

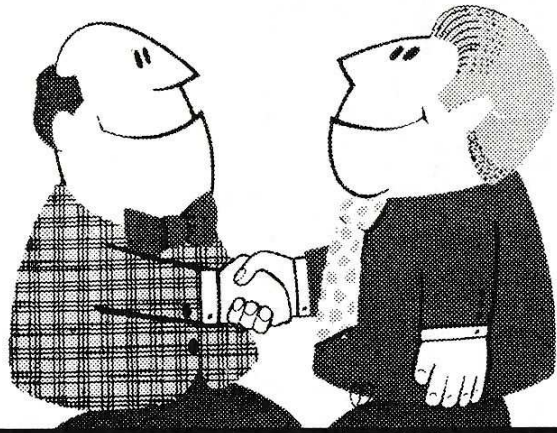
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Sunday Worship in January

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
6th: 11am Family Eucharist at the start of the Decade of Evangelism 3.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion
13th: 9.30 The Eucharist (ASB Rite A) 3.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
20th: 9.30 Parish Communion (ASB Rite A) 3.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am Matins
27th: 8am Holy Communion 3.30pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion	11am Matins
3rd February: 11am Family Service 3.30 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 to help our sister parish of Bekesbourne reach its Church Urban Fund target.*

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 6th, Mr R O'Mahony 13th, *Covenant Service*, The Revd Sheila Foreman 20th, Dr Christine Pilkington 27th, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Raymond Goodburn.

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge only on Friday mornings at 7.30, the Wednesday morning celebrations being suspended until Ash Wednesday. 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

- 1st *Naming of Jesus* or *Circumcision of Christ*
- 3rd Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, The Village Hall, 8pm
- 5th *Blue Peter* Bring & Buy Sale, Bridge Village Hall, 11am to 3pm
- 6th *Epiphany of Our Lord*

This month's Family Service will be a Eucharist, it being the major festival on which the Church remembers the coming of the Wise Men to the infant Jesus. During the service we shall also mark the launch today of the Decade of Evangelism, when those present will be asked to make an act of Christian commitment. See below for further details.

- 9th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
 10th Bekesbourne PCC meets this evening in School House at 8 o'clock. Every member should make a point of attending this important meeting. Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
 13th *First Sunday after Epiphany*
 15th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
 17th *St Antony of Egypt, Abbot, 356*
 Confirmation Starter Meeting, The Vicarage, 6pm
 Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
 Bridge Folk Dance Group, The Village Hall, 8pm
 18th Week of Prayer for Christian Unity until 25th
 Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Bridge Methodist Church, 8pm
 20th *Second Sunday after Epiphany*
 21st *St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr, 304*
 24th *St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Teacher, 1622*
 United Service, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm. Preacher: the Vicar.
 Refreshments afterwards in the Methodist Church.
 25th *Conversion of St Paul*
 26th *Timothy and Titus, Companions of St Paul*
 27th *Septuagesima : 9 before Easter*
 28th *St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Teacher, 1274*
 30th Bridge and Patricxbourne School Governors meet.

Rosemary and Raymond Gilbert are most grateful for the many cards and seasonal greetings from parishioners, and for expressions of love and support at other times of the year.

Happy new Decade!

In wishing you much happiness and abundant blessings for the new year I am conscious of the fact that the 1st January 1991 also launches us into a new decade, and that it's the last one this century. In church circles we are urged to make the most of it by treating it as a Decade of Evangelism, when that topic is brought well to the fore.

* * *

What this will entail has still to be worked out but should be approached both collectively and individually; for evangelism, *i.e.* spreading the good news of Jesus and his love, is an activity involving each local Church community and each member within it. So all who belong to the Church in our three parishes are being encouraged to step up the quality, not to say the quantity of their evangelism.

In case the prospect worries you, be assured you're not going to be asked for example, to hand out religious tracts in Bridge High Street or attend Billy Graham-type rallies or indeed engage in any of those extrovert activities popularly associated with religious revival. But before you settle back comfortably and say, "Bet you it won't make any difference" or "I'll give it six months at the outside", let me remind you there's a very large grey area separating holy junkettings from the status quo. By my reckoning we've got to pitch our new resolve somewhere between the extremes of complete inactivity and going overboard.

* * *

The precise plan of campaign for the Decade of Evangelism will vary from church to church and person to person. For now we are asked to declare our readiness to step up this side of our Christian witness as seems appropriate, bearing in mind ten years is a very long time to keep up the momentum. Whatever course we eventually take let it remain within our capabilities. Initially I beg you to join the congregation in Bridge Church on 6th January for the Epiphany Family Eucharist because during it we shall pledge ourselves to greater evangelistic effort in the year ahead with an eye to the ensuing decade. See you there!

Family News

On Saturday, 24th November in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne the baptism took place of **Rosemary Jane**, second daughter of Paul and Patricia Kusel, 'Simla', Aerodrome Road.

A week later, on 1st December, Bridge Church was the venue for the wedding of **Mary Fowler**, River House, High Street to **Clive Relf**, New Dover Road, Canterbury. The beautiful autumnal decorations produced for the occasion by Mary's sister stayed in place throughout Advent and formed the basis of the Christmas decorations. We wish Mary and Clive every happiness in a long life together.

* * *

Bekesbourne Christmas Market, jointly run by the Church and Brownies on 1st December, more than lived up to expectations and a record total of £416 was reached, for which well-done and grateful thanks, whichever side of the stalls you were on. Did you see the super photo in the *Kentish Gazette*?

Not before time!

Plans are afoot to raise money for the redecoration of Bridge Church. A special PCC sub-committee under the chairmanship of organist Arnold Wills is being set up to promote what will be called PROJECT 91. As a starter Alicia Pentin suggests a potential money-spinner.

Are there any parishioners who would like to have Dutch or Belgian people to stay? If you have a spare room and could have one or two people to stay for a holiday in your home please contact me (830278 or 470004) or Kath Pierce (830844).

You will be paid £75 per person per week for bed, breakfast and evening meal (£150 for two people). The guests will be charged double that amount and the surplus money goes towards PROJECT 91. It's a worthwhile project that could raise a great deal of money.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Junior Church 'Blue Peter' Bring & Buy Sale

The *Blue Peter* Bring & Buy Sale is on Saturday, 5th January in Bridge Village Hall from 11am to 3pm. We will be serving morning coffee and ploughman's lunches, as well as all the usual stalls. If you would like Junior Church to collect any items please phone Katie on 830708 or James on 830942. We look forward to seeing you!

James Hopkins

Friends of The New Close

On behalf of the residents and Friends of The New Close, I would like to thank the people who so generously supported the Coffee Morning on 8th December. The sum raised was £180.

O.I.K.

Bridge Folk Dance Group

Weather permitting the Bridge Folk Dance Group will continue meeting throughout the winter in the Village Hall on the first and third Thursdays. Our caller is still the ever-patient Alf Matthews. New dancers, with or without experience, will be made very welcome on 3rd and 17th January at 8 o'clock. Enquiries please ring 830285 or 830652.

Joyce Hopkins

Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 15th January at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. The speaker will be Alicia Pentin, her subject *Becoming a Magistrate*. Competition: knitted baby's jacket. These jackets will subsequently be sent to Romania. All welcome to attend!

Pat Hulyer

The Samaritans

Rather belatedly, I should like to thank all those who helped me to raise £172.50 on 15th November. This money will be used for the day-to-day running of the centre in Canterbury. During 1990 we have raised a total of £414.50! *Please* go on saving your used stamps — any kind — they are badly needed.

M.E.J.

The following New Year Message comes from Clive Barlow, our Rural Dean.

Grounds for Optimism

Do you find it odd that there is nothing more calculated to quicken desire and expectancy in Christians than the news of what God has done or is doing elsewhere? The religious press thrives on it and most sermons rely on it. Why is this? Might it be that every evidence of God's willingness to bless in some other place or situation should be for all of us a sign of hope! It could lead us to ask, "If God has done it there, may he not do it here also?"

Four particular things have brought this question into my mind. Firstly, a TV *Songs of Praise* from Taizé and a video of Taizé which I watched recently. Secondly, the time we spent at Deanery Synod meetings during 1990 sharing 'news from the parishes'. People spoke with enthusiasm and concern about many things — efforts for The Church Urban Fund — involvement in S.P.A.N. groups — the experience of an inspired act of worship — help received through the Healing Ministry — all affirmed their belief that God is at work. "I work and who can hinder it?" (Isaiah 43.13 RSV). Thirdly, reading the Parish magazines I receive each month which evidence how clergy and laity together seek to make the churches of our deanery centres of Christian worship and activity where people of all ages are enabled to to grow in faith, experience and witness; relate to each other; welcome visitors and newcomers, and catch a glimpse of God's Kingdom as they commit themselves to the coming of His Kingdom. Fourthly, a review of a book written by our Archbishop-designate. Bishop George Carey has written a number of books, but one which has given many people grounds for optimism is *The Church in the Market Place*. It tells

the story of his seven years as vicar of St Nicholas', Durham. When he arrived there it was run down; its congregation lacked vision or any real sense of mission; and its buildings were decayed and out of date. The book describes how, under George Carey's leadership the congregation began to pray together, how worship became attractive (with weekly Family Services) despite some opposition from older members; how house groups started, and how eventually, after one false start before the congregation was ready, a radical re-ordering of the church created a multi-purpose building which was inviting to new worshippers and equipped to serve the community around it.

News of stirrings of the Spirit, or even outpourings of the Spirit is a means God commonly uses to foster a spirit of expectancy. George Cary's book has come to have a value unthought of when it was first published in 1984. It gives something of the personal life-story of faith and renewal in the Holy Spirit of the incoming Archbishop of Canterbury and it recounts how, in utter dependence on God, he tackled — and expects others to tackle — the everyday problems and opportunities of parish life.

As I look forward to visiting all the parishes of our deanery during 1991, the combination of these four things gives me a simple but I believe reasonable ground for optimism as we enter upon a New Year and begin in earnest *The Decade of Evangelism*.

“If God has done it there, may he not do it here also?”

Urgent cry for help

Hear Say, the group of young church teenagers that Andrea Nicholson leads with tremendous enthusiasm and care, is fast out-growing itself as new members clamour to join. This means it will no longer be possible for them to meet in people's houses or for Andrea to superintend the large number of potential recruits. As a consequence this most valuable church activity may well founder unless (a) another venue can be found, and (b) someone else comes forward who is prepared to oversee a separate *Hear Say* group.

Our dear friends in the Methodist Church have recently solved the first of our problems by putting their premises in Patricxbourne Road at our disposal, but the second problem remains. Can someone out there please help, so that this important aspect of the church's work in these parishes can go forward? Truly it's not an arduous task — Andrea I know derives great personal satisfaction from it — so whoever you are GIVE IT SERIOUS THOUGHT, RING ANDREA FOR ADVICE (830947) and if you think you would like to help DON'T BE BACKWARD AT COMING FORWARD. Andrea would love to hear from you!

A Delhi-Bridge Link

For several years now Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC has been sponsoring the education of an Indian boy called Rakesh Kumar through the Child Care Programme of the Delhi Brotherhood Society (also called the religious Community of the Ascended Christ). Last autumn Douglas Hill, as our former Hon Treasurer, received the following letter from Rakesh Kumar, whose average marks of 61% show him to be doing very well at Deenabandhu School. The subjects he studies include English, Hindi, Maths, Science, Drawing and

Continued on page 13

Sanskrit. The translation of his letter was provided by Fr Monodeep Daniel of the Community.

Dear Uncle, Greetings to you. I am very well and hope the same. Uncle I have passed my VIth standard annual examination and now I am studying in VIIth standard. During the summer vacations I went to my home town and I have enjoyed my summer vacations there. Many many thanks to you for all your help for my schooling. I will try to do my best for my studies. Thanking you. Your loving child, Rakesh Kumar.

The Witnesses

A review by John Packer

Those of you who were unable to be in Bridge Church on Tuesday evening, 4th December missed a most moving recital of part of *The Witnesses*, an extended poem by Clive Sanson. Following the tradition of Robert Speaight and Sybil Thorndike, the four Readers, Thea and William Carr, Raymond Gilbert and Catherine Pike, gave of their utmost to a lively and sympathetic interpretation of that part of Sanson's poem that they had chosen for us. Their selection covered the birth of Jesus, his life and work and the final scene, as portrayed through the words of biblical characters. The selection developed a telling and sometime delightfully humorous balance between, for example, Andrew with his 'Galilean' accent and Matthew, the businessman; the sisters Martha and Mary of Bethany; the cunning diplomacy of Herod Antipas and the fury of the Madman of Gergesa. It was a joy to have Catherine's presentation of a Child in its simplicity centrally among the adult contributions.

All the readers battled with the acoustics with skill and determination — a difficult challenge in Bridge Church. I thought the music served more as a cover for a scene change than as a contribution to the Recital, but not obtrusively. The set was rightly simple, well supporting the readers, though I felt their comings and goings into the side aisles might have been curtailed. But these were minor blemishes in what was a sharp-edged, incisive portrayal of the Gospel. I, for one, left almost in haste, to find a place of silence to meditate upon this inspired 'Witness'.

A repeat performance of *The Witnesses* is being considered, this time in Bekesbourne Church and on behalf of Bekesbourne Church funds. Watch this space!

Deeds of Covenant

Abolition of the Composite Rate Tax under the 1990 Finance Act from 6th April 1991, as it applies to financial institutions such as Building Societies and Banks.

The Composite Rate Tax will be abolished from 6th April 1991, and the special tax arrangements enjoyed under the terms of Deeds of Covenant will then cease.

From 6th April individuals who can certify that they are not liable to tax may arrange to receive their interest without deductions of tax from the Building Society or Bank; otherwise income tax at the basic rate will be deducted. Where, however, income tax is deducted from such interest, it may be reclaimed from the Inland Revenue by individuals who are liable to tax.

I have been asked to outline the above taxation change in the event that there may be instances of individuals, e.g. married women, who have entered into a Deed of Covenant, the income sources of which are covered purely by an investment governed by the current Composite Rate Tax, there being no other source of taxable income. If these persons should elect to receive their interest without deduction of tax (as referred to above) then the PCC could not recover income tax from the Inland Revenue unless the individual made a separate payment. Under these circumstances you would need to terminate the Deed of Covenant and inform me. It would not stop you continuing to give but the PCC would no longer be able to recover any income tax.

Should you wish to receive more detailed guidance on the operation of this taxation change in relation to your own situation, I am informed by Mrs C W E Bass, the Diocesan Covenant Secretary at Diocesan House, Canterbury (Tel: 459401) that she will be happy to discuss the situation with you. Alternatively, if I can assist you, I will be willing to do so.

Douglas R Hill, Parish Covenant Officer

Confirmation 1991

Confirmation is a moment of decision — in fact, two decisions. The first is that you wish to be confirmed. The second and main one is that you give your life to Christ.

The first decision, if you live in Bridge, Patricxbourne or Bekesbourne, I would encourage you (*you* — not your parents) to make in the next week or two: the second is made at the Confirmation Service. Decision one leads to you joining a confirmation preparation group which aims to do two things; teach you the faith and prepare you for decision two.

As we had a Confirmation at Bridge last year we are going outside for the next one, to St Mary's Church, Wingham. The date is Sunday, 8th September (Wingham's Patronal Festival) for a 10am service.

Young people, at least twelve years old, are asked to come to a short starter meeting at the Vicarage on **Thursday, 17th January at 6 o'clock**. If you can't make it give me a call and I'll keep you posted.

I should be delighted to hear from any adults contemplating confirmation and for whom separate arrangements will be made. A maturer confirmation group is particularly stimulating for those concerned and it would be splendid if another could be formed. Potential candidates please get in touch with me at any time.

One night I had a dream . . .

I was walking along the beach with the Lord, and across the skies flashed scenes from my life. In each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand and, to my surprise, I noticed that many times along the path of my life there was only one set of footprints. And I noticed that it was the lowest and saddest times in my life. I asked the Lord about it: "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way. But I notice that during the most troublesome times in my life there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why you left my side when I needed you most". The Lord said, "My precious child, I never left you during your time of trial. Where you see

only one set of footprints, I was carrying you”.

Source unknown



Kings in Glory

Three kings in great glory of horses and men,
In haste come a-riding o'er mountain and fen;
For their King is a-waiting, and lo! they would bring
The best of their treasure to give to their King

Come monarchs, and enter, your Monarch is here,
Doff crowns, on the bare sod fall down and revere;
For the best you can offer is little, I trow,
To the Lord God of Heaven you're a-kneeling now.

Selwyn Image

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The parish Council's last meeting of 1990 was on Thursday, 13th December when an important item considered was the budget for the next financial year.

Well-earned thanks The Chairman, Cllr John Hill, thanked Cllr Reg. Franklin for refurbishing the remaining seats in the village and for attending meetings organised by the City Council in connection with his appointment as Community Advisor. It was decided that Cllr Franklin should address the next meeting on the subject of *Emergency Planning* in order that the Councillors can discuss the principles involved as well as consider the responsibilities and ramifications for Parish Councils of such a set up. Thanks also went to Cllr Mrs Billie Anderson for tending the bark around the swings.

Matters for investigation Cllr Mrs Margaret Jones as a member of the Streets, Footways and Lighting Committee is to look into a request received on behalf of the residents of Mansfield Court for a street lamp in Bifrons Path. The Recreation Ground Committee are to assess the relative costs of repairing and replacing the swings. Following a report by Cllr Mrs Jones of signs of deterioration in the bridge at the junction of Riverside Close with Patixbourne Road, the Clerk is to ask the County Council's Highways Department to investigate the matter.

Keeping a weather eye on the village The overgrown footpath in Town Hill has again been reported to the County Council who are also to be informed of the need for the drains, part-

icularly the one in Western Avenue opposite Green Court to be cleared.

Planning The Council had made suggestions for minor improvements to two applications for planning permission received, the first being for a two-storey rear and side extension to 17 Union Road, and the second for an extension to the

Cold Cellar at the White Horse. Planning permission has been granted for a single-storey rear and side extension to 20 Bridge Down.

The Council next meet early in the New Year on Thursday 10th January at the normal time of 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K A Walder, Clerk

Fish News

We were all saddened to hear of the death of Jim Lockley. Jim was a regular driver for the Luncheon Club and will be remembered by many elderly people for his patience, kindness and good humour. Our sympathy goes to his wife Marie, who supported him with cheerfulness, loving care and great courage during his distressing illness. The generous help and support given to her by many friends and neighbours were invaluable to her and the children.

* * *

Because The New Close kitchen was closed for redecoration, we were faced with two Mondays without a Luncheon Club meeting. However, we were able to provide a meal in the Village Hall for one of the days — an exercise which made us appreciate the contribution Mary and Jean make to the Luncheon Club. Christmas Dinner will be on 17th December, after which the Club closes until 7th January.

* * *

The Christmas Coffee Pop-In on 12th December was well attended and the mince pies made by Ann Medhurst were much appreciated. The next Pop-In is in Bridge Village Hall on Wednesday, 9th.

* * *

The Mobile Chiropody Clinic will be at The New Close from Monday, 7th until Friday, 11th January.

Joan Warren, 830233

Bekesbourne Church **Cleaning & Flower Rota**

5th, Mesdames Ash and Farbrace (Clear Christmas decorations) 19th, Mrs Fry

Bridge Church Flower Arrangers

The number of years Mrs Joyce Hunter has superintended the flower arranging at Bridge is surely lost in the mists of time: it's certainly been a long stint. Sadly, she feels it's time to hand on to someone 'younger' (her word). Let me therefore, on everyone's behalf, express the deep debt of gratitude we all owe Mrs Hunter for such long and diligent service. It's been a great achievement, and many generations of Bridge worshippers have admired and been uplifted by the inspired artistry of Mrs Hunter and her helpers — not, I trust, that they also are giving up.

Mrs Hunter has got her wish and someone younger, in the person of Mrs Vivienne Brasier, has kindly agreed to be in charge of church flowers at Bridge from now on. Initially Viv has drawn up a rote for this month only. Then, before going further, she is hosting a gathering of the present flower arrangers, plus any who would like to join them, to meet and talk over future

strategy. So, if you are already on the flower rota or would like to be included (and please don't be shy about coming forward — it's not a closed shop) please pop along to the meeting at Viv's home, The Archway, Conyngham Lane (it's the bungalow to the right of the Police houses) on Friday, 11th January at 8pm. If you can't make the meeting and would like to be included, or just want to discuss your chances, give Viv a call on 830981. New arrangers are particularly sought after, and if anyone feels in need of a few tips in the gently art of flower arranging Viv will be only too willing to oblige. Over to you!

Vicar: The Revd Raymond Gilbert, A.K.C., 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 T. J. Flisher, 52 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830871)

Hon Treasurer: Mr K. Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr A. Wills, 10 Brooklands Close, Fordwich, Canterbury CT2 0BT (711278)

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

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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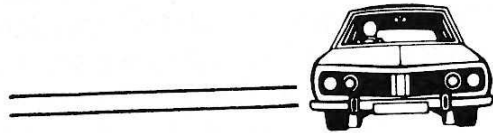
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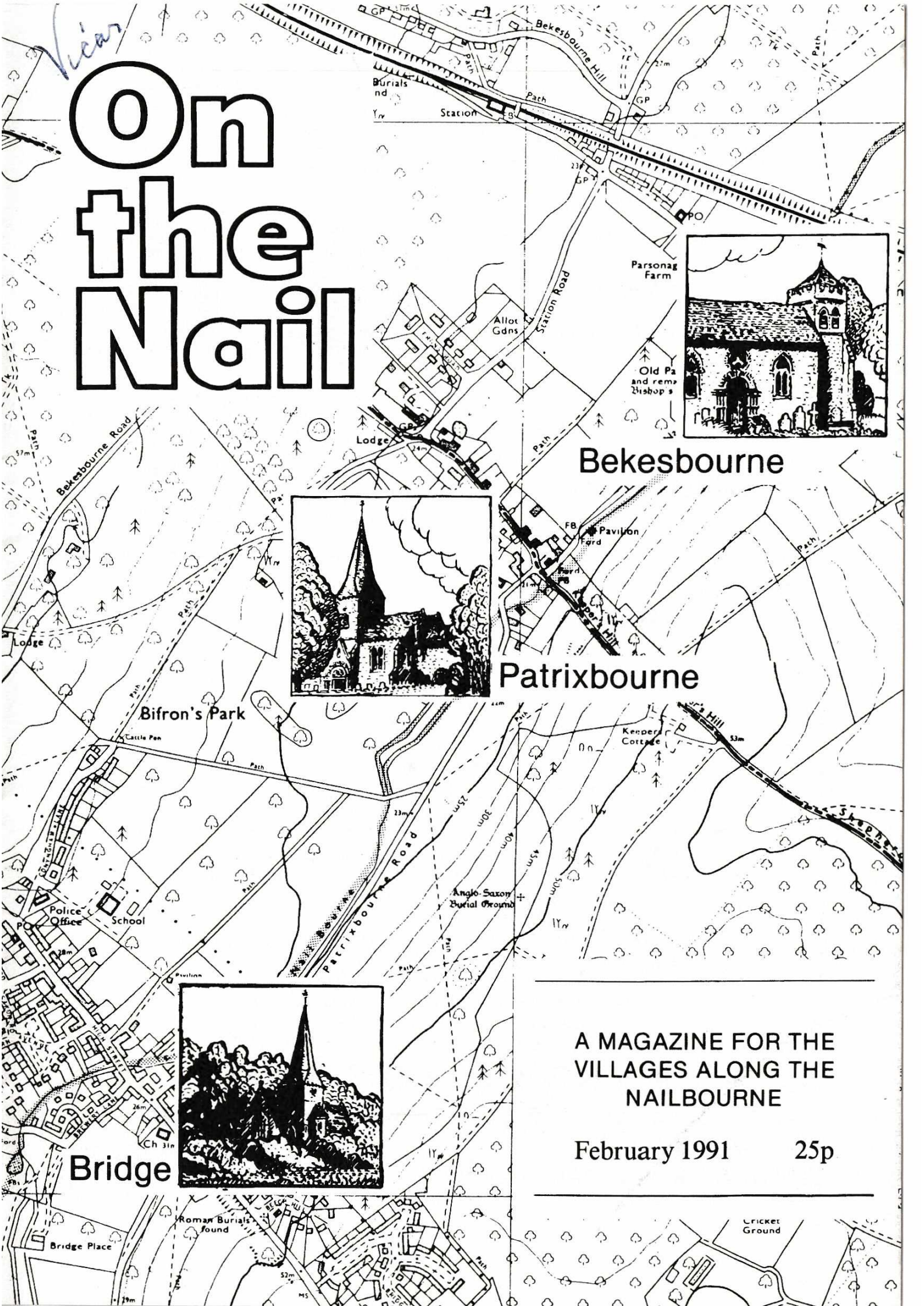
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Nail

On the Nail



Bekebourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE
VILLAGES ALONG THE
NAILBOURNE

February 1991 25p

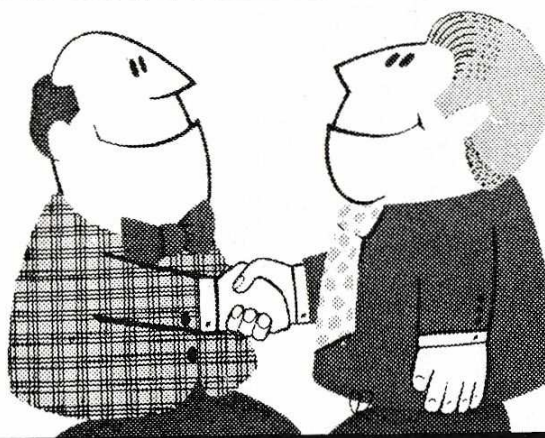
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Sunday Worship in February

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
3rd: 11am Family Service 3.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion
10th: 9.30 The Eucharist (<i>ASB Rite A</i>) 3.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
17th: 9.30 Parish Communion (<i>ASB Rite A</i>) 3.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am Matins
24th: 8am Holy Communion 3.30pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion	11am Matins
3rd March: 11am Family Service 3.30pm 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.*

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *3rd*, Mr Leslie Dron *10th*, Mrs Rita Maxwell *17th*, Mr Stanley Kentish *24th*, Dr John Rogers

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am except 6th, and Friday mornings (*Rite A*) at 7.30. 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 *Presentation of Christ in the Temple*
- 3rd *Sexagesima Sunday : 8 before Easter*
- 5th Pray for East Bridge Deanery Synod which meets this evening at Littlebourne. Our lay representatives are Evelyn Andrews, Sheila Fenn and Kath Pierce (*Patricxbourne with Bridge*) and John Purchase (*Bekesbourne*).
- 6th Queen's Accession, 1952
- 7th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, The Village Hall, 8pm
Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC, The Methodist Church, 7.45pm
- 10th *Quinquagesima Sunday : 7 before Easter*
- 11th Nailbourne Ladies meet in the Hunter Room, 8pm (Topic — Speaker from the Samaritans)
- 12th Nailbourne Horticultural Society AGM, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm

- 13th *Ash Wednesday* 9.30 Wednesday morning celebrations of the Holy Communion in Bridge Church recommence.
- 14th Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 17th *First Sunday in Lent*
- 19th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21st Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, The Village Hall, 8pm
- 22nd 'Teddy Relief' Jumble Sale, 2 St Mary's Road, Patricxbourne, 2 - 4pm
- 23rd *St Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c155*
- 24th *Second Sunday in Lent*

Christ of the present hour

It's amazing when you think about it, but fundamental as he is to the Christian faith we know very little about Jesus the man. He lived on this earth for no more than thirty-three years yet all we are told about him is condensed into a little over three years. We are given a certain amount of information about his birth and infancy, one aspect of which we celebrate each 2nd February (see diary above), a glimpse at the twelve year old Jesus, when in Jewish terms he became a man; then nothing until the three years of his teaching and healing ministry.

The hidden years of Jesus' life far outweigh the rest, yet the gospels (our sole source of information on the earthly Jesus) are utterly silent about them. What was he like as a boy? How did he occupy the bulk of his life? Did he follow in his earthly father's footsteps? Tradition, though strange as it may seem the gospels say nothing at all about it, has it that Joseph was a carpenter: that being so did Jesus also follow the trade, and if so, was he a good carpenter?

All these are tantalising questions and despite the best endeavours of some of our cleverest theologians (Albert Schweitzer among them) who vainly followed the quest of the historical Jesus, they remain unresolved. One of the more recent enquirers, Professor Joachim Jeremias, in a lecture to us students, had to concede defeat despite many years trying to build a composite picture of Jesus the Nazarene. He told us, "We must conclude we are not intended to know".

* * *

We still can't help asking, "Why the secrecy?", admitting how much we would love to know. The temptation is to castigate the evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, for not doing their job properly. If that's how we feel about it we need to understand that none of the four was actually out to write a biography of Jesus. Their writings are called gospels, not life-stories, for the specific purpose that their aim was to point the faithful not to Jesus of Nazareth, but to the Christ of God. The importance in writing the gospels is, as St John says at the end of his gospel, "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name" [John 20:31]

Perhaps the justification for this turning of attention off the human person of Jesus is reinforced in the much earlier writings, the new Testament epistles, or letters (Yes, they were written before the gospels even though they are put after in the new Testament). In the vast majority of cases the epistles speak of "Christ" and only rarely of "Jesus", which suggests that in the early church

it was faith in the risen Christ that dominated their lives rather than an attraction to the person of Jesus. It was the risen Lord around whom their lives revolved and whose presence was felt in the depths of their being. It was the risen Lord whose influence permeated their days and enabled them to witness for him in the world around them. So it is understandable that the name of Christ would be more frequently on their lips than Jesus. They thought of the living Christ of the present hour, who had replaced the sandal-shod figure of the dusty Palestine roads. Perhaps it would help our Christian discipleship along if we too looked beyond the historical Jesus to the Christ of God who is every bit as alive for us as he was with those first Christians. Forget the shady figure with the unfathomable history, and instead rejoice in serving the Lord of all life and power, that you too may have life in his name.

Seasonal delights

Two happenings at Christmas 1990 deserve mention before we pass to other things.

First, a word of appreciation from *The Children's Society* for the £68.50 donated from the Christingle Service. The service was a delight in itself and provided a wonderful start to Christmas, with thankfully no accidents while there was a large number of lighted christingles in church.

We had a very distinguished organist for the afternoon in the person of the internationally renowned harpsichordist and conductor Trevor Pinnock. Trevor, of local origin, is Christine Sladden's brother, and being home for Christmas readily agreed to play for the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve and the Eucharist on Christmas Day. His accomplished wife, Penny, plays the trumpet and they played together before and after both services.

Regular organist Arnold Wills wasn't idle over Christmas, however, and assembled a large body of singers for the Carol Service on 23rd December, for which his predecessor Martin Miles returned to play the organ. The carol selection was very varied and imaginative and thanks are also due to the lesson readers and to 'Sandy' and Lena Sanford who once again provided candles for everybody. A splendid service was enjoyed by a very large congregation.

Three choir members, Daniel Brasier, Katie Pike and Emma Medhurst, sang carols in Bridge High Street on Christmas Eve and raised £60 for the Church Choir. Well done!

As an appreciation of the youngsters who regularly make up the church choir at Bridge, the PCC stood treats, paying for a pantomime trip. As you'll see from Elizabeth Walder's vivid account of the evening Arnold Wills at any rate enjoyed himself.

On Tuesday, 8th January Bridge Choir were treated to a trip to the theatre after a McDonald's tea. Everybody tucked in to a good tea at McDonald's, which was quite funny because Mr Wills insisted on taking photos of Mr Pike with his party hat on and the McDonald's members of staff!

We were driven down to the theatre in two groups because it was pouring with rain and although everyone wanted to walk, the grown-ups (!!!) decided that we couldn't.

The Pantomime, Peter Pan, was really good and the pirates' dancing had us all rolling around in our seats laughing. Mr Wills seemed to like

Smee best and every time he came on or off the stage, Mr Wills screamed, shouted and clapped, so everyone was quite embarrassed to be with him! I'm sure his wife is glad she stayed at home!

We all had great fun. Thank you PCC!

Project 91: Bridge Church redecoration

The committee spearheading this enterprise is already hard at work, with discussions about to take place with the experts as to what materials to use and the feasibility of it as a DIY job.

We would like to express our thanks to three Bridge Schoolboys, David Walder, Adrian Coleman and Matthew Andrews, who played their brass instruments outside *Circle C* on the Saturday before Christmas and raised the fine sum of £45 for the redecoration project. They would like to thank everyone who gave so generously. A great effort, for which many thanks, lads!

On The Nail Noticeboard

Bridge Folk Dance Group

Weather permitting we will continue to meet this month on Thursdays, 7th and 21st in the Village Hall at 8 o'clock. New dancers are very welcome to join us and learn more 'easy little dances' with Alf Matthews. Enquirers please ring 830285 or 830652.

J. H.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

The Society's AGM will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 12th February in Bridge Village Hall. All members are urged to attend and participate in the election of the committee to ensure continuity of the society. The meeting will be followed by an entertaining talk from Mrs Rumbold on her experiences in the Land Army.

It is regretted that the supper dance scheduled for Saturday, 16th February has been cancelled due to the band being double-booked. *R. Dasan, Secretary*

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19th in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Mrs M Douglass; her subject *The Holy Land*. Competition — a bookmark for a Bible.

P. H.

Help — Teddy Relief

Megan Pritchard and Kim Atkins are holding a JUMBLE SALE at 2 St Mary's Road, Patrixbourne on Friday, 22nd February from 2 to 4pm. Food will be provided. We hope to see you then! Thank you for your kindness!

Megan and Kim

Bishopsbourne Parish Council

Bishopsbourne Parish Council are looking for a new clerk; a public spirited person who has an interest in the welfare of the parish. There are meetings every two months and at the moment there is a salary of £150 per annum. Please get in touch with Mr Webster, 830877.

D. K. Reid, Clerk

Bridge Parish Council

FOR SALE: Bridge Parish Council has a large agricultural-type roller for sale. Anyone interested should contact the Chairman, Cllr John Hill on 830215.

K. A. Walder, Clerk

* * *

Marie Lockley writes:

May I, through *On The Nail*, take this opportunity of saying a heartfelt 'thank-you' to the residents of Bridge for their wonderful kindness to us during Jim's illness. To those who took Jim for his treatment, cared for Emma and Christopher in my absence and allowed me to spend those last few precious hours with Jim, thank you so much.

* * *

We record the passing of **Leonard Kennett** in The New Close on 16th February. Apart from war service in North Africa Len, who never married, spent all his life in Bridge, for over forty years living with his surviving elder brother Charles. The vicar officiated at a cremation service at Barham Crematorium on Friday, 25th February.

Women's World Day of Prayer 1st March

This annual event takes place each year on an internationally-agreed date and is marked by an act of worship, the format of which is drawn up by women in one part of the world for use everywhere else. As usual the WWDP will be observed in St Peter's Church, Bridge on 1st March at 2.30pm, the speaker this year being Margaret Pawley, whose late husband was our Archdeacon at the time of my licensing to the parish.

This year's service, entitled *On The Journey Together*, was written by women of Kenya and contains the following background notes which you may find interesting and informative:

Straddling the Equator, in East Africa, Kenya is a land of great diversity. The humid coastal strip skirts the green, cool highlands, culminating in snow-capped Mount Kenya. Kenya gained its independence from Britain in 1963, and is now a multi-racial republic. The majority of inhabitants are African from forty-one different ethnic groups, living mostly in rural homelands.

There are also Europeans and Asians, Kiswahili and English are the official languages, but there are more than seventy indigenous languages.

Agriculture and tourism are two important industries. The government is trying to combat high unemployment by encouraging technical and vocational education and creating new industries. Nairobi, the capital city, has a well known international Conference Centre. Mombasa on the coast is a long established port.

Christianity predominates

The majority of Kenyans are Christians, though there are still traditional African religions, and Islam and Eastern faiths. Besides the main Christian traditions, there are very many others known as the African

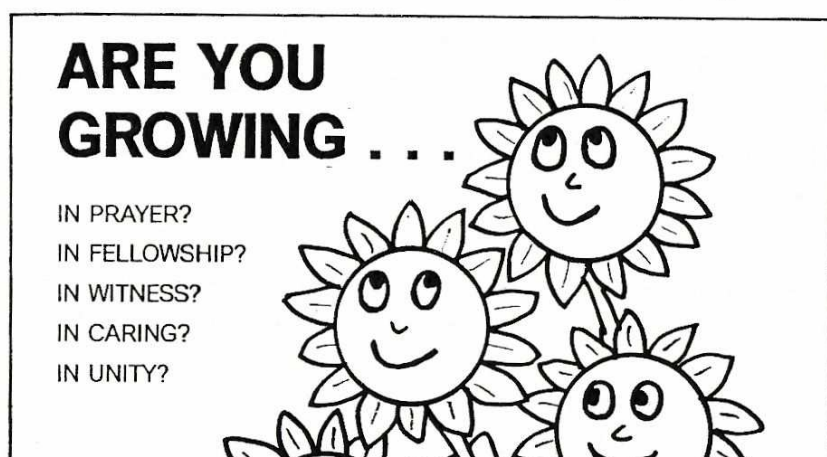
Continued on page 13

Independent/Indigenous Churches. The church in Kenya has always been deeply involved in educational, health and social issues. The different denominations often work and worship together.

Women in Kenya

Women are active in all sectors of Kenyan life. However, in rural areas particularly, opportunities for employment and training are few. Thousands of self-help groups throughout the country encourage women to realise their potential in all areas of their lives. They are beginning to be allowed more opportunities for leadership in some churches. A few have been ordained into the pastoral ministry.

As in all developing countries, the rapid growth in population is putting a great strain on the country's resources. However, the people of Kenya are following their motto "Harambee" which literally means "pulling together" in order to build a better future for their country.

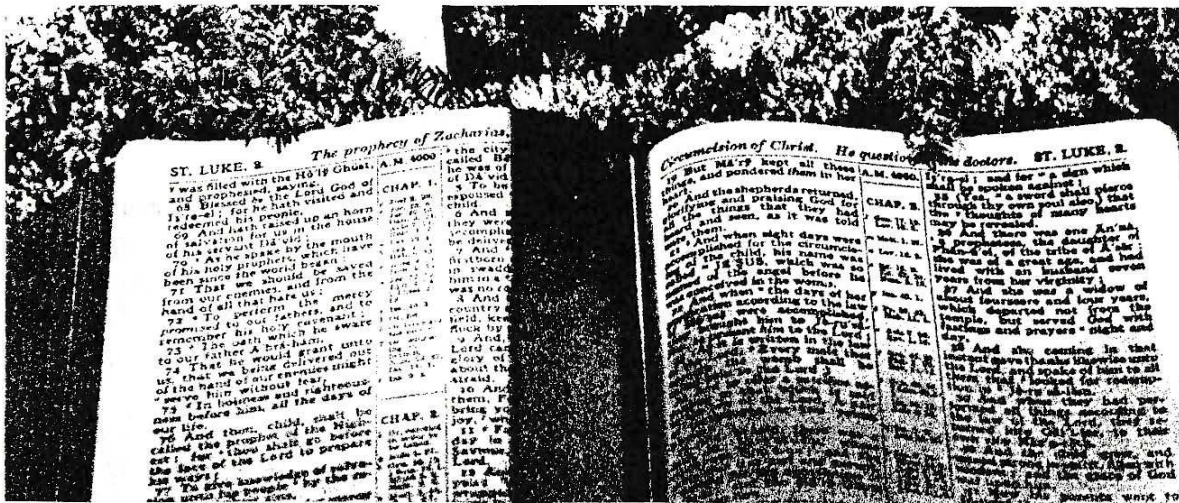


BBC Radio Kent Lent Course

This year's theme is **ARE YOU GROWING?** and it can be followed either by joining one of the local groups (please contact Kath Pierce on 830844 for details) or on your own by tuning in to *BBC Radio Kent* on Thursday evenings from 14th February to 14th March inclusive.

Individual themes and speakers are as follows:—

14th February	Growing in Prayer?	Sister Lavinia Byrne IBVM of the Institute of Spirituality, Heythrop College, London
21st February	Growing in Fellowship?	The Revd Mary Holliday of The House of Bethany
28th February	Growing in Witness?	The Rt Revd Michael Turnbull, Bishop of Rochester
7th March	Growing in Caring?	Dr Leslie Griffiths Superintendent of the West London Methodist Mission
14th March	Growing in Unity?	Father Philip Carroll of the Secretariat of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales



Of Cash and Covenants

I have just received the latest leaflet on Covenants from Diocesan House in Canterbury, where Mrs C. W. E. Bass, the Covenants secretary, most efficiently looks after our interests. The leaflet's title is *Increase the value of your giving by a Covenant*. I have a few copies; more may be obtained from Mrs Bass.

What is a covenant? Let me quote the leaflet: "A simple written agreement by a tax-payer to give a chosen sum to the Church for the next four years. The agreement is legally binding and made between the individual and the Church".

Why is it helpful to a Parish? For the simple reason that if you pay your contribution to Church funds by covenant, the Church can get back the tax you have paid on the amount of the covenant, because the Church, like a Charity, is not itself subject to tax. In Bekesbourne in 1990 we had net covenants worth £1,390 in a full year, but actually they bring in about £1,850, the other £460 being the tax reclaimed. Wonderful!

What are the snags? Some people worry about these things I know; and I understand their anxieties. "I want to make my contribution to Church funds; and I should like to do it for four years; and I do pay income tax now; but . . . suppose I can no longer afford it? Suppose I move away? Suppose I die? Am I, or my family, going to be pursued by 'those men in grey suits'?" Well, the answer is; "No, you're not". In reverse order, if you die the Covenant ceases; if you move away the Covenant can move too to benefit your new parish; if you get into financial hardship the covenant can be suspended; and if you stop paying tax there's none to reclaim anyway. So, don't worry!

How do we operate the scheme in Bekesbourne? In two ways. In each case you complete a Covenant form and then: *either* set up a monthly, quarterly, or annual Standing Order between your bank account the the PCC's; *or* join the monthly envelope scheme and put your money in the envelope provided and place the envelope in the offertory plate at a Sunday service. You will be asked to certify to Diocesan House that you have paid and I have to certify to them that I have received the money.

If you would like to contribute in this way and do not already do so, just let me know. I'll be glad to help in any way I can.

David Millyard



The Pilgrims' Hospice

We have got so used to having The Pilgrims' Hospice that unless we or a loved one have had cause to use it we may not think about it very much. Most of us will encounter the hospice through its fund-raising activities, when we have been asked to make a contribution to its work.

It is the hospice's financial situation which mystifies many people, not being at all sure how it is financed, whether it comes under the local health authority and thus is part of the NHS, or is perhaps a private concern that charges for its services. It is important for our own sake in the event that some time we may have cause to use the hospice, as well as for the good of the hospice itself that we know what the position is. I quote from its information leaflet.

Who runs the hospice?

The Pilgrims' Hospice is NOT part of the National Health Service; neither is it a fee-paying, private medical establishment. It is an independent registered charity, controlled by a voluntary Council of Management. Administration is in the hands of a mix of paid and voluntary staff while the highly qualified medical and nursing staff is also augmented by volunteers, many of whom themselves hold professional qualifications.

Who pays for the hospice?

All of the services of the Pilgrims' Hospice are free to the patients and their families — but a great deal of money is needed to provide them. The annual cost is approaching £1 million, and although the local Health Authorities make a contribution, this is less than 5% of the total. By far the greater part of the money is raised from within the community.

The entrance to the Hospice carries a plaque saying that it is provided for the people of East Kent by the people of East Kent. It relies for its continued existence on donations, gifts, covenants, bequests and fund raising activities of all kinds. Hospice Shops, which are among the most successful charity shops in the country, operate in the larger towns; fund raising groups can be found throughout the area; and no contribution is too small, in which ever way it is made.

Help for those who need it comes from the generosity of those who care.

Those who have visited the hospice know what a wonderful service they render, a service that doesn't stop short at the patients but embraces their families as well. Hospice care is whole family care, and that is most important in every circumstance.

* * *

*An exciting fund raising event, which will aid hospices all over the country, takes place in various centres on 5th October; in our case in Canterbury Cathedral at 7.30pm. October is a long way away but this event warrants early notification so that a large company can take part. It offers local singers a chance to sing Haydn's *The Creation* from scratch. The performance will be conducted by Richard Cooke with the Canterbury Philharmonic Orchestra, and the cost is £5 either to come and sing or to come and listen. If you want to know more contact Mrs Jennifer Collyer, Chairman, The Manor House, Ford, Hoath, Canterbury, but put it in your diary right now!*

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday, 10th January

Planning ahead Cllr Mrs Anderson reported that she had placed an order with Wealden Woodlands for some tree planting on the Recreation Ground which included replacement of the two dead beech trees planted last year by them.

The Council have accepted a quotation from the Work Services Department of the Canterbury City Council, the lowest of three received, in the sum of just under £440 for gang-mowing the Recreation Ground this coming season.

A brighter and lighter Bridge The Council have received an acceptable estimate, also from the Work Services Department, for the supply and installation of an additional two street lighting columns in Patribourne Road, but have still to obtain an estimate from SEEBOARD for laying on the electricity supply to the columns. SEEBOARD are also to be asked for an estimate for a street lamp in Bifrons Path following a well-founded request from residents that the path required illumination.

And a cleaner Bridge? The Canterbury City Council are to be asked if they would arrange for a special clean up on Town Hill and beyond after litter from an overflowing skip sited there before Christ-

mas was scattered everywhere by the high winds. The Kent County Council are also to be asked if they would clean the stretch of gutter in the High Street from the news-agents to Western Avenue which is full of mud and leaves.

No new building plans No fresh applications for planning permission in Bridge have been received since the last meeting. The City Council have granted planning permission for a conservatory to the side of the residential home for the elderly, Saxon Lodge, Saxon Road and for a two-storey side and rear extension to 17 Union Road, and have refused permission for a cold store extension to the White Horse Public House.

Would parishioners please note that if they have any matters relating to parish affairs that they wished raised and discussed by the Parish Council, would they please put them in writing and address their letters to the Clerk, Kathy Walder, 17 Union Road, Bridge. The Council meets on the second Thursday of each month, except August, and it would be helpful to have notification approximately one week prior to the Meeting.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday, 14th February at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall. All are welcome.

K.A. Walder, Clerk

Fish News

Luncheon Club members celebrated with a Christmas Dinner on 17th December. It was a happy occasion and we were delighted to have with us the Vicar, Martin Vye our County Councillor, David Pentin our City Councillor and John Hill of Bridge Parish Council.

After a delicious meal Cllr Hill thanked the volunteers and catering staff for their work throughout the year. May I add our thanks to Mr Pearson and all his staff at The New Close for their unfailing kindness, help and tolerance to us all?

This month's **Coffee Pop-In** will be in Bridge Village Hall on Wednesday, 13th from 10.15 to 11.45am.

Dates for your diary:—

Blossom Tour
Annual Coffee Morning

Wednesday, 8th May
Saturday, 1st June

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

Flower and Cleaning Rota

2nd, Mrs Millyard 9th, Mrs Purchase 16th, Lent

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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 T. J. Flisher, 52 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830871)

Hon Treasurer: Mr K. Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr A. Wills, 10 Brooklands Close, Fordwich, Canterbury CT2 0BT (711278)

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

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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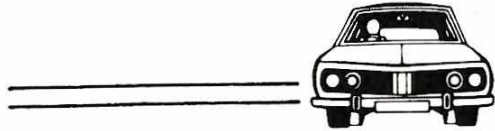
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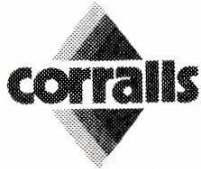
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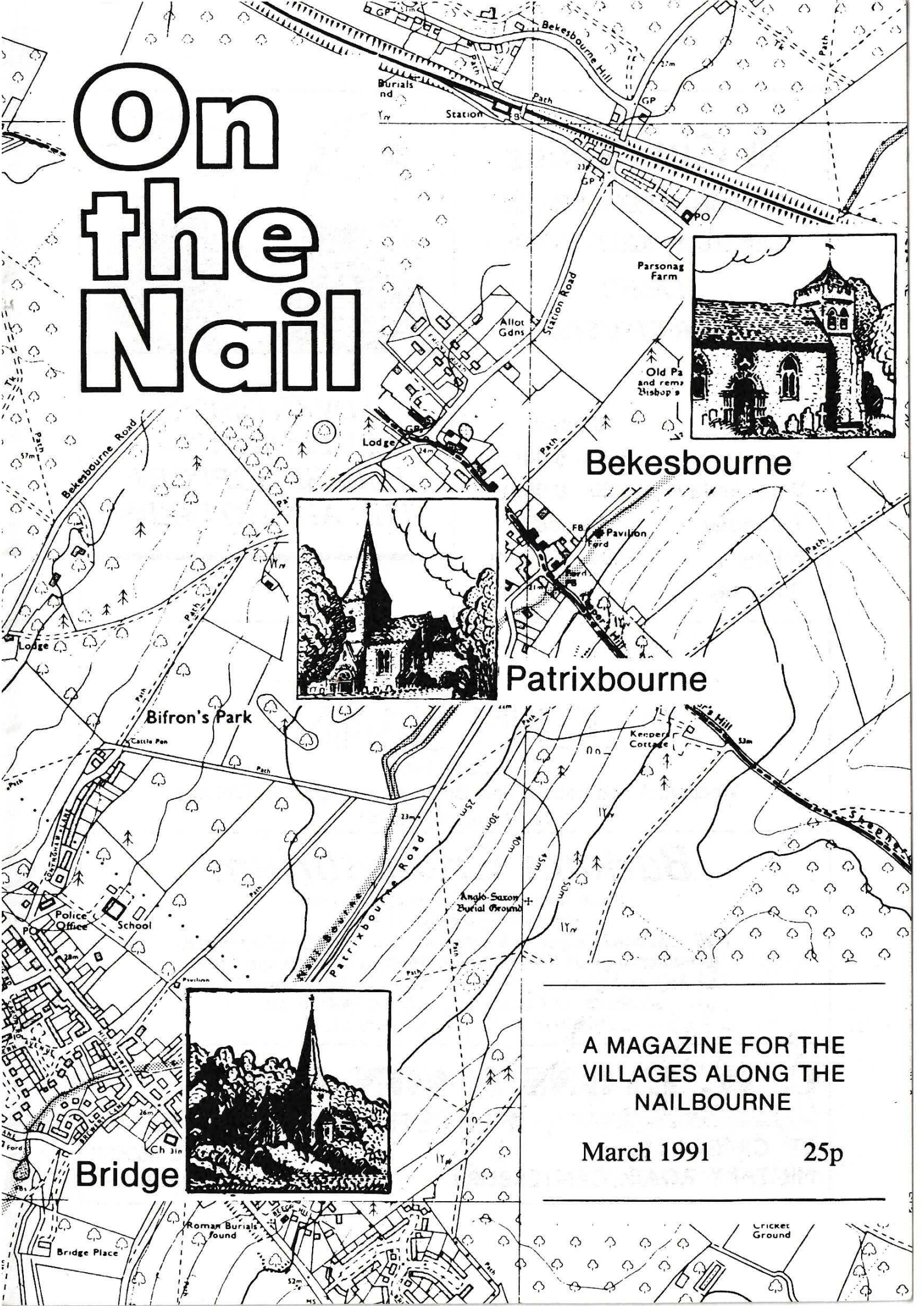
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On the Nail



Bekebourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

March 1991

25p

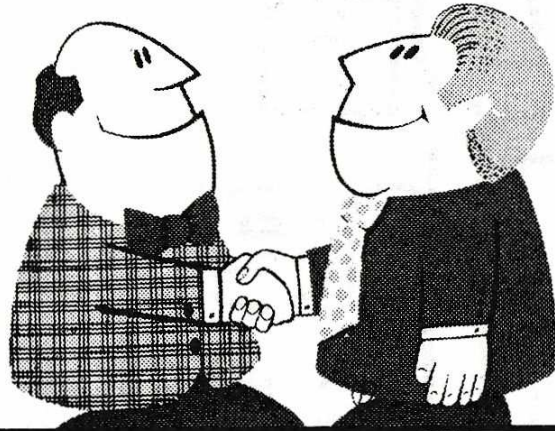
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Sunday Worship in March

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

3rd:

11am Family Service
(*Canon J Packer*)

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion
(*Revd W Owen*)

3.30pm Evensong

10th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(*ASB Rite A*)

11am Matins
(*Revd W Owen*)

8am Holy Communion
11am *Mothering Service*
(*The Vicar*)

3.30pm Evensong

17th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(*ASB Rite A*)

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

3.30pm Evensong

24th:

8am Holy Communion
with Distribution
of Palms

9am Holy Communion
with Distribution
of Palms

11am Distribution of
Palms and Matins

3.30pm Evensong

31st EASTER DAY

11am Easter Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong

9.30 Holy Communion
with Hymns

8am Holy Communion
11am Easter Eucharist

7th April:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

SUNDAY EVENSONGS return to 6.30pm from Easter Day, which is also when the clocks are altered.

● *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.*

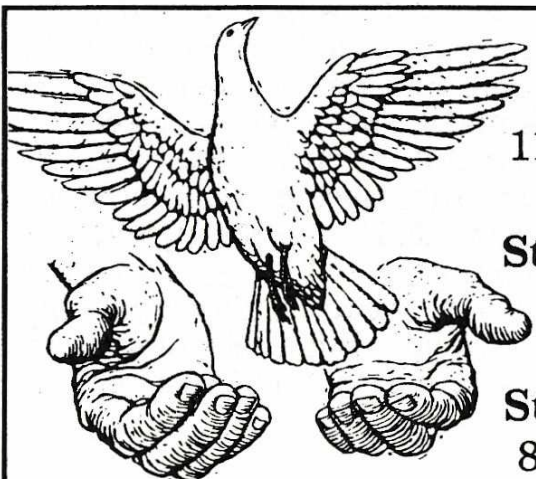
Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *3rd*, Mr Hugh Sheehan *10th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Gordon A Jones *17th*, Dr Eileen Tresidder *24th*, Mr Alistair Barwick *31st*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd J Raymond Goodburn

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am, and Friday mornings (*Rite A*) at 7.30 (except on Good Friday). 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

- 1st *St David, Bishop, Patron Saint of Wales, c601*
Women's World Day of Prayer Service, St Peter's Church, Bridge,
2.30pm (Preacher: Mrs Margaret Pawley)
- 2nd *St Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary, 672*
- 3rd *Third Sunday in Lent*

- 5th Pray for the Deanery Clergy who meet at Wingham this morning.
- 7th *St Perpetua and her Companions, Martyrs, Carthage, 203*
Hospital League of Friends Coffee Morning, 4 Meadow Close, 10am
Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 9th 1st Bridge Guides Jumble Sale, Bridge Village Hall, 10.30 - 12.30
- 10th ***Fourth Sunday in Lent : Mothering Sunday***
The usual Mothering Service will take place in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne at 11am.
- 13th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Bridge Methodist Church, 8pm
- 14th Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 16th Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Stall in aid of Patrixbourne Church, Riverside Cottage, 10.30 - 12.30
- 17th ***Fifth Sunday in Lent : Passion Sunday***
- 19th ***St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary***
Bridge with Patrixbourne WI, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 20th ***St Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, 687***
- 21st Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 24th ***Palm Sunday***
- 25th ***Monday in Holy Week***
- 26th ***Tuesday in Holy Week*** Holy Communion at Patrixbourne, 9.30am
Bridge Parish Meeting, The Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 27th ***Wednesday in Holy Week*** Holy Communion at Bridge, 9.30am
- 28th ***Maundy Thursday***
The Eucharist (*ASB Rite A*) commemorating the Last Supper will be celebrated in St Peter's Church, Bridge at 7.30pm
- 29th ***Good Friday***
The Revd David Ratcliff of the Diocesan Education Team will conduct an hour-long Service of Devotion in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne at 11am
The Last Hour Service of Devotion, St Peter's Church, Bridge at 2pm, conducted by the Revd Peter Brownbridge, Vicar of Wingham.
- 30th ***Easter Eve***
- 31st ***EASTER DAY*** See the display below for the service list.



EASTER DAY SERVICES

St Peter's Church, Bridge

11am Easter Eucharist (*The Vicar*)

6.30pm Evensong (*The Vicar*)

St Mary's Church, Patrixbourne

9.30am Holy Communion with

Easter Hymns (*The Vicar*)

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

8am Holy Communion (*The Vicar*)

11am Easter Communion with Hymns

(*The Revd W Owen*)

"The Lord is risen: he is risen indeed! Alleluia!"

Easter Greetings

Christmas may still have the edge on it, but commercial inroads into Easter are nevertheless on the increase!

Just look around you! Chocolate eggs on sale in the shops since January: admittedly a regular practice when I was a boy! But this year the supermarket shelves having hot cross buns early in February was surely something new. Premature too, given it wasn't even Lent! Now that really was going a bit far and in my humble opinion exhibiting the worst commercial tastes. After all hot cross buns have definite religious overtones, being firmly wedded to Good Friday and up to now they've always been kept in abeyance until the second half of Holy Week at the earliest with not a crumb to be found by Holy Saturday.

The custom of sending Easter cards is a longstanding one, though it was never previously as common as nowadays. It's a charming idea though, drawing well-deserved attention to the importance of Easter. And whereas the Christmas card market is flooded with such secular paraphernalia as stage-coaches and robins on gateposts, adding nothing to the true significance of Christmas, it's good to discover there aren't any equivalent 'secular' topics to threaten Easter. The nearest Easter cards get to the snow-covered scenes of their Christmas counterparts are spring flowers and lambs, but they, as it happens, merely direct the mind towards the Easter message of new life.

* * *

Whether through gifts of eggs, sending cards or in person the tradition of exchanging greetings at Easter is as old as Christianity and very much older than giving Christmas greetings. This is because in the Church's life Easter has always been the feast of feasts.

On Easter Day our earliest forebears shared a special Easter greeting within the paschal eucharist, and although this, like the resurrection itself, didn't find a place in the *Book of Common Prayer* order for Holy Communion it was reinstated in the *Alternative Services Book*, ensuring that Easter worship gets off to a good start.

* * *

In its infancy the Church proclaimed the risen Christ with glad and overwhelming enthusiasm, for the importance of the resurrection was central to everything those pioneers in the faith did. They lived in daily awareness of the presence and power of the risen Christ in their midst, and as they met week by week to celebrate the resurrection in the breaking of the eucharistic bread we can be sure that on the day of days itself their exuberance knew no bounds. "Christ is risen!" Imagine the cry echoing again and again throughout the company, as it still does in the Orthodox Church's Easter Liturgy. So we too can now begin our paschal celebration by exchanging the verbal Easter greeting "Alleluia, Christ is risen; he is risen indeed, alleluia!" Is it a fair question to ask if this Easter we shall feel able to give that greeting "not only with our lips but in our hearts"?

Dying and behold we live!

The sudden death of Mrs Ivy Setterfield, 6 Churchill Close came as a very great

shock to her family and many friends, coming as it did so closely after that of her husband George. The vicar officiated at a service of cremation in the chapel of Barham Crematorium on 5th February.

* * *

At a simple ceremony in Bridge Churchyard on Wednesday, 30th January the ashes of Mrs **Iris Temple Hirst**, lately of Kensington, were laid to rest in the grave of her husband and son, both of whom died in the early part of this century. What a long widowhood!

Mothering Sunday at Bekesbourne

Bekesbourne Church is the place for special occasions, like the annual service on Mothering Sunday when the church is invariably filled with families and flowers.

This year will be no exception, and although Bekesbourne isn't due for an 11 o'clock service on 10th March that's when the Mothering Service will take place and you're all invited. Junior Church families have already got a note of it, and if the church gets full to overflowing we shall all be delighted.

Those concerned about Matins will see from the services list on page 4 of this issue of *On The Nail* that it will still go ahead at Patrixbourne as usual, and since the two churches share the same organist Arnold Wills from Bridge has kindly agreed to play at Bekesbourne for the Mothering Service.

Good Friday and Easter at Bekesbourne

The custom in recent years of having a service of devotion in St Peter's Church on Good Friday from 11am to 12 noon will apply again. This year our devotions will be led by the Revd David Ratcliff, the Diocese's Adult Education and Lay Training Adviser.

* * *

On Easter morning the pattern of worship at Bekesbourne has been slightly altered. There will be the usual 8am celebration of Holy Communion, but instead of Matins and in response to several requests the Revd Bill Owen will celebrate a special Easter Communion with a sermon and Easter hymns at 11am. The Holy Communion is the obvious service for Easter morning, as shown by the New Testament incident in the Emmaus home of two of our Lord's disciples on the first Easter Day when, as St Luke tells us, the risen Lord Jesus was made known to them "in the breaking of the bread" (Luke 24, 35)

Bridge Church Flowers

by Vivienne Brasier

Many thanks to everyone who has shown support and offered their help as I take on the task of organizing the Church flowers.

Easter is fast approaching, and I hope to carry on the tradition of having arum lilies at the altar. I have ordered the lilies but unfortunately the florist is unable to give me a definite price, due to gale damage to some local greenhouses and therefore possible difficulties from local growers. However, I would be happy to hear from anyone who would like to make a donation towards the cost of a lily, and I will confirm the details with them as soon as I

can. My telephone number is 830981.

The flower arranging in the church for Easter will begin on Holy Saturday at 10am. Everyone is very welcome to come and help. Maybe this would be a good time to come and see what we do, if you are slightly apprehensive about joining the Flower Arrangers Team. Please come and help!

Bekesbourne Church Easter Flowers

It's all hands to the pump — or perhaps it should be oasis — in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne on Holy Saturday, 30th March from 10.30am onwards, when the church is due to be spruced up and decorated for Easter. Mrs Christine Ash would very much appreciate all the help she can get with this so please don't hesitate to join in. She would also welcome cash donations beforehand from anyone who would like to contribute towards the purchase of lilies.

Deeds of Covenant

Inland Revenue requirements for the tax year to 5th April, 1991

With the approach of the end of the Tax Year 1990/91 I would remind covenanters of the Inland Revenue's strict requirement that the total payments under the terms of each Deed of Covenant should be paid *within* each tax year. It is therefore essential that we should observe this requirement in order to maximise our claim for repayment of tax from the Inland Revenue.

This is of particular relevance to covenanters who make their periodic payments in cash (mainly within the Envelope Scheme) and in this context I am setting out the following guidance:—

Weekly covenant payments due up to and including Sunday, 31st March, 1991

All weekly payments due up to and including Sunday, 31st March, 1991, the last complete week in the Tax Year 1990/91, should be presented at the latest by Friday, 5th April, 1991.

Calendar Monthly, Quarterly, etc. Covenant Payments

Where such periodic payments fall due *on or before* 5th April 1991 will covenanters please ensure that their payments are presented by 5th April, 1991 at the latest.

Payments by Banker's Order

As it is anticipated that payments under this method will be received automatically on their due dates no special action is envisaged.

Douglas R Hill, Covenants Officer

Bridge Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting this year will be held on Tuesday, 26th March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Bridge.

At the time of writing, it is hoped that it will be possible to stage the exhibition organized by Savills on the future development of Bridge from 2pm onwards on that day with a representative available to answer questions, as well as having the exhibition on view and forming an important part of the evening's meeting. This is to give parishioners a further opportunity to see the

Concluded on page 13

proposals. Please watch out for final details on this.

K A Walder, Clerk

1st Bridge Girl Guides

We are holding a Jumble Sale at Bridge Village Hall on Saturday, 9th March, from 10.30am to 12.30pm in aid of our Camp Equipment fund. If anybody has jumble that needs collecting please phone Anne on 830762 or bring it along to us on the morning of the sale between 9 and 10am. **Please come and support us!**

* * *

If there are any girls between the ages of ten and fourteen who were not Brownies but would like to join Guides then please phone me on 830449.

* * *

Can anyone help us? Is there anyone with an unusual hobby or who has visited somewhere of interest, who would be prepared to come and share it with us on our Friday evening meetings? If so, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Melanie Bevan, Guide Guider

Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19th March in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Mrs G Peterson and her subject is 'Personal Colour Analysis'. Competition — an Easter bonnet. New members always very welcome.

P.H.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

This month's meeting is on 13th March in Bridge Methodist Church at 8pm and will consist of a talk by Lesley Sinnock on the fascinating subject of 'Growing Alpines'.

Rajini Dasan

St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne

A Coffee Morning with Bring & Buy Stall will be held at Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne on Saturday, 16th March between 10.30am and 12.30pm. Proceeds are for refurbishments in St Mary's Church.

Hospital League of Friends

At the recent Bridge Branch AGM the Chairman, Mrs Elizabeth Stewart reported that seven fund-raising events had been held during the year, raising a total of £2,060 of which £1,879 had been spent on equipment for the hospital, including bed paddings, a breast screening printer and a perineal extension. Bridge had also run the Grand Draw at the Hospital Fair. Mrs Nicky Fry and Mrs Maggie Field retired from the committee and the new committee was elected. Mrs Elizabeth Stewart (Chairman), Mrs Maureen Baker (Vice-Chairman/Secretary), Mrs Tweedie Hills (Treasurer), Mrs Ann King, Mrs Maggie Fairweather, Mrs Pat Wilmshurst, Mrs Joan Monk and Mrs Wendy Durell.

Forthcoming events include a Coffee Morning at 4 Meadow Close, Bridge on Thursday, 7th March at 10am and the Hospital Fair on 22nd June.

Maggie Field

Simon of Cyrene

Simon was Jesus' cross-bearer and, it would seem, close friend of St. Paul. St. Mark 15:21 tells us that Simon was pressed into service by the Roman soldiers to carry the cross, and the verse adds that Simon was the "father of Alexander and Rufus", implying that all three were well known to Mark's readers. Romans 16:13 "salutes Rufus chosen in the Lord", and with him "his mother and mine". If this be the same Rufus (as seems likely) to what ministry was Paul referring? We do not readily think of Paul depending on women's help!

So the unnamed mother was Simon's wife. Cyrene was a Greek city with a large population of diaspora Jews. We hear of a contingent of them in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost. The Cyrenians had their own synagogue in the Holy City. Acts 11:20 indicates that Christian Cyrenians were men of lively initiative, even anticipating the Apostles themselves in vital steps towards a universal Church.

Simon, it seems, had done his work well. The sheer brevity of the Gospels allows us no glimpse into what that cross-

bearing meant to him, either in the immediate imposition or in post-Easter retrospect. He must have discovered how inestimable his privilege. Seemingly he carried some of Paul's burden's, too, when the latter was confined by Felix, or studying under Gamaliel(?).

Simon's day ought, perhaps, to be for us the Festival of the passer-by, the Feast of the unexpected. Imagine "coming out of the country" and being caught up into the redemption of the world. This is only a parable, in the time-field, of the truth of sainthood in the person — the claim of the divine in the ordinary, the critical in the trivial, "the eternal moment which is always now". BISHOP KENNETH CRAGG.

Some fifty years ago, a tomb was uncovered in the Kidron Valley and many ossuaries containing human bones were found. One had two inscriptions reading "Alexander, son of Simon" and "Alexander of Cyrene". Was this the tomb of the son of Simon who carried our Lord's cross? It seems possible.

Ed: The above is taken from "The Bible Lands Society" magazine.

WILL you help?

The following comes from the Missionary Society we try to support

In 1989 the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, was left over £1,700,000 in peoples' wills. Thank God for that because donations from parishes and individuals — up 4.7% at £1,680,000 — did not keep up with inflation. This is the first time that bequests have amounted to more than donations.

Every year all sorts of people include USPG in their wills. Sometimes the gift is money or personal belongings, or it could be a proportion of an estate or even the whole estate. Whatever form it takes it enables God's mission to go forward.

Simple generosity on your part makes a difference to the way the Society responds to opportunities open to it. You do not need to make a new will. An addition (codicil) can be added to an existing will. It would be wise to consult your solicitor.

Michael Hart, USPG's Financial Secretary will gladly send you a simple leaflet with more information. His address is

**USPG, Partnership House,
157 Waterloo Road,
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Telephone: 071-928 8681



The Salvation Army

SHALMSFORD STREET · CHARTHAM

Stand by to see posters for a Concert by the Salvation Army from Shalmsford Street Citadel, Chartham at Bekesbourne Church in the near future! Well worth attending. J.P.

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council meeting on the 14th February began with a talk by Mr Keith Gulvin, the Emergency Planning Officer for Canterbury City Council, on the need for emergency planning in the rural areas which, he said, had tended to be neglected in favour of the main towns of Canterbury, Herne Bay and Whitstable, particularly in the event of severe weather. There were various levels of help at which parish councils could be involved and the Parish Council decided that, given Bridge's situation, involvement at the lowest level was sufficient.

Cllr Reg Franklin therefore kindly agreed to continue as the official contact or Community Adviser.

Keeping the roads clean . . . Following complaints and a report by Cllr Ken Greenaway about the large amount of varied litter related to the British Telecom works on Bridge Hill, it was decided to write to them not only about the litter, but also about the length of time the work was taking and the lack of sufficient dwarf amber warning lights around the workings.

The Council learnt that responsibility for street cleaning was to devolve away from the County Council this year and on to the City Council who, it was understood, intended to carry out sweeping on a monthly basis. The Clerk was to inform

the City Council that the Parish Council welcomed this service, particularly in the High Street which had always given cause for concern.

The Parish Council have decided to enter the 'Best Kept Village' competition this year. Information on any special initiatives planned will follow later.

. . . and the play equipment up to scratch The Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mervyn Gulvin and Cllr Franklin have looked at the children's playground equipment in the light of Wicksteed's inspection and one or two minor items of repair and maintenance will be carried out to the equipment, in addition to repainting, in readiness for the summer. The Council have also received £166 from the City Council's Lottery Fund representing their share of the special rural fund set aside for the provision of safety surfacing.

Planning proposals Although not in Bridge Parish, the Council have nevertheless objected strongly to the City Council's own proposal for the construction of a car park and viewing area on land at Bridge Hill, but have had no observations to make on an application for a new garage, with the existing garage turned into a dining-room at 'Palma', Beech Hill.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday, 14th March at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

KA Walder, Clerk



Severe Weather Heating Grants

There has been much confusion and misunderstanding about these grants and it has been difficult to get through to the DSS by telephone. At the time of going to press the regulations are as follows:

In order for Senior Citizens to qualify for the grant they must satisfy *both* of the following conditions:

Be receiving Income Support

Have less than £1,000 capital.

Even if you qualified in previous years you must put in a fresh application every year — payment is not automatic. Application forms will be in the free newspapers *Adscene* and the *Extra*. If you miss these DSS are sending me a supply of forms.

If you don't qualify because your capital is just above £1,000 and you need help please contact me and I will let you know what other sources of help are available. Certain categories of people below retirement age also qualify for this grant.

Mrs Ivy Setterfield

We were all saddened to hear of the sudden death of Mrs Ivy Setterfield, one of the youngest members of the Luncheon Club. Until his recent death Ivy had cared for her husband during a long and distressing illness, first at home and then by regular visits during his long stay in hospital. She often spoke to our drivers of the gratitude she felt towards her family for the care and support they gave her both during her husband's long illness and her own recent illness. To them we offer our sympathy in their loss.

Dates off and on

Unfortunately the February Coffee Pop-In had to be cancelled due to bad weather. This month's Pop-In will be on Wednesday, 13th March from 10.15 to 11.45am. The Mobile Chiropody Clinic will be at The New Close, Bridge from Monday, 11th to Friday, 15th March

Joan Warren, 830233

Ed: I hope Joan won't mind my mentioning something which I know certain people aren't aware of, that the Fish Scheme which she so marvellously spear-heads (bless you for it, Joan) as a good neighbour scheme seeks to serve the entire community, not just those who can produce a pension book. Naturally the bulk of the Fish Scheme's work is with the elderly but the less-than-elderly also qualify for its services. It's not a branch of 'Help The Aged', you see.

Circumstances may well arise when someone needs to get to hospital or a sick relation quickly and has no means of getting there short of catching a bus. No matter who you are or how far from retirement you happen to be, please feel free to call on Joan and the Fish Scheme if you could do with some help. I well remember Joan offering me a driver when I broke a finger and couldn't drive myself. "It's not just for the elderly", I was told in no uncertain manner.

Assistance from Saxon Lodge

Mrs Betty Richards writes:—

As most of you are aware by coming to our coffee mornings (the first Tuesday in every month) Saxon Lodge Retirement Home has been open nearly three

years. For the past year we have been running a trial day centre and now feel we would like to extend this facility, along with a Home Help Service, which would include personal and domestic care, laundry and even a hot home-cooked, delicious lunch.

Questionnaires are now being circulated and are available at the Chemist (Bridge) and The Monday Luncheon Club, but if you (or a friend or relative) can ring Saxon Lodge on 831737 we will deliver and pick up your filled in questionnaire.

Vicar: The Revd Raymond Gilbert, A.K.C., 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 T. J. Flisher, 52 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830871)

Hon Treasurer: Mr K. Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr A. Wills, 10 Brooklands Close, Fordwich, Canterbury CT2 0BT (711278)

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

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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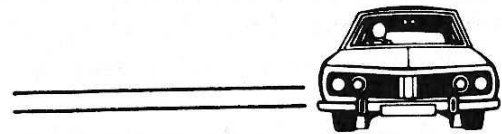
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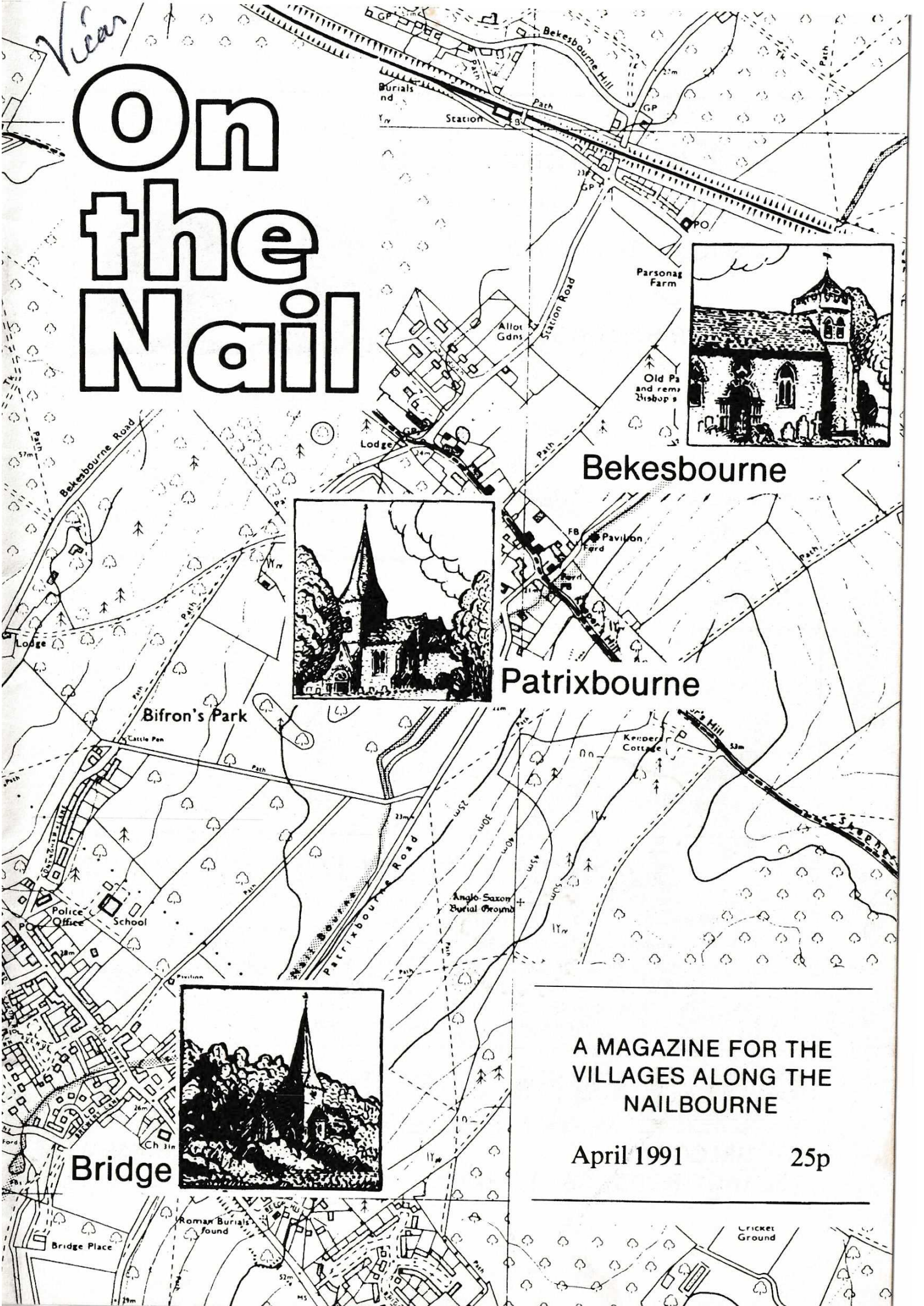
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

April 1991

25p

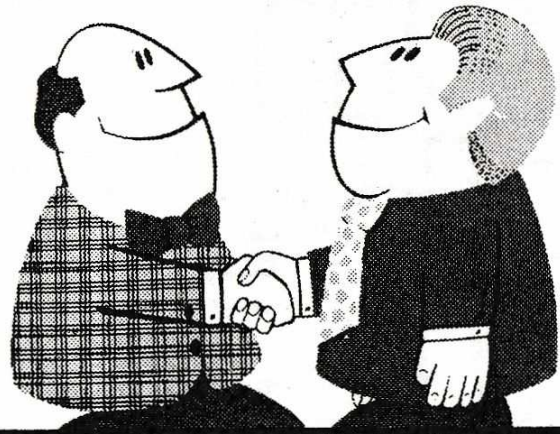
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Sunday Worship in April

Bridge

7th:

11am Family Service
(Canon J Packer)

6.30pm Evensong
(Canon F Bull)

14th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)

6.30pm Evensong

21st:

9.30 Parish Communion
(ASB Rite A — Revd
Clive Barlow, Rural Dean)

6.30pm Evensong
(Canon F Bull)

28th:

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

Preacher: Pfr Urs Jörg,
St Mark's, Basel, Switzerland)

5th May:

11am Family Service

6.30 Evensong

Patricxbourne

8am Holy Communion
(Canon J Packer)

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

Bekesbourne

9.30 Parish Communion
(Revd W Owen)

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

(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.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 7th, Mr E R O'Mahony 14th, Holy Communion, The Revd Sheila Foreman 21st, Dr Doreen Rosman 28th, Mr John Whalan

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (BCP) at 9.30am, though not on 3rd April, and Friday mornings (Rite A) at 7.30am, except on 5th April. 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 Monday in Easter Week

Coming on the Youth Pilgrimage to the Cathedral? If so, be outside Bridge Church this morning ready to start walking at 9.30am — and you'll need to bring a picnic.

2nd Tuesday in Easter Week

3rd Wednesday in Easter Week

4th Thursday in Easter Week

Prayers for Health and Healing, 'Orana', Brewery Lane, 7pm

- 5th *Friday in Easter Week*
 6th *Saturday in Easter Week*
 Pray for Tessa Williamson and Simon Hougham, who are to be married today in the Cathedral Crypt.
- 7th *First Sunday after Easter*
 9th Nailbourne Horticultural Society Spring Show, Bridge Village Hall
 10th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
 11th Bekesbourne Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Parsonage Farm, 7.30pm
 Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 14th *Second Sunday after Easter*
 16th Patnixbourne with Bridge Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Bridge Methodist Church, 7.30pm
 Bridge with Patnixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 19th Bridge School Assembly takes place in St Peter's Church at 9.30am.
 Pray for George Carey, 103rd Archbishop of Canterbury, on the occasion of his enthronement in the Cathedral this afternoon.
- 21st *Third Sunday after Easter*
 In a deanery parochial exchange Clive Barlow, our Rural Dean, will be the celebrant and preacher at Bridge's 9.30 Parish Communion this morning, while I hold the fort at Ash. On a similar arrangement Clive has already been to Patnixbourne and Bekesbourne, so now an equally warm welcome awaits him at Bridge.
- 23rd *St George, Patron Saint of England, Martyr, 4th century*
 25th *St Mark the Evangelist*
 26th Bridge Church Choir Barn Dance, Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne, 8pm
 27th Pray for Catherine Round and Alistair Granger, who are to be married at St Peter's Church, Bridge at 2.30pm.
- 28th *Fourth Sunday after Easter*
 We shall welcome back to Bridge Church this evening Pfarrer Urs Jörg of the Swiss Reformed Church. Urs last visited Bridge four years ago and this time we shall hope also to welcome his wife Marianne. Urs is 'vicar' of St Mark's Reformed Church, Basel and will be in England as part of a long-established link between Reformed clergy from Germany and Switzerland and the Diocese of Canterbury, a link with which Rosemary and I are associated.
- 29th *St Catherine of Siena, Mystic, 1380*

Enter another Archbishop!

On the afternoon of 19th April all eyes will be turned towards Canterbury Cathedral for the enthronement of the 103rd archbishop. Over two thousand will assemble in the Cathedral for the service, included amongst them being representatives from Christian Churches way beyond our diocesan boundaries, and an even greater number will watch the spectacle on television (and incidentally get a much better view).

The unwanted sovereign

Nowadays the enthronement of an archbishop verges on a state occasion, with at least one royal personage present. However, until the Prince of Wales and Princess Margaret attended Lord Coggan's 1975 enthronement it was

considered politic for royalty, especially the sovereign, to stay away. They invariably did, for the simple reason they weren't invited! Happily, times have changed, and certainly in this respect for the better. But we don't have to go very far back to find archbishops' enthronements were very small beer indeed; and some holders of the office, who probably never even came to Canterbury at any time during their archiepiscopate, were enthroned, if at all, by proxy. That certainly wouldn't do today!

The age of television

Not surprisingly, it's the box that has made all the difference. I was at the Cathedral when Lord Coggan was enthroned in the first such service to be televised live and in its entirety. The 1975 service accordingly drew wider attention than any of its predecessors!

The first archbishop's enthronement to get on TV at all was Michael Ramsey's, when brief excerpts were transmitted later on using the primitive technique of pointing a TV camera at a ciné film shot during the service, projected on to a screen in the studio. These were the days before the invention of video recording, and the picture and sound quality were understandably poor, everything being in black and white of course.

What's it about?

The whole business of enthroning bishops and archbishops centres around the association of the office with a particular seat in a particular building. A church becomes a cathedral because that's where the bishop has his *cathedra* (a Greek word formed from two others, *kata* meaning 'down' and *hedra* meaning 'seat'), the seat which he occupies when performing official duties, somewhat akin to the throne room in Buckingham Palace. The throne in a cathedral represents the seat of a bishop's responsibility, and a further comparison is found in the professorial chair occupied by the head of department in a university, though in the latter case I believe no actual chair is involved.

By the time George Carey enters the cathedral for his enthronement he will already be Archbishop of Canterbury — indeed by the time you read this — so the ceremony is partly a public showing that he has assumed office and partly his authorization to start work. Likewise the Queen ascended the throne on the death of her father, although the coronation service the following year included a ceremonial enthronization as a public recognition of this.

Not once but twice!

An Archbishop of Canterbury is unique in being enthroned twice, because he has two areas of responsibility. As well as being 'bishop' of the diocese of Canterbury he is also Primate of All England, and both are recognized in the enthronement service.

It's an ongoing sadness to Canterbury diocese and its archbishop that he has to be shared with the Church of England as a whole. So because two enormous (some would say impossible) tasks are laid upon one pair of shoulders, the assumption of both jobs is acknowledged in an enthronement in two seats of responsibility: as diocesan 'bishop' by the Archdeacon of Canterbury in the throne situated on the south side of the Cathedral Quire, and as Primate in St Augustine's Chair, where he is enthroned by the Dean. Here I speak from personal experience for I stood in for Donald Coggan at a full-scale rehearsal of his enthronement service — an experience I was never tempted to make capital out of!

Pray on for George our Archbishop!

Nothing is more certain than the necessity of abundant prayer for George, our Archbishop, both on 19th April and for as long as he remains our archbishop. The task before him is horrendous and barely possible for one man, and if, as with Lord Runcie, we don't see as much of him in this part of the world as we would like, let's be the more understanding and pray for him all the harder.

Stephen Pike asks **Can you help?**

Early in April we have to take all the clothes we have been kindly given to St Aidan's, our link parish in Sheffield, to stock their secondhand clothes shop. If you have a van which you would be willing to lend for a weekend (or know someone else who has one) please contact any of the following: the vicar (830250), Andrea Nicholson (830947) or me (830708).

Romanian journey

On 13th April a huge convoy of some one hundred lorries will make the journey to Romania, laden with supplies for the much-publicised orphanages. One of the three hundred involved in the project, the brainchild of Ian Tilling, a Deal policeman, is our own Nick Shirley of Little Bridge Place, Mill Lane who is going along to use his building skills to help improve conditions at one of the orphanages.

The vehicles will be given free passage across the Channel by *Sealink Stena* ferries and expect to be on the road between three and four days. The team will spend the inside of a week at the orphanages, having off-loaded their supplies, then drive back.

Pre-journey appeal

Nick is urgently appealing for donations of such commodities as tinned or packet foodstuffs (no glass), soap, washing powder, pens, pencils, crayons and sweets for the children. Also he would welcome gifts of plumbing supplies such as sinks, toilets and forlic tanks. To help him *Circle C* will have a shopping trolley stationed outside their shop for casual contributions from customers, so there are many ways you can support the enterprise. Cash will also be needed for building requisites, amongst other things, and cheques can be made payable to the Romanian Orphans Fund.

Nick's home will serve as the collection point for all donations and if there is any problem you are invited to ring him on 831810. Here's wishing you well in your preparations Nick and for the journey!

The Children's Society



or to give it its full title 'The Church of England Children's Society' fully deserves the support we always give it. For many years the church here has had its own CS representative. When I came it was Miss Freda Mason, then Ann Medhurst took over and represented the society with great concern and enthusiasm. Sadly Ann now feels it's time to hand over to someone else and we thank her very much for all she has done to keep the society's needs before us.

Her place is being taken by Mrs Kathy Eynon, and we are most grateful that Kathy has agreed to shoulder this responsibility for us and the society.

Children's Society Week this year is 7th to 13th April and what follows has been contributed by 'The Children's Society' in connection with it.

A CHANCE TO SPEAK OUT AGAINST INJUSTICE

Every year, The children's Society helps more than 11,000 children and young people at its 130 projects throughout England and Wales.

The Children's Society needs your help to raise its voice against the sorts of injustice that result in children and young people being locked up in prisons and other institutions, exploited and abused, or impoverished by poor housing in deprived areas.

During **Children's Society Week**, collection envelopes will be delivered to more than two million homes all over the country. If you receive one of these envelopes please give generously.

You could help even more by volunteering to distribute and collect some of the envelopes. For more information please contact Kathy Eynon, tel 830466.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The Children's Society was founded in 1881 in response to the poverty and homelessness experienced by children in London. It is a Christian organisation that exists to work for children and young people — irrespective of race or religious belief — to grow in their families and communities; to help them take charge of their own lives; and to help them change the conditions that stand in their way. The following are some of the projects that the Society is involved in.

- Finding New Families — for children with special needs such as those with a physical or mental handicap, or older children.
- Family Centres — which work with children and their families in the community to try to alleviate some of the stress caused by unemployment and poor living conditions. Other work includes family 'conciliation' projects for those families who are considering separation or divorce.
- Independent Living Units — for young people leaving care and those with a handicap. Bedsits and flats are offered to the young people, and there they learn how to become self-reliant.
- Alternatives to Custody — the Society believes that the answer to juvenile offending is not to lock up the offender, but to try to help them within the community. The Society's alternatives to custody programmes aim to provide young people with a constructive alternative to crime.
- Young Runaways — an estimated 75,000 young people run away from home each year, and many end up living rough. Central London Teenage Project is the first 'safe house' where young people can find temporary refuge and someone who is prepared to listen to their problems. There are now other projects in Birmingham, Bournemouth and Manchester.

Historical search

I have received a letter from a Mr J Jelf, 134 Belvedere Road, Bexleyheath who is enquiring if anyone in Bridge knew of an ancestor of his called ELEANOR JELF, who died in Bridge in 1969 at the age of seventy-seven. If you knew her please contact me at Beechmount, Conyngham Lane (830399)

John Williamson

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS, preceded by the Annual Vestry Meeting to elect churchwardens, will be held as follows:—

Parish of St Peter, Bekesbourne in Parsonage Farm on Thursday, 11th April at 7.30pm.

Parish of St Mary, Patricbourne with St Peter, Bridge on Tuesday, 16th April in Bridge Methodist Church at 7.30pm.

Attendance at these meetings is restricted to those on the respective Church Electoral Roll, but all whose names appear there should make every effort to attend. At an APCM reports are presented covering aspects of the church's work and elections are made to the Parochial Church Council, so a representative attendance from church members is altogether desirable.

This is your opportunity to hear what the church officers and PCC have been doing and to ask questions about church matters. In both parishes let's break with several years' tradition and have a good attendance for this important occasion. The more the merrier — literally!

On The Nail Noticeboard

Hospital League of Friends

The Coffee Morning at 4 Meadow Close on 7th March raised £140. My thanks to everyone who supported it. It would be good to see more members of the village at future fund-raising events for the Hospital League of Friends.

Elizabeth Stewart

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

The Annual Spring Show will be held on Tuesday, 9th April in Bridge Village Hall, which will be open at 6pm for members to have their exhibits in place for judging by 7.15pm. There will be an admission charge of 50p inclusive of refreshments. Everyone most welcome.

A day outing to Leonardslee Gardens is arranged for Sunday, 19th May. Ticket prices: members £8, non-members £9. More details from committee members.

Rajini Dasan, Secretary

Barn Dance

Bridge Choir is organizing a Family Barn Dance on 26th April in the Conrad Hall at Bishopsbourne from 8 to 11.30pm. Tickets are £5 for adults, £3 for children, or a family group ticket (parents and two children) for £13. A ploughman's supper is included, but bring your own drink. Dancing to the well known *Contra Band*. Proceeds in aid of new choir robes. Tickets are available after morning services at St Peter's.

Arnold Wills

Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 16th April, 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. Our speaker will be Mr D Sykes, and his subject is *Wye and the Agricultural College*. The competition is for a country photograph. New members always very welcome.

P.H.

Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Would you like to take part in a family concert version of 'Joseph'? If so, Tuesday rehearsals begin on 9th April from 7.30 to 8.30pm in Bridge Church. All youngsters from 8 to 80+ are very welcome. Just bring your voice and a vocal score if you have one. The performance will be at the end of May.

Arnold Wills

Listen

These words by an unknown writer speak volumes to me. How about you?
When I ask you to listen to me and you start giving advice, you have not done what I asked.

When I ask you to listen to me and you begin to tell me why I shouldn't feel that way, you are trampling on my feelings.

When I ask you to listen to me and you feel that you have to do something to solve my problem, you have failed me, strange as that may seem.

Listen! All I asked was that you listen, not talk or do — just hear me.

And I can do for myself; I'm not helpless. Maybe discouraged and faltering, but not helpless.

When you do something for me that I can and need to do for myself, you contribute to my fear and weakness.

But, when you accept as a simple fact that I do what I feel, no matter how irrational, then I can stop trying to convince you and can get on with trying to understand what's behind the irrational feeling. And when that's clear, the answers are obvious and I don't need advice. Irrational feelings make sense when we understand what's behind them.

So, please listen and just hear me. And if you want to talk, wait a minute for your turn; and I'll listen to you.

Nailbourne Scout and Cub Group

Once again it's nearly time for the Nailbourne Scout Annual General Meeting. It will be held in Bridge Village Hall on 8th May, at 7pm. There will be a run-down of the past year's scouting and cub events and of course an update of the group's financial position. Also a raffle will be held and drawn on the night.

At the moment the scouts are without a Group Scout Leader, a person who is really a figurehead for the group, and enables the pack to function properly. So if there's anyone out there who feels they have something to offer and enjoys scouting, with a sense of fun, then can you please contact Sarah Howland at 126 Greenhill Road, Herne Bay.

Chris Finney

Thinking Brownies

Three reports have been handed in about the Brownies' Thinking Day. As each one has something different to say, and so that no one's disappointed, all are included. Now read on!

1st Bridge Brownies and Guides went with the Rural District on a Thinking Day walk on the 23rd February 1991. We all met at Bossingham Village Hall at 10.15am and walked in a five-mile circle. We finished at 10 past 2 but the adults came at 2.30 because we were early. On the way we saw some bulls and bullocks. It was very muddy. We had our packed lunch in a barn and we had a service. One Brownie was enrolled there. The weather was good walking weather but we were hot after the walk. It was a great day. We were glad to go home and give our legs a rest!

by Helen Varley and Anna Sutton

* * *

23rd February all the Brownies went on a walk for thinking day. We started at

Bossingham Village Hall. We crossed muddy fields and went over eight stiles. We had lunch in a barn and after lunch we had a service. While the service was going someone from Wickhambreaux got enrolled. Then we had lunch. After lunch we didn't walk across so many fields and so many stiles. When we got back it was a relief because we had walked five miles.

Elaine Ellis

* * *

Saturday February 23rd was the brownies and guides thinking day walk. We had to walk five miles. I went with six other Brownies from Bekesbourne pack to our starting point at Bossingham Village Hall. We arrived there at 10.15am. There were lots of other Brownies and Guides from all over the area. It was very muddy and some of my pack fell over. We climbed over lots of stiles and crossed many fields. At 12 o'clock we arrived at Stelling Minnis where we had a picnic in a barn. There were lots of animals around, pigs, sheep, cows and geese and the peacocks were in the barn with us. We had a service there and a girl was enrolled. Then we set off back to Bossingham. It was easier walking on the way back. We arrived back at 2.15pm tired and muddy. It was fun in an odd sort of way, and I think we all enjoyed it.

by Amy Mood



One word won't tell folk who you are —
 you've got to keep on talking.
 One step won't get you very far —
 you've got to keep on walking.
 One inch won't make you very tall —
 you've got to keep on growing.
 One trip to church won't tell you all —
 you've got to keep on going.

Anonymous

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
 News



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday 14th March.

The Competitive Spirit The Council have decided to enter both the 'Trees in Your Village' Competition, where Cllr Mrs Billie Anderson will act as the Coun-

cil's representative, and the 'Best Kept Village' Competition which Cllr Reg Franklin has agreed to co-ordinate this year. In conjunction with the 'Best Kept Village' Competition, it is also intended to enter the village in 'South East in Bloom'. These competitions rely on community

effort to make a success of them and so, please help by taking a pride, particularly in your own little corner or area of the village.

The Parish Council has welcomed the kind and generous offer of the 1st Bridge Guides to keep Town Hill clear of litter as part of their 'Help the Community' project by going out regularly on a weekly basis over a period of five months.

Still on litter, following a letter from the Parish Council to British Telecom, the contractors working for them at present in the village have been instructed to place all litter caused by them in bags ready for disposal.

Footpaths in Print! The Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mervyn Gulvin and Cllr Mrs Meriel Connor, the Footpaths Officer, have been busy preparing a footpaths leaflet for the Parish. Their work is nearly completed and it is hoped the leaflets will be available by Easter.

Traffic concerns The Clerk is to report to the County Council that the area around the corner by the gas governor at the junction of the High Street and Bridge Hill with Bourne Park is badly eroded by traffic turning down into the village.

Parking on pavements remains a problem in the village and the Police have been active recently in putting several warning notices on cars so parked. Be warned!

Down on the Recreation Ground The Parish Council are to reassess the work necessary to tidy up the area around the

pavilion and put that in hand.

They have no objection to the Cricket Club running an underground hose from the pavilion to a spot close to the cricket square.

Cllr Tim Hoare was thanked for his kind gesture in donating two lime trees which had now been planted and were 'both doing well' on the perimeter of the Ground.

Planning issues Following a site meeting by the City Council, the car park and viewing area on Bridge Hill has now been granted planning permission, as has the garage extension to the front of 'Palma' in Beech Hill. The Council had no observations to make on an application for the construction of a bungalow and garage on the plot adjoining 23 Union Road (outline permission had already been granted).

Support from the Council The Council has agreed to support an application from Junior Church to the City Council for £50 from the Lottery Fund to help with a residential weekend at Womenswold for their young members.

The Council is to support the County Council's appeal 'Network Now' for investment in new rolling stock for British Rail's 'Kent Coast' Services to be brought forward, by writing to both the local MP and the Chairman of British Rail.

The last meeting of the present Parish Council before the Elections on 2nd May will be on Thursday, 11th April at the usual time of 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Parish Hall. *K A Walder, Clerk*

Fish News



Blossom Tour

This year our outing will be on Wednesday, 8th May. After a country drive there will be a stop for cream tea at the Age Concern Centre in Hythe. In addition to providing an excellent tea, the centre has very good facilities including a well-stocked shop selling gifts, confectionery, knitting wool, etc. Priority will be given to people who have poor mobility and those who have little opportunity to get out. Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to join us. The coach will leave from the bottom of Western Avenue (opposite Green Court) at 2pm, returning at about 5.30pm. Transport can be arranged to the pick-up point. Although costs have risen, we hope to keep the cost to £3.

Gardeners

Please don't forget there will be a plant stall at our Annual Coffee Morning on 1st June. Your surplus plants, cuttings and seedlings will be most welcome. This is always a well-stocked stall and is well worth a visit.

Coffee

The March Coffee Pop-In was well attended. April's is on Wednesday, 10th between the usual hours of 10.15 and 11.45am in Bridge Village Hall.

Joan Warren, 830233

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

Hon Secretary: Mr T. J. Flisher, 52 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830871)

Hon Treasurer: Mr K. Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr A. Wills, 10 Brooklands Close, Fordwich, Canterbury CT2 0BT (711278)

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

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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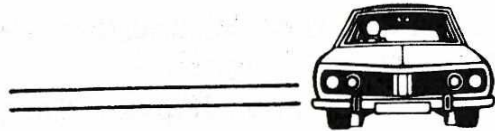
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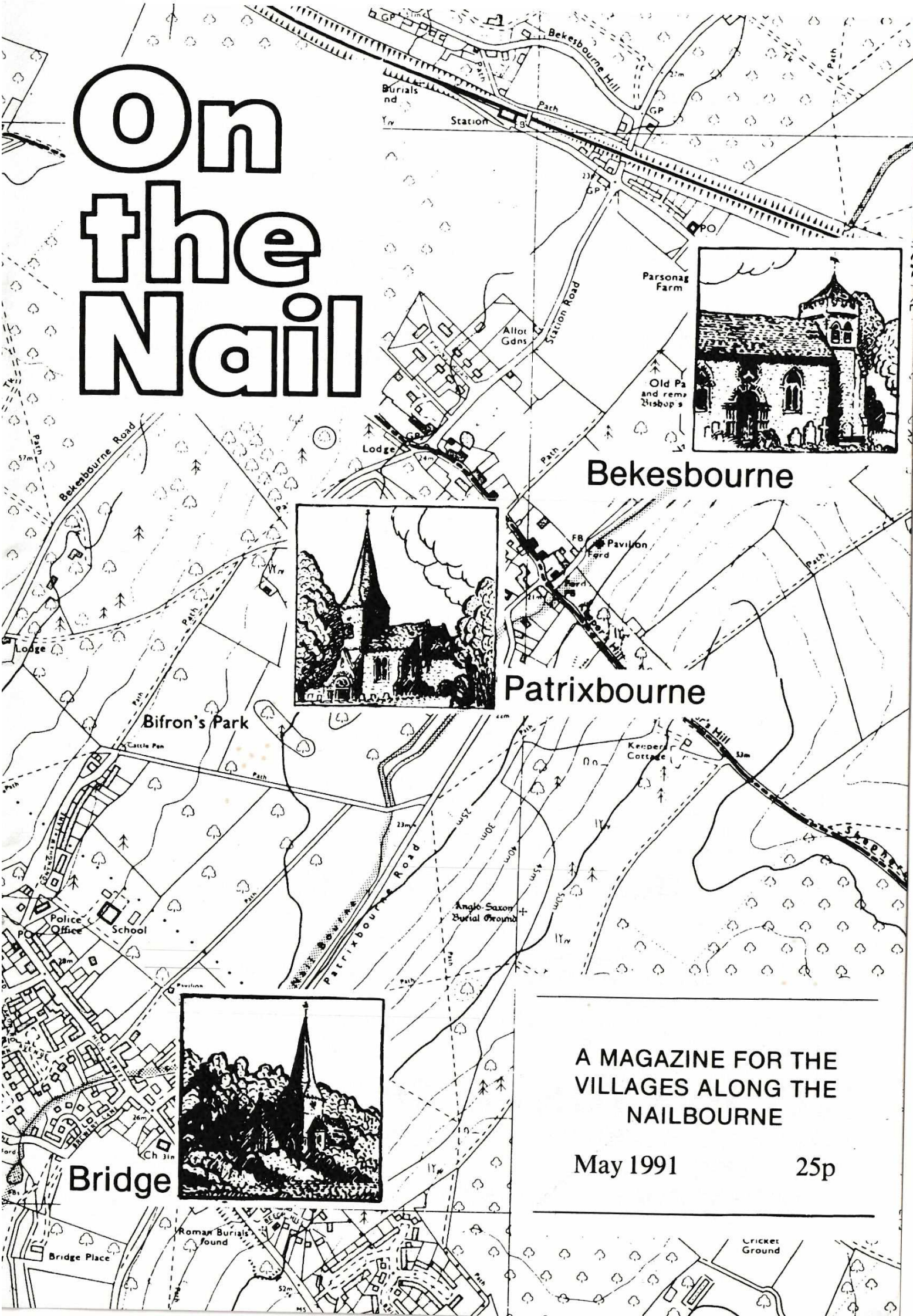
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On the Nail



Bekebourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE
VILLAGES ALONG THE
NAILBOURNE

May 1991

25p

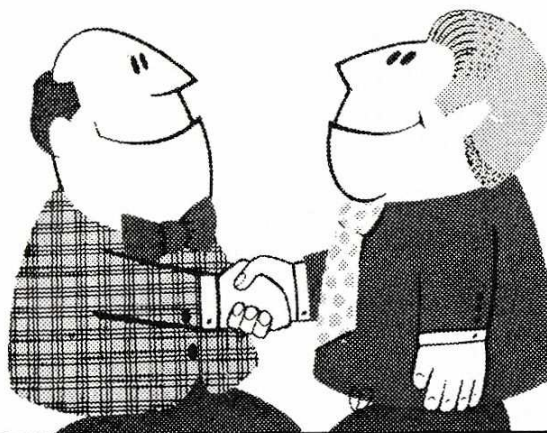
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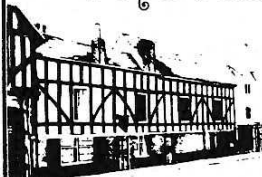
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Sunday Worship in May

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*)
3.30pm Holy Baptism
6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

19th:

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

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

26th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

2nd June:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion
3.30pm Holy Baptism

● *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.*

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *5th*, Mr Alistair Barwick, BSc *12th*, Holy Communion, The Revd Sheila Foreman *19th*, Chapel Anniversary, The Revd John Turner, BA *26th*, Mr Leslie Dron *Bridge Methodists' Chapel Anniversary continues on Tuesday, 21st with a service at 7.15pm conducted by The Revd John Forster, BD, DipEd*

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday mornings (*Rite A*) at 7.30, except on 10th and 31st. 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 Philip and St James, Apostles*
- 2nd *St Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, Teacher of the Faith, 373*
Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 4th *Salvation Army Concert at St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne, 7.30pm*
- 5th **Fifth Sunday after Easter** *Rogation Sunday*
- 6th Rogation Day
- 7th Rogation Day
- 8th *Julian of Norwich, Mystic, c1417*
Rogation Day
- 9th **Ascension Day**
The Eucharist, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm

- Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 11th Friends of The New Close Coffee Morning, 10.30 - 11.45am
Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Bridge School Hall, 7.30pm
- 12th **Sunday after Ascension Day**
- 13th *Christian Aid* Week begins.
- 14th *St Matthias the Apostle*
Churchwardens, Sidesmen and PCC members of both parishes attend the Archdeacon's Visitation in the Cathedral at 7.30pm
- 15th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 16th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 17th Fish Scheme AGM, Bridge Methodist Church, 7.45pm
- 19th **Pentecost** or *Whit Sunday*
- 21st Pray for the East Bridge Deanery Synod which meets this evening. Our representatives are John Purchase (*Bekesbourne*), Sheila Fenn, Kath Pierce and Evelyn Andrews (*Patricxbourne with Bridge*).
Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 24th *John and Charles Wesley, Priests, Poets and Teachers of the Faith, 1791, 1788*
- 25th *Venerable Bede, Priest, Monk of Jarrow, 735*
- 26th **Trinity Sunday**
- 30th *Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of the Holy Communion*
The Eucharist, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm

What next?

I've just got home from Canterbury having along with two thousand-plus others attended the enthronement of our new archbishop. As you no doubt saw on TV it was a splendid occasion staged as only the Church of England can, rich in music and ceremonial. In fact not at all as the Press had led us to believe.

We had the charismatic experience we were promised — at least I think we did, for the group of singers was stationed so far east it was impossible to see them and almost impossible to hear them if you were in the cathedral. Added to which their contribution largely got lost in the general camaraderie of exchanging the peace. Apropos of which quite a number in the congregation having shaken hands with their immediate neighbours chose to venture further afield, taking the opportunity to renew acquaintances, so the singers really stood no chance. Where I was sitting in the Quire the general comment was, "Is this what all the fuss was about?" and some of us questioned the wisdom of dragging busy people down from London to make joyous off-stage sounds. Maybe they were there to make a point, but if so what was it?

Our new archbishop is said to be enthusiastic for charismatic junkettings but in the privacy of the Chapter House ceremony after the cathedral service and to which only the Cathedral Foundation was present his Grace thanked the choir for their efforts and raised a laugh by saying, "Contrary to what many people seem to think I actually rather like cathedral music".

* * *

Anyway, all that's behind us now and the ministry of the 103rd Archbishop is off the ground in earnest. What of the future? Today he was full of vitality and at his ease, but how long will it last? Many of us noticed when Lord Runcie came to Bridge just over a year ago, admittedly at the end of his 'reign', how desperately tired he was and how the burden of his responsibilities was taking its toll. Archbishop Carey is a much younger man, but even then the task he must set his face towards has by universal acclaim become all but impossible for one man to perform. That is why we must pray often and with true sincerity for George, our Archbishop.

And what, we might justly ask, is in store for us in Canterbury diocese? Having had to get used to sharing our 'bishop' with the rest of Anglican Christendom how much can we expect from Dr Carey? No doubt his intentions are good but circumstances could so easily take him over and he be forced to concede the London end will triumph. Yet further cause for prayer in his direction!

* * *

However, we've no excuse to be other than in good heart, mindful that Archbishops of Canterbury are like all Christians in not being their own masters. We are all servants of the crucified. So for George Leonard Carey as for us our Lord's assurance at the end of St Matthew's Gospel stands firm and sure: "Know that I am with you always, yes, to the close of the age".

Announcing the Bridge and Patrixbourne Church Day

At the recent Annual Parochial Church Meeting of Patrixbourne with Bridge I mentioned the PCC's plan for a Church Day on 28th September, and I repeat here what I said at the meeting, because it applied to all church people and most weren't present for one reason or another.

You'll have heard of *Project 91*, which is a scheme to redecorate and improve the heating in Bridge Church. The PCC set up a small committee to explore this, the gang of three comprising Arnold Wills as chairman, Alicia Pentin and Tony Walder — three very enthusiastic people with all the right contacts. Their remit was raising the necessary money, but the secretary of the DAC, whom they consulted, sensibly suggested that any appeal should allow for other contingencies, on the basis that people are more likely to respond to a single large appeal than sporadic little ones.

Then things began to snowball and it soon became apparent we were entering a wider area altogether than just building matters; that what we were moving towards in fact was some kind of overall parish self-appraisal. Taking our cue from the Decade of Evangelism the PCC felt the church's work in both villages would benefit from a whole day of discussion underpinned by prayer and preferably taking place outside the parish. The intention would first be to assess the past decade, then, in the light of our findings, devise a strategy for the next. The PCC sought advice from the Revd David Ratcliff, the diocese's expert in these matters, who came to the meeting and gently guided our thinking. Amongst possible areas of discussion on the day might be worship, work with children and young people, the healing ministry, our relations with other churches, and the pastoral ministry — about which we shall canvass your views both before and on the day. In each of these departments the use of

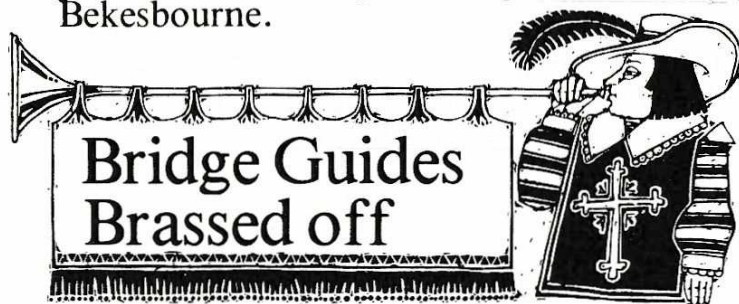
Church buildings will naturally feature, so we won't lose sight of our original venture. The theme for the day is *The Church in the Community* and it will be considered within the setting of the eucharist. We shall begin with the Ministry of the Word, then go off into various workshops, come together after lunch in plenary session, ending the day with the rest of the Eucharist, including of course Communion. In other words the whole day will be encased in prayer and the Church's worship.

That's enough for now, except to tell you we've fixed the Church Day for Saturday, 28th September, so would you please book that date in your diaries now, since your presence is urgently requested. The preparation committee has already met and will meet again as often as it takes to get the day's programme absolutely right. The PCC wholeheartedly commends this Church Day to you, believing it will be both an exciting experience for everyone involved and of profit to the future of the church in this place. We cannot underestimate the importance of your support.

Not forgetting Bekesbourne

At Bekesbourne's Annual Church Meeting I suggested we might conduct our own self-appraisal, though perhaps on a rather smaller scale. To quote my actual words; "On a personal note, I sense myself at a cross-roads in my ministry and would welcome the chance to share with others my hopes and fears for the future; what I'm really after is an opportunity to meet with anyone who's interested to explore freely and honestly and with no pre-conceptions any feelings or aspirations we may have respecting the parish. I'd value the PCC's reaction to this request".

In due course I hope we shall proceed with this in whatever way seems appropriate to our needs, but in the meanwhile I would ask all who support St Peter's Church to pray about this. Some such exercise, with all interested parties contributing, could give a fresh impetus to the life of the church in Bekesbourne.



1st Bridge Guides Catherine Pike, Nicola Fagg and Claire Hudson write:

On the 6th April Bridge Guides Brass Group went up to London to play in a concert at the Barbican Centre in aid of refurbishing the Guide headquarters. We were accompanied by leaders Mrs Wilmhurst and Mrs Field, Dr Field who drove the minibus, and Emma Field who was our conductor.

We arrived at nine o'clock and at half past nine we had a rehearsal that lasted until lunchtime. After eating we had our make-up put on and played in the entrance hall before the afternoon concert.

In the concert we played three pieces which lasted six minutes, then Emma sang a song she had composed. Before the evening concert, which we were not playing in, we played in the entrance hall again.

At 7.15 we left for home, a very tired but happy group and sang all the way home in the bus.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 21st at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. This will be our Birthday meeting — seventy-two years! Members to celebrate with a Fish & Chip supper! P.H.

The Children's Society

The envelope collection in Bridge raised a total of £412.63 for The Children's Society. Grateful thanks to all the helpers and contributors for their generosity.

It is hoped to empty the collecting boxes held at home by supporters of the Society this month. Holders will be contacted to arrange a convenient time for them in due course. If there is anyone who does not have a box but would like one (they make a good home for small coins, which soon mount up, and the smallest of contributions are gratefully received by the Society) please contact me at 19 Bridge Down (tel 830466). Kathy Eynon

Friends of The New Close

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends was held at The New Close on Wednesday, 10th April. The financial statement was presented and approved. The Chairman, Mr Cartwright, the Treasurer, Mr Butler, the Secretary, Mrs Knight were re-elected. New ways of entertaining the residents were discussed. A Coffee Morning to raise funds was fixed for Saturday, 11th May from 10.30 to 11.45am at The New Close.

Residents of the Nailbourne villages are invited to support this event with gifts for the raffle and stalls, e.g. cakes, preserves, bric-a-brac, toys, etc. Enquiries to Mr Cartwright on 831095. OIKnight

* * *

Last month's edition had gone to press before the cremation took place of **Frank Terry**, formerly of 6 Windmill Close, who died on 14th March, aged 88. Mr Terry had lived alone since his wife died. The vicar officiated at a funeral service in Barham crematorium on 22nd March.

Christian Aid Week

by Muriel Packer

'We believe in life *before* death' is the theme for this year's Christian Aid Week. There have been many tragedies throughout the world since Christian Aid Week 1990 and it is understandable that Michael Taylor, Christian Aid's Director, is sometimes asked how he keeps his spirits up in a job which brings him into contact with so much suffering. His answer is to recall the courage, determination and cheerfulness of the local people, working in the midst of the disasters which most of us experience only through our TV screens. How do these people keep *their* spirits up? By working together, encouraged by the knowledge that they can rely on you (and me) through Christian Aid to provide support. Christian Aid Week gives all of us an opportunity to guarantee that support. We must not let them down.

Best kept village

On behalf of its parishioners Bridge Parish Council has entered the village for the *Best Kept Village* and *South East in Bloom* competitions.

We ask for the co-operation *and* participation of all parishioners, particularly during the months of May, June and July, in making our village a worthy competitor and enhancing the environment for the enjoyment of everyone in the parish.

Marks are awarded for lack of litter, for the tidiness and appearance of gardens and property generally and for the obvious involvement of as much of the community as possible.

Competitions are being arranged for best hanging basket, best tub/window box, and for the best external floral decoration of commercial premises (further information shortly).

If you have any ideas which would help, or if you need more information, please contact Cllr Reg Franklin, 20 Windmill Close, Bridge (tel 830347).

contributed by Bridge Parish Council



Anyone for new Tennis?

The new season opened with summer time on 1st April. Everything is new this year. The new surface has settled down well and soon we will have a new two-tone green colour spray. The new nets are hung on new posts.

New members are invited to come along and give it a try. Senior club sessions are on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6pm and Saturdays from 2pm; Tuesday evenings are being kept free for juniors. A tournament (for fun) is fixed for May Day Holiday, Monday, 6th May at 2pm — all seniors are welcome. The courts are available for members' use at all other times, unless matches or Stafford House lettings have been arranged.

A 50% reduction for junior (under 14) subscription to just £5 if offered this year to encourage many more to join and play.

Whatever your age or standard, come along and join in our enjoyment of the game.

*Dermot Stewart, Chairman, 830493 & Hilary Whiting,
Secretary, 830506*

Lloyd Webber comes to Bridge

No, not himself in person exactly but at least his music! To be more specific his popular *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, which is to be performed in a concert version directed by Arnold Wills in Bridge School Hall on Saturday, 11th May at 7.30pm.

The singers are all local and comprise Bridge Church Choir and reinforcements, some of whom I'll bet you didn't know could sing. Rehearsals have been in full swing for some time and you are guaranteed an entertaining musical evening if you care to come along.

A Tale told in Old Jerusalem

The Best Friend

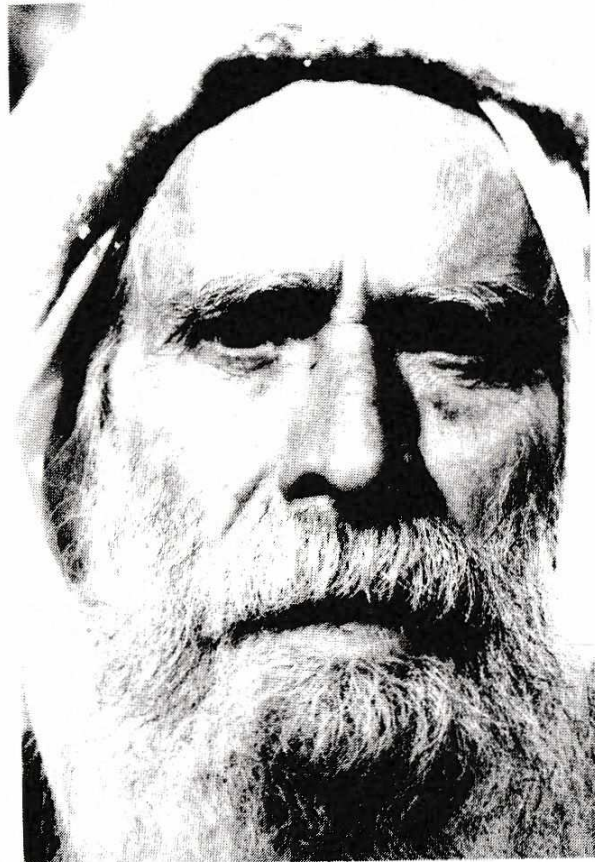
The old Rabbi was revered and loved by all the people of the town, and indeed men and women came from villages and hamlets throughout the region to hear him. They listened attentively when he explained the law in the synagogue; they brought their quarrels to him for just settlements which left both sides satisfied, and mothers brought their babies to him for blessing. So the fame of this kind and godly man grew, everyone agreeing how blessed they were to have the good Rabbi among them. Only one man disagreed – Aaron the tanner.

Aaron listened as carefully as anyone to the sermons in the synagogues, but he was alert to pick up any error or inconsistency. He dismissed the blessing of babies as vulgar popularity seeking. He criticised the Rabbi's decisions and found flaws in his reasoning. The anger of the Rabbi's admirers only provoked Aaron to look for more faults.

Then Aaron died suddenly. Most people said that it was God's judgement on him. As most of Aaron's own family had died or left home, there were few to mourn him.

Only one person showed genuine grief and that was the Rabbi. "Why do you weep?" asked the Rabbi's bewildered followers. "He was your enemy, your chief critic, the one who always found

fault with you." "He was my truest friend," replied the Rabbi. "He forced me to think clearly and reason carefully. Who is there now to show me my faults?"



An old Rabbi

Reproduced from the Bible Lands Society's magazine *The Star in the East*.

Getting to church



We should like to remind anyone in Bridge who wants to attend Sunday worship at St Peter's Church but for whatever reason finds it difficult to get there on foot, that transport is always available.

Just give Mrs Enid Wintle a call on 830728 and she will be only too happy to make the necessary arrangements.

Coming to St Peter's, Bekesbourne . . .

. . . the acclaimed performance by The and William Carr, Raymond Gilbert and Catherine Pike of Clive Sansom's *The Witnesses*.

The date is 28th June. Further details next month.



The Salvation Army

Musicians drawn from the Canterbury District of The Salvation Army are giving a Concert in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne on Saturday, May 4th at 7.30pm. We are delighted that they are coming — their music is always of the highest order and varied, appreciated by all.

They have agreed to mount the Concert to help Bekesbourne raise funds for urgent repairs; so there will be no charge but a retiring collection. Please come; the evening will be a grand experience. *JP*

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The last meeting of the present Parish Council was on Thursday, 11th April when first matters discussed included items raised at the Annual Parish Meeting on the 26th March. As a result, the Clerk was to make enquiries either about using a growth retardant on, or arranging for periodic cutting of the strip of land between the Recreation Ground and Patricxbourne Road. The Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mervyn Gulvin and Reg Franklin were to start work on repairs and maintenance to the playground equipment, and the Clerk was to invite an Officer from the Canterbury City Council to address a public meeting in Bridge concerning the City Council's draft District Local Plan at an appropriate time in the period given to public consultation this year.

Village Spring Clean Firstly, major work is being carried out at the Village Hall. The left wall is having a damp course put in and new guttering fixed prior to re-decoration in the late summer. The village itself is already looking much cleaner thanks to the efforts of the new street cleaner. The City Council too has been active cleaning and sweeping the streets now that they have taken over legal responsibilities for street cleaning under the

Environmental Protection Act 1990. Just to make sure that not one piece of litter escapes, the Parish Council are holding their Anti-Litter Day on Saturday, 20th April commencing at 9.30am from the rear of the Village Hall. Please come along and join us with your black sacks, brooms etc to help get the village spick and span and ready to win the *Best Kept Village* Competition this year. Cllr Franklin is co-ordinating our entry and already has several ideas to set Bridge on a winning streak. The Parish Council have arranged for the area around the pavilion to be tidied up, which will include some replanting and the creation of a weed-free area covered with wood chippings. The bank which has materialised between the football and cricket pitches is to be cleared, graded and re-seeded so that it can be mowed properly again. The playground equipment is scheduled for repainting at a cost of £300. Conyngham Lane, too, is to receive 'the treatment'. Savills, the agents for the Conyngham Estate, have arranged for the wooded area opposite the houses there to be tidied and cleared of lopped branches and other debris.

If all this is not enough, the City Council are to let us have some new litter-

bins. So we have no excuse for not winning the *Best Kept Village* this year! It is up to you, the residents, now.

Planning proposals Planning permission has been granted by the City Council for the floodlighting of the tennis courts. The Parish Council has questioned the possible need for external fire staircases in the sheltered housing scheme conversion proposed for Churchill House, Union Road and likewise, in the revised scheme for a proposed change of use to form an Old Persons Retirement Home with staff accommodation and car parking provision at Field House, Station Road. (Permission has previously been granted for change of use despite the Parish Council's opposition.)

Footpaths Leaflet The leaflet showing the public rights of way and suggested walks in the Parish is now printed and available free from various points in the village. The cost of printing these has been offset by advertising and a generous donation from Savills on behalf of the Conyngham Estate. The Chairman, Cllr John Hill, thanked the Vice-Chairman

and Cllr Mrs Meriel Connor for their work in producing the leaflet and also Mrs Julia Rowntree who kindly did the drawing of the Church for the front cover.

More thanks The Chairman also thanked Cllr Mrs Margaret Jones for representing the Council at a seminar on environmental issues arranged by the City Council. The Vice-Chairman and Cllr Mrs Ann King were thanked for attending meetings of the Nailbourne Youth Club. It is hoped that a new youth leader might be appointed soon in order to get the Club going again. Thanks, too, went to Cllr Mrs Billie Anderson who was to care for the newly-planted trees on the Recreation Ground. Finally, the Chairman thanked all members for their work and support over the last four year term and especially Cllr Tim Hoare who was retiring from Parish Council work after twenty-two years.

The next meeting of the Parish Council, after the local elections on May 2nd, will be on Thursday, 9th May at the usual time of 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K A Walder, Clerk

Fish News



Annual Coffee Morning with Bring & Buy Sale

To be held in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday, 1st June from 10.30am to 12 noon, this is our only fund-raising event in the year, and we need to raise at least £200 towards the cost of our work caring for the elderly and others in need of help in our four villages. With the cutting back of statutory services, this help is needed more than ever. There will be stalls for plants, cakes, groceries, gifts, 'white elephants' and a raffle.

Annual Meeting

All local residents are invited to join us for our annual meeting when we will be reporting on the year's work and discussing the working of the scheme. The meeting will be held at 7.45pm on Friday, 17th May in Bridge Methodist Church. We welcome any suggestions you have for improving the scheme.

Coffee Pop-In

PLEASE NOTE this month the Pop-In will be on the *third* Wednesday of the Month, 15th May, in Bridge Village Hall at the usual time.

Chiropody

The Mobile clinic will be at The New Close from Monday, 20th till Friday, 24th May.

Blossom Tour

This will be on Wednesday, 8th May. The coach leaves the bottom of Western Avenue (opposite Green Court) at 2.15pm. Please be there about 1.50pm as it takes some time to get everyone aboard and seated. If you haven't booked and

would like to join us please contact me to see if there have been any last minute cancellations.

Joan Warren, 830233

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

Cleaning and Flower Rota

4th Mrs Mount, 11th Mrs Millyard 18th Mrs Fry, 25th Mrs Farbrace, 1st June Mrs Gillanders

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

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

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

Mr H.P.M. Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5HA (830472)

Hon Secretary: Mr T. J. Flisher, 52 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830871)

Hon Treasurer: Mr K. Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr A. Wills, 10 Brooklands Close, Fordwich, Canterbury CT2 0BT (711278)

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

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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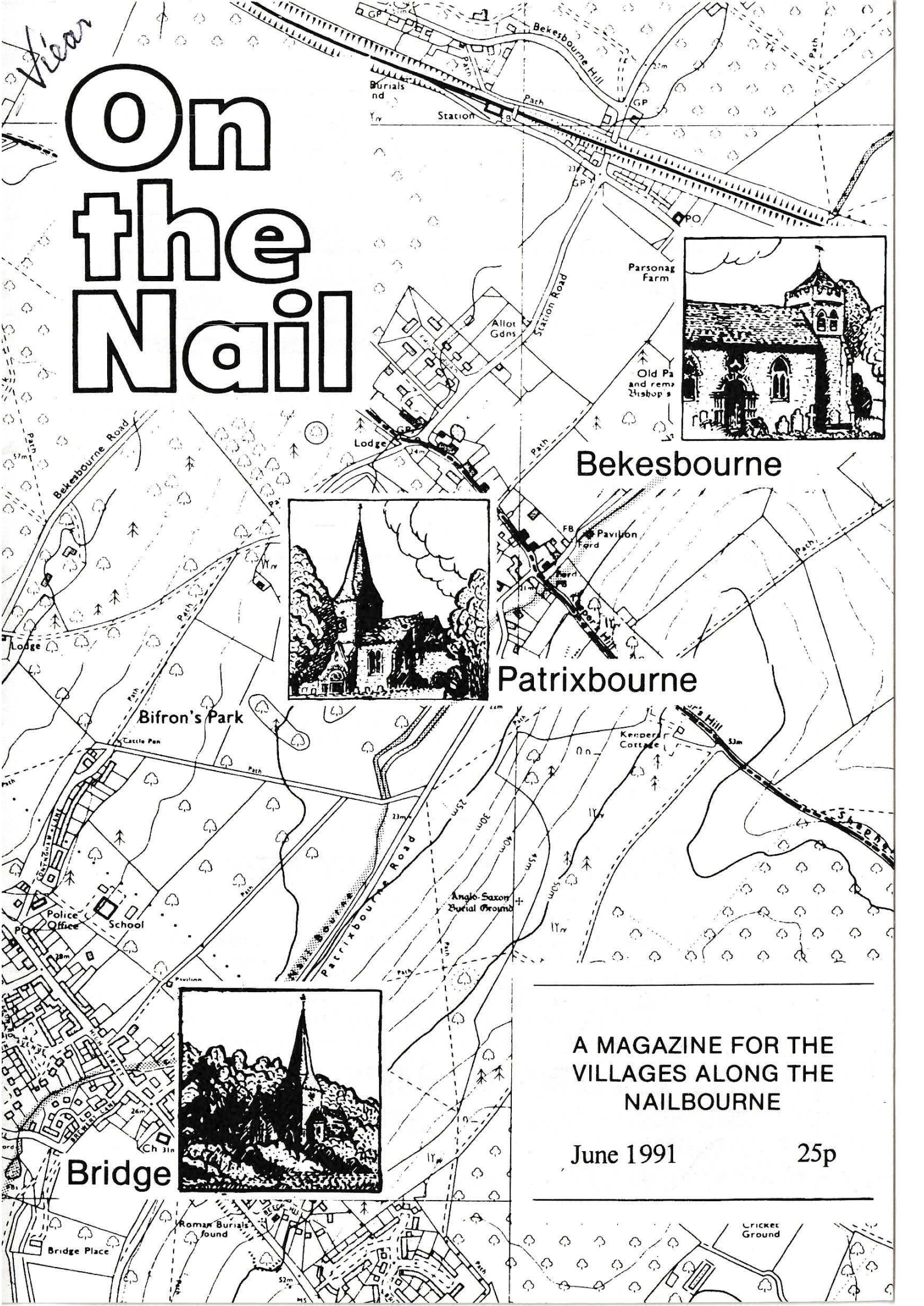
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Vicar

On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patricxbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE
VILLAGES ALONG THE
NAILBOURNE

June 1991

25p

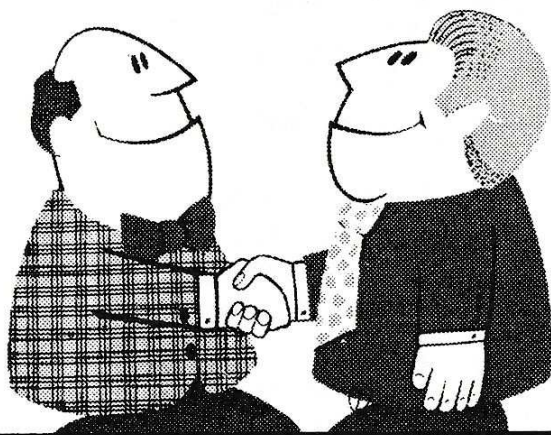
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Sunday Worship in June

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
2nd: 11am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion 3.30 Holy Baptism
9th: 9.30 The Eucharist (<i>ASB Rite A</i>) 6.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
16th: 9.30 Parish Communion (<i>ASB Rite A</i>) 6.30pm Evensong (<i>Canon F Bull</i>)	8am Holy Communion	11am Matins
23rd: 8am Holy Communion 6.30pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion	11am Matins
30th: 9.30 The Eucharist (<i>ASB Rite A</i>) with The Laying-on of Hands 6.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
7th June: 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.*

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *2nd*, Miss Joan Charlesworth *9th*, Dr Eileen Tresidder *16th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Sheila Foreman *23rd*, The Revd John Forster *30th*, Dr Doreen Rosman

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday mornings (*Rite A*) at 7.30. 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 *Justin, Martyr at Rome, c165*
Fish Scheme Coffee Morning, Bridge Village Hall, 10.30 – 12 noon
- 2nd **First Sunday after Trinity : 2 after Pentecost**
- 4th Pray for the Deanery Clergy who meet this morning at Ash.
- 5th *St Boniface, Bishop, Missionary, Martyr, 754*
Nailbourne Scout Group AGM, Bridge Village Hall, 7pm
Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meeting, Bridge Methodist Church
- 6th 'Samaritans' Fund-raising, 18 Conyngham Lane, 10.30 – 12 noon & 2 – 3.45pm
Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm

- 8th Pray for Susan Martin and Tim Waters who are to be married today at Patrixbourne
- 9th **Second Sunday after Trinity : 3 after Pentecost**
- 11th *St Barnabas the Apostle*
- 12th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 – 11.45am
- 13th Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.45pm
- 16th **Third Sunday after Trinity : 4 after Pentecost**
- 18th Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 20th *Safe as Houses*, a Crime Prevention Play performed at Bridge School by the children of Class 2 for Senior Citizens, 2pm
Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
Bekesbourne PCC meets, School House, 8pm
- 22nd *St Alban, first Martyr of Britain, c209*
BRIDGE VILLAGE FETE from 12 noon
- 23rd **Fourth Sunday after Trinity : 5 after Pentecost**
- 24th *Birth of St John the Baptist*
- 27th *The Witnesses* in Bekesbourne Church, 7.45pm
- 28th *St Irenaeus, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr*
- 29th *St Peter the Apostle, Patron of Bridge and Bekesbourne*
Pray for Andrew Round and Helen Galatis who are to be married today at Bridge
- 30th **Fifth Sunday after Trinity : 6 after Pentecost**
Morning worship at both Bridge and Bekesbourne will be in celebration of St Peter, our Patron Saint.

Church links

The visit of Urs and Marianne Jörg at the end of April, apart from achieving what it set out to regarding the Canterbury diocesan link with the Reformed Church in Basel and neighbouring areas of Germany has almost unwittingly though pleasingly established a link between St Mark's Church, Basel and St Peter's Church, Bridge. Among the gifts the Jörgs brought with them was a greetings card bearing their parish emblem and signed by the members of St Mark's Church Council. It brought greetings to our PCC (it's on the table at the back of Bridge Church for all to see). In addition Urs and Marianne presented us with twelve wine glasses, each bearing the same emblem, the symbolic lion of St Mark. How this link will progress it's hard to say, but it's good to know there are Christians in Switzerland who have us specially in their thoughts and prayers and with whom we have a contact.

* * *

On the other hand the link with St Aidan's in Sheffield is now very well established and will continue even despite the *Church Urban Fund* that inspired it having been wound up as far as we are concerned. Now read on for the latest news of the St Aidan's link, a report by Kath Pierce of a recent visit to our Sheffield friends from Bridge and Patrixbourne.

I had the privilege of travelling with Hilary and Stephen Pike (in an ambulance of all things) to Sheffield on the weekend 27th/28th April. The purpose of our visit was to take a load of good quality clothes donated generously by many in this area, to the second-hand clothes shop *Genesis*, which is run by St Swithin's and St Aidan's, our link parish.

We received a very warm welcome from John and Barbara Packer

when we arrived at the rectory after a journey lasting nearly five hours. After a rest and nourishment we then took the ambulance to the shop, where Pauline and Sue were waiting for us. They gave us a helping hand to off-load all the bags, boxes and cases. Before we had finished, a van arrived from a York parish with yet more clothes and soon after it came Andrea Nicholson, with her car load of clothes! Pauline and Sue were going to be kept busy unpacking for the rest of the afternoon! Sue told us that they sell 1,000 items each week in the shop, so the demand is great.

Thanks to the Church Urban Fund

John Packer and Sue (the Baptist minister) took us round the new St Swithin's Church Centre, which had been built in the past eighteen months on the site of the demolished old church. St Swithin's is a combined Baptist and Anglican Church. All services are shared.

The centre has a church, hall, lounge, kitchen and meeting rooms and is used daily for such activities as Sunday School, Friendship Hour, study groups, alcohol and drug-related problems and coffee and tea breaks. The *Good News* van (a travelling library of Christian books) comes to the centre. The Red Cross will soon be running a Day Centre for the elderly who need special care and they also hope to set up a group for young people. A lot is happening at the Church Centre and the people know that the church cares about them enough to do something about it.

On returning to St Aidan's area we had a delicious hot meal with Denise and Alan and daughter Clare. Denise and Clare came with the party to Bridge last October, so some of you may remember them. Later they took us up on Sky Edge, just yards from their council house, where there is a commanding view over Sheffield. We looked down on St Aidan's Church in one direction and then on one of the Sheffield football grounds and the dome of the Crucible Theatre, where the world snooker tournament was in full swing. Sky Edge is aptly named as you really feel you are on the edge of the sky as you look down on a sixteen-storey block of high-rise flats. Little did I know at that moment that I would be spending the night in a flat on the twelfth floor of one of them!

And the next day

We had the same warm welcome at the Parish Eucharist in St Aidan's Church on Sunday morning, where the children share in the service at the commencement and then go to rooms off for their lesson and return later to share in the Communion.

Everyone's generosity and warmth of friendship made us feel very privileged to have shared the weekend with them and we came away more enriched than when we went, knowing that we have a very special place in the hearts of our friends in St Aidan's and we trust that they too know they have a special place in our hearts as well.

We shared in a right royal banquet afterwards at the rectory, superbly cooked by Barbara, who also managed to attend the Eucharist and take a Sunday School class, before starting our homeward journey.

What's all this then?

Stephen drove first and that was when we had an encounter with the Sheffield Police. He was driving within the speed limit, obeying all the rules of the road, had his seat belt on and yet the Police were hooting us

to pull over. We were all a bit puzzled and a little apprehensive. The reason for pulling us up? They were curious and somewhat suspicious to know why a Kent ambulance was so far away from base, with no obvious casualties aboard and on a Sunday! However, they were satisfied with Stephen's explanation and wished us a safe journey home.

A change of Churchwarden

Having served five years as churchwarden with special responsibility for Bridge Church Stephen Pike felt in need of a break, and who can blame him. So at the Annual Vestry Meeting that always precedes the Annual Parochial Church Meeting he was replaced by Peter Lawrence, who was churchwarden when I came here and in recent years did a great job as deputy churchwarden.

Family joys

The wedding took place in St Peter's Church, Bridge on 27th April of Catherine Round, 'Coppins', Beech Hill and Alastair Granger of Barton-on-Sea, Hants. We wish them a long and happy marriage.

* * *

Also in Bridge Church the Baptism took place on 12th May of Kieran Andrew, son of Wendy Lewis, formerly of 37 High Street.

Bridge Village Fête, 22nd June

The event of Bridge Summer Season is upon us! This year the fête is to be held on 22nd June on the school playing field. Like last year we will be starting at 12 noon and we hope you will join us for lunch before spending a pleasant afternoon listening to the band and wandering round the stalls.

We have lots of exciting things planned, including an army display, coconut shies, Canterbury Youth Band, welly-throwing, a beer/wine tent and a competition for the best full size scarecrow. All your favourite stalls will be there, including cakes, produce and fancy goods.

To provide all these delights we are, of course, seeking your help! Our collectors will be coming round for your contributions and we know we can rely on your usual generous support to make this occasion a success. All gifts of cakes, bottles (full ones!), groceries, fancy goods, toys, books etc. will be most gratefully received.

Please put the date in your diary straight away! The school and the church are both in need of your help!

On The Nail Noticeboard

Samaritans

The annual fund-raising day at 18 Conyngham Lane will be on Thursday, 6th June. Please come for a cup of coffee between 10.30am and noon or a cup of tea between 2 and 3.45pm. Bring-and-Buy, Raffle, Plants, etc.

M. E. J.

Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 18th June at 7.30pm in Bridge

Village Hall. The speaker is Mrs R Ball, her subject being *An evening with my favourite men!* The competition is for a gingerbread man. New members very welcome.

P. H.

Dear Senior Citizens

We are writing to invite you to a performance of our Crime Prevention play *Safe as Houses* on Thursday, 20th June in Bridge School.

If you were to arrive at 2pm, the play would be finished by about 2,30pm and we would be pleased to offer you tea afterwards.

All of us in Class 2 look forward to hearing from you, and we hope to see you on Thursday, 20th if it is convenient.

Yours sincerely, Katy Duplock and Class 2.

RSVP to Mrs Andrews or Mrs Ross at school on 830276.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

A visit to the Horticultural Department of Canterbury Technical College at Spring Lane has been organised for the evening of Thursday, 27th June to a limited number of twenty members. Those who are interested should contact Rajini Dasan on 830313 (after 4pm) as soon as possible for details. There will be a small charge for refreshments.

R. D.

Knitting Wool

The residents of Saxon Lodge are knitting blankets for the *Save the Children Fund* and need more wool. They would be grateful for any oddments left over from your knitting.

Penelope Upton

BKV and SE in Bloom Competitions

Bridge Parish Council would like to thank those few persons who have so far helped in our efforts to make our village the best kept in the county. Our street cleaner has done a great job so far, but some litter is still being carelessly disposed of. Please *do* use the several litter bins which are there!

We still need help in making boxes for floral displays (wood is provided) and help in wielding an odd paint brush or two. If you can assist please contact Reg Franklin, 20 Windmill Close (830347).

Acknowledgement is hereby made of those businesses and professional practices in the village who have made financial sponsorship towards the *BKV* and *SE in Bloom* competitions. A list of names appears on the Parish Noticeboard. Please accept our thanks for this generous help.

R. F.

A triumphant 'Joseph'

by a delighted member of the audience

If you were not at Bridge School on the evening of Saturday, 11th May you missed a rare treat! Arnold Wills superbly directed the Church Choir and other children and adults in a wonderful concert version of *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. It was a polished performance - very lively and entertaining and full of fun!

There were shouts for encore after encore at the end and Arnie even had the audience doing some of the actions. He is to be congratulated on his dedication and enthusiasm. Thank you Arnie and all who participated for a wonderful evening and may this be the start of more treats to come. In the meanwhile, any chance of a repeat performance? I for one could easily sit through all the songs and music again. It was so refreshing to watch such a happy band of singers.

We need those clothes

As you will have seen in the leading article of this magazine we have recently delivered a supply of clothes to St Aidan's, Sheffield for sale in their shop *Genesis*. We are now starting to collect again for next year so if you have any good quality clothes which you no longer need please let us have them. In particular demand are children's, men's and 'large' ladies' clothes; also shoes. If you are having a clear-out of winter or summer clothes think of us first; the shop sells a thousand items per week and we have agreed to stock it for a month!

Also, if you can offer storage space for these clothes (or even some of them) please contact us. The more help we can get the less disruption for everybody. So what about that empty cupboard or a corner of the spare room. If you can help please contact the vicar, Andrea Nicholson, Hilary or Stephen Pike.

S. R. P.

In my opinion

In a number of magazine articles under this heading to appear in the run-up to Patricbourne and Bridge's Church Day on 28th September, members of the planning group will be expressing their own feelings about the various topics to be dealt with in a series of workshops at the Church Day. Alicia Pentin begins with her slant on the church buildings.

Our ancient church in Patricbourne attracts a thousand visitors each year. This astounding fact leads us to realize that we have not only a wonderful place of worship but also that we have a duty to preserve it in good order. At the moment it is in relatively good condition; we must not allow it to become neglected in any way.

* * *

Although St Peter's, Bridge may not be quite so beautiful it has other distinctive features and benefits. It has a very fine barge ceiling and a greater seating capacity which is needed now that the congregation is so much larger. Gradually over the last ten years there has been a renewal of worship and Bridge services are the focal point for many families. The Lady Chapel refurbishment has made a great difference to the appearance of the church and great care and commitment have been shown by a number of people who have worked so hard to beautify both our churches.

* * *

In Raymond's article last month on *Project 91* he wrote about the Church Day on 28th September, when we plan to look at our parish generally. We will be inviting everyone who cares, not only about our churches as buildings but about the role of *The Church in the Community* (the theme for the Church Day). We need to look objectively at ourselves as custodians of our marvellous buildings and how we as Christians can best use them to promote the teaching of our Lord.

Nailbourne Scout Group

The date of the AGM has been changed to 5th June in Bridge Village Hall, with cubs at 6pm and the parents invited at 7pm. At the meeting Graham Atkins will step down as Chairman in favour of Stewart Colthart, but will remain on the executive committee. Grateful thanks to Graham and good

wishes wishes to Stewart for his term 'at the sharp end'. Rosie Green and Penny Boas are stepping down from the committee and it must be said that without their organisation in the past, Cubs and Scouts would be a lot poorer. We shall miss them very much and wish them well in the future. This leads me to ask that any volunteers who would be interested in having a say in the group's fund-raising would be most welcome.

* * *

Most parents know that the Scouts are temporarily meeting in Littlebourne due to our current Scout Leaders all moving to pastures new. However, the group will retain its identity and as soon as we can find replacements will be based once more at Bridge. The parents and the committee thank the Scout Leaders for all their past efforts and achievements and wish them well.

In April's *On The Nail* and local papers we appealed for a Group Scout Leader and were lucky to receive several replies. It now looks as if our search is over but we still need Scout Leaders, so if anyone is interested or knows someone who may be please contact the Group Secretary, Sarah Howland, 126 Greenhill Road, Herne Bay.

Chris Finney

Parishioners will I'm sure join the editor in offering congratulations, good wishes and prayers to John Purchase on his election as Lord Mayor of Canterbury

**PARISH
PUMP**
Parish Council
News



Bekebourne with Patrixbourne

Annual Parish Meeting

The meeting took place on Monday, April 29th, 1991 in Bekesbourne Village Hall. The Chairman, Cllr R I Johnston, gave an outline account of the work of the parish council in the preceding twelve months.

Planning Applications The council had scrutinised about fifty applications for planning permission made to Canterbury City Council and had forwarded comments to the City. Power of decision, however, lay wholly with the City authorities; it was good that the City always sought the views of the Parish on these applications, but their decisions by no means reflected the views expressed.

Low-cost Housing Proposals A Survey of the parish had been conducted and further confidential information sought by the NAC Rural Trust from

those parishioners who had expressed an initial interest. The results suggested that there was enough demand to proceed with a small development; the next stage was to hold a special meeting at which parishioners could express their views to the council about an appropriate site (the present allotments which were very largely unused and owned by the parish council, on the face of it, seemed the most suitable site) and any other practical problems. Such a meeting was being called for Monday, 13th May.

Village Hall Some structural repairs to the hall had had to be undertaken during the year, and it looked as if further major and costly repairs would be needed within a few years. The council was, therefore, looking into the possibility of building a new hall elsewhere, perhaps on part of the allotments site, and selling the existing site

for housing development to provide part of the capital needed for the project. Preliminary discussions had been held with representatives of the City Council as planning authority, with an initially favourable response.

Recreation Ground The council had authorised necessary repairs and improvements to the playground equipment with the aid of a grant from the City lottery fund. The council was continuing to negotiate a new long lease with the Sports and Social Club for use of the ground for sports.

Retiring Councillors The Chairman thanked council members for their work over the past year and in particular Councillors Bedingham and Martin who were retiring from the council.

Proposed Development at Aylesham

Mr Geoffrey Nice, from the parish of Aylesham, gave a presentation about a major development in Aylesham planned by the Dover District Council for a thousand houses and a new industrial estate in the triangle of land bounded by the B2046, the Ratling road and the existing village of Aylesham. The industrial estate would be located in the apex of the triangle on high ground overlooking Adisham, with the housing adjacent to the existing village. The particular concern for Bekesbourne was that, if this development went ahead as at present planned and if, as seemed probable, it was designed to meet some of Canterbury's long-term housing need, there would be a consequent major increase in traffic through Bekesbourne, along School Lane and Station Road, eventually emerging by way of Bekesbourne Road onto Town Hill in Bridge.

Street lighting and speed limits In answer to questions the Chairman said that to obtain a 30 mph speed limit in the village would require there to be regular street lighting. Earlier enquiries had shown that neither the County nor the City would be willing to pay and the Parish could not afford to do so. However, the council was making further enquiries as to the cost of installing a single light at the junction of School Lane and Station Road.

Bridge Parish Council

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 9th May, the Chairman Cllr John Hill, firstly welcomed Mrs Joan Monk, the only new councillor for the forthcoming four year term. Cllr Hill was re-elected Chairman for the year, with Cllr Mrs Ann King as Vice-Chairman.

Appointments to the Committees of the Council and other bodies are as follows:

Recreation Ground & Sports Committee: Cllrs Ken Greenaway (also representative to Bridge Village Sports Trust), Mervyn Gulvin and Mrs Joan Monk.

Streets, Footways & Lighting Committee: Cllrs Greenaway & Mrs Margaret Jones.

Environmental Committee: Cllrs Mrs Billie Anderson (Trees Officer), Mrs Meriel Connor (Footpaths Officer), Reg Franklin and Mrs Jones.

Planning Committee: The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Cllr Mrs Connor.

Village Hall Management Committee Representatives: The Vice-Chairman & Cllr Greenaway.

Kent Association of Parish Councils, representative to Area Committee: Cllrs Mrs Anderson and Mrs Monk.

Development Sub-Committee: The Chairman, Cllr Gulvin and Mr Vernon David.

Community Advisor: Cllr Franklin.

Youth Club Representative: Cllr Gulvin.

Mary Gregory Trust: The Vice-Chairman and Mr H P M Lawrence.

If any resident has a matter they wish to raise or discuss, please contact, if it is possible, the relevant Councillor.

Keeping the Village 'up to scratch' The Council are delighted with the splendid efforts of the street cleaner, Christian Pitts, who can be seen regularly around the village now keeping it well swept and free from litter.

The *Best Kept Village* Competition is now under way as is the *South East in Bloom*, and as part of the entry, colourful tubs should be appearing shortly in various strategic positions around the

village.

Cllrs Franklin, Greenaway and Gulvin recently carried out maintenance and minor repairs to the playground equipment and Cllr Franklin has the repair of the seat by the bridge in the High Street under control.

Following a request from the Parish Council, the County Council are to make arrangements for any parts of the eroded verge at the junction of Bridge Hill with Bourne Park which are considered dangerous to be made up and a reflex post erected.

At last Following a revised quotation from SEEBOARD, work is to be put in hand for the installation of two additional street lighting columns in Patribourne Road, and, when completed, the 30 mph speed limit restriction will be extended there.

Planning Applications The Parish

Council had no objections to an application for a single-storey bedroom extension at 36 Bridge Down, but had made observations relating to the extent of flat roof involved and the protrusion in front of the main building line of a garage extension to the side of 'Highbank', 15 Conyngham Lane. The Council noted that planning permission had been granted for a detached bungalow and garage on the plot adjoining 23 Union Road.

The next meeting of the Parish Council on 13th June will start at the slightly later time of 7.45pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall as it is hoped to have one of the principal planning officers from Canterbury City Council come to talk to the Councillors about planning issues and development control.

K A Walder, Clerk

Fish News

Annual Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy

Please don't forget this annual function, which is in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday, 1st June from 10.30am till 12 noon. Our plant stall is always popular, offering a wide selection of house plants, shrubs, herbs and bedding plants. If you can't be with us and you have plants to spare please let me know and I will arrange to have them collected.

Blossom Tour

Our party of fifty had an enjoyable outing on 8th May. After a week of bad weather we were fortunate to have a fine sunny afternoon, with the countryside looking its best. *Age Concern* Hythe provided us with a delicious tea, a raffle, an opportunity to use their well-stocked shop and plenty of bargains at the nearly-new clothes stall.

Coffee Pop-In

The next Coffee Pop-In is on Wednesday, 12th June in the Village Hall from 10.15 to 11.45am.

Joan Warren, 830233

Bekesbourne Church Cleaning & Flower Rota

1st, Mrs Gillanders 8th, Mrs Watson 15th, Mrs Purchase 22nd, Mrs Clifford 29th, Mrs Millyard.

For those who detect a change in the look of On The Nail it is because after twelve years we are using desk-top publishing to produce it rather than phototypesetting. Also we are some days late this month, due to circumstances rather beyond our control. Normal service will resume in July.

J P

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

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

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

Mr H.P.M. Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5HA (830472)

Hon Secretary: Mr T. J. Flisher, 52 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830871)

Hon Treasurer: Mr K. Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr A. Wills, 10 Brooklands Close, Fordwich, Canterbury CT2 0BT (711278)

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

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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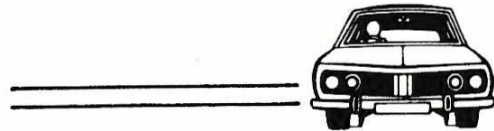
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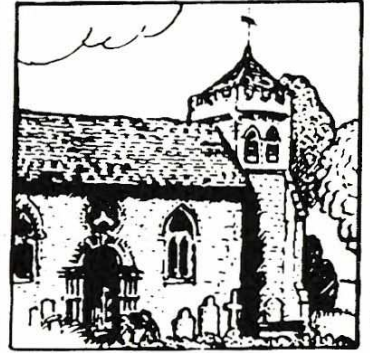
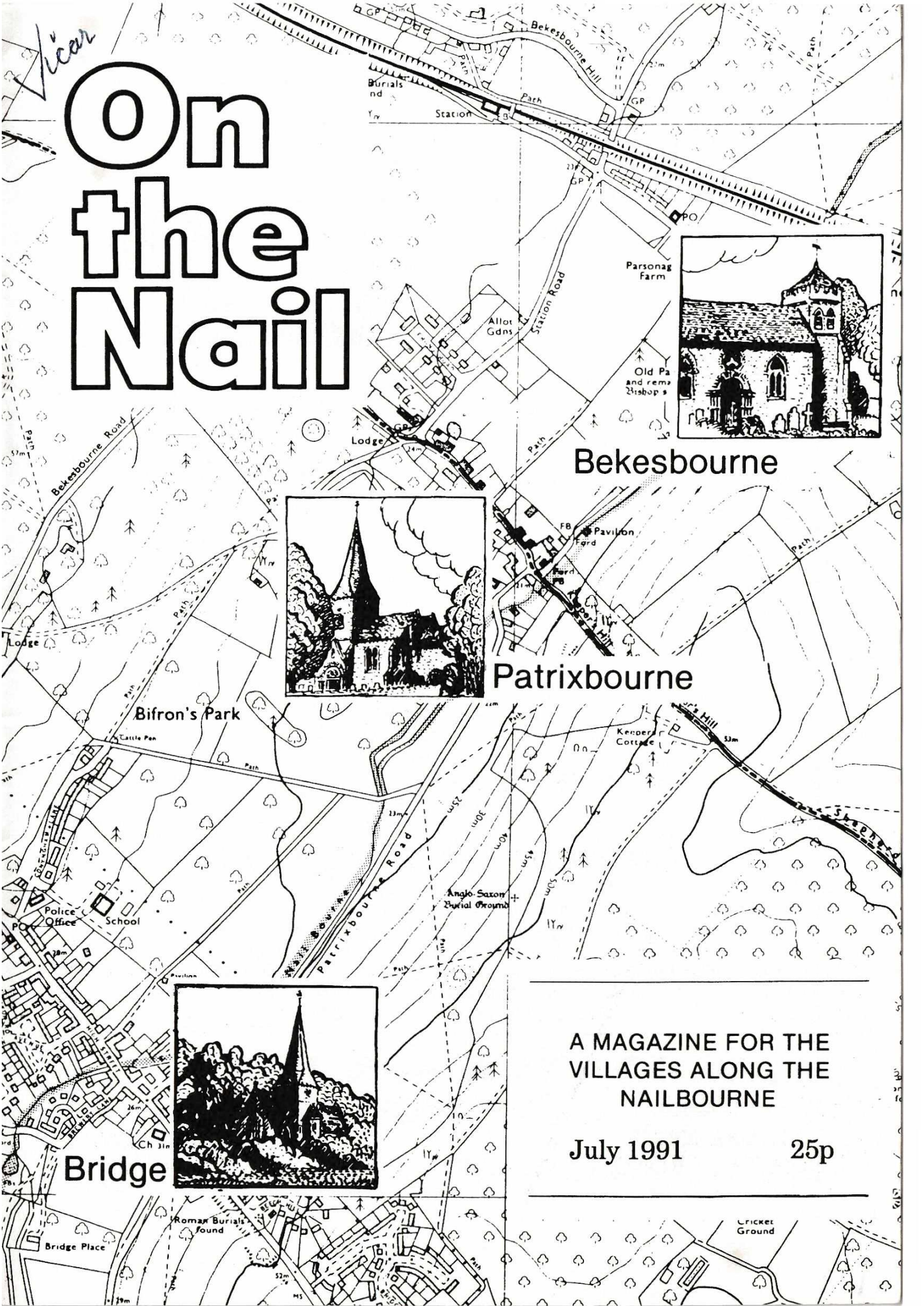
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Bekesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

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NAILBOURNE

July 1991

25p

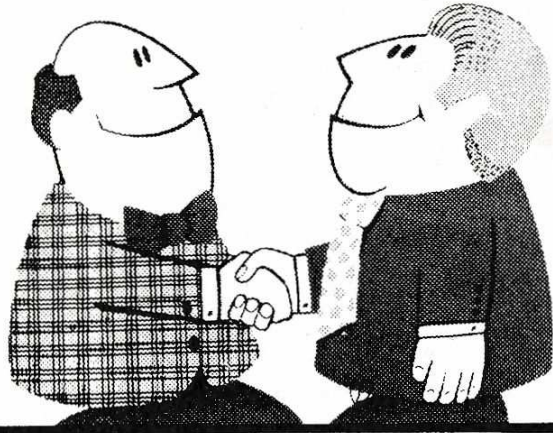
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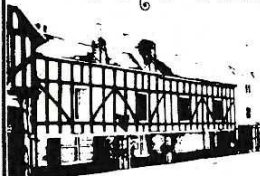
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Sunday Worship in July

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

7th:

11am Family Service 8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion
No Evensong due to the Deanery Family Festival at Nonington from 3.15pm

14th:

9.30 The Eucharist 11am Matins 8am Holy Communion
(ASB Rite A)
6.30pm Evensong & Admission
of Churchwardens
(Preacher: Rural Dean)

21st:

9.30 Parish Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am Matins
(ASB Rite A) (Canon J W Packer) (Revd C Verity) (Revd W Owen)
6.30pm Evensong
(Canon F S Bull)

28th:

8am Holy Communion 9am Holy Communion 11am Matins
(Revd W Owen) (Revd C Verity) (Revd W Owen)
6.30pm Evensong
(Canon F S Bull)

4th: August:

11am Family Service with Baptisms 8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion
3.30pm Holy Baptism
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.*

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 7th, The Revd A Gordon Jones 14th, Holy Communion, The Revd Sheila Foreman 21st, Mrs Hazel Colyer 28th, Mr E R O'Mahony.

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (BCP) at 9.30am and Friday mornings (Rite A) at 7.30, except on 19th and 26th. 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.

The Vicar will be off duty from 19th July to 3rd August inclusive, during which time anyone wishing to consult a priest may contact Canon Bull, 830440, but please only for something that will not keep until the vicar's return.

For your diary and prayer list

3rd *St Thomas the Apostle*

4th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm

6th Mini-Garden Fête, Saxon Lodge, 2pm

- 7th **Sixth Sunday after Trinity : 7 after Pentecost**
Deanery Family Festival, Nonington School and Church from 3.15pm. No Evensong at Bridge.
- 10th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 11th *St Benedict, Abbot of Monte Cassino, c550*
 Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 13th Boot Fayre, The Meadow, Parsonage Farm, Bekesbourne from 9am
- 14th **Seventh Sunday after Trinity : 8 after Pentecost**
 Bridge Evensong will include the Admission of Churchwardens by the Rural Dean acting on behalf of the Archdeacon. The Revd Clive Barlow will also be the preacher. To be admitted will be John Williamson and perhaps others from elsewhere in the Deanery.
- 16th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute Garden Meeting, 7pm
- 18th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 20th Junior Church Bring & Buy Sale, Bridge Village Hall from 11am
- 21st **Eighth Sunday after Trinity : 9 after Pentecost**
- 22nd *St Mary Magdalen*
- 25th *St James the Apostle*
- 26th *St Anne, Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
- 28th **Ninth Sunday after Trinity : 10 after Pentecost**

The Deanery : what of it?

In the monthly calendar above the Deanery gets two mentions – the Deanery in this case not being the house where the Dean of Canterbury lives but the collection of parishes to which we belong, of which Clive Barlow is Rural Dean and which, in our case, rejoices in the name of East Bridge Deanery – a very ancient title, which according to Canon Ingram Hill was probably an administrative convenience in the middle ages and might have connection with the village of Bridge.

Apart from our two parishes East Bridge Deanery includes amongst others Littlebourne, Wingham, Barham, Nonington, Bishopsbourne, Aylesham, Adisham and Ash.

Not every Deanery in the Church of England enjoys as much inter-parochial contact as we do. In fact a great deal of cross-fertilization takes place here, with people from one parish in many instances being on Christian name terms with those from another. Contributing to this Deanery fellowship are the SPAN groups that regularly bring lay people together across parish boundaries for mutual support, prayer and encouragement. In addition there is the Deanery Synod, made up of elected people from different parishes and a number of less formally structured, more open Deanery functions that enable church people to get to know one another.

A Festival for the Family

An annual occasion not to be missed is the Deanery Family Festival, which this year is on the afternoon of Sunday, 7th July at Nonington. We meet in Nonington School at 3.15 for an afternoon of activities for all age groups, a communal tea at 5.00 (participants are asked to make a contribution to the food, but tea and squash will be provided) and a service in Nonington Church, with an address from the Rural Dean, at 6.30pm.

The various parts of the service will have been prepared during the afternoon and those who attended last year's festival at Bridge will remember what a delightful service we had to round off the day.

Amongst this year's attractions will be activities for children, led by our own Junior Church leaders; and Bridge organist, Arnold Wills is in charge of the music. Canon Packer is leading a group on *Having Fun with the Bible* and there will also be workshops on prayer and drama.

Do come and join in the fun and share the warmth of fellowship that we traditionally enjoy in East Bridge Deanery!

Family Celebrations

Baptized into Christ Jesus

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne was the venue for baptisms on 2nd June of **Cassie**, daughter of Alan and Carol Farbrace of Chartham Hatch, and **Jake George**, son of Kevin and Sarah Bridges, 'Rookery Nook', Aerodrome Road. On 16th June at St Peter's Church, Bridge the baptism took place of **Michaela Jayne**, daughter of Christopher and Jayne (née Arnison) Tutt, St Gregory's Road, Canterbury.

Joined in Christian Marriage

The vicar officiated at the wedding on 8th June at St Mary's Church, Patrixbourne of **Susan Martin**, 'Ty Bryn', Keepers Hill and **Timothy Waters** of Herne Bay.

Boot Fayre at Bekesbourne

There's to be a Boot Fayre on the meadow, Parsonage Farm, Saturday, 13th July from 9am. The pitch fee of £5 if booked in advance or £7 on the day will go to Bekesbourne Church Funds. Those interested in taking a pitch should contact either Christine Ash (830214) or Zan Clifford (830328).

A word of thanks

Samaritans

Once again to all my helpers and supporters thank you for raising £302. This year we received a visit from Nina, Director of Canterbury centre and Norah, a Samaritan.

M. E. J.

The Childrens Society

The boxes emptied in May yielded a total of £206.59 which has been forwarded to the Society, and all twenty-six box holders are thanked for making this splendend result possible. This contribution is in addition to that made in April of £414.63 raised from the envelope collection in Bridge, and *The Childrens Society* has expressed its gratitude and thanks to all contributors and collectors in this parish for their support.

K. E.

from Brenda Young

Now that we are at last settled down in our new home I would like to thank all my wonderful friends and acquaintances in the village for their kindness, support, comfort and encouragement over the last two years. I honestly think there can't be another village anywhere to compare with

Bridge and its wonderful community. Anyway, I feel that my children and I have a very good chance of lots of happiness from now on. So another big 'THANK YOU' to everyone.

The Village Fête

By the time you read this the fête will be over for another year and we shall be looking forward to the Autumn Fayre. Before we do, however, we should say a very big 'thank you' to all those who worked so hard for our £3,100 profit, the stall-holders, the contributors, those who helped put up the stalls and sideshows and the gallant band of collectors. We must not forget either those who came along on the day and made all the hard work worthwhile. Thank you, everyone! See you at the fête next year. *S. Fenn*

WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT . . . the Church's Autumn Fayre will be held on Saturday, 16th November in the School Hall at 2pm. I know it's a long way off, but diaries do get full and the following SOS has already been put out:

Junior Church is having a change this year and running the preserves stall at the Autumn Fayre. If anyone has any spare jam jars we would be very grateful if you would let us have them. If any of you would like to make jams and other preserves for us, all contributions would be gratefully received!

We wondered, too, if anyone has any net curtains they don't want! They make wonderful angel costumes for the Nativity Play and our present ones look a little 'off-white'.

Ed: Nativity Play props already? I say, steady on a bit!

Junior Church again

There will be a Bring & Buy Sale with lunches available, plus cake stall on 20th July in Bridge Village Hall, starting at 11am. All proceeds will be in aid of Junior Church funds. Please come and support us – have lunch too! Waitress service!

JC Advertisement

On The Nail Noticeboard

Garden Fête

Saxon Lodge ask our support at a mini-Garden Fête they are having on Saturday, 6th July at 2pm. Proceeds are for the Baby Care Unit at the Hospital. See you there!

Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 16th July at the earlier time of 7pm. This will be a Garden meeting, venue to be arranged. Competition – a single bloom.

Bridge Choir

P. H.

Adults are invited to join the committed youngsters who lead the music in our worship. Rehearsals are from 7.30 to 8.30pm on Tuesdays and there is one Sunday service where you will be required. *Am I good enough?* – prayer, fun, ability to learn and get on with people are essential qualities. In addition – the usual social side to choirs in the trips to other churches,

the pantomime, annual weekend away, etc. Ring me on 711278 to talk it through. Let me have your voice for six months? *Arnold Wills, Organist*

Pedal Power pulls in the £££££!!

The 1990 Sponsored Bike Ride raised over £768,562 in the country as a whole *in just one day* and Kent raised over £70,000 – a magnificent effort and a wonderful help for all the chapels and churches that benefitted. In 1990 twenty-four counties participated. This year the date is **Saturday, 14th 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 and brakes checked!

Forms are available now from your local organizer: *Bekesbourne*, Christine Ash (830214), *Bridge*, Kath Pierce (830844), *Patricxbourne*, Andrea Nicholson (830947).

B.K.V. and S.E. In Bloom Competitions

The fact that paths in many areas are being ripped up and re-laid presents a setback. We hope that work may be completed before the final visit of the judges and that our efforts in total may not go unrewarded.

In connection with the Best Kept Village poster competition our school made a splendid response in presenting more than fifty posters. These were on display in the Village Hall on the 13th June from 2.00 to 4.00pm. In the section designed by Paul Freelove the winners were William Draper, Alice Elliot and Kim Atkins. In posters of their own design the winners were Emma Shillinglaw, Laura Brodie and Alice Elliot. Posters were judged by Mrs L R Dawson and both First Prizes were donated by Mr and Mrs L R Dawson. Please keep up the good work!

Parish Walks

For those who are interested in doing one of the Parish Walks, there is an opportunity on Sunday, 7th July. Anyone who is interested should meet with others outside St Peter's Church at 3.00pm. *R Franklin*

The Church Day which the Parish of Patricxbourne with Bridge is having on Saturday, 28th September is to take place at St Edmund's School, Canterbury, thanks to Headmaster John Tyson's generosity and desire to be of help. It will be a day of self-examination and forward planning, with an eye to the next ten years of church life in the parish. A topic to be tackled in one of the five workshops is introduced by Sheila Fenn under the title:-

A PERSONAL OPINION – HEALTH AND HEALING

I remember sitting in the car and wondering exactly what I had just agreed to do. A close friends had suggested that I join the Health and Healing Group, and in a way that seemed a logical step, because I had been working for the National Health Service for many years. Even so I had very little idea what the Church's ministry of healing involved and, if pressed, would probably have produced a confused mixture of Jairus' daughter, trips to Lourdes and 'the laying-on of hands'.

That first meeting was not at all what I had expected. It was composed of a few friends and neighbours and we met not in church but at the vicarage. In fact meetings are usually held either at the vicarage or in the home of

Continued on page 13

one of the group, because we all find the relaxed atmosphere aids our concentration. Prayers begin with a reading or short talk on some aspect of healing, and then there is the opportunity to mention any person or situation requiring healing. It is not necessary to identify individuals or problems in detail unless that is felt to be helpful; the group simply offers up silent prayers for healing. We close with the Grace. The whole process lasts no longer than twenty to thirty minutes.

* * *

Several years after that first meeting I am still a regular member of the Group. There is nothing exclusive about us; we are always pleased to welcome new members. We have seen some remarkable results over the years, both in terms of actual physical healing and of strength given to people coping with situations where physical healing is not to be. More than one person has reported a tremendous feeling of support from our prayers and we are, of course, always happy to include names on request.

* * *

Laying-on of hands is offered at our church on the fifth Sunday when there are five Sundays in a month. It is a very simple procedure which many people find helpful, but there is certainly nothing strange about this. It has been offered by the Church since the earliest times and was indeed practised by our Lord himself.

The Church's ministry of healing has grown considerably over recent years, and I like to think that we in Bridge are playing a part in that growth with our Health and Healing Group. This is, of course, a personal opinion and you may not agree . . . but I would love to see you at our next meeting.

Junior Church's Annual Report to the Annual Church Meeting last April

Junior Church now has forty members; three teenagers, Lucy Wilmshurst, Louisa Fagg and Sarah Mummery have now returned to help regularly.

A number of eleven year-olds have now left and joined the choir at St Peter's.

Last September we held a Ramble for members and their families. We walked to Kingston through the park and made our way back through the woods to the Conrad Hall at Bishopsbourne. Those with plenty of energy had tea and played football, the others had a well deserved rest.

Christmas was a busy time with Carol Singing and our Nativity. In January we held a Bring and Buy where we also served morning coffee and lunches, which proved so popular we will be organising another, hopefully in July. In total the money raised over Christmas amounted to £462 which we donated to the Blue Peter Appeal for Romania.

Our Easter programme was equally as busy; meeting on Good Friday for a story and we made the bread and biscuits for Sunday's service. On Saturday we made the Easter Garden in Church and after Sunday's service held an Easter Egg Hunt in the churchyard.

On Easter Monday some older members joined together for the Annual Easter Pilgrimage to the Cathedral. We have a most enthusiastic group of nine year-olds who thoroughly enjoyed the atmosphere in the Cathedral service and joined in the various activities in the afternoon.

ANIMALS OF THE BIBLE

The Wolf – *Canis lupus*

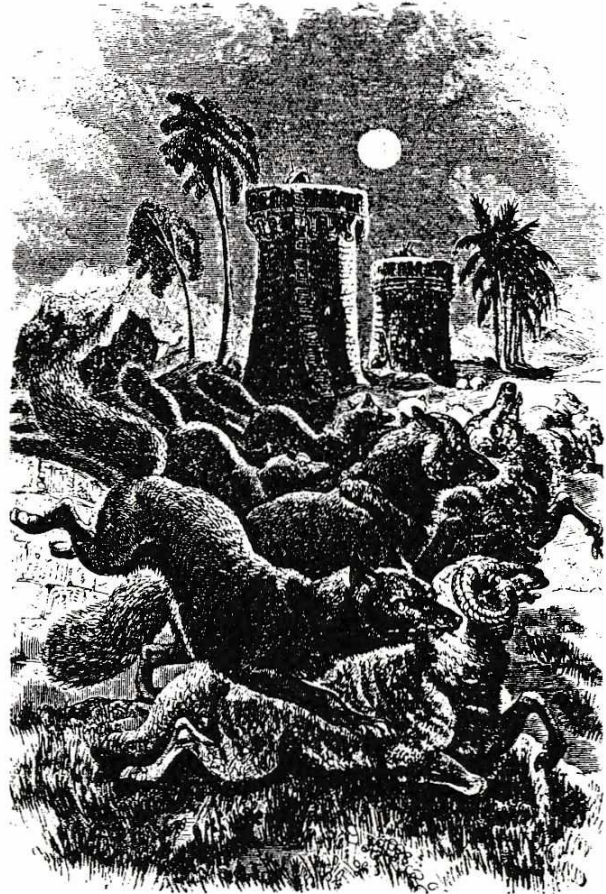
Israel, a country about the size of Wales, has around 500 wolves. Imagine 500 wolves roaming wild in Wales! Farmers now have to employ shepherds to guard their flocks as in Biblical times.

There are seven references to wolves in the Old Testament and five in the New Testament. George Cansdale points out that wolves are always referred to metaphorically, and in more than half the Bible passages, including all in the New Testament, the wolf stands for someone in authority who is misusing his position. For instance, our Lord said that false prophets come in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves (Matt. 7:15), and Zephaniah 3:3 describes the rulers of Jerusalem as "evening wolves, who leave nothing for the morning". David, however, did not include the wolf among the beasts of prey from which he had to rescue his sheep.

Naturalists among the British forces in Palestine reported that wolves were widespread then, and that the expression "between the wolf and the dog" was used for the early dawn when one could first distinguish between these two canines. Later wolves almost disappeared from the Bible lands, due to hunting, trapping, poisoning and road accidents.

Wolves are now protected in Israel and a Hai-Bar (wild life) programme is being conducted in a major effort to restore the animals of the Bible to the Holy Land. As many of the animals have to be brought from zoos and safari parks around the world, they need to be taught to forage for their food and to protect themselves. For example, Hai-Bar antelopes eventually learnt to ignore humans, but when wolves are detected the herd gathers for mutual protection and prepares a vigorous defence.

The wolf of Bible lands weighs around 20 kilos (44 lbs), and it is difficult to believe that it is the same species as the North American timber wolf or the great brutes of the Russian steppes, which can weigh as much as 70 kilos (154 lbs). Most Bible lands wolves are found in desert places nowadays. They shed their long, shaggy winter coats in Spring and spend the Summer days sheltering under rocks



Wolves attacking Sheep.

or in patches of vegetation, hunting at night.

Although for centuries wolves have been the dread of shepherds, they are content with smaller animals, including rabbits, mice, fish, crabs and insects, and in hard times will even eat vegetables. They rarely hunt in packs in the Bible lands, and genuine attacks on humans are very rare indeed.

The Bible describes the wolf as a fierce, ravening beast, attacking defenceless sheep at dusk. It is also the symbol of misused authority. So what good can be said of the wolf?

All domestic dogs, guide dogs, sheep-dogs, mountain rescue dogs or family pets, are descended from the wolf, and Isaiah 65:25 foretells new heavens and a new earth when "the wolf and the lamb will feed together".

from the Bible Lands Society

With holidays to come, you may find this Hebridean prayer speaks to your need:

The Pilgrim's aiding

May God be with you in every pass,
Jesus be with you on every knoll,
Spirit be with you by water's roll,
 On headland, on ridge, and on grass;
Each sea and land, each moor and each mead,
Each eve's lying-down, each rising's morn,
In the wave-trough, or on foam-crest borne,
 Each step which your journey does lead.

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

In the absence of the Chairman, Cllr John Hill, Cllr Mrs Ann King, the Vice-Chairman, chaired the meeting of the Parish Council on the 13th June.

'Best Kept Village' & 'South-East in Bloom' Competitions The Council thanked Cllr Reg Franklin for all his efforts so far in organising the Council's entries in the above competitions, particularly for making and setting up the flower tubs to brighten the centre of the village. Thanks again went to Cllr Franklin for repairing the seat by the bridge in the High Street.

Successes to relate The bottle-bank has arrived at last and is located in the layby on Town Hill. Please make good use of it.

The two additional street lamps should now be in position in Patix-bourne Road ready for connection by SEEBOARD.

Due to the efforts of Cllr Mrs King, the Village Hall Management Committee is to receive a 50% grant towards the improvement work being carried out at the village hall from Canterbury

City Council.

The play equipment at the Recreation Ground is painted and ready for the summer season.

Improvements The County Council is in the process of resurfacing a number of pavements in the village.

Cllr Mervyn Gulvin is to obtain quotations for putting a coat of preservative on the wooden bus shelters.

Under review Following complaints about the surface and the level of the manhole covers compared with that of the road, the Council will keep under review the new experimental road surface put down by the County Council on Brewery Lane, Mill Lane and Pett Hill.

Also, because of complaints from the Sports Clubs, the Council will monitor the cutting of the Recreation Ground carefully.

Action It was decided to report to the City Council's Building control Section the dangerous condition of the building known as 'Barbaranne' in the High Street. SEEBOARD is to be asked to cut back the branches of a

tree in Saxon Road which is obscuring the street lamp there.

Waymarking the Footpaths The footpaths leaflet produced by the Council has been well received and footpaths are easier to see now that more people are walking them. A supply of yellow waymarkers has been obtained from the County Council and Cllr Mrs Meriel Connor, the Footpaths Officer, has already fixed some of them along the routes. However, there are still more to do and Cllr Mrs Joan Monk is arranging a Parish Footpaths Walk on Sunday, 7th July starting from the Church at 3.00pm.

Rubbish There are still problems with rubbish sacks not being put out at the correct time for collection. These should be put outside at 7.30am on the morning of collection. Please do not put them out the night before as they are often ripped apart by small animals and birds, particularly at this time of year, and the rubbish scattered long before the dustcart arrives.

Fish News

Our *Annual Meeting* was held on 17th May, when reports were given on the previous year's work. Volunteers were thanked for their work throughout the year, which had enabled us to meet all requests for help and to give help and support to many of our elderly residents in the community.

During discussion which followed it was decided that an effort must be made to recruit more young and middle-aged volunteers as advancing age and ill health had reduced the number of the original volunteers, many of whom were over retirement age when we started in 1980. It is particularly important to find a few people to share the responsibility of organizing the scheme to ensure the continuity of our work in the future.

Anxiety was expressed about the future of the Luncheon Club when the new management takes over at The New Close later in the year. It is understood that the new managers are anxious to continue the work for the community, but alternative plans have been made should the need arise.

The Treasurer reported that the Fish Fund was in a sound financial position with sufficient funds in the reserve account to cover unexpected emergency expenditure.

Annual Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale

Thanks to the support of the community and the hard work of the volunteers this proved to be a happy and successful event. In addition to the proceeds from the stalls, generous donations totalling £72.50 brought the final profit to £260.60. This sum added to grants from our parish

Planning The Council had no observations to make on applications for a rear lounge/diner extension at 58 Bridge Down or for an extension to dining-room and the pitching of the roof to the existing kitchen extension at 71 Bridge Down. They had objected to an application for a conservatory to the rear of 17 The Close and for the installation of a canopy over the front entrance of 19 The Close, Union Road on grounds relating to the whole building which comprises The Close being listed. Planning permission has been granted for a single storey bedroom extension at 36 Bridge Down and for the revised scheme for proposed change of use to form Old Persons' Retirement Home at Field House, Station Road, but has been refused for a garage extension to side of 'Highbank', 15 Conyngham Lane.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 11th July at the usual time of 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K A Walder, Clerk

councils and a contribution from *Age Concern Kent* towards the Luncheon Club transport costs, will cover the cost of the Fish Scheme for the current year.

* * *

The next *Coffee Pop-In* will be on Wednesday, 10th July in Bridge Village Hall at the normal time. If you have any paperback books that you no longer need, we can make use of them.

Joan Warren, 830233

Bekesbourne Church Cleaning and Flower Rota

6th, Mrs Whigham 13th, Mrs Ash 20th, Mesdames Smith and Hogben 27th, Mrs Farbrace

Bekesbourne - Parish Magazine distribution plea

Mrs Jane Millyard writes:-

Is there anyone who would take on the distribution of the Bekesbourne Parish Magazine? It is not a very time-consuming job, as I have a good team of 'deliverers' who distribute in their own area of the village.

You do, however, need to be available at the end of each month, which I am now finding difficult. I would be glad to talk it over with anyone interested, if you would telephone me one evening on 830256.

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

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

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

Mr H.P.M. Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5HA (830472)

Hon Secretary: Mr T. J. Flisher, 52 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830871)

Hon Treasurer: Mr K. Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr A. Wills, 10 Brooklands Close, Fordwich, Canterbury CT2 0BT (711278)

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

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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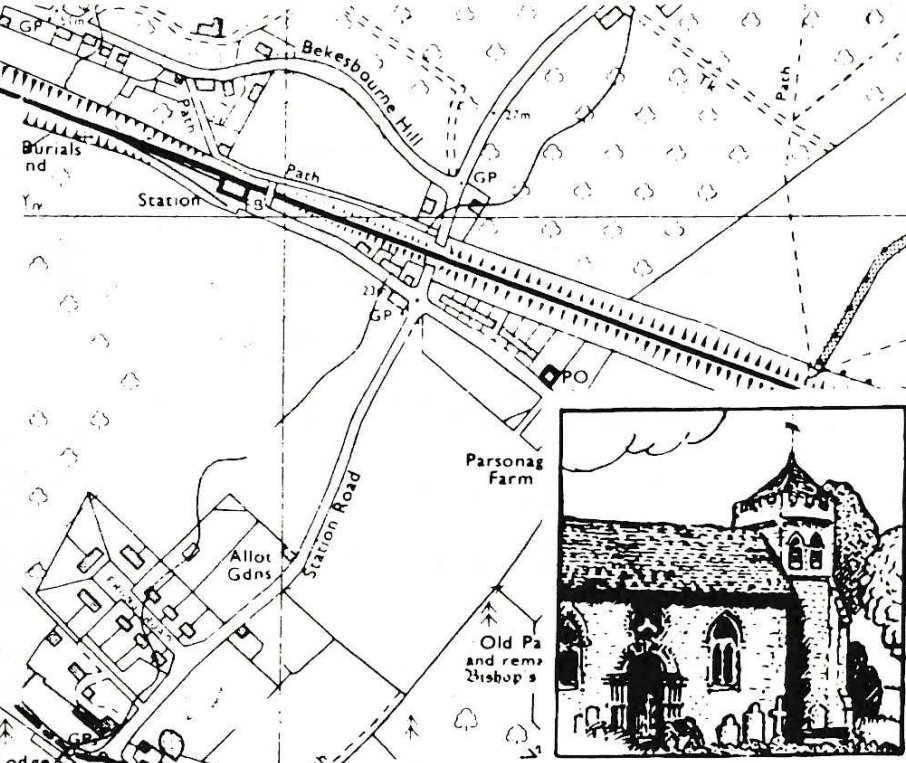
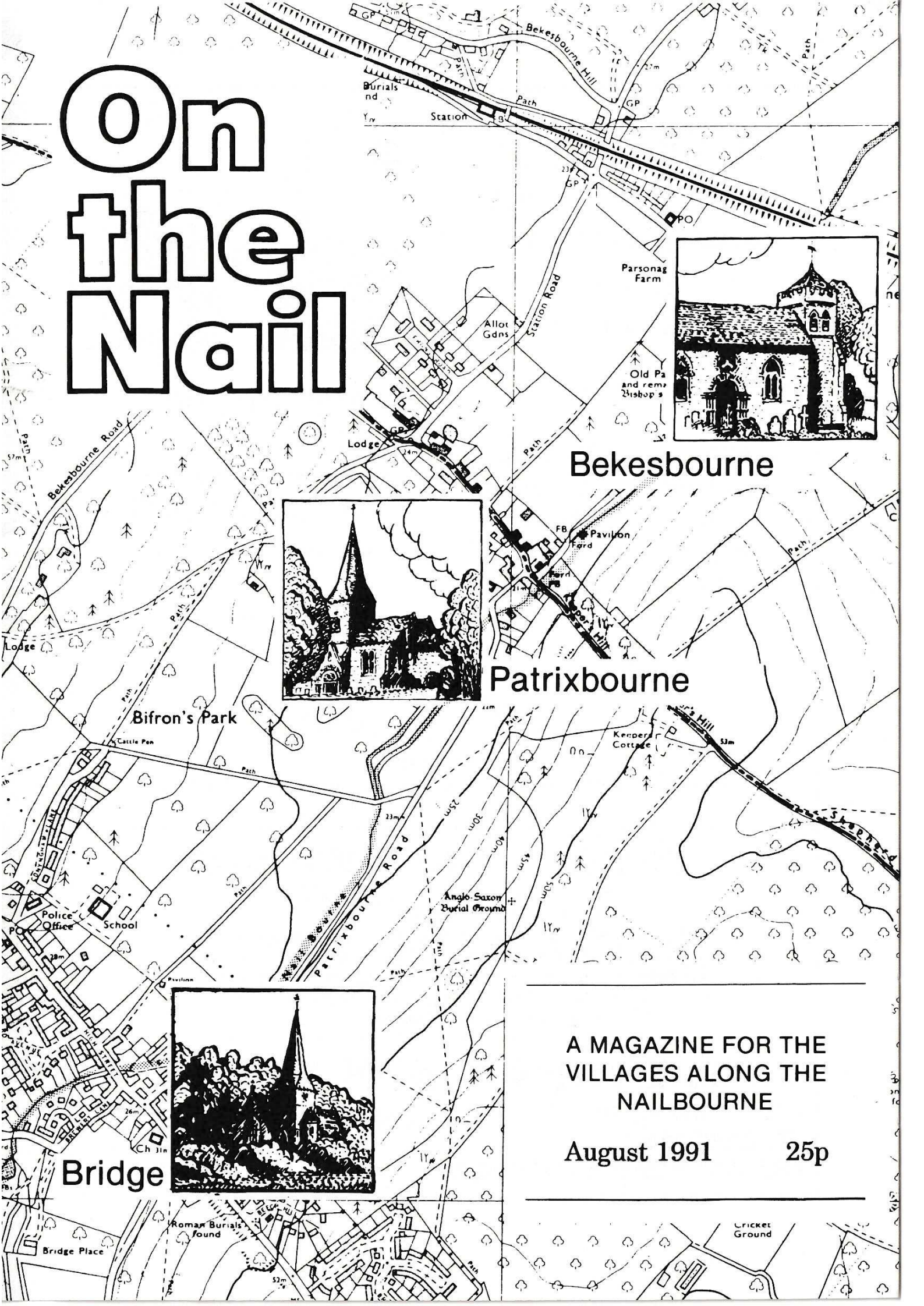
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patricxbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE
VILLAGES ALONG THE
NAILBOURNE

August 1991 25p

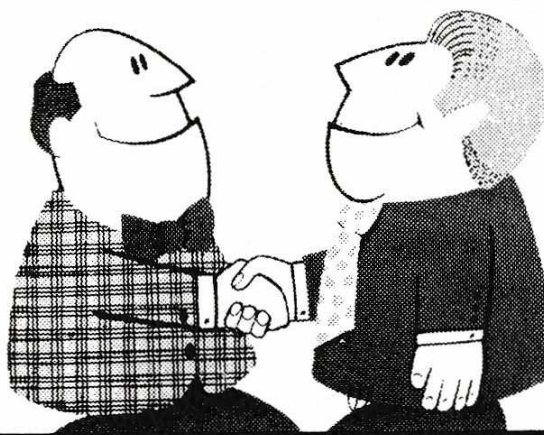
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Sunday Worship in August

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

4th:

11am Family Service
with Baptisms

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

11th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)

6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

18th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(ASB Rite A)

6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am *Songs of Praise*

25th:

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

3.30pm Holy Baptism

1st 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.*

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *4th*, Mrs Rita Maxwell *11th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Sheila Foreman *18th*, Mr Alistair Barwick *25th*, The Revd Eric S Allen.

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday mornings (*Rite A*) at 7.30. 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 Prayers for Health and Healing, 68 Bridge Down, 7pm

4th **Tenth Sunday after Trinity : 11 after Pentecost**

6th ***Transfiguration of our Lord***

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

Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Summer Show, Conrad Hall, Bish-opsbourne, 2.30pm

11th **Eleventh Sunday after Trinity : 12 after Pentecost**

14th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am

15th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7.15pm

17th Pray for Leslie Help and Joanne Reynard who are to be married this afternoon at Bekesbourne.

18th **Twelfth Sunday after Trinity : 13 after Pentecost**

In place of Matins at Bekesbourne there will be 'Songs of Praise' at 11am

20th *St Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, 1153*

24th *St Bartholomew the Apostle*

25th **Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity : 14 after Pentecost**

HOLIDAYS: a change or a rest?

What do you expect from a holiday? The answer's not maybe as straightforward as you think, for people tend to approach their holidays from a variety of angles, depending on their preference and taste. What isn't in doubt, however, is the need for an annual holiday of some kind, and that need is universally felt. Everyone surely acknowledges the necessity of a fortnight or so away from work and the daily round at least once a year, and job specifications invariably make allowance for it.

* * *

How people spend their holiday, though, varies enormously from person to person and there's no shortage of options, as any travel agent will tell you. The vast assortment of possibilities on offer from the organized holiday market (and they're always coming up with something new) make the mind boggle; and in addition there are the DIY holidays, which may not be as meticulously planned as package holidays but at least you can please yourself what you do and where you go. The only snag here is, if anything goes wrong the holiday-maker has only himself to blame.

By now you'll already have decided what sort of holiday you're having this year, and I do hope it lived or lives up to expectations. But would you say your choice gave you a change or a rest? We often hear the expression 'A change is as good as a rest', but is it? Some holidays are so brimful of activities and travelling and sights to be seen, often in a tight schedule, that I wonder where the element of rest is to be found.

* * *

Perhaps the ideal kind of holiday depends on what you do the rest of the year. If you're retired, still reasonably active and not in the all too prevalent group of retirees who wonder how they ever had time to go to work, then you may be quite satisfied with the change of scene and not be too anxious about getting a rest. If you spend your days sitting at a desk then you may want to make for the great out-doors and the sporting activities that go with it. In either case a holiday is principally seen as a change.

On the other hand if your work is particularly strenuous and you're constantly working under pressure then you're likely to go in for the kind of holiday that will ease the pressure and give you a chance to unwind. So you'll maybe seek out a secluded spot where undisturbed by correspondence and meetings and telephones you can relax in complete comfort and take life easy without having to worry about a thing. You'll want a rest, in fact, never mind the change!

* * *

But there's surely more to a holiday than just having a change or a rest. We're not simply concerned to wind down for a bit, to get away from work and the daily grind. That's purely a negative approach. We also want to re-charge our batteries, as we say, *i.e.* not just shake off the cares of work for a period but get ourselves back in trim, revitalize ourselves in readiness for the future.

To a lesser extent we do this every weekend, when most of us have two days off work that we devote to other things. In my case it's one day a week, a Monday, which is why I jealously guard it and make sure I take a complete day off work; even vicars need time to re-create. Apropos of which it always puzzles me why some people can't understand this, and believe the vicar ought to be on tap twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week! It's actually a joke, and an old one at that, about us only working one day a week, and strange to say God doesn't especially endow us clergy with perpetual motion so that we can go on without stopping! So if you ring the vicarage any time on a Monday, even in the evening, and get the answer machine, don't be suprised or feel in some way spurned.

Ideally holiday-makers aren't just intent on having a rest or a change, but getting in some much-needed recreation, quite literally re-creating, primarily ourselves ready for the next phase of our life. Certainly for working people this must surely rank as the chief end of a holiday, and I do hope that your holiday re-creates you.

* * *

The original link between holidays and holy days (from which the word derives) has long since disappeared, but it always seems strange for churchgoers to include Sunday attendance among the other normalities of life that are abandoned on holiday. In fact it's particularly refreshing, re-creating to worship on holiday, which usually means in another church, and perhaps another country, where we may have to fall back on our smattering of the local language, plus, in the case of the Mass, the sequence of movements to get by. I know many reading this do make a point of going to church whilst away and they can surely vouch for the fact that it adds an extra dimension to the overall recreation the holiday affords.

If you do go to Church on holiday and are able at some stage to meet and chat with your fellow worshippers, be sure and convey our greetings to them, for even on holiday we are members of the same world-wide Christian family of the Church, even within a different denominational or national persuasion.

Confirmation in September

Four young people and two adults from Bridge are currently undergoing preparation for confirmation, and the service at which they hope to be confirmed (in the setting of the Eucharist) will be at Wingham, as part of their Patronal Festival. The Bishop of Dover will officiate and the service starts at 11am on Sunday, 8th September.

Our prayers are accordingly asked for Jean Hopkins and Vivian Saunders, for Emma Medhurst, Sarah Johnson, Elizabeth Pike and Timothy Spencer.

Songs of Praise at Bekesbourne

Following custom we shall be holding a service of *Songs of Praise* at St Peter's Church, Bekebourne on Sunday, 18th July at 11am. This is in lieu of Matins and will consist of about ten congregational hymns chosen in advance by members of the congregation and with a brief comment on each one. If there is a hymn you would particularly like sung — and it doesn't have to be in either of our usual hymnsbooks [*Ancient and Modern, revised* or *100 Hymns for Today*] — Churchwarden John Purchase would like to hear from you as it's he who plans the service. Now that he is our busy Lord Mayor it would help him enormously if you could indicate your selection as soon as possible so that he has the maximum time in which to conduct his research. It goes without saying that we shall look forward to your company on the day, especially if your hymn is included.

J.P. adds: Many thanks. If anyone has difficulty in reaching me on the telephone can I suggest you can also leave details, i.e. first line of the hymn, name of hymnbook if not those listed above, and your name; by telephoning my office on Canterbury 761508 or 470282 during working hours.

Joined together by God

We offer our congratulations and prayers for future joys to **Andrew Round** and **Helen Galatis** on the occasion of their marriage in St Peter's Church, Bridge on 29th June.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute meets in the Village Hall on Tuesday, 20th August at 7.30pm, when there will be a speaker from RAF Manston Air-Sea Rescue Service. The competition is for an appropriate limerick, and any prospective new members will be particularly welcome.

* * *

Nailbourne Horticultural Society's Summer Show will be held at the Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne on Saturday, 10th August at 2.30pm. The presentation of prizes will be at four o'clock. There will be a plant stall, s raffle and the usual high standard of refreshments, for which a small charge will be made. Donations of plants for the stall will be gratefully accepted on the day. Everyone is welcome, member or not!

Rajini Dasan, Hon Secretary

* * *

The Boot Fair at Parsonage Farm on Saturday, 13th July in aid of Bekesbourne Church raised a little over £100 (a final figure wasn't available at

the time of going to press). This sum, of course, was for the hire of pitches, coupled with the proceeds from the cake stall. Undoubtedly this figure would have been greater had the event not been deluged by rain, though such is the nature of a boot fair the unfortunate stall-holders will have suffered more of a financial loss than the church. Nevertheless, we are most grateful to Christine Ash for her enterprise in staging this first ever Church Boot Fair, and we hope it hasn't put her off for future ones.

* * *

WATCH THIS SPACE in September's *On The Nail* for information concerning a Car Scavenger Hunt in aid of Bridge Church Choir Fund to be held on the afternoon of Sunday, 29th September and ending with a barbecue at The Archways, Conyngham Lane.

PROJECT 91 AND THE CHURCH DAY

An important topic for consideration on the Church Day, 28th September (Do hope you're coming!) is relationships between the Anglicans of Bridge and Patricbourne and members of the other Christian Churches in our midst. In the following article Keith Nicholson examines this oecumenical aspect, giving us a few thoughts to mull over in readiness for the Church Day.

AND he said unto them, Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole nation [Mark 16,15].

Taking their instruction from Christ the disciples set out to share Him with the people. It was not until 597 AD, though, that we learnt of Christ when St Augustine came to England. This sharing of Christ with the people is today the Church's missionary faith.

From the disciples' mission of spreading the word of Christ, many different Christian faiths have emerged. They share, though, two things in common with each other — a belief in one God and the contribution they have made to the spiritual development of people. Despite sharing the same Christ, the various Christian faiths have for many centuries been divided. Today there is, however, greater unity than ever before between the various Christian faiths. This is as a result of the fervent activity that has taken place over the last twenty years as each Christian faith has sought a better understanding of the other faiths who shared common beliefs.

Project 91 gives all Christians in our villages, irrespective of our Christian faiths, an opportunity to take part in this fervent activity, which has led to a deeper unity of the world-wide Christian community. Our success will come if we remember that oecumenism (to give it the original spelling) is about representing the whole Christian world. As such it revolves about sharing, and not converting which is the Church's missionary faith.

At our day of prayer and spiritual renewal in September, members of St Mary's, Patricbourne and St Peter's, Bridge must think carefully about the role that the two churches can play in the oecumenical activity of our

Continued on page 13

villages. Among the issues we should discuss are the opening of the churches to the wider Christian community on a more regular basis, the sharing of services and the participation of all Christian faiths in Christian activities within our villages. Such opportunities to share in the process of the world-wide unity of the Christian faiths can only serve to strengthen our faith in Christ.

On The Nail in Bekesbourne

We are immensely grateful to those who month by month distribute *On The Nail* to residents of Bekesbourne and to Jane Millyard for acting as distributor-in-chief. After many years of service in this capacity Jane has just handed over to fellow church councillor Tony Fullaway and we are appreciative of Tony's willingness to take on the job. Magazine distributors should note therefore that in future the money they collect from their round should be given to Tony, who lives at *Snaefell*, Adisham Road (tel: 830261).

* * *

While we're on the subject I am aware that many Bekesbourne residents feel loath to take *On The Nail* because there's never anything to do with Bekesbourne in it. Though that's somewhat of an exaggeration, I am nevertheless conscious that Bekesbourne suffers a raw deal where space is concerned, and I wish it were otherwise.

Really it's up to you out there! So, budding contributors of Bekesbourne, put pen to paper and let me have your news and views or items of general interest. Send details of your forthcoming events to the vicarage and don't forget a report afterwards to let everyone know how you got on.

The deadline for copy is always the 15th of the preceding month but if you have something to publicize that comes very near the beginning of a month let me know about it a couple of months beforehand, so that it can be included in an earlier edition and thereby get better publicity.

Wednesdays at The New Close

As is always announced on page 4 of *On The Nail* a short and very informal act of worship takes place every Wednesday afternoon at half past two for the residents of The New Close. It takes the form of a story, a reading (usually from the Bible) and prayer, interspersed with three familiar hymns, and lasts inside half an hour. Generally I lead the worship in my capacity as Chaplain to The New Close, but I rely very much on a team of willing helpers from the village who find places in hymnbooks and sit alongside the residents, joining in the service. Stanley Grey is pianist and frequently stays on for a few minutes afterwards to entertain them with some lighter melodies of yesteryear.

* * *

The contribution this weekly service makes to the life of The New Close is, I'm sure, far more than any of us realize, and it's good to see the way quite

confused residents perk up at a familiar hymn, even if they can only 'lah' the tune, and the corporate saying of the Lord's Prayer evokes an even stronger response. To say the service is surrounded by a reverent hush would be stretching it a bit, but we're all conscious of a special atmosphere throughout that even the occasional loud chatter of some people doesn't quite spoil. We always include in our prayers not only the staff and residents of the home, but also the children of the school next door, who by that time are often out on the sports field and who have a particularly close affinity with their elderly neighbours, in some cases visiting them at play time.

Where outside support is concerned we can never have enough of it, so if anyone reading this would like to join us for that half-hour on the odd occasion (it doesn't have to be every week) they will be most welcome, and I believe will find it a rewarding, even stimulating experience.

* * *

Some weeks ago Kath Pierce conducted the service and I was so intrigued by the story she told that I thought you might like to hear it. You'll see what the first hymn was on that occasion.

WE have just sung *All things bright and beautiful* and we have the good fortune here to be able to look out on a splendid view. We haven't the purple-headed mountains, but we have green hills in the distance. We can hear the birds singing often and usually we can see children playing below on the school fields: they will be out there shortly, no doubt!

Not everyone is so fortunate as we are here, as I will tell you in a moment, and not everyone appreciates the birds singing either! I had an uncle who came to stay when I lived in Canterbury and he certainly didn't appreciate country noises. He lived in Upper Hollway, a rather drab part of London, and he was used to the noise of heavy traffic pounding past his home. After his first night at my house I asked if he had slept well? He said rather snappily, "No, I didn't! First it was too quiet — no trains or traffic to lull me off to sleep — and then, when I was getting used to the silence would you believe it those stupid birds started their dawn chorus — and it was only 5am!

"They were so noisy I couldn't sleep! They were worse than the women in the market! I am not coming down here again." But he did get used to the country noises after a few visits, although he still liked London best.

Now, in contrast to my uncle, not far from where he lived there was a little old lady, Bertha, who was housebound. *All things bright and beautiful* was one of her favourite hymns — she was always humming the tune! She only had a back-yard for a garden and to make matters worse she looked out on a very high wall of the factory which towered high above the houses, and blocked out most of the daylight from her room. She was always smiling and cheerful in spite of the squalor and

drabness of the area. She had a tub in the back-yard and she attempted to grow flowers in the summer and give a littler splash of colour, and she would throw out a few crumbs to the sparrows – the only birds I ever remember seeing in that back-yard.

On one of our visits she was very excited and begged us to come and see the beautiful garden. Mum and I were a bit puzzled until she pulled back the curtains of her sitting room and there through the glass was a transformation. Where there had been the stark factory wall was a beautiful garden. The wall was still there and the back-yard, but the wall had been transformed. There was blue sky, fluffy white clouds, birds flying, a lawn and flower beds and a tree – all painted over the wall. The mural had been painted by art students as part of their project to brighten up the area. The students sought permission and Bertha was only too willing for them to brighten up her wall. Bertha could block out the continuing noise of the traffic and transport herself into the world of beautiful things. She could hear the bird twittering in spite of the man-made noises. Whereas my uncle preferred the dreariness and noise of London; he had known nothing else. Just as well we are not all alike, isn't it? We need some sort of balance in God's world.

Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday, 11th July.

Competition Time Cllr Reg Franklin has done a marvellous job for the village organising and co-ordinating the entries in the *South East in Bloom* and *Best Kept Village* Competitions. Whilst Cllr Franklin showed the *South East in Bloom* judges around recently, those for the *Best Kept Village* Competition make their inspections unannounced. In connection with these entries, posters from a competition organised by Cllr Franklin for children of Bridge School are now in strategic positions to remind residents to dispose of their litter thoughtfully. The hanging basket competition has been judged and the results are reported separately. Cllr Mrs Billie Anderson, who is Tree Warden for the parish, recently accompanied the judge from the *Trees in Your Village* Competition when he came to look at the trees, and his report and the result of that are now awaited.

Thanks then to both of them, and to the Chairman, Cllr John Hill, for making and fixing a fine case in which to

display the footpaths map underneath the parish noticeboard. Thanks also to those residents, and foreign visitors, who took part in the Parish Walk on Sunday, 7th July. A good number of way-markers were put out to indicate the footpaths, although several more paths still require marking.

Action Councils The Kent County Council are to be asked to cut back hedging which is overhanging the footway and obscuring vision at the junction of Town Hill with Station Road, and also to clear Bifrons Path at the Recreation Ground end. The City Council have been asked to ensure that the viewing area known as Neame Wood on Bridge Hill is kept free from litter, and to improve the position of the dumping of litter penalty sign in the layby on Town Hill. The Clerk is to liaise with Lower Hardres Parish Council about making a joint request for a weight restriction on the road from Station Road through to Stone Street following complaints that HGVs are using this route.

'To be, or not to be' built The Parish Council have made no objections to applications for the erection of a

detached house and hardstanding at 8 High Street, a first floor rear extension at 30 Bridge Down or a single storey and two storey side extensions to 12 Beech Hill. An application for a single storey side extension to 71 Bridge Down has been granted permission by the City Council, but applications for a conserv-

atory to the rear of 17 The Close and for a canopy over the front entrance of 19 The Close, in Union Road have both been refused.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be after the summer recess on Thursday, 12th September.

K A Walder, Clerk

FISH SCHEME Holiday arrangements



The **Luncheon Club** will be closed for the whole of August. Meetings start again on Monday, 2nd September.

The **Transport Scheme** and all other services will carry on as usual.

The next **Coffee Pop-In** will be on Wednesday, 14th August in Bridge Village Hall from 10.15 to 11.45am.

Best Kept Village & South East in Bloom competitions

by Reg Franklin

“After much travail they came to a village called Malapropos where they would seek lodging for the night. Seeing one of the inhabitants leaning against a doorway Wayfarer approached him and asked where he and his companion might find lodgings for the night.

“The villager replied, ‘We Care Less people on this side of the street have naught to do with strangers. You must ask of the Care Full people on the other side of the street’.

“Whereupon he blew from his mouth a stream of smoke and cast to the ground a small gold-coloured box which landed amongst several small brown and white sticks. Wayfarer could make no meaning of this act except to see it added to the general dirtiness and aspect of decay.”

(With apologies to John Bunyan.)

STOP PRESS: By the time this is read the judges for both competitions will have made their final visits and their results will be published before the end of the year. The Parish Council would like to thank all those who have helped in any way to make the village a more environmentally pleasant place. They also hope that efforts towards this end may continue all the year round.

The results of the floral display competitions are as follows:— **Hanging Baskets:** 1st Mr J. R. Tamsett; 2nd Mr and Mrs R. E. Barry; **Tubs & Containers:** 1st Mr J. Larkins; 2nd Mr J. R. Tamsett; **Commercial Premises:** 1st Willow Brook; 2nd East Bridge House. Nineteen others were highly commended. The winners will receive garden vouchers for £10 and £5 for 1st and 2nd respectively.

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

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

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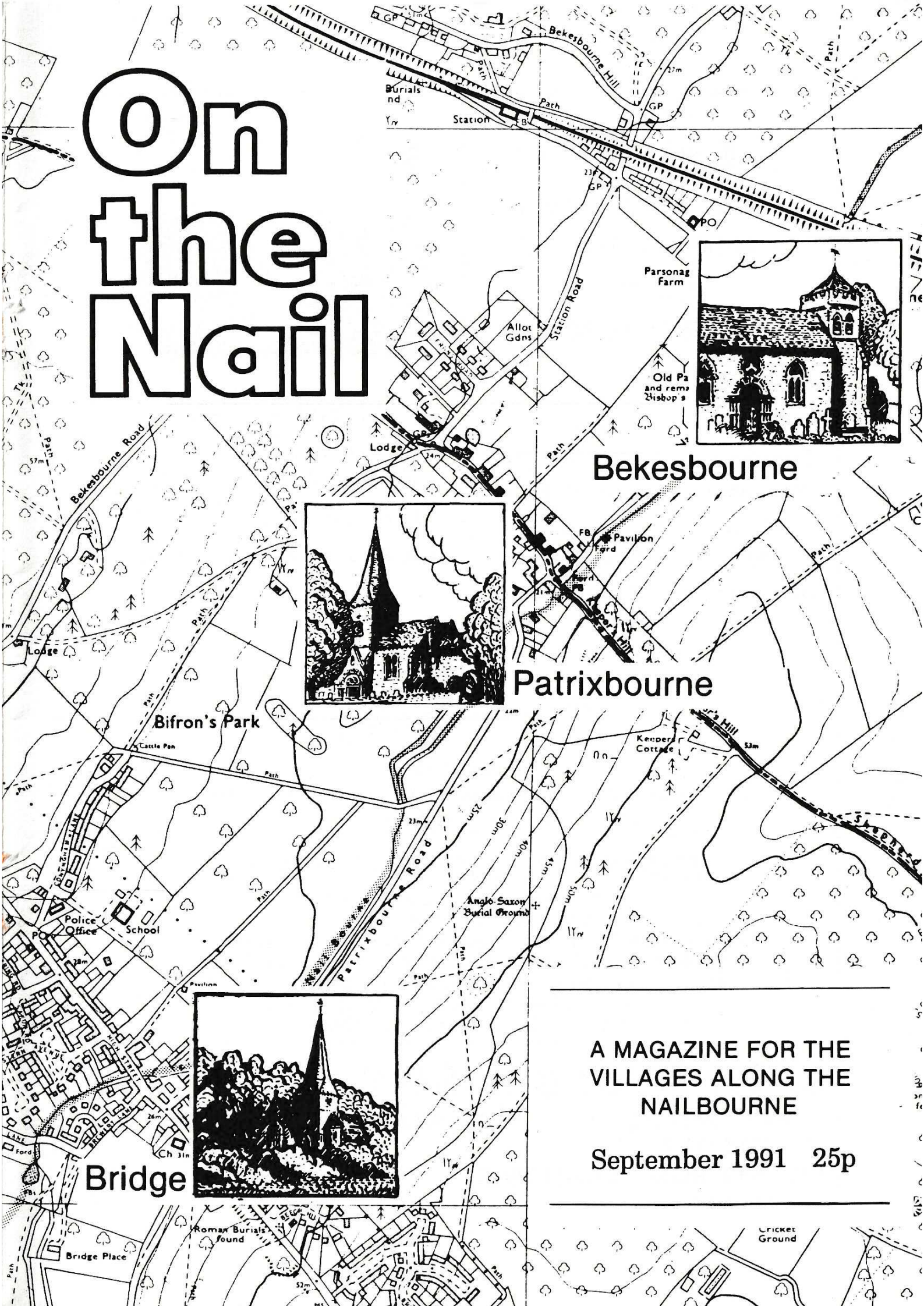
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September 1991 25p

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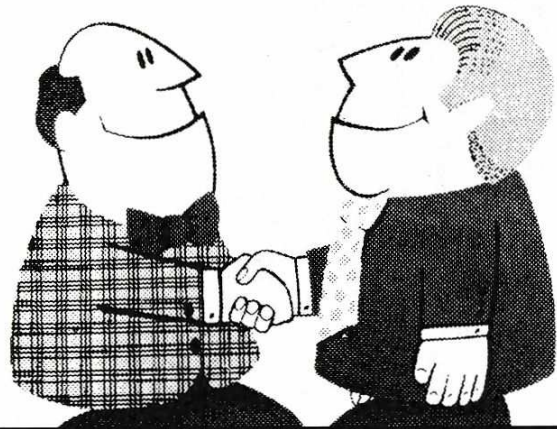
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others.

Sunday Worship in September

Bridge	Patricbourne	Bekesbourne
1st: 11am Family Service 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion
8th: 9.30am The Eucharist (<i>ASB Rite A</i> <i>Revd W Owen</i>) 6.30pm Evensong (<i>The Vicar</i>)	11am Matins (<i>Mr N Wareham</i>)	8am Holy Communion (<i>The Vicar</i>)
15th: 9.30 Parish Communion (<i>ASB Rite A</i> <i>Revd W Owen</i>) 6.30pm Evensong (<i>Canon F Bull</i>)	8am Holy Communion (<i>Revd C Verity</i>)	11am Matins (<i>Canon J Packer</i>)
22nd: 9.30 The Eucharist (<i>Revd W Owen</i>) 6.30pm Evensong (<i>Canon F Bull</i>)	11am Matins (<i>Revd C Verity</i>)	11am <i>Songs of Praise</i>
29th: 9.30 The Eucharist (<i>ASB Rite A</i>) with the Laying-on of Hands <i>No Evensong today</i>	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion 11am Harvest Matins (<i>Preacher: Mr Norman Wareham, Licensed Reader</i>)

6th October:

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

■ *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: *1st*, Mr E R O'Mahony *8th*, Holy Communion, The Revd Sheila Foreman *15th*, Mr A G Jones *22nd*, Harvest Festival, The Revd Sheila Foreman *29th*, The Revd S. Taylor

Junior Church reopens on 15th at 9.30am in Bridge Village Hall, though as this is their first meeting they will not be joining the Parish Communion congregation in St Peter's Church. New recruits, who should be at least four years old, are most welcome. Details from Hilary Pike (830708) or Jean Hopkins (830942).

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion will be held in St Peter's Church, Bridge this month only on Wednesday, 4th (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday, 6th (*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.

The Vicar will be on holiday from 9th to 26th September inclusive.

For your diary and prayer list

- 1st **Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity : 15 after Pentecost**
3rd *St Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher of the Faith, 604*
5th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, The Village Hall, 8pm
7th Pray for Stephen Fawke and May Shiu Chan to be married in St Peter's Church, Bridge at 2pm
8th ***The Blessed Virgin Mary*** [Trinity 15, Pentecost 16]
Pray for those who are to be confirmed this morning in St Mary's Church, Wingham at 10 o'clock; Jean Hopkins, Vivian Saunders, Sarah Johnson, Emma Medhurst, Elizabeth Pike and Timothy Spencer.
11th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
13th *St Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr, 258*
14th *Holy Cross Day*
Don't forget to support today's annual Sponsored Cycle Ride in aid of church funds.
15th **Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity : 17th after Pentecost**
17th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
19th Prayers for Health and Healing, 'Orana', Brewery Lane, 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, The Village Hall, 8pm
21st ***St Matthew the Apostle***
Pray for Suzanne Pope and Richard Barrett, to be married at noon in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne
22nd **Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity : 18th after Pentecost**
25th *Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, 1626*
27th *St Vincent de Paul, Founder of the Vincentian Order, 1660*
There will not be a 7.30am Holy Communion at Bridge in view of tomorrow's Church Day, which will be centred on the Eucharist
28th PATRIXBOURNE with BRIDGE CHURCH DAY, St Edmund's School, Canterbury
29th ***St Michael and All Angels*** [Trinity 18, Pentecost 19]
At the 9.30am Eucharist the ministry of the Laying-on of Hands with Prayer will be offered to any who wish to receive it either for themselves or someone else. It will be administered immediately after the Communion in the Lady Chapel.

NEXT MONTH'S ON THE NAIL

Please notice that contributions for the October issue of *On The Nail* should not be sent to the vicarage but to Lawrence Dunderdale, 37 High Street, Bridge, who has kindly agreed to edit that issue during the vicar's absence. Items should reach Lawrence on or before the 15th.

Kirchentag

That's what the Germans call it, and this annual event held somewhere in Germany and open to all-comers draws Christians in ever-increasing numbers from churches and congregations the world over.

The English translation of *kirchentag* for non-German speakers like me is 'Church Day' and whereas that held in Germany in fact lasts for more than one *tag* our own this month will occupy the inside of Saturday, 28th. If that sounds somewhat meagre by comparison let me tell you that the German churches are past masters at the game whereas we've never held anything vaguely like it before: on that basis 6½ hours of fellowship and prayer-based consultation is no bad beginning.

* * *

Response to the Church Day has been far more encouraging than we dared hope and if everyone comes prepared to pray hard and be constructive and open in their thinking and speaking, then it bodes well not only for the day but for the future of the church in the parish of Patricxbourne with Bridge.

By making the day one long Eucharist we shall meet with prayer at the centre, which is surely the proper way for Church people to approach anything they do. As Christ's body in the world we need to be in frequent touch with God, and this applies not only on a Church Day but at every stage of every Christian's life. To be Christ in the world we need to let Christ act in and through us, and especially on a Church Day we need to keep before us the fact that we are God's servants, pledged to do his bidding, bearing in mind it's only through prayer that we can discern what that is.

* * *

In case you think you're in for a day-long prayer session let me explain that though the structure will be that of the Eucharist, where the sermon would normally come there will be a short introductory address and then we shall split into groups for the various workshops, in the afternoon coming together to collect our findings. Between the groups and plenary session we shall eat a picnic lunch, so you see we won't be on our knees all the time. The day ends as does every Eucharist with communion, and whereas we shall have the use of the school chapel for our worship and the plenary session, for the other events we shall be elsewhere in the school. But don't worry, we won't let you get lost. Maps of the school premises will be provided!

* * *

There will, of course, be a follow-up to the day, though what form that will take has yet to be worked out. Meanwhile, whether you're coming to St Edmund's on 28th or not, commit the day to prayer between now and then; and if you're coming don't forget to bring a packed lunch – we'll provide the drinks.

* * *

By way of preparation I strongly urge you to ponder the following extremely penetrating and challenging personal view of the Youth in our Church by Stephen Pike.

“The youth of today is the Church of the future!”

This saying is often heard and to an extent it is self-evidently true, however it is not the entire story either. Young people are a vital part of the Church of the present too and should not be regarded as a separate entity.

The recent *Children in the Way* report showed us that the church should conduct itself in much the same way as an ordinary family, for we are the family of God. We have much to learn from the young in our midst; joy, enthusiasm in worship, quick forgiveness and trust. Learning is a two-way process; just as they are learning from us, we must be prepared to learn from them.

Whichever of the topics we find ourselves discussing on September 28th, they are all inter-related and cannot be considered without regard for the needs of our whole ‘family’.

We must consider whether we need to make more effort to make our worship more attractive to the young – greater involvement, use of their music, etc. Those who have been to the Easter Monday Youth Service in the Cathedral will know how uplifting an experience that is, with two and a half thousand people present (not all young).

Recently three teenagers have joined the Junior Church team and their contribution has proved the ability of the young to lead in the life of the Church if they are given the chance. How about representation on the PCC?

Apart from working together, families also have fun together. Could we or should we organise parish events for all ages? – e.g. parish retreat, outings, picnics, rambles or even a cricket match.

The existing work with the young of the Church demands certain resources. Junior Church leaders who are only able to make their own communion once a month – a bigger team would help. The use of the Village Hall which is due to the generosity of the Parish Council but is far from ideal because of the distance from the church, especially in inclement weather. What facilities could we provide to improve this situation? How can our children be more involved in *all* our services?

“Children should be seen and not heard,” was often quoted in our own youth; are we guilty of applying the same rule today? If we have expectations of the youth in our Church for tomorrow, what expectations do they have of us for today?

Family joys and sorrows

Welcomed into the Lord’s family

Holy Baptism was administered by the vicar at the Bridge Family Service on 4th August to **Jessica Helen Saunders**. daughter of Nigel and

Kathryn, 42 Western Avenue and to **Thomas Leroy Gay**, son of Benjamin and Tracy, 47 Union Road. That same afternoon in St Mary's, Patricbourne four-year-old **Rachel Emma Mackey** and her baby brother, **James John**, the children of Timothy and Lorraine, 37 Bridge Down were also baptized. Observing the ease with which Rachel faced what for one of her years is quite an ordeal, puts me in mind of a boy of two or three I once baptized, who while still wet from the experience announced in a loud, clear voice, "That's all right, then!"

The rare joy of an adult baptism took place within the Parish Communion at Bridge on 18th August, when Mrs **Vivian Christine Saunders**, 17 Bridge Down was baptized prior to her confirmation at Wingham on 8th September.

Joined in Christian marriage

At 12 noon on 17th August the marriage took place in St Peter's, Bridge of our erstwhile deputy organist **Selwyn Lewis** and **Linda Glenister**. The same afternoon in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne **Joanne Reynard** of Downside was married to **Leslie Help** of Herne Bay. We wish both couples every blessing and happiness in their life together.

Died in the peace of Christ

The vicar officiated on 9th August in Barham Crematorium at the cremation of **William John (Jack) Seath**. Due to his state of health Jack, who died on 5th August, had lived most of his eighty-four years in care, ending his days at The New Close, Bridge. He was perhaps better known through his sister, Mrs Olive Knight, who cared for him with commendable devotion and was largely instrumental in providing him with a contented and happy life. Our sympathy goes out to her and her sisters, who will greatly miss a much-loved brother.

Also on 9th August the cremated remains of Mrs **Irene Doris Castle**, lately of Canterbury and who died on 30th September, 1990, were laid to rest in the grave of her husband and son in Bridge churchyard.

Ann Shirley writes: Long-standing residents of Bridge will be saddened by the death of Mrs Bob Goode at the end of July in Maidstone. Barbara founded the Bridge Brownies in 1963 or thereabouts, when the Goode family lived in Bridge Down. In Maidstone she continued to help others in many different ways.

Bridge Churchyard

Parishioners might be interested to know that Bridge Churchyard has been officially closed by Order in Council. That means the only burials that can still take place there are in an existing grave that still has a vacant space, and the interment of cremated remains.

Following the closure the vicar and churchwardens wrote to the clerk to Bridge Parish Council requesting the council to take over complete responsibility for the churchyard's future upkeep and this came into force on 14th August. The PCC spent a considerable sum of money putting the

Continued on page 13

yard in good order and from now on it will be up to the council, which has submitted the matter to the City Council, as it is entitled to do.

Christian Aid Week . . .

Editor: I must apologize for the very late appearance of the following report by Wendy Durell, which should have been included in June's 'On The Nail'.

This year the three villages of Bridge, Patrixbourne and Bekesbourne raised a staggering £900 for *Christian Aid*. This is nearly £400 more than last year. So much for 'donor fatigue'; this shows how much you really care!

Thank you everyone who collected and gave, especially Bridge School for raising £80. Also heart-felt thanks from all the needy people of the world who will benefit from your great generosity.

. . . and Cancer Research

Many thanks to all those who collected and to those who gave so generously for the Cancer Research Appeal. We raised £212.28.

Hilary Pike

CONGRATULATIONS to Junior Church and helpers on their effort of the 20th July, namely the Bring & Buy Sale plus Ploughman's Lunches. We enjoyed a delicious lunch, beautifully prepared and served; but what impressed us most of all was the warmth, fun and enthusiasm which always lies behind any project Junior Churches undertakes. Thank you to everyone who made that day such a success.

Joyce Rose

Sponsored Cycle Ride

Don't forget the date, 14th September! Sponsor forms are still available from Christine Ash (*Bekesbourne*), Rosalie Stacey (*Patrixbourne*), and Kath Pierce (*Bridge*)! Do cycle on behalf of your local church – it eventually gets half of your sponsor money – and enjoy a bracing day out into the bargain! If cycling is not your *forté* please sponsor one of our cyclists, thereby supporting them in their gallant effort and doing the church a bit of financial good at the same time.

Ted, Olga and Edward Weatherall would like to thank the many people from whom we have received both practical help and immeasurable support during our recent difficult period. We consider ourselves fortunate to live in such a caring community.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Bridge Folk Dance Group

If you enjoyed the Barn Dance at Bishopsbourne in April why not following it up by joining us when we resume our meetings this month. We will be pleased to meet new dancers with or without a partner on Thursday, 5th

and 19th in the Village Hall at 8 o'clock. For further information please ring Dot on 830285 or Joyce on 830652.

J. H.

Who's for an ice show?

Holiday on Ice is said to be the most dazzling ice show in the world. Junior Church is planning a trip to the Brighton Centre to see a matinée performance on Saturday, 18th or 25th January, 1992. The cost will be approximately £12 for adults and £8 for children.

This is a show for young and old (that's what the brochure says) so why not join us for a good day out. Phone Hilary (830708) or Jean (830942) before 9th September if you're interested.

Jean Hopkins

Bridge with Patixbourne Women's Institute

The WI meets in the Village Hall on Tuesday, 17th September at 7.30pm when the speaker will be Mrs H. Jackson on 'The Sympathetic Hearing Scheme'. The competition is for a jar of raspberry jam. Prospective new members are always very welcome.

Pat Hulyer

Relax after the Church Day

Bridge Church Choir is having a Car Scavenger Hunt on Sunday, 29th September in aid of the Choir Fund. Fill your car with friends, come to 'The Archways', Conyngham Lane and have a Sunday afternoon of fun. Weather permitting you will be rewarded with a barbeque in the evening.

Please come and show your appreciation for Arnie and all his hard work by supporting the choir. £3 adults, £2 children. All enquiries to me on 830981. Final numbers required by 8th September.

Viv Brasier

Ed: As we shall have had a fairly intense, concentrated Saturday, not to mention the Sunday morning 9.30 Eucharist, it's likely this social event will appeal to many people as a much-needed light relief. It has therefore been decided not to hold 6.30pm Evensong on 29th September.

Harvest Supper - advanced notice

Bridge Harvest Supper will be on Saturday, 5th October at 7.30pm in the school hall. The choir will provide entertainment and everyone, whatever your age, is very welcome. Tickets are £3 and obtainable in church after all services or from Stephen Pike, 12 High Street.

H. P.

Fish News 

Hospital Parking

New arrangements have been made for parking at the Kent & Canterbury Hospital. They are as follows:

1. FREE parking for visitors staying up to half an hour on the designated spaces outside Outpatients.

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Patients who are entitled to claim help with travel expenses will be reimbursed in full. If you are on Income Support you can claim back your parking fee by showing your allowance book or other evidence at the Transport Desk in the Outpatients Hall.

The entrance from Nackington Road is now closed to cars but not to pedestrians.

People using our transport scheme are asked to reimburse the driver for the parking fee.

* * *

The next Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday, 11th September in Bridge Village Hall from 10.15 to 11.45am.

Joan Warren, 830233

BEKESBOURNE CHURCH Cleaning and Flower Rota

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More *Songs of Praise* at Bekesbourne

You will perhaps have noticed from the Diary Column at the front that there is to be a second service of *Songs of Praise* at 11am on 22nd September in St Peter's, Bekesbourne. For anyone new and who doesn't know quite what's entailed, the title *Songs of Praise* should be fairly self-explanatory. It's an hour largely devoted to hymn-singing, the hymns being chosen in advance by members of the congregation.

If there is a hymn you would particularly like to have sung (it doesn't have to be in the regular hymnbook) please give churchwarden John Purchase a call on 830937. As he's rather busy fulfilling Lord Mayoral duties at present be patient, and if you can't get him the first time try again. The important thing is to let him have your choice as soon as possible, for he researches every hymn that finds its way into the service and gives the congregation a word of introduction before it is sung.

Last month's selection was quite starved of specifically 'praiseworthy' hymns, which was a bit hard on those intent on a good sing, so let's aim to make this month's service predominantly one of joyful *Songs of Praise!*

Bekesbourne Harvest Festival

The Harvest Festival at Bekesbourne is on Sunday, 29th September, when in addition to the regular 8am Holy Communion we shall have a special Matins at 11am. The guest preacher, Mr Norman Wareham is a good friend of Bekesbourne Church's, having in past years assisted the celebrant at the Christmas Midnight. It will be good to welcome him in this different capacity and to give him the opportunity to exercise more of his reader's ministry among us.

Voices for Hospices 1991

This is a nationwide musical experience that aims to put a lot of money into the hospices of this country. Each area will concentrate on helping its own hospice, but the date and structure of the experience is the same everywhere, *i.e.* to perform Haydn's *Creation* from scratch.

Where the Pilgrim's Hospice is concerned you are warmly invited to come and sing *Creation* in Canterbury Cathedral at 7.30pm on Saturday, 5th October. The performance will be conducted by Richard Cooke with the Canterbury Philharmonic Orchestra and it will cost you £5 whether you sing or help form the audience.

Interested singers should contact the area representative, Mrs Jennifer Collyer, The Manor House, Ford, Hoath, Canterbury (tel: 86217), and indeed anyone who may like to help with publicity, practical help, sponsorship, or would like tickets for the performance should give her a call.

Writing in support of the venture its President, the Earl of Harewood says, "This is potentially a great musical manifestation, combining amateurs and professionals in a major choral work, and I hope that the explosion of sound on October 5th will in itself produce a Voice for Hospices which will not soon be forgotten".

Matters of Belief

Canon Clifford Pollard, Canterbury's former Diocesan Director of Education, is no stranger to these parts, having preached at Bekesbourne on more than one occasion. Since his retirement he has become widely known through his hugely popular weekly broadcasts on *BBC Radio Kent*, which many of you will no doubt have heard. He has been a professional acquaintance and friend of mine for as long as I have been in Kent and we quite often meet when I sing Evensong in the cathedral.

RSVP (Recorded Sound and Vision Projects) of Sheerness is soon to release a unique and moving hour-long audio-cassette entitled **Matters of Belief** recorded by Canon Pollard. In it he expands on strongly-held convictions about life and death, the churches' role in everyday life and mankind's place in the scheme of things; tackling bereavement, triumph and tragedy, ambition and a dozen other subjects.

The tape will be on sale through normal retail channels throughout the county, priced £5.35, but *RSVP* is offering churches the opportunity to sell them for the same price and thereby make a profit for church funds. If there is someone who will act as stockist/sales rep on our behalf we can hopefully cash in on this. I haven't heard the tape, but knowing Canon Pollard's reputation as a speaker, plus his clarity of thinking and presentation I can imagine it will be worth having and prove of great encouragement to many people.

Any volunteers to be our agent?

Baptisms at Bekesbourne

On the afternoon of Sunday, 25th August the Vicar administered Holy Baptism to **Tiffany Jade Murphy** and **Joseph Thomas Cockill**.

Tiffany's parents are Anthony and Frances Murphy of 'Chocks Away', Aerodrome Road, and Joseph is the first child of John and Lesley (née Payne) Cockill, who were married at Bekesbourne and live at St Athan, Barry, South Glamorgan.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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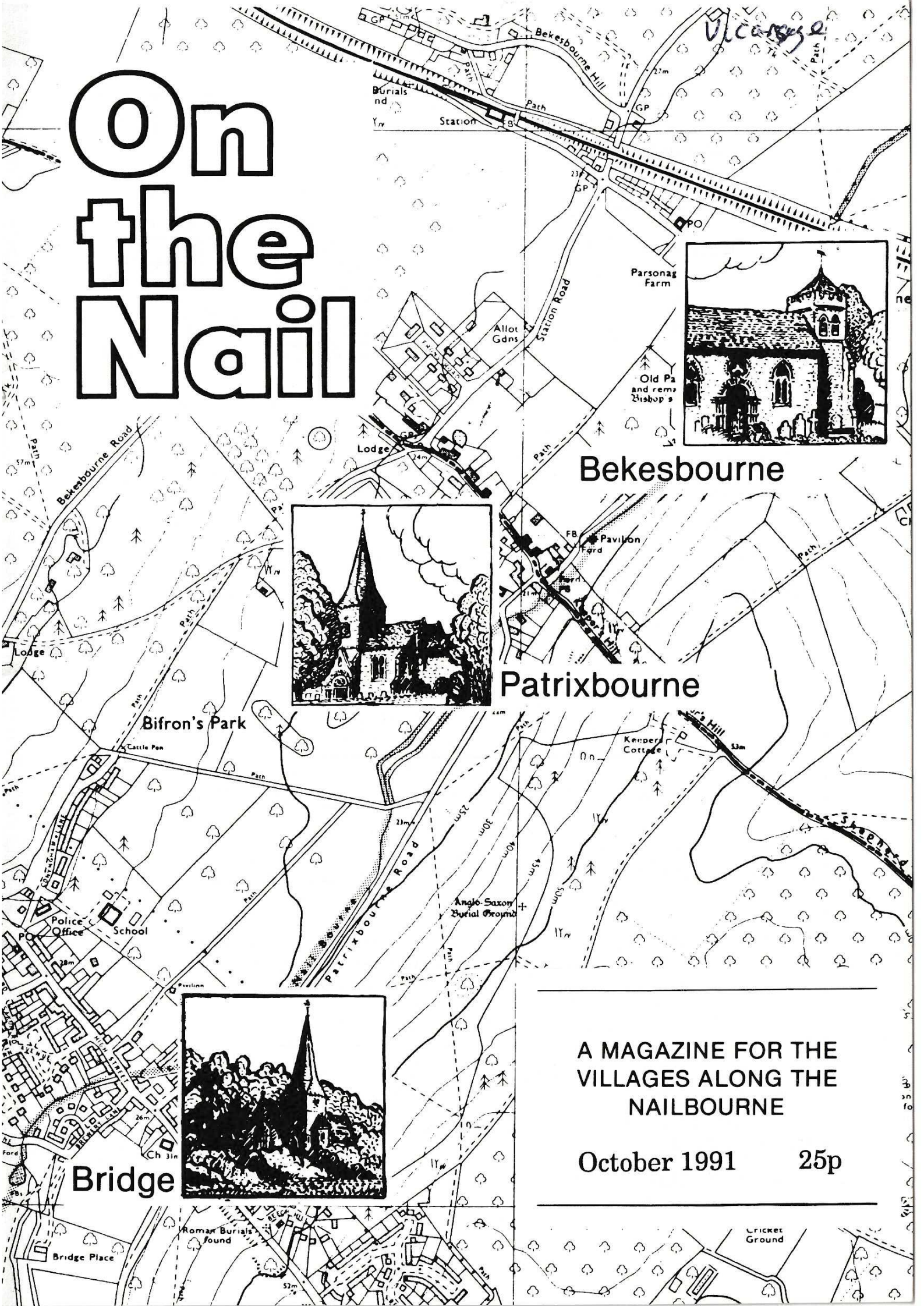
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Bekesbourne



Patricxbourne



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October 1991 25p

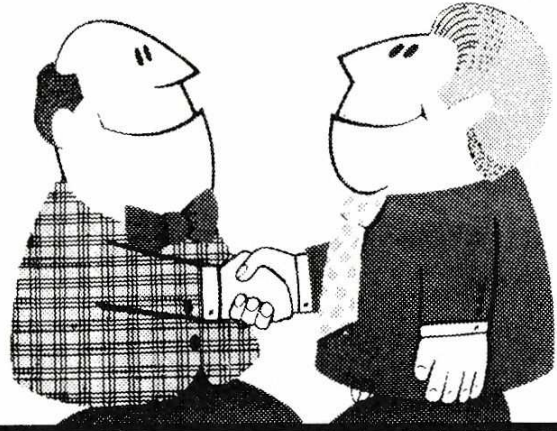
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Sunday Worship in October

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

6th:

11am Harvest Family Service

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm Sung Harvest Evensong (*Preacher: Revd Roger Ellis*)

13th:

9.30 The Eucharist (*ASB Rite A*)

11am Harvest Matins

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

(*Preacher: Canon Clifford Pollard*)

20th:

9.30 Parish Communion (*ASB Rite A*)

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

6.30pm Evensong (*Canon F Bull*)

27th:

8am Holy Communion

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

6.30pm Evensong

3rd November:

11am Family 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 is served at the back of the church.*

HARVEST FESTIVALS at Bridge and Patricxbourne are on successive Sundays as above. The Family Service in the morning will centre on a harvest theme and you are invited to bring an offering in kind to present at the service. As last year we shall subsequently take the produce to the women's refuge on the Sturry Road.

The visiting preacher at Evensong on 6th is the Revd Roger Ellis, the Chaplain of St Edmund's School. Roger couldn't have been more accommodating on our Church Day and it will be a great pleasure to have him with us on our Harvest Festival.

Preaching at Patricxbourne's Harvest Festival on 13th at 11am will be Canon Clifford Pollard. A personal friend for many years, Clifford was formerly our Diocesan Director of Education and is now a regular broadcaster with *BBC Radio Kent*. The audio-cassette he has produced entitled *Matters of Belief* comes out this month, and is destined to be very popular.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am; *6th*, The Revd Francis W Flecknoe *13th*, Holy Communion, The Revd Sheila Foreman *20th*, Dr J R Butler *27th*, Mr R H Peacock, MSc.

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge every Wednesday (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. 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
Bridge Methodists Annual Coffee Morning and Sale, 10.30 - 12 noon
Bridge Folk Dance Group, The Village Hall, 8pm
- 4th *St Francis of Assisi, Friar, 1226*
- 5th Bridge Harvest Supper, School Hall, 7.30pm
- 6th: **Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity : 20 after Pentecost**
Bridge Harvest Festival is celebrated at both the 11am and 6.30pm Services.
- 7th Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne Parish Council, Open Meeting, 7.30pm
- 8th Pray for the clergy of East Bridge Deanery who meet in chapter this morning at the vicarage.
- 9th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 10th *St Paulinus, Bishop, Missionary, 644*
Bridge Magazine Distributors meeting, Bridge Methodist Church, 7.30pm
Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 12th Bridge with Patrixbourne WI, Autumn Fayre, Village Hall 10am - 2pm
- 13th **Twentieth Sunday after Trinity : 21 after Pentecost**
Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Outing to Wisley
- 15th *St Teresa of Avila, Mystic, 1582*
Pray for East Bridge Deanery Synod which meets this evening in Bridge Methodist Church.
Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 16th Patrixbourne with Bridge PCC, The Methodist Church, 7.30pm
- 17th *St Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, Martyr, c107*
Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, The Village Hall, 8pm
- 18th *St Luke the Evangelist*
- 19th Canterbury Council for Health & Healing's Study Day, St Peter's Methodist Church, Canterbury
- 20th **Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity : Last after Pentecost**
- 21st The Vicar will be out of the parish on retreat until Friday, 25th
- 24th Nailbourne Horticultural Society meeting, Methodist Church Hall, 8pm
- 27th **Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity : 9 Before Christmas**
- 28th *St Simon and St Jude, Apostles*

Stress on Stress

By the time you read this Patrixbourne with Bridge's Church Day will have taken place, although at the time of writing it has still to happen. Among the topics scheduled for reappraisal is our local Church's healing ministry and hopefully we shall have gleaned fresh insights into it by now.

If, as I hope, your views on the Healing Ministry were crystalized at St Edmund's and your interest stimulated in this important area of Christian witness, then you may like to attend the Canterbury Council for Health and Healing's Study Day on Saturday, 19th October.

It's an annual event around St Luke's-tide, preceded by the Council's very brief AGM. This year we gather in St Peter's Methodist Church, Canterbury and the guest speaker is the Revd Howard Booth, a Methodist minister with a long experience in the Healing Ministry. He has been the Adviser on Health and Healing Ministeries to the Division of Social Responsibility within the Methodist Church and also Vice-Chairman of the Churches Council for Health and Healing at St Marylebone. He is the author of a number of books on healing, more recently the widely-acclaimed resource book *Healing Is Wholeness* written expressly for Churches and congregations wishing to develop their own healing ministry. He is an excellent speaker and a great enthusiast who will tackle the difficult subject of *Stress and Spirituality* with an expertise bred of a life of study and prayer.

* * *

Stress is one of today's in-words and people are discovering that it's at the root of many of life's ills. It manifests itself in an assortment of insidious guises, and realizing that you are stressed is half way to curing it, but only half way. To approach stress from the spiritual angle, which is what I imagine Howard Booth will attempt to do, should surely point us in the direction of that wholeness God wants to give all his children.

* * *

If you would like to pursue this further, do come along. Having heard Howard Booth before I can assure you it won't be as dull a day as the title may suggest. You'll need to bring £3, the cost of the day, and a picnic lunch (drinks are usually provided). See the poster in Bridge Church porch for all the relevant information. An act of worship with the laying-on of hands will complete the day!

Family records

Joined in Christian Marriage

We offer our best wishes for a bright and happy future to two delightful young couples on their marriage. The Vicar officiated when **Stephen Fawke** married **May Shiu Chan** in St Peter's Church, Bridge on 7th September and Canon Clifford Pollard conducted the marriage service in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne for **Suzanne Pope** and **Richard Barrett**.

Those who have died

A resident of Mansfield Court, Mrs **Lucy Cave** died on 24th August and the vicar officiated at a funeral service for her in Barham Crematorium on 30th.

A Bridge resident of twenty-one years, Mrs **Mary Child** (known to her family as 'Ginger') passed peacefully away on 24th August aged 94. Ginger had been quite active in village circles, being at one time a member of the Women's Institute. A private cremation service was held on the morning of

3rd September, and this was followed by a Service of Thanksgiving for her life the same afternoon in Bridge Church.

On Thursday, 12th September, **Lily Hogben's** funeral took place at Barham. Lily was happily known to many old Bridge residents as "one of the Brickenden girls" and that is a measure of the love which the village felt for her. There had been tragedy in the lives of Lily and Cyril and their family with the sudden death of their daughter Shirley, but they ever remained devoted to the life of the village and Bridge Church.

The last years of a number of elderly neighbours were made happier and easier by Lily's unfailing friendship and support and her unassuming presence in the village scene will be greatly missed by us all. It seemed right at her funeral service that we should think of her leaving us, in the words of Jesus as if they were her own, "My peace I leave with you". Our loving thoughts are with Cyril and their family.

J.W.P.

Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne Parish Council

At the last meeting of the Parish Council, held on 2nd September in Bekesbourne Village Hall, it was decided to hold an open meeting on **Monday, 7th October** at 7.30pm to discuss the low-cost housing scheme. The meeting will be held at **Bekesbourne Village Hall** and *all parishioners* are welcome.

There will be an opportunity to find out the latest developments, and also a chance to express views on the proposals. This is *your* chance to let the Parish Council know how you feel and what you want.

A life of dedication

From every angle Elsie Apps has been around Bridge for a very long time. As a comparative newcomer myself I can nevertheless vouch for the fact that Elsie has over the years given sterling service to Bridge Church, particularly though not exclusively in the areas of church cleaning and the parish magazine.

Strictly speaking she should have 'retired' some years ago, but as I'm sure we all know Elsie was wedded to these tasks with such determination that she resolutely refused all offers of relief from what she saw as her duty.

Now that ill health has settled the question for her we offer our heartfelt thanks for the good work she has done for her church over very many years. Lots of future happiness, Elsie, in your new-found freedom and in the move to what must be a far less isolated existence at Saxon Lodge. You won't lack for visitors, that's for sure!

Bridge Magazine Distributors ahoy!

Taking over the supervision of magazine distribution from now on is Mrs Pat Dunderdale, 37 High Street (almost opposite Elsie's former abode) and we are most grateful for Pat's willingness after such a short time among us to shoulder this particular burden.

Because changes of some kind are bound to arise (Don't worry - nothing too drastic is anticipated) and so that everyone can help plan future strategy

we've decided to bring forward the annual Magazine Distributors meeting from its previous slot in December to **Thursday, 10th October** at the later time of 7.30pm. We shall hope to meet in Bridge Methodist Church (those concerned will be notified if this isn't available) and I would urge upon all Bridge distributors the importance of attending this meeting.

The annual meeting has tended to be poorly attended of late, so it would be of great help to all of us and particularly to Pat, if everyone makes the effort to be there. I hope that having it in the evening will prove a more popular and manageable time, especially for those who work. Do your best, please.

As you were, elsewhere!

Since we don't expect any change in the way *On The Nail* is distributed at either Bekesbourne or Patricxbourne this particular meeting will concentrate solely on the situation at Bridge. In saying which I would like to thank on your behalf those who month by month see that *On The Nail* comes to you, wherever you happen to live.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute

The WI are holding an Autumn Fayre with Ploughman's Lunches in the Village Hall on 12th October between 10am and 2pm. Please come and support us.

The WI meets in the Village Hall on Tuesday, 15th October at 7.30pm when the speaker will be Mrs Alliot, on *Christmas Table Decorations*. The Competition is for a *Christmas table arrangement*, fresh flowers. P.H.

Folk Dance Group

Bridge Folk Dance Group meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month. Alf Matthews is still our very patient caller, teaching us mostly "easy little dances, nothing to worry about". So please join us with or without a partner on the 3rd and 17th October at 8pm in Bridge Village Hall.

Enquiries, please ring 830285 or 830652.

Joyce Hopkins

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

A day outing to Royal Horticultural Society, Wisley has been arranged for Sunday, 13th October. The coach will leave from outside Bishopsbourne Church at 9.15am with a pick up point outside Bridge Post Office at 9.30am. There are a few seats still available from Mrs Ethel Cartwright, tel: 831095. Tickets priced at £5.50 for Members and £7.00 for non-members.

There will be a talk on Thursday, 24th October on the interesting topic of *Bee-Keeping* by David McEwen at the Methodist Church Hall, Bridge at 8pm. Non-members most welcome. A small charge will be made for refreshments.

Rajini Dasan

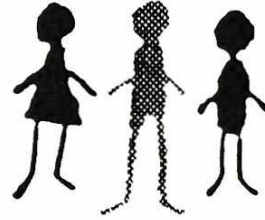
Bridge Methodists

Bridge Methodists are holding their Annual Coffee Morning and Sale on Thursday, 3rd October from 10.30am to 12 noon. Proceeds as always will be shared equally with a selected charity. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

P. A. Grant

The Children's Society

Fund Raising – by 'Knit-Ins'



On Monday, 7th October 1991, Sponsored Knit-Ins are planned throughout the country.

Would you like to join in; at 19 Bridgedown, Bridge, either in the morning between 10am and 12 noon, or the afternoon from 2pm to 4pm on that day, or if more convenient knit at home.

What is required:- Casting on 20 stitches on size 8 (4mm) needles in double knitting wool/yarn and to knit in garter stitch a strip of whatever length you can manage in two hours.

Plus sponsors:- Family, friends or anyone willing to sponsor you for a few pence per inch of your knitted strip.

All money raised will be sent to The Children's Society to help in their work and the knitted strips will be taken to their Shops to be made into blankets or shawls.

If interested, please call for a Sponsor Form, available from me at 19 Bridgedown (tel: 830466) or from 29 High Street (mornings). All information is on the form and you will see it is in a good cause. Would non-knitters like to offer sponsorship?

Kathy Eynon

Competition

Design a Village Sign

The Parish Council would like to commission a sign for the village. The sign to be erected at a suitable location in the village to give prominence to the village name.

It has been decided therefore to invite all parishioners to take part in a competition.

Conditions of Competition

1. The competition is open to anyone with a connection with the village.
2. The village sign may be located anywhere in the village subject to necessary approvals and the submitted design should indicate a preferred site.
3. The sign can be in any form or material but designers should remember that 'cost' will be a criterion of the judges.
4. Presentation shall be on one sheet, (any size), and shall include approximate dimensions and a brief description. The designer's name and address should be on the back of the sheet.
5. A display of the entries will be held in the Village Hall.

Closing Date:

1st November, 1991.

Entries to be delivered to:
Councillor Gulvin,
92 High Street, Bridge

Prize:

There is no prize except that the Parish Council may wish to commission the winning scheme. K.W.

Fish News

This year traders have asked the Canterbury Volunteer Bureau to combine their Annual Christmas Shopping Evening for elderly and disabled people with the first late night shopping evening for the general public on **Thursday, November 28th**. Inevitably this will make the shops more crowded and parking more difficult but to compensate more shops should be open. The CVB have arranged to hire the United Reform Church in Watling Street to act as a meeting place where free refreshments will be provided. Please let me know by October 20th if you would like a ticket and if you need transport.

Chiropody

The NHS Mobile Clinic will be at The New Close, Bridge from October 7th to 11th. Free treatment is provided for anyone over retirement age, children, expectant mothers and anyone who is disabled. Although all appointments at the October session will have been booked, future appointments can be made by telephoning 373241.

Coffee Pop-In

The next Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday, October 9th in Bridge Village Hall from 10.15am to 11.45am. If you would like to join us but can't get there, transport can be arranged.

Joan Warren 830233

Bekesbourne Church · Cleaning and Flower Rota

5th, Mrs Gillanders 12th, Mesdames Smith and Hogben 19th, Mrs Farbrace 26th, Mrs Watson.



REMEMBER - BRIDGE HARVEST SUPPER!

Bridge Harvest Supper will be on Saturday, 5th October at 7.30pm in the school hall. The choir will provide entertainment and everyone, whatever your age, is very welcome. Tickets are £3 and obtainable from Stephen Pike, 12 High Street. H.P.

A TALE TOLD IN OLD JERUSALEM

The Pilgrim's Burden

A poor pilgrim was travelling up the steep and dangerous road which leads from Jericho to Jerusalem. He was staggering under the heavy burden he was carrying on his back and almost fainting from the hot Summer sun.

A rich merchant from Damascus with bales of silk and boxes of cedar wood, passing by in his travelling carriage, saw him and took pity on him, and invited the pilgrim to sit behind him.

Shortly after, on turning round, the merchant saw the pilgrim still oppressed with the load upon his back, and asked why he did not lay it down in the carriage.

The poor man said, "Good sir, it is enough that of your mercy you have allowed me to ride in your carriage. I could not presume to ask you to carry my burden also".

"O foolish man!" was the reply, "If I am willing and able to carry you, am I not able to carry your burden also?"

Oppressed and anxious Christian, do you not see in this man your own unbelief and folly? He who has accepted you, and is your reconciled Father in Christ Jesus, expects you to cast upon Him all your burden of cares too, and He is able to sustain it.

From the Bible Lands Society

Changes at The New Close?



The Kentish Gazette reports:

Plans to transfer nine County Council old people's homes – including The New Close at Bridge to the Kent Community Housing Trust have been conditionally approved by councillors.

But there were calls for a decision to be deferred when the transfer was debated by members of the county's Social Services Finance and General Purposes Sub-committee . . .

But Social Services chairman and County Councillor for Canterbury East, Molly de Courcy said that she was horrified that, after two years' delay, it was being suggested that the decision should be deferred further.

"Under the transfer, the homes will be refurbished by the trust to develop the level of care for residents, and there would be scope to convert some beds to nursing home status so residents can remain there when they become more frail."

The approval is subject to further consideration by the county's Social Services Committee next month.

PARISH PUMP

Parish Council
News



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met after the summer recess on Thursday 12th September.

'Brought forwards' As no word had yet been received from the City Council recognising their responsibility for the maintenance of the churchyard now that it had been officially 'closed'; and as the church had spent a considerable sum in putting the churchyard into good order prior to it being taken over by the City, the Clerk was to write yet again to the City Council to remind them of their statutory obligation to maintain it.

The City Council were also to be asked what action was being taken by them since the Parish Council had reported the poor condition of the building known as 'Barbaranne' in the High Street.

They were also to be reminded that certain street name plates required attention or even replacing, and that a new up-to-date "No dumping of Litter" sign was required for the lay-by on Town Hill.

The drain at the corner of the 'Plough & Harrow' in the High Street was still broken and would be reported to the County Council again.

Cllr Mervyn Gulvin was to chase up the results of the environmental assessment of the village carried out by pupils of the Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys last term.

Income & Expenditure Thanks to the efforts of Cllrs Mrs Billie Anderson and Reg Franklin, the Council had been successful in procuring a £200 grant from 'Shell' towards the material costs of providing seating around the mature trees in the Recreation Ground. Confirmation had also been received of a 50% grant from the City Council towards the cost of present improvements to the Village Hall. This time, it was the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mrs Ann King who had obtained this on behalf of

the Village Hall Management Committee.

The Parish Council has just spent £160 on preservative treatment to two of the bus shelters.

Road Safety The problem of vehicles speeding through the High Street is to be reported to the Traffic Police.

The Clerk is to seek advice on traffic law and procedure before a request is made to improve safety at the junction of Union Road with the High Street. Meanwhile, the KCC Highways Department is to be asked to investigate ways of improving safety at the junction of Union Road with Mill Lane following requests for a change in priority there.

Progress - slow but sure The Chairman, Cllr John Hill, reported to the Meeting that there was a little positive, if slow, progress being made as far as the provision of affordable housing for the village was concerned.

Planning Issues The Parish Council had made no objections to applications for a proposed garage extension and alterations (revised scheme) for 'Highbank', 15 Conyngham Lane, for a conversion of oast and barn into two dwellings and restoration of cowls to roof, Great Pett Oast, or for a single storey extension to Bridge School. Planning permission has been granted by the City Council for a single storey and two storey side extension to 12 Beech Hill, for a single storey rear extension to 58 Bridge Down and for a first floor rear extension to 30 Bridge Down.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 10th October, commencing at 7.15pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall. Mr Kim Bennett, the Planning Officer of the City Council will give a talk to Members on development control issues before the normal business of the Council is discussed.

KA Walder, Clerk

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

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

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

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

Hon Secretary: Mr T. J. Flisher, 52 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830871)

Hon Treasurer: Mr K. Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr A. Wills, 10 Brooklands Close, Fordwich, Canterbury CT2 0BT (711278)

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

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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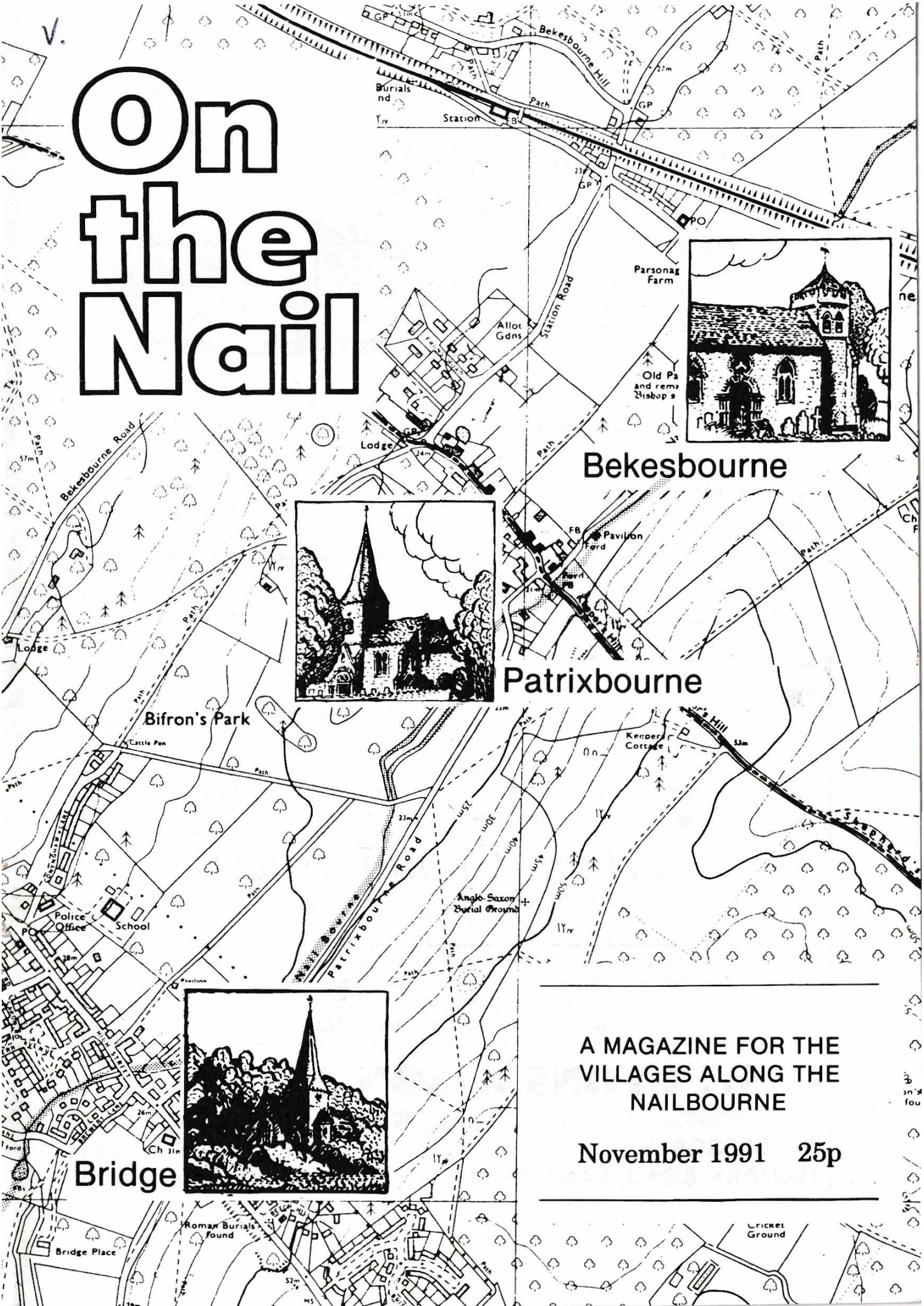
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On the Nail



Bekebourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE
VILLAGES ALONG THE
NAILBOURNE

November 1991 25p

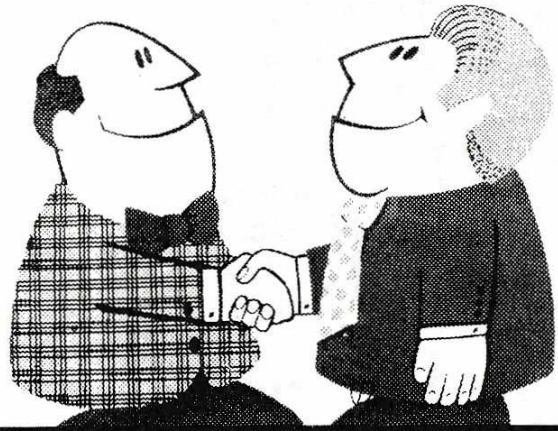
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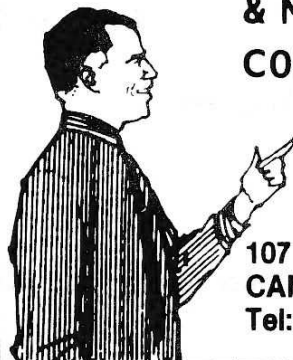
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Sunday Worship in November

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

3rd:

11am Family Service
3.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

10th:

9.30am The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)

11am Matins
(Revd W Owen)

8am Holy Communion

11am Service of
Remembrance (Preacher:
Revd C Verity)

3.30pm Evensong

17th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(ASB Rite A)

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

3.30pm Holy Baptism

3.30pm Evensong
(Revd W Owen)

24th:

8am Holy Communion

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

3.30pm Evensong (Preacher:
Revd Robin Blount)

1st December:

11am Family Gift
Service & Holy Baptism

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

3.30pm Evensong

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

SUNDAY EVENSONG Starting this month and throughout the winter Sunday Evensong will be at 3.30pm.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 3rd, Mrs R Maxwell 10th, Holy Communion, The Revd Sheila Foreman 17th, The Revd Sheila Foreman 24th, Dr C Pilkington.

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge every Wednesday (BCP) at 9.30am and Friday (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

1st *All Saints' Day*

2nd *Commemoration of All Souls*

3rd **Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity : 8 before Christmas**

- 7th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 8th *Saints and Martyrs of England*
The Children's Society Annual Christmas Fair, Cathedral Chapter House, 10am - 12 noon.
- 10th **Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity : 7 before Christmas**
 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY will be observed with a wreath-laying ceremony and the Two Minutes Silence at Bridge village war memorial in the churchyard, followed immediately by a special Remembrance Service in St Peter's Church conducted by the vicar. The preacher will be the Revd Cecil Verity, who for much of his ministry was an RAF chaplain.
- 11th *St Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397*
- 13th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 14th Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 15th Pray for Alan Duke, to be instituted and inducted as Rector of Barham, Bishopsbourne and Kingston this evening.
- 16th **CHURCH AUTUMN FAYRE**, Bridge School Hall, 2pm
- 17th **Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity : 6 before Christmas**
- 19th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 20th *St Edmund of East Anglia, King, Martyr, 870*
- 21st Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 24th **Sunday next before Advent : 5 before Christmas**
 The preacher at 3.30pm Evensong is the Revd Robin Blount. A most stimulating preacher, Robin is on the Industrial Mission Team having particular responsibility for Dover Harbour and the Channel Tunnel construction.
- 30th *St Andrew the Apostle*
 Friends of The New Close Coffee Morning, Bridge Village Hall, 10.30 - 12 noon

Church Day – a huge success

The unanimous verdict of the forty-plus church members who attended Patricxbourne with Bridge's Church Day at St Edmund's School in September was – A great day! A marvellous experience!

It more than fulfilled our expectations. The opportunity to share in deep discussion on our role as the Church in our community outside the situation and within the conducive atmosphere of St Edmund's (they really went out of their way to make us welcome) was for most of us both original and exciting. Setting the whole day within the context of an extended eucharist was good because it anchored our thinking firmly in prayer and made sure our deliberations stayed on an even, spiritual keel.

What now?

As the next stage, and once our findings have been collated, the Church Day Committee will produce a report for the Parochial Church Council, hopefully in time for its December meeting. Eventually we shall make it more widely available, to show everyone where our discussion led us.

No doubt we shall find some suggestions can be implemented quite easily but others will have more far-reaching consequences and thus need lengthier consideration and praying about. Rest assured, however, you will be kept fully informed of how things progress!.

News from St Aidans

by *Andrea Nicholson*

A few weeks ago I received a letter from Betty Ford, our Sheffield contact. I thought the following deserved passing on to a wider audience, especially to all who collected clothing for *Genesis*, St Aidan's second hand clothing shop. Betty writes:

I thought you might be interested to hear a lovely piece of news regarding our shop *Genesis*. After expenses of rent and lighting are deducted, any profit is distributed to worthy charities around the area, and a fortnight ago the old people's luncheon club which I help run was given a cheque to help us take our elderly ladies and gentlemen on a mystery tour around Derbyshire. As their ages range from eighty to ninety, and most are infirm, their outings are very few and far between, so you can imagine their delight at being taken for a trip round Chatsworth, Bakewell and the like, with a call for a small meal in Hathersage. Of course, all this is due to the kindness of everyone who sends us clothing to sell in the shop, which is doing a roaring trade. So I thought perhaps you might like to make this known amongst your congregations, with our thanks for everything and the good work which is being done for our senior citizens as a result. I think the outing will a talking point for them for weeks to come!!

John Packer has now left the parish to be Archdeacon of West Cumbria, but Betty concludes her letter by saying that our friends in Sheffield hope that our link with each other will continue, and that a warm welcome will always be extended to anyone visiting there from our part of the world.

We have committed ourselves to helping the *Genesis* shop with gifts of clothing to cover the month of May and the collection is already under way for May 1992. Ann Mummery has very kindly agreed to collect our offerings at Great Pett Farm should you have some clothing already. On the other hand it would be a great kindness to Ann if you could manage to store what you have at home until shortly before the consignment is ready for the off. Details of this future collection will be announced in due course.

Bridge Church cleaning

We are trying to assemble a rota of people willing to give a hand with cleaning St Peter's Church, Bridge, and as with all such exercises the more names we can get the easier it all becomes. If you could lend an occasional hand please contact Pat Dunderdale (830668) who, with two others has already agreed to pitch in from time to time.

OBITUARIES

George Pratt

The sudden death of 'Sergeant' Pratt, as many in the village still thought of him, came as a great shock to all who knew him, and there were a lot who did.

His years as the local police sergeant established him as a firm friend of the Bridge community, and this continued after his retirement, indeed right up to his death. Anyone meeting him for the first time would easily guess how he'd spent his working life; what with his vice-like handshake and solid build, the delicate mix of sternness with a twinkling humour, not to mention the sound common sense he invariably talked. He was kindness itself and even quite small children (like one youngster a few doors away who wrote a quite engaging school project about him) saw through his at times bluff exterior to the gentle and delightfully granddaddy figure underneath.

George seemed to hit it off with everyone, irrespective of age, and spent as much time tending other people's gardens for them as he did his own.

To his wife Alice, (whom he called "Tinnie") and daughters Elizabeth and Tina he was all that a good husband and father should be, and we pray for them at this very sad parting. We shall particularly miss both the Pratts' presence in church - they were most regular at Bridge's 8am Holy Communion every fourth Sunday.

Paying her own tribute to George Pratt, Joan Warren says, "He seemed to run a private 'Good neighbour scheme'! He gave endless time and help to the many elderly people who lived near him and would always come to the rescue if we were short of a volunteer".

A large company gathered in St Peter's Church on Friday, 27th September to pay respects to this great-hearted Christian at a service prior to cremation at Barham, which was conducted by the vicar (straight back off holiday), with an address from Canon John Packer.

Freda Mason

On Saturday, 28th September Miss Freda Mason was transferred from The New Close to a nursing home in Canterbury. Very early the next Monday peacefully and at rest she entered the greater life of the world to come, for which she was most ready. So departed one of Bridge's more determined characters, a gracious lady beloved of her family, a woman of no mean ability and a thoroughly committed servant of the Lord who at one time all but became a nun.

HMP writes: Few people can have contributed so much and in so many different ways to the life of a community as Miss Freda Mason did both before and after her retirement. Here in Bridge she became a valued and respected member of the village when she retired from her legal career, and came to live in the cottage she loved so much in the company of a succession of her treasured cats. She retained her intellectual interests by

continuing as an examiner for many years while taking an active part in village life in the Over Sixties Club, the WI, visiting the Close and as organizer of the *Church of England Children's Society*. The centre of her life was her faith and she was a dedicated and regular worshipper at Bridge and Bekesbourne churches as well as running the Sunday School for some years and helping to look after the church linen and silver.

There are many young people, some of whom dressed as waitresses at her *Children's Society* Coffee Mornings or enjoyed the fun of her children's parties, who have reason to remember with gratitude her continuing concern for them and for their careers. All of us will miss her stately, but kindly, presence and the inspiration of her faith. It will be good to remember that her last years were spent in The New Close, cared for by the devoted staff and still within the village community.

On the Nail Noticeboard

Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute

Members meet in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 19th November for the Annual Meeting. There will be a ballot for Committee and President. New members very welcome.

P.H.

Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths

The Coffee Morning at 4 Meadow Close on Thursday, 10th October raised £465 clear profit. Christmas Cards to the value of £250 were also sold. Elizabeth Stewart would like to thank all those who helped to make the morning so successful.

E.S.

The Children's Society

Many thanks to those who took part in our local *Knit In* on 7th October, both knitters (valiant 'volunteers') and generous sponsors and donators. A sum in excess of £130 will have been raised from their efforts for the Society. Special thanks are due to our star participant Mrs Barley Senior (ninety-six years young) and to the ladies of Saxon Lodge for their many knitted strips.

K Eynon

Kent Trust for Nature Conservation

The annual sale of Christmas Cards and gifts will be at 9 High Street, Bridge on Saturday, 23rd and Sunday, 24th November from 10am to 6pm and from Monday, 2nd December to Sunday, 8th from 2pm to 6pm.

D Whittaker

Friends of The New Close

Please support the Coffee Morning to be held on Saturday, 30th November, 10.30am to 12 noon in Bridge Village Hall. There will be a toy and gift stall, a cake and produce stall, a Bring & Buy stall, and a raffle. The proceeds are for little luxuries for the residents this Christmas.

O Knight

The Royal British Legion

The Royal British Legion was founded in 1921 as a charity to help ex-servicemen and their dependents. Some seventy years later, this remains the prime reason for its existence. In addition to ex-service men and women, membership is open to anyone who supports the general aims of the organisation.

The Bridge & District Branch of the RBL meets regularly in the 'Plough and Harrow', at 8pm on the last Wednesday of every month except December and all are welcome to attend. The next meeting on Wednesday, 30th October is also the AGM; followed by the Remembrance Sunday service at Bridge Church on November 10th.

The main fund-raising occasion is the annual Poppy Appeal which is taking place whilst this magazine is being distributed. House to house collections are being made, with the street event being on Saturday, 9th November. Volunteers are required to assist in the house-to-house collections, either for the remainder of this year or for next, so please contact Ken Greenaway (830388), if you can help.

For any more information on the Legion and its activities, please contact the Hon Secretary, Jim Stripe, (830761).

Jim Stripe

Joyce Rose says: I cannot tell you how grateful I am for all the kindness people have shown to Bill and me during my illness. The support has been incredible and we are very blessed.

SPONSORED CYCLE RIDES: the after effects

Patricxbourne

The weather on Saturday, 14th September was perfect for this year's Sponsored Cycle Ride – not too hot or too cold, but sunny and dry. During the course of the day one hundred and sixteen riders called in at St Mary's, Patricxbourne. Many stopped for a chat or to discuss their route and some paused to look around the church with the comment, "I've often passed by but never come in before!"

Many thanks to all those (Pauline and Megan Pritchard, Dianne August, Keith Nicholson, Joan Carpenter and John Williamson) who manned the church and who extended such a warm welcome to our visitors. Our riders this year were Marian Harlow, David and John Morris, and Jonathan Nicholson. Between them they have collected £194 for *The Friends of Kent Churches*. Half of this sum will in due course be returned to the parish. Thank you for your sterling efforts. Thanks are also due to the adults who accompanied the three boys on their rides.

Andrea Nicholson

Bridge

Although we did not have as many cyclists this year, £262 was the final amount collected for Bridge Church, of which our church gets half. Rosalind Waller (our intrepid walker), Chris Finney and David Pierce raised over £200 in equal proportions between them.

Most cyclists visited between fifteen and twenty churches on the usual familiar route around the villages but Chris Finney and David Pierce visited the staggering figure of fifty-nine churches each! Their route took them, after visiting local churches, via Nackington, Canterbury, Blean, Whitstable, Swalecliffe, Herne Bay, Reculver, Broomfield, Marshside, Chislet, Hoath, Hersden . . . [Editor: Whoa-a-a-!]

All our cyclists and walkers deserve a big thank-you for their sterling efforts, and here they are to receive your acclaim: Jean and Eric Hopkins with James and Nick; Matthew Andrews; Simon and Emma Flisher; Emma Medhurst; Sarah Johnson; Lesley Finney with Simon and Alex; Emma Young; Iona McMillan; Rosalind Waller; Chris Finney and David Pierce. May I add my thanks to the few volunteers who helped man the church between 10am and 6pm and signed in and welcomed one hundred and five cyclists. The refreshments provided were greatly appreciated by the visitors.

K Pierce

Bekesbourne

Two families, Rita and Hughie Pearson, and Mary Sladden (a 1st Bekesbourne Brownie) with her brother David, mum and dad, rode to raise badly-needed funds for St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne. Between them they managed to raise £223.05, a fantastic amount and our best total ever. A big thank-you to them all – also to Malcolm Howells, Pam Farbrace, Joan Atkins and Savannah Young who helped me man the church. Last but not least a big thank-you to all the people who sponsored the riders and thereby made it a memorable day, in effect raising £112 for the church.

Jill Gillanders

Bridge Choir weekend

The following riotous, slightly expurgated account of what appears to have been a riotous weekend is brought to you through the eyes and Biro of Emma and Sarah. Pity they don't say where or when they went!

Four cars left in convoy from the Medhursts' house at 6.40 – forty minutes late, due to Arnie's and his friend Tim's late arrival.

All went smoothly until we got caught in a traffic jam. Arnie decided it would be a good idea to shut Emma out of the sun-roof, but crafty Emma, who knew where the sun-roof handle was, could get back in without effort!

Arnie then decided to share the éclairs amongst the other cars by aiming them through the sun roofs. "Oi!" exclaimed Liz and Teresa, "Where are our sweets?" Running up to Arnie's car (still in the traffic jam) they demanded their share of sweets.

Then came the singing (well, we couldn't be a choir without singing!). Arnie put on his tape and wound down his window. An unknown car in the other lane drove past and heard the loud music and promptly joined in. Arnie thought, "I'll show them", and began singing in a very loud voice, "NEW YORK!"

* * *

At last we arrived somewhere in the middle of the countryside. We all retired to the kitchen.

The second day began with a brisk walk – once up a steep hill. We decided we had gone the wrong way; fortunately this was a false alarm! After lunch we went swimming and some people were brave enough to face the slides.

The third day began with the girls running into the men's bedroom to find them still in bed – five minutes before breakfast!

* * *

After breakfast we all packed and left for Bexhill Superbowl. We had a great day bowling, some people knocking all ten skittles down at once. After a healthy meal of hamburgers and chips we set off for home. We all arrived home tired yet happy after a great weekend away.

Thanks again to Arnie for taking us and everyone else who helped.

Autumn Fayre

This year's **Autumn Fayre** is on Saturday, 16th November in the School Hall, starting at 2pm. All the usual stalls will be there, so come along and join in. Attractions include handicrafts – gifts – cakes – preserves – toys and books – not forgetting the Christmas Stall – see our wrapping paper and gift tags, etc before you buy elsewhere!

By popular demand we have again obtained a badge-making machine, so all you youngsters come and make your own unique badge.

*Don't go and miss the Autumn Fayre;
We very much hope we'll see you there!*

Fish News

The Fish Scheme has now been running for over eleven years. Many of our original helpers were well over retirement age when the scheme started and advancing years and ill health have taken their toll and decreased our numbers. With the reduction in statutory services, the help of volunteers is needed more than ever. There must be many people in the community who could spare two hours a month to keep this valuable service going. Do contact me to find out how *you* can help!

The Luncheon Club, which is affiliated to *Age Concern*, holds a meeting every Monday at The New Close, Bridge, for elderly people over seventy-five who are living alone. Many members are housebound or have poor mobility and need to be brought in by car. The meal is cooked by the home's catering staff and our volunteers set the tables, serve the meal and wash up. Most helpers come once a month and book in their next visit to fit their other commitments. The club closes for the whole of August and on Bank Holidays.

We are always anxious to add to our list of Luncheon Club helpers and our volunteer drivers. In addition to taking members to the Luncheon Club

and Chiropody Clinic we run a transport scheme to help elderly people who need to go for medical appointments or hospital visiting. This service is for people who cannot use public transport or where there is no transport available. *Age Concern* pays a mileage allowance to our Luncheon Club drivers. Other users are asked to make a donation of 25p per mile to cover the driver's expenses.

Luncheon Club Party

On 14th October members and their guests gathered to celebrate the club's eleventh birthday. Cllr John Hill of Bridge Parish Council and Cllr David Pentin, our City Councillor both thanked the staff and volunteers for their valuable work. Our particular thanks go to our cook Jean Foster who single-handedly produced a magnificent meal.

Coffee Pop-In

The next Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday, 13th November in Bridge Village Hall from 10.15 to 11.45am.

Joan Warren, 830233

Bekesbourne Church Cleaning and Flower Rota

2nd, Mrs Whigham 9th, Mrs Ash 16th, Mrs Beckett (clear Poppies) 23rd, Mrs Watson 30th Advent begins - no flowers until Christmas.

Bridge Parish Council

At the invitation of the Parish Council, Mr Kim Bennett, Planning Officer for Canterbury City Council, gave to Councillors an informative talk on development issues.

Safety First! The property known as 'Barbaranne', 45 High Street, has been included on a 'buildings at risk' list by the City Council who are taking steps to have works put in hand for its repair.

Following an informal site meeting, the County Council are to investigate ways of improving the Mill Lane/Union Road junction with better signing and road markings, and to look again at the High Street/Union Road junction.

The Council are to object to a Road Operator's Licence for Geoff Hart Transport who run HGVs from their centre on Stone Street along the narrow and winding Whitehill Bridge Road and through the village to join the A2 to Dover.

Although it was reported by Cllr Mrs Margaret Jones that parking problems outside the supermarket in Western Avenue had improved, Members were concerned that there were still cars parking across the pavement on the oppos-

ite side of the road, obstructing the pavement for pedestrians and creating a hazard for traffic.

Tree Times Cllr Mrs Billie Anderson was to remove two dead trees and stakes in the Recreation Ground and get some help from Cllr Mervyn Gulvin to remove a broken branch from another

Branches overhanging the pavement on Town Hill were to be reported to the County Council. On an early festive note, the Council were to investigate the feasibility of putting up a Christmas Tree which could be the focus for several village events during the holiday season.

Planning Permissions Planning permission has been granted for the proposed garage extension and alterations to 'Highbank', 15 Conyngham Lane; for the conversion of Great Pett Oast and barn, Pett Hill, to two dwellings and restoration of cowls to roof, and for external alterations and glazed walkway to the rear of Churchill House, Union Rd.

No applications for planning permission had been considered by the Council in the last month.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 14th November at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K A Walder, Clerk

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

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

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

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

Hon Secretary: Mr T. J. Flisher, 52 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830871)

Hon Treasurer: Mr K. Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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Organist (Bridge): Mr A. Wills, 10 Brooklands Close, Fordwich, Canterbury CT2 0BT (711278)

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

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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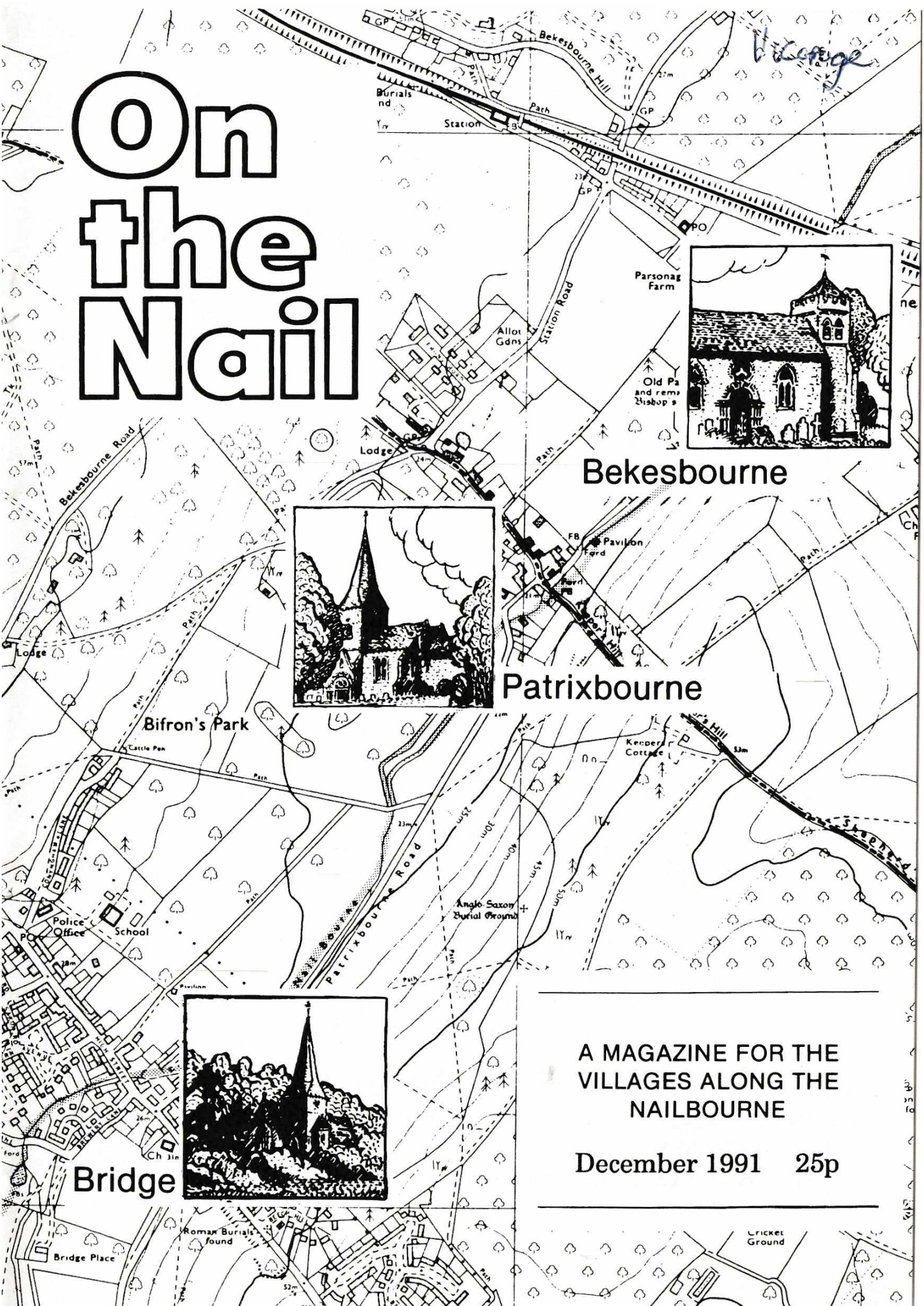
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A MAGAZINE FOR THE
VILLAGES ALONG THE
NAILBOURNE

December 1991 25p

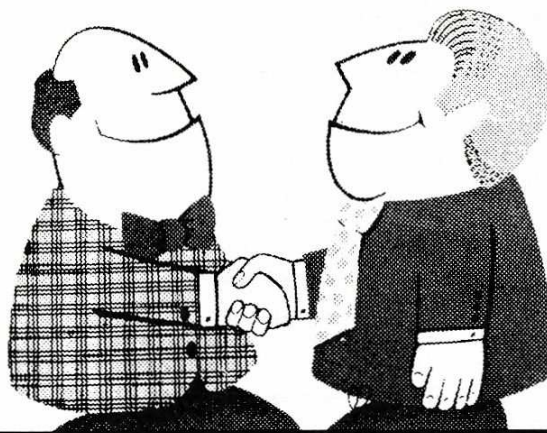
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Sunday Worship in December

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

1st:

11am Family Gift Service & Holy Baptism

3.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

8th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)

3.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

15th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(ASB Rite A)

3.30pm Junior Church's
Christmas Presentation

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

22nd:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Carol Service

9am Holy Communion
11am Carol Service

11am Matins
(Revd W Owen)

29th:

9.30 The Eucharist
(ASB Rite A)

3.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

5th January:

11am Family Service
3.30pm 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.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 1st, Dr John Rogers 8th, The Revd Sheila Foreman 15th, Holy Communion, The Revd Sheila Foreman 22nd, Dr Doreen Rosman 29th, Mr Charles Robertson

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion are held in St Peter's Church, Bridge every Wednesday (BCP) at 9.30am and Friday (Rite A) at 7.30am, except on 27th. 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. On Wednesday, 18th this service will be a Carol Service at 7pm.

For your diary and prayer list

1st First Sunday in Advent

Those attending the Family Service at 11am are invited to bring a Christmas present from the family to a resident of The New Close.

Someone from the home will hopefully be at church to receive our gifts.

- 2nd *Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon, Founder of the Little Gidding Community, 1637*
- 4th Bridge Flower Arrangers meeting, 'The Archway', Conyngham Lane, 7.30pm
- 5th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 6th *St Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c326*
- 7th *St Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher of the Faith, 397*
BEKESBOURNE CHRISTMAS MARKET, Bekesbourne Village Hall, 2pm
- 8th **Second Sunday in Advent**
- 10th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7pm
- 11th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
Bridge Parish Council, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 13th Senior Citizens Afternoon as guests of the school, 2pm
- 14th *St John of the Cross, Mystic, Teacher of the Faith, 1591*
- 15th **Third Sunday in Advent**
- 18th Carol Evening at The New Close, 7pm
- 19th Prayers for Health and Healing, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 22nd **Fourth Sunday in Advent**
Bridge Carol Service by Candlelight is at 6.30pm
- 24th & 25th *See display below for Christmas Services*
- 26th *St Stephen the First Martyr*
- 27th *St John the Evangelist*
- 28th *The Holy Innocents*
Holy Baptism, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 3pm
- 29th **First Sunday after Christmas**

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

CHRISTMAS EVE

- 4pm Christingle Service (*Bridge: The Vicar*)
- 11.30pm Midnight Eucharist (*Bridge: The Vicar*)
- 11.30pm Midnight Eucharist (*Bekesbourne: Canon A Dawkins*)

CHRISTMAS DAY

- 8am Holy Communion (*Bridge: The Vicar*)
- 9.30am Holy Communion with Carols
(*Patricxbourne: The Vicar*)
- 10.30am Family Eucharist with Carols
(*Bridge: Canon Packer*)
- 11am Family Carol Service (*Bekesbourne: The Vicar*)

'Hail! Redemption's happy dawn!'

Housebound communicants in all three villages, who won't be able to get to church for their Christmas communion, may like to know that the vicar is most willing to bring communion from the reserved sacrament to them at home. The service is very simple and quite short. If you would like to know more about it or want to make an arrangement, do ring the vicarage number (830250) any day but Monday.

Where have all the Shepherds gone?

As a boy I was annually disappointed and not a little puzzled by the choice of Bible readings at the Communion Service on Christmas morning. The Epistle from Hebrews 1 was quite beyond my comprehension; it was very long and did nothing for either me or my Christmas. Well, I was prepared to let that slide.

However, the Gospel from John 1 was the absolute limit! To begin with it all seemed very confusing, and for such a great occasion was out of place. "In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God and the word was God . . ." etc. What did it all mean? It lacked punch and had a strange confusing turn of phrase for young ears (and probably for many grown up ones as well). But worst of all, it seemed to have nothing whatever to do with Christmas. There was no mention of Mary or Joseph – nor Jesus come to that – no inn, no stable, no birth, no cattle, no angelic host; and where, for goodness sake, had all the shepherds gone?

* * *

I've aged somewhat since then, yet even today I occasionally find myself lamenting that where the *Book of Common Prayer* still holds solitary sway the congregation on Christmas morning is faced with a piece of writing aimed principally at Greek Christians and couched in terms better suited to the philosophy or theology schools of a university, than a body of ordinary people eager for the gospel, *i.e.* good news of Christmas.

But that, as Professor Joad would probably have said, all depends on what you mean by Christmas. For most of us Christmas is a time for family reunions and celebrations, including the all-important exchange of gifts; the whole thing laced up with a liberal dose of nostalgia. As to its origin, the religious bit, well – that's seen in the familiar story St Luke told of the Bethlehem manger and the nocturnal visit of the shepherds to the new born Christ child, and if we deign to include church in our Christmas, then that's what we want to hear about. We're not into profound theological thought, not then at least; indeed the last thing the average Christmas reveller wants at Christmas is to get entangled in deep spiritual matters. The surface trimmings are fine, even essential to a good Christmas, so keep the explanations for later!

* * *

Most people are jealously protective of their traditional Christmas and wouldn't thank anyone for trying to debunk it or tinker about with it – and as for that Bishop of Durham questioning the reality of the virgin birth,

well, the least said about that the better! All right – if that’s how you want it! Yet the central truth of Christmas-and-all-that is that at a certain moment in history God took human form as a prelude to that great work whereby he would save the world, and I can’t see how anyone can keep Christmas properly and ignore that completely.

The important truth of Christmas is that “he came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all”. That’s the nub of the matter. The precise means by which God did so is, in a sense, incidental. Yet for very many of us it’s *how* he came that matters, almost to the exclusion of any awareness of what his coming meant at the time and what it means today. It was to help us get our priorities right that the church centuries ago decided that the gospel reading for Christmas Day should bypass the well-loved story with its very Jewish slant, shepherds and all, and give us instead the unadorned good news, applicable to all mankind, that the actual Christmas celebration is of God become man in order to lead mankind to God. If you think about it, that’s some cause for celebration, far more than a story whose credibility rests solely on the evidence of one man, St Luke.

By all means celebrate Christmas as you’ve always done, but accept the Church’s sense of obligation to lay before you the truth behind the feasting and merrymaking, and pause to listen while it tells you what was at the heart of all that happened in “in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the King”.



Christmas in the Villages

Junior Church sets the pace for Christmas 91 in St Peter’s Church, Bridge on Sunday afternoon, 15th at 3.30pm when, instead of Evensong, they will present a programme of carols and readings with a nativity tableau.

Carol Services at Patrixbourne and Bridge come next. Both take place on Sunday, 22nd – Patrixbourne’s at 11am and Bridge’s at 6.30pm.

On Christmas Eve the traditional Christingle Service is at 4 o’clock in Bridge Church and Midnight Eucharist takes place as usual at Bridge and Bekesbourne. Both start at 11.30pm and the celebrant and preacher at Bekesbourne this year will be Canon Alan Dawkins, Secretary of *Churches Together in Kent* and Chaplain to the Lord Mayor.

On Christmas Day the vicar will celebrate the Holy Communion at Bridge, 8am and Patrixbourne, 9.30am, the latter with carols and sermon; Canon Packer will celebrate and preach at Bridge at 10.30am. The vicar will conduct the customary Family Carol Service in St Peter’s Church, Bekesbourne at 11am.

Bridge Church Flowers

by *Vivienne Brasier*

There will be a meeting at 'The Archways', Conyngham Lane on Wednesday, 4th December at 7.30pm for all Bridge church flower arrangers. The idea of this meeting is to collect thoughts for floral decorations for the church at Christmas, and to organize the rota for next year.

This would also be an ideal time for newcomers to the village, or of the art of putting flowers into vases, to come and meet us, have a coffee and see whether you would like to lend a hand in decorating one corner of St Peter's Church for one or two weeks in the year.

May I also take this opportunity of thanking everyone for their help and support in making my first year as 'flower organizer' so pleasurable.

Calling all Senior Citizens

The staff and children of Bridge and Patricbourne CEP School invite all Senior Citizens to an afternoon of music and entertainment on Friday, 13th December at 2pm in the school hall. Refreshments will be served. We would be most grateful if you could contact the school if you wish to come, this will help with catering arrangements. We could arrange transport if required. *RSVP 830276.*

E.A.

Family News

On Sunday, 17th November in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne Holy Baptism was administered by the vicar to **Charlotte Marie Zygmant**, whose parents Kevan and Penny (née Denne) were married in the church.

* * *

The windows of Bridge Church have been greatly adorned by the beautiful floral tributes to the late Mr **George Brain** of 17 Conyngham Lane who died last month, and in thanking Mrs Brain for this delightful gesture we offer our sympathy to her and her family at this very sad time.

Bridge villagers with long enough memories may remember Millie from The Close, who was always out and about, invariably with a cigarette on the go and a hat on her head. She was famed for her hats, invariably sporting a different one each time you saw her. After the move to The New Close Millie was rarely seen out, and not at all for the last year or so.

Although she was almost 83 years old and her death (on 11th November) was expected, the loss was nevertheless greatly felt in the home, not least by the staff, all of whom – plus two or three villagers – formed the congregation at a pre-cremation service in Bridge Church on 19th November.

Mildred Ellen Margaret Pritchard, to give her full name, was the final link with the old Close in Union Road. It was due to heinous, if not

Continued on page 13

downright criminal shortcomings in social 'care' during the nineteen-twenties that Millie began life in institutions while still in her teens and remained so throughout her life. It must have been very traumatic to begin with but for much of that time Millie seems to have lived a happy, contented life and even till almost the end she retained an interest in current events. May she rest in peace and rise in glory!

Bekesbourne Neighbourhood Watch

The Neighbourhood Watch Scheme was resurrected within the Bekesbourne community at a meeting in Bekesbourne Village Hall on Tuesday, 22nd October, 1991. There were about fifty villagers in attendance, who were shown a video about the role of Neighbourhood Watch playing a part in helping Police combat crime.

The areas in which Bekesbourne Neighbourhood Watch will be active are as follows: Bekesbourne Hill, Oakleigh Lane, Station Road and Approach, School Lane, Adisham Road to Larkhill, Bekesbourne Aerodrome, Old Palace Road to the church and Hollytree Cottages.

The following people have come forward to help with the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Elected at the meeting was the Neighbourhood Watch *Coordinator* Mr M Howells, Kilburn (830892); *Link Persons*; Mrs Pearson, Bekesbourne Hill (831593); Mr Browning, Bekesbourne Hill (830210); Mrs Jackson, Adisham Road (830608); Mr Street, Aerodrome Road (830497); Mrs Holt, School Lane (830611); Mr Mullins, Bekesbourne Hill (830962); Mrs Coppins, Bekesbourne Hill (831429); Mr Peek, Adisham Road (830216); Mrs S Wilson, Aerodrome Road (830890); Mrs Lee, School Lane (831422). *Treasurer* Mr M Lee, Hop Pocket, School Lane (831422).

Householders requiring ultra-violet security marking of personal possessions contact Mr M Howells (830892).

Contributed

Mozart in Bridge

by John Williamson

As we remember the 200th anniversary of the death of the composer Mozart on 5th December, many in Bridge may be interested to know that he visited the village and stayed at Bourne Park from 24th July to 1st August, 1765, as the guest of Sir Horace Mann; although he was only eight years old he had already written two symphonies and six sonatas as well as a four part motet *God is our refuge and strength*. He gave a concert with his sister in Canterbury in the presence of his father and "visited the Barham races".

Sir Horace Mann was one of the great patrons of English cricket and his portrait hangs in the pavilion at Lords. He founded the Bourne Park Cricket Club in 1766 and it is likely he told Mozart something of cricket.

On 28th July this year the Beaufort Ensemble, on a lovely summer's evening, played two of his overtures and the *Divertimento in B flat major* at Bourne Park. One facet that everyone seems to love is the sheer perfection of his music, another is form or orchestral colour or in the choice of shifting moods. It is perhaps stretching the imagination to think that he

might have visited one of the local churches but the fact that such a musical genius had been in our midst even for a week is a reason for remembrance and gratitude.

Bridge Guides

On Saturday, 12th October there was a Guide and Brownie District Swimming Gala at Kingsmead Pool. In the Bridge Guide team there were Lucy Wilmshurst, Louise Fagg, Joanne Fairweather, Sarah Knight, Iona Coltart, Louisa Starling, Nicola Fagg and Catherine Pike.

There were lots of different races, some proper swimming races and others like barrel races and tandem races. These were all great fun and everybody enjoyed themselves immensely. There was also a prize for the 'Best Supporters', so we made a big colourful banner to wave. When all the points were added up it was discovered that Bridge Guides had come first in the swimming and we were presented with the District Shield. Everybody went home happy but tired.

Catherine Pike

Bridge Guides Panto

Bridge Guides will be performing the world première of the alternative pantomime *Cinderfeller* at Bishopsbourne Village Hall at 7.30pm on Friday 20th December. Entrance by programme at the door – £1 adults and 50p children and senior citizens. The Guides have been rehearsing all term. Do come and support them and enjoy what promises to be an entertaining evening.

Maggie Field

On The Nail Noticeboard

Saxon Lodge Kneelers Gift

Patricbourne with Bridge PCC would like to place on record their deep appreciation of the donation of £120 given as a result of a fund-raising exercise by the residents of Saxon Lodge and earmarked for new hassocks for St Peter's Church, Bridge.

Poppy Appeal 1991

The Poppy Appeal this year raised a total of £671.80, comprising £609.15 from house-to-house collections and street sales and a collection amounting to £62.65 taken at the Remembrance Service in St Peter's Church. The Royal British Legion would like to thank the village and church for their efforts in this matter. Mr K Greenaway would also like to thank all the helpers, who made the appeal a record success. Last year's total was about £601.

Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute

Our Christmas meeting will be held on Tuesday, 10th December at the earlier time of 7pm in Bridge Village Hall. There will be an entertainment by the Drama Group and a Christmas Supper will be served. The competition is for six mince pies (short crust pastry).

P.H.

Towards Bridge Choir Funds

On Christmas Eve between 10am and 12 noon instrumentalists from Bridge Choir will be performing outside *Bridgeways Stores* to raise funds which will go towards new choir robes. Your support will be much appreciated.

Fish News

“Keep Warm, Keep Well”

Age Concern, Help the Aged, Neighbourhood Energy Action and government departments have again mounted a campaign to help all those at risk from cold winter weather. They have produced a booklet which is full of useful information and practical advice. It also includes information on where to turn for help with paying for heating and insulation and what to do in an emergency. I have applied for copies of this free booklet and I hope to have them available at the next Coffee Pop-In.

Feet First

The Mobile Chiropody Clinic will be at The New Close from Monday, 9th to Friday, 13th December.

Luncheon Club

Christmas Dinner will be on Monday, 16th December. There will be no meetings on 23rd and 30th December. The new session starts again on 6th January.

And Coffee

The next Coffee Pop-In will be in Bridge Village Hall on Wednesday, 11th December from 10.15 to 11.45am.

Joan Warren, 830233



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Bekesbourne Church Cleaning and Flower Rota

It being Advent there will be no flowers until Christmas, when all hands are requested to be up at the church on 23rd December from 10.30am onwards.



Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday, 14th November.

Hopes It is still hoped to provide a Christmas Tree for the village this year. The preferred location on the pavement outside No 54 High Street (in front of the row of Georgian style houses) has come up against too many problems, but Cllr Mervyn Gulvin is to try to arrange for a tree to be placed on the corner by the supermarket.

The Council also intend in due course to replace the bus shelter by the Post Office, and to this end are to arrange for drawings for one more in keeping with its position alongside the Post Office which is a listed building.

Cllr Gulvin has been very busy on behalf of the Council tidying up the area around the pavilion on the Recreation Ground. The area has now been cleared again and sprayed. Shingle has been laid on top of black polythene in the large part to the side, while the remaining wood chippings have been gathered into the section behind the pavilion where Cllr Gulvin is to put in some more ground cover plants. The shed has been moved to its agreed position by the Sports Trust and it is hoped that the majority of work has now been carried out to improve the appearance of this part of the Recreation Ground.

Still on the Recreation Ground, Cllr Mrs Billie Anderson is to look into obtaining materials at a reasonable cost to make circular seats around one or two of the mature trees. A grant of £200 has already been obtained from 'Shell' towards the cost of the materials required.

Fears The Council expressed their concern at the apparent increase in dog

fouling of the footways in the village. May I therefore take this opportunity to remind dog owners that there is a City Council byelaw which makes it an offence to allow a dog to foul a footway. If anyone should see a dog being allowed to foul the pavement by its owner, they can report that person to the Environmental Health Department of the City Council who will then take the appropriate action.

Help The Parish Council have agreed to support two applications for financial assistance from the City Council's Lottery Fund; one from Mrs Dot Whittaker in connection with her work for the Kent Trust for Nature Conservation, and the other from Bridge Cricket Club to help with the purchase of new equipment.

Planning This has been a quiet year in Bridge for planning applications. Since the last meeting only one application for minor alterations to a listed building, namely Bridgeford House, Brewery Lane had been received and there were no objections. An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the City Council's decision to refuse planning permission for a garage extension to the side of 'Highbank', 15 Conyngham Lane and the Council are to reiterate the objections they made previously concerning the length of flat roof involved in the extension and the proposed building being in front of the building line.

The next meeting of the Parish Council, when the estimates for the next financial year will be considered, will be on a Wednesday for a change, the 11th December, at the usual time of 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K A Walder, Clerk

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

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

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

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