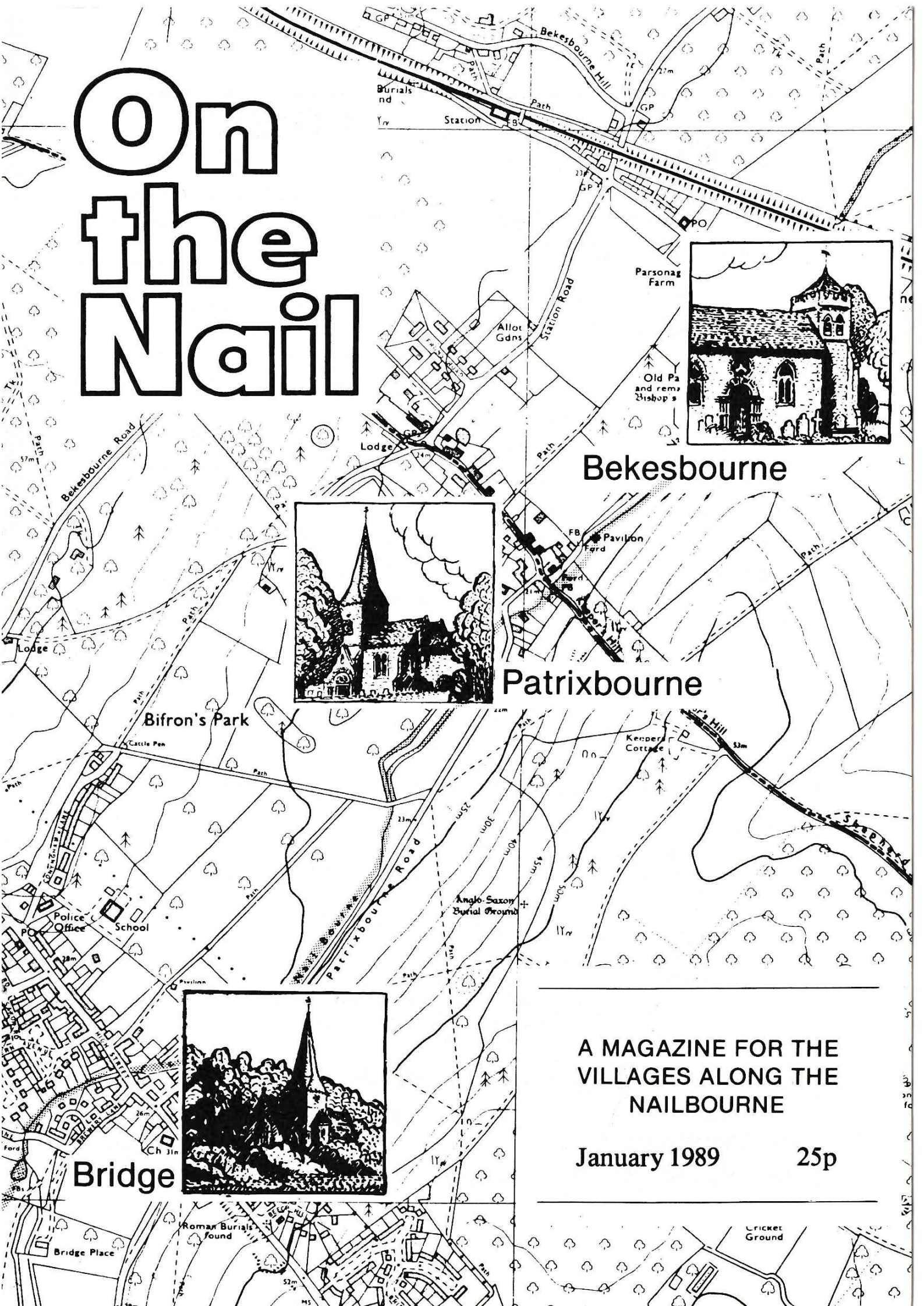


On the Nail



Bikesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE
VILLAGES ALONG THE
NAILBOURNE

January 1989

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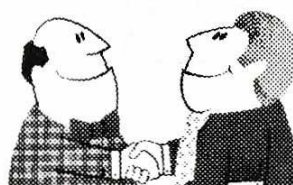
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Sunday Worship in January

Bridge

1st January:

11am Family Service
(Canon J W Packer)

6.30pm Evensong
(The Revd C B Verity)

Patricxbourne

8am Holy Communion
(The Revd C B Verity)

Bekesbourne

9.30 Parish Communion
(Canon F S Bull)

8th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)

6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

15th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(ASB Rite A)

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

22nd:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Choral Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

29th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)

6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

5th February:

11am Family Service
in the School Hall

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

● Following the 9.30am Eucharist at Bridge on the second Sunday of each month coffee is served at the back of the church.

The Sunday theme on 29th is "Christ the Healer" and at the 9.30 Eucharist there will be an administration of the laying-on of hands for all who wish to receive it. For explanation see page 7.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 1st, Dr S J Rogers 8th, Holy Communion, The Revd Sheila Foreman 15th, Mr L Dron 22nd, Mr A P Barwick 29th, Mr J Butler.

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion will be held in St Peter's Church, Bridge each Wednesday (BCP) at 9.30am and Friday (ASB Rite A) at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 4th at 10.15am. The New Close service is each Wednesday at 2.30pm, and non-residents are always most welcome to share in this short informal act of worship.

For your diary and prayer list

1st *Sunday after Christmas*

2nd *Naming of Jesus* (translated from 1st)

5th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm

- 6th ***Epiphany of our Lord*** The earliest date of Christmas but now the feast that celebrates the visit of the wise men from the east to the infant Lord. To mark this special day the early morning Eucharist will be replaced by one at 7.30pm, which it is hoped many more will be able to attend.
- 8th ***First Sunday after Epiphany***
- 11th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 12th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 13th ***St Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, Teacher of the Faith, 367***
- 15th ***Second Sunday after Epiphany***
- 17th ***St Antony of Egypt, Abbot, 356***
- 18th ***Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*** until 25th
Bekesbourne PCC meets, School House, 8pm
- 19th United Service in St. Peter's, Bridge, 7.30pm (Preacher: The Revd Sheila Foreman, Methodist Minister)
- 21st ***St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr, 304***
- 22nd ***Sexagesima : Ninth Sunday before Easter***
- 24th ***St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Teacher of the Faith, 1622***
The first Summer Fête Preparation Meeting takes place at 7.45pm in the School. In the depths of winter come and think summer with us as we make initial plans for the fête on 17th June.
- 25th ***Conversion of St Paul***
- 26th ***St Timothy and St Titus, Companions of St Paul***
Fish Scheme Tea Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 2.15 - 3.45pm
- 27th ***St John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, Teacher of the Faith, 407***
Interchurch Group, The Methodist Church, 7.30pm (*An invitation is extended to all for this pleasant ecumenical get-together. Do join us!*)
- 28th ***St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Teacher of the Faith, 1274***
- 29th ***Sexagesima : Eighth Sunday before Easter***
9.30am Eucharist at Bridge with Laying-on of Hands for healing. See page 7 for more information.

Rosemary and Raymond Gilbert wish to thank all who so kindly sent us Christmas cards and greetings and for your support on so many occasions. We assure everyone of our continuing prayers in 1989.

NEW YEAR

New Year met me somewhat sad:
 Old Year leaves me tired,
 Stripped of favourite things I had,
 Baulked of much desired:
 Yet farther on my road to-day
 God willing, farther on my way.
 New Year coming on apace
 What have you to give me?
 Bring you scathe, or bring you grace,
 Face me with an honest face;
 You shall not deceive me:

Be it good or ill, be it what you will,
It needs shall help me on my road,
My rugged way to heaven, please God.

Christina Rossetti

For each January's leading article I gladly defer to our Rural Dean. The following words from him have much to stimulate all three churches as we face the new year's opportunities: we should certainly heed what he says to us.

No wasted effort

by Clive Barlow

The story is told of a young woman with 'green fingers' and a great lover of flowers, who had set out a rare vine at the base of a stone wall. Although the vine grew vigorously, the woman noticed that it did not bloom, and this in spite of the great care which she lavished on it day after day.

One morning as the young lady stood disappointedly gazing at the flowerless vine, her invalid neighbour, whose own back yard adjoined her own, called her over and said, "You can't imagine how much I have been enjoying the blooms of that vine you planted".

The owner looked, and on the other side of the wall she saw a mass of blossoms. The vine had crept through the crevices and had flowered where the neighbour could enjoy the beauty.

I guess that we are often tempted to feel that many of our efforts for God and the work of His Kingdom are wasted. We look at our side of the wall—our parish—our immediate neighbourhood. Yet as I read the deanery parish magazines month by month, I catch a glimpse of what is happening on the other side of the wall. Things are happening in your parish, or group of parishes, and I am greatly encouraged when at deanery synod we have *News from the Parishes*.

In God's service, somewhere, all our efforts bear their fruit. But the effort has to be made. It involves supporting clergy and laity in shared ministry; bothering to attend Chapter Meetings, committees, PCCs, the Deanery Synod, and engaging in Christian service in the place where we live and work and beyond.

So as we enter another year, I trust that we shall work as a deanery to achieve our Church Urban Fund targets; support those in Readership Training; be encouraged to formulate resolutions for our Diocesan Synod (as we did so successfully in 1988), and encourage participation in our SPAN prayer/support groups.

Early in 1989 either I, or our Lay Chairman Mary Ambrose hope to come to PCC meetings throughout the deanery. We are anxious to hear your comments on the life and work of Canterbury Diocese as presented to us in a discussion document which is presently in the hands of every PCC member. A tremendous effort has been made recently to improve 'communications' and yet there sometimes still appears to be a 'wall' between Diocese and parish. Mary and I had time to think about this at a Consultation held last November, and we now look forward to our 'parish visits'. It is vitally important that we see the discussions relating to *This is our Diocese* as a spiritual exercise as we

take stock of the 'vine'.

If we engage in this task together our efforts will not be wasted as we seek to discern what God is saying to us, and asking of us for 1989 and the new decade beyond.

Thank you!

Bekesbourne Christmas Market on 3rd December raised £352 to be shared between Church and Brownies. This was the highest amount and much thanks is due to Zan Clifford who organised it, to all the helpers both from Brownies and Church, and, of course, to all who came to buy. *D.M.*

The 1st Bekesbourne Brownies wish to thank parents who made things and supported the combined Church and Brownie Christmas Market, especially Andrea Nicholson who tested the Brownies on their hostess badge and Sue Duplock who manned a stall. A big thank you also to Beryl and Mo who made such beautiful handicraft items and cakes, and to Sylvia Wilson who was grabbed as she came through the door and asked if she would help man a stall, as we were short-handed. The Brownies share amounted to £118—a splendid effort!

Jill Gillanders

* * *

On behalf of the residents and friends of The New Close I would like to thank all those who supported our Christmas Coffee Morning and Sale on 26th November. On this happy occasion nearly £300 was raised for the Amenity Fund. *Olive I Knight*

Christ is the Healer

Sunday 29th January in the *Alternative Service Book* is given the designation "8th before Easter". On that day the Collect (special prayer) and Readings at all services reflect the Ministry of our Lord as Christ the Healer.

The earthly life of Jesus was spent in contact with very many people, some at the individual level but mostly in crowds. He ministered to all of them whether great or small, rich or poor, influential or non-descript, and that ministry took the two-fold form of preaching and healing. Both aspects of his ministry served the self-same end, the making of lives whole.

He preached the kingdom, so that those who heard might be saved. He ministered to those who were sick, so that they might be healed. In both instances the end product was to be the same, for saving and healing, salvation and health or wholeness are one and the same thing, since the word used of both in the original language of the New Testament stems from a common root.

Over to us!

Our Lord's hope for his future Church was that it should act as the agency for his ministry in its particular generation. So the charge laid on all who claim membership of his Church is that collectively and individually they should go about preaching the kingdom and healing the sick, bearing in mind that in doing the one they also do the other.

For centuries the Church interpreted the Lord's command solely in terms of preaching and teaching, quite forgetting or choosing to ignore the injunction to heal. Only in modern times is the Church once more becoming alert to its

true nature and resurrecting the healing aspect of its ministry. As a mark of this recovery we are seeing the rising popularity of Christian homes of healing such as Burrswood and Crowhurst (about which more in another *On The Nail*), the growth of healing services in churches of all denominations, and in our own Church of England the appointment of an Adviser to the two Archbishops on the Healing Ministry. Further evidence is to be found in the very flourishing Marylebone Centre, housed in the spacious crypt of St. Marylebone Parish Church in London. There the healing ministry operates in its widest sense with the offices of the *Churches' Council for Health and Healing*, an NHS General Practice, a Music Therapy Unit, Counselling Service and a highly expensive body scanner all functioning within the one complex.

Christ's healing ministry is to be discerned in the conventional medical services as well as through the overall work of the Church, for Christ the Healer did not limit his ministry to those of his sacred body. He heals through the doctor not just the priest because all healing originates with God.

Then what about us?

Within the Church Christ's work of healing is conducted through the healing sacraments of anointing with oil and the laying-on of hands, and as at Bridge by means of the healing prayer group. But supremely healing is administered in the normal course of every Eucharist, for this main Bible sacrament has been rightly called the healing service *par excellence*.

For months now we have been meeting twice a month to pray for health and healing, and this Prayer Group has constituted the essence of our healing ministry thus far. Through its prayer God has healed many people and not only from within the parish. At Deanery level three special Healing Services have been held, including one at Bridge, and a fourth is planned for April at Barham. We now feel it is opportune to proceed further in our healing work here, and as a step in that direction a Sunday devoted to *Christ the Healer* is an opportunity not to be missed.

Immediately after the administration of the communion at the 9.30 Eucharist that morning any who wish to have hands laid upon them for blessing and healing will be invited to return to the communion rail. There I and Enid Wintle, who on the recommendation of the PCC has been trained and given the Bishop of Dover's written permission to exercise this ministry, will first lay hands on each other and then minister together to those who present themselves. Further direction on the ministry of the laying-on of hands will be given at the service, but for now please accept that this is a simple uncomplicated God-given action from which great blessings are derived and by which we receive God's healing through our Lord Jesus Christ. The laying-on of hands may result in a cure for some physical or mental illness, it may mean the healing of a wrong attitude, but even if symptoms remain afterwards it will still mean healing in some respect, perhaps of the personality. Please dismiss from your mind those alarming pictures of hysterical posturing and frenzied emotions—such theatricals are always out of place and in no sense characterise the reception of Christ's healing touch. Nor should anyone feel he or she is not ill enough to come forward: everybody needs healing, even the hale and hearty, and if in doubt you can always receive the laying-on of hands on behalf of someone else.

Above all this is a ministration where prayer-support is essential. It is needed

Continued on page 13

for those who receive the laying-on of hands, for those who administer it; but supremely for the entire Church community, since in the long run it is through the community that Christ's healing comes rather than through the hands of individual ministers. Please start to pray right now, for it is never too soon to pray!

COLLECT FOR THE EIGHTH SUNDAY BEFORE EASTER

Almighty and everliving God,
whose Son Jesus Christ healed the sick
and restored them to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power
make whole both men and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and for ever.

In sorrow and in joy

The sad death of Captain **Geoffrey Monk** on 25th November after a protracted illness and at a comparatively early age, was mourned by family and friends alike at a service in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on 25th November. After a long and distinguished career in the army Geoff and Joan retired to Western Avenue, quickly identifying themselves with the church as regular communicants.

The last wedding of 1988 took place at Bridge on 26th November, when **Rebecca Rowntree** of Church Cottage married **Dermot O'Boyle**, a video cameraman from Coventry. We wish them every happiness in their new life together.

At the heart of the matter

The title of this year's BBC Radio Kent Lent Course that begins on Thursday, 16th February prompts questions as to what Christians really believe and what in the end is at the core of Christian experience. This attempt to get to the heart of the matter will not baulk at the difficulties about faith and the world's questionings.

Further information will appear in next month's *On The Nail*, but no doubt discussion groups will again be set up in Bridge and interested parties are encouraged to set aside the five Thursday evenings of Lent starting with the 16th. As in previous years Kath Pierce will happily order copies of the Study Leaflet, priced 15p, or you can get them directly from the Canterbury offices of Radio Kent, at 20-22 Watling Street.

This year the very popular 'phone-in is back and each evening's schedule looks like this:

- | | |
|------|---|
| 8.00 | Presentation of Theme |
| 8.30 | Time for Group Discussion : Music on Radio Kent |
| 9.00 | 'Phone-in (0634 811111) |
| 9.30 | Close |

Bridge Church Lady Chapel

Now that we have acquired some more funds, due to the recent successful Coffee Morning, we are anxious to make other kneelers for the church during the winter months.

Anyone who would like to try their hand at tapestry or has time to make a kneeler is invited to Ailsa Williamson's house, Beechmount, Conyngham Lane on Saturday, 14th January at 10.30am.

Alicia Pentin



Ozone . . . and all that!

This article explains one of the more worrying of today's environmental matters. It was written by a Methodist Local Preacher in the county and featured in the Kent Agricultural Chaplaincy Newsletter 'Rural Outlook'. We reproduce it with permission.

It is easy to raise issues (in science as in other areas of human life) and much harder to give satisfactory answers. So what are we to make of the publicity over the 'greenhouse effect' and the newly-discovered 'hole' in the ozone layer?

Some years ago scientists produced results showing that the carbon dioxide content of the atmosphere was slowly rising. The results were at first disputed, but work done around the world since has confirmed them. Why is this happening, and what will it do to the atmosphere? Most scientists believe that the cause is the steep increase in the burning of fossil fuels (coal and oil) and wood. The carbon in the fuel is transformed into carbon dioxide, which mixes with the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere allows heat from the sun to penetrate down to earth and, at the same time, hinders the loss of longer-wave rays that the earth bounces back. If the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere continues to increase, the result will be that the atmosphere will heat up—the so-called 'greenhouse effect'. Even a slight heating will increase the melting of the polar ice and will affect the global climate. So . . . yes, it does matter.

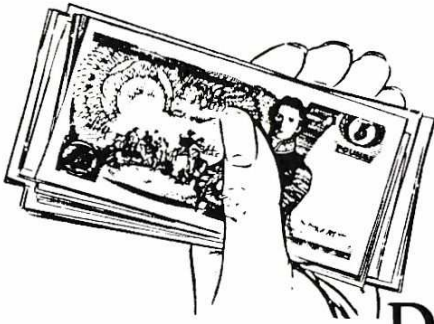
Recently, too, scientists in the Antarctic showed that the amount of ozone in the atmosphere over the pole has seasonal variations. These results brought to a head another debate. Earlier, scientists had shown that the inert materials used as propellants in aerosol cans (called chlorofluorocarbons) could react with ozone under conditions similar to those of the ozone layer in the upper atmosphere. But does this actually happen in the ozone layer? If it did, it would be important because the ozone blocks off most of the ultra-violet rays coming from the sun, and so protects us from skin cancer. The latest research from Antarctica suggests that heavy restrictions on the use of these propellants are wise and necessary and may need to be enforced.

These two instances indicate several things. We must continue to study our environment. Then we must sift through the results and make sure that nothing is happening that hinders our future health on 'Planet Earth'. Our environment may seem robust, but in fact it is a delicate thing. We must remember that we are stewards of it for future generations.

For all except the thinifiers

A **Sponsored Slim** is being organised in aid of the Lady Mayoress's Charities (Multiple Sclerosis and the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths'). Ring 830344 for details.

Elizabeth Stewart



Deeds of Covenant

New Requirements on Tax Reclaimable Procedures by Inland Revenue

By arrangements with the Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) the Inland Revenue have carried out an inspection of covenant records in a selection of parishes in this diocese, mainly with a view to verifying that covenant payments were in fact being received in accordance with the terms of covenants.

As a consequence of their inspection, the Inland Revenue are now insisting that Parish Treasurers shall provide written confirmation to the DBF that payments under individual covenants, which fall due within a Tax Year (6th April to 5th April of following year) **have actually been received within this period of time**. Only when Treasurers have complied with this requirement may the DBF take action to submit their claim for repayment of tax on our behalf. Where treasurers are not in a position to give their unqualified written confirmation, we would be precluded from receiving part or even the whole of the tax repayments according to the circumstances of the individual case.

Under normal circumstances the problem area will be confined to the short period when payments fall due to be made near to 5th April each year. Furthermore, it will be mainly confined to weekly *covenant* payments made under the *Envelope Scheme* (not to be confused with *Freewill Giving* which employs envelopes), but it will also relate to calendar monthly cash or cheque payments made by 'envelopes' or by hand. Where any covenant payments are being routinely made by Bankers Order no problems are envisaged, as the Inland Revenue requirements are being automatically observed.

If our parish is to derive the maximum benefit by being in a position to reclaim the optimum amount of income tax reclaimable under the operation of the Deeds of Covenant Scheme, I would seek the co-operation of all persons who make their COVENANT PAYMENTS in CASH or by CHEQUE as follows:—

Weekly Covenant Payments

All weekly payments up to and including Sunday, 2nd April, 1989 should be presented at the latest by Wednesday, 5th April, 1989.

Calendar Monthly, Quarterly etc Covenant Payments

These payments for periods up to 31st March, 1989 should be 'handed in' at the latest by Wednesday, 5th April, 1989.

Should you have any problems in this connection, would you please contact me (Tel 830426) and I will willingly endeavour to advise you. *Douglas R Hill,*

Hon Treasurer Patrixbourne with Bridge

Bekesbourne parishioners using the envelope scheme, since it is a monthly affair, should enclose the Sunday, 2nd April payment in their envelope for 1st April and hand it in on April 2nd. Thank you.

John Purchase

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

At their meeting on the 8th December, the Council dealt firstly with matters arising from the previous meeting. Whilst they noted with pleasure that, following their requests, considerable repairs had been carried out recently by the Kent County Council to paths and roads, it was felt that further work on Bridge Hill was required to cut back the banks alongside the path which had merely been swept by the County. The Vice-Chairman Cllr Tim Hoare, was to take this up with the Divisional manager at the County Council's Depot at Barham and at the same time remind him of the need for resurfacing work to the Pathway leading from the High Street to Riverside Close.

Recreation Ground Permission had been granted by the City Council to fell the lime tree covered by a Preservation Order and situated adjacent to the Sports Pavilion at the Ground. 'The Men of the Trees' had kindly agreed to supply a replacement lime which they would arrange to plant to mark a suitable occasion some time in the Spring. The notices banning dogs from the Ground had been received and would be put up at the same time as the additional fencing and gates for which quotations had still to be sought.

Streets and Footways The Council learned that tree planting, scheduled to commence in December, had been planned by the Gas Board in conjunction with Mr R Neame to screen the gas governor installation adjacent to the churchyard. Regarding problems with the drain in Brewery Lane, the County Council

had, as a first measure, used a special jetting machine to clear it, and if that proved to be unsuccessful, further work would then be instigated.

Nailbourne Flooding The Chairman, Cllr John Hill, reported the contents of a letter from County Cllr L Shirley outlining work to be carried out shortly by Southern Water to alleviate flooding problems with the Nailbourne Stream. These included a higher footbridge at the ford and dredging of the silt between the ford and the High Street. The Chairman and Cllr Mervyn Gulvin were to submit ideas for the design of the new bridge as soon as possible to the Water Authority. Meanwhile the Council were also to urge the Authority to clear out the stretch of water under the High Street where they felt a major cause of the flooding problems lay and to investigate the replacement of the culverts there, which appeared inadequate to cope with the volume of water when the river was running high.

Planning The Council had no observations to make on an application for the demolition of the rear single-storey extension and the erection of a two-storey extension at Brookside Lodge, Patricbourne Road. Approval had been given by the City Council to the Reserved Matters relating to the erection of a house with garage on Plot 5, Union Road.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday, 12th January at the usual time of 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K.A. Walder, Clerk

Bridge Village Hall Management Committee is looking for a Secretary. It is not an arduous job, there are only two meetings a year, and a licence to renew. The retiring Secretary, Cllr Greenaway (Tel: 830338) is willing to give help and information. Will interested persons please contact the Chairman, Mr F J Round, Tel: 830303?

O.I.K.

Fish News

Luncheon Club The first meeting of the year will be on 9th January.

* * *

Coffee Pop-In will be on the second Wednesday of the month as usual, i.e. 11th January at 10.15am in Bridge Village Hall.

* * *

The experimental **Tea Pop-In** proved to be popular. In future we shall be holding such a Pop-In on the fourth Thursday in every month from 2.15 to 3.45pm in Bridge Village Hall. This month it will be on 26th.

* * *

Don't forget the **Mobile Chiropody Unit** will be in the village from Tuesday, 31st January to Friday, 3rd February. Appointments for new patients should be made through the Kings Road Clinic, Herne Bay (Tel: 373241).

Joan Warren, 830233

St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

Flower and Cleaning Rota: 7th, Mrs Ash 14th & 21st, Mrs Millyard 28th, Mrs Clifford.

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 R.C. Whatley, 54 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830512)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr M. Miles, The King's School, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2ES (452492)

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

Vergeer (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 D. Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne CT4 5HA (830659)

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.



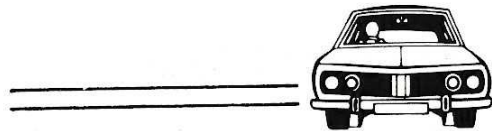
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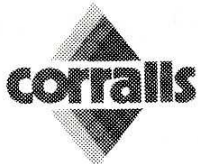
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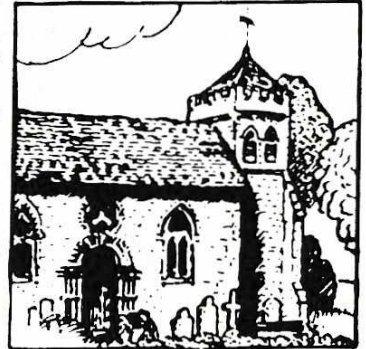
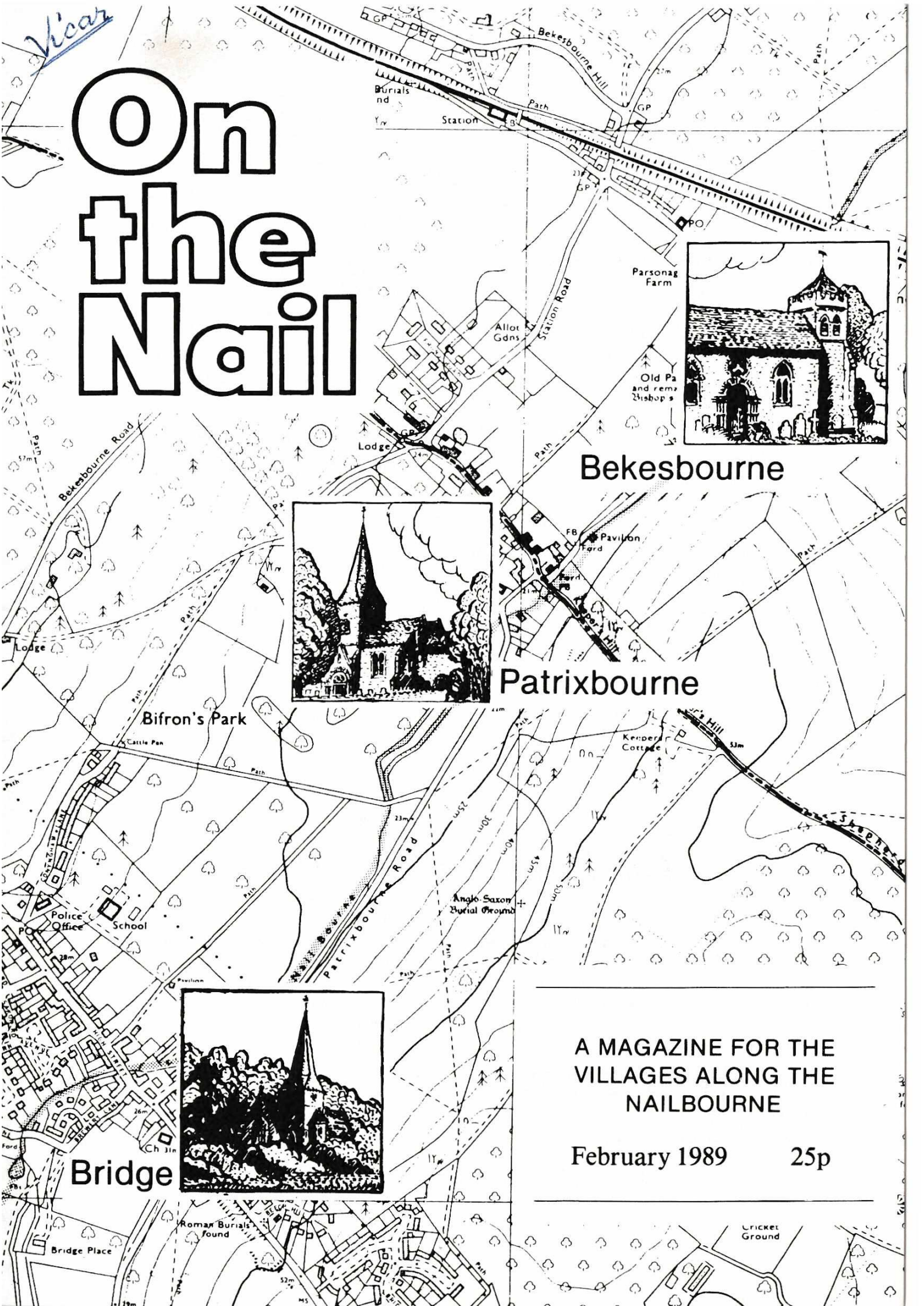
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

February 1989

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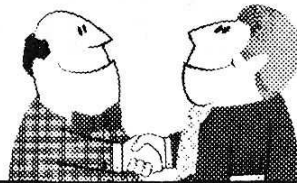
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Sunday Worship in February

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

5th:

11am Family Service
in the School Hall

2.30 Holy Baptism

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

12th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(*ASB Rite A*)

6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

19th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(*ASB Rite A*)

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion 11am Matins

26th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Choral Evensong

9am Holy Communion 11am Matins
(*Revd Clive Barlow*)

5th March:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion 11am Mothering Sunday
Service (*Canon F Bull*)

● *Following the 9.30am Eucharist at Bridge on the second Sunday of each month coffee is served at the back of the church.*

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *5th*, Mr R Chadwick *12th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Sheila Foreman *19th*, Miss J Charlesworth *26th*, Messrs H Crouch and S Kentish.

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion will be held in St Peter's Church, Bridge each Wednesday (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday (*ASB Rite A*) at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 1st at 10.15am. The New Close service is each Wednesday at 2.30pm, and non-residents are always most welcome to share in this short informal act of worship.

For your diary and prayer list

2nd *Presentation of Christ in the Temple*

Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm

5th *Quinquagesima Sunday: 7 before Easter*

Please note that the Family Service, for this month only, will be held in the School Hall. For explanation see the first article.

6th *37th Anniversary of the Queen's Accession*

Hospital League of Friends (Bridge Branch) AGM, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm

8th *Ash Wednesday*

Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am

9th Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm

- 12th *First Sunday in Lent*
 16th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
 Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meets at 12 High Street, 7.30pm
- 19th *Second Sunday in Lent*
 21st East Bridge Deanery Synod assembles. Pray for our parishes' representatives, Sheila Fenn, Ted Weatherall and John Purchase.
 Bridge with Patricxbourne WI meeting, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 23rd *St Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c155*
 Fish Scheme Tea Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 2.15 - 3.45pm
- 26th *Third Sunday in Lent*
Bekesbourne Matins will be conducted by Clive Barlow, Vicar of Ash and our Rural Dean. This is an exchange for the morning, with our vicar taking the service at Ash.
- 27th *George Herbert, Priest, Pastor, Poet, 1633*

Church Urban Fund

Be honest now! Don't make out you've never heard of the *Church Urban Fund*. It's been covered by the national press and on the telly, there was a big launching ceremony by the archbishop in the cathedral, and *On The Nail* has mentioned it more than once—indeed there was a whole centre spread on it in one edition.

You still don't know what it's about? Then make a point of attending the Family Service this month because it is being devoted entirely to the fund. To give us more scope for getting the *CUF* message across you will see from the diary page that we are not holding the service in the church but in Bridge School Hall, and that for the following reasons.

First, it will be easier in a more relaxed environment to explain the thinking behind the *CUF* project, what it aims to achieve and why we are involved in it. Secondly, we shall be showing one of the very interesting videos that have been made to publicise and inform about the fund. We want this Family Service to be as informative as possible and we hope too that people will feel more willing to enter into discussion away from the austere surroundings of the church. Perhaps too people will be more forthcoming with questions and hopefully make some novel suggestions about how to raise our parish contribution. The Junior Church children are already getting enthusiastic about it!

For those still in the dark, the *Church Urban Fund* has been established to raise money for our sister churches in the urban priority areas of this land, so that they can finance projects to assist their very needy parishioners who are faced with the hardships now so common in inner city areas. The fund is not designed to supplement the social services as such but is for the express assistance of churches in doing the work for which all churches exist. For urban priority areas this is particularly difficult through lack of money, so we who are a good deal better off than they are and also members of the same Christian family, are doing what all families do, rallying round in hard times.

In order fully to understand the situation Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC decided to go one better and establish a direct link with an urban priority parish, and the church we hope to liaise with is St Aidan's, Sheffield, whose vicar is John Packer, son of our own John and Muriel. We are very fortunate in that Mr Packer is able to attend this next Family Service, so I hope there will

be a very large turn out indeed to welcome him on Sunday morning the 5th. Do make every effort to be there: we have a duty to assist our brothers and sisters who are struggling to minister in far less salubrious localities than ours.

The story so far

Substantial donations to the *Church Urban Fund* have already been made from both our parishes: you may remember we decided to give the Christmas collections from all three churches to the fund. The result was that worshippers at the three churches responded with commendable generosity and to date Bekesbourne has sent £139·03 to the *CUF* and Patricxbourne with Bridge £193·99; the latter amount including £40·06 from a special effort put on by Andrea Nicholson our *CUF* representative.

CUF at Bekesbourne

At its meeting on 18th January Bekesbourne PCC discussed its response to the *CUF* and Jennie Skinner, our parish representative expressed the hope that during the three years that the fund is in operation parishioners may be willing to devise a few original money-raising schemes of their own. Collecting boxes are freely available (ask Jennie if you would like one) and enquiries are to be made about putting one in *The Unicorn*.

The possibility is also being pursued of forming an inter-parish link between St Peter's, Bekesbourne and the parish of St Stephen in Shepherd's Bush, London, with which churchwarden John Purchase already has a contact. Such a direct link would include two-way visits, which would be stimulating to both parishes. The idea of inviting children from St Stephen's CE Primary School to spend a day in Bekesbourne was mooted, and this was felt to be something Junior Church might like to get involved in. Don't forget Junior Church includes Bekesbourne. More Bekesbourne news as and when available!

Christmas at Junior Church

by Hilary Pike

This Christmas was a very busy time for Junior Church members, especially as most of them were involved in the wonderful 'productions' at the school that we all enjoyed so much.

We started early, on 6th December to be exact, when members of the older group went to a Youth Celebration in the Cathedral. We met in the Dane John and then processed through the city streets singing carols, accompanied by a brass band. Once in the Cathedral three of our young members presented our banner and we all joined in a memorable service of worship which included modern music, mime, poetry and Bible readings, and culminated in us all being given a candle to symbolise the light of Christ.

* * *

Rehearsals for the Nativity Play were then in full swing, and we would like to thank all those who worked so hard and with such enthusiasm. The collection taken at the play on 18th December amounted to £49·61, which we gave to the *Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths* to help in their research work.

But it wasn't over yet! Next came an event we all especially enjoy, and this year it was attended by more than ever. We went carol-singing on 20th December and we would like to thank those in the villages who listened to us

with apparent enjoyment(!) and gave so generously. We raised £45 for the special care baby unit at the Kent & Canterbury Hospital. We would like to thank Mrs Richards and the residents of Saxon Lodge for letting us sing to them and for kindly feeding us with mince pies and sherry (adults only!).

On Christmas Eve we held our Christingle Service in St Peter's. The Youngsters had all been busily sorting out a sponsored word search to raise money for the *Church of England Children's Society*. They presented their sponsor money at the service and received a lighted Christingle in exchange. This they carried to the crib and all stood round singing carols in the candle-light. Many thanks to those who so generously gave to help children who don't enjoy the love and happiness that our children do.

* * *

After Christmas we were busy too. Six children represented Junior Church at the beautiful Christingle Service in the Cathedral. They presented purses on our behalf.

Two more large 'Thank-you's are left—the first to two Junior Church members who readily gave up the morning of Christmas Eve to help me clean the church silver, change altar frontals and candles and finally to decorate the church Christmas tree. I was so grateful, as without them it would have taken so long.

Our second 'Thank-you' is to Penny Spencer who 'retired' at Christmas. We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to her as she has 'kept us in order' in the nicest possible way and been with us for the whole five years of our existence. She has given hours of her time to Junior Church and will be greatly missed. Many thanks to Lorraine Flisher who is stepping into Penny's shoes. What a brave person she is!

* * *

The last event of the Christmas period was the Junior Church party. This year we entertained the children with a presentation of 'the alternative Cinderella'. It was written and directed by Brenda Young, who against overwhelming odds managed—just about—to control the following star-studded cast, who saw to it that the final production bore little relationship to what she had originally written.

<i>Cinderella</i>	Penny Spencer
<i>Ugly Sisters</i>	Stephen Pike & Raymond Gilbert
<i>Prince Charming</i>	Evelyn Andrews
<i>Fairy Godmother</i>	Lorraine Flisher
<i>Buttons</i>	Brenda Young
<i>Mice/Coachmen</i>	Hilary Pike & Lucinda Spencer

Ed: Without detracting from other worthy efforts readers should know that the success of all this activity is due in the main to a tremendous amount of hard, loving work and faultless dedication from one Hilary Pike.

Bekesbourne children's party

On 7th January a party was held in Bekesbourne Village Hall for children of Bekesbourne aged between five years and twelve years.

A good time was had by all. I would like to thank the following for giving up their time to make the party so successful: Sue Ellis, Sue Fagg, Zoe Turner,

Valerie Hey, Lynette Jackman, Sylvia Wilson, Joan Atkins, Savannah Young, Jane Simpson and Sue Diplock who kept the children in check with the aid of a referee-type whistle. A big thank-you to the two men, Tony Newington and Bob Freelove, who were brave enough to stay and help as well. *Jill Gillanders*



Carols for Great Ormond Street

Thanks to the efforts of a group of ladies and children from Aerodrome Road, Bekesbourne a total of £51 was raised by carol singing. This was in aid of the Great Ormond Street Wishing Well Appeal. A big thank-you to all the Aerodrome residents who contributed to this worthwhile cause. *Reg Wilson*

Hospital League of Friends

The Bridge Branch of the League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Monday, 6th February in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm. New and familiar faces very welcome!

Maggie Field

Meals on Wheels

Would anyone like to help with Meals on Wheels? Helpers take the meals out on Tuesdays and Thursdays once every five or six weeks, between 12 noon and 1.15pm. Meals are collected from The New Close, Bridge.

I should be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to help. Please contact me, Mrs R Hunter, 24 High Street, Bridge (tel: 830636).

A **Karate Class** is now held in Bridge Village Hall on Friday evenings. This is run by a qualified instructor, Mr Batt, from whom further details may be obtained (tel: 631667). The classes are 6.00 - 7.00pm junior beginners, 7.00 - 8.00pm junior advanced, 8.00 - 9.00pm adults self-defence class designed especially for the self-protection of ladies of the parish. *Doug Cartwright*

Bridge with Patricxbourne WI

At the meeting on 17th January the WI's New Year commenced with a talk on a subject of vital interest to everyone—'Footwear'—given by Mr R Bickerton of Canterbury.

Shoes became universally popular in this country about five hundred years ago and leather is still first favourite, although sadly, individual craftsmen are being replaced by large firms.

Mr Bickerton produced many samples of footwear today, together with two very old shoes and an old order book for hand-made shoes, gaiters, etc from the archives.

The next meeting of the WI will be in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 21st February, when Mr Fowler will speak on *Ladies of the National Trust*.

D E King

Crowhurst, a home of Healing

by Enid Wintle

In October last I visited the Old Rectory, Crowhurst, Sussex for the first time, spending a week there. The vicar asked if I would write a short account of this church centre for healing.

The Old Rectory first opened its doors to the ministry of Christian Healing in 1928, when the Revd Howard Cobb was Rector of Crowhurst. He felt that God had given him back his life in order that he should found a home of healing, and encourage the Church in its recovery of the ministry which Christ has committed to it, namely to "preach the kingdom and heal the sick".

From those early beginnings the work has grown steadily. The Rectory welcomes some twelve hundred guests each year for stays of one or two weeks. It is a lovely old house, set in its own grounds in the Sussex countryside. Visitors are quite free to spend their time in whatever they wish and there are lovely walks in the area. Hastings is only a short car drive away.

In addition to the library there are art, craft and games rooms and a comfortable lounge and sun lounge in which to relax. The Old Rectory is also a resource centre for conferences, teaching and training in the Church's Healing Ministry. Courses are offered regularly to lay people who are active members of their local church, and wish to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the Healing Ministry.

There are two services each day in the chapel, attendance at which is entirely up to each guest. Twice a week these services include Holy Communion with the Laying-on of Hands.

The need for us all to 'come aside and rest awhile' is evident not only in the many stress-related illnesses, but is clearly underlined in our Lord's teaching and practice. The discipline of making a periodic retreat, not for the purpose of escaping responsibilities but enabling us to cope better with the demands of daily life, might well come under the heading of preventative medicine. This was my first visit to Crowhurst and I came away with deep appreciation of the peace and joy created by the staff. I recommend it to anyone who requires one or two weeks of rest and quiet with absolute freedom.

At the Heart of the Matter

This year's *BBC Radio Kent* Lent course is entitled **At the heart of the Matter**. It gets under way on Thursday, 16th February and if you would like to take part please get in touch fairly soon with Kath Pierce on 830844. Kath will be able to provide information about where groups are meeting in the parish and also details of course material.

The list of speakers comprises John Polkinghorne, a distinguished physicist and priest who was Vicar of Blean for a couple of years, the Revd John Johansen-Berg (a Yorkshireman, believe it or not) who is Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council, Thérèse Vanier, a medical doctor recently retired from St Christopher's Hospice and a Founder member of L'Arche communities, the Revd Bernard Thorogood, General Secretary of the United Reformed Church and the Revd David Winter who is Head of Religious Broadcasting at the BBC. Their topics are respectively *GOD—credible? MAN—spiritual? PRAYER—necessary? JESUS—unique? HEREAFTER—promised?*

After Easter and as a follow-up to Lent '89 a broadcast event called *Face to Face* will take place in Rochester cathedral. It is on Thursday, 6th April at 8.00pm and all are invited to attend and meet the personalities who have shared in the course.

For younger readers

Have you all forgotten you have a slot in 'On The Nail'? At least Rachel Nicholson hasn't and I'm delighted to print her charming poem. Don't be shy now. Send me your own poems, puzzles, stories or favourite jokes, which don't have to be religious. Let's all share the fun! Get them to the vicarage by the 15th of the month and, you never know, you might see your work in print the very next month!

The River

Bending,
Winding,
Flowing Rivers.

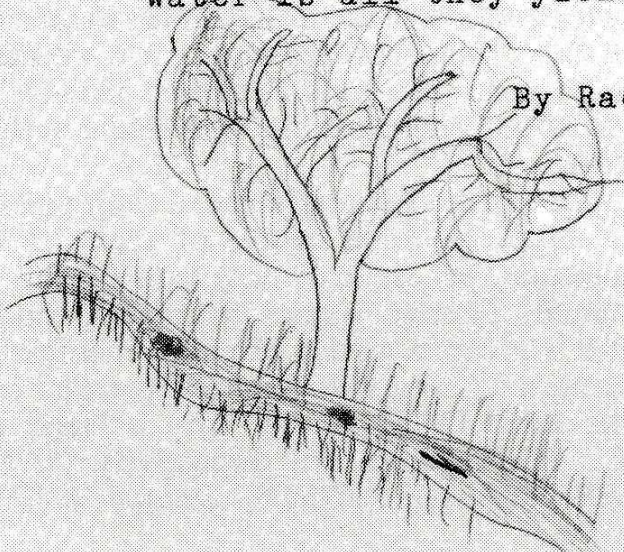
Dancing,
Gliding,
Swimming Rivers.

Bouncing,
Falling,
Splashing Rivers.

Tumbling,
Running,
Roaring Rivers.

The River running to the sea,
The Stream in the field,
The Spring in the mountain,
Water is all they yield.

By Rachel A. Nicholson.
(age 10.)



A BOAT FROM THE TIME OF JESUS

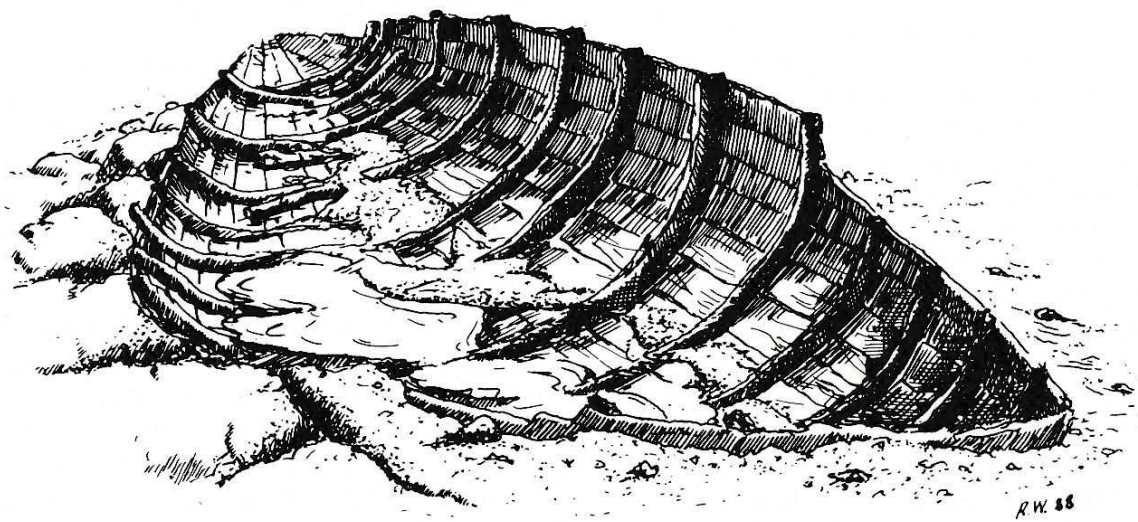
The winter of 1985/6 was a dry one in Galilee. The level of the lake dropped to its lowest point for many years, exposing areas which are usually under water. A tractor from kibbutz Ginosar stuck on the muddy lake shore and, as workers struggled to free it, they noticed old coins and broken pottery. Further investigations revealed an old boat, under six feet of mud.

Experts identified the boat as being in the mortice and tenon style, with wooden joints, characteristic of the first century AD. It is 8 metres long (26 feet) and would have been used for fishing, moving goods and ferrying people. It is unprofitable to speculate whether Jesus himself ever sat in that very boat, but certainly it is of the type he would have known well.

New Testament references to boats and fishermen are numerous. Matthew 4:18-22 tells us that Peter and Andrew were actually casting a net, and James and John were mending nets, when Jesus called them. Everyone knows the story of Jesus stilling the storm which had frightened even experienced fishermen (Matthew 8:23-27). Jesus' parable of the Sower was told from a boat, to crowds gathered on the shore (Matthew 13:2).

In the Old Testament, nets are spoken of as being used to catch or punish people. God warned Pharaoh, "I will cast a net over you"; the people lamented that God had caught them in a net; Amos prophesied that the people of Israel would be taken away with fish hooks, and Micah that each man would hunt his brother with a net. (Ezekiel 32:3, Psalm 66:11, Amos 4:2, Micah 7:2.) Jesus, in contrast, compared the Kingdom of Heaven to a fishing net, let down into a lake and catching all kinds of fish, in Matthew 13:47-50. The best known reference is the call to Simon and Andrew to be "fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19).

The ancient boat was found between Ginosar and Migdal, site of the home of Mary Magdalene. It was a centre of the fishing industry, its Greek name Tracheae meaning "place of fish salting". The boat, immersed in a preservative bath, can be seen at Kibbutz Ginosar, about ten minutes' drive from Tiberias.



Reproduced from "The Star in the East", a magazine of life and work in Bible lands.

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News



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council's first meeting of 1989 was held on Thursday, 12th January.

Future plans for Village The Chairman of the Village Appraisal Sub-Committee, Mr Vernon David, presented his Sub-Committee's recommendations

formulated from the findings of the Village Appraisal Questionnaire. These recommendations, which are grouped into five main headings include ideas for Starter Homes for young couples and plans to alleviate parking problems.

Mind where you walk! The Council expressed their disgust and concern at the apparent increase in dog fouling of the footways, and were to look into distributing an undated copy of a leaflet they had previously circulated in the village on this subject. Notices warning of the Canterbury City Council Byelaw, making it an offence to allow a dog to foul a footway had already been requested from the City Council for a stretch of pavement at the entrance from Higham Lane into Bridge Down where the problem was particularly bad.

Members were also concerned at difficulties created by owners of cars parking illegally in the High Street, particularly close to junctions with minor roads and consequently obscuring vision. The Council would therefore ask drivers to be considerate when parking and ensure that they are not causing an obstruction. As mentioned in a previous report, the Police are also waging a campaign against cars parking on pavements.

Town Hill cleared Following a successful site meeting and discussion which the Vice-Chairman Cllr Tim Hoare had with a representative of the Kent County Council at Barham, who are responsible for the maintenance of the streets and footways in the Parish, the footpath on Town Hill had been cleared and the overgrown trees and hedging cut back.

Bridge that Ford! The Council were to submit to the Southern Water Authority a photograph of how the bridge at the ford used to be, for the Authority to consider when designing the new bridge shortly to be built there by them.

Bridge Illuminations A request has been made to the City Council, who manage the lighting of the High Street on behalf of

the County Council, for the lamp opposite the Post Office to remain alight all night because of its position close to the junction with Conyngham Lane and across the road from the telephone kiosk. An order has been given to SEEBOARD for the installation of a new steel lighting column outside No 9 Dering Close to replace the present one in which cracking and crumbling of the concrete has been observed.

Resignation of Village Hall Committee Secretary The Chairman, Cllr John Hill, expressed his regret at the news that Cllr Ken Greenaway has submitted his resignation as Secretary of the Village Hall Committee after more than six years in the post and he thanked him for all his efforts over the past years. As advertized in last month's *On The Nail*, the Committee is consequently looking for a replacement. Cllr Greenaway is most willing to give advice and information about the post (tel: 830338). Those interested and willing to take on the position should contact the Chairman of the Committee, Mr John Round (tel: 830303).

New Development proposals The Council had no objections to an application for a study extension to the new house presently under construction on land to the rear of River House, 67 High Street. Planning permission has now been granted by the City Council for the erection of a detached bungalow on Plot 2, The Plat, Beech Hill and for the details relating to the erection of a detached chalet bungalow on land adjacent to Grindley Lodge, Higham Lane; but has been refused for the erection of one pair of semi-detached bungalows on land at Dering Road. The Department of the Environment has allowed an appeal to demolish an outbuilding, at one time the old village fire station, to the rear of the Plough and Harrow Public House.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at 7.30pm on Thursday, 9th February in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K A Walder, Clerk

Fish News

Luncheon Club members celebrated with a delicious Christmas dinner on 19th December and they have asked to join me in sending their thanks to the catering staff and volunteers for all their hard work.

* * *

Age Concern Annual Service this year is to be held in Canterbury Cathedral on Tuesday, 16th May at 3.00pm. The address will be given by the Revd Roger Royle, who will be known to most people for his lively TV and radio broadcasts (*Editor: and to the Vicar as an old college mate*). Admission is by ticket, so please let me know by 10th February if you wish to join us.

* * *

Hypothermia is a recurring winter problem, and in the annual battle against it the Electricity Board is supplying a simple temperature indicator which enables elderly people to see at a glance if their heating is adequate. I am hoping to obtain a supply of these cards for distribution.

* * *

Dates for your diary include the Coffee Pop-In on Wednesday, 8th February, 10.15 - 11.45am, the Tea Pop-In on Thursday, 23rd, 2.15 - 3.45pm, and some way ahead our ANNUAL COFFEE MORNING on Saturday, 3rd June.

Joan Warren

St Peter's Bekesbourne Cleaning & Flower Arranging

Since all but the first Sunday of the month is in Lent and thus does not require flowers, this list is somewhat shorter than usual. *4th*, Mrs Beckett *11th*, Mrs Purchase *25th*, Mrs Watson—the latter two for cleaning only, please.

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 R.C. Whatley, 54 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830512)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr M. Miles, The King's School, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2ES (452492)

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

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 D. Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne CT4 5HA (830659)

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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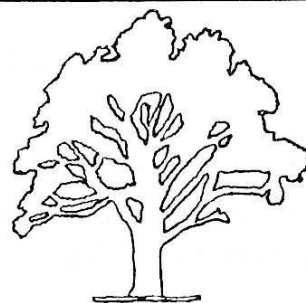
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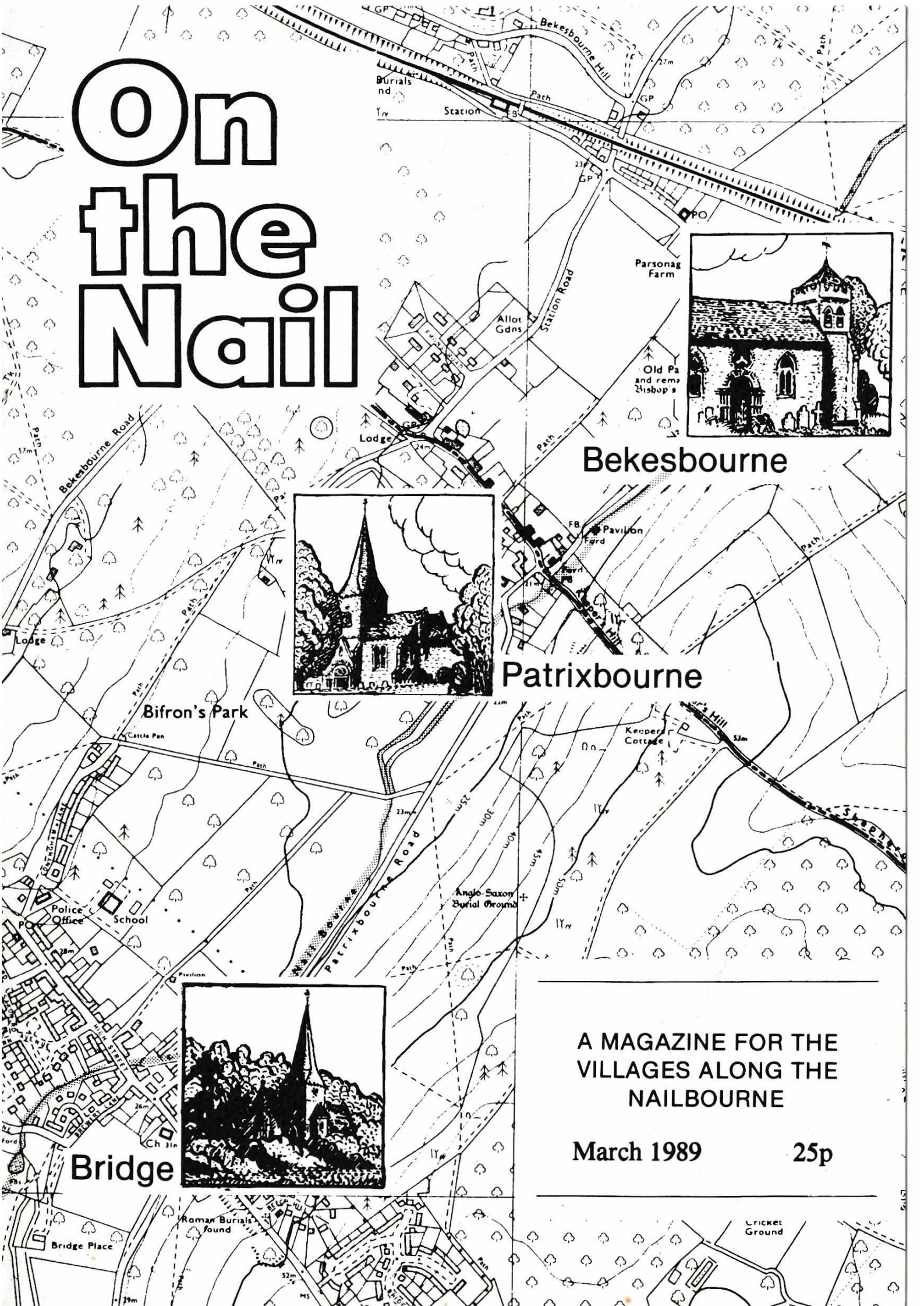
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Patrixbourne



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March 1989 25p

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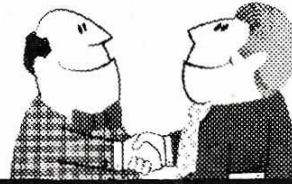
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Sunday Worship in March

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

5th:

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Mothering Sunday Service (*Canon F Bull*)

12th:

9.30 The Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

19th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(*ASB Rite A*)
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Parish Communion with Palms

26th:

11am Family Eucharist
6.30pm Festal Evensong

9.30 Holy Communion with Hymns

8am Holy Communion
11am Matins & Holy Communion (*Revd W Owen*)

● *Following the 9.30am Eucharist at Bridge on the second Sunday of each month coffee and biscuits are served at the back of the church. Donations for the Church Urban Fund.*

PLEASE NOTE that this month's Family Service on 5th will be a Mothering Sunday Service at Bekesbourne conducted by Canon Frank Bull, and there will be no morning worship at Bridge.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *5th, Family Service, Dr S J Rogers 12th, Holy Communion, The Revd Sheila Foreman 19th, Mr J Whalan 26th, Holy Communion, The Revd Sheila Foreman & Mr A Barwick.*

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion will be held in St Peter's Church, Bridge each Wednesday (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday (*ASB Rite A*) at 7.30am, though not on Good Friday or in Easter Week. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 1st at 10.15am. The New Close service is each Wednesday at 2.30pm, and non-residents are always most welcome to share in this short informal act of worship.

For your diary and prayer list

1st *St David, Bishop, Patron Saint of Wales, c601*

2nd *St Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary, 672*

Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm

3rd *Women's World Day of Prayer Service* at Bridge, 2.30pm. The service will include an address from Mrs Pamela Warnes, who is a spiritual counsellor and whose husband is Vicar of Blean and Diocesan Warden of Readers.

4th Pray for Elizabeth Ash, Parsonage Farm, Bekesbourne who is to be confirmed today at Ashford.

5th **Fourth Sunday in Lent** *Mothering Sunday*

All are welcome to the traditional Mothering Sunday Flower Service at Bekesbourne at 11 o'clock.

such that the compilers of the Book of Common Prayer felt it necessary to issue a directive as to frequency. Three times a year was given as the minimum number of times a person should communicate, which indicates the extent to which the Church undervalued the sacrament in those days.

Sensibly and rightly we have returned to first principles, such that for most practising members of the Anglican Church today a weekly communion is considered the norm, as it was in the earliest days of Christian history. Our Lord himself ordained this sacramental act to be a source of grace, an action in which the Church as a body would be involved and through which we would 'evermore dwell in him and he in us'. I am sure Christ never expected his followers to restrict the benefits of this feast of his body and blood to three times a year, even with Easter as one.

* * *

Whether you are a regular or an infrequent communicant Easter, the greatest of all Christian festivals, is a time when you will surely wish to make your communion. There will be a total of four celebrations in our three villages on Easter Day, so there is no lack of opportunity. Nor need inability to get to church through ill health or incapacity prevent anyone from making their communion at Easter, or for that matter at other times in the year, for I am always most willing to bring communion to the homes of any who cannot get to church. Please contact me about your Easter communion if you are in this situation so that I can fix a time to bring it to you.

* * *

Communion outside the church building is administered from the Reserved Sacrament, which is perpetually kept in Bridge Church for that purpose. At the Easter Eucharist a quantity of the consecrated wafers, each intincted with a drop of consecrated wine, will be set aside and reserved in the locked aumbry on the north side of the sanctuary. From these intincted wafers communion will be given to the sick in the setting of a foreshortened service of about ten minutes duration. This way the sick person is able to communicate with the Lord just as those in church do, but also with the rest of the worshipping community, since the sacramental elements in both cases are from a common source. The Reserved Sacrament is renewed weekly for the benefit of future sick or housebound communicants.

Holy Baptism

Ian Edward, son of Keith and Susan Watson, 18 Bifrons Road was baptized on Sunday, 5th February.

Grace Allan

A large company gathered in St Mary's Church, Patricbourne on 31st January to honour the memory of a very special person, who had given so much to so many.

Grace's early death came as a sad blow to her son Nigel and to a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, especially those gathered in the church that she had served so diligently and with commendable enthusiasm. She enhanced the musical life of Patricbourne Church, throwing herself wholeheartedly into the job as soon as she was made organist, and creating a choir where none

had previously existed. She worked hard for her choir and involved them in choir festivals at the cathedral, not to mention concerts and carol services at her beloved Patrixbourne.

She served our parishes as a member of both PCCs and of Bekesbourne Choir, and was a prolific fund-raiser, staging several dog shows and coffee mornings on our behalf, and establishing 'Patrx Pantry' as Patrixbourne's regular contribution to Christmas markets.

Included in the congregation at her funeral were friends and colleagues from the world of dog-breeding, in which she played a very full and informed part. Pekingeses were her pride and joy and she travelled miles to enter them for exhibitions, including of course the prestigious Crufts, usually coming away with a prize or two.

Mention must also be made of Grace's involvement at the Cathedral, where she was a mainstay of the Sunday Evensong Choir and also helped to man the Friends desk in the south west transept.

Grace, as many have affectionately remarked, was a real character and although her friends did not always see things as she did yet we had to admire her zeal and measure of commitment: an example indeed. All who knew her are the better for it. May she rest in the peace of Christ her Lord!

George Stewart

Headmistress Anna Newton writes, on his retirement, about a caretaker whose contribution to the school community has been quite exceptional.

When I came for interview to this school I well remember Mr Farley, the then headmaster warning that George Stewart would be retiring within the next two and a half years and what a loss he would be. I must confess it meant little at the time, but soon after getting to Bridge I began to understand just what Mr Farley had been trying to say.

Whenever I walked through the school first thing in the morning I would find a cluster of children and as often as not Mr Stewart in the middle of them, a child's hand in each of his, listening intently to their news. If I went into the playground at morning break there would be Mr Stewart crawling out from under the mobile classroom with a ball in his hand. On other occasions he would be on top of the oil tank throwing down to the children their footballs.

But it was when the conker season got under way that George Stewart was all the talk amongst the children. Would anyone be able to destroy his fabled conker? It had annihilated several hundred conkers during its three years and during the closed season was kept drying in a warm place.

When Class 3 children wrote their reminiscences about Mr Stewart not one began with his caretaking duties! Instead they first recounted his kindnesses to themselves, then other acts of kindness to their friends or other children and finally his job as caretaker.

Our school is always clean and sparkling. This is down to George and his wife Marge. Every Friday evening she has come in to help him clean the school and leave everything tidy and ready for Monday. Not a penny has she received for this. Without boasting or grumbling (indeed George was usually singing) they got on with the job. This alone must speak volumes about the kind of people the Stewarts are.

In several educational journals recently there has been an advertisement for people to teach in a London borough. It shows children's drawings of a mummy, a daddy and a teacher and says that after their parents the next most important person in a young child's life is their teacher. I have a feeling that several children in this school would have added Mr Stewart to their picture.

How we shall miss him and how he will miss all of us! Over the years he has taken all of us to his heart. He has laughed with us on the good days and has comforted us whenever we have needed it. If ever a person has carried out his job to the letter of the word it has been George Stewart. He has taken care—care of the buildings and grounds, the children, the staff, the parents and other visitors. It is our fervent hope that the Lord takes care of George and his wife Marge for many years of happy and healthy retirement together.

From the Noticeboard

Nailbourne Cub Scout Pack would like to start a *Beaver Scout Colony* for boys aged six to eight years. Any person who would like to lead this unit (or assist) should 'phone Martin Barnard, Canterbury 710047. Full assistance will be given in setting up and running this group. *Rosy Green*

* * *

Alf Matthews will be back on Thursdays, 2nd and 16th March to take **Bridge Folk Dance Group's** new season of meetings. New dancers will always be made very welcome in Bridge Village Hall at 8pm on these dates. Also on Friday, 9th April there will be a Barn Dance in Bekesbourne Village Hall, 7.45 - 11pm the proceeds going to the Kent & Canterbury Hospitals League of Friends. Enquiries 830652 and 830285. *J.H.*

* * *

Following **Nailbourne Horticultural Society's** February meeting, there will be a talk on 'Herbs' on Wednesday, 8th March at 8pm in Bridge Methodist Church. Refreshments provided.

In April we have our Spring Show. This will take place on Thursday, 13th April in Bridge Village Hall commencing at 6 pm.

Schedules and full details of entering are now available and may be obtained by contacting any of these telephone numbers: 830340, 830015, 830957 or 830310.

We hope to make this a successful occasion and invite everyone to enter in one of the various classes. Please make a note of these dates and venues and come along. *DE King*

Church Urban Fund—in action

The February Family Service was held in the relaxed, and to many of us, familiar school hall and was focussed on the subject of the Church Urban Fund. With the aid of an enlarged map, the vicar brought to our attention that as members of the Christian family we had relatives in many different parts of the country. In particular, we were going to concentrate on the parishioners of a church in Sheffield.

The work of the Church Urban Fund in inner city areas was then shown on a video entitled *The Church Urban Fund—in Action*. Projects, such as the provision of community centres and playgroups, are being funded by money

Continued on page 13

raised so far. Enormous enthusiasm for the work that this money is providing for was demonstrated and the urgent plea to us was not to desert the inner city, but to work to provide funds for the Church Urban Fund.

The contrast between our own parish and a parish in an inner city was then emotively demonstrated by the Revd John Packer, Rector of St Aidan's, a church in the Manor District of Sheffield. Slides showed boarded up and decaying houses and flats, and we were told that many people living in the area were unemployed.

How can we put the Church Urban Fund into action in our own parishes? Firstly we are establishing a link with St Aidan's, and at a later date this Spring our vicar will lead a small group of people on a visit to St Aidan's. Prayers for this parish will be included in the intercessions at each of our church services and members of Junior Church are going to write to children there. Secondly, we can increase our efforts to contribute to the Church Urban Fund. Small boxes are available in which personal contributions may be accumulated or if preferred a covenant in favour of the Fund can be taken out. Boxes or the covenant forms are both available from me: telephone 830947.

*Andrea Nicholson—Church Urban Fund Representative
for Bridge and Patricxbourne*

Church Urban Fund-raising

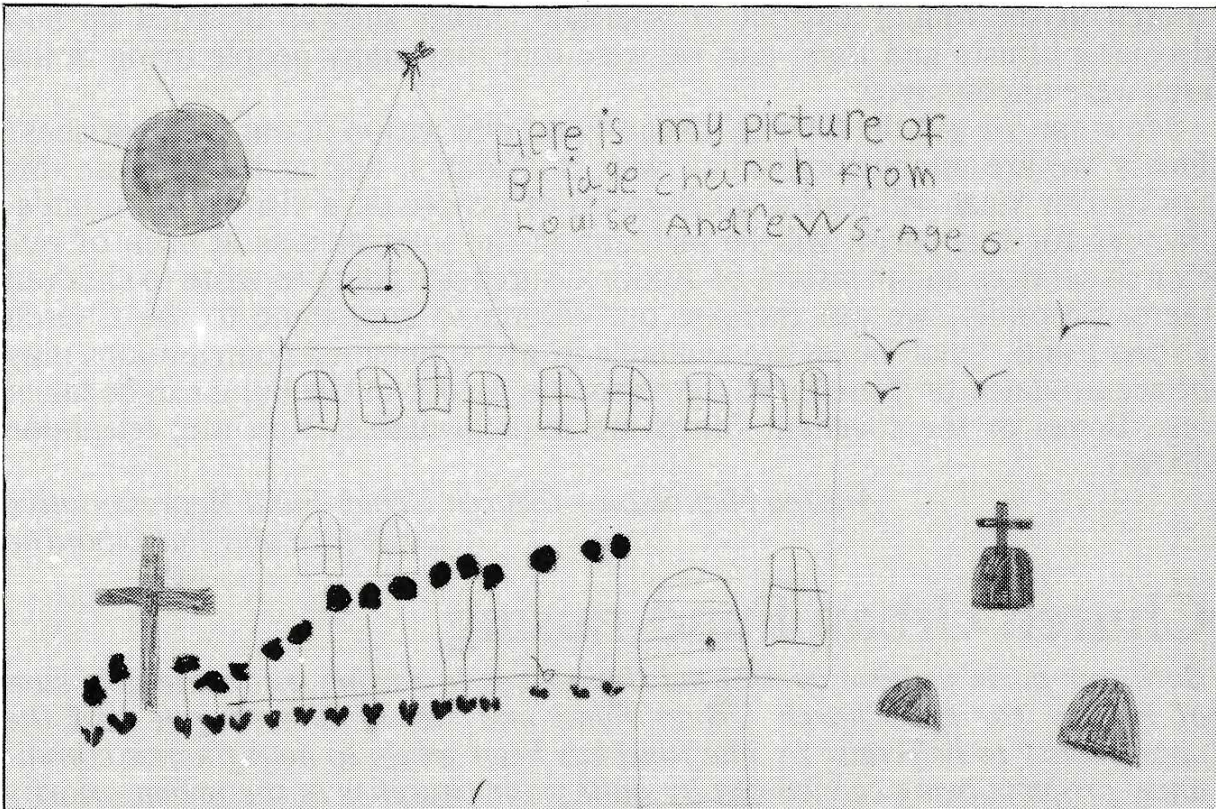
Both our parishes have committed themselves to raising a considerable sum of money for the Church Urban Fund and would like to give you the opportunity to help raise it. The fund has been set up to help finance community projects being carried out by quite poor churches in the urban priority areas of this country. Our villages are not short on ideas for raising money and the PCCs are asking for your support with a few fund-raising efforts for this very worthwhile cause. We can help with publicity in 'On The Nail' but otherwise are happy to leave you to 'do your own thing', as the saying goes. Please will you do something for the fund? Andrea Nicholson (Patricxbourne and Bridge) or Jenny Skinner (Bekesbourne) would be delighted to hear from willing fund-raisers.

For Younger Readers

At last you youngsters are beginning to wake up and realize this slot is for you to fill. If you have sent something in and it hasn't been printed, don't be disappointed; some months there is less space than others. I wonder if the third and fourth lines of Timothy's poem 'Autumn' have anything to do with Mr Stewart?

Russet coloured leaves descend to dewy grass
like groups of multi-coloured raindrops.
Conkers tumble down to dead leaves which break their fall,
lying in wait to go and shatter the opposition.
The morning mist veiling the colourful countryside
only to be beaten away by the shining golden sunlight.
The Autumnal leaves made into a bonfire
whose fiery flames look like dragon's breath.

Heated chestnuts warming your body
keeping the cold night away.
Squirrels scurry about collecting their winter stores
before going into hibernation.



Life — Death — Resurrection

Christ's passage from life to death and thence to resurrection was portrayed in the ceremonial of the early Church. It began with the night office of Tenebrae on Maundy Thursday, during which the candles were gradually extinguished until the church was left in total darkness. This representation of sorrow at the encroaching death of Jesus is poignantly captured in the following lines by the late Dr Roger Hunter.

Tenebrae —
the candles are extinguished one by one
the cold oblivion
saved by the opened tomb
but one day
the sun itself will flare and die
the planets disappear
and ghosts shall have no habitation
souls no place to stay
a final endless emptiness
no *dies irae* no paradise
a silent void and nothing more to say

The risen Lord was hailed in the early dawn with the Easter Liturgy at which fire was kindled, the large Paschal Candle lit from it, followed by hosts of other candles, until the once darkened church was ablaze with light. This is the origin of our Easter Candle. In these words a medieval Irish scholar welcomes the Light of Christ risen gloriously.

Last night did Christ the Sun rise from the dark,
The mystic harvest of the fields of God,
And now the little wandering tribes of bees
Are brawling in the scarlet flowers abroad.
The winds are soft with birdsong; all night long
Darkling the nightingale her descant told,
And now inside the Church doors the happy folk
The Alleluia chant a hundredfold.
O Father of thy flock, be thine by right
The Easter joy, the threshold of the light.

Bridge Post Office could be under threat

Many sub-post offices are suffering considerable loss of income as a direct result of a circular sent to everybody who draws any kind of benefit. The DHSS has written advising people that these monies can now be paid into bank accounts and the layout and wording of this circular rather indicate that this is to be the procedure in future. We are advised that **this is not the case**. For a sub-postmaster to lose just two or three customers in this way has a substantial effect on his own income and therefore the viability of his business.

Another 'small' change by Post Office Counters Ltd is concerned with the National Savings Account. The new rule is that no deposit can be less than £5. A way round this for small savers (e.g. children in particular) is to add a £5 note to their small deposit. This £5 can then be withdrawn the next day and returned to the mantelpiece or mother's purse, for the next transaction. This sneaky but legal way of making small deposits adds to the sub-postmaster's income as he performs two transactions instead of one, and he is paid by the number of units of business transacted.

The moral is clear! Use Bridge Post Office as much as possible, for your benefit as well as Mr Shirley's, and thereby ensure there is no likelihood of losing this very valuable amenity.

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday, 9th
February.

Future Plans for the Village The rec-
ommendations of the Village Appraisal

Sub-Committee were adopted by the Parish Council with only minor amendment and these will now be presented for consultation to Parishioners at the Annual Parish Meeting which will be held this year on Thursday, 25th May.

New tree for old! The Council noted that the lime tree by the pavilion on the Recreation Ground had now been felled. Cllr Mrs Billie Anderson was arranging for its replacement within the next few weeks.

And no new bridge for old!! The Council were informed that the footbridge at the ford was to have its supports raised and was not to be reconstructed as had been originally understood. Southern Water were to be approached again to clear out thoroughly the existing culverts near the High Street while the Nailbourne was so dry, if this work had not already been carried out.

Village Smarten-Up The Chairman, Cllr John Hill presented a draft of a letter to Dog Owners asking them not to allow their dogs to foul the Recreation Ground or pavements of the village and it was agreed that this be circulated to all households. The Council were also giving thought to having a 'Litter Day' when various groups would be organised to clear up sections of the village.

The Clerk was to repeat her request to the City Council to provide a replacement litterbin at the entrance to the Recreation Ground in Patricbourne Road and at the same time she was to make enquiries about sponsored litterbins.

The Council noted that repairs to the roof of the bus shelter by the Post Office had been carried out, but that the bus shelter by the bridge was now in need of

some attention.

Cllr Mrs Ann King stated that the walls of the hall were to be painted very shortly. The work was to be carried out at weekends so as not to interfere with bookings.

New Development Proposals The Council had no objections to the following planning applications—a two-storey side extension to 'Robbins', Bridge Hill; the construction of six houses and garages on land at 55 High Street; an outline application for a new dwelling on land adjacent to 2 Dering Road, or for a new dormer window and replacement window at the same address; the stationing of a further mobile classroom at Bridge School; or for amended plans relating to an internally illuminated corporate lamp at the Plough & Harrow.

The City Council had granted planning permission for a two-storey extension to Brookside Lodge, Patricbourne Road and had refused permission for the erection of a Self-Service Filling Station and other related facilities on land to the NE and SW of the A2 at Kingston.

The Council noted that an appeal had been made to the Secretary of State against the City Council's decision to refuse planning permission for the erection of a detached residential bungalow on land at the rear of 'Conamore', Patricbourne Road and it was decided to reiterate to the Department of the Environment the Council's objections that such a proposal constituted backland development.

The Parish Council meet again on Thursday, 9th March at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall and, as always, Parishioners are most welcome to attend.

K.A. Walder, Clerk

PARISH DIARY—A reminder to all clubs, societies and organisations.

Are you thinking of arranging an event, be it large or ever so small, that involves the village in any way? Then remember to consult and enter it in the **Parish Diary** which is located in The Village Shop. That way, we hope to avoid any clash of dates—and so make all the events that much more successful.

Bridge Parish Council notice

'Fish' News

I have been asked to give details of our transport scheme for the benefit of newcomers to our villagers. In 1980 we were asked to set up an organisation

to take over the work of the Canterbury Volunteer Bureau in Bridge and the surrounding villages. The Fish Scheme was started to take on this work and to supply additional services including a Luncheon Club and a chiropody clinic.

Volunteer drivers can be supplied for people who cannot use public transport or where no public transport is available, hospital visiting, etc. A city permit and an 'orange car label' enable us to take a handicapped or elderly person with poor mobility direct to their destination. Prescriptions and essential shopping can be collected for someone who is ill. Users of the scheme are asked to make a donation of 20p per mile to cover the driver's expenses.

If you are a car driver and have retired recently or if you have time available will you join our pool of volunteer drivers? Some people drive regularly for the Luncheon Club, day centres or chiropody sessions whilst others prefer to make the occasional journey for us. Please help.

* * *

This month's Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday, 8th March from 10.15 - 11.45am and the Tea Pop-In on Thursday, 23rd March from 2.15 - 3.45pm, both in Bridge Village Hall.

Another date for your diary—the Annual Blossom Tour is on Wednesday, 3rd May.
Joan Warren, 830233

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 R.C. Whatley, 54 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830512)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr M. Miles, The King's School, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2ES (452492)

Organist (Patixbourne): Mrs R.M. Stacey, Joclet, Keepers Hill, Patixbourne CT4 5BT (830205)

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 D. Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne CT4 5HA (830659)

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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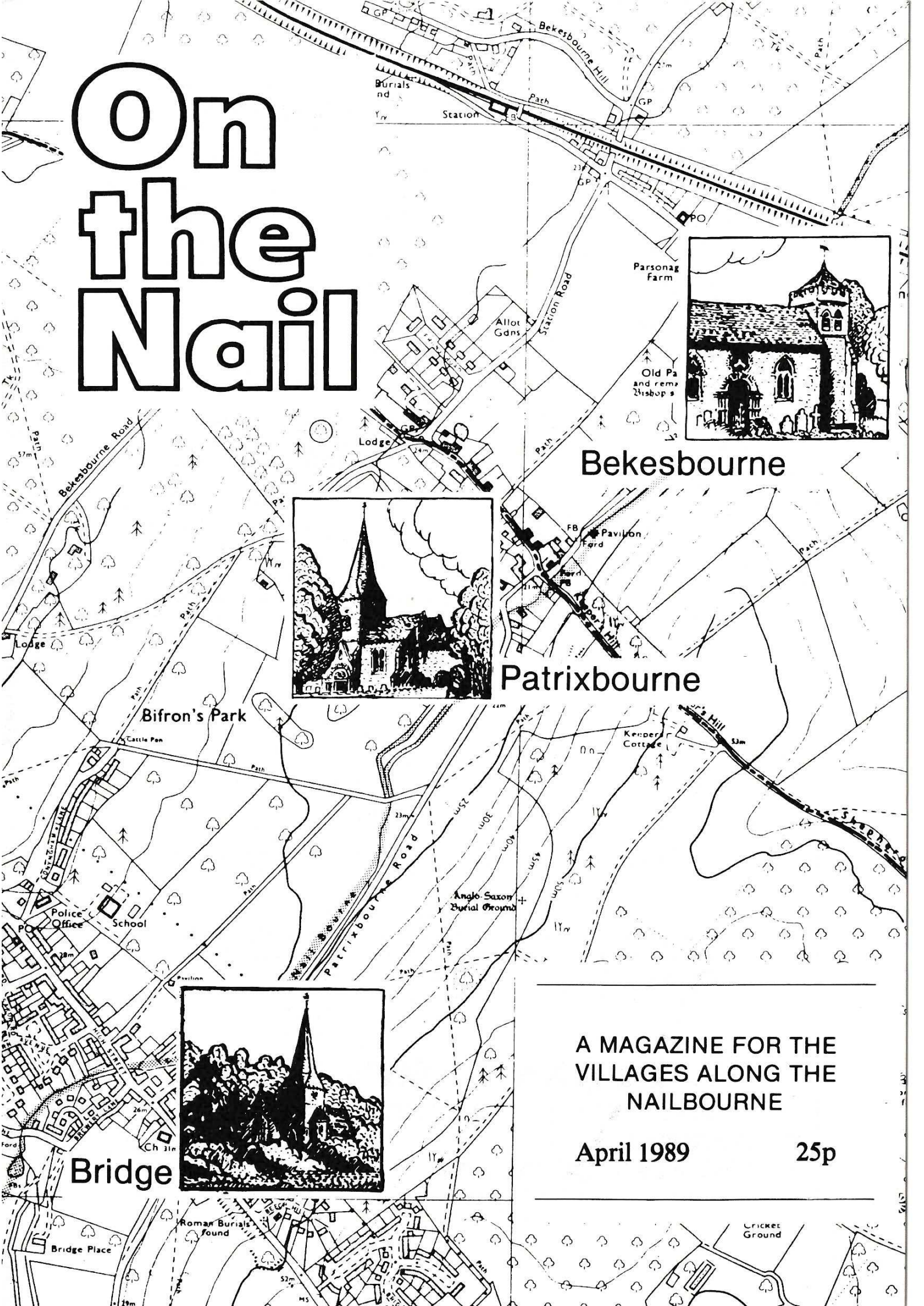
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patrixbourne



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April 1989

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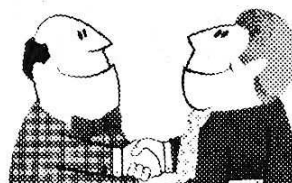
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Sunday Worship in April

Bridge

2nd:

11am Family Service
(Canon J Packer)

6.30pm Evensong
(Canon F Bull)

9th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)

6.30pm Evensong

16th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(ASB Rite A)

6.30pm Evensong

23rd:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Choral Evensong

30th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)
(Canon F Bull)

6.30pm Evensong
(Canon F Bull)

7th May:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

Patrixbourne

8am Holy Communion
(Revd C Verity)

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins
(Revd W Owen)

8am Holy Communion

Bekesbourne

9.30 Parish Communion
(Canon F Bull)

8am Holy Communion
3pm Holy Baptism

11am Matins

11am Matins
3.30pm Holy Baptism

8am Holy Communion
(Revd C Verity)
2.30pm Holy Baptism
(Canon F Bull)

9.30 Parish Communion

● *Following the 9.30am Eucharist at Bridge on the second Sunday of each month coffee and biscuits are served at the back of the church. Donations for the Church Urban Fund.*

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 2nd, Mrs R Maxwell 9th, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Sheila Foreman 16th, Mr Richard Barton 23rd, Dr E A H Tresider 30th, Mr A Barwick

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion will be held in St Peter's Church, Bridge each Wednesday (BCP) at 9.30am and Friday (ASB Rite A) at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 5th at 10.15am. The New Close service is each Wednesday at 2.30pm, and non-residents are always most welcome to share in this short informal act of worship.

For your diary and prayer list

1st Churchyard Working Party, Patrixbourne, from 10am. Please help!

2nd **First Sunday after Easter**
Children's Society Week till 8th.

3rd **Annunciation of our Lord to the BV Mary** (translated from 25th March)

- 5th Patricxbourne with Bridge Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Bridge Methodist Church, 7.30pm
- 6th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Bridge Village Hall, 8pm
- 7th Barn Dance, Bridge Village Hall, 7.45 - 11pm
- 9th **Second Sunday after Easter**
- 12th Coffee Pop-In. Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 13th Bekesbourne Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Parsonage Farm, 7.30pm
Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 16th **Third Sunday after Easter**
- 18th Deanery Healing Service, St John the Baptist's, Barham, 7.30pm.
Preacher: The Archdeacon of Maidstone
- 20th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Bridge Village Hall, 8pm
- 21st *St Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1109*
Passover Meal, Bridge School, 7.30pm (*Details on page 15*)
Barn Dance, Bridge Village Hall, 8 - 11pm
- 23rd **Fourth Sunday after Easter**
- 25th **St Mark the Evangelist**
- 27th Tea Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 2.15 - 3.45pm
Youth Club Project Meeting, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 29th *St Catherine of Siena, Mystic, 1380*
- 30th **Fifth Sunday after Easter**

We'll meet again

How are you where meetings are concerned? Some people simply love meetings and can't get enough of them. Remember Martin Bryce in *Ever Decreasing Circles*? One whiff of a proposed meeting, never mind what about, and they're there with throats cleared and ball-points ready primed. 'The more the merrier' appears to be their motto. Now whether it's the cut and thrust of debate that attracts them or a sense of power I wouldn't know because I'm not one of them.

Others, in contrast, can't stand meetings at any price and will go any lengths to avoid them. These will maintain meetings are an acquired taste, invariably boring, dominated by certain types of individuals who claim to be public-spirited but really like the sound of their own voice and enjoy hogging the proceedings. This surely can't be a true assessment, but here again I wouldn't know since I'm not of the anti-meetings-at-all-costs ilk either.

Between these obvious extremes comes the much more moderate approach to meetings such as is possessed, I would imagine, by the majority of people. This category decides to attend only when it knows what the meeting is for, how necessary it is, how long it will last and what's on the agenda, and I belong most definitely here.

* * *

This month our parishes have their annual meetings—called officially the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, or APCM for short—and their time, date and venue are in the diary column above. Permission to attend is reserved for those on the respective parish's Electoral Roll of membership, which must not be confused with the civil Electoral Register. If you are an active, regular

member of your church and are not as yet on the Electoral Roll now is the time to do something about it. Pick up a form from the church or ask for one from John Purchase (*Bekesbourne*) or Richard Whatley (*Patricxbourne or Bridge*) both of whose addresses and phone numbers are at the end of this magazine.

Meetings-addicts won't need any further incentive to attend the appropriate meeting, but I strongly recommend those who normally run a mile from all meetings to make an exception in this case. Okay, so there is serious business to transact, but it won't be irrelevantly boring and I guarantee you won't have to sit passively by without an opportunity to contribute (unless that's how you prefer it) and there definitely won't be any back-biting or mud-slinging or power-politics.

The essence of an APCM is practical matters that no church can escape, given its buildings and bank accounts and the rest of its structure. But whereas all those concerns generally pass the majority by it is only fair that everyone should be given an update about what the PCC has got up to on their behalf, how well their financial giving is used and handled, and what state the churches are actually in. It is at the APCM that members are elected to the PCC, and it is fitting that the membership of the church as a whole should decide this.

All told an APCM is a must for the discerning meeting-goer for it has all the right ingredients; a fixed agenda, business that should be of interest to all church folk, the chance to have your say or not as you choose, and it won't go on all night. If you are on the Electoral Roll of whichever parish I hope you will make every effort to be at your relevant APCM. Do try!

DEEDS OF COVENANT

With the end of the 1988/89 Income Tax Year now upon us (5th April, 1989) I would gently remind all covenanters of the Inland Revenue's rigid requirements in order that we may maximise our entitlements to reclaimable tax under covenant payments. In this context the relevant article in January 1989's *On The Nail* fully outlines the position. From it I quote the precise details, as follows:

Weekly Covenant Payments

All weekly payments up to and including Sunday, 2nd April, 1989 should be presented at the latest by Wednesday, 5th April, 1989.

Calendar Monthly, Quarterly etc Covenant Payments

These payments for periods up to 31st March, 1989 should be 'handed in' at the latest by Wednesday, 5th April, 1989.

The situation is of particular relevance to *covenanters* who make their payment in cash (mainly within the Envelope Scheme) or by cheque. Your co-operation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Douglas R Hill, Hon Treasurer

Ed: I hope Douglas won't mind my saying that what he writes with respect to Bridge and Patricxbourne applies also to Bekesbourne.

Diana Holway

The death on 1st March at a much too early age of Mrs **Diana Holway** came as a very sad blow to the many in Bridge who knew her. Diana was for many years matron of first The Close, then The New Close, in which time she endeared herself to far more than her residents. We have good cause to be grateful for her tremendous support at the birth of the Fish Scheme, particularly its

Luncheon Club, which would never have got off the ground without her generous co-operation. Joan Warren, Co-ordinator of the Fish Scheme paints a glowing and well-deserved tribute to Diana later in this issue. It was very sad when continuing ill health forced her early retirement and took her away from Bridge, although it was always good to welcome her back for special occasions.

Her cremation at Barham on 9th March was preceded by a service in St Peter's Church conducted by the Vicar, the address being given by Canon Peter Heartfield, a longstanding friend of Diana's. We extend our warmest sympathy to husband Alan, daughter Helen and to Diana's mother, who only recently moved into Mansfield Court so as to be nearer to her.



Children's Society Week 1989

Making more lives worth living

The Children's Society believes in making lives worth living. That is why it spent more last year than ever before on caring for children, young people and their families. It cost the Society £13 million to run 126 projects and help more than 11,000 young people to overcome the pressures they are under.

Due to inflation, it costs *The Children's Society* more, each year, just to maintain its existing projects: to continue finding loving new families for children with special needs; helping young people leaving care to find their independence; working with children and families in the local community; providing homes in ordinary houses for young people with handicaps, offering help and advice to young people under pressure from homelessness, poverty, unemployment and broken families; and much more.

Standing still, however, is not enough. *The Children's Society* needs to expand its work to help many more young people. That is why every home in this parish will be receiving an envelope during *Children's Society Week*: April 2nd to 8th. You will recognise it easily from the Society's logo and the three colourful balloons.

Please think about that envelope carefully: think about all those children and young people and all the others who need the Society's support. Your gift in that envelope could help to put a smile on the face of a young person who feels unwanted and unvalued. Your gift will show that there are people who care.

Here in Bridge, we are building a team to help *Children's Society Week* break all records. If you would like to help, just let me know and I shall add you to my list of volunteers, who will be delivering envelopes and collecting them later.

The Children's Society needs a generous donation in every envelope delivered throughout England and Wales—not just to go on making lives worth living, but to make more lives worth living. Please pray for the success of *Children's Society Week*, for all our collectors and for all the people they will visit.

Ann Medhurst, Children's Society Week Organiser (830762)

Deanery Healing Service, 18th April

The Church's Healing Ministry, after centuries of neglect, is gathering pace and bringing with it blessings in abundance to sick and hale alike. This is only to be expected, for like all authentic ministry it originates with Christ himself, who charged his people to 'heal the sick and say the kingdom of God has come near to you'.

Happily Christian healing is rapidly losing the suspect image produced by so-called 'faith healers' with their show-biz razzmatazz, and the true healing ministry our Lord gave his Church is now widely practised and much in demand.

The Lambeth Conference gave its official support to the Church's healing ministry by directing every Anglican bishop to promote the healing ministry within his own diocese. Of particular gratification in the Church of England is the re-introduction of the healing ministry into the routine life of many individual parishes and congregations, which after all is where it rightfully belongs.

We have so far held three Deanery Healing Services—at Nonington, Bridge and Ash—and participation in them has increased each time. We believe there to be a genuine call for this ministry on the part of many in the deanery so a fourth service is to be held on Tuesday, 18th April at St John the Baptist's, Barham.

The service is at 7.30pm and the preacher will be the Venerable Michael Percival Smith, Archdeacon of Maidstone and Chairman of the *Canterbury Council for Health & Healing* for most of its existence. Himself a long-standing proponent of the healing gospel, Archdeacon Percival Smith is well versed in both its theory and practice.

As on previous occasions this healing service will be non-eucharistic, in order that those unaccustomed to communion may happily take part.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

The Spring Show will be held on Thursday, 13th April at 6pm in Bridge Village Hall. Show schedules are still available. Do enter something—a cake, a bunch of flowers, etc.

The Annual General Meeting is booked for Thursday, 11th May at 8pm also in Bridge Village Hall. Will everyone please make an effort to attend? Volunteers for a new committee are needed urgently. It is a matter of great concern that the society may have to close unless new officers and committee can be found.

DE King

Patricbourne Church Choir welcomes new members, all parts. Please contact the new Choir Director and Organist Mrs Rosalie Stacey, 830205. Normal commitments are 11am Matins on 2nd and 5th Sundays plus mutually agreed practices.

Won't you join the dance?

Two Barn Dances for your diaries on Friday, 7th April at Bridge Village Hall, 7.45 - 11pm, proceeds to the League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals and
Continued on page 13

on Friday, 21st April also at Bridge Villahe Hall, 8 - 11pm, for *Guide Dogs for the Blind*. Both are £2·50 including refreshments and Alf Matthews will be the caller.

To get in trim for these why not join Bridge Folk Dance Group at our meetings on Thursdays, 6th and 20th April at 8pm in Bridge Village Hall.

J. H.

Claire Brasier and Emma Medhurst say

Watch out for hearsay!

Hearsay is a discussion group for 11 rising to 16 year-olds, 17 plus are invited to help. We meet every 1st and 3rd Sunday evenings at 6.15pm, and the meetings go on for about an hour. As well as discussions we do craft fund-raising (particularly for the *Church Urban Fund*), enjoy the outside life, picnics, etc.

If you wish to join call Claire Brasier, The Archways, Conyngham Lane (830981) and she will tell you when and where the next meeting is to be held So on a final note we say: WATCH OUT FOR HEARSAY!

Youth Club

As a result of the recent Village Appraisal it is proposed to form a Youth Club in Bridge for those of secondary school age.

A meeting to discuss this will be held on Thursday, 27th April in the Village Hall, to which all interested adults are invited. *Vernon David, Chairman of the Village Appraisal Sub-Committee*

Church Urban Fund update

Please read the following and future contributions under this heading, otherwise you may miss something exciting. For Patricbourne and Bridge our representative Andrea Nicholson brings us up to date and also alerts us about coming events on behalf of the fund.

CHURCH URBAN FUND, IN ACTION, HERE AND NOW

The February Family Service brought into sharp focus the work of the Church Urban Fund, and the necessity of such help in the inner city areas. Our link with the parish of St Aidan in Sheffield is strengthening and I have received a delightful letter from Mrs Betty Frost, a parishioner there, who is to be their scribe and will be responsible for sending us their news. She writes:—

“Greetings from St Aidan’s Church to everyone in your congregation, and I hope this epistle will be the first of many between our churches. I understand some of your members have already met John (Packer) when he preached at Bridge a short while ago, and possibly you have also seen some of the slides of the Manor area which he took down with him. So you will readily appreciate that we are an Urban Priority Area. In spite of our surroundings our worship of Christ in the various churches which go to make up the Sheffield Manor Parish is warm and committed.”

Betty has included with her letter the monthly newsletters from St Aidan’s and the Manor Parish, which I will place in Bridge Church for all to see. I will

endeavour to reciprocate letters and newsletters to Betty from us.

Fund-raising for the Church Urban Fund has to be a priority now, as we have a target to reach of £1,000 over three years. A Lent Lunch held by Mrs Ann Medhurst raised £56 and coffee and biscuits after the communion service on the second Sunday of March at Bridge Church raised more than £7. Other events, as listed below, are planned in order to raise further money towards our target figure.

- April 2nd: Movie Night—the video recording of Junior Church's Pantomime will be shown in the Methodist Church at 7.30pm, followed by coffee and cake. Admission £1 adults, 50p children.
- June 24th: Barbecue evening—please note the date, details will be announced next month.
- September 16th: Cheese and Wine Party.
- September 30th: Jumble Sale.

If you can hold a fund-raising event, such as a coffee morning or a lunch, and wish to have it publicised here, please contact me. The idea of a 'Thrift Shop' stocking good condition unwanted clothes and other bric-à-brac has been mooted. Has anyone the space and the enthusiasm to put this into action? If so, please let me know. Also, please read on to find out about Alicia Pentin's scheme.

Here is the chance to make a large contribution to the Church Urban Fund. At the same time it will have the advantage of putting some money into your own pockets.

Our idea is this. We advertise in a Dutch Christian newspaper for people who would like to have a family holiday near historic Canterbury. We invite guests into our homes at any time during the summer or autumn at a cost of £120 per person per week for bed, breakfast and evening meal.

Anyone in Patricbourne, Bekesbourne or Bridge who has a room to spare and would like to be a host can contact me, Mrs Alicia Pentin (830278). The scheme will operate so that half the income from the guests goes to the Church Urban Fund and half to the host, i.e. £240 per couple per week = £120 to the fund and £120 to the hosting family.

We are keen for this project to be a success and hope that as many people as possible will support it.

Mrs Jennie Skinner, the Bekesbourne representative would value the support of village residents to meet St Peter's target for the fund. By all means filch a few ideas from Bridge if you want to or do your own thing, but don't be shy of coming forward to help this very deserving cause. The above hosting scheme could do wonders for Bekesbourne, for anyone who took part in the scheme would be contributing to its target. Come on now, let's see what we can do.

News from the Diocese is that £130,000 has now been raised for the fund. All the pledges and gifts of the diocese will be presented to the Archbishop at a *Church Urban Fund* service on Friday, 13th September at 7.30pm in the Cathedral. *Church Urban Fund Week* will be from 17th to 24th September. Projects supported from the fund now total 150 in twenty-eight dioceses of England at a cost of £3 million.

Passover meal, 21st April

The Passover Meal on 21st in Bridge School at 7.30pm will follow the traditional Jewish pattern, with what amounts to the Christian follow on. It is a ritual meal full of symbolism, and for Christians it takes us back to our Old Testament roots and their fulfilment in Jesus Christ.

It will be necessary to limit numbers so if you would like to attend it is important that you let either the Vicar or the Revd Sheila Foreman know by 9th. We shall of course have to make a charge, since apart from the ceremonial side, it will be a full-scale meal with wine. In a way the cost will depend on the number of participants; hence the need to know who is coming well in advance.

PARISH PUMP Parish Council News

Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday 9th March.

Village Appraisal Progress The Council heard that the School of Architecture had agreed to undertake, at the Parish Council's request, a project at the beginning of next term on visual enhancement of certain areas of the village. It is hoped to present these ideas at the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 25th May. Cllr Mrs Ann King has arranged two public meetings, one in connection with the formation of a youth club on Thursday, 27th April and one in connection with a project for starter homes on Thursday, 22nd June. Watch out for more details!

Nailbourne Dredging The Council noted that clearance of the Nailbourne channel was already under way with more work scheduled for the end of March.

Good news for Beech Hill walkers It was understood from a meeting which the Chairman, Cllr John Hill, attended recently at Kent County Council's Divisional Office at Barham that the footway in Beech Hill was scheduled for major

repairs in the coming financial year.

The Competitive Spirit The Council decided to enter both the *Trees in Your Village* and *Best Kept Village* Competitions this year. So can everyone, please, make an extra special effort to smarten up his or her little patch of the village.

Planning proposals The Council had no objections to an application to demolish the existing garage and build a replacement double garage at 8 Windmill Close. The City Council has granted planning permission for an extension to the new house at the rear of River House, 67 High Street, but has refused permission for a two-storey side extension to 'Robbins', Bridge Hill.

Lottery Fund Help for Scouts The Council agreed to support an application for assistance from the City Council's Lottery Fund for the Nailbourne Scout Group. The Scouts intend to put the money towards the purchase of a patrol tent.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 13th April in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall at the usual time of 7.30pm.

K A Walder, Clerk

Fish News



We were all shocked to hear of the unexpected death of Diana Holway. The village owes a great deal to Di. In her ten years as Matron of The Close her immediate and generous help to anyone in trouble in the community was an example to us all. Her guiding rule was that need came first, red tape could be sorted out later—a philosophy that endeared her to those she helped but often disconcerted her administrators!

The speed with which we were able to set up the Luncheon Club and Chiropody Clinic was largely due to her encouragement and generosity in

putting the facilities of The Close at our disposal. We are hoping to plant a flowering cherry tree at The New Close in her memory. The good will Di built up around her ensured she had a constant supply of volunteers to help her in caring for her residents at The Close.

Orchard Tour

We have been invited to arrange a car drive through the orchards of Highland Court Farm. Because of the early season, this will probably be in early April. In order that we can see the blossom at its peak, the date has to be fixed at the last minute. Please let me know at once if you wish to join us.

Blossom Tour

The annual Blossom Tour will be on Wednesday, 3rd May. The coach will leave Western Avenue (opposite Green Court) at 2.15pm. After a country tour there will be the usual stop for Cream Teas at Chilham Fruit Farm, with time to visit the shop and garden centre. The inclusive charge will be £3. Although priority will be given to people who have difficulty getting about there are usually enough seats to take everyone who would like to go. Transport to the coach pick-up point can be arranged. Please book your seat as soon as possible.

Pop-Ins & Chiropody

The Coffee Pop-In will be on 12th April and the Tea Pop-In on the 27th. The mobile Chiropody Clinic will be in the village from 4th to 7th April.

Joan Warren, 830233

BEKESBOURNE CHURCH *Flowers and Cleaning Rota*

1st, Mrs Ellis (removing dead flowers) 8th, Mrs Smith and Mrs Hogben 15th and 22nd, Mrs Clifford 29th, Mrs Gillanders

Down Mexico Way

Stimulated by last month's 'Women's World Day of Prayer' Service in Bridge Church, Joy Monk recalls for our benefit her experiences of the Church in the southern hemisphere.

I have just returned from a trip to Mexico—a third world country and one of marked contrasts.

Starting in Mexico City, a huge sprawling conurbation mostly rebuilt after the terrible earthquake of a few years ago, we travelled by coach through some of the country, our hotels being variously a converted monastery, a viceroy's palace, a mission site and a hacienda—all very interesting!

In each city our guide Juan took us to visit the most important church or cathedral, which was usually rather ornate, with gold leaf—and baroque in style, except one at Cuernavaca which was all white pillared and ceilings, giving a lovely pure and peaceful air in contrast to the noise and dust outside.

But the one which impressed us most was the Shrine to the Virgin of Guadalupe. The church we visited was modern, but the ruins of the two previous ones, dating from the 16th and 18th centuries, still stand nearby. Even though it was a Monday when we went the church was full, with Mass being said continuously. What brought tears to my eyes and a feeling of humility and compassion was to see women slowly crawling on their knees from the street to the altar (some 200 yards at least) in total faith that the Virgin would intercede on their behalf with our Lord.

This is just another aspect of our world-wide fellowship as Christians.

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

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

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

Hon Secretary: Mr R.C. Whatley, 54 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830512)

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

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Organist (Patricbourne): Mrs R.M. Stacey, Joclet, Keepers Hill, Patricbourne CT4 5BT (830205)

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

BEKESBOURNE

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

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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 D. Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne CT4 5HA (830659)

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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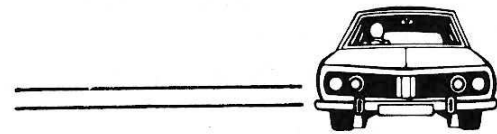


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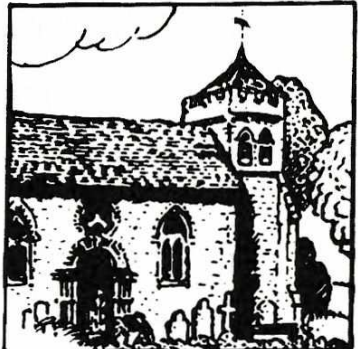
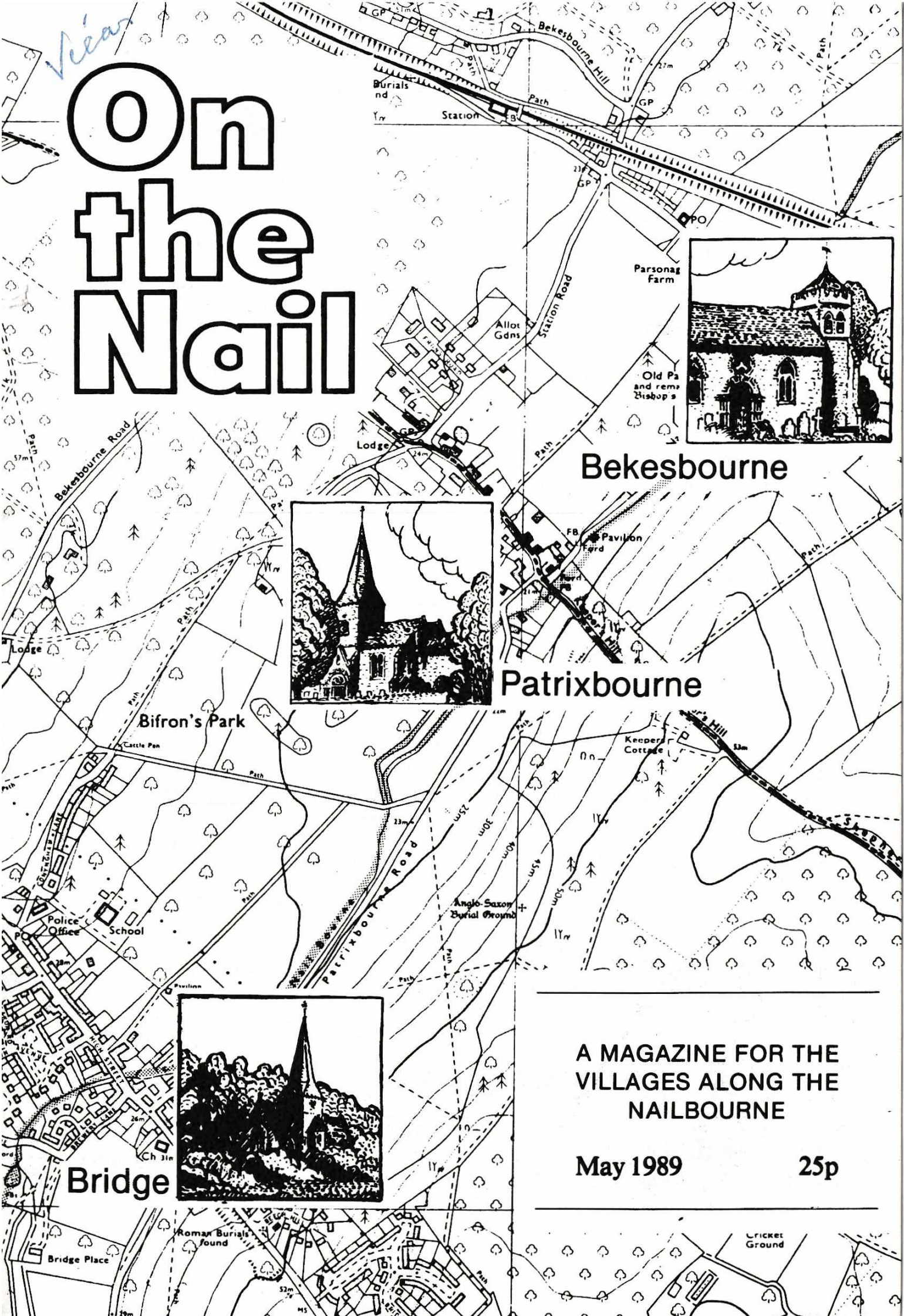
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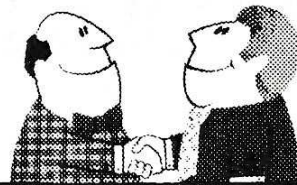
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Sunday Worship in May

Bridge

7th:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

14th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(*ASB Rite A*)
6.30pm *Words & Music*
at Pentecost

21st:

9.30 Parish Communion
(*ASB Rite A*)
6.30pm Evensong

28th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Choral Evensong

4th June:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

Patricxbourne

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

9am Holy Communion

8am Holy Communion

Bekesbourne

9.30 Parish Communion

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

11am Matins

9.30 Parish Communion

● *Following the 9.30am Eucharist at Bridge on the second Sunday of each month coffee and biscuits are served at the back of the church. Donations for the Church Urban Fund.*

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *7th*, The Revd John Turner *14th*, Church Anniversary, Holy Communion, The Revd Sheila Foreman *21st*, Family Service, Mr P M Turner *28th*, Mr L Dron

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion will be held in St. Peter's Church, Bridge each Wednesday (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday (*ASB Rite A*) at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 3rd at 10.15am. The New Close service is each Wednesday at 2.30pm, and non-residents are always most welcome to share in this short informal act of worship.

For your diary and prayer list

- 1st **St Philip and St James, Apostles** Rogation Day
- 2nd *St Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, 373* Rogation Day
Summer Fête Preparation Meeting, The School, 7.30pm
- 3rd Rogation Day
- 4th **Ascension Day** (*See page 14*)
The Eucharist (*Rite A*) will be celebrated in St. Peter's, Bridge at 7.30pm.
- 6th The New Close Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale, 10 - 11.45am
Pray for Gary Pearson and Ann Alder, to be married this afternoon at Bridge.
- 7th **Sunday after Ascension Day**
- 8th *Julian of Norwich, Mystic, c1417*
- 10th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am

- 11th Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 13th Pray for Alison Walker and Michael Nixson, to be married this afternoon at Bekesbourne.
- 14th **WHITSUNDAY (Pentecost)**
In place of Evensong Bridge Choir (Director: Martin Miles) will present a musical meditation on the Holy Spirit. It will include choir items, familiar congregational hymns, readings from both scriptural and non-scriptural sources and prayers.
- 15th **St Matthias the Apostle** (translated from 14th)
Christian Aid Week begins.
- 16th Bridge Methodists' Mid-week Anniversary Service, 7.30pm, conducted by the Revd Dr T Mervyn Willshaw, Chaplain of Kent College
 Bridge with Patricxbourne WI, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 18th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
 Bridge Folk Dance Group, Bridge Village Hall, 8pm
- 19th *St Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, 988*
- 20th Pray for Nicola Fairbrass and Gary Reynolds, to be married this afternoon at Bridge.
- 21st **Trinity Sunday**
- 23rd Pray for East Bridge Deanery Synod this evening at Littlebourne, and for our representatives Sheila Fenn and Ted Weatherall (*Patricxbourne with Bridge*), John Purchase (*Bekesbourne*).
- 24th *John and Charles Wesley, Priests, Poets, Teachers, 1791, 1788*
 Women's Institute Day Trip to Otford
- 25th *Venerable Bede, Priest, Monk of Jarrow, 735.*
 Day of Thanksgiving for Holy Communion, also called Corpus Christi.
 Fish Scheme Tea Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 2.15 - 3.45pm
 Annual Parish Meeting, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 26th *St Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury, 605*
- 27th Concert by the *University Baroque Band*, Bekesbourne Church, 7.30pm
- 28th **First Sunday after Trinity Pentecost 2**
- 31st *Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth*

What a gift!

In the new Marriage Service the groom, when putting the ring on the bride's finger, says to her: "I give you this ring as a sign of our marriage. With my body I honour you, all that I am I give to you, and all that I have I share with you, within the love of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit". I am particularly struck by the middle line, "all that I am I give to you", which deserves more than one hearing and is certainly no throw-away line!

Loving and Giving

Loving is giving, and the most perfect expression of love is the giving of oneself. Note that! Giving myself is the epitome of loving, and this is precisely what the bridegroom gives to his bride. And it is reciprocated, because in this very moving service the bride has her own words to say; words of the acceptance of the ring to begin with but expressive of that same ideal offering of love also.

"All that I am I give to you" stands on its own in the Marriage ceremony. It is surrounded by the offering of the body in physical love and the offer of a

share in the possessions, but refers to neither, superceding both. In this middle line the most prized possession anyone has is on offer, the offer of the self. It is an offering of all that I am, that which distinguishes me and sets me apart from the crowd, my very identity.

You put your whole self in!

In marriage preparation I spend quite a bit of time on these words, partly because the couple should know what they are promising in this very public setting, but chiefly because of the implications of them. The one gives to the other his/her whole self on the understanding that nothing, but nothing is withheld, and that is something one will only do to a person with whom one is deeply in love. It is another way of entering into the marriage relationship in which, to quote the service again, "man and woman become one flesh", and why in flippant conversation one partner might refer to the other as their 'better half'.

Third party involvement

But "all that I am" has possibly deeper implications, for it takes us back to the God of the Old Testament whose name was far too holy for mortal man to utter and who was consequently known as 'I AM'. God was identified as being the One Who Is, he of whom it could be said 'HE IS' without any further qualification or clarification.

When Moses was sent to the children of Isreal to activate them into escape from slavery in Egypt, his God-given credentials were the password, "I AM has sent me to you". Jacob, wrestling with God, asked the name of his combatant and was given the mysterious answer, "I AM THAT I AM". Jesus got into great trouble by saying of himself to the Pharisees of all people, "Before Abraham was I am": not surprisingly they took up stones to throw at him.

At this popular wedding season all of us, particularly those who are married, might ponder the profoundness of the promise that "all that I am I give to you". It has a tremendous significance for all married people but it also brings God, the great I AM into the picture, for on top of the gift to a spouse of our most valuable asset comes the still more precious gift of God's grace and help in the new life we have begun together. Both gifts are crucial to a happy marriage.



***Church Urban Fund* Progress Report**

At the Annual Church Meeting for Bridge and Patricbourne I was able to report that the amount raised towards our target of £1,100 over three years now stood at £447.26. This is a most encouraging start and I hope that this news will spur us on to further efforts.

Members of Junior Church have taken fund-raising very much to heart, and have agreed to donate one of their collections each month to the *Church Urban Fund*. The sale of greetings cards they have made (see details elsewhere) is also a very worthwhile project, worthy of everyone's support. In June a Junior Church Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Stall is to be held to boost their contributions further.

Please support the following fund-raising events:

10th June Junior Church Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Stall (only being held if weather is dry). Go and see the chicks and ducklings at Cowhouse Cottage, Bekesbourne Lane, 10am to 12 noon. (Ring Christine Sladden, 830043 for further details.)

24th June Midsummer Barbecue, 7.30pm at Riverside Cottage, Patricbourne. Tickets available from me or Stephen and Hilary Pike, £2.50 adults, £1.50 children, include food—please bring your own drinks if anything other than orange squash is required.

16th September Cheese and Wine Party—details later.

30th September Jumble Sale—details later *Andrea Nicholson (Tel: 830947)*

Cards for sale

Some children from Junior Church are making cards in aid of the *Church Urban Fund*. They will be sold at 35p a card: 20p going to the fund and 15p for expenses and the works (*sic*). The cards will be on sale at the back of Bridge Church on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

Elizabeth Pike

Christian Aid Week May 15 - 20 1989

“I THIRST” said Jesus and that cry from the Cross is echoed from many parts of the world today—from Africa, where soil erosion has brought water shortage; from Asia, where low caste people may not have access to the village well; from South America, where big-scale plantations have taken over the traditional small-holdings.

“It’s time to right wrongs,” says Christian Aid—by helping people everywhere to realise their right to land, to food, to clean water and to life. On the leaflet which will come through your letter box with the Christian Aid Week envelope this year is the laughing face of Mengedde as she winnows the crop she and others have reaped in the village of Fetale Doreng in Southern Ethiopia. Christian Aid helped to supply seeds, tools, sheep, oxen, goats and technical advice for this and many other village co-operatives as they fought to recover from the devastation of earlier years of famine.

Please help them to help themselves by giving generously during Christian Aid week, so that there may be many more laughing faces like Mengedde’s. Call me on 830364 if you can help even more by joining our hard-working band of collectors.

THE WEEK is MAY 15th - 20th.

Muriel Packer

Patricbourne with Bridge PCC Treasurer’s report on the accounts for the Year ended 31st December, 1988

As you will be aware 1988 was the year in which we held our second Christian Stewardship Renewal Campaign, the first ‘renewal’ having been held four years earlier in 1984. It is evident from a perusal of the Accounts that the financial aspect of the Renewal Campaign was most encouraging. In the year

1988 we had a surplus of receipts over payments of £2,441 (1987—£1,157). This happy position has allowed us to transfer £2,400 (1978—£1,100) to our General Reserve to augment our funds towards meeting the heavy cost of major repairs with which we are faced at both our churches. The balance of £41 has been transferred to the Lady Chapel Refurbishment Fund as a token in recognition of the continuing work undertaken by the Ladies to this project, a task being admirably carried out from funds raised by their own efforts.

The surplus of £2,441 in 1988, compared with £1,157 in 1987, showed an increase of £1,284 in the year, most of which can be attributed to increases under Planned Giving of £949 and Church Collections of £395 respectively. Overall increases and/or decreases under other account headings almost balance out.

Details of the Reserve Funds are given in the Accounts and the accompanying Notes to the Accounts, both of which are available for inspection on the two church noticeboards. Of the fund available for major repairs shown in Section 1 of the Funds statement, a total of £3,457 is available for Bridge Church and £7,231 for Patrixbourne Church. We understand that both these sums are quite inadequate to fund the cost of repairs necessary at these churches.

Forecast for 1989

As the effect of new and/or increased giving under both the Covenant and Freewill Offering Schemes is progressive, the full improvement of giving under the Christian Stewardship Renewal Campaign for a full year will not be enjoyed until later in 1989. Although a moderate increase in planned giving in 1989 hopefully is anticipated we shall have to face up to fairly substantial increases in costs. We already have been informed that we are required to increase our Quota payments from £7,182 to £7,998, an increase of £816 in 1989. Increases of £150 in insurance premiums, printing costs of the Parish Magazine, heating and lighting costs, are just a few other charges over which we shall face greater demands on our income. Nevertheless, based on current estimates we should have at least a moderate surplus in 1989. This, however, will be totally insufficient to resolve the deficiency of funds needed to carry out the previously reported major repair works to our churches, as complemented by the recent 1988 Quinquennial Inspection reports presented by our Architects. With the problems of meeting our day to day expenses having been eased for the time being, it is now so important to address ourselves in earnest to tackle the even greater problem of effecting the major repair work to our two churches. This is of prime importance.

Copies of the 1988 Accounts and Explanatory Notes are available from me at your request.

DR Hill, Hon Treasurer

Whilst gratefully acknowledging the generous contribution of all who made pledges, it needs to be said that the financial success of 1988's Stewardship Renewal is also due in no small measure to our worthy treasurer's efforts once the campaign was over. Very many thanks Douglas!

Holy Baptism was administered by the Vicar to Christopher Michael Peter Watson Shaw, son of Michael and Lynn, Aurum Parva, The Aerodrome, Bekesbourne on Sunday, 9th April in the presence of a very large congregation of family and friends.

Grateful thanks

Thanks to all who contributed to the *Children's Society Week* collection. The sum raised was £213.92.

Ann Medhurst

* * *

I would just like to say a big thank you to all the kind friends who came to visit me, but especially to Trixie and Frank who called every day and did my shopping, and to Brenda and Peter, my neighbours, who called to me every morning, to see if I was up.

According to the doctor I will probably never be completely recovered, and have to learn to live with it. Thank you everyone!

Frances E Apps

* * *

The recent Jumble Sale held by the Bridge NSPCC Group raised £150. The committee would like to thank all who supported the sale, especially those willing helpers who gave their time.

Irene Roe

Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute

Our special seventieth birthday celebration took place on 25th April—an evening meal at Broome Park.

At our monthly meeting in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 16th May the resolutions for the AGM at the Albert Hall will be discussed.

On Wednesday, 24th May a day trip has been arranged to Otford, our West Kent Link Institute.

DE King

Hospital League of Friends Bridge Branch

At the recent AGM the Chairman reported a successful year, raising over £1,600 for the purchase of equipment for the local hospitals. Bridge would again be organising the Grand Draw at the Hospital Fair on Saturday, 8th July. The Committee for 1989 were elected as follows:—

Mr George Stewart, Chairman; Mrs Elizabeth Stewart, Vice-Chairman; Mrs Maggie Field, Secretary; Mrs Ann King, Treasurer; Mrs Maureen Baker, Bishopsbourne; Mrs Wendy Durell, Patricbourne; Mrs Nicky Fry, Bekesbourne; Mrs T Hills, Bridge; Mr E Lilford, Bekesbourne.

Retiring members Joyce Hopkins and Gill Harvey were thanked for all their help and the Chairman said that he hoped for their continuing support.

Future events to which everyone was invited included a Coffee Morning at Bournes Corner, Bekesbourne Road on Thursday, 8th June and a Garage Sale in Western Avenue on Saturday, 16th September.

Maggie Field

From the Noticeboard

A Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale will be held at The New Close on Saturday, 6th May, 10 - 11.45am. Proceeds for the Residents' Amenity Fund. Please support.

O I Knight

* * *

Due to the County Council elections Bridge Folk Dance Group will be meeting

only once in May on Thursday 18th, when as usual Alf Matthews will be instructing us. So please join us at 8pm in the Village Hall for a friendly evening. Enquiries 830652 and 830285.

JH

* * *

Bridge Branch of the Hospital League of Friends invite you to a Coffee Morning at Bournes Corner, Bekesbourne Road, Bridge on Thursday, 8th June from 10am to 12 noon. There will be a Bring & Buy stall, pottery for sale and a raffle. Weather permitting, swimming will be available for all ages for a small charge. Do come and support your local hospitals.

Maggie Field

Ministry of Healing

Due to our visit to Sheffield on the fifth Sunday of last month we weren't able to offer the healing ministry of the laying on of hands at Bridge's 9.30am Eucharist as originally intended. Instead this ministry will be available to all who would like to receive it on Ascension Day. At the evening Eucharist members of the congregation who would like hands to be laid on them either for themselves or someone else will be welcome to come forward after the communion to receive this ancient, biblical ministration.

When first offered on 29th January many came forward and found great blessing through the laying on of hands. We hope you will be with us again on Thursday, 4th May!

SUPPORT WE CAN ILL AFFORD TO REFUSE

The contribution made to church life in all three villages by Junior Church may not be readily apparent to some readers. It is in fact tremendous, wide-reaching and exceedingly supportive of what they like to call Senior Church. Sheila Fenn, in her Deanery Synod report to the Annual Church Meeting at Bridge, rightly questioned the quality of our support for them. I thought you should read for yourselves what she said, since so few attended the meeting.

We are very fortunate in Bridge in having a strong Junior Church, always ready and eager to support Senior Church to an impressive degree. This makes it all the more disappointing that when Junior Church ask for our support for some event so few seniors take the trouble to turn up. As a member of the Deanery Synod's Education Working Group I earnestly request you to accept Junior Church's invitations. If we do *not* and they lose their enthusiasm we shall have no-one but ourselves to blame.

The Samaritans

Each year in this country over five thousand people kill themselves and many who don't take that ultimate desperate step live lives of loneliness, fear or despair. The Samaritans exist for those people—to offer care, compassion and a listening ear in a world where people can increasingly, find themselves isolated and without support.

The Samaritan telephones in the Canterbury centre are manned by two volunteers twenty-four hours a day, three hundred and sixty-five days a year. Anyone who dials the Samaritans can be sure that there will be someone there to listen. Every year the number of people who do call the Samaritans goes up. Last year, the Canterbury and District Branch who cover an area stretching from Faversham to Deal received 15,000 such calls and the number goes on rising. The service costs money, however. Although it is run entirely by

volunteers, running costs for the Centre last year to be available to those 15,000 callers was around £15,000.

Now the Canterbury and District Branch need more money. The number of callers has risen to such an extent that the Branch needs to move to new premises where three rather than two emergency numbers can be answered. This is essential if we are to be available to offer the friendship which people need during their personal crisis. We hope that you may be able to assist us in our fund-raising efforts.

We also need more volunteers to answer the three telephones! You need no qualifications to be a Samaritan. If you are prepared to give some of your time (Twelve hours plus one Night each month), if you care enough about other people to listen, if you have compassion and warmth to give then you could be a Samaritan. You won't be plunged in at the deep end. All volunteers are trained before they start and have an experienced Samaritan to help them in their first few months.

If you feel that you could help and would like to know more about what is involved please ring on Canterbury 457777 or write to 14 Ivy Lane, Canterbury. If you feel you would like to ring the Samaritans in confidence about something you need to talk about then the lines are open 24 hours a day on 457777. Anyone who feels they would like to make a donation towards the new Centre should ring the Appeal Office on 471111 and speak to Carole. Covenant forms are available from Ivy Lane.

Contributed

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday, 13th April.

Highland Court Walkers Following information received by the Council that residents were no longer allowed to walk in the grounds of Highland Court since its recent acquisition by a private company, further enquiries have been made to the City Council. It appears that when the property belonged to the Health Authority and was therefore part of Crown Property, permission had been given to residents to walk through the grounds. However, when the property was sold to a private company, this permission lapsed, and there is in fact no public right of way over the grounds. Neither is it possible to claim a right of way by establishing users' rights over a period of time because it appears that Crown Property is immune. In view of this information, the Parish Council decided to approach the new

owners to see if they would be willing to give a similar permission to residents to that enjoyed from the Health Authority and the outcome will be reported in due course. Meanwhile anyone walking through the grounds of Highland Court is technically trespassing on private property.

Rural Lottery Fund Allocations to Parishes As a result of the Parish Council's request to the City Council to reconsider the allocation of Lottery Fund money to the Parishes who at present receive an equal share whatever their size or population, it is understood that the City Council are to make some amendments by introducing a maximum balance of funds that any one parish can hold, with the excess being transferred to a Rural Reserve Fund from which any parish may apply for assistance with any large project.

What's new at the Recreation Ground? There are two new green litter-bins, one by

the play area and one at the entrance by the bridge in Patricbourne Road. Please use them! The new lime tree to replace the one recently felled has now been planted a short distance away from the pavilion. An outbreak of new mole-hills, as well as too many low branches on the trees, alongside and behind the tennis courts has led to the County Council being unable to cut that area of grass with their gang mower. The Parish Council are therefore to take steps to alleviate these two problems so that the mowing can be carried out.

'Best Kept Village' Competition The Clerk outlined to the Council ideas for promoting within the village their entry in the 'Best Kept Village' Competition this year. Details of competitions and activities to encourage everyone to take a pride in their village will be publicised before long. If any parishioner is interested in helping with the village's entry, would they please contact the Clerk, Kathy Walder, on

830057.

A spate of Planning Proposals A large number of planning applications have been received since the last meeting, but the Council had no observations to make on any of them.

The City Council has granted planning permission for the erection of six dwellings on land at 55 High Street, but has refused permission for the installation of a dormer window and a replacement window at Sunnyside, 2 Dering Road, and also for the erection of a dwelling on land at the same address. The Appeal made to the Secretary of State against the City Council's refusal of planning permission to fence in the side garden at 12 Bridge Down has been dismissed.

The annual meeting of the Parish Council, when officers are elected for the ensuing year, will be held on Thursday, 11th May at the usual time of 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K A Walder, Clerk

★ Please note that the Annual Parish Meeting at Bridge will be in the Village Hall on Thursday, 25th at 7.30pm. All parishioners are urged to attend.

Fish News

Our annual **Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale** will be held in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday, 3rd June from 10.30am to 12 noon. This is our only fund-raising event and finances our work in caring for elderly residents and others who need our help in the four villages of Bishopsbourne, Bridge, Patricbourne and Bekesbourne. Last year the scheme cost £460. Although we had a grant from *Age Concern Kent* towards Luncheon Club transport and generous grants from our Parish Councils we were left with a substantial sum to raise. Increasing demands are being made on voluntary bodies and we need your financial help to enable us to meet our costs. Please come and give us your support and help us to reach the target of £200 we have set for our Coffee Morning.

Blossom Tour

The coach leaves the bottom of Western Avenue (opposite Green Court) at 2.15pm on Wednesday, 3rd May. At the moment the places are all booked but we have a waiting list to fill any last minute cancellations.

Pop-Ins

This month's Coffee Pop-In will be from 10.15 to 11.45am on Wednesday, 10th May. The Tea Pop-In is on Thursday, 25th May from 2.15 to 3.45pm. Both are in Bridge Village Hall.

Joan Warren, 830233

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

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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 R.C. Whatley, 54 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830512)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr M. Miles, The King's School, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2ES (452492)

Organist (Patixbourne): Mrs R.M. Stacey, Joclet, Keepers Hill, Patixbourne CT4 5BT (830205)

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 D. Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne CT4 5HA (830659)

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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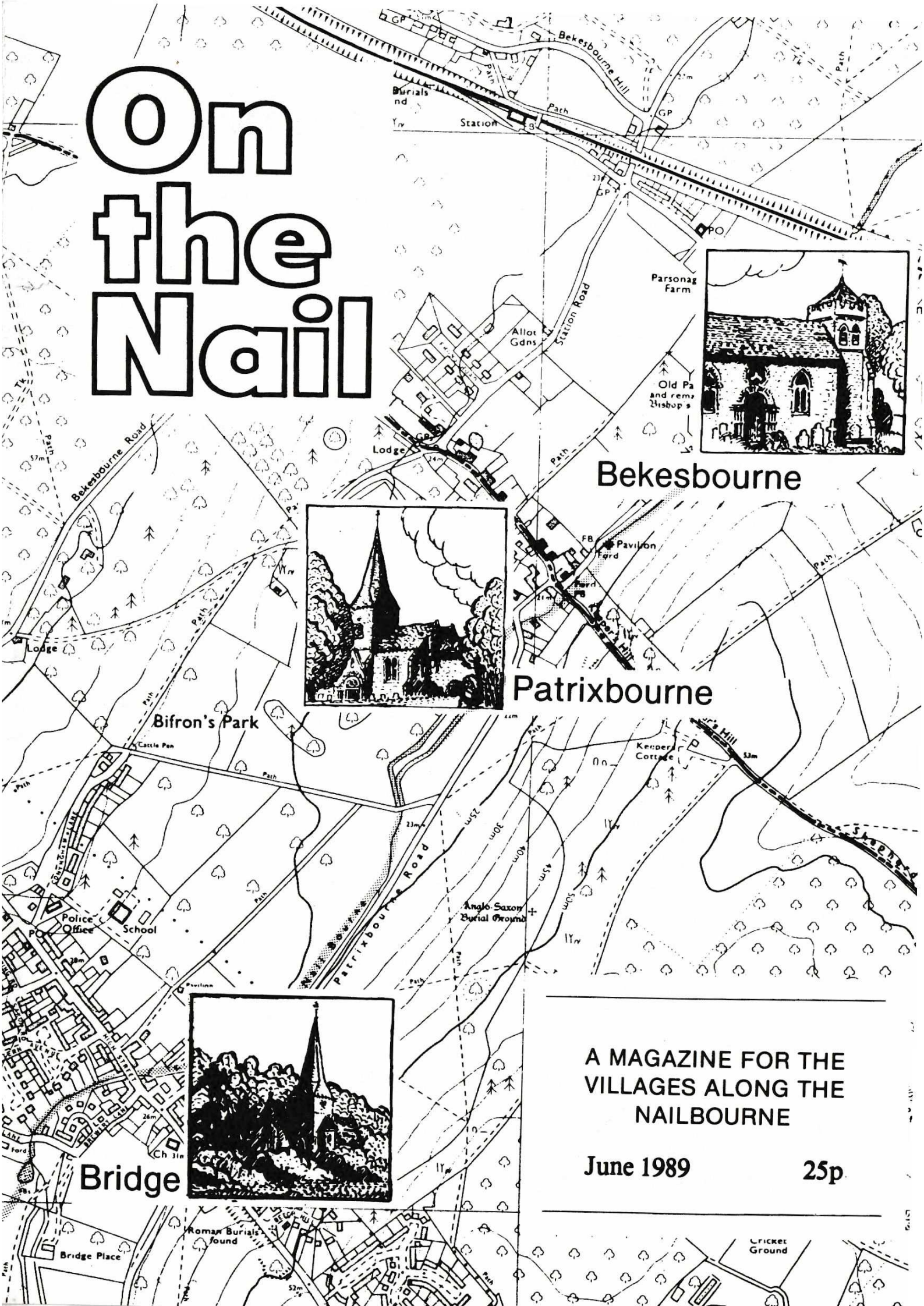
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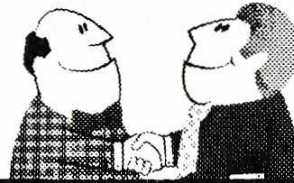
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Sunday Worship in June

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
4th: 11am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong (<i>Canon F Bull</i>)	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion
11th: 9.30 The Eucharist (<i>ASB Rite A</i>) 6.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
18th: 9.30 Parish Communion (<i>ASB Rite A</i>) 6.30pm Evensong (<i>Revd W Owen</i>)	8am Holy Communion	11am Matins
25th: 8am Holy Communion (<i>Canon F Bull</i>) 6.30pm Choral Evensong (<i>The Vicar</i>)	9am Holy Communion (<i>Revd C Verity</i>)	11am Matins (<i>Revd W Owen</i>)

2nd July:

No morning worship in any of our three churches, due to the Deanery Family Festival at 10.30am in St Nicholas's, Ash.

6.30pm Evensong

● *Following the 9.30am Eucharist at Bridge on the second Sunday of each month coffee and biscuits are served at the back of the church. Donations for the Church Urban Fund.*

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *4th*, Miss J Charlesworth *11th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Sheila Foreman *18th*, *Family Service*, Methodist Society of Kent University *25th*, Mr J Whalan

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion will be held in St Peter's Church, Bridge each Wednesday (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday (*ASB Rite A*) at 7.30am except on 30th. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 7th at 10.15am. The New Close service is each Wednesday at 2.30pm, and non-residents are always most welcome to share in this short informal act of worship.

For your diary and prayer list

- 1st *St Justin, Martyr, at Rome, c165*
Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meets.
- 3rd Fish Scheme Coffee Morning, Bridge Village Hall (*See Fish News*)
- 4th **Second Sunday after Trinity: 3 after Pentecost**
- 5th *St Boniface, Bishop, Missionary, Martyr, 754*
- 8th Hospital League of Friends Coffee Morning, Bourne Corner, Bekesbourne Road, 10 - 12 noon.

- Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 9th *St Colomba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary, 597*
- 10th Pray for Jayne Jefferies and Gary Mannering who marry today at Bekesbourne.
Junior Church Coffee Morning, Cowhouse Cottage, Bekesbourne Lane, 10 - 12 noon (only if dry).
- 11th **St Barnabas the Apostle**
- 14th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
Fish Scheme AGM, Bridge Methodist Church, 7.30pm
- 15th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 17th **BRIDGE SUMMER FÊTE**
Pray for Gay Batchelor and Darren Pugh who marry today at Bridge.
- 18th **Fourth Sunday after Trinity: 5 after Pentecost**
- 20th Pray for the clergy of East Bridge Deanery who meet this morning.
Bridge with Patrixbourne WI meeting, The Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21st Bridge School Governors' Meeting
- 22nd *St Alban, First Martyr of Britain, c209*
Samaritans Fund-raising Day, 18 Conyngham Lane, 10 - noon, 2 - 3.45pm
Fish Scheme Tea Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 2.15 - 3.45pm
Bekesbourne PCC meets.
- 24th **Birth of St John the Baptist**
Pray for Elizabeth Voisey-Youldon and John Douglass who marry today at Bekesbourne.
Midsummer Barbecue, Riverside Cottage, Patrixbourne, 7.30pm
- 25th **Fifth Sunday after Trinity: 6 after Pentecost**
- 28th *St Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, Martyr, c200*
- 29th **St Peter the Apostle, Patron Saint of Bridge and Bekesbourne**
Evening Eucharist at Bridge, 7.30pm (No Friday morning this week).

HOW TIME FLIES!

It is said that one of the marks of increasing age is the way policemen start to look younger. The indication that old age has actually arrived is when police *inspectors* begin to look young.

Further and more reliable signs of advancing years are stiffening of the limbs, a yen for afternoon naps and slowing up generally. I would like to suggest another, and that is the way the passage of time increases. When I was a lad time hung particularly heavily between my birthday in early December and Christmas. Now the two virtually merge into one—though I suspect not only because I am getting older. Yet the experience of many is that as they grow older so time seems to slip into a higher gear and annual events come round with greater swiftness. All right, we know time doesn't actually go faster, but it certainly seems to; and more rapidly the older you get!

* * *

The Saints and Holy Days around which the Christian Year revolves certainly come round with apparently greater frequency, and it doesn't seem twelve months since we last celebrated St Peter's Day.

Actually that was a day to remember in more ways than one where Bridge

Church is concerned. First, it was the occasion of a splendid eucharist and confirmation service at which the Bishop of Dover presided and for which the church was filled to capacity. Secondly, and due to the 'weight' of numbers together with ageing timber, part of the flooring gave way in the South Aisle, as a result of which three rows of seats have been roped off ever since and will remain so until matters are resolved to do with replacing the joists. It's not as easy as you might imagine, because the affected joists are very difficult to get at for inspection purposes, let alone to make good, and the eventual cost facing the PCC threatens to be horrendous. Here's one of those situations where we can't just let matters slide but yet haven't anywhere like the money in our coffers to put the work in hand. Of course if you, dear reader, were so very kind as to make a donation—the bigger the better—it would put quite a different complexion on matters and we could ensure that a second St Peter's Day didn't pass with the offending seats still roped off and out of use. At this juncture I say no more!

* * *

All that talk of the passage of time reminds me that the Summer Fête is on us once again—though perhaps because I am now slightly longer in the tooth it doesn't seem a year since the last one! Where the church is concerned there is a distinct tie up between the desire for yet another financial record and the aforementioned flooring problem, though there are other huge demands on our resources as well as that. I'll say no more but commend to you the following article on the Summer Fête, contributed by Hilary Pike.

This year the village fête will be held on 17th June at the school, starting at 2pm, and it promises to be as good as ever.

Canterbury Gymnasium Club and the Canterbury Youth Band will be there to entertain you and there will also be a fire engine and police car for the younger ones to visit, and swing boats and a fun castle for them to play on.

The fancy dress competitors are asked to meet in the school playground, where the judging will take place. This year there will be no theme, so let your imagination run riot! There will also be a decorated bicycle competition.

As always the fête can only succeed with *your* help. Both school and church are in great need of funds, so if you contribute to the following stalls we shall be very grateful: Cakes, Bottle, Groceries, Toys, Books, Plants, Gifts and Handicrafts. Our collectors will be coming round soon and will gladly accept non-perishable goods. Alternatively they can be taken to the Vicarage, Frank Whitten's Office (29 High Street) or the school. Cakes and plants can be taken to the school or 12 High Street on the day before, or the day of the fête.

We realise how much the people of Bridge are asked to give, but if *everybody* could give just a little we would be very grateful. Most important—come along on the 17th and enjoy yourselves!

In apple-blossom time

Three very charming weddings took place in May, and to each couple we send our very best wishes and prayers for a long and happy life together. On 6th St

Peter's, Bridge was the setting for the marriage of **Gary Pearson** to **Ann Alder**, and a fortnight later the same church was the venue for the wedding of **Nicola Fairbrass** and **Gary Reynolds**. On 13th at St Peter's, Bekesbourne the vicar officiated at the wedding of **Alison Walker** to **Michael Nixon**.

On The Nail—Noticeboard

The residents and 'Friends' of The New Close thank all those who supported the Coffee Morning on 6th May.

* * *

Bridge Branch of the Hospital League of Friends invite you to a Coffee Morning at Bourne Corner, Bekesbourne Road, Bridge on Thursday, 8th June from 10am to 12 noon. There will be a Bring & Buy stall, pottery for sale and a raffle. Weather permitting, swimming will be available for all ages for a small charge. Do come and support your local hospitals. *Maggie Field*

* * *

MEJ writes: I am holding my annual fund-raising day in aid of the Canterbury Branch of the Samaritans at 18 Conyngham Lane on Thursday, 22nd June. Coffee from 10am to noon and tea from 2 to 3.45pm. Bring & Buy and a Raffle. Please help me to help them in this vital work.

Kent Competitive Festival of Music, Drama and Dance

We are informed that two Bridge children were successful in the speech section of the Festival, when brother and sister Timothy and Lucinda Spencer received either good or very good. Timothy got second place with his *Humour in Verse*, the mark being very good.

Calling all hands—Bridge Churchyard

A working party is being planned for Saturday, 3rd June, starting at 9.30am. There is a lot of work to be done so I would ask all to spare us a morning (or all day if possible!). If we have a lot of people we can get through it without too much trouble.

Whilst on the subject, can anyone help us with a mower? Although the churchyard is in process of being closed we are still all responsible for it at this time. Last year John Young kindly took it upon himself to drive to Hoath to borrow a lawnmower, drive back, mow the old churchyard, and then drive all the way back to Hoath again, all at no expense to the church. It is not right that this should continue, so if anybody has a heavy duty mower which would tackle the job and is prepared to undertake themselves or offer us the use of the mower we would be most grateful.

S R Pike

First contacts

Stephen Pike reports on a weekend with the Church of St Aidan, Sheffield.

On Saturday, 30th April a car-load made up of Rosemary and Raymond Gilbert, Andrea Nicholson and myself, was privileged to visit our link parish of St Aidan's in Sheffield. Although we were only there for a comparatively

short time (we arrived at tea time on the Saturday and left after lunch on Sunday) our visit made a deep impression, and we each found it a very humbling experience.

After a conducted tour of the parish led by the rector, John Packer, we were introduced to our hosts with whom we were to stay. Rosemary and Raymond stayed with the Packer family at the vicarage whilst Andrea stayed in a small terraced house originally built for the mining community. This area has now been extensively modernised by the council, although it is still the subject of debate on whether to pull it down and rebuild. I found myself on the 14th floor of a tower block, with wonderful views of Sheffield and the Derbyshire Peak District beyond.

Commitment writ large!

We were struck, without exception, by the depth of Christian commitment amongst the people of St Aidan's, which was apparent from the word go. There was no sense of hopelessness or helplessness—quite the reverse! Don't let anybody tell you that a link with an Urban Priority Area is primarily about us with our plenty helping them with their little. It simply isn't true. If St Aidan's is anything to go by they have more to offer us in the way of witness, vitality and enthusiasm than we could ever offer them, and they are a comparatively elderly congregation at that.

The parish as a whole covers a very large area of council estates and is divided into five zones, each with its own priest and church, the parish being run as a team ministry. John Packer is the team rector, and in addition to a weekly staff meeting, he makes it his business to visit the team vicars individually every Saturday.

There are about 30,000 parishioners who are either committed churchgoers or have nothing whatever to do with the church. There are no half measures, no 'fringe' members such as we have and on whom we rely for their goodwill. At St Aidan's it is all or nothing! The congregation is much the same as ours in numbers—between forty and fifty at the service we attended—but they do have one advantage. Being fully committed they work as a team and get on with the job in hand, with the result that their level of achievement is higher than ours in some respects. There they are in an Urban Priority Area, a huge council estate with very high unemployment and yet to date they have raised more than we have for the *Church Urban Fund*. On top of that they also have to contribute to their bishop's own aid fund. One cannot help but think of the widow's mite! Would that we, in our affluence, had their level of commitment—what mountains would be moved!

Is there anybody there?

Unemployment is not the only problem in the parish. Houses decayed by 'black mortar', whole areas devastated by subsidence caused by old mine workings. The high rise blocks put up in the '60s as the answer to housing problems are not immune either: they are very lonely places in which to live. We drove around some blocks and even went up to the 14th floor of one without seeing a soul, other than a small boy all alone with his bike. There are few shops, no community areas or anywhere else that people would meet naturally to chat and make friends, apart from the occasional pub. Going shopping means taking a 'bus into the city. When John Packer spoke at our Family Service in Bridge School Hall one of our children observed that there were no people in the slides he had brought. He apologised at the time, but we

Continued on page 13

discovered that is what life is like there. To meet people he has to knock on doors, all of which are kept locked, bolted and chained.

A new dimension to exchanging the Peace!

The culmination of our visit was the Sunday morning eucharist, at which we were made particularly welcome. The warmth and fellowship which was shared by the congregation and which engulfed us also was no doubt in part due to the openness of northerners; which contrasts with our southern reserve and tendency to keep ourselves to ourselves, feeling embarrassed at public expressions of feelings. As an illustration of this, when we exchanged the Peace the service stopped for nearly five minutes while the people milled around, using it as a natural opportunity to make genuine enquiries as to the health of their friends and neighbours. It was not contrived or pre-planned, nor had it been inflicted on them as part of the new *Alternative Service Book* package, *i.e.* as the done thing. It happens every week, originated purely spontaneously and has retained that feeling of spontaneity. If this sounds like an interruption to the flow of devotional worship let us assure you that is far from the case. Somehow the *mêlée* had developed into a natural and integral part of the service. To the four of us it seemed entirely right and was wonderful to participate in!

Where do we go from here?

In continuation of our link a return visit has been mooted and St Aidan's are talking of bringing a minibus down to Kent. Dates have yet to be fixed and other arrangements, *e.g.* accommodation made, but we look forward to welcoming our new friends here with as much warmth and fellowship as was accorded us in Sheffield. It should be highly stimulating and rewarding for both parties. We certainly have much to learn from them: have we as much to offer St Aidan's in return?

Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute

The institute has had a busy time with our birthday celebration at Broome Park in April, and the visit to our link institute at Otford in May.

This month's meeting will take place on Tuesday, 20th in Bridge Village Hall, the speaker being Mrs Y A Ward, and her subject has the intriguing title *The ferry leaves at ten o'clock*. There will be a competition for the best doll dressed in national costume. All welcome at 7.30pm—new members especially.

D E King

Bridge Village Appraisal

As a result of the recent Village Appraisal the Parish Council is exploring the possibility of a small, affordable housing project for young people in Bridge. A meeting to discuss this will be held on 22nd June in the Village Hall at 7.30pm, to which all interested householders are invited. Further information will be distributed to householders before the meeting.

Vernon David, Chairman of the Village Appraisal Sub-committee

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Church Urban Fund

More news from our local rep



Please be sure to read Stephen Pike's report of our visit to Sheffield. I stayed with Betty Frost, who is our link representative at St Aidan's, and the two of us talked at great length about our respective parishes. Betty was very proud to be able to tell me about their plans for the building of the new St Swithin's Church Centre, which will be part of the Sheffield Manor Ecumenical Project. The new building will be situated on the now derelict site of the previous St Swithin's Church, at the side of the present St Swithin's vicarage. St Swithin's is part of the same parish as St Aidan's.

The streets around the proposed new church are depressingly empty at present. The few houses that remain are boarded up or being modernised. The rest have been demolished. However, the estate is to be rebuilt and the new St Swithin's Church complex is designed to be a focal centre; flexible in use, open and welcoming to all, a resource for the whole community. £50,000 towards the enormous cost of the project has been promised from the *Church Urban Fund*; an example of where money raised in this and other parishes is being put to use to help revitalise and improve an inner city area.

Let us renew our efforts to reach our target for the *Church Urban Fund*. Please support the following fund-raising events:

10th June Junior Church Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale, Cowhouse Cottage, Bekesbourne Lane, 10am to 12 noon (only if dry). Ring Christine Sladden (830043) for further details.

24th June Midsummer Barbecue, 7.30pm, Riverside Cottage, Patricbourne. Tickets available from me or Stephen Pike (£2.50 adults, £1.50 children) include food, but please bring your own drinks.

Andrea Nicholson

Bridge Parish Council

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday, 11th May, Cllr John Hill was re-elected Chairman for the ensuing year, with Cllr Mervyn Gulvin as Vice-Chairman. So that Parishioners know who to tackle about any problems in the village, those Councillors responsible for the Recreation Ground and Sport are Mervyn Gulvin, David Heap and Mrs Billie Anderson. Streets and Footways are in the care of Mrs Margaret Jones and Mrs Anderson, while Planning matters are dealt with by the Chairman himself and Tim Hoare and Mrs Meriel Connor, who is also responsible for rights of way. The Village Hall representatives are Ken Greenaway and Mrs Ann King.

What have your Councillors been doing? By the time you read this, Cllrs Hill, Gulvin and Greenaway will have cut back and tidied up around the children's play area at the Recreation Ground. Cllr Mrs Jones has already carried out a survey of all the roads and pavements in the parish, noting carefully the condition of each and every one and the repairs required, and her report is forwarded to the Highways Department of the County Council for action by them. Cllr Mrs Connor has already inspected the majority of the public rights of way, and when her report is complete it will be sent to the Footpaths Officer at the City Council. Cllr Greenaway is to be congratulated on organising a substantial grant from the Eurotunnel Fund towards the purchase of new chairs for the Village Hall.

Attention all Golfers! A complaint has been received about people practising golf on the Recreation Ground. The Council noted this matter with some concern and intend to keep a watchful eye on the situation so that it does not get out of hand. In the meantime, they would earnestly ask all golfers to exercise due care when playing and to use their discretion, particularly when other users of the Recreation Ground are present.

Our Recreation Ground in demand The Council agreed to a request from Stafford House to use the football pitch again this summer at certain times during the period from July 3rd to August 25th at a charge of £150 which would be

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



passed on by them as a contribution to the Bridge Village Sports Trust.

To build or not to build . . . ! The Planning Committee had considered four planning applications. They had no objection in principle to an application for a dwelling and garage at 20 High Street subject to certain minor amendments to detail in keeping with its position in the Conservation Area, and had made observations relating to the need to incorporate the entrance hall and garage to the proposed detached chalet bungalow at 23 Union Road under a pitched roof. They had no objections to a further application for a two storey extension to 'Robbins', Bridge Hill, or to amended plans for the position of an internally illuminated lamp at the Plough & Harrow. Planning permission had been granted by the City Council for extensions at 54 Bridge Down and 1 Park View, Mill Terrace and for a replacement detached double garage at 8 Windmill Close, but permission had been refused for the erection of a conservatory and alterations to the rear of Church Cottage, 104 High Street and for the construction of a swimming pool with lean-to roof over it at 21 High Street. The Council made a contribution of £100 to the Barham Down Action Group to help them put their case with expert advice and help at the Public Inquiry into the appeal against the refusal of planning permission for a service area and other facilities on land adjacent to the A2 at Kingston, which, if allowed, could have an adverse effect on the village of Bridge.

An end in sight for the Village Appraisal Team The report is now complete and is shortly to be produced. Copies will eventually be available at a small charge. Meanwhile, as a result of the Appraisal, plans are going ahead to set up a Youth Club in the village for children of secondary school age, and also to investigate the provision of affordable homes for young people.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 8th June in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

K A Walder, Clerk

'Best kept village' competition

Most residents will now be aware from colourful posters dotted around the village that we have entered the 'Best kept village' competition this year. The posters were produced by the children at Bridge School, who were asked to design posters as a competition which Julia Rowntree kindly agreed to judge. The winners who have been presented with book tokens by the Chairman of the Parish Council, are Simon Flisher (Upper Juniors), Lucy Ochs (Lower Juniors) and Nicholas Hopkins (Infants), while all those who took part are to receive commemorative certificates. Congratulations to the winners and thank-you to all who entered.

Competitions for the 'Best Hanging Basket' and 'Best Tub or Window-Box' have been organised and entries should be submitted to the Clerk, Kathy Walder by 9th June.

You may also have noticed that a group of volunteers cleaned up the High Street one evening recently and that the Scouts and Guides, too, have been collecting litter in certain areas. Thank you to all concerned. The Parish Council hope that their efforts will encourage everyone to make an extra special effort this summer to keep their frontage clean and tidy. K W

Fish News

Our **Annual Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, 14th June at 7.30pm in Bridge Methodist Church. There will be a report on our activities and finances, and a general discussion on how the Fish Scheme is working. This is an open meeting and everyone is invited to bring suggestions on how we can improve the scheme and to help make plans for the future.

* * *

We were fortunate to have fine sunny days for our two outings. On 3rd May fifty-three people went on the Blossom Tour and enjoyed their stop for cream tea and a visit to the garden centre. The original plans for the Orchard Tour had to be abandoned because a cold spell had held back the blossom. Eventually, on 8th May a large party went on a spectacular drive right through Highland Court orchards. We are grateful to Chris Jarvis, the farm manager, for his invitation and for organising the expedition, to Mrs Packer who organised the transport and particularly to the thirteen car drivers who made it all possible.

* * *

Don't forget our **Annual Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale** in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday, 3rd June, from 10.30am to 12 noon. There will be a raffle and stalls for plants, cakes, groceries, gifts, books and 'white elephants'.

* * *

This month's Pop-Ins are Coffee, 14th, 10.15 - 11.45am and Tea, 22nd, 2.15 - 3.45pm, both as usual in Bridge Village Hall.

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Organist (Bridge): Mr M. Miles, The King's School, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2ES (452492)

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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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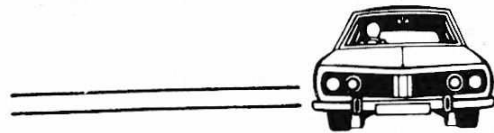
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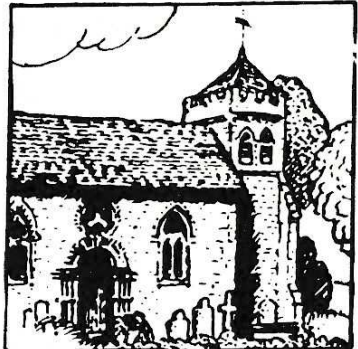
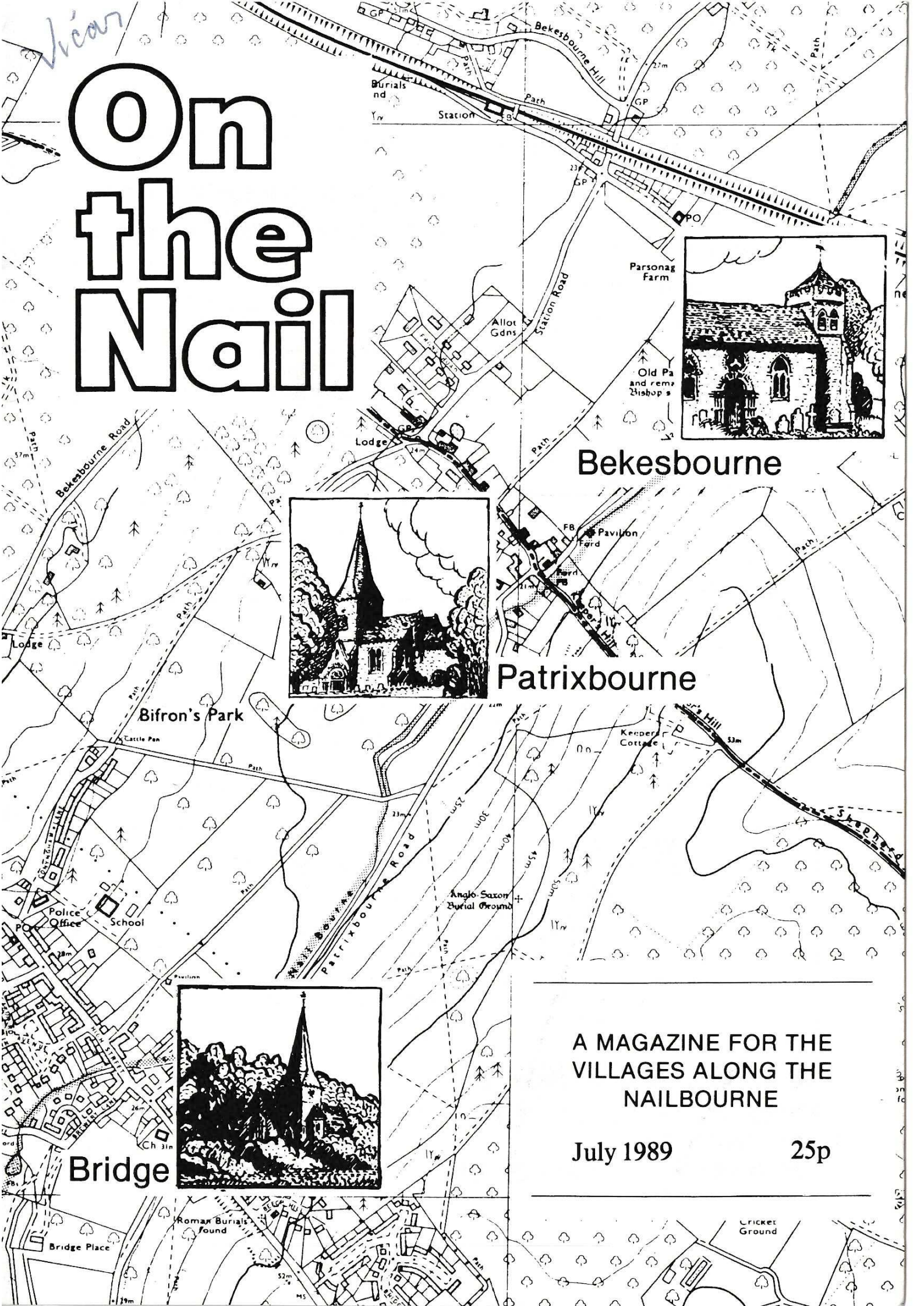
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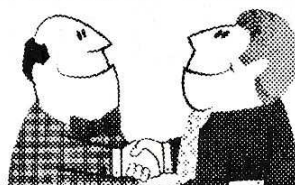
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Sunday Worship in July

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

2nd:

No morning worship in any of our three churches, due to the Deanery Family Festival at 10.30am in St Nicholas's, Ash.

6.30pm Evensong

9th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

16th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(ASB Rite A)
(Canon F Bull)

8am Holy Communion
(Revd C Verity)

6.30pm Evensong
(Canon F Bull)

23rd:

8am Holy Communion
(Canon J Packer)

9am Holy Communion
(Revd C Verity)

11am Matins
(Revd W Owen)

6.30pm Choral Evensong
(Canon F Bull)

3pm Holy Baptism
(Canon F Bull)

30th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

6th August:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

● *Following the 9.30am Eucharist at Bridge on the second Sunday of each month coffee and biscuits are served at the back of the church. Donations for the Church Urban Fund.*

Once every year the Deanery Family Festival takes place on a pre-arranged Sunday morning, and all the parishes are asked to forego their regular morning worship in favour of it. The festival gives us an annual opportunity to worship together as a deanery, and experience of past festivals has found this a worthwhile and enjoyable exercise. This year's is on 2nd July, on which occasion we shall depart from our own normal first Sunday morning pattern of services in order to join other parishes for a special 10.30am Deanery Eucharist at St Nicholas's, Ash on the theme *The Journeys of Jesus*. Do come along and bring a picnic lunch with you! Let me know if you would like a lift!

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *2nd*, Dr Doreen Rosman *9th*, Holy Communion, The Revd David Curtis *16th*, Mr Ron Chadwick *23rd*, Dr John Rogers *30th*, Mrs Rita Maxwell

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are normally held in St Peter's Church, Bridge each Wednesday (BCP) at 9.30am and Friday (ASB Rite A) at 7.30am. During the south aisle floor repairs, however, it will not be possible to hold the Wednesday service; communicants will be informed when these will not take place. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 5th at 10.15am. The New Close service is each Wednesday at 2.30pm, and non-residents are always most welcome to share in this short informal act of worship.

★ Please note that the vicar will be on holiday from 10th to 25th July inclusive, during which time Canon F Bull (830440) will be available should anyone require the urgent attention of a priest. It would be appreciated if parishioners only contact him about problems that cannot wait until the vicar's return.

For your diary and prayer list

- 2nd **Sixth Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 7**
(See above regarding morning worship.)
- 3rd **St Thomas the Apostle**
- 6th Prayers for Health and Healing, 'Netherbury', Meadow Close, 7pm
- 8th Coffee Morning, Redwing, Worcester Lane, 10.30 - noon for Bekesbourne's *Church Urban Fund* effort.
Please pray for TOM RINGLAND, formerly of Laundry Cottage, Conyngham Lane and who attended Bridge School, who is to be ordained to the sacred ministry of the church in Chichester cathedral today, for work in Crawley, Sussex.
- 9th **Seventh Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 8**
- 11th *St Benedict, Abbot of Monte Cassino*
- 12th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 13th Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 16th **Eighth Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 9**
Cobham Court Garden, Bekesbourne open afternoon, 2 - 6pm. Please note Evensong will be at St Peter's, Bekesbourne at 6.30pm.
- 19th Strawberry Tea in the garden of 14 Brewery Lane *(For details see p. 14)*
Cobham Court Garden, Bekesbourne open in the afternoon, 2 - 6pm
- 20th Prayers for Health and Healing, 8 Ford Close, 7pm
- 22nd **St Mary Magdalen**
- 23rd **Ninth Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 10**
- 25th **St James the Apostle**
- 26th *St Anne, Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
- 27th Fish Scheme Tea Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 2.15 - 3.45pm
- 29th Pray for Daren Glew and Lynn Wills who marry today at Bridge.
- 30th **Tenth Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 11**
9.30am Eucharist with Laying on of Hands for Healing and Wholeness.

Where's the sense in it?

Readers will by now be aware that St Peter's Church, Bridge has once again been the the victim of assault. I was out of the district at the time so did not see the mayhem caused by a person or persons unknown on Monday, 5th June. However, from what I have heard it was far worse than anything the church has withstood previously and I would like to say a public word of very deep gratitude to Hilary Pike and Vivienne Brasier who fought off a justifiable feeling of nausea and cleared up the mess, such that not a trace of some individual's animal behaviour remained. Bless you both for your devotion.

That apart—and you know what is meant by 'that' without having it spelt out in detail—there was also a certain amount of desecration, which seemed to be concentrated on the Christian symbol of the cross of Christ. Every cross that the eye could see and gloved hand (the police found no fingerprints) get hold of was mishandled in some way. The slender cross that stands on the Lady Chapel altar, a gift of my immediate predecessor, the late Canon Colin Perry,

was broken, and the Saviour's figure wrenched from the crucifix on the High Altar and smashed. The wood of the crucifix was also damaged. In addition, the wooden processional cross that stands at the end of the choir stalls was turned upside down and the paschal candle near the font, on which is the tracing of a cross, was up-ended in its holder. Also the heads of the two churchwardens' wands had been removed—they are in the form of crosses—but were easily put back without much bother. Viv's husband Barry kindly and skilfully repaired the Lady Chapel cross such that you can't see where it was broken, but the figure is still missing from the crucifix.

A replacement should not be difficult or costly to obtain, but that piece of desecration in particular caused some distress. Mercifully neither the processional cross nor the paschal candle have suffered any lasting effects and nothing appears to have been stolen from the church.

To whoever was responsible

If the guilty party is reading this (though I would be horrified to think it was someone as local as that) you might like to know prayers have been offered for you in the wake of your visit—you must be in dire need of them. If you are mentally ill or possessed of an evil spirit let us hope help comes your way speedily. If you are caught up in some occult or satanic organisation may the Lord deliver you from it. If you are a militant atheist you have our sympathy; you little know what you are missing.

You have persuaded us it would be sensible for the time being to keep the church locked outside service times and you may be glad to know what an inconvenience, not to say sad loss it is proving to be to the many who use that church during the week when in search of that tranquillity and contact with the divine you yourself so badly need. Whatever it was that motivated you to do this, rest assured that the Church of God continues and goes on growing in this neighbourhood: after all it has thrived over many centuries on persecution and ridicule, so your deeds of that June day won't stem the flood. Finally, and whether you want it or not, the peace of the Lord be always with you.

Thomas Cranmer, 1489 - 1556

Sunday, 2nd July marks the five hundredth anniversary of the birth of Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury during the more turbulent years of Henry VIII's reign.

Cranmer had the rare distinction of having kept his head (literally) in an age of fluctuating religious understanding, and it is to this quality in him that some have attributed the Church of England's essential unity despite a breadth of churchmanship.

Cranmer is best remembered for his great work on the church's forms of worship that resulted in the first (1549) and second (1552) Prayer Books of Edward VI. It would be inaccurate to say Cranmer wrote them, for some of the Collects, together with the basic shape of the eucharist had already been in existence for centuries. However, he was solely responsible for the English Litany, and it was his genius in telescoping the old monastic daily offices into Morning and Evening Prayer (We call them Matins and Evensong) that gave the Church of England patterns of worship that were to remain popular and be the envy of other denominations ever after.

Cranmer's two prayer books differed widely in emphasis because of the

great change of religious awareness that occurred within the three years that separated them, but out of both came the *Book of Common Prayer* of 1662, which has served the Church of England faithfully from that moment on. A former Dean of Westminster, in a scholarly book on the Archbishops of Canterbury, says quite understandably, "It is by his contribution in this field that Cranmer deserves well of the Church of England".

Now is not the occasion to argue the pros and cons of the old and new services—a debate which has now become decidedly tedious and as like as not wouldn't meet with Cranmer's approval—but to thank God for Cranmer's legacy. Locally it is Bekesbourne's proud boast that Cranmer did some of the work on his Prayer Books while in residence at the Archbishop's Palace that used to stand across the Nailbourne from St Peter's Church.

Joys and . . .

The following were admitted to the fellowship of the universal Church through the sacrament of Holy Baptism; **Katherine Mary**, daughter of Duncan and Jackie Ellam, 42 Western Avenue, at Bridge Family Service on 4th June; also **Elena Louise**, daughter of Tom and Sandra Smith, 85 Field Avenue, Canterbury, in Bekesbourne Church where her parents were married, on 11th June.

We wish a long life and every blessing on the occasion of their marriage, to **Jayne Jefferies**, Lysander, Aerodrome Road, and **Gary Mannering** of Lenham (Bekesbourne Church on 10th June), also to **Gay Batchelor**, The Plough and Harrow, and Lance Corporal **Darren Pugh** of Canterbury (Bridge Church on 17th June).

. . . Sorrows

The death at an early age and after a long illness of Mrs **Pam Muir-Little**, Waylands, Bekesbourne Lane has left her family bereft and her many friends and acquaintances greatly saddened. A funeral on 20th June at St Mary's, Patrixbourne was followed by interment in the churchyard. An appreciation from her close friend, Alicia Pentin, appears below.

The cremation of Miss **Pauline Pentlow**, St Mary's Road, Patrixbourne, who also died at an early age, took place at Barham on Thursday, 22nd June and was conducted by the vicar.

Pam Muir-Little

It was with much sadness that we heard of the death of Pam Muir-Little. Known for her quick wit and vivid personality she will be sadly missed by all who knew her. Having the rare ability to turn any incident into a funny situation Pam drew to her many people who found her humour infectious. She will also long be remembered for the caring concern which she showed for anyone who was ill or in difficulties in the village.

During her working life she covered an assortment of fields, being secretary to the Right Revd Lewis Meredith when he was Bishop of Dover, and a teacher at St Christopher's School. She was for many years secretary to the Thornton Smith Educational Trust, worked for Berry's estate agency and more recently for the Canterbury group of the British Red Cross.

Her long illness was very bravely borne and it came as no surprise to those around her that, with supreme effort, she managed to survive until her son

James had reached the last day of his law exams.

Pam was devoted to her family and was delighted with her grandson Nicky. She leaves her husband Paul, daughter Gina and two sons James and Hugh.

Cobham Court Garden Opening, Bekesbourne

The garden at Cobham Court, Bekesbourne will be open to the public on Sunday, 16th and Wednesday, 19th July, from 2 - 6pm each day.

There will be a plant and produce stall and tea will be available. Admission is £1, accompanied children free.

25% of the proceeds from the openings will go to The Pilgrims Hospice and the remaining 75% to the National Gardens Scheme Charitable Trust, which includes funds for the training of Macmillan Nurses, the National Trust Gardens Fund, the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society and the Royal Gardeners' Orphan Fund.

A pleasing addition

As in previous years St Peter's Church, which adjoins the garden, will also be open. Many visitors have appreciated the guided tour which has been given, accompanied by soft background organ music. It is a real joy to sit and enjoy the peace and serenity of this lovely old village church. Evensong will be held in the church on the Sunday evening, starting at 6.30pm. This year it will be conducted by Canon Frank Bull.

L. W.

Summer Concert at Bekesbourne

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne was the venue for a concert given by the University Baroque Band on the evening of Saturday, 27th May.

On behalf of everyone who attended and thoroughly enjoyed the music I would like to thank Jane Millyard, who arranged for the students to come, and the band for giving up valuable study time in order to entertain us to music by Handel, Telemann, Albinoni and Vivaldi. The playing was of a very high standard, including the solo instrumentalists and singer. I am sure Stan Grey, our organist, had the singer earmarked for the church choir (only joking Stan).

After the concert we were all invited back to David and Jane Millyard's for food and drink and to meet the band. Many thanks to them for putting on such a splendid spread.

The concert raised £215 for the church—a fantastic amount! *I E Gillanders*

Ed: The evening certainly started with a bang. It came from the vestry where the players were assembling, and was due to the collapse of the vestry floor as a result of the unaccustomed weight. Fortunately, repairing this floor should be less costly than at Bridge, as it is much easier to get at.

Bekesbourne Churchyard

Jane Millyard writes:

I was saddened the other evening to be told by one Bekesbourne parishioner that he thought the churchyard was in the most dreadful state—this in spite of the purchase of a new mower last year and the hard work put in by the Hills family in clearing the rear yard and by David Millyard in cutting the front (not

Continued on page 13

to mention all the others who tidy individual graves). This improvement has, however, perhaps highlighted the fact that some parts of the churchyard are still a wilderness. We do not want it to look like a suburban garden—some overgrown areas are best left as a haven for wildlife—but maybe we could do with a little more help.

No one is paid to do the clearing and if others in the village were prepared to give up the occasional hour of their time we could achieve more. People already maintaining a grave might be willing to clear a neglected one as well—pass the word around the village. The gravel path needs raking to remove leaves and the orchard grass (we have recently bought more gravel, which will disappear if we don't keep it clear). Sycamore saplings could be removed from graves. And so on . . .

St Peter's Churchyard is a very peaceful place to spend an hour on a summer's evening. How about it?

Both the Hills family and the Millyards have worked extremely hard in the churchyards north and south of the church, and we are grateful. Churchyards are also good sanctuary for small animals and birds, so clearance should not be wholesale.

Churchwarden J P

Church Urban Fund in Bekesbourne

Mrs Jennifer Skinner, our parish representative is working extremely hard to reach our parish target for the *Church Urban Fund*, and at present is working at it single-handed. This should not be! I do urge others whether of the church or not but who must have some original ideas for fund-raising to offer to help.

Meanwhile, Jenny is holding a Coffee Morning for the Fund at her home, Redwing House, Worcester Lane on Saturday, 8th July from 10.30am to 12 noon. Please pop along and give your support. It's a thoroughly deserving cause, that has fired the imagination and enthusiasm of parish churches all over the country, including, I might add, in those areas it is designed to help.

Jenny is planning to take a slot in a Boot Fayre at the hospital sometime later on, for which she will be asking for old records, books, jewelry and china. You will be kept informed about this, but in the meantime put your own thinking caps on and give Jenny a ring with your own ideas and offers.

Church Urban Fund Candle Festival Competition

What Andrea Nicholson writes can apply to all three villages:

The week 17th to 24th September is to be *Church Urban Fund Week*. To bring the work and needs of the Fund to the nation's awareness and bring 'Light to the City' the whole week is to be turned into a National Candle Festival. The idea for this Festival of Light has been initiated in our own diocese and involves the lighting of a million nightlights across the country. Each light costs £1 to buy and comes complete with a small red plastic holder, bearing the words 'Church Urban Fund'. The sale of the lights is expected to raise £1 million for the *Church Urban Fund*.

As our own contribution to the festival in Patricxbourne with Bridge we are making plans for outdoor candlelight processions followed by an open air service in the early evening of Sunday, 24th September, and we very much hope that members of Bekesbourne Church will accept the invitation to join in as well.

Further details will follow, but right now we have a problem. Although the nightlights have holders, they really need a system for carrying them that will ensure they can be carried safely and won't get blown out during the procession.

Entries are therefore invited from both young and old for a competition to devise the best carrying system. The holders are round, 4cms in diameter and 3.5cms high. The base is 1cm high and has a diameter of 3cms. All entries to me please at Riverside Cottage, Patricbourne by 10th August, so that the winning details can be published in September's *On The Nail*. This moment of fame will be the winner's prize.

Strawberry Tea Wednesday, 19th July

An invitation is extended to anyone who would like to come to a strawberry tea in the garden of David and Alicia Pentin's house, 14 Brewery Lane on Wednesday, 19th July between 3 and 5pm. A cup of tea and a bowl of strawberries and cream will cost £1.50. All proceeds will be divided between the Lady Chapel Fund and the purchase of a rotary mower for Bridge churchyard.

AP

Christian Aid Week, 1989

Yes! We've done it! We've passed the £500 mark! The combined efforts of our twenty-two collectors in the three villages and of all who contributed brought this year's collection to the splendid total of £511.42. *Christian Aid's* gratitude is shown year by year as it renews its efforts to "right the wrongs" from which so many people suffer. Please continue to support the work by your prayers for *Christian Aid's* partners abroad and at home.

Lord, increase our faith, bless our efforts and our work, now and evermore. (*Part of a prayer offered daily by Mother Theresa's helpers in Shishu Bhavan, Calcutta.*)

* * *

The Coffee Morning held at Bournes Corner, Bridge for the local branch of the Hospital League of Friends on 5th June raised £200, which will be spent on equipment for the local hospitals. Very many thanks to all who helped and supported us.

Maggie Field

Bridge Guides

A Doll Competition for Brownies, Guides and Guiders in the London and SE Region for rag dolls, peg dolls and display dolls produced a winner from Bridge Guides. Sarah Mummery, aged twelve, won the local Division Round with her display doll dressed in 1914 Guide uniform, done entirely by herself and complete with hat, stave and bag for First Aid! She was then a winner in the County Round in her age and category of doll and finally in the Region. The doll went on display with others at Guide Headquarters. Congratulations Sarah!

Maggie Field

Autumn Fayre, 17th November

Please make a note now of the above date for the Patricbourne with Bridge Church Autumn Fayre at the school.

By way of preparation Anne Medhurst is again hoping to stock a stall of home-made jams and pickles, and asks if anyone is able to offer either fruit or sugar. She will be pleased to hear from you on 830762.

Mystery Plays at Canterbury Cathedral,

27th July to 17th August

The opportunity to see a unique theatrical production—*The Creation* and *The Passion* presented in the marvellous atmosphere of Canterbury cathedral and its environs. Over two hundred local people join the well-known actor Peter Barkworth (who is to play the rôle of God) to bring to life some of the most moving, exciting, emotional, awe-inspiring and thought-provoking moments of the Old and New Testament.

Each evening, either *The Creation* or *The Passion* will be presented twice, once for an audience at 7pm, and then for another audience at 7.45pm. The two audiences will be seeing different parts of the same play in different parts of the Cathedral. The performance lasts approximately two hours. Tickets: £6.50 (Concessions available). For further details contact Forwood Bookings on Canterbury 455600.

Contributed

Pedal power pulls in the ££££s!!

The 1988 Sponsored Bike Ride raised £570,000 in the country as a whole and Kent raised over £62,000—a magnificent effort and a wonderful help for all the chapels and churches that benefited. In 1989 twenty-three counties will join in.

This year the date is **Saturday, 9th September.**

All who have taken part in previous years know it is a great day out for all the family. So this is to give you plenty of time to get those bikes oiled. More details next month.

Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday 8th June, two weeks after the Annual Parish Meeting on the 25th May which had been well attended by approximately seventy Parishioners.

Black Sacks At that meeting, the problem had been raised of black rubbish sacks being put out as early as the Friday prior to their collection by the City Council the following Monday. This left them vulnerable to attack by animals and birds over the weekend with subsequent scattering of their contents. The Parish Council would therefore ask for the co-operation of all residents in not putting out their sacks for collection until the actual day.

Improving Appearances in the Village The Chairman, Cllr John Hill, together

PARISH
PUMP
Parish Council
News



with Cllr Ken Greenaway and Mr Richard Prior, attacked the play area at the Recreation Ground and the area around the pavilion with strimmers one evening last month to tidy it up. There had been difficulty in finding someone to clear behind the tennis courts, but hopefully this will be in hand as you read this. Notices banning dogs from the Recreation Ground are now in position, which should result in improved cleanliness there.

The 'Litter Day' on the Saturday following the Parish Meeting saw a number of volunteers clearing up in the village and this encouraged many others to sweep and tidy up their frontages. The Parish Council thanks everyone who took part. Please keep up the effort, everyone. The 'Best

Kept Village' Competition continues throughout the summer. A large number of entries have been received for the 'Best Hanging Basket' and 'Best Tub or Window-box' competitions. The Parish Council are delighted with the response, and the show these will make when fully in bloom will go a long way to brightening up the village.

Towards a safer Bridge The Parish Council are to ask that the 40mph limit be extended on the south side of Bridge beyond the main road's junction with Higham Lane, and are to ask Kent County Council to cut back the bank to improve visibility at the junction of the slip road from the A2 bypass and Canterbury with the Bekesbourne and Patricbourne Road.

Footpaths update Cllr Mrs Connor has completed a survey of all the rights of way in the Parish and the report will be sent to relevant bodies and landowners. In it, she drew attention to the fact that footpaths are frequently ploughed and seldom reinstated and their existence even unknown because they are unmarked or invisible. It is hoped that by making the above people aware, this situation will improve. Meanwhile, the Council is still making enquiries about the footpath around Highland Court, and the adoption by the County Council of the Bridge Hill, Bridge Down footpath and stairway, and will point out to the City Council the need

to clear a stretch of the footpath to Patricbourne at its start at the end of Conyngham Lane.

Planning News The Parish Council had no objections to an outline application for a detached bungalow on land adjoining 39 Union Road or to an extension at St Stephen's Cottage, Bekesbourne Road. Planning permission has been granted by the City Council for an internally illuminated corporate lamp at the Plough & Harrow, for a single-storey rear extension at The Surgery, Green Court and for the renewal of planning permission for the conversion of Great Pett Farm Oast to a dwelling, but has been refused for the erection of a dwelling at 20 High Street. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mervyn Gulvin, had a useful meeting with a representative from the Planning Department of Canterbury City Council, when they had been able to discuss with him and put forward their plans for the future of Bridge, taking into account the recommendations of the Village Appraisal Report. The Chairman was hopeful that the Parish's views which incorporated resistance to any large housing development within the Parish would be taken into account by the City Council in their rural plan for the area.

The next meeting, the last before the summer recess, will be on Thursday 13th July at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.
K A Walder, Clerk

Fish News

The **Annual Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale** on 3rd June was a great success. Thanks to the hard work of our volunteers and the generous support from the community our scheme has been financed for another year. In addition to the £161.21 made at the sale generous donations totalling nearly a hundred pounds brought our final total to the magnificent sum of £257.61. Thank you all very much.

* * *

The Annual General Meeting was held on 14th June. A report of this meeting will be in the next issue of *On The Nail*.

* * *

The Coffee Pop-In is on Wednesday, 12th and the Tea Pop-In on Thursday, 27th.

Joan Warren

Bekesbourne Church Flowers and Cleaning

1st, Mrs Whigham 8th, Mrs Ash 15th, Mesdames Ash and Johnston 22nd, Mesdames Smith and Hogben 29th, Mrs Farbrace.

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

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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 R.C. Whatley, 54 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830512)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr M. Miles, The King's School, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2ES (452492)

Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs R.M. Stacey, Joclet, Keepers Hill, Patricxbourne CT4 5BT (830205)

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 D. Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne CT4 5HA (830659)

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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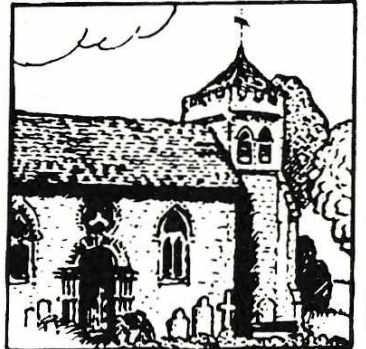
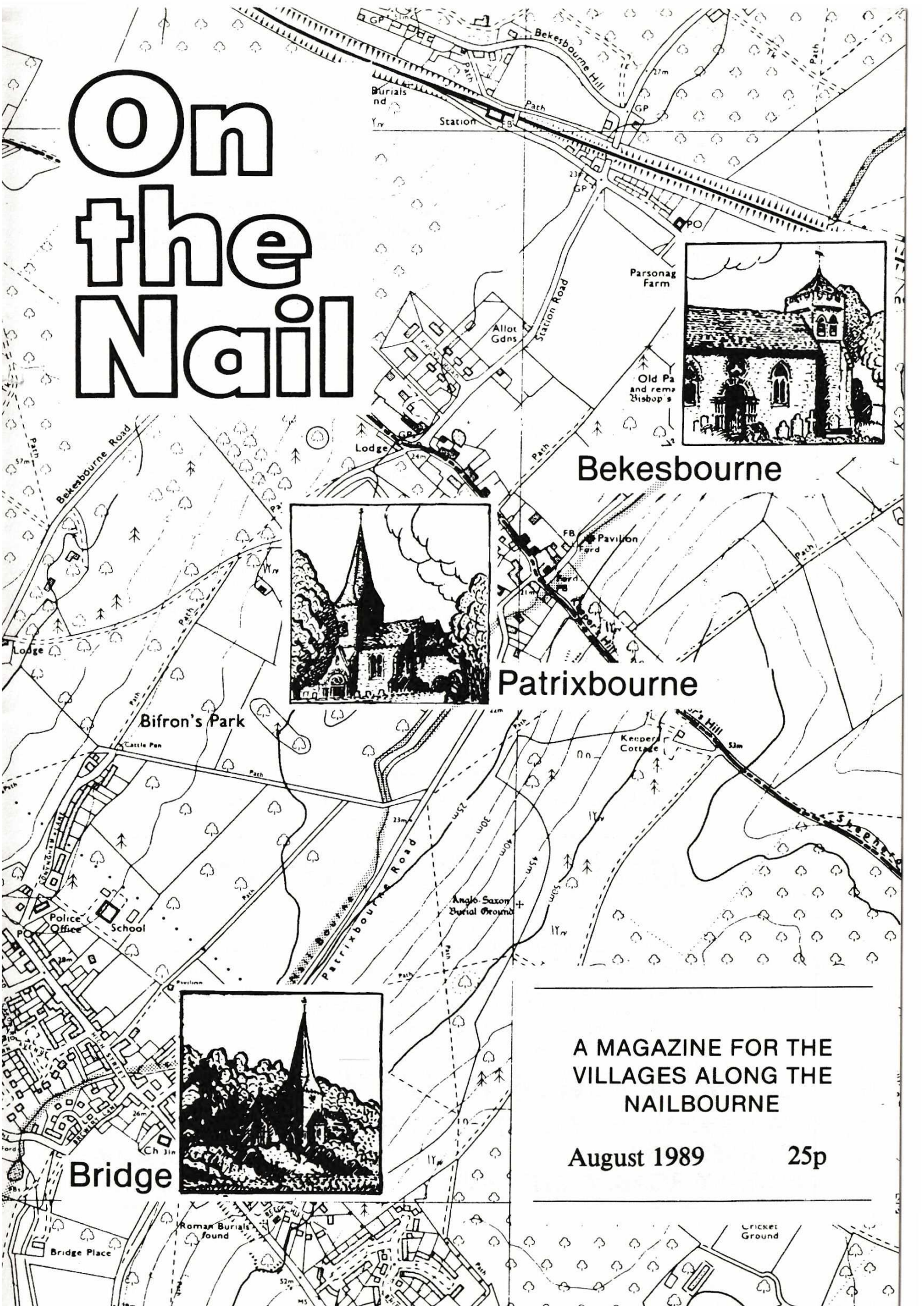
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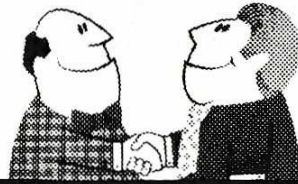
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Sunday Worship in August

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

6th:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

13th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(*ASB Rite A*)
6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

20th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(*ASB Rite A*)
6.30pm Evensong
(*Canon F Bull*)

8am Holy Communion 11am Matins

27th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion 11am *Songs of Praise*

3rd September:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

● *Following the 9.30am Eucharist at Bridge on the second Sunday of each month coffee and biscuits are served at the back of the church. Donations for the Church Urban Fund.*

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *6th*, Mr J Whalan *13th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Sheila Foreman *20th*, Mr L Dron *27th*, Mrs Hazel Colyer

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are normally held in St. Peter's Church, Bridge each Wednesday (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday (*ASB Rite A*) at 7.30am. During the south aisle floor repairs, however, it will not be possible to hold the Wednesday service: communicants will be informed when these will not take place. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 2nd at 10.15am. The New Close service is each Wednesday at 2.30pm, and non-residents are always most welcome to share in this short informal act of worship.

For your diary and prayer list

3rd Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm

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

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

Pray for Cathryn McPherson and Grant Palmer who marry today at Bekesbourne.

6th **Transfiguration of our Lord**

9th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am

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

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

12th Pray for Clare Baden-Daintree and Dale Bennett who marry today at Bridge.

13th **Twelfth Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 13**

- 17th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
 20th **Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 14**
 24th **St Bartholomew the Apostle**
 Fish Scheme Tea Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 2.15 - 3.45pm
 27th **Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 15**
Bekesbourne will have 'Songs of Praise' at 11am instead of Matins.
 28th *St Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, Teacher, 430*
 31st *St Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 651*

The prayer that heals

As many of you know I have a very keen interest in the Church's healing ministry and find the resumption of this ancient and very biblical ministry in the life of today's Church a cause for great rejoicing.

Over the past few years a healing ministry has got under way in this parish and it is gathering momentum. Mainly it is being exercised through the bi-monthly prayer meetings for health and healing, and I am glad to report that the work of the group continues to flourish and is serving many needs (not just of church people) in the community at large. The late Archbishop William Temple knew a thing or two when he described the Healing Prayer Group as the most powerful component of the Christian healing ministry.

The structure of our half-hourly gatherings in the vicarage lounge naturally includes intercessory (asking) prayer for healing which is offered for individual people and situations (those attending make their own requests). We usually have a reading (not always from the Bible) and lots of silence (a precious commodity that we don't use half enough whether in or out of church).

It is important that everyone realizes this Prayer Group is not a tightly knit, exclusive coterie, but a fellowship of prayer open to all, and eager to be of service. To this end we invite prayer requests from any and every source, whether you can actually attend a meeting or not.

We aren't looking for miracles

The purpose of the healing prayer group needs re-stating! It is to ask God to heal those named and to do it in the way he chooses—the best way, in other words. We neither request nor necessarily expect cures (the removal of symptoms; though these can come about through prayer given that, as St James wrote in his epistle, "The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteousness availeth much", *i.e.* is powerful in its effects. But the aim of the group is in line with the Church's healing ministry generally, *i.e.*, to share in Christ's healing work rather than eradicating illness, which is not the same thing. Making people well is only part of the healing story for it only deals with the affected area, be it of body or mind. Christ's healing, on the other hand, is equated with his saving work ('health' and 'salvation' come from the same root) and deals with us as whole persons, rather than cases of this, that or the other.

When we pray for health and healing it is on a par with a visit to the doctor. In that instance we merely take our problem to the doctor. We explain our symptoms then leave the rest to him. We don't suggest a course of treatment—not if we trust him—because he is supposed to be the expert, and knows more about our illness than we do, because that's what he was trained for.

Just so with prayer for health and healing. We tell God the problem by bringing the person or circumstance to him in prayer; and then leave them there with him, confident that they are in the best hands. We don't tell God

how to deal with the matter, especially resisting the temptation to ask for a miracle; God is none too free with miracles these days. We avoid asking God to cure the person, because God may wish to offer them the most complete healing of all, which comes through the death of the body.

If you think this sounds pathetic and feel we should do more than that, it would be interesting to hear what you have in mind. What more can anyone do than hand someone in need into God's charge, for God is the source of all healing and it is his will that all mankind should be healed? How to do this is not our concern, but his, the giver of healing, and we can be confident that the outcome and answer to that prayer will be healing in accordance with his divine will. It may not be what we had in mind for that person when we offered our prayer, but it will be God's gift to him or her and will lead to their total healing.

A STORY ABOUT ST LAURENCE, 3rd CENTURY MARTYR Feast Day, 10th August

When it was ascertained that St. Laurence was the keeper of the treasures of the Church, he was arrested and ordered to give them up. He asked for a day's delay, at the end of which time he promised to produce all that was most precious. All night he hurried about Rome, in and out of its poorest streets and alleys, and, on the morrow, he appeared before the Court with a crowd of the poor, the maimed, the halt, the blind and the sick. "These," he said, "are what the Church holds most dear, and counts as her greatest treasures. The gold, which you so eagerly desire, is a vile metal, and serves to incite men to all manner of crimes. The light of Heaven, which these poor objects enjoy, is the true gold!"

Quoted from *A Lectionary of Christian Prose*, by A. C. Bouquet

The other Saint Augustine Feast Day, 28th August

This is not the St Augustine who was the first Archbishop of Canterbury, but a saintly Bishop of Hippo in North Africa. He lived between the years 354 and 430 and wrote his Confessions, still a spiritual best-seller. The Confessions are in the form of a meditation in which the author speaks to God about himself, his doubts and sins, and how he was drawn to God. Here is an excerpt.

But what do I love when I love Thee? Not grace of bodies, not the beauty of the seasons, nor the brightness of the light . . . nor inexhaustible melodies of sweet song nor the fragrant smell of flowers, of ointments and spices . . . None of these love I when I love my God; and yet I love a kind of light, and of melody and of fragrance . . . when I love my God . . .

And what is this? I asked the earth and it said, "I am not He;" and whatsoever is in it confessed the same. I asked the sea and the deeps, and all that swimming or creeping live therein, and they answered, "We are not thy God, seek above us". I asked the wandering winds; and the whole air with its inhabitants spoke . . . "I am not God". I asked the heavens, sun, moon and star. "Nor, (say they) are we the God whom thou seekest". And I replied unto all those things which encompass the door of my flesh, "Ye have told me of my God, that ye are not He; tell me something of Him". And they cried all with a great voice, "He made us". My questioning them was my mind's desire, and their Beauty was their answer.

Joined in Christian marriage

On Saturday, 24th June, St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne was the venue for the marriage of **Elizabeth Voisey-Youldon** of Oakleigh, Bekesbourne Hill and **John Douglass** of Cricklewood in North London. We wish them every blessing in their new life together.

Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute is having a busy summer. A visit has been made to WI House in Canterbury, and four members have taken part in an Inter-Institute General Knowledge Quiz.

Mrs G Harvey hosted a 'cream-tea' afternoon at her home near Chartham, and the Summer Outing this year was to Lavenham in Suffolk.

The long kneeler embroidered by members for the communion rail in the Lady Chapel of the Parish Church has been completed and will be *in situ* once the flooring has been repaired and the Lady Chapel is back in use.

This month, on the evening of the 15th, the meeting will take place in a member's garden.

DE King

[Vicar: The PCC is most appreciative of the great work being done to beautify the Lady Chapel at Bridge and thanks all involved most warmly. We are particularly delighted that the members of the WI asked to make their own contribution by working one of the two long communion rail kneelers, and thank them most warmly for it. Roll on the completion of the floor repairs when all this devoted work can be seen in all its splendour!]

Friday morning Communion

The congregation at the regular Friday morning Communion in the Lady Chapel stays much the same, and whilst not exactly getting bored with their own company, nevertheless would like others to join them either regularly or occasionally as preferred. We are very anxious that all should understand that this short half-hour's service is not a closed shop for a tight clique but just as open to all comers as our other services are.

7.30am might seem a shade on the early side for some, but there must be those people (workers especially) who would have time to pop along before breakfast. I'm sure that like those who already attend all would find it made a good start to the day and would enjoy the fellowship we share in the calm setting of this said Holy Communion service.

1st Bekesbourne Brownies

by Jill E Gillanders

HAPPY 75th BIRTHDAY, BROWNIES!

On 24th June, one of this year's many hot summer days, *1st Bekesbourne* and *1st Bridge Brownies* went to Folkestone Race Course from 10.30am until 4.30pm to celebrate seventy-five years of Brownies. They met up with Brownies from other packs and spent the day making such as bookmarks, brooches, paper puppets and painting pebbles. There was also a Punch & Judy Show, fun castle and two obstacle races. The police and firemen provided vehicles for the Brownies to look over and sound the sirens, which they did frequently and very loudly.

The day finished with the Brownies dressed in uniforms past and present,

encircled by seventy-five Brownies, each carrying a candle, representing the movement's age. We all sang "Happy Birthday, dear Brownies" followed by several other songs. After singing "Brownie Bells" we all went home exhausted.

1st Bekesbourne Brownies

On Tuesday, 27th June, instead of a normal Brownie meeting we went to Canterbury Police Station to see how a police station is run.

The Brownies were working for the Crime Prevention Badge and WPC Carroll took them on a tour of the station. First we were shown a video about the rôle of the police in our society, then we were shown the main switchboard control. Next we were taken to the cells, where some of the Brownies were locked up—briefly—to sample life behind bars. Lastly we were finger-printed.

Many thanks to Canterbury police for making us so welcome and for putting up with us for an hour and a half.

Martin Miles This time for good

Just as we were going to press Bridge's popular and highly skilled organist rang the vicarage to tell me he had been offered a prestigious housemastership at The King's School, Canterbury from this September and so with great regrets must again tender his resignation as our organist; this time without the sop of a promise to return after a year's absence. A housemaster occupies the post for twelve years.

We extend our warmest congratulations to Martin on this well deserved advancement to his career, and wish him every success as housemaster of Meister Omers, the large and very beautiful house next to the city wall and the Memorial Garden.

Reluctant to sever completely his connections with Bridge Church, Martin has expressed a willingness to play for Family Services and perhaps during school holidays. I hope that contact can be maintained, since Martin is very much one of the Bridge family. However, this time we really must take steps to find a permanent replacement; and it won't be at all easy, church organists nowadays being pure gold and every bit as scarce.

Autumn Fayre, 18th November

The date of the Patricbourne with Bridge Autumn Fayre is 18th November, not 17th as stated in last month's *On The Nail*. Ann Medhurst's appeal for ingredients to make preserves for it still stands, of course, and here is a further appeal, this time from Kath Pierce:

I am aiming to stock the Sweet Stall at the Autumn Fayre on Saturday, 18th November, entirely with home-made sweets. I should be glad to know of anyone who would be willing to make a contribution. To enable me to have a variety of home-made sweets, would you kindly ring me on 830844 before proceeding. Thank you in anticipation!

Oversubscribed!

We have been heavily oversubscribed with copy for this issue, so in the absence of the Vicar I will condense the following. Thanks are expressed for the support of the Fête at Bridge, the collection for Cancer Research which raised £211.22; The Samaritans (£225!) and CUF at Bekesbourne, where the Coffee morning raised over £30. Please note there will be a Summer Fayre at Churchill House, Sat 5th August, 2 - 4pm; and Pick-your-Apples at Redwing House, Worcester Lane. (Cox's Orange! You will hear when ready).

Basket and Tub Competitions

The Parish Council were delighted with the success of the competitions, with altogether more than a hundred entries in the two classes. The results were as follows:—

'Best Hanging Basket'

1st prize, Mrs Lewsey, 56 Western Avenue: 2nd prize, Mr J. Tamsitt, 45 Union Road: Highly Commended; Mrs S. Horgan, 30 Bridge Down, Mr & Mrs Gilbert, 52 Bridge Down, Mrs A. Brown, 10 Conyngham Lane, Mrs E. Thrift, 72 Riverside Close, Mrs M. Clark, 77 High Street.

'Best Tub or Window Box'

1st prize: Mrs E. Thrift, 72 Riverside Close: 2nd prize; Mrs M. Jones, 18 Conyngham Lane: Highly Commended; Mrs R. Smith, 39 Bridge Down; Mrs K. Enyon, 19 Bridge Down; Mr & Mrs Barry, 1 Mount Charles Walk, Union Road.

A separate single class was instituted for the 'Best External Floral Decoration for Commercial Premises' and the winner was Skippers, with the second prize awarded to the Plough & Harrow.

The two winners in each class were to be presented with vouchers by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr John Hill.

Finally, a thank-you to all who entered and to those 'volunteers' who helped with the entries, and to Mrs Pat Davidson who judged the competitions.

K A W

The bells! The bells!

As the residents must now be aware, Bekesbourne has once again an active and enthusiastic band of bell-ringers. The new band was formed from some old stalwarts and an influx of beginners from the village, in June last year. Tom Young, an old experienced ringer from Littlebourne, offered to tutor the fledgeling band, with such resounding success, that after just twelve months the band was admitted to the Association of Change Ringers.

The Bekesbourne band, namely David Farbrace (Captain), Tony Newington, David and Savannah Young, Gillian Moon, Sue Ellis and Ian Gillanders, thank Tom for his patient and expert tutelage. Our thanks, for your forbearance, to those residents within earshot who must have winced more than once in those early days.

Ian Gillanders

Sponsored Bike Ride

Hopefully you will already have made a note of the date for the Sponsored Bike Ride, but just in case you didn't, it is on **Saturday, 9th September** starting at 10am from your local church.

Sponsor forms are still available from your local representative, so if you have not obtained yours, please hurry. Time is short to get sponsors. All three churches would like to pass their total for 1988, so encourage a friend to accompany you and make a special effort to get extra sponsors. If anyone needs advice on planning a route, your representative would be glad to help.

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Bridge	Kath Pierce (830844)
<i>Patricxbourne</i>	Andrea Nicholson (830947) & Rosalie Stacey (830205)

Bekesbourne Church during Trinity . . .

Yes! Bekesbourne Church during Trinity means *Songs of Praise*. Stan Grey has been playing your favourite hymns for this form of worship for many years, and you have heard the background to the hymns from a Churchwarden.

The service is on Sunday August 27th at 11am. But, of course, in advance of this you are invited to let Stan Grey know what hymn you would like chosen. His telephone number is 830522. You need to book early! JP

Fish Scheme AGM report and news

The Annual Meeting was held in Bridge Methodist Church on Wednesday, 14th June. The committee and volunteers were thanked for their support and for all the hard work they had done during the previous year. The scheme, now in its tenth year, continued to make a considerable contribution to the care of the elderly in the district and was much appreciated both by those that were helped and by the health and social workers. It is hoped that more volunteers will come forward to ensure that the scheme continues to thrive.

The Luncheon Club

Last year 876 meals were served in 42 sessions. Numbers had been maintained at about 28, although 2 members had died, 2 had moved away and 6 had gone into residential homes during the year. There had been two celebration lunches, one for the club's 8th birthday and another at Christmas. *Age Concern* paid the mileage allowance for the seven drivers who bring members to The New Close; otherwise the club was financially self-supporting.

The Chiropody Clinic

This was closed last July and replaced by visits from the NHS Mobile Clinics for 3½ days every eight weeks. This provided improved facilities for staff and patients and an extra session. Transport is provided for around 20 patients at each visit. Patients needing frequent treatment have been transferred to the Health Centre in Canterbury.

Welfare

Much closer collaboration had been achieved with the social workers and medical teams. Care had to be taken that under the new arrangements for community care too many demands were not made on volunteers.

Our rôle in the welfare field is threefold. First we have to supply information and ensure that people are aware of the services available and how to obtain them. Secondly we have to maintain contact with and give support and help to as many elderly housebound and handicapped people as possible. Thirdly, we have to hold a watching brief over community care, bringing the attention of the services to deficiencies and gaps in care.

Transport

All reasonable requests from residents have been met. More drivers are needed—some for regular jobs and others for occasional trips and to relieve regular drivers. Emergency cover had to be maintained as well as supplying drivers for the Luncheon Club and other regular commitments, taking people to the Chiropody Clinic, day-care, Hospital treatment and hospital visiting.

There is a need for a Transport Officer to co-ordinate the driving and it is hoped someone will come forward to undertake this task. The mileage allowance is kept in line with the Canterbury Volunteer Bureau and is currently under review.

Pop-Ins

These are now run by our younger volunteers. During the year an afternoon session had been introduced—attendance at this was not as good as the morning sessions, but it was much appreciated by the people who did attend.

Housebound Library & Fish Knitters

Seven readers currently benefit from a fortnightly supply of books. Fish knitters were giving an invaluable service in providing woollens for the WRVS clothing store.

Outings

A number of people have been able to attend the Christmas Shopping evening run by the Canterbury Volunteer Bureau. The Blossom and Orchard Tours had been a great success. A party had attended the annual *Age Concern Kent* Serice in Canterbury Cathedral.

Treasurer's Report

Last year the scheme had cost £460.18 and had been covered by an increase of £497.07. A successful Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale, combined with generous donations, had ensured that the costs of the current year would be covered.

At the end of the meeting the members of Bridge Methodist Church were thanked for their hospitality.

* * *

The Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday, 9th August from 10.15 to 11.45am; and the Tea Pop-In on Thursday, 24th August from 2.15 to 3.45pm, both as usual in Bridge Village Hall.

The Luncheon Club will be closed for the whole of August. The first meeting of the new session will be on Monday, 4th September.

The Mobile Chiropody Clinic will be in the village 15th to 18th August.

Joan Warren, 830233

Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday 13th July when, as always, one of the major items on the Agenda was the **Management and Care of the Recreation Ground**. The Council agreed an increase of approximately 5% (less than inflation!) in the fees payable by the main sports clubs using the Ground during the next season. This income goes some way towards the



upkeep of the Ground. A cheque for £150 was received from Stafford House Tutorial College for their use of the football pitch this summer, and this is to be passed on as a donation by the Council to the Bridge Village Sports Trust.

Successes to report The area around the tennis courts has now been tidied up

by Mr R. Austin who is also to be asked to mow and trim around the play area.

The Council were pleased to note that the noise nuisance caused by loose man-hole covers in Patricbourne Road has now been dealt with satisfactorily to the delight of adjacent residents.

The **Nailbourne Youth Club** is now in being with a Management Committee elected to get the whole thing under way. Watch out for details of activities before long.

Affordable Homes for Village People:

A considerable number of persons interested in the possibility of affordable homes in the village for local people attended a meeting on the 22nd June in the Village Hall, and the response to the questionnaire was correspondingly good. The replies will be analysed and assessed with the help of the NACRT and those who have filled in questionnaires will be contacted. The Chairman, Cllr John Hill, said that he was optimistic of a successful outcome for the project.

Matters for Concern: Dog fouling The Council are still getting complaints about dogs being allowed to foul the pavements, verges and even open plan gardens in the parish. May I draw your attention again to the Canterbury City Council Byelaw which makes it an offence to allow a dog to foul a footway or grass verge, with a fine of up to £50 for a conviction. It is up to individuals to report any infringements to the City Council. Meanwhile, would dog owners please ensure that they are not committing such an offence when their dog is being exercised.

Road signs The Council are to draw to the attention of the Highways Authority two signs on Town Hill near the slip road for London-bound traffic on to the A2 Bypass which are positioned such that one partly obscures the other.

They are also to ask the Enforcement Officer at the City Council to investigate the advertising signs by the Church at the corner of the High Street and Bourne Park as they feel they are not in keeping

with the village conservation area.

A quiet month for planning The only applications received since the last meeting were for the re-tiling of the existing pitched roof and the pitching and tiling of the adjoining extension roof at LaDacha, Patricbourne Road and for internal alterations at 16 The Close, Union Road to neither of which were there any objections. Planning permission was granted by the City Council for an extension to St Stephen's Cottage, Bekesbourne Road, and refusal for the conversion of a basement to self-contained flat at Bridge Hill House, and for the erection of a detached bungalow on land adjoining 39 Union Road.

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme The Parish Council have agreed to meet the cost of the distribution of the quarterly Police publication *Watch News* to all households in the Parish at an estimated cost of approximately £35 per distribution.

Bad News for Highland Court Walkers Following prolonged enquiries and advice received, there is no public right of way through the grounds of Highland Court. While the property was in the ownership of the Area Health Authority, residents were permitted to walk through the grounds, but this terminated with the sale of the property to a private company.

Satellite Receiving Dishes Residents might like to note that planning permission is required for the installation of satellite receiving dishes in the village's conservation area.

Casual Vacancy in the office of Councillor The Council accepted with regret the resignation of Cllr David Heap who had felt unable to continue as an active member of the parish Council due to job pressures. This has given rise therefore to a casual vacancy in the office of Councillor.

The Parish Council is now in recess until the 14th September, when they will meet again at the usual time of 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K A Walder, Clerk

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

Cleaning and Flower Arranging

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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 R.C. Whatley, 54 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830512)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr M. Miles, The King's School, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2ES (452492)

Organist (Patixbourne): Mrs R.M. Stacey, Joclet, Keepers Hill, Patixbourne CT4 5BT (830205)

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 D. Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne CT4 5HA (830659)

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.

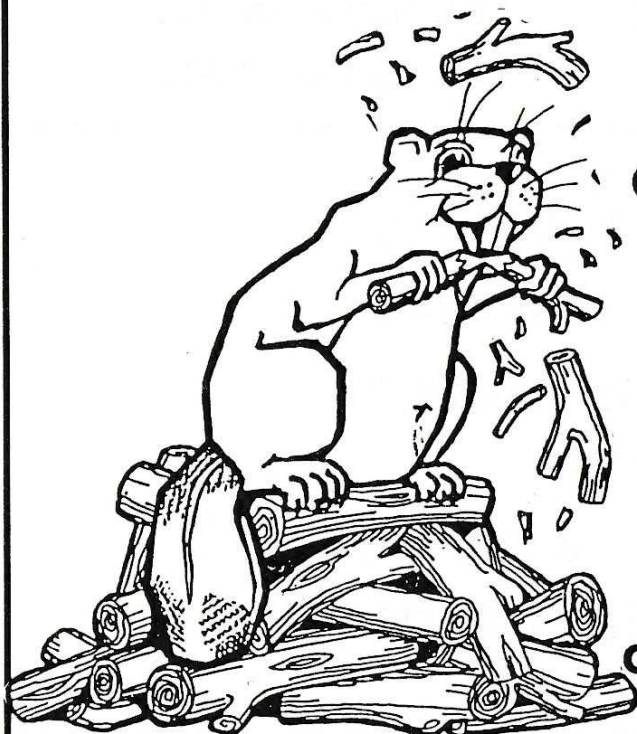
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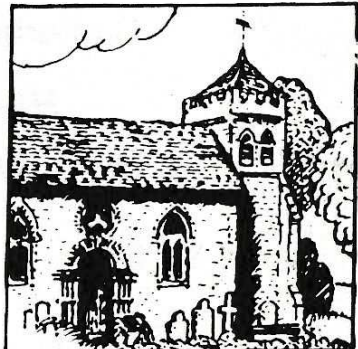
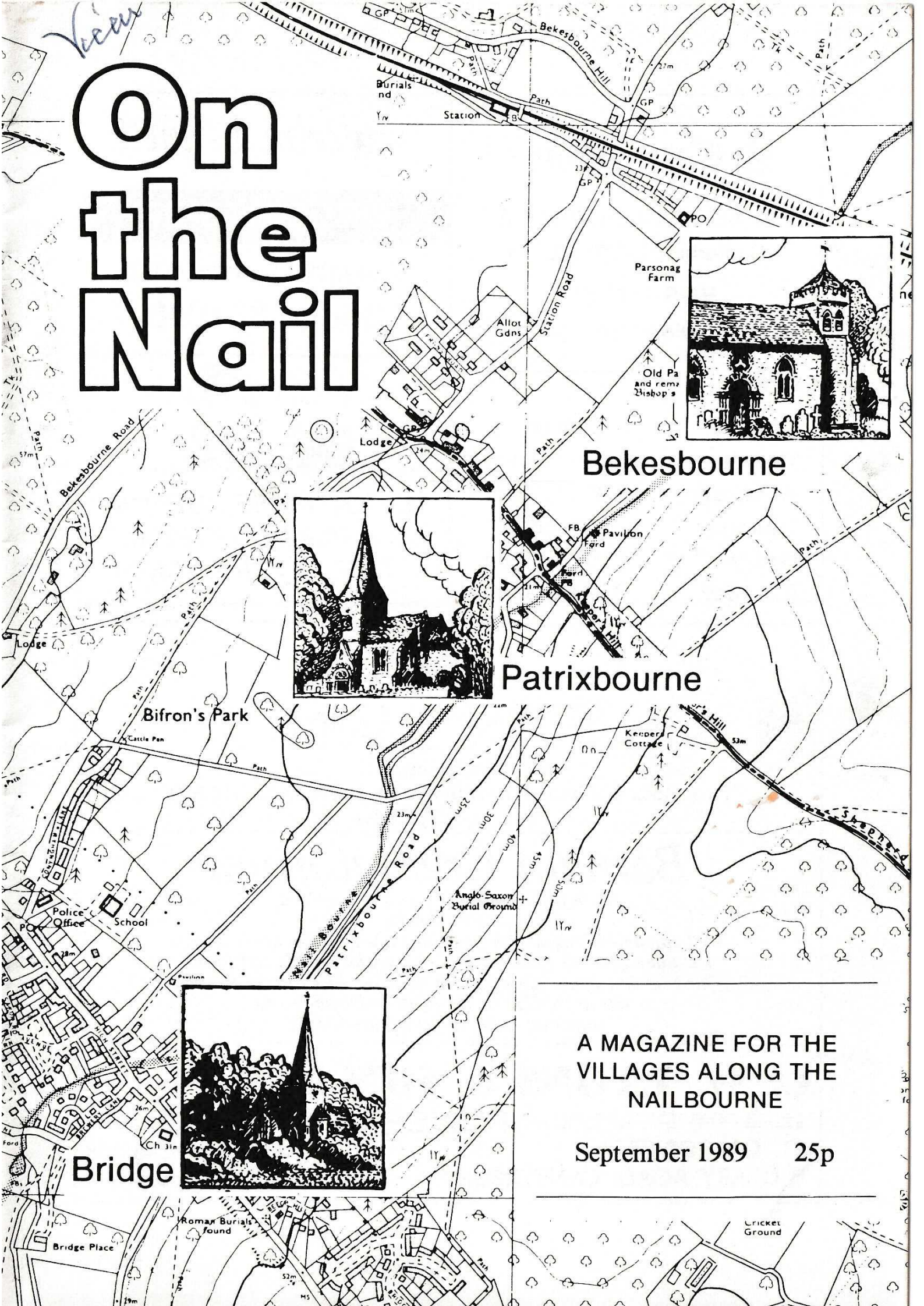
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

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September 1989 25p

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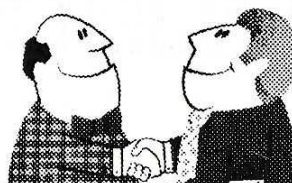
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Sunday Worship in September

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

3rd:

11am Family Service
of Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

10th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(*ASB Rite A*)
(*Canon F Bull*)
6.30pm Evensong
(*Canon F Bull*)

11am Matins
(*Revd W Owen*)

8am Holy Communion
(*Revd C Verity*)

17th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(*ASB Rite A*)
(*Canon F Bull*)
6.30pm Evensong
(*Canon F Bull*)

8am Holy Communion 11am Matins
(*Revd C Verity*) (*Revd W Owen*)

24th:

8am Holy Communion 9am Holy Communion 11am *Harvest Festival*
(The evening worship today will be a short service of praise on Bridge recreation ground at the end of the Festival of Light)

1st October:

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

● *Following the 9.30am Eucharist in Bridge on the second Sunday of each month coffee and biscuits are served at the back of the church. Donations will be gratefully received for the Church Urban Fund.*

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *3rd*, Mr Richard Barton *10th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Sheila Foreman *17th*, *Harvest Festival*, Mr Stanley Kentish *24th*, Dr Christine Pilkington

Bridge Methodists' Harvest Festival continues with a service on Monday, 18th at 7.30pm, conducted by a former Bridge minister, the Revd Ray Bradshaw.

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge each Wednesday (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday (*ASB Rite A*) at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 6th at 10.15am. The New Close service is each Wednesday at 2.30pm, and non-residents are always most welcome to share in this short informal act of worship.

For your diary and prayer list

2nd Pray for Tracy Arman and Colin Richardson who are to marry today at Bekesbourne.

3rd **Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 16**

- The Family Service at Bridge will be the Eucharist.
- 7th Prayers for Health and Healing, 'Netherbury', Meadow Close, 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm
- 8th **The Blessed Virgin Mary**
- 9th Sponsored Bike Ride
- 10th **Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 17**
Church Urban Fund pick-your-own apples, Redwing House, Worcester Lane, 12 noon - 3pm (*Details p. 7*)
- 13th *St Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr, 258*
Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 14th *Holy Cross Day*
- 16th Pray for Lt Rupert Williamson RN, son of Ailsa and John, and his fiancée, Veronica Brogden who marry today at St John's RC Cathedral, Portsmouth.
Hospital League of Friends Garage Sale, Western Avenue, 10am - 12 noon
- 17th **Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 18**
- 19th Bridge with Patricbourne WI, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21st **St Matthew the Apostle**
Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm
- 24th **Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 19**
Bekesbourne Harvest Festival is celebrated at 11am Matins.
A Festival of Light marking *Church Urban Fund Week* takes place this evening. See below for details of how the three churches propose to observe this and how you can take part.
- 25th *Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, 1626*
- 28th Fish Scheme Tea Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 2.15 - 3.45pm
Patricbourne with Bridge PCC meets
- 29th **St Michael and All Angels**
- 30th Bridge with Patricbourne WI Michaelmas Fair, Bridge Village Hall, 11am - 3pm

The Vicar will be on holiday from 4th to 19th inclusive and at the Diocesan Conference from 19th to 21st. During that time anyone requiring the urgent services of a priest may contact Canon F Bull (830440), but please only call him for matters that cannot wait until the Vicar returns.

Let your little light shine!

Sunday, 24th September has been chosen for our *Festival of Light in Church Urban Fund Week*. That evening three candlelit processions will wend their way towards Bridge Recreation Ground where a brief service will be held, followed by tea or coffee in the Methodist Church.

The candles will be nightlights specially sold in aid of the *Church Urban Fund* and which we hope you will purchase at £1 each in aid of the fund. Each has a red plastic container, so you will need to provide a holder to stop it blowing out as well as making carrying easier. The July competition to design a holder attracted entries only from Brian Skinner (husband of Bekesbourne CUF rep Jenny) and Lucy Wilmshurst—what happened to the rest of you? We leave you to choose which you prefer.

Brian suggested a clear yoghurt-type plastic pot screwed through its base to the centre of a cross-shaped wooden slat, and Lucy's idea was to drop the

nightlight into a jam jar, which you carry on a string. Over to you, but do join in!

The nightlights will be on sale well before the day but as the whole of the week previously is *Church Urban Fund* Week we encourage everyone to buy as soon as they are available and to burn them in your window at some stage during the week. Nightlights will be obtainable from Andrea Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne or if you live in Bekesbourne from Jenny Skinner, Redwing House, Worcester Lane. Don't forget the procession and service, which we hope Bekesbourne villagers will join at Patricxbourne!

Choose your route!

The three processions will assemble at 6.45pm, in Patricxbourne Churchyard, at the top of the school drive (not actually in Conyngham Lane) and at the bottom of Bridge Down, near the passage to the steps. Those who haven't bought their nightlight beforehand will be able to do so from the marshal on duty at your chosen assembly point, but it's as well to bring a holder of some kind, even if it's only a honey jar.

The processions will set off so as to arrive at the Recreation Ground about 7.15pm. Should your light blow out on the way there will be a chance to re-light it on arrival. You may join the processions *en route*. The service will last about twenty minutes and be of a quite informal nature.

Calling all pessimists!

If it rains on the evening of 24th September we shall call off the processions and instead ask everyone to go straight to Bridge Church for a candle-lit service, followed by refreshments in the Methodist Church.

The Sheffield connection

During the summer two members of Bridge Church, Dorothy King and Eileen Piggott, were holidaying in the Sheffield region and rang the rector of our *Church Urban Fund* link parish of St Aidan's, John Packer. He not only invited them over to St Aidan's for the Sunday morning Parish Communion but went and fetched them in his car from across the city. They were thus able to experience the same tremendous feelings of warmth, friendship and fellowship that had been shown to Rosemary, Raymond, Stephen and me when we visited St Aidan's in May.

Each Sunday we pray for St Aidan's in the churches of our parish. Perhaps now it is time we made a commitment to them on a more personal level. We have talked about a reciprocal visit from them to us. For this to happen we need some commitment from people to act as hosts to our visitors. If you can help in this way please let me or the Vicar know. I believe a minibus might be hired to bring the folk from Sheffield, but we need enough volunteers before dates and other details can be finalised.

Update on our giving

A sunny June morning saw the raising of over £32 at the Junior Church Coffee Morning, held at the home of the Sladden family, and sales of Junior Church greetings cards have so far raised over £50. This is an on-going thing so keep buying their cards which compare favourably with commercially produced cards.

An evening barbecue held in my garden at Patrixbourne was well supported and much enjoyed by young and old alike. Thanks to all who attended and all who helped with the food. The event made £59, which has been duly donated to the fund.

Andrea Nicholson, Parish CUF Rep



CHURCH URBAN FUND—BEKESBOURNE

Jenny Skinner, our parish *CUF* representative, and husband Brian are generously giving everyone the opportunity to pick-your-own apples from their orchard on Sunday, 10th September between the hours of noon and 3pm, the money to go to Bekesbourne's *Church Urban Fund* effort.

The Skinners live at Redwing House, Worcester Lane, which is a left turning off Bekesbourne Lane towards the golf club end.

The apples are mainly Coxes and all unsprayed; an added incentive to take advantage of this splendid offer and also to help the *Church Urban Fund*.

Joys and Sorrows

Holy Baptism

On 23rd July in St Mary's Church, Patrixbourne the infant daughter of Stewart Michael and Marian Pope was christened **Elizabeth Hazel Westcott** by Canon Frank Bull, deputizing for the Vicar. The baptism of **Leah Jane Attracta Needham**, daughter of Hugh Gerrard and Laura Louise (née Knox) took place in St Peter's, Bridge on 13th August, with the Vicar officiating.

Holy Marriage

These three weddings took place on the dates stated:

Daren Philip Glew and Lynn Jane Wills, 29th July at Bridge.

Grant Dominic Palmer and Cathryn Anne Mcpherson, 5th August at Bekesbourne.

Dale Nigel Bennett and Clare Baden-Daintree, 12th August at Bridge.

Funerals

Through circumstances the passing of **Reg Jarrett** of Lynton Flats was never recorded here, so I am particularly grateful to 'C' for the following contribution: *"I would like to pay a small tribute to the late Reg Jarrett who gave so much to so many, but whose kindness and help have never been acknowledged. And to his little wife, Kathy, our deepest sympathy and love. May the soul of Reg rest in peace"*. 'C' I am sure speaks for Reg's many friends. Bridge Church has particular reason to be grateful for his tremendous labour of love in tending the churchyard, which never looked so neat and tidy as when he cared for it.

On 9th August the Vicar officiated at the funeral service and interment of **Wilfred George Carpenter**, lately of Canterbury but previously for many years a Bridge resident.

Junior Church at Womenswold

by Catherine



On Saturday, 1st July we set off to Womenswold with the older two groups. It was a long walk but it was good fun. When we arrived we settled in and then we did crafts. I made a stained-glass window. I really enjoyed doing crafts. I didn't finish my window, but I finished it off on Sunday.

We were all in groups—Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. I was in Matthew with Lucy, David and Simon. Mark had to cook the barbecue while we could all play until Matthew had to lay the table. The barbecue was delicious. When we had finished Luke had to tidy the kitchen. When everything was put away we all had a pyjama party where you had to dance to music. It was great.

That evening our group had to make jelly and cocoa, John had to wash up the cups while we were having fun in the dormitories. That night we had a midnight feast. The boys came into our dormitories and we ate and sang songs. It was great.

The next day John had to cook breakfast and Luke had to lay the table. After breakfast Matthew had to wash up half of the breakfast things but then Mark had to finish them off. After that we did crafts. We then had to plan our own service. That was fun. After that we had a treasure hunt and Lorraine took our group and we came second. That was brilliant! Then Luke had to cook dinner and John had to lay the table. It was delicious. After lunch Mark had to wash up while we played. It was so sad when the mums and dads came to pick us up because nobody wanted to go. My favourite time was in the dormitories. Many thanks to Hilary, Lorraine and Evelyn for a splendid time.

Ed: In case you're wondering, by Womenswold Catherine means the old village school, which has been converted by the diocese into a centre for young people. Hilary, Lorraine and Evelyn survived the experience (actually they also enjoyed it) and wish to thank the children whose "enthusiasm and excellent behaviour made it a weekend to remember", and also Eric and Jean Hopkins, who so kindly helped them on the Sunday.

Strawberry Fare

A strawberry tea was held on 19th July in David and Alicia Pentin's garden in aid of Bridge Lady Chapel and the purchase of equipment for the churchyard. The sum of £50 was raised.

Bekesbourne Churchyard

There is a small electric Flymo lawnmower in the Church with a long extension lead. This is on loan and anyone is welcome to use it, *at their own risk*, to mow between the graves in the new part of the Churchyard where the big mower will not go.

G.D.M.

Confirmation, 1990

A request has been submitted to the Bishop of Dover for a service of Confirmation at St Peter's, Bridge on the Sunday after St Peter's Day, 1990, *i.e.* 2nd July. The service will occupy the 11am Family Service slot and will be in the setting of the Eucharist as in previous years.

Members of *Hearsay* and others who will be at least twelve years old on 2nd July next might like to think about taking this important step. If so, whether you're absolutely sure or not, please let me have your name and address and make a point of coming to a meeting at the vicarage on **Saturday, 14th October** at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The meeting is simply to get an idea of numbers and arrange the best time for instruction groups, so if you can't make it you won't miss out altogether. Do realise, however, there will be a long way to go and lots to learn before you will be ready to make the final decision about Confirmation, so coming to the October meeting won't commit you either way.

There is no upper age limit for Confirmation, so if any adults wish to discuss being confirmed (I suspect there are a few); whether you've been christened or not, get in touch and let's have a private chat about it. Several purely adult groups have been held in the past, to our mutual advantage. With an older group too, joining preparation sessions obliges no-one to proceed to confirmation.

TAKE TIME

Take time to think :
it is the source of power.
Take time to play :
it is the secret of perpetual youth.
Take time to pray :
it is the greatest power of earth.
Take time to love and be loved :
it is a God-given privilege.
Take time to be friendly :
it is the road to happiness.
Take time to laugh :
it is the music of the soul.
Take time to work :
it is the price of success.

Anon

On The Nail Noticeboard

Good Wood!

Over the last few months Bekesbourne Bowling and Social Club has had a short mat bowls competition to find singles and doubles champions. The eventual winners were *singles* Ray Smith (runner up Joe Atkins) and *doubles* Ian Gillanders and Tony Newington (runners up Peter and Stephen Ellis).

At the 4th August meeting the winners were presented with their prizes. The doubles finalists were presented with the John Knight Shield and the singles winner with a cup. All the finalists and runners up received shields to keep as mementoes.

There is a social meeting the first Friday evening of the month, where members can meet and play bowls. New members welcome. For details ring Jack Gaitor, 830237.

Jill Gillanders

Folk Dancing

Bridge Folk Dance Group meetings resume after the summer break on Thursdays 7th and 21st September. New dancers are made very welcome, so please join us in the Village Hall at 8pm on those dates. Enquirers please ring 8310285 or 830652.

J. H.

Nailbourne Youth Club

Since its inauguration on 5th July the club has met several times and is looking forward to an active programme for the autumn and winter.

It has received a grant of £350 from the Shell Community Service Fund towards the purchase of a storage shed (to be erected on the school grounds) and table-tennis table. The grant was awarded to support Vernon David's recent activities in the village community. Vernon, now retired, was a director of Shell's biological sciences centre in Sittingbourne.

Hospital Friends

The Bridge branch of the hospital League of Friends is holding a GARAGE SALE on Saturday, 16th September between 10am and 12 noon in a garage in Western Avenue adjacent to *Homeware Plus*. We will accept any items for sale, either totally donated or sold by us taking 25% of the asking price. Any items not sold will be returned. NO CLOTHES PLEASE! Items for sale should be brought to the garage as near 9am as possible on the day, marked with a price and your name and telephone number if money needs to be returned to you. If you have an queries please contact Elizabeth Stewart on 830344. Please come and have a look on the day; there will be a wide variety of goods for sale and we may have just what you've been looking for!

Maggie Field

Women's Institute

On Saturday, 30th the WI is holding a Michaelmas Fair in Bridge Village Hall from 11am till 3pm. Stalls include handicrafts, preserves, cakes, plants, books, bric-à-brac, etc. There will be a raffle and Ploughman's Lunches (till 2pm). All welcome!

The monthly meeting on 19th at 7.30pm will include a demonstration on how to make corn dollies.

DE King

Something new

A Recorder Group will be held in Bridge Village Hall on Thursday evenings from 6 to 7.30pm from 14th September. Apart from extending playing abilities we will be playing all types of music from madrigals and hymns to jazz and pop using all types of recorders.

Adults and children at all stages welcome and refreshments are provided. Beginners — Intermediate = 6 - 7pm. Intermediate — Advanced = 6.30 - 7.30pm. £2 per session. More details from 830941.

Jennifer Perry

Yoga for all

The oldest and most effective way to achieve relaxation and good health is doing yoga. Come and join us from Tuesday, 3rd October in Bridge Village Hall at 7pm. If you have never done Yoga, or not for some time, the exercises are simple, the benefits real. Cast out all thoughts of tying yourself in knots. All you need is a fairly empty stomach, a mat or sleeping bag for relaxation and £2 for a lesson of about 1½ hours. Men and women of all ages welcome! For further information ring 831095.

E.M.C.

Cobham Court, Bekesbourne

Over four hundred people visited the garden at Cobham Court on 16th and 19th July. Many of these took the opportunity to visit St Peter's Church, where several stalwarts acted as hosts to these visitors. They listened to stories of the history of the church and there were many requests for favourite hymns on the organ. Over £64 was left in the church in appreciation of this. In addition £150 was sent to the *Pilgrims' Hospice* and £450 to the *National Gardens Scheme* Charitable Trust.

L. W.

NAILBOURNE RECIPES

Please help! I am trying to put together a book of recipes from people living in Bridge and the surrounding villages and would like to have any (or all) your favourite recipes. Ideally, it would be nice to have the book ready and printed in time to sell for Christmas but that means I need to hear from you now!

All contributors will be named and proceeds will be shared between the Bridge School PFA and St Peter's Church, Bridge, which is in dire need of money for repairs after part of the floor collapsed. The book will be divided into sections for Soups and Starters, Main Courses—meat, fish, vegetarian, Puddings, Cakes and Biscuits, Sweets and Drinks.

Please write (or type) your recipes clearly, together with your name, address and telephone number and send them to me—Chantal Ochs, 30 High Street, Bridge (Tel: 830033).

Cut back

by Doug Cartwright

'Cut back' is a well-known phrase we all read most days in the newspapers, but do we ever stop a moment to think what it can mean to some people?

Social Services cover such a large field and this is augmented to a large extent by various voluntary services. Unfortunately all these need money and we seem to have a never-ending round of flag days for one thing or another.

Please consider for a moment the residents of The New Close. The Friends do a splendid job and try to provide the little extras that cannot be supplied by Departmental Funds. But as the Amenity Fund for the home gets cuts each year the Friends try to make this up with such things as Christmas and Birthday presents, sweets, toilet requisites, entertainment and an annual firework display. Our most expensive item is a large aquarium which the Officer in Charge and his staff consider has great therapeutic value for the residents. We feel the £200 a year spent on this is money well spent and wonder *if any business group or a few individuals might be prepared to sponsor this for a year or part thereof.*

Only two fund-raising events a year are held—a Coffee Morning with Bring & Buy Sale and the annual Christmas Fair, both well attended by a regular band of villagers—but over the last four years since I became Treasurer, our expenses have greatly exceeded our income. I would, on behalf of the Friends, ask you to support our next fund-raising event and in the meantime any voluntary gifts would be gratefully received. Thank you for your support and for spending a few minutes to read and consider this article.

Fish News

Nine Luncheon Club members enjoyed an outing to Leeds Castle on 11th August, arranged by our local Social Services team. The journey was made in the Freedom Coach, a specially designed vehicle with full facilities for disabled people. The excellent arrangements, which included the provision of wheelchairs, enabled the whole party to tour the castle and take full advantage of the visit.

The Luncheon Club meetings will start again on 4th September.

The next Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday, 13th from 10.15 - 11.45am, and the Tea Pop-In on Thursday, 28th from 2.15 - 3.45pm, both in Bridge Village Hall.

Joan Warren, 830233

* * *

“THE FAMILY ALBUM” is an exhibition of costume with flowers on the theme of *The Family*, being staged by the Kent Costume Trust, The Children’s Society and members of Kent Area of NAFAS in St Paul’s Church, Canterbury from 28th September to 1st October.

Original costumes from 1820 to 1920 will be used in illustrating a wedding, a christening, picnic by the sea, Christmas Party, etc and there will also be antique dolls’ houses on display. HM Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother is lending her wedding veil for the exhibition. For further information please contact: June Mather, Tel: 0843-47470 or Patricia J. Pollard, The Children’s Society Tel: 0795-535407.

Either lady would welcome offers of help for stewarding, also for scones making, as they are hoping to serve cream teas during the four days of the exhibition. Opening hours will be 10am to 6pm on the first three days, 11.30am to 5pm on 1st October.

ST PETER’S, BEKESBOURNE Cleaning and Flower Rota
2nd, Mrs Fry 9th & 16th, Mrs Mount 23rd, Harvest Festival 30th, Mrs Broadwater.

Our children need help

As a Christian Charity *National Children’s Home* are committed to caring for over 11,000 deprived, abused, handicapped children and families in great distress.

Please lend your support in organising the *House to House Collection* in your parish this year. Please offer a little of your time and talent in organising a vital part of our fund-raising. The Kent Appeals Organizer for NCH is Tony Collins. Please ‘phone him and offer your support on 0622-719142.

Contributed

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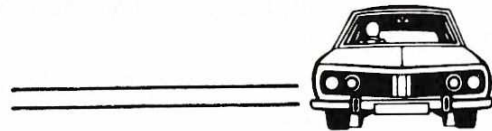
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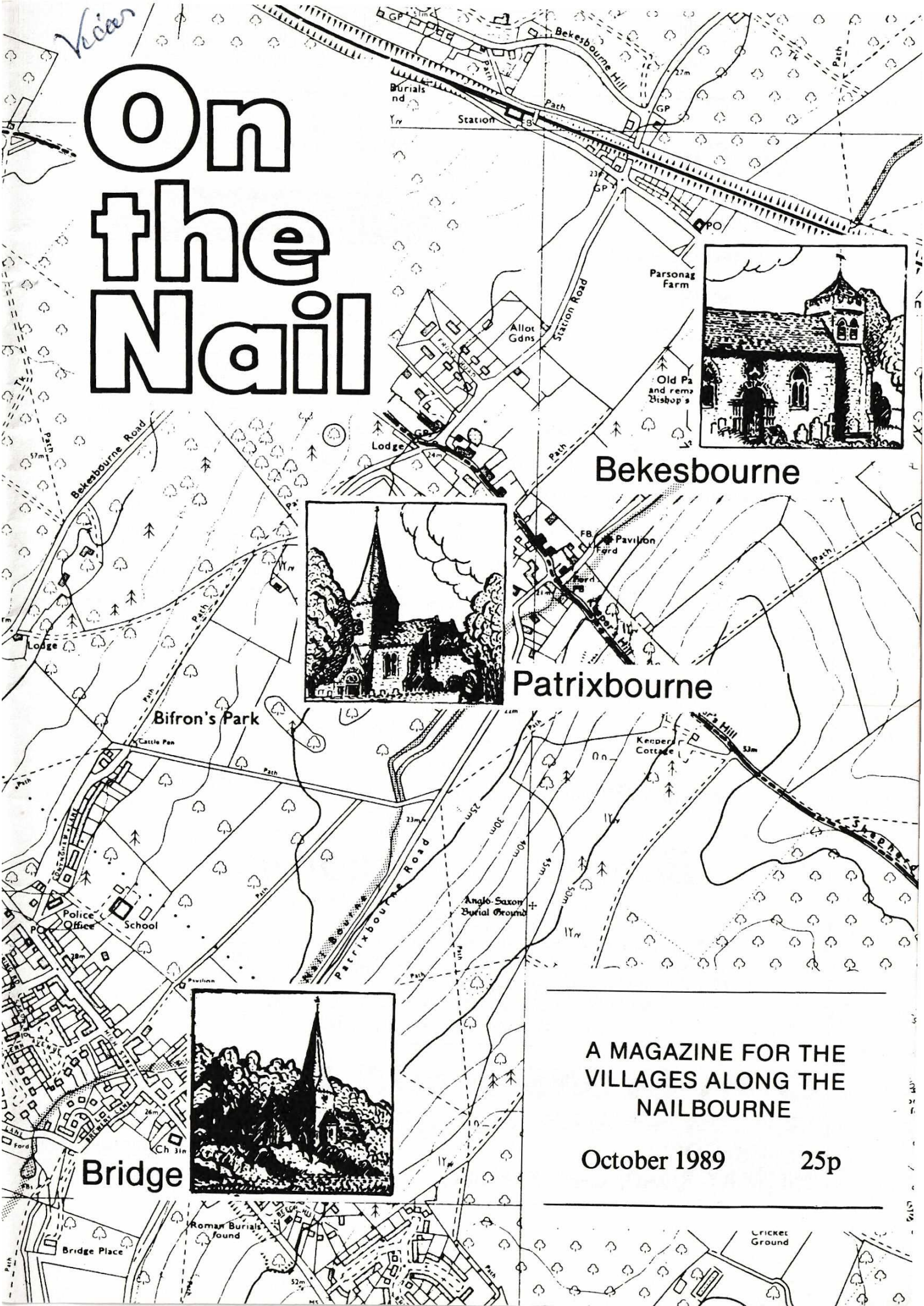
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patricbourne



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October 1989

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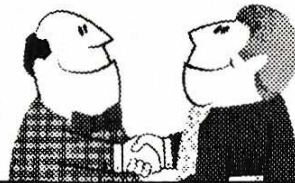
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Sunday Worship in October

Bridge

Patricbourne

Bekesbourne

1st:

11am *Family Harvest
Festival Service*

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm *Harvest Evensong*

8th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(*ASB Rite A*)

11am *Harvest Festival* 8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

15th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(*ASB Rite A*)

8am Holy Communion 11am Matins

6.30pm Evensong
(*Canon F Bull*)

22nd:

8am Holy Communion 9am Holy Communion 11am *Songs of Praise*

6.30pm Evensong

29th:

9.30 The Eucharist with
Laying on of Hands

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

5th November:

11am Family Service 8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

● *Following the 9.30am Eucharist on the second Sunday of each month coffee and biscuits are served at the back of the church. Donations will be gratefully received for the Church Urban Fund.*

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *1st*, Mrs Hazel Colyer *8th*, *Holy Communion* The Revd Sheila Foreman *15th*, Mr Alistair Barwick *22nd*, Mr R Chadwick *29th*, Dr Doreen Rosman

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge each Wednesday (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday (*ASB Rite A*) at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 4th at 10.15am. The New Close service is each Wednesday at 2.30pm, and non-residents are always most welcome to share in this short informal act of worship.

For your diary and prayer list

1st **Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 20**

Bridge Harvest Festival (both services)

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

5th Bridge Methodists' Coffee Morning and Sale, Patricbourne Road Church, 10am - 12 noon

Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm

7th Pray for Paul Richards and Frances Killingbeck who marry today at Bridge.

- 7th Junior Church Jumble Sale in Bridge Village Hall at 2pm
- 8th **Twentieth Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 21**
- 11th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In at Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 12th Bekesbourne PCC meeting, School House, 8pm
- 13th *St Edward the Confessor, King of England, 1066*
- 14th Confirmation meeting for young people, The Vicarage, 3pm
- 15th **Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity : Pentecost 22**
- 17th *St Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, Martyr, c107*
Pray for our representatives on East Bridge Deanery Synod at this evening's meeting.
- 18th **St Luke the Evangelist**
Deanery Healing Service, St Mary's Church, Wingham, 7.30pm
- 19th Prayers for Health and Healing, 'Netherbury', Meadow Close, 7pm
The Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths, Coffee Morning at 4 Meadow Close, Bridge, 10am - 12 noon
- 21st *Canterbury Council for Health & Healing AGM and Study Day, St Andrew's United Reformed Church, Watling Street, Canterbury, 10.30 to 4pm (For further details see below in the Vicar's letter)*
- 22nd **Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity : Last after Pentecost**
Bekesbourne has a second *Songs of Praise* service at 11am.
- 26th Fish Scheme Tea Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 2.15 - 3.45pm
- 28th **St Simon and St Jude, Apostles**
- 29th **Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity : 9 before Christmas**
Being a fifth Sunday the healing ministry of the Laying on of Hands will be offered at Bridge's 9.30 Eucharist

Luke the Physician

In the Church's Calendar St Luke is designated 'the Evangelist', a title he richly deserves, having written both the gospel that bears his name and its sequel *The Acts of the Apostles*. An evangelist is one who proclaims the gospel, and this is precisely what those two books of the New Testament have done and continue to do, as generations of Christian converts could testify.

Without in any way detracting from this dominant aspect of St Luke's apostolic ministry there is a strong tradition, encouraged by a reference in one of the New Testament letters, that Luke was originally a doctor; as a result of which St Luke's-tide has become synonymous with prayers and church services for the medical world. Some of you may remember the great St Luke's-tide services of the past held in the cathedral, at which large contingents of nurses from local hospitals attended, all in uniform. St Luke's-tide is still marked by a special cathedral service, though circumstances no longer permit the grand occasions of yore.

The exciting re-emergence of the Church's Healing Ministry in parishes and churches all over the country has added a new dimension to St Luke's-tide observances, and we in this deanery will be holding a further Healing Service on St Luke's Day itself, 18th October. This time we shall be at St Mary's, Wingham and the preacher will be the Revd Elizabeth Capper, a Parish Deacon in this diocese who has been concerned in the Healing Ministry over many years. As on previous occasions the Laying on of Hands will be administered to all who wish to receive it, and anyone wanting a lift to Wingham that

evening should contact the vicarage. The service is at 7.30pm.

For the same reason the Saturday within St Luke's-tide is always chosen for the Annual General Meeting of the *Canterbury Council for Health & Healing*. This year it falls on the 21st and the venue will be St Andrew's United Reformed Church next to the Watling Street Car Park in Canterbury city centre.

The AGM occupies only a brief part of the day, most of which is then devoted to a study of some aspects of the Christian Healing Ministry. This year we shall have with us the new Director of the *Churches' Council of Health & Healing*, the national ecumenical body of the Churches' Healing Ministry which has its headquarters in the crypt of St Marylebone Parish Church in London. Combining the professions of priest and doctor, the Revd Dr John Young will first speak to the theme 'Caring for the Whole Person' and then there will be group discussion. Lunch will be taken some time during the group discussion, for which purpose we shall each need to bring our own food. Tea or coffee will be provided. To end the day there will be a Service of Healing with the laying on of hands, and the all-inclusive cost is £3 a head (£5 for married couples).

Bridge Methodists fund-raising

The annual Coffee Morning and Sale in Bridge Methodist Church, Patix-bourne Road is on Thursday, 5th October from 10am to 12 noon, and the members of the Methodist Church look to the village for support at this important event in their yearly calendar.

Proceeds, though principally meant to top up the church's coffers, are customarily shared with another charity. The choice this year has still to be made, but please go along and contribute to a worthwhile cause.

Great joys . . .

On Saturday, 2nd September two joyful occasions took place in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne. The first was the wedding of **Tracy Arman** of Howletts Farmhouse and **Colin Richardson** from Chestnut Drive, Sturry.

This was followed by a short Service of Thanksgiving to mark the Silver Wedding of **Rod** and **Phyll Denne** of 'Penton', Aerodrome Road. Rod and Phyll wished to celebrate twenty-five years of happy married life with something more than a party. So they asked to come to church, together with their family and friends, to do three things. First, to thank God for their life together thus far; secondly, to renew their marriage vows; and thirdly, to receive God's blessing for the next stage in their life.

Central to the service, which the vicar created in consultation with the happy couple, was the renewal of vows they had originally made at their wedding in Wickhambreaux Church. Standing at the chancel step, where all marriages take place, and holding Phyll's hand, Rod said, "I remember with joy the day I took you to be my wife, to have and to hold from that day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health to love and cherish till death us do part, according to God's holy law. And I now renew this my solemn vow". Phyll then said the same to Rod.

Ceremonies like this are very rare, but that is probably because no-one has ever thought of it. I am grateful to the Dennes for initiating a delightful ceremony other couples may like to observe at key moments in their marriage.

I shall be very happy to arrange something on similar lines for any who want it.

At the Family Service on 3rd September (a Eucharist) **Nicholas Malcolm Muir-Little** was made a member of Christ, the child of God, and an inheritor of eternal life through the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

. . . and great sorrows

A former member of the congregation of St Peter's, Bridge, a resident of Windmill Close, and lastly of The New Close, Mrs **Ethel Smith** died on 23rd August. The vicar officiated at a quiet service at Barham Crematorium on 31st August.

The whole village of Bridge was shocked and saddened by the tragic death in a road accident of twenty-two year old **David Foster** of 14 High Street, and Barham Crematorium was filled to capacity for his cremation service on 1st September, which the vicar conducted.

What was remarkable was the age range of the congregation, for David had the rare quality in one of his years of having gained the love and respect of young and less young alike. He wasn't short of friends among his own generation but also possessed a neighbourly spirit that expressed itself in such areas as shopping for and keeping an eye on the elderly and jobs for younger families, for which he wouldn't accept a penny, because—as he said—“we're neighbours”. Our deepest sympathy and prayers go to his family in their understandable grief. It is fitting that David's ashes should have been interred in Bridge's churchyard at a brief ceremony the following morning.



Cruse—Bereavement Care

The loss of someone we love through death is a shattering experience and it is a time when the bereaved person needs loving care and support. Many are ably supported by relatives and friends but there are others who have no-one to turn to. It is for just such people that *Cruse—Bereavement Care* was founded in 1959. The organisation offers help for all bereaved people by providing a counselling service, arranging social meetings where new friendships can be made and giving advice on practical matters.

Canterbury and Thanet has been without a branch of Cruse for far too long but a steering group has now been established and it is hoped a branch will be functioning in the Spring of 1990. Much will depend on finding the right people who are able to give a commitment of time to work on a voluntary basis. As well as counsellors (full training will be given), we need people with organisational, fund-raising and publicity skills, plus offers to help with social gatherings. The first course for training counsellors started in September and will continue into the New Year.

To help a bereaved person you need to be a caring person with a desire to help others rebuild their lives.

If you feel you are able to help, or would like more information, please 'phone 0227-61298 / 0233-33282 for details of the counselling course, or 0227-463542 if you feel you are able to help in other ways and would like more general information.

Contributed

Bekesbourne sings *Songs of Praise* again!

The *Songs of Praise* in Bekesbourne Church on 27th August proved so successful that a second one (the twenty-seventh such occasion) is to be held on Sunday, 22nd October at 11am.

It was very sad that organist Stanley Grey had to miss the August service due to ill health, and he is raring to go with this next one. So let him have your hymn choice as soon as possible to enable him to compile the list of hymns to be sung on this occasion, and also so that John Purchase can dig out relevant information on authors and composers, plus any interesting stories attaching to them.

Water the birds

Perhaps the long drought will have ended by the time that this appears. If not, if you haven't got one, it won't be too late to buy a bird-bath (or to place an old dustbin lid on the ground) and fill them morning and evening. It has been a joy to watch so many of our 'feathered friends' enjoying a splash and a long drink—and even more so to find Mr Frog cooling down in an old pie dish under some bushes. The bees too like a drink, but it is best to float little bits of twig on the water to give them a raft and to save them drowning. *Query*: How do the swifts and swallows fare, who are always all on the wing? A.M.S.

Help required by Junior Church

Junior Church has decided to raise money for the Church Urban Fund by collecting aluminium cans. For every fifty cans we collect we can raise at least 30p by selling the cans to the Aluminium Recycling Association. This means that we need a lot of cans to raise a reasonable amount of money, so please will you help us?

Unfortunately not all cans are aluminium. They can be tested by putting the *side*—not the top—of the can against the magnetic strip around the inside of the fridge door. Aluminium is not magnetic, so keep only those cans that *do not stick* to the magnetic strip.

Any Junior Church member will be pleased to receive your cans, washed out and preferably squashed flat for easy storage; or bring them to Church and leave them in the box under the library table. Mr Hopkins, who is kindly organising the collection, will deal with the sale of them. *Hilary Pike*

Patricxbourne and Bridge Autumn Fayre

Summer is gone, *writes Stephen Pike*; autumn is once more upon us and it is time to think once more of our Autumn Fayre which is to be held on November 18th. Your help is needed to make the event even more successful than last year.

As ever, help of all sorts is most welcome. We need donations of all kinds to fill our stalls, but groceries and items for the gift stall are particularly welcome. Donations may be left at the vicarage, deposited in the box inside the church or at 12 High Street, Bridge.

By no means least, anyone who can help in preparation or on the day (or both!) will be most welcome; the more volunteers we have the easier it is for us all. If you would like to help please contact me as soon as possible.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Kingston Craft Club announce that they are now meeting twice a month on the second and fourth Wednesdays at Kingston Barn, any time between 1.30pm and 5pm. New members would be welcome between these times.

* * *

The Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths is holding a Coffee Morning on Thursday, 19th October from 10am to 12 noon at 4 Meadow Close, Bridge. There will be a Bring & Buy stall, a Raffle—and Christmas cards will be on sale.

* * *

Junior Church, Bridge will be holding a Jumble Sale in Bridge Village Hall on October 7th at 2pm. Proceeds will go to the Church Urban Fund.

Please bring all jumble to the Village Hall from 10am on the morning of the sale. If you want your jumble to be collected please 'phone either 830960 or 830708, and this will be arranged. The organisers would be *very* grateful for helpers, young or old, either in the morning or in the afternoon, or both! *H.P.*

League of Friends—Bridge Branch

The Garage Sale held on 16th September raised £188. Many thanks are due to all those who supported us. Because of its success we plan to make this an annual autumn event. The money raised helps buy essential equipment for the local hospitals.

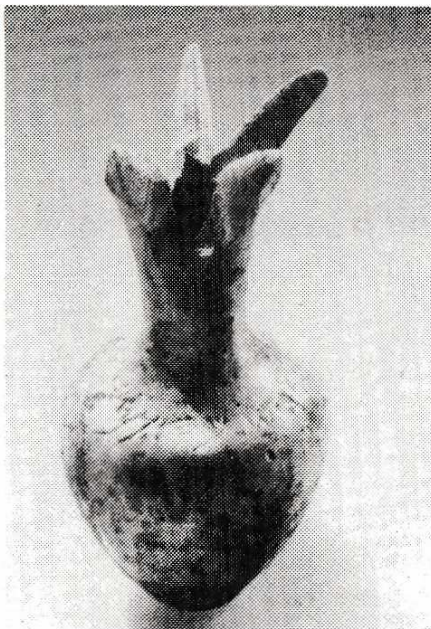
Maggie Field

GOOD PICKINGS FOR THE CHURCH URBAN FUND!

Apple-picking Sunday, 10th September proved a success. Jennie and Brian Skinner raised £43 from the pick-your-own parishioners; and would like to thank them. Together with the proceeds of a Coffee Morning held earlier and a collection box at *The Unicorn* public house, £95 was being sent to the Diocesan appeals office. Well done!

J.P.

Ancient relic from Solomon's Temple



The first-ever relic from King Solomon's Temple has appeared after 2,574 years. The piece which is causing so much interest is an ivory pomegranate, a ceremonial object which would have been carried on top of a sceptre, as part of the Temple ritual in the mid-8th century B.C.

The pomegranate has been authenticated by Professor Naham Avigad, one of Israel's leading archaeologists. The authenticity of the 43mm high pomegranate was confirmed by an inscription below its neck. The translation from ancient Hebrew scrip, used only until the destruction of Solomon's Temple, reads, *Belonging to the Temple of the Lord, holy to the priests.*

King Solomon's Temple, built in the 10th century B.C. was destroyed by the babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar in 586 B.C. and no remains of the sanctuary were known to have survived until today.

From 'The Star in the East' Magazine of life and works in Bible lands.



— A CHILD —

*If a child lives with criticism
he learns to condemn*

*If a child lives with hostility
he learns to fight*

*If a child lives with ridicule
he learns to be shy*

*But if a child lives with encouragement
he learns confidence*

*If a child lives with tolerance
he learns to be patient*

*If a child lives with praise
he learns to appreciate*

*If a child lives with fairness
he learns justice*

*If a child lives with security
he learns to have faith*

*If a child lives with acceptance and friendship
he learns to find love in the world*

Sponsored Bike Ride Success!

Despite the damp day on Saturday, 9th September, the Sponsored Bike Ride was a considerable success with over a hundred riders checked in at Bokesbourne for example. We shall know the financial result in a few weeks, and the figures will be published in the November *On The Nail*.

C. A.

The Bishops' Cookbook success as well!

Readers will be interested to learn, before general publication, that *The Bishops' Cookbook* has already raised over £20,000 profit for the *Church Urban Fund* and *Christian Aid*.

The latest idea from The Deanery, I am told, is a Tea-towel in red, blue or episcopal purple on white cotton at £2.20 each, or printed brown or green on cream linen at £2.60. Mrs Till, the Archdeacon's wife suggests that this would be a good stocking filler for both her and him! A good idea for Christmas, and a hint for joint washing-up!

J.P.

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met after the summer recess on Thursday, 14th September.

New Councillor Since there had been no request to the City Council for an election to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of David Heap, the Council co-opted Mr Reginald J Franklin of 20 Windmill Close on to the Council.

Keeping up Appearances The Council heard that Mr John Knight was to clear up the bank between the cricket pitch and the football pitch possibly during October. The area around the playground equipment had been cut again in July. Meanwhile the Clerk was to contact the County Council about the poor standard of mowing around the pavilion and also the Gas Board about the untidy overgrown area around their gas governor installation at the corner of High Street and Bourne Park. A strongly worded letter was to be sent to the City Environmental Health & Housing Officer about the litterbins in the village not being emptied regularly.

Good News The County Council are prepared to accept future liability for the maintenance of the Bridge Hill/Bridge Down Stairway as well as the passage leading to it.

The Village Appraisal has been selling well and is to be used as a 'case study' at a Seminar being organised by the Kent Association of Parish Councils next month at Hollingbourne. Anyone who would still like to buy a copy should now contact the Clerk, Mrs Kathy Walder, 17 Union Road, Bridge (Tel: 830057).

The Parish's entry in Class 6 of the 'Best Kept Village' Competition which took the form of a written submission detailing the community effort to prevent litter and improve the environment won joint first prize with Chartham. Kent County Council, who sponsored that class, are to present the prizes which include £200 to be spent on environmental improvement works at a presentation arranged for Thursday, 12th October—to which representatives from organisations etc. who contributed to the success are to

be invited.

Affordable Homes for Village People The information contained in the replies to the questionnaire is now with the NAC Rural Trust for analysis and assessment.

Trees in Your Village Cllr Ken Greenaway recently accompanied the judge for the 'Trees in Your Village' competition on his tour of inspection, when he offered advice on the care and attention needed for several of the trees in public places in the village. The Council are pleased to accept the kind offer of two chestnut trees from Mr David Brown.

What's in the planning pipeline? Of several planning applications received, only one was a proposal for a new development, namely a two-bedroom cottage (and demolition of three garages) on land to the rear of Kent House, High Street and only to this one did the Parish Council make an objection.

The City Council granted planning permission for a two-storey side extension to 'Robbins', Bridge Hill, for internal alterations at 16 The Close, Union Road and for the erection of a pitched roof over side extensions at 'La Dacha', Patricbourne Road. The appeal to the Secretary of State against the City Council's decision to refuse planning permission for the erection of a detached dwelling on land to the rear of 'Conamore', Patricbourne Road has been dismissed. An appeal has also just been made to the Secretary of State against the decision to refuse planning permission for the erection of a conservatory to the rear of 'Church Cottage', 104 High Street.

The Parish Council will next meet on Thursday, 12th October after the conclusion of the Kent County Council presentation which is scheduled to begin at 7.00pm.

K A Walder

Fish News



The Luncheon Club. Staff shortages due to illness resulted in cancellation of the first two sessions at The New Close. To avoid disappointment to our members a salad luncheon was organised in the Village Hall for both dates. My thanks to our volunteers for the extra time and effort they made—it was certainly appreciated by the members.

The Independent Domestic Register With the help of the Social Services and Age Concern, a new scheme has been set up to supply reliable domestic helpers for elderly people who do not qualify for help from the statutory services. An organiser was appointed to recruit and interview possible helpers and to check their references. Suitable people were invited to sign contracts to join the register of approved helpers. When an application for help is made the organiser visits, explains the scheme and assesses the needs. She will continue to make visits after a suitable helper has been placed, to ensure that the client is satisfied. The charge for the service is £3.50 per hour (£3.20 is paid to the helper and 30p to the Register). Forty-three people in the area are being helped by the scheme and so far there have been no complaints! This should be a useful service, particularly as it can be used for a short time to help during illness, or when a supporting family is away. If anyone is interested either to have help or to join the Register, I can give them more details.

The Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday, October 11th and the **Tea Pop-In** on Thursday, October 26th.

The Mobile Chiropody Clinic will be at The New Close from Tuesday, October 24th to Friday, October 27th.

Joan Warren, 830233

BEKESBOURNE CHURCH FLOWERS AND CLEANING

30th Sept, Mrs Broadwater 7th, Mrs Gillanders 14th, Mesdames Smith and Hogben 21st, Mrs Farbrace 28th, Mrs Watson.

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

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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 R.C. Whatley, 54 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830512)

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

Organist (Bridge):

Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs R.M. Stacey, Joclet, Keepers Hill, Patricxbourne CT4 5BT (830205)

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 D. Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne CT4 5HA (830659)

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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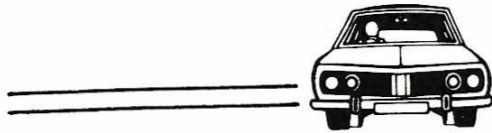
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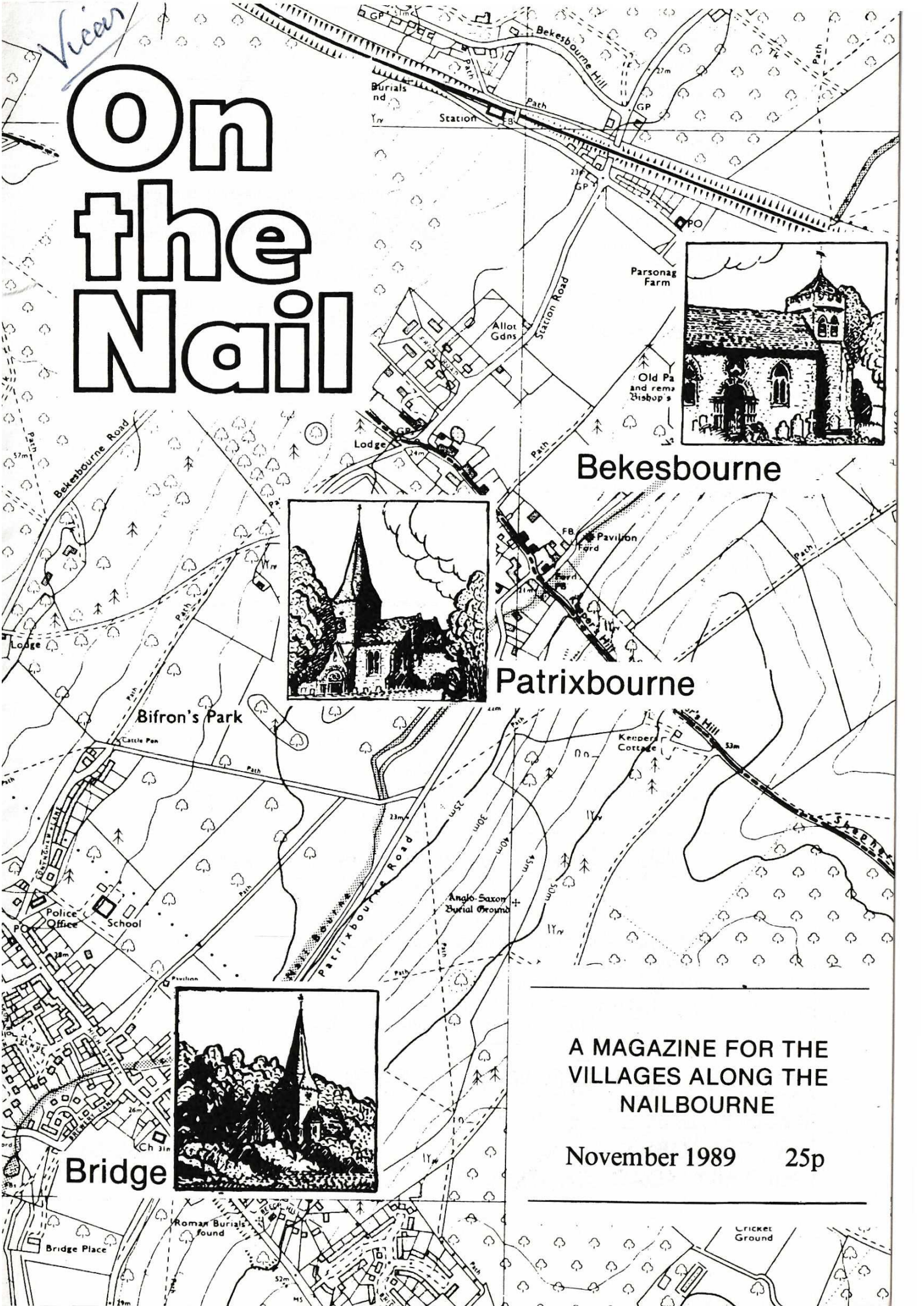
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patricxbourne



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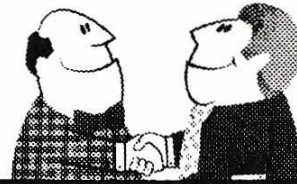
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Sunday Worship in November

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

5th

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

12th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)

11am Matins
(Revd W Owen)

8am Holy Communion

10.50 Service of Remembrance

6.30pm Evensong

19th:

9.30 Parish Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am Matins
(ASB Rite A) with
Holy Baptism

6.30pm Evensong
(Canon F Bull)

26th:

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

3rd December:

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

● Following the 9.30am Eucharist at Bridge on the second Sunday of each month coffee and biscuits are served at the back of the church. Donations will be gratefully received for the Church Urban Fund.

The 12th being Remembrance Day there is an additional service in Bridge Church. This is a Service of Remembrance, preceding which, at 10.50am, a wreath will be laid at the war memorial in the churchyard by the Bridge branch of the Royal British Legion.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 5th, Mr Hugh Sheehan 12th, Holy Communion, The Revd Sheila Foreman 19th, Dr Christine Pilkington 26th, Mr E R O'Mahony

Junior Church meets every Sunday morning from 9.30 to 10.30 in Bridge Village Hall, except the first Sunday when the Family Service is held.

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge each Wednesday (BCP) at 9.30am and Friday (ASB Rite A) at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 1st at 10.15am. The New Close service is each Wednesday at 2.30pm, and non-residents are always most welcome to share in this short informal act of worship.

For your diary and prayer list

1st **All Saints' Day**

Pray for the Governors of Bridge School who meet today.

2nd **Commemoration of All Souls**

Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm

Autumn Fayre stallholders meeting, 12 High Street, 8pm

- 3rd *Richard Hooker, Teacher of the Faith, 1600*
- 5th **Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity : 8 before Christmas**
Pray for Abbie Blackwell, to be baptized at the Family Service.
- 8th *Saints and Martyrs of England*
Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In. Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 9th Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7pm
- 11th *St Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397*
Meeting for young people to discuss Confirmation, The Vicarage, 3pm.
- 12th **Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity : 7 before Christmas**
This also being Remembrance Sunday there will be a special Service of Remembrance at St Peter's, Bridge, starting by the Village War Memorial at 10.50am, where a wreath will be laid. The Two Minutes Silence at 11am will be kept inside the church.
- 16th *St Margaret of Scotland, Queen, Wife, Mother, 1093*
Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 17th *St Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680: St Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200*
- 18th *AUTUMNFAYRE*, Bridge School Hall, 2pm (see page 13)
- 19th **Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Trinity : 6 before Christmas**
- 20th *St Edmund of East Anglia, King, Martyr, 870*
- 23rd Fish Scheme Tea Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 2.15 - 3.45pm
- 25th *BEKESBOURNE CHRISTMAS MARKET*, Bekesbourne Village Hall, 2.15pm (see page 14)
- 26th **Sunday next before Advent : 5 before Christmas**
- 28th Pray for the clergy of East Bridge Deanery who meet in Chapter this morning.
- 30th **St Andrew the Apostle**

Money Matters

No, please don't turn away in disgust! This isn't the Church after your money yet again, but simply passing on information you should know about, particularly if you contribute through the Covenant or Envelope Scheme to the parish of Patricbourne with Bridge!

Grateful thanks, Douglas!

At its last meeting the PCC of Patricbourne with Bridge elected a new Honorary Treasurer to replace Mr Douglas Hill, who had earlier indicated his desire to be relieved of the job he took over from the late Charles Potter in 1985.

The PCC was most sorry to lose Douglas's services and expressed its warm appreciation of the meticulous and highly professional way he has conducted its financial affairs over the years. The comment was made at the meeting on 28th September that the books had never been in better hands and certainly it has been good to have such a conscientious and knowledgeable Treasurer, who invariably had the figures you wanted ready at his finger-tips.

And so to the new!

Replacing Douglas we are fortunate in having another professional accountant in the person of Mr Keith Nicholson, who lives at Riverside Cottage, Patricbourne. Keith, whose wife Andrea is already a PCC member and our hard-working *Church Urban Fund* representative, has already assumed his respons-

ibilities, which are the same as his predecessor's though with one notable exception.

Whereas in the past the Treasurer has always assumed sole responsibility for every aspect of church finances, the PCC, following a wise suggestion and willing offer from Douglas Hill, decided to create a separate post of Covenants Officer to deal exclusively with the Covenant and Freewill Offerings Schemes, howbeit in conjunction with the Treasurer. The effect of this is that now we have two financial wizards, Honorary Treasurer Keith Nicholson and Covenants Officer Douglas Hill.

What's entailed?

Douglas kindly furnished the following Covenants Officer 'job specification', which is reproduced here because many readers of *On The Nail* will have a personal interest in the new arrangements.

The Covenants Officer's duties are:—

1. To negotiate all new and renewed Deeds of Covenant with covenanters direct, and to assist with the completion of the relevant deed of covenant form if so required.
2. To liaise with Diocesan House on all administrative matters concerning Parish Covenants, and to keep detailed records of progressive payments and tax reclaimed in the Parish records, etc.
3. To deal with any queries or problems on which individual covenanters may find they require clarification or action.
4. To collect and account for all covenant payments, *inter alia*, standing orders through the bank, covenant envelopes presented at our churches and other periodic cheques or cash which were customarily directed to the Treasurer. In future, these latter payments should be directed to the Covenants Officer.
5. To provide to each covenanter an annual notification of covenant payments received.
6. To liaise fully with the Treasurer and account to him for all monies received and banked.

With regard to the Freewill Envelope Scheme, the duties of the Covenant Officer will extend to all matters of implementing the wishes of new or revised donors under this scheme. He will also collect and account for such payments and items 3 and 6 above would apply therefore to the Freewill Envelope Scheme. The distribution of periodic supplies of envelopes, as in the past, will be undertaken by the kindness of Mr Alan Jackson.

Magazine Money

The previous system whereby magazine distributors were able to leave the money they collected from their customers at either Red Deer, Bridge Down or the Vicarage no longer applies. Now that the Treasurer lives at Patricbourne distributors may care to hand in all money collected for magazine payment at the Vicarage, subsequently to be passed on to Mr Nicholson. If, however, you fancy a trip out to Patricbourne that's another matter!

Church Urban Fund - the latest

Jennifer Skinner, Bekesbourne's Representative writes: Two splendid efforts by the young people of the parish have boosted Bekesbourne's efforts on behalf of the *Church Urban Fund*.

Junior Church have given £30 towards Bekesbourne's target from the sale of their greetings cards, etc. Also Bekesbourne Brownies have been saving 1p coins in Smartie tubes and at the recent Brownie evening were able to present me with the fantastic sum of £18.38 for the fund.

* * *

From Patricxbourne with Bridge Andrea Nicholson reports on recent events and fund-raising efforts:—

Church Urban Fund Week was celebrated here with three separate candle-light processions from Patricxbourne, Conyngham Lane and Bridge Down converging on Bridge Recreation Ground, where a rousing open air service was held. In the gathering darkness a special message from our friends at St Aidan's, Sheffield was read out and by the flickering light of our *Church Urban Fund* candles we sang "Jerusalem", "He's got the whole world in his hands" and "Now the day is over". This very joyous occasion was supported by people from all three churches and spanning a very wide age range. Many thanks to all those who laid on the warming soup and hot dogs in the Methodist Church after the service.

Sales of the candles raised £52, and a very successful Jumble Sale in the Village Hall produced £154. A big thanks to all who worked so hard on both these ventures. I would also like to say thank-you to the 1st Bridge Guides who raised £90 for *CUF* by a sponsored walk.

We have now raised £900 towards our target of £1,100 in three years. On Friday, 13th October these figures, written on a slip of paper, were handed in at a special *Church Urban Fund* service in the Cathedral, conducted by the Archbishop. In his address Dr Runcie praised the valiant efforts of all those who have so far succeeded in raising three quarters of our diocesan target. However, he urged us not to falter at the last hurdle, but to renew our efforts to reach our target and to ensure that our 'light' shines in the Inner Cities. The culmination of the service was the lighting of many hundreds of candles and the singing of the *Church Urban Fund* hymn in the darkened nave.

Perhaps we should take the Archbishop's words to heart here. Our own fundraising has gathered pace lately, but we must maintain the momentum. As a first step towards this please note the 2nd December in your diary, when you are invited to a **Cheese and Wine Party**. It is at 8pm, and the venue is 'Beechmount', Conyngham Lane (courtesy of Ailsa and John Williamson). Tickets cost £2 a head and are of limited supply, so **BUY YOURS NOW** from either Anne Medhurst, Douglas Hill, Stephen and Hilary Pike or me.

P.S. Please support Junior Church's efforts to raise funds by buying their greetings cards. These are now on sale in both Bridge and Patricxbourne Churches

In sorrow and in joy

On Friday, 6th October the body of Mrs **Elsie Emma Lockwood**, formerly of Union Road was laid to rest with that of her husband in Bridge churchyard, after a service in St Peter's Church.

* * *

Bridge Church provided the setting for a happy family occasion on Saturday, 7th October, when **Paul Richards** married **Frances Killingbeck**. We wish them every blessing and a long life together!

Many thanks!

Sponsored Bike Ride

Bekesbourne My thanks to the three intrepid riders, Louisa Fagg, Jennie Skinner and Ian Gillanders, and all their sponsors who supported Bekesbourne Church on the annual Sponsored Bike Ride. Despite miserable weather on the day, they successfully raised £115—a very commendable effort. My thanks also to Jill Gillanders for all her help both on the day and prior to it.

Christine Ash

Patixbourne That great enemy of the cyclists, wet, cold wind did not deter our cyclists, who raised £312 for the Sponsored Cycle Ride. Sunny spirits defeated the weather as cyclists signed in and rode on. For one man Patixbourne was his fiftieth church. Many thanks to all who helped in the manning of the church and all who bravely rode for Patixbourne; Joan Carpenter, Marian Harlow, Rachel and Jonathan Nicholson.

Rosalie Stacey

Bridge In spite of the inclement weather, fourteen intrepid cyclists set out on Saturday, 9th September for the annual Sponsored Bike Ride, and between them they raised £283.70. This money is to be shared between St Peter's Church, Bridge and the *Friends of Kent Churches*.

Stephen Pike, our churchwarden, once again visited the most churches, forty; but Tim Flisher with Simon and Emma came a close second with thirty-two. The rest of the cyclists averaged twenty churches, which was a great achievement considering the strong winds which prevailed in the afternoon! Daniel Brasier was blown off his cycle and suffered a cut knee and abrasions (*Ed: Abrasions for a Brasier? Sorry Daniel, I couldn't resist it!*) but it did not deter him from carrying on and he with his mum and sister still managed to visit twenty churches. It was interesting to note that many riders had chosen a different route this year and the new names appearing on their sponsor forms such as Petham, Thanington, Nackington, Upper and Lower Hardres, Stodmarsh and Fordwich showed the extent of their travels.

Congratulations and our grateful thanks to the following for cycling for their church: Stephen, Hilary, Elizabeth and Catherine Pike; Vivienne, Claire and Daniel Brasier; Tracy Mortley; Tim, Simon and Emma Flisher; Joan Hill; Victoria O'Brien; Lucy Wilmshurst.

Perhaps we can persuade more families to take part next year. I would like to add my thanks to those who manned the church between 10am and 6pm and signed in 135 cyclists: Joan Monk, Joan and Douglas Hill, Muriel Packer, Sheila Fenn, Enid Wintle and Olga Weatherall, and to Canon Frank Bull who supported us practically all the day long.

Kath Pierce

* * *

We would like to thank our many friends in Bridge for their prayers and good wishes during the past weeks. We are delighted to tell you that Julia is recovering well and hopes to be able to return to school after half-term.

Gill and John Harvey

* * *

I would like to thank everyone for the kindness shown to us since Stanley's accident. I am happy to say he is making good progress and hopes soon to be about again. Thank you all!

Ruth Grey

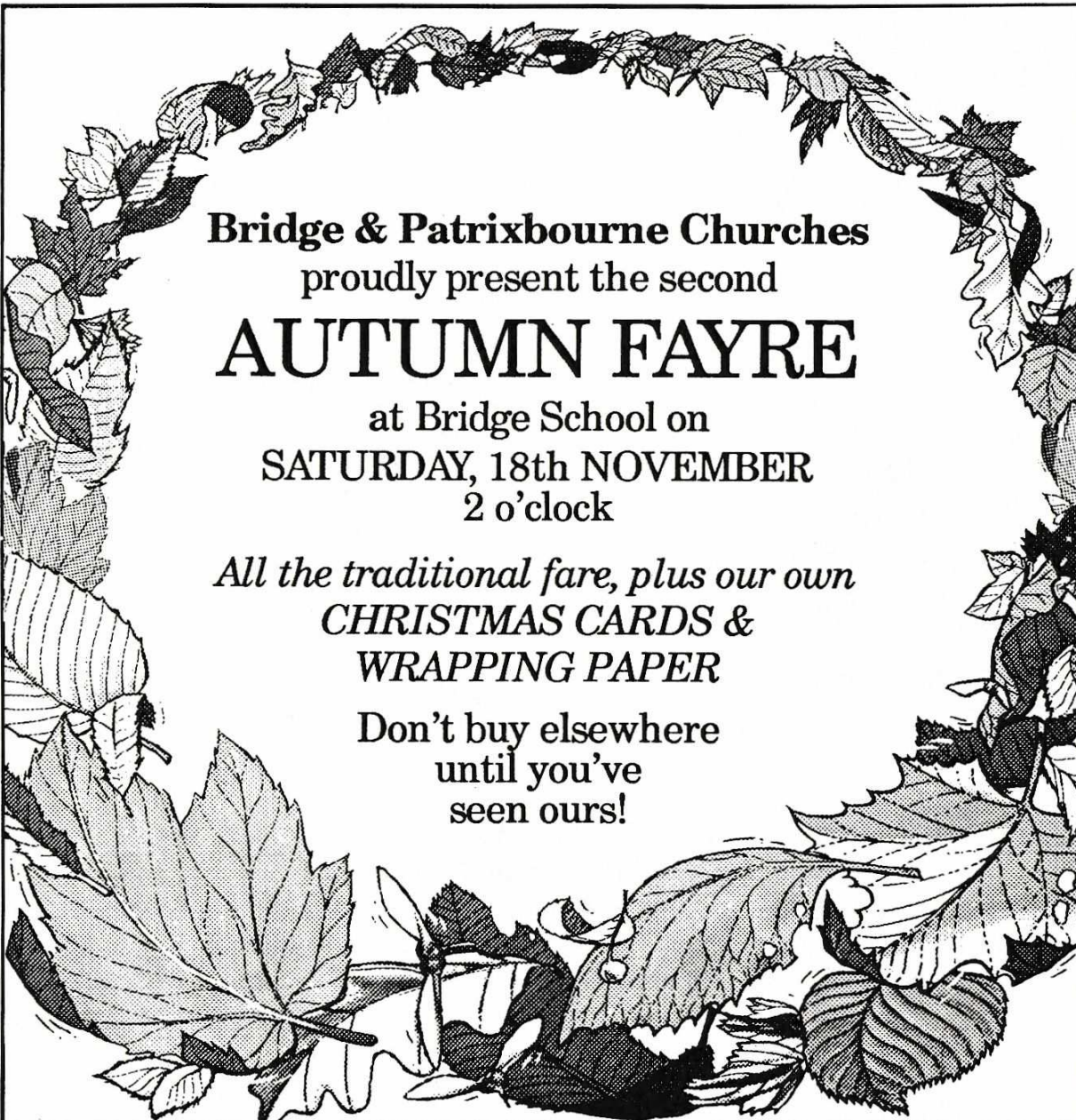
Bridge Methodists are very grateful for the support given at their Autumn Coffee Morning and Sale. The atmosphere was so warm, and friendly as the coffee serving and sale proceeded. The grand total raised was £207 and as is our tradition this has been shared with the *Royal Institute for the Blind* (Roper House) and *Umbrella* £50 each, with £20 going to the Royal Marines (Deal bombing). A very sincere thank-you to all who came and joined in this venture. Whether you bought or sold, made or baked, sewed or worked—bless you!

Pat Grant, Church Steward

* * *

Retiring as manager of *Lo Cost* I would like to say farewell and thank you to all the loyal customers for their support over the past twenty years. Do please continue this support to enable all our shops in Bridge to go on trading successfully. Owing to ill-health I am unable to thank you all personally.

D E G Carlton



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On The Nail Noticeboard

Canterbury Samaritans

Christmas will soon be upon us and I should be grateful for any used postage stamps, both British and foreign, to pass on to the Samaritans centre. Revenue from them is vital for the day to day running expenses.

ME Jones

18 Conyngham lane

Kent Trust for Nature Conservation

The annual *Kent Trust for Nature Conservation* Christmas Goods Stall will be held at 9 High Street, Bridge on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th November

from 10am till 6pm; and 4th to 10th December from 2pm to 6pm.

D W

The New Close

A Coffee Morning and Christmas Sale will be held at The New Close on 2nd December from 10am to 11.45am. Proceeds for the residents' Christmas cheer. Please support!

O I Knight

Senior Citizens' Invitation

The children of Bridge and Patricbourne CE Primary School invite all Senior Citizens to visit the school and see a selection of entertainments from their Christmas production on MONDAY, 18th DECEMBER at 1.30pm. Afternoon tea will be served afterwards.

If there are any problems about transport please get in touch with either Mrs Gulvin or Mrs Newton at school. The telephone number is 830276.

Everyone is most welcome! Please tell all your friends about this as we are not able to send out individual invitations!

Anna Newton, Headmistress

Best Kept Village Competition

A presentation was made on Thursday, 12th October in the Village Hall in Bridge to the Parish Councils of Chartham and Bridge who shared joint first prize in the Written Submission, Class 6 of the 'Best Kept Village' Competition. A number of residents and representatives from both villages were present when Mrs Brenda Trench, Vice-Chairman of Kent County Council, who sponsored that particular class, presented a cheque for £200, a commemorative litterbin and teaching material to the two Chairmen, Cllr Mrs Veronica Lytten of Chartham and Cllr John Hill of Bridge. There is further good news for Bridge in the competition as the village itself also received a Special Commendation in its class with 5lb of mixed daffodil bulbs as a prize. K A W

**PARISH
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Parish Council
News



Bridge Village Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday, 12th October after the presentation of the 'Best Kept Village' competition awards.

Action down at the Recreation Ground

A replacement cradle swing is on order, as is a replacement sign banning dogs, the original at the bridge in Patricbourne Road having mysteriously disappeared from its post! John Knight, Builders are expected to clear away the bank between the football and cricket pitches shortly.

The Council are making final enquiries before deciding on providing safety surfacing, at least around some of the playground equipment. An application is to be made to lop overhanging and dead branches on two of the protected sycamore trees, while the two chestnuts offered by Mr David Brown will be used to replace two young trees which have died. Cllrs Mrs Billie Anderson and Ken Greenaway are to shorten the stakes and adjust the ties on some of the young trees.

The Council received a letter of thanks from Bridge Junior F.C. for their efforts in controlling dog fouling on the Ground.

Help!! The Village Hall requires a cleaner. Anyone interested in taking on this task should contact Cllr Mrs Ann King on 830028.

A planning lull No new applications had been received since the Council's last meeting. An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the City Council's decision to refuse planning permission for the erection of a dwelling on land at 20 High Street. Planning permission has been granted for the formation of a vehicular access at 42 High Street and for a two-storey side extension at 25 Bridge Down.

'Affordable Homes for Village People' The Sub-Committee set up to deal with this are to meet for discussions with Mary Allwood of the NAC Rural Trust on 1st

November.

How to utilise the prizes. It was decided to put the prize money from the 'Best Kept Village' Competition, which was to be spent on visual improvements, towards the provision of a new bus shelter to replace the unsightly concrete one by the newsagents in the High Street. The bulbs are to be planted by the Chairman and Cllr Mrs Anderson in the wide grass verge at the bottom of Conyngham Lane, which would brighten that corner in the Spring.

A brighter village? It was brought to the Council's attention that the village suffers from a surprising number of power failures throughout the year, and the Council are to take this up with SEEBOARD.

The Parish Council next meet, albeit briefly, on 9th November at the earlier time of 7.00pm in The Hunter Room.

K A Walder

Bridge Parish Council has arranged for Bob Ogley, author of *In the Wake of the Hurricane* to speak about his book in the Village Hall on Thursday, 9th November at 8pm. All villagers are welcome at what should prove to be a most interesting talk.

K A W

Fish News

The **Luncheon Club**, which meets at The New Close every Monday, has now been running nine years. We are in desperate need of reinforcements for our group of volunteers. Starting at 12 noon helpers set the tables, serve the lunches, wash up and clear away, finishing at about 1.45pm. We have a flexible rota to enable volunteers to fit in with their personal arrangements; most people help about once in every three to four weeks.

* * *

The **Canterbury Volunteer Bureau's Christmas Shopping Evening** for elderly people will be held on Wednesday, 22nd November from 6pm to 7.45pm. This year *Marks & Spencer, British Home Stores, W H Smith, Woolworths, C&H Fabrics, Boots* and *Culpeppers* will be open. It is always an enjoyable evening, with carols and refreshments provided. Although the date for ticket applications has passed, I have ordered a few extra tickets. If you would like to join our party please let me know.

* * *

The Coffee Pop-In will be on 8th November, 10.15am to 11.45am; and the Tea Pop-In on Thursday, 23rd, 2.15pm to 3.45pm.

Joan Warren, 830233

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

Hon Secretary: Mr R.C. Whatley, 54 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830512)

Hon Treasurer: Mr K. Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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

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

Organist: Mr S. Grey, 63 High Street, Bridge CT5 5LA (830522)

Captain of the Bells: Mr D. Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne CT4 5HA (830659)

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.

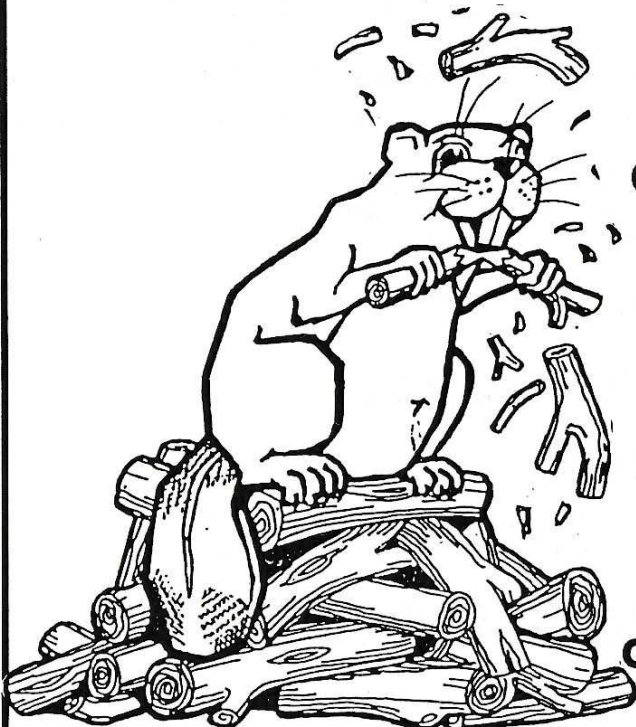
Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for *On The Nail* please send them to the Editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

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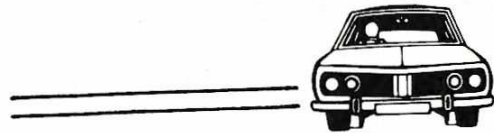
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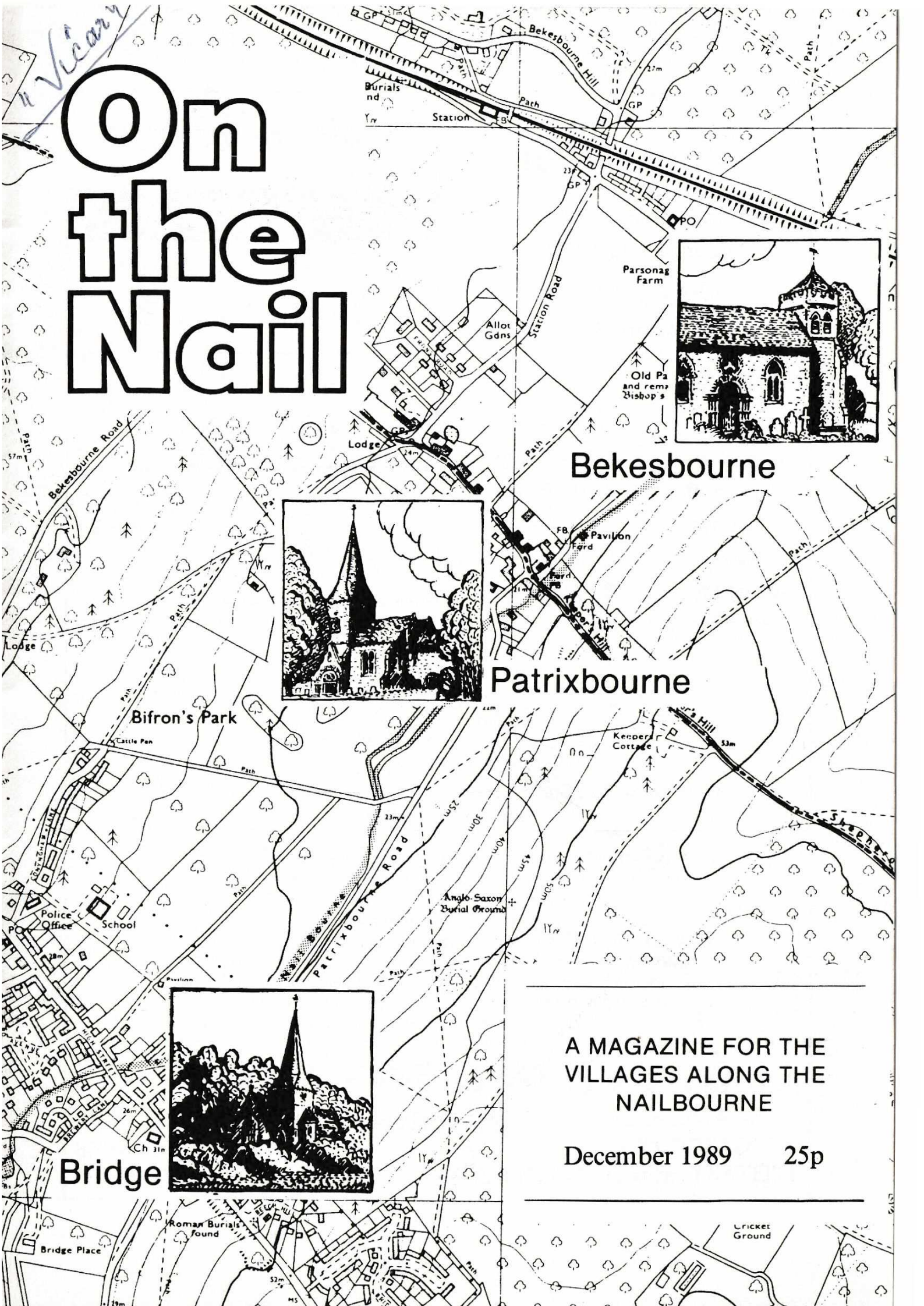
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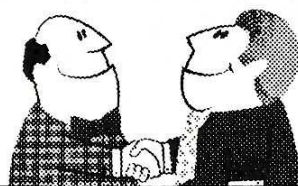
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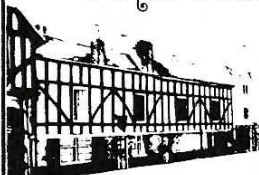
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Sunday Worship in December

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

3rd:

11am Family Gift Service with Baptism

6.30pm Evensong

10th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)

6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

17th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(ASB Rite A)

3pm Junior Church

Nativity Play

6.30pm Carol Service

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

24th:

8am Holy Communion

4pm Christingle Service

11.30pm Midnight Eucharist

(The Vicar)

No Service

11.30pm Midnight

Eucharist

(Canon F Bull)

31st:

9.30am The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)

6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

7th January:

11am Family Service
(Mrs Patricia Pollard)

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

● Following the 9.30am Eucharist at Bridge on the second Sunday of each month coffee and biscuits are served at the back of the church. Donations will be gratefully received for the Church Urban Fund.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 3rd, Miss Joan Charlesworth 10th, Holy Communion, The Revd Sheila Foreman 17th, Mr Leslie Dron 24th, The Revd John Turner 31st, The Revd Sheila Foreman

Junior Church meets every Sunday morning from 9.30 to 10.30am in Bridge Village Hall, except the first Sunday when the Family Service is held.

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge each Wednesday (BCP) at 9.30am and Friday (ASB Rite A) at 7.30am, though not during Christmas week, 27th and 29th. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 6th at 10.15am. The New Close service is each Wednesday at 2.30pm, and non-residents are always most welcome to share in this short informal act of worship. There won't, however, be services at The New Close on 13th or 27th.

For your diary and prayer list

2nd Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon, Founder of the Little Gidding Community,

1637

Christmas Sale at The New Close, 10 - 11.45am

3rd **First Sunday in Advent**

The Family Service is the usual Gift Service when families are asked to come with a Christmas present for a resident of The New Close. (*For details see below.*) At the same service we also hope to baptize the baby whose christening had to be postponed last month.

6th *St Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c326*

7th *St Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher of the Faith, 397*

Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm

Patricbourne with Bridge PCC meets this evening.

10th **Second Sunday in Advent**

13th Carol Evening at The New Close

Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am

14th *St John of the Cross, Mystic, Teacher of the Faith, 1591*

Magazine Distributors Meeting, The Vicarage, 2.30pm

Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm

17th **Third Sunday in Advent**

Junior Church will perform the Nativity Play in Bridge Church at 3pm

Bridge Carol Service is at 6.30pm.

22nd Patricbourne Carol Service is in St Mary's Church at 7pm

24th **Fourth Sunday in Advent : Christmas Eve**

There will be no 9am Communion at Patricbourne or 11am Matins at Bekesbourne. The usual 8am Communion at Bridge will be held and will mark the Fourth Sunday in Advent.

25th **CHRISTMAS DAY** (*See below for details of all Christmas Services.*)

26th **St Stephen the First Martyr**

27th **St John the Evangelist**

28th **Holy Innocents**

29th *St Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170*

31st **First Sunday after Christmas**



Christmas Worship

CHRISTMAS EVE

4pm Christingle Service with Prayers at the Crib.
(Bridge)

11.30pm Midnight Eucharist (Bridge & Bekesbourne)

CHRISTMAS DAY

8am Holy Communion (Bridge)

9.30am Holy Communion with Carols (Patricbourne)

10.30am The Eucharist (Bridge)

11am Carol Service (Bekesbourne)

■ If you are sick or housebound the vicar is most willing to bring Communion to your home from the reserved sacrament. Please get in touch if you would like to make your communion this Christmas.

*He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all!*



Christmas Gift Service

When preparing for the Family Gift Service on 3rd December you may be wondering what kind of present would be suitable for a resident of The New Close.

For either men or women toiletries are both acceptable and useful, also sweets or chocolates. Small ornaments or trinkets would doubtless please the ladies, as would stockings (but not tights, please).

Please wrap your gift and on the label leave the 'to' blank for the staff to fill in; obviously you should fill in the 'from'. The gifts are presented to the Officer in Charge, Mr Pearson during the service and afterwards are taken to the home and kept till Christmas morning. These gifts from our families are particularly needed at Christmas, especially since some residents without families may not otherwise get a present to open.

Children in the Way

About nineteen and a half centuries ago, when the Christian Church was very new, it acquired two nicknames from its non-Christian neighbours. One was 'the Pagans' and the other 'the Way'.

For Christians today it may come as a surprise that the label they habitually tack on to practitioners of other religions was at one time applied to them. Most of us, I fancy, would get decidedly hot under the collar were we to be described as pagans. We are, however, less likely to bridle at being called the people of the Way, which has rather a pleasant ring about it and fits in rather neatly with the Christian understanding of life as a pilgrimage to God.

'We are travelling home to God
In the way our fathers trod.'

* * *

How then would you respond to a report that bore the contentious title *Children in the Way*? There is such a report and it was recently discussed at a special series of house groups in Patricxbourne and Bridge. Perhaps you are confused by the fact that the report's title is capable of two interpretations. It can either mean that where the Church is concerned children are to be thought of as in the way, in the sense of being nuisances, or it can mean they are in the way just as the early Christians were said to be in the Way.

How churches approach a report entitled *Children in the Way* is likely to depend on their attitude towards children *vis-à-vis* the church. Whereas most congregations genuinely welcome children into their midst, there are those who can't disguise their feelings that children in church disturb the worship for the adults because they tend to wriggle and make a noise. Others will say they want children to come to church, yet won't alter a thing in order to cater for children's needs when they come.

Well, what should be the attitude of senior church members towards children where church life in general and church services in particular are concerned? For one thing, I'm sure we need to stop referring to children as the Church of the future, the up-and-comings so to speak; along with the adults they are the Church of the present.

* * *

Because a lot of thought and prayer went into it and it deserves a wider

audience I reprint here what the Patricbourne with Bridge house groups said in response to *Children in the Way*, with particular reference to the local situation.

1. It is important to see everyone as a member of the Church family; divisions between Junior and Senior Church are inappropriate.
2. Children should be involved more in all aspects of worship, as of right. The Eucharist is for young and old alike; each can benefit and each has something to offer. Junior choir members could read lessons and prepare and read some or all of the intercessions. Work prepared at Junior Church could be offered at the altar.
3. Seating children among the adults instead of all together would help to generate personal contacts and friendships between ages. (*Vicar: This has already been implemented at the Parish Communion to wide acclaim.*)
4. A more modern hymnbook, please! Services attended by children should have hymns all ages can enjoy.
5. Younger members of the Church should be asked to help plan Family Services.
6. To improve communications, notices should be given out at the end of the service and should include Junior Church activities.
7. More use to be made of Junior Church displays in Church.
8. More special services to be held, such as Rogation Sunday on a local farm. The special Christmas Nativity Play and Christingle Service organized by Junior Church are well attended.
9. We need more Church Family social life. The harvest supper and barn dances have been popular, but could we perhaps add a parish outing suitable for all ages?
10. Parish family events, such as quizzes or Experts' Question Time might be popular and could be extended across parish boundaries.
11. *Hearsay*, our group for youngsters over Junior Church age, meets twice monthly. Older church members should be encouraged to invite them to their homes and participate in their discussions.

Bridge Choir disbanded

The continuing problem of not being able to find a regular organist and choir-master at Bridge following the resignation of Martin Miles, together with the uncertainty of trying to find stand-in organists on a week-to-week basis made for a most unhappy situation where the surviving church choir members were concerned. Therefore it was decided that until such time as a full-time organist and choirmaster (the latter being a must for us) could be found, the only sensible if reluctant course of action was to disband the choir completely. I wrote to the members individually and all, whilst voicing their sadness, accepted it was the right thing to do in the circumstances.

This does not apply to the Junior Choir, which will continue to lead the singing at the Parish Communion and hopefully contribute to an otherwise purely congregational Carol Service on the evening of the 17th.

Confirmation Service 1st July 1990

Approximately ten young people have said they wish to be prepared for Confirmation next July, and to date one adult wishes to follow suit.

The children's preparation group has already begun but the adult one will start in the new year. With this last in mind I would like to make a final appeal to any adult who might be considering confirmation to get in touch with me before the end of the year. I suspect there could be one or two, but those concerned must of course make the initial move themselves. Don't be afraid to come forward; you won't be committing yourself to anything definite at this stage!

The service will as usual take place within the setting of the Eucharist and is at 11am on 1st July. It will be conducted by Bishop David Say, an assistant bishop in the diocese and formerly Bishop of Rochester.

* * *

HOLY BAPTISM was administered to **Charles Quintus James**, son of Giles and Ann Rooke, St Stephen's Cottage, Bridge in St Mary's Church, Patixbourne on the morning of Saturday, 28th October. The service was throughly ecumenical, being conducted jointly by Canon Jeremiah Cronin of St Thomas' Roman Catholic Church, Canterbury and the Vicar, using the Roman Catholic baptism service.

In St Peter's Church, Bridge during the Parish Communion on 19th November and in the presence of Junior as well as Senior Church, **James Robert Lloyd Hughes**, son of William and Dorothy, Beech Cottage, Beech Hill was baptized by his grandfather, the Revd Cedric Bradbury.

Thank you for your support

Hospital League of Friends (Bridge Branch)

The recent house to house collection for the League of Friends raised £609. We are very grateful to all who collected and those who gave so generously to help the local hospitals.

Maggie Field

Sarah Mummery

We would like to thank very much all our friends in the village for the great kindness shown to Sarah during her long stay at the Sea Bathing Hospital. We were overwhelmed by the wonderful support we received, and we are delighted to say that she is now well on the road to recovery. *Anne and Brian Mummery*

Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths

At the Coffee Morning at 4 Meadow Close on 19th October, £343 was raised and also £250 worth of Christmas cards were sold. I would like to thank everyone who made this possible.

Elizabeth Stewart

Autumn Fayre

Very grateful thanks to all who worked so very hard to make the Autumn Fayre the tremendous success it was, especially to Churchwarden Stephen Pike who 'chaired' the entire enterprise. Once again we have set a new record, the final figure being in the region of £1,100.

Articles continue on page 13

Bekesbourne Bowls and Social Club

The Short Mat Bowling Section meets every weekend in Bekesbourne Village Hall. Woods are available. New members welcome. Friday evenings at 7.30pm.

J. G.

Bridge Folk Dance Group

Our last two meetings before the winter break are on Thursdays 7th and 21st, December. The Christmas meeting is on 7th, when we are asked to bring a plate of food to add to the spread. Everyone welcome, with or without a partner, so please join us on those dates in Bridge Village Hall at 8pm. Enquiries, telephone 830285 or 830652.

J. H.

Are you an Open University Graduate?

Why not join the East Kent Branch of the association? A small number of AOUG members have met to try and support the development of the OU and to meet fellow graduates. Are you interested in a local group? If so, please contact me on 830514 and I can give you the latest information and put you in touch with the secretary. Looking forward to meeting new members!

Barbara Beinder

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Judith Dimond, Manager

Junior Church—*forthcoming attractions*

12th Carol singing. Songsters are asked to meet at Ann and Clive Medhurst's house, 1 Park View, Mill Lane at 6.30pm. When everyone is thoroughly hoarse there will be refreshments *chez Pikes*. Adults and children welcome, but please give numbers to Junior Church Leaders.

17th Nativity Play in Church at 3pm. Do come!

24th Christmas Eve Christingle Service with carols and prayers at the crib, in St Peter's Church, Bridge at 4pm.

On 5th January, instead of a Christmas Party (*Editor and Ugly Sister: After last year's pantomime(?) that's music to my ears.*) we are taking the children to *Mother Goose* at the Marlowe Theatre.

Hilary Pike

Customs in Bible Lands

A Babe Wrapped in Swaddling Clothes

With us, young babies are from their birth allowed the free use of their limbs. In the East they are bound hand and foot by swaddling bands into helpless mummy-like bundles. As soon as a child is born, it is washed, rubbed with salt, and then—its arms being laid by its side and its legs together—it is wound tightly round and round with cotton or linen bandages some four or five inches wide by five or six yards long. A band is even passed under the chin and round the forehead. It is in evident allusion to this that Ezekiel exclaims, "On the day you were born . . . you were not washed with water to cleanse you, nor

rubbed with salt, nor swathed with bands". (Ezekiel 16,4)

Jehovah answering Job 'out of the whirlwind', uses this custom as a familiar figure in the wonderfully bold and beautiful words which imply that the mighty ocean, in the sight of God, is as small and insignificant as a new-born babe. (Job 38,8-9).

“Who shut in the sea with doors,
when it burst forth from the womb;
when I made clouds its garment,
and thick darkness its swaddling bands?”

It is not generally known that this practice was formerly universal in our country, like countless other Eastern usages, and that it probably lingered everywhere till about the middle of the seventeenth century.

A swaddled, or swathed, that is, a 'closely bound' child, is a very picture of helpless weakness. This, doubtless, was the wondrous thought in the mind of the angel messenger when he said to the lowly shepherds, in announcing the birth in David's city of the Saviour Christ, "And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger". The coming of the Messiah and King, and the dawning of the long-looked-for golden age of glory and power, was to be known amongst men by the last degree of human weakness and humiliation.

A wondrous sight for all, was this of Heaven's mighty Lord lying as a poor peasant babe in the stable, amongst the cattle; speechless, unconscious, swaddled!

From 'Pictured in Palestine' by James Neil, written in 1891.

The swaddling bands would be loosened several times a day, and the baby rubbed in olive oil and dusted with crushed myrtle leaves.

THE OXEN

Christmas Eve, and twelve of the clock,

“Now they are all on their knees,”

An elder said as we sat in a flock

By the embers in hearthside ease.

We pictured the meek mild creatures where

They dwelt in their strawy pen,

Nor did it occur to one of us there

To doubt they were kneeling then.

So fair a fancy few would weave

In these years! Yet, I feel,

If someone said on Christmas Eve,

“Come; see the oxen kneel

“In the lowly barton by yonder coomb

Our childhood used to know,”

I should go with him in the gloom,

Hoping it might be so.

Thomas Hardy

Calling all Magazine distributors

The annual get-together will be on Thursday, 14th December at 2.30pm in the Vicarage, and I hope that as many as possible will attend. Could you please let Rosemary or me know whether or not you can come? I would also appreciate an up-to-date list of your 'round' in advance of the meeting, please.



The Birth of Christ *A comment on the Christmas Story*

St Luke wastes no words in recording the birth of the Redeemer. With superb simplicity he tells us of the enforced journey of Joseph and Mary from Nazareth to Bethlehem, the little town from which David had originally come, the place to which Joseph and his family really belonged. But Mary's time came upon them; and while they were living there, in strange lodgings, she 'brought forth her first-born son'. The khan or hospice where they had hoped to find shelter was full, so the Light of the World first saw the light of the sun in some outhouse among the straw and litter of the beasts. Christ's first home on earth was a very makeshift affair. We can only hope that, for his mother's sake, if not for his own, it was not as sordid as it sounds.

And yet, could any place be sordid that contained the incarnate Son? Dignity depends not on the comforts and amenities of life but on the spirit of man and the grace of God which can turn even a byre into the court of heaven, and a manger into a throne. It is we who make Christmas sordid by our secularization and commercialism, our over-eating and over-drinking, our selfish little children with their expensive, unwanted toys, and our old men in paper caps pouring themselves out just one more whisky-and-soda to celebrate Christmas.

Bethlehem is the symbol of the divine condescension, of the love of God so deep that 'he gave his only-begotten son to the end that all that believe in him should not perish but have everlasting life'. It is the first stage in man's redemption, the putting-on by Christ of his working garments, the throwing down of the challenge to all that is false and evil in the world. As such it fills our hearts with joy and thanksgiving unspeakable. But it is also a symbol of man's rejection of God, of man's lethargy and indifference. When Christ first came among us we pushed him into an outhouse; and we have done our best to keep him there ever since . . . We know only too well that the coming of Christ means the upsetting of our comfortable little lives, and we don't want that to happen. And that is why, beyond Bethlehem, we can already just discern 'the hill shaped like a skull'. The manger is the prelude to the cross.

From 'The Path to Glory' by JRH Moorman



Bridge Parish Council

Because of the talk by Mr Bob Ogley at 8.00pm, the meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday, 9th November was only able to consider fairly urgent business.

Slide out of action Please note that the slide in the children's play area is out of action until further notice. The liner at the top has lifted slightly and is likely to tear children's clothing if they attempt to use the slide. A chain and warning notice have been put at the bottom of the steps. The Council have already been in touch with Wicksteed, the manufacturer of playground equipment, to see about its repair.

Your active Councillors! Cllr Reg Franklin has refurbished the seat and litterbins in Green Court and is to see if he can repair the seat by the play area which is now missing three slats. Cllr Mrs Billie Anderson represented the Council at the recent AGM of the Kent Association of Parish Councils at Ditton. She and Cllr Ken Greenaway have attended to the ties and stakes for the young trees in the Recr-

eration Ground whilst Cllr Greenaway has also carried out minor repairs to one of the gates there. A group of Councillors were to plant bulbs on the grass verge at the corner of Conyngham Lane on the Saturday following the meeting.

New litterbin The Council are intending to place the new litterbin, won in the 'Best Kept Village' Competition, at the corner of Conyngham lane.

Still all quiet on the planning front For the second month running, there have been no new planning applications received. Planning permission has been granted by the City Council for an extension to garage and formation of pitched roof over existing garage at 73 Bridge Down and for a two-storey side extension to 'Fairwinds', 8 Conyngham Lane.

Village Hall Cleaning Cllr Mrs Ann King reported that a small team consisting of users of the Village Hall had offered their services to clean the Village Hall on a rota system. The Council would like to thank all the ladies concerned.

The next meeting of the Parish Council, on Thursday, 14th December in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall, will again commence at the earlier time of 7.00pm.

K A Walder, Clerk

'Fish' News



On 16th October Luncheon Club members had a celebration luncheon to mark the club's ninth birthday. They have asked me to send their thanks to the catering staff for this treat and for all the other delicious lunches they provide throughout the year in spite of staff shortages. We are grateful for the kindness and hospitality that the care staff show to us and the residents for allowing us to share their home.

* * *

Our Christmas Dinner will be on 11th December, a week early this year to enable our members to leave in good time for the school entertainment on 18th December. Their first meeting after Christmas will be on 8th January.

* * *

The Christmas Coffee Pop-In will be in Bridge Village Hall on Wednesday, 13th December from 10.15 to 11.45am. There is no Tea Pop-In this month.

Joan Warren, 830233

St Peter's Bekesbourne Cleaning and Flowers

As usual there are no flowers in church during Advent, which means most of the Sundays of December. All hands are welcome, however, at 10.30am on 23rd to get ready for Christmas.

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

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Hon Treasurer: Mr K. Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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Captain of the Bells: Mr D. Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne CT4 5HA (830659)

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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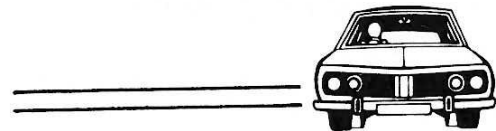
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