking St. George as our standard God is encouraging us to be firm about our faith, to be forthcoming when opportunity presents itself to witness for him, to be bold in our allegiance to him, confident that our Christian calling is carried out with his help and not under our own power. Just as an earthly king will equip his troops for the task, so the King of Kings sends his forces out properly armed for the contest, and he does so through their fellowship as members of his Church. So

“Soldiers of Christ, arise,
And put your armour on”.

Joys and Sorrows

Sadly it is the sorrows that predominate this month, the joys being restricted to the short ceremony during the Parish Communion at Bridge on 16th March at which **Simone Pascale Maralice Wheller**, Anne's House, High Street was received into the church following her baptism on an earlier occasion.

Older Bridge residents will be saddened to hear of the death of Mrs. **Doris Wraight**, formerly of West Cottage, Bourne Park on 24th February at Deal. Cremation took place at Barham on 4th March. The cremation of **James Arthur Garrett**, “Beaulieu”, Bekesbourne Lane was preceded by a service in St. Peter's Church on Tuesday, 11th March.

Bridge Methodist Church was the setting for the funerals of **John Edward Rowland Morgan**, Silver Leaves, Bridge Hill and **Frank Wimpory**, High Beech, Patricxbourne Road. Mr. Morgan's body was interred with that of his wife in Bridge Churchyard. We record also the sudden death of Mrs. **Nellie Terry**, 7 Windmill Close, whose cremation took place on Friday, 14th March.

As we went to press news came through of the death at 95 of Mrs. **Norah Jane Friend**, formerly a resident of Bekesbourne and most regular attender at St. Peter's Church. A service in church on Thursday, 20th March is to be followed by interment in the grave of her husband in Bekesbourne churchyard.

May they rest in God's peace and their loved ones know the comfort and reassurance of his presence in their time of sorrow.

Confirmation A reminder to intending candidates.

There was a slight response to my article about confirmation preparation in last month's *On The Nail* but I am aware there must be others, young and not-so-young, who might well consider dedicating their lives to God's service in the world-wide fellowship of his Church through the sacrament of Confirmation.

A reminder that young people should be approaching thirteen years and notification that group preparation will commence with an enrolment session at the vicarage on Thursday, 10th April at 6 o'clock. Either tell me beforehand that you are interested *or* come and have a private chat about it *or* just turn up on the 10th.

Adults who have not been confirmed but may have been thinking about it might like to see me privately to begin with and we can hopefully form a special group in due course.

The Ants — A group for 9 - 14 year olds.

This term has been a short term and as *The Ants* meet once a fortnight, we have only met five times.

Our first visit was to Canterbury Police Station where we were given a guided tour of the police cells. We saw the modern computer equipment in use and learnt how the breathalysing apparatus works. We also heard how the police dogs are trained and cared for, and had the opportunity of stroking one of the Alsatians.

I had just returned from a trip abroad so at our next meeting I dressed in a sari to show *The Ants* the traditional costume worn by many Indian women,

and had a slide show on the Himalayan foothills, Indian children and the Indian way of life.

Next, we met to organise an hour's entertainment for the old people of the New Close which included making colourful Easter posters, reciting poetry and singing accompanied by the guitar and piano.

The last meeting was to visit Mrs. Todd's Animal Home in Stelling Minnis where disowned, stray or maltreated animals are restored to good health and kept there until they are given a new home.

Anyone wishing to join us, please 'phone Bridge 830278 to find out when we are next meeting.

Caroline Pentin

Christian Aid Week 12 - 17 May

On Tuesday, 11th March the subject of the *BBC Radio Kent* Lent discussion was "Why different churches?" During the talk, discussion and 'phone-in a number of answers were given but the over-riding message was a call for the churches to "make ventures in fellowship". Our villages are fortunate that there have been many successful ventures in fellowship and one which brings us together year by year is the house to house collection for *Christian Aid Week*.

Anybody over the age of sixteen can collect, and younger people can distribute envelopes. Everyone can welcome the collector and give generously to help *Christian Aid* in their task of "helping others to help themselves".

If you can act as a collector please let me know as soon as possible so that we can ensure that every house in our villages is visited, including the new houses which have appeared since our last *Christian Aid Week*.

Muriel Packer, 830364

* * *

Further to the theme of Christian Aid Week the Vicar of All Saints', Canterbury writes to tell us that his PCC is planning to hold a Songs of Praise service to mark the week. It is on 4th May at 6.30pm in All Saints' Church, Military Road and they would like to invite participation from churches in the district. Particularly Barry Cooper would like to know of any hymns you would consider suitable for such a service and would welcome offers to do some 'item' for inclusion in the service, e.g. Liturgical Dance, Dramatic Presentation of a story, a song, etc. I will gladly pass on to him any suggestions but he needs to have them by 14th April.

'On The Nail' Noticeboard

Bridge Playgroup is still searching for recipes! You may remember that they are compiling a **Village Cookbook** and would be very pleased to include in it your favourite recipe. Please write it out and either take it to Bridge Village Hall when the Playgroup is meeting on Tuesday or Thursday mornings or send it to one of the addresses following: Sharon Sperling, 44 Bridge Down; Lorraine Flisher, 52 Riverside Close; Jenny Fairweather, 49 Union Road; Tina Draper, Jagerheim, Station Approach, Bekesbourne. Don't delay as they want all recipes by 30th April.

* * *

There will be a **Thrift Sale** of children's and adult's clothes, toys and equipment at 52 Riverside Close on Tuesday, 15th April at 10am. Items for sale should be brought the evening before or on the morning of the sale, clearly labelled with your name and the price you are asking. 10% will be deducted for the funds of Bridge Playgroup. Everyone welcome! Entrance Fee 20p! Refreshments will be available.

* * *

Also on 15th April the **Women's Institute** has its Birthday Meeting at 7pm in Bridge Village Hall. The competition is a verse for a Birthday Card.

* * *

The **Blood Transfusion Service** will be visiting Bridge on Tuesday, 22nd April and would be very pleased to welcome anyone between the ages of eighteen and sixty-five years willing to donate blood. The mobile donor unit will be parked at The Red Lion in the High Street between the hours of 2pm - 4.30pm and 5.30pm - 8pm.

* * *

The **East Kent Badger Group** is holding a Jumble Sale in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday, 26th April at 2pm. Any offers of jumble (small furniture included) will gladly be collected. Please contact D. Whittaker, 9 High Street, Bridge (Tel: 830285).

* * *

Advance notice that the WI is having an Open Day on 10th May from 10.30am to 3.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. More details next month.

* * *

Bridge Folk Dance Group is only having one dancing evening in April on 3rd at 8pm. Alf Matthews is the caller. Why not come along and join us in the Village Hall, at Bridge?

Do you know . . .

From many fascinating items Teresa Philpott included in March's Family Service — a service she and Bridge Guides and Brownies conducted with great feeling and enjoyment — the following will interest readers of On The Nail who were not there:

Do you know what your body is made of? Enough fat to make seven bars of soap; enough iron for a medium sized nail; enough sugar for sixteen helpings of cornflakes; enough lime to whitewash a hen-coop; enough phosphorus to make 2,000 match heads and a pinch each of magnesium, potassium and sulphur. Your total market value is about 75p! Is that really all you are worth? No, certainly not. You are a person. You might be tall, fat, funny or miserable. You have personality, characteristics; you are loving and loveable. And although some people may not think all that much of you, to God you are invaluable.

He loves you as if you were the only person on this earth. He would like you to love him — but he won't force you to. You must choose. And if you choose to love him, life will become a great adventure. And the end of that adventure is not death, but everlasting life, which is what Easter is all about.

Plants wanted

As you will have heard, Bekesbourne Church will again be mounting a Flower Festival this year, over the bank holiday weekend of 24th - 26th May.

We plan to run a plant stall over these three days and would welcome any contributions of bedding plants, rooted cuttings, herbaceous roots . . . in fact, anything which will grow! So — pass the word around amongst your gardening friends and don't throw away those surplus seedlings or extra tomato plants. Please let us have them. We will supply seed trays if needed (or return your own if marked).

It would be best if you were able to keep your plants until the middle of May, but we are happy to take them over earlier if necessary.

*Jane and David Millyard
School House, Bekesbourne*

Patricxbourne Parish Meeting

The annual assembly of the Patricxbourne Parish Meeting will be held on Monday, 14th April, 1986 at 8pm in the Old Vicarage, Patricxbourne (by kind permission of Dr. and Mrs. Pratt). The agenda consists of 1. the election of a chairman for the ensuing year, 2. approval of the Parish Meeting Accounts, 3. any other business.

J. Martin, Acting Clerk

The Church of England Children's Society

Bridge Representative.

For many years Miss F.V.B. Mason has kept us all alert to the existence and activities of The Church of England Children's Society and on the society's behalf has organized fund-raising events in Bridge with great success. Now she feels the time has come to stand down in favour of someone younger, so in thanking her for the good work she has done for the society and for us I am glad to announce that the new Children's Society representative is Mrs. Ann Medhurst, 1 Park View, Mill Lane. We offer Ann our prayers and support in this new stage of the society's work here.

Thanksgiving

If anyone would tell you the shortest, surest way to all happiness and all perfection, he must tell you to make a rule to yourself, to thank and praise God for everything that happens to you. For it is certain that whatever seeming calamity happens to you, if you thank and praise God for it, you turn it into a blessing. Could you therefore work miracles, you could not do more for yourself, than by this thankful spirit, for it heals with a word speaking, and turns all that it touches into happiness.

And although this be the highest temper that you can aim at, though it be the noblest sacrifice that the greatest saint can offer unto God, yet it is not tied to any time, or place or great occasion, but is always in your power, and may be the exercise of every day. For the common events of every day are sufficient to discover and exercise this temper, and may plainly show you how far you are governed in all your actions by this thankful spirit.

WILLIAM LAW (1686 - 1761)

“Ecumenism has been an impulse in every generation, for even the most broken body knows about the wholeness it is meant to enjoy.”

— *Displayed in the entrance to the
World Council of Churches
Headquarters in Geneva*



SPAN

in the Deanery of East Bridge

An article on SPAN in our October 1985 parish magazine *On The Nail* intimated that this new concept of Christian Fellowship, 'spanning' across parish boundaries, was conceived during the *Framework For Faith* course in early 1985. It was the general feeling and desire that we should continue to promote the genuine companionship and co-operation enjoyed by the then participating group members. The idea blossomed under the able guidance of the Revd. Peter Brownbridge, a Non-Stipendiary Ministry who serves in this deanery, and an inaugural Eucharist, at which the Bishop of Dover officiated, was held at Aylesham Church on 11th December, 1985, to promote its inception.

There are currently four SPAN groups, each comprising approximately eight members, which meet monthly either on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday evenings according to the wishes of each group; the fourth group meets on Wednesday afternoons for those who find this more convenient. To date each group has met on at least two occasions. The only guidance given to each group is indicated by the mnemonic which gives us the name SPAN. S = Study, P = Prayer, A = Action, N = 'Ncouragement. Meetings normally commence with a simple meal, digested with lively conversation. Afterwards the remaining format of the meeting follows members' dictates. In these early, formative meetings of the independent groups it will be interesting to see if any common pattern of development will emerge. Certain evenings could be devoted to the enjoyment of music, poetry or prose, as a main theme. Other themes will undoubtedly evolve with the development of SPAN.

The long-term success of SPAN depends on an active interest being created and maintained in each of the parishes of our deanery. With the success so far achieved, the proven venture could rapidly spread to much wider fields. You are warmly invited, therefore, to consider joining us, thereby allowing the number of groups to expand. So, if you would like to join SPAN, or if you wish to learn more about it, please speak to the Vicar, or myself, or a member of SPAN known to you, and we will try to help you.

D.R. Hill



Bridge Parish Council

Several residents attended the Parish Council meeting on Thursday the 13th March. The Council first discussed arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting on the 24th April. The main part of the evening would be an introductory talk by Sergeant J. Broadbent, the Crime Prevention Officer, on Neighbourhood Watch Schemes followed by a film illustrating a successful scheme run over in Chestfield, with time for questions and discussion afterwards.

Recreation Ground

Cllr. Mrs. Margaret Jones reported that one of the sycamore trees in the Recreation Ground, situated by the path bordering the new sheltered housing development at Riverside Close and covered by a Tree Preservation Order, had been drilled with holes and a fluid, thought to be the poison SPK, poured into it. She confirmed that both the Police and the Conservation Department at the City Council had been informed. Members expressed their grave concern at this act which was seen to be one of wilful damage and not just vandalism and asked that the matter be given full publicity in the local press.

Streets and Footways

Cllr. Mrs. Jones was to carry out an inspection of the streets and footways in the village now that the worst weather was over. The Clerk reported that a 'No Motorcycles' sign would shortly be erected by the KCC at the Patricbourne Road entrance to the Recreation Ground.

Village Hall

Cllr. Greenaway reported a break-in at the Village Hall on the evening of the 21st February when the panic bars on the back door had been damaged (and subsequently repaired by him) and the invalid chair removed and left outside.

Trees in Your Village and Best Kept Village competitions

The Parish Council decided to enter both the 'Trees in Your Village' and 'Best Kept Village' competitions this year. Mr. W. Johnson of 42 Bridge Down has volunteered to help organise the village's entry in the 'Best Kept Village' competition and he will be joined on the Council side by Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin who agreed to co-ordinate the entry.

Planning

The Council had no observations to make on the applications before them and noted that planning permission had been granted for the change of use from residential to home for the elderly, The Old School House, Patricbourne Road. They were however, strongly opposed to an outline application for two detached houses on land at The New Close Old People's Home, being of the opinion that, as a matter of planning principle, the whole site was totally unsuitable for any private dwellings within the complex of a school and an old people's home. They would therefore make strong representation both to the City Council and Kent County Council, who were making the application, as well as to Mr. L. Shirley, the local County Councillor.

It was also reported at the meeting that the Blood Transfusion Unit would again be in Bridge, this time on Tuesday, 22nd of April, and that the young people of the village were still interested in setting up a youth club, if they could only get adults to help them run it.

The next meeting is on Thursday, 10th April at 7.30pm, as usual in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K.A. Walder, Clerk

Note: Next regular meeting Thursday, 10th April.
Annual Parish Meeting Thursday, 24th April.

The Power of the Ordinary

by the Revd. M. Peter Taylor

By the time you read this it probably will have happened and you will have missed it. I am talking about a concert given by a Christian group called Lovelight in the Methodist Church at Canterbury (7.30pm, 4th April). If you read this before it happens, then why not come along?

Just over a year ago, Sharon and I went over to Dover to hear a local group perform in the Town Hall. We were rather disappointed with this group, but to our joy and delight Lovelight were also performing. They struck a chord with us, and they seemed to be just right to invite for a concert.

Sharon and I wondered what was it about this group that attracted us to them. Firstly, they were not noisy, which is pleasant for the ears. Secondly, they performed very professionally, with a varied style of music. Thirdly, they obviously enjoyed their music and had a natural type of humour. Finally, they appeared to be quite ordinary Christians.

This last observation surprised me. I thought that to challenge others they would need somehow to be different, special, with unusual experiences that would urge others to follow their example. But no, they were ordinary Christians with ordinary upbringings and lives. And we felt that it was this ordinariness that in the end would speak more loudly to others than any hint of a superior life which we could not hope to match. After all, a person who is 'too good' only makes me feel small, and that does me no good.

This made me realise that God values an ordinary Christian (that most of us are) just as much as those saints and martyrs of the past or present, if not more, in some odd sort of way.

'Fish' News

The 'Fish' Scheme AGM will be held in Bridge Methodist Church on Wednesday, 16th April at 7.45pm. All residents of our four villages are invited to come and discuss the workings of the scheme and suggest improvements. We are particularly anxious for your ideas about improving the transport scheme.

The Blossom Tour will be on Wednesday, 7th May. The coach leaves Western Avenue (opposite Green Court) at 2pm. Please let me know if you would like to join us, and if you need transport to the coach. The inclusive charge will be £2.50.

The 'Fish' Wheelchair is now in working order and can be borrowed for outings.

The April Coffee Pop-In is on Wednesday the 9th, usual times and place.

Joan Warren, 830233

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Mrs. Russell	6th April	Mrs. Russell
Mrs. Grey	13th April	Mrs. Gillanders
Mrs. Beckett	20th April	Mrs. Beckett
Mrs. Smith	27th April	.....	Mrs. Smith

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

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

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

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

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr. M. Miles, 7 The Precincts, Canterbury CT1 2EE (462947)

Organist (Patricbourne): Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriority, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD (462695)

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. J. 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. H.P.M. Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830472)

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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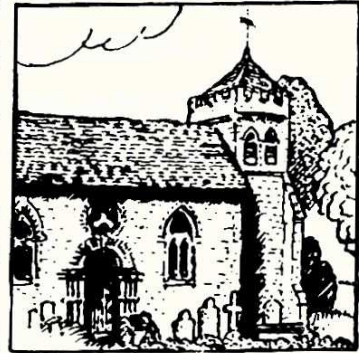
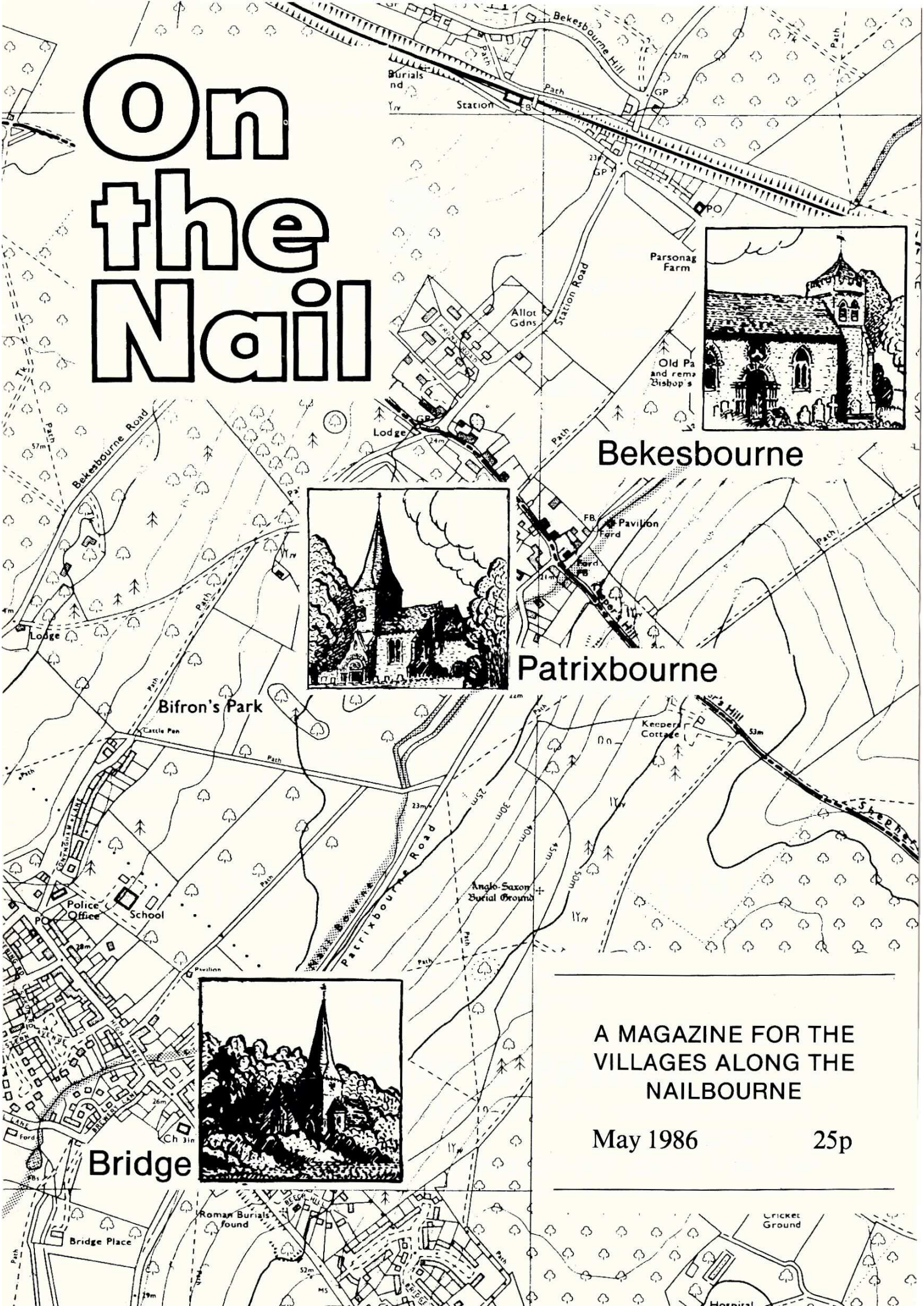
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patrixbourne



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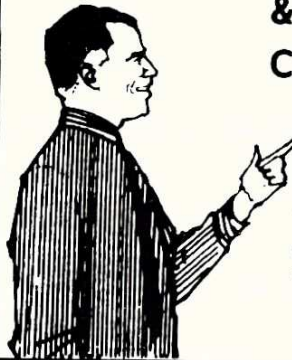
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Sunday Worship in May

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

4th:

11am Family Service
6.30 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
No Evensong here

9am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

(Preacher:
The Archdeacon)

1st June:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *4th*, Dr. J. Butler, Ph.D. *11th*, Holy Communion, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *18th*, Chapel Anniversary, The Revd. Canon J.W. Packer. *25th*, Mr. W.E. Ingall. (N.B. The Chapel Anniversary continues on Tuesday, 20th at 7.30pm, when the preacher will be Mrs. M.R. Brice, B.A.)

Weekday Worship: Holy Communion each Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (ASB Rite A) at 7.30am in St. Peter's, Bridge and on the first Wednesday in the Common Room, Churchill House at 10.15am. This month only, no Friday celebrations on the 9th and 30th due to Eucharists the previous evenings, on the 8th to celebrate Ascension Day and on the 29th, Corpus Christi, both at 7.30pm and according to the Alternative Service Book Rite A. A short, informal act of worship is held each Wednesday at 2.30pm in The New Close.

Please note: Evensong on the 25th is at St. Peter's, Bekesbourne, as part of the Flower Festival. This means there will not be Matins that morning or Evensong at Bridge. The preacher at Evensong is The Venerable John Simpson, Archdeacon of Canterbury, who pays his first visit to Bekesbourne.

For your diary and prayer list

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

Bridge Methodist Church Coffee Morning and Sale from 10.30am
Health and Healing Prayer Group, Bridge Church 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm

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

4th **Fifth Sunday after Easter: Rogation Sunday**

Weather permitting the Family Service will include a Rogation Procession to the Recreation Ground for a blessing of the land.

- BBC Radio Kent* visits Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne on the radio
- 5th *Rogation Day*
- 6th *Rogation Day*
East Bridge Deanery Synod meets at Ash. Pray for Clive Barlow, Vicar of Ash who will be admitted as our new Rural Dean.
- 7th *Rogation Day*
'Fish' Scheme Blossom Tour from 2pm.
- 8th **Ascension Day** will be celebrated at an evening Eucharist (Rite A) in St. Peter's, Bridge.
- 10th Women's Institute Open Day, Bridge Village Hall, 10.30 - 3.30.
- 11th **Sunday after Ascension Day**
- 12th Start of Christian Aid Week. Please give generously.
- 14th **St. Matthias the Apostle**
'Fish' Scheme Coffee Pop-In
- 15th Health and Healing Prayer Group, Bridge Church, 7pm.
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm
- 17th Bridge School PTA Jumble Sale, Village Hall, 10am
- 18th **Pentecost: Whit Sunday**
- 19th *St. Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, 988*
- 20th Bridge & Patrixbourne WI Resolution Meeting, 7pm
- 22nd Canterbury Samaritans Fund-raising Day, 18 Conyngham Lane
- 24th *John and Charles Wesley, Priests, Poets, Teachers, 1791, 1788*
Bekesbourne Flower Festival till Monday inclusive.
- 25th **Trinity Sunday**
See Calendar on p.4 for service changes
- 26th *St. Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury, 605*
- 29th **Corpus Christi Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of the Holy Communion.** Evening Eucharist (Rite A) at Bridge, 7.30pm
- 31st. *Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth.* See St. Luke 1. 39-56



Accounting for it

For the vast majority a church service and a collection are inseparable! Churches are always hard up so whenever we go to church we expect to part with a little (too often it *is* a little) money. When our parishes went over to Christian Stewardship and, therefore, planned giving, it took us a long time to get used to the idea that we could attend church and not put some cash in the collection plate, also that any offering we made had to be given up on arrival.

The need for some form of cash flow should not come as a surprise to anyone, and if you *do* wonder why the Church needs money then read the Treasurer's very full report that follows this article. Yet church collections are nothing new. Look at the last paragraph of Doug's report and you will see a quotation from the New Testament which deals with this very thing. Mind you, in those far off days they were not concerned with maintaining ancient buildings or paying the diocesan quota, as you will discover if you take the trouble to read the whole of 2 Corinthians chapter 9. But isolated church

communities, who felt they owed their very existence to the original church in Jerusalem, when they saw it in difficulties rushed to its aid. The Christians in the holy city were suffering hardships because of their faith and the Church in Corinth took a collection in order to relieve them. It was a loving gift made to the saints (i.e. the holy people, the Christians) in Jerusalem, and no doubt it was of tremendous assistance to them in their beleaguered state.

Over the centuries churches have continued to make collections, though not necessarily at every service. For a long time it was called 'alms' and the money collected was given to the poor, of whom there were generally plenty. Nowadays we have buildings to support, heat and light, a contribution to make to central funds (a sizeable one, too, as you will see) and responsibilities, like our earliest ancestors, to struggling Christians and missions overseas. The need is great, which is why collections figure largely in our church life, whether as taken at services or given in envelopes or by deed of covenant, and we make no apologies for asking our membership to make a regular and a realistic donation to our funds. The original call on the faithful's money still applies, for great needs exist outside our immediate neighbourhood. The moral is obvious. The more we give as individuals the more we can give as a church, which is what we are in duty bound to do.

Now read Doug's excellent report and see what transpires for you!

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE PCC TREASURER'S REPORT

The following report was presented to the Annual Church Meeting and refers to the year ending 31st December, 1985

In 1985 revenue from 'covenant' income, together with the associated reclaimed income tax, peaked in this second of the current four year phase of our Christian Stewardship. As a result the total of Planned Giving increased from £8,818 (1984 £8,208), which was £610 greater than the previous year. Having met the Diocesan Quota of £7,405 (1984 £7,157) in full and all other major and general revenue expenditure, there was a surplus of £462 (1984 £183), £300 (1984 nil) of which was transferred to General Reserve and the balance of £162 to Revenue Reserve (1984 £183).

I would observe that in achieving this moderately successful result, we have had to rely heavily on the splendid results of the Summer Fête and Christmas Market, which together contributed £1,356 (1984 £1,225) towards our total income. With regard to the £529 (1984 £482) donated to the missionary work of the Church, £277 (1984 £277) arose from special collections and £252 (1984 £205) as our direct giving.

Future prospects

The look ahead, however, does not make such pleasant reading, as the forecast for 1986 is of some concern. Regarding income in 1986, the best possible position would be to maintain it at least at current levels, but this is unlikely to happen without special measures, due to natural wastage in covenant numbers and the outcome of the reduction in the standard rate of income tax introduced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his recent budget, whereby we shall suffer a reduction of income tax we reclaim on covenant income. Expenditure will undoubtedly rise considerably through inflation; we are already faced with certain known increases—an extra £442 on the Quota and a possible increase of up to £200 on insurance premiums. Based

on these current estimates, which assume contributions from the Summer Fête and Christmas Market of at least the same amounts as in 1985, and Planned Giving continuing at 1985 levels, the best possible forecast would be a 'break-even' in 1986, and even if we achieved this we should only be setting aside £50 to missions, which as an expression of our giving in a parish of this size, you will readily appreciate, could hardly be regarded as a worthy sum. Furthermore there would be nothing available to augment our General Reserve Fund. This problematic forecast could be made more tenable, in fact it could be transformed, by an increase in covenant income (through existing or new covenants) and other freewill giving in our fight against increased costs and in combating the problems of deterioration of the fabric of our two churches.

A possible remedy

No doubt you will all be concerned about these pressing needs and accordingly I invite those who are able actively to express their concern by greater giving, seriously to consider up-dating their current covenants (in spite of the fact that their promised term of years has not expired) or by entering into a covenant if they have no such arrangement at present. For those who, after due consideration, wish to take this course of action, I shall be glad to make the necessary arrangements if they will kindly advise me of their intentions.

In conclusion I am mindful of the words in 2 Corinthians 9 v.7: "Each man shall give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver".

Douglas R. Hill, Hon. Treasurer

Bridge Summer Fête — 14th June, 1986

This year's combined School and Church Summer Fête is almost upon us and preparations gather momentum. Readers' help is sought in the following ways in order to make a success of this great village occasion.

Handicrafts

A Handicrafts stall is being prepared, to which end an appeal is being made for materials such as cotton, remnants and especially knitting wool. Also we are asking for volunteers to make items for sale on the handicrafts stall. The person to contact with your offers is Jane Shillinglaw (Tel: 830795).

Saleable Articles

Could we also beg for contributions to the other stalls, i.e. bottles (full), good quality groceries, fancy gifts or good quality items for the White Elephant stall? We also have a Best Offers Stall for special items of a more expensive nature. Your assistance in stocking these stalls is keenly sought and we shall be most grateful for contributions of any kind to ensure a profitable, not to say enjoyable, afternoon.

Collection Points

Your donation as above will be welcomed at either Frank Whitten's office, 29 High Street during office hours, or after hours across the road at Alexandra House.

Joys and Sorrows

Holy Baptism was administered to **Robert Benjamin Pryce**, 52 Bridge Down on 23rd March at St. Peter's, Bridge by the Revd. Peter Geldard, a family friend who also represents the clergy of Canterbury Diocese on the General Synod. He is secretary of the Church Union. The vicar christened **Craig Leslie Deveson**, 2 Cobham Court Cottages in Bekesbourne Church on Easter Day. Bridge Church was the venue for the marriage of **Michele Ann Hollingsbee** to **David Charles Anderson** on 12th April.

The vicar officiated at the cremation of **Walter Leslie Bolton**, 21 Union Road on 16th April at Barham Crematorium. Our sympathy to Mrs. Bolton in her sad and unexpected loss.

* * *

Mrs. Gladys Flynn, who has been ill all this year and has only been able to attend church once, now feels lots better and wishes me to convey her deep thanks to the many who have called on her, taken gifts and — most importantly — given their love and prayers.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Bridge Methodist Church's annual Coffee Morning and Sale is in the church on Thursday, 1st May from 10.30 till 12 noon. Proceeds this year will be shared with the Samaritans.

* * *

Further to the Canterbury Samaritans, who are facing a cash crisis, "please come along to 18 Conyngham Lane on Thursday, 22nd May and have a cup of coffee between 10 and 12 in the morning, or a cup of tea between 2 and 4pm. There will be a Bring & Buy Stall and a Raffle".

M.E.J.

* * *

The WI has an Open Day on Saturday, 10th May from 10.30am till 3.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. Refreshments will be served all day and there will be craft exhibitions, stalls and a raffle. Proceeds to Denman College and Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths.

* * *

Bridge Folk Dance Group will be meeting on 1st and 15th May at 8pm in the Village Hall. Alf Matthews is our caller and a warm welcome is given to new dancers.

J.H.

* * *

The School PTA is holding a Morning Jumble Sale in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday, 10th May, commencing at 10am. Anyone with any jumble for collection please contact Tony Walder (830761) or Kate Whitten (830748). The Village Hall will be open from 8.30am on the morning of the sale and we would be pleased to receive any jumble, especially household items.

K.W.

* * *

The A.G.M. of the Nailbourne Horticultural Society will be held on Thursday 1st May at 8pm in The Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K.A.W.

Nijera Kori

This is the name of *Christian Aid's* partner in Sandwip, a small island in the Bangladesh delta and it means, "We help ourselves". Poverty there means living on around 30p a day for a whole family. It means no drinking water for miles and no health facilities for one's family. It means contending with land erosion and the dreadful fear of a cyclone such as the ones which hit the area in May and October last year.

Nijera Kori set to work to give immediate food assistance, to get the people some fresh water, to provide shelter to replace the homes which had been destroyed, to rebuild the embankment breaches and to provide seeds for the farmers and nets for the fishermen. *Christian Aid* gave £30,000 towards these self-help efforts. This example sums up much of the philosophy behind *Christian Aid's* aim to 'Change Lives' by providing support for the people in need all over the world, whose determination to help themselves survives the most appalling disasters.

While, sadly, emergency aid is often still needed many relief agencies, including *Christian Aid*, realise that the most effective way of helping to change lives is by providing the money for local self-help groups and for long-term agricultural and medical supplies. *Christian Aid Week* (May 12-17) gives each one of us an opportunity to share in this practical help. Please be generous when our collectors call.

Muriel Packer

Creator and Lord of this good earth
Have mercy on your people everywhere.
Reconcile all who are divided
In your world.
Strengthen those who are poor and weak;
Teach those who are rich and powerful;
In loneliness and isolation give comfort and hope;
And help us all to know that you are
Never far from us.

All that I can do to share in your healing work
Inspire and give me courage to
Discern.

Bridge Churchyard

By this month Spring will hopefully have crept up on us and so the first churchyard clean-up of the year is planned for Saturday, 10th May starting at 10am. Please come along and join us in this 'spring-clean', with whatever implements you can muster.

A. Jackson

Bekesbourne Flower Festival 24 - 26 May

Details of this year's Bekesbourne Flower Festival appear elsewhere in this issue, but we hope for a successful three days in which to welcome visitors from near and far.

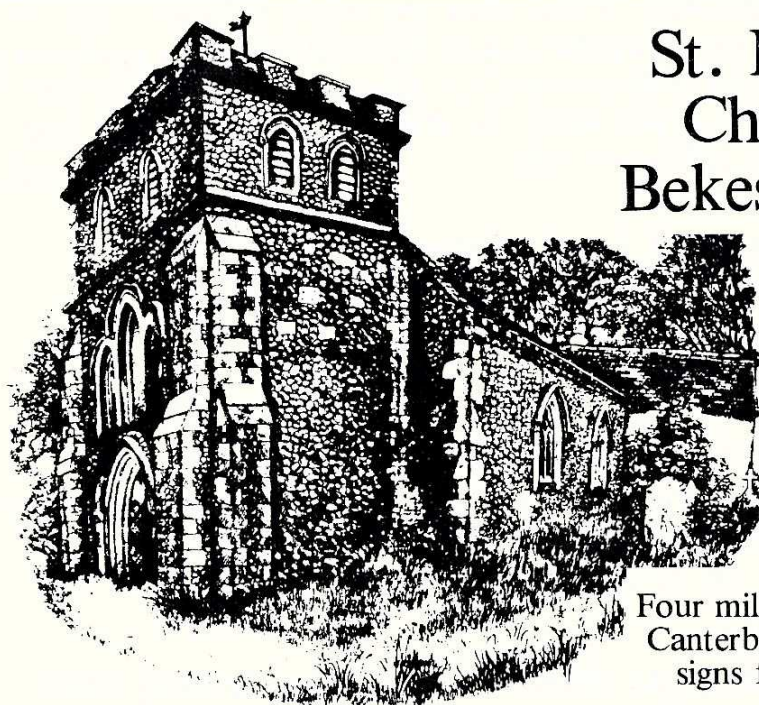
Christine Ash wishes to involve all Bekesbourne Flower Ladies in the mammoth task of creating the displays and would be glad of your help in the preceding week. "If this is not possible perhaps your time could be offered over the weekend to man the church. Any help in tidying the churchyard prior to this weekend would also be gratefully received. Offers of assistance to 830214 or any member of the PCC."

* * *

"A reminder to everyone that we will be running a plant stall at the Bekesbourne Flower Festival. Please let us have any unwanted bedding plants, herbaceous roots, seedlings, cuttings, etc.

"These can be left at our house from about mid-May, delivered to the church during the festival or collected if you contact us. Please make sure all plants are clearly labelled and any seed-trays marked if you want them returned. We can supply seed-trays if you need them."

Jane & David Millyard, School House, Bekesbourne



St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

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1986 FLOWER FESTIVAL

Saturday May 24th — 10am - 7pm

Sunday May 25th — 10am - 6pm

Monday May 26th — 10am - 7pm

- Historic church with beautiful flowers
- Tea/Coffee and Refreshments
- Free parking and admission — all welcome
- Stalls
- Organ music

Evensong on Sunday 25th at 6.30pm: preacher; The Archdeacon



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday the 10th April.

Recreation Ground Concerning the damaged tree covered by the Tree Preservation Order, Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young stated she had received advice on remedial action to take which had subsequently been approved by the representative from Savills, the agents for the Conyngham Estate, when she and Cllr. John Anderson had met him at the site. He had also confirmed that in the unlikely event of the tree dying, Savills would bear the responsibility of removing it and clearing the area and would, moreover, replace it with two new trees. Cllr. Ken Greenaway had carried out the remedial action suggested and the plugged holes had then been painted with arbrex by Cllr. Mrs. Young. The Council felt that this prompt action would show the person or persons responsible for the damage that the Parish Council cared deeply about such matters. Members gave a vote of thanks to all three Councillors for the action they took. The Clerk was to arrange for the Recreation Ground to be chain-harrowed before the Kent County Council carried out the first cut of the season and Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin was to arrange a meeting with the Football Clubs to discuss arrangements for next season and plans for the erection of the new pavilion.

Streets and Footways Cllr. Mrs. Margaret Jones reported that she had almost completed the inspection of the roads and footways in the Parish, which she considered not to be in as bad a condition as last year. The Clerk was to write to the Gas Board concerning the condition of the grass verge on the corner of the High Street and Conyngham Lane, which the contractors responsible for laying the new gas main had used for storing their equipment; to ask Canterbury City Council to re-erect the street sign for Patixbourne Road and to remove the rubbish sacks

dumped on Bridge Hill; and also to contact the Footpaths Officer at the City Council about the condition of certain stiles in the area. It was noted that the repairs to the bus shelter opposite Higham Lane had been carried out.

Beech Tree, The New Close Cllr. Mrs. Young informed the Council that she had only recently noticed on the side of the beech tree in front of The New Close a large scar with a hole full of water which required urgent remedial assistance to prevent the tree from rotting away. Cllr. Anderson had written to the relevant department of the County Council to request them to carry out the work as a matter of urgency and the Clerk was asked to chase up their reply.

'Best Kept Village' Competition The Council felt that there should be included in the letter to be sent out to the various organisations asking for their help in keeping a section of the village tidy, an invitation for a representative from each organisation to come along to the Annual Parish Meeting when this matter was to be discussed. The Clerk was to ask the City Council to empty the litter bins in the village regularly and to make enquiries about the permanency of the skip parked on Town Hill.

Planning Cllr. Tim Hoare reported that the City Council had granted planning permission for the change of use from lounge to shop and installation of new shop front at 47 High Street and for an extension to provide porch, W.C. and extension to garage at 42 Union Road, whilst they had refused permission for a change of use to include retail wine sales at the premises of Whiclar Wines in Mill Lane.

The next meeting, which is in fact the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council when officers are elected for the ensuing year, will be held on Thursday, 8th May at the usual time of 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K.A. Walder, Clerk

Bridge Fire Brigade

Information is sought about this local brigade, as sadly little information has been recorded. Can you help in any way?

The Bridge Fire Brigade was founded in 1878 and kept its horse-drawn manually-operated pump in premises off Brewery Lane. Later the brigade moved to the High Street.

About 1927 Count Zboroski of Highland Court (then Higham) recognizing the important work of the brigade, donated the first motorized fire engine — a Pilain.

In 1937 the brigade acquired a new Bedford engine at a cost of £223. A new Merryweather pump capable of delivering 350 gallons per minute was also acquired.

The names of local village volunteers included Captain Chapman and Officers Gilbert (village blacksmith?), Edwards, Page, Banks, Arter, Carpenter, Foord, Friend, Crouch, Wills, Harold Decent (of Union Road), John Bishop (of Mill Terrace), Hogben, Hawkins and Down. There must have been others!

Information regarding the brigade, its volunteers and the fires attended in the locality is much needed as the brigade ceased to exist as a separate unit in 1956 when operations were transferred to Canterbury. Very few records exist. If you can help please contact Ian Taylor, 3 Whitelocks Close, Kingston (830039).

I.T.

'Fish' News

The **Blossom Tour** will be on Wednesday, 7th May, leaving Western Avenue at 2pm. Although all the seats have now been booked we can take a few more names in reserve, in case anyone has to drop out at the last minute.

Our **Annual Coffee Morning** will be in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday, 7th June from 10am to 12 noon. Our garden stall is always very popular — please reserve any surplus bedding plants, rooted cuttings, house plants and garden tools for us to sell for our fund. Collection can be arranged.

The **May Coffee Pop-In** will be on Wednesday, 14th May in the Village Hall at the usual time.

Joan Warren, 830233

Cleaning **ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BEKESBOURNE** *Flowers*

.....	4th May	.....	Mrs. Clifford
Mrs. Hogben	11th May	.....	Mrs. Jackson
Mrs. Watson	18th May	.....	Mrs. Ash
24th-26th May — Flower Festival			

A little boy who never managed to be on time was very impressed by the Vicar's address on the Power of Prayer.

The next day as he was hurrying to school he began to repeat, "Please God, don't let me be late; please God, don't let me be late again".

At that moment he tripped and fell on his face in a puddle.

As he got up and wiped the mud from his eyes he said: "Thank you, Lord — but there was no need to push".

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

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens: Mr. J.J. Williamson, Beechmount, Conyngham Lane, Bridge CT4 5JX (830399)

Mr. S.R. Pike, 12 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JY (830708)

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

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr. M. Miles, 7 The Precincts, Canterbury CT1 2EE (462947)

Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriority, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD (462695)

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

Mr. N.H. Cruse, 9 Meadow Close, Herne Bay CT6 6NN (361335)

Hon Secretary: Mr. J. 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. H.P.M. Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830472)

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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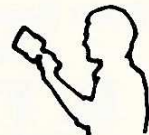
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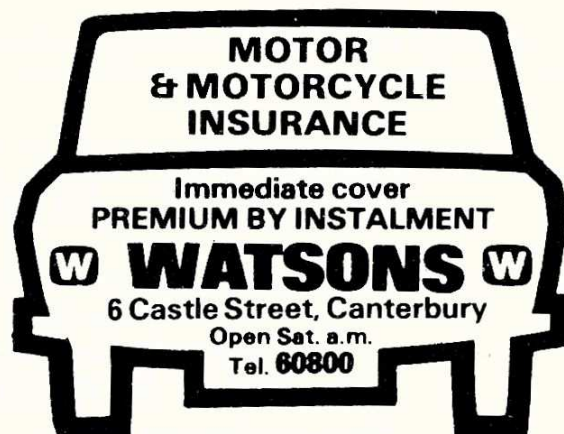
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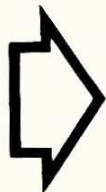
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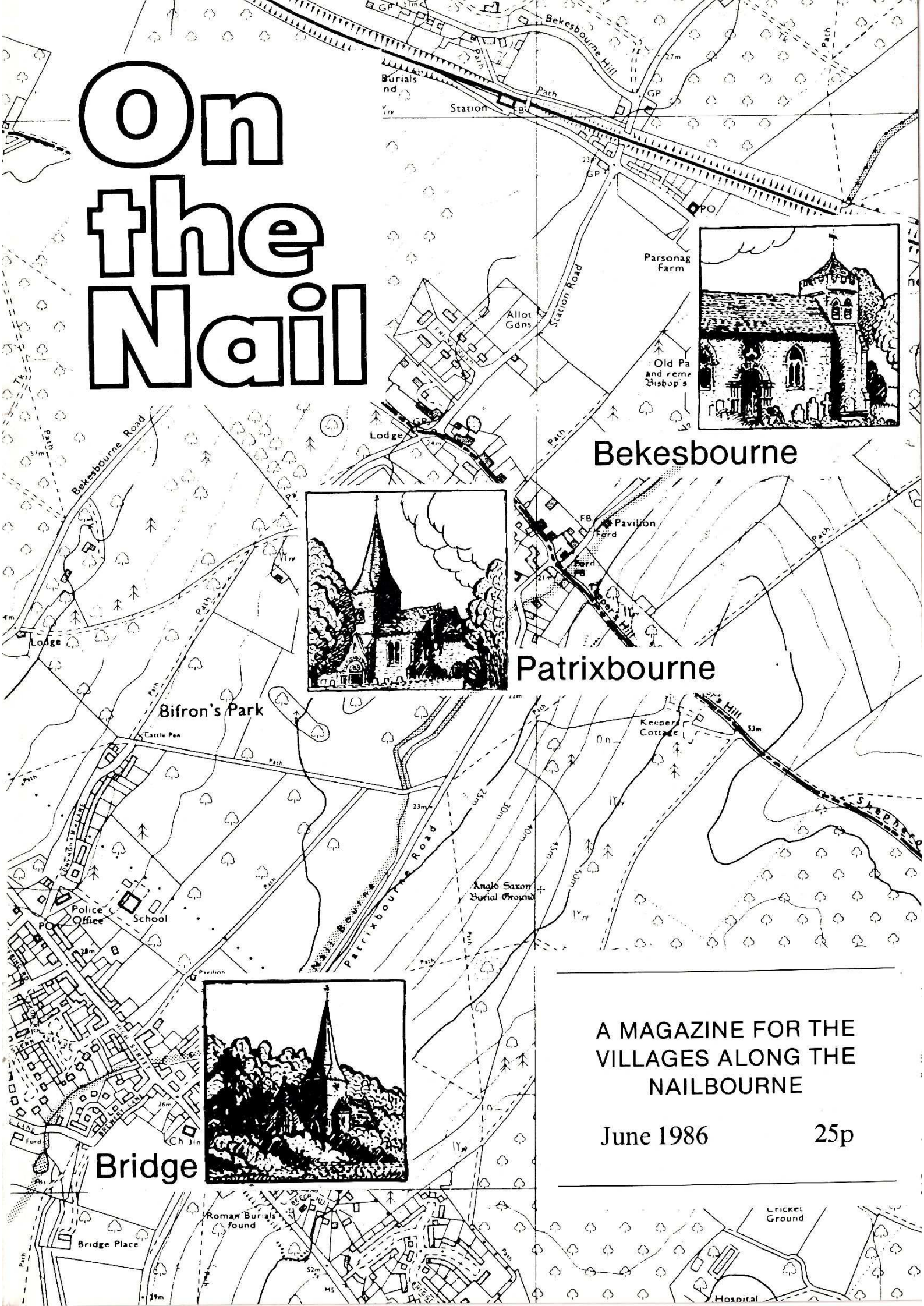
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patricbourne



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June 1986

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Sunday Worship in June

Bridge

Patrixbourne

Bekesbourne

1st:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

8th:

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

8am Holy Communion

15th:

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

22nd:

8am Holy Communion 11am Matins
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion
(Canon J.W. Packer)

29th:

6.30pm Patronal Festival
Eucharist

8am Holy Communion

11am Patronal Festival
Eucharist

6th July:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

Since this year St. Peter's Day falls on a Sunday and in order that Bridge and Bekesbourne Churches can keep their Patronal Festival in style a re-adjustment has been made in the regular service scheme, as you will see above.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *1st*, The Revd. John Turner, B.A. *8th*, Miss K. Knight. *15th*, Mrs. Hazel Colyer. *22nd*, Holy Communion, The Revd. T. Mervyn Willshaw, M.A., B.D. *29th*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D.

Weekdays: Holy Communion at Bridge every Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday at 7.30am, and at Churchill House on the first Wednesday at 10.15am. The New Close Service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

For your diary and prayer list

1st First Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 2

Bridge's Family Service at 11am will be a special eucharist with Holy Baptism. We believe it right periodically to use the wider Church's order for family worship and hope families will not be deterred just because members may not be confirmed.

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

7th Guides Coffee Morning and Garage Sale (See page 9)

'Fish' Scheme Annual Coffee Morning, Village Hall, 10am - 12 noon

8th Second Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 3

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

10th Pray for the clergy of this Deanery who meet in chapter this morning

11th St. Barnabas the Apostle

- 12th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
 14th **Bridge Village Fête**
 Pray for Susan Welch and Charles Cooper on their wedding day.
 15th **Third Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 4**
 17th Bridge with Patrixbourne WI, Village Hall, 7pm
 20th Junior Church Bring & Buy, 12 High Street, 1.30 - 3.30pm
 21st Pray for Christopher Burge and Rosina Martins to marry at Patrix-
 bourne.
 22nd **Fourth Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 5**
 24th **Birth of St. John the Baptist**
 28th *St. Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, Martyr, c.200*
 29th **St. Peter the Apostle**, Patron Saint of Bridge and Bekesbourne

Charles Addison Potter



Charles A. Potter

The death of Charles Potter at the age of 79 and after a long illness has left the entire community that much poorer, and Patrixbourne and Bridge Churches have lost their leading member and supporter. On The Nail pays tribute to a true churchman and a perfect gentleman by means of an appreciation from one of his oldest friends and extracts from the address at the Service of Thanksgiving on 14th May at Bridge.

One day during the war when I was coming home from Barham a very tall figure in khaki stopped me at the foot of Bonnybush Hill and asked if I could give him a lift to Bridge. This was my first meeting with Charles Potter. After the war he came to Field House, where Mrs. Money used to live. Our two families grew up together and he became one of my closest friends. He had an excellent fruit farm at Challock and was one of the founders of East Kent Packers. My wife and daughters have warm memories of cherry picnics which always finished with a tractor ride around the orchards. At Cambridge he rowed for Trinity Hall and I can imagine him pulling the boat along with total commitment. Later he coached the crew and I can see him whirling along the towpath shouting instructions which must have galvanized them into action. In sport he gave everything he had got to the task in hand. At tennis his fierce first service was an ace when it got in, which it did not always do. At squash he played himself to a standstill, and at croquet he was a model of concentration. In public affairs he was equally dedicated. For many years he served as a churchwarden and member of the P.C.C. and was treasurer to the P.C.C. and to the East Bridge Deanery Synod, and was chairman of the Diocesan Advisory Committee. I am not a committee man, so I have to rely on what others tell me, but I am assured that he delighted in committees and used to try to instruct the P.C.C. on economics, with the aid of a blackboard. At social gatherings he always stood out among the crowd and I would

gravitate towards him to enjoy his conversation. He would bend his head slightly as he was so tall and look at you with smiling eyes. Alas, in his last illness that smile was the only means of communication left to him. When I visited him the day before he died he tried desperately to say something to me, but he could not do so and he gave a gesture of despair with his good hand. As I got to the door and turned to wave goodbye he fixed me with that intense smile. I can hear Charles laughing as I break into Latin. He was *integer vitae scelerisque purus*, as Horace put it, 'a man of upright life unstained by guilt', who would walk the world unharmed.

His family have lost a much-loved husband, father and grandfather, my wife and I have lost a very good friend, and we are all the poorer since he has gone away.

Roger Hunter

Before everything else Charles was a family man, and it is understandable that of all the loves of his life Diana, the children and later the grandchildren too should occupy pride of place.

Many would wish to honour the professional man whose entire working life was devoted to the farming world, and whose contribution to farming in Kent is guaranteed a place in the annals of the county's agricultural history. In conjunction with his farming he made time to serve the wider community as a member of the then Ashford Rural District Council, on which he sat for many years, . . . an interest he was to continue in rather smaller measure when he occupied the chair at the annual assemblies of the Patricbourne Parish Meeting.

From this emerges a picture of a model citizen who delighted to be of service to others, who had worked out his priorities in life and stuck rigidly to them; a country gentleman, in the best sense of that phrase, who justifiably earned the respect and admiration of his peers, a forthright though feeling person who was scrupulously fair in his dealings, a concerned if undemonstrative man who could be stern when the need arose but could twinkle with infectious merriment in lighter moments; a basically serious man who could yet laugh at himself, which is a gift worth having.

Bolstering up his life in the family, on the land and in the council chamber was his sincere Christian commitment . . . so it was understandable with such a grounding that when he retired his desire to be of service should be harnessed to the Church. Thus began his long association with such august bodies as the Diocesan Board of Finance, the Diocesan Synod and the Diocesan Advisory Committee (which he chaired). Later he sat on the Deanery Synod as its treasurer.

But his happiest link was with his local church, and his works for Patricbourne in particular and this whole parish in general were legion. He carried out the duties of churchwarden with a care and precision typical of one of his calibre, and held the purse-strings for twenty-four years as PCC treasurer, a task he fulfilled with aplomb. If anything it was as treasurer that he will be particularly remembered, setting out the accounts each year with obvious relish. At fêtes he would closet himself away in some obscure corner of the school building and was invariably absent from church the next morning while he made a start of counting the takings.

St. Mary's, Patricbourne will long bear the imprint of his influence upon it. Charles knew every inch of that church and involved himself in every aspect of its existence.

But those who thought Charles's religion was all on the surface and to do with money did not know him. He was a true believer and was always ready to enlarge his understanding of the faith. His communion meant a lot to him, especially after the stroke, and I sensed that although the words would not come the prayers were there. He could still speak to his Lord.

Charles Potter was a great man — and I don't believe that is any exaggeration. He has left his mark on so many areas of life that it is hard to single out any one as being more prominent than another. I know it is often said on these occasions, but in this instance it is a truth which all can substantiate, that in Charles we had the privilege of knowing a fine, upright figure of a man, a perfect gentleman, whose like we shall not see again.

* * *

A private funeral at Patrixbourne preceded cremation on 2nd May, Charles's ashes being subsequently laid to rest in St. Mary's Churchyard. Also on 2nd May the ashes of Mrs. **Sjoukje Feitsma-Telenga**, mother of Mrs. Tineke Jackson, were interred in Bridge Churchyard after cremation in her native Holland. Readers will also wish to extend their sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Reg. Harvey, 11 Green Court on the sad death after a very long and painful illness of their daughter Rosemary.

Canterbury Waits at Patrixbourne

The Canterbury Waits are a distinguished group of musicians who concentrate on early music, which they play on authentic instruments of the period. On Saturday, 28th June *The Canterbury Waits* are coming to give a concert in St. Mary's Church, Patrixbourne. Entitled "The Mediaeval Sound" the programme will comprise Italian, German and English music of the 13th and 14th centuries, and in addition the Waits will speak about their instruments. As a further bonus churchwarden John Williamson will give a talk on the church.

This promises to be a thoroughly delightful summer's evening of general appeal, not something purely for the specialist — a musical experience in a perfect setting. In order to meet expenses there will be a charge for admission, payable at the door, of £1.50 for adults and 75p for children. Any money raised in excess will go to the church repair fund. The concert begins at 7.30pm.

Junior Church News

During Lent the children gave up some of their toys (books, games, soft toys, etc.) and on Sunday, 27th April Mrs. Penny Spencer along with Katy and Wendy Spiller, Elizabeth Walder and Louisa Fagg took them along to the children's ward of the Kent & Canterbury Hospital. The sister was very pleased. These toys came from the children themselves — they really entered into Lent very generously. We had six carrier bags full, one very large bear and a doll's cradle.

The children have also been writing letters and drawing pictures to send to Africa. Mrs. Young came along one morning to Junior Church and told us about *Save the Children Fund*. She showed us letters that she had received from the children, so we thought it would be a good idea if the children in

Africa had some letters from us.

P.S.

Do support the Junior Church on 20th June, when they are holding a Bring & Buy, Coffee/Tea Afternoon at 12 High Street, from 1.30 to 3.30pm. There will also be a raffle.

Bridge Neighbourhood Watch

A Neighbourhood Watch Scheme is an arrangement supported by the Police to help combat crime in a given area. It works through information being passed in each direction between police headquarters and every household in the area.

There are two added bonuses from the scheme. First, it encourages everyone to be more aware of any difficulties or emergencies that may arise in our neighbourhood and secondly, some insurance companies will reduce premiums in the area covered by such schemes.

Following the recent Parish Council AGM when the formation of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme was discussed, I am pleased to announce that a meeting of volunteers has taken place and a well-supported scheme has been launched.

Every householder in Bridge will shortly receive details of the scheme and how everyone can gain from the benefits derived from it. They will also receive information and guidance on how to protect self and home.

The police have statistics to prove that wherever a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme is introduced there is a significant reduction in criminal activity.

Please read the information that is sent to you and help to keep crime away from our village.

*Sidney H.R. Roe, Co-ordinator
Bridge Neighbourhood Watch Scheme*

Friends of Kent Churches

Affiliated to the Historic Churches Preservation Trust.

St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne applied to the above Society for help in our Quinquennial survey and repairs which cost some £2,500 and they have generously granted us £250.

This society has been making grants to the county's ancient churches for over twenty years, and whether you are a church goer or not, we feel that everyone appreciates the importance of these lovely buildings in the English countryside. Our P.C.C. is a corporate member, but new private members are much needed. Membership is £2.00 a year and the society organises interesting visits to churches throughout the county. Please help to carry on the work. Enquiries to the Honorary Secretary, Mrs. Edward Raikes, Parsonage Oasts, Yalding, Kent ME18 6HG.

*John Purchase, on behalf
of Friends of Kent Churches*

Bridge N.S.P.C.C. Group

Last year £346 was raised by the Bridge NSPCC Group. We hope to do as well this year and have a stall at The Canterbury Centre, St. Alphege Lane on Saturday, 12th July from 10am to 3pm. The theme of the stall is 'Craft and Cookery'. Anyone wishing to help in any way please contact either Evelyn

Continued on page 9

Andrews (830960) or Irene Roe (830891), and remember the date (12th July) and come along and support us. E.A.

Healthy Ministry

by Revd. M. Peter Taylor

Many ministers today are facing an increasing work-load as the number of ministers decreases. To prevent a large-scale break-down of ministers a number of churches are seeking an alternative by using lay (non-ordained) people in full-time church work.

Some do so because they really want a minister; a lack of ministers means they 'make do' with a lay person. Some others find they cannot afford to pay a minister, so they employ those who are so eager to work for the church that they are prepared to accept even lower wages than ministers. Neither of these reasons is worthy of a church and those who are considering employing a lay person should check their motivation for doing so.

Some lay people find this type of ministry allows them to work full-time yet without having to be ordained. Of course lay people in the church need not draw wages from the church to be useful, for all those who are part of the church have a place in its work, from the young to the old. It is sometimes hard for both congregations and ministers to accept this, for the former are used to doing little (except for some 'keen' ones), the latter are used to doing more than they need.

If, as I believe, God is speaking to us then we would be wise to listen and question our own involvement, for the mental and physical health of our ministers might be at stake. If we do not use ourselves in the church or community then the fault is not God's for failing to give us anything to offer, but ours for failing to accept our responsibilities.

Sponsored Cycle Ride — *Friends of Kent Churches*

Advance notice is given that the Sponsored Cycle Ride will take place on Saturday, 6th September, so get your cycles out and start preparing yourselves. Forms are available from the village organizers, who are Mrs. Gill Harvey, 6 Bridgeford Way, Bridge; Mrs. Sue Pratt, The Old Vicarage, Patricxbourne and Mrs. Christine Ash, Parsonage Farm, Bekesbourne.

Coffee Mornings brewing up

The season for Coffee Mornings would seem to have arrived, and your patronage is sought for the following, which are in chronological order.

Nailbourne Scout Group has a Coffee Morning to raise funds to buy much-needed equipment on Friday, 6th June in Bekesbourne Village Hall from 10am to 12 noon. S.J.D. says, "There will be displays of Osborne Books, Dee Minor Clothes, Lantern Cave Jewellery, Home View products, pottery, pictures, basket-ware, etc. and Oriflame make-up offering free facials. Also there will be the usual bring and buy, cakes and raffle".

* * *

The Friends of **1st Bridge Guides** are holding a Coffee Morning and Garage Sale at 6 Bridgeford Way on Saturday, 7th June from 10am to 12 noon to raise funds to buy camp equipment. As well as the usual stalls there will be a 20% stall in which *you* price the item for sale, 20% goes to the Guides and you keep the rest. Items for sale may be

taken on Friday or in the morning before the sale starts. Contact Gill Harvey (830494) or Maggie Field (830224).

* * *

Running at the same time and on the same date in Bridge Village Hall is the '**Fish**' **Scheme** Annual Coffee Morning — the scheme's one and only fund-raiser. See '*Fish News*' (page 12) for details.

* * *

East Kent Badger Group is holding a Bring & Buy Coffee Morning on Saturday 14th June from 10am to 12 noon at 14 Brewery Lane, by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. D. Pentin. Mrs. Whittaker informs us that the Jumble Sale on 26th April raised £250, for which many thanks.

* * *

Mrs. Pat Wilmshurst of 'Dearnley', Bekesbourne Road, Bridge is having a Coffee Morning with Bring & Buy at her home on Saturday, 21st June from 10am to 12 noon, to raise funds for the **1st Bridge Brownie Pack**. Stalls will include cakes, produce, preserves, gifts and a raffle.

* * *

Finally, on 5th July the **Friends of The New Close** will be holding a Coffee Morning at the home to provide extra amenities and outings for the residents. Gifts for the cakes, produce, grocery and book stalls will be much appreciated and can be collected by ringing Mrs. O. Knight, 830584.



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Bridge Parish Council

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on the 8th May both the Chairman, Cllr. John Hill and the Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Mrs. Anne Young were re-elected for 1986/7, whilst the composition of the various committees and representatives on outside bodies remained the same.

Arising from the minutes of the April meeting, Cllr. Tim Hoare gave an account of the City Council's grounds for objecting to the Kent County Council's application for two detached houses on land at The New Close, Conyngham Lane, and advised that there was no more for the Parish Council to do at present. The Clerk, however, was asked to inform the agents for the Conyngham Estate of the County Council's proposals and of the strong objections both from residents and the Parish and City Council following the Parish Council's request to them to attend urgently to the large scar on the side of the beech tree in front of The New Close.

Annual Parish Meeting. Arising from what was generally considered to have been a successful Meeting, the Chairman reported that he had arranged a further meeting with Sgt. Broadbent for those residents who had indicated their interest in helping to organise a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for Bridge. Also as a result of the Parish Meeting, Mrs. Glue of Riverside Close had volunteered to help with the proposed Youth Club, but it was felt that at least another two adults were still needed to provide a desirable minimum of four supervisors, two being available each session. Any more volunteers?

Recreation Ground. The Council were grateful to Mr. Brian Mummery for periodically rolling and chain-harrowing the ground. It was noted that the mole problem had abated for the time being.

Streets and Footways. Cllr. Mrs. Margaret Jones submitted her report on the condition of the roads and footways which, she advised, were on the whole in reasonable repair. The report was to be

forwarded to the County Council for their attention. Consideration of a request for a review of the parking restrictions in Patricbourne Road was deferred to the next meeting to allow members to look at the length of road in question.

The Council conveyed their thanks to the local constabulary for their combined efforts in repairing the damage done to the Bridge Hill/Bridge Down Stairway by vandals the previous Saturday night.

'Best Kept Village' Competition. Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin reported that the week of the 23rd - 28th June had been set aside for co-ordinating activities to tidy up the village, the idea being that the village would be divided into sections and then allotted to the various groups and organisations. The possibility of providing and emptying an additional two litter bins at the Recreation Ground was to be looked into.

Planning. The Council had no objections to make to applications for a projecting hanging sign at 92 High Street, an extension to lounge at 4 Bridgeford Way, a first floor rear extension to existing bedroom at 20 Union Road although they disapproved of the flat roof design, or to an outline application for a conversion of Great Pett Oast to a dwelling house. They had however objected to an application for a conservatory at No. 3 The Close, Union Road, on the grounds that it would have the appearance on a Lean-to totally out of keeping with the existing development of the site. It was noted that permission had been granted to raise the ridge height of the main roof by one metre, convert loft to habitable space and provide a front porch at 1 Dering Close. The Council went on to express concern at the decline of the commercial aspect of the village and agreed to approach CoSIRA and the Kent Voluntary Service Council for positive advice to counteract this.

The Parish Council meet again on Thursday, 12th June at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K.A. Walder, Clerk

'Fish' News

It was very disappointing to have such a small number at our Annual General Meeting. Our Chairman, Cllr. Mrs. M.A. Young thanked all the volunteers for their hard work during the year. Reports were given of the different aspects of our scheme. With the increased emphasis on community care and the cuts in public spending, organisations such as ours will have to make an increasing contribution to the care of the elderly. Because of this, our work has been steadily expanding.

The **Luncheon Club** has had a successful year serving 1,013 lunches in 43 sessions, with special celebrations for Christmas and our Birthday.

The **Chiropody Clinic** is providing an essential service, giving regular treatment to 86 patients.

The **Transport Scheme** drivers had covered many thousands of miles and had been able to meet all the increasing requests for help.

The welfare work of the 'Fish' scheme was increasing and there had been close liaison with the statutory services.

A supply of frozen meals is now kept at The New Close to supplement the Meals on Wheels service. We can supply these meals to anyone who has difficulty in preparing main meals due to illness or frailty. They are particularly useful for people coming home from hospital.

The **Housebound Library Service**. The Librarian makes up baskets of books with a selection of books specially chosen for each person. Six housebound people benefit from this service.

The **Coffee Pop-In** has been well attended, even during the very bad weather. We have been particularly pleased to enlist the help of some of the younger members of the community to provide this service.

The **Treasurer** reported that last year the scheme had cost £518.03. After payment of mileage allowances by *Age Concern Kent* and the KCC Social Services the cost to the community had been £237.31. This sum had been raised at the Annual Coffee Morning and from donations. A balance of £25.29 went into the reserve fund.

The **Blossom Tour** on 7th May proved to be a great success. Every seat was taken and everyone on the reserve list managed to get a place. Because of the late season, we hadn't expected to see any blossom but our coach driver had gone out in his car and planned an excellent trip covering new ground with plenty of blossom. An enjoyable visit was made to the Kent Garden Centre at Harbledown. After an excellent tea we had plenty of time to see the plants and spend money.

The **Annual Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale** (always the first Saturday in June) will be on Saturday, 7th June in Bridge Village Hall from 10am to 12 noon. There will be a raffle and stalls for cakes, groceries, plants, gifts and white elephant. Please come and give us your support. Inevitably, with the expansions of the scheme every year our costs will rise. This year our treasurer has asked us to raise £200. Please help!

The June **Coffee Pop-In** will be on Wednesday, 11th June in the Village Hall at the usual time.

Joan Warren, 830233

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Mr. S.R. Pike, 12 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JY (830708)

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

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr. M. Miles, 7 The Precincts, Canterbury CT1 2EE (462947)

Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriority, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD (462695)

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

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

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

Mr. N.H. Cruse, 9 Meadow Close, Herne Bay CT6 6NN (361335)

Hon Secretary: Mr. J. 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. H.P.M. Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830472)

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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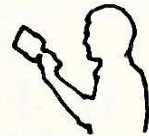
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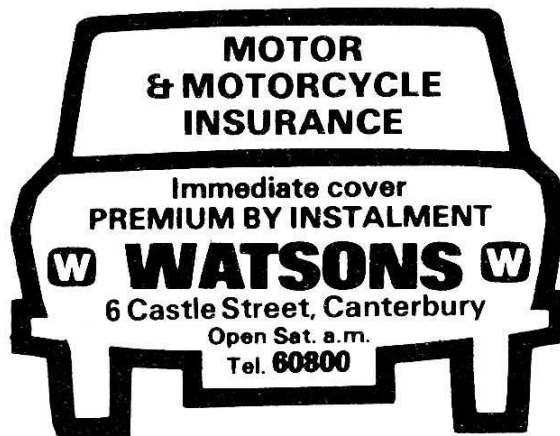
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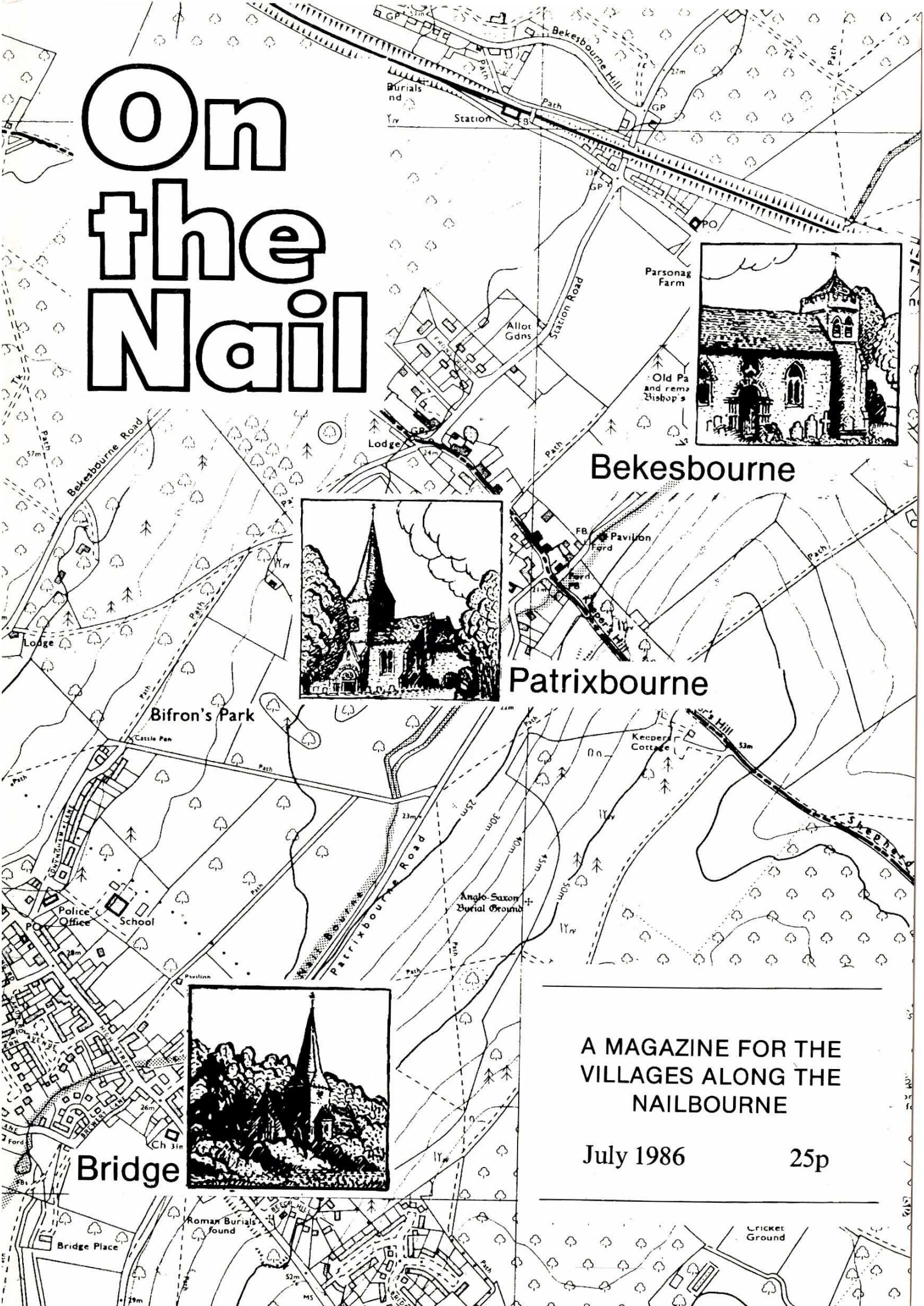
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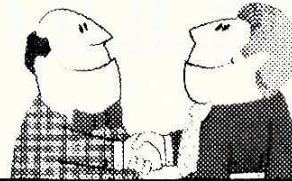
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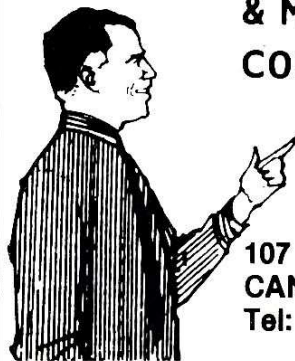
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Sunday Worship in July

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

6th:

11am Family Service
(Miss M. Ambrose)

8am Holy Communion
(Revd. W. Owen)

9.30 Parish Communion
(Canon F. Bull)

6.30pm Evensong
(Canon F. Bull)

13th:

9.30 Family Communion
(Series 3)
(Canon F. Bull)

11am Matins
(Revd. F. Bull)

6.30pm Evensong
(Mr. N. Wareham)

No Evensong here

20th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(Series 3)

8am Holy Communion 11am Matins

6.30pm Evensong

27th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion 11am Matins

3rd August:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

Please note: Evensong on 13th is at Bekesbourne and not Bridge, to coincide with the opening of Cobham Court Gardens.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 6th, Miss D.M. Rosman, Ph.D. 13th, Mr. S. Kentish. 20th, Miss J. Charlesworth, M.A. 27th, Holy Communion, The Revd. John Turner, B.A.

Weekdays: Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge every Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday (ASB Rite A) at 7.30am, except on 9th, 11th, 16th and 18th July. The monthly Communion at Churchill House is on 2nd at 10.15am. Prayers for Health and Healing are offered in the Lady Chapel at Bridge on Thursdays, 3rd and 17th at 7pm. There is a short, informal act of worship at The New Close every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

For your diary and prayer list

1st Interchurch Meeting, Bridge Methodist Church, 7.30pm

2nd The Roman Catholic Mass will be celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge, by Fr. Nigel Leaper. This annual celebration in honour of the feast of Ss. Peter and Paul is at 7.30pm and Anglicans attending the service will receive communion from our own reserved sacrament.

3rd **St. Thomas the Apostle**

Pray for the Revd. John Allan to be licensed and installed as Parish Priest of Littlebourne, Ickham, Wickhambreaux and Stodmarsh this evening.

5th Pray for Rebecca Lloyd and Alan Hogg, to be married today at Patricxbourne.

The New Close, Coffee Morning, 10 - 12 noon
 6th **Sixth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 7*
 11th *St. Benedict, Abbot of Monte Casino, c.550*
 13th **Seventh Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 8*
 Cobham Court Garden is open 2 - 6pm, with Evensong at Bekesbourne
 at 6.30pm.
 20th **Eighth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 9*
 22nd **St. Mary Magdalen**
 25th **St. James the Apostle**
 26th *St. Anne, Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
 27th **Ninth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 10*
 29th *William Wilberforce, Social Reformer, 1833*

The Vicar will be on holiday from 5th to 19th inclusive, during which time anyone requiring the urgent attentions of a priest should contact Canon Packer (tel: 830364). Please only make use of him in cases of genuine emergency that cannot wait for my return.

Ecumenism . . .

is to do with Christian Unity, a state of affairs that is the fervent prayer of Christians the world over. The origins of the search for unity lie in the New Testament but the accelerated pace of the craving for it arises also out of the desire to be fully at one with men and women of the faith, with whom one has become close friends and who are true brothers and sisters in Christ.

Such is our experience in Bridge, where frequent meetings between Anglicans, Methodists and Roman Catholics have drawn us extremely close to each other. These Interchurch meetings are a great source of encouragement as we try to understand one another better and grow towards that unity which our Lord wills for his Church. There is another one on 1st July, and if you are reading this in time I hope you will join us.

The day after we shall welcome our Roman Catholic friends to St. Peter's, Bridge for their annual Mass, at which it has become customary for Anglicans to communicate from their own sacrament while the Catholics make their communion. This is a practice that both churches view as essential to the occasion; enabling a sharing of the eucharistic bread and wine within one building on the one occasion, even if from separate sources.

It was the Lord's prayer that they may all be perfectly one. It should also be ours, coupled with actions that make for unity. The search, however, is not for uniformity (we don't all want to be alike) so those who advocate leaving circumstances as they are because they don't fancy another style of worship have missed the point entirely. God's will is for unity, one-ness in thought and intent and reality, even if we worship in different ways. Let's face it, there are great varieties of worship in Anglicanism alone, yet we are one Church.

* * *

FRIENDS OF THE NEW CLOSE will be holding a Coffee Morning on 5th July, 10am to 12 noon at The New Close. There will be stalls for cakes, produce, groceries and books. Gifts will be much appreciated and can be collected by ringing Mrs. O. Knight, 830584. Proceeds are for the amenity fund, which provides extras and outings for the residents. O.I.K.

Joys and Sorrows

At the Family Service on 1st June (one of our periodic eucharists) **Suzannah Victoria Johnson**, Owletts, Beech Hill was made 'a member of Christ, the child of God, and an inheritor of the Kingdom of Heaven' through the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

The summer sunshine that adorned the Summer Fête also cast its blessing of the marriage of **Susan Welch** to **Charles Cooper** in Bridge Church that same afternoon. May God continue to bless their life together, as indeed that of **Rosina Martins** and **Christopher Burge**, who were married in Patrixbourne Church on 21st June.

As we went to press news came of the sudden death, howbeit after ill health, of **Sidney Lanaway**, Springfield House, Bekesbourne Lane. The vicar officiated at Barham Crematorium on 25th June. Our sincere sympathy to his widow.

Mr. and Mrs. Reg Harvey wish to thank friends and neighbours for the many condolences given them on the sad death of their daughter.

Junior Church News

It is with great sadness that we have to say good-bye to Sylvia Wraight at the end of the month. Sylvia became involved with Junior Church at the very beginning, when it was so difficult to find leaders. She volunteered her services willingly, and since then has rarely missed a week, devoting hours of her spare time to preparing 'work' for the children and producing nativity plays, etc. We will miss her enthusiasm, artistic talents and skill as treasurer, but most of all we will miss her gift of working with young children.

We wish Sylvia, Ronnie, Martyn and Lisa much happiness in their new home and at their new church.

We are delighted to say that Evelyn Andrews has nobly offered to take her place, thus maintaining our team of five, which also includes Brenda Young and Mrs. Harrison.

H.P.

* * *

Junior Church is going to start its own children's library (books about Jesus, stories etc.). Would anyone who has any suitable books tucked away that are no longer used, and that could help us start our library — please give them to Penny Spencer, 1 Dering Close, or to Hilary Pike, 12 High Street.

We are also asking the children and their families to knit us some plain squares (5" x 5"). The squares will be made into blankets. Mrs. Young has offered to knit or sew them together for us and we will pass them on to *Save the Children*.

Would anyone like to help us in our venture? We have until Christmas. If you have a spare moment, while waiting for an appointment or just watching TV, we would be most grateful if you could knit us a square or two. It's amazing how quickly they knit up, and you in turn would be helping some little child to keep warm

Knitted squares either to Penny Spencer or Hilary Pike. Thank you. P.S.

The Summer Fête

Was there ever a more perfect day for the summer fête than 14th June, with hot sunshine, a light breeze and not even the remotest hint of rain?! Everyone had a good time, it was a real village affair and highly satisfactory profits were made for the PTA and the churches. All the stallholders were delighted with the support they received and the following from 'Patricx Store' may be said to speak for all:

We would like to thank the many people in Patricxbourne for their excellent contributions and donations given for our stall at the Summer Fête. Without their unfailing generosity and open-heartedness again this year it would not have been possible to achieve the splendid result of a total of £101 taken on our stall alone — an all-time record. *J.C. & D.B.*

The Hon. Treasurer, Douglas Hill has drawn up this "Summary of Receipts as reduced by related expenses for each stall and other fête costs".

1985		1986
Comparatives		
£	NET RECEIPTS AFTER EXPENSES	£
75	Teas	84
98	Cakes	110
33	Hot Dogs	50
40	Soft Drinks and Ices	51
98	Groceries	109
119	Produce	119
80	Patricxbourne Stall	101
11	Books and Games	60
45	Gifts and Toiletries	33
69	Handicrafts and Clowns	79
—	Colour Stall	67
73	Best Offers	37
86	White Elephant	101
191	Bottle Stall	200
371	Grand Raffle	427
9	Guides' Stall	14
—	School Uniforms	7
162	Side Shows and Programme Sales	185
<u>1,560</u>	Total net surpluses from Stalls	<u>1,834</u>
	<i>Less:</i>	
	DISPLAYS AND OPERATING EXPENSES	
	Fancy Dress Display	25
	Model Aircraft Display	15
	Dancing Display	15
	Canterbury Youth band	15
	St. John Ambulance	15
	Advertising & Sundries	<u>12</u>
<u>87</u>		<u>97</u>
<u><u>1,473</u></u>		<u><u>1,737</u></u>

1986 British Meat Scout and Guide Camp Cooking Competition

The Guiders told our Company that there was to be a competition where patrols would attempt to cook British meat on an open fire. There were to be many different heats and the winners would win a trip to Brussels.

First was the Company stage. Our patrol, Robins, competed against the patrols in our Company. We cooked Beef Stroganoff and Apple Fritters in the rain! Surprisingly we won and went on to compete against patrols from Canterbury Rural District. We changed our sweet to Chocolate Bananas. This time we came third which enabled us to go through to the next round, which was against patrols from the Canterbury Division. It was held at Deanery Farm, Chartham and we came second.

Our next heat was the County heat. This time we added a cup of tea to our menu. Our luck had changed — we had to compete against seventeen other patrols and only one patrol could get through. We came sixth, but we had tried our best and were pleased with the result.

We would like to thank Canterbury Cycle Mart and Wilmshurst Bakeries for sponsoring us.

Caroline King, Robin Patrol, 1st Bridge Guides



The Robins making ends meat! Left to right: Susannah Smith, Emma Field, Helen Foster, Caroline King, Julia Harvey

Bekesbourne Flower Festival

There are a number of possible reasons for the tremendous success of the recent Flower Festival at St. Peter's, Bekesbourne, but whatever one's personal view no one could doubt that it *was* a success, from every angle. Of course, the weather played a major part in it, as it always does, but this time it was in our favour. The arrival of summer over the Spring Bank Holiday suited our purposes to perfection: remembering at least one Flower Festival when it was dull and cold.

The decorations were created with skilled imagination and the choice of a theme, with guide sheets to enlarge upon it, added to patrons' enjoyment and further helped to put Bekesbourne on the map. Perhaps too the change from the August to Spring Bank Holiday was a pointer to the future — there is far less competition from rival attractions.

Congratulations to all who helped to put it on and sincere thanks to all who contributed whether through donations, manning stalls, lending props or actually arranging the flowers. Over £700 was raised for the church over the three days.

It was good to have the Archdeacon to preach at Evensong on the Sunday evening.

Stanley Grey adds a footnote: I should very much like to give my thanks to the very kind person who placed a donation (£10) for the Flower Festival through my door at 63 High Street, Bridge, Again very many thanks.



Christian Aid thanks you

Christian Aid accounts for roughly half of Christian Aid's annual income and it has served for nearly thirty years as a means of enlisting public support through a nation-wide fundraising and educational campaign. Our contribution this year from Bekesbourne, Patixbourne and Bridge was £814.32. This is a slight increase on last year's total and Bekesbourne once again showed a significant increase in their contributions. There were no large separate donations this year but the general level of the contents of the envelopes was higher — more £1 and fewer 1p coins!

Every envelope returned is a tribute to the generosity of the collectors in giving their time and of the donors in giving their money to support the ever-increasing work of Christian Aid. We have shown that we share with Desmond Tutu the conviction that:

Goodness is stronger than evil;
Love is stronger than hate;
Light is stronger than darkness;
Life is stronger than death;
Victory is ours through Him who loved us.

Muriel Packer

SAMARITANS APPEAL. My grateful thanks to all those who supported the fund-raising day. The magnificent sum of £118.50 has been handed over to the Canterbury branch. M.E.J.

FRIENDS OF 1st BRIDGE GUIDES Many thanks to everyone who helped in any way with the coffee morning and garage sale. The weather was kind to us and we managed to raise the grand total of £164.65, a really splendid effort. This will enable us to buy cooking and other equipment for the guides to use at camp. G.H.

Kent Competitive Festival

Once again I would like to take this opportunity through the Magazine to congratulate all the prize winners from Bridge, Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne in the recent Kent Competitive Festival of Music, Drama and Dance.

Speech Classes. Three Merits awarded to Lucinda Spencer; Honours, 1st Place and the Sanger-Davies Cup for Bible Reading to Emma Field.

Instrumental Classes. Brass 14 and Under, Merit Awards for Julian Fagg, Marie Coppins, Sarah Field and Robert Pratt: Wind Solo 15 & Under, Merit award to Sarah Field. Violin 13/14 years; Merit award Emma Field, also String Duets 13/16 years. Woodwind 14 years and Under: Distinction 2nd Place, Emma Field. Ensemble 14 years and Under Ten Players; Merit Award Canterbury Youth band, whose players included: Marie Coppins, Helen Pratt and Sarah Field. Ensemble 14 years and Under 3 - 9 Players; 1st Place & Corfe Cup; players in Canterbury Youth Band included Sarah Field and Helen Pratt. Ensemble open 10+ Players: Distinction, 1st Place for St. Edmund's School Band, included Jane Hollands.

To all above entrants who received awards and including Dominic Legge and Tina Prior of the Canterbury Youth band, we offer our sincere congratulations and the hope that in 1987 even more honours are bestowed upon youth of the villages along the Nailbourne. D. Cartwright

“In an English Country Garden”

The garden at Cobham Court, Bekesbourne will be open on Sunday 13th July and on Wednesday 16th July from 2 - 6pm. Tea will be available and as in the past, the proceeds will be divided between the National Society for Cancer Relief, the Pilgrims' Hospice and the National Trust. There will be a small plant and produce stall. L.W.

The church will also be open on these occasions. There is a new leaflet to guide visitors round the building, so that a visit can be better enjoyed. J.P.

Bridge Parish Council

Following concern expressed by Councillors at the May meeting at the apparent commercial decline of the village, the June meeting of the Council on the 12th of the month began with an introductory talk by Miss Amanda Woolley of the Kent Voluntary Service Council on ways

in which the Parish Council might consider both helping existing businesses in the village and also encouraging new businesses to the parish. They decided as a first step to invite a representative from CoSIRA to come to Bridge to give a talk on the help and advice which they can offer.

Recreation Ground Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin reported that at a meeting he had had with representatives from the various sports clubs using the Recreation Ground, it had been decided to go ahead with the proposed pavilion on the site of the existing one and to try and obtain grants from the Sports Council to assist with the project. Cllr. Gulvin also advised that the pavilion would have to be administered by a special Bridge Village Sports Trust comprising a representative from each club as well as a member of the Parish Council. Cllr. Peter Lawrence reported that he had inspected and carried out maintenance work to the playground equipment which was all in good order.

Streets and Footways Following a request from a resident of Patricbourne Road for the reinstatement of the 'Prohibition of Waiting' restrictions opposite the entrance to his property off Patricbourne Road, the Council, whilst sympathising, were mindful of the need to provide parking for people in the centre of the village and agreed to recommend to the police and the highway authority that the restrictions be extended on the south side of Patricbourne Road only as far as, but not including, the Methodist Church. It was noted that under the Community Programme Scheme, the bus shelter outside the Post Office had been given two coats of wood stain, and had had the putty re-done on the glass roof, whilst the one opposite Higham Lane had been treated with creosote.

Village Hall The Council heard that Cllr. Ken Greenaway had set the memorial clock to rights again following a recent power-cut, that the water heater in the kitchen was not working again and that the insurance company had settled the claim for the break-in back in February.

Bekesbourne Parish Council

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on 20th May in the Village Hall. Cllr. Ian Johnston, the Chairman, welcomed the considerable numbers of villagers who were present. He began by paying tribute to Robert (Bob) Smith who had died recently. Cllr. Johnston recalled Mr. Smith's many years of service to the

'Best Kept Village' Competition Cllr. Gulvin apologised that due to pressure of work he had been unable to co-ordinate the village's entry as he had intended. However, the Council expressed their appreciation and thanks to three parishioners, namely Mrs. Joyce Hopkins, Mrs. Joan O'Connor and Mrs. Dot Whitaker who had taken it upon themselves to clear an area of Town Hill. (Perhaps this act will encourage other members of the community to do the same and to make us all take a pride in our village.) The problem of getting the City Council to empty the litter bins was also pointed out and the Clerk was to take this matter up again with the City Council.

Planning The Council had no objections to make in principle to an application for a change of use from a delicatessen shop to restaurant at 73 High Street (CA/86/535/BRI and CA/1/86/69/BRI) and noted that the City Council had granted permission for all recent planning applications whilst the appeal by Mr. E. Hawkins had been allowed and planning permission accordingly granted for the erection of a detached house on land adjoining to Waterloo Cottages, Brewery Lane (CA/85/991/BRI).

Neighbourhood Watch The Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, pointed out that the scheme had been organised and set up since the last Parish Council meeting in May. He stated that it was hoped to cover the cost of producing any necessary information literature by sponsorship and the Parish Council agreed to give financial assistance in the event of there being any shortfall.

The Parish Council next meets on Thursday 10th July in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall at the usual time of 7.30pm and, as always, parishioners are welcome to come along.

*K.A. Walder
Clerk*

Parish Council and Village Hall Committee. Later a suitable memorial and a fund was discussed.

Cllr. Johnston spoke of various planning problems encountered by the Council recently, especially in the Aerodrome Road area. The Council was

pleased that what the City Council considered 'backland' development had not been allowed on the 'Coachline' site, but fears were expressed about further 'light industrial' planning applications there. The City Council had however given several other reasons for their refusal, including poor access. Villagers present expressed their approval of the Council's general attitude to planning in the area.

The Parish Clerk, Mr. Andrews, informed the meeting of sums available from both Bekesbourne and Patricbourne Parish allocations from the City Lottery Fund. These are at present considerable and the Chairman invited local groups to apply for funds. A representative from Bridge Guides thanked the Council for its recent contribution from the Lottery for camping equipment. Nailbourne Scout Troop were also represented at the meeting and said that they would be putting in an application. The use of such money is up to local groups and organisations, for recreational pur-

poses.

Cllr. John Ash, the Vice-Chairman, reported that the weight restriction was now in force along Bekesbourne Lane. Some improvement was reported and the police had stopped at least one lorry. The Council is to look into the situation regarding Bekesbourne Hill, as lorries arriving at Bekesbourne lane from that direction were faced with turning round at the bottom of the hill, as no warning of the order is given at the Canterbury end of that road.

A letter was read from a local farmer regarding horse riding, and asking for restraint in riding over cultivated land. He asked that riders keep to bridle paths, although permission to ride over fields might well be given by farmers after harvesting.

Mrs. Warren, the organiser of the Fish Scheme, was present and appealed for more helpers from the Bekesbourne area. There are at present very few and more car drivers are needed.

The meeting ended with refreshments.

M. Gabbé

'Fish' News



The Annual Coffee Morning on 7th June raised £161·31, thanks to the generous support of those who attended, and the hard work of the helpers. In addition we are very grateful to those who made cash donations, bringing our total to date to £203·31.

Transport Scheme We are considering re-organizing our arrangements for emergency driving. At the moment a small number of drivers has volunteered to be on call for a week at a time, and a list is kept at the Post Office in case I am out. This has proved to be impractical as urgent calls, although few and far between, nearly always come when the driver is out! However, if we could get a larger number of drivers who would be prepared to stay in for a day a month to take emergency calls, or if we could have more drivers on call each week the scheme should be improved. I feel that there may be people who would not want to be involved in regular driving, but who could manage to be on call for one day a month. If anyone can help us, please let me know!

Luncheon Club accompanied by friends, helpers and drivers, were invited to visit the orchards at Highland Court Farm. Led by Mr. Jarvis, the farm manager, who made the invitation, a long procession of cars wound its way very slowly through the orchards. Although the weather was unkind the blossom was at its peak — none of us had ever seen so many fruit trees and so much blossom at such close quarters. It was a particular treat for our housebound members and those who can only walk a short distance — they felt they had had a 'country walk on wheels'. After our drive we were entertained to tea in the farm canteen and were able to ask questions about the farm. We

are very grateful to the Highland Court management for their hospitality, to Mr. Jarvis and Mr. W. Johnson for arranging the visit, and Mrs. Packer for organizing the transport.

Joan Warren, 830233

<i>Cleaning</i>	ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BEKESBOURNE	<i>Flowers</i>
Mrs. Watson	6th July	..... Mrs. Whigham
Mrs. Russell	13th July	..... Mrs. Ashdown
Mrs. Grey	20th July	..... Mrs. Grey
Mrs. Beckett	27th July	..... Mrs. Beckett
Mrs. Smith	3rd August	..... Mrs. Smith

There is a vacancy on the cleaners rota. Anyone who could fill it is asked to contact Mrs. Ruth Grey (830522), who will gladly supply details. It is a far less onerous task than it sounds, and we would be very grateful for offers.

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

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens: Mr. J.J. Williamson, Beechmount, Conyngham Lane, Bridge CT4 5JX (830399)
Mr. S.R. Pike, 12 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JY (830708)

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

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr. M. Miles, 7 The Precincts, Canterbury CT1 2EE (462947)

Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriority, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD (462695)

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

Mr. N.H. Cruse, 9 Meadow Close, Herne Bay CT6 6NN (361335)

Hon Secretary: Mr. J. 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. H.P.M. Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830472)

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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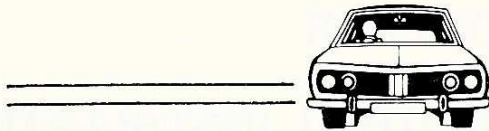


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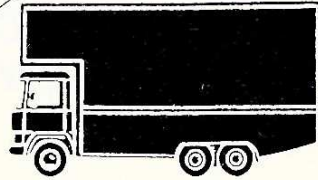
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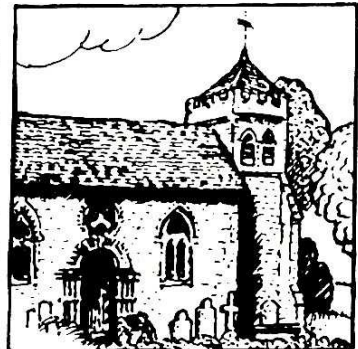
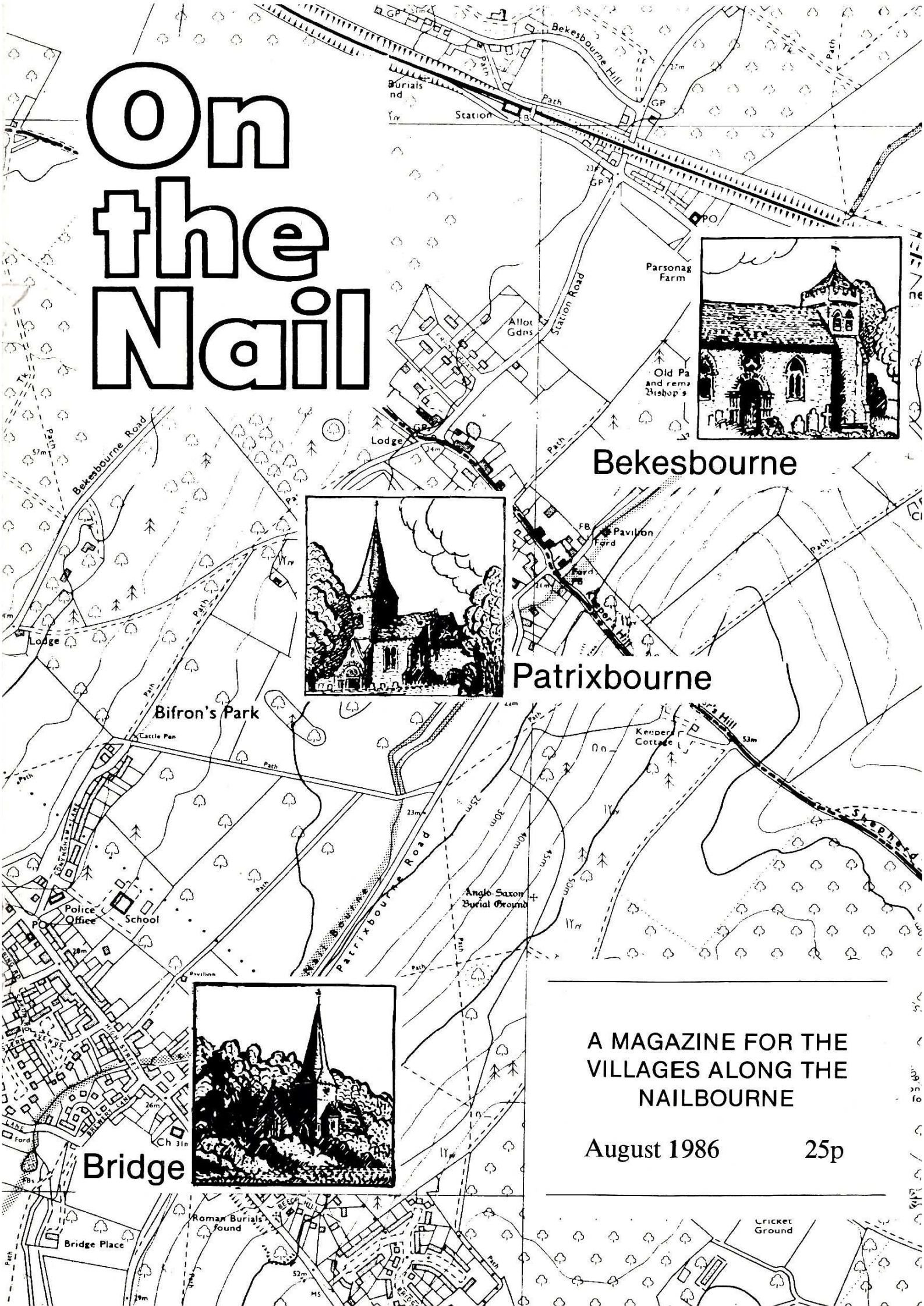
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On the Nail



Bikesbourne



Patricbourne



Bridge

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NAILBOURNE

August 1986

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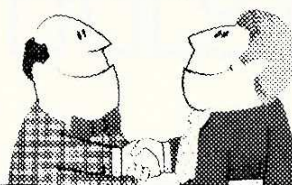
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Sunday Worship in August

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

3rd:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

10th:

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

8am Holy Communion

17th:

9.30 Parish Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am *Songs of Praise*
(Series 3)
6.30pm Evensong

24th:

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

31st:

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

8am Holy Communion

7th September:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

Bridge Methodist Church, at 11am: *3rd*, Miss K. Knight. *10th*, The Revd. P.F. Boyden, B.Sc., M.A., M.Litt. *17th*, Mr. C.G. Robertson. *24th*, Mr. M. Rowe. *31st*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D.

Weekday services in St. Peter's, Bridge are as usual — Holy Communion on Wednesdays at 9.30am and Fridays (ASB Rite A) at 7.30am. The monthly Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 6th at 10.15am. Residents of both Churchill House and Churchill Close are cordially invited to this service in the Common Room (first door on your right in the main entrance). A short, informal service is held in The New Close every Wednesday at 2.30pm. Principally for the residents we are always grateful for support from other villagers, whose presence is a great encouragement to the residents. Just turn up any Wednesday! The service usually lasts for twenty minutes at the outside.

There is no Junior Church in August.

For your diary and prayer list

3rd **Tenth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 11*

The theme of the Family Service is 'Holidays': don't let *your* holiday keep you away! There will also be a christening, so a good attendance is doubly important.

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

5th *St. Oswald, King of Northumbria, 642*

6th **Transfiguration of our Lord**

- 9th Pray for Alison Mills and Michael Lockhart whose wedding is today at Bridge.
- 10th **Eleventh Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 12*
- 11th *St. Clare of Assisi, Virgin, 1253*
- 13th *Jeremy Taylor, Bishop, Pastor, Teacher, 1667*
- 16th Pray for Lesley Payne and John Cockill whose wedding is today at Bekesbourne.
- 17th **Twelfth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 13*
 Instead of Matins there will be another of the very popular *Songs of Praise* services in St. Peter's, Bekesbourne at 11am. This is your chance to choose the hymns you want to sing. In order to prepare beforehand we need to fix the selection of hymns as soon as possible. So don't delay! Let us have your choice of hymn as quickly as you can. Requests to either Stanley Grey, 63 High Street (830522) or John Purchase (830937)! Over to you in any of the villages.
- 20th *St. Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, 1153*
- 24th **St. Bartholomew the Apostle** *Trinity 13 Pentecost 14*
- 28th *St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, Teacher, 430*
- 31st **Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 15*

This *also* is the word of the Lord

The Bible readings at Matins and Evensong in all three churches are not chosen haphazardly, nor are they selected by me. They follow the structure drawn up by the compilers of the Alternative Service Book 1980 and are from the Lectionary found in that book. This particular Lectionary is the one most commonly used in the Church of England, even by parishes who do not otherwise use the ASB, simply because the lessons follow a Sunday theme, and so have a connecting link that focuses the people's thoughts for the day. The same theme is taken up in the collect and readings for use at the Holy Communion according to the ASB.

Such a scheme is also of considerable help for preachers, for in very many cases the hardest aspect of sermons is deciding what to preach about — or perhaps it should be, deciding what the Lord wants preached about.

Yet even with a couple of pages of Sunday themes to guide those who wish to use them, as found in the ASB, a preacher, who is generally the resident parson, must avoid repeating himself since the same theme comes round each year. On only eight of the fifty-two Sundays does the theme differ ever other year, otherwise it is the same annually, even though the readings are different. Nor, of course, does a rigid adherence to the stipulated theme allow for special sermons to cover current happenings in church or state. Sermon courses also need to ignore the Sunday theme.

* * *

The Bible is the word of God, which is why it is always read in public worship, Through its pages God speaks to mankind, and words written in generations distant past still speak to us in the present, frequently in ways peculiar to our modern situation. As to the word of the Lord, the scriptures convey God's message to each age and the individual reader can from time to time hear a special word from the Lord addressed as it were directly to him or her.

But God also communicates with us via other means, including the writings of our contemporaries, and I occasionally wonder why we do not include non-biblical writings in our services. Several years ago a book was published entitled *The Third Lesson*, and it was a compilation of the writings of Christian men and women down the centuries of the Church's history. The intention of the editor was that such post-New Testament material might justly be used in church because it too proclaimed the Christian gospel. The substance of so much that has been written is eminently suitable for worship and indeed was written to lay before the reader some Christian truth revealed to the author. In every sense this is also the Word of the Lord!

As an attempt to present to worshippers in our three churches some of the splendid messages from God that have graced the pens of saintly men and women down the ages I propose during the month of August to select various readings from 'secular' sources instead of preaching a sermon of my own. I believe we ought to listen to holy people who have committed the outcome of their prayers and experience in the Christian life to paper, and to benefit from the rich legacy they have left us. Let me stress that I am not seeking a break from sermon preparation but introducing the congregations to the words of wiser and saintlier men than your vicar. It is like a month of visiting preachers and I hope you will benefit from the experience.

Joined together by God

On Saturday, 5th July the wedding took place in St. Mary's Church, Patix-bourne of **Rebecca Lloyd** and **Alan Hogg**. The service was conducted by the Revd. Dr. Peter Newman Brooks, a Fellow of Robinson College, Cambridge and personal friend of the bride and bridegroom. We wish the happy couple God's continued blessings in their future together.

Asking questions of God

It has been said that men should not presume to question God's ways. But a modern Christian poet argues that we must and should ask questions.

The Book of Job . . . has saved Christendom from being misled by Saint Paul's rash refusal to allow the thing formed to ask questions of him that formed it, the pot of the potter: . . . No pot — so far — has asked questions of the potter in a voice that the potter can understand; when it does, it will be time enough to compare pots to men. The criticism is not aimed at Saint Paul who dropped the phrase in the midst of a great spiritual wrestle, not as a moral instruction. But it has been used too often by the pious to encourage them to say, in love or laziness, 'our little minds were never meant . . .'. Fortunately there is the book of Job to make it clear that our little minds were meant. A great curiosity ought to exist concerning divine things. Man was intended to argue with God . . . The Lord demands that his people shall demand an explanation from him. Whether they understand it or like it when they get it is another matter, but demand it they must and shall. Humility has never consisted in not asking questions; it does not make men less themselves or less intelligent, but more intelligent and more themselves.

CHARLES WILLIAMS (1886 - 1945), *He Came Down From Heaven*



The Royal Air Forces Association: Canterbury Branch

The 1986 RAF Association Wings Appeal House to House Collections are taking place between 8th - 20th September (Wings Day being on 20th September).

The Canterbury Branch organises House to House collections in Canterbury City and has been granted a Street Collection as well. Unfortunately our active members are getting fewer and fewer as age takes its toll and many who served during the two Wars are now unable to help with these collections. They are, of course, the ones whom the Wings Appeal is aimed to help by the Welfare service provided by the cash that is annually collected. £1,136,064 was collected in 1985 and we are hoping to exceed that figure in 1986.

The Canterbury Branch also covers the Welfare Work required by ex-RAF and WAAF/WRAF personnel in any need in the villages surrounding the City (the ex-Bridge Blean RDC area) and I, as the Wings Appeal Organiser for the Canterbury Branch, wonder whether anyone in Bridge, Patixbourne and Bekesbourne, especially ex-RAF/WRAF personnel, would be able to help by collecting in their area of the villages. If so, would they please contact Canterbury 831421 (evenings and weekends) when further information will be given. Thank you for any help you can give.

The Annual Battle of Britain Service will be held in Canterbury Cathedral on Sunday, 21st September at 6.30pm.

Contributed

Christian Aid 1986

On The Nail apologizes for an unfortunate typographical error in the report of Christian Aid Week. The amount was said to be £814 — would it had been so! The actual figure was £418.32. In drawing our attention to this mistake Mrs. Muriel Packer, the local organizer asks, "Can this possibly be an

advance report on the total for 1987?" We must all see what we can do when the time comes! (*Mea culpa!* — *your typesetter.*)

* * *

Last December's edition of *Christian Aid News* carried a story provided by Michael Buerk, the BBC correspondent who brought those heart-rending stories from Ethiopia:

"We were in a town filming and we hadn't had anything to eat. Somebody told us where we could get something. If you've got money there is food you can buy.

"So we went to this place and had a Coca-Cola and a little bread roll each. We were just about to start eating when in the doorway there must have been fifty or sixty people. You know, children looking with big, wide eyes, an old man who fell on his knees and came shuffling into the café, on his knees, and started kissing my feet. The idea of actually eating that bread roll, I mean, I would have been sick on the spot.

"Instinctively you start breaking the bread into tiny little pieces, which isn't going to help anybody, and start giving it to people — and hundreds more come clustering round the doorway."

International Year of Peace

by the Revd. M. Peter Taylor

The United Nations has decided that 1986 should be *International Year of Peace*. Peace will not suddenly break out in 1986, but the Year can be a focus for our efforts at peace-making in our families, communities and nations. Peace is much more than merely an absence of war; it involves attitudes as well as actions; it involves individuals as well as nations. Do we not long for a deep peace in our own lives, in the lives of those we love, of our villages, of our country and the whole world? Do we not long for peace between ourselves and our neighbours as much as that between USSR and USA?

The Year can be used for finding out about the United Nations and what its members are doing for peace. Also we can think together about what we can do to bring peace in whatever small ways that we can. A few weeks ago a group met at Hersden Church to hear and discuss this theme. It was only a small group but we did feel that even our ideas and actions could help. Groups have also met at Barham in the past with great interest shown. Churches, for one, will continue to explore ways of peace, and I am sure they will not be alone, for it is an issue that affects us all and something which those of different religious persuasion or none can effectively join together.

We want everyone, whoever they are, wherever they are, in whatever way they wish, to take their part in this Year of Peace. Join us and thousands of people in this country who will be working and playing, and speaking and praying for Peace in 1986 . . . and beyond. I reproduce a Prayer for Peace which many people pray at noon around the world; use it if you can:

Lead me from Death to Life, from Falsehood to Truth.

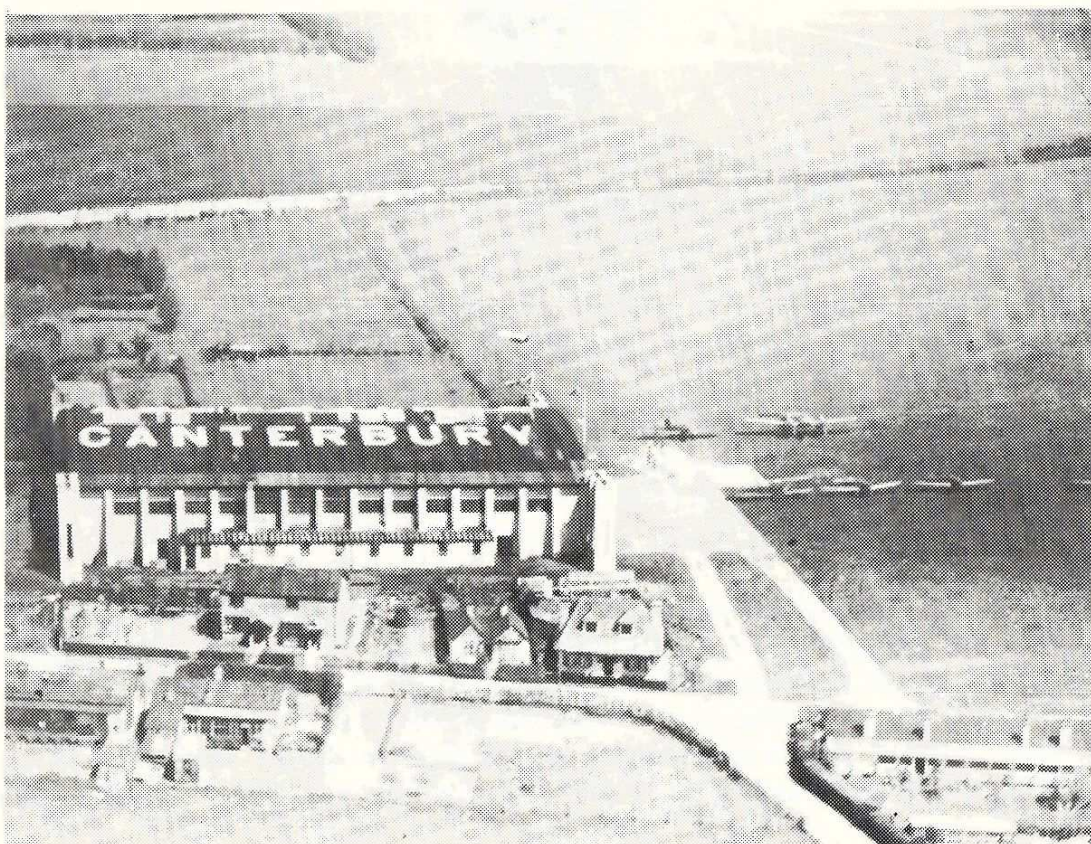
Lead me from Despair to Hope, from Fear to Trust.

Lead me from Hate to Love, from War to Peace.

Let Peace fill our Heart, our World, our Universe.

Peace, Peace, Peace.

Aerial History



The above photograph was lent to Bekesbourne Church during the Flower Festival, to add to the display on the aerodrome. It shows the airfield as it was in the mid-1930s. There was clearly a brisk flying service to Bekesbourne, for the field was listed as 'Canterbury Aerodrome' in a Guide published about the same time as the photograph was taken. We are indebted to Mrs. Johnston of St. Mary's Road for the loan of the picture.

MANSFIELD COURT, BRIDGE

Oh to be in Bridge now that Mansfield's there!
'Cos Mansfield means Retirement Homes — d'you know where?
Turn down Riverside Close, you'll soon see —
They're all in the Common Room drinking tea!
The Warden's in the Roof Garden tending the flowers;
There's an Alarm System working twenty-four hours.
In Bridge everyone's friendly without being bold,
There's a Super Store founded by that Yachtsman of old.
With three Pubs, two Butchers and Hairdressers near,
A Baker, Newsagent and Tea-house to cheer.
Try a Cream Tea in the garden 'side the River Nail,
Up the road a pleasant Postmaster looks after the Mail.
So when your House and Garden get too much,
Come and join us — so keep in touch!

Bill Trickett



Sponsored Bike Ride, Sat. 6th September, IN AID OF KENT'S HISTORIC CHURCHES

Last year Kent joined other counties in organising a sponsored bike ride in aid of our historic churches. The Friends of Kent Churches had never attempted anything of the kind before and no-one knew what to expect. Two things happened. Firstly, the truly staggering sum of £44,000 was raised by the ride. Secondly, and almost equally impressive to everyone who took part, was the feeling of companionship and involvement which all shared. It was such a success and enjoyed by so many people that it is to become an annual event.

If you cycled last year you will be aware of the need to help to preserve the fabric of Kent's many lovely churches and chapels. Often, the tiny congregations simply cannot maintain these buildings unaided. The Bike Ride appeals to young and old, to people of any denomination or of none, to everybody, in fact, who enjoys physical exercise especially in good company and in beautiful countryside, and who wishes to maintain our architectural heritage intact.

This is how the scheme works: cyclists (or walkers) find people to sponsor them. On September 6th they set out to visit as many churches as they can between 10am and 6pm. Half the money raised goes to the Friends of Kent Churches, who are bearing the expenses and organising the scheme, and half goes to any church or chapel nominated by the individual cyclist or walker. Participants can choose any route they like, making it as long or short as they wish. All the neighbouring counties are also taking part — so county boundaries can be ignored.

Cyclists, sponsors, people to man the churches and provide refreshments for weary participants are all needed. Please join in and help to make Bike Day 1986 even more successful than it was last year.

Further information and sponsor forms from the Parish Organisers:—

- Gill Harvey, 6 Bridgeford Way, Bridge (830494)
- Ann King, 8 Riverside Close, Bridge (830028)
- Sue Pratt, The Old Vicarage, Patricbourne (830258)
- Christine Ash, Parsonage Farm, Bekesbourne (830214).

Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on the 17th July when first matters discussed revolved around the **Recreation Ground**. It was decided to arrange for the Kent County Council to cut the perimeter of the ground and the other parts which their gang mower cannot reach as these areas, despite treat-

ment with weed killer at the end of April, were very overgrown and untidy. The condition of the two strips of land lying to either side of the bridge between the Nailbourne stream and the footpath in Patricbourne Road was brought to the attention of the Council by a resident, and they agreed to get quotations for cleaning up the

two areas and bringing them into a manageable condition and, provided these quotations were not excessive, to put the work in hand. Still on the subject of the Recreation Ground, the Clerk reported that shortly after the erection by the County Council of a 'No Motorcycles' sign at the Patribourne Road entrance to the ground, the top part, including the sign, had been removed. The matter had been reported to the Police, and the Chairman, Cllr John Hill, said he would ask the County Council about the possibility of replacing the sign. Cllr Peter Lawrence also had to report that one of the four link pins in the see-saw was missing, the indication being that it had been removed rather than that it had sheered. Councillors were amazed and appalled at the possibility of such an act. A replacement pin was to be ordered from Wicksteed. It was also agreed to investigate the possibility of providing a net for the goal posts near the tennis courts to encourage youngsters of the village to play there rather than in front of the tennis courts.

Streets and Footways Problems were still being experienced in getting the litter bins emptied and the Clerk was to send details of all the litter bins in the Parish to the City Council to assist them in a survey they were at present carrying out in the district and in the hope that the bins would then be emptied on a regular basis.

Planning The Planning Committee had had few observations to make on recent applications received. However, concerning the application for two floodlit signs on the walls of the Red Lion Public House, the Clerk was asked to bring the attention of the Enforcement Officer at the City Council to the bill board sign at the bottom left of the wall facing the Dover direction for which no application for planning permission had been made, and to which the Parish Council would have objected had there been one. They considered that this commercial sign was not in keeping with the village, part of which was a conservation area, and it also created a traffic hazard on a difficult corner.

The Chairman reported very briefly on the very well attended site meeting held by the County Council into their application

for two detached houses on land in front of The New Close, Conyngham Lane, when all the main objections to the proposals were reiterated. It was agreed to urge again the City Council to make a Preservation Order to cover the fine beech tree which dominates the site. Cllr Mervyn Gulvin reported that the change of use from a wool shop to a dental surgery with minor retail use at 78 High Street, had been granted by the City Council (CA/86/669/BRI).

The next meeting of the Council will be after the summer recess on Thursday 11th September at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K. A. Walder, Clerk

Bekesbourne Parish Council

Village Vandalism More vandalism was discussed at Bekesbourne Parish Council's June meeting. Damage to the brick bridge adjacent to the church gate is extensive and both unsightly and dangerous. Councillors have asked the County Council to repair it as it is on a recognized footpath, but realize that this will be expensive. (*The bridge, happily, has been well repaired since this report was written—Ed.*) Vandalism continues to rise, with damage to hop gardens, break-ins at the sports pavilion and removal of road signs. The graffiti and vandalism at the station continues unabated. Council members expressed disappointment and anger and have asked local Police and residents to keep an eye open for any further trouble. A 'Neighbourhood Watch' scheme is to be discussed at a future meeting.

Scouts The Council will be asking for £260 from the City Lottery Fund to buy a patrol tent for the Nailbourne Scout Troop — this being the equivalent to the sum asked for Bridge Guides.

Allotments Seven allotments are now in use. It was decided not to raise the very low rent, to encourage further use. Concern has been expressed by local residents as to possible development on the site to the rear of the allotments. The Parish Council has written to the City Planning Department asking them to look into the matter.

Wall by Village Hall Fears expressed at

the Annual Parish Meeting over the height of the retaining wall outside the village hall had been passed to the County Council. Local residents had expressed worries that the wall blocked the sight-line of motorists coming out of Station Road.

Wappings Footpath The continued litter-clearing work by the Brownies was being hampered by the over-grown state of this footpath. It was decided to ask the Scout Troop if they could help out in a practical way. Canterbury City Council have no further funds available for clear-

ance.

Mr Bob Smith A contribution is to be made by the Parish Council towards the cost of a plaque to be put up in the Village Hall in memory of Mr Bob Smith.

Vacancy A vacancy on the Council is to be filled. One local resident has expressed interest through the Parish Council in standing.

The next meeting of the Council is on Tuesday, 9th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Any residents are always welcome to attend.

M. Gabbé

The New Close

The Coffee Morning on 5th July at The New Close raised £176.74, thanks to our generous supporters and helpers, and those who sent donations. *O. I. K.*

'Fish' News



HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS:

The Luncheon Club will be closed for the whole of August. Meetings will start again on September 1st.

The Transport and Welfare Schemes will carry on as usual throughout the holiday period.

The Chiropody Clinic will be closed on September 11th and 18th.

The next **Coffee Pop-In** will be in Bridge Village Hall on Wednesday August 13th at the usual time.

Joan Warren 830233

Horticultural Show

Calling all gardening enthusiasts! The annual Summer Show of the Nailbourne Horticultural Society is on 9th August in the Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne. Refreshments will also be available! Enjoy a pleasant afternoon out!

Hymns at St. Peter's

We can't promise you an appearance on television, but we *can* invite you to *Songs of Praise* at Bekesbourne.

For the benefit of those who have yet to sample this Bekesbourne summer experience, worship at St. Peter's Church on Sunday, 17th August at 11 o'clock departs from the normal Matins. For about an hour we join in hymn-singing with the church choir and organist Stan Grey. Each hymn is introduced with background information on it or an interesting story attached to it, there are usually a choir item or two and some spoken words to make *Songs of Praise* just what the name suggests.

Your presence is, need I say, essential to its success, and we also want to know what hymn you personally would like included in the programme. Mr. Grey's telephone number is 830522 and he will be very pleased if you care to ring in your request. So don't hesitate! Let us have your choice well in

advance of the service so that it can be researched and the service knocked into shape. And don't forget, of course, to come and join in the singing of those well-known hymns that were written to be offered to the praise and glory of God. Remember the date — 17th August at 11am!

<i>Cleaning</i>	ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BEKESBOURNE	<i>Flowers</i>
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<i>Any offers?</i>	10th August	Mrs. Farbrace
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Mrs. Russell	31st August	Mrs. Russell
Mrs. Grey	7th September	Mrs. Clifford

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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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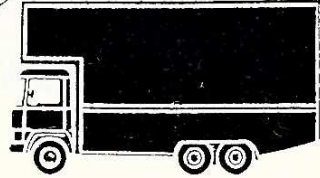
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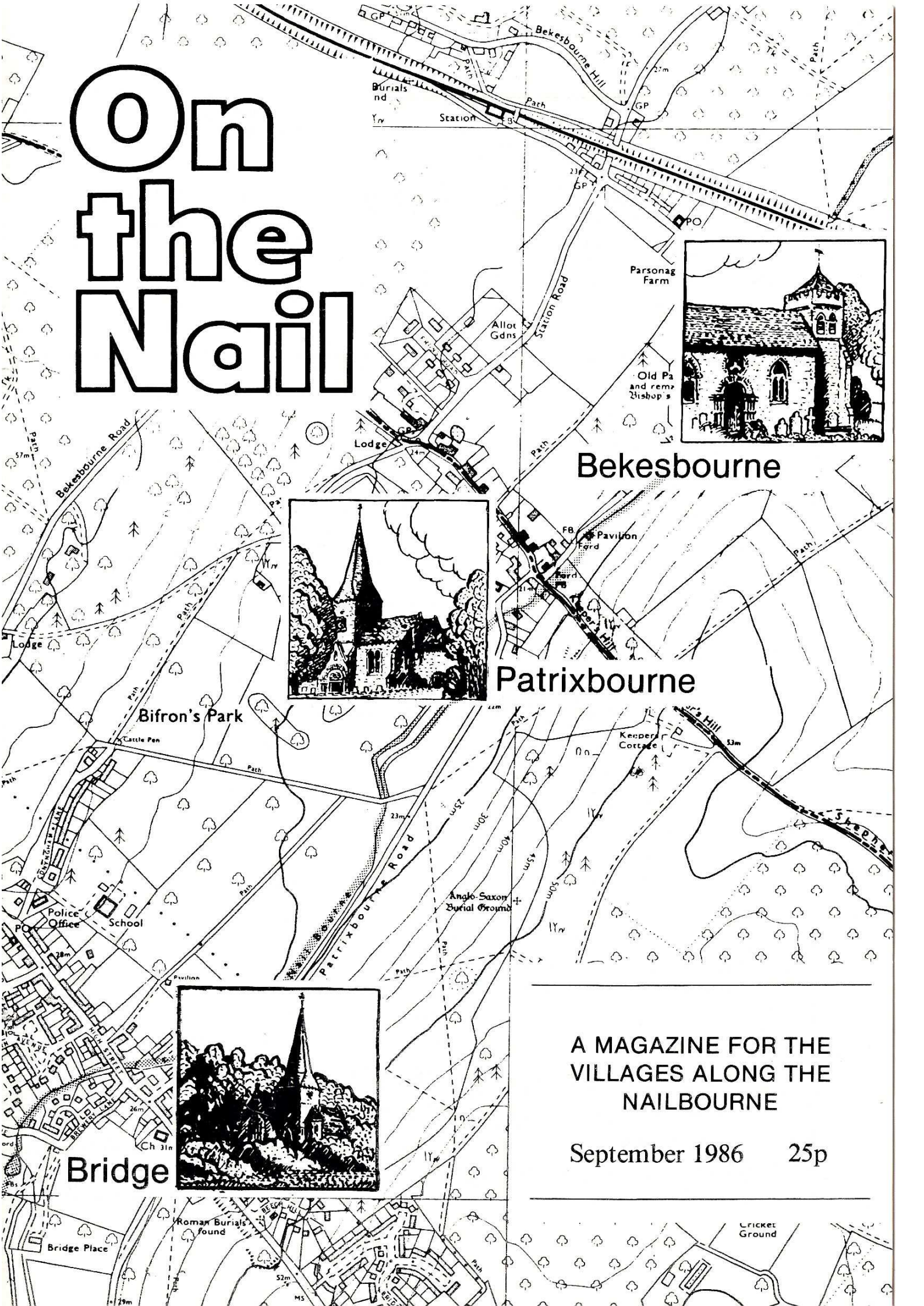
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

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September 1986 25p

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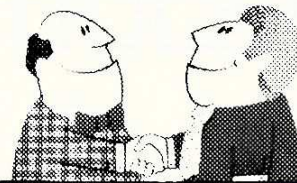
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Sunday Worship in September

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

7th:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

14th:

*No services at
Bridge today*

6.30pm *Harvest
Evensong*

No service today

21st:

9.30 Parish Communion
*(Series 3: Canon
F.S. Bull)*

8am Holy Communion
(Revd. C. Verity)

11am Matins *(Canon
C.F. Pollard)*

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

28th:

8am Holy Communion
(Canon F.S. Bull)

9am Holy Communion
(Revd. C. Verity)

11am *Harvest Matins
(Canon F.S. Bull)*

6.30pm Evensong
(Mr. N.P. Wareham)

5th October:

11am *Harvest Family
Service*

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

6.30 *Harvest Evensong*

N.B. *Services on Sunday, 14th are cancelled in favour of the Deanery Festival at Wingham (see page 8), with the exception of the Harvest Service at Patricxbourne, which will be Evensong at 6.30pm.*

Junior Church begins its new term on 14th September at 9.30am.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *7th, Harvest Festival*, The Revd. Dr. T. Mervyn Willshaw, M.A., B.D. *14th*, Miss J. Charlesworth, M.A. *21st, Holy Communion*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *28th*, Mrs. H. Colyer. Continuing Harvest Festival with the Revd. M. Peter Taylor, Monday, 8th, 7.30pm.

Weekday Services: Wednesday Communion at 9.30am in Bridge Church is on 3rd and 10th only this month, and Friday Communion at 7.30am is on 5th and 12th only. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on the first Wednesday as usual, at 10.15am. Services at The New Close this month on Wednesdays, 3rd and 10th only.

For your diary and prayer list

3rd *St. Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher, 604*

4th Health & Healing Prayers, Bridge Lady Chapel, 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 7pm

6th Sponsored Cycle Ride

7th **Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 16*

8th **The Blessed Virgin Mary**

10th Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall

- 11th Inaugural meeting for wives, 'Conamore', Patrixbourne Road, 7.30pm
 Bridge Parish Council, Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 13th *St. Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr, 258*
- 14th **Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 17*
 East Bridge Deanery Festival takes the form of a eucharist at Wingham.
 There will be no morning services in any of our churches so that we can
 meet as a deanery at the Lord's Table.
 Patrixbourne's Harvest Festival will be celebrated at a special 6.30
 Evensong.
- 16th Patrixbourne with Bridge PCC, Methodist Church, 7.30pm
- 18th Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm
- 21st **St. Matthew the Apostle** *Trinity 17 Pentecost 18*
- 25th *Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, 1626*
- 27th *St. Vincent de Paul, Founder of the Vincentian Order, 1660*
 Working Party to paint Patrixbourne Churchyard railings, 9.30am.
- 28th **Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 19*
- 29th **St. Michael and All Angels**

The Vicar will be on holiday from 17th September to 3rd October inclusive, during which time anyone requiring the urgent attentions of a priest should contact Canon F.S. Bull (tel: 830440). Please only make use of him in cases of genuine emergency that cannot wait for my return.

Won't you join the dance?

'Dance then, wherever you may be
 I am the lord of the dance,' said he,
 'And I'll lead you all wherever you may be
 And I'll lead you all in the dance,' said he.

Children particularly like to sing Sydney Carter's *Lord of the Dance*, a modern religious song that echoes the ancient carol *My Dancing Day*. It compares Christian living to dancing.

Life is likened to a dance—a movement that is properly structured and which can only be done in company with other people. Given a Christian twist, life is a dance ordered by God, joined by the faithful and Jesus is its Lord.

It is a good picture of religion, for the essence of a dance is participation in it. Nothing is gained by standing on the side-line discussing it. No one will ever understand it who merely sits it out, observing it from a distance. The only way to appreciate a dance is to get on your feet and join the fray.

Just so with the Christian faith. There are plenty of people willing to talk about religion and to voice their opinion on its rights and wrongs from a detached position; but Christianity is not a motion for debate, it is a way of life that can only be grasped properly by living it. To know the Christian faith a person needs to join a Christian congregation, for only then can Christianity be fully understood. Like the dance, we must become dancers in order to gain its full measure.



'If we wish to enter the Christian experience we have no other option but to enter the Christian community and try it out. There is no safe ground from which we can survey the territory of faith from a distance without putting our feet on the road.'

Joys and Sorrows

The Family Service on 3rd August was the context of the baptism of **Christopher David Hampsheir**, baby son of Peter and Hilary Hampsheir, Bridgebourne House, Beech Hill. Brother and sister, Richard and Justine are god-parents, which is a most happy arrangement.

Bridge Church was also the venue for the marriage of **Alison Mills**, 5 Green Court and **Michael Lockhart** from Swalecliffe on the afternoon of 9th August. One week later at St. Peter's, Bekesbourne **Lesley Payne**, Cobham Court Cottages was married to **John Cockhill** from RAF Wyton.

The whole of Bridge together with friends and acquaintances in the surrounding locality were shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Mrs. **Dorothy Welch** on 30th July, after a brief illness. Only a matter of days previously she had been at work, helping Bernard in their butcher's shop. Cremation at Barham on 6th August was preceded by a well-attended service in Bridge Church. Our thoughts and prayers go out for Bernard, Roger, Peter and Susan in their bereavement.

The vicar also officiated at the cremation of **Alan Edward 'Jack' Allen**, Cement Cottage, Bekesbourne Lane, Bekesbourne on 15th August. We extend our sympathy to his widow, son and daughter-in-law.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, PATRIBOURNE WANTED

A team of volunteers is required for painting the fence of Patribourne churchyard on Saturday 27th September beginning at 0930hrs. This is important, in order that we can obtain a substantial grant from English Heritage — one of the conditions being that the fence is painted. We also require a handyman for repairing tiles and gutters. Any willing volunteers please let me know direct by 'phone or letter. *John Williamson, Churchwarden*

Beechmount, 1 Conyngham Lane, Bridge (830399)

Nailbourne Horticultural Society Summer Show

It was a lovely sunny day for the Tenth Anniversary Show on Saturday the 9th August. The number of entries was up on last year as was the actual number of exhibitors, which was most encouraging for the Society. The principal prize winners were as follows:

Most points overall in the show—Mr. R. Austin of Kingston

Champion Cottage Gardener Cup for most points in vegetable section— Mr. R. Austin
Collection of any four vegetables for members not having previously won the Champion Cottage Gardener Cup—Mr. G. Talbot of Bridge

Silver Rose Trophy for most points in flower section—Mr. R. Austin

Sarah-Louise Prestige Cup for best exhibit in floral art section—Mrs. M. Greenaway of Bridge for her 'Ruby Wedding' exhibit

Fremfins Challenge Cup for cookery—Mrs. K. Walder of Bridge

Wordsworth Cup for most points in the children's section— Elizabeth Walder of Bridge

Open class cup for a collection of four vegetables and one vase of flowers in a box—Mr. G. Talbot

Pewter Tankard for the best kept vegetable garden—Mr. G. Talbot for his allotment at Wincheap

Rose Bowl for the most picturesque garden which was judged this year at the beginning of July—Mrs. C. Clarke of Shepherds Close, Patribourne.

Members of the Society had an enjoyable evening the week after the Show visiting the first three gardens in the most picturesque garden competition, commencing at that of Mrs. P. Hogben in Bishopsbourne which had been placed second, and ending at that of Mrs. L. Sinnock at Flint Cottages, Bourne Park which was third and where refreshing cups of tea and cakes were provided to round off the evening.

The Society will be arranging its autumn and winter programme of talks etc. on the 9th September and if anyone has any ideas for these, perhaps an aspect of gardening that they would like to learn more about, then please let any member of the committee know before then.

K. A. Walder



DEANERY FESTIVAL

A festival is an occasion for celebration: so 1986's Deanery Festival will be just that!

At the invitation of the congregation of St. Mary's Church, Wingham and with the Deanery Synod's enthusiastic backing, this year's festival will be a eucharist in Wingham Church on Sunday morning, 14th September at 11 o'clock. The Bishop of Dover is coming to share in the celebration with us.

To make it a true celebration for the deanery the other churches, for this one occasion, have indicated that they will suspend morning services to leave everyone free to gather for communion under one roof. It's a chance you must not miss! Quite apart from the enjoyment that it will bring, this sort of festival will also help to foster inter-parochial relationships within East Bridge Deanery, which can't be a bad thing.

A picnic lunch at Wingham Village Hall will follow the service, so that we really *can* meet each other and maybe make some new friends. For it St. Mary's Church will provide liquid refreshments (tea, coffee or squash) and we each bring our own eats.

The Deanery Festival '86 is a must! Remember to put it in your diary! SUNDAY, 14th SEPTEMBER is the date—11am is the time—WINGHAM is the venue! Clergy, Readers and Choir members bring your robes, but *everybody*—and we do mean EVERYBODY—bring yourself, to make the morning a true East Bridge Deanery celebration!

Bekesbourne Village News

Bekesbourne Village Hall Management Committee are pleased to announce that the village hall is now available for hire to Bekesbourne residents only, for children's parties. For details of hire charges and booking please ring Sue Duplock—830271.

* * *

The Royal Wedding did not go un-noticed in Bekesbourne. Despite the downpours a tea party for the children from Aerodrome Road still went ahead. (*Ed. There was a photograph in the local paper!*) Everybody had a lovely time and the parents who made it all possible wish to thank Coca-Cola for their very generous donation of soft drinks.

* * *

As some of you may already know, many of the junior boys from Bridge School have been practising their football skills twice a week for the last two months. Last Saturday (9th August) their efforts were put to the test when they played their first match, against Folkestone Midgets. The match ended in a very creditable 5 - 5 draw. The boys and their parents wish to thank Mr. Brian Turner, and any other fathers who have helped, for all their time, talent and energy in making last Saturday's match possible. We all wish you success in your future games, and continued enthusiasm and support for your training sessions.

Contributed

Something for Wives

Interest has arisen recently in the village to form a wives group. Mrs. Irene Roe has kindly offered her home for an initial meeting. If you are interested please join us at 'Conamore', Patricxbourne Road on Thursday, 11th September at 7.30pm.

Evelyn Andrews 830960

Bridge Folk Dance Group

Fresh from our summer break we will be meeting on 4th and 18th September at 8 o'clock in Bridge Village Hall. We, with our caller Alf Matthews, give a warm welcome to new dancers, so please join us. Any enquiries, please ring 830285 or 830652.

J.H.

Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund

This year the East Kent Girls Choir has been fund-raising for the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for children, a charity founded in 1967 in memory of the great orchestral conductor who died that year.

Recently a ploughman's lunch was held at Gorsley Lodge, Bishopsbourne, and thanks to generous donations from Abbott Bros. Dairies (Catering Division) and Wilmshurst Bakery (Wingham), £77 was raised for this fund. My thanks to all who gave so unstintingly of their time and money, and for your continuing support.

M.J. Baker

Battle over Bridge

Some military historians talk of Sunday, 15th September 1940, as the day Hitler lost his chance of winning the war. It was also the day when the writer and four other army NCOs were destined to become officers and (temporary) gentlemen. The two events are un-related.

Britain sweated under the threat of invasion that golden summer forty-six years ago. The Germans knew they must eliminate the RAF beforehand and for three weeks they concentrated their attacks on fighter bases in Kent and Essex. By the middle of September more than a quarter of our fighter pilots were dead or seriously wounded. Aerodromes were no sooner repaired than they were put out of action again. Across the Dover Strait the invasion fleet waited.

The five of us spent an uncomfortable night before setting off from Dover to be interviewed by a colonel, complete with red tabs (known to the irreverent as jam on the collar, in the way admirals and air marshals were said to have egg on the hat). We felt it called for a crease in our trousers, which we hoped to press by spreading them on the ground and sleeping on them. Unfortunately the linings contained field dressings which were intended for plugging wounds. They were bulky and did not encourage restful slumber.

There was a sense of foreboding as we left for Tonbridge by lorry. The French coast, soft in the morning mist, looked tranquil, but the radar screens dispelled the illusion. They showed a vast aerial armada preparing to cross the Channel.

We were almost at Bridge when the bomber streams started to overtake us.

Their white vapour trails were an awe inspiring spectacle in the blue sky, formation after formation, flying tier upon tier like steps in a staircase, at heights of between 15,000 and 22,000 feet. Hundreds of fighters swarmed around them, forming a protective screen.

More vapour trails appeared ahead as we passed through the village. We watched from the top of the hill as five Spitfire squadrons tore into the enemy fighters. There were furious dog-fights and the sky was criss-crossed by diving aircraft.

It became obvious that London was the target and we continued to have a grandstand view of the battle as successive waves of bombers followed the route of the A20. Hurricanes were now rising to the attack. They got into the bomber formations while the Spitfires continued to engage the fighters. We cheered as one bomber after another lurched out of formation and dived to destruction, streaming flame.

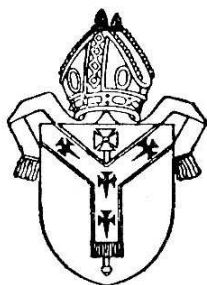
We might not have been so jubilant if we had known how near Britain was to defeat. By coincidence Mr. Churchill was visiting Fighter Command at the height of the battle. He watched as the last fighters became airborne, and asked, "Where are our reserves?". He was told, "There are none".

The RAF was outnumbered four to one and London took a terrible beating, but the Germans blundered. They should have continued to hammer our fighter bases, where victory was within their grasp. Their change of tactics followed an RAF raid on Berlin. It was a low key effort due to the distances involved and intended as a morale booster. But it embarrassed Hitler, who flew into a rage and ordered a massive reprisal raid on London.

The weather broke on Monday and low cloud prevented air activity for most of the week. The Germans resumed the attacks on the airfields, but they had lost their momentum. Pilots who had been flying six or seven sorties a day had time to recuperate. Bomb craters were filled in. New aircraft arrived to make good the losses.

No one will pretend that the battle which raged over Bridge won the war. But it is probably true to say that it played a big part in averting early defeat. And that I was privileged to see something which changed the course of history.

Editor: Do any other readers have memories of that Sunday during the Battle of Britain? I'd love to hear from you, if you have.



From the Diocese

MAKE TIME FOR PEACE

The whole of Britain is being asked to stop for just one minute at mid-day on Tuesday 16th September in a unique appeal on behalf of world Peace. No one is asking for any money — it is a simple appeal for one minute (or more) of your time — to be spent each day till October 16th praying, or meditating or thinking positively about peace — for this country, for all countries, for the world.

The Appeal Target for this country is a million minutes of peace — a modest request for a nation of over fifty millions. Forty other countries will also take part, in celebration of the UN International Year of Peace.

'Donations' of time can be pledged on a special form which will be available in September. The organisers, led by the Revd. Dr. Edward Carpenter, suggest that church bells (where possible) introduce the first minute by a ten minute ring before mid-day on the day. The Appeal Office for further information and suggestions is at No. 4, 95 Avenue Road, St. John's Wood, London NW8 6HY.

PUTTING THINGS STRAIGHT

To correct any misunderstanding arising from the abbreviated Education Report in *Feedback* (the Diocesan News Extra) Canon Pollard writes: "In the final paragraph the new Church School at Grove Green is stated as being built by the County. This is completely wrong since it is the Church, i.e. the Diocesan Board of Education which is doing the building. So many people misunderstand the position of the Church in Education and think all schools are the responsibility of the County or the Government . . ."

FAIRER SHARES (REVISED)—announced at Diocesan Synod held on July 11th.

The Archdeacon of Canterbury introduced the revised scheme, which has been submitted to deaneries for discussion. The following criteria were adopted for improving the scheme: It should be simple, easy to understand and easy to explain; not lead to the distortion of electoral rolls; avoid undue fluctuations in parish shares; be as fair and equitable as possible. The working party believed these aims had been achieved. Deaneries and parishes have been invited to discuss the scheme before it goes to diocesan synod in October.

The new apportionment is based solely on church membership as revealed by the electoral roll and typical Sunday attendance, with a weighting of 40% to the roll and 60% to Sunday attendance. Each parish would be given an income factor — based on church membership and *not* on the population of the parish — to be agreed by the deanery as a whole.

Vocations Conference

The Vocations Weekend in April proved to be so popular that some late applicants were disappointed. We are therefore holding another similar weekend from *23rd to 25th January, 1987 at St. Gabriel's House, Westgate-on-Sea.*

This weekend conference is for all over the age of seventeen, men and women, who are enquiring into the possibility of Christian ministry. It is an opportunity to learn about the different forms of ministry, both lay and ordained, and the selection procedures and training for them.

The Diocesan Director of Ordinands, Michael Percival Smith, and the Diocesan Adviser in Women's Ministry, Julia Butterworth, will be present throughout the conference. The Vocations Advisers, the Revd. Colin Fletcher and the Revd. John Record, and the Warden of Readers, the Revd. Ian Butler, will be present for part of the time. We shall also be visited by other clergy and lay people exercising different forms of ministry.

Clergy will be sent further details and booking forms soon. Interested parties please see the Vicar.

*Michael Percival Smith
Julia Butterworth*

Bridge Church Bookstall

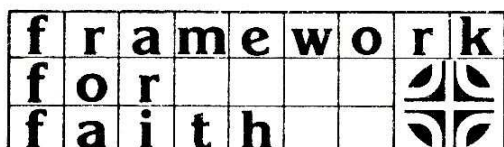
This is not to draw your attention to the bookstall in St. Peter's Church because in its present state it is best ignored.

Something should have been done to improve it ages ago from the point of view both of the literature on it and the tin display case itself. Any day now it will disappear from sight—but only in order to give it a much needed shake up. Eventually it will be stocked with newer and more useful books—the sort

people will want to read and gain real benefit from.

In the meantime the search is on for a suitable bookcase to house the books that will be brought in, and this is where you might be able to help. If you have a surplus bookcase which would look right in the church and you would be prepared to give us, please give me a call at the vicarage. The sort we are interested in would not be glass-fronted nor over-large, just as long as it would fit into its new surroundings and be able to accommodate a growing number of books. It should also be free-standing. The intention is to build up a lending library, not have books for sale.

Thank you—someone—in anticipation!



The autumn Framework For Faith course being offered by the diocesan education department is a repeat of the much appreciated course first offered in Autumn 1983. Entitled *The people of the Book — an introduction to the Old Testament* it concentrates on the religious *experience* of the Old Testament *People*. The hope is that those who participate will find something in that experience which will help them in their own understanding of God and of his activity in the world.

Introductory leaflets are available for interested enquirers in all three churches, and if you wish to be enrolled please see the Vicar at the earliest possible opportunity. Alternatively you can ring the deanery organiser, the Revd. Peter Brownbridge on 721530. Ultimately he will need to know who will be taking part.

Lent in 1987

BBC Radio Kent will again broadcast a series of special programmes for Lent 1987. The programmes will concentrate on some of the burning issues facing present-day society and the way the Christian Gospel relates to them. But please note an important change—in 1987 the Lent programmes will be broadcast on **Thursdays, 8.00pm to 9.30pm.**

So please book these dates: **March 12th, 19th, 26th, April 2nd, 9th** and join us as we consider some of the great issues of our time.

'Fish' News



Only one person came forward after my last plea for more drivers. We sometimes get a rush of requests for the same day, when all our drivers seem to be doing something else! Please get in touch with me if you can help, even if it is only for the odd occasion.

* * *

The Luncheon Club meets again on 1st September after the summer break.

* * *

The August Coffee Pop-In was well attended. The September one will be on Wednesday, 10th in Bridge Village Hall at the usual time.

Joan Warren
830233

Cleaning **ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BEKESBOURNE** *Flowers*

Mrs. Grey	7th September	Mrs. Clifford
Mrs. Beckett	14th September	Mrs. Gillanders
Mrs. Smith	21st September	Mrs. Hogben
.....	28th September	Mrs. Skinner
Mrs. Hogben	5th October	Mrs. Clifford

The vacancy on the cleaning rota continues to be unfilled. It arose due to the retirement of Mrs. Stickells, who had done it for many years, and to whom the PCC extends its grateful thanks. I understand it is not a *very* onerous task, so anyone who feels they could help the church in this way would be welcomed with open arms. Please see Mrs. Grey (830522).

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

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 Mr. S.R. Pike, 12 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JY (830708)
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Captain of the Bells: Mr. H. Collard, 1 Mumpas Cottages, Little Pett, Bridge CT4 5PD
Magazine Advertising: Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830472)
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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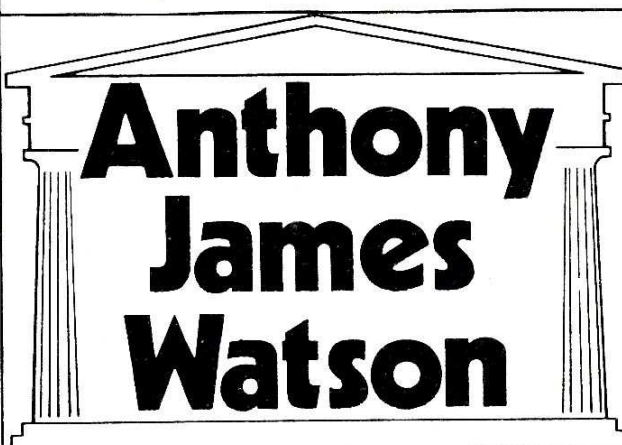
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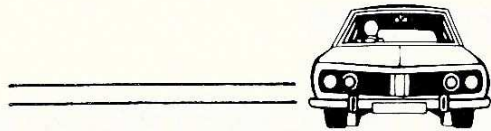


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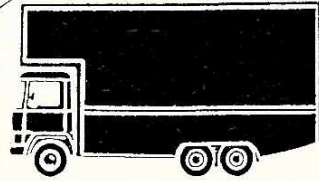
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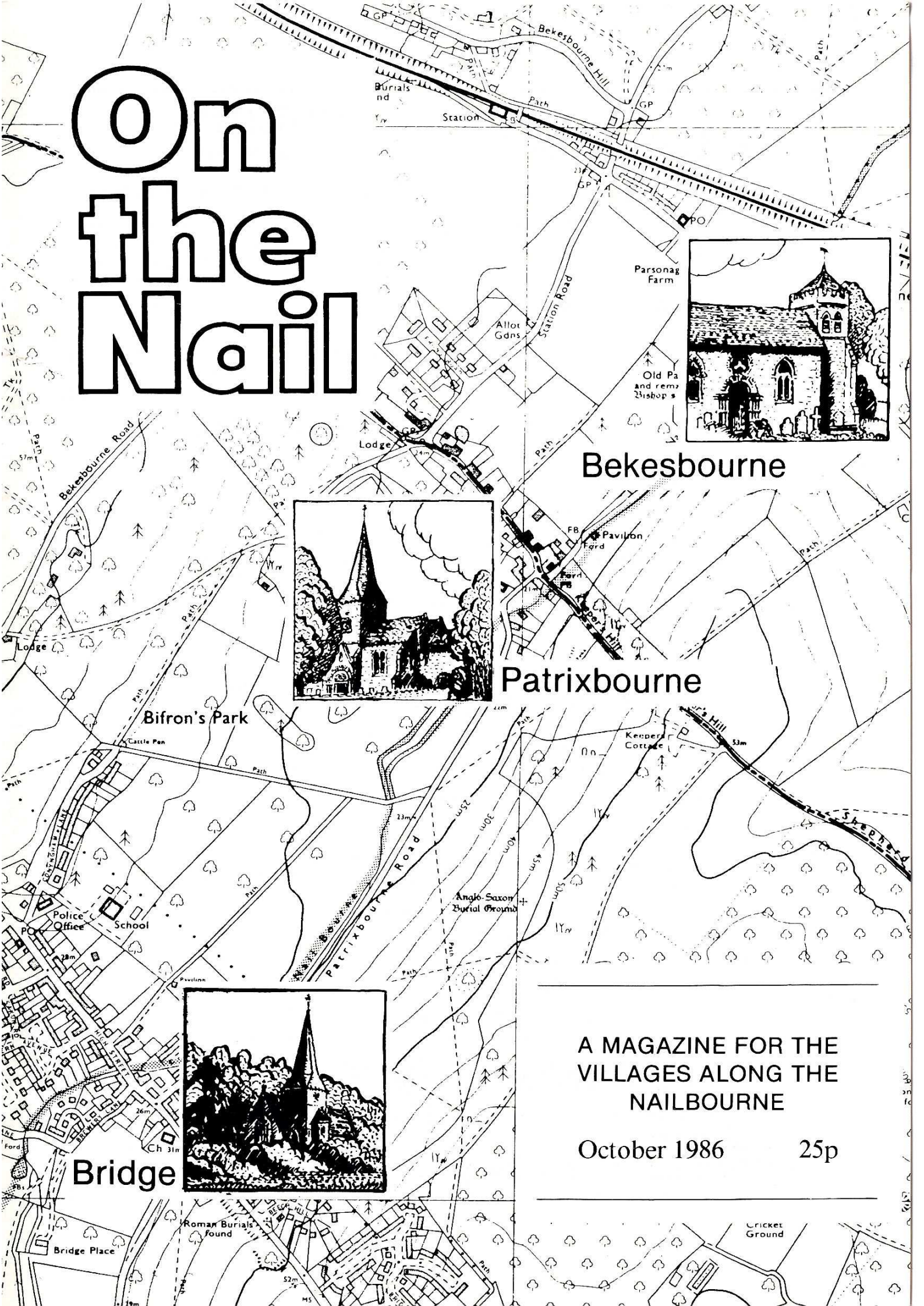
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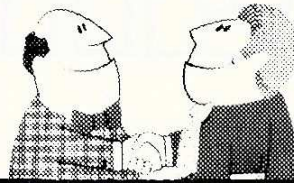
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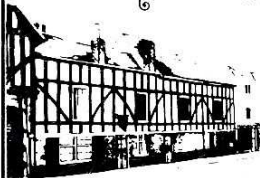
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Sunday Worship in October

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

5th:

11am *Harvest Family Service* 8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

6.30 *Harvest Evensong*

12th:

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

6.30pm Evensong

19th:

9.30 Parish Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am *Songs of Praise*
(*ASB Rite A*)

6.30pm Evensong
(*Canon F.S. Bull*)

26th:

8am Holy Communion 9am Holy Communion 11am Matins

6.30pm Evensong

2nd November:

11am Family Service 8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *5th*, Mr. W.E. Ingall. *12th*, Mr. David Morton. *19th, Holy Communion*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *26th*, Mr. Leslie Dron. *2nd November*, Miss Joan Charlesworth.

Weekday Services: Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (BCP) at 9.30am and Fridays (ASB Rite A) at 7.30am, with the exceptions of Wednesday, 1st and Friday, 3rd. This month's Communion at Churchill House is on the *second* Wednesday, which is 8th, at 10.15am. A short and informal service is held at The New Close each Wednesday at 2.30pm, but note there will not be one on 1st October. Meetings to pray for health and healing take place in Bridge Church on the first and third Thursdays of every month at 7pm and all are welcome to join in or to send subjects for prayer.

For your diary and prayer list

2nd Prayers for Health and Healing, Bridge Church, 7pm

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

5th **Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 20*

St. Peter's, Bridge Harvest Festival is to-day. Gifts of fruit and vegetables offered at the festival will be taken to The New Close afterwards.

6th *William Tyndale, Translator of the Bible, 1536*

9th Coffee Morning for *The Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths* at 4 Meadow Close, 10am to 12 noon.

Confirmation Preparation classes resume at the Vicarage, 6pm.

Bridge Parish Council meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm

10th *St. Paulinus, Bishop, Missionary, 644*

12th **Twentieth Sunday after Trinity** *Pentecost 21*

- 13th *St. Edward the Confessor, King of England, 1066*
 14th Interchurch Meeting in Bridge Methodist Church, 7.30pm
 15th *St. Teresa of Avila, Mystic, 1582*
 16th Prayers for Health and Healing, Bridge Church, 7pm.
 17th *St. Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, Martyr, c.107*
 18th **St. Luke the Evangelist**
 Pray for the Diocesan Synod which assembles to-day at Maidstone.
 19th **Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity** *Last after Pentecost*
 'Songs of Praise' at St. Peter's, Bekesbourne, 11am.
 21st Pray for the East Bridge Deanery Synod this evening at Littlebourne, especially for our representatives, John Purchase (Bekesbourne), Joyce Rose, Sheila Fenn and Stephen Pike (Patricxbourne with Bridge).
 Bridge with Patricxbourne WI has a cookery demonstration in the Village Hall at its 7pm meeting, to which visitors are most welcome.
 25th Canterbury Council of Health & Healing has its AGM and a Study Day at St. Paul's Church Hall, Boxley Road, Maidstone from 10.30am to 4pm. (See p.7 for details)
 26th **Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity** *9 before Christmas*
 28th **St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles**
 29th *James Hannington, Bishop, Missionary, Martyr, 1885*

Good health!

St. Luke, author of the gospel that bears his name and its sequel *The Acts of the Apostles*, and who is feasted (ecclesiastically speaking) each 18th October, is generally believed to have been a doctor — or what passed for a doctor in those far off times.

The idea originated from two sources, the first being the way Luke relates our Lord's healing miracles. Commentators have detected an above-average attention to medical detail, with more concern for symptoms than might have been expected from a layman. For instance, he is a shade more technical about Jesus' 'patients' than the other evangelists.

It has to be admitted, however, that this deduction is neither universally made nor positive proof that St. Luke was a medical man, for a literary style is very open to conjecture. Perhaps any doubt in the matter can be expelled with reference to St. Paul's epistle to the Colossians where, in chapter 4 and verse 14 he makes mention of "Luke the beloved physician".

Where the Church is concerned this is enough to justify the practice of many years standing whereby St. Luke's-tide is given over to thinking about the medical profession. Special services are held and prayers offered for the healing arts and those who practise them.

Hereby hangs a problem for which the Church ought long ago to have been called to task. Almost without exception prayers are said for doctors and nurses, after which we feel honour is satisfied. But not so! Only a fraction of the people engaged in the health business are in fact doctors and nurses. Supporting or working along side them is a whole host of ancillary staff in our hospitals, all of whom share in the ministry of healing. There are physiotherapists, radiographers, dieticians, orthoptists (ask Ailsa Williamson if you don't know what they do), dentists, chiropodists, chefs, boilermen, porters, cleaners, volunteers who push trolleys of sweets, toiletries and telephones round the wards, and they are but a random selection. The whole hospital

organisation contributes to the work of healing for which the place exists and ought to be remembered in our prayers along with the more glamorous doctors, surgeons and nurses.

A shift of emphasis

In recent years St. Luke's-tide has taken on an additional emphasis due to the recovery of the Church's healing ministry. I say 'recovery' because this is nothing new but a valuable and integral part of Church life in the early days, that got lost over the centuries but is now being rediscovered. Bound up in this exciting resurgence is the holistic approach to patient care that is permeating the medical profession, for both the Church's ministry and holistic medicine are saying the same thing.

Human beings comprise body, mind and spirit and in the healthy person these three harmonize perfectly. By the same token, any defect in one aspect is almost certain to affect or be affected by the other two. Proper diagnosis and treatment should, therefore, also involve all three, or in other words, the whole person. Holistic doctors thus approach a patient as a whole person, a complete human being, rather than as a case of, say, hepatitis or manic depression. They talk to their patient (that in itself is a novelty in some instances) and try to locate not only the symptom but its cause. Holistic practice requires more time than most busy GPs are able to give, but there is the other side to it, and it may be that extra time spent in this way may produce a more lasting cure, encourage the patient to see himself in a fresh light and so lead to emptier waiting rooms.

Far be it for me to teach a doctor his job but as a patient it would help me no end to know that he cared about me as a whole. After all I am a person with a body, mind and spirit. If I am ill I want to know what is wrong with me, what is causing the discomfort, and I would like him to tell me. By that I mean I would like to be able to discuss my problem with him face to face, and not — as can happen — while his pen is poised over the prescription pad or his finger over the button. I want his whole and undivided attention, instead of feeling that he is anxious to get rid of me. Am I asking a lot? I don't think so!

Complementary healing

Christ Jesus came to save mankind, and the word for 'save' is the same as for 'heal'. His work of salvation is a work of healing that includes everything that goes to make up a person. Just so, the Church in its healing ministry (which is an extension of Christ's) ministers to the whole person. It is not holding itself up as an alternative to conventional medicine, which would be foolhardy indeed, but as complementary to it. The Church witnesses to the truth that all healing agencies are of God, whether they acknowledge the fact or not. So at St. Luke's-tide, when we commemorate the evangelist Dr. Luke we pray for all who minister healing in the world. Of course we pray for doctors and nurses, but we also pray for those who work along side them in hospitals and in the community. We pray also for the renewal of the Church's healing ministry, particularly for our part in it, which currently finds its chief expression in the prayers for Health and Healing in Bridge Church on the first and third Thursdays at 6 o'clock.

CANTERBURY COUNCIL OF HEALTH & HEALING

Study Day & Annual General Meeting

At St. Paul's Church Hall, Boxley Road, Maidstone
Saturday 25th October 1986 from 10.30am — 4.00pm

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Cot Deaths — a serious dilemma

The Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths is a most worthwhile organisation, as anyone will admit who has gone through the terrible trauma of losing their tiny child through what is commonly called cot death. This mysterious fatality is now receiving urgent attention from medical researchers, who are finding it no easy task trying to discover what causes cot deaths. Funds for such research are also in short supply, which is where *The Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths* comes in.

To help with fun-raising Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart is having a Coffee Morning for the Foundation at her home, 4 Meadow Close on Thursday, 9th October from 10am to 12 noon. Do give her and the Foundation the support they so richly deserve by attending or sending a contribution if you are otherwise engaged!

The Ants: 9 to 14 year olds

This term the *Ants* will be celebrating the club's first anniversary. Last term many varied events occurred.

Mrs. Medland from the Roper House Institute for the Deaf came to teach us how to communicate by using sign language. Mr. Finn and Mr. Blamey from the RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) took us bird-watching at Westbere Lakes. Many of the *Ants* regularly bird-watch and contributed to the conversation on the flying patterns and rarity of the birds they saw. Other *Ant* members, however, were more interested in focussing their binoculars on frogs and tadpoles instead!

Mr. Eldridge had been unable to visit us before, through illness, but this term was well enough to come. He brought Helen, his guide dog, and delighted the children by demonstrating her skills. Helen guided him down Brewery Lane and across Bridge High Street.

Kingston's Once-a-Month Club had a weekend camp at Goodnestone Park and we were invited along for an afternoon. We played all sorts of games, finishing up with a musical open-air service, a religious quiz and tea. The *Ants* loved it and integrated well with the other children.

The following meeting involved a picnic and attending the Bridge Church service.

Our next venture was to catch a train to Chilham and follow the Pilgrims' Way home. This was exhausting for everyone, but great fun.

The last meeting was a sponsored litter collection in Bridge. We collected for one hour, armed with black bags and an old pair of gloves. I cannot tell you how much we have made because all the sponsor money has not been handed in yet, but thank you if you sponsored us. The money will go towards the RSPCA.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, 28th September at 9.30am and at 14 Brewery Lane. Anyone wishing to join our group is welcome to come along.

Caroline Pentin

Vicar: I think I see why *'The Ants'*! Caroline certainly keeps them busy and it is very refreshing to hear of the group's activities. It just goes to show profitable activity can also be fun with a lively and committed person at the helm. Under Caroline's inspired and enthusiastic leadership the *Ants* are learning a great deal about life, and since religion is all about living, the club is also learning that the practice of religion is something to be revelled in, not sweated over. Well done, Caroline, and God bless you all! You will always, need I say it, receive a warm welcome at church, particularly at the Family Service on the first Sunday of the month. Membership of the *Ants* does not prevent taking part in this family worship, as a few seem to think.

New dimensions in Worship

Two one-day workshops have been organised for laity and clergy to assist those who are responsible to think through the theological and the technical aspects of music in worship in the light of new trends. In charge of the workshops is the Cathedral Organist, Dr. Allan Wicks, who has prepared a programme that will be of interest to all Church musicians; Organists and Choirmasters, singers and instrumentalists, and all those who conduct worship. Participants are invited to take an instrument with them if possible.

Each day last from 10.15am till 3.30pm and the workshops are in St. Mildred's Church, Canterbury. There are four sessions, the first entitled "Music in Worship — Theology and Praxis". The second session is a practical one on new ways with psalms, and hymns without an organ. Session three is on instrumental music, and the final one comprises a plenary session and a short act of worship. Those taking part will need to take their own lunch, but liquid refreshments are provided. To cover expenses a small charge of £2 per person is requested.

Each parish is limited to four participants only and the dates are Tuesday, 21st October or Saturday, 25th. Interested parties please see the Vicar with all speed.

Churchyard clean-up

As many friends as possible are invited to join our working party in St. Peter's Churchyard (Bridge) on Saturday 8th November at 10am. The new part in particular is in need of thorough tidying, so please join us with whatever implements you can bring. A.J.



mf Songs of praise the angels sang,
Heaven with Alleluias rang,
When creation was begun,
When God spake and it was done.

2

f Songs of praise awoke the morn
When the Prince of Peace was born;
Songs of praise arose when he
Captive led captivity.

Songs of Praise again at Bekesbourne

Sunday October 19th at 11am at St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne, there will be the second *Songs of Praise* for 1986. It has been the popular way to break up the long run of Trinity, and we have been doing it for a decade.

Remember, if you have a favourite hymn, want to learn a little about the people who wrote the words or composed the music and then sing it, let the organist Stan Grey know of your choice (tel: 830522).

There always is a good attendance at this service, if you have not been before you might come and find out why! J.P.

Nailbourne novelty?

There was something fishy about the Nailbourne at Bekesbourne one day in the summer. Leaning on the churchyard gate, soaking up the peace, my attention was attracted by a galaxy of silver stars glinting in the shallow waterfall created by the concrete ramp across the road.

A closer look revealed hundreds of fish between three and four inches in length congregated below the waterfall. They were continually leaping at it, like salmon coming up river to spawn. Most of them fell back the first few times allowing the sunlight to be mirrored by their bellies.

They made it in the end and went scurrying across the road to disappear in the direction of Patribourne. I was not the only interested spectator. There was a sudden blue streak and a kingfisher dived into the water—something I have not seen on my visits to Bekesbourne before.

Was this unusual, what kind of fish were they, and what could they find so attractive about such a fickle stream as the Nailbourne? K.B.

To all who are retired

If you are retired you may be interested in attending a service of Thanksgiving for Retirement which the Kent Retirement Association is holding in Canterbury Cathedral on Tuesday, 7th October at 11.30am. The preacher is the retired archbishop, the Right Revd. Lord Coggan.

KTA writes:

At the beginning of this century such a Service would not have been possible; few people had the opportunity to enjoy a long and happy retirement. Today, thanks to improved health, better living conditions, improved pension provision and greater social understanding, over ten million people spend a significant period of their lives in retirement.

Many have the opportunity to make this an active, happy and fulfilling time, and are grateful that society has made this possible. What was regarded as a dream a few years ago is now accepted as every man's right,

To give practical expression to the gratitude people may feel, the Collection at the Service is to be donated this year to the National Children's Home.

We live to-day with an ageing population. By the turn of the century nearly a quarter of the population will be in this situation. We hope this service will be seen well beyond the boundaries of Kent, as a demonstration of the willingness of retired people to contribute back into a society that sustains them in their later years.

Terrorism

by the Revd. M. Peter Taylor

Hijacked planes, kidnapped businessmen, bombs in shopping streets and shooting in synagogues seem to be common events today. Terrorism often hits the headlines and no country seems to be exempt from its activities. Here in East Kent it all seems so distant and it is easy for us to dismiss those who terrorise others in this way, but we must be careful. One man's terrorist is another's freedom-fighter; the activities of the Contras, backed by President Reagan in Nicaragua are not so different from those of the IRA.

What are the roots of terrorism?

Frequently its roots lie in the struggle for national self-determination. Sikhs, Palestinians. Basques, Catholics in Northern Ireland, Tamils in Sri Lanka, Shi'ite Muslims in Lebanon: all these and many others feel their cultural or religious rights are ignored or denied. Not all turn to terrorism, and many abhor it, but many feel that their options for peaceful political change have been exhausted. Other roots can be found in Islamic fundamentalism with its desire to dig out corrupt Western values from their homeland; and in left-wing groups whose mindless use of violence merely trivializes dreams of socialism; and from right-wing groups who seem to use violence as an end in itself.

Behind most of this apparently senseless violence is a voice trying to be heard, a legitimate complaint wanting to be acknowledged. This does not mean that we can condone acts of terrorism. Terrorism is wrong, but until we all listen to the complaints of those communities where terrorism breeds, the carnage will continue. If we simply dismiss terrorists as lunatics we only reinforce our prejudices and do nothing to understand them and will never solve the problems behind them.

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The Council met for the first time after the summer recess on Thursday, 11th September.

Recreation Ground:

The Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, stated that the banks and area around the Nailbourne where it flowed past the Recreation Ground had been cleared and arrangements made for the area to be cut regularly through August and September. Meanwhile the County Council had cut the perimeter and those other areas which their gang mower could not reach, which had contributed to a general improvement in the appearance of the Ground. Cllr. Peter Lawrence reported that he had carried out the repairs to the see-saw and had in hand other minor maintenance work to the rest of the playground equipment. The Council were still looking into ways of solving the problem of the youngsters playing football in front of the tennis courts netting. Cllr. Mrs. Margaret Jones drew attention to another problem, of boys kicking a football against the wooden fencing panels between the Recreation Ground and part of Riverside Close, which happened during the football matches and which had resulted in part of the panelling being broken. The Clerk was to write to the two clubs who had use of the pitch asking for their assurance that such behaviour would not occur during their use of the pitch.

Streets and Footways:

The Clerk was to notify Kent County Council of the poor state of the footpaths in Beech Hill, and also to reiterate a request for the bollards outside Maudsley House in the High Street to be painted white.

Village Hall:

Cllr. Kent Greenaway informed members that one of the new small tables was missing from the hall and also that he had found one of the water-filled fire extinguishers lying empty outside the back door. Cllr. Lawrence pointed out the

decaying state of the brickwork around the front door which Cllr. Mervyn Gulvin was to be asked to investigate.

'Trees in Your Village' Competition:

The Chairman stated that the judges' report on the trees had been generally favourable and that those responsible were to be congratulated on their efforts. The actual results of the competition were to be notified later.

Planning:

The Planning Committee had had few observations to make on recent applications received. On an application for rebuilding and extending the motorcycle repair workshops in Brewery Lane (CA /86/1030/BRI), they had suggested certain alterations to improve light to neighbouring properties and to reduce the vision of a long ridge line. There had been no refusals of permission for any recent applications in the village other than the application for two detached houses on the land in front of The New Close in Conyngham Lane which the County Council's Planning Sub-Committee had recommended be withdrawn. They had gone on to advise that a development of one or two single-storey dwellings was likely to be viewed favourably. Members agreed that they would oppose strongly any such future application.

Radio link:

Cllr. Revd. Raymond Gilbert agreed to act as village correspondent for *BBC Radio Kent*. So, if anyone has any community news about events, people and places that would not normally make the main bulletins, or would like to give publicity to village dates and events, please let him have the relevant information, preferably in writing.

The net meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday, 9th October at the usual time of 7.30pm, in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall, and parishioners are, of course, most welcome to attend.

K.A. Walder, Clerk

The Archbishop at Diocesan Synod

held at Ashford on July 11th 1986

In his introductory remarks The Archbishop spoke warmly of his experiences at the Kent Agricultural Show that day, and paid tribute to the work of Jesse Sage and all those concerned with the Church Stand. He had never seen a better. He then gave his impressions of the recent meeting of General Synod in York.

“It was to my mind a very good gathering, with responsible debate and decisions about the ministry of women. First of all the admission of women to the order of Deacon. Then Synod decided that (probably for reasons of suspecting back doors), we would not be as welcoming to women lawfully ordained abroad as I would have wished. In the matter of our own legislative progress over the ordination of women it was decided that the bishops were going to try to get the synod out of the muddle in which we were landed by a preparatory document which the *Guardian* leader writer described as like something written frenetically in the middle of the night by a man who was surrounded by fiends and hobgoblins!

“We also had a good quality debate on Bishops and Belief which gave an opportunity for a really high-level encounter between traditional and exploratory theology. We had a debate on South Africa where there was surprising unanimity in the ultimate motion, which was passed. I thought that it was a well informed debate by people who came from experience in that sad part of the world. It was amazing how many myths can generate on all sides of the debate. One I am particularly anxious to kill is the idea that Desmond Tutu leads a rather small scale operation compared with other religious leaders. In fact, when members of parliament have quoted the number of followers of Bishop Tutu they have quoted the number of members of the diocese of Johannesburg, of which he is present bishop. It is as if somebody were to say that the Archbishop of Canterbury only really could count on the troops in the diocese of Canterbury; although those are good troops it would be an entirely false impression of my influence in the religious life of the country.

“Then we had a debate on historical resources — very important because we are trying to do something about the fact that a diocese like Lincoln has huge historical resources and very low parochial giving; and a diocese like Liverpool or Southwark has practically no historical resources and quite high parochial giving . . .

“At the present time we belong to a Church where there is a lot of heads of steam around. Heads of steam are good. But the important thing is to get the steam all going in the same direction, and sharing the mission of Jesus Christ and his Body in the real world, and not have heads of steam going against each other in an unreal ecclesiastical world.”

‘Fish’ News



Although Christmas seems a long way off, plans have already been made for the annual Christmas Shopping Evening for the elderly and handicapped people, to be held on Wednesday, 26th November, from 6.0 to 7.45pm. This year more stores have joined in the scheme — Marks & Spencer, British Home Stores, W.H. Smith, Woolworths, C & H Fabrics, Boots and C & A will all be open for us. This is always an enjoyable event. If you would like tickets for yourself or a relative, please let me know by Monday, 20th October at the latest. Transport can be arranged if you need it. A few wheel-chairs will be available, but these have to be booked in advance.

This month’s Coffee Pop-In will be in Bridge Village Hall on Wednesday, 8th October from 10.15 to 11.45 am. If you haven’t been before, do come and join us. This is a social gathering — not a fund-raising event!

Joan Warren, 830233

The following letter has been received from Mr. and Mrs. Howard Crouch, formerly of Ford Close:

Eva and Howard Crouch on moving from Bridge to Kingston wish to thank all their friends for all the love and friendship they gave them during their stay in Bridge. From our first arriving in the village some seven years ago we have met with nothing but kindness. Thank you everyone and all good wishes.

<i>Cleaning</i>	St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne	<i>Flowers</i>
Mrs. Hogben	5th October	Mrs. Clifford
Mrs. Watson	12th October	Mrs. Watson
Mrs. Russell	19th October	Mrs. Millyard
Mrs. Grey	26th October	Mrs. Grey
Mrs. Beckett	2nd November	Mrs. Farbrace

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Mr. S.R. Pike, 12 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JY (830708)

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

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

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Mr. N.H. Cruse, 9 Meadow Close, Herne Bay CT6 6NN (361335)

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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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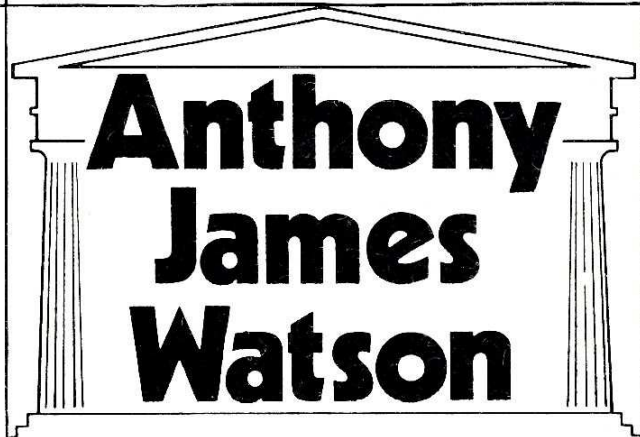
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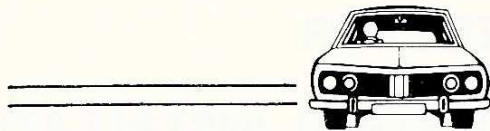
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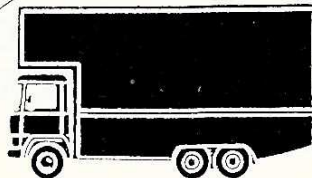
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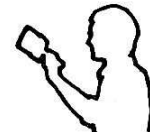
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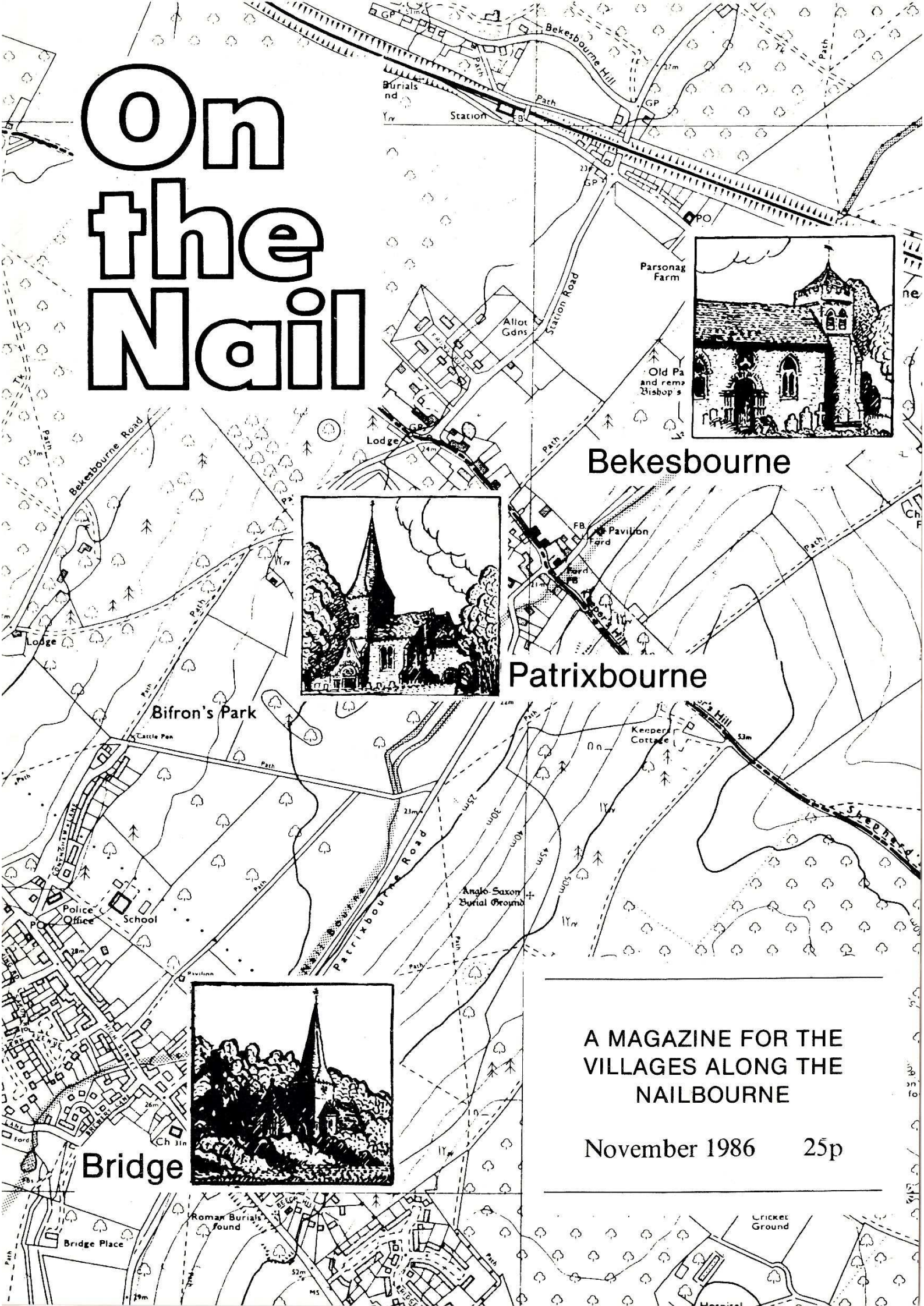
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patricbourne



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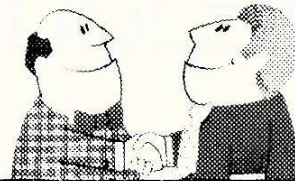
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Sunday Worship in November

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

2nd:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

9th:

9.30 Family Communion
(Rite A)
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am **Service of Remembrance**
(Preacher: Revd. C. Verity)

16th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(Rite A)
6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

23rd:

8am Holy Communion
(BCP)
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

30th:

9.30 Family Communion
(Rite A)
6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

7th December:

11am Family Gift Service
(Canon F.S. Bull)
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

The area Service of Remembrance this year is at Bekesbourne, commencing with the Two-Minutes Silence at the War Memorial in the Churchyard at 11am. This means that Matins at Patricxbourne is held over till the following Sunday (16th). For the Bridge branch of the Royal British Legion a short act of remembrance with wreath-laying will be held at the Bridge memorial at 10.45am.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *2nd*, Miss J. Charlesworth. *9th*, Dr. D. Rosman and Mr. A. Barwick. *16th*, Holy Communion, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *23rd*, Miss K. Knight. *30th*, Mr. E.R. O'Mahony.

Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's, Bridge on Wednesdays (BCP) at 9.30am and Fridays (Rite A) at 7.30am, and at Churchill House on the first Wednesday at 10.15am. The brief, informal service for the residents of The New Close takes place every Wednesday afternoon at 2.30pm. The support of parishioners at this service is always appreciated. It lasts under the half hour. Meetings to pray for health and healing take place in Bridge Church on the first and third Thursdays at 7pm, and all are welcome to join in or send subjects for prayer.

For your diary and prayer list

1st **All Saints' Day**

School PTA Bonfire Night, Church Meadow, 6.30pm

- 2nd **Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity** 8 before Christmas
This is also the day for the annual commemoration of All Souls.
- 3rd *Richard Hooker, Teacher of the Faith, 1600.* This sixteenth century priest was for a time Vicar of Bishopsbourne.
- 6th Prayers for Health and Healing, Bridge Church, 7pm
- 9th **Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity** 7 before Christmas
For special Remembrance Sunday observances please see above. The sermon at Bekesbourne will be preached by the Revd. Cecil Verity, an RAF chaplain for many years.
- 11th *St. Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397*
Senior Citizens' Club Autumn Sale, Bridge Village Hall, 2.30 to 4pm
Bekesbourne PCC meeting, School House, 8pm
- 16th **Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity** 6 before Christmas
- 17th *St. Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680*
St. Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200
- 18th Bridge with Patrixbourne WI Annual Meeting, Village Hall, 7pm
- 19th School Governors meeting
- 20th *St. Edmund of East Anglia, King and Martyr, 870*
Prayers for Health and Healing, Bridge Church, 7pm
- 22nd The New Close Coffee Morning and Sale, 10am to noon
- 23rd **Sunday next before Advent** 5 before Christmas
- 25th Pray for the clergy of East Bridge Deanery who meet in Chapter at Bridge this morning.
- 27th Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Bridge Village Hall, 8pm. Mrs. N. Sharman will give an informative talk on points and details to look out for when 'Cooking for Showing'.
- 29th Bekesbourne Christmas Market, Bekesbourne Village Hall, 2pm
- 30th **First Sunday in Advent**

To be a pilgrim

Tucked away in the heart of the Norfolk countryside is the village of Old Walsingham. In pre-reformation times it was the site of a shrine to the Blessed Virgin Mary, but subsequently it became unacceptable to the English Church and was summarily disbanded.

Within living memory the Revd. Hope Patten became Vicar of Old Walsingham and immediately on arrival began the process of re-instatement. Fr. Hope Patten's determination was matched by eager support from many parts of the country until, today, the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham has become the foremost place of pilgrimage in the country. A brand new shrine church was built and the pilgrimages recommenced in a big way. They still flourish!

What is surprising about Walsingham is that it is an *Anglican* shrine, a focus of Anglican devotion, completely outstripping the Roman Catholic shrine nearby. It is also a place where prayer is wont to be made and where people *want* to pray, for it has a hallowed atmosphere all its own.

The beauty and prayerfulness in which Walsingham basks is something it would do everyone a lot of good to experience, which is why a member of Bridge's congregation has suggested that a party from our villages make a day-long pilgrimage to this holy place. As one who has visited the shrine on

several occasions I greet this idea enthusiastically and would be happy to organize a trip one day next spring. Think seriously about it, and if you also would be interested in coming I would love to hear from you fairly soon. The likelihood is that we would hire a motorcoach, assuming sufficient want to come, and once I have some notion of potential support I can do some costing.

Walsingham is quite unique in the Church of England. I hope you will come and savour it.

Burrswood, a place of healing

'In 1912 a girl of 23 was miraculously healed from death after five years of invalidism. Dorothy Kerin's health began to deteriorate rapidly after her father's death in 1902. By Christmas 1911 the two doctors attending her diagnosed tubercular peritonitis as her chief ailment. By February 1912 the end was near: she had been deaf and blind for the past fortnight, and for the most part unconscious. The next day was Sunday and in the evening about 9.30pm she seemed to breathe her last. Her breathing ceased and her heart stopped beating for eight minutes. She then seemed to be raised in bed, sat up and opened her eyes. To her mother's and friends' astonishment she spoke: "I'm well now; I want my dressing-gown. I want to walk", and repeated the request when the first time it went unheeded. She then got up and walked and asked for supper! Dorothy later revealed that she had seen "a beautiful Light", out of which an angel of the Lord had called to her: "Dorothy, your sufferings are over. Get up and walk". Her healing led to detailed medical examination. She even stayed for six weeks with Dr. Ash, a specialist in Portman Square, whose X-ray examination revealed that new lungs had replaced the old ones wasted away with consumption. Many doctors attested the cure. On June 30th the same year she gave a message to the Church and the world which was given the whole of the first page in one of our national newspapers. She testified that her healing came from God alone and that she had been entrusted with a message to the whole world, "a promise of healing to the sick, comfort to the sorrowing and faith to the faithless". The community and the church of Christ the Healer at Burrswood, near Tunbridge Wells, where the Church and the medical profession work side by side, and where regular services of healing are held, are fitting memorials to a great pioneer of the ministry in this century who lived for a further 51 years in total dedication to that message.'

* * *

That account of a modern miracle was given by Bishop Morris Maddocks, Advisor to the Archbishops on the Church's Ministry of Healing. Many are already familiar with the work being done at Burrswood and some readers have paid a visit. On Thursday, 27th November a group is going to Burrswood from the parish of Nonington to attend the service of healing that morning, and the Revd. Ian Hawkins, their vicar, has invited anyone from our parishes who wishes to join them. Interested parties please contact me as soon as possible.

Village Events

Bridge Folk Dance Group's new season is under way, with several new dancers enjoying our evenings. No experience necessary: Alf Matthews, our caller, is a very patient teacher. So come along to Bridge Village Hall at 8 o'clock on Thursdays, 6th and 20th November for a warm welcome. Enquiries, ring 830285 or 830652.

J.H.

* * *

Mrs. Dot Whittaker advises readers of the annual Christmas Sales Stall which she runs at her home, 9 High Street, Bridge on behalf of **Kent Trust for Nature Conservation**. It is open for all who care to go on Sunday, 9th November, Saturday, 22nd November and Sunday, 23rd November from 10am to 6pm on each occasion.

* * *

The **Senior Citizens' Club** annual Autumn Sale will be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday, 11th November from 2.30pm to 4pm. There will be bargains galore! Please support.

O.I.K.

* * *

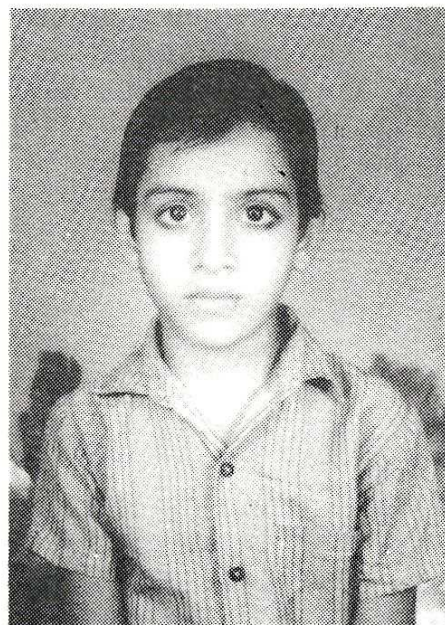
Mrs. Knight also announces, on behalf of the **Friends of The New Close**, the annual Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday, 22nd November at the home from 10am till 12 noon. Christmas crackers, wrapping paper and gifts, etc. will be on sale. The proceeds will be used to provide Christmas goodies for the residents.

To Delhi with love

Under this headline *On The Nail* in June 1981 introduced the Indian boy Bridge and Patric-bourne parish would sponsor for his education. No one, even in India, stays at school for ever, and the Delhi Brotherhood Society, through whom the sponsorship was organized, informed us a week or two ago that Pappu Jagnath was no longer a pupil at Deenabandhu Primary School. As we wish to continue this link with the church's work in India a new pupil is to receive our support and I am pleased to introduce the wide-eyed youngster whose photograph you see before you.

His name is Rakesh Kumar and he was born on Christmas Day, 1979. He is a Hindu in a family of three children. His father is dead, so the sole means of support is Rakesh's mother, Sudesh Devi, who works as a labourer, for which she is paid 350 rupees a month (approximately £26). Despite the family's economic deprivations Rakesh is described as neat and tidy and he certainly looks a delightful lad.

As with Pappu we are encouraged to make contact with Rakesh on a personal basis and I hope as many of you as feel able will write to him. I assume the situation to be that Rakesh does not speak English, so short letters are



preferable, but pictures to illustrate life here would be very welcome, either of the locality or yourselves. The address to write to is: Rakesh Kumar, c/o The Brotherhood House, 7 Court Lane, Delhi-110054, India.

KIRCHENTAG—Frankfurt, June, 1987

'Kirchentag' literally means 'church day' and is a gathering of church people for study and fellowship, though for longer than one day. It is a great event in the life of the German church and people travel far and wide in order to take part. In recent years Christians from other countries have been urged to join in and parties have gone from this diocese. So enthusiastic is the host nation that German families offer free hospitality in their homes to overseas visitors, which adds to the value of the Kirchentag from the point of view of contacts with other believers, and also means it is not a financial impossibility for would-be participants. All we have to pay for is the air fare, a small conference fee and spending money.

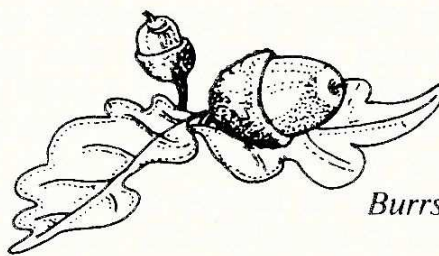
Next year's Kirchentag is at Frankfurt and if you would like to consider going Clive Barlow, the Rural Dean would be delighted to hear from you. He went last year and came back full of enthusiasm for this experience of international Christian fellowship. The dates are 17th to 21st June, 1987, and Clive would be particularly interested to hear from any young people of 18-plus who might contemplate making up a party from this deanery. His address is The Vicarage, 3 Chequer Lane, Ash CT3 2ET (tel: 0304-812296).

Junior Church News

Our library is now in full swing, thanks to everyone who has given us books or donated money for the same.

The knitted squares are rolling in. The village is wonderful; so many people have taken part, as well as the children. Thank you and keep up the good work. We have up to the middle of December. Mrs. Young has already sewn up two blankets for *Save The Children*, and we should have a good few more by Christmas.

Penny Spencer



Burrswood's emblem

Worth Pondering

It came to me as an arresting thought, "What God wants of you is not your ability but your availability". It is not primarily what one man can do for God in any particular situation that counts, but what God can do through one man or woman who is fully available and responsive to him. Paul's words to the Ephesian Christians remind us still that "By his power within us" He is able to do infinitely more than we ever dare to ask or imagine.

Experience proves, often dramatically, that it is not our ability or lack of it, but our availability to God that is the clue to all effective Christian action whether by individuals or by groups of Christians.

From THE BURRSWOOD HERALD by John Sayers

Bekesbourne Christmas Market

The annual Christmas Market will be held this year on Saturday 29th November at 2.00pm in the Village Hall. See details below. As usual, the proceeds will go to St. Peter's Church and the Bekesbourne Brownie Pack.

Raffle and tombola prizes, gifts of cakes, produce, books, plants and new items suitable as presents etc. are urgently needed. Please bring any contributions to the Village Hall in the morning or contact Jill Gillanders, Cala, Aerodrome Road; Jane Millyard, School House or Zan Clifford, Oakleigh.

St. Peter's, Bekesbourne
with Bekesbourne Brownies

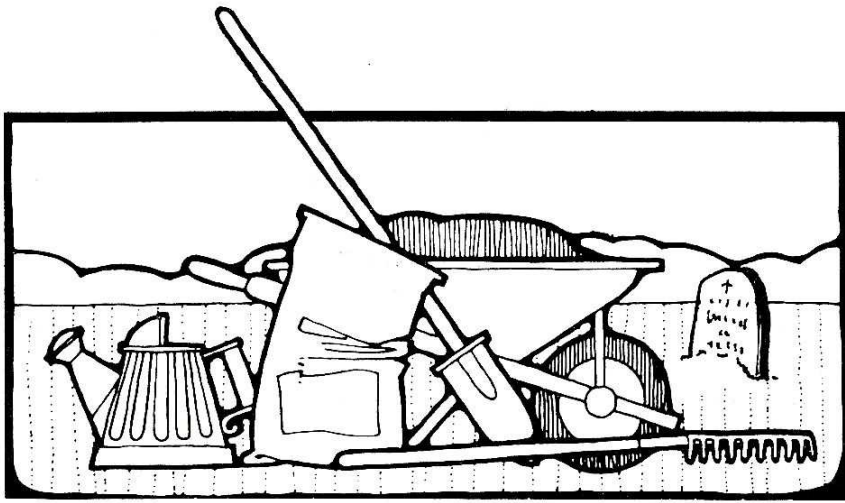
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Churchyard clean-up

As many friends as possible are invited to join our working party in St. Peter's Churchyard (Bridge) on Saturday 8th November at 10am. The new part in particular is in need of thorough tidying, so please join us with whatever implements you can bring.

A.J.

Bridge & Patrixbourne Christmas Market

At last summer's fête the grocery stall sold out completely, so in order to rebuild stocks for the Christmas Market your generosity is being sought. A large box is being placed just inside the door at Bridge Church on Saturdays and Sundays from now on, into which we hope you will place a gift for the grocery stall, as and when it is convenient. Alternatively you can leave the odd tin or packet inside the porch at the vicarage. Should you have something for one of the other stalls, and assuming it is not too big or is perishable, you can leave that also. Thank you in anticipation of your kind response.

Confirmation, 1986

Currently undergoing instruction prior to confirmation are Sylvia Lamkin (*Bekesbourne*), Michael Knight and Edward Clarke (*Patrixbourne*), so please add these youngsters to your prayers from now on until the Confirmation. The service will be at Ash on Sunday, 7th December and will follow the normal pattern nowadays of a Sung Eucharist with Confirmation. The sacrament will be administered by the Bishop of Dover, and the service begins at 10.30am.

It is most necessary that these young people receive the support of their home congregations both in the run up and on the day. For them it is an occasion of great decision, when they publicly profess their Christian Faith. It will also be the first time they make their communion; in itself a momentous event. Try and be with them in St. Nicholas's Church that morning!

Many thanks . . .

. . . to everyone who supported the coffee morning in June at the Pentins' on behalf of the *East Kent Badger Group*. £130·84 was raised.

. . . from Hilary Pike, who writes: "We had a very successful *Cancer Research Campaign* Week in September, and collected the sum of £163·56 in Bridge alone. Many thanks to all collectors and to those who gave so generously".

. . . on behalf of *The Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths* for the astounding sum of £310 raised by Elizabeth Stewart's Coffee Morning last month. In addition the sale of Christmas Cards yielded a further £210. Mrs. Stewart is most grateful to everyone who supported her.

. . . to all who helped in any way with the *Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Cycle Ride* in September. Gill Harvey, from the Bridge end, says: "It was again a good day enjoyed by everyone. Special thanks to our cyclists—Elizabeth and Katie Pike, Eliot Hodges, Samantha King, Joyce Hopkins and Kath Pierce. Together they raised £210·10, half of which will go to Bridge Church". From Bekesbourne Christine Ash reports that the Millyards, who cycled for the parish and whom we thank most warmly, raised £67·60, thus producing £33·80 for the church. The figure for St. Mary's, Patricxbourne is a phenomenal £208·95. There were a lot who cycled for Patricxbourne, some from outside the village, but from the village there were Joan Carpenter (a splendid personal total), Edward Clarke and Michael Knight (they visited 39 churches between them), Robert and Helen Pratt, Elizabeth and Sarah Hollister, and mother and daughter, Marian and Michala Harlow. Well done everyone — a worthwhile boost for church funds, indeed!

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

Once again it was matters relating to the **Recreation Ground** which dominated the meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 9th October.

The Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, reported that Mr. John Knight had offered to make any adjustments in size to the goal-post by the Tennis Courts, including re-siting it parallel to and alongside the fencing by the playground equipment, and that he might also be able to provide some netting for it. The Council accepted his offer gratefully. The Chairman then went on to report a total of nine letters received from mothers, the Chairman of the Bridge Boys F.C. and the Treasurer of Broomfield United F.C. complaining about the filthy state of the Recreation Ground because of dogs being allowed to foul there. After some discussion during which Members expressed their complete sympathy with the complainants and total disgust at the situation, it was decided as a first measure that suitable notices should be prepared for insertion in the local press, etc., and approaches made to organisations in the area in order to reach

these dog owners to make them aware of the problem they create and at the same time shame them into exercising their dogs elsewhere. The Clerk was also to look into the legal position. Cllr. Peter Lawrence stated that he would cut back the growth overhanging the footpath leading up to school. Moving on to the area around the Nailbourne Stream, the Council heard from Mr. Michael Stewart, a resident of the village, how he had had a representative from the Water Authority down to look at the riverbed and that he had been promised a gang of men to clear it in the near future. The Council decided to await the outcome of this before making any decision about grading and reseeding the banks. The Council gave authority to the Chairman to approve any work and reasonable estimates in connection with the improvement of the area.

Village Hall: Cllr Mervyn Gulvin reported that some of the lower level bricks around the front door of the hall were shattered and would allow rain-water in. A quotation of £175 + VAT had been obtained for carrying out the work and this was passed to Cllr. Mrs.

Anne Young for the attention of the Village Hall Management Committee. Mention was also made that there were two holes in the guttering on the side of the hall adjacent to Gordon House which, Cllr. Gulvin suggested, should be dealt with at the same time as the brickwork.

'Best Kept Village' Competition: The village had been unplaced in the competition this year, although some of the judge's remarks had been encouraging.

Planning: Cllr. Lawrence reported that the Planning Committee had had no observations to make on the majority of applications received since the last meeting. However, on the outline application for the erection of a detached house and garage on land adjoining Filmer Cottage, Filmer Road, although having no objection in principle to an appropriate type dwelling on the site, they had asked the City Council to give due consideration to certain important aspects relating to

traffic and overshadowing of neighbouring properties. There had to date been no refusals by the City Council of planning permission for recently submitted applications. Members had no objections to raise to an application for the grant of a Restaurant Licence in respect of 73 High Street.

Generally, the Council were informed that there was a sum of £196 available for distribution in the City Council's Lottery Fund. The Chairman reported that he had attended the 6th Anniversary Celebrations of the 'Fish Scheme's' Luncheon Club and thanked and congratulated all those involved in this commendable scheme.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 13th November at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall when Mr. David Pentin, a resident of the village and local City Councillor, had kindly agreed to address the meeting on 'Parish Precepting'.

K.A. Walder, Clerk

'Fish' News



The Luncheon Club celebrated its sixth birthday with a gala luncheon on 6th October. The catering staff produce a delicious meal every Monday, but on these occasions they always excel themselves. The members send their thanks to the catering staff and volunteers for all their hard work.

The next Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday, 12th November in Bridge Village Hall from 10.15 to 11.45am.

Enormous sums of money are lost every year in unclaimed benefits from the DHSS. People are unaware of their entitlement to allowances and financial help, or if they do know they don't always know how to set about applying. Every year, when benefits change, *Age Concern* publishes a new edition of the booklet *Your Rights*. This explains in simple language the benefits that are available for pensioners and how they are obtained, and also gives a considerable amount of other helpful information. In addition *Age Concern* publishes a range of booklets and fact sheets which I hope to enlarge on in the future. I keep copies of these publications and the DHSS leaflets, and am always willing to help anyone wanting information. *Your Rights* can be obtained from W.H. Smith or the *Age Concern* Office at Castle Street, Canterbury, price 90p.

Joan Warren, 830233

Vicar: Following on Mrs. Warren's last point, the DHSS itself produces a booklet entitled 'Which Benefit?', in conjunction with the Central Office of Information. As a fresh issue comes out they invariably send me a copy. It would appear to serve the same purpose as 'Your Rights' but to contain advice on all DHSS benefits plus a few benefits that are non-DHSS. They also cover the entire population, subjects ranging from Dental Treatment to Death, Christmas Bonus to College, Pensioners to Pregnancy. Do call on me if you think 'Which Benefit?' may be of help to you.

Mrs. Warren is always very free with her thanks for those who support the community via the Fish Scheme. May I be permitted to voice the community's thanks to Joan for her unflagging energy and enthusiasm on our behalf. We owe it all to her. From us all, thank you Joan!

Cleaning ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BEKESBOURNE Flowers

Mrs. Beckett	2nd November	Mrs. Farbrace
Mrs. Smith	9th November	Mrs. Whigham
<i>A Volunteer?</i>	16th November	Mrs. Ashdown
Mrs. Hogben	23rd November	Mrs. Jackson
Mrs. Watson	30th November	<i>Advent — No flowers</i>
Mrs. Russell	7th December	<i>Advent — No flowers</i>

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

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 Mr. S.R. Pike, 12 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JY (830708)

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

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr. M. Miles, 7 The Precincts, Canterbury CT1 2EE (462947)

Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriority, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD (462695)

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

Mr. N.H. Cruse, 9 Meadow Close, Herne Bay CT6 6NN (361335)

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

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

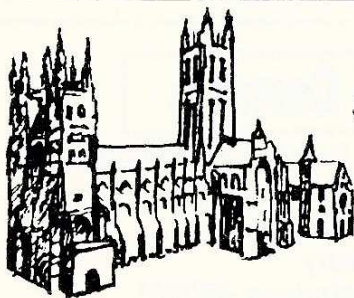
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Magazine Advertising: Mr. H.P.M. Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830472)

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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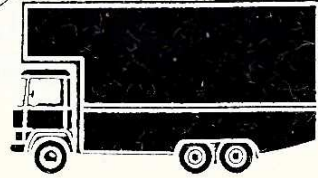
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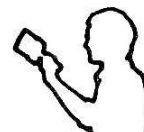
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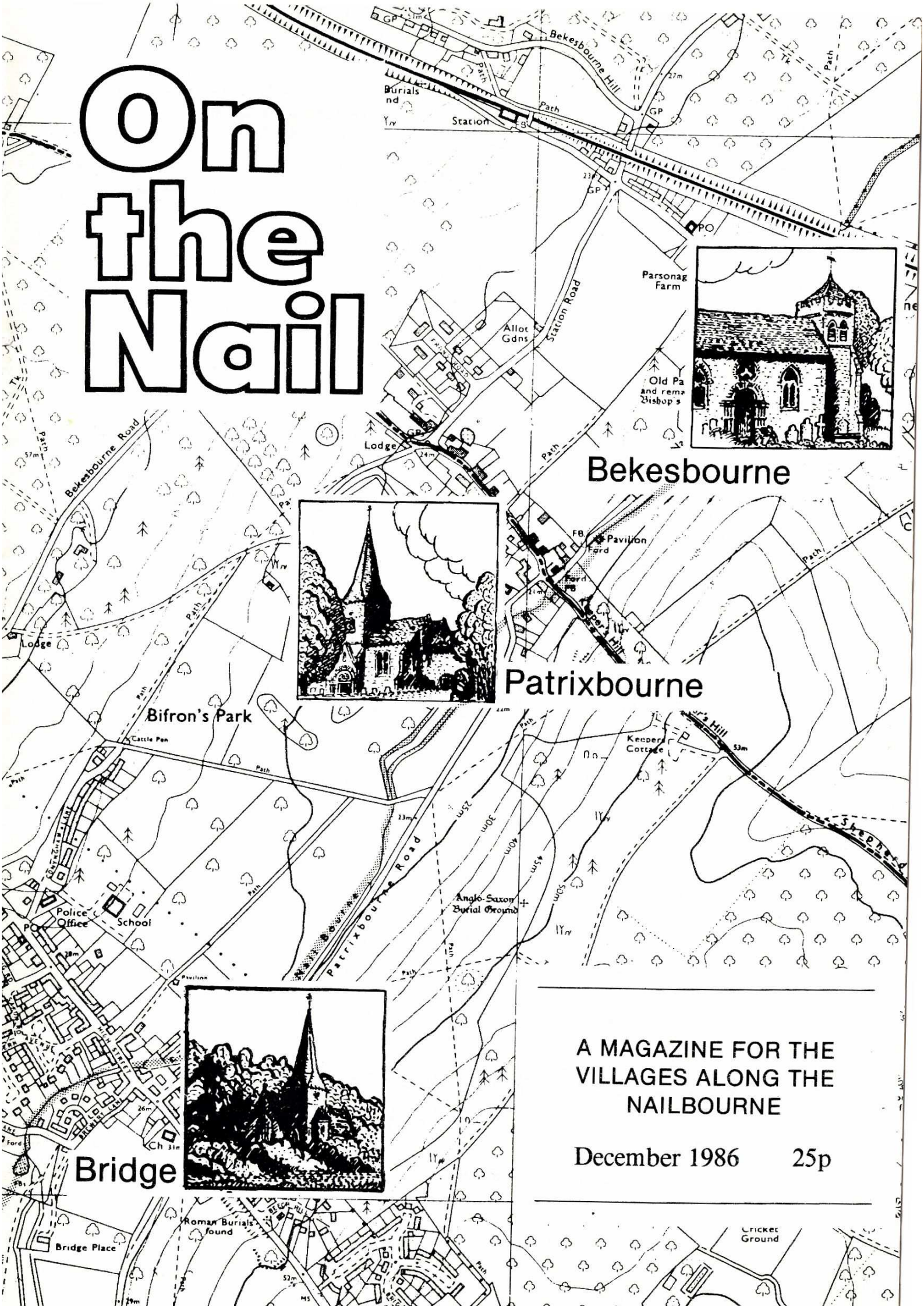
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patricxbourne



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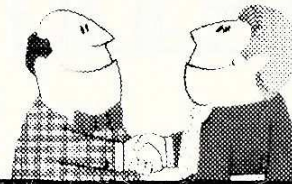
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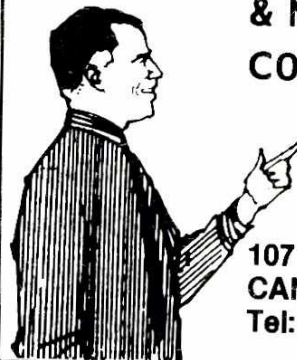
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Sunday Worship in December

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

7th:

11am Family Gift Service

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

14th:

9.30 Family Communion 11am Matins
(Rite A)

8am Holy Communion

3.30 Nativity Play & Christingle Service

No Evensong today

21st:

9.30 Parish Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am Matins
(Rite A)

6.30 Carol Service

28th:

No Services today

9am Holy Communion 8am Holy Communion

4th January

11am Family Service

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *7th*, Mr. C.G. Robertson. *14th*, Dr. Doreen Rosman. *21st*, The Revd. M. Peter Taylor, B.Met., B.D. *28th*, Mr. Martin Rowe.

Weekday Services are as usual in the first fortnight of December — Holy Communion in St. Peter's, Bridge on Wednesdays (BCP) at 9.30am and Fridays (Rite A) at 7.30am, with Churchill House Communion on 3rd at 10.15am and the service at The New Close on Wednesdays at 2.30pm. Thereafter there will be no New Close services, but visitors are welcome to the carol evening on 17th at 7pm. Holy Communion at Bridge on 17th and 19th as usual, but not on 24th and 26th.

For your diary and prayer list

2nd *Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon, Founder of the Little Gidding Community, 1637*

3rd *Francis Xavier, Missionary, 1552*

4th Prayers for Health and Healing, Bridge Church, 7pm

6th *St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c.326*

Bridge & Patricxbourne Christmas Market, Village Hall, 2pm

7th **Second Sunday in Advent**

Pray for Sylvia Lamkin (*Bekesbourne*), Michael Knight and Edward Clarke (*Patricxbourne*) to be confirmed this morning at St. Nicholas's Church, Ash by the Bishop of Dover.

Christmas presents for the residents of The New Close will be received at Bridge's Family Service by Mr. W. Pearson, Officer in Charge.

9th Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meets, The Methodist Church, 7.30pm.

11th Bridge Parish Council meets, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm.

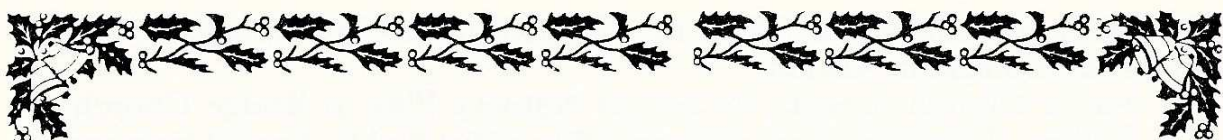
- 12th Magazine Distributors' Meeting, The Methodist Church, 2.30pm
- 14th **Third Sunday in Advent**
 Junior Church presents its annual Nativity Play in Bridge Church at 3.30pm. This year's play was specially written by Mr. Gerald Sperling, a Junior Church parent, and will conclude with a Christingle Procession in which all children present can join. Please bring your own Christingle. There will not be a 6.30pm Evensong today.
- 18th Prayers for Health and Healing, Bridge Church, 7pm
- 19th Patrixbourne Church Carol Service, 7.30pm
- 21st **Fourth Sunday in Advent**
 Bridge Carol Service by Candlelight, 6.30pm
- 24th **Christmas Eve**
- 25th **CHRISTMAS DAY** *Details are displayed on page 6.*
- 26th **St. Stephen, the First Martyr**
- 27th **St. John the Evangelist**
- 28th **Sunday after Christmas**
 N.B. There are just two services today, both Holy Communions, 8am at Bekesbourne and 9am at Patrixbourne. No services at Bridge.
- 29th **Holy Innocents** (*transferred from 28th*)

The Mystery of Christmas

The custom of having a Christmas Crib in church is said to have originated with St. Francis of Assisi. According to the story, he desired one Christmas to re-construct in the village church at Greccio the scene in the stable at Bethlehem as he thought it must have been, and to do so used a real manger and real animals.

The villagers' curiosity was well aroused by what was going on in the church and they flocked to see what Francis was up to as he moved his 'props' into position. When all was to his satisfaction he is said to have spent most of Christmas night in rapt attention before his crib. The idea caught on rapidly and was taken up by most of the churches of Italy at succeeding Christmases. And, of course, it spread to these shores, so much so that it would not be Christmas for us if we did not have our own crib scene in church.

Being the kind of man he was Francis was anxious to experience as nearly as possible the impoverishment of Christ's birth, so it is highly unlikely that *his* crib was as beautiful as ours tend to be. He wanted to share something of the deprivation in which God became man and thereby grasp something of the price God paid at the outset for man's salvation. Yet there was assuredly something in the scene to invoke a sense of wonder and excitement, for the occasion almighty God took human form and came to dwell among us was a high day indeed for mankind. Confronted by the crib scene we are face to face with the squalor of Jesus' nativity, but we are also shown the extent of the love of God for us, and how he became man so that we might come to him. The representation of an event long ago enables us to come close to Jesus today, if we will let it, and to have our hearts made glad with the realisation that he who was born a child is very near to each of us today and every day, and not in artistic reproductions but in reality. At Christmas God came very close to man and he has never distanced himself since!



Christmas Services

St. Peter's Bridge

Christmas Eve Midnight Eucharist with Blessing of Crib 11.30pm
(*The Vicar*)

Christmas Day Holy Communion (*The Vicar*) 8.00am
Eucharist with Carols (*Canon F. Bull*) 10.30am

St. Mary's, Patrixbourne

Christmas Day Holy Communion with Carols 9.30am
(*The Vicar*)

St. Peter's, Bekesbourne

Christmas Eve Midnight Eucharist (*Canon Bull*) 11.30pm

Christmas Day Family Carol Service (*The Vicar*) 11.00am

Collections will be made at all three churches. Those at Bridge and Patrixbourne will be given to The Church of England Children's Society and Save the Children Fund.



Bridge Evensong — A THREE MONTHS EXPERIMENT

Arising from the growing popularity of morning worship at Bridge, from the choir members' preference for morning attendance and from a national trend for the Communion as the main Sunday service, the PCC has given its backing to a change in the services at which the choir will be present, for an experimental period of three months, starting in January.

From January to March inclusive the following scheme is to be implemented: On first Sundays there will be no choir at either the Family Service or Evensong. On second Sundays the choir will lead the singing at the Family Communion, which will continue to be said, though with hymns at various points in the service. The choir will not sing at Evensong. Third Sundays will follow the existing pattern of choir at the Parish Communion but not at Evensong, and on fourth Sundays the choir will sing Evensong with a fuller choir-only contribution than heretofore. On the 29th March the second Sunday format will operate.

For the benefit of those who will inevitably sense the demise of Evensong, as in so many surrounding churches, let me assure you that this is merely a trial period and we may well decide the old method is best. Even if it succeeds — and I for one am keeping an open mind on the subject — the end result will not mean the loss of Evensong, which will continue to take place every week as at present, but merely the use of the choir at a time when most people come and which they themselves favour. I am afraid the days when we might reasonably expect the choir to sing twice on a Sunday are long past.

A word for all seasons

Advent is with us once again, and with it another year dawns in the calendar of the Church. New year is a time of leaving behind the old and beginning again with good intentions we resolve to keep. Let us make a real effort this year to take God's word more seriously and to read our Bibles, not as ancient history but as a support to daily living, that through his word we may see the way ahead and the Christian response to the great moral issues with which we are continually faced.

Music to the ear

The Bible has been compared to music. Some parts are easy to grasp, like a catchy tune; other parts majestic, suitable for great occasions, like St. Paul's splendid chapter on love in the thirteenth chapter of his first letter to the Corinthians; yet again, there are passages of music difficult to understand, like the arguments in a Pauline epistle or Old Testament prophets. All music requires the sympathetic interpretation of the instrumentalist or singer for the listener fully to understand it and in a similar way the Bible requires guidance and interpretation to be fully understood by the reader.

Getting the Message

This aid to understanding the Bible is provided by the excellent literature of the Bible Reading Fellowship, geared to suit different needs and age groups. There are three main publications: *Daylight*, arranged for daily Bible reading and daily living, *Guidelines* giving week by week readings for thought and prayer, and *Compass* designed for children, with interesting stories and events from the Bible. There is a display of BRF publications at the back of Bridge Church and BRF literature is also available in Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne Churches. The annual subscription for each publication is £3.60. Should anyone wish to know more about the BRF and its work or place an order, please contact me at Ardpriority, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD (tel: 462695).

Nigel Allan

Vicar: I hope that you will mark Dr. Allan's words and have a look at the material available. £3.60 a year is a small price to pay for such a valuable resource that adds an extra dimension to scriptural understanding. Regular and disciplined Bible reading makes a tremendous difference to one's life and the BRF devotes its expertise to making it a profitable and enjoyable exercise for all of us. I recommend you give it serious thought and get into touch with Dr. Allan.

Bridge and Patrixbourne Churches Appeal

Those who responded so generously to the recent appeals in connection with repairs to St. Peter's and St. Mary's churches might like to know what progress has so far been made.

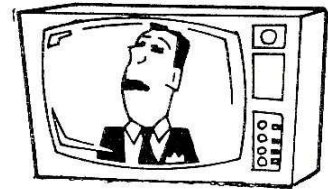
Works at Bridge have been delayed somewhat by the need for our architect, *John Clague & Partners* to obtain tenders for stonework repairs and for us to obtain financial grants to supplement the excellent appeal result. Happily tenders have now been received and it looks as if we have sufficient cash in hand or promised to begin the work, which we shall hope to start in the spring of next year. Any readers who were not able to contribute to the

appeal and would like to make a donation to the church repairs are asked to contact the Honorary Treasurer, Mr. R.D. Hill, Red Deer, Bridge Down.

Of the situation at Patrixbourne Churchwarden John Williamson writes:

“The work to the rafters and ceiling of Patrixbourne Church has been completed by Barton Construction Co. of Whitstable, under the supervision of *John Clague & Partners*, our architect, and half of the railings on the outskirts of the churchyard, thanks to a noble band of volunteers, have been painted. But there is still work to be done to the roof of the church and the guttering, in addition to finishing the fence. The immediate financial position has been eased by a grant of £1,000 from the Historic Churches Preservation Trust.”

This grant has now been paid over to us. In fulfilment of one of the terms of this grant the harvest collections at both churches (Bridge has also been awarded a grant of £1,000) were given to the Trust to assist in its valuable work. These totalled £124.56. It should be noted that the work on the perimeter railings must be done before English Heritage will release their grant, and this applies also to the guttering and cleaning out the belfry.



Bias in the Media

by the Revd. M. Peter Taylor

In an advert on the TV for a daily newspaper recently one person said that it gave only the facts of the stories. The first words of that paper's headline story when the Syrians were ordered out of the country said, "The evil men of Arab terrorism got what they deserved yesterday". You may or may not agree with the statement, but obviously this is not fact but opinion.

Bias is common to all newspapers, TV channels and radio stations. None can help selecting what to tell us about the stories, and it is next to impossible for them to give the facts without giving us what they think about them. I do not want to criticize them for this, for it is something none of us can avoid — we all see life from our own viewpoint. But we need to be aware of this bias.

I have sometimes wondered what the Syrian media made of the same story above. I do not suppose they considered that their ambassadors got what they deserved. So where is the truth? Is one side wrong and another right? If so, which one, and is our side always 'right'?

The truth may lie somewhere between them, or with one side or another, or even, paradoxically, with both sides. We cannot tell for ourselves; all we can do is be aware that no news comes to us without bias attached, whether it is national media, or the gossip from our neighbours. Conversely none of us can give news without the danger of bias creeping in.

For our part I believe we should support those in the media with our prayers that they might be brave enough to uncover the truth and strong enough not to pepper it (and sometimes destroy it) with unnecessary bias. And if there are people we know involved in the media, we should support them in more practical ways by talking over this subject with them.

Of course, you have to remember that all I have said is biased!



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New Headteacher

Our new headteacher is Mrs. Anna Newton, M.A., Dip. S.M.E.M.S.

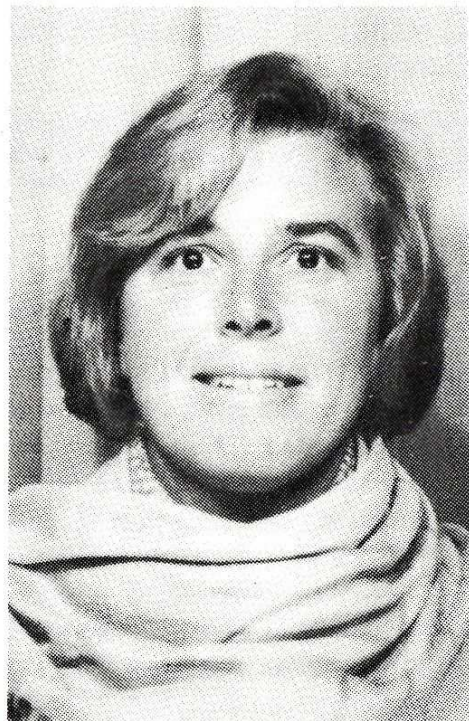
Mrs. Newton, who comes from a Dutch seafaring family, was born in London shortly after her father was killed in action at the end of the Second World War.

Her family moved to Thanet where she was educated at Clarendon House Grammar School for Girls before going to Clifton College, Nottingham where she obtained her teaching certificate.

After teaching in several primary schools in the Dover and Deal area, Mrs. Newton became Deputy Headteacher of Capel-le-Ferne C.P. School in 1982. She has been actively involved in training teachers in new Reading and Mathematics schemes and has recently been awarded a M.A. degree by the University of Kent at Canterbury for her work on Primary Mathematics programmes for the computer.

Her husband is a teacher in a large Secondary school and both her teenage children attend local Grammar schools.

We give a very warm welcome to Mrs. Newton, who joins us in January, and look forward to a long association.



On The Nail Miscellany

On Friday, 24th October, *1st Bridge Guides* held a Coffee/Open Evening which included stalls, displays by the Guides and a raffle. The evening was a great success and raised £120, of which £30 will be given to Cot Death Research. We are very grateful to parents and friends who supported us and especially our Division Commissioner, Mrs. Day and members of Bridge Parish Council.

Teresa Philpott

* * *

Members of the Senior Citizens Club are very grateful for all the generous support they received at their Autumn Sale. The net sum raised is expected to be in the region of £120.

O.I.K

* * *

The Kent Trust Christmas Sales Stall will be open from Monday, 1st December to Friday, 5th inclusive from 2 - 6pm at 9 High Street, Bridge.

D. Whittaker

* * *

Bridge Folk Dance Group meets on 4th and 18th December at 8pm in the Village Hall. The first of these will be an extended Christmas meeting so please join us. Enquiries on 830285 or 830652.

J.H.

* * *

Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute meets on 16th December at the new time of 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Mr. B. Hawkes will speak on *Wildlife Gardens*.



University of the Third Age (U3A)

CANTERBURY AND DISTRICT

Canterbury and District now has a University of the Third Age, the fifty-third city in Britain to do so. The first U3A was in France and came to England at Cambridge in 1982.

The aims of the U3A are to provide study and leisure opportunities for those outside childhood and working life. The skills and resources of members are utilised on a voluntary self-help basis to provide educational, cultural, physical and social activities. Interests are pursued for their own reward rather than the achievement of qualifications, with no barriers of age, experience and education. It is hoped that those who join and who have knowledge or skills that they can pass on will assist in the instruction of others.

Present membership includes residents of Thanet, Whitstable, Herne Bay, Faversham, Ashford, Sittingbourne and, although in the early stages of development, it is well past the hundred mark and expected to grow considerably.

The year is divided into three ten-week terms, commencing at the end of September 1986 and, during each term, there will be a 'Thursday Lecture' given by an eminent speaker.

Courses arranged to date cover a wide field and vary from languages to the arts, science and literature. Social activities and visits to interesting places and overseas are expected to follow later. Detailed information concerning the current programme and activities can be obtained from the U3A office, situated at 7 Longport, Canterbury CT1 1PE. Telephone: (0227) 472512.

The committee of the U3A are unpaid volunteers; however there are administrative costs which must be covered. For this reason there is a one-time payment of £5 for life membership and £20 a year for the courses — no matter how many courses are attended. Should a professional teacher require payment for a class, those receiving the instruction will pay the teacher direct.

A warm welcome awaits anyone wishing to make use of the U3A facilities in the Canterbury District by studying, teaching, assisting or participating in any way.

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

November's meeting of the Parish Council began with Mr. David Pentin, who is a resident of the village as well as a member of Canterbury City Council where he is Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, addressing the Council, at their invitation, on the subject of Parish Precepting. This is the method by which the Parish Councils raise money to pay for the services and facilities provided by them in the parish by levying a separate Parish Rate over and above the City Council rate.

Mr. Pentin explained how certain aspects of parish expenditure could be met by entering into an agreement with the City Council. Discussion followed on the advantages and disadvantages of so doing.

Recreation Ground: The Chairman, Cllr. John Hill, was to mark out a new position parallel to and alongside the perimeter fencing close to the playground equipment, for the goalpost which Mr. John Knight had offered to re-erect. It was agreed to order a run of chain link fencing to go behind the posts and to approach the Tennis Club for a contribution.

The Chairman reported that notices in the form of an 'Open letter' to dog owners were in the process of being posted at various points in the village and on the Recreation Ground. The Clerk reported

that she had submitted an application to the Community Programme Scheme for the repainting of the playground equipment and the bridge and advised that, subject to the approval of the Manpower Services Commission, it was expected that the work would be carried out in the late Spring 1987. The Council noted that the weeds in the Nailbourne riverbed had been cut and decided to leave consideration of any further work until the Spring.

Village Hall: The Clerk reported that the Village Hall Management Committee had arranged to pay a further £500 off the loan taken out for the purchase of the hall, leaving only some £400 still outstanding.

Trees in Your Village Competition 1986: Notification had been received that the village had been unsuccessful in the competition this year.

Local Government Boundary Commission for England — Parish Review: The Council heard that the Secretary of State had decided to make an Order to be implemented on 1st April 1987 confirming the Commission's proposals without modification. The Council expressed their dismay that their objections to two areas lying to the west of the Bridge by-pass (generally taken as the eastern limit of the parish) remaining in Patricxbourne had not been upheld.

Lottery Fund: The Council gave their support to an application from Bridge Juniors Football Club to the Canterbury City Council's Lottery Fund for £60 towards the purchase of training requisites.

Planning: Cllr. Peter Lawrence reported on behalf of the Planning Committee that they had raised no objections to any planning applications received since the last meeting. All recent applications considered by the City Council had been granted other than the application for the erection of a detached house and garage on land adjoining Filmer Cottage, Filmer Road. The City Council's Planning sub-

committee had held a site meeting there and it was understood that they had recommended its refusal.

Miscellany: The Clerk was to write to British Telecom about the general poor condition and uncleanliness of the telephone kiosk outside the Post Office. The Council noted the formation of a new club in the village, the Nailbourne Ladies' Group, which meets regularly on the second Monday of the month in the Hunter Room.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday the 11th December at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K.A. Walder, Clerk

OPEN LETTER TO THE DOG OWNERS OF BRIDGE

'Curb' your dog

A number of complaints has been received about the state of the Recreation Ground.

- Mothers are complaining that their children are getting dog 'mess' on themselves.
- The football clubs cannot play without removing 'messes' from the pitch.
- People cannot walk on the Ground without getting 'fouled'.

We see a number of dog owners exercising their dogs on the Recreation Ground and although we realise that not all are Bridge residents, we would ask dog owners to refrain from using the Ground as a dogs' public convenience. It is primarily intended for use by all sections of the community, young children, sports clubs, old people, and these of course include many dog owners.

All we ask is that one section of the community does not use the Ground to the detriment of other sections; so P L E A S E, D O G O W N E R S, kindly CURB YOUR DOG.

Bridge Parish Council

'Fish' News



The Luncheon Club Christmas Dinner will be held on 15th December. The club will not be meeting on 29th December.

The next Coffee Pop-In is on Wednesday, 10th December in Bridge Village Hall at the usual time.

The WRVS keep a store of clothing for emergencies and people in need, which has to be kept stocked by gifts of clothing from the general public. Our Canterbury store (at the WRVS Centre in Castle Street) is desperately short of babies' clothes and warm clothing for small children. The WRVS would be very grateful for gifts of knitting wool and good second-hand clothing. Several local knitters have volunteered to knit small garments if we can get wool for them. We should be delighted if anyone else would like to help provide in this way for local children in need. Please let me know if you can help!

Joan Warren, 830233

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BEKESBOURNE Cleaning Rota

7th December, Mrs. Russell. 14th, Mrs. Grey. 21st, Mrs. Beckett, 28th, Mrs. Smith.

No flowers are put in church during Advent but Christmas flowers will be arranged at 10.30am on Tuesday, 23rd, when as many as are free are asked to turn up.

Christmas Communion

Those who are unable to make their communion in church this Christmas through ill health or incapacity can be communicated at home from the reserved sacrament by prior arrangement with the vicar. Please do not hesitate to contact him.

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

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens: Mr. J.J. Williamson, Beechmount, Conyngham Lane, Bridge CT4 5JX (830399)

Mr. S.R. Pike, 12 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JY (830708)

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

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr. M. Miles, 7 The Precincts, Canterbury CT1 2EE (462947)

Organist (Patixbourne): Mrs. G. Allan, Ardpriory, Bekesbourne Lane, Canterbury CT3 4AD (462695)

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

Mr. N.H. Cruse, 9 Meadow Close, Herne Bay CT6 6NN (361335)

Hon Secretary: Mr. J. 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. H.P.M. Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830472)

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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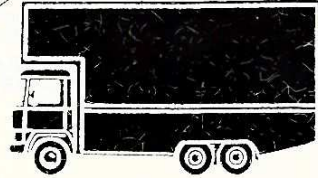
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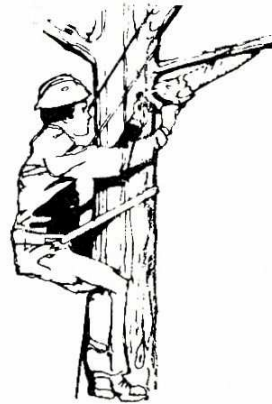
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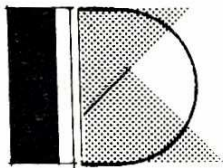


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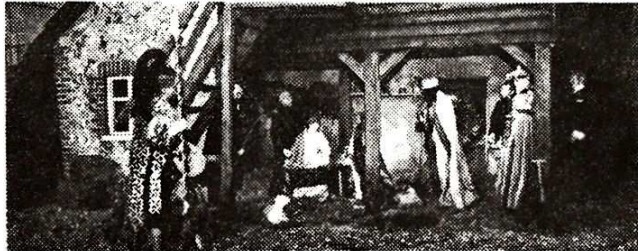
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PEOPLE AND PLACES

Appointments: The Revd Geoffrey Sidaway, Vicar of St Martin's Maidstone, to be Vicar of Bearsted with Thurnham (Inst by the Archbishop on Dec 30th 3pm). The Revd Geoffrey Pearson of St John Folkestone to be Vicar of St Luke's Ramsgate. The Revd Stephen Young of Rainham, Essex, to be Vicar of Christ Church Ramsgate. Canon Donald Allchin to be Director of the Centre for Christian Spirituality in Oxford. He leaves the Cathedral in March to take up this appointment.

Sister Julia McLoughlin, SND, is appointed Industrial Chaplain in succession to Canon David Clift. She joins the Kent Industrial Chaplaincy Team from a community in Plymouth. Her address is The Rectory, Smarden, Ashford, Kent. Tel: Smarden 313.

DECEMBER IN THE CATHEDRAL



Christmas Crib scene staged annually in the Cathedral Nave.

Mon 1	8.00am & 10.15	Holy Communion St Andrew
	2.15pm	Advent Carol Service for schools
Sat 6	5.30pm	Evensong
	7.30pm	Concert: Canterbury Choral Society
Sun 7	3.15pm	Evensong with anthem to celebrate 25th anniversary of Dr Allan Wicks
	6.30pm	Evening Service—Celebration of Freedom—Simon Langton Girls School
Tue 9	5.30pm	Evensong recorded by BBC Radio 3
	7.30pm	School of Prayer
Wed 10	4.00pm	Evensong broadcast on BBC Radio 3
	7.30pm	Geoffrey Chaucer School Carol Service
Thu 11	7.30pm	Kent College Carol Service
	7.45pm	Cathedral Fellowship
Fri 12	7.30pm	St Edmund's School Carol Service
Sat 13	7.30pm	Concert: the Cathedral Choristers
Sun 14- Fri 19		Services sung by the Lay Clerks
Mon 15	2.15pm	Simon Langton Boys School Carol Serv.
	7.00pm	Canterbury Choral Society Carol Concert
Tue 16	8.30pm	University Carol Service
Wed 17	2.30pm	Barton Court Grammar School Carol Serv.
	8.00pm	The King's School Carol Service
Sat 20	5.30pm	- 8.00pm Cancer Care Family Carol Service and Nativity Play in the Chapter House

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Wed 24	11.00am	CHRISTMAS EVE Crib Service
	3.00pm	Carol Service
	5.00pm	Evensong
Thu 25	10.00am	CHRISTMAS DAY Matins
	11.00am	Sung Eucharist
	3.15pm	Evensong and Carols
Fri 26	8.00am & 10.15am	St Stephen Holy Communion
Sat 27	8.00am	St John the Evangelist Holy Communion
	10.15	Holy Communion
Sun 28	3.00pm	Christingle Service
	4.00pm	Evensong
Mon 29	8.00am	St Thomas of Canterbury Holy Comm.
	10.15am	Holy Communion
	3.15pm	Evensong & Procession to the Martyrdom

All other Cathedral Services at the usual time. For full details of Services during the Christmas period please see leaflet.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

The new Dean of the Cathedral, and the new Dean of St George's Cathedral Jerusalem, are both enthusiastic about an imaginative plan to forge a link between the Mother Church of the Anglican Communion and the Mother City of the Christian faith. The first 15-day Pilgrimage will leave Canterbury on Thursday April 30th and return on Thursday May 14th. The Precentor, Howard Such, accompanies the party as its Chaplain, with Norman Wareham as leader. The first eight days will be spent at St George's Hostel in the grounds of the Cathedral, so there will be an opportunity to get to know the local congregation and other Christian communities in the Holy City. For the final week the pilgrims will be accommodated at the fine Ron Beach Hotel, on the water's edge in Galilee. The cost will be £598 and this includes full board, coach travel, and all admission fees. Further details from Norman Wareham, 26 South Canterbury Road, Canterbury (Tel: 462895).

Other projected visits to Israel:

- One entitled 'Canterbury Pilgrims' is led by Miss Barbara Durkan and occupies ten days over Easter, 15th-24th April. It is planned to visit Jerusalem and many well known sites. Cost £558 half board. Details from Miss Durkan, 29 Chaucer Court, New Dover Road, Canterbury (Tel: 458861).

FOND FAREWELLS

The Archbishop writes: The Bishop of Maidstone and Mrs Hardy leave us in February to make ready their home in Lincoln and prepare for their new ministry. Both Bob and Isobel have contributed generously to the work of the diocese during their six years at Maidstone, and we shall all want to express our thanks and good wishes in an appropriate way.

A presentation will be made to them in the Cathedral nave at the close of Evensong at 3.15pm on Saturday, 17th January 1987. I hope that a large number of clergy and laity from all parts of the diocese will be able to share in that service.

A fund has been opened for the presentation, and those who wish to contribute are invited to send their donations to Miss Rosemary Collins at Diocesan House. Cheques should be made payable to 'Bishop Hardy's Presentation Fund'.

Bishop Hardy's Enthronement will take place at 2.30pm on Saturday, 28th February 1987 in Lincoln Cathedral.



NEWS SERVICE



Photo: David Horwood

Catherine Gallagher of Kennington, Ashford, holds the babies for a photo at the recent Clergy Families Day at Lympne Zoo.

So, it's up to us THE ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Christmas is a time to attend to little things — choosing presents, drawing up christmas card lists, decorating the church, or remembering a lonely person. That should remind us of an important truth of the Gospel. Jesus never spoke in generalities of mankind, the masses, the multitudes; but he told stories of a certain man or a certain woman. When he wanted to talk of the Kingdom of God he set a little child in the midst. A distraught woman of the streets gatecrashed a respectable dinner party. He took the opportunity to put forgiveness on the agenda. When a crowd was hungry he began to deal with it by turning to a small boy with his picnic lunch.

Someone once said to me that if you are thinking of the problems of the day, greed, dishonesty, sexual selfishness, cruelty to old people or children, think big but act small.

It is God's characteristic way of dealing with humankind. However complex and wonderful God's creation may be, he tailors his displeasure to our understanding.

The story of Bethlehem is a story which everyone can understand.

I write these words as I leave for a day of prayer in Assisi with leaders of all religious traditions. It may seem a small thing to set beside all the complex disarmament proposals at present on the table for the great powers to discuss. Yet one day of prayer can release limitless energy in peace making.

At Christmas we celebrate the small events in a tiny village to remind us that no act of love, or forgiveness, or generosity, or reverence for God, is ever wasted.

May each of us do something small, to divert cynicism, selfishness and fear this Christmas. Then we can sing our carols and hold our services with sincerity and hope.

Christmas Bookshelf

If you are looking for a special book to give a friend in your church this Christmas, three very different ones have come my way. Lady Coggan's anthology *A Pilgrim's Way* (Mowbray, £6.95) is a real feast of the fruits of wisdom, gently proffered by the anthologist to sustain the christian in his or her daily life. *Our World, God's World* (BRF, £2.50) written for Advent and the Christmas season by the daughter of E. F. Schumacher of *Small is Beautiful* fame, takes the now familiar form of a daily reading and subsequent meditation — in this case celebrating God's creation and our role in preserving what he has made.

The third book, *The Unheeded*, a fairly home-made affair but very moving, is an anthology of new writing by people who are disadvantaged either physically, mentally, or by the circumstances of their lives. One poem gives the flavour, written perhaps by a teacher:

Pupil

*Dolls legs, curled,
arms bent — thin as starvation,
body the size of a shoebox,
(but head and hands like everybody else),
you went to Lourdes and came back a cripple.
When I asked you how it was, you smiled
'My mind feels different.'
'How do you mean?'
'Without a trouble in the world,' you say.
Carol whom I carry on one arm,
You teach me something I can never teach.*

Susan Skinner

The Unheeded (£2.00 by post, or from various charity shops) is published by Horton Writers' Group, 53 Burnley Road, Halifax, W Yorkshire. Proceeds go to a number of national charities.

D. C. A.

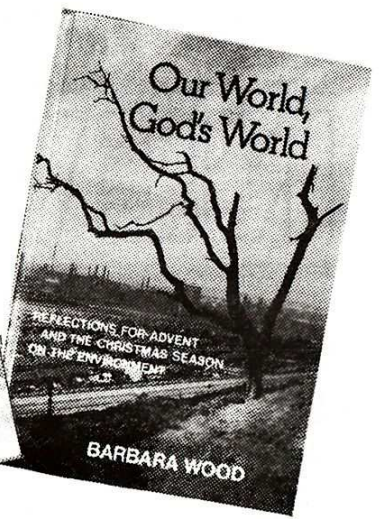
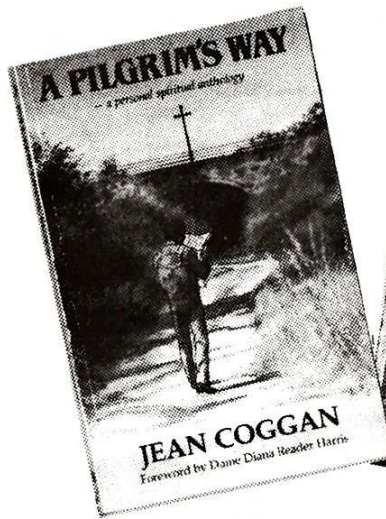
Correction: Desmond Tutu's book 'Crying in the Wilderness' is published by Mowbray at £2.50.

Welcome to Canterbury



Photo: DCO

The Ven. Michael and Mrs Tessa Till, seen here on the very day they moved in to the Archdeacon's House, Canterbury.



BOOKS BY THE CLERGY

A remarkable spate of books is spilling out in the diocese, many by clerical authors here. Leading the field, as ever, is Canon Derek Ingram Hill with his *Canterbury Cathedral* in the New Bell's Cathedral Series (Bell & Hyman, £5.95). This is Derek Ingram Hill's fourth book in two years. Other Canon authors include Eustace Wade, Virginia Wade's father, with his collection of essays *Getting it Right* (Winston, £2.95); Noel Palmer's *Living Stones* (Churchman, £5.95); Gerald Benton's *The Man who Conquered the World* (to be published by Churchman next year). Peter Hammond will be bringing out *A Life of Dean Stanley* next year. Other recent publications are John Chittenden's useful introduction to the Anglican Church *Lord, Faith and Church* (Churchman, £1.95), and Lovell Peacock's reminiscences of life as a Naval Chaplain, *With Those in Peril* (Templehouse, £3.50)

Drama and Dance Day

A one-day conference and workshop on Saturday 6th May 1987, at Christ Church College, Canterbury, is being planned. It is hoped to gather all interested groups in the diocese.

HELP PROTECT A CHILD

The NSPCC's Christmas Appeal reveals an appalling statistic: on average three to four children die every week in this country following abuse at the hand of parent or guardian — the very people any child should be able to rely on for love and protection. The Society helped 1,468 injured children last year. It provided protection for another 3¼ thousand not being properly cared for. And it helps parents who call the Society in for advice and guidance.

Four-fifths of this work depends entirely on the generosity of the general public. This Christmas they hope to gather a mere £25,000 — the sort of sum parishes rustle up for their Church roofs! If you or your parish would like to take part by donations or regular subscriptions, write to Dr Alan Gilmour, CBE, Director, The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, 67 Saffron Hill, London EC1N 8RS (Tel: 01-242 1626).

BOOST FOR THANET

Who says the Church shouldn't meddle with social issues? They have done so to great effect in Margate over the past 18 months. Largely due to the persistence of St John's Church, particularly Freda Harris and Norman Baldock, the redundant secondary school has been saved from the developers. Instead it is to become a workshop complex for new businesses to start up in.

St John's Workshop Trust, a charitable body comprised of five enthusiastic local trustees and including the URC minister, is buying the premises from the Diocesan Board of Education at site value. Bully for the diocese for a start! Ten thousand pounds have been stumped up by a new central Church fund specially earmarked for such purposes. A local building society has offered generous mortgage terms on nearly the whole purchase price. Then the Manpower Services Commission underwrite the labour costs for converting the premises into 27 modestly priced workshops and offices; and pay the salaries of a manager and a caretaker/handyman. Much money remains to be raised — many local businesses are showing a keen supportive interest. The whole project is a magnificent boost to morale in the area which has the highest unemployment figures in the diocese.



LOOK OUT HERE HE COMES!
Afterwards the Bishop walked among the crowds, eating their picnic lunches.
Southwark News

1986 CRISIS AT CHRISTMAS

On November 29th the Archbishop led out several hundred young modern-day pilgrims from the West Gate of Canterbury Cathedral on the first stage of their two-day pilgrimage to London.

Crisis at Christmas will provide thousands of single homeless people with a roof over their heads and food over the festive season, and also provide finance for projects throughout the country which help the single homeless all the year round. The Rt Hon Iain Macleod started the charity nineteen years ago. His widow is still one of the Trustees. The campaign organisers are appealing for goods, money, clothing, food. You can send these (or ask for a leaflet) to: Crisis at Christmas, 212 Whitechapel Road, London E1 1BJ (Tel: 01-377 0489).

NEW YOUTH CHIEF INTERVIEWED



Photo: DCO

Recently arrived to work for the diocese is Peter Ball, 35, the new Youth Officer. He and his wife Denise, and two children, Nicola and Catherine, have moved into Lower Hardres while they look for a house. They come from Buckinghamshire where he was commuting to London as Senior Training Officer for the Federation of London Boys Clubs. With that experience and a previous long spell as Head of Adult Education and Youth Work on a school site, he has plenty to offer.

Anyone who has worked in that field will recognise the dedication behind such a career. What is it that keeps him going?

A combination, really, of faith on the one hand, and pleasure in seeing young people develop into caring adults with a growing awareness of God.

But what's your rôle in developing that awareness?

Well, I believe most young people question God's existence, but they do look for meaning in their lives. We have to recognise that they must be led gently — not pushed. In many cases we are laying the groundwork for what will happen later in their lives.

How does that work?

Relationships are important — we have to develop trust between young and older people. My vision is that besides supporting and encouraging young people already in our churches, we must reach outwards and develop our understanding of those social issues which greatly affect young people today.

Will you be linking up with other bodies?

We are already linked. Our work is part of the County Youth Service which brings together all the voluntary and statutory youth organisations in Kent.

The word 'youth' worries me. Who does it include?

Well, the national definition is everyone between the ages of fourteen and twenty-five. That implies young adults and maturing youngsters taking part in things together — the best combination of all. We see it a bit in some of our Deanery organisations and in the Easter Monday pilgrimage.

Can you foresee any plans for the future?

It's a bit early for that. First I am taking stock of what's going on in the deaneries. Then I would like to build up support for isolated and scattered youth workers, so that they can share their ideas and experiences. Then I hope to gather together resources for Christian teaching, particularly at teenage level. And perhaps most important, I want to bring our work with young people further into the foreground of our Diocesan thinking.

David Attlee

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