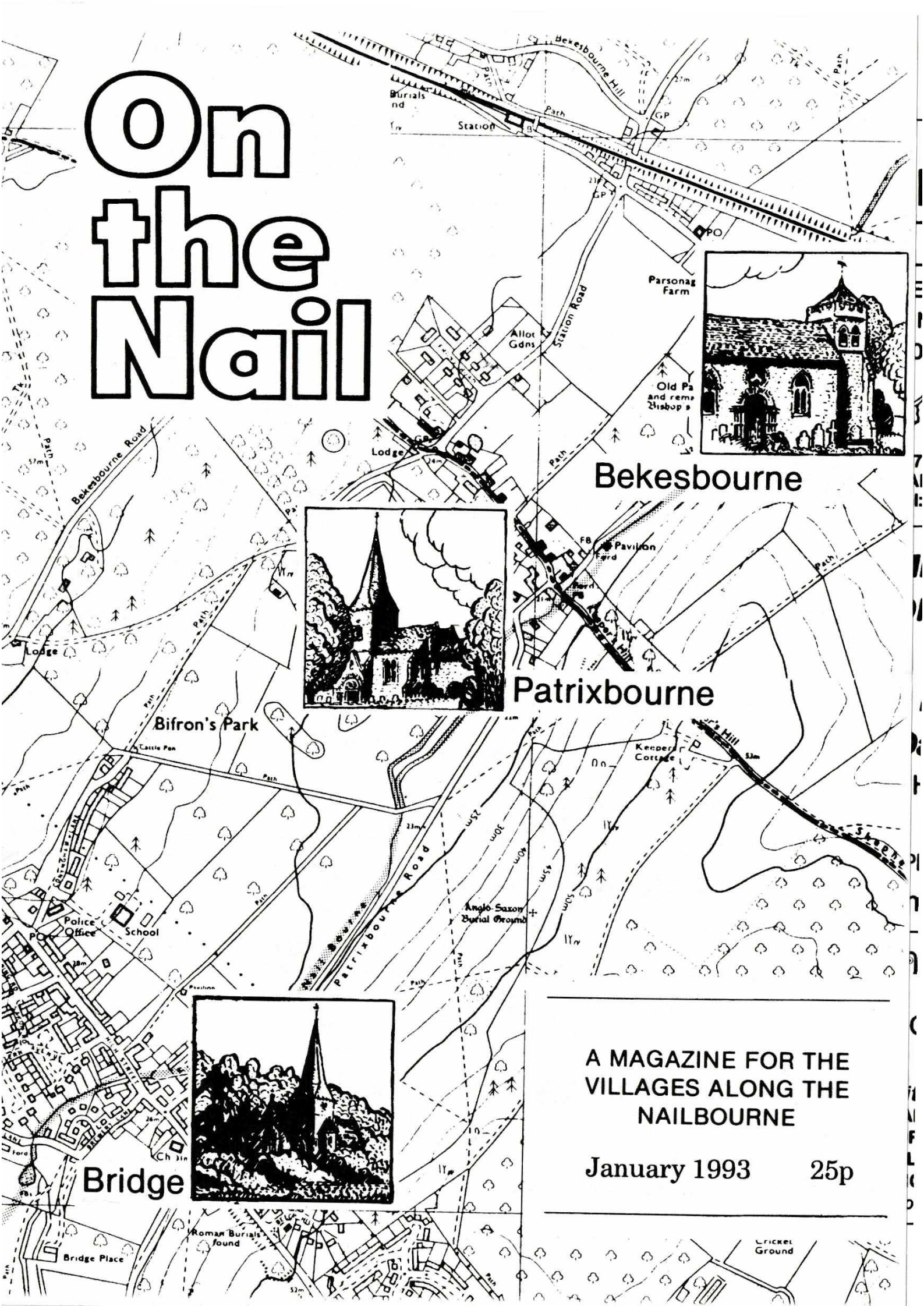


On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

January 1993 25p

A Cut Above

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Sunday Worship in January

Bridge

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Bekesbourne

3rd:

11am Family Service
(Canon J Packer)

8am Holy Communion
(Canon P Heartfield)

9.30 Parish Communion
(Revd J Shorrocks)

3.30pm Evensong
(Revd J Shorrocks)

10th:

9.30am The Eucharist
3.30pm Evensong

11am Matins
(Revd W Owen)

8am Holy Communion

17th:

9.30 Parish Communion
3.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

24th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm *Peter's Praise*

9am Holy Communion

11am Matins

31st:

9.30 The Eucharist with
the Laying-on of Hands

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

3.30pm Evensong

7th February:

11am Family Service
3.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

Junior Church meets in Bridge Village Hall at 9.30am every Sunday except the first Sunday in the month. It provides an excellent grounding in Christian faith and practice in the Church of England for children of four years old and upwards. Enquiries are always welcomed by Hilary Pike (830708), Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Jean Hopkins (830942), who will gladly provide details of what is involved.

■ *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: 3rd, Mr C G Robertson 10th, *Covenant Service with Holy Communion*, The Revd Mary R Teed 17th, Mr L Dron 24th, The Revd Howard L Skinner 31st, The Revd Mary R Teed.

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. Wednesday Communion Services are suspended until Ash Wednesday. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 6th at 10.15am. The New Close Service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

Raymond and Rosemary Gilbert thank all who sent them Christmas cards and everyone for their prayers and support generally. The Vicar will be taking a short break until 9th January, during which time anyone needing the urgent services of a priest may contact the Revd John Shorrocks on 832133.

For your diary and prayer list

- 1st ***Naming of Jesus*** or *Circumcision of Christ*
- 3rd **Second Sunday after Christmas**
- 6th **Epiphany**
- 7th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, 68 Bridge Down, 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm
- 10th **First Sunday after Epiphany**
At 11am the members of Bridge Methodist Church hold their annual Covenant Service, when they renew their covenant with God. Their minister, the Revd Mary Teed officiates at the service and they extend a very warm welcome to all members of St Peter's Church to join them on this special occasion.
- 13th *St Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, Teacher of the Faith, 367*
Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 –11.45am
- 14th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 17th **Second Sunday after Epiphany**
- 18th Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins.
- 19th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21st *St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr, 304*
United Service, Bridge Methodist Church, 7.30pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm
Nailbourne Horticultural Society, The Hunter Room, 8pm
- 24th **Third Sunday after Epiphany**
- 25th ***Conversion of St Paul***
- 27th *St John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, Teacher of the Faith, 407*
Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch Meeting, Plough & Harrow, 8pm
- 28th *St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Teacher of the Faith, 1274*
Pray for the Revd David Barnes, to be instituted and inducted to the living of Ash this evening.
- 31st **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**
Being a fifth Sunday the healing ministry of the Laying-on of Hands with Prayer will be offered during the 9.30 Eucharist at Bridge.

A People under Covenant

by the Rural Dean

Blame my predecessor! Clive it was who established the custom, which I willingly follow, of the Rural Dean or Lay Chairman writing to the parishes at the start of a new year.

'Hogmanay' the Scots call it, and it has a ritual that never varies, involving open doors, a dark-haired stranger, a lump of coal and whisky. There's more to it than that, but that's enough to be going on with!

This side of the border we tend to keep a sense of proportion about such things, maybe having a few friends in or just staying up to hear Big Ben. New Year resolutions get a half-hearted mention but no one treats them at all seriously.

Churchwise the New Year passes largely unnoticed. The First of January just happens to be the feast of our Lord's Circumcision, or as we are now encouraged to call it, the Naming of Jesus, but in most churches it gets short shrift. We're still on holiday, remember!

Some churches see the New Year in at Watchnight Services, which seem like the evangelical substitute for Midnight Mass, but they're not all that common nowadays.

But every New Year is a landmark to be approached with optimism. It's new and anything 'new' has potential, an air of expectancy pervades it. Anticipation spurs us on to contemplate what might be. This must be especially true for Ash, which eagerly awaits the arrival of its new vicar, David Barnes on 28th.

I approach 1993 with hope for this deanery. We may not be in for anything momentous but a new year *is* a fresh start and I sense that God may have something lined up for us that will add zest to the body of Christ in our parishes as we press on in the power of the Spirit 'to live and work to his praise and glory'.

The Methodists have the right idea! Each New Year they renew their covenant with God, using John Wesley's own words. They may sound archaic to modern ears yet they pledge the faithful to God for the year ahead: something we could all usefully do!

A very happy and blessed 1993 to all the parishes of East Bridge Deanery and to each member of them! God bless you in all you undertake to advance the coming of the kingdom!

* * *

Carrying on the theme of my Deanery message, the Methodist Church in Bridge (the people not their premises) have extended an invitation to St Peter's Church to share their annual Covenant Service on Sunday, 10th January at 11am in the Patrixbourne Road chapel. Here, then, is our opportunity to renew our covenant with God in a joint Methodist/Anglican act of worship conducted by the Revd Mary Teed.

* * *

Further interchurch activity is planned for Thursday, 21st January when as part of the Week of prayer for Christian Unity we shall meet again, this time with our Roman Catholic friends as well, for a United Service at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church.

It's Confirmation time again

For young people of twelve or upwards now is the time to be thinking about joining the next Confirmation preparation group which meets for the first time this month. Ask me for further details or just turn up at the vicarage on Thursday, 14th January at 6pm.

There may be some adults who are also contemplating Confirmation; if so, they should contact me independently. Adults always have their own preparation sessions, separate from the children. Anyone in this category might welcome a chat with one of our recent adult confirmation candidates to see what's involved, e.g. Ted Smith (if you're of pensionable age), Malcolm Barnard, Jean Hopkins, Lorraine Flisher, Viv Saunders.

Cheques payable to the church

From 1st January, 1993 all cheques issued by the banks will have the words 'Account Payee' pre-printed in the crossing on your cheque books. This means that cheques can only be paid into the account of the person named on the pay line - 'The Payee'. I have, to date, been able to place in the church bank account cheques made payable not only to the church itself but others made out to 'The kneeler fund', 'The Autumn Fayre' or 'The Lady Chapel'. I will no longer be able to do this. Can you please note that the correct title for cheques drawn in favour of the church is '**Patricbourne with Bridge PCC**'. Can you please help me by using the correct payee on your cheques, so that I do not have to spend time getting them altered so that they can be banked? Remember if the money is for a specific fund then please attach a note - do not write it on the cheque - so that it can be allocated in the church's own books.

What Keith Nicholson writes with respect to Patricbourne with Bridge applies also to Bekesbourne, as indeed to cheques in general irrespective of who the payee is. In this case cheques should be made out to 'Bekesbourne PCC' with a covering note if it's given for some specific purpose.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Bridge Folk Dance Group

Weather permitting we will continue meeting on the first and third Thursdays in January. Alf Matthews is still our ever-patient caller and a warm welcome is given to new dancers, with or without a partner. Come and have a go on 7th and 21st January in the Village Hall at 8 o'clock. Enquiries please ring 830285 or 830652.

J.H.

Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19th January, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm. Our speaker will be the distinguished Polar historian, Ann Shirley. Competition - a flowering bloom from your garden. A warm welcome to new members.

P.H.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

There will be a talk on *What the judges look for*. We hope that this will give some encouraging hints and tips for members to 'have a go' at exhibiting, if they previously have been shy of doing so. Please note, this meeting will be held at Bridge Village Hall, not the Methodist Church. Date is Thursday, 21st January - time, 8pm.

B Anderson

Royal British Legion, Bridge & District Branch

The Poppy Appeal this year raised a total of £632 from the combined village and church collections. This is only a few pounds less than last year, and considering the difficult times, a splendid effort. The Legion would like to thank the village and the church for their efforts.

Above all, thanks must be given to Mr Ken Greenaway for his efforts in organizing the collection. He has asked me to say that, with his other commitments, he will not be able to undertake the task in 1993. So once again a volunteer is required, who need not be a Legion member.

The next meeting of the Legion will be at the Plough & Harrow, Wednesday, 27th January. Meanwhile, the Legion would like to wish everyone a peaceful New Year.

Jim Stripe, 830761

Local Homeless Charitable Result

Grateful thanks to all who supported our Coffee Morning last month, and helped to raise £170 for the local homeless.

Rosemary Gilbert

Barn Dance

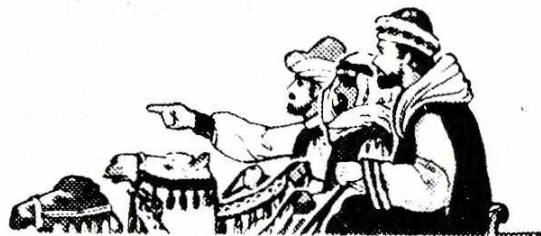
Bridge Choir is holding a Family Barn Dance on Saturday, 6th February in the School Hall from 8 to 11.30pm. Dancing to live music from the popular Contra Band. Proceeds to the Choir Fund. Tickets are £5 for adults, £3.50 for the under-sixteens or a family group ticket (parents plus two children) for just £15. A ploughman's supper is included, but please bring your own drink. Tickets are available from Martin Leggatt (830251) or Teresa Hobson (830539). See you there!

Teresa Hobson

Three Christenings

A pleasant departure from the norm on 29th November was the baptism in the setting of Sunday Evensong of **Emily Rachel**, second daughter of Jane (née Mummery) and David Martin, 3 Union Road.

During the Family Service on St Nicholas's Day (patron saint of children), 6th December the vicar officiated at the baptisms of **Genevieve Faith**, daughter of Rory and Sarah Wetherell, Waylands, Bekesbourne Lane, and of **Scott Raymond David**, son of Mandy and John Carraher, 17 Brewery Lane.



Epiphany Verse

In case you think that William Carr's poem would have been more suitable last month, remember that 6th January is the church festival that remembers the coming of the Wise Men to Bethlehem. The common tendency to include this incident in our Christmas festivities leads to Epiphany getting short measure. So the following words will go some way to redressing the balance.

The poem starts on page 13

Out of the East

Out of the East came light.
Out of the light a star,
And with this star a song was heard;
A lullaby the host of heaven sang.

Out of the East came birth.
Out of the birth a child,
A holy child in manger laid;
Though lowly born he was the Son of God.

Out of the East came Kings.
Out of the Kings came gifts
Of Frankincense and Gold and Myrrh;
To presage death as prophecy foretold.

Out of the East came song.
Out of the song a voice:
'Go seek the sacrificial lamb;
The Saviour of the world, the new born babe.'

Out of the East the child
Blazed in a crown of light,
Worshipped by rich and poor, by high and low,
While high in heaven a joyous song of hope
Made silenced voices yearn to sing again.

William Carr, December 1989

Target 2000

by Stephen Pike

Many of you will no doubt remember the Patrixbourne with Bridge Parish Day in September 1991 with mixed feelings. The memory of an enjoyable day which was a first step along the road to identifying and meeting the needs of the parish now and in the future, and a sense of frustration perhaps that so very little seems to have happened since as a result.

Well, good news! A small committee has been formed with the backing of the PCC to look at the ideas and needs expressed at the Church Day, and then to produce a Parish Plan for Patrixbourne with Bridge for the next ten years. This committee is operating under the banner *Target 2000*.

The multitude of objectives have been categorised into three groups of priorities:

Short Term: (These can be implemented within twelve months, mostly at little or no cost.)

Medium Term: (These items could be implemented within five years and involve improving the facilities available.)

Long Term: (Implementation will probably take more than five years and involve improving the facilities available.)

The *Target 2000* committee has already submitted a progress report to the PCC and has completed the initial analysis of needs within the parish and is now moving on to consider how the facilities available within the parish might best be enhanced.

It is planned to stage some sort of presentation to the parish (probably at the Annual Church Meeting in April, but this has yet to be confirmed) at which the draft plan will be outlined and comments invited. In the meantime there is a lot of work to be done . . .

TURKISH DELIGHT by *Joy Monk*

Last summer I joined in a tour of Turkey. We started off in Istanbul, by visiting the Blue Mosque, so-called as the interior is all inlaid with blue mosaic, the famous St Sophia Church and the Palace.

We then crossed the Bosphorus and started the tour proper to visit Greek, Roman and Byzantine ruins – and excavations of temples, amphitheatres, council chambers and so on; also one of the largest Roman stadia in existence; all these dating from either B.C. or two or three centuries A.D.

I was particularly interested to go to Ephesus, to try and visualise where St Paul preached. The excavations there cover a very large area, but at last our Guide led us into a huge amphitheatre, where he stated that this was the place reputed to be where St Paul came on his visit.

Also in that area there is a small church to commemorate the Virgin Mary – as it is believed that St John, obeying Christ's words on the Cross, took care of Mary and brought her with him to settle in that region until their deaths.

All the temples etc are of course in honour of Greek or Roman gods and goddesses, but now and again one could see a Cross on a colonnade indicating that at some time the temple had been converted into a Christian church. In fact, at a place called Aphrodisias where there are the most beautiful remains of a temple to Aphrodite there are also, nearby, the remains of a Bishop's Palace.

Some of our tour was also taken up with visiting Turkish fishing villages; but, like so many other countries Turkey is opening up to tourism so these villages are fast disappearing. There seems to be a huge building programme going on. However, recession has hit Turkey and many of these developments are left incomplete and derelict-looking.

It was a most hot and tiring tour but most rewarding! I have many photos etc, if anybody is in the slightest bit interested.

Bridge Parish Council

Money matters played an important part in the meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday, 10th December. The Council considered its financial requirements for 1993/4 and agreed a total budget of £12,715; £5,505 of which was to be requested as a direct contribution from the City Council for expenditure related to street lighting, the Recreation Ground, the Village Hall and street cleaning, leaving the balance to be met out of a separate parish rate. Provision was made for a grant of £100 to be made to the 'Fish Scheme'. The tender of the Works Service Department of the City Council, the lowest of the three received, in the sum of £488.02, was accepted for gang-mowing the Recreation Ground for next season. The Works Service Department have been cutting the grass there for the last two years now.

The Council also accepted the tender of Goddard Building Ltd for the refurbishment of the bus shelter outside the Post Office.

Problems There was still a problem with stones being thrown at the windows of the sports pavilion and this was to be mentioned to the local Police. The gate by Mansfield Court was also still causing problems and Cllr Reg Franklin was to have a look at it.

Despite various enquiries, there seems no easy solution to the mole problem at the Recreation Ground where they are now encroaching on to the cricket square. If anyone knows of a remedy, please let the parish Council know.

Members were also concerned about litter on the Recreation Ground, particularly after football matches and the Clerk was to write to the clubs concerned asking them to clear up after their matches.

Keeping our village clean

The Parish Council are pleased to report that Mr Clark of 51 High Street has taken up the post of street cleaning and will pay particular attention to those parts of the village that seem to accumulate litter.

The Wheeliebins' predecessors

The Parish Council understand that some residents are concerned about disposing of the wire baskets which were previously issued for containing rubbish sacks. The City Council will not, as a matter of course, be collecting them, but if you have not already found an alternative use for them and are not able to dispose of them yourself, then you can ring the City Council's Environmental Health Department who will arrange for a special collection.

Planning The lack of planning applications received for the village appears to be reflecting the recession generally. Only two had been received in the past month, one for the stationing of a third mobile classroom at Bridge School and the other being amended plans for an application already under consideration for a two-storey extension and pitched roof to conservatory at 1 Waterloo Cottages, 4 Brewery Lane. The Council had no objections to either.

Finally on a festive note, the Council have again arranged for the Christmas lights to be put up in the High Street and are grateful to Mr & Mrs Dhaliwal of Bridgeway Stores for their help

and co-operation.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 14th January at the usual time of 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall. *K A Walder, Clerk*

Fish News



Many of the committee's plans to share out the activities of the Fish Scheme have been achieved, but no-one has yet offered to take over the co-ordination of the whole scheme.

The following people have agreed to be responsible for various aspects of our work: *Treasurer* Mr W McCarthy; *Transport Organiser* Mrs A Medhurst; *Emergency Calls* Mrs B Richards; *Coffee Pop-In* Mesdames A Medhurst and R Green; *Luncheon Club Transport* Mrs M Packer; *Chiropody* Mrs J Warren; *Housebound Library* Mr W Johnson; *Blossom Tour* Mrs J Monk; *Fish News & Minute Secretary* Mrs A Rooke.

Transport

Requests should now go to Mrs Ann Medhurst (Tel: 830762). Please give her as much warning as possible to allow ample time to arrange a driver.

Emergencies 831737

Mrs Richards at Saxon Lodge has kindly agreed for her phone to be used as an emergency help line. Requests for help will be passed on to the appropriate person.

As no one has come forward to act as co-ordinator I will carry on in a temporary capacity for a short time. I shall continue as *Age Concern* representative for the area and will help if needed with information and advice.

The Chiropody Clinic will be at The New Close, Bridge from Monday, 25th to Friday, 29th January.

The next Coffee Pop-In will be in Bridge Village Hall on Wednesday, 13th January from 10.15 to 11.45am. We are extending our invitation to everyone, so please feel free to join us, irrespective of your age.

Joan Warren

"An apple a day, well aimed, keeps the doctor away!"

P G Wodehouse

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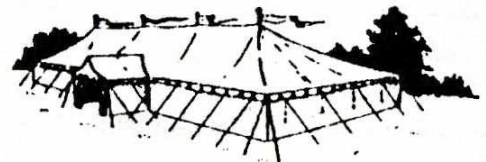
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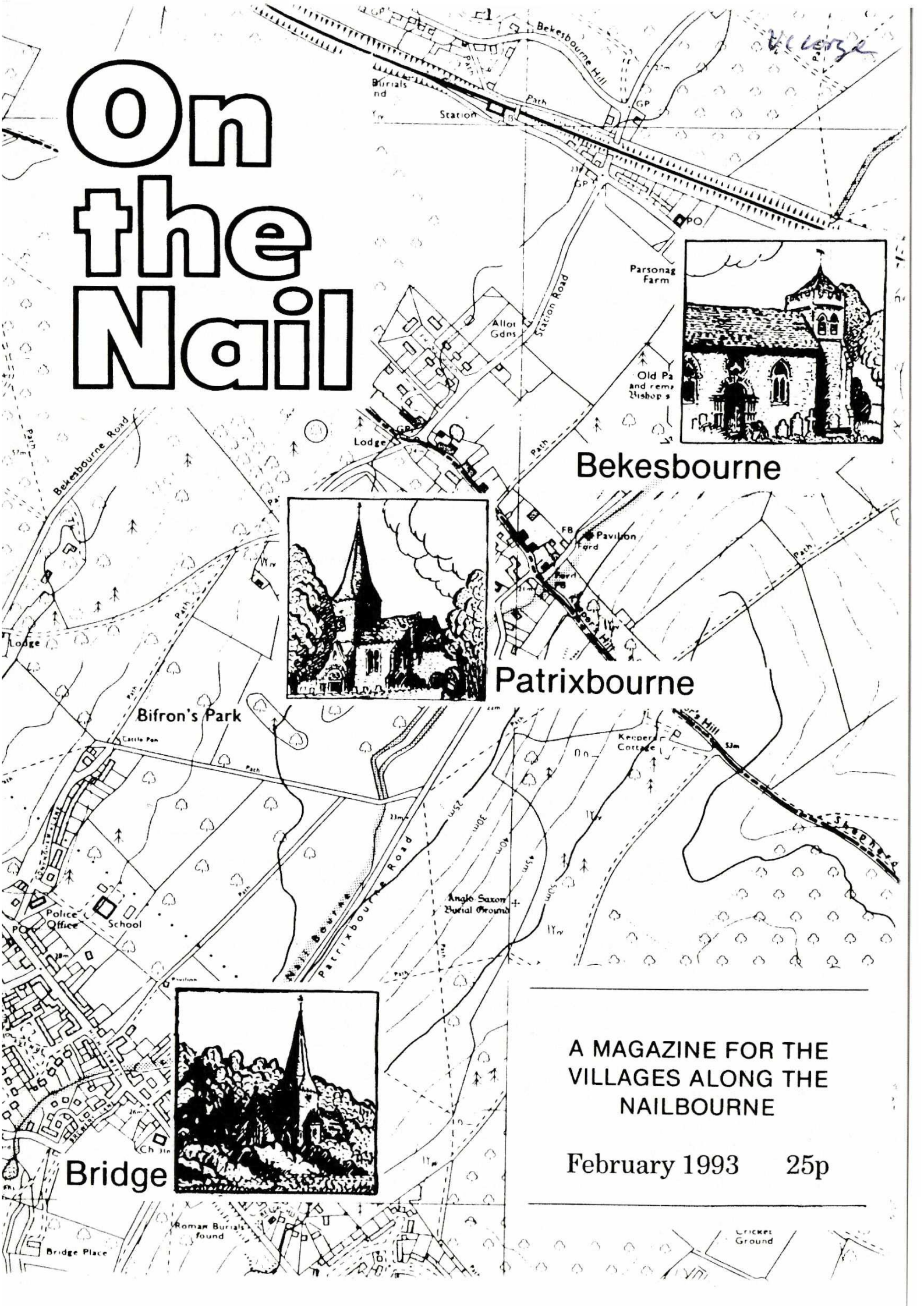
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Bekesbourne



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Sunday Worship in February

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
7th: 11am Family Service 3.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion
14th: 9.30am The Eucharist 3.30pm Evensong <i>(Mr Handley Stevens)</i>	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
21st: 9.30 Parish Communion 3.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am Matins
28th: 8am Holy Communion 6pm <i>Peter's Praise</i>	9am Holy Communion	11am Matins
7th March: 11am Family Service 3.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion

Junior Church meets in Bridge Village Hall at 9.30am every Sunday except the first Sunday in the month. It provides an excellent grounding in Christian faith and practice in the Church of England for children of four years old and upwards. Enquiries are always welcomed by Hilary Pike (830708), Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Jean Hopkins (830942), who will gladly provide details of what is involved.

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

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. Wednesday Communion Services (*BCP*) at 9.30am resume on Ash Wednesday, 24th. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 3rd at 10.15am. The New Close service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

For your diary and prayer list

- 2nd *Presentation of Christ in the Temple*
- 4th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 6th Bridge Choir Family Barn Dance, School Hall, 8 – 11.30pm
- 7th **Ninth Sunday before Easter : Septuagesima**
- 9th Nailbourne Horticultural Society AGM, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 10th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 – 11.45am
- 11th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
Bekesbourne PCC meeting, School House, School Lane, 8pm
- 14th **Eighth Sunday before Easter : Sexagesima**
- 16th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm

- 18th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
 Bridge PCC meeting, Methodist Church, 7.30pm
- 21st **Seventh Sunday before Easter : Quinquagesima**
- 23rd *St Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c155*
- 24th **Ash Wednesday**
 Holy Communion (BCP) , St Peter's Church, Bridge, 9.30am
 Royal British Legion, Bridge & District Branch meeting, Plough &
 Harrow, 8pm
- 25th Bridge & Patricxbourne School Governing Body meets.
- 28th **First Sunday in Lent**

Ready for Lent ?

Now's the time to make plans for Lent! What plans, you ask? Yes indeed, given that for most people the existence of Lent makes little if any impact on their lives. Certainly, there's nothing they will want to do about it: no plans to be made, except maybe for the Easter holiday, which is all Lent means to them.

Lent is for the 'in' people, those who attach themselves to the Church on more than an arbitrary basis. It touches churchgoers rather than those who label themselves C of E because the hospital admission form expects some entry in the 'religion' slot.

And as to churchgoers, well they are sure to notice the absence of flowers in church and be conscious of a preponderance of violet or purple about the place. They will certainly be aware of and indeed expect changes in the mood of services, with a rather more sombre, subdued atmosphere than is normal.

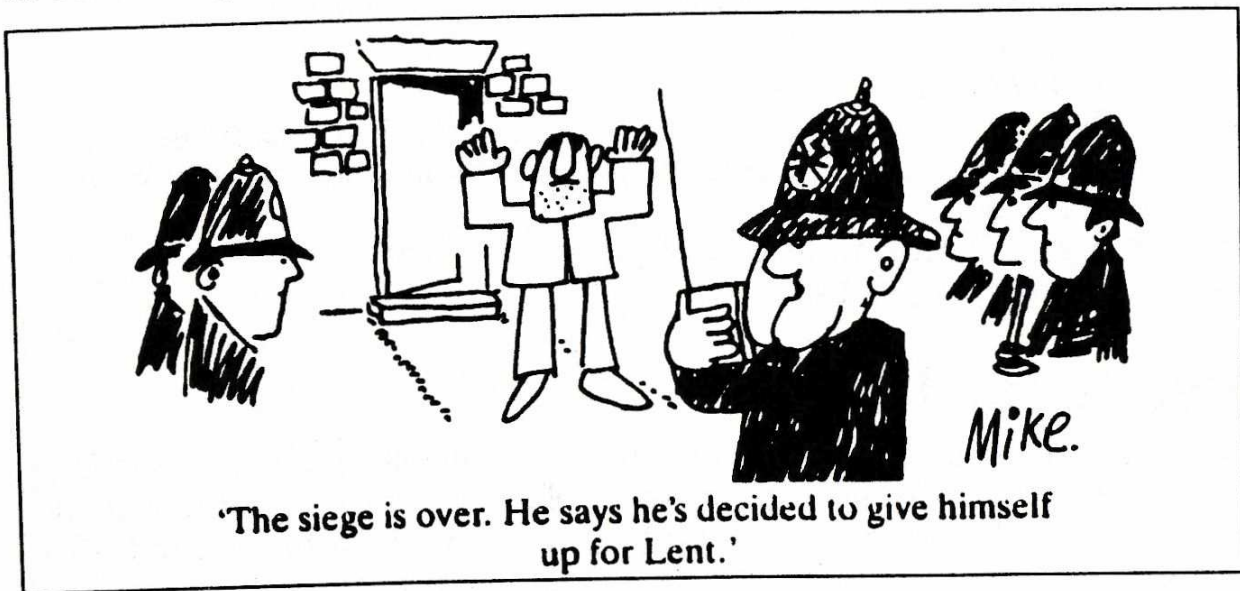
But Lent isn't intended as something the worshipper is made to suffer; it's a season from which the individual should be able to draw new spiritual vitality and understanding. The best kind of Lent is the one we get some personal benefit from, not the one that subjects us to the greater self-denial.

Now's your chance

For all sorts of reasons, lack of time being the commonest one, the average Christian believer seldom gets down to any very serious reading, by which I mean the sort that builds up faith. It's not for want of material though, because religious publishers regularly produce books specifically designed for those with a keenness to read but little theological education and with only a limited amount of spare time on their hands. Some excellent thin books are available to guide us in the faith, ranging from Bible commentaries to books on prayer, personal testimony and basic matters of belief. What better time to get stuck into a good book (which needn't be a dull one) than in Lent, the season for spiritual work-outs and successor of that long period of instruction our ancestors in the faith underwent prior to baptism at Easter.

As I say, now's the time to make your plans, and if you want advice

either give me a call or go and browse around the SPCK or CLT book-shops in Canterbury.



Departed this life

The death of Mrs **Mollie Walmsley** (formerly Ash) on 6th January came peacefully and at the end of a long, active life. The funeral took place in Bokesbourne Church on 15th January, after which her body was laid to rest in the churchyard.

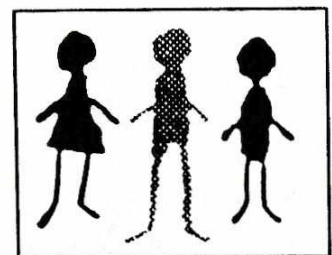
The vicar officiated at the cremation on 15th January of Mrs **June Wilson-Hover**, 4 Bridgeford Way, who died suddenly after a brief illness.

The death of **Gordon Gausby** 14 Green Court took everyone by surprise and has left his very close family bereft. A service, conducted by the vicar, took place at Barham Crematorium on 20th January.

May the souls of all the departed through the mercy of God rest in peace and rise in glory.

The Children's Society

We had an unexpectedly large congregation for the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve in Bridge Church, and very gratifying it was too. Thank you especially to Junior Church for your contribution to the occasion and the society, and to all other contributors who enabled the splendid sum of £127 (which included a donation from Bridge School) to be raised for *The Children's Society*. Apologies to those children who 'missed out' on Christingles - we shall know better next time!



On 28th December the Cathedral Christingle Service was held, with many children taking part from different schools and parishes. The Bishop of Dover gave the address and received purses of money for *The Children's Society*. Junior Church members, Marie Legge, Julia Lanaway, Helen

Varley, Neil and Richard Watson presented purses from our parish and joined in the Christingle procession.

Finally, a grateful thank you to all supporters for the total sum of £1047.77 which was given to *The Children's Society* from our locality during 1992. This was raised from various sources, boxes, envelope collection, coffee mornings, Christingle service, donations etc. and is proof of how the pennies mount up into pounds.

Unfortunately, the demands on the Society's funds become greater every year and it is very important that it continues its work and expands the many projects for helping children, teenagers and families in need. Your support is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

Kathy Eynon

Bridge Organist's departure

We regret that due to pressure of business Arnie Wills, our organist and choirmaster for just over two years has had to resign. He has been responsible for the formation of the new choir, and more especially for the enthusiasm of the junior members – encouraging a sense of belonging to this important aspect of church life within the community. No doubt all will remember the resounding success of his production of *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and of course the last of his Carol Services here. We wish him success in the future and he leaves us with our grateful thanks.

Bill Rose

Barn Dance

by Teresa Hobson

Bridge Choir is holding a Family Barn Dance on Saturday, 6th February in the School Hall from 8 to 11.30pm; dancing to live music from the popular Contraband. Proceeds go to the Choir Fund. Tickets are £5 for adults, £3.50 for children, or a family group ticket (parents plus two children) for only £15. A ploughman's supper is included, but please bring your own drink. Tickets are available from Teresa Hobson (830539) or Martin Leggatt (830251). For those of you planning to come please purchase your ticket before 4th so that we can let the caterers know numbers. See you there!

Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute

The next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, 16th February at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall, when Mrs Pat Davidson will speak on *Practical Gardening*. Any new members will be warmly welcomed. *D.K.*

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

The AGM of the society will take place on Tuesday, 9th February at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. We will be looking for some new committee members, so anyone who feels that they could spare the odd hour or two

over the year, welcome. Miss D. Larkin will be giving an illustrated talk on *The Glory of Delphiniums*. B. Anderson

Life for Laura Special Baby Care Appeal

Very many thanks to the young musicians who played carols in the village on Christmas Eve in the bleakest of weather and gave £40 of their hard-earned cash to the appeal.

Our thanks too to Chris Boulding and Alan Walton of the White Horse for their carol evening before Christmas which raised £43.

Please keep putting money in the blue collection boxes in the shops and pubs. Since last March Bridge has raised £3,544.11 that I know of. Many thanks! Anne Rooke

BOSNIA A job to be done

Jim Stripe, Royal British Legion branch secretary writes:

Thinking of Bosnia one can realize that serving in the armed forces means more than patriotism, flag waving, nationalism, etc.

Men from all nations are engaged on humanitarian work under the control of a rather remote international organization. They are working under difficult conditions and facing very real dangers. I don't suppose any of them want to be there, but it is their job and duty, and they are doing it. Spare them a thought!

Fish News



We have now purchased a telephone answering machine for our transport organiser, Ann Medhurst. The number is 830762 and if she is not in when you call you will get the answering machine, which means you can leave a message. Try and not go to pieces as some do when faced with an answering machine. Stay calm and speak clearly. Give your name, address and telephone number, and in addition the date, time and place of your appointment.

* * *

You may like to know that *Help the Aged* runs a FREE 'Senior Line', telephone number 0800-289 404 between 10am and 4pm Mondays to Fridays. It gives general information on a wide range of topics, among them welfare and disability benefits, housing, health, support for carers, mobility, sources of local practical help and other voluntary organisations.

* * *

The next Coffee Pop-In is on Wednesday, 10th February at the Village Hall from 10.15 to 11.45am. Everybody is welcome, regardless of age!

Anne Rooke

Editorial matter continues on page 13.

In a lighter vein

Those who attended the harvest supper last October were introduced to Don Quixote's little known little brother, Don Gilberti. Since then his chronicler has been asked on more than one occasion – twice actually – to commit his adventures to print. Whether this is because those who attended found the tale sufficiently entertaining to warrant publication or because they didn't see why they alone should suffer remains to be seen. Either way, 'On The Nail' proudly (proudly?) presents: —

The Return of the Don – Part 1

chronicled by Martin Leggatt

DON GILBERTI was a giant of a man, not in stature (unless you were a Pygmy you couldn't look up to him) but on the inside, where it really counts. He was a shepherd in a small village you may know which is not in long ago Spain.

Once a week he would gather in his flock to check up on those who had gone astray! He took care of young lambs, ewes (some of them, it has to be said, a bit past their 'ewes-by' date) and more than a couple of rampant old – and not so old – rams. On Sundays he rounded them up and took them to the Fold to care for them (D.G.: and fleece them?) The Fold is vital in keeping sheep safely and Don Gilberti's Fold was maintained by his Friend, Don Lawrenzo – Pedro to his friends – who was therefore an important man – a *very* important man – a *very, very* important man. Don Lawrenzo, however, always stated modestly that he was not important, but that he knew a man who was.

The Fold was not owned by Don Gilberti but by a big organisation which had Folds all over the country and employed hundreds of Don Gilbertis to care for the sheep. Our Don Gilberti was good at his job – *very* good – *very, very* good – and because he was good he had an adventure.

And because this is serialised you'll have to come back again in a month's time to find out what the adventure was.

The Golden Gate

The Old City of Jerusalem has seven gates in use, at irregular intervals around the walls. There is an eighth, a double gate which has been blocked up since Saladin conquered Jerusalem in 1187. This is the Golden Gate, which is part of a very old section of the city wall.

When a group of pilgrims asked the names of the gates in order they were told – the Damascus Gate, Herod's Gate, St. Stephen's Gate, the Golden Gate, the Dung Gate, the Zion Gate, the Jaffa Gate and the New Gate. One man at once demurred, there ought to be twelve gates, since the Bible says so. "The twelve gates were twelve pearls," Revelation 21:21. The explanation is that the biblical reference is to the heavenly Jerusalem, the group were standing outside the earthly Jerusalem.

When the city walls were rebuilt some 450 years ago by Sulaiman the Magnificent, the city had six usable gates and the closed Golden Gate. The Turks made a further gateway, the New Gate, in 1887.

With one exception these gates are not entrances only, but squarish structures, with plenty of space on the roof and even inside. The Old Testament tells how important people sat in the gate of the city, for example Boaz arranged his marriage with Ruth, sitting at the gate of Bethlehem with the 10 elders. King David is recorded as sitting in a gate of Jerusalem, with a watchman on the roof, when messengers came running with the news of Absalom's death (2 Samuel 18:24).

The Golden Gate, the eastern entry both to City and Temple, is a good illustration of the uses of a gate, and has an elaborate gatehouse surmounted by two domes and supported by columns. The rooms in the gatehouse are now empty, but were once used as Muslim prayer and study rooms.

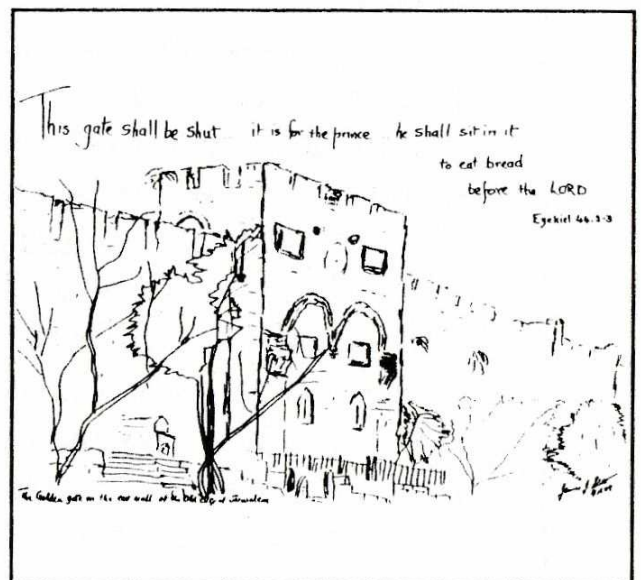
This gate used to be opened twice a year, once to commemorate the entry of the Byzantine Emperor Heraclius, who according to tradition entered Jerusalem in 631 carrying the True Cross, which had been taken when the Persians invaded Jerusalem.

The Golden Gate was also opened each year to celebrate the tradition that this was the gate, opposite the Mount of Olives, used by Jesus when He made His triumphal entry into Jerusalem. This fits in well with a Jewish tradition that the Messiah will come to the Mount of Olives and enter Jerusalem through the Golden Gate. There is a traditional Muslim belief also that a Christian conqueror will enter through this gate.

The gate's name probably comes from the tradition of its being the site of the Beautiful Gate of the Temple, where Peter healed the lame man (Acts 3:2). It may be on the site of the Beautiful Gate built by the people who returned from Exile in Babylon.

The Golden Gate has two arches, called by Palestinians "Repentance" and "Mercy". This is due to the Muslim tradition that the Last Judgement will take place there, and mankind needs both repentance and mercy. Repentance first, then mercy; there cannot be one without the other.

So this Gate with associations sacred to Jew, Christian and Muslim, speaks to us of healing, repentance and mercy in the name of Jesus Christ, whose triumph is commemorated here. As it is written in Psalm 24, "Lift up your heads, O you gates . . . that the King of glory may come in."



This gate shall be shut . . . it is for the prince . . . he shall sit in it to eat bread before the LORD (Ezekiel 44:2-3).

Bridge Parish Council

The Chairman, Cllr John Hill, welcomed Cllr David Pentin, the local City Councillor, and Mr Charlie Gooch of Savills, the agents for the Conyngham Estate to the meeting of the Parish Council on 14th January. Everyone present voiced their disappointment that a recommendation was being made to the City Council's Planning Committee by the Steering Group that no amendment be made to the City Council's Local District Plan to allow for the Parish's proposals, which included affordable housing, put forward for the development of land to the north of the Recreation Ground. After full discussion, it was decided that the Parish Council and Savills would continue with their Partnership and, at the appropriate time, and subject to financial support from the Conyngham Estate, would lodge an appeal in order to seek an amendment to the Plan to allow for the proposed development, albeit with possible modifications.

Signs please

Signs of various sorts were discussed by the Parish Council. The City Council has been asked to replace the sign for Western Avenue which had been removed from its position at the junction with Mill Lane. The Clerk was to press the City Council for new 'Litter' signs for the layby on Town Hill, and similarly for a street name plate indicating the location of Riverside Mews. Concern was expressed at the advertising signs which had appeared on roadside verges within the parish and the Clerk confirmed that this was being dealt with by the County Council.

The Council are still trying to find a suitable design for a Village Sign and the Chairman and Cllr Reg Franklin were to chase up further submissions.

Bridge is presently included in the Parish Paths Programme organised by the County Council to bring public rights of way within a parish up to an acceptable standard and, as part of this scheme, a large footpaths map for display is to be provided for the village. The Councillors' first choice for its location was alongside the Parish noticeboard in the High Street.

Council Representative for the 'Fish Scheme' Committee

Cllr Mrs Margaret Jones has kindly agreed to succeed Mrs Olive Knight as the Council's representative. Mrs Knight, who has been involved in the Scheme since it started, has now retired.

Planning Spectrum

One application for a conservatory extension to the rear of 12 Beech Hill had been received for consideration and no objection had been made.

The application for the formation of a vehicular access at 11 High Street had been granted planning permission by the City Council.

An appeal has been made by the applicant to the Secretary of State against the City Council's decision to refuse planning permission for the erection of two bungalows and garages at 'The Plat', Beech Hill. The Parish Council had objected to this application and would reiterate their objections to the Department of the Environment.

Diary Dates

The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council will be Thursday, 11th February. For those planning ahead, the April meeting will be delayed a week to the 15th April to avoid Easter weekend, and the Annual Parish Meeting, for which a guest speaker is still to be arranged, has been fixed for Thursday, 25th March.

K A Walder, Clerk

Confirmation 1993

Two young lads have signed on as potential Confirmation candidates this year, and although we have made a start with their preparation it's still not too late for others (male or female) to join them.

We meet on Thursdays at 6pm in the vicarage, so if you are still toying with the idea or would like to know more of what's entailed, either come along next Thursday or contact me in advance.

And what about adults? You wouldn't be expected to join the younger group and at least to begin with might like to come on your own and have a chat with me (no arm-twisting or other persuasive techniques, I assure you! since it has to be your decision and taken for your own benefit.)

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne

Cleaning & Flower Rota

6th Mrs Millyard 20th Mrs Clifford 27th Mrs Ash

Bekesbourne Flower Festival

Plans are afoot to stage the first Flower Festival at Bekesbourne Church for several years. It's early days for precise details about what will be on offer apart from a stunning pageant of floral decorations but a lot of careful thought has already gone into making this the best ever Flower Festival in this lovely old church.

For your diary, the dates are **Friday, 18th to Sunday, 20th June**. Watch this space for times of opening!

The festival will end with Evensong at 6.30 on the Sunday evening, for which a guest preacher will be invited (Still to be arranged).

This is something definitely not to be missed!

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

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

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Churchwarden: Mr A. W. Fullaway, Snaefell, Adisham Road, CT4 5EY (830261)

Hon. Secretary:

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)

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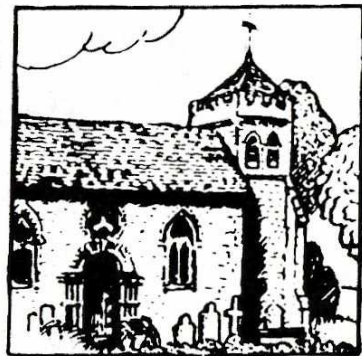
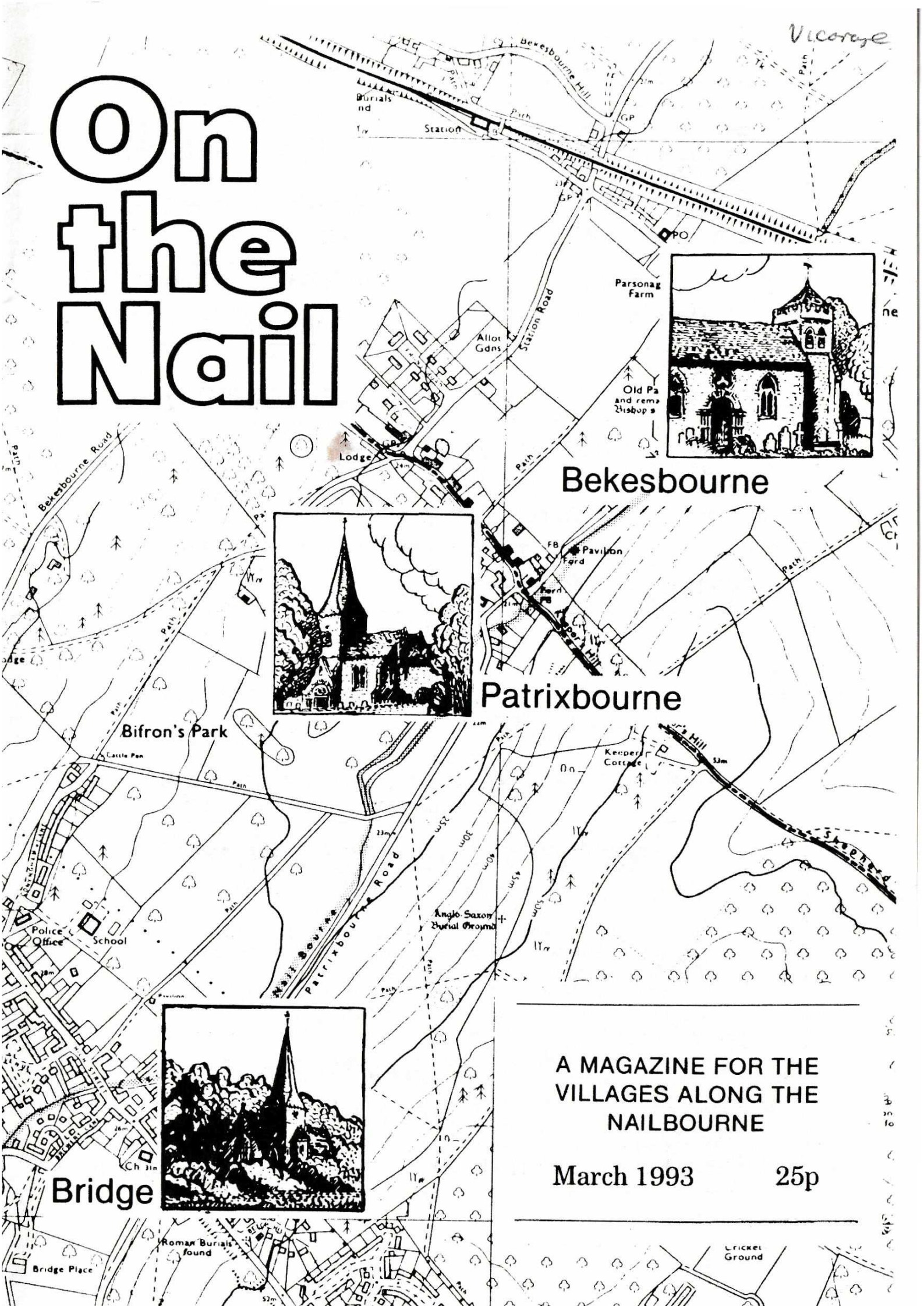
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Sunday Worship in March

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

7th:

11am Family Service
3.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

14th:

9.30am The Eucharist
3.30pm Evensong
(Mr Handley Stevens)

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

21st:

9.30 Parish Communion
3.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am *Mothering*
Service

28th:

8am Holy Communion
6pm *Peter's Praise*

9am Holy Communion
2.30pm Holy Baptism

11am Matins

4th April:

11am Family Service
3.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

Junior Church meets in Bridge Village Hall at 9.30am every Sunday except the first Sunday in the month. It provides an excellent grounding in Christian faith and practice in the Church of England for children of four years old and upwards. Enquiries are always welcomed by Hilary Pike (830708), Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Jean Hopkins (830942), who will gladly provide details of what is involved.

■ *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: 7th, Mr Alistair Barwick, BSc 14th, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Mary R Teed 21st, The Revd Stanley Taylor 28th, The Revd Mary Teed

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 3rd at 10.15am. The New Close service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

For your diary and prayer list

- 1st *St David, Bishop, Patron Saint of Wales, c601*
- 2nd *St Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary, 672*
- 3rd Lenten Address & Compline, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm
- 4th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 5th Pray for the clergy of East Bridge Deanery who meet in chapter this morning
Women's World Day of Prayer Service, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 2.30pm
- 7th **Second Sunday in Lent**

- 10th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 – 11.45am
Lenten Address & Compline, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm
- 11th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 13th Pray for Claire Turner and Simon Empson, to be married at St Peter's Church, Bridge, this afternoon.
- 14th **Third Sunday in Lent**
Pray for Jonathan Nicholson, to be confirmed at The Junior King's School Confirmation Service this morning at St Nicholas, Sturry.
- 16th Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 17th *St Patrick, Bishop, Patron Saint of Ireland, c460*
Lenten Address & Compline, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm
- 18th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 19th *St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
- 20th Bridge School Jumble Sale, School Hall, 2pm
- 21st **Fourth Sunday in Lent** *Mothering Sunday*
The customary Mothering Sunday Service takes place in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne at 11am
- 24th Lenten Address & Compline, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm
- 25th *Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary*
Annual Parish Meeting, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm, to include an illustrated talk on various aspects of the historic North Downs Way from Laurence Tricker, the KCC's Public Rights of Way Officer
- 28th **Fifth Sunday in Lent** *Passion Sunday*
- 30th Nailbourne Horticultural Society Spring Show, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 31st Lenten Address & Compline, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm
Royal British Legion, Bridge & District Branch meeting, Plough & Harrow, 8pm

This Lent at St Peter's, Bridge

Never mind giving something up for Lent: be different this year and take something on!

Such as ?

Canon Packer and I have devised a course of Addresses for Wednesday evenings at 7.30 in St Peter's Church, Bridge on the theme *Biblical Challenges*. After each address, there will be time for questions and discussion and the evening will end devotionally with the late evening service of Compline; the whole lasting an hour.

The Programme

3rd	"Judas Iscariot – Fact or Fiction?"	<i>Canon John Packer</i>
10th	"Was there a first Christmas?"	<i>Revd Andrew Yates</i>
17th	"Was Jesus God?"	<i>The Vicar</i>
24th	"The Old Testament – why bother?"	<i>Revd David Barnes</i>
31st	"The Resurrection – past or present?"	<i>The Vicar</i>

The Speakers

Canon Packer and the Vicar are known quantities. Andrew Yates is Rector of Aylesham and Adisham and David Barnes the recently arrived Vicar of Ash.

The almost new minister of Bridge Methodist Church will be making a regular contribution to On The Nail. Here is her first offering:

From the desk of the Reverend Mary Teed

In our *Focus* group recently at the Methodist Chapel, we looked at the concept of Shared Ministry. We read from Corinthians of the differing gifts and differing needs of each member of the church and we discussed the notion of the Whole Ministry of God. Those wonderful words in the Methodist communion service remind us that we are all called to be 'a Royal Priesthood'. How much does that mean for us as individuals?

As we explored ways and means of sharing ministry, it was increasingly evident that there is still a need for the presbytery of ordained ministers for most people. It has been good to share in united services and to serve alongside my ordained colleagues, but I become more and more aware of the ministry of the whole church. The commission of Christ to his disciples was not confined to the twelve closest. We know that seventy are sent out and his last commission is to us all . . . Go YE into all the world . . . The mission of the church is for each of us. It cannot be left to the chosen few. We serve our Lord in His mission by our daily living and by our daily witness.

During Lent there is opportunity to take a fresh look at our faith and at our daily lives as we prepare ourselves for the great festival of Easter. Why not join the Lenten course of addresses in St Peter's Church or come and join us at *Focus* on Mondays at 2.30pm at the Chapel. About *Focus* contact either Pat Grant (830555) or Mary Teed (463816) for further details.

Women's World Day of Prayer Friday, 5th March

This annual service takes place in St Peter's Church, Bridge at 2.30pm. Prepared by the women of Guatemala it has the interesting theme *God's People: Instruments of Healing*. The address will be given by the Revd Mary Teed on what will be her first visit to St Peter's, and the service arrangements have been capably made by Maureen Sullivan and Sadie Loughlin.

HOLY BAPTISM was administered in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne to **Daniel John**, son of Lesley (Née Payne) and John Cockill of Amesbury, Wiltshire, on 30th January.

Departed this life

The memory of **Olga Weatherall**, 28 Western Avenue, who died on 23rd January, is treasured not only by Ted and Edward but by the many relations, friends, neighbours and workmates whose lives Olga touched by her gentle warmth. Bridge Church was filled for her funeral on 28th January.

Two weeks later St Peter's Church again held a large congregation for the funeral of **Wendy Starling**, 5 Bridgeford Way, who died under almost identical circumstances. Wendy also bore her illness with fortitude and courage and is deeply mourned by husband Roy, daughter Louisa and a wide circle of relations and friends.

The vicar also officiated at Barham Crematorium for the cremation of **Myrtle Barten**, 26 The Close, Union Road on 29th January. Mrs Barten died after a long illness. Our sympathy goes out to her husband and family in their sad loss.

After twenty years of incapacity following a severe stroke **Reginald Harvey**, 11 Green Court passed peacefully away on 5th February. A cremation service took place at Barham on 10th February. Our thoughts go out to Reg's wife Phyl, who cared for him at home with a devotion second to none.

May the souls of all the departed through the mercy of God rest in peace and rise in glory.

On The Nail noticeboard

Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute

The monthly meeting of the WI will be held on Tuesday, 16th March at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. An officer from Kent Fire Brigade will give a talk on *Fire Prevention*, a subject very important to all. In addition to all members, visitors are also welcome.

D.K.

Bridge School Jumble Sale

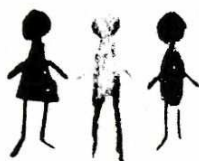
There will be a Jumble Sale in aid of School Funds in the School Hall at 2pm on Saturday, 20th March. For collection of jumble please phone 830276 or 830960.

Evelyn Andrews
School Secretary

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

The Spring Show will take place in Bridge Village Hall on Tuesday, 30th March. The show will be open at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be available, also we are hoping to have the usual plant stall. Any member who requires a schedule can obtain one from Mrs E Cartwright at the Post Office or Mrs B Anderson, Aunt Betsy's Cottage, Dering Road.

B Anderson



The Children's Society

during the above period for the appeal and if anyone would like to help and has not already been asked to 'volunteer'!, do please contact me on 830466.

The Children's Society

Appeal 24th March to 4th April

There will be a House to House Envelope collection in Bridge

Kathy Eynon

DEEDS OF COVENANT

Inland Revenue Requirements for Tax Year ending 5th April 1993.

As the end of the Tax Year 1992-3 is rapidly approaching, may I take this opportunity to remind covenanters of the strict requirements we must observe if we are to maximise our claim for repayment of income tax from the Inland Revenue. It is essential that the total annual contributions due within the tax year under the terms of each Deed of Covenant should be

paid on or before 5th April, 1993.

This is particularly relevant to covenanters who make their periodic payments in cash (mainly within the Envelope Scheme) and in this context I am setting out the following guidelines:

- a) **Weekly covenant payments due up to and including Sunday, 4th April, 1993**
All weekly payments due up to and including Sunday, 4th April, 1993, the last complete week of the tax year 1992-3, should be presented by that date (4th April, 1993).
- b) **Calendar monthly, quarterly, etc covenant payments**
Where such periodical payments fall due on or before 5th April, 1993, would covenanters kindly ensure that their payments are presented by that date (5th April, 1993) at the latest.
- c) **Payments by Banker's Order**
As it is anticipated that payments under this arrangement will be received automatically on their due dates, no specific action is envisaged.

Should you require any further guidance please do not hesitate to contact me (Tel: 830426).

Douglas R Hill, Covenants Officer

Leadership by example

A tribute to Bekesbourne's last headmistress

by Christine Ash

There can be few people living in Bekesbourne who will not respond in some way to the news that Mrs Doris Sandall died in February at the age of eighty-eight. Mrs Sandall affected the lives of just about everyone in the whole village over a period of nearly twenty years and her reputation has been spread far and wide by all those who had the fortune of being acquainted with her.

Married life in Gravesend involved Mrs Doris Sandall as Akela to the local Cub pack and her husband as Group Scout master in charge of Scouts and Cubs. When Mr Sandall was tragically killed in an accident she was left to bring up two small children with another one on the way, and still managed to run the Scouts and Cubs as they had when her husband was alive. Mrs Sandall took over as Headmistress of Bekesbourne C.E.P. School from Miss Gandy in September 1951, arriving in the village from Gravesend a widow with three young children, and her mother! She was no stranger to the area, having originally come from Dover.

Beyond the call of duty

Gravesend's loss was certainly Bekesbourne's gain! On arrival she ran the school with the aid of an infant teacher to assist her. The normal school roll averaged thirty-six pupils from the age of five until eleven, but by 1953 the school roll topped fifty pupils and limited classroom space was filled to total capacity. When hot school meals were introduced her mother Mrs Watson donned white coat and scarf and served the mid-day meal to the children right up to 1964.

Continued on page 13

To finance school outings Mrs Sandall organised Whist Drives in 'The Hut' (now the Village Hall) and socials for Scout/Cub funds: she started the Scout Troop and Cub Pack in Bekesbourne.

Ever a leader by example, Mrs Sandall sang alto in the Church Choir, always encouraging her young pupils to join in, and all choir practices were held at the school. She taught the recorder to the children, so there was no excuse. If you didn't join the choir you still had the opportunity to perform recitals. An active member of the PCC, again all the meetings were held in the school. For some twenty years she was Secretary to the PCC and wrote up the Minutes in a clear fist in the leather bound book.

Smile please!

Little if anything passed by without some involvement by Mrs Sandall. In 1953, Coronation Year, the children were organised for an *entire* school photograph, believed to be the only time when the whole school was captured together for posterity, and it is also believed that *every* child attended that day. A copy of the photograph still exists and if it's possible to master the technology we shall reproduce it in a future *On The Nail*. Over half of those 'children' still live locally!

The end of an era

Towards the late 1960s Mrs Sandall's mother became bed-ridden through age and infirmity but was nursed at home between lessons still by her daughter, who managed to fit compassion and nursing into her busy daily schedule. Despite valiant attempts to retain the village school the battle was sadly lost for the last time when the school closed for good. Doris Sandall stood for all that is good in village life and instilled in all her pupils the true values of family life.

For eight more years Mrs Sandall remained living in School House, until ill health forced her to move closer to her daughter in Hertfordshire. Eighty-eight years of quality life is an achievement. Being fondly remembered by so many is an even greater achievement. To her children, Keith, Betty and Rosemary, her eight grandchildren and four great grandchildren we extend our deepest sympathy.

Those who wish to honour Mrs Sandall's memory can do so by sending a cash donation to Christine Ash at Parsonage Farm. At the family's request all such donations will be given to The Children's Society.

Memories of Bekesbourne School

Whether or not we are eventually able to reproduce the famous school photograph we would be very interested in any memories you may have of Bekesbourne's school. There must be some funny times, naughty pranks or even serious behaviour that would make fascinating reading. Send your recollections to the vicar or Christine Ash.

Bridge Parish Council

In response to the consultation letter from the Parish Council putting forward a proposal to provide car parking and further landscaping for the central area of Green Court in an attempt to improve the appearance of

this area, a large number of residents came along to the meeting on 11th February to make representation and to submit a petition. In view of the strength of the opposition to the proposal, the Council decided to take no further action in the matter.

Footpaths up to scratch Under the County Council's Parish Paths Programme, a great deal of work has been undertaken by the County with the help of the Parish Council; but in particular, Cllr Mrs Meriel Connor, the Parish Council's Footpaths Officer; to bring all the rights of way in the Parish up to an acceptable standard. This work has included signing, repairing and providing stiles, and clearing obstructions and all should be completed by the end of February. Publicising them is a further step which the Parish Council has already done to some extent with its footpaths leaflet. However, a large free-standing map showing the paths will also be provided by the County for the village, but not possibly until June or July.

Spring is in the air! The tubs outside the supermarket are all planted up for the Spring. Thanks are due to Mr Spanton of Beech Hill for donating some wallflowers and to Mrs Pam Possee at the supermarket who planted them out and looks after them for us. The bulbs, too, planted by the Council in past years in various locations in the village, are now well through. Meanwhile Cllrs Mervyn Gulvin and Mrs Margaret Jones are to give the bus shelter by the newsagents a spring clean.

Now that the lake in Bourne Park is filling after the drought, the Clerk is to ask the rivers authority to clear the riverbed before the Nailbourne actually starts to flow in Bridge. The new 'litter' signs have at last been erected in the layby on Town Hill. All that remains now is for the City Council to remove the old ones!

Cllr Mrs Jones, who is responsible for looking after the streets, footways and lighting in the village, is to compile a list for the City Council of new or replacement street name plates required throughout the village for consideration in the next financial year.

On the positive side The City Council has granted planning permission for a conservatory extension to the rear of 12 Beech Hill and for a two-storey rear extension and pitched roof to front conservatory at 1 Waterloo Cottages, 4 Brewery Lane. The Parish Council is to support an application from the Plough & Harrow Pigeon Club for a contribution of £100 from the City Council's Lottery Fund to enable them to purchase a pigeon velocity calculator.

On the negative side There was no support for a request for a noticeboard in the newly refurbished bus shelter outside the post office. In fact, the Parish Council do not want notices of any kind to be posted on the sides of the shelter and in future any there will be taken down. There is, however, a small noticeboard outside the village hall which is open and can be used by any resident to publicise a local event and, of course, many of the shops are happy to display a poster. The Council decided not to enter either the 'Best Kept Village' or 'South East in Bloom' competitions this year, but by popular request, will be organising a 'Hanging Baskets' competition for the village with two classes, one for commercial and one for

domestic premises. Cllr Mrs Jones will be organising this and more details will be available later. The Parish Council next meet on Thursday, 11th March at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall. *K A Walder, Clerk*

FISH NEWS

First, our thanks go to Mrs Olive Knight, who has been the Parish Council representative on the Fish Scheme since it was formed, and has now resigned. Mrs Margaret Jones is kindly replacing her.

Many thanks too to the White Horse for the proceeds of their Burns Night raffle. We have a cheque for £100 towards buying a new, lighter wheelchair for the village. I have a hospital bed doing nothing at home. If it would make somebody's life easier I would be delighted to lend it (Tel: 830298).

The next Coffee Pop-In at the village hall will be on Wednesday, 10th March from 10.15 to 11.45am.

And lastly, an advance warning for your diaries! The Blossom Tour will be on Wednesday, 5th May. The great annual fund-raising coffee morning will be on Saturday, 5th June. Please remember it when preparing plants and handicrafts.

Anne Rooke

The Return of the Don - Part II

Still chronicled by Martin Leggatt

It started one evening in late summer when Don Gilberti was startled by the church bells. DING! DANG! DONG! and then DANG! DONG! DING! Luckily the church only had three bells or this story would have taken a long time – very long time – a very, very long time. Don Gilberti rushed to the church and asked the bell-ringer what on earth the matter was. El Jacko, who contrary to popular belief was not a painter and decorator, exclaimed, “Don Gilberti, it's marvellous news! The boss has summoned you to the city. He wants to make you supervisor shepherd for this ‘rural area!’”

Don Gilberti was ecstatic and returned to his home to pack. He left as soon as he could the next morning accompanied by his faithful servant Sancho Peugeot. It was they knew an extremely hazardous journey. They started out along the lane of the brewers, with barely a glance back across the meadows to the church bathed in early morning sunlight.

Hardly had they turned the corner away from the church than they were descending into the ravine carved out over thousands of years by the mighty Nailbourne river. They had to cross it: it was Hobson's choice, and as *Hearsay* know that's no choice at all! There was only one place where the cascading torrents could be forded. Up to your neck in freezing water, one missed step and you would be swept away to your death, dashed against the rocks and discarded dentures thrown carelessly into the canyon from the dentists' on the cliff edge. Our heroes shook with fear as first toe, then ankle, knee, thigh and finally torso descended into the water. And step by step they slowly traversed the swollen stream and at last emerged unscathed on the far bank, where travellers before them had thoughtfully left a sign bearing the legend ‘Now dry your backs’ . . . or something like

that.

It was hard work climbing up the hill away from the stream but eventually they reached an avenue which led west from their own dear village. And perched on the crest of the hill overlooking this western avenue was the manor house with the view of the park owned by El Domehead of the Medhurst family. Sorry, that's El Dome, head of the Medhurst family (he's actually known as Clive, but who ever heard of a Clive-head). Don Gilberti admired the house with the recently completed north wing built over the stable block. He was slightly envious of the garden with the rose in the corner. He could tell it was a rose because it was writing up the Choir Committee minutes. He called out "Bill", for a rose by any other name still smells as sweet, but the rose was silent.

One man went to mow

But we need more than one to help maintain Bekesbourne's little church on the hill. You may be relieved to know that we're not appealing for money and you don't have to be a regular worshipper to help -- we're just asking you to offer a little time to help maintain what we have in the village.

Last year we had many complaints about the state of the churchyard. Over many years the same loyal band have worked hard to maintain it voluntarily, but age and infirmity over the last few years has overtaken them. For the last two years Contractors have been employed on a blitz-when-desperate basis. The cost of keeping on top of the Churchyard has amounted to several hundred pounds each year, but this approach has only prevented a wilderness and has done nothing to maintain the churchyard bulbs, flowers or natural habitat. The complaints have come from walkers and local people who enjoy the privilege of living in the country without realising just how much joint effort it requires to keep it attractive.

We are therefore appealing to anyone who would enjoy spending time clipping, cutting, trimming and generally tidying - not the whole lot, but every small individual contribution would be gratefully received! We inherited a lovely countryside, let's try and keep it like that for the next generation. You might like to be an 'unsung hero' and go up there to potter alone or you might prefer to join an organised band, so we've given you all a choice - an organised working party Spring-Clean is arranged for **10.30am on 3rd April, 1993**, when all volunteers will be welcome to turn up complete with any gardening tools they see fit to use, and following that, a maintenance team of volunteers throughout the summer would help to prevent further complaints.

NO HELP WILL EVER BE CONSIDERED TOO SMALL

PLEASE OFFER

If you need any assistance, contact any of the following people who will be pleased to talk to you about it.

David Millyard	(830256)	Jill Gillanders	(830894)
Tony Fullaway	(830261)	Christine Ash	(830214)

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

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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)

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

Organist (Bridge):

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

Churchwarden: Mr A. W. Fullaway, Snaefell, Adisham Road, CT4 5EY (830261)

Hon. Secretary:

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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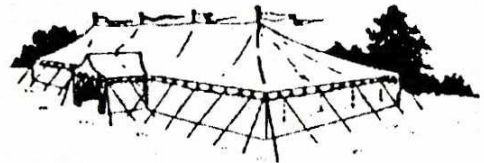
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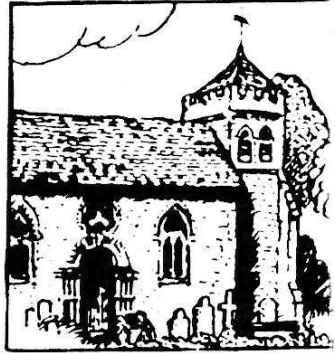
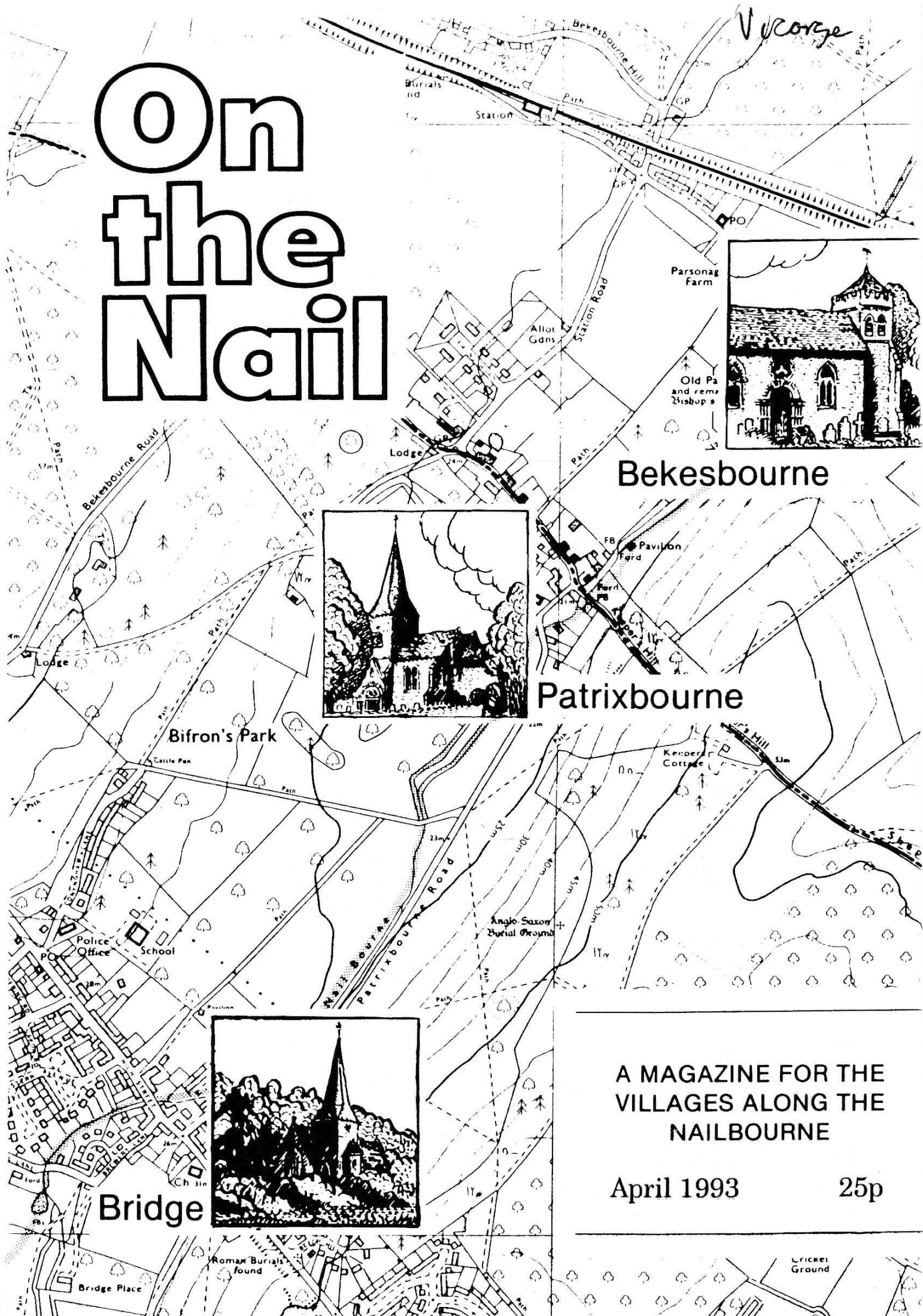
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On the Nail



Bekebourne



Patricbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

April 1993

25p

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Sunday Worship in April

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

4th:

11am Family Service
with Palms

8am Holy Communion
with Palms

9.30 Parish Communion
with Palms

3.30pm Evensong

11th EASTER DAY:

11am Easter Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong

9.30 Holy Communion

8am Holy Communion
11am Easter Eucharist

18th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(Revd J. Shorrocks)

8am Holy Communion
(Canon P Heartfield)

11am Matins
(Mr H Stevens)

6.30pm Evensong
(Mr H Stevens)

25th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm The Eucharist
with Licensing of a
Reader

9am Holy Communion
2.30pm Holy Baptism

11am Matins

2nd May:

11am Family Service
with Holy Baptism
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

PLEASE NOTE the time of Evensong reverts to 6.30pm from Easter Day.

Junior Church meets in Bridge Village Hall at 9.30am every Sunday except the first Sunday in the month. It provides an excellent grounding in Christian faith and practice in the Church of England for children of four years old and upwards. Enquiries are always welcomed by Hilary Pike (830708), Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Jean Hopkins (830942), who will gladly provide details of what is involved.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *4th*, The Revd Albert Ball *11th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Mary R Teed *18th*, Miss J Charlesworth, MA *25th*, Mr F J Allen

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. This month there will not be a Wednesday Communion on 14th or Friday Communion on 9th or 16th. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 7th at 10.15am. The New Close service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

For your diary and prayer list

1st Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm

4th **Palm Sunday**

There will be the Blessing and Distribution of Palms at all three

- morning services.
- 5th **Monday in Holy Week**
- 6th **Tuesday in Holy Week**
Holy Communion at Patrixbourne, 9.30am
- 7th **Wednesday in Holy Week**
Holy Communion at Bridge, 9.30am
- 8th **Maundy Thursday**
The Eucharist in commemoration of the Last Supper, Bridge 7.30pm
- 9th **Good Friday**
Mr Handley Stevens, Reader, will conduct an hour-long Service of Devotion in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne at 11am. *The Last Hour* Service of Devotion in St Peter's Church, Bridge will be conducted by the Revd John Shorrocks from 2 to 3pm.
- 10th **Easter Eve**
- 11th **EASTER DAY** See display below for the services list.
- 12th **Monday in Easter Week**
- 13th **Tuesday in Easter Week**
- 14th **Wednesday in Easter Week**
Fish Scheme Coffee pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 15th **Thursday in Easter Week**
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, 7pm
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm
- 16th **Friday in Easter Week**
- 17th **Saturday in Easter Week**
Pray for Tracy Churchward and Barry Boakes, to be married this afternoon at St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne
- 18th **First Sunday after Easter**
- 20th Patrixbourne with Bridge Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Bridge School, 7pm
Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21st *St Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1109*
- 22nd Bridge Methodists' Coffee Morning, Methodist Church, 10.15 - 11.30am
Interchurch Fellowship, Bridge Methodist Church, 7.30pm
Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Bridge Village Hall, 8pm
- 23rd *St George, Patron Saint of England, Martyr, 4th century*
- 24th Friends of The New Close Coffee Morning, The New Close, 10.30 - 12 noon
- 25th **Second Sunday after Easter**
Instead of Peter's Praise at Bridge this month there will be a special Eucharist at 6.30pm, celebrated by the Archdeacon of Canterbury. During it the Archdeacon will give Handley Stevens his Licence to Officiate as a Reader within the parish. Regular members of the congregations of Bridge and Patrixbourne in particular are asked to come and support Handley on this big occasion, when his ministry as a Reader among us is given official recognition.
- 26th **St Mark the Evangelist (translated from yesterday)**

28th Royal British Legion Branch Meeting, Plough & Harrow, 8pm
29th *St Catherine of Siena, Mystic, 1380*
Bekesbourne Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Parsonage Farm,
7.30pm



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 Eucharist with

Hymns

(*The Revd J Shorrock*)

*"He is risen from the dead
and He is Lord"*

The Vicar will be on holiday from Monday 12th to 19th April, during which time anyone requiring the services of a priest may contact the Revd John Shorrock on 832133.

Easter triumph, Easter joy

Throughout Easter morning Jesus' friends were in a state of emotional turmoil.

Dawn found them in the throes of despair following recent tragic events concerning the Master. All they could do was cling together for mutual support and consolation, howbeit with little satisfaction, and to any onlooker must have presented a truly pathetic sight!

Jesus, their Master was dead and buried and convention required that he was to be mourned: it was the custom. However, their morning that Sunday wasn't a theatrical gesture to impress the neighbourhood but a genuine response on the part of them all to a bitter loss. Heartrending tears flowed copiously, even from grown men.

Their anxieties were also exacerbated by shattered dreams. Jesus' death, devastating in itself, also closed a momentous chapter in all their lives, leaving nothing to fire their hopes, merely adding to their grief.

News of the empty tomb did nothing to revive their spirits, if anything it plunged them into ever deeper depression, for from what the women reported they hadn't even his body to act as a focus for their sorrow or to serve as a reminder of happy times together. So the gloom settled ever deeper upon them — until, that is, they received a further shock which in an instant transported them from one extreme of emotion to the other.

Hope once more engulfed them as the unmistakable form of the Lord, no longer dead but risen, stood before them. Perhaps a quick intake of breath, a short pause while the truth sank in, then indescribable joy!

We can't begin to understand what that moment was like for the disciples. It certainly was a tremendous psychological shake up from which I should imagine it took them a long while to recover. But then — ah yes! — from then, there was no looking back! Tears of joy poured down! The inconceivable had occurred! The Lord was risen!

* * *

From that day the Lord's followers were utterly transformed, most noticeably by the sharp sense of courage, hope and purpose that henceforth coloured their lives. The knowledge of Jesus' resurrection was enhanced by the effect it had upon them. They now knew from personal experience what the Lord had meant by saying, "Because I live, you will live also".

Easter triumph, Easter Joy can be ours too, and not through our readiness to accept that Jesus Christ once rose from the dead. Our sense of triumph, our joy this Easter is like that of the disciples all those years ago, the realisation that Jesus Christ is risen *today*, that he lives *now* and that his presence can be felt just as keenly in *our* lives as it was in theirs. That is what the Christian faith is really about, and the resurrection forms the backbone of all true Christian witness. The Easter event changed lives once: it can change them again!

Viv Brasier writes about

Easter Lilies

The tradition of Easter lilies being arranged beside the altar continues. If anyone would like to contribute to the cost of an arum lily, perhaps in memory of someone, they will be approximately £2 each.

The cost of decorating the church with flowers throughout the year continues to rise, and as the number of flower arrangers falls the problem is getting serious. If anyone would like to contribute towards the cost of flowers, perhaps at a specific anniversary, I will be happy to organize it. Please contact me over any queries or offers to do with either of the above on 830981.

Joys and Sorrows

Joined in Christian Marriage

The first wedding of 1993 took place in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Saturday, 13th March, when **Claire Turner** of 10 Green Court married **Simon Empson** from Lordswood, Chatham. We wish them every future blessing.

Passed from death to life eternal

The ashes of **Simon Nicholas Skinner**, Redwing House, Worcester Lane who died at a tragically early age were laid to rest in Bekesbourne churchyard on 13th March at a brief ceremony conducted by the vicar.

Her many friends at Bekesbourne greeted with real sadness the news of the death, after a long illness borne with tremendous courage, of **Joan Fitzgerald**, formerly of School Lane. Joan had moved to Wingham some years ago but kept in touch with Bekesbourne, most notably through the Thursday whist drives in the Village Hall, which she continued to attend. A regular attender at St Peter's she served on the PCC for for many years. She will be much missed in the village.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Bridge Folk Dance Group

Our meetings in April are on the 1st and 15th at 8 o'clock in the Village Hall. Alf Matthews as usual will be teaching us some interesting dances, most of them easy. For details if you would like to join us please ring 830285 or 830562.

J.H.

Bridge with Patribourne Women's Institute

The Women's Institute meets every month in Bridge Village Hall on the third Tuesday. This month's meeting will be on Tuesday, 20th at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Mrs Eve Pearson on *Reflexology and Aromatherapy*.

D.K.

Bridge Methodists . . .

are holding a Coffee Morning in the church to raise funds for Overseas Missions, on Thursday, 22nd April from 10.15 to 11.30am. Please support these hungry people.

*Pat Grant,
Chapel Steward*

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

There will be a talk entitled *Frankincense and Myrrh* by Mrs P Jeffrey, who gave us the very interesting talk on *Herbs and their History* last year. The date is 22nd April at 8pm in Bridge Village Hall.

B Anderson

Friends of The New Close

There will be a Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy at The New Close on Saturday, 24th April, 10.30am to 12 noon. Proceeds for the residents' Amenity Fund.

O I Knight

The Samaritans

Please keep Thursday, 10th June free for the annual fund-raising day. I am always grateful to receive used postage stamps.

M.E.J.

The Childrens Society— Fund raising

Looking ahead — to 26th September — when The Nailbourne Group League of Friends for Canterbury Hospitals are planning a Craft Fair in the School Hall, it is hoped to have a stall there to raise funds for The Childrens Society. To stock this we shall be very reliant on your generosity in donating small craft items, any home made goodies, perhaps a spare pot of your marmalade or jam, in fact anything offered would be most appreciated.

This early notice is for those kind persons who hopefully will wish to

Continued on page 13

embroider?, knit?, make cards?, bake?, etc. during the coming months. Do please contact me if you have any ideas or queries and especially if you are willing to help in any way.

Reminders will appear in future editions of *On The Nail!*

*Kathy Eynon, 19 Bridge Down
Tel: 830466*

Sheep in the Churchyard, again!

In the summer of 1992 the *Kentish Gazette* published correspondence about sheep in the churchyard at Ash. A lady, who tended a grave there, had written to complain of the mess sheep can cause. A reply was made on behalf of the PCC explaining how expensive it can be to maintain a churchyard and how most parishes have to rely on voluntary labour because the cost of employing professionals on a regular basis is simply prohibitive. In any case, so far as Ash was concerned, it was a relatively unfrequented part of the churchyard where the sheep were; the more popular parts were carefully tended by people.

Of course, sheep are very good, very efficient lawnmowers, producing a fine turf in quite a short time. But they do, eventually, dispose of the clippings at random, to the peril of the dainty feet of church-goers. And they do churn up the paths and trample on the tended as well as the untended graves, and no doubt eat the flowers with relish as a specially delicate morsel. We do not have sheep in the churchyard itself at Bekesbourne. The PCC thought of it but turned it down; though on one occasion last autumn the present writer, visiting the churchyard to do a bit of mowing, was startled by heavy breathing behind him. Be warned, it is quite hard work, and none too good for one's self-esteem, driving one stray sheep from the churchyard single-handed.

However, the purpose of writing is not to discuss the present; but, as so often, to show that there is nothing new under the sun. At his formal visitation on 29th May, 1866, the Revd Charles Oxenden, the then Rural Dean (our own vicar's predecessor in that ancient office), recorded:

"Draining done and Church dry now
Fabric fair

Sheep in churchyard should be expelled — graves in a very unseemly state".

And again on 9th June, 1870 the same gentleman recorded in the Minute Book, more vehemently and even perhaps somewhat petulantly:

"Visited the Church in the unavoidable absence of the Vicar and unattended by either of the Churchwardens.

Churchyard in most disgraceful condition. Disfigurement and destruction of graves by the objectionable practice of admitting sheep."

What happened after that is, unfortunately, not recorded.

David Millyard

The Office and Work of a Reader

The Ministry of Reader has been a recognized order of ministry in the Church of England since primitive times. Later it became swallowed up into other ministries, underwent a brief revival at the Reformation, then disappeared completely for two and a half centuries. In 1866 the Church of

England restored the Office of Reader, since which time numbers have increased considerably until today there are said to be over six thousand. They used to be called 'Lay Readers', the word 'Lay' signifying that this vital ministry is not an ordained one but for lay people only, but the word 'lay' has now been dropped.

Meet Handley Stevens

Sporadic churchgoers, particularly at Bridge, have been wondering who the new 'vicar' is — vicar being everyman's word for a clergyman, whether he is actually the vicar of a parish or not. This has been their instinctive reaction on seeing Mr Handley Stevens functioning in church, seemingly dressed as a clergyman. However, there is a difference in that he doesn't wear a dog collar and his scarf is blue, not black. In fact, Handley isn't a clergyman at all: he's a Reader and this month he is to be licensed as such to the parish of Patricbourne with Bridge.

Shortly before he and his family moved to Bridge, Handley had been admitted as a Reader in the diocese of Chichester, from whence he came, and was on the point of being licensed when the move came.

Having had time to get to know him Patricbourne with Bridge PCC made the decision to ask for Handley to be licensed as a Reader to the parish; meanwhile, and with the bishop's full approval Handley has been ministering already. Working as a civil servant in London limits Handley's involvement to weekends, but in many ways, that's when a Reader can be most useful.

Readers have to undergo a quite strenuous course of training, which is designed to build on their strengths and fit them for the role. After completing it, they are formally Admitted as Readers, usually at a cathedral service. They then have to be licensed by the bishop to a particular parish.

What does a Reader do?

A Reader will participate regularly in leading the worship in church. This will include preaching, reading lessons, leading intercessions, conducting services and assisting with the administration of the Holy Sacrament. He or she may also administer Holy Communion to the sick and conduct funerals.

Essentially a Reader is an assistant to the Incumbent of the parish to which he or she is licensed, and thus has a responsible share in the life and work of the parish as a member of its staff. A Reader is free to minister in any other parish in the Diocese when invited to do so.

25th April is the Licensing

The official licence to operate as a Reader in the parish will be handed to Handley by the Archdeacon of Canterbury on Sunday evening, 25th April at the 6.30 service. Normally this would be *Peter's Praise* but instead, at Handley's request (with which I am happy to concur) the Archdeacon will preside and preach at a special Eucharist.

Handley will be the first Reader we've ever had and it's all the more important therefore that regular members of the congregations at Patricbourne as well as Bridge are present to welcome him and offer their support

as he embarks upon this new area of work for God. After the service we shall meet less formally over refreshments in the school hall. The licensing of our own Reader heralds an exciting new stage in the life of our parish! Don't miss it!

Bridge Neighbourhood Watch

Some changes in the organisation of the above are now being undertaken and villagers are asked in view of the present climate of burglary and damage to be very aware of what they see. Please contact the Canterbury Police direct on 999 immediately if you are aware of any circumstances which arouse suspicion, If you think it is anything which is not urgent but is a Police matter 'phone them on Canterbury 762055.

Much valuable time is wasted if you contact your Neighbourhood Watch controller, who may be out and in any case has got to relay the facts second hand. Please act yourself without delay!

Please shut and lock sheds and garages, secure windows and side entrances, and leave lights on when out in the evening if possible on time switches. Also arrange for valuables to be post coded.

The services of the younger villagers are seriously needed so please contact your co-ordinator, also let any views or suggestions be made known direct to the Area Co-ordinator on 830626 or his deputy on 830466.

Advice regarding home or car security can be obtained directly from the Crime Prevention Officer at the Canterbury Police Station.

Edgar Smith, Area Co-ordinator

Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday, 11th March.

Out and about the Village

The County Council are to resurface the carriageways in Western Avenue, Green Court, Ford Close, Windmill Close and Saxon Road and the footways in Conyngham Lane and Riverside Close in the coming financial year. At the request of the City Council, Cllr Mrs Margaret Jones has now compiled a list of street name plates that need replacing or erecting throughout the village.

The County Council has undertaken work to improve the drainage at the corner of Patribourne Road and the High Street, and at the bottom of the slope in Dering Road where water tends to gather.

The Police have been taking action on cars parking over the pavements.

The Council were pleased to note that the daffodils planted in recent years were now making a fine and welcoming show to the village.

Residents may have noticed the 'Leisure Bus' coming to the village on Tuesday evenings. This has come out from the Riverside Youth Club in Canterbury and is catering for a large number of local children aged between approximately eleven and sixteen, who are supervised there by two full-time and one ancillary youth worker.

Down at the Recreation Ground

The Council agreed to support an application from the Bridge Village Sports Trust for assistance from the Lottery Fund towards the replacement of the vandalised windows at the pavilion. They also indicated their willingness to give further financial support once estimates had been received. The Clerk was to arrange for a new 'No Cycling' sign to replace the damaged one by the pavilion.

Plans afoot

The Council had made no objections to applications for the installation of new win-

dows, alterations to extension roof at rear and internal alterations at 'Dover Lodge', 48 High Street or for a two-storey side extension to 20 Bridge Down. Planning permission has been granted for the replacement of windows at the front of 33 High Street and for the stationing of a third mobile classroom at Bridge School. The City Council had also been approached about the advertising on the side of the Red Lion.

Neighbourhood Watch

Mr Sidney Roe, Co-ordinator of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme since its inception seven years ago has resigned. The Parish Council thank him for all his work during that time and welcome Mr Edgar Smith, up until now his Deputy, who has taken over from him.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 15th April in order to avoid Easter weekend.

K A Walder, Clerk

Fish News



The annual Blossom Tour will be on Wednesday, 5th May and the coach will leave Green Court at 2pm. Transport can be arranged to Green Court if you would like it. The price this year will be £4 and Mrs Joy Monk will be at the Coffee Pop-In to collect the names of those who wish to go.

We are delighted to announce that Jean Johnson took over as Co-ordinator of the Fish Scheme on 30th March. Joan Warren will carry on as the *Age Concern* representative and will continue to arrange chiropody transport. The next chiropody clinic will be from Wednesday, 14th to Friday, 16th April.

The next Coffee Pop-In is on Wednesday, 14th April from 10.15 to 11.45am in the Village Hall. (N.B. Knitting wool and patterns are available at the Pop-Ins for anyone who might like to make garments for the WRVS clothing store.)

And lastly, keep Saturday, 5th June well in mind. That's the date of our great annual fund-raising coffee morning!

Anne Rooke

Bekesbourne Church *Cleaning and Flower Rota*

10th Decorating for Easter: all hands to the pump! *17th* Mrs Jill Gillanders
24th Mrs Zan Clifford

Annual Parochial Church Meetings

Both parishes have their annual church meetings this month, and if you are on the Electoral Roll (not the Electoral Register or Voters' List) you are not only eligible to attend, but should make every effort to do so.

Bekesbourne's Annual Meeting takes place in Parsonage Farm on Thursday, 29th April at 7.30pm and we hope for a record turn-out, so please don't let us down.

Where Patrixbourne with Bridge is concerned the actual meeting will only take up part of the evening as most of it will be devoted to a report on the work of our TARGET 2000 working group. As we are expecting a much larger turn-out than usual we have hired the school hall and will be making an earlier start to the proceedings, having the annual meeting at 7pm. There will be refreshments at some stage in the evening. Book the date now: Tuesday, 20th April!

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, Patribourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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

Organist (Bridge):

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

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

BEKESBOURNE

Churchwarden: Mr A. W. Fullaway, Snaefell, Adisham Road, CT4 5EY (830261)

Hon. Secretary:

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

Organist: Mrs R.M. Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill, Patribourne 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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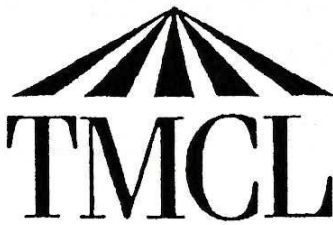


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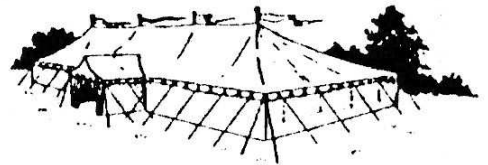
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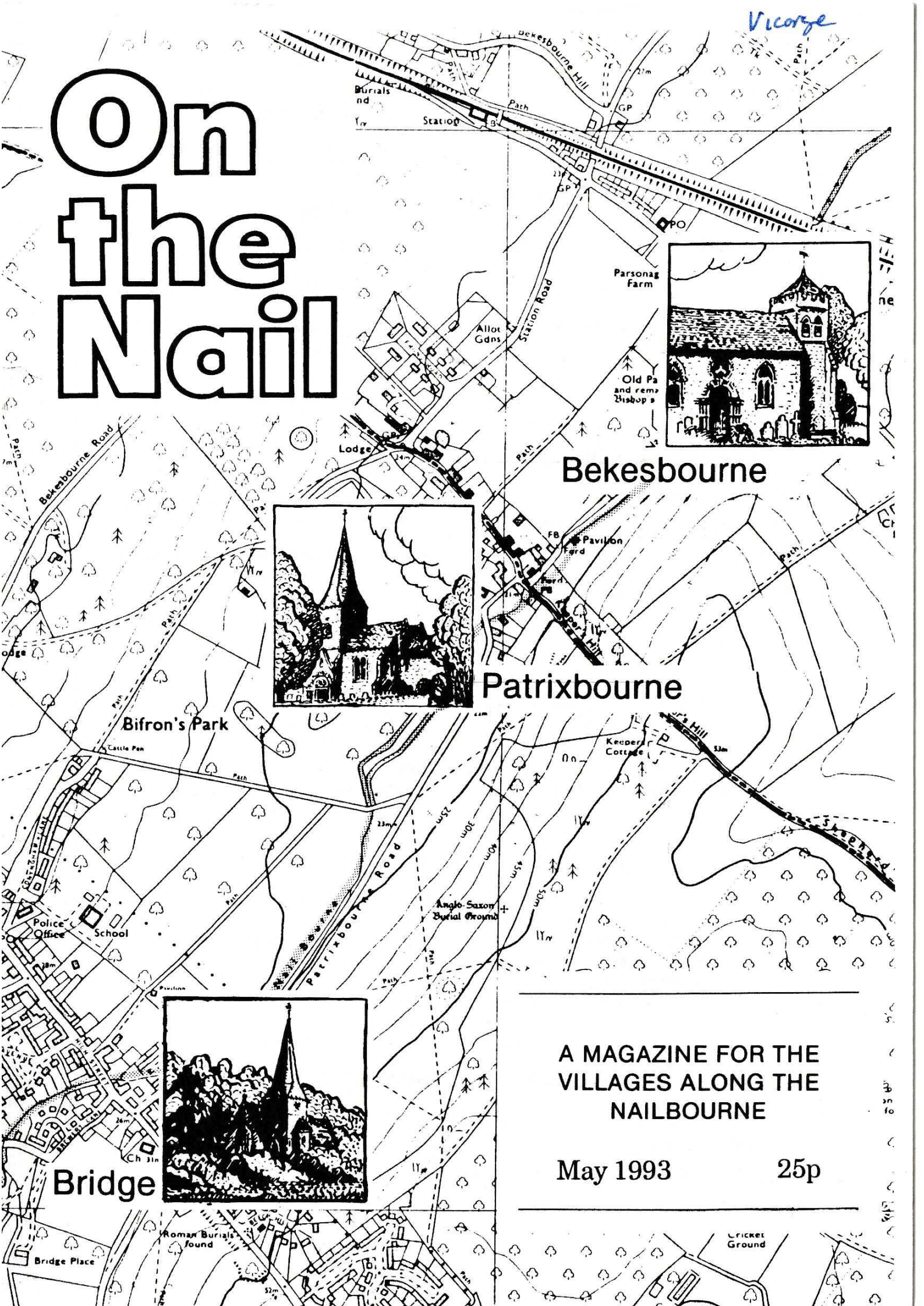
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On the Nail

Vicorge



Bekebourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

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May 1993

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Sunday Worship in May

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

2nd:

11am Family Service
with Holy Baptism

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

9th:

9.30am The Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

16th:

9.30 Parish Communion
6.30pm Evensong
(Mr H Stevens)

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins
(Revd J Shorrocks)

23rd:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Peter's Praise

9am Holy Communion
(Revd J Shorrocks)
2.30pm Holy Baptism

11am Matins
(Mr H Stevens)

30th:

9.30 The Eucharist
with the Laying-on
of Hands
6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins with
Holy Baptism

8am Holy Communion

6th June:

11am Family Service
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

Junior Church meets in Bridge Village Hall at 9.30am every Sunday except the first Sunday in the month. It provides an excellent grounding in Christian faith and practice in the Church of England for children of four years old and upwards. Enquiries are always welcomed by Hilary Pike (830708), Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Jean Hopkins (830942), who will gladly provide details of what is involved.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *2nd*, Mrs C Ovenden *9th*, Mr C G Robertson *16th*, *Church Anniversary*, The Revd Mary R Teed *23rd*, Mr Victor N Downs *30th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd John Forster, BD, DipEd

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Fridays (*Rite A*), except 21st, at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 5th at 10.15am. The New Close service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

For your diary and prayer list

1st Pray for Sarah Long and Tim Wilmshurst whose wedding is at Bridge this afternoon.

2nd **Third Sunday after Easter**

- 6th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 8th *Julian of Norwich, Mystic, c1417*
The Prayer Book Society day at Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne.
- 9th **Fourth Sunday after Easter**
- 11th Archdeacon's Visitation, Cathedral, 7.30pm
- 12th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 14th *St Matthias the Apostle*
- 15th Bekesbourne Churchyard working party, 10.30am, to which all are invited.
- 16th **Fifth Sunday after Easter**
- 17th Rogation Day
Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 19th *St Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, 988* Rogation Day
Pray for the newly Elected Deanery Synod meeting this evening.
- 20th **Ascension Day**
The Eucharist, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm
Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Bridge Methodist Church, 8pm
- 22nd Nailbourne Group of the Hospital League of Friends Jumble Sale,
Bridge Village Hall, 10am to 12 noon
- 23rd **Sunday after Ascension Day**
Pray for David Walder and Jamie Green to be confirmed this morning at St Mary's Church, Wingham
- 24th *John and Charles Wesley, Priests, Poets, Teachers of the Faith, 1788*
- 25th *The Venerable Bede, Priest, Monk of Jarrow, 735*
- 26th *St Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury, 605*
Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough & Harrow, 8pm
- 29th Pray for Amanda Ash and Michael Barker to be married at St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne this afternoon.
- 30th **PENTECOST (Whit Sunday)**
The ministry of the Laying-on of Hands with Prayer will be made available to any who wish to receive it during the Eucharist at Bridge. In the course of Matins at Patrixbourne the sacrament of Baptism will be administered.
- 31st *Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth.*

Pentecostal reality!

I once heard it said, "If you pray to the Spirit WATCH OUT!" That could be sound advice, since once you let the Holy Spirit have his way with you there's no saying what might happen. On the other hand it's rather off-putting!

Now here's a quandary! As Christians we should be open to the Spirit, since that's what submitting one's will to God is all about. On the one hand we want to fulfil our Christian obligations, but on the other we're British; we like to keep our feet firmly on the ground and can't stomach exhibitionism at any price. How to cope, then, with the possibility that prayer for the guidance of the Spirit may turn us into happy-clappies, which we'd hate?

No problem! Waving your hands in the air and all the other paraphenalia of charismatic worship aren't essential requirements for being in tune with God's Spirit. Those in whom the Spirit of God truly dwells don't need to report to outward show of any kind to convince either themselves or others of the fact. The Spirit is within, and whereas this causes a certain type of person to respond with their entire being, body as well as emotions, God's presence is more commonly felt in terms of a gentle urging not to some outlandish course of action, but always to put God to the fore. If the wind and flames of Pentecost put you off your stroke, then realize that by putting yourself in God's hands you are simply allowing him to bring his Spirit of guidance, of stability and healing love into your life, as a result of which you will come to know the Spirit as — quoting the hymnwriter:

*... that gentle voice we hear,
Soft as the breath of even;
That checks each fault, that calms each fear,
And speaks of heaven.*

Joys and Sorrows

Welcomed in the Lord's family

The Vicar officiated at the baptism on 28th March at Patrixbourne Church of **Hannah Roya**, daughter of Karin and Hassan Bagherzadeh-Pope and grand-daughter of Michael and Pauline Pope.

Joined in Christian marriage

The Revd John Shorrocks deputised for the Vicar at the wedding on 17th April at Bekesbourne Church of **Tracy Churchward**, Howletts Cottages, and **Barry Boakes**.

Entered more abundant life

The passing of Mrs **Ethel Gausby**, 14 Green Court after a sudden and mercifully brief illness has left her very close family completely bereft, especially following hard on the death of her devoted husband of almost fifty-five years, Gordon. Mrs Gausby was universally liked; a gentle, lovely person invariably with a warm smile. She was a most faithful member of Bridge Church who greatly valued her regular communion. She is much missed by family and friends alike. Cremation at Barham followed a service in Bridge Church on 14th April. Eventually her ashes will be laid to rest in Bridge churchyard with those of her husband.

The death of **Paul Muir-Little**, though not wholly unexpected, came speedily at the end. Paul practised as a dental surgeon in Canterbury for many years and with his late wife Pam and their children lived in Bridge until Pam's sad death. After his wedding to Ann they moved to Canterbury but continued most regularly to attend Patrixbourne Church. A funeral service in St Mary's Church was followed by interment in the churchyard.

Genesis Shop, Sheffield

The delivery of clothes to the Community/Church Shop Genesis in Sheffield will take place in May this year. All donations of good second-hand

clothing are much appreciated by our friends in Sheffield. The shop is a non-profit making organisation, set up and run by volunteers from the local community and churches. The aim of the shop is to provide good quality second-hand clothing and other goods at a low cost to the people who live in this very poor, deprived area of Sheffield.

Once again, can we help to provide the stock that the shop relies on? Please go through your drawers and wardrobes and send all donations to me, Andrea Nicholson by the 15th of May, at Riverside Cottage, Patix-bourne. Collection can be arranged by 'phoning me on Canterbury 830947.

Bekesbourne Churchyard

A VERY BIG THANK YOU to everyone who turned up to help clear Bekesbourne Churchyard on 3rd April. In only an hour and a half what seemed insurmountable was transformed; new areas discovered and gutters cleared — all with keen enthusiasm.

We met new faces, discovered hidden talents and enjoyed glorious sunshine. It was so successful that we thought we'd give it another go, so that all those who would have liked to have joined but were unable to do so then can have a go. So we've arranged a follow-up for **Saturday, 15th May at 10.30am**. Do come and join us — in one and a half hours we achieved so much. Thank you one and all!

Christine Ash

Churchwarden Tony Fullaway writes: Unfortunately I was unable to join the working party due to illness but I went up to the churchyard on the following Tuesday and was truly amazed at what had been achieved. Whole new vistas opened up as I wandered around. You must have all worked extremely hard, and earned a very big thank you. I hope to join you for the next stint on 15th May.

Broadheath
8 Union Road
Bridge

A very big thank you to all the people of Bridge and surrounding areas who have given me so much help, support and encouragement; also those who have stopped to talk with cheery greetings and good wishes since my accident. I'm glad to say that I'm well on the way to recovery and also to riding my cycle again.

Pamela Elgar

Canterbury City & Rural Guide Quiz Evening

by Angela Hobson, Swallow Patrol

On 19th March the Guides of the district gathered together at Rough Common Village Hall to have a Guide quiz. There were about ten different Guide groups there. We had two different groups for Bridge because there were sixteen of us. The groups were Salt and Pepper. There were ten categories of questions. The Salt team came third and the Pepper eighth!

There was a joint first between Bossingham Guides and Chartham Guides. They each won a Parker pen. It was a really enjoyable evening.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Bridge Folk Dance Group

Due to the County Council elections we will meet only once in May, on 20th at 8pm. Please join us then in the Village Hall with or without a partner. For further information please ring 830285 or 830652. *J.H.*

Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute

The Annual Resolutions Meeting of Bridge WI will take place on Tuesday, 18th May in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm. Mrs Ann Cronk will preside at a clothing stall. *D.K.*

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

There will be a floral art talk and demonstration called *Flowers Round Your Home* on Thursday, 20th May in the Methodist Church at 8pm. Ladies, come and get some ideas so that you can 'Have a go' at the Summer Show. *B Anderson*

The Nailbourne Group - Hospital League of Friends

The Nailbourne Group of the League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals is holding a Jumble Sale on Saturday, 22nd May, 10am to 12 noon in Bridge Village Hall. We would be grateful for all good jumble, which may be delivered to the hall on the day from 8.30am. If you have problems with delivery please contact me on 784872 and I will be happy to arrange collection. Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you on the 22nd. *Pat Gulvin*

Competition time

Entry forms for the competition to find the best hanging basket, tub/window box and external floral decoration for commercial premises will be available from mid-May. Please keep an eye on the notice-boards and get seed sowing! *M.E.J.*

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 1993: 17- 22 May

by Muriel Packer

Amongst all the tragedies of war, famine, drought and floods in different parts of the world it is easy to forget that half the world's population has never had access to such essential human rights as clean water or basic education. *Christian Aid* has been working for nearly fifty years to give these people the means to help themselves. It has had many successes through the support it has given to self-help groups like Satyodaya ('the dawn of truth' in Sanskrit) in Sri Lanka, or the Women's Finance and Credit Trust in Uganda. They depend on *us* to help *them* to help themselves. *Christian Aid Week* gives us the chance to show that we have not forgotten. **Please** respond **generously** when the collector calls.

Our grateful thanks to Bill Rose—and so say all of us!

Bridge Choir members, past and present would like to express their sincere thanks to Bill Rose. Bill has been associated with Bridge Choir for over twenty-seven years and is now standing down as Choir Secretary.

Thank you Bill for all your hard work and dedication over the years -- you have certainly been the back bone of our village choir and we shall certainly miss you as Secretary. You will be please to know Bill will continue to sing with the choir.

A holiday experience

At this time of the year when our thoughts are turned to the Resurrection of our Lord, and what it means for us as individuals, one word which springs to my mind is HOPE — hope for the future, for the rebirth of many of our forgotten values of compassion, friendship, culminating in the overall victory of good over evil.

These values were very much in my thoughts when during my holiday in Czechoslovakia last year I had the opportunity to visit Lidice, or rather the site where this village used to be, a small mining village about 20kms west of Prague, of some 483 inhabitants which was selected as the victim of one of the most monstrous acts of violence perpetrated by the Nazis during the 1939-45 War.

For those who may be unaware of what happened here, I will give a brief outline.

Following the assassination of Reinhard Heydrich (Chief of the Nazi Security Service) on May 29th 1942, by — it was thought — a group of Czech patriots a love letter was intercepted and it was from this small beginning that this ghastly happening grew.

The recipient of the letter was interrogated with her family, and though no proof was obtained this family totalling fifteen were executed and the decision to make an example of the whole village was made. The final order was received from Berlin on June 9th 1942, which sealed the fate of the village and its inhabitants. The order decreed that:—

1. ALL men aged sixteen or over in Lidice to be shot.
2. ALL women to be conveyed to Concentration Camps.
3. ALL 'racially capable' children to be 'Germanized' and re-educated, others to be sent to Concentration Camps.
4. The village to be burnt and razed to the ground.

And it was on that very night that the horror began. The village was sealed off from the outside and the inhabitants were rounded up from their homes, herded together in groups of women and children and men.

All men aged over sixteen were taken to the farm where the original investigation was carried out, and in the early morning of 10th June, they were lined up in tens and shot, each fresh ten standing in front of the dead — 173 in all. Even the men who had been on night shift in the mines were caught as they returned home in the morning.

The women and children were transported away to their various destinations, the majority going to the infamous Ravensbruck Concentration Camp. The cattle and sheep were driven off and all dogs shot, then the village was looted before being dynamited and all the buildings destroyed and set ablaze. Even the cemetery was not overlooked.

During the rest of June, the remains of the buildings and the roads were bulldozed and the rubble removed and the area levelled, trees were felled and the whole site was finally covered with soil.

In fact, Lidice had visually disappeared from the face of the earth, its name was removed from maps. (Post war records show this operation took in excess of 20,000 man hours.)

The enormity of this heinous act caught the attention of the World as early as 1943 and it was in 1945 the Lidice Garden of Friendship and Peace took shape on the very site of the destroyed village. Huge rose gardens were planted out with roses sent from countries throughout the World. (British miners were in the forefront of the movement *Lidice will live again.*)

Fountains were built and an eternal flame burns there, with statues and a Wall of Remembrance, the whole area being laid out and maintained as a lasting memorial to those who lost their lives and their homes.

It was here that I stood in June 1992, fifty years after that act of destruction and thought of what had happened. Standing there in the warm sunshine on that grassy hillside with the scent of thousands of roses, and the sound of fountains, what I felt most was the silence — yes, I could actually feel it.

I thought of those that suffered here, the fears and misery, and wondered how they could withstand such an ordeal. Faith and hope for the future must have seemed very doubtful at such a time. But we know from our Faith that we will be given the strength necessary to overcome our trials and fears — the strength to withstand is what we are promised, and what they must have been given.

I also thought of those that had carried out these terrible acts of violence and wondered how they could bring themselves to act this way. It must have been almost impossible to forgive them, one hopes that they have repented since and sought forgiveness.

Goodness did prevail, because in 1947 a new village called Lidice was built alongside the site of the old one and following successful searches, survivors from the original village have taken up residence again.

So Lidice lives on and is once more shown on the maps 20kms west of Prague.

This may not be everyone's idea of a holiday visit, but I would not have missed it for anything. To sit in a place like that with time to think was a very disturbing, but very rewarding experience.

Anthony Fullaway

The Children's Society Appeal

The recent house-to-house collection raised £387.24 for the Society. Grateful thanks to all helpers and contributors.

K Eynon

Bekesbourne Flower Festival

18th, 19th & 20th June 1993; a Date for Your Diary

A brief reminder that we shall be holding a flower festival at St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne on Friday, Saturday and Sunday 18th, 19th and 20th June. We do hope that all readers of *On The Nail* will visit us on one of those days. Anyone who would like to help with one of the stalls or 'manning' the church, even if only for an hour or two, will be very welcome; please get in touch if you are interested. Any offers of cakes, plants and raffle prizes would also be greatly appreciated.

The Prayer Book Society

Among the aims and objects of this society I quote the following:—

To uphold the worship and doctrine of the Church of England as enshrined in the Book of Common Prayer.

The Prayer Book Society does not propagate Prayer Book Fundamentalism. . .

. . . does not seek to suppress the Alternative Service book.

The Vicar has kindly given permission for the Annual Meeting of the Canterbury Branch of the Society to meet at Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne on Saturday 8th May.

Bekesbourne Village Hall will be open from 10.30am for coffee.

11.30am Holy Communion at St Peter's, Bekesbourne

1.00pm Lunch in Bekesbourne Village Hall

2.00pm Meeting in the Village Hall, followed by a talk on Cranmer and Bekesbourne by Mr David Millyard

4.00pm Evensong at St Mary's, Patrixbourne.

I would appreciate support and help with drinks at the village hall in the morning and at lunch time when our visitors will be eating their packed lunches. I look forward to seeing you on Saturday 8th May, 1993.

*The Revd John Shorrocks, Chaplain to the
Canterbury Branch of the Prayer Book Society*

Bridge Parish Council

Problem Areas. There were several problems for the Parish Council to consider at their meeting on 15th April.

Concern was expressed at the dangers posed by stray balls from golfers practising on the Recreation Ground. Whilst not wishing to prohibit this use of the ground, the Parish Council would however ask golfers to take the greatest care and use only the far side of the ground adjacent to open country.

Still on the Recreation Ground there had been several incidences of vandalism at the pavilion and Cllr Mervyn Gulvin had met with members of the Sports Trust to try to find a solution to the problem. The shingle at the side was to be removed and the area turfed and concreted, whilst the windows and doors were to be made vandalproof.

Another problem which was disturbing certain residents was the unpleasant smell of fumes emanating from Corralls Oil Depot. The Parish Council were to take this up with the Environmental Health Department at Canterbury City Council and the management of Corralls.

Meanwhile, at the Village Hall, there were further problems. Cllr Mrs Ann King was seeking further estimates for the repair and refurbishment of the memorial clock and for new external rear doors.

There had been concern for some time about the floor in the main hall.

Cllr Gulvin had inspected it with a specialist to ascertain its condition and as expected, the substructure was not good, with at least some dry rot. He advised that it was time to have it redone and was therefore arranging for various estimates for the work.

Planning. No objection had been made to an application for a single storey rear extension to 'Pallum Cottage', 15 Union Road and this had subsequently received planning permission from the City Council, as had the proposal for a two storey side extension to 20 Bridge Down.

The appeal against the City Council's decision to refuse planning permission for two bungalows on land at 'The Plat', Beech Hill had been allowed by the Department of the Environment despite representations made by the Parish Council and local residents.

The next meeting of the Parish Council, which is the Annual Meeting when the Chairman and other officers are elected and other appointments made for the ensuing year, will be on Thursday, 13th May at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K A Walder, Clerk

Fish News

The Blossom Tour outing is on Wednesday, 5th May. Please contact Joy Monk (831903) if you would like to go. The coach will leave Green Court at 2.00pm to go to Hythe for tea. The price this year is £4.00.

Please remember the annual fund-raising Coffee Morning on Saturday, 5th June. We need raffle prizes, plants, cakes, groceries, preserves, handicrafts, books and, if at all possible, you as well.

The next Chiropody Clinic is from Monday 14th to Friday 18th June. Please contact Joan Warren (830233) if you need transport.

And lastly, the next Coffee Pop-In at the Village Hall is on Wednesday, 12th from 10.15 to 11.45am.

Anne Rooke

Bekesbourne Church

Cleaning and Flower Rota

1st Mrs Farbrace 8th Mrs Mount 15th Mrs Millyard 22nd Mrs Fry
29th Mrs Ash

A CONCERT by the University Musicians is being arranged for the evening of 30th May in Patricbourne Church. *Watch for details.*

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

Reader: Mr Handley Stevens, 6 Bridgeford Way, Bridge CT4 5LE (831376)

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens: Miss J. Carpenter, 3 The Green, Patricxbourne CT4 5BS

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, Patricxbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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

Organist (Bridge):

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

Churchwarden: Mr A. W. Fullaway, Snaefell, Adisham Road, CT4 5EY (830261)

Hon. Secretary:

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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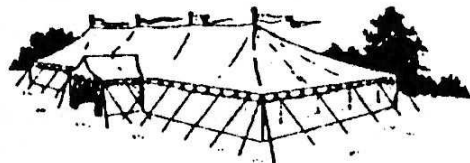
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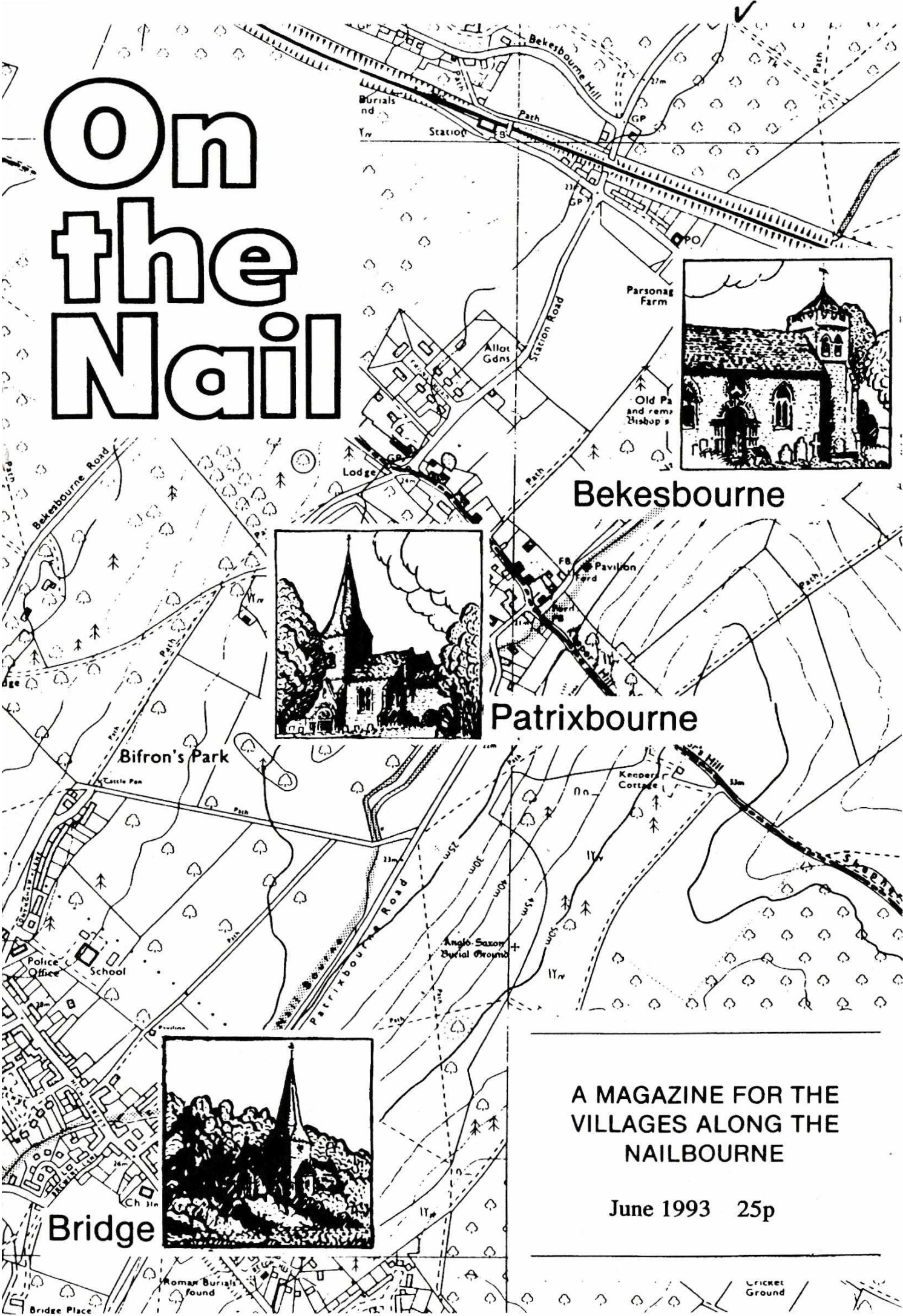
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Bekesbourne



Patricxbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

June 1993 25p

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Sunday Worship in June

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
6th: 11am Family Service 6.30pm Choral Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30am Parish Communion
13th: 9.30am The Eucharist with Baptism 6.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
20th: 9.30am Parish Communion	8am Holy Communion	6.30pm Evensong (Preacher : Dean of Canterbury)
27th: 8am Holy Communion (Canon J. Packer) 6.30pm Peter's Praise	9am Holy Communion (Revd. J. Tyler)	11am Matins (Mr. W.E. Griscome)
4th July: 11am Family Service (Mr. H. Stevens) 6.30pm Evensong (Cannon J. Packer)	8am Holy Communion (Canon P. Heartfield)	9.30am Parish Communion (Revd. J. Shorrock)

June Change Evensong on 20th moves to Bekesbourne, as part of the Flower Festival that weekend.

Junior Church meets in Bridge Village Hall at 9.30am every Sunday except the first Sunday in the month. It provides an excellent grounding in Christian faith and practice in the Church of England for children of 4 years old and upwards. Enquiries are always welcomed by Hilary Pike (830708), Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Jean Hopkins (830942), who will gladly provide details of what is involved.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *6th*, Mrs H Colyer BA
13th, Holy Communion, The Revd Mary R Teed *20th*, Mr R H Ward
27th, Mr E R O'Mahony

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am, except 9th, 23rd and 30th, and Fridays (*Rite A*), at 7.30am, except 25th. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 2nd at 10.15am. The New Close service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

The Vicar will be on holiday from 21st June until 10th July inclusive, during which period in cases of urgency a priest may be contacted on 832133.

For Your Diary and Prayer List

- 1st *St. Justin, Martyr at Rome, c165.*
- 3rd Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm.
- 4th Pray for the Deanery Clergy who meet in chapter this lunchtime.
- 5th *St. Boniface, Bishop, Missionary, Martyr, 754.*
Fish Scheme Coffee Morning & Sale, Bridge Village Hall.
Pray for Amanda Buckmaster and Richard Mant to be married this afternoon in St. Peter's Church Bridge.
- 6th **Trinity Sunday**
Beginning this evening the choir will in future sing at Evensong on the first Sunday of each month.
- 9th *St. Colombia, Abbot of Iona, Missionary, 597.*
You are invited to a special celebration of the Eucharist in St. Peter's Church, Bridge this evening at 7.30 and afterwards at the vicarage, today being the 30th anniversary of the vicar's ordination as priest.
- 10th *Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion.*
Samaritans Fund-raising Day, 18 Conyngham Lane.
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm.
- 11th *St. Barnabas the Apostle.*
- 13th **Second Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 1**
- 15th Bridge with Patribourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm.
- 17th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm.
- 18th *BEKESBOURNE CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL* till 20th.
- 19th **Bridge Village Fete.**
- 20th **Third Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 2**
6.30 Evensong is at Bekesbourne and forms the culmination of the Flower Festival.
- 22nd *St. Alban, first Martyr of Britain, c209.*
- 24th *Birth of St. John the Baptist.*
- 27th **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 3.**
- 29th *St. Peter the Apostle, Patron of Bridge and Bekesbourne.*
- 30th Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough and Harrow, 8pm.

SAY IT WITH FLOWERS

The slogan is so hackneyed that surely no florist worth his salt uses it any longer - apologies to any that do! Outmoded as it is, that's what thousands of people continue to use flowers for, to 'say' what words can't adequately bring

off. So we send flowers to convey loving messages, to mark an anniversary, to say 'thank you', to cheer someone who's sick, to congratulate, to express sympathy. Once upon a time flowers were considered exclusively for ladies, but not any more. Nowadays they are offered to orchestral conductors and top class sportsmen following a triumphant performance and to men languishing in hospital (even the so-called 'non-flowery' types who appreciated the thought but haven't a clue what to do with them).

* * *

Considering how delicate and short-lived they are, flowers pack quite a punch and possess a magnetic appeal that touches all kinds of people; stimulating the emotions as nothing else can.

Whence comes this attraction? A pointless question for anyone who's really pored over a flower, as against affording it a sideways glance: and a real flower, of course, not an artificial one, which however skilfully made never approaches the wonder of a natural bloom. And it needn't be a carefully cultivated specimen either, for even a wild flower can evoke feelings of joy and incredulity simply because it reveals the amazing workings of nature, or as I prefer to say, of God. A flower is never just a shape and a colour and a texture, it's also a fragrant living thing, an integral part (though only a part) of that wonderful world which God made and saw to be very good.

* * *

Such are flowers' versatility they are nowadays used to good effect in the increasingly popular Flower Festival which is all the rage at this time of year. In this locality there's no shortage of such floral celebrations, and this month, after a gap of several years, St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne will once again provide the backdrop for its own Flower Festival. It straddles the weekend of 18th to 20th June and reaches its grand climax with Evensong on the Sunday evening at 6.20pm, at which the preacher will be the Dean of Canterbury. Owing to an unanticipated change in the date of Bridge Village Fete, the two events coincide on the Saturday, but hopefully won't affect either adversely. Do pop along at some stage over the weekend! The church is open each day from 10am to 6pm, and there will be teas, a plant stall and raffle to add to your enjoyment!

Family Joys And Sorrows

Holy Baptism

Sister and brother were received into the family of the Church through baptism at the Family Service on 2nd May, they being **Claire Louise** and **Richard Peter**, whose parents are Anthony and Deborah Beaumont, 14 Brewery Lane.

Holy Matrimony

On the afternoon of May Day the vicar officiated at the wedding in St. Peter's Church, Bridge of **Timothy Wilmshurst**, Dearnley, Bekesbourne Road and **Sarah Long** of Canterbury.

The Blessed Dead

The Revd. John Shorrock deputised for the vicar at the funeral of Mrs. **Emily Jane Farbrace**, which took place in St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne and was followed by interment in the churchyard on 20th April. Aged 91 Mrs. Farbrace was a lady of character and remained active until the last. We extend warmest sympathy to her children Margaret and David and family.

A Bridge character until he moved away some years ago died on 25th April. **Richard H. Aufrere Dawson** was one of life's true eccentrics, who carried gentlemanly conduct to its furthest bounds. A lonely, sad figure Mr. Dawson inhabited the first floor flat in Eastbridge House as it then was, was regularly to be seen around the village or on the Canterbury bus first thing in the morning and was a consistent attender at church services.

The death of Mrs. Cornelia Slawin ('Matron' to her Bridge neighbours in the Western Avenue bungalows) at the age of 86 prompted this fascinating insight into an eventful life.

Cornelia Mary Christine Slawin (nee Mendl) was born in Vienna on January 19th 1907, the only child of a Jewish couple. She had a large extended family and spent a happy childhood with frequent visits to her maternal grandfather's farm where he trained and dealt in horses. In her teens she was a keen opera and concert goer.

After a short and unhappy marriage and the death of her father, she returned home to look after and support her mother. She took over her father's job as a

representative of a clothing firm and travelled extensively in Czechoslovakia. The growing unrest in Austria and the rise of Hitler and the persecution of the Jews made her decide to move to England. As a refugee she was offered the choice of working as a cook or kennel maid! She went to work as a cook-housekeeper to an Austrian widow living in Hampstead.

Whilst there she broke her ankle and had to spend a long time in hospital. Her English rapidly improved, although the vocabulary taught her by her fellow patients was sometimes frowned on by her more polite acquaintances! During her stay in hospital she decided she wanted to train as a nurse.

At this time she was befriended by a clergyman and his wife who became her friends and sponsors for many years. They helped her to get her mother to England. It was at this time (1941) that Cornelia was converted to Christianity.

In 1952 Cornelia moved to Nunnery fields Hospital, Canterbury as Assistant Matron. Shortly afterwards she was appointed Matron, in which post she stayed until her retirement in 1967. During her time at Nunnery Fields she inspired the building of the day hospital.

She left Matron's flat at the hospital in 1964 to live in Bridge and on her retirement became involved in village life. She devoted much of her time to caring for elderly neighbours and helping anyone who was ill at home. She was a keen supporter of the village's Fish Scheme, and later was very grateful for the help its volunteers gave her.

She was a skilled needlewoman enjoying dressmaking, embroidery, rugmaking and crochet. She travelled extensively visiting relations in Austria, Israel and Mexico and regularly holidaying abroad. Her failing eyesight and advancing ill health deprived her of many of her hobbies and limited her activities.

When she felt the time had come to give up her home she made a real "Matron's inspection" of possible residential homes. She moved into a room surrounded by her own furniture at Littlebourne where she lived for the last two years of her life. Despite this she continued until her death to entertain her many friends and kept in touch with distant relatives by telephone.

She will be remembered by her many friends with great affection.

Joan Warren.

1st Bridge Guides

All of 1st Bridge Guides would like to welcome to their unit five future guides, Jenny Fagg, Polly Browne, Nicola Starling, Julia Lanaway and Rebecca Elliott. We're sure they'll have lots of fun!

We are very busy organising fund-raising events, a cook-out and polishing up our camp skills as we are going on Guide Camp with Chartham Guides. We are hoping the weather will be good so everyone can have a great time.

Laura Brodie, Chaffinch Patrol Leader

An Anglican Pocket in Cyprus

by Dorothy King

On a recent visit to Cyprus we attended Solemn Eucharist at Panayia Chrysopolitissa Church, the only Anglican Church in Cyprus, with services in English.

This church was built in the 13th century over the ruins of the largest early Byzantine basilica on the island, at Kato Paphos. This has been extensively excavated and the site has many walls, pillars and stone blocks, the outline being clearly visible.

Within the compound one can see the so-called "St. Paul's Pillar", where, according to tradition, St. Paul was flogged, at some time before the Roman governor, Sergius Paulus, was converted to Christianity.

This church does not come under the aegis of the Church of England. It is the Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East, in the diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf. Consequently it is a very small pocket of Christianity surrounded by many other religious beliefs and practices, and is very isolated. Its existence is owed to Christian supporters in the area who even pay the Parish Priest's stipend.

The church is quite small, but it was packed with British residents, holiday makers and other Nationalities. It contains mosaics of the 15th century and some icons, but otherwise is very simple.

Cyprus has been an attractive prize for invaders from very early times. Phoenicians, Greeks, Persians, Egyptians, Genoese, Venetians, Ottoman Turks and the British have all occupied the island at different times.

Although it is now an independent republic, the fight for sovereignty still continues, as the northern part of Cyprus is sealed off and occupied by the Turks and there is great animosity between them and the Greeks in the South.

Bridge Parish Council

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on the 13th May, there was only one change in the offices held. Cllr. John Hill continues as Chairman, but Cllr. Reg Franklin takes over from Cllr. Mrs. Ann King as Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year. Those councillors with special responsibilities for the Recreation Ground are Ken Greenaway, Mervyn Gulvin and Mrs. Margaret Jones. Cllrs. Greenaway and Mrs. Jones also look after the Streets, Footways and Lighting in the village. Environmental affairs are the province of the Vice-Chairman together with Mrs. Joan Monk, Mrs. Billie Anderson and Mrs. Meriel Connor. Mrs. Anderson as Tree Warden cares for our trees whilst Mrs. Connor continues to look after the footpaths. Planning applications relating to the parish are considered by the Chairman, Mrs. Connor and Mrs. King, who also, along with Ken Greenaway, represents the Council's interests on the Village Hall Management Committee. The Vice-Chairman and Mrs. Monk are the Council's representatives on the Area Committee of the Kent Association of Parish Councils.

Spot What's New! The County Council have finished resurfacing the carriageway in Western Avenue and the adjacent roads and will later be starting on the footways in Riverside Close and Conyngham Lane.

The floodlighting at the tennis courts has now been installed and should allow longer hours for play on balmy summer evenings!

The Parish Council are most appreciative of the fine seat which Mrs. Pratt and her family have had installed to overlook the play area in the Recreation Ground in memory of the late George Pratt, one time police sergeant in the village.

And Still To Come! The Council has settled upon a design for a village sign which the Chairman will arrange to have made in stained wood for eventual erection at a central point in the village.

Cllr. Gulvin is busy arranging an exciting and varied programme of music for the village as part of National Music Day on Sunday 27th June. Watch out for further details!

Spring Fever for Planning! There has been a marked increase in the number of planning applications received in the last month. The parish Council had no objections to any of the following:

the erection of a 5'6" fence at Ashley House, Brewery Lane
a single storey side extension & porch at 'Coppice', Bridge Hill
a single storey rear extension to 24 High Street
a 2 storey extension to side and rear to form a new kitchen, garage and utility room and two bedrooms at 52 Bridge Down
Two permissions had been granted, for a single storey rear extension to 'Pallum Cottage', 15 Union Road and for a replacement pitched roof over the garage/porch of 30 Bridge Down.

Councillors were concerned at the City Council's proposals for the Bridge and Nailbourne Conservation Areas which had been further amended since last put forward. They were concerned that the City Council had ignored the wishes of the Parish Council to have the extent of the conservation areas limited and had, in fact, enlarged them in some places, and still encompassed the area between the Recreation Ground and the Bypass which in the Parish Council's views was so distanced from the rest of Bifrons Park by the bypass that it no longer formed an integral part and was therefore not worthy of conservation designation.

It was decided that the City Council should be informed of their continual opposition to the Conservation Areas as proposed.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday 10th June at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall. *K. Walder, Clerk*

Fish News



Please come to the great Coffee Morning and Sale in the Village Hall, Bridge on Saturday, 5th June. This is our only direct fund-raising effort. We need cakes, groceries, plants and raffle prizes.

Do you have any spare knitting wool lying around? If so please bring it to the next Coffee Pop-In on Wednesday, 9th June, or telephone Rosy Green on 830204.

We need more volunteer drives, particularly for daytime trips, for example to the hospital. If you would like to help please telephone Ann Medhurst on 830762. Your petrol costs will be met. *Contributed*

Bekesbourne Church

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Don't Forget The Two Major Local Events of The Month!

Bekesbourne Flower Festival in the Church 18th to 20th from 10am to 6pm each day. In addition to a magnificent floral pageant there will be a plant stall, raffle and teas. Evensong in the Church on Sunday, 20th, with the Dean of Canterbury, the Very Revd. John Simpson as visiting preacher.

Bridge Village Fete at the School, Saturday 19th from 12 noon. Watch the posters for full details of this great annual village event!

Target 2000

The working group set up by Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC to make parish plans for the Decade of Evangelism, is due to present important findings at the next Church Council meeting. Until then I'm afraid readers will have to make do with a small and hopefully tantalising sample of what's anticipated.

The committee's suggested long term proposal centres on St. Peter's Church and is presented on a display in the church baptistry. It opens up some exciting prospects for both worshippers and the community in general. One of the group's more immediate concerns, surely shared by all who know the building, focuses on the poor state of St. Peter's interior decor. Their proposal for a complete redecoration is likely to attract popular support and hopefully a face-lift may be on the cards in the near future. Assuming this to be the case there remains the problem of how best to tackle it; so be prepared, volunteers will certainly be needed in some capacity! It's not too early to offer your services now, either by signing the list in Church or contacting one of the Target 2000 committee - Sheila Fenn, Ailsa Williamson, Stephen Pike, Kath Pierce or Andrea Nicholson.

Watch this space!

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Reader: Mr Handley Stevens, 6 Bridgeford Way, Bridge CT4 5LE (831376)

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

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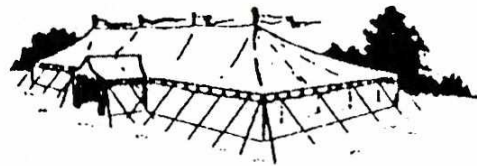
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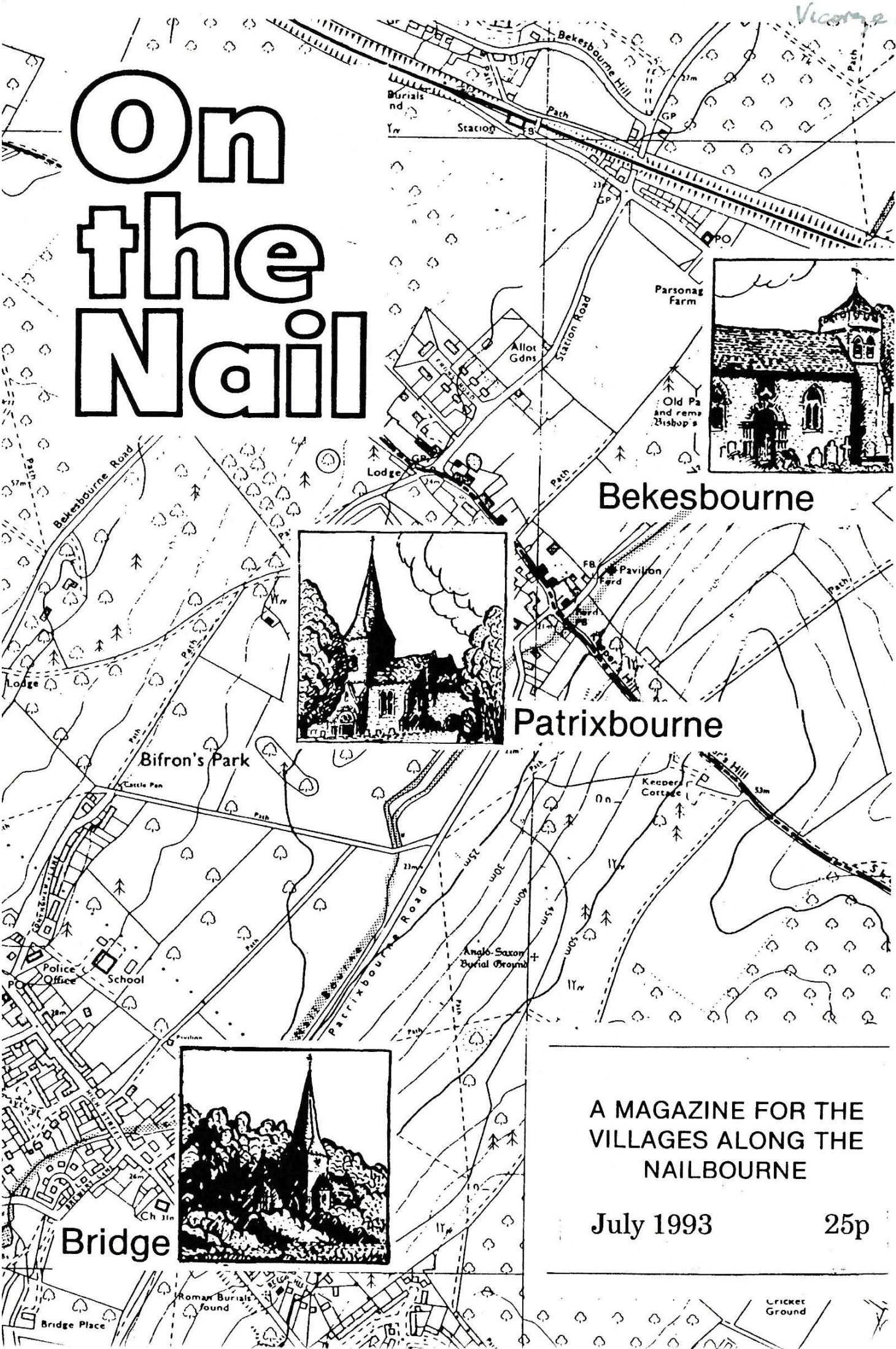
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Sunday Worship in July

Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekesbourne
4th: 11am Family Service (Mr H Stevens) 6.30pm Evensong (Canon J Packer)	8am Holy Communion (Canon P Heartfield)	9.30 Parish Communion (Revd J Shorrocks)
11th: 9.30am Parish Communion <i>Preacher: Canon Ewart Roberts</i> 6.30pm Evensong	11am Matins	8am Holy Communion
18th: 9.30am Parish Communion 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	11am Matins
25th: 8am Holy Communion (Canon J Packer) 6.30pm Eucharist with Baptism	9am Holy Communion (Revd J Shorrocks)	11am Matins 4.30pm Baptism
1st August: 11am Family Service with Baptisms 6.30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion	9.30 Parish Communion

Junior Church meets in Bridge Village Hall at 9.30am every Sunday except the first Sunday in the month. It provides an excellent grounding in Christian faith and practice in the Church of England for children of four years old and upwards. Enquiries are always welcomed by Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Jean Hopkins (830942), who will gladly provide details of what is involved.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 4th, Mr C G Robertson 11th, Dr D M Rosman 18th, Holy Communion The Revd Mary R Teed 25th, Mr J Whalan.

Weekdays Celebrations of Holy Communion in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (BCP) at 9.30am, except 7th, and Fridays (Rite A) at 7.30am, except 2nd and 9th. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 7th at 10.15am. The New Close service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

● The Vicar is on holiday until 10th July inclusive, during which period in cases of urgency a priest may be contacted on 832133.

For your diary and prayer list

- 1st Prayers for health & Healing concerns, 7 Windmill Close, 7pm
3rd *St Thomas the Apostle*
4th **Fifth Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 4**
6th *St Thomas More, Martyr, 1535*
8th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
11th **Sixth Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 5**
This Sunday also being Sea Sunday we shall welcome as preacher at the 9.30 Parish Communion the Revd Ewart Roberts, a priest who once had strong nautical connections.
14th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
15th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
18th **Seventh Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 6**
22nd *St Mary Magdalen*
Interchurch Meeting, Bridge Methodist Church, 7.30pm
24th Pray for Julian Daniels and Karine Percheron who are to be married this afternoon at Bridge.
25th **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 7**
Peter's Praise at 6.30 will centre around the Eucharist and during it Sue and Martin Leggatt's baby son William will be baptized by one of his godfathers. Explanation at the time!
26th *St Anne, Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
28th Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough & Harrow, 8pm.

All change

Life is never still, though occasionally we wish it was!

For young people this time of year brings great change in their fortunes if they happen to be at one of life's many turning points. GCSEs and A-levels are things of the past and nail-biting is the order of the day, until the results come out. Some are leaving school for good, others moving on to secondary or senior schools. School-leavers with university or college places can feel reasonably secure about the immediate future but for others the galling and unsettling search for a job has begun. Hard to realise that when I left school you could pick your job and actually do it with the minimum of hassle! Times certainly change!

A comparatively recent venture amongst the young is the year off, usually taken between school and higher education. It's a splendid innovation that if spent travelling tests a person's initiative and enables him/her to see something of the world prior to settling down to the pursuit of a career.

* * *

You don't have to be young, of course, for change to catch up with you. It's there all the time and no-one's excluded. Some prefer to avoid change whenever possible, finding it too unsettling. Others, in sharp contrast,

can't have enough of it and quickly get bored with the *status quo*. But change is no respecter of persons, such that those who hanker for the fixed are frequently if reluctantly obliged to succumb to change.

Sometimes it's possible to put up a defence, as we saw when the church first revised its services, but attempts to exclude all change from life are inevitably futile, since life is part of time and time by its very nature never stands still.

To some extent we can be selective about change without either entering a time warp or living an ever-changing existence. However, life itself is marked by change since we ourselves are willy-nilly constantly changing the older we get, also society around us perpetually undergoes change.

However we view it, what we mustn't do is fear change for in essence it is inevitable, part of creation and intrinsically good. God gave us life and the ability to enjoy it. Change is all part of the package, therefore it's God-given and has to be seen in the light of God's love and concern for the world he has made, of which each one of us is a valued part.

Family Joys and Sorrows

Baptisms

During Matins at Patrixbourne on 30th May Julia and Alan Maltby's young son **Max** of Shepherd's Close, was admitted to the family of the church through baptism. A fortnight later, on 13th June, in the course of the Parish Communion at Bridge the baptism took place of **Emma**, daughter of Michael and Angela Hopkins of Aylesham and formerly of this parish.

Marriages

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne was the venue for the wedding of **Amanda Ash** and **Michael Barker** on 29th May; and in St Peter's Church, Bridge on 5th June the vicar was again the officiant, this time at the wedding of **Amanda Buckmaster** to **Richard Mant**. We wish both couples every happiness.

The Departed

Mrs **Olive Burr**, formerly of The Platt, Beech Hill, where she lived for thirty years with her beloved husband Ronald, died peacefully on 21st May in her ninety-eighth year, after a long and very happy life. She leaves a daughter and son, Ann and James, and will be remembered by all who knew her with great affection. At her request her body has been donated to medical research.

A large congregation gathered in St Peter's Church, Bridge on 4th June for the funeral of Mrs **Pamela Shaw**, formerly of the Red Lion. She was a mere fifty-seven years of age and with her beloved husband Chas had retired to Sturry just over a year ago. We offer our deepest sympathy to Chas, Ian and Amy in their very sad loss.

Interchurch goings on

Twice this month and within a week of each other something is on offer in a bid to draw the local churches together.

On Saturday, 17th the Anglicans, Methodists and Roman Catholics (and any other denominations in the village we don't know about) are invited to a barbecue on the vicarage lawn starting at 7pm. We've had one before and it was well supported from all sides. How about joining us on this occasion. Offers of help where food and drink are concerned would be appreciated but aren't essential to attendance. If you can help please give John Sullivan a ring on 830385!

The venue for the second get-together, is the Methodist Church in Patribourne Road, where we meet for something slightly more serious (not hugely so, so don't be frightened) at 7.30pm. Do join us for either or both! You'll be most welcome!

Grateful thanks on behalf of

Christian Aid

£721.75 was collected in the three villages this year for *Christian Aid*. A big thank you to all the collectors and everyone who gave. This money will help to make life a little bit easier for those in the world who have less than us.

Wendy Durell, Local Organiser

The Samaritans

You've done it again! This year's total has passed £470 and I would like to thank all those who helped and supported my day of fund-raising so magnificently.

M.E.J.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

Schedules for the Summer Show can be obtained from Mr Roger Austin, Kingston; Mrs E Cartwright at the Post Office or Mrs B Anderson, Aunt Betsy's Cottage, Dering Road.

Members who wish to enter their gardens for either Best Kept Vegetable Garden or Picturesque Garden must ensure their entries are in by Friday, 30th July. Other show entries as usual by Thursday, 12th August.

B Anderson



GIRL GUIDES

1st Bridge Guides are doing a car wash to raise money for the unit.

On 11th September we are going to a Camp Training day, which Canterbury Rangers have set up. We are going to learn how to cook out of doors, and how to tie knots and lots more! This is the first time they

have ever done this training day and invited Guides from all over the district to attend.

Twenty-seven Guides recently passed their Guide friendship badge, which was kindly tested by Mrs Pierce and Mrs Field.

Joanne Brockhurst, Nightingale Patrol

Go ringa dem bells!

The team of ringers at Bekesbourne, for an assortment of reasons, is becoming sadly depleted and David Farbrace, Captain of the Ringers, is naturally concerned about the situation and anxious to recruit some new members to the ringing team.

The six bells at St Peter's Church are a valuable asset and when ringing out over the village produce a most pleasant, evocative sound. Equally, as family and friends spill out of church after 'the wedding', their glad and ordered tone puts the final touches to the day-of-days.

A few years ago the bells were silent for months on end, when no team could be assembled. Don't let that happen again! For one thing it does the bells no good just hanging there, but for another they are meant to sound out from the tower as an uplifting call to worship and as an expression of the ringers' worship. Being one of the ringing team also happens to be personally stimulating and tremendous fun!

The bells are certainly very heavy but, strange to say, ringing them is child's play! Well almost, for church bells can with ease be handled by teenage girls as well as boys and indeed by anybody, provided they have the know-how. If you've rung before, they tell me, you never lose the knack. If you're new to the game it's a simple matter to learn – plenty of expert tuition is available at no cost.

Interested and want to know more? Then give David a ring on 830659 and he'll be delighted to hear from you, whoever you are, and tell you more!

The Call to Ministry — A reflection by Cathy Green

The divine 'push from behind' began to make itself unquestionably felt in the spring of '86. It was all a bit of a puzzle to me and needed a perceptive vicar to hone in on the idea that perhaps God was calling me to a specific ministry. For months thereafter, it was like trying to catch the wind. It is one thing to feel 'called' but quite another to fathom out to what!

Where was I going? Was God truly calling me or was it all in my very vivid imagination? Perhaps if I closed my eyes tightly, I could wish it all away. No chance! True vocation simply refuses to evaporate. It is persistent, there at every turn. Like Christ, it is above you, beneath you, ahead of you, behind you, within, without. It refuses to let you go and, in the end, it is more comfortable to go with it than against it.

Continued on page 13

Continued from page 8 'The Call to Ministry'

So, I journeyed through the vocation's system – vicar, vocation's adviser, Diocesan Director of Ordinands, Bishop and the dreaded selection conference. Having negotiated the usual obstacle course, I trained for three years at the Canterbury School of Ministry. Gruelling? Yes! Demanding? Absolutely. Rewarding? Wonderfully. My faith was challenged. Doubts raged as new ideas were pressed home. I lived and breathed essays and theological tomes but I loved it. It was satisfying and stimulating and I felt enormously privileged to have been given the opportunity.

Of course, the study culminated in Ordination Day in September, 1992. I felt physically sick for the whole of the service. This was it. Total commitment. There could be no turning back. The future seemed to lie ahead of me like a great cloud of unknowing. I had no idea how I would cope with the nitty-gritty of parochial ministry. I just knew that my life would never be the same again and I was terrified.

Six months later, I am still pretty scared. I am a stipendiary curate attached to a parish on the outskirts of Ashford. There is so much to learn, so much to do and never enough hours in the day to do it! My rector has his work cut out training this utter novice and I daily thank God that he has given me a boss with an enduring sense of humour.

It all reminds me a little of motherhood. People keep telling me about the 'joys of ministry' in much the same way they once told me about the 'joys of motherhood'. Both vocations seem to be more about hard work and the survival of the fittest than some ethereal wonderland! Both demand your all and leave you frazzled and worn at the end of the day and, do you know what? I wouldn't have missed either of them, not for all the world! But make no mistake about it, the call to ordained ministry is the call to take up your cross. Anything less is inadequate, and only those prepared to do as much need apply.

Remembering Seafarers on Sea Sunday

July 11th is Sea Sunday, when we are asked to remember seafarers and the Anglican Church's ministry to them through the *Missions to Seamen*.

Ninety-eight per cent of the UK's trade is carried by sea, but seafarers on whom we all depend for our daily needs, can easily be forgotten. Seafarers come from many different countries, including of course the UK. But today more are from developing countries in Africa, Asia and South America. Many of them work long contracts on ships thousands of miles from their homes in order to support their families.

Being away from home and family for long periods at a time makes seafarers feel lonely and isolated and they can go for weeks without getting ashore. But they are not forgotten by the Church, the *Missions to Seamen* is at work in over 3,000 ports around the world and its chaplains

and staff show God's love to seafarers by visiting them on their ships, providing a welcome and friendship and giving spiritual and practical support. In over one hundred ports worldwide the Mission runs seafarers' centres where seafarers can relax among people who care.

For a seafarer many miles from home, this can make all the difference and this is why we shall show our support for this vital ministry on Sea Sunday at the 9.30am Parish Communion in St Peter's Church, Bridge first, by having as preacher Canon Ewart Roberts, who once had close associations with the maritime world, and by giving the loose cash from the collection at that service to the *Missions to Seamen*. Those who don't normally put money on the collection plate because they contribute to the church by other means might like to make an exception in this case.

Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Thursday, 10th June when certain of the items discussed were those which crop up regularly or annually.

The council were concerned to note that despite delivering leaflets on dog ownership responsibilities to all households in the village, dog fouling, particularly in the Western Avenue/Windmill Close areas was on the increase. May I remind all residents that the solution to this problem lies with you. Please therefore exercise your dog with consideration for others and if you see any dog allowed by its owner to foul the pavements, do report the incident to the Environmental Health Department of Canterbury City Council who are able to take action under the Byelaw.

An annual problem is that of overhanging vegetation, encroaching on pavements or obscuring visibility at junctions and the Clerk was to take this up with the County Council.

It is also the time of year to arrange for the annual inspection of the play equipment at the Recreation Ground and to set the fees for the various sports clubs who use the ground. The Parish Council decided to hold the fees at their current level for the second successive year.

Attention all hanging baskets and tubs competition entrants.

Firstly, thanks to all those who have entered. There will be an elimination round during the first week in July with the judging proper taking place during the second week of that month. If there are any late entries, please contact Cllr Mrs Margaret Jones, 18 Conyngham Lane, as soon as possible.

Planning. Two new applications were considered – for a conservatory to the rear of 55 Bridge Down and for the installation of a window to the rear of 16 The Close, Union Road. There was no objection to either.

Notification had been received that planning permission had been granted for a single storey rear extension and replacement windows to 34 High Street, a two-storey side extension and conservatory to the rear of 52 Bridge Down and the erection of a 5'6" fence at Ashley House, Brewery Lane.

Resignation of Cllr Ken Greenaway.

Regrettably Cllr Greenaway has had to resign from the Parish Council because of family commitments. Cllr Greenaway has served as a Councillor since 1982 and his reliable assistance will be sorely missed. This therefore creates what is known as a casual vacancy in the office of parish Councillor. If there is no request made to the Returning Officer at Canterbury City Council for

an election, the Parish Council will fill the vacancy by co-option.

Anyone interested in serving the parish in this way should contact either the Chairman, Cllr John Hill, Renville Oast, Renville, Bridge (Tel: 830215) or the Clerk, Kathy Walder, 17 Union Road, Bridge (Tel: 830057). *K. Walder, Clerk*

Canterbury Open Day Centre

The Day Centre exists to serve homeless people. Situated in the Prince of Wales Building at the end of Military Road, it is open each day from 9.30am to 3.30pm, offering amongst other facilities a listening ear and a chance to sit down and sort out problems.

The Day Centre urgently needs volunteers. They usually have twenty-six volunteers on their books who work half-day shifts at the centre and complement the small staff of a Manager, Project Worker, Part-time Nurse and Cook.

Project Worker Carolyn Colthup says, "They are a happy, vital set of people from all walks of life and are of all different age groups, from students to retired people. Ongoing training is provided and every volunteer starts with an interview and one or two days induction".

If you are interested in this please contact the Manager, Chris Walters on 0227-464904, who will be anxious to hear from you.

Fish News

Many thanks to all supporters of the Annual Coffee Morning and Sale, and especially to the shopkeepers of Bridge for their generous raffle prizes. £200 was raised.

The next Coffee Pop-In at the Village Hall is on Wednesday, 14th July, 10.15 to 11.45am. *Contributed*

Bekesbourne Church Cleaning and Flower Rota

3rd Mrs Millyard 10th Mrs Whigham 17th Mrs Ash 24th Mesdames Smith and Hogben 31st Mrs Farbrace

Bridge needs a new Clerk

Bridge Parish Council are looking for a part-time Clerk to take over on 1st October from Kathy Walder who is resigning.

The work includes attendance at monthly meetings, the preparation of agenda and minutes, the keeping of the Parish Council accounts and all correspondence. There is an annual salary of approximately £1,400, which is reviewed annually, plus expenses.

Interested persons should contact the Chairman John Hill or the present Clerk for further information.

Many thanks: John Purchase who has resumed typesetting this magazine following his quadruple by-pass heart operation would like to thank all those who made enquiries or sent support while he was up at St Thomas' Hospital.

A TALE TOLD IN OLD JERUSALEM

The weight of a sack of earth

Once upon a time there was a widow living in a village near Jerusalem with her young son. All she owned was a small piece of land with 20 olive trees. She carefully tended the trees, ploughing the land with her donkey, harvesting the olives to preserve or press for oil, and selling the surplus. Thus she earned just enough to provide for the two of them through the year.

However a rich man looked enviously at their land, and demanded that the woman should sell her son's inheritance for a few pieces of silver. When she refused he made it manifest that what he could not buy he would take by force.

In despair the woman went to a wise village elder for help. After thought, and to her astonishment, he advised her to give the land to the rich man without charge, and then gave her some further instructions.

On the appointed day the rich man met the widow to take possession of the land. She greeted him humbly, and then begged for one favour. Would he generously allow her to take away just one sack full of earth? Then her son would always remember that he had received an inheritance from his father.

Somewhat embarrassed, the rich man agreed, and the woman and the boy filled a sack with earth. Then the woman approached the rich man again. She was a poor foolish woman, but could she beg a further favour? Would the rich man lift the sack of earth onto their donkey? Then her son would always remember that not only had he received an inheritance from his father, but that the rich man had graciously given it by his own hands.

He agreed, but although he strained to lift the sack onto the donkey, it was too heavy for him. As he stood there, panting, the elder stepped from behind a tree and said sternly, "If you cannot bear the weight of the sack of earth now, how will you bear the weight of this sin on the Day of Judgement?"

Overcome with remorse, the rich man not only left the couple in peace, but sent them a lamb each spring and a sack of flour each harvest for the rest of his life.

Some tellers of this story do not know that no one can bear the weight of their sins alone, nor that there is One who took the sins of the world upon Himself.



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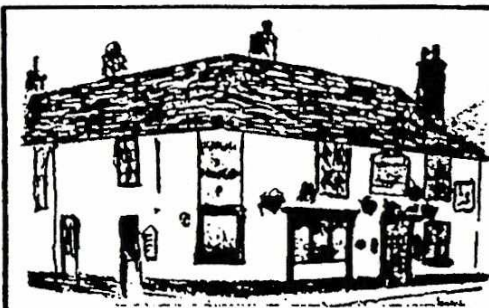
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Magazine Advertising: Mr H.P.M. Lawrence, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830472)
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Would Secretaries of Organisations and others with items for On The Nail please send them to the editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication.



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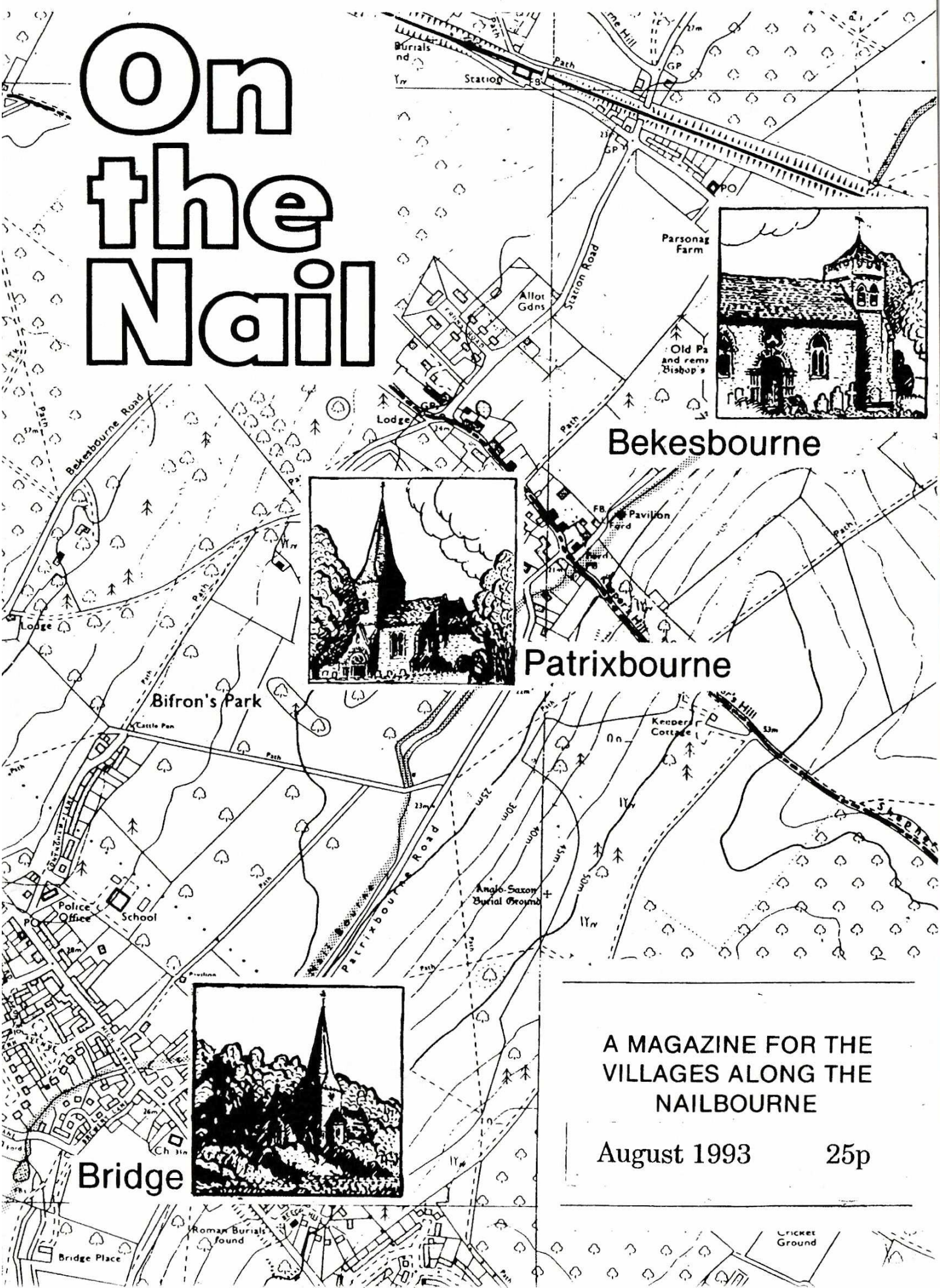
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Sunday Worship in August

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

1st:

11am Family Service
with Holy Baptism
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

8th:

9.30 Parish Communion 11am Matins
4pm Holy Baptism
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion
3pm Holy Baptism

15th:

9.30 Parish Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am Matins
6.30pm Evensong

22nd:

8am Holy Communion 9am Holy Communion 11am Matins
6.30pm *Peter's Praise* (Revd J Shorrocks)

29th:

9.30 Parish Communion 11am Matins 8am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evensong

5th September:

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

Junior Church does not meet this month but apart from August meets in Bridge Village Hall at 9.30am every Sunday except the first in the month. It provides an excellent grounding in Christian faith and practice in the Church of England for children of four years old and upwards. Enquiries are always welcomed by Evelyn Andrews (830960), Jean Hopkins (830942) or Lorraine Flisher (830871), who will gladly provide relevant information.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 1st, Mr R Chadwick, MA, DMS 8th, Mr L Dron 15th, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Mary R Teed 22nd, The Revd Howard L Skinner 29th, The Revd Mary R Teed.

Weekdays Holy Communion in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 4th at 10.15am. The New Close service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

For your diary and prayer list

- 1st **Ninth Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 8**
- 4th *St Dominic, Priest, Friar, 1221*
- 5th *St Oswald, King of Northumbria, 642*
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 6th *Transfiguration of our Lord*
- 8th **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 9**
- 10th *St Laurence, Deacon, Martyr, 258*

- 11th *St Clare of Assisi, Virgin, 1253*
 14th Nailbourne Horticultural Society Summer Show, Bishopsbourne,
 2.30pm
 15th **Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 10**
 17th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
 19th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
 20th *St Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, 1153*
 22nd **Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 11**
 24th *St Barnabas the Apostle*
 25th Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough & Harrow,
 8pm
 28th *St Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, Teacher, 430*
 29th **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 12**
 31st *St Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 651*

It's a dead loss!

As their final theatrical fling before moving on in the educational world the children of class 6 at Bridge School set their sights on a demanding target and struck a bull's-eye! On successive evenings and summoning their considerable resources they performed *The Evacuees*, a musical-cum-drama documentary, and made a tremendous success of it.

As its title suggests the production focuses on a group of school children and their experiences as evacuees during the second world war. We accompanied them on the train, in front of the billeting officer, while they met their hosts and in confrontation with the local kids. Faced with a plot like that all seems set for an evening of gloom and doom: but far from it, the two capacity audiences found much to enjoy and lots to laugh at.

What struck an oldie like me (and a few others in the audience that I spoke to) was the almost uncanny skill with which the cast portrayed children of their own age some fifty years ago. Not only did they look authentic, they sounded it to such an extent that in a strange way watching it I felt myself transported far away from Bridge School both in time and location. My own childhood, spent on the receiving end of the evacuation, came flooding back with its wealth of vivid experiences of those days when we had to make the best of an influx of London kids, when our fathers were away in the armed forces and school wasn't the fun it is nowadays.

Watching those Bridge school children I saw myself, school cap, short trousers and all, as I and my school friends had been all those years ago. But note this! It wasn't that I was carried back into the past, into history: no, history came forward into the present. That's what happens when we remember. Time travels from the past into the present, not the other way round; after all, you've only to look at your holiday snaps to recapture the sights, sounds and smells of it.

The past hasn't gone beyond recall, looking back is never a complete waste of time. History isn't a dead loss, as the church experiences every time it celebrates the eucharist and, according to its Lord's command, takes bread and wine and does this in remembrance of him, knowing as it does so that his presence is there as it was for the disciples at the Last Supper.

Family Joys and Sorrows

Holy Baptism

The baptism took place in Bridge Church on 27th June of **Dominic Samuel Beer**, 4 Windmill Close. Canon Packer officiated, the vicar being on holiday, and Junior Church attended to represent the family of God.

Holy Marriage

Bridge Church was the setting for the wedding of **Julian Daniels**, 51 Union Road to **Karine Percheron** of Canterbury on Saturday, 24th July. We wish them health, happiness and a long life together.

Departed in the Lord

Her family, many friends and former colleagues were very shocked by the sudden and totally unexpected death on 24th June of **Pauline Glew**, 26 Riverside Close at the early age of fifty-four years. Barham Crematorium was filled to capacity for the funeral service on 1st July.

* * *

A friend and support who wishes to remain anonymous has sent the following tribute to the late Miss **Ada Francis** of Western Avenue:

We record the passing of Miss Ada Francis at the great age of ninety-six. With her departure we have lost a link with the old-fashioned way of life.

Leaving school at the age of fourteen Ada went to work for a doctor's family, and stayed with them throughout her working life. During this lengthy period she virtually became part of the family, first as housemaid, then nanny (looking after twins made motherless at seven), to receptionist, to housekeeper for the doctor until his death. She continued to be part of the twins' own children's lives up to her own death.

Her service for the family was such that they in turn ensured that she should not want for accomodation together with a small pension when she eventually retired. Moving to Bridge in 1964 Miss Francis soon became part of village life, shopping locally, joining the travelling library and enjoying the company of others in the Over Sixties Club and the Fish Scheme lunches. She particularly enjoyed these outings and the blossom tours around the countryside. During her last few years deafness and lack of mobility restricted her activities, but her keen sense of humour did not diminish. We pay tribute to people such as her, for they are the backbone of this country.



FRIENDS OF KENT CHURCHES SPONSORED BICYCLE RIDE

Advance notice of this year's Sponsored Cycle Ride on Saturday, 11th September, which is - as you know - a chance to raise money for your local church and also enjoy a good day out cycling around the district.

The money each cyclist raises goes half to the Friends of Kent Churches, which exists to help maintain the many lovely old churches of Kent, and half to whichever church the cyclist specifies. This day of pedalling has provided enjoyment for hundreds and our three churches in particular have benefited considerably through local efforts.

Sponsorship forms for potential riders (or walkers - you can do it on foot) are already available from any of the local organisers: Kath Pierce (Bridge - 830844) Andrea Nicholson (Patricxbourne - 830947) Jill Gillanders (Bekesbourne - 830894).

Kath Pierce is rightly concerned that Bridge should muster a goodly crew this year as last year's support for St Peter's was very poor. Also she wants to cycle herself this time, rather than being stuck to the church signing in other riders like last year. So please get signed up either as a cyclist or to spend some time at the church welcoming and registering the many who pass through.

Canterbury is well-placed for churches, all of which can be covered in a day. You don't have to look round them all, merely show up, get a confirmatory signature on your sponsor form and off to the next one.

Adieu to Junior Church

Hilary Pike has been deeply involved in Junior Church since it was no more than an idea: indeed it's largely due to her that Junior Church is the success that it is. Hilary would be the first to admit it's not been a single-handed achievement, for over the years she has been one of a changing team of enthusiasts, all of whom have brought their own particular gifts to the work.

At the end of last month Hilary felt the time had come to bid farewell to Junior Church, confident that it is well established and in the hands of a very able and keen joint leadership. The children and adults of Junior Church particularly want to place on record their immense gratitude for all Hilary has done, but so also will all of us with a love and concern for the work of God in this benefice.

A surprise retirement party for her was held on the vicarage lawn on 18th July, attended by past and present Junior Church members. At it presentations were made of a crystal flower vase, flowers and a card.

Clearly still reeling from the shock and with unfair if characteristic modesty Hilary writes:

A very big thank you to all those who made my last day at Junior Church so memorable.

The outing to the Rare Breed Centre was excellent - but the surprise party that followed - well! - it was indeed a total surprise, and meant so much to me. It was marvellous to see all the 'old' faces from Junior Church, young people who were at our first meeting nine years ago, the helpers, and all the present Junior Church members and their parents. I know how much work must have been involved in organising it and I am just so grateful.

Thank you too for my superb present, now in pride of place in our dining room, which was totally undeserved. Junior Church has given far more to me over the years than I have ever given to it. So - a very, very big THANK YOU to all concerned. Oh! - I'm going to miss you all!

An evening of Summer Music at Patricxbourne

A capacity audience in our small church at Patricxbourne on the last Sunday evening in May, were delighted by the music performed by members of the University Chamber Music Society. The enthusiasm and talent of the musicians was much appreciated and the evening raised £292 towards an appeal to raise funds to restore the organ at the church.

The organisers would like to thank all those who supported the evening.

Thanks are also due to the performers who gave up precious time for rehearsals and the performance, while under the pressure of University exams. We would also like to thank Professor Ken Stacey, who liaised with the Chamber Music Society and made the whole evening possible.

Funds are required to restore the organ, as the organ is in need of much long overdue maintenance work. Without this work the organ could soon become unplayable. Very little work has been carried out on the organ since it was installed and this fact alone means that our organ is of some historical significance as it is virtually in its original form. It was made by Holditch who was also responsible for the organ of Litchfield Cathedral, an organ of some degree of recognition. Our organ is rare in that some of its stops are unusual and it has a straight rather than a curved pedal board. We are applying for a grant to help with the restoration works, but will need to raise a considerable part of the total costs ourselves. We are hoping to hold another concert soon, perhaps utilising local musical talent. Any volunteers?

Rosalie Stacey and Andrea Nicholson

Bekesbourne Church Flower Festival

This was a very successful event. The flower arrangements in the church were beautiful and were a delight to all who saw them. I heard nothing but praise for them.

The weather was kind to us and the tea/cake stall, plant stall and raffle all did well and were much appreciated after the 'climb up the hill'. After paying expenses the festival raised £947.42: a total to be proud of. I would like to thank all who helped and the visitors for making this such an enjoyable and successful occasion.

Anthony Fullaway, Churchwarden

Floral results

The Bridge Parish Council competition for *Best Floral Displays* was judged by Mr Alec Smith, a member of the East Kent Fuschia Society and Mr Frank Tunnell, their vice-chairman. The results were:

- Commercial Properies** 1st The Plough & Harrow
2nd Skippers Restaurant
3rd Willow Bank Tea Room
4th The White Horse
- Hanging Baskets** 1st Mr J Tamsitt, 45 Union Road
2nd Mrs R Smith, 39 Bridge Down
Very Highly Commended: Mr P Dorey
16 Conyngham Lane
Highly Commended; Mrs Cryer,
40 Conyngham Lane; Mrs P Dinsmore
Laudin House, High Street; Mrs I Roe
Connamore, Patrixbourne Road
- Tubs or Window Boxes** 1st Mrs Jarman, 35 Bridge Down
2nd Mrs I Roe, Connamore, Patrixbourne
Road
Very Highly Commended: Mrs E Thrift
72 Riverside Close; Mr J Tamsitt, 45 Union Road.

Nailbourne Show

Nailbourne Horticultural Society Summer Show is to be held at the Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne on Saturday, 14th August, opening at 2.30pm. There will be the usual teas (hopefully in the garden) and a raffle. Will members please make sure that their entry forms and entry money are in to Mrs B Anderson at 7 Dering Road, Bridge by Thursday, 12th August. Schedules are available from R Austin, Mrs E Cartwright and Mrs Anderson.

Please help to make it a good show. Remember that there are newcomer cups to be won if you have not shown before. If you have any queries, telephone 830260.

B Anderson

Bridge with Patrixbourne WI

The next meeting of the Women's Institute will take place on Tuesday, 17th August in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Mr D McRoberts from Customs and Excise. All new members and any visitors will be made welcome.

D King

Brownie Revels

by Cora Goddard, 1st Bridge Brownies

Saturday, 19th June in a meadow at the outskirts of Stelling Minnis all the Brownie packs from the district gathered together for another Brownie Revels. This year's theme was the Circus and each Brownie dressed up as a clown. There was a competition for the best costume, so the Brownies formed a circle and paraded round in front of the judges. It was a close decision.

After that the Brownies gathered in packs and we were asked to make a circus Big Top. We had thirty minutes in which to do it. 1st Bridge Brownies went to work with Chartham. When the time was over two of the Chartham Brownies went up with our Big Top.

Afterwards we got into groups and went off with a guider to do some activities. There was horse riding, stilt walking, plank walking, icing biscuits and lots and lots more. At last the judges told the Brownies who had won the Big Top prize. Surprisingly it was 1st Bridge and Chartham Brownies. Elizabeth Johnson and a girl from Chartham went up to fetch our trophy.

Then we sang Brownie Bells and following this we went home. 1st Bridge Brownies were very pleased, for this was the first trophy we had won.

India or bust!

by Claire Brasier

In July 1994 I have been given the opportunity of staying in India for a month. The first two weeks will be spent at the Guide World Centre, called Sangam, situated in Pune near Bombay. I will be helping to run a camp for orphaned Indian children along with fifteen other people from the girl Guide movement throughout Great Britain. The second two weeks will be spent on a tour of the country. The cost of this trip is £1,000, which I have to raise myself.

On 25th September I will be helping Bridge Guides to run a Boot Fayre starting at 10am in the Plough & Harrow Car Park. I am also hoping in the afternoon to organise a three-legged race through the village, involving all the local children.

On August 31st I have managed to pressurize my family to take part in a sponsored swim at The King's School Recreation Centre. How many lengths (25 metres) can the Brasier family swim in an hour? If anybody would be kind enough to sponsor us as a family or help me in any way I will be very grateful.

For further details of the Boot Fayre please contact me on 830981.

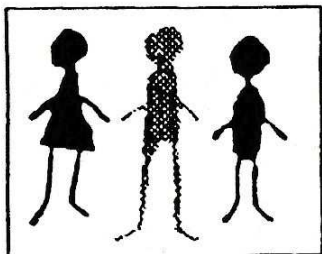
Craft Fayre

The Nailbourne Group of the league of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals is holding a Craft Fayre on Sunday, 26th September at Bridge School, from 10am to 4pm.

A visit to our Craft Fayre will be fun. You will be able with your family and friends to enjoy browsing, with the opportunity of buying a few early Christmas gifts and charity goods. Only new, handcrafted and charity goods will be on sale. There will be an opportunity also to enjoy morning coffee, a light lunch or afternoon tea.

We do hope that you will join us on what should be a very enjoyable and relaxing day in the lovely surroundings of Bridge Primary School.

P Gulvin

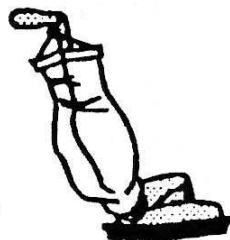


The Children's Society will be having a stall at the Craft Fayre. Thank you to all who have already offered help and gifts for it. More offers of small craft items, homemade 'goodies', perhaps a spare pot of homemade jam or preserves, cakes or biscuits, maybe a sample of a recipe from the *Bridge and Beyond* cook book

or whatever etceteras you can think of, would be gratefully received. Any contribution may be left at Mr Whitten's Office, 29 High Street between 9.15am and 12.30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or will be collected if more convenient. Please contact me at 19 Bridge Down (tel: 830466) if you would like more information.

Kathy Eynon

CHURCH CLEANING



Bridge Church Cleaning Rota

6th & 13th, Kathy Eynon
20th, Pat Hulyer and Kay
Barnard 27th, Joan Monk.
Brasses Gladys Lemar.

Bekesbourne Church Cleaning and Flower Rota

7th & 14th, Mrs Skinner 21st, Mrs Shorrocks.

Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met on 8th July.

Thanks were expressed to various Councillors for work they had carried out on behalf of the Parish Council. The gate into the Recreation Field at Mansfield Court was now operational again thanks to the efforts of the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Reg Franklin who had finished the job off with a fresh coat of paint. The Council were grateful to the Vice-Chairman and Cllr Mrs Joan Monk who had kindly agreed to carry out the elimination round for the hanging baskets and tubs competition prior to the judging proper. Cllr Mrs Margaret Jones' efforts and hard work in organising the competition this year were much appreciated. It is hoped to announce the results soon and take photographs of the winning entries.

The Council also thanked Cllr Mervyn Gulvin for representing the Council at a meeting organised by the City Council to discuss the local response to the County Council's *Kent Structure Plan* Third Review.

Good news The Parish Council has been successful in its bid for funds from the City Council's Parish Councils Capital Fund for the renovation and reglazing of the windows and doors at the pavilion, and for the renewal of the floor at the village Hall. The latter work was to be carried out towards the end of August.

The City Council has made and submitted to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation a byelaw for the removal of canine faeces from Housing Amenity Greens in their control. As far as Bridge is concerned this applies to such areas in Churchill Close, Pett Hill and Union Road.

And the not so good It was noted that a horse had been exercised dangerously close to the cricket square at the Recreation Ground. Please note that horses, and dogs, are not allowed on the Ground. There are plenty of bridleways around the village to use. It also concerned the Council that golfers were still practising on the Recreation Ground often too close to the play area, tennis courts and houses. The Council would repeat their request made recently that golfers use the far side only, adjacent to farmland, and take great care not to interfere with other users of the ground.

There was still a problem with noise caused when vehicles ran over loose manhole covers in Patricxbourne Road, with parking too close to the junction of Dering Road with the High Street and the regular emptying of the litterbin by the play area and the Clerk was to take these matters up with the relevant departments.

Stones from molehills on the Recreation Ground were causing problems for the gang mowing contractor and the Council was to make arrangements to have the stones cleared.

Planning The Council had no objections to make to an application for the installation of a window to the rear of 16 The Close, Union Road, or an application for a two storey side extension to 28 Conyngham Lane. Planning permission had been granted for a single storey side extension

to 'Coppice', Bridge Hill.

The Council does not meet in August and therefore the next meeting will now be on Thursday, 9th September at the usual time of 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

K Walder, Clerk

Faith to Faith

Faith to Faith is a new series to be shown on BBC television from 5th September at 9.15am. This series of nine (15 minute) programmes features people of different religious beliefs. The aim is to hear not only from the 'experts', but from ordinary people about how they understand their faith, and how relating to someone from another tradition has influenced them.

The series is shot entirely on location and travels around the country meeting people for whom dialogue with people of another faith has meant challenge - often to explore their own faith more deeply.

That was the Nailbourne that was!

Great murmurings of delights heralded the return of the River Nailbourne after its lengthy absence. First the Bourne Park lake filled up, then water reached the ford across Mill Lane, to be followed shortly afterwards by the river trickling under the High Street bridge (yes, there is one!) and on towards Patribourne, though not actually reaching it. Then, it disappeared again and we're back to no ford and a dry river bed.

However, one of our more observant parishioners, Maurice Smith spotted a recent article in *The Independent* (can't think how I missed it) which explained the whole business of the Nailbourne's comings and goings, and gave scientific assurance that we haven't seen the last of it. Apparently our tiny river is a winterbourne, a river that flows only for part of the year and in the winter at that. I won't bore you with the full and rather involved details, suffice it to say whether the Nailbourne is with us or not, has not a lot to do with the rainfall and nothing at all with the water company. It hasn't gone away because of lack of water (you can use a hose pipe) but because that's the way with winterbournes.

If you are really interested I still have the article from *The Independent* if you'd like to read it for yourself, but I for one am grateful to the writer of the article, Michael Price, senior lecturer in hydrogeology at Reading University, for putting my mind at rest. After all we only called this magazine *ON THE NAIL* because it was the river that linked our three villages.

Bekesbourne Church's new acquisition

We at St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne are greatly indebted to Ruth and Derek Dawson, Soldanella, The Hill for the entirely unsolicited gift of a new altar frontal, which they made themselves. The material and style of manufacture couldn't be more apt and this new acquisition greatly enh-

ances the beauty of an already beautiful church.

Bekesbourne Church is not well-endowed where altar frontals are concerned and this new one is far superior to the one that would normally hang down from the altar at this time of year. Thanks to Ruth and Derek we have a very worthy substitute that in fact will serve for most of the ecclesiastical seasons and we accept their gift with grateful appreciation.

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

Reader: Mr Handley Stevens, 6 Bridgeford Way, Bridge CT4 5LE (831376)

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

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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, Patricxbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr William Roffey, The Old Rectory, Hernhill, Faversham ME13 9JU (751073)

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

Churchwarden: Mr A. W. Fullaway, Snaefell, Adisham Road, CT4 5EY (830261)

Hon. Secretary:

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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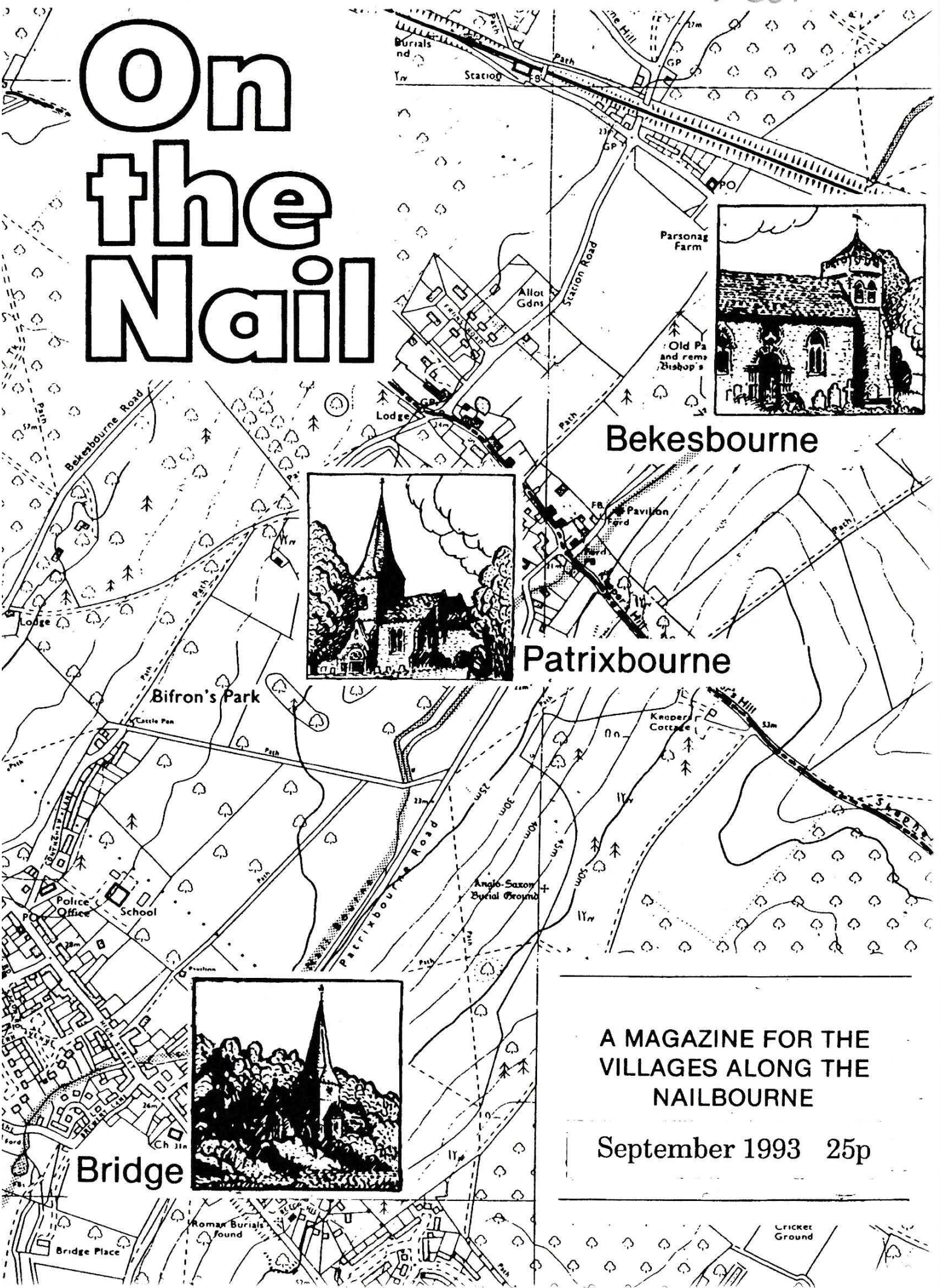
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patricbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

September 1993 25p

A Cut Above

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Sunday Worship in September

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

5th:

11am Family Service
with Holy Baptism

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm Choral Evensong

12th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(*Revd J Shorrocks*)

11am Matins
(*Canon P Heartfield*)

8am Holy Communion
(*Canon J Packer*)

6.30pm Evensong
(*Mr H Stevens*)

19th:

9.30 Parish Communion
(*Revd J Shorrocks*)

8am Holy Communion
(*Canon P Heartfield*)

11am Matins
(*Mr N Wareham*)

6.30pm Evensong
(*Mr H Stevens*)

26th:

8am Holy Communion
6.30pm *Peter's Praise*

9am Holy Communion

11am Harvest Matins
(*Preacher: Canon P Heartfield*)

3rd October:

11am Harvest Family
Service with Holy
Baptism

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm Harvest Evensong
(*Preacher: Revd D Barnes*
Vicar of Ash)

Junior Church meets in Bridge Village Hall at 9.30am every Sunday except the first in the month. It provides an excellent grounding in Christian faith and practice in the Church of England for children of four years old and upwards. Enquiries are always welcomed by Evelyn Andrews (830960), Jean Hopkins (830942) or Lorraine Flisher (830871) who will gladly provide relevant information.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 5th, Mrs C Ovenden, Dip.Th. 12th, Holy Communion, The Revd Mary R Teed 19th, Harvest Festival, The Revd Mary R Teed 26th, Mr A P Barwick, BSc Monday, 20th Weeknight Harvest Celebration, 7.30pm, Dr Christine Pilkington

Weekdays Holy Communion in St Peter's Church, Bridge this month only on Wednesdays 1st and 29th (BCP) at 9.30am and Fridays, 3rd and 24th (Rite A) at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 1st at 10.15am. The New Close Service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

■ The Vicar will be on holiday from Monday, 6th to Wednesday, 22nd September inclusive, during which time a priest may be contacted on 832133 or 830364.

For your diary and prayer list

- 2nd Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
3rd *St Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher, 604*
4th Pray for Nicholas Shirley and Tracy Mitchell, to be married this afternoon at St Peter's Church. Bridge
5th **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 13**
8th *The Blessed Virgin Mary*
Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
9th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
12th **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 14**
13th *St Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr, 258*
14th *Holy Cross Day*
16th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, 8 Ford Close, 7pm
19th **Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 15**
21st *St Matthew the Apostle*
Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
25th Pray for John Carter and Sue Hanna, to be married this afternoon at St Peter's Church, Bridge
26th **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 16**
27th *St Vincent de Paul, Founder of the Vicentian Order, 1660*
29th *St Michael and All Angels*
Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough and Harrow, 8pm
30th Bekesbourne PCC Meeting, School House, 8pm

Who is my neighbour?

Identifying one's neighbour isn't the cinch it once was.

At one time neighbours were the folks next door — and right next door, not two doors away, where *near*-neighbours lived. Nowadays the globally-minded want us to see neighbourliness as embracing people not only of one district but of different districts, even countries, such that the whole world is a neighbourhood with its inhabitants more closely linked than mere geography suggests. Neighbourliness on this scale takes some getting used to, especially for those who have always assessed neighbours in more local terms.

The verb 'to neighbour' is sometimes used to describe fraternisation between adjacent houses. 'We don't neighbour' means we're not the sort who are constantly dropping in on the folk next door. Whether you neighbour or not, it's hard to picture the inhabitants of Papua New Guinea or Los Angeles or Canberra as your neighbours.

The desire to foster a worldwide notion of neighbourliness is in one sense always doomed to failure, but then familiarity isn't the object of the exercise. The real purpose in treating disparate peoples as neighbours is so that the haves among them shall readily accept responsibility for the have-nots. If we can treat less fortunate nations as neighbours, people to whom we relate by dint of our common humanity, then we shall be more willing to react to their needs and thus seek to relieve them.

We've grown so used to the ongoing situation in what was once Yugoslavia that at each mention of Bosnia we're almost at the stage of thinking, 'Oh, not again! For goodness sake change channels somebody!' Then along came five-year-old Irma's mercy flight to Great Ormond Street and our hackles rose. That children could be treated so in civilised society, even if at the other end of Europe, brought home to us the enormity of what was happening in modern Sarajevo, and it was as if the whole nation blanched. Suddenly Bosnia was the next town and its beleaguered inhabitants our neighbours and we sought desperately for means to help. They're our neighbours: how could people do this to them?

To round off his story Jesus asked who was neighbour to a man mugged on the Jericho road and got the answer, "The one who showed mercy". "Go and do likewise." My neighbour is the one whose need I satisfy. Or is he the one who satisfies *my* need by coming to *my* aid when the need arises? Surely it's meant to work both ways. It bears thinking about, neighbour!

Received by Baptism into God's Church

At the Family Service on 1st August, the baptism took place of **Katie Clare**, baby daughter of Mary and David Daw, 3 Renville Cottages.

On the following Sunday two further baptisms occurred; at Bekesbourne that of **Alexander Charles Moubray**, second son of Helen (née Ash) and Jamie Watson, 1 Chalkpit Cottages, Adisham Road, and at Bridge **Rhys Jamie Bedford** whose family once lived in Western Avenue.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch

Barry Whiting, assisted by Elizabeth Giles, has taken over the organisation of the Remembrance-tide Poppy Appeal from Ken Greenaway.

We must thank Barry and Elizabeth for taking on this task, and Ken for his efforts in the past.

More collectors are still required so please apply to the above or to me.

Jim Stripe, 830761

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

The next monthly meeting of Bridge WI will take place on Tuesday, 21st September at the usual time of 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. The speaker will be Mr Simon Beck, Architect.

Our August meeting was held in Bridge Methodist Church, while the floor in the Village Hall was being inspected for repair.

New members are always welcome.

D King

MACMILLAN NURSE APPEAL – COFFEE MORNING

On Friday, 1st October people all over the country will be attempting to create a World Record for the biggest Coffee Morning and raise money for the Macmillan Nurse Appeal. Macmillan Nurses are so badly needed to care for cancer patients and their families – we never know when we might need one. Each nurse is funded from the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund and on 1st October we will be holding a Coffee Morning in Bridge Village Hall from 10am to 12 noon, with a Bring-and-Buy Stall to raise money for a nurse for the Kent & Canterbury Hospital and to take part in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning.

Please join me, help break the record set in 1992 and more importantly raise funds for a Macmillan Nurse in Canterbury. I look forward to seeing you.

Maggie Field (Tel: 830224)

Community Care

There must be few people who have not heard of the Government's new Community Care Act, which came into force in April, 1993.

It proposed that people, young or elderly, should have the choice of being cared for in their own home, rather than having to enter residential or nursing homes when they became ill or disabled, whether on a temporary or permanent basis.

The principle, of course, is correct. Almost everyone would like to stay in their own home surrounded by their family and friends and to remain in the community with which they are familiar. However, the reality of care at home can cause great distress both for the person who has chosen to stay in their own home, and often to the family and friends who do the caring.

Social Services provide a number of services to help ease the burden: day-care, short-term care, community meals, carers support groups and more; but as always there are financial limitations. Also, with the changes in April 1993 they now buy in services rather than provide them all. This has resulted in various private, voluntary and charitable organisations extending their services to include community care.

Services that are being provided by these organisations include domestic support such as general housework and shopping, laundry or preparing meals. In some cases more personal care is needed, help with washing and dressing or even sitting with somebody so that a 'carer' can go out for a while. Perhaps all that is needed is a hot meal, and this too can be provided.

If more support is needed then day care or 'respite care' may help. Respite care allows a person requiring care to be admitted to a residential or nursing care home for a short period so that the carer can have a break or go on holiday. The stress that carers are under, sometime twenty-four hours a day, is widely acknowledged. A survey by the Carers National Association in 1992 found that 65% of carers suffer back injuries, stress, tiredness and depression. Regular help and breaks can help the carer cope with their role.

There are various carers groups which many people find useful. Sharing problems really does help, as does discovering that other people are feeling just the same as you.

If you would like more information about any of the above services please contact me, Mrs Lindsey Thomas at The New Close, Conyngham Lane (Tel: 830265). The New Close provides the services mentioned above and also has many names and addresses that carers and people needing care may find useful.

The community services are available to anyone in need through ill-health or disability. However, The New Close is a residential care home for the elderly confused and can only take people for day care or respite care who fit this category.

There is also a new carers group starting at The New Close. The first meeting will be on 8th September, 1993. Please contact the home if you would like to come along to this meeting.

Lindsey Thomas

COMMUNITY CARE CHANGES AFFECT YOU

The Government has introduced many changes in the way that care is provided for people in need. The newspapers are once again full of concern about whether it is possible to care properly for people in the community, while at the same time making widespread cuts in funds.

How do you feel about it? There will be many stories, both good and not so good, which you will know about in your own community; there is great commitment on the part of doctors, nurses, social workers and others, to provide the best care possible, but is the policy working?

The Government's aim has been to refocus care from hospitals and other residential care institutions into the community, to provide and enable independent living and choice in the sort of care provided. There are six principles which are being pursued:

- a) Consultation with clients and their carers.
- b) Split off the roles of assessment and purchase of services from the provision of them.
- c) Ensure a real choice of services by enabling all sorts of organisations to bid to provide care (Statutory, voluntary and private).
- d) Make sure there is proper professional accountability amongst all involved in the provision of care.
- e) Ensure that those with the greatest needs have priority.
- f) Get value for money.

Where is God in all this? How can we proclaim the gospel of God's kingdom in these changes that affect us all so deeply? 'Care' is a key word in church life, and Christian tradition values as precious the self-sacrifice and commitment that it implies — is that something that can be bought and sold?

When Jesus talked about the good shepherd and the hireling, he also pointed to the need for responsibility. If health and care are to be bought and sold, who carries responsibility for ensuring that the needs of the community (especially of the weakest and poorest and most vulnerable) are being met?

■ *Concluded on page 13*

'Choice' is about wants rather than needs. A market environment encourages the supply of profitable and cost-effective services. Already an industry or service is finished once it is branded 'uneconomic'. Which of us will find ourselves branded 'uneconomic' when we need help? Health and caring services themselves are bound to be uneconomic anyway, as there has to be over-provision, to allow for emergencies.

We need to examine whether competition is appropriate to care. Competitive efficiency is usually achieved by driving down workers' wages and conditions. Do we want to treat our doctors and nurses and other professional carers as workers to be exploited? Competition will be wasteful of scarce resources as hospitals for example assemble facilities and staff to compete for contracts which only one will win.

Winning also means losers. Would it not be more appropriate for us to work co-operatively, engaging at all levels to bring healing and wholeness to be the fruit of our common struggle? Can healing function in a process that essentially fragments and divides? Can it work when the patient or carer is seen as an object rather than as a person? And is the caring relationship not one of interdependence, rather than individual choice?

Jesus died and rose again because of his love for people, not because it was cost-effective. How can we, from our perspective as the people of God, engage in the process of reforming our welfare provision?

The Council for Social Responsibility is pleased to work with any group or parish who wish to explore this further in any way and to encourage, and to encourage you to pray for and talk with those involved in community care.

Telephone: 0622-755014 and speak to
David Grimwood or Andrew Deuchar.

Craft Fayre

The Nailbourne Group of the league of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals is holding a Craft Fayre on Sunday, 26th September at Bridge School, from 10am to 4pm.

A visit to our Craft Fayre will be fun. You will be able with your family and friends to enjoy browsing, with the opportunity of buying a few early Christmas gifts and charity goods. Only new, handcrafted and charity goods will be on sale. There will be an opportunity also to enjoy morning coffee, a light lunch or afternoon tea.

We do hope that you will join us on what should be a very enjoyable and relaxing day in the lovely surroundings of Bridge Primary School.

P Gulvin

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

6th August, 1993

I am sorry to have to disagree with such a learned journal as *The Independent* but to describe the Nailbourne as flowing only in winter is rubbish. It is the winter rains, if any, that cause the river to flow in summer and to my knowledge it has continued through the wint-

er only once in the last fifteen years. It then lived up to its nickname of 'woe waters' by overflowing the following spring, causing serious damage to some properties by Patrixbourne Church.

The ford by Bekesbourne Recreation Ground was always a popular play area for children on hot summer days. We hope to see this again when the river eventually returns.

Yours faithfully,

R.F. BECKETT,

3 Riverside Cottages

Patrixbourne



Harvest-time is here again!

The season of harvest where the farming community is concerned is a very lengthy one, covering anything from early August to late October; the result being that any date chosen for the church's Harvest Festival is unlikely to be ideal. How they used to cope with harvest-home feasts I can't imagine. All the church nowadays can do is to pick a date some time in the autumn and hope for the best, accepting that our thanksgiving for the harvest is always going to be somewhat premature, since there's still work to be done.

In our three villages we seem to have settled into a regular pattern, with Bekesbourne's Harvest Festival towards the end of September, Bridge's on the first Sunday of October, and Patrixbourne's the second.

So at Bekesbourne we shall be celebrating the harvest at 11am Matins on 26th September, and this year we will have as visiting preacher Canon Peter Heartfield, former Chaplain of the Kent and Canterbury Hospitals. We do hope you will be with us, especially if St Peter's happens to be your parish church!

While we are on the subject, the preacher at Bridge Harvest Evensong on 3rd October will be the Revd David Barnes, Vicar of Ash; and at Patrixbourne on 10th October at 11am, the Revd Pat Goodsell, Vicar of Nonington, Goodnestone, Chillenden and Wymnswold.

Harvest plus . . .

Not having a clue what any of our harvest festival preachers are likely to say — I don't suppose *they* know themselves yet — it's customary these days, especially if you are in an urban rather than rural situation, to treat the occasion as a thanksgiving for life in general, not just for food, on the basis that everything we have, including life itself is a gift from God. We have all got much to be grateful for and the annual church Harvest Festival is tailor-made for it. We look forward to having you with us!

Fish News

The next Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday, 8th September from 10.15 to 11.45am in Bridge Village Hall.

In the autumn we hope to put out leaflets to all local households giving details of the aims of the Fish Scheme, with telephone numbers to inform newcomers and to remind everyone that we are here to help you, and might like your help too!

Contributed



Bekesbourne Church · Cleaning
and Flower Rota

4th, Mrs Fry 11th & 18th, Mrs Mount
25th, Harvest Festival

Bridge Church · Cleaning Rota

3rd, Kathy Eynon, Kath Pierce (Brasses) 10th, Pat Hulyer, Gladys Lemar (Brasses) 17th, Joan Monk, Gladys Lemar (Brasses) 24th, Kay Barnard, Gladys Lemar (Brasses)

Glimpsing October

On Thursday, 7th October the annual Coffee Morning for the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths takes place at 4 Meadow Close, from 10am to 12 noon. Elizabeth Stewart makes the valid point that whereas there has been considerable progress in understanding the tragic incidents of cot deaths there is still much left for the foundation to deal with, and therefore your support is still needed.

Chaplains Assistants

The Hospital Chaplaincy have an ecumenical team of lay visitors, Chaplains Assistants, who visit the wards at the Kent & Canterbury and Nunnery Fields Hospitals. The work is very much pastoral (*and definitely not evangelistic*) and is mainly to visit the patients on a particular ward. The care is to all the people on the ward, which includes staff and the patients' relatives. If you are interested in this ministry you will need a letter from your own vicar or minister recommending you. You will then need to attend an interview with the Chaplain and a member of the Management Services Department. There will be a seven-week training course, probably on Monday evenings in October and November, and it will be necessary to attend all sessions if at all possible.

There is a service of extended communion at 11.00am on Sunday morning, and a team of volunteers bring the patients who wish to come to the service. Volunteers to join this team are urgently needed. If you would like to know more about the Chaplaincy Team and visiting in the hospitals, or offering help on Sunday mornings, contact The Revd Helen Connoll, Hospital Chaplain, telephone 0227-766877, ext 4212.

SENIOR VOLUNTEER ACTION DAY

Thousands of housebound people across the United Kingdom will be offered an interesting day out on 10th September by groups of older volunteers demonstrating the positive contribution which older people make to the community.

In Canterbury, for example, older volunteers will take forty-eight housebound people on a coach trip to Appledore, where they will have tea provided by members of the local Women's Institute.

'Senior Volunteer Action Day' is funded by the European Commission as part of a programme of events for the 'European Year of Older people' and 'Solidarity Between the Generations'. The day is being co-ordinated by Sarah Bedwell, seconded from The Charity Commission, and if you would like to know more, she can be contacted on 071-278 6601.

Off the cuff witness

Waiting to check in at Charles de Gaulle Airport, Paris a Pakistani BA security official beckoned us over. Did our baggage contain anything metallic? Had we received any presents from anybody while away, and could he see our passports, please?

Having noticed 'The Reverend' on mine, he asked, "Are you an Anglican or a Protestant?" I was very impressed – most people, even some Anglicans, think they're one and the same, and don't appreciate the subtle difference!

"Anglican", I said, whereupon in one breath he replied, "What-a-friend-we-have-in-Jesus-would-you-go-over-to-that-desk!?"

OCTOBER'S ON THE NAIL

WOULD CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE THAT OWING TO THE VICAR'S HOLIDAY, COPY FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF *ON THE NAIL* SHOULD BE SENT BY 15th SEPTEMBER NOT TO THE VICARAGE BUT TO LAWRENCE DUNDERDALE, 37 HIGH STREET, BRIDGE.

BACK TO NORMAL FOR NOVEMBER.

And lo!, a voice said unto me, "Smile and be happy for things could be much worse".

So I smiled and was happy, and behold things did get much worse.

Seen in a shop during the recession

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Reader: Mr Handley Stevens, 6 Bridgeford Way, Bridge CT4 5LE (831376)

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Captain of the Bells: Mr D. Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne CT4 5HA (830659)
Magazine Advertising: Mr H.P.M. Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge CT4 5BA (830472)
Magazine Editor: The Vicar, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

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

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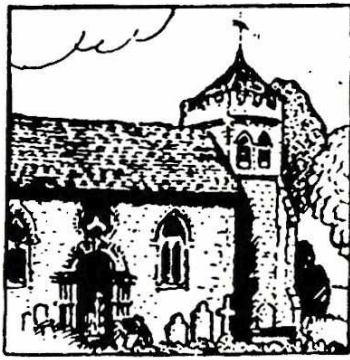
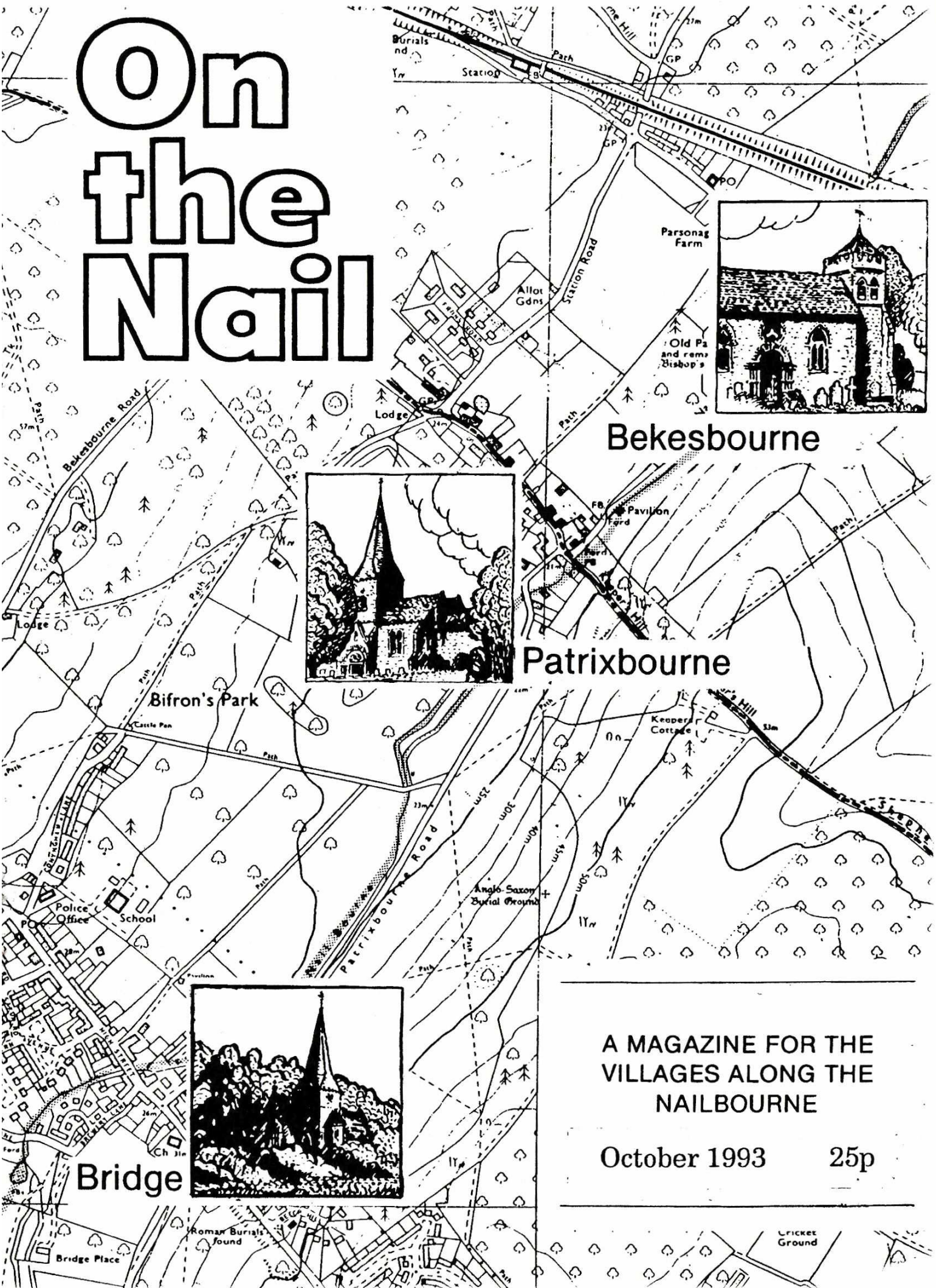
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70
years
1991

George

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Bekesbourne



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Sunday Worship in October

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

3rd:

11am Harvest Family Service with Holy Baptism

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm Harvest Choral

Evensong

(Preacher: Revd D Barnes,
Vicar of Ash)

10th:

9.30 Parish Communion

11am Harvest Matins

8am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

Preacher: Revd P
Goodsell, Vicar of
Nonington)

17th:

9.30 Parish Communion

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins

6.30pm Evensong

(Revd J Shorrocks)

(Mr H Stevens)

24th:

8am Holy Communion

9am Holy Communion

11am Harvest Matins

6.30pm Peter's Praise

(Revd J Shorrocks)

(Speaker: Ted Harrison)

31st:

9.30 Parish Communion

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

(Revd J Shorrocks)

Mr H Stevens)

(Canon J Packer)

6.30pm Evensong

(Mr H Stevens)

7th November:

11am Family Service

8am Holy Communion

9.30 Parish Communion

No Evensong

ADVANCED NOTICE that there is no evensong at Bridge on 7th November because we are all invited to the cathedral for a Deanery Service at 6.30pm, for which choirs are asked to robe. Those who remember last year's service will want to be sure to attend this one. More details in next month's *On The Nail*.

Junior Church meets in Bridge Village Hall at 9.30am every Sunday except the first in the month. It provides an excellent grounding in Christian faith and practice in the Church of England for children of four years old and upwards. Enquiries are always welcomed by Evelyn Andrews (830960), Jean Hopkins (830942) or Lorraine Flisher (930871) who will gladly provide relevant information.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 3rd, Mr E R O'Mahony 10th, Dr S J Rogers 17th, Miss J Charlesworth MA 24th, The Revd David Marshall 31st, Holy Communion, The Revd Mary R Teed.

Weekdays Holy Communion in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 6th at 10.15am. The New Close service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

For your diary and prayer list

- 3rd **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 17**
Bridge's Harvest Festival is celebrated at both 11am and 6.30pm.
- 4th *St Francis of Assisi, Friar, 1226*
- 7th *Cot Death Research and Support Coffee Morning, 4 Meadow Close, 10am to 12 noon*
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC, The Methodist Church, 7.30pm
- 8th Pray for the Deanery Clergy who meet in Chapter at Wingham this lunchtime.
- 10th **Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 18**
Patricxbourne Harvest Festival at 11am Matins, preacher the Revd Pat Goodsell
- 13th *St Edward the Confessor, King of England, 1066*
- 14th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 15th *St Teresa of Avila, Mystic, 1582*
- 16th Choral Evensong sung jointly at Patricxbourne by the Choirs of Bridge and the Good Shepherd, Brighton, 5.30pm.
- 17th **Last Sunday after Pentecost : Trinity 19**
- 18th *St Luke the Evangelist*
- 20th East Bridge Deanery Synod meets this evening. Please pray for our parish representatives, Jane Millyard (*Bekesbourne*), Kath Pierce, Evelyn Andrews, and Sheila Fenn (*Patricxbourne with Bridge*)
Relatives Support Group, The New Close, Conyngham Lane, 7.30pm (for friends and relatives of people with dementia).
- 21st Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 24th **Ninth Sunday before Christmas : Trinity 20**
British Summer time ends.
- 27th Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch AGM, Plough & Harrow, 8pm
- 28th *St Simon and St Jude, Apostles*
- 31st **Eighth Sunday before Christmas : Trinity 21**

Times and Seasons

British Summer Time ends at 0200 on Sunday 24th, so we all get an extra hour in bed — or do we lose an hour? For me every spring and autumn it's the same old story! I just can't work out which it is, and even when I concentrate really hard am not sure I've got the right answer.

On two occasions this twice-yearly problem proved my undoing. When I was at Ely and priest-in-charge of a minute parish just outside the city I was rung up one Sunday morning by my churchwarden to ask if I was going over. "It's only half past eight!" I protested. "No, 'arf past noin!" came the reply, "The clocks have gorn forward".

The other episode was when I drove to Patrixbourne Church for the 8am Holy Communion and was amazed to find everywhere looking very locked up and no Joan Carpenter in sight. At first I thought she had broken the habit of a lifetime and overslept. Then I realized it was my mistake and furtively drove off before anyone saw me making a fool of myself.

Despite a lifetime of the bi-annual time-shift it always takes a little while to re-adjust and for a day or so it's possible to feel quite disoriented. We sometimes talk of our body-clock, whatever that is, having to adjust, almost as if we are undergoing a mild form of jet lag.

Perhaps this is understandable, for we all exist in two time zones, one of measured time, the other experienced time. In Christian circles they're often called man's time and God's time — man's time because by and large we control it, e.g. by deciding when events shall happen and how long they shall last — God's time because we are at its mercy, somehow made aware it's the right season for action, that the ideal circumstances are in place through no fault of ours.

The Greeks, as you might imagine, had a word for it — two, in fact! One, 'chronos', for measurable time and the other 'kairos' for experienced time, or God's time, time dictated by outside control. Christians call this God's time not because they can't find any other explanation for it but because we believe this is how God's influence impinges on our lives. With 'kairos' we are not dealing in hours, minutes, seconds, nor indeed any intervals of time but with the activity of God and his purposes for us. We can only detect it by its effect on our life, by feeling prompted in a certain direction. In this case the sensible thing is to go along with it: go with God, in fact!

By the way, I have it on reliable authority that we put the clocks back on 24th, so enjoy that extra hour.

Harvest at Bridge and Patrixbourne

For the Family Service at St Peter's Church families are invited to bring token gifts in thanksgiving for the harvest, which gifts will in due course be taken to the Canterbury Women's Refuge. The preacher at Choral Evensong will be the Vicar of Ash, the Revd David Barnes.

Preacher at Harvest Matins at Patrixbourne will be the Revd Pat Goodsell, Vicar of the benefice that comprises Nonington, Chillenden, Goodnestone and Wymynswold.

Loose cash in the harvest collections at both churches will go to the Historic Church Preservation Trust, a body from which we have received generous repair grants in the past and which we are almost certain to have to approach again in the light of impending work to both buildings.

Family Joys

Made Christ's through Baptism

At a short ceremony in St Peter's Church, Bridge on 29th August 1993 Canon David Naumann officiated at the baptism of **Alexandra Alana**

Wilson, grand-daughter of Pam and Norman Francis.

During the Family Service on 5th September the baptism took place of William James Blackwell and Curtis Croy Benzies.

Joined together by God

On 4th September Nicholas Shirley, of Great Pett Oast was married to Tracy Mitchell of Sittingbourne in St Peter's Church, Bridge.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths

ANNUAL COFFEE MORNING at 4 Meadow Close on Thursday, 7th October from 10am to 12 noon. Raffle, Bring & Buy Stall, Christmas Cards, etc for sale. Although the numbers of cot deaths have dramatically fallen, we still need your support. Please come and bring your friends.

Elizabeth Stewart



book case

FOOLS RUSH IN – *A Call to Christian Clowning*, by Roly Bain

The music hall clergyman is a bit of a clown, but Roly Bain is both priest and clown. How this comes about he explains in his very readable book, published by Marshall Pickering at £3.99.

I met Roly at last autumn's Diocesan Conference at Sussex University and was intrigued not only by his professionalism as a clown but the clever way he used his skills to proclaim the gospel. Clad in his motley, which together with the inevitable red nose includes an outsize dog-collar, he punctuated every event, worship included, and was a huge success.

Fools Rush In presents a brief history of clowning; then, after an autobiographical section goes on to explore in fascintaing detail the place of clowning in Christian witness. Many of the tricks of the trade are described in the hope that the reader will want to develop his or her own clown.

Principally Roly's book focuses on the role of humour and laughter as a vehicle for expressing God's love and one's faith. So he writes, 'God's greatest creation remains us, and to us he gives the great gift of a sense of humour. A sense of humour gives us perspective . . . Everybody has a sense of humour because it's part of the package that God gives us. Maybe sometimes it seems to have been driven out of or suppressed in people, but no one who has laughed is beyond hope'. As he sees it the christian faith is riddled with humour and honest laughter, just like the earthly life of its Lord, and he castigates the churches for taking themselves so seriously, thereby subduing the humour and laughter that God put into them.

Laughter, he admits, 'can be cruel or demeaning or mocking . . . can be stifled and all but irradiated by dictators, famines, hardships and plagues; but it always returns like a guardian angel, assuring us that God has his foot in the door'.

I commend this book to all who may have suspected all along that God's plan for mankind has its humorous side and there is place for laughter in church if only because laughter is a reaction to enjoyment and life is to be enjoyed.

Target 2,000. Bridge Church looks forward!

We were very encouraged, *writes the Working Group*, by the number of people who filled in the green form at the summer fête and also in Bridge Church, to attend an open meeting about the exciting developments concerning St Peter's, Bridge. We assure you all that this meeting will occur, but it has had to be postponed until next year — probably in the spring. This is through no fault of the working group, just that other important work has had to be given priority; namely the replacement of the lead gullies in Bridge Church. It is just common sense to get our priorities right. We must have a sound roof and sound walls before any alterations can take place.

Several members of the congregation were all set to decorate the interior of the church in September, so if some had not heard why it was postponed, read on!

The Quinquennial report on the church was held in abeyance until that of St Mary's, Patricxbourne was ready, since we have a joint PCC for both churches. A meeting to discuss the reports was not possible until August 25th — too late for the September church magazine.

The chancel walls of Bridge church need attention; the stonework requires expert treatment before any cleaning and decorating can be done. Hopefully this will be dealt with soon. So, to all our wonderful 'decorating' volunteers, your help will be needed! If anyone reading this article hasn't volunteered with decorating and would like to help, don't be shy, but ring Stephen Pike (830708), Sheila Fenn (830284), Ailsa Williamson (830399), Kath Pierce (830844) or Andrea Nicholson (830947). We need cleaners as well as decorators and someone to keep everybody happy by making endless cups of tea or coffee! We now have a power point at the back of the church and also an urn — isn't that wonderful!

If anyone has not yet seen the proposed exciting developments for Bridge Church please do get the church key from Priors, the Estate Agents, and see in the displayed pictures the proposed works. If you are as keen as we are, then please fill in a little green form you will find in the Baptistry by the exhibition.

Junior Church

Junior Church would like to say a big thank-you to Mrs Harrison who has played the piano for us over the past ten years. We wish her well in her new undertakings in the Methodist Church.

This is the second retirement with Junior Church this year and we would be most grateful if anyone could spare some time to help or play the piano. This commitment need not be on a weekly basis, but we do desperately need a pianist. Please contact Jean Hopkins (830942) or Evelyn Andrews (830960) if interested.

Continued on page 13

RAMBLE: Junior Church are organising a Ramble on Sunday, 10th October at 2pm. We aim to meet outside the Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne; walk to Kingston and return through the woods in time for Sunday Tea at the Hall. Everyone is welcome, young and old. The cost is £1 per person which includes your tea. For catering purposes please contact 830942 or 830960 by Friday, 8th October. Our previous rambles have proved to be most enjoyable — we do hope you can join us.

Evelyn Andrews

Sponsored Bike Ride

It is too early to have a full report of the Sponsored Cycle Ride on September 11th as everyone is busy collecting sponsor money. However, I have gleaned some information on our cyclists' prowess on that day. The talking point was the weather! Some were caught in two heavy showers, some only one, and some missed the rain completely! How did you know, Stephen, that cycling in the direction of Deal meant a rain-free route?

The number of churches each rider visited varied from six to forty- three. Well done, everyone, especially our young ones cycling for the first time!

Many cyclists calling at Bridge, cold and wet, were very appreciative of the offer of a hot cup of tea or coffee. For this we have our faithful band of helpers to thank. May I add my thanks to them all. If it wasn't for them I would not have been able to cycle for part of the day. Our gallant band was as follows: Pat Dunderdale, Sheila Fenn, Lena Sanford, Jean Hopkins, Joyce Hopkins and Jack, Evelyn Andrews, Muriel and John Packer, Kathy Eynon, Joan Monk, Gladys Lemar and Jean Scarborough.

We had 127 cyclists signing in at Bridge Church compared with 144 last year, and of the 127, twenty were from Bridge Church. Next month there will be a report on the financial side of the sponsored cycle ride.

Kath Pierce

The Annual Autumn Cry

Autumn is upon us once more — a time of mellow mists and fruitfulness. Talking of 'fruitful', the Autumn Fayre also crops up around this season; how could we forget it? I hear you cry. Once more we will be asking all of you to support us on Saturday 13th November by coming along and joining in the fun, or by helping to run stalls, donating gifts and home-made pickles etc. If you can help in any way, please contact any of the following: Pat Dunderdale, Evelyn Andrews, Chris Finney or Stephen Pike.

Nearer the event we will be asking for donations of cakes, books, toys, records /tapes — in fact anything you may care to give (but no jumble please!), so start looking out those unwanted items and put them by for our collectors. As always, we need the income to help pay for church maintenance, so let's make this year's Autumn Fayre a bumper afayre. (!)

Stephen Pike

Peter's Praise

For *Peter's Praise* this month we are fortunate to have Ted Harrison as our Speaker. A former Religious Affairs correspondent with the BBC he now presents *Does he take sugar?* — the programme for disabled people.

As we go to press it is still to be decided whether he will talk about *The purpose of disability* or perhaps about *The Elvis Presley cult — a religion in embryo*.

Either way we can look forward to a very special and thought-provoking edition of *Peter's Praise*!

Handley Stevens

On The Nail Billboard

The Bekesbourne Neighbourhood Watch Scheme AGM will be held in Bekesbourne Village Hall on Tuesday, 19th October 1993 at 8pm. All villagers of Patricbourne and Bekesbourne will be welcome.

A burglar alarm company representative will be in attendance to give a demonstration and to answer any questions.

M Howells, NWS Co-ordinator

Visit by choir of Good Shepherd, Brighton. On Saturday 16th October Bridge parish choir will be joined by the choir of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Brighton, to sing choral evensong at Patricbourne at 5.30pm. A collection will be taken in aid of the Patricbourne Organ Fund. The Good Shepherd choir has twice recently sung evensong at Guildford Cathedral.

They are visiting Canterbury for the day, and are coming on to Patricbourne and Bridge in the afternoon at the invitation of Handley and Anne Stevens. Handley trained as a Reader at the Good Shepherd, and both he and several members of his family sang with the choir there for a number of years before moving to Bridge.

Handley Stevens

Friends of Canterbury Cyrenians announce there will be a Coffee Morning at the house of the Revd and Mrs J Tyler, Church Orchard, Church Lane, Kingston on October 23rd from 10am to 12 noon.

The proceeds will be used to buy Christmas presents for the residents of the Cyrenian houses, many of whom do not have families. This was done last year and was greatly appreciated.

There will be a Bring & Buy Stall, cakes, bric-à-brac, Christmas cards and a raffle. The recent 'Petticoat Lane' held in Canterbury raised £340.

Bridge with Patricbourne WI monthly meeting will take place on Tuesday, 19th October at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. Mr L Wakeham our well-known local butcher will give a talk entitled *Cuts of Meat*.

D King

Nailbourne Horticultural Society. Mrs P Davidson will be giving a very interesting talk on *The History of Gardens* on Thursday, October 21st at the Methodist Church at 8pm.

Mrs B Anderson writes I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all helpers, exhibitors and visitors who helped to make our Summer Show a success again.

The Royal British Legion, Bridge and District Branch. The main Remembrance Day service will be held this year at 11am on Sunday, November 14th at Bekesbourne Church in conjunction with the Littlebourne Branch of the RBL. There will be a short act of remembrance and a wreath-laying ceremony at the Bridge War Memorial a short time before this. Further details next month.

The AGM of the Branch will be on Wednesday October 27th at 8pm at The Plough & Harrow, and all members are asked to attend. Volunteers are still required to assist in the Poppy Appeal collection. Please apply to me or Barry Whiting.

Jim Stripe (830761)

Bridge School Bonfire and Fireworks Display will be on Saturday, 6th November in Church Meadow, Brewery Lane, Bridge. Food will be served from 5.30pm — hot dogs, jacket potatoes etc. Fireworks at 6.30pm. Family tickets (2 adults 3 children) £5.00 in advance from the school office. £1.50 per person (adult or child) at the gate.

Any scrap wood to help build the bonfire can be brought to Church Meadow on the morning of Saturdays 23rd, 30th October or 6th November.

Bridge Parish Council

The Parish Council met after the summer recess on Thursday, 9th September.

Successes to note The Council were delighted that the floral competition to find the best hanging basket, container and commercial premises had been well received and a great success. The Chairman, Cllr John Hill, thanked Cllr Mrs Margaret Jones for organising it this year and all those who had helped her.

The Council were also pleased with the reglazing and refurbishment of the sports pavilion, which was now completed.

Matters in mind Following a request for additional street lighting in Conyngham Lane, the Council were to write to all households affected to assess the demand.

The Clerk was to approach the County Council to see if signing on the A2 Canterbury By-Pass could be improved to prevent south-bound lorries for Highland Court Farm leaving the By-Pass too early and travelling through the village.

The Council were in favour of County Councillor Mr Martin Vye organising a meeting in the village to be addressed by a County Council Officer in order to discuss on-street parking arrangements in Canterbury prior to an extension of the scheme there.

The Council were also to intimate to Mr Vye their interest in taking part in a possible pilot scheme to be sponsored by Canterbury City Council for a doorstep collection of recyclable items.

The Chairman reported that now a design had been agreed upon, he was progressing with the making of a village sign, which, when finished, would be erected at a focal point in the centre of the village.

Cllr Mervyn Gulvin was to look at the uneven surface of the path along the edge of the Recreation Ground leading up to the school to see what improvements, if any, could be made.

Planning Proposals There had been no objections to proposals for the erection of a bungalow on land adjacent to 21 Bridge Down; for signs and the painting of the side elevation and installation of louvred air conditioning units at 'Skippers', 73 High Street; or for the conversion of 32 Western Avenue to a residential care home, with a link extension to N^o 30 and extensions to both properties, other than reservations about parking provision.

An application for the erection of a dwelling and garage on land at 'Bridge Hill House', Higham Lane, had been withdrawn.

Planning permission has been granted by the City Council for a two-storey rear extension to 28 Conyngham Lane, the erection of a window to the rear of 16 The Close, Union Road and for the installation of new windows, alterations to extension roof at rear and internal alterations at 'Dover Lodge', 48 High St.

Mrs Margaret Church of 72a New House Lane, Canterbury CT4 7BJ (458437) is taking over from Kathy Walder as Clerk to the Parish Council as from 1.10.93. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 14th October at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall. *Kathy Walder, Clerk*

Bridge Methodists are holding their Annual Autumn Coffee Morning and Sale on Thursday, 14th October from 10.15am to 12 noon. Proceeds as usual will be shared with a charity. Your continued support is much appreciated.

P A Grant

Nailbourne Scout Group Jumble Sale on 9th September made £125 for the Scout Group. Thanks to all who helped or supported. Very much appreciated.

Kathy Walder

Slugs, snails and Song Thrushes

A recent survey has shown that the Magpie has displaced the Song Thrush as the twelfth most common bird in our gardens. One of the reasons is the Magpie's habit of raiding the nests of smaller birds, but the main one appears to be the use of slug pellets. The thrushes gobble up the slugs and snails which have eaten the pellets, and get poisoned too.

A kinder way to cope with slugs is to sink a few jam jars or plastic tubs into the ground here and there and fill them with beer. The slugs love this and must drown happily. Watch out for tipsy thrushes though! Don't let this lovely songster disappear.

Ann Shirley

The Canvas kneelers in Bridge Church

The canvas kneelers in Bridge Church have now reached the half-way stage. Those of us involved in this work are grateful for the support we have had from some sponsors in the village.

If you would like to make a kneeler please let Sheila Fenn or me know. If this is not your talent perhaps you would sponsor one to commemorate a special occasion, person or event.

A J Williamson

Letter to the Editor

Sir, Following Mr Beckett's letter I come cap in hand to apologise for misleading readers about the source of the Nailbourne. My article from *The Independent* seems to apply more to the Hampshire Winterbournes, which are familiar to me, than to our local bourne. Being a comparative newcomer I had not realised the flow was mainly outside of the winter months; maybe I would have been safer with the farmers' February Fillydyke? (No letters of correction, please!)

The Nailbourne was a great attraction when moving here and for a short while we enjoyed our strolls over the small ford-bridge, then a riverside walk and on to the Mermaid at Bishopsbourne. I remember the occasion we even delayed drinking time to watch a wren and a kingfisher at the water's edge. Alas, it was all shortlived, but we live in hopes.

Maurice Smith, 18 The Close, Union Road, Bridge

Fish News

The Annual General Meeting will be on Tuesday, 12th October at 8pm in the Methodist Hall, and the next Coffee Pop-In is on Wednesday, October 13th, 10.15 to 11.45am in the Village Hall.

The Fish Scheme now has a light-weight folding wheelchair for use around the villages on a short-term basis. It is kept at Saxon Lodge and can be booked in advance. We also have a folding Zimmer frame (without wheels) which may solve a problem for somebody.

The next chiropody clinic is from Monday, November 1st to Friday, November 5th and, as usual, Mrs Warren arranges the transport.

Church Cleaning St Peter's Church, Bridge

1st, Kathy Eynon, 8th, Kay Barnard, 15th Joan Monk, 22nd, Pat Hulyer, Thurs 28th, Kathy Eynon and Vera Ford. Brasses, Gladys Lemar.

More volunteers would be welcomed — two pairs of hands make light work.

Bekesbourne Cleaning & Flower Rota 9th, Mrs Gillanders, 16th, Mesdames Smith and Hogben, 23rd, Mrs Farbrace, 30th, Mrs Shorrock

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

Reader: Mr Handley Stevens, 6 Bridgefords Way, Bridge CT4 5LE (831376)

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens: Miss J. Carpenter, 3 The Green, Patixbourne CT4 5BS

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, Patixbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

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

Organist (Bridge): Mr William Roffey, The Old Rectory, Hernhill, Faversham ME13 9JU (751073)

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

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

BEKESBOURNE

Churchwarden: Mr A. W. Fullaway, Snaefell, Adisham Road, CT4 5EY (830261)

Hon. Secretary:

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

Organist: Mrs R.M. Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill, Patixbourne 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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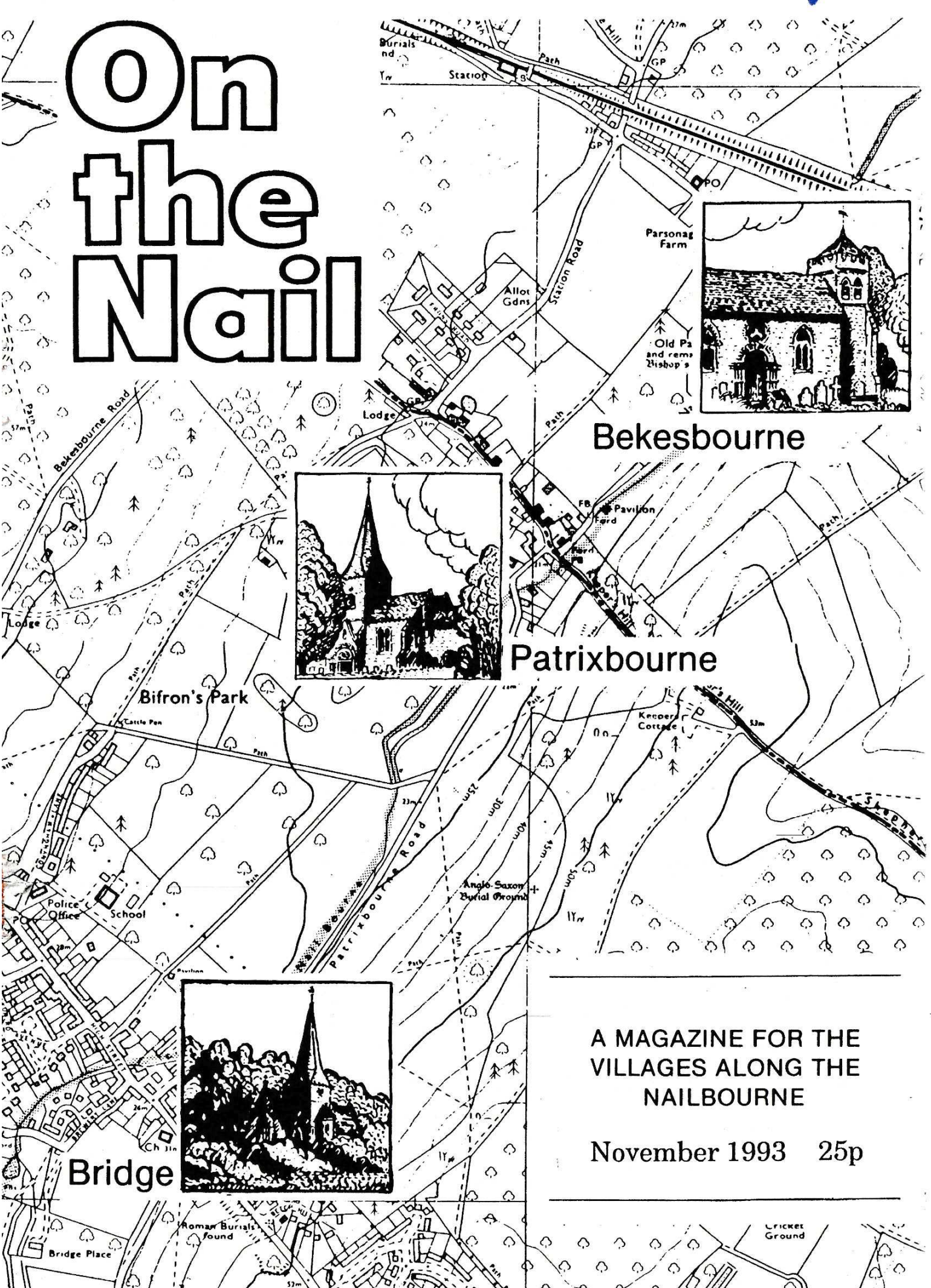
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On the Nail



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Bridge

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November 1993 25p

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Sunday Worship in November

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

7th:

11am Family Service
No Evensong

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

14th:

9.30 Parish Communion 11am Matins

3.30pm Evensong

(Revd J Shorrocks)

11am *Service of
Remembrance
(The Vicar)*

21st:

9.30 Parish Communion
(Revd J Shorrocks)

8am Holy Communion
(The Vicar)

11am Matins
(Mr H Stevens)

3.30pm Evensong
(Mr H Stevens)

28th:

8am Holy Communion
3.30pm *Ecumenical
Peter's Praise*

9am Holy Communion 11am Matins
(Revd J Shorrocks)

5th December:

11am Family Gift
Service

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

3.30pm Evensong

Please note

There is no Evensong at Bridge on 7th November, because we are all invited to the cathedral for a Deanery Service at 6.30pm, for which choirs are asked to robe. Those who remember last year's service will want to be sure and attend this one, at which the preacher is the Revd Alan Amos, Principal of the Canterbury School of Ministry.

Following recent practice Bridge evening services, commencing this month, move to 3.30pm for the winter months.

Junior Church meets in Bridge School at 9.30am every Sunday except the first in the month. It provides an excellent grounding in Christian faith and practice in the Church of England and is very popular with children of four years old and upwards, for whom it specifically caters. In recent months numbers have dropped significantly, which is a pity since those who attend find it lots of fun. Parents of children who were baptized in any of our three churches are reminded of the promise they made at the time to bring up their children 'as Christians within the family of the Church'. Enrolling them in Junior Church once they reach four years old is in line with that commitment. For details and enrolment contact either Evelyn Andrews (830960), Jean Hopkins (830942) or Lorraine Flisher (830871).

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *7th*, Mr V N Downs *14th*, Miss Sheryl Anderson *21st* Mrs B P Skinner, RGN, NDN *28th*, Mr R H Ward

Weekdays Holy Communion in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 3rd at 10.15am. The New Close service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

For your diary and prayer list

1st *All Saints' Day*

2nd *Commemoration of All Souls*

4th Pray for Bridge School Governors who meet this evening.

Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm

Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm

6th Pray for the Diocesan Synod at Margate.

7th **Seventh Sunday before Christmas : Trinity 22**

There is no Evensong at Bridge today, but do come to the Cathedral for the Deanery Festival Evensong, at which the preacher is the Principal of the Canterbury School of Ministry, the Revd Alan Amos.

10th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am

11th *St Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397*

The Christians of Bridge meet together this evening in the Methodist Church at 7.30pm. Open meeting as always, so do come along!

Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm

13th **THE AUTUMN FAYRE, Bridge School from 2pm**

14th **Sixth Sunday before Christmas : Trinity 23**

Remembrance Sunday

This year's Service of Remembrance will be at St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne, commencing with the Two-Minute Silence at the Bekesbourne War Memorial in the churchyard at 11am. This brings together Royal British Legion branches from the surrounding villages. A Wreath-laying and Act of Remembrance takes place at Bridge War Memorial at 10.40am.

16th *St Margaret of Scotland, Queen, Wife, Mother, 1093*

Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute Annual Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

17th *St Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680 & St Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200*

18th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm

Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm

19th *The Children's Society* Christmas Fair, The Old Palace, Canterbury
10am - 2pm

Nailbourne Horticultural Society Wine & Cheese Evening, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm

20th *St Edmund of East Anglia, King, Martyr, 870*

Bekesbourne Church and Brownies Christmas Market, Bekesbourne Village Hall from 2.15pm

21st **Fifth Sunday before Christmas : Sunday next before Advent**

28th **First Sunday in Advent**

Peter's Praise this afternoon will be an Ecumenical Advent Service in St Peter's Church, Bridge at 3.30pm, bringing together members of the various Christian churches represented in the village. Like the Interchurch Meeting on 11th everyone is most welcome, and we hope to see a large congregation for this new joint venture.

30th *St Andrew the Apostle*

From the Vicar

The feast of All Saints and the Commemoration of All Souls, kept each 1st and 2nd November, remind us (a) that membership of the Christian church straddles not only continents but worlds, and (b) that the link between the living and the departed is closer than we think.

All Saints covers those who from the apostles onwards were marked out for special veneration through the holiness of their earthly life and in some instances their death. The Church honours their memory, holding them up as patterns of faithfulness worth following. The Saints reflect the glory of God in various ways, and by recourse to their example we are better enabled to 'shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father'.

The commemoration of All Souls is of particular help to the bereaved for it keeps alive not only the memory of our own departed loved ones but presents us with the Christian understanding that although we and they are out of direct contact we are joined to them through prayer, that we can make them the object of our prayer as we believe we are of theirs.

Both days remind us that the departed, whether accorded the prefix 'St' or not, should never be thought of as simply dead Christians, but as living Christians who once died, since having passed through death they have moved on to life more abundant, because lived in the nearer presence of God.

A Cry from Kenya

Just before Christmas charities bombard us with cries for help for thoroughly deserving causes, but since we can't give to them all a hard choice has to be made. It seems heartless, but consigning requests to the waste bin is the only alternative. Before making your decision please read on.

The following desperate appeal was made to Ann Shirley, who explains how it came about.

In the spring of this year, an article appeared in *The Times* by Bernard Levin, about Captain Scott's last expedition. The last sentence enquired as to whether the British public had answered Scott's plea

when he was close to death in the tent on the 'icy barrier'; "For God's sake, look after our people". In a letter to the Editor I was able to assure Bernard Levin (and his readers), that the response was almost overwhelming.

Presumably as a result of the letter having been published, I received a beautifully written and expressed plea for his family and himself from a young man in Nairobi, one Hiram Mwangi Kahiro, a second-year student at the University of Nairobi.

* * *

In a letter to USPG, the missionary society we support, the Director of Hirma's old Nairobi school, after paying a glowing tribute to his academic and athletic achievements, explains his pathetic family background.

His mother is a wandering prostitute who gave birth to him when she was only fifteen years old . . . his present situation is that his mother, who has spent time in hospital and is weak, lives in a hut on a small piece of ground loaned to her by a sympathizer. Here, while her strength lasts, she can grow survival maize and vegetables. Hiram does not know what is wrong with his mother and is afraid to ask her, but suspects it is AIDS. His youngest sister, aged about five, stays with the mother. Two older sisters (aged fourteen and sixteen) have been compelled to accept jobs as housemaids elsewhere in the district. In Kenya sadly, being a housemaid is often akin to slavery. His brother, eighteen, earns a pittance as a herdsboy. The wretched state of his family is preying on Hiram's mind and has led him to beg, which he never would have done on his own account.

* * *

Hiram wrote to the Bishop of Coventry, who seems willing to assist, and his needs are also known at USPG headquarters in London. We are reliably assured that his case is genuine. Hiram is an Anglican, and if any 'On The Nail' reader felt moved to include him in their Christmas giving, donations can be sent to either USPG or CMS (Church Missionary Society), the address of both being Partnership House, 157 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8XA. To be sure that it gets to Hiram it might be as well to explain what it's for when you send it. In a letter to the Bishop of Coventry USPG's Financial Services Manager writes, 'It would be good if something could be done to help this young man and his family, although obviously there must be thousands like him of whom we never hear'.

Thence to India

Rakesh is a thirteen-year-old schoolboy in India who is sponsored for his education by Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC. I have received the latest annual report on his progress. I am sure you will be delighted to hear that he has passed the final examinations of Class IX in all subjects. He is now in Class X and will be sitting a Board examination next year.

Keith Nicholson

Enter Traidcraft

At the Family Service on 7th November there will be something different, TRAIDCRAFT.

Traidcraft is an organisation run by a group of Charities, who aim to provide fair trading for workers in developing countries. All profits go to those who produce the goods, and are not taken by the 'middle man'. Among items on sale are tea, coffee, cereals, dried fruit and paper towels.

We hope you will be able to come, have a cup of coffee after the service, hopefully order some items, and learn more about Traidcraft and how we can help people overseas who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Pat Dunderdale

Family News

Received by baptism

At the Family Service on Harvest Festival Sunday, **Alice Clare**, daughter of Lucy and Alan Mummery was received by baptism into the Church.

United in Marriage

On Saturday, 25th September the wedding took place at St Peter's Church, Bridge of **Sue Hanna** and **John Carter**. We wish them every blessing and happiness in their life together.

Commended to God

The ashes of Mrs **Gisela Marianne Hewetson**, 2 The Green, were interred in Patrixbourne Churchyard on the morning of Saturday, 25th September.

The cremation of Mrs **Sheila Taylor-Robson**, who died at her sister's home, 24 Bridge Down, was conducted by the Vicar at Barham Crematorium on 19th October.

Junior Church News

from Evelyn Andrews

The children of Junior Church recently organised their own Harvest gathering. They enjoyed making up small boxes of produce and taking them to the residents of Churchill House, who were delighted with their gifts.

Forty enthusiastic ramblers took part in a walk from Bishopsbourne to Kingston, then returned to the Conrad Hall for tea. The weather was dry and warm, although it was a little muddy under foot in parts. Good fun was had by all and another ramble will hopefully take place in the spring.

So much to be thankful for

Sponsored Cycle Ride

I would like to thank John and Jane Shorrocks, Joan Atkins, Jenny

Skinner, Marion Harlow, Hughie and Eve Pearson and Ian Gillanders for raising the fantastic total of £325.95; the best total to date. This despite the changeable weather.

My thanks also to Tony Fullaway, Ralph Barnes and Savannah Young, who manned the church and served refreshments. The total number of riders visiting Bekesbourne was down on last year to 115.

Jill Gillanders

The Sponsored Cycle Ride was a resounding success this year for Bridge. Our riders collected in sponsor money the grand total of £331.36! Well done everybody! A copy of the remittance form will be pinned on the noticeboard in the porch for all to see.

Our cyclists deserve a big thank you for their sterling efforts, and here is the impressive list and the number of churches each visited. Pat and Lucy Wilmshurst (4), Alice Barnard, Lawrence and Catherine Dunderdale (5), James and Nicky Hopkins and Simon Dunderdale (10), Lesley, Simon and Alex Finney (19), Hilary and Elizabeth Pike (22), Kath Pierce, Chris Finney and David Pierce (24), Stephen and Katie Pike and Tim Flisher (42). Our thanks to all who sponsored the cyclists and once again a big thank you to all the helpers for manning the church.

Kath Pierce

Bridge Methodists

The annual Coffee Morning and Sale at the Methodist Church raised the sum of £269.69 — a wonderful result considering the weather! Our sincere and grateful thanks to all who supported us and gave so generously. The charity will be selected at our next Church Council meeting.

P. Grant, Church Steward

Life for Laura

Many thanks to you all for the sums raised for the special Care Baby Unit at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital. The building is now going up and will be working by Christmas.

To my knowledge Bridge, Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne have raised £4,450.13 since the appeal stuck half way at £500,000 about eighteen months ago. Bridge School, Junior Church, the Play Group, shops and pubs have all helped remarkably and Saxon Lodge raised over £1,000 when the appeal first opened. A great number of parents will have a terrible time greatly eased by your generosity.

Anne Rooke

League of Friends Craft Fair

The Craft Fair held on 26th September organised by the Nailbourne Group of the Hospital League of Friends was a great success. £500 was raised for our local hospitals. Two other charities were represented on the day, *The Children's Society* and *Cards for Good Causes* which represents all major charities. Both were pleased with the amounts raised to boost their funds. Thank you to all who helped on the day and to those who came along and supported us.

I must now make a plea for help. The local committee is struggling to continue in 1994. Without new members we will, I'm afraid, have to disband. This would be a great pity as we have raised a great deal of money over the years to supply our hospitals with valuable equipment and played an important role in the refurbishment of the various departments, thereby making your visits to hospital more comfortable.

Please, if anyone can spare a couple of hours once every two to three months to attend meetings and help with fund-raising events two to three times a year, please contact either Pat Gulvin (784872) or Ethel Cartwright at the Post Office.

Pat Gulvin

The Children's Society

Thank you to all contributors and helpers who made it possible for our stall at the League of Friends Craft Fair in September to raise the sum of £217.65 for the society. This figure includes some donations and an amount of £23.10 from the sale of embroidery/crochet silks and was a very worthwhile result.

Kathy Eynon

Macmillan Nurse Appeal

I would like to thank all ninety-six people who attended my Coffee Morning on a very wet 1st October in Bridge Village Hall and helped to raise an amazing £402 for this very worthwhile cause. My grateful thanks to whoever organised the completion of the hall floor in time, members of the Eaton family who did a monumental cleaning-up job beforehand and everyone who supported me in many ways.

Maggie Field

Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths

Our supporters have excelled themselves once again! We made £621 clear profit and sold £290 worth of cards at the Coffee Morning held at 4 Meadow Close on 7th October. Many thanks to all who made this possible.

Elizabeth Stewart

Another date for your diary

BEKESBOURNE CHRISTMAS MARKET

Bekesbourne Village Hall
Saturday 20th November 1993
at 2.15pm. *Gifts gratefully received
from 10am* **STALL RAFFLES TEAS**
Proceeds for Bekesbourne Church & Brownies

ANNOUNCING

Patricxbourne with Bridge's

AUTUMN FAYRE

in

BRIDGE SCHOOL

Saturday, 13th November

from 2 o'clock

Remembrance Weekend

Jim Stripe, Secretary of the Bridge & District Branch of the Royal British Legion reminds us that the annual Poppy Appeal collecting boxes will be out and about in the two weeks leading up to Remembrance Sunday 14th. There will also be the customary house-to-house collection. Please support the local appeal as far as you can.

On Remembrance Sunday there will be a short Act of Remembrance at Bridge village memorial in St Peter's Churchyard. This year it's at 10.40am as the Service of Remembrance will be at St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne. Weather permitting the Silence will be kept on the stroke of 11am at Bekesbourne's memorial behind the church. The service will be attended by local branches of the Legion and conducted by the Vicar.

Bridge Parish Council

Watching your step — Following the recent heavy rain and high winds the leaves seem to have come off the trees all at once. The City Council has been asked to take a special look at Bifrons Path over the next few weeks to keep the surface clear and prevent a build-up of rotting leaves. After the Parish Council's September meeting Cllr Mervyn Gulvin carried out a full survey of the path across the Recreation Ground to the school. As a result, work will be put in hand to level those sections that have moved slightly over the years and to remove some old scaffolding poles.

Streetwise — The survey of residents in Conyngham Lane who might be affected by the installation of additional street lights showed that the majority were not in favour and the parish Council decided to take no further action. Kent County Council have agreed to take another look at the signing to Highland Court Farm on the southbound carriageway of the A2 and the outcome of their review is awaited.

Transport of Delight — Cllr Ann King reported on the Dial-a-Bus scheme which would offer those unable to use public transport through disability an opportunity to get out more. The Council is considering ways of making the information as widely available as possible.

Planning proposals — The Parish Council had no objections to the proposed alterations to 12 The Close or to the amended site plan for a bungalow adjacent to 21 Bridge Down. The refusal of permission by the City Council for the proposed conversion of 32 Western Avenue was noted.

Margaret Church, Clerk

Fish News

Canterbury Volunteer Bureau are organising a Christmas Shopping Evening for the Elderly, the Disabled and their carers on Thursday, 25th November from 6pm to 8.30pm. Free refreshments will be provided at the United Reformed Church Hall in Watling Street and free parking on the flat. If you would like to go, please contact Mrs Jean Johnson, tel: 830376 and transport will be arranged.

The next Coffee Pop-In in the village Hall will be on Wednesday, November 10th between 10.15 and 11.45am.

A. R.

The Children's Society

The Children's Society's annual Christmas Fair in Canterbury takes place this year on Friday, 19th November, 10am - 2pm, at The Old Palace in the Cathedral Precincts. Admission is £1, including coffee and biscuits, and a light lunch may be purchased from 12 noon.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

Our Cheese and Wine Evening will be held in Bridge Village Hall on Friday, 19th November at 7.30pm.

Billie Anderson

Bridge Folk Dance Group

Have you seen the new Village Hall floor?
For dancing it's fine, that's for sure!
So please join the folk dancers:
We don't do the Lancers,
But dances both long-ways and square.

Join us on the 4th and 18th November at 8 o'clock, enquiries 830285 or 830652.

J. H.

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

The Annual Meeting of Bridge W.I. will take place on Tuesday, 16th November at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. This is an important event as there will be a ballot for a new President, Secretary and Treasurer; also a new Committee for the coming year.

Without officials the W.I. will be unable to continue in Bridge, and it is hoped that members will be willing to take on one of those duties, none of which is very demanding or difficult. Think about it before 16th! It could prove interesting and a new challenge.

D. King

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Service Change in 1994

The PCCs of Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne with Bridge both agreed that starting in January Evensong on fifth Sundays will be held at Bekesbourne, not Bridge.

This will replace Bekesbourne's fifth Sunday 8am Communion.

December Family Gift Service

Just a reminder that families are invited to bring a Christmas present to this service for one of the residents of The New Close, and we hope that a member of staff will come and receive the gifts during the service. As usual please gift-wrap your present and indicate whether it's for a man or woman.

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Reader: Mr Handley Stevens, 6 Bridgeford Way, Bridge CT4 5LE (831376)

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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)
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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

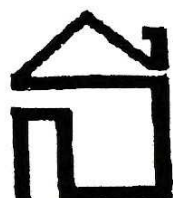
Churchwarden: Mr A. W. Fullaway, Snaefell, Adisham Road, CT4 5EY (830261)
Hon. Secretary:
Hon Treasurer: Mr D. Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne CT4 5ER (830256)
Organist: Mrs R.M. Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill, Patricbourne CT4 5BT (830205)
Captain of the Bells: Mr D. Farbrace, 3 Downside, 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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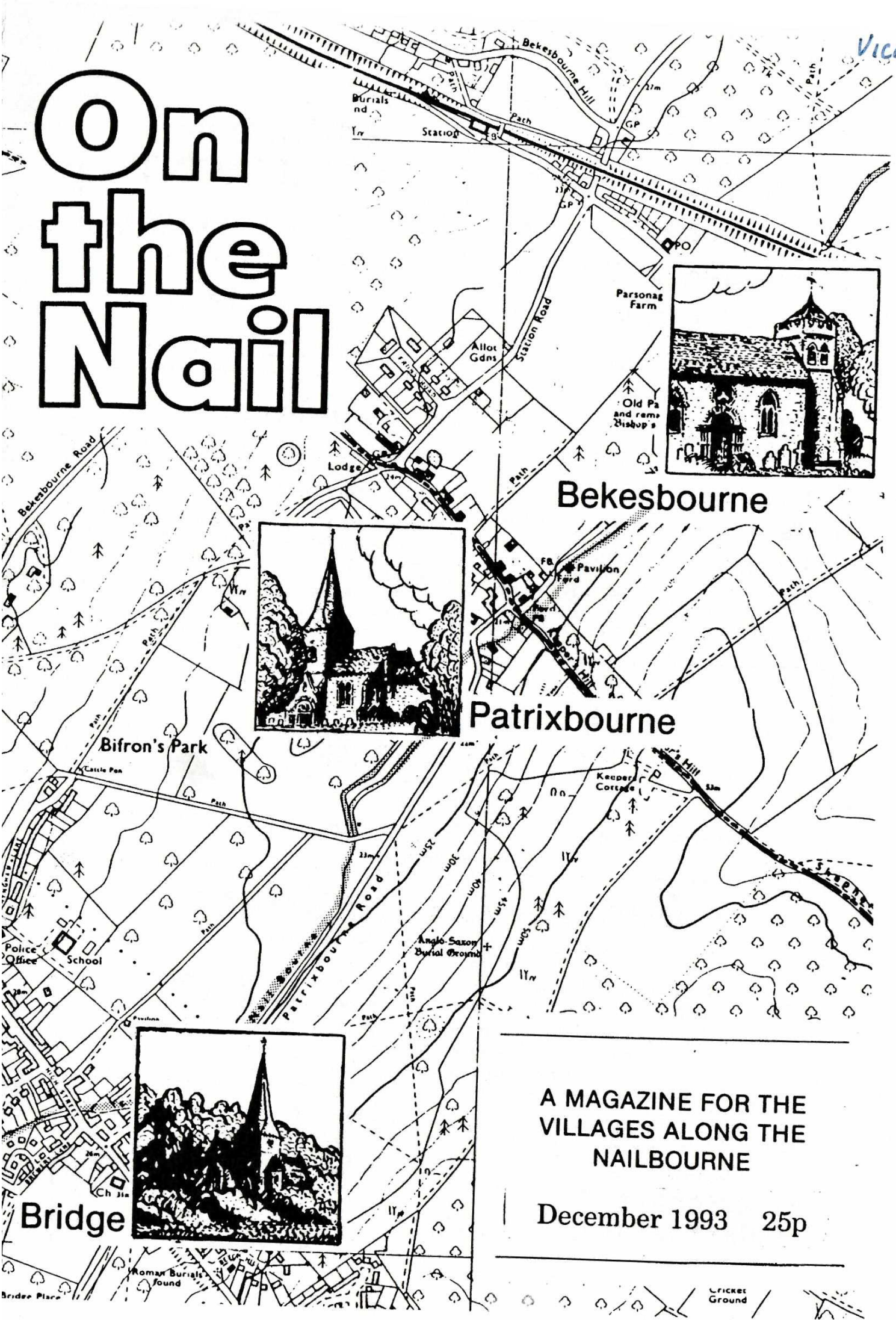
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On the Nail

Vicorge



Bekesbourne

Patricxbourne

Bifron's Park

Bridge

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NAILBOURNE

December 1993 25p

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Sunday Worship in December

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

5th:

11am Family Gift Service

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

3.30pm Evensong

12th:

9.30 Parish Communion 11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

3.30pm *Junior Church* (Mr H Stevens)
Nativity Play

19th:

9.30 Parish Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am Matins

6.30pm *Carol Service*

(Revd J Shorrocks)

26th:

10am Holy Communion *No Service today*

No Service today

No Evensong today

2nd January:

11am Family Service

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

3.30pm Evensong

PLEASE NOTE: On Sunday, 26th there will just be the one service in the three villages, a said celebration of Holy Communion (Rite A) in St Peter's Church, Bridge at 10am.

Junior Church meets in Bridge School at 9.30am every Sunday except the first in the month. It provides an excellent grounding in Christian faith and practice in the Church of England and is very popular with children of four years old and upwards, for whom it specifically caters. In recent months numbers have dropped significantly, which is a pity since those who attend find it lots of fun. For details and enrolment contact either Evelyn Andrews (830960), Jean Hopkins (830942) or Lorraine Flisher (830871).

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *5th, Holy Communion*, The Revd Christopher J Esgate *12th, Toy Service*, Mr E R O'Mahony *19th, Carol Service*, The Revd Mary R Teed *26th*, Mrs C Ovenden, Dip Th.

Weekdays Holy Communion in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am, except on 8th and 10th and in the week after Christmas. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 1st at 10.15am. The New Close service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm, except on 15th when there will be a Carol Service instead at 6.30pm, and on the Wednesday after Christmas.

For your diary and prayer list

2nd Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm

- Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meeting, The Methodist Church, 7.30pm
- 5th **Second Sunday in Advent**
- 6th *St Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c326*
Bridge Church flower arrangers meeting, The Archways, Conyng-
ham Lane, 7.30pm
- 7th *St Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher of the Faith, 397*
- 8th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 9th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 11th Pray for Katrina Lennox and Nicholas Gurr to be married this
afternoon in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne.
Bridge Parish Supper & Entertainment, School Hall, 7 for 7.15pm.
Proceeds to St Peter's Church and Claire Brasier's Indian trip.
Tickets £4 each from Ann Medhurst or Claire.
- 12th **Third Sunday in Advent**
Junior Church's Nativity Play takes place this afternoon in St
Peter's Church, Bridge at 3.30pm.
- 13th Senior Citizens entertainment, Bridge School, 1.30pm
- 14th *St John of the Cross, Mystic, Teacher, 1591*
Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7pm
- 15th The New Close Carols, 6.30pm to which outside visitors (singers
especially) are cordially invited.
- 16th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 19th **Fourth Sunday in Advent**
Candlelit Carol Service at St Peter's Church, Bridge, 6.30pm
- 23rd Carol Service, St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne, 7pm
- 24th **Christmas Eve**
Christingle Service, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 4pm
Midnight Eucharists at Bridge and Bekesbourne, 11.30pm
- 25th **Christmas Day**
8am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)
9.30am Holy Communion with Carols (*Patricxbourne*)
10.30am Family Eucharist (*Bridge*)
11am Family Carol Service (*Bekesbourne*)
- 26th **Sunday after Christmas**
The one act of worship in the benefice today will be a said service of
Holy Communion (Rite A) in St Peter's Church, Bridge at 10am.
- 27th *St John the Evangelist*
- 28th *Holy Innocents*
- 29th *St Stephen the First Martyr*—(transferred from 26th), also St
Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1170

From the Vicar

St Luke, who wrote the fourth gospel, has a lot to answer for! It's his

doing that the idea came about that Jesus was born in abject poverty. It's a final comment in the birth story that's to blame, added presumably to explain why the Bethlehem shepherds found the baby 'wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger'. The key words, almost an after-thought, are 'because there was no room for them in the inn'.

Even when we stop thinking in terms of a modern hotel, a sort of Bethlehem Hilton with private rooms, which it certainly wasn't, we've no reason to jump to the conclusion that the holy family was somehow shunted out into a cattle shed because they couldn't afford it or because they were homeless. Quite apart from Luke's remark Joseph, as a carpenter, must have been fairly comfortably off and well able to provide for his family. Moreover, if it really happened as Luke reports they probably meant to stay on in Bethlehem for an overnight stop, though the unfortunate coincidence of the birth may have delayed their home-ward journey somewhat.

The point I want to make is that the harsh conditions under which the Saviour was born weren't due to poverty but the sheer impossibility of squeezing more people into a confined space than it could actually hold: the accommodation being open-plan, doss-down-anywhere-you-can. I'm convinced that Luke's intention was to quash any idea either that the holy family was poor and homeless, or whoever ran the inn was as hard-bitten and unconcerned as one feels many of today's B&B hoteliers may be.

Surely the birth was traumatic enough without pious attempts at further embellishment. Jesus, from the moment of his birth, was fully human, including the human proneness to suffering. When God became man there were no half measures, and certainly no need to fabricate additional sufferings. He was completely in tune with life on earth and in the course of it suffered more than any of us, even in being born. In a way his saving work began at his crib; it didn't hold off until his cross!

Christmas 1993

Details of the Christmas programme at Bridge, Patrixbourne and Bekesbourne Church are in the Diary column on page 5 and you are warmly invited to join whichever celebrations take your fancy. We hope that you will accept the offer and that we shall see you at some time over the Christmas period.

Christmas Specials

In the run up to Christmas, events not to be missed include Junior Church's Nativity Play in Bridge Church on Sunday afternoon, 12th. This replaces Evensong at 3.30pm. Carol Services are at Bridge on Sunday, 19th at 6.30pm, Patrixbourne on Thursday, 23rd at 7pm and Bekesbourne on Christmas Morning at 11am. The annual Christingle Service takes place as usual on Christmas Eve at 4pm, when the collection will be given to the work of *The Children's Society*. Collections will be taken at all Christmas Services on the Eve and Day (not being Sundays they're independent of deeds of covenant or the envelope scheme). At Patrixbourne and Bridge the collection will be given to a good cause yet to be determined.

Communion at church . . .

Opportunities for Christmas Communion begin with the midnight services at Bekesbourne and Bridge on Christmas Eve, both starting at 11.30pm, and on Christmas Day at 8am (Bridge), 9.30am (Patricxbourne) and 10.30am (Bridge).

. . . and at home

Anyone housebound or too ill to get to church can receive their Christmas communion at home from the reserved sacrament. The blessed sacrament is kept at Bridge Church all year round for communion to the sick. If this is your only chance of communion at Christmas (or at any other time of year) call the vicar (830250) to make the necessary arrangements.

The service in your home is short, unfussed and brings great spiritual strength, healing and comfort. Making one's communion this way also keeps alive that all-important link with the congregation in church, since the sacrament is renewed weekly at the Sunday Eucharist.

Do get in touch if you would like help in this way, particularly at Christmas-time.

For Senior Citizens

The Staff and Children of Bridge and Patricxbourne CEP School invite all Senior Citizens to an afternoon of entertainment on Monday, 13th at 1.30pm in the School Hall. Refreshments will be served. For help with transport please ring 830276. RSVP.

Getting ready

Church decorating for Christmas at Bekesbourne takes place on Christmas Eve from 10.30am onwards, when all hands will be welcomed.

Bridge flower arrangers are invited to a meeting at Viv Brasier's house, The Archway, Conyngham Lane on Monday, 6th at 7.30pm to discuss Christmas decorations and next year's rota.

Viv's desperate cry for help with Church flowers continues, "Please, is there anybody out there who could put a few flowers in a vase twice a year? If so please come to the meeting or phone me on 830981".

* * *

THANKS to Alicia Pentin for a donation towards the wooden kneeler supports in the Lady Chapel at Bridge, also to John Hill for the gift of a ramp, made with his own fair hands, to make it easier for wheelchair users to get into the church.

Deepest sympathy is extended to Vernon David on the very sad death of his wife Janet in the Pilgrim's Hospice on 6th November. Bridge Church was filled by her relations and many friends for a funeral service on 16th, conducted by the vicar. A moving tribute was paid by her longstanding friend, Jenny Vye. Our prayers for Vernon and Elizabeth in their very sad loss.

Autumn Fayre success

The weather most definitely was *not* kind to us, nevertheless the Autumn Fayre on 13th November was an undoubted success, due entirely to

expert organisation and plentiful support from planners and stallholders. Thanks to all of you for paving the way to a splendid profit of £920 (only £60 down on last year's record total). Thanks also to those who came and spent so lavishly. It was a great occasion enjoyed by everyone, never mind the rain!

Sponsored Bike Ride, 1993

A total of £215 was raised by riders from Patricxbourne this year on the Friends of Kent Churches sponsored bike ride. Riders for St Mary's, Patricxbourne were Marion Harlow, Joan Carpenter, Megan Pritchard and David and John Morris. Many thanks to all who braved the worst weather we have had for a number of years. Thanks are also due to those who manned the church, namely Pauline Pritchard, Joan Carpenter, John and Ailsa Williamson, and Keith Nicholson. *Andrea Nicholson*

Correction: Among the cyclists for Bekesbourne was Marion Trudgill, not Harlow — as reported in October's *On The Nail*. Our apologies for the mistake.

Royal British Legion Bridge & District Branch

At the AGM on 27th October the following officers were elected: *Chairman:* Mr K Greenaway, *Vice-Chairman:* Mr D Cartwright, *Hon Secretary:* Mr J T Stripe, *Hon Treasurer:* Mr B Vaughan.

The local collections for the Earl Haig Poppy Fund exceeded previous results by about £200, the final figure being £859, for which we are extremely grateful to collectors and donors. *Jim Stripe*

Bridge Neighbourhood Watch

Once again we are approaching the long, dark nights; each and every one of us must be vigilant.

We are the eyes and ears of the Police Force, and we are the ones with local knowledge. The Police highly value information passed quickly on to them. If in doubt, do something quickly and report anything you consider suspicious direct to the Police.

Property coding is most important, and advice may be obtained from the Crime Prevention section at the Police station. Coloured photographs of any valued possessions are also of great help.

Garages and sheds should be kept locked and side access to property made secure to prevent intruders having entrance to the rear of property, where they can work undisturbed.

Security locks and window fasteners are necessary and windows should not be left open during absence.

The Co-ordinators of Neighbourhood Watch wish all villagers a safe and happy Christmas. *Ted Smith*

Bridge with Patricxbourne WI will have their annual Christmas meal at the Granville Hotel, Lower Hardres at 7pm for 7.30pm on Friday 10th December. There will be a choice of menu.

Continued on page 13

Bridge with Patrixbourne WI, continued:

The December meeting will take place on Tuesday 14th in Bridge Village Hall at the earlier time of 7pm. There will be an entertainment by the County Choir.

D King

Bridge Choir at the Cathedral

from Bill Rose

We were a party of eleven who attended this year's RSCM Cathedral Festival. As usual it was a great success and particularly rewarding for those who had given time to put in some extra practice. The conductor was the Cathedral Organist, David Flood, who called for his usual exacting standards and we felt that he succeeded in drawing out the best from us.

Bridge successes

We were proud of the achievements of three of our members who were presented with their well-earned awards during the service: Emma Medhurst (Senior Bishop's Award), Catherine Pike and James Hopkins (Dean's Award).

Katie also received a special prize for attaining the highest marks on her course.

Thanks go to the parents who gave their support and encouragement in making these results possible.

Ed: On behalf of the entire Bridge congregation, well done to all three award winners. You've done splendidly! Special congratulations to Katie on that additional feather in her cap.

Daily Mail's LeWalk

A sponsored walk through the Channel Tunnel organized by *The Daily Mail* newspaper is taking place on 12th February, and amongst the lucky participants tackling the thirty-one miles under-sea plod is Richard Llewellyn, the Bishop of Dover. He is walking in aid of L'Arche, an international scheme through which people with learning disabilities and those who care for them live together as partners in family groups. L'Arche ('the Ark') consists of almost four hundred homes spread over twenty-six countries; three of them situated locally in Canterbury, Eythorne and Barfreystone.

If you would like to sponsor the Bishop there will be sponsorship forms around the villages after Christmas.



Up to strength: At the Parish Council's monthly meeting the Chairman, John Hill, welcomed John Hodgson on to the Council to fill the casual vacancy caused by Mr Ken Greenaway's resignation. Mr Hodgson, of Patrixbourne Road, has lived in the village for over twenty

years.

Local Government Review: As the review of local government in Kent continues, the views of parish councils are being actively sought. Bridge Parish Council will consider draft proposals for the role of parish councils at a special meeting on Wednesday 23rd November, after which their response will be forwarded to the County Council.

Plant now, bloom later: Cllr Franklin, together with other councillors will be planting more spring bulbs in the village, this time on the banks of the junction of Western Avenue and Mill Lane.

Take notice: A key to the Parish Council noticeboard outside Bridgeway Stores will now be held by Cllr Franklin, since the new Clerk is not resident in the village.

Where are they now? Next year sees the centenary of the setting up of many parish councils, who have records right back to 1894. The earliest records Bridge seems to have are for the early 1950s when councillors were debating two familiar topics — bus shelters and street lighting. The Council hope to track down the earlier records and would be happy to hear from anyone who can help.

Affordable Housing: At its recent meeting the Parish Council expressed disappointment at the rejection by Canterbury City Council of the proposed plan, in partnership with the Conyngham Estate, to provide affordable housing and small business units offering employment opportunities in the village. The Parish Council will be meeting with the Conyngham Estate in the near future to discuss the next step.

Unwelcome callers: Following a recent incident in the village, residents are reminded of the advice offered by Neighbourhood Watch concerning unexpected callers: it is best not to open the door to callers, especially at night, unless you know who they are.

Margaret Church, Clerk

Fish News



May we appeal again for knitting wool in any thickness, colour or quantity you happen to have lying around. Please bring it along to the Coffee Pop-In or telephone Rosy Green on 830204.

The next Coffee Pop-In *with mince pies* will be on Wednesday, 8th December in Bridge Village Hall from 10.15 to 11.45am. New faces are always very welcome and transport to and from the hall can be arranged.

A.R.

Confirmation 1994

The Bishops of Dover and Maidstone have devised a three year scheme of visits throughout the diocese, one of three being restricted to a Confirmation Service covering a whole deanery. This is where we shall be in 1994, so that the only Confirmation Service open to us next year will be on Sunday, 29th May in St Nicholas Church, Ash at 11am. In accordance with current practice the Confirmation will be part of the

Eucharist, the confirming bishop being Gavin Reid, the Bishop of Maidstone.

Two young people and one, maybe two adults have indicated their desire to be prepared for Confirmation in May. If you are twelve years old or upwards and would like to discuss the possibility of confirmation for yourself, now's the time to do so. Either contact the vicar off your own bat or if you are of school age come to the vicarage on Thursday, 16th December for a short introductory session to find out what's involved.

In the case of children the decision to prepare should be no one's but theirs, and they should not feel that they are committing themselves finally at this early stage.

Clothes to Sheffield

The consignment of clothes from here to 'Genesis', the second-hand clothes shop run by our Sheffield link parish, was taken on 25th October by Handley Stevens with Emma Medhurst, Louisa Starling, Elizabeth and Katie Pike and Elizabeth Walder.

Elizabeth Walder's detailed report of the trip was sadly too long to print in full, but here are some snippets of 'a good two days'.

WE PUT our belongings into the minibus and left for Andrea Nicholson's house to pick up the clothes. We were amazed how many had been donated and wondered how we were going to fit them all into the bus. After a great deal of stuffing bags under seats (sorry to those of you who spent time ironing any of the garments you had donated) we managed to join the A2 at 0930.

We arrived at Sheffield unharmed and early and had to wait for someone to arrive, which they soon did, swiftly followed by Walter. We unloaded the clothes, then were led across a roundabout to the newly-built St Swithin's Church, which was very nice and they were obviously proud of. They made us a cup of tea in the church kitchen which was gratefully received, and we sat on some comfy chairs and had a chat, which was very pleasant. While we girls washed up the cups Walter and Handley disappeared. They came back some time later to ask us if we wanted to see the church's baptismal pool. We went into the other room to discover they had busied themselves pulling back the altar to reveal it, so we took it in turns to stick our heads through this newly created gap in the floor boards. It was very interesting to see one.

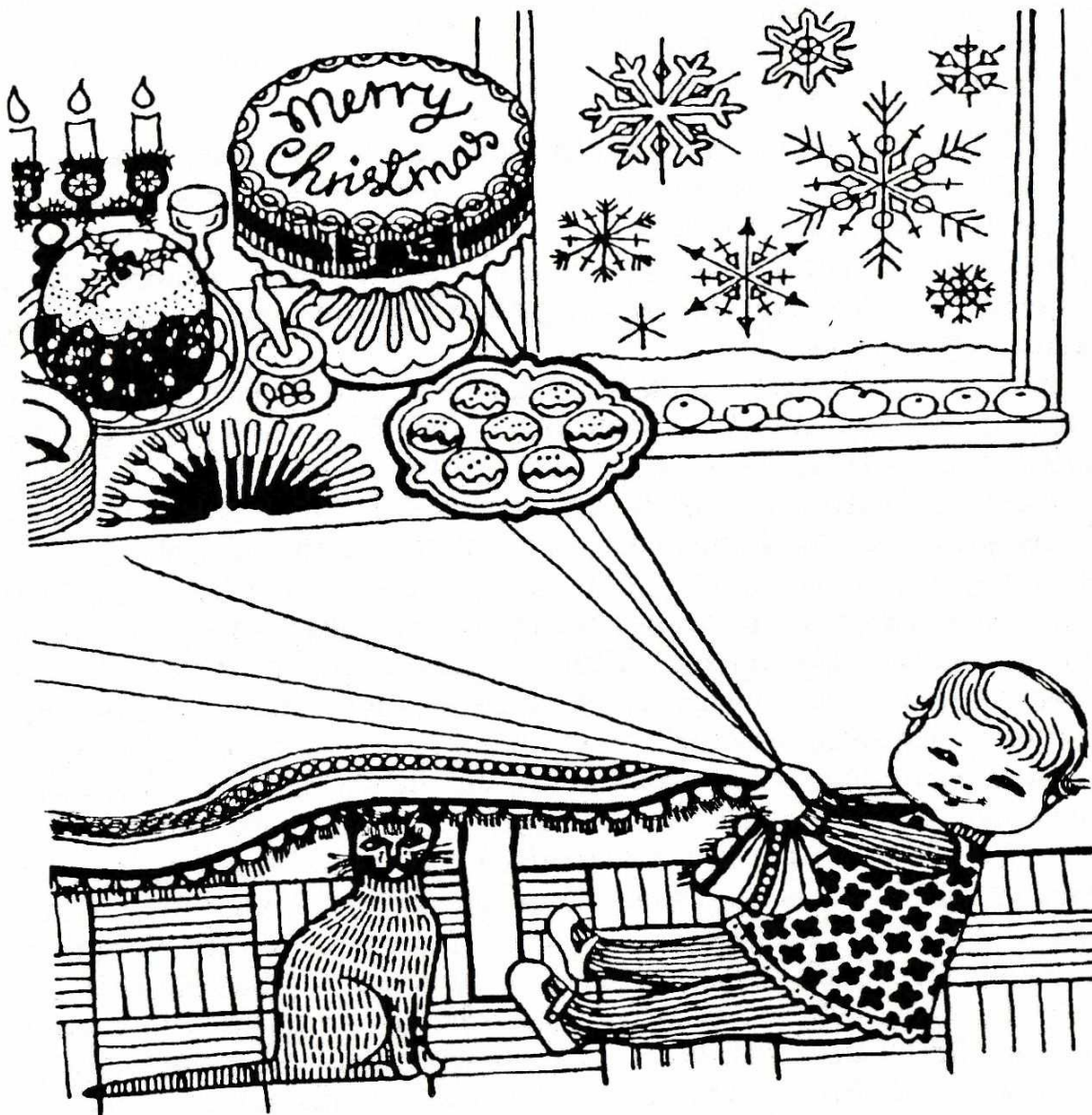
Down the hill at St Aidan's we were greeted by lots of smiling, friendly faces and a delicious shepherd's pie. Some members of Joan's Youth Club arrived with the vicar's new wife and we went in search of the swimming baths which were built for the Student Games and makes Kingsmead look like a puddle. There were two pools, the racing pools with diving blocks and the leisure pool, where we spent most of the time battling with the wave machine, swimming through the rapids and going down the flumes.

Later on we left Handley for some peace and quiet and accompanied Rachel, the vicar's wife on her evening walk with the dog out on to Sky Edge with its amazing view over Sheffield. When we got back to the church we played some games and then went to bed.

Next morning we were given for breakfast a feast of cornflakes and toast, then spent a long time talking to Joan about the area she lives in. We were surprised to hear that people steal the brass handles off the doors and from the top of the fire hoses in her block of flats.

Before heading for home the party visited the Meadow Hall Shopping Centre, about which Elizabeth observed . . . It was decided that it must be paradise.

■ *Contributors please note:* Items for the January *On The Nail* should reach the editor by 12th, due to the Christmas holiday.



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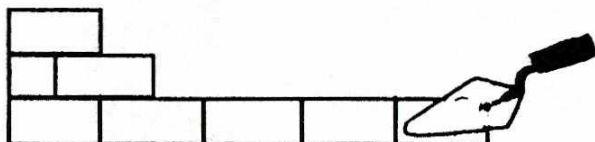
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Bridge and Patricxbourne Autumn Fayre is to be held on Saturday 13th November 1993. Once again the organising committee are asking you to help us in this major fund raising event by making a donation to one or more of the stalls.

We have particular need of items for the gift stall, although groceries, bottles, cakes, preserves, toys, books, tapes, records, etc. would also be most welcome.

A collector will call during the next few weeks for any items you may have. Any queries to Pat Dunderdale, 830668.

Please, give generously.

Thank you for your support