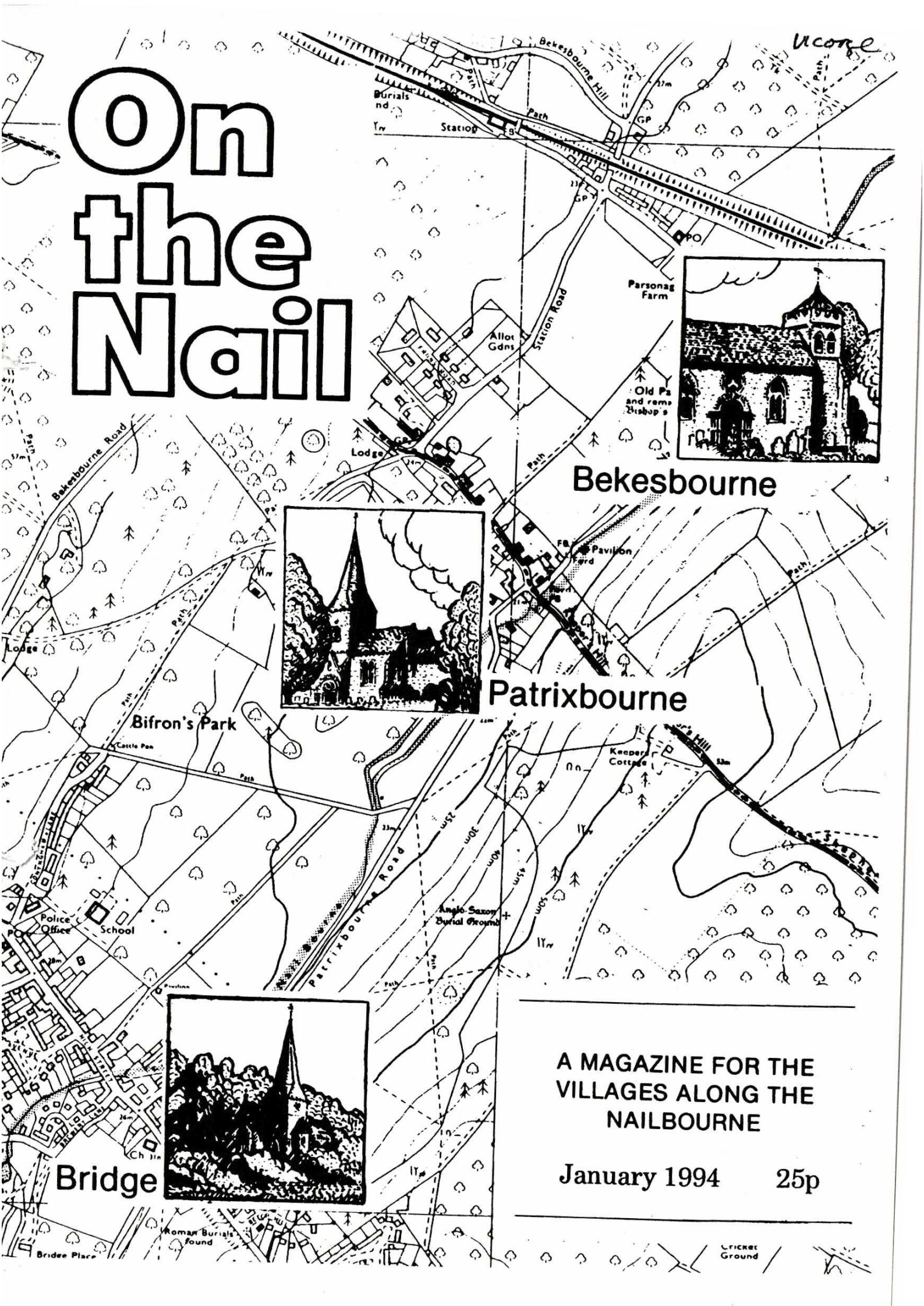


# On the Nail



Bekesbourne

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Bifron's Park

Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

January 1994 25p

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# Sunday Worship in January

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

## 2nd:

11am Family Service  
(Mr H Stevens)

8am Holy Communion  
(Canon P Heartfield)

9.30 Parish Communion  
(Canon J Packer)

3.30pm Evening Prayer (no Sermon)  
(Mr H Stevens)

## 9th:

9.30 Parish Communion 11am Matins  
3.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

## 16th:

9.30 Parish Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am Matins  
3.30pm Evensong  
(Mr H Stevens)

(Revd J Shorrocks)

## 23rd:

8am Holy Communion 9am Holy Communion 11am Matins  
6.30pm *Peter's Praise*  
(Revs D & E Brazell)

## 30th:

9.30 Parish Communion 11am Matins  
with the Laying-on  
of hands

3.30pm Evensong

## 6th February:

11am Family Service 8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion  
3.30pm Evensong

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 parents please contact either Evelyn Andrews (830960), Jean Hopkins (830942) or Lorraine Flisher (830871).

**PLEASE NOTE** Starting this month there is a change to the pattern of worship, affecting Bridge and Bekesbourne Churches only. In future, on months with a fifth Sunday Evensong will be held at Bekesbourne, not Bridge. There will be no 8am Communion.

**Bridge Methodist Church** at 11am: 2nd, Mrs H Colyer, BA 9th, Mr F J Allen 16th, *Covenant Service*, The Revd Mary R Teed (Preacher: The Vicar) 23rd, Dr E A H Tresidder 30th, Miss J Charlesworth, MA

**Weekdays** Wednesday morning Holy Communion in St Peter's Church, Bridge is suspended until Easter. On Fridays Holy Communion

(Rite A) at 7.30am, except on 7th. 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 *Naming of Jesus* or Circumcision of Christ  
2nd **Second Sunday after Christmas**  
6th **Epiphany of our Lord**  
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, 7 Windmill Close, 7pm  
9th **First Sunday after Epiphany**  
12th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am  
13th *St Hilary of Poitiers, Teacher of the Faith, 367*  
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm  
Bekesbourne PCC Meeting, School House, School Lane, 7.30pm  
16th **Second Sunday after Epiphany**  
17th *St Antony of Egypt, Abbot, 356*  
18th **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins**  
Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
20th United Service, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm  
21st *St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr, 304*  
22nd Bekesbourne Neighbourhood Watch, Village Hall, 10.30am  
23rd **Third Sunday after Epiphany**  
*Peter's Praise* will be at 6.30pm and we shall welcome the husband and wife team of Denis and Elizabeth Brazell, both of whom are ordained. Denis will conduct the worship (theme: The Conversion of St Paul) and Elizabeth will direct the music, provided by our own young brass instrumentalists.  
24th *St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Teacher of the Faith, 1622*  
25th **Conversion of St Paul**  
26th *Timothy and Titus, Companions of St Paul*  
Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough & Harrow, 8pm  
27th *St John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, Teacher of the Faith, 407*  
Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Bridge Methodist Church, 8pm  
28th *St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Teacher of the Faith, 1274*  
Pray for the Deanery clergy who meet in chapter this lunchtime  
30th **Ninth Sunday before Easter : Septuagesima**  
During the 9.30 Parish Communion the healing ministry of the Laying-on of Hands will be available. It can be received either for oneself or on someone else's behalf.

*Each January's 'On The Nail' has an article from either the Rural Dean or the Lay Chairman of the Deanery Synod. This year the latter puts pen to paper.*

**1994** promises to be a challenging year for the Church in our Deanery. At last the Diocesan policy document *Worshipping, Welcoming, Working and Witnessing*, the fruits of parochial discussion has appeared; encouraging us to address such questions as, "What more needs to be done?", "What areas should we be tackling now?"

Much help is at hand. Next September the diocese will have available *Exploring our Faith*, an eighteen-week study which will help us with questions of our faith. You might like to have parish groups, or join a deanery group for this. Tutors will be trained in the early Summer. The Deanery Education Committee will be in touch.

Several parishes have been thinking about their patterns of worship, so that these become 'accessible to the community at large'. In addition to parishes like Bridge which already have a long tradition of Family Services, the Littlebourne group have introduced *Morning Praise* and Aylesham is starting a similar service this month. This awareness of the importance of all-age worship in extending the kingdom of God is very encouraging. I have noticed too how different people in the community come to Taizé Prayer, bereavement services, healing services, etc.

\* \* \*

Last summer I was walking past an old church in the market place in Durham. Intrigued by the fact that the door was open I went in. Imagine my surprise when I found myself in the midst of a hive of activity. The sanctuary was on the north side, the chairs arranged in a semi-circle around. On the walls was an attractively presented, simple statement of the Christian faith. There was a church office, so no need to bother the vicar; a quiet room for prayer or meetings, well-stocked Christian bookstalls and a shop opening on to the market place for the sale of Third World goods. Only later did I discover that this was the church described in our Archbishop's book *The Church in the Market Place*.<sup>\*</sup> Now, obviously not all these ideas are applicable to our own churches but one or two might be. I have been excited by the number of churches who are thinking imaginatively about the re-ordering of their buildings — some even with plans drawn up — with the object of making the building more suitable as a centre of worship and mission.

Co-operation across parish boundaries is something in which the deanery can play a vital role. Remember the thrill of hearing the united choirs of the deanery singing in the cathedral last year? In Holy Week an invitation is forthcoming to sing Stainer's *The Crucifixion* at Littlebourne. Singing, praying and learning together is not only a practical use of resources but also personally encouraging and stimulating. If you feel lonely in your patch or you need help, talk to one of your deanery representatives and we'll see what can be done to help.

Happy new Year and may God bless you all!

Mary Ambrose

<sup>\*</sup>St Anne's, Bishop Auckland is the same, with a church café and shop.

## A THIRD WORLD INITIATIVE

*Traidcraft* is a cleverly devised title for a splendid organisation! It neatly combines the three key elements in this charitable organisation's itinerary — trade, aid and craft.

*Traidcraft* operates under the auspices of a number of aid agencies, *Christian Aid* being one of them and its trade is carried on by local volunteers, the goods for sale including such obvious Third World products as coffee, tea, dried fruit and spices. In the normal commercial world the actual producer gets a very meagre cut from the money made and in most cases works long hours under appalling conditions for a pittance. *Traidcraft* cuts out the middle ground, thereby ensuring a much better and more just return for those who produce the goods. Mixed up in the trade, therefore, is the aid.

Other items retailed through *Traidcraft* include domestic paper products, pottery ware, woodwork and other fruits of skills and craftsmanship from underdeveloped countries.

In all its work *Traidcraft's* sole aim is to help those who hitherto have been exploited, by improving working conditions and guaranteeing a just reward for their labours. It is not a commercial organisation pure and simple, out to make big profits at others' expense, and the many local volunteers who market the products do so to bring aid where it is most needed, not to compete with or undercut regular commercial outlets.

Since retiring from Junior Church Hilary Pike has expressed a desire to serve the world's poorer people through *Traidcraft* because she believes most strongly in the link between helping the needy and the gospel of the kingdom of God. For the last month or two she has been available in Bridge Church after morning service on the first two Sundays of each month with information about *Traidcraft* products. In this connection she generally has a few examples in stock and takes orders as requested. Last month a representative from *Traidcraft* came along with a much wider range of items, but that was purely a one-off visit that won't be repeated. Normally Hilary operates on a small scale at the back of the church for anyone interested.

## Joys and Sorrows

### **Made a member of Christ through baptism**

In the course of Bokesbourne Matins on 28th November **Kali Louise**, second daughter of Penny (née Denne) and Kevin Zygmant, was through baptism made 'a member of Christ, the child of God and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven'.

### **Joined in Christian marriage**

On 11th December at St Peter's Church, Bokesbourne the vicar officiated at the wedding of a former choirgirl **Katrina Lennox** and **Nicholas Gurr**.

## Ruth Grey, 1909 – 1993



The very sudden death of Mrs Ruth Grey at her Bridge home on Thursday, 2nd December left the community of Bekesbourne Church and Village quite devastated. She wasn't young and her health wasn't good, yet she seemed so sprightly and full of the joys of life. Only the day before she had attended the regular service at The New Close and was so excited about her Christmas arrangements. We got no hint that we wouldn't see her again. She died so suddenly as she and her sister were about to eat their lunch: she had been seen out in the village only that morning.

Ruth gave so much, even in her latter years, to her large and devoted family, to her church, which she continued to attend as regularly as she ever did, and to a large circle of friends who were exceedingly fond of her and revelled in her company. She was in every respect a lovely person and no-one ever found her dull or dismal. In more active times she worked assiduously for Bekesbourne Church, supporting her husband Stanley, singing in the choir and serving on the PCC. Christmas Markets and Flower Festivals found her deeply involved, her quiet, smiling presence adding a quality all its own to everything she touched.

A large congregation assembled in St Peter's Church on Tuesday, 14th December for a service prior to cremation and in due course her ashes will be laid to rest with those of Stanley close to the church door that she passed in and out of so many times over long years.

May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

## Bekesbourne Christmas Market

Despite being hampered by bad weather and a power cut that blacked out the hall for the duration, Bekesbourne Church and Brownies' Christmas Market still managed to raise £425, about £50 down on last year's record total.

I would like to thank everyone who manned the stalls, with a special thank you to Pam Rees who in the course of the afternoon tested eleven Brownies for their hostess badge (not an easy task for them under the circumstances). Thank you also to everyone who provided items and who came and supported us.

*Jill Gillanders*

## Bekesbourne Neighbourhood Watch

On Saturday, 22nd January at 10.30am at Bekesbourne Village Hall a postcoding marking session will take place. It will be a great opportunity for all who come along to have their 'Christmas presents' postcoded and to view the Police Crime Buster double-decker bus, which we have asked

*Concluded on page 13*



to be present. It depends on whether or not a police driver is available. It is also envisaged to hold a coffee morning in the hall on the same day to help with the cost of hiring the bus.

*M Howells*

## *On The Nail Noticeboard*

### **Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute**

Following our successful Christmas celebrations the first meeting of the new year will take place on Tuesday, 18th January at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. The speaker will be Mrs A Shirley.

*D King*

### **Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch**

As you may already know the amazing figure of £859 was raised by last November's local Poppy Appeal. Everyone must be thanked for their efforts, particularly Barry Whiting in master-minding the entire operation.

The first branch meeting of 1994 will be at the Plough & Harrow, 8pm on Wednesday, 26th January.

Our main prayers are for peace. Could this be achieved so many other things will fall into place.

The Bridge branch members would like to wish everyone a joyful New Year!

*Jim Stripe*

### **Nailbourne Horticultural Society**

Welcome to a new horticultural year! We hope there is something in our programme to suit all our members. The year starts off with an illustrated talk on *Roses and Clematis*, given by Mr A J Berrill. This will be in Bridge Methodist Church on Thursday, 27th January at 8pm.

*B Anderson*

## **Everybody's Building**

*by Abigail Ingram*

On 9th November we went to Canterbury Cathedral Church Schools Day at the cathedral, where we took part in three workshops. Altogether there were twenty-seven workshops in which you could do many different activities like needlework, bookmaking, pottery, architecture, etc.

We were dropped off by the coach at 9.30am and Mr Grenville Hancox spoke to us. After practising a few hymns and having the opening worship we got into our groups and had our first workshop, which was Story-telling. The stories were told by the staff of Kent Arts and Libraries Service in St Michael's chapel next to the crypt. It was a small chapel with beautifully coloured walls and pillars with animals singing and dancing on.

It was a limit of forty-five minutes in each workshop. After forty-five minutes of Story-telling we moved on to Dancing with the Nimbus

Dance Group. We learnt a dance to *People of Power* (a hymn) and did lots of exercises. We also learnt another dance which Pat, the lady in charge, didn't give the name of.

Then we all assembled in the Chapter House and had lunch. We were all given badges and soon after we got into our third workshop, Needlework. We did some cross-stitching; we made a little badge the shape of the ground floor of the cathedral.

Afterwards we had a final worship and sang a few hymns, whilst there was a procession of banners showing every single school that took part (twenty-nine schools!). While we were singing *One more step along the world I go* all the banners were held up at the top of the nave with the Bishop of Maidstone and the clergy stood by the Compass Rose.

I thoroughly enjoyed my day and I hope that another Year 6 gets the chance to go again. Everybody had something to take home at the end of the day.

## Confirmation 1994

Those young people who are thinking about confirmation need to know that we meet for the first preparation session in the vicarage on Thursday, 12th January from 6 till 6.30pm. Three so far have told me that they are interested, but if you're not one of them just turn up with the rest anyway so that hopefully we can make a start. We shall be meeting each Thursday, with a few exceptions, for half an hour from 6 o'clock. More information on the 12th.

Potential adult candidates, please make contact with me if you haven't already done so. We shall have our own group meetings in due course.

Young and not-so-young candidates should understand that the real commitment is made at the Confirmation Service: until then anyone can back out with a good grace if they feel it's not for them. At least give it a go! You've nothing to lose and possibly everything to gain.

## Bridge Parish Council:

### Report of recent meetings

**Extraordinary meeting:** At an extraordinary meeting on 24th November, the Parish Council considered its response to two discussion papers on the future structure of local government. With the Local Government Review due to begin in Kent on 13th December, councillors had some reservations about the move to unitary authorities, particularly with regard to the provision of social and education services. Councillors plan to attend the full City Council meeting on 12th January, when the question of local government reorganisation will be discussed.

**Monthly meeting:** At the December meeting, councillors discussed the County Council's *Transport Plan for Kent* in which strategies for dealing with the projected increase in traffic within the county are discussed.

The emphasis on encouraging alternatives to travelling by car were welcomed, but councillors felt that much would have to be done before any major switch away from private cars could occur.

**Planning matters:** The Council noted that planning permission had been granted for alterations at 58 Bridge Down and 12 The Close.

*Margaret Church, Clerk*

## Fish News

The next Chiropody Clinic is from Monday, 17th to Friday, 21st January. The Coffee Pop-In in Bridge Village Hall is on Wednesday, 12th January from 10.15 to 11.45am — and new faces are most welcome. A very happy New Year to everyone!

## Brownies in a world of nature

*as reported by one of them*

*Georgina Green*

On Sunday, 21st November, in thick snow 1st Bridge Brownies met at Bekesbourne Station for a trip to the Natural History Museum. We got off the train in London and got on the Tube. When we walked from the Tube to the museum we noticed there was not much snow in London.

First we went into the Moving Body section. My best thing was a large model baby. I noticed it had a very large head compared to its body. Next we went on the moving platform. We stood on it and you feel what an earthquake is like.

We ate our packed lunch in the museum café. After lunch we went into Moving Body. There were lots of computers and video things that you are allowed to press and do which is good fun. Last we visited the Gift Shop and I bought a piece of fool's gold.

When we got back to Victoria Station the trains were delayed by snow but Brown Owl was very clever and we got on another train home. I got home very tired after a great day.

*Rosemary and Raymond Gilbert thank all those who sent them cards and greetings at Christmas. Thank you everyone for so much support over the year. May God continue to bless us all in Bridge, Patrixbourne and Bekesbourne.*

For all that has been — Thanks!

To all that shall be — Yes!

*Dag Hammarskjöld*

## THE CHURCH COMMISSIONERS

A lot has been said and written about the Church Commissioners and their problems over the last few months. Sometimes the facts get lost in a welter of angry words, so I will try to put the record straight.

The Church Commissioners were set up in 1947 to look after the property and investments which had been built up by the national Church over hundreds of years. The Commissioners use the income they produce from the property and investments to pay the pensions of retired clergy and to support the present parish clergy by helping with their stipends (salaries) and housing.

During the 1980s, the commissioners did very well financially and were able to help a lot of dioceses, particularly by improving clergy housing. However, as the '80s turned into '90s, the Commissioners found that they were too heavily invested in property and, like all property owners, they saw the value of their assets drop considerably.

Three things have gone wrong for the Church Commissioners. First, their structures and culture were not right for a massive financial institution (the Archbishop and the General Synod are working to put this right). Second, they made some bad investment decisions — always easily seen with hindsight, but usually more difficult to spot when looking into the future! And third, the cost of clergy pensions has been increasing, and will continue to increase rapidly, as more clergy retire at the age sixty-five and enjoy longer retirement.

The increasing cost of clergy pensions means that there is less money to support the parish clergy. The only other source of money to support the clergy is you and me through our collections, planned giving schemes and covenants.

It is quite natural to feel angry and resentful at the mistakes which have been made by the Church Commissioners, but my Christian faith tells me that the best thing to do with the past is to learn from it and then write it off. Forgiveness is all about me learning from my past mistakes and allowing God to write off my past. We must look to the future, and in that future we will have to provide more money to support the ministry of the living church. I am convinced that that will be a good thing — it cannot be healthy for any organisation to be subsidised by unearned income as heavily as the Church has been in the past.

Just a thought — if all the committed members of our churches took seriously the business of tithing (giving away one tenth of our income), and there are Biblical examples for us to follow — the Church would be faced with real problems. Those problems would be how to decide what to do with all the money! And if the Bible talks about tithing, perhaps the question should not be “Why should I tithe?” but rather “Why shouldn't I tithe?”

*David Kemp,  
Canterbury Diocesan Secretary*

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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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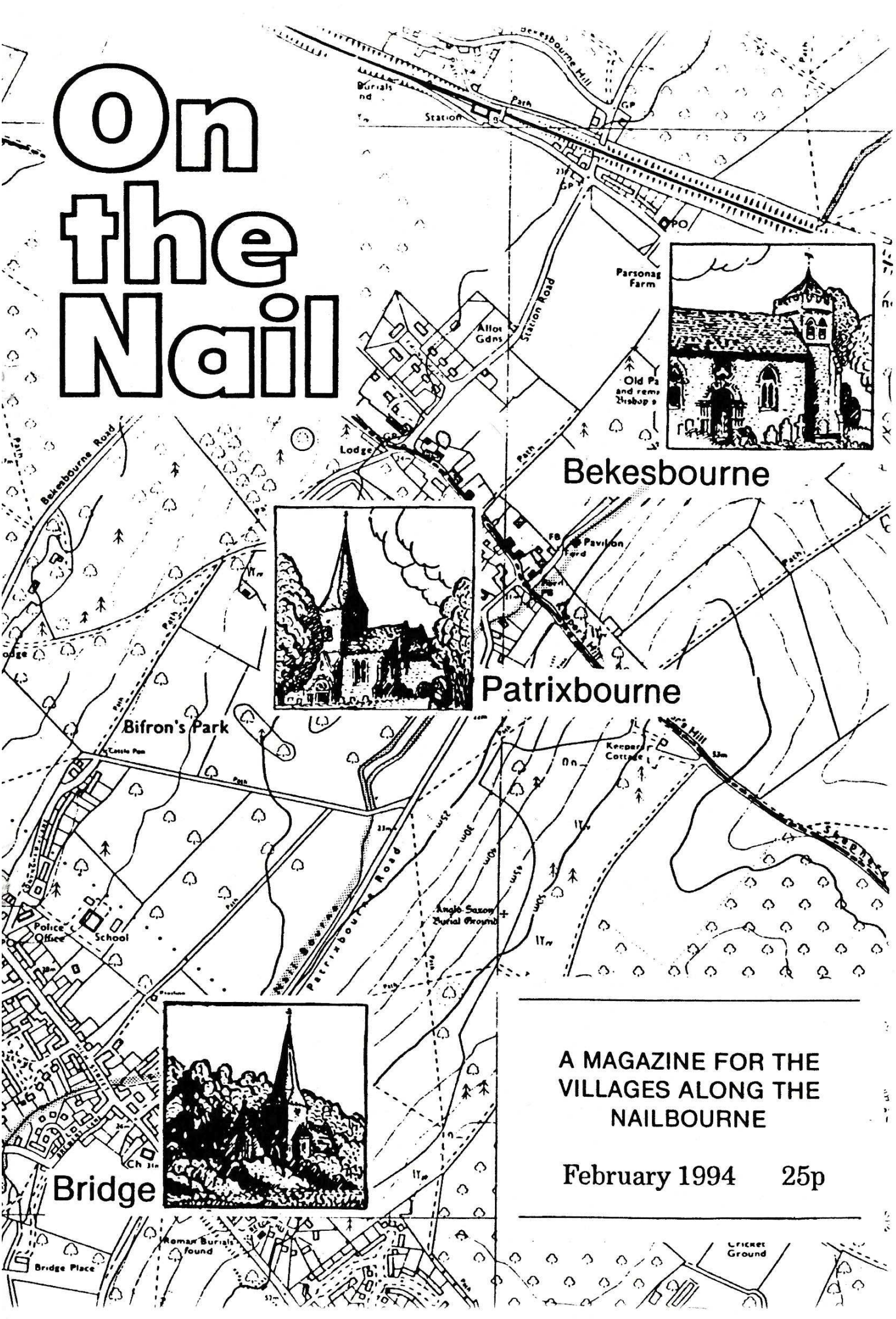
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# On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patricbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE  
VILLAGES ALONG THE  
NAILBOURNE

February 1994 25p

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# Sunday Worship in February

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

**6th:**

11am Family Service  
3.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

**13th:**

9.30 Parish Communion 11am Matins  
3.30pm Evensong (Mr H Stevens)

8am Holy Communion

**20th:**

9.30 Parish Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am Matins  
(Revd J Shorrock) (Mr H Stevens)  
3.30pm Evensong (Mr H Stevens)

**27th:**

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

**6th March:**

11am Family Service 8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion  
3.30pm Evensong

**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. For details and enrolment contact either Evelyn Andrews (830960), Jean Hopkins (830942) or Lorraine Flisher (830871),

**Bridge Methodist Church** at 11am: *6th*, The Revd J Raymond Goodburn, MA BA *13th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Stanley Taylor *20th*, Mr C G Robertson *27th*, The Revd Albert Ball.

**Weekdays** The Wednesday morning 9.30 Holy Communion (*BCP*) in St Peter's Church, Bridge resumes on Ash Wednesday, 16th February. On Fridays Holy Communion (*Rite A*) is at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 2nd at 10.15am. The New Close service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

## For your diary and prayer list

- 1st League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals (Nailbourne Group)  
AGM, The Hunter Room of Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 2nd *Presentation of Christ in the Temple*  
Pray for the Deanery Synod meeting this evening, especially our own representatives.
- 3rd Prayers for Health & Healing concerns. The Vicarage, 7pm  
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm

- 5th Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Honor Griffin, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 3pm
- 6th **Eighth Sunday before Easter : Sexagesima**  
Pray for H.M. The Queen on the Forty-Second anniversary of her Accession.
- 8th Nailbourne Horticultural Society AGM, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 9th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
- 10th Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meets in the Methodist Church, 7.30pm  
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 13th **Seventh Sunday before Easter : Quinquagesima**
- 15th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 16th **Ash Wednesday**  
Holy Communion (BCP), St Peter's Church, Bridge, 9.30am
- 17th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm  
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm
- 20th **First Sunday in Lent**
- 23rd *St Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c155*  
Lenten Address with Compline, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm  
Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough & Harrow, 8pm
- 27th **Second Sunday in Lent**

## *From the Vicar*

We can certainly admire his stamina, though I haven't met anyone yet who envies the Bishop of Dover his walk through the Channel Tunnel on the 12th of this month!

Thirty-one miles is a long trudge by any standards, but when it takes you through an enormous tube deep under the sea, with nothing to look at but plated walls to right and left and a distant black blob ahead of you it's no joke. Faint-hearted and claustrophobics beware! However, it appears that the bishop is made of sterner stuff than most, which is as well considering what he's let himself in for. As holder of the Church of England's oldest suffragan bishopric, the mind boggles as to what Richard Llewellyn's illustrious predecessors would have thought!

Remember the arrangement *The Children's Society* made for anyone who wished to walk the un-opened Canterbury by-pass at 50p a time? A cinch by comparison! Walking through the Chunnel demands the kind of dedication one might expect of a bishop; and on the credit side, think of the tremendous sense of satisfaction when it's over. The select walkers will be able to wine and dine on their experience for years! As for the charities who will receive their sponsor money, it's likely to be a fund-raising effort to end all such.

Feats of endurance carried out for charity are very common nowadays,

and the more demanding or grotesque the challenge the deeper we're inclined to dip into our pocket. But it's not so much the stunts that attract the sponsors as knowing 'it's all in a good cause'. Add that, and provided the cause is indeed good, it's possible to dish up the most lack-lustre performance and still witness people part with their money. It's not the prowess of the fund-raiser but the cause that does the trick. If it's for a deserving charity we're not too bothered about value for money, though where *Le Walk* is concerned I reckon every sponsor will get it.

Charity in Christian parlance is the same as love — and not sexual love, but that which is at the heart of all good human relationship and seeks only another's best interests. This love, which comes from God, is surely behind the willingness of the majority of people to come to the aid of the needy without expecting any returns themselves. In this spirit of love give Bishop Richard and *L'Arche* homes for the handicapped, the highly commendable charity his walk will support, your sponsorship. Please contact either Anne Rooke (830298) or Mrs Tessa Till (471787) to pledge your money.

## Lent 1994 at Bridge

Last year's highly successful and much appreciated course of Lenten Addresses in St Peter's Church, Bridge has inspired another course this year. The series is on Wednesdays at 7.30pm and consists of five addresses followed by a chance for audience participation and ending with the late evening service of Compline.

The full programme, under the umbrella title *From First to Last: A Bible Sequence* is based on the five great divisions of the Bible — the Law, the Prophets, the Writings, the Letters and the Gospels — and, with speakers is as follows:

- |               |                           |                              |
|---------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 23rd February | Adam and Eve and all that | (The Law)                    |
|               |                           | (The Revd Andrew Yates)      |
| 2nd March     | The Crystal Ball?         | .. (The Prophets)            |
|               |                           | (The Revd Peter Brownbridge) |
| 9th March     | A Good Read               | .. (The Writings)            |
|               |                           | (Canon John Packer)          |
| 16th March    | Yours very sincerely      | (The Letters)                |
|               |                           | (Canon Clifford Pollard)     |
| 23rd March    | In the news               | .. .. (The Gospels)          |
|               |                           | (The Vicar)                  |

## A happy occasion

Patricbourne Church was the chosen venue for the blessing of the marriage of James and Jane Muir-Little on 29th December. The church was filled with their relations and friends to wish them every happiness in their life together.

## Vernon Milne-Spaul

The sudden death shortly after Christmas of Vernon Milne-Spaul has deprived Bridge of one of its more endearing characters.

Though a resident of Barham, Vernon was in so many ways a Bridge man, having spent his working life in the village. Every patron of Rogers Garage knew him and many of the village's non-drivers saw him walking up and down the High Street several times a day on one or more of his business errands. Vernon could tell a good story and liked nothing better than to pass the time of day with those who used his services. Somehow he was more like a friend than a garage proprietor in that he took an interest in his customers and not just their vehicles.

Sadly his funeral took place while I was visiting in the north but I understand the crematorium chapel was full to overflowing for the service conducted by his Rector, the Revd Alan Duke.

## Words of thanks

Bridge Church would like to record its grateful thanks and appreciation to Irene Barley for a quarter of a century's diligent service as a magazine distributor. Sadly she feels it is time to call it a day and she bowed out with the December issue. A job well done!

\* \* \*

When I was going into hospital recently I packed some notelets in case I needed to write some 'thank-yous'. How little I knew! For the many, many cards, letters, flowers and other goodies I received I am most grateful. I have been quite overwhelmed by all the kindness, help and encouragement given to me.

*Margaret Jones*

## *On The Nail* Noticeboard

### Hospital League of Friends

The League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals Nailbourne Group are holding their AGM on Tuesday, 1st February in the Hunter Room at 7.30pm.

We have had a very successful year fund-raising but do desperately need new blood. Please if you can spare a little of your time to help, come to our AGM and find out more about us.

*Pat Gulvin*

### Bridge Folk Dance Group

We continue to meet during the winter on the first and third Thursdays as usual. All are welcome, with or without a partner, so come and cheer up a dull evening at the Village Hall on 3rd and 17th February at 8 o'clock. Enquiries please ring 830285 or 830652.

*J.H.*

### **Nailbourne Horticultural Society**

The AGM will be held in Bridge Village Hall on Tuesday, 8th February at 7.30pm. Mrs Pat Davidson is going to give us an illustrated talk on *Malaysian delights: travels in the Far East*. As usual all members paying their annual subscription by or at the meeting will have their name entered for the Chelsea Show ticket draw.

*B Anderson*

### **Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute**

The next meeting of the WI will take place on Tuesday, 15th February in the village Hall at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Mr E Swain on *Some Kentish Gardens*.

*D King*

### **Scouts about**

Assistant Scout Leader, Chris Maclean advises residents in the area of Bridge High Street that they may see youngsters roaming about on Wednesday evenings. If so, don't get alarmed as it's only the local scout troop on some activity or other.

### **Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch**

The Legion mourns the passing of one of its staunchest members, Vernon Milne-Spaull at the end of December. At the funeral service held at Barham the branch was represented by Arthur Punyer.

We would like to congratulate the long service collectors of the Poppy Appeal who have been awarded badges for their efforts over a number of years.

Members are reminded that we would like all outstanding annual subscriptions to be in by the end of February. Please contact me or Brian Vaughan.

*Jim Stripe (830761)*

### **Patricxbourne with Bridge Covenants Officer**

At long last the editor has got round to adjusting the name, address and phone number of the Covenants Officer at the back of *On The Nail*.

In view of his recent illness, from which we are delighted to see him looking so much better, Douglas Hill felt he must relinquish the post of Parish Covenants Officer that he has filled so meticulously for several years. His has been an exemplary period of church service, in which he has occupied every office but vicar, and the PCC paid due respects to Douglas for a great work for God and his church in this parish.

Stepping into his shoes at Douglas's own suggestion is Norman Francis, 54 Riverside Close, a comparative newcomer who already makes a substantial contribution to the life of the parish and St Peter's Church in particular.

### **Junior Church**

The recent Nativity Play was somewhat different from usual, and all the fresher for it. The characters in the play were all animals. *Continued p13*



The donkey, cow, camels, ox, sheep and a dog had met together on Jesus' twelfth birthday to reminisce on the events of his birth. The young actors looked most effective with their animal masks, and the large company who made up the audience having greatly enjoyed the play, also enjoyed refreshments in the church afterwards. Congratulations to everyone who took part, not least to the author(ess) for an original idea that really came off!

The children of Junior Church were due to see *The Snow Queen* at the Gulbenkian at the end of December.

## The Children's Society

The Christingle Service on Christmas Eve was very well supported, with a large congregation who helped raise the splendid sum of £87.93 for the Society. Thank you to all contributors, especially Junior Church and the kind anonymous benefactor who supplied all the oranges for the Christingles for making this possible.

Junior Church were well represented at the cathedral Christingle Service on 28th December. Alice, Jack and Sam Barnard; Simon, Edward and Catherine Dunderdale, and Rachael and Ian Watson all took part in the Christingle procession and presented purses of money from our Bridge collection to the Bishop of Maidstone for *The Children's Society*.

During 1993 a total of £1,038.55 was forwarded to the Society from this parish. Unfortunately the need for funds remains as great as ever to enable projects for children and families in need, teenagers and the handicapped to continue and be expanded in 1994 — and your continued support will be greatly appreciated.

*Kathy Eynon*



### **Bridge Parish Council: Report from meeting on 13th Jan.**

**Make a note of it:** Mrs Eaton in the Village Shop is now holding a diary in which, it is hoped, organisers of meetings and fund-raising events will enter the dates of those events. This should help prevent too many things happening around the same time.

**Keep an eye out:** Neighbourhood Watch have organised a visit by a Police Information Unit on Tuesday, 8th March between 6.30 and 8.30pm. The unit will be parked in the lay-by near the shops in Western Avenue and the Parish Council hope that as many people as possible will take the opportunity to visit it.

**The shape of things to come:** Applications for planning permission have been granted for the conversion of 32 Western Avenue to a resident-

ial care home to be linked to Saxon Lodge; for a bungalow to be built on land adjacent to 21 Bridge Down; for a detached house and garage on land at 'The Plat', and for extensions and renovations to Filmer House, Filmer Road.

**Sad Tree:** Councillors were surprised by a report from Canterbury City Council telling them that the very unusual Weeping Ash in St Peter's Churchyard was in such a sorry state that felling or pollarding were the only feasible options.

Councillors will inspect the tree again themselves before making any comment to the City Council.

*Margaret Church, Clerk*

## Fish News

The Coffee Pop-In in Bridge Village Hall will be on Wednesday, 9th February from 10.15 to 11.45am.

**AGE CONCERN** in Canterbury may have vacancies at the Day Centre in Castle Row for people from the villages, if drivers can be found to run them in. Is there anybody who would like to ferry people in between 10 and 10.30am and fetch them at 2.30pm, perhaps one day a week? Mileage is paid. If you think you can help please telephone Mrs J. Pritchard on 462368.

Meanwhile, of course, the Fish Scheme is always delighted to have volunteer drivers for hospital visits and trips within the village. Do please think about it and telephone Ann Medhurst on 830762.

*Contributed*

CHURCH  
CLEANING



**Bekesbourne Church**

—  
**Cleaning and Flower Rota**

*5th and 12th Mesdames Ash and Farbrace. No flowers in Lent of course.*

### **Seen in the Surgery**

*Doctor's:*

"If I should be too tired to give you a smile,  
will you please leave one of yours, for  
nobody needs a smile as much as  
those who have none left  
to give."

*Dentist's:*

"Don't just sit there — WORRY!"

# Bekesbourne Historical Snippets

*by David Millyard*

## **A Boarding School in Bekesbourne**

Some time in or before 1841 one Frederic Wood set up a boarding school in Bekesbourne. It started in Chalkpit House, the farmhouse of Chalkpit Farm, which was later presumably pulled down as it no longer exists. (I do not know the date or the cause of its demolition; I believe traces of foundations have been found.)

On Census Day in 1841 Frederic, then aged about thirty, and his wife had eighteen pupils living at Chalkpit together with one female servant. By 1844 they had moved to the Old Palace which they called Beakesbourne House. The school was a thriving concern for a time; Bagshaws Directory of Kent of 1847 says that Beakesbourne House has been "converted into an extensive boarding school by Mr Frederic Wood, which is very numerously attended by young gentlemen; the situation being one the most healthy and pleasing in East Kent", surely a quotation from the school's prospectus! But it was not to be a very long-lasting institution. By 1854 Beakesbourne House was unoccupied.

During his time in Bekesbourne Frederick did his duty as one of the leading persons in the village. At the annual Vestry meeting on 3rd April, 1846 he was, as the register puts it, "appointed Churchwarden by the Vicar" (at that time the Revd Craigie Robertson MA) and he continued to serve in this capacity until 1851 and again in 1852-53.

## **The Pilgrims Way**

Has anyone ever satisfactorily explained why mediæval pilgrims took the cross-country roads nowadays designated as Pilgrims Ways, instead of the old Roman Roads? Why in particular come along the byeways from Dover if the A2 (Roman Watling Street) is faster and straighter? But presumably they did so. The route back towards Dover out of Canterbury is obvious: up the street now called Pilgrims Way off St Martin's Hill, past Little Barton and through what we still call Mount's orchards, past Hode Farm and down Hode Lane into the street shared by Patricbourne and Bekesbourne. Today's North Downs Way, which so far follows the old pilgrims way, now goes round the corner by Patricbourne church and off up the hill towards Highland Court and the A2. Victorian maps, however, mark 'Pilgrims Way' against the Adisham Road out of Bekesbourne and up the hill past Chalkpit farm. So this was the traditional way, and the path from the Street would be down the river valley, past the two manor houses, the one owned by the cathedral priory on the left bank of the river and what is now called Cobham Court on the right bank and below St Peter's Church; then off right to the next village of Adisham and so on to Dover. One wonders how many, rich and poor, came over from the continent and walked or rode through Bekesbourne in the middle ages to the great shrine of St Thomas.

## **ANIMALS OF THE BIBLE**

### **The Sheep**

The sheep is beyond any doubt the most important animal in the Bible. It is the first animal to be mentioned precisely by name (Genesis 4:2 Abel's sacrifice of a lamb), and it also appears in the very last chapter of the Bible (Revelation 22:1, the Throne of the Lamb).

The earliest known evidence of domestic sheep comes from northern Iran, from about 5,000 BC. Abraham would have known several different breeds of sheep and they would have been familiar to the Hebrews in captivity.

Sheep were of tremendous value to the early peoples living in the Fertile Crescent, providing milk and meat, and clothing from their wool and skins. Most Holy Land sheep are the Awassi fat-tailed breed, which stores a reserve of fat, serving the same purpose as the hump in camels.

In Winter and early Spring, when there has been good rain, the whole country is covered with grass, including the normally barren Judean wilderness. These sheep also thrive on the dry stubble left after barley has been harvested in April.

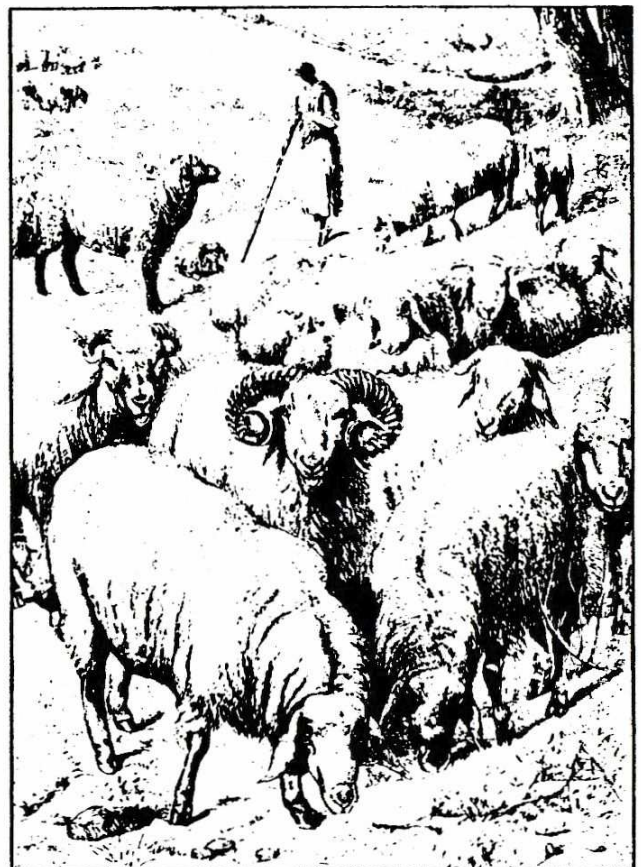
In the West we are used to white sheep, but the first sheep were probably brown, like their wild ancestors. It is still common in Bible Lands to see herds of white, brown and black sheep, mixed with white, brown and black goats, bringing the parable of the separation of the sheep and the goats to mind (Matthew 25:31-46).

In the Law of Moses the lamb was constantly used in the Temple sacrifices and, as such, was one of the great illustrations of our Lord "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world", as John the Baptist introduced Jesus in John 1:29.

The Biblical sheep is also a striking metaphor of man, and it is an interesting study to trace its progress from "lost" to "found". For instance, in Isaiah 53:6 the lost sheep realises its plight, but we must turn to the New Testament to find the answer in our Lord's teaching, for He showed Himself to be the Good Shepherd who was not prepared to abandon the single lost sheep (Luke 15:4) and finally gave His life for the sheep.

It is left to David, himself a shepherd by training, to describe in Psalm 23 the feeling of the sheep in the safe keeping of the Good Shepherd. At Christmas we remember that the good news of the Saviour born that very day in the city of David was given first to shepherds in the fields.

*Based on an article by George Cansdale, one time Superintendent of the London Zoo and the "zoo man" of television, who died recently.*



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, Patricbourne 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, Patricbourne CT4 5BU (830947)

Covenants Officer: Mr N.C. Francis, 54 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830945)

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

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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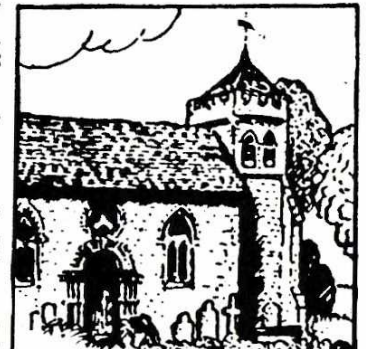
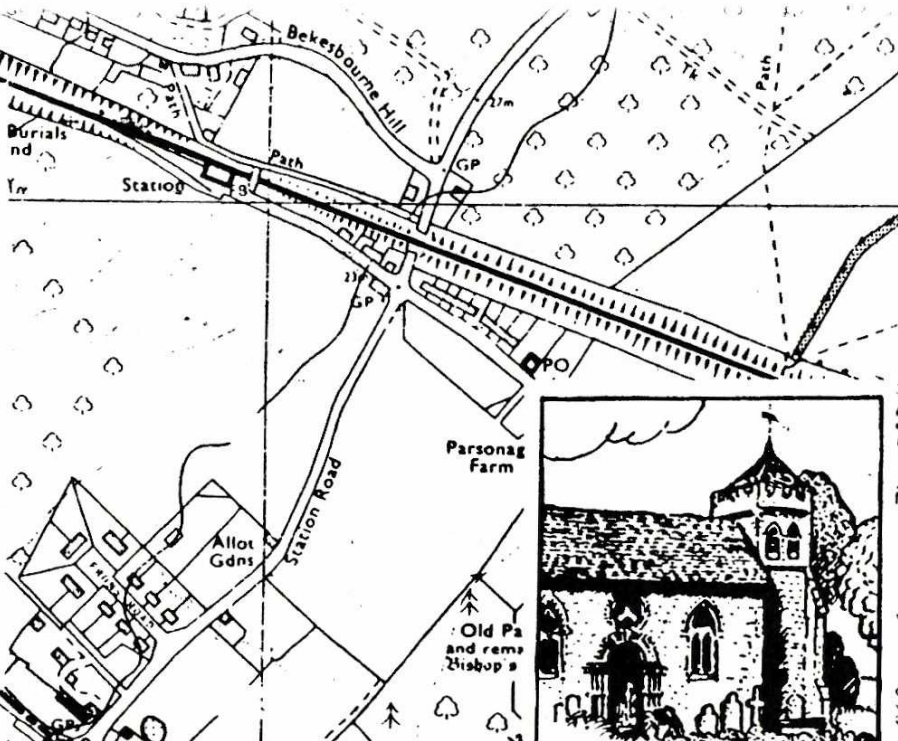
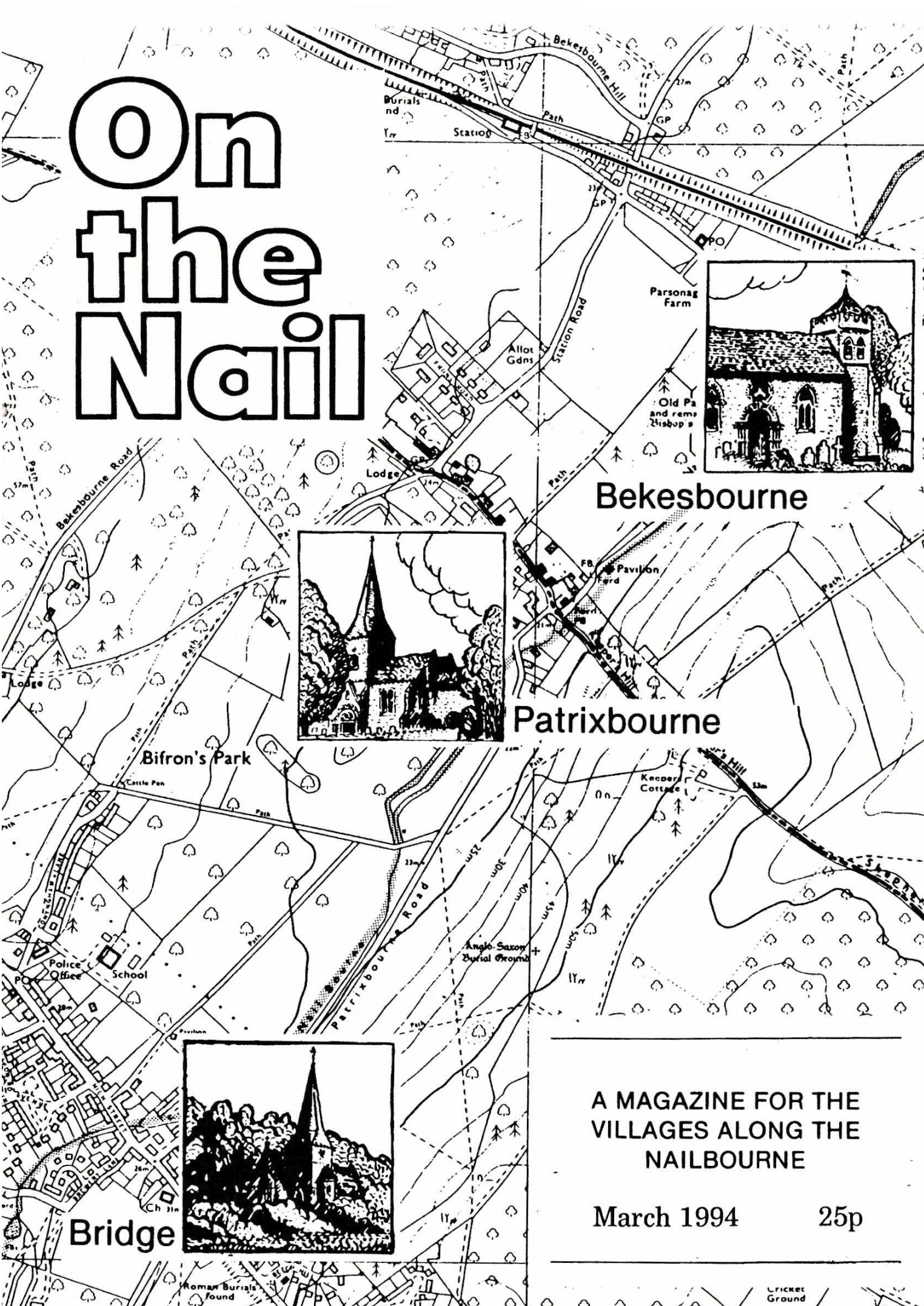
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# On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patricbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

March 1994 25p

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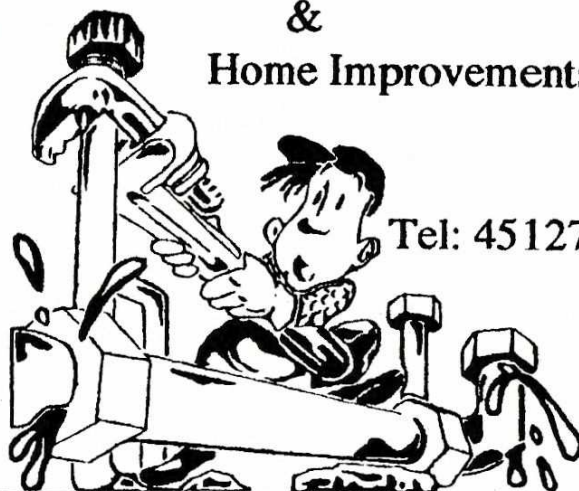
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# Sunday Worship in March

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

## 6th:

11am Family Service      8am Holy Communion      9.30 Parish Communion  
3.30pm Choral Evensong

## 13th:

*No Services at Bridge today*      9.30am Parish Communion      11am *Mothering Service*  
3.30pm Evensong

## 20th:

9.30 Parish Communion      8am Holy Communion      11am Matins with Holy  
3.30pm Evensong      (*Revd J Shorrocks*)      Baptism

## 27th:

8am Holy Communion      9am Holy Communion      11am Blessing of Palms  
6.30pm *Palms & Passion*      (*Revd J Shorrocks*)      & Parish Communion

## 3rd April, EASTER DAY:

11am Easter Eucharist      9.30 Holy Communion      11am Easter Eucharist  
6.30pm Easter Evensong      with Sermon      (*Revd J Shorrocks*)

*MARCH CHANGES* On the weekend 12th-13th a working party will be cleaning the Lady Chapel walls at St Peter's, Bridge (How about joining it?) so the PCC decided to transfer all services to Patricxbourne on the 13th. The usual Mothering Sunday Service will be at Bekesbourne at 11am that day.

On Palm Sunday morning, 27th, instead of Matins at Bekesbourne there will be the Blessing of Palms followed by a celebration of the Eucharist. The same day at Bridge Peter's Praise will be replaced by Palms & Passion; a Procession from the Methodist Church (Please meet there for the Blessing of Palms at 6.30pm) to St Peter's for a service of Readings, Prayers and Hymns in preparation for Holy Week, including a dramatic reading of St Matthew's Passion by our young people.

**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 caters. For details and enrolment please contact either Evelyn Andrews (830960), Jean Hopkins (830942) or Lorraine Flisher (830871).

**Bridge Methodist Church** at 11am: 6th, Mr F J Allen 13th, Family Service, The Revd Howard J Skinner 20th, Mrs H Colyer, BA 27th, Holy Communion, The Revd Mary R Teed.

**Weekdays** Holy Communion (BCP) in St Peter's Church, Bridge every Wednesday at 9.30am and on Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. Holy Communion at Churchill House is on Wednesday, 2nd 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*  
Bridge Village Hall Committee Meeting, The Hunter Room,  
7.30pm
- 2nd *St Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary, 672*  
Lenten Address & Compline, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm
- 3rd Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 4th Women's World Day of Prayer Service, St Peter's Church, Bridge  
2.30pm (Speaker: Dr Doreen Rosman)
- 6th **Third Sunday in Lent**  
The Choir will sing at Bridge Choral Eevensong, 3.30pm
- 7th *St Perpetua & her Companions, Martyrs of Carthage, 203*
- 8th *Edward King, Bishop of Lincoln, Teacher of the Faith, Pastor, 1910*  
Police Information Unit coach, Western Avenue shops, 6.30 -  
8.30pm
- 9th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am  
Lenten Address & Compline, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm
- 10th Churches Together in Bridge meeting, Methodist Church, 7.30pm  
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 11th Pray for the Deanery Clergy who meet in Chapter this lunchtime.
- 12th St Peter's Church, Bridge is closed for cleaning. Volunteers will be  
welcomed with open arms! Ring 830668 or 830708 to offer your  
services!
- 13th **Fourth Sunday in Lent : Mothering Sunday**  
Bridge Church stays closed for services today: the 9.30am Parish  
Communion and 3.30pm Evensong will be at Patnixbourne. No  
11am Matins today. The traditional Mothering Service is at St  
Peter's Church, Bekesbourne at 11am.
- 15th Bridge with Patnixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 16th Lenten Address & Compline, St Peter's Church, Bridge 7.30pm
- 17th *St Patrick, Bishop, Patron Saint of Ireland, c460*  
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 19th *St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
Pray for the Diocesan Synod assembled today at South Ashford.
- 20th **Fifth Sunday in Lent : Passion Sunday**
- 23rd Lenten Address & Compline, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm
- 24th Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Bridge Methodist Church, 8pm  
Bekesbourne PCC meets, School House, 8pm
- 25th *Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary*
- 27th **Palm Sunday**  
At St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne the 11am service has the  
Blessing of Palms, followed by Parish Communion with Hymns  
and a Sermon. *Palms & Passion* at 6.30pm is a service on the  
passion of our Lord. The congregation is asked to assemble in the  
Methodist Church, Patnixbourne Road for the Blessing of Palms and

reading of the Palm Sunday Gospel. Then we go in procession to St Peter's Church for a service of Passiontide hymns, prayers and readings; including a dramatic reading of the Passion Narrative by our your people.

28th **Monday in Holy Week**

29th **Tuesday in Holy Week**

Churches Together in Bridge offer a service of Meditations on the Symbols of the Passion, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm

30th **Wednesday in Holy Week**

31st **Maundy Thursday**

Eucharist to commemorate the Last Supper & Stripping of the Altars, St Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm

## Lenten Addresses with Compline

The addresses on the general theme *From First to Last – A Bible Sequence*, continue on the Wednesdays of Lent in St Peter's Church, Bridge at 7.30pm. The individual topics and speakers are as follows: 2nd March, 'The Prophets – The Crystal Ball?', The Revd Peter Brownbridge, Vicar of Wingham; 9th, 'The Writings – A good Read', The Revd Canon John Packer; 16th, 'The Letters – Yours very sincerely', The Revd Canon Clifford Pollard; 23rd, 'The Gospels – In the News!', The Vicar.

### HOLY WEEK & EASTER 1994

#### *Tuesday, 29th March*

9.30am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)

7.30pm "Symbols of the Passion" (*Bridge*)

#### *Wednesday, 30th March*

9.30am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)

#### *Maundy Thursday, 31st March*

7.30pm Evening Eucharist with Stripping of the Altars (*Bridge*)

#### *Good Friday, 1st April*

11am "Proclaiming Christ's Cross" Readings, Prayers and Hymns for Good Friday, conducted by the Vicar

2pm "The Last Hour" Devotions conducted by Miss Mary Ambrose, Reader, Parish of Kingston

#### *Easter Day, 3rd April*

9.30am Holy Communion with Hymns and Sermon (*Patricbourne*)  
(*The Vicar*)

11am Easter Eucharist (*Bekesbourne*) (*The Revd J Shorrocks*)

11am Easter Eucharist with Lighting of the Paschal Candle and Renewal of Baptismal Vows (*Bridge*) (*The Vicar*)

6.30pm Festal Evensong (*Bridge*) (*Preacher: Mr Handley Stevens*)

# *From the Vicar*

Last year our Holy Week observances were uplifted by the addition of the Ceremony of Stripping of the Altars on Maundy Thursday. Though new to us at Bridge, it's actually quite ancient. A word of explanation for those who don't know what it's all about!

On Maundy Thursday evening our Lord instigated the Holy Communion during the last supper with his disciples. From the Upper Room the company went to the Garden of Gethsemane, where after a period of anguished prayer Jesus was arrested and the dark cloud of his trial and crucifixion settled over them. To commemorate those events each Maundy Thursday we celebrate the Eucharist, and not in the sombre fashion as throughout Lent but in a festive mood.

By the end of the service the tone of rejoicing (as in the upper room) gives way to a sense of dereliction (in line with the agony and arrest in the garden when 'all the disciples forsook him and fled'). The Stripping of the Altar is an attempt to kindle a similar feeling of impending tragedy in the worshippers, and it's done by stripping the entire sanctuary bare of its decorations at the culmination of the eucharist. While the hangings and coverings are removed the congregation meditatively recites Psalm 22, a poignant psalm that expresses the feeling of abandonment one imagines the disciples felt that first Maundy Thursday: 'They part my garments among them: and cast lots upon my vesture'.

A member of last Maundy Thursday's congregation found this small ceremony intensely moving, white coverings and lighted candles, contrasting starkly with the bareness when he lifted his eyes from the page at the end of the psalm.

\* \* \*

Holy Week is potentially the most emotive week in the Christian calendar, following closely as it does, the final week in our Lord's earthly life. When opportunities exist to deepen our understanding of the Passion it's a pity not to take them.

This year as an added bonus members of Churches Together in Bridge (Anglican, Methodist and Roman Catholic) offer some telling meditations on the Symbols of the Passion, compiled by Mary Teed the Methodist Minister, and taking place in St Peter's Church, Bridge on the Tuesday of Holy Week at 7.30pm. This chance to ponder our salvation in the company of members of other churches in the community is not to be missed, both for the opportunity to be together and for its own sake. The meditations are a mixture of biblical and non-biblical material, interspersed with passiontide hymns, and will make a significant contribution to our thinking and praying in Holy Week.

Do join us at one or all of the week's events as the story unfolds and we take the way of the Cross. The celebration of Easter, at the climax of the week, will be all the more wonderful as a result.

## Group 2000 Come Clean

After the successful cleaning of the Chancel walls in St Peter's, Bridge, a working party is being assembled for the next onslaught. This time we are planning to tackle the walls and arches in the Lady Chapel. So if there are some keen folk out there, please keep Saturday, 12th March free for 'washing down' day, and Sunday, 13th March for 'clearing up' day. Can you spare an hour or two?

As space is restricted in the Lady Chapel compared with the Chancel area, not too many people will be able to work at any one time, so it would be helpful to have assistance spaced out during the day. If you feel you can help please contact Lawrence Dunderdale (830668) or Stephen Pike (830708) and let them know what times you are available. If you have a spare bucket, brush and sponge, that too would be helpful. Refreshments will be supplied.

*Kath Pierce*

## The Church Commissioners yet again

*David Kemp, Diocesan Secretary takes up the story*

"CHURCH TO HALVE CASH FOR CLERGY" So ran the headline in Tuesday's *Daily Telegraph*. If you allowed it to spoil your breakfast, you probably made the mistake of believing everything that's written in the press!

Two quotations from the article — "Proceeds from the collection plate would have to double over three years" and "Closures and cuts loom unless collections double" — are, I have to say, untrue (at least in Canterbury Diocese). There is no reason to change the forecasts we have been making for nearly a year now — that giving will have to increase by about 10% a year for the next three or four years. A quick calculation will show this to be an increase of less than a third, not double.

This is not a new crisis which has been discovered by the indefatigable hounds of the press. The story comes from discussion papers prepared for the usual annual meeting between the Church Commissioners and representatives of the dioceses which takes place later this month. That meeting will be just part of discussions that have been going on for many months.

In Canterbury diocese there are no plans to make clergy redundant — no plans to close parishes — no plans to reduce the presence of the Church of England in towns and villages across the county.

The problems of the Church Commissioners do present us with a challenge which will mean that we shall have to review all kinds of areas of the Church's activity. Such reviews will mean close consultation with people, clergy and PCCs to find the best ways of maintaining and supporting our worshipping communities and bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to everyone in East Kent.

So, buy the *Daily Telegraph* by all means, but don't believe everything you read in it!



# Patricxbourne with Bridge Planned Giving Scheme

*by the Covenants Officer, Norman Francis*

With the approach of the new tax year many families' thoughts turn to their income and the possibility of getting a cost-of-living rise. So it is with the family of the church whose expenses rise with inflation in the same way as those of domestic households.

For this reason it is the task of the Parochial Church Council, as bread winner for the church family, to seek to raise its income to meet increasing costs: not only current inflation but to meet a larger share of its own running costs as endowments and grants diminish in value over the years. In any case the Diocese of Canterbury is working towards every parish being self-supporting by the year 2000.

The Planned Giving Scheme operates mainly in two ways: 1, Agreeing to give the same amount every week by using an envelope provided and date stamped, *whether you attend church every week or not*, and 2. For those who are tax-payers covenanting to do the same thing. This last is of great benefit to the church since it means that for every £1.00 donated the church can reclaim 25p in the pound on the gross amount, *i.e.*, your £1.00 gives church funds £1.33 (£52.00 a year and covenanted is worth £68.67 to us).

To those of you who already contribute through the Scheme, all ninety-seven of you, please will you consider whether you can give the church a 'raise' this year. Although a Deed of Covenant is signed for four years it can be altered, up (or down), or cancelled if your circumstances change.

Planned giving is most helpful to the church since it enables us to know what our income is likely to be over a given period, but if you feel that a one-off donation suits you better, don't be put off — the Treasurer will be pleased to receive any amount, especially as we are faced with expensive repairs at both churches.

If you would like to know more, wish to join the Scheme on either a Freewill or Covenanted basis or would like to make a donation please contact Norman Francis on 830945.

## *On The Nail* Noticeboard

### **Bridge Village Hall Committee**

A meeting of the above committee will be held on Thursday, 1st March in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm. It is hoped that a representative from all organisations using the Village Hall will be present.

*John Round, Chairman*

### **Bridge Neighbourhood Watch**

May I remind you of the visit of the Police Information Unit Coach on Tuesday, 8th March between 6.30 and 8.30pm. The coach will stand in the lay-by in Western Avenue near the shops, outside the hairdressers, and it is hoped to see many of the local residents.

Police and Neighbourhood Watch members will be available for advice and help regarding security both in the home and with regard to your car or cycle. Vehicle security is of considerable concern to the Police and your help is needed. Please find time to visit the coach.

*Edgar Smith,  
Controller*

### **Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute**

The monthly meeting of the Women's Institute will take place on Tuesday, 15th March at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. The speaker will be Mrs R A Bell and the subject *A Day in Town* — a floral demonstration. New members are always welcome.

A reminder that the Annual Council Meeting will take place at Margate on 23rd March.

*D King*

### **Nailbourne Horticultural Society**

The next meeting is on Thursday, 24th March at 8pm in Bridge Methodist Church, with a talk on *Propogation* to be given by Mr D Mason.

*B Anderson*

### **Bekesbourne Brownies**

After many years as Brown Owl of Bekesbourne Brownies, Phyl Denne is leaving the unit at half term and I would like to thank her for all the time and enthusiasm she has given to Brownies over the years.

The two Assistant Guiders are quite prepared to run Bekesbourne Brownies, but they both live in Sturry and it would be beneficial to have a Guider living either in Bekesbourne, Patrixbourne or Bridge. To this end I would like to invite any woman between the age of eighteen and fifty-five to consider helping with Brownies on Tuesday evenings between 6 and 7.15pm in Bekesbourne Village Hall. If you are wondering what happened to Gill Gillanders (Tawny Owl), because of a chronic back condition she is taking a back seat and will be there as a helper as and when she is fit enough.

If helping with Brownies appeals to you, but you feel you would like to visit them to see what it is all about, or you want to know more about what is involved, please ring either Gill Gillanders (830894) or me (830224) and we will help you. Brownies are keen and enthusiastic, and working with them is very rewarding. Please come and help.

*Mrs Maggie Field, District Commissioner*

### **A Gardening Offer**

Vernon David of Bridgeford House, Brewery Lane offers the vegetable plot in his garden to a keen, local gardener for his/her own use. Please ring 830268 for further details.

### **Samaritans in June**

Margaret Jones gives plenty of notice that her annual Samaritans fundraising day is on Thursday, 2nd June.

## The Journals of William Schellink's Travels in England, 1661 - 1663

*Some years ago I published in the parish magazine an article on William Schellink, a Dutch artist who used to stay with Sir Arnold Braems at Bridge Place. This building, the surviving wing of which is now the Country Club, was the second largest country house in East Kent in the seventeenth century and was built on the profits of the Dover Harbour Board, of which Sir Arnold was first chairman; he is buried in Bridge Church. Three extracts from the article, the first of which appears this month, will interest and amuse those who live in the area, and I am much indebted to Mrs Anne Shirley for help with the manuscript, which has recently been translated from the Dutch and published by the Royal Historical Society.*

*John Williamson*

In the afternoon of the 8th [July 1661] we had a farewell dinner in our lodgings with some friends and acquaintances and left Dover at 3 o'clock in a carriage which Sir Arnold Braems had sent to take us to his delightful residence at Bridge, one hour's walk from Canterbury and twelve miles from Dover. Along a very pleasant road all the way, we passed Sandown Castle and the Downs below us on the right, and Whitfield on the left, passed through Waldershare and Womenswold, then past Barham up on the hill and through Kingston and Bishopsbourne in the valley, on to the estate of Sir Arnold Braems also down in the valley. We arrived there at 8 o'clock in the evening to a friendly welcome and were magnificently entertained, and drank quite a few good healths with sack.

On the 9th we played on the bowling green on the hill near Sir Arnold Braems's place.

On the 10th we saw a hart shot with a crossbow in the deerpark of Sir Arnold Braems; everybody, especially the ladies, washed their hands in the warm blood, to get white hands. The hart was immediately gutted and cut into quarters.

On the 11th a venison pie and other dishes of the hart were on the menu. After the meal I walked to Canterbury and explored the town.

On the 12th we rode in two carriages with Sir Arnold Braems and Mr Adriaens of London and several ladies to Canterbury, and went to the cathedral to hear the canons sing the prayers, and looked at the sepulchres or gravestones of kings, bishops and other notables, some very old and ravaged by age and war. In the recent troubles between king and parliament, Oliver Cromwell had here, as elsewhere through the country, everything which looked like popery, such as glass, statues and the like, in and on churches and other public buildings, torn down and broken to pieces.

## Bridge Parish Council:

**Change of date:** The date of the Annual Parish Meeting has been changed and is now Thursday, 28th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. A representative from the National Rivers Authority will speak on *The Nailbourne — a disappearing river?*

**Sporting chance:** A proposal from Bridge Village Sports Trust for an extension to the pavilion to provide more adequate accommodation for home and visiting teams and social functions was considered by the Parish Council. The proposal will, of course, need the approval of the Conyngham Estate and of Canterbury City Council, but the Parish Council feel the extension would add to the recreation ground facilities.

**Go with the flow:** Thanks were expressed to the National Rivers Authority for the speed with which they attended blockages along the course of the Nailbourne to ensure the river flowed following the recent heavy rains, without overtopping its banks. Brewery Lane and Mill Lane have been closed to through traffic for some time now, and we understand that the RAC has been on almost permanent call to the ford at Keepers Hill.

**Walkabout:** The coloured map, produced by KCC and the Countryside Commission showing public rights of way in the parish which is currently on display near Bridgeway Stores, should soon be available to buy. Supplies will soon be made available by KCC and it is hoped that local retailers will agree to stock them.

**Chewing the cud:** The Council heard complaints that congestion from parked cars was causing damage and erosion to grass verges in Conyngham Lane in the vicinity of the school. It seems that the restricted access is making it difficult for the school bus to make the turnings into the Lane and down to the school. The parish council will be taking the matter up with those concerned to try and avoid further damage.

**Heavy metal:** A proposal to extend packing sheds at Highland Court has led to fears of a further increase in the number of lorries using the High Street. Cllrs Hill and Connor will attend a site meeting in mid-February to voice the Parish Council's fears and to press for adequate signposting via the A2 for lorries en route to Highland Court.

**Weeping ash:** Following inspections by councillors and considerable discussion on the state of the weeping ash in St Peter's Churchyard, councillors reluctantly decided to endorse the view of the City Council's Landscape and Horticultural Officer that the tree should be pollarded in the hope of encouraging fresh growth.

**Next meeting:** Thursday, 10th March at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room

*Margaret Church*

### EASTER DECORATING:

Anyone who would like to donate Easter Lilies for Bridge Church is asked to contact Viv Brasier, 830891 for details and to place an order. Decorating for Easter will start at 10am on the morning of Saturday, 2nd April.

Donations for Easter Lilies at Bekesbourne will be gratefully received by Christine Ash, Parsonage Farm, 830214. Anyone willing to help with decorating the church might like to contact Christine in advance to find out what is wanted or simply turn up on Holy Saturday morning.

**FISH NEWS;** Just room to say Coffee Pop-In, Wed 9th March 10.15- 11.45. The Blossom Tour will be on May 4th, Annual Fund-raising May 21st. Chiropody 21st - 25th March. More news of a new service in April.

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 N.C. Francis, 54 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830945)  
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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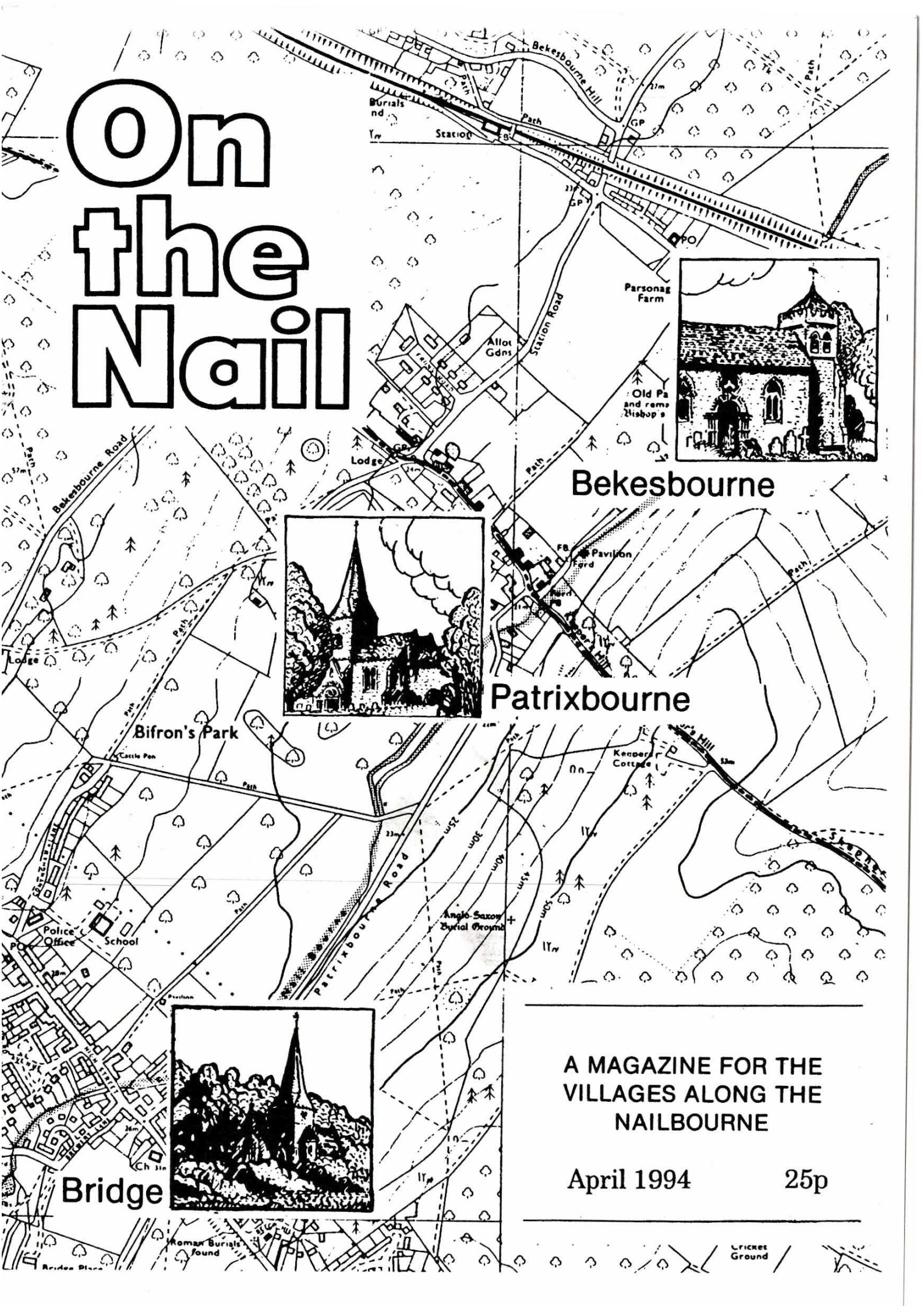
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# On the Nail



Bokesbourne

Patrixbourne

A MAGAZINE FOR THE  
VILLAGES ALONG THE  
NAILBOURNE

April 1994

25p

Bridge

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# Sunday Worship in April

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

## 3rd, EASTER DAY

11am Easter Eucharist 9.30 Holy Communion 8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong 11am Easter Eucharist  
(Preacher: Mr H Stevens) (Revd J Shorrocks)

## 10th:

9.30 Parish Communion 11am Matins 8am Holy Communion  
(Revd J Shorrocks) (Revd J Shorrocks)  
6.30pm Evensong  
(Canon J Packer)

## 17th:

9.30 Parish Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am Matins  
6.30pm Evensong  
(Mr H Stevens)

## 24th:

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

## 1st May:

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

**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 caters. For details and enrolment please contact either Evelyn Andrews (830960), Jean Hopkins (830942) or Lorraine Flisher (830871).

**Bridge Methodist Church** at 11am: *3rd, Holy Communion*, The Revd Howard L Skinner *10th*, The Revd Canon J Packer *17th*, Dr C Pilkington *24th*, The Revd C G Webb.

**Weekdays** Holy Communion (BCP) in St Peter's Church, Bridge, Wednesdays at 9.30am and on Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am, except in Easter Week. The New Close Service is every Wednesday at 2.30pm.

The Vicar will be taking a post-Easter break from Easter Monday, 4th until Thursday, 14th inclusive. In case of emergency please contact the Revd John Shorrocks on 832133.

## For your diary and prayer list

### 1st Good Friday

The Vicar will conduct a special service of Readings, Prayers and Hymns on the theme "Proclaiming Christ's Cross" in St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne at 11am. In St Peter's Church, Bridge from 2 to 3pm devotions for "The Last Hour" will be led by Miss Mary

- Ambrose, a Reader from Kingston.
- 2nd ***Easter Eve***  
 3rd ***EASTER DAY*** See display below for the services list.  
 4th ***Monday in Easter Week***  
 5th ***Tuesday in Easter Week***  
 6th ***Wednesday in Easter Week***  
 7th ***Thursday in Easter Week***  
 Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, 7pm  
 8th ***Friday in Easter Week***  
 9th ***Saturday in Easter Week***  
 10th **First Sunday after Easter**  
 12th Nailbourne Horticultural Society Spring Show, Bridge Village Hall,  
 7.30pm  
 Bekesbourne Village Hall Committee AGM, Village Hall, 8pm  
 13th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am  
 14th Bridge Methodist Church Coffee Morning, 10.15 - 11.30am  
 Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm  
 16th Pray for Pamela Martin and Craig Dobson who are to be married at  
 St Peter's Church, Bridge this afternoon.  
 17th **Second Sunday after Easter**  
 19th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
 Bekesbourne Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Parsonage Farm,  
 7.30pm  
 21st ***St Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1109***  
 Patricxbourne with Bridge Annual Parochial Church Meeting,  
 Bridge School, 7.30pm  
 23rd ***St George, Patron Saint of England, Martyr, 4th century***  
 24th **Third Sunday after Easter**  
 25th ***St Mark the Evangelist***  
 27th Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough & Harrow,  
 8pm  
 28th Bridge Annual Parish Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
 29th ***St Catherine of Siena, Martyr, 1380***

## **EASTER DAY SERVICES**

### **St Peter's Church, Bridge**

11am Easter Eucharist (*The Vicar*)

6.30pm Evensong (*Preacher: Mr Handley Stevens*)

### **St Mary's Church, Patricxbourne**

9.30am Holy Communion with  
 Easter Hymns (*The Vicar*)

### **St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne**

8am Holy Communion (*The Vicar*)

11am Easter Eucharist with  
 Hymns (*Revd J Shorrocks*)

*"The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!"*

# *From the Vicar*

This is positively your last Easter to be marred or made (depending how you look at it) by David Jenkins, for nobody will pay much attention to an ex-Bishop of Durham.

Dr Jenkins has been misjudged, not so much by what he says as the way he says it. His quick-fire mind and brisk delivery leave many people mentally battered. Frustration sets in, annoyance rapidly follows and in retaliation he's branded a faith-destroyer and his integrity and right to remain a bishop are called into question.

Overriding everything is the false accusation, from quite intelligent sources, that David Jenkins doesn't believe in the resurrection. It arises out of his stated disbelief in the empty tomb, though many of his accusers should know better than think an empty tomb points to anything but a tomb with nothing in it. It doesn't prove the resurrection, and what is far more significant, the early Church never referred to it, let alone used it to justify a belief in the resurrection of Christ. For them the resurrection wasn't something that happened at a moment in history, but the life of Christ coursing through their veins, convincing them that he who was dead is alive.

The importance of the Easter experience is the way it impinges on our life today, and we should grasp at that truth. History, however it panned out, is mere history. The truth of the risen Christ, as expressed in our Easter worship and Christian fellowship generally, is meant to dominate and season our lives, for it's to do with *now*, not then. This is at the heart of everything the retiring Bishop of Durham says and stands for, and this is the Easter Gospel or good news of Christ — worth celebrating indeed!

## Joys and Sorrows

### Holy Baptism

During Matins on Sunday, 20th March the baptism took place of **Ryan David**, son of Dale and Deborah Lungley, 4 Bifrons Road, Bekesbourne.

### Dying to eternal life

Bekesbourne villagers helped to fill St Peter's Church for the funeral of **Margaret Wilson**, who died at Boundary Cottage, Aerodrome Road on 2nd March at the age of eighty-three years. Margaret was well known in the village where she and her husband Albert had lived for most of their long married life, and whose community they had served well over the years. A long-time sufferer from rheumatoid arthritis Margaret Wilson bore her disability with fortitude and did not allow it to mar her enjoyment of life any more than was necessary. The vicar officiated at a funeral service in church on 11th March, after which her body was laid to rest in the churchyard. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

## THE CHILDRENS SOCIETY — Fund raising

1. **Channel Tunnel Walk** on February 12th. This had been organised by the Society with the help of sponsorship by the *Daily Mail* and was

a huge success. One hundred and eighteen walkers took part, some for the Society, and others to raise money for many other charities. All will benefit greatly from the expected overall total being in the region of £2 million! A gratifying reward for the blisters and months of hard work endured by all those involved.

In spite of this incredible amount, the needs and demands on charities for help continue unabated, and the 'bread and butter' fund raising is still most important.

2. **Annual House-to-house Envelope Collection** for the Society takes place during 9th to 23rd April in Bridge, and we ask for your usual generous support.

3. **Boxes** emptied during February and March raised £335.18, an excellent result from our thirty-six box holders. Should anyone else like a receptacle for their small change, which mounts up surprisingly during a year and is a painless way of helping the good cause, please let me know.

*Kathy Eynon, tel 830466*

## Listening

Do we listen?

I can hear the immediate response — "Of course we do, all day long to the radio, television, telephone, traffic noise etc". Yes, but that's not real listening, because you can't do anything else if you are really listening, it takes all your concentration.

We learned as tiny children to listen to our bedtime stories, and woe betide a tired parent who missed a bit out of a well loved story because it was late.

That is listening.

Just recently, at St Peter's, Bekesbourne, we have started using the Shorter Prayer Book which doesn't include the Epistles and Gospels. Previously it had been my habit during Holy Communion to follow the Epistle and Gospel in the prayer book as they were being read aloud; now I can't, this has made a difference, an improvement; because I now listen, just listen, and I think understand a little more.

That is the beautiful thing about PRAYER, you know God is listening.

I am sure we would benefit, if each day we spent a short while being still and listening, and being surprised at what we hear, even if it is only silence. Yes, that can be heard, too.

"Oh, I haven't got time," you may say.

Perhaps that is what is missing from today's hectic pace, time for ourselves, a moment to be quiet.

*Anthony Fullaway*

## *On The Nail* Noticeboard

### **Bekesbourne Village Hall**

Bekesbourne Village Hall Committee has its AGM in the Hall on Tuesday, 12th April at 8pm and all parishioners are welcome to attend.

### **Nailbourne Horticultural Society**

The annual Spring Show will take place in Bridge Village Hall on Tuesday, 12th April at 7.30pm. Members wishing to stage exhibits will be able to do so from 6.15pm.

Schedules are available from Mrs E Cartwright at the Post Office or B Anderson (Secretary). Let's make it a good show! *B Anderson*

### **Methodist Coffee Morning**

Bridge Methodist Church will be holding a Coffee Morning on Thursday, 14th April from 10.15 to 11.30am in the Patricxbourne Road Church. Preserves only will be on sale.

*M Harrison, Church Steward*

### **Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute**

The monthly meeting of the Bridge Women's Institute will take place on Tuesday, 19th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The speaker will be Mrs Z Barnard, who will be demonstrating "Summer Desserts".

### **Bridge Baby-sitting Group**

The Bridge Baby-sitting Group has been in existence for many years. We are a group of mothers, and occasionally fathers, who live in Bridge and the surrounding villages and who baby-sit for each other on a reciprocal basis using a 'points' system for measuring hours of sitting. This means that baby-sitting is entirely free provided that members are willing to baby-sit for other members in return. The system is very flexible in that those who are temporarily in debt with points may still use baby-sitters from the group.

Our membership list is about to be revised. Anyone who may be interested in joining us is welcome to contact me. *Ann Brown, 831481*

### **Bridge Village Playgroup**

Bridge Village Playgroup is thriving! We have thirty children on a Tuesday and Thursday morning in the Village Hall from 9am to 12 noon. The children at the moment are lacking suitable dolls to play with. We would like to appeal for dolls about fourteen inches high, any colour, type or sex; plus clothes to dress them in. If anyone can help, please deliver to the Village Hall at the above times or ring me.

*Pat Kusel, 830272*

### **Lucky ticket to Parliament**

Remember the Autumn Fayre Draw? One of the prizes donated was for a visit to the Houses of Parliament for Prime Minister's Question Time. This was won by Fred Norton, a Highway inspector working for Kent Highways at Barham, and he has written a brief account of his experience for us. His visit took place on the 15th March. Fred writes:—

I arrived at 1.50pm in the Main Lobby, collected my tickets and had a look around the place. At 2.20pm everyone was called into the lobby to await the next development. At 2.25pm the lobby suddenly became quiet at the sound of a loud voice coming from along a corridor and

*Continued on page 13*



announcing the arrival of the Speaker. A procession led by a mace-bearer filed through and on into the main chamber. At this point visitors were shown to the visitors' gallery. Debates were already in progress at this time although there were not many MPs present on either side of the House.

At 3.15pm the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition arrived, followed by numerous other MPs, which filled the House to capacity. Then the debate started in earnest (just like on television) which was very interesting and entertaining.

The Prime Minister left at 3.30, along with many other MPs. Then followed the second reading of the Bill for Local Government Re-organisation in Wales. This was of special interest to me.

I left the Houses of Parliament at 4.45 after what had been a very interesting and worthwhile experience.

## **Bridge Village Fête, 1994**

*by L H Dunderdale*

For those who have not heard, this year's fête is to be held on **Saturday, 18th June** from 12 noon until about 3.30pm, at the school.

Plans are well under way and the committee has made good progress. Several new ideas have been considered, but more are always welcome. If you have a suggestion for something different we would like to hear from you. The next committee meeting will be on 27th April.

Now for the pleading! Help is always needed for many of the stalls and sideshows. Could you spare any time to help, even if it's only half an hour? Many people like to sit and eat their lunch whilst listening to the Youth Band. Do you have a patio set (table and chairs) you would be prepared to loan for the day? One of this year's new attractions will be a crockery smashing stall, but this needs lots of plates, cups, saucers etc to make it a success. Why not spring-clean the cupboards and see what old and cracked crockery you don't want — we will be happy to get it smashed for you!

If you can help with any of the above, please phone Lawrence Dunderdale on 830668 or Evelyn Andrews, 830960.

### **WHAT IS A SENIOR CITIZEN?**

A Senior Citizen is one who was here before Television, The Pill, Penicillin, Polio Jabs and Antibiotics.

We were here before Frozen Food, Nylon, Radar, Fluorescent Lights, Credit Cards and Ball Point Pens.

For us Time-Sharing meant togetherness, a Chip was a piece of wood or potato; Hardware meant hardware and Software was not even a word.

We were before Tights, Drip-Dry Clothes, Dishwashers, Tumble Driers, Freezers and Electric Blankets; before men wore Long Hair and Ear-rings and Women wore Dinner Jackets.

We were before Yoghourt, the Forty-Hour Week and the NHS.

We got married first and lived together afterwards. How quaint can you get?

Girls wore Peter Pan collars and thought cleavage was something the butcher did.

In our day, Smoking was fashionable; Grass was for mowing; Coke was something you burned on the stove, and Pot was something you cooked in. A Gay person was the life and soul of the party and nothing more and AIDS meant beauty lotion or help for people in trouble.

We are today's Senior Citizens — a hardy bunch when you think how our world has changed and the adjustments we have had to make!

*With acknowledgements to Ash Parish Magazine*

## **The Journal of William Schellink's Travels in England 1661 - 1663**

*We print the second part of Schellink's visit to Bridge Place, with thanks to John Williamson, who discovered this fascinating insight into local history.*

This estate of Sir Arnold Braems lies in a valley of outstanding beauty; it contains, in addition to his own fine residence, a large number of rooms, chambers, halls, and other good apartments; there is also a large deerpark with many deer and does, woods, a rabbit warren in the hills, and very beautiful, well-kept pleasure grounds with fruit trees, well watered by a fast flowing, fresh sparkling stream of wonderfully clear sweet water. This splits up into several branches and rivulets, also some fish ponds, in which a certain kind of fish called trout is bred; which is very similar to a large carp, and, prepared in the English manner, tastes very delicious. There are also some vineyards round the house and gardens, producing yearly two to three hogshead of wine.

There is a dovecot like a chapel, in which are at all times so many young pigeons that throughout the whole summer and longer twelve to fourteen dozen can be taken out every week to be put into pies or prepared otherwise. His people go out hunting every day and catch a lot of partridges and pheasants, which we had every day on the table, besides a choice of other delicate food, all with the most delicious English sauces; there is an ample supply of drinks, different kinds of wine and perry, which is made from pears. He also has his own brewery, bakery, wine press, hop garden, barns, stables, oxen, cows, sheep, pigs, geese, ducks, corn and fruit; everything that one can desire in such an establishment.

And because he is, with all this, so kind and hospitable, and keeps such a princely table, he has so many visits from noblemen, gentlemen and ladies, so that his table is always surrounded by his own people and outside guests. The church stands not far from his house, and he has the right to nominate a minister of his choice for it. He has planted a fine avenue of lime trees from his house to the church, under which one is protected from rain and sun. His lands and his annual income, which amounts to a considerable sum, had suffered much damage in the war between the king and parliament, but is now all restored to him. As we now had the freedom of the place we went walking and drawing every day in the countryside and in the villages in the neighbourhood as far as Canterbury. Sir Arnold Braems and his lady and others often went out hunting or driving in a carriage to visit friends in the neighbourhood, and Mr Jacobi Thierry often went with them for his pleasure.

On the 6th October [1661] a general muster of seven or eight companies of the militia was held on the hill above Bishopsbourne, which lies at the bottom of the valley, each company 200 men strong. They were brought on and off, skirmishing in one or two groups, firing spiritedly at each other, commanded by numerous officers on horseback and on foot. They started in the morning, but had to stop it all towards evening because of strong winds and oncoming rain. All the men get a drink allowance to refresh themselves. This muster usually takes place about once a year. Every parish and household has to supply and arm as many men as it is able.



## **Bridge Parish Council – Report of March Meeting**

**Bourne again!** Mr G Duly, Resources Officer for the National Rivers Authority in Canterbury will talk about the Nailbourne and other local bournes at the **Annual Parish Meeting** on Thursday, 28th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Nearly fifty people came to last year's meeting and parish councillors hope to see even more there this year. Refreshments will be served after Mr Duly's talk.

**Centenary Celebrations:** An exhibition, organised by parish councillors, will be held in the Village Hall from 8th to 11th September, 1994, to mark the centenary of the formation of Parish Councils. A small sub-committee has been set up to mastermind the display, and local residents with interesting photographs and mementoes are asked to get in touch with the Parish Council Chairman, John Hill, on Canterbury 830215.

**Village in Bloom:** Following the success last year, a similar competition is to be organised this year with three classes -- one for hanging baskets for commercial properties, one for domestic properties and one for tubs or window boxes.

**New Channels:** The Council heard that work will shortly begin on the Nailbourne Stream bed to prevent the serious flooding which has occurred in the past. In addition to some lowering and widening of the stream bed, the engineers will carry out work on the banks, the ford and the road approaches to the ford. The project is expected to last four months or so.

**Bricks and Mortar:** Planning applications for land at The Plat, and adjacent to Greenways on Beech Hill came before the Council without comment. A proposal for a first-floor extension at 59 High Street was felt to improve the street façade. The Parish Council did not welcome the decision by Canterbury City Council to refuse permission for an extension of packing facilities at Highland Court Farm. It was felt that additional employment opportunities in the area would be valued.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, 14th April.

*Margaret Church, Clerk*

# Fish News



Unfortunately there was insufficient space in last month's *On The Nail* to tell you about a new service started in our area. VOLCARE is a flexible in-the-home respite scheme for Carers who need a break or even a holiday away, and whose dependant wishes to stay in their own home. A volunteer carer visits regularly to build up friendship and trust so that all feel confident enough to have a break. The volunteer will be supervised by the VOLCARE Co-ordinator.

The scheme is free and does not affect any other help Carers may receive. The VOLCARE Co-ordinator is Kate Gollop, VOLCARE, CVS, Beach House, Beach Street, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 6PT (Tel: 373293).

The **Blossom Tour** will take place on Wednesday, 4th May. A coach will arrive at Green Court at 1.45pm to leave at 2pm. Please contact Mrs Joy Monk if you would like to go. This year the cost of the tea is £2.50. The cost of the coach will be met out of the interest on a legacy kindly left to the Fish Scheme by Mrs Cornelia Slawin (known to many as the 'matron').

The next **Coffee Pop-In** will be on Wednesday, 13th April in Bridge Village Hall.

*Contributed*

## **Bekesbourne Church Cleaning & Flower Rota**

Donations for Easter lilies at Bekesbourne will be gratefully received by Christine Ash, Parsonage Farm, 830214. Anyone willing to help decorate St Peter's Church for Easter, either contact Mrs Ash or turn up on the morning of Saturday 2nd.

*9th, Mrs Farbrace 16th, Mesdames Smith and Hogben 23rd, Mrs Clifford 30th, Mrs Gillanders*

## **Annual Church Meetings**

Calling everyone whose name appears on the Electoral Roll of the parish of Bekesbourne, or Patrixbourne with Bridge!

The idea of an Annual Parochial Church Meeting sounds pretty dull. In fact, it gives all members of the church an opportunity to hear what the PCC has been up to over the past year and to share the thinking for the future. The work under discussion is the Lord's work, to which we feel the hand of God directing us, and when God's involved it's never dull! So fight off feelings of apathy and it's-not-my-scene and come along to Parsonage Farm (*Bekesbourne*) on Tuesday, 19th April at 7.30pm or Bridge School (*Patrixbourne with Bridge*) on Thursday, 21st at 7.30pm

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 N.C. Francis, 54 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830945)  
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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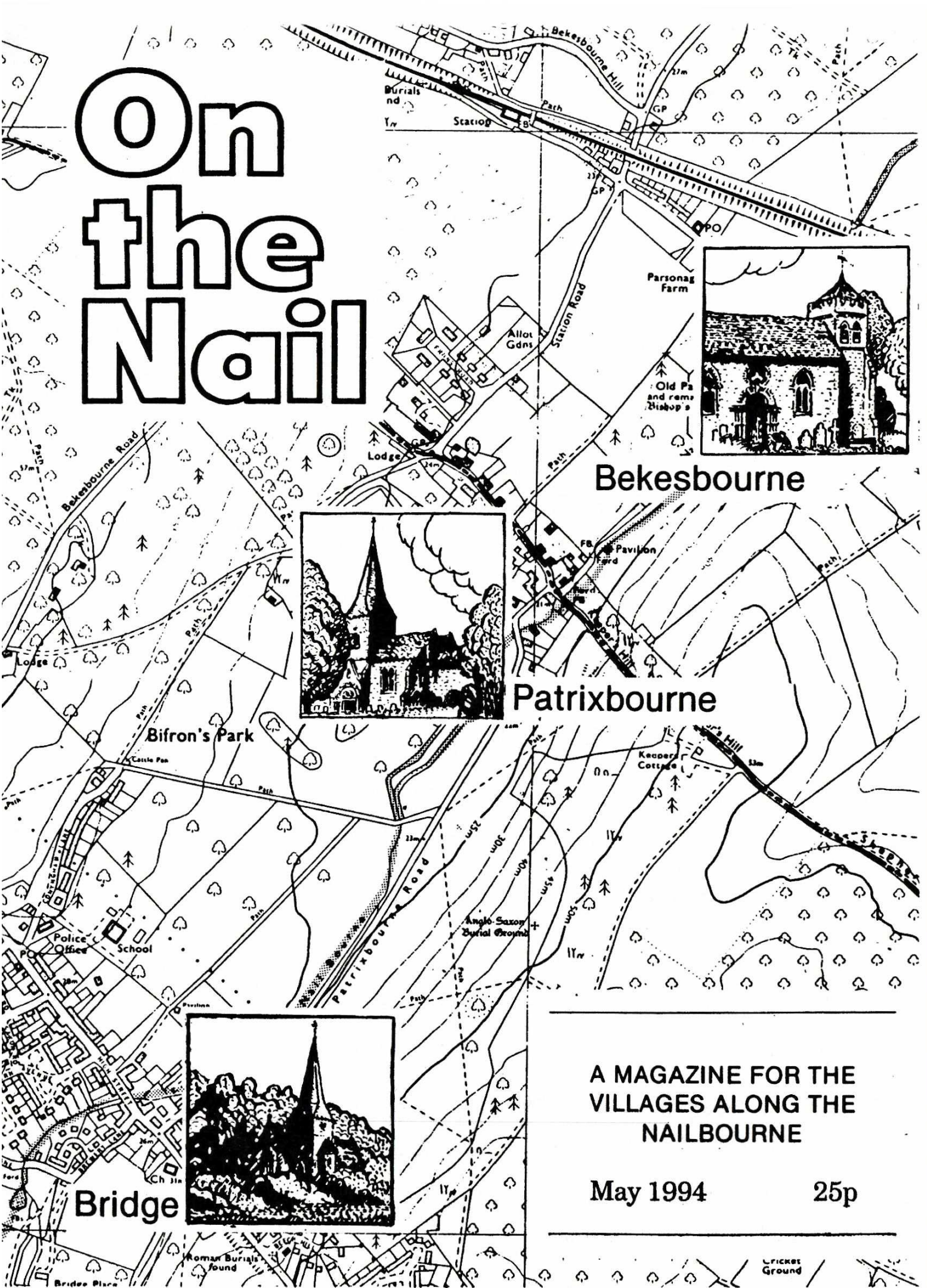
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# On the Nail



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Patricxbourne

Bridge

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NAILBOURNE

May 1994

25p

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# Sunday Worship in May

Bridge

Patricxbourne

Bekesbourne

## 1st:

11am Family Service  
with Holy Baptism

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

6.30pm Choral Evensong

## 8th:

9.30 Parish Communion 11am Matins  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

## 15th:

9.30 Parish Communion 8am Holy Communion 11am Matins  
3.30pm Evensong  
(*Mr H Stevens*)

## 22nd:

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Holy Eucharist

9am Holy Communion 11am Matins

## 29th:

11am *Confirmation at  
Ash*

11am Matins  
(*Mr H Stevens*)

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

## 5th June:

11am Family Service  
6.30pm Choral Evensong

8am Holy Communion 9.30 Parish Communion

**St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne** Beginning on 1st May coffee will in future be served at the back of the church after the first Sunday 9.30am Parish Communion so that we can continue our fellowship at a less formal level. *N.B.* Evensong on 29th, a fifth Sunday, is at Bekesbourne.

**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 caters. For details and enrolment please contact either Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Jean Hopkins (830942).

**Bridge Methodist Church** at 11am: *1st*, Mrs B P Skinner, RGN, NDN, *8th*, Holy Communion, The Revd Mary R Teed *15th*, Mrs C Ovenden, Dip Th, *22nd*, The Revd David Marshall (Superintendent), *29th*, The Revd Mary R Teed.

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

## For your diary and prayer list

1st Fourth Sunday after Easter  
2nd *St Philip and St James, Apostles*

- 5th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm  
 8th **Fifth Sunday after Easter**  
 9th *Rogation Day*  
 10th *Rogation Day*  
 11th *Rogation Day*  
 Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am  
 12th **ASCENSION DAY**  
 Evening Eucharist in St Peter's Church, Bridge at 7.30pm  
 14th ***St Matthias the Apostle***  
 15th **Sunday after Ascension Day**  
 17th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm  
 19th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, 7 Windmill Close, 7pm  
 21st Fish Coffee Morning, Bridge Village Hall, 10am to 12 noon  
 22nd **PENTECOST (Whit Sunday)**  
 Peter's Praise at 6.30pm will be a Eucharist  
 24th *John and Charles Wesley, Priests, Poets, Teachers of the Faith, 1791, 1788*  
 Pray for Bridge Methodist Church celebrating its centenary at a special 100th Chapel Anniversary Service at 7.30pm, details of which can be found on page 7.  
 25th *Venerable Bede, Priest, Monk of Jarrow, 735*  
 26th *St Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury, 605*  
 Bridge School Governors meet this evening  
 27th Pray for the Deanery Clergy meeting in chapter this lunchtime.  
 29th **Trinity Sunday**  
 There will be no Parish Communion at Bridge this morning in the hope that as many as possible will travel to Ash for the Deanery Confirmation Service in St Nicholas's Church at which the following are to be confirmed: Lesley Finney, Jane Smith, Simon Finney, Megan Pritchard, Catherine Maclean, Laura Brodie, Nicholas Hopkins and Daniel Brasier. Please keep them in your prayers from now on. The service, within the Eucharist, is at 11am and will be conducted by the Bishop of Maidstone, the Right Revd Gavin Reid.  
 30th Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough & Harrow, 8pm  
 31st *Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth* (See Luke 1. 39ff)

## *From the Vicar*

This month's observance of the feast of Pentecost or Whit Sunday alerts us once again to the presence of the Holy Spirit in the churches. Not only is an annual recollection of this divine gift and thanksgiving for it fully justified, such a remembrance also keeps alive an awareness of his continuing power at work throughout Christendom. More particularly it brings home to us the realisation of God with us in our local situation, both as a community of faith but also as individual believers. Pentecost,

like Easter, doesn't just harp back to a historical event that proved a turning-point at the time, it shows how God's influence can still have a strong bearing on our lives if we let it.

I'm very conscious of the movement of the Holy Spirit along our stretch of the Nailbourne. As you will see above, six of our young people and two adults are due to be confirmed in the faith on 29th — a cause for much rejoicing and thankfulness, coupled, I trust, with supporting prayer for them as they make their lifelong commitment to serve Christ in the fellowship of his Church through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Recently also the team of altar servers at Bridge has increased, with Alice Barnard, Simon Finney and Daniel Brasier joining the existing company of Elizabeth Pike (who now organizes the rota), Lucy Wilms-hurst, David Walder and Laura Brodie. Dan has volunteered his services as crucifer (the one who leads the way carrying the processional cross) so that each Parish Communion has its team of three, thereby adding a dignity to the worship.

### **Bekesbourne too!**

Things are moving too at Bekesbourne, where the worship over Holy Week and Easter embraced some new elements, most noticeably the introduction of an Easter Candle (instigated and provided at his own expense by Churchwarden Tony Fullaway. Very many thanks, Tony! It's splendid!) to burn next to the altar at every service throughout the Easter period, then to stand beside the font for use at baptisms. If you haven't seen it it's worth a visit: to see it at its best you need to come to a service. Go on, be brave!

Bekesbourne PCC devoted a recent meeting to considering the role of the church (the people of God, not just the building) in the community. This arose partly out of concern for its future, financially and otherwise, but chiefly with a mind to how the Church might best present itself and its message to the parish. There is a detectable movement of the Spirit here that will do everyone a power of good, if we have the courage to let it.

### **And by no means least**

A few Sundays ago when Bridge Church was closed for some much-needed cleaning a most inspiring Parish Communion was held at Patrixbourne. It followed the usual Prayer Book service with the Alternative Service Book Collect and Readings — a pleasing marriage of old and new — and we had hymns and a sermon. When it was over several of us found ourselves contemplating a scheme whereby it could become a monthly event. The PCC, who will make the final decision, have yet to consider it, but the idea is to replace the fourth Sunday 9am said Holy Communion with a 9.30am Parish Communion with hymns and sermon, to run alongside the two monthly Parish Communions at Bridge. Watch this space for developments!

Let the Spirit of God dwell in us richly, that his will be done and his kingdom come!

# Bridge Methodist Church

The Methodist Church in Bridge was built in 1894, and celebrates its centenary in May. The Anniversary events commence on Sunday 22nd when the Superintendent Minister the Revd David Marshall conducts Morning Service at 11am. You are invited to join in our worship on this happy occasion.

Our celebrations continue on Tuesday, 24th May ('Wesley Day' within Methodism) when we hold an 'OPEN DAY' at the church from 10am to 4pm. Memorabilia and Photographs will be on display. Do come and see the changes that have taken place in this unique building. See some of the history of the Villagers of Bridge who have worshipped here over the years, and enjoy a cup of tea.

At 7.30pm we commemorate the work of all those who have taken part in the life of this Chapel over the past century, when the Revd Dr T Mervyn Willshaw leads our worship. Our own Minister, the Revd Mary Teed will be Chairman for this exciting event in the continuing history of this church.

Do come and join us in this 'Birthday' celebration. We will be happy to greet you! A warning — come early for a seat! *The Church Stewards*

## Joys and Sorrows

### Holy Baptism

The Baptism took place on Saturday, 9th April at St Mary's Church, Patixbourne of **Thomas James Williamson**, son of Mr and Mrs Rupert Williamson and grandson of Mr and Mrs John Williamson. Thomas was baptized by his great grand-father, the Revd Cecil Verity.

### Holy Marriage

In a period of cold, wet weather the sun shone on Saturday, 16th April for the wedding in St Peter's Church, Bridge of **Craig Dobson** and **Pamela Martin** of 48 High Street.

### Blessed are the dead in the Lord.

Canon John Packer officiated at the cremation service for **Ernest Faulkner**, 19 Windmill Close which took place on Thursday, 14th April.

One of the older Bridge residents, Mrs **Ivy Ovenden** passed away three days after Easter. Mrs Ovenden spent most of her adult life in the end cottage in Brewery Lane and her later years at Churchill House. She was a gentle and greatly loved lady, a regular churchgoer and communicant at the Churchill House monthly service. Cremation at Barham was preceded by a funeral service in Bridge Church on 15th April attended by a large company of her friends and neighbours.

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne was filled to capacity on Friday, 15th April for the funeral of **Anthony Clifford**, Oakleigh, Bekesbourne Road who died in Easter week having spent an extended period in the Kent & Canterbury Hospital after a heart attack. Tony had been a very hard-working family man whose generosity showed itself in many directions,

including several repair jobs at Bekesbourne Church. The Church's sturdy notice-board was made by Tony. After the service, conducted by the Revd John Shorrocks, interment took place in the churchyard. Our sincere sympathy is extended to his wife Zan and children Paul, Lorraine, Mark, Shaun, Charlotte and Louise.

## Douglas Hill

The very sudden death of Douglas Hill, 'Red Deer', Bridge Down on Thursday, 14th April has left not only his family but his church and very large circle of friends and acquaintances completely bereft.

Doug's devotion to his wife Joan, children Judy and Richard and grandsons Oliver and William was second to none. Yet family man though he was, he had lots of time for other people too and 'Red Deer' has been open house to many over the twenty-six years the Hills have lived there.

As a churchman Doug couldn't have been more committed, and it was his proud boast that over the years he had held every office open to him; the exception, he jokingly reminded me, was vicar. He successively and successfully fulfilled the role of PCC Secretary, Churchwarden, PCC Treasurer and Covenants Officer with characteristic integrity and attention to detail, and in addition got completely immersed when there were practical jobs to be done around the church buildings. Over many years he and his bosom pal Bill Rose ran the bottle stall at numerous Christmas Markets and Fêtes.

Doug's church work never stood on its own but was backed up by a very sincere and strong faith. Until his health began to deteriorate he and Joan were regular members of the bi-monthly meetings of prayer for health and healing concerns, and during his working life at Coal Board HQ in London Doug was a member of the office's Christian group.

His passing leaves a gap in the lives of so many, but we must be grateful he was spared undue suffering. Thanks be to God for his faithful servant and our brother in Christ, Douglas Richard Hill!

## Bicycle Treasure Hunt

*by Tessa Hobson*

NEWS is the Nailbourne church youth group for those in the 3rd year and upwards at secondary school. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at 7pm in the Plough & Harrow.

We are holding a fun event to give would-be members an opportunity to participate in a NEWS activity. To take part in the Treasure Hunt you will need to get together a team of two-to-four people who must stay together at all times. Each team will receive a list of grid references to be visited in order to answer the questions also provided. A list of objects can also be collected throughout the day to gain points. If you are currently in the 2nd year you may still join in the fun, then if you enjoy yourself you can become a proper NEWS member in September. However, everyone who takes part should be able to read a map and have a cycling proficiency award or parental permission. ■ *continued on p13*



We will meet at Bridge Recreation Ground at 11am on Sunday, 29th May 1994 and will finish by having a barbecue and announcing the winners. If you are interested please phone one of us! Claire (830981), Emma (830762), Teresa (830539) or Elizabeth (830708).

## Sponsored Cycle Ride



No, I haven't made a mistake! The Cycle Ride is not till Saturday, 10th September *but* I will not be available to organize either the ride or the manning of Bridge Church this year. So I am appealing for a new organizer please.

I can provide all the information and I am prepared to provide maps for the cyclists. So please, will someone offer to take over? Otherwise I will have to let the area organizer know that we will not be competing this year and the Church will remain closed. As we are visited by approximately 144 riders as they cycle through Bridge, it will be very sad if they find Bridge Church unmanned.

*Kath Pierce, 830844*

## Christian Aid Week launch

The yearly *Christian Aid Week* in Canterbury is getting off to a grand start. Michael Taylor, Director of Christian Aid nationally, will be in the city on 15th May, the opening day of the week, and has his diary packed throughout the day.

In the morning he will be preaching in the Cathedral at the morning service at 11am. At 2 o'clock he is speaking in a debating forum in the Gulbenkian Theatre at the university, posing the question 'Is aid oppressive?' and finally in the evening, there will be a service in St George's Baptist Church so that everyone who cares about Christian Aid can join together with him.

It is hoped that the many supporters of Christian Aid in and around Canterbury will be able to come to at least one of the day's events, civic and formal in the morning, intellectual in the afternoon, or Christian family in the evening, so that it will prove to be a really memorable start to a truly successful week, continuing the work of helping the world's poorest people.

*Contributed*

Ed: Do please be very generous in your giving this year during the local house-to-house collection as you have in the past. The need is as crucial as ever.

## Concert at Bekesbourne

We are hoping to arrange another concert in Bekesbourne Church to be given by the University Chamber Choir and Orchestra during May. Unfortunately it wasn't possible to fix a date before *On The Nail* went to press, but do watch out for posters around the villages and come along to what is always a most enjoyable evening.

*Jane and David Millyard*

## On The Nail Noticeboard

**For the younger element**

Junior Church has organized another Ramble — with a different route

this time — on Sunday, 15th May.

We will meet at Bridge School at 2.30pm and after our ramble return to the school for tea. Anyone who wishes to join us please contact Jean Hopkins (830942) or Evelyn Andrews (830960). The cost per head is £1 to cover refreshments.

### **Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute**

The monthly meeting of the WI will take place on Tuesday, 17th May at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, when the annual 'Resolutions' will be explained and discussed. Members have the opportunity to give their views and to vote on the resolutions.

*D E King*

### **Nailbourne Horticultural Society**

Thank you every one who helped to make the Spring Show a success. Adverse weather cut down the numbers of some exhibits, but those we did have were good.

The first outing for this year is on 22nd May. It is to Borde Hill Gardens. Mrs E Cartwright at the Post Office has details of coach times etc. and is booking the tickets.

*B Anderson*

## **The Journal of William Schellink's Travels in England 1661-1663**

*This is the final extract from Schellink's account of his English travels as he takes his leave of Bridge Place and Sir Arnold Braems, and heads for home.*

On return we took our leave of our lodgings and went over London Bridge to the Bear Inn, where some of our friends came and we had a farewell meal with them and drank some merry rounds. This place is at the corner of the bridge and has at the back a very pleasant view of the river. A fine decked barque lay there ready with six or seven oarsmen. At half past two in the afternoon we went on board with a large company, and so went from London down the river to Gravesend where twelve or thirteen warships were lying in the roadstead. We arrived there at half past six and went to stay at the Hen and Chickens, where we made good cheer with our friends deep into the night.

The 9th at 8 o'clock in the morning some of our friends took their leave, and we went by coach, and some of our friends on horseback, to Rochester and from there to Sittingbourne where we had our midday meal at the White Hart. We continued our journey to Canterbury and in the evening took our lodgings there in the Lily, where many friends and acquaintances of Mr J. Thierry, his correspondents, came to see him. All were entertained with a great meal, and rounds of farewells and healths were drunk into the night. Meanwhile word was sent to Sir Arnold Braems to let him know that we had arrived.

Later Sir Arnold came to our lodgings to welcome Mr J. Thierry, and we had our breakfast with Mr du Bois, a relation of Braems. We went on to Bridge, where we were sumptuously entertained in his great hall by

Sir Arnold Braems with a large company of friends, ladies and gentlemen, and spent the afternoon in making good cheer and other pastimes, and left in the evening at 6 o'clock by coach for Dover. When we got there we were again merrily entertained by Mr. Walter Braems, the son of Sir Arnold Braems. We waited till midnight for the tide to turn, when Mr. Thierry and his servant boarded the packet boat for Ostend, with the brother of Thomas Hill and the son of Voster, the postmaster of Dover. They had a strong favourable wind and arrived at Ostend early the next morning.



### **Bridge Parish Council: April meeting**

**Local Plan:** Following the placing on deposit of the Draft Local Plan at the City Council Offices, Parish Councils were invited to comment. Bridge Parish Council are disappointed to see that provision for a Park-and-Ride Scheme, together with a coach park, has been made on land between Canterbury and Bridge, close to the Gate Inn. Councillors are concerned that, in addition to encroaching on a 'buffer zone' of agricultural land between the City and Bridge, such a development would increase traffic along Bekesbourne Road as users of the scheme rejoin the A2 northbound. The parish Council has written to the Director of Planning, proposing an alternative site closer to the City centre. Further disappointment was expressed at the failure to include in the plan proposals by the parish Council and the Conyngham Estate for additional housing between the Recreation Ground and the A2 by-pass, which would satisfy village needs identified some years ago.

**Planning:** Outline planning permission has been granted for the erection of a single dwelling on sites in Beech Hill, adjacent to Greenways and The Plat. Planning applications have been made in respect of East Bridge Country Hotel, Great Pett Farm, 30 High Street and 63 High Street. All planning applications are available for inspection at the City Council Offices in Military Road, and the Parish Council is invited by the City Council to comment on all such applications within the parish. In doing so, councillors like to be aware of local views and it would be helpful if those writing to the Director of Planning on such applications could send a copy of their letter to the Chairman of the Parish Council, John Hill, or to the Clerk.

**Local Shops:** Following a recent article in *Oast to Coast* [the Parish Councils' magazine] on village shops, the Chairman commented on the wide range of shops in the village.

He emphasised the value of local shopping and urged that local residents should support the village shops whenever possible.

*Margaret Church, Clerk*



## Fish News

Please remember the **Fish Coffee Morning** on Saturday, 21st May from 10am to 12 noon in Bridge Village Hall. This is our only fund-raising event. We need plants, cakes, preserves, gifts and raffle prizes — and customers.

The next **Chiropody Clinic** is from 6th to 10th June. The **Blossom Tour** is on Wednesday, 4th May and the next **Coffee Pop-In** is on Wednesday, 11th May in Bridge Village Hall.

A.R.

**BEKESBOURNE CHURCH** *Cleaning and Flower Rota*  
7th, Mrs Mount 14th, Mrs Millyard 21st, Mrs Fry 28th, Mrs Farbrace

---

### **MISSIONARIES WANTED — NO PASSPORT REQUIRED**

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In the past missionary societies asked for people to serve overseas. In a changing world the numbers going overseas have decreased, but people are still needed to give their time, energy and enthusiasm to work for God's mission. The greatest need is for volunteers to work in their own parish. They are needed to encourage the Church in the UK to recognise and respond to God's work world-wide.

Volunteers are needed to help us work with the Church in Canterbury diocese. There are all kinds of roles to be undertaken, requiring many different skills and talents. Anything from sticking on labels, to preaching sermons! We value them all equally in the work of USPG. The most important qualities at this stage are enthusiasm, time and a willingness to learn.

For more information, please contact  
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**Telephone: 081-544 0496**



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 N.C. Francis, 54 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830945)  
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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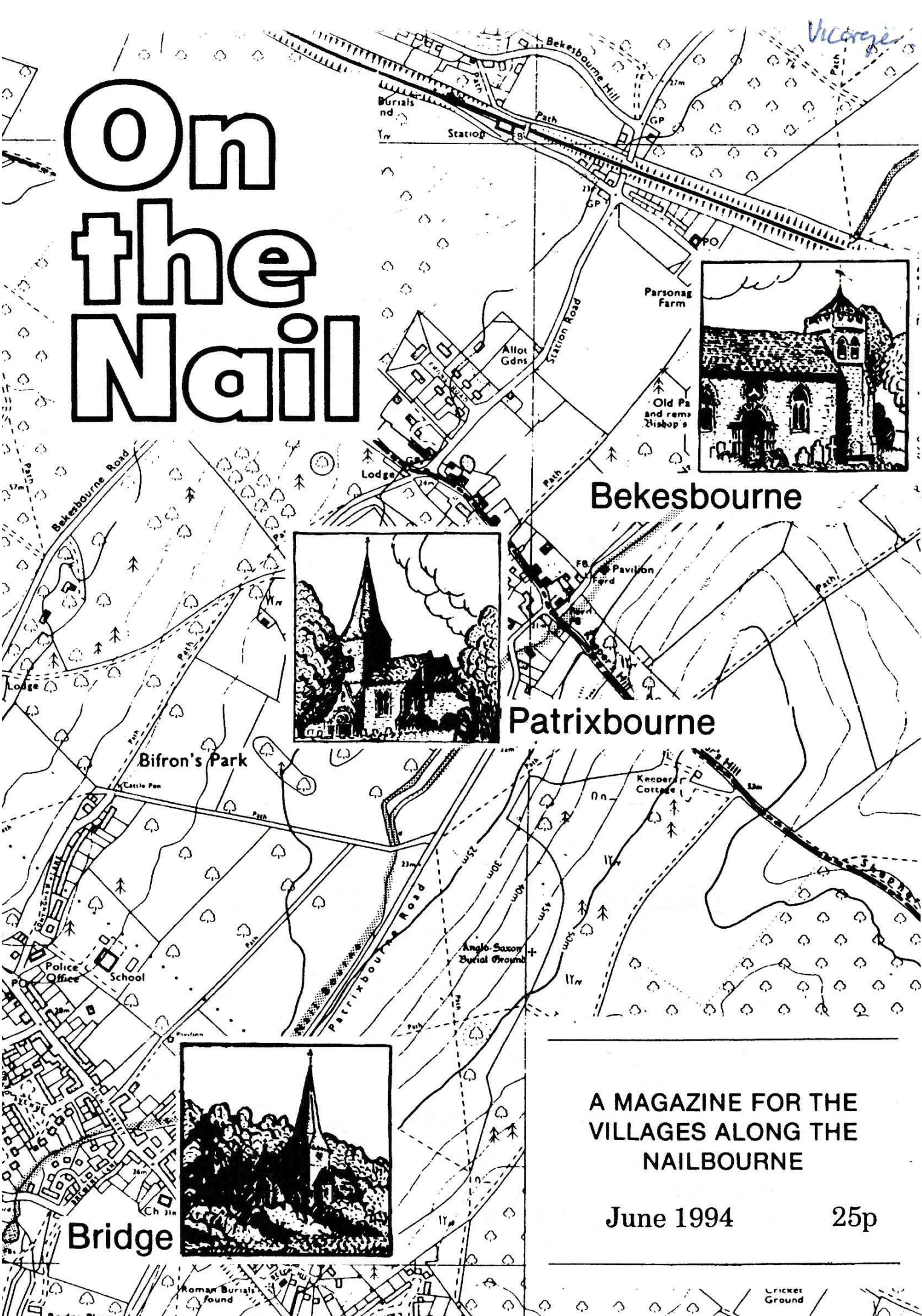
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# On the Nail



Bekesbourne

Patricbourne

Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE  
VILLAGES ALONG THE  
NAILBOURNE

June 1994

25p

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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN JUNE

BRIDGE

PATRIXBOURNE

BEKESBOURNE

5th:

11am Family Service  
6.30pm Choral Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish  
Communion  
3pm Baptisms

12th:

9.30am Parish Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

11am Matins

8am Holy Communion

19th:

9.30am Parish Communion  
(Preacher:  
Mr H. Stevens)  
6.30pm Evensong

8am Holy Communion

11am Matins  
(Revd J Shorrocks)

26th:

8am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Peter's Praise

9am Holy Communion  
(Revd J Shorrocks)

11am Matins

3rd July:

11am Family Service  
6.30pm Choral Evensong

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish  
Communion

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 much enjoyed by 4 year olds and upwards, for whom it caters. For details and enrolment please contact either Mrs Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Mrs Jean Hopkins (830942).

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 5th, Mr L Dron 12th, Holy Communion, The Revd Mary R Teed 19th, Miss J Charlesworth, MA 26th, Mr F J Allen

Weekdays Holy Communion (BCP) in St. Peter's Church, Bridge, Wednesdays at 9.30am and on Fridays (Rite A) at 7.30am, except 10th. There is a service of Holy Communion on the first Wednesday of each month in Churchill House at 10.15am.

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 1st St. Justin, Martyr at Rome, c165
- 2nd Samaritans fund-raising, 18 Conyngham Lane, 10am to noon and 2 to 3.30pm  
Special Deanery Meeting for the Synod and all deanery PCC members, Bridge School, 7.30pm  
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 4th Pray for Louise Potter and Tomás Brill to be married this afternoon at Patricxbourne and Alexa Clark and David Freeman to be married at Bridge.
- 5th Second Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 1
- 8th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am

- 9th *St. Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary, 597*  
 Vicar's Anniversary of Ordination Eucharist, Bridge Church, 7.30pm  
 Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 11th *St. Barnabas, Apostle*
- 12th **Third Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 2**
- 15th Bekesbourne PCC meeting, School House, School Lane, 8pm
- 16th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm  
 Churches Together in Bridge meet in the Methodist Church at 7.30pm.
- 18th **BRIDGE VILLAGE FETE, Bridge School from 12 noon**
- 19th **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 3**
- 21st Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 22nd *St. Alban, first Martyr of Britain, c209*
- 24th *Birth of St. John the Baptist*
- 25th Pray for Philip Sillitoe and Siobhan Mullan to be married this afternoon at Bridge.
- 26th **Fifth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 4**
- 28th *St. Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, Martyr, c200*
- 29th *St. Peter the Apostle, Patron of Bridge and Bekesbourne*  
 As well as the regular Wednesday morning communion there will also be an evening Eucharist at Bridge, 7.30pm to which members of both St. Peter's congregations are especially invited.  
 Nailbourne League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals Coffee Morning, 76 Riverside Close, 10am-12noon  
 Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough and Harrow, 8pm

#### FROM THE VICAR

##### *On The Nail*

No prizes for spotting that this month's *On The Nail* looks rather different. It's not just the content that's changed, but the layout as well, and if you're wondering why I'd like to explain.

For more years than I can remember this magazine has been typeset by John Purchase. I know it has 'Printed by *Prontaprint*' on the back cover but they only photocopy John's handiwork and assemble the magazine. But last month John became Chairman of Kent County Council and the heavy workload and travelling that involves means he has no spare time to do this periodical as well. So for the next twelve months you'll have to put up with a rather less professional job. Sorry, however, that we can't reduce the price: John Purchase has always typeset free of charge, so we're not saving any money by doing it ourselves. As it is we've been able to keep the price at 25p each copy for several years and in the process offer value for money.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking John most warmly for shouldering this printing burden so long, especially now he is no longer a parishioner.

##### **The Village Fête**

Don't forget to support Bridge Village Fête on 18th June. It's not just a matter of swelling church and school funds but taking part in the one big village venture of the year. It's always a hive of activity and there is invariably plenty to

occupy your time and keep your interest, be you 2 or 102. The organizers have been hard at work behind the scenes for months making doubly sure we all enjoy ourselves. Most people find it is an excellent opportunity to meet friends they perhaps haven't seen much of lately, and if it brings the communities together that's an added bonus. I say 'communities' because despite its name it's not all Bridge and we attract and indeed warmly welcome villagers from Patricxbourne, Bekesbourne, Bishopsbourne and even further afield.

But for it to be a success the organisers can never have enough contributions to stock the various stalls. We generally find that once asked you are all very willing to donate items to sell, but if you just come forward without waiting to be approached the committee will be so grateful for whatever you can provide. You can hand it in quite anonymously at the school any time.

#### **Peter-tide**

Bekesbourne and Bridge are blessed in having St. Peter as their patron saint, because not only do we know a lot about his life as a disciple and apostle but he was a particularly colourful character and a good deal closer to the Lord than any other.

It makes it easier to celebrate a Patronal Festival when it's on a Sunday but don't be put off by the fact that 29th June, St. Peter's Day falls on a Wednesday this year. There will be a special Eucharist in St. Peter's Church, Bridge that evening at 7.30pm when the congregation at Bridge hopes the congregation from Bekesbourne will join them in honouring our mutual patron.

#### **Confirmation**

As I write the Deanery Confirmation at which 6 young people and 2 adults from Patricxbourne and Bridge are to be confirmed is still to come, but it is only two days since they and the other candidates from East Bridge Deanery met together for the first time at a special event in St. Peter's Church, Aylesham. Put on by the Vicar of Aylesham, Andrew Yates it was a most stimulating curtain-raiser to the big day.

What amazed us was the very large number of candidates due to be presented, mostly though not exclusively under 16 years of age, and all eager to enjoy this Sunday afternoon.

The programme took the form of an historical look at the Eucharist, beginning with a re-enactment of the children of Israel being rescued from slavery in Egypt, leading into a simple Passover meal with the traditional ingredients and ceremonial. A lot of preparation went into it, but it wasn't wasted in that a good and instructive time was had by all.

#### **Ordination Anniversary**

On Thursday, 10th I hope to celebrate the 31st anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood at a special Eucharist in St. Peter's Church, Bridge at 7.30pm. This will be a very simple, said celebration of half an hour's duration and I would be so glad of your company if you care to attend. Otherwise please give me a special remembrance in your prayers. This service will replace the follow morning's Eucharist.

#### **'The Future'**

Everyone has heard of the Church Commissioners' debacle but it's not purely due to that Canterbury Diocese has decided the

time has come for a radical change of strategy, to cover not just finance but ministry too.

Very recently a 13-page strategy document entitled *THE FUTURE* was published to form the basis for discussion at all levels of church life. Its proposals are far-reaching but felt to be essential if the Church of England is to continue to fulfil its age-old role as a Church for England. Not only must we keep our financial house in order, we need also to look carefully at how we exercise our ministry in the light of an undoubted decrease in the numbers of stipendary clergy.

These are big issues and we need to give attention to them right now. The Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meeting that was to have taken place on 1st June is being postponed so that all church council members can attend a special deanery meeting the following evening, 2nd June in Bridge School at 7.30pm. Copies of 'The Future' have been made available to PCCs in advance and we shall have the Bishop of Dover at the meeting to steer us through the important issues it raises. Please do everything you can to attend for this first stage in a process of discussion that will occupy our minds over the next month or two - yes, it's that urgent.

#### WITH THANKS

My family and I have been completely overwhelmed by the many cards, letters and flowers we have received. The love and high esteem which you so obviously felt for Douglas is helping us through this very difficult time. Our grateful thanks to you all.

Joan Hill

\* \* \*

The death of Dorothy (Dot) Whittaker, 9 High Street after a long illness stoically borne was felt not only by her husband David but by her many friends and acquaintances in Bridge. Dot's interest in and work for nature conservation was renowned, as also her keen participation in the Bridge Folk Dance Group, of which she was a leading ligh. A large congregation filled the chapel of Barham crematorium for her funeral on Wednesday, 18th May.

#### HOLY BAPTISM

At Bridge's Family Service on 1st May the baptism took place of Dominique Imogen Gilbert, 52 Bridge Down and Jade Roxanne Gay, 1 Lysander Close, Bekesbourne.

#### BRIDGE WITH PATRICXBORNE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The June meeting of Bridge W.I. will be our Birthday Meeting. Our speaker will be Lt Col G.A.C. Hoskins, who will have lots of interesting and amusing anecdotes to relate concerning his *Life on the Ocean Wave aboard HM Yacht Britannia*. The date is 21st June, place Bridge Village Hall, time 7.30pm. All are welcome!

D.E. King

#### SAMARITANS

Just a reminder that I look forward to seeing you at 18 Conyngham Lane on Thursday, 2nd June between 10am and 12 noon, or 2 and 3.30pm. There will be the usual stalls and Bring & Buy.

M.E.J.

The Nailbourne League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals invite you to a COFFEE MORNING to be held on 29th June, 10am to 12 noon, at 76 Riverside Close, Bridge. There will be a raffle, Bring & Buy and a cake stall.

Please come and support your local committee to raise much needed funds for our local hospital. *Rosy Green*

#### **PLANT SALE**

Norman Francis, 54 Riverside Close, has a number of plants - tomatoes (two varieties), peppers and cucumbers - which he is selling in aid of church funds at 25p each!! Please contact him on 830945 if you would like to buy.

#### **CHILDREN'S SOCIETY**

Thank you to all helpers and contributors who enabled the sum of £397.42 to be raised for the Society in the recent House to House Collection in Bridge. *K. Eynon*

The Garage Sale held on 7th May to raise money for the Bridge Kneelers made £188.00. Very many thanks to those who assisted and those who came. *A.J. Williamson*

#### **BRIDGE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

*by  
Margaret Church, Parish Council Clerk*

Mr Derek Duly, of the National Rivers Authority, gave a presentation on Nailbourne streams at the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 28th April. Some forty-seven parishioners attended the meeting, at which County Councillor Martin Vye and City Councillor David Pentin also spoke on local matters.

In reviewing the year the Chairman, Councillor John Hill, thanked former councillor, Mr Ken Greenaway, and the previous clerk, Mrs Kathy Walder for their work. Referring to the Deposit Draft on the Canterbury District Local Plan, he reported that the Parish Council had objected to the proposed site of a Park & Ride adjacent to the Gate Inn, and to the omission from the Plan of the proposal for affordable housing in the village. He voiced the Council's disappointment at some of the recent planning decisions affecting the parish.

A petition on traffic calming was received for discussion by the Parish Council, the Chairman drew attention to future plans which included an exhibition in the Village Hall, a Hanging Basket Competition, the installation of a village sign and a proposal to extend the sports pavilion.

#### **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Annual General Meeting of Bridge Parish Council was held on Thursday, 14th May. Councillor John Hill was re-elected Chairman and Councillor Mervyn Gulvin was elected Vice-chairman.

#### **Calming down**

Following the petition tabled at the Annual Parish meeting, Councillors discussed various traffic problems in the village including speeding. In view of schemes already in operation elsewhere in the county, it was decided to ask KCC Highways to carry out a traffic survey in the first instance. This would,



it was felt, reveal the various problems which might be addressed.

#### **Stepping out**

The finger posts for the new Elham Valley Way, which runs from Folkestone to Canterbury, are now in place in the village. A well-illustrated Guide to the Way has been produced by Kent County Council (phone 0622 696168 for further information).

#### **Blossoming out**

Entry forms for the Hanging Baskets competition will be available in early June from Councillor Mrs Jones, and from the offices of Gulvin & Marsh. There were over forty entries in 1993 and we hope to top that this year.

#### **Planning**

The Council's comments had been sought on applications in respect of 59 High Street, 63 High Street and land adjacent to Bridge Hill House. Councillors noted that permission had been granted for a general purpose agricultural building at Great Pett Farm.

\* \* \*

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 9th June, which is also Polling Day for the elections to the European Parliament.

*Margaret Church, Clerk*

#### **D-DAY**

It is easy to understand the differences that have emerged about the way to remember the 50th anniversary of D-Day. For many, it brought joy in the expectation of the end of the conflict; for others, sadness through the loss of loved ones.

The Royal British Legion is very broadly neutral on these matters and would leave it to the individual to make up his or her mind. It was, understandably, critical of the government's early arrangements, but nevertheless there are plenty of local events in which it is participating.

'We will remember them' is the response to the Exhortation which opens every Legion meeting. The main purpose of all such anniversaries is to do just that.

*Jim Stripe*

#### **FISH NEWS**

First, many thanks to everyone who helped with the Blossom Tour and the Fish Scheme Coffee Morning.

#### **Homecrafts for the Housebound**

Do you know someone in the area who is housebound and would like to continue or start a hobby such as knitting, crochet, needlework, model making, papier maché - the list is endless? Canterbury Volunteer Bureau has a *Homecrafts for the Housebound* worker, Norma, who is working 8 hours a week and also has volunteers who are prepared to help. For more information ring Norma on 452278. She is usually in the bureau on Thursday mornings.

#### **The usual cuppa**

The next Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday, 8th June in Bridge Village Hall.

The next Chiropody Clinic is from 6th to 10th June. A.R.

**ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BEKESBOURNE** *Cleaning & Flower Rota*  
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# From Diocesan Communications

## DAY OF WHOLENESS

A 'Day of Wholeness' will be held at St. Peter's Church and Christian Centre in Minnis Lane, River, Dover, on Saturday 11th June from 10.00am - 4.00pm. The speaker will be the Revd. Patrick Jones. Application forms from Mrs Pam Jones, 38 Kearsney Avenue, Dover. Tel: (0304) 824987. In the evening there will be a further special event at 7.30pm - 9.00pm in the Church when the speaker will be Liesl Alexander who is the author of the book 'Free to Live'. All welcome, no ticket required.

---

## KINGSTON, NEAR CANTERBURY

If you are looking for a base for your Youth Group weekend in an area of outstanding natural beauty - then you are invited to look no further!

The Barn at Kingston is a fully equipped church/village hall, with good kitchen facilities, adequate toilet facilities and metered heating. It would be suitable for a maximum of 20 persons plus supervisors. Bring your own campbeds/sleeping bags. The Barn has an adjoining garden ideal for barbecues, and there is also an adjacent playing field for games and possible camping. Kingston is fortunate in having many beautiful walks through pine forests, farmland. For further information contact: Mrs J Rule, on 830001.

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## JOY OF WATERCOLOUR PAINTING

The Internationally known Welsh Artist Winsor Grimes will be leading two one-week Watercolour Courses entitled the "Joy of Watercolour Painting."

The first week for Beginners is from Monday 25th July until Saturday 30th July, and the second week is an Improvers Course from Monday 1st August until Saturday 6th August. There will be an exhibition of some of the Paintings over the final weekend the 6th and 7th August.

The Course will be held at River Christian Centre. For further information contact: The Revd Peter W A Bowers, The Vicarage, 23 Lewisham Road, River, Dover. CT17 0QG. Tel: (0304) 822037.

## HOW LIKE A CHILD!

*In church the congregation was singing a hymn with the repeated refrain: 'I will make you fishers of men'. A little boy with a piercing voice and eagerness to be heard was joining in lustily, singing: 'I will make you vicious old men.'*

# ***Bekesbourne Historical Snippets***

*collected by David Millyard*

## **Bekesbourne Primary School**

The primary school in School Lane, Bekesbourne closed in the early 1970s when the new school buildings in Bridge were completed and the schools were merged in the new premises.

When it started I have not yet found out. It was certainly going in 1873 and is shown on the 1/2500 scale Ordnance Survey map of that year. A local directory of 1878 records that 'Here is a small school supported by subscription'. It may have been going in 1841 but the fact that Ann Murton, a schoolmistress, and her children were living on the premises is not conclusive evidence; she might have been teaching at the Beakesbourne House boarding school. The premises were owned by the Gipps family of Howletts. It was 1905 that a new lease was drawn up between George Bowdler Gipps of Howletts, the Vicar of Bekesbourne (at that time the Reverend Albert Pritchard) and the school managers who were at the time Robert Ramsay of Howletts, Henry Minter Baker of Cobham Court and Colonel Evelyn Campbell Money of the Old Palace. The term of the lease was 80 years from 25th September 1904 and the rent was £1 a year. Apart from the usual conditions of keeping the premises in good repair and properly insured, the principal condition of the new lease was that the lessees would within twelve months 'at their own expense and in a good substantial and workmanlike manner of the best materials and to the satisfaction of the lessor and the Board of Education and their respective surveyors erect build and completely finish fit for use upon the premises a School House to be used for purposes of an Infants School suitable for the needs of the Parish ...' And Bekesbourne school changed from a single classroom school into a two classroom school. And so it continued until it closed.

## **Bekesbourne Church Tower**

It was intriguing to read in a 1915 guide book to Kent, in the Methuen series of Little Guides, that the tower of St. Peter's Church was 'long ago in ruins'. The 1949 edition, edited by the Kentish historian R.W.Jessup, corrects this to 'was for a long time in ruins'. When was this? In the time of Edward Hasted, Jessup's most distinguished predecessor, who publicised his *History of Kent* at the very end of the eighteenth century, the church had 'a low roofed tower at the west end, in which are two bells'. But by 1817 the tower had indeed fallen, if a print published in that year is at all accurate.

How long did it remain in ruins? Bagshaw's *Directory of Kent* 1847 edition states positively that it was rebuilt in 1841. So the guide book was right; the tower was in ruins for over 20 years! 1841, of course, was well before the general restoration of the church, which did not take place until the 1880s. But this explains why guide books and directories of the latter part of the last century refer to the low 'modern' tower of the church.

# BRIDGE VILLAGE



## SUMMER FETE

**SATURDAY 18th JUNE**

**12 NOON at**

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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 N.C. Francis, 54 Riverside Close, Bridge CT4 5TN (830945)  
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)

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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)  
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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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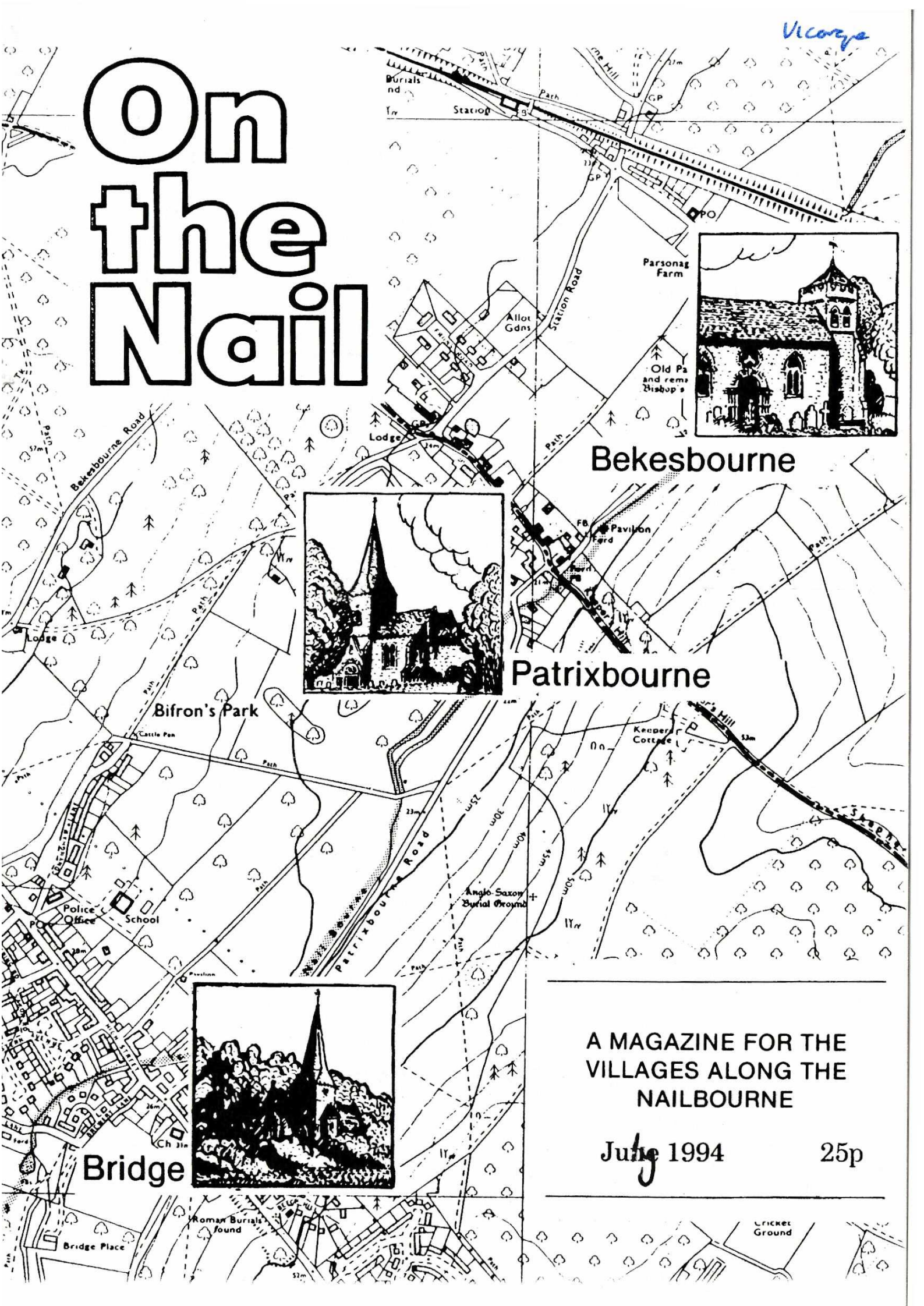
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Vicage

# On the Nail



Bokesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

July 1994

25p

Cricket Ground

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## Sunday Worship in July

- 3rd** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
11am Family Service (*Bridge*)  
6.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 10th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)  
11am Matins (*Patricxbourne*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 17th** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)  
11am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)(*Revd J Shorrocks*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Mr H Stevens*)
- 24th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)(*Canon J Packer*)  
9am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)(*Revd J Shorrocks*)  
11am Matins with Baptism (*Bekesbourne*)  
6.30pm Peter's Praise (*Bridge*)
- 31st** 9.30am Parish Communion with healing ministry of  
the Laying on of Hands (*Bridge*)  
11am Matins (*Patricxbourne*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bekesbourne*)(*Revd J Shorrocks*)
- 7th August**  
8am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
11am Family Service with Baptisms (*Bridge*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)

**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 much enjoyed by 4 year olds and upwards, for whom it caters. For details and enrolment please contact either Mrs Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Mrs Jean Hopkins (830942).

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 3rd, Dr EAH Tresidder, BA 10th, Mr Kenneth E Elgar 17th, Holy Communion, The Revd Mary R Teed 24th, Mrs Gillian R Collins, BA 31st, Mr R Chadwick, MA, DMS

Weekdays Holy Communion (BCP) in St. Peter's Church, Bridge, Wednesdays at 9.30am, except 6th, and on Fridays (Rite A) at 7.30am, except 8th. There is a service of Holy Communion on the first Wednesday of each month in Churchill House at 10.15am.

## For your Diary and Prayer List

- 3rd *St. Thomas the Apostle*  
The arrangements for today's Family Service are in the hands of Junior Church.
- 6th *Thomas More, Martyr, 1535*
- 7th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, 8 Ford Close, 7pm
- 10th **Seventh Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 6**
- 11th *St. Benedict of Monte Cassino, c550*
- 13th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am  
Pray for the clergy of East Bridge Deanery who meet this lunchtime at Ash.
- 14th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 16th Pray for Beverley Pinhorn and Nicholas Davies who are to be married this afternoon at Bekesbourne.
- 17th **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 7**
- 20th *St. Margaret of Antioch, Virgin & Martyr*
- 21st Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 22nd *St. Mary Magdalen*
- 24th **Ninth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 8**
- 25th *St. James the Apostle*
- 26th *St. Anne, Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
- 27th Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough and Harrow, 8pm
- 31st **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 9**

*The Vicar is on holiday 4th - 11th July inclusive.*

## From the Vicar

'Change for change's sake' is an accusation often levelled against new moves people don't approve of. Whether or not it's a justifiable complaint depends (a) on the reason for the change and (b) the critic's attitude towards innovation in general. Some of us are less adaptable to change than others.

It's a slight variation, but you'll have noticed that change has again hit *On The Nail*. It certainly isn't change for change's sake but to prevent eye strain: some readers found the print in last month's issue a little on the small side. This time I hope we've got it about right and so can spare you any further changes. You should also find the new-style service list layout on page 4 easier to read.

Change can't always be avoided, much as we'd like, even though in some cases it's long overdue. This is true in the church, where change of any sort, especially in the C of E, can evoke feelings of horror leading to remarks about the end of the world.

That's sure to be one reaction to the far-reaching proposed changes I mentioned last month and which are currently under discussion throughout the diocese of Canterbury - changes destined to affect the pattern of the parochial ministry in years to come and more immediately the way our finances are run.

To find out more ask any PCC member to lend you a copy of *THE FUTURE* and all should be revealed. At first reading the proposals sound quite daunting, if not utterly impossible to achieve, but the deeper you probe the more rational they tend to become. This is certainly not change for change's sake but a considered response to altered circumstances in the church generally, affecting both the role of ordained ministers and the church's changed fortunes in the wake of the Church Commissioners' misfortune.

For now my advice is keep your eyes and ears open and set your brains to work. These are simply proposals not finalised decisions. Nothing is settled yet and if, having read *THE FUTURE*, you have a constructive contribution to make either of the Bishops (Dover or Maidstone)

or David Kemp, the Diocesan Secretary, Diocesan House, Lady Wootton's Green, Canterbury, CT1 1NQ would love to hear from you!

## **Joys and Sorrows**

### **Holy Baptism**

Three children were baptized by the vicar in St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne on Sunday, 5th June, ranging in age from 6 years to 6 months.

The oldest was **Elizabeth Rose Cockram** from Wingham and the younger ones were brother and sister **James Alan** and **Alison Maureen Clayson** of The Smallholding, Bekesbourne Hill. Alan and Evelyn Clayson had decorated the church most beautifully for what turned out to be a great family occasion on a lovely summer's afternoon.

### **Marriage**

The wedding took place in St. Mary's Church, Patricbourne on Saturday, 4th June of **Louise Potter**, 50 Riverside Close and **Tomas Brill** from Germany. Officiating was the Revd. Clive Barlow, a family friend from the time when Louise's father was headmaster of the Cartwright and Kelsey School in Ash and Clive was vicar.

Also on 4th June Canon John Packer and the Vicar together officiated at the wedding of **Alexa Clark**, High Grantley, Meadow Close and **David Freeman**, The Vicarage, Kingston Vale, London. David's priest father read the Lesson.

### **Funeral**

The vicar conducted a funeral service prior to cremation for Mrs **Evangeline Nancy Verity**, lately of Saxon Lodge, Bridge but previously of Conyngham Lane, in St. Mary's Church, Patricbourne on Thursday, 9th June. Mrs Verity had suffered a severe stroke but bore her disability with great courage and cheerfulness. We offer our sympathy to the Revd Cecil Verity her husband, and the members of her family.

## **Grateful Thanks**

### **Christian Aid Week 1994**

Despite an ever-increasing number of house-to-house

collections and TV appeals for vital causes, the villagers of Bridge, Patricxbourne and Bekesbourne succeeded in raising £548.75 in the recent Christian Aid Week collection. We are glad to be able to send this gift to help those whose need is so tragically great in so many parts of the world.

*Wendy Durell, Organiser*

### **Samaritans**

Thanks to the enormous generosity and support given to me, once again, I am able to send £520 to the Canterbury branch of the Samaritans to be used for the day-to-day running of the centre. I am most grateful to you all.

*M.E.J.*

### **Bridge Village Fête**

What a tremendous success last month's village fête was and those who planned it and put it into operation have earned our heartiest congratulations. The weather did its stuff, the support was marvellous, the attractions have never been better. It went on a whole hour longer than expected - people seemed generally reluctant to leave - and we are left with the sobering thought that it will take some beating in 1995.

As a result of it a record sum was raised which topped the £4000 mark, giving £2000 apiece to school and churches for which we are all so grateful.

### **RUTH AND STANLEY GREY**

It has been proposed that a memorial plaque be erected in Bekesbourne Church to mark the many years of devoted service given to St. Peter's Church by Ruth and Stan Grey, a plan heartily endorsed by the PCC and receiving the Grey family's blessing. We are sure that in addition to Ruth and Stan's family many friends both in the congregation and outside will wish to take this opportunity to preserve their own fond memories by making a donation towards this project.

Donations should be sent to Mr David Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne, CT4 5ER, cheques being made payable to 'Bekesbourne PCC'.

*Anthony Fullaway, Bekesbourne Churchwarden*



## NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The schedules for the Summer Show will be available from the first week of July. These can be obtained from Mrs E Cartwright, Bridge Post Office, Mrs B Anderson, Dering Road, Bridge or Mrs B Cope in Bishopsbourne.

Don't forget the date of the show is **Saturday, 13th August**. I appeal to all members to support their society, and even if you have never exhibited before, just have a go!

*B Anderson*

**Bridge Folk Dance Group** is holding a Barn Dance in Bridge Village Hall on Friday, 21st October in memory of Dot Whittaker. Further details in a future issue. *J.H.*

## **Malicious Damage to Bridge Church**

Towards the end of May the four leaded windows in the south wall of St. Peter's Church were the target of two separate attacks by mindless individuals, motivated by misplaced mischief in the first instance perhaps, but assuming the second and far more extensive damage was the work of the same persons - and there is reason to believe it was - then the matter takes on a much more serious and new dimension.

The cost of the repairs is estimated at £882.00 plus VAT, and the Canterbury Police Crime Management Unit has the matter in hand.

I discovered the damage when keeping a vigilant eye on the exterior of the church on the evening of 29th May. Subsequently I returned with the vicar and by a stroke of good fortune discovered we weren't the only persons at the site, although on our arrival the other two ran off. There followed a chase, the Vicar in hot pursuit, and with so much success that the police had a lead to follow. So maybe this will be an occasion when the police will eventually be able to apprehend the culprits and thereafter, notwithstanding the present-day tendency towards a 'softly-softly' approach, the system will deal

with the miscreants commensurate with the extent of the damage they have caused.

The damage in question is no cricket-ball-through-a-window type of incident but, and I quote the police, 'criminal damage to a public building'. I trust no effort will be spared to bring the seriousness of the situation to those directly responsible for it, and indeed to those indirectly responsible.

I would ask everybody to keep their eyes open. If you notice any sign of damage to any of our three churches then do please report the facts promptly to either the Vicar, a Churchwarden or the police.

*Churchwarden Peter Lawrence*

## **Bridge Parish Council**

At the Parish Council meeting held on 9th June councillors considered plans for the proposed service station on the A2 at Barham. Members of the Planning Sub-committee had visited the exhibition put on recently by the developers in the Chaucer Hotel. Noting that an earlier proposal had been opposed, councillors again decided to object to the scheme, since it was planned for a green-field site in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It was felt that adequate facilities existed at other locations, and the proposed development at Harbledown would enhance these further.

Residential planning applications under consideration included, Oast Cottage Great Pett Farm, Dover Lodge, 11 The Close, 63 High Street, land at The Plat and a new temporary classroom at Bridge CEP School. An application in respect of 3 Green Court had been refused by the City Council.

In discussing the forthcoming Hanging Baskets and Tubs competition, especial thanks were recorded to Mrs Possee for the planting of the Keep Bridge Tidy containers again this year. It was agreed that consideration should be given to replacing them with a more permanent structure in the autumn.

Hoping that difficulties over mowing the Recreation Ground were now at an end, the Chairman noted that the Conyngham Estate had given the go-ahead for the proposed

pavilion extension, and the Estate would now be asked to approve the proposed third court for Bridge Tennis Club. Concern was again expressed at the use of the Recreation Ground by golfers and, at the request of Bridge Village Sports Trust, it was agreed to approach the City Council's solicitor to discuss possible solutions.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 14th July at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room.

*Margaret Church, Clerk*

## **Fish News**

Many thanks to everyone who helped with the annual fund-raising Coffee Morning - £179.64 profit was made.

The next Coffee Pop-In in Bridge Village Hall is on Wednesday, 13th July, and remember that transport can be arranged to get to it. Just telephone Ann Medhurst on 830762.

Our local Fish Scheme owes its existence to Mrs Joan Warren, but you may like to know where the idea for such schemes came from. Dr Donald Richards, an Oxford GP, started a simple scheme of helping the ill or lonely with the aid of his local vicar, Derek Eastman. The Christian fish [see below] was its symbol. The scheme has been widely introduced in this country and also in the United States, where several thousand Fish Schemes are now established. Dr Richard died only last February. *A.R.*

### **THE CHRISTIAN FISH - IXΘΥΣ**

Often on the backs of cars you will see the rough outline of a fish, the badge which Junior Church members used to wear (perhaps still do) and the symbol until recently used as a logo for the 'Fish News' column in *On The Nail*. This representation was the accepted Christian symbol before the cross/crucifix took over and probably served as a secret sign to identify oneself as a member of the church in times of persecution. It was so simple that it could be hastily drawn in the sand to indicate one's Christian allegiance and as quickly rubbed out before hostile eyes spotted it.

The choice of the fish wasn't merely for speed in drawing, nor yet because some of the early apostles had

once been fishermen until the Master called them to be fishers of men. The clue to its choice is in the Greek word for 'fish' - as in the above title - which written in English lettering is 'ichthus'. It's a five-letter acronym, 'ch' and 'th' being individual letters, each one representing a Greek word and together forming a sentence, as follows.

The letter 'iota' stands for 'Iesus' (Jesus), 'chi' for 'christos' (Christ), 'theta' for 'theou' (of God) 'upsilon' for 'huios' (son) and 'sigma' for 'soter' (Saviour), the word for 'fish' thus making the sentence 'Jesus Christ son of God Saviour', a statement that has all the hallmarks of an early Christian creed.

It's interesting to see how nowadays the ichthus is back in fashion, vying with the cross as a popular means of blazoning one's faith, whether it's worn on a dress or lapel or affixed to the rear of the family car. Perhaps it's no bad thing to have a specifically Christian sign to wear, since the cross and crucifix have been trivialized through widespread use as trinkets around the neck or in the ears by people with no shred of religious conviction.

While we still have a monopoly on the ichthus let's make good use of it and happily explain its significance to interested enquirers, knowing that as we do we are witnessing to the faith that is in us.

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Hon Secretary Mr D Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne  
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Organist: Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill, Patricxbourne (830205)


Captain of the Ringers: Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road,  
Bekesbourne (830659)

Magazine Advertising: Mr HPM Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down (830472)

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

Contributions for *On the Nail* should be sent to the editor by the 15th  
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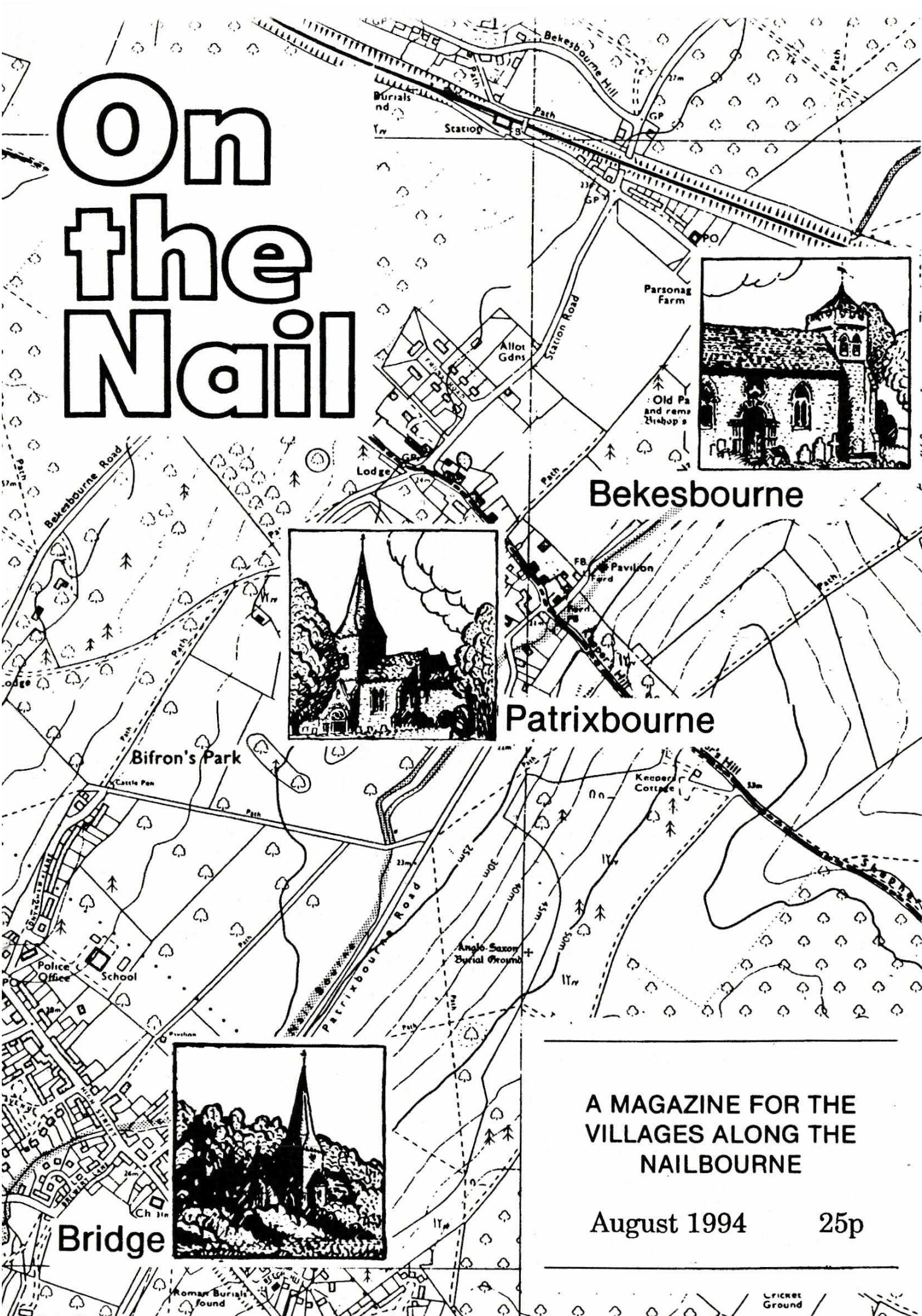
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# On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patricxbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

August 1994 25p

Cricket Ground

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## Sunday Worship in August

- 7th** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
11am Family Service (*Bridge*)  
4pm Holy Baptism (*Bekesbourne*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 14th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion with Baptism (*Bridge*)  
11am Matins (*Patricxbourne*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 21st** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)  
11am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)(*Revd J Shorrocks*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Mr H Stevens*)
- 28th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricxbourne*)  
11am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 4th September**  
8am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)(*Canon Packer*)  
11am Family Service (*Bridge*)(*Mr H Stevens*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)

**Junior Church**, though on holiday this month, normally 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 much enjoyed by 4 year olds and upwards, for whom it caters. For details and enrolment please contact either Mrs Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Mrs Jean Hopkins (830942).

**Bridge Methodist Church at 11am:** 7th, *Holy Communion*,  
The Revd Mary R Teed 14th, Dr SJ Rogers 21st, Mr ER  
O'Mahony 28th, Mr AP Barwick, BSc

**Weekdays** Holy Communion (*BCP*) in St. Peter's Church, Bridge, Wednesdays at 9.30am, and on Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. There is a service of Holy Communion on the first Wednesday of each month in Churchill House at 10.15am.

## **For your Diary and Prayer List**

- 4th *St. Dominic, Priest, Friar, 1221*  
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 5th *St. Oswald, King of Northumbria, 642*
- 6th *Transfiguration of our Lord*  
The New Close Summer Fair, 1-5pm
- 7th **Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 10**
- 10th *St. Laurence, Deacon, Martyr, 258*  
Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Methodist Church, 10.15-11.45am
- 11th *St. Clare of Assisi, Virgin, 1253*
- 13th Pray for Andrew Farbrace and Susan Williamson to be married this afternoon at Bekesbourne.  
Nailbourne Horticultural Society Summer Show, Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne. 2pm
- 14th **Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 11**
- 16th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Methodist Church, 7.30pm
- 18th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 20th *St. Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, 1153*
- 21st **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 12**
- 24th *St. Bartholomew the Apostle*
- 28th **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 13**
- 31st *St. Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 651*  
Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough and Harrow, 8pm

## **From the Vicar**

"Don't you hear of some shocking things these days!" The catalogue of incidents that give rise to that comment is extensive, embracing such acts as children terrorising old people, youngsters stealing cars only to smash them up (and sometimes themselves as well) joyriding, defacing public buildings and vandalising property. This locality

The vicar being on holiday at the time, a service prior to cremation on 15th July was conducted in Bekesbourne Church by Canon John Packer and a large company assembled for the occasion.

It was very sad that Ron and Peggy weren't in the end able to move to their new home in Sidcup, but in offering our love and sympathy to Peggy we wish her well and pray God will bless her return to their former locality. May Ron rest in peace and rise in glory!

## **Bridge Choir Successes**

Hearty congratulations to three members of Bridge Choir who were successful in recent exams for Royal School of Church Music awards: Catherine Pike & Lisa Dawson (Junior Bishop's Award) and Nicholas Hopkins (Dean's Award). Well done, all three of you! Keep up the good work!

## **Junior Church - help needed**

*Mrs Evelyn Andrews has been heavily involved in the work of Junior Church for many years but now feels the time has come to hand on to someone else. As she is not relinquishing the reins until the end of the year there is time enough to say our thanks for sterling service in this vital area of the church's work with children. But with an eye to the future and a great concern for Junior Church Evelyn is anxious to leave the other leaders and children well provided for. Do respond to the following notice from Evelyn.*

There will be a meeting to discuss the future of Junior Church in September. If you are interested in becoming a leader or if you have ideas/talents to offer please could you phone me on 830960 or Jean Hopkins on 830942. Being involved in Junior Church is most rewarding - why not give it a try!

## **AUTUMN FAYRE**

This year's Autumn Fayre is to be held on Saturday, 19th November at Bridge with Patricxbourne School. Note the date in your diary now, as after the success of the Summer Fête, we hope that this year's Church Autumn Fayre will be the best ever.

That's invariably the best approach to prayer, whatever the circumstances, for our heavenly Father knows best.

## **Fourth Sunday Change at Patrixbourne**

From this month until the end of the year as an experiment the 9am Holy Communion at Patrixbourne on the fourth Sunday of each month will be replaced by a 9.30am Parish Communion with hymns and a sermon. This means a Parish Communion at 9.30 will be available in one or other of our three churches every Sunday.

The Patrixbourne plan, approved by the PCC, is for a communion service according to the *Book of Common Prayer* order, with the Collect and Readings taken from the *Alternative Services Book*. Coffee will be provided after the service, to continue the fellowship at a less formal level.

## **Joys and Sorrows**

### **Joined together by God**

On 25th June in St. Peter's Church, Bridge the wedding took place of PHILIP SILLITOE and SIOBHAN MULLAN, both of 15 Filmer Road.

St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne was the setting for the wedding on 16th July of BEVERLEY PINHORN, Bekesbourne Hill and NICHOLAS DAVIES.

### **Ron Beckett**

The death of Ron Beckett, 3 Riverside Cottages, Patrixbourne at the beginning of last month left his wife Peggy and son Bill, not to mention his many friends amongst the Patrixbourne and Bekesbourne church communities, quite bereft.

Ron made a most valuable contribution to the work of Bekesbourne Church in particular, serving on the PCC, acting as steward at Flower Festivals and reading lessons at Matins every other month. An unabashed traditionalist, Ron was a member of the Prayer Book Society and championed its cause assiduously. His other interests included railways and cricket: he was a regular at the St. Lawrence Ground.

His final illness was painfully drawn out, but its onset held off until he and Peggy had celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in splendid style.

isn't immune, what with recent malicious damage to Bridge church windows, the virtual destruction of Bridge Village Hall noticeboard, several instances of domestic break-ins and wanton vandalism at neighbouring Bishopsbourne Church.

A common factor in all this is its pointlessness. It's as if certain individuals have a built-in desire to destroy, be it people, animals or property, though to what purpose it's hard to say. Is it the frailty of the elderly that makes them fair game for hoodlums, or, as the experts would have us believe, boredom and being unemployed that leads to car theft and vandalism? And who's to blame, the muggers/vandals, their parents, schools, the government? Like many people I get annoyed by those who would have us believe the fault always lies with the system and never the felon.

Was the abduction of 4 hours old Abbie Humphreys just another case in point? The nationwide reaction at the time suggests otherwise, yet once the psychologists have had their say and the case has gone through the courts I strongly suspect that amid the public outcry for vengeance a logical explanation for this woman's actions will come to light. If so it won't make the crime any the less heinous but will explain it.

What's the Christian line on all this? Do we take sides and mutter piously about there being some good in everyone? Have we any right to anger, or should we be generally sympathetic and thus totally ineffective? There is evil in the world and Christians are pledged to fight against it at every turn, but let's be sure that what confronts us *is* evil, for evil isn't simply unacceptable behaviour.

The correct, and for most of us only response possible to the kind of things referred to above, as indeed to the Rwandan situation, is to pray. It may seem a poor option, an easy way of salving our consciences, requiring the minimum of effort, but never underestimate the power of prayer. It's always a force to be reckoned with since it links the one who prays with God and places the situation in his merciful hands. We should avoid dictating terms, stating what we expect God to do about the problem, just bring it to him and leave it there.



Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th SEPTEMBER from 10am until 4pm.

The exhibition will be mainly of photographs of the village, the history of some of the principle houses and characters from the last 100 years, a pictorial view of the present village and a display of the Partnership scheme for the future of the village.

Don't forget the dates:

8th - 11th SEPTEMBER, 10am - 4pm  
Village Hall

## **Fish News**

The Annual General Meeting of the Fish Scheme will be on Tuesday, 11th October at 8pm in the Methodist Church. Please come along if you are, or would like to be, interested in the scheme.

The next Coffee Pop-In on Wednesday 10th August will be in the Methodist Church. The following one on 14th September will be in the Village Hall as usual. The Chiropody Clinic will be from 15th to 19th August. A.R.

## **SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE 1994**

**Bekesbourne**

Friends of kent Churches sponsored bike ride takes place on Saturday, 10th September.

If anyone would like to take part or sponsor one of the cyclists raising desperately needed funds for St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne, would they contact me on 830894. I look forward to hearing from you!

*Jill Gillanders*

**Bridge**

Christine Beer of 4 Windmill Close (830900) has bravely stepped in to save the bike ride at Bridge.

I am very grateful to her, no mean feat when you have two very young children. Christine will also keep the church open from 10am to 6pm on the day. Sponsor forms will be available from her and also every Sunday in Bridge Church. If you take a form from the church please sign yur name and leave your address and the number of the sponsor form on the list provided.

*Kath Pierce*

**Bekesbourne Church Cleaning & Flower Rota**

**6th & 13th, Mrs Skinner**

# **Bridge Parish Council**

*Report of the July meeting*

*by Margaret Church, Clerk*

**In the dark - again!** The recent power cuts, with Bridge Down worst affected, left football fans disconsolate and large sections of the village literally powerless. The explanation that the faults could not have been foreseen and were outside the immediate area of the village is no comfort. Residents are urged to report all future problems to *Seaboard* - the more complaints they receive, the more likely they are to try and improve the situation.

**Shapes of the Future** Properties subject to planning applications considered by the Parish Council are 22 The Close, the Red Lion public house and 43 Bridge Down. Full details of the proposals are available at the Canterbury City Council offices in Military Road.

**Tubs and Hanging Baskets Competition** There has been a good response to the competition, with lots of colourful displays. Watch this space for details of winners after the judges make their final choice.

**Centenary Exhibition - Will you be there?** Photographs of Bridge in former days, together with many local residents will feature in the exhibition in the Village Hall on 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th September. You might see yourself - or help identify an unknown face - and remember past times.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on 8th September.

## **Centenary of Parish Councils**

1894 saw the start of Parish Councils as we know them. Developed from the Poor Laws this third tier of Local Government was an important step in the democracy of the country. Bridge holds a special place in this development as at the time it was one of the principle villages outside Canterbury. Through the development of the Board of Guardians, Bridge had been instrumental in the setting up of the Bridge/Blean Rural District Council.

1994 is thus the centenary and the Parish Council is celebrating this event with a major exhibition "BRIDGE - PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE". The exhibition will be held in the Village Hall, Bridge on Thursday, 8th; Friday 9th;

The fayre will start at 11.30am and light lunches will be served. However, to ensure that there is plenty for everyone to buy, we need your help now. Donations of jam-jars, sugar, fruit and vegetables are requested now to allow for the advance preparation of jams, chutneys and sweets for the preserves and sweets stalls. Donations of prizes for the Draw would also be most welcome. Any donations may be given to Martin Leggatt (830251), Pat Dunderdale (830668), Chris Finney (831908) or Andrea Nicholson (830947).

## **Village Hall out of action**

Bridge Village Hall will be CLOSED for urgent renovations from 1st August for approximately 5 weeks.

*D. Cartwright, Booking Secretary*

## **ON THE NAIL NOTICEBOARD**

### **Summer Fair at The New Close**

6th August: 1 - 5pm

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### **Nailbourne Horticultural Society Show**

The Summer Show is at the Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne on Saturday, 13th August from 2pm. Teas in the garden. Entry forms from Mrs E Cartwright c/o Bridge Post Office, Mrs B Cope, Bishopsbourne or Mrs B Anderson, 7 Dering Road. Please help to make this a good show. There are cups to be won, even if you are a beginner. We look forward to seeing you!

*B Anderson*

### **Bridge with Patribourne Women's Institute**

The August meeting of Bridge W.I. will take place on 16th at 7.30pm in Bridge Methodist Church. The speaker will be Mrs M Dalgliesh and her subject *The History of the Red Cross*. Visitors are very welcome to attend.

*D.E. King*

## Bekesbourne Historical Snippet

by David Millyard

Does the distinction between 'high' and 'low' church still have validity? One used to be able to enter a church and from the description of the services on the noticeboard and the ornaments in the building tell whether it was high or low.

By these criteria no one could call St. Peter's Church Bekesbourne high these days. But once it must have been. There is an illustration of the interior of the church after the restoration of the late nineteenth century, reproduced at the end of John and Anne Purchase's booklet *The Church in the Garden*, now sadly out of print. This shows the three statues on the east wall of the chancel which are still there, three large candlesticks with candles on either side of the cross at the back of the altar, the rood beam over the chancel with a hanging sanctuary lamp and Stations of the Cross along the walls of the nave.

These last were a series of plaques each portraying a stage on our Lord's journey to Calvary. A devotional service would have been held, generally in Lent, with priest and perhaps also people processing slowly round the church, stopping at each 'station' in turn to ponder the incident portrayed and offer suitable prayers.

Maybe the vicar at the time of the restoration of the church, the Revd Henry J Wardell, was a high churchman, a Tractarian and follower of the Oxford Movement of the mid-nineteenth century.

But perhaps more interestingly when were the ornaments removed? The statues and the rood beam still, of course, survive *in situ*. And the candlesticks too were only put away and forgotten; five of them were retrieved a few years ago by the late Stanley Grey, polished up and placed on the chancel window sills, where they remain today. The present altar candlesticks are in fact on permanent loan from Bridge, being lent to Bekesbourne after a theft.

It is, by the way, a curious fact that the restored church apparently had no pulpit; did Henry J Wardell never preach? The present pulpit was a later gift of the Ramsay family.

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Reader: Mr Handley Stevens, M.A., 6 Bridgeford Way, Bridge, (831376)

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Miss J Carpenter, 3 The Green, Patricxbourne

Hon Secretary: Mr TJ Flisher, 52 Riverside Close, Bridge (830871)

Hon Treasurer: Mr K Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne (830947)

Covenants Officers: Mr NC Francis, 54 Riverside Close, Bridge (830945)

Organist (Bridge):

Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill,  
Patricxbourne (830205)

Verger (Bridge): Mr J Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne

**BEKESBOURNE**

Churchwarden: Mr AJ Fullaway, Snaefell, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne  
(830261)

Hon Secretary Mr D Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne  
& Treasurer: (830256)

Organist: Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill, Patricxbourne (830205)

Captain of the Ringers: Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road,  
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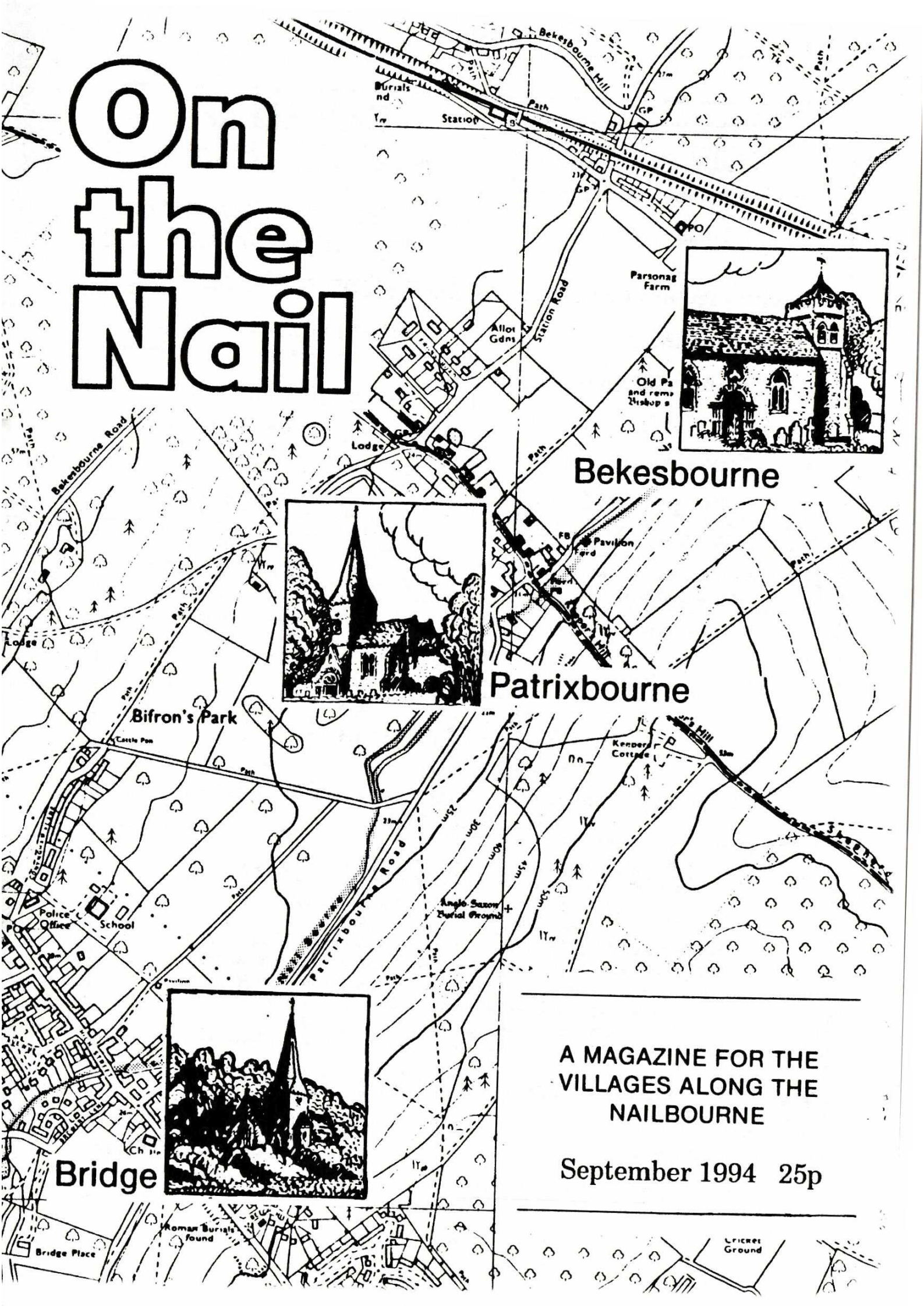
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Evenings: Canterbury 463675

## EVE PEARSON



0227 831593

AROMATHERAPY: R.Q.A.,  
T.A.H.A.: REFLEXOLOGY

Associate Member of  
Association of Reflexologists

## Sunday Worship in September

- 4th 8am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)(*Rev J Thackray*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)(*Canon Packer*)  
11am Family Service (*Bridge*)(*Mr H Stevens*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Canon Packer*)
- 11th 8am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)(*Rev J Tyler*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)(*Rev J Hodge*)  
11am Matins (*Patricxbourne*)(*Mr W Griscome*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Rev J Thackray*)
- 18th 8am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)(*Canon Packer*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)(*Canon Heartfield*)  
11am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)(*Mr H Stevens*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Mr H Stevens*)
- 25th 8am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricxbourne*)(*Rev J Shorrocks*)  
11am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)  
3pm Baptisms (*Bridge*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)

### 2nd October

- 8am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
11am Harvest Family Service with Baptisms (*Bridge*)  
6.30pm Harvest Evensong (*Bridge*)

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 much enjoyed by 4 year olds and upwards, for whom it caters. For details and enrolment please contact either Mrs Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Mrs Jean Hopkins (830942).

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: 4th, Holy Communion, The Revd Mary R Teed 11th, Mr FJ Allen 18th, Mr ER O'Mahony 25th, Miss J Charlesworth, MA

The Vicar will be off duty from 3rd to 24th September inclusive, during which time in emergency please contact either the Revd John Shorrocks (832133) or Canon John Packer (830364).

**Weekdays** The only weekday services of Holy Communion in St. Peter's Church, Bridge this month will be on 28th (BCP) at 9.30am and 30th (Rite A) at 7.30am. There is a service of Holy Communion on the first Wednesday of each month in Churchill House at 10.15am.

## **For your Diary and Prayer List**

- 1st *St. Giles, Abbot & Confessor*  
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm  
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm
- 2nd Pray for Simon Francis and Anne Cross, to be married this afternoon at St. Peter's, Bridge.
- 3rd *St. Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher, 604*
- 4th **15th Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 14**
- 8th *The Blessed Virgin Mary*  
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 10th Sponsored Cycle Ride - Support your local church's riders
- 11th **16th Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 15**
- 13th *St. Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr, 258*
- 14th *Holy Cross Day*
- 15th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, 7pm
- 18th **17th Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 16**
- 20th Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21st *St. Matthew the Apostle*
- 22nd Bridge Folk Dance Group, Village Hall, 8pm  
Nailbourne Horticultural Society meeting, Bridge Methodist Church, 8pm
- 24th Hospital League of Friends (Nailbourne Group) Craft Fair, Bridge School, 10am-4pm
- 25th **18th Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 17**
- 27th Bekesbourne Church Evening in the Village Hall at 7.30pm
- 28th Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough and Harrow, 8pm

- 29th *St. Michael and All Angels*  
Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meeting, Bridge  
Methodist Church, 7.30pm
- 30th Macmillan Nurse Appeal Coffee Morning, Bridge  
Village Hall, 10am - 12 noon

## **From the Vicar**

I'm always conscious when the monthly magazine time comes round that Bekesbourne feels it gets a raw deal, Bridge getting the lion's share of space in *On The Nail*. It's never intentional, but as editor I only have the material people send me, and in this instance it just so happens very little comes from Bekesbourne.

### **Two churches**

Bekesbourne isn't without its attractions, of course, and apart from various social activities and a zoo - sorry, wild animal park - it has two churches. Yes, two, for apart from the building on the hill that's dedicated to St. Peter there's the church that is made up of the people who regularly worship there.

In this respect Bekesbourne isn't alone, for every village up and down the land has its church building and the church community attached to it. The size of that community varies enormously, and mustn't be judged solely by the number attending. Holy Trinity Church in London's Brompton Road regularly attracts a capacity congregation, people travelling miles to attend its worship, cheerfully queuing to get in. The big attraction is the style of worship offered, and whereas it might be tempting to point to that church's success by the numbers who go I imagine the core congregation forms a small minority. In this exercise eclectic congregations don't count!

Bekesbourne is rarely half full (nor is Bridge, in case you're comparing) but at least the few who attend its services aren't out for a spectacle but for the laudable pursuit of worshipping almighty God. They belong to a community and form a congregation not an aggregation.

### **Two into one won't go!**

The Church in Bekesbourne has a problem, and the villagers of Bekesbourne by now should be well aware of it. Technically the church as people is solely responsible for maintaining the church as a building, but with so few

of us that means an impasse. We haven't enough money coming in to cover day-to-day running costs, which includes the mission of the church here as well as paying our dues to the wider church in the diocese, let alone keep the building from crumbling. So what do we do; stop paying our bills and let the building go to rack and ruin, or concentrate all our resources on building maintenance and run into debt where the diocese, SEEBOARD and insurance are concerned?

There's no easy answer! We *must* look after our old and beautiful church and if we want a vicar (not just the present one) we must help pay for him: from 1995 we've got to do more than help, incidentally.

### Face the facts!

If the church was part of the business world large sections of it would have folded long ago, St. Peter's Church Bekesbourne included. But we have to soldier on, striving to do the impossible - unless, that is, other help may be forthcoming.

Bekesbourne Church (building) is admired by lots of people, not all from the village itself, but for most of them it's only the building that attracts. The work of the church (people) has little appeal, so the PCC wonders if it might be possible to set up a fund-raising Friends of Bekesbourne Church simply to raise money for the upkeep of St. Peter's Church.

Think about it, and if you've other ideas of making two into one go come along to the meeting in Bekesbourne Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 27th September when this and many other village church matters will be discussed.

## Joys and Sorrows

### Made members of Christ in Baptism

At Bridge's Family Service on 7th August the baptism took place of Daniel Glenn Daley, 4 Filmer Road and Sarah Jayne Parsons, 1 Windmill Close and the same afternoon at Bekesbourne Cairns Alexander Livingstone, 3 Chalk Pit Cottages was baptized. The following Sunday at Bridge we had the rare pleasure of a baptism during the Parish Communion, when before a large company of relations and

friends together with the regular congregation we shared in the baptism of **Megan Amy Brown**, 13 Dering Road.

### **Joined together by God**

There were two weddings on 6th August, the first that of **Robert Hill**, Renville Oast and **Emiko Miyara** in St. Mary's Church, Patrixbourne. Later that afternoon St. Peter's Church, Bridge was the venue for the wedding of **Nicholas Jarrett**, 4 Mill Terrace and **Kirsty Southgate** of Ashford Road, Canterbury. One week later **Andrew Farbrace**, 3 Downside, Bekesbourne was married to **Susan Williamson** of Herne Bay in St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne. The vicar officiated on all three occasions.

### **Died in the Lord**

**Eric Bandy** and his wife **Beryl** were comparative newcomers to The Close, Bridge and frequent worshippers at both Bridge and Patrixbourne Churches. Although he'd had poor health for some years, his sudden death on holiday in York was a terrible shock for **Beryl** and the family. A funeral service, prior to interment in Patrixbourne churchyard, took place at St. Mary's Church on 29th July and our deepest sympathy goes out to **Beryl**, **Martin** and **Diana** at this very sad time. May he, with all the departed, rest in peace and rise in glory!

## **Patrixbourne Organ Restored**

It was just 116 years ago that the small Holdich organ was installed in St. Mary's Church, Patrixbourne by **Tench J White** of St. George's Street, Canterbury. Our records do not tell us how much it cost but installing it cost £178, for which we still have the stamped receipt. We know that work was done on the organ in 1892 from an artisan's name inscribed on the inside of the panelling. However, we know that there has been no significant repair work carried out on the organ since 1894 other than the major cleaning in 1948 in memory of a former organist at Patrixbourne, **Spencer Mount**.

In February 1993 the people of Patrixbourne were given the challenge of raising over £5000 for the major repair work that was now needed if the organ was to be restored to its former glory. Inspired by our organist, **Rosalie Stacey**, this was achieved in a year. We are extremely grateful to the Trustees of the Sir James



Colyer-Fergusson Charitable Trust and the Pilgrim Trust who have donated £2000 and £500 respectively, and to the people of Patricxbourne who helped raise the rest of the money. This has enabled the organ to be completely dismantled, every item of it thoroughly cleaned, certain parts taken to the organ workshops in Ash, all reassembled and the instrument tuned and back in use by the beginning of August.

It is interesting that Reg Cobb, who has now retired from the firm of FH Browne (organ builders) though still helps out at times, assisted in this restoration of an organ he first got to know when, as a young apprentice, he worked on its cleaning in 1948.

As part of the celebrations for the restoration of the organ, the Junior King's School Choir will lead the singing at a special Harvest Evensong on 9th October at 4.30pm in St. Mary's Church. After the service there will be tea, followed by a recital given by current and former pupils of the school. Everyone is welcome. A retiring collection will be made for the Patricxbourne Fabric Fund.

## **THANK YOU!!**

*from Claire Brasier*

I am writing to thank everybody who helped me raise funds for my trip to India.

I had a wonderful time. The camp with Indian children was a great success and the children as well as us adults really enjoyed it. I did craft activities in a Leprosy Colony and a slum amongst other things during the first two weeks.

During the second two weeks I went to Aurangabad to see the famous Ajanta and Ellara caves. Following this I went to Uddipur, Jaipur then on to Agra to see one of the wonders of the world, the Taj Mahal, before going to Delhi to fly home. For those interested I hope to show all my slides and tell all my stories at a later date.

Thank you again.

### **BRIDGE FOLK DANCE GROUP**

Due to a fall in attendance we will not be meeting after Thursday, 1st December. However, we will be in Bridge Village Hall as usual on 1st and 22nd September at 8pm.

Also please remember our special fun barn dance on Friday, 21st October in memory of our Dot. Full details next month. Enquiries ring 830652. J.H.

### **SPONSORED BIKE RIDE - 10th SEPTEMBER**

I'm sure that the riders of Patricxbourne will be more organised than their Organiser by now, but if you would like to ride (or walk) and raise money for St. Mary's while enjoying a day out, it's not too late to get a sponsor form from me. If you don't want to join in the more energetic part, but would be willing to sponsor a rider or help in the church on the day, please contact me as soon as possible on 830685. Good luck to all the volunteers!

*Pauline Pritchard*

*Ed: Bekesbourne and Bridge Churches are also taking part and their respective organisers are Jill Gillanders (830894) and Christine Beer (830900). They'd love to hear from last minute volunteers in whatever capacity, so if you'd be willing to help get in touch.*

### **BRIDGE WITH PATRICXBOURNE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

The September meeting of Bridge with Patricxbourne WI will take place on Tuesday, 20th September at 7.30pm. There will be a talk on *The Growing and Using of Herbs* by Mrs J Bryant. Hopefully the Village Hall repairs will have been completed by then but please check whether the venue will be the Village Hall or Methodist Church. *D King*

### **NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

Once again, thank you to everyone, committee, exhibitors and all the visitors to the summer show who helped make it an enjoyable and successful afternoon.

May I remind members our next meeting is in Bridge Methodist Church on 22nd September at 8pm. The talk is on *Cacti* and will be given by Mrs Diane Gilbert. Everyone is welcome. *B Anderson*

### **NAILBOURNE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF CANTERBURY HOSPITALS**

The Nailbourne League of Friends Craft Fair is on Saturday, 24th September, 10am to 4pm at Bridge Primary School, Conyngham Lane, Bridge. There will be refresh-

ments all day. Please come along and enjoy the many and varied craft stalls.

Thank you to all the people who kindly supported our Coffee Morning in June - £177 was raised for our local hospitals.

*Rosy Green*

#### **MACMILLAN NURSE APPEAL - COFFEE MORNING**

On Friday, 30th September between 10am and 12 noon, we will again be taking part in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning at Bridge Village Hall. This will be one of thousands of events taking place all over the country in the hope of raising £1 million for the Macmillan Appeal. Our contribution will go to the Canterbury Nurse Appeal and I hope you will come and join us. Stalls will be Raffle, Bring and Buy, White Elephant, Cakes, Pottery, Plants - in fact we will sell almost anything you care to bring, but NO SECOND-HAND CLOTHES please. Do come, bring your friends and family, let's have a fun morning and help the Macmillan Nurse Appeal. I look forward to seeing you.

*Maggie Field (830224)*

#### **NAILBOURNE CRAFT CLUB**

##### **Meeting in Bridge Methodist Church**

We meet for a social gathering while doing embroidery, tapestry, lace making and many more crafts. We have no formal instruction but anyone wishing to try a new project will usually find one of our members able to advise and help. We meet once a month in the summer on the second Tuesday and twice a month in the winter on the second and fourth Tuesdays. Come any time between 2 and 4.30pm, even if it's only for an hour: we know school mums have to leave early. Everyone is welcome. Our annual subscription is £3, and it's 20p a meeting for tea/coffee and biscuits.

*Contributed*

#### **BEKESBOURNE CHURCH Cleaning & Flower Rota**

*3rd, Mrs Fry 10th & 17th, Mrs Mount 24th, Mrs Skinner*

\* \* \*

'Being virtuous doesn't preclude slipping up and falling, once in a while. Being virtuous means getting up and trying again.' *Abbé Michel Quoist*

# Bekesbourne Historical Snippets

by David Millyard

Thomas Cranmer was Archbishop of Canterbury from 1533 in the reign of King Henry VIII to Henry's death in 1547, through the short reign of Edward VI, and into the reign of Queen Mary, until he was put to death by being burnt at the stake for heresy in 1556.

Cranmer was the first archbishop to spend time in Bekesbourne. It was he who, in 1543 and with the king's blessing, swapped some archiepiscopal land in Bishopsbourne for what had been a farm and recreation centre in Bekesbourne belonging to the monks of Christchurch Priory in Canterbury (now the cathedral). This had been sequestered by the king when the monastery was dissolved a few years before and settled on a man in the king's favour. Cranmer proceeded to build a very splendid palace along the bank of the river. What remains now, the Old Palace in Bekesbourne, is only a very small part of what was once there. The greater part was pulled down by the Roundheads in 1647 and only the gatehouse, porter's lodge and stable wing were left standing, later to be sold and converted into a 'gentleman's residence'.

Cranmer certainly spent some time in Bekesbourne, though it is not clear how much, and there are a few surviving letters written by him from there. In one such, written in April 1544, he writes to Lord Cobham, who was the king's representative in Calais, still at that time held by the English. It is mostly about ecclesiastical business but it concludes by thanking Lord Cobham for some wine and offering to buy more if 'there come any to be sold at any reasonable price'. So, though day trips to France were not feasible in the sixteenth century, French wine was already sought after, at least by archbishops.

It is good to see that Cranmer's association with Bekesbourne has recently been commemorated by naming after him the new Close of low-cost housing sponsored by the Parish Council.

IN NEXT MONTH'S *ON THE NAIL* . . .

Details of Harvest Services in our three churches on 2nd (Bridge), 9th (Patricxbourne) and 16th (Bekesbourne), also

information on an interesting Deanery adult education course, entitled *Growing in Faith*.

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

Reader: Mr Handley Stevens, M.A., 6 Bridgeford Way, Bridge, (831376)

#### **PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE**

Churchwardens: Mr HPM Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down (830472)

Miss J Carpenter, 3 The Green, Patricxbourne

Hon Secretary: Mr TJ Flisher, 52 Riverside Close, Bridge (830871)

Hon Treasurer: Mr K Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne (830947)

Covenants Officers: Mr NC Francis, 54 Riverside Close, Bridge (830945)

Organist (Bridge):

Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill,

Patricxbourne (830205)

Verger (Bridge): Mr J Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne

#### **BEKESBOURNE**

Churchwarden: Mr AJ Fullaway, Snaefell, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne

(830261)

Hon Secretary Mr D Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne

& Treasurer: (830256)

Organist: Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill, Patricxbourne (830205)

Captain of the Ringers: Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road,

Bekesbourne (830659)

Magazine Advertising: Mr HPM Lawrence, Tullymore, 72 Bridge Down (830472)

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

Contributions for *On the Nail* should be sent to the editor by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

**J.W. & L.J. BRASIER**

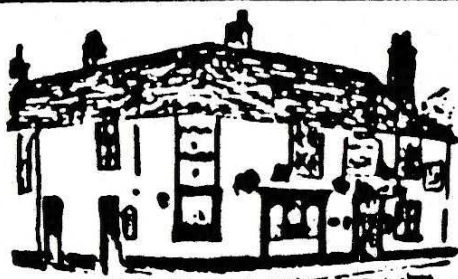
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## EVE PEARSON



0227 831593

AROMATHERAPY: R.Q.A.,  
T.A.H.A.: REFLEXOLOGY

Associate Member of  
Association of Reflexologists

## SUNDAY WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

- 2nd** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
11am Harvest Family Service with Baptisms (*Bridge*)  
6.30pm Harvest Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 9th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)  
11am Harvest Matins (*Patricbourne*)  
4.30pm Harvest Choral Evensong & Recital (*Patricbourne*)
- 16th** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)  
11am Harvest & Church Thanksgiving Service (*Bekesbourne*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*) (*Mr H Stevens*)
- 23rd** 8am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricbourne*) (*Rev J Shorrocks*)  
11am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)  
6.30pm Peter's Praise (*Bridge*)
- 30th** 9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*) (*Preacher: Rev J Thackray*)  
11am Matins (*Patricbourne*)  
3.30pm Holy Baptism (*Patricbourne*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bekesbourne*)

### 6th November

- 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
11am Family Service with Baptisms (*Bridge*)  
6.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)

**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 much enjoyed by 4 year olds upwards for whom it caters. For details and enrolment please contact either Mrs Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Mrs Jean Hopkins (830942).

**Bridge Methodist Church** at 11am: *2nd* Mr J Dron; *9th* Holy Communion The Rev Mary R Tweed; *16th* The Revd David Marshall; *23rd* Mr FJ Allen; *30th* Dr EAH Tresidder BA.

**Weekdays** The Holy Communion is celebrated in St Peter's Church Bridge every Wednesday (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. There is a service of Holy Communion on the first Wednesday of each month at 10.15am in Churchill House.

#### **FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST**

- 2nd **Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 18**  
Bridge Harvest Thanksgiving is celebrated at both services. Harvest gifts will be gratefully received at the Family Service and taken afterwards to the Canterbury Women's Refuge.
- 4th *St Francis of Assisi, Friar, 1226*
- 6th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm  
Bekesbourne PCC meets, School House, School Lane, 7.30pm
- 9th **Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 19**  
Patricbourne Harvest Thanksgiving is celebrated at the usual 11am Matins and at a special Choral Evensong at 4.30pm sung by the choir of Junior King's School. Tea will be served after the service following which the choir will give a short recital.
- 10th *St Paulinus, Bishop, Missionary, 644*
- 13th *St Edward the Confessor, King of England, 1066*
- 14th Pray for the Deanery Clergy who meet at Bridge this morning
- 15th *St Teresa of Avila, Mystic, 1582*
- 16th **Last Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 20**  
The Harvest at Bekesbourne will be celebrated during a special 11am service in thanksgiving for the church following last month's evening meeting in the Village Hall.
- 17th *St Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, Martyr, c107*
- 18th **St Luke the Evangelist**
- 20th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 23rd **Ninth Sunday before Christmas: Trinity 21**
- 26th Pray for our representatives on East Bridge Deanery Synod on this day when it meets: Jane Millyard (*Bekesbourne*), Evelyn Andrews, Sheila Fenn and Kath Pierce (*Patricbourne with Bridge*)
- 28th **St Simon and St Jude, Apostles**
- 30th **Eighth Sunday before Christmas: Trinity 22**  
The preacher at 9.30am Parish Communion will be the Revd John Thackray, Chaplain of the King's School and Bridge Scout Leader.

#### **FROM THE VICAR**

I have been interested in the recent programmes available at Canterbury's one and only cinema. They have been showing a film called *Snow White* and I am puzzled as to whether this is a brand new film or Disney's classic cartoon. If the latter, then I always thought it's proper title was *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. So I want to know, is it billed as *Snow White*, because there is not enough room on the billboards for the full title,

or is it a case of the current mania for political correctness, because 'dwarf' is now an unacceptable word?

'Mind what you say' seems to be the order of the day, and not just for public speakers but for everybody. In many areas of life the way we express ourselves, whether in speech or on paper, matters; if not to us then certainly to other people.

The famous crime writer, Agatha Christie, wrote a thriller called *Three Little Niggers*. Nowadays you will not find that in any bookshop, but you *will* find a who-dunnit by the same author entitled *Three Little Indians*. Yes, it is the same story; the one word having been changed because 'nigger' is no longer politically acceptable.

The hot potato where political correctness is concerned is to do with gender. So, for reasons I cannot begin to understand, the word 'person' is deemed more acceptable than 'man' - personpower instead of manpower. The man or woman in charge of a meeting is called either the 'chairperson' or the 'chair', which seems highly unflattering, not to say inanimate. In certain circles gone is the feminine form of certain nouns so that it is considered sexist to call a woman a manageress, when she is really the manager. So was Agatha Christie an author or an authoress? Someone once assured me quite seriously with respect to the baptism cards we give to godparents, the long-standing custom of printing them pink for girls and blue for boys is sexist and politically incorrect. Where will it end?

The Church is not excluded from all this either and when the new edition of the *Alternative Services Book* comes out we are promised a greater use of inclusive language. So presumably instead of 'man', which is a shortened form of 'humankind' and not a reference to the male sex, we shall find 'people'. Let us hope in their efforts to be politically correct the revisers do not get completely carried away with this.

What I find worrying, in this business of gender, is the way some people bend over backwards to avoid referring to one sex as against the other. It is as if they do not see any difference between men and women. I assume it is in the interests of sexual equality, but you can take things too far. Men and women *are* different and whereas one should not denigrate one at the expense of the other, it is verging on the absurd to suggest that at no time should we segregate the sexes. We are as God made us, and no amount of wishful thinking on our part can change that.

Every person is a woman or a man. Irrespective of what sexual orientation we may have, whether homosexual or heterosexual, we were born either male or female, and it is nothing to be ashamed of. Sex is part of God's gift to each of us and, since we are not alone on this earth, to the world around us; a gift he gave us when he breathed into us the

precious gift of life. We should give thanks for and rejoice in it, for it is part of the world the Lord God made and, like all of it, it is very good!

## **JOYS AND SORROWS**

### **Joined in Christian Marriage**

The vicar's last act before starting his holiday was to officiate at the marriage in St Peter's Church Bridge of Simon Francis and Anne Cross, and we wish them every happiness in their life together. Simon is the son of Pam and Norman Francis, Norman being our Covenants Officer. Prayers at the service were led by Simon's godfather, Canon David Naumann, who was Rural Dean of East Bridge at the time of the vicar's induction.

### **In the hand of God**

The vicar officiated at the cremation of 98 year old Bessie Yates, 45 Bridge Down and Saxon Lodge, at Barham Crematorium on 30 August. Bessie, as everyone called her, was a very popular resident of Bridge Down who in her more active days was kindness itself to many people. She hailed originally from London, coming to Bridge with her lifelong friend on her retirement, and was renowned locally as a good neighbour with the most cheerful disposition imaginable. She went on to live in Saxon Lodge when it opened, but always claimed her time there was a temporary measure, still feeling her real home was her Bridge Down bungalow. Bessie's personality made her a much-loved and most popular resident at Saxon Lodge, where she is already much missed. May she rest in peace.

## **GROWTH IN FAITH**

In October the Deanery is launching its education programme *Growing in Faith*. This will be an attractive course in which we shall be invited to share our experience of our faith and learn from others. Participation will enrich many areas of our Christian life and understanding.

The course will be in three parts: 'God the Maker of All Things' in Term One, 'God on Earth - the life of Jesus' in Term two and 'God in us - the Holy Spirit at Work in the World' in Term Three. Each term has eight sessions.

There will be several groups meeting in the Deanery and you will shortly find application forms in the churches, on which you can choose the day and place you would like to attend. In the past many people have gained greatly from inter-parish groups, and we feel you would enjoy exchanging experiences in this way.

## **SPONSORED BICYCLE RIDE**

Many thanks to all the people of Patricbourne who gave generously of their time, energy and money for the Sponsored Bike Ride on Saturday 10 September. Yet again, we launched a host of cyclists into the surrounding areas, and there were more than enough volunteers to welcome visitors into St Mary's. I look forward to sending off all our sponsor money as soon as possible. Thank you again for making my task so straightforward.

*Pauline Pritchard*

We should also thank everyone in Bekesbourne and Bridge who took part in the Sponsored Bike Ride. Well done to their respective organisers - Jill Gillanders and Christine Beer.

### **CONCERT AT ST PETER'S CHURCH BEKESBOURNE**

**AT 7.30PM ON**

**SATURDAY 15 OCTOBER**

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## **DECORATING ST PETER'S CHURCH BRIDGE FOR HARVEST**

Decorating St Peter's Church Bridge for harvest will commence at 10am on Friday 30 September. All help will be gratefully appreciated. Anyone who can supply flowers, berries, greenery, etc please let me know on 830981. Thank you.

*Viv Brasier*

### **BRIDGE METHODISTS AUTUMN COFFEE MORNING AND RAFFLE FROM 10.15AM TO 12NOON ON THURSDAY 6 OCTOBER**

Proceeds will, as is the Bridge Methodists tradition, be shared with a charity  
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**BRIDGE FOLK DANCE GROUP**

Our barn dance in memory of Dot Whittaker will be held in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm on Friday 21 October. There will be live music to accompany Alf Matthews 'easy little pieces'. Admission is £3 plus a plate of food for the buffet table. Tea and coffee will be served. The proceeds will go to the Pilgrims Hospice so please help to make this a special evening. Enquiries ring 830652.

*JH*

**THE FOUNDATION FOR THE STUDY OF INFANT DEATHS**

The Annual Coffee Morning to raise funds for research into cot deaths will be held in the Village Hall Bridge from 10am to 12noon on Thursday 27 October. Please note that this is a change in venue from previous years.

*Elizabeth Stewart*

**NAILBOURNE SCOUT GROUP  
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## **THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME**

We believe it is an appropriate time to remind everyone about the aim of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and how it operates.

The Scheme consists of groups of neighbours who work together, under police guidance, to help deter, and reduce, crime in their respective areas. Each area has a co-ordinator, to whom the police send information, and sub-area controllers with linkmen, who distribute any information, literature, etc received from the police regarding security or crime in the area. Arrangements are made from time to time for security marking of bicycles, items of value, etc. The Scheme committees are **not** responsible for patrolling their areas.

The objective of the Scheme is for **everyone** to help the police to reduce local crime.

This can be achieved by **everyone** being observant and reporting anything suspicious directly to the police. It is also achieved by maintaining the highest possible physical security at home - with particular attention being given to windows, doors, sheds, garage doors, security lighting, etc. Beware of leaving your house in complete darkness - at dusk or night unlit houses invite unwelcome attention. If you are going away, ask your neighbours to look after your house by putting the lights on or off and drawing the curtains.

**REMEMBER! AT ANY TIME OF THE DAY OR NIGHT THIEVES ARE PREPARED TO TAKE RISKS AND ATTEMPT TO STEAL YOUR PROPERTY (WITHOUT CONSCIENCE).**

One more aspect of crime is vandalism which is regularly occurring in Bridge. If witnessed, or if you have any information relating to acts of vandalism, immediately inform the police.

Please note that your anonymity can be guaranteed when reporting anything to the police should you wish it to be so.

*Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Committees*

### **FISH NEWS**

**AGM is at 8pm on 11 October at Bridge Methodist Church. Please come along if you are interested in the Scheme.**

**Coffee Pop-In is from 10.15am to 11.45am on 12 October at the Village Hall Bridge.**

**Chiropody Clinic is from 24 to 28 October.**



## **AUTUMN FAYRE**

**Saturday 19 November**

**at Patrixbourne with Bridge Primary School at 11.30am**

Please note the date of the Autumn Fayre in your diaries now. The Fayre will start earlier than usual and light lunches will be served. To help us provide plenty of items for sale on the various stalls, donations of jams and chutneys, craft items, gifts, toys and bottles for the tombola stall are required as soon as possible. Prizes for the raffle would be much appreciated. All donations may be given to Martin Leggatt (830251), Pat Dunderdale (830668), Chris Finney (831908) or Andrea Nicholson (830947). Donations for the cake stall may be brought to the school hall on the day. Thank you.

**PLEASE COME TO THE FAYRE AND SUPPORT THIS  
IMPORTANT FUND-RAISING EVENT.**

### **NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

Members wishing to go on the outing to Capel Manor, Enfield, on Sunday 23 October should contact Mrs E Cartwright at the Post Office Bridge.

*Billie Anderson*

### **BRIDGE WITH PATRIXBOURNE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

**Memories of Bridge  
a talk by Mrs G Herbert  
at 7.30pm  
on Tuesday 18 October  
in the Village Hall Bridge**

**New members and visitors welcome**

## **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Centenary exhibition**

The exhibition on Bridge - Past, Present and Future was officially opened by Lord Mount Charles on Thursday 8 September. Amongst the guests were Lady Mount Charles, the Chairman of Kent County Council, Mr John Purchase and Mrs Purchase, and the Lord and Lady Mayoress of Canterbury. Visitors to the exhibition enjoyed spotting friends and relatives on the many photographs on display, and praised the high standards achieved by the organising sub-committee. After four days in Bridge, part of the exhibition was transferred to the Canterbury Centre in St Alphege Lane.

### **Parish Council Meeting**

#### **A glimmer of light**

Following numerous complaints about power cuts in the village, two representatives from Seaboard's main engineering team are expected to attend the next Parish Council meeting at which they will brief councillors on recent problems.

#### **Traffic survey**

Following a survey of traffic through the village during peak periods, KCC Highways and Transportation Division have decided they will not consider traffic calming measures for the High Street. However, they are looking at ways of improving speed limit signs to encourage drivers to take care.

#### **Bricks and mortar**

The Summer proved a busy time for planning applications. Amongst those still to be considered by Canterbury City Council are an extension to the Sports Pavilion, the installation of a third court by Bridge Tennis Club and the replacement of a flat roof by a pitched one at The Cottage, Bridge Hill. Permission to develop land at Bridge Hill House was refused by the City Council.

#### **Messing about on the river**

A site meeting is planned to discuss proposed works on the Nailbourne to ensure that they are in keeping with the conservation area. Access to the work will be from the ford in Mill Lane, as the Parish Council refused a request for the bus shelter to be removed.

#### **Pointing a finger**

Canterbury City Council's Conservation Department is looking for information on old signposts, telephone boxes, letter boxes and other examples of street furniture. The Chairman, John Hill, will be compiling a record of Bridge's old signs. If you know of any in out of the way places, please let him know.

Vicar: The Revd Raymond Gilbert AKC, 23 High Street Bridge (830250)  
Reader: Mr Handley Stevens MA, 6 Bridgeford Way Bridge (831376)

### **PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE**

Churchwardens: Mr HPM Lawrence, Tullymore 72 Bridge Down Bridge (830472)  
Miss J Carpenter, 3 The Green Patricxbourne  
Hon Secretary: Mr TJ Flisher, 52 Riverside Close Bridge (830871)  
Hon Treasurer: Mr K Nicholson, Riverside Cottage Patricxbourne (830947)  
Covenants Officer: Mr NC Francis, 54 Riverside Close Bridge (830945)  
Organist (Bridge):  
Organist (Patricxbourne): Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet Keepers Hill Patricxbourne (830205)  
Verge (Bridge): Mr J Hopkins, Old Station Cottage Bishopsbourne

### **BEKESBOURNE**

Churchwarden: Mr AJ Fullaway, Snaefell Adisham Road Bekesbourne (830261)  
Hon Secretary  
& Treasurer: Mr D Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne (830256)  
Organist: Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet Keepers Hill Patricxbourne (830205)  
Captain of the Rings: Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside Adisham Road  
Bekesbourne (830659)

Magazine advertising: Mr HPM Lawrence, Tullymore 72 Bridge Down Bridge (830472)  
Magazine editor: The Vicar, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

Contributions for *On the Nail* should be sent to the editor by the 15th of the month preceding the publication.

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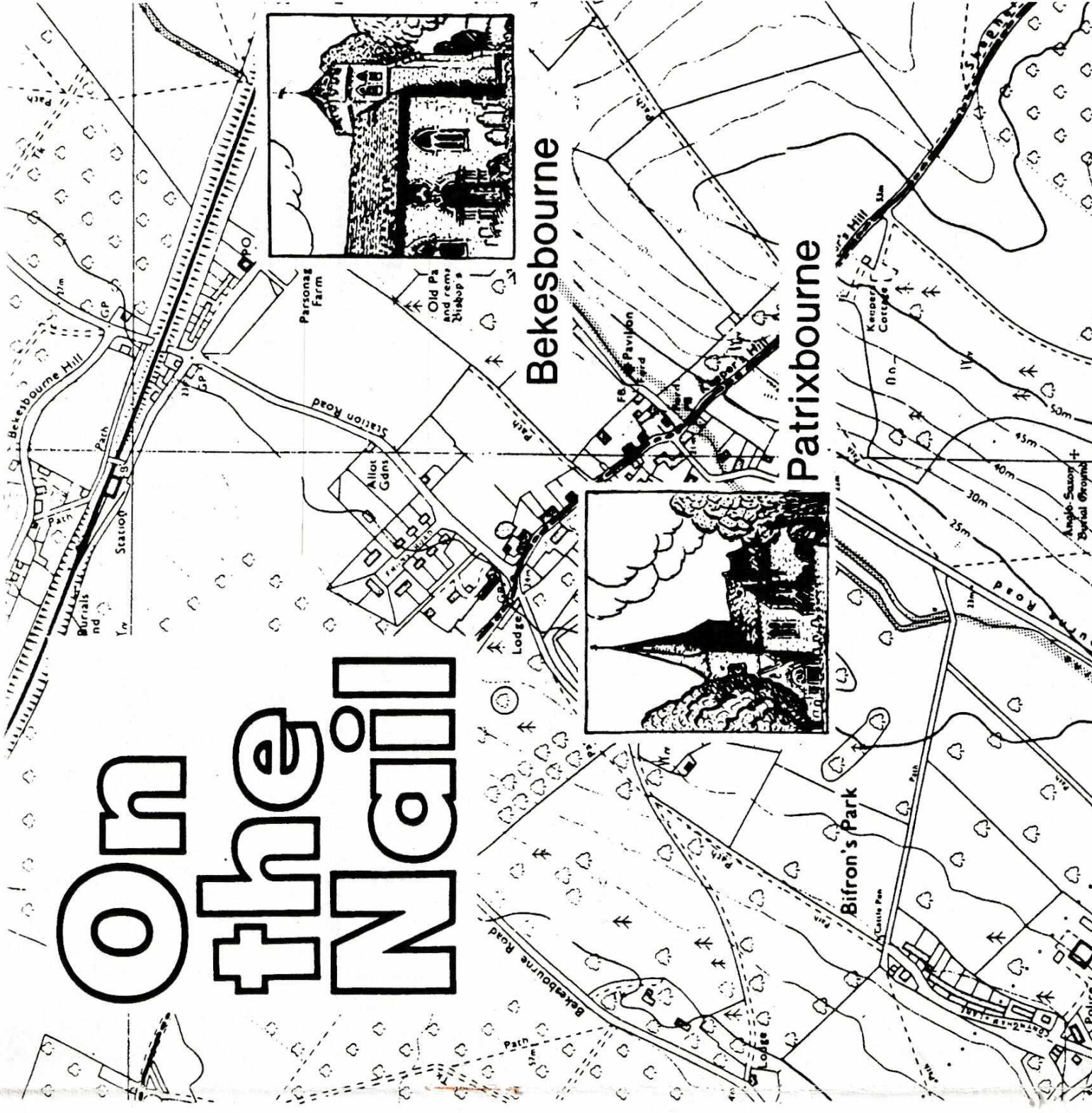


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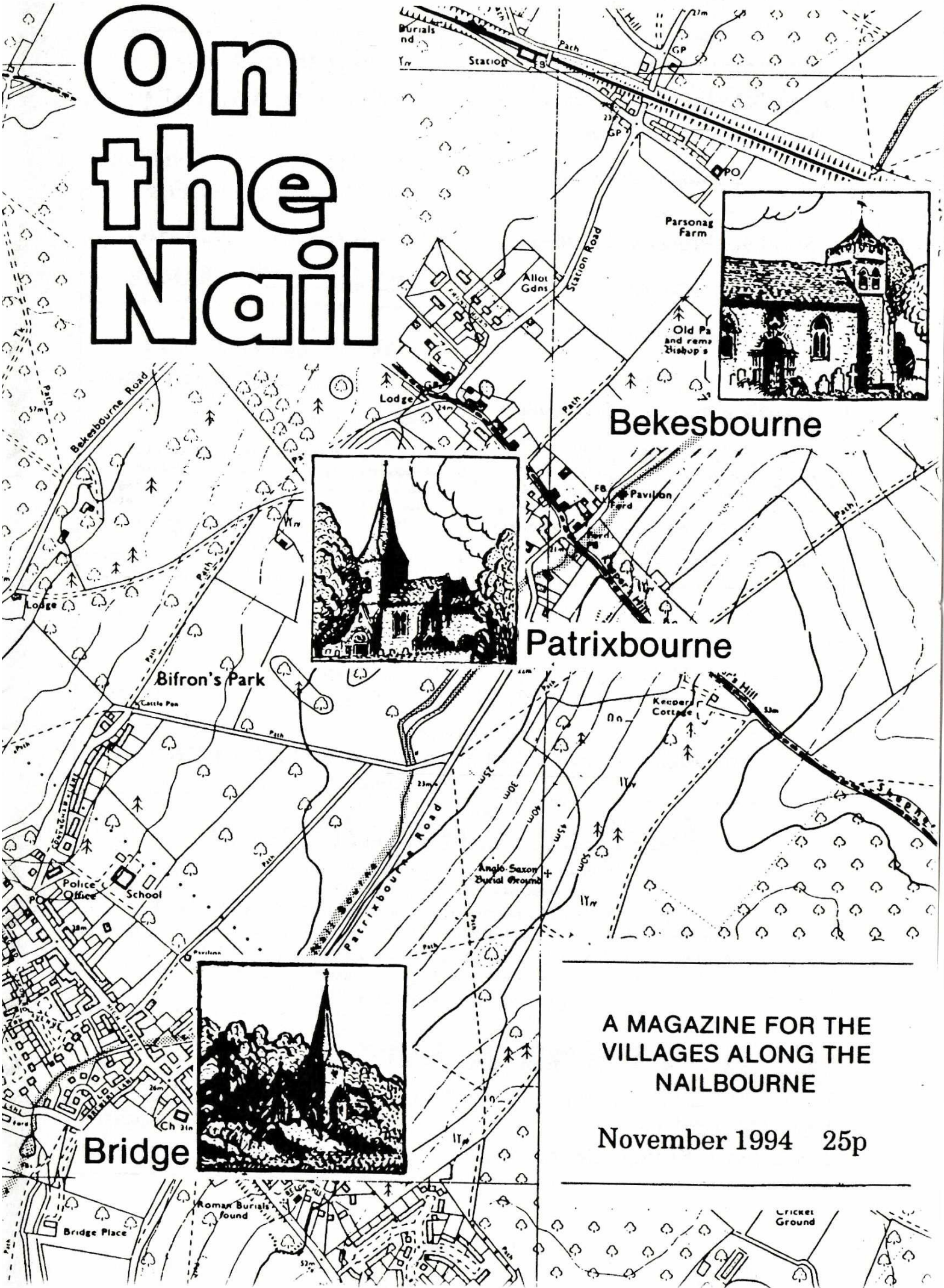


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# On the Nail



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November 1994 25p

CRICKET  
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## SUNDAY WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

- 6th** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
11am Family Service (*Bridge*)  
6.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 13th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)  
11am Remembrance Service (*Bridge*)  
11am Matins (*Patricbourne*) (*Mr H Stevens*)  
6.30pm Deanery Pilgrimage (*Cathedral*)
- 20th** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)  
11am Matins (*Bekesbourne*) (*Rev J Shorrocks*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 27th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricbourne*)  
11am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)  
6.30pm Peter's Praise (*Bridge*)

### 4th December

- 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
11am Family Gift Service with Baptism (*Bridge*)  
6.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)

**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 much enjoyed by 4 year olds upwards for whom it caters. For details and enrolment please contact either Mrs Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Mrs Jean Hopkins (830942).

**Bridge Methodist Church** at 11am: *6th* Mr D Skinner; *13th* The Revd G Baugh; *20th Holy Communion* The Rev Mary R Tweed; *27th* Dr C Pilkington.

**Weekdays** The Holy Communion is celebrated in St Peter's Church Bridge every Wednesday (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Friday (*Rite A*) at 7.30am with the exceptions of 16 and 18 November. There is a service of Holy Communion on the first Wednesday of each month at 10.15am in Churchill House.

## FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 1st *All Saints' Day*
- 2nd *Commemoration of All Souls*
- 3rd Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, 7 Windmill Close, 7pm  
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Bridge Village Hall, 8pm
- 6th **Seventh Sunday before Christmas: Trinity 23**
- 9th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am
- 10th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 11th *St. Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397*
- 12th Gladys Griggs Memorial Service, St Peter's Church Bekesbourne, 2.30pm
- 13th **Sixth Sunday before Christmas: Remembrance Sunday**  
There is a Service of Remembrance at St Peter's Church Bridge preceded by wreath laying and the two minutes' silence at the war memorial in the churchyard.  
Instead of Evensong we have the chance to take part in a special Deanery candlelit pilgrimage in the Cathedral with Canon Peter Brett, starting at 6.30pm.
- 15th Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 17th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm  
Bridge Folk Dance Group, Bridge Village Hall, 8pm
- 19th **AUTUMN FAYRE, Bridge School 11.30am**  
'Fair Trials Abroad' Bring and Buy Coffee Morning, Bekesbourne Village Hall, 10am - 1pm.
- 20th **Fifth Sunday before Christmas: Sunday next before Advent**
- 24th Patricbourne with Bridge PCC meeting, Methodist Church, 7.30pm
- 26th Friends of the New Close Coffee Morning, Bridge Village Hall, 10am
- 27th **First Sunday in Advent**
- 30th *St Andrew the Apostle*  
"An Evening with the Gideons", St Peter's Church Bridge, 7.30pm  
Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough and Harrow, 8pm

## FROM THE VICAR

Every year the preface to *The Parson's Pocketbook*, a clergyman's diary, begins with the droll statement 'Memory is the faculty by which we forget things'. It was obviously coined by someone who has been told too many times "Don't worry: I shan't forget!" only to be let down repeatedly. Memory alone is certainly a fallible thing!

November is a memory month, what with the church's calendar honouring all the saints on the 1st and commemorating all departed souls on the 2nd. Then there is the call to 'remember, remember the fifth of November'; although it sounds hollow now. Finally,

there is the major and highly significant national remembrance that takes place at the 11th hour around the 11th day of the 11th month, when we honour the fallen in battle.

Memory needs more than a verbal assurance to keep it sharp and it can be counter-productive if it's used simply to think ourselves back into the past. This is where the paraphernalia of Remembrance Sunday has come in for some stick in recent years. It's not that those who use it want to return to the past but because they look to those memories to provide a springboard for the future. Memory draws on past events to make sense of present realities and to point to the future. Holiday snaps help us rekindle past joys by bringing events they record into present consciousness. Seeing them we remember the things we did, the sights and smells of a holiday we once had, and we live them again. bring them back. This is where remembrance comes into its own, when it makes us alert to past events, this time with the opportunity to do something about them, to make amends in some way.

In our remembering on 13 November let us look forward as we look backward and make it a positive act that leads our critics to get the point and benefit from rather than despise it. It's akin to what the Church does at every Eucharist, where we remember what our Lord did for us and our salvation. We bring him back and know his living presence is in our midst at the time and in our life beyond.

\* \* \*

The very successful and well-supported church meeting in Bekesbourne Village Hall drew lots of comments and useful suggestions from those present. Some contributors hankered for the past, when Bekesbourne had its own school around which its social life seemed largely to revolve. However, as one speaker reminded us, it's no good being nostalgic about a past that cannot be resurrected. Certainly rejoice in what HAS been but also look towards what CAN be. In effect let these memories launch us into what on the meeting's showing promises to be a hopeful future for the life of the church in Bekesbourne.

## **JOYS AND SORROWS**

### **Made members of Christ in Baptism**

We welcomed into the Lord's family at the Harvest Family Service on 2 October Katherine Emily Barham 32 Bridge Down, Amy Margaret Jane Osterloh Beechen House Beech Hill and Sophie Louise Jenner 15 Conyngham Lane.

### **Joined in Christian Marriage**

On 24 September at St Peter's Church Bekesbourne, the Revd John Shorrocks officiated at the wedding of Elizabeth Silvester and Nigel Race.

### **In the hand of God**

Canon John Packer officiated at the cremation of Dennis Matcham Churchill Close (18 September) and of Helen Tribe formerly of Churchill House (23 September). The deaths

are also recorded of Ada Osbourn, formerly of Great Pett Cottage, and Ernest Pomroy 22 Windmill Close.

### **Gladys Griggs**

The peaceful death on 6 October of Gladys Griggs (88 years) brought to an end one of the most gentle and quietly outgoing lives imaginable. She spent all her life in Bekesbourne and in her unassuming way left her mark as not many do. She lived a strenuous life, most of it spent in close proximity to the soil, and in the company of her late husband, Ernie, she worked on the land in all weathers. She was also in service for a time and many local people still value her unobtrusive friendship with affection and gratitude. Even after she and Ernie moved to Churchill Close Bridge, she kept up her links with Bekesbourne, specially the church. She attended weekly until its inaccessibility, and her breathing difficulties, brought this long association to an end. Subsequently, she received fortnightly communion in her home and kept abreast of goings-on at St Peter's Bekesbourne. Her interest in her tiny garden never waned and, despite increasing breathlessness, she managed this season to set and harvest a row of potatoes and runner beans.

It was her family's decision not to have a funeral service in church. The Vicar, who with his wife, enjoyed Gladys' very genuine friendship and support over the years, officiated at a service in Barham crematorium on 14 October. The church and village she loved so much, and which were the centre of her life from girlhood, will have a chance to honour her memory at a special Service of Thanksgiving in St Peter's Bekesbourne on Saturday 12 November at 2.30pm.

### **We will remember them!**

Bridge's annual Service of Remembrance will take place at the war Memorial and in St Peter's Bridge on Remembrance Sunday 13 November. Those attending are asked to assemble in the churchyard at the memorial shortly before 11am when a wreath will be laid on behalf of the local Royal British Legion. The two minutes' silence will be kept promptly at 11am. After a short act of remembrance we shall move into the church for the service.

\* \* \*

Whilst this issue of the magazine is being distributed, the annual Poppy Appeal is getting under way. Some veterans of previous conflicts still require care and the onset of 'peace' has led to further calls being made on resources for training and resettlement of discharged personnel. Please give generously!

*Jim Stripe, Royal British Legion*

## **SPONSORED BICYCLE RIDE**

This year's sponsored cycle rides have raised over £400 (the best ever) for St Peter's Bekesbourne, just under £200 for St Peter's Bridge and almost £250 for St Mary's Patribourne. Riders were:

St Peter's Bekesbourne - Jane, John and Patrick Shorrocks, Joan Atkins, Marian Trudgill, Eleanor Pearson, Maria, Robert and Natalie Jackson, Matthew Moon and Stephen Ellis.

St Peter's Bridge - Christine and Rosemary Hoare, Tony and Richard Walder, Elizabeth and Katie Pike, Anne Stevens and Chris and Lesley Finney.

St Mary's Patribourne - Marion Harlow, Megan and Viv Pritchard, David and John Morris, David, Tom and Jamie Morgan, Cloe August and Bill Pullman.

The churches were manned by:

St Peter's Bekesbourne - Tony Fullaway, Malcolm Howells, Mrs Watson, Gill and Andy Moon and Savannah Young who looked after 96 visitors.

St Peter's Bridge - Christine and Dennis Beer and their two young sons were there all day, with help from volunteers at the start of the day and at dinner time; they looked after 125 cyclists.

St Mary's Patribourne - Ros Pullman, John and Ailsa Williamson, Mary Morgan and her mother-in-law (who came all the way from New Zealand), Clive Relph and Pauline Pritchard.

Thank you to Margaret and Robert Eaton of the Village Shop and the management of Bridgeway Stores who kindly donated squash for cyclists visiting St Peter's Bridge.

Finally, to everyone who rode, manned the churches and sponsored the riders - THANK YOU.

*Jill Gillanders, Kath Pierce and Pauline Pritchard*

### **BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

**Annual Meeting  
at 7.30pm  
on Tuesday 15 November  
in Bridge Village Hall**

A ballot will be held for a new president and committee at the meeting. It is important that all members attend to cast their votes.



**TRAIDCRAFT SALE**  
**Bridge School Hall**  
**Tuesday 1 November**  
**2.30 - 6.00pm**

Christmas cards, paper, handicraft and other goods  
Tea and coffee served

**Thank you**

The coffee morning in aid of the Macmillan Nurse Appeal raised just over £400.

The Annual Autumn sale and coffee morning at the Methodist Church raised just under £300. This year £150 is being donated to Research into Leukaemia in children and £50 to Stelling Methodists' refurbishment costs. The doll was named BELINDA and was won by Marlowe Wilson of Barham.

The organisers, Maggie Field and the Methodist Church Stewards send a big thank you to all who supported their events.

**FISH NEWS**

A reminder! The Fish Scheme has a lightweight wheelchair, a zimmer and a commode at Saxon Lodge which can be booked through Mrs Richards. These may be useful for anyone with disabled relatives coming for Christmas.

Coffee Pop-In is from 10.15am to 11.45am on 9 November at Bridge Village Hall.

Please remember to support our local village shops and milkman. Our community will flourish if we all make some purchases in the village

## St Peter's Bridge Flower Arranging

**A job for the Lone Ranger?** No, but we DO NEED flower arrangers and pronto! Viv Brasier heads a small team of loyal ladies (no gents have yet applied) who work wonders to make St Peter's Bridge a more elegant place to worship. The task, however, is becoming like painting the Forth Bridge - never ending - with so few willing to join the rota. Viv is ripping her hair out but YOU can stop her going bald!

**The need** Out of the total of 168 arrangements each year, Viv is dealing with 88 herself! Each arrangement takes ½ to 1 hour to complete and costs between £5 and £10. Therefore, WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS either to supply and arrange flowers or to sponsor arrangements.

### Your questions answered

*I am interested but I cannot arrange flowers, so what use would I be?*

Viv is not looking for budding Constance Sprys: it is enthusiastic amateurs we need, not seasoned professionals. Just volunteers! You will receive plenty of advice and help from the existing team, so give Viv a ring or come to church on any Friday morning and see what it is all about. Remember we are talking about a country church not Canterbury cathedral.

*I would, but what with the family...*

Bring the children along by all means and let them help with the arranging. The little herbets have probably already pulled out three-quarters of the flowers you will need from your garden anyway!

*What will I need?*

You will need to supply the flowers, which of course need not be bought but come from your own or a kindly neighbour's garden (the latter preferably with permission). You can also use foliage and wild flowers as cheaper alternatives. What Viv has been known to do with a runner bean plant, three stinging nettle leaves and 14 blades of marram grass is nobody's business.

If you are even a bit interested, do not delay. Ring Viv on 830981.

The PCC is very concerned that without more help we might end up with a situation where there will be flowers on limited Sundays - maybe very rarely. Should that arise the church will be duller place and WE WILL HAVE NO ONE TO BLAME BUT OURSELVES.

*Martin Leggatt*

PS Have you considered sponsoring a flower arrangement in the church, where it cannot be vandalised or perish through lack of attention, instead of putting flowers on a grave in the churchyard? You could have a printed dedication alongside the arrangement if you wish.



## **AUTUMN FAYRE**

**Saturday 19 November**

at Patricbourne with Bridge Primary School at 11.30am

**Please note that the Fayre will start earlier than usual and light lunches will be served.** We need donations of jams and chutneys, craft items, gifts and toys for the various stalls as soon as possible. Also do not forget bottles for the tombola stall. Prizes for the raffle would be much appreciated. All donations may be given to Martin Leggatt (830251), Pat Dunderdale (830668), Chris Finney (831908) or Andrea Nicholson (830947). Donations for the cake stall may be brought to the school hall on the day. Thank you.

**PLEASE COME TO THE FAYRE AND SUPPORT THIS  
IMPORTANT FUND-RAISING EVENT.**

### **NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

The annual Fun Quiz Cheese and Wine evening is on Friday 11 November (not Thursday 17 November as on the membership card) in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm. This is an opportunity for members to get together for an informal social evening. Tickets are available from Mrs E Cartwright at Bridge Post Office.

*Billie Anderson*

**Bridge Folk Dance Group**  
**Thursdays 3 and 17 November and 1 December**  
**at 8pm**  
**in Bridge Village Hall**  
**led by Alf Matthews**  
**All welcome**

All welcome also at the Canterbury Folk Dance Club meetings every Monday at Barham Village Hall with live music and a variety of callers

## **BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Parish Council Meeting**

#### **Shedding light**

Two engineers from Seeboard attended this month's meeting to discuss the various power failures and fluctuations. Although there are three mains circuits covering the Bridge area, the majority of the houses are linked to one of two sources. All faults on the high voltage cables are automatically logged; some 13 have been registered for Bridge over the last 18 months. Identified problems include lightning damage, tree growth and accidental damage. As a result of the problems, and the complaints from residents and the Parish Council, extensive inspections have been undertaken, planned shutdowns carried out and equipment replaced. The engineers pointed out that Bridge depends on overhead cables for its power supply and these were particularly vulnerable to damage, visible and invisible, from lightning - there has been a lot of lightning this year. Having three circuits coming into the village does, however, mean that Seeboard can sometimes switch supplies so that power cuts are shorter than in single circuit areas.

#### **On the buses**

Problems with the early morning buses to Canterbury should be solved after discussions with Stagecoach, the company responsible for the services. Following a petition from passengers, Stagecoach will put on larger single-deckers to carry more people. It will also bring forward the time of one of these buses to make sure that no-one has the excuse to be late for school or work.

#### **Moving pictures**

Following its success in Bridge, where it attracted large numbers of visitors, the Centenary Exhibition moved to the Canterbury Centre where it was again much admired. Postcards of some of the maps and the Bridge Public Rights of Way map are still available through parish councillors.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 10 November

*Margaret Church, Parish clerk*

### **ST PETER'S BEKESBOURNE**

**Saturday 26 November**

**from 10am**

**Inside working party to give the church a thorough clean**

**Please spare an hour or so**

**and bring any high dusting equipment you have to reach those parts others cannot reach**

**Friends of the New Close Amenity Fund**  
**Coffee Morning**  
**at 10am**  
**on Saturday 26 November**  
**in Bridge Village Hall**

Christmas bargains galore!  
Cake stall, white elephant, plant and some jumble plus Christmas raffles.  
Please attend to help us help the residents of The New Close

**St Peter's Bekesbourne - Cleaning and flower rota**

5th Mrs Whigham 12th Mrs Ash

24 Hour  
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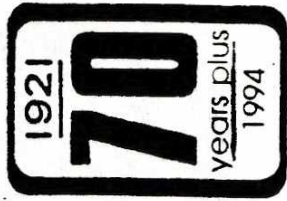
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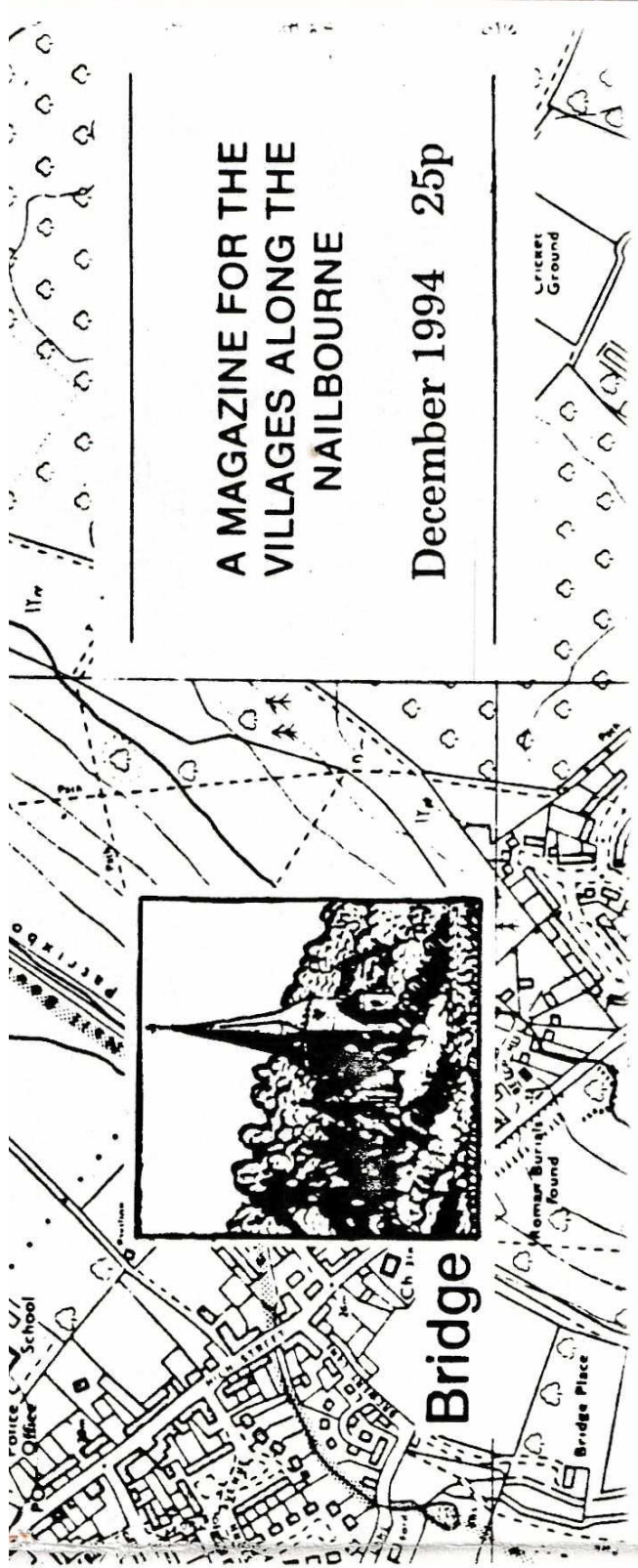




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A MAGAZINE FOR THE  
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NAILBOURNE

December 1994 25p

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## SUNDAY WORSHIP IN DECEMBER

**4th** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
11am Gift Service with Nativity & Baptism (*Bridge*)  
6.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)

**11th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)  
11am Matins (*Patricxbourne*)  
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)

**18th** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)  
11am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)  
6.30pm Carol Service (*Bridge*)

**25th** *See p.6 for details of Christmas Day services*

### **1st January**

8am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)  
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)  
11am Family Service (*Bridge*)  
3.30pm Evening Prayer (*Bridge*)

Starting in January Evensong will be at 3.30pm for the rest of the winter.

**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 much enjoyed by 4 year olds and upwards, for whom it caters. For details and enrolment please contact either Mrs Kay Barnard (830823) or Mrs Sue Watson (830726).

**Bridge Methodist Church** at 11am: *4th*, The Revd George Baugh *11th*, *Family Carol Gift/Toy Service*, The Revd Mary R Teed *18th*, Dr Eileen AH Tresidder *25th*, Miss Sheryl Anderson

**Weekdays** The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesdays (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am, with the exception of Christmas week. There is a service of Holy Communion on the first Wednesday of each month at 10.15am in Churchill House. A brief, informal service is held at The New Close on Wednesdays at 2.30pm. Though specifically for the residents, outside help is always welcome, if anyone has half an hour to spare on a Wednesday afternoon.

## **FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST**

- 1st Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 2nd *Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon, Founder of the Little Gidding Community, 1637*
- 3rd *Francis Xavier, Missionary, 1552*
- 4th **Second Sunday in Advent**  
*Please bring to the 11am Family Service a Christmas present for someone at The New Close. The service will also include the Junior Church Nativity and a Baptism.*
- 6th *St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c.236*
- 7th *St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher of the Faith, 397*  
Bekesbourne PCC meets at School House, School Lane, 7.30pm
- 8th Bridge Church Flower Arrangers and others interested meet at The Archways, Conyngham Lane, 7.30pm  
Hospital League of Friends Whist Drive, Bekesbourne Village Hall, 7.30pm  
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 10th Patricxbourne with Bridge Church Family Christmas Party, Bridge School, 4-7pm (Potential guests please ring 830668 or 830708.)
- 11th **Third Sunday in Advent**
- 14th *St. John of the Cross, Mystic, Teacher of the Faith, 1591*

- 14th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am  
The New Close Carol Service, 6.00 - 6.30pm
- 15th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 18th **Fourth Sunday in Advent**  
Bridge Carol Service by Candlelight, 6.30pm
- 20th Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute Christmas meeting,  
Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 23rd Patrixbourne Carol Service, 7pm
- 24th ***Christmas Eve &***
- 25th **CHRISTMAS DAY** (*Details of services below*)
- 26th ***St. Stephen the first Martyr***
- 27th ***St. John the Evangelist***
- 28th ***Holy Innocents***
- 29th ***St. Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170***
- 



## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES 1994**

### **Christmas Eve**

- 4.00pm Christingle Service (*Bridge*)(Vicar)
- 11.30pm Midnight Eucharist (*Bridge & Bekesbourne*)  
(Vicar & Canon Alan Dawkins)

### **Christmas Day**

- 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)(Vicar)
- 9.30am Holy Communion with Carols (*Patrixbourne*)(Vicar)
- 11.00am Carol Service (*Bekesbourne*)(Vicar)
- 11.00am Family Eucharist (*Bridge*)(Revd John Thackray)

*"O come, all ye faithful"*

---

## FROM THE VICAR

*Love came down at Christmas,  
Love all lovely, love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas,  
Star and angel gave the sign.*

Christina Rossetti, who wrote that, got to the heart of Christmas. Her beautiful words echo St. John's testimony (see his first letter) that 'God is love' and 'sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him'.

Behind all the presents, feasting, family warmth, carols, shepherds, manger, star, angels and all the rest of it, the central Christmas message of God's love towers over everything.

So what to do about it? Accept it eagerly, for it's the epitome of love and very personal; but spread it liberally around, for as St. John also said, 'Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.'

Sometimes the season of love seems to produce an opposite effect, leading to unwarranted rancour in the hassle of preparing for it. Oh, for a Dickensian sprinkle from the Ghost of Christmas Present's torch!

I pray that for you and yours love may indeed come down this Christmas; not just a warm glow of satisfied delight while the holiday lasts but that unique love that gets deep inside you, that is more than nice feelings, and that once unleashed changes lives for the better and for ever.

## Traidcraft News

*from Hilary Pike*

A big thank you to all the marvellous people who have supported Traidcraft during the year. Since 1st January you have bought an amazing £825's worth of goods, and that is excluding this year's Christmas orders. The money has gone to support self-help groups all over the world and has helped to improve living standards for many people.

Traidcraft coffee lovers can start celebrating! Despite the general increase in coffee prices due to frost in Brazil I have managed to obtain 4 dozen packets of Café Direct at the old price of £1.70, so if you haven't

tried this ground coffee before, now's a good time. (*Ed: As a seasoned coffee drinker I can thoroughly recommend Café Direct.*)

The Traidcraft team of young people (a big thank you to them) are always in church to take orders after the morning services on first and second Sundays of each month but if anyone prefers they can place their order with me at home in the evenings on 830708.

The range of goods I have in stock includes ground coffee, instant coffee (powder and granules), Indian and East African tea bags, muesli, crunchy tropical cereal, peanuts, Bombay mix, kitchen towel, toilet rolls, tissues, dried fruit. I can always order other goods from the Traidcraft catalogue.

### **Back to School?**

The staff and children of Bridge & Patixbourne C.E.P. School invite all Senior Citizens to an afternoon of entertainment in the School Hall on Thursday, 15th December. The afternoon will start at 1.30pm and finish at approximately 3.00pm. Refreshments will be served. Please contact the school (830276) if you require transport. We do hope you can come - the children very much enjoy performing to you all. RSVP 830276.

### **Bridge Church in Flower**

*by Viv Brasier*

There will be a meeting of all Bridge Church Flower Arrangers on Thursday, 8th December at 7.30pm in 'The Archways', Conyngham Lane, to discuss decorations for Christmas and next year's rota. As always new arrangers or potential arrangers are welcome.

Following Martin Leggatt's piece last month (in reply to which I have not had a single enquiry) I will try and work out where to put the nettles, but although we have a Jack in church on regular occasions I will leave the beanstalk to the pantomime.

Please come and support us at the meeting, or call 830981 if you would like to be involved, even if you're only vaguely interested.

### **GRATEFUL THANKS**

#### **Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths**

*Elizabeth Stewart writes:* The annual Coffee Morning which was held last month in Bridge Village Hall raised £890 clear profit. We also sold cards



to the value of £400. A marvellous result! A great big thank you to all involved!

### **The Nailbourne Group - Hospital League of Friends**

The Craft Fayre held at Bridge School was a very enjoyable and successful day and raised £650. Also the house-to-house envelope collection was generously supported and raised £557. Very many thanks to all who helped and donated. Your support is always appreciated.

Nailbourne Group has just bought five mattresses for Nunnery Fields Hospital, costing £730. *Rosy Green*

## **Joys and Sorrows**

### ***Holy Baptism***

On the afternoon of Sunday, 30th October in St. Mary's Church, Patrixbourne the baptism took place of LUCINDA GRACE RELF, daughter of Clive and Mary (née Fowler), 5A St. Mary's Road.

### ***In Memoriam***

The death of Mrs FREDERICKE PINHORN, Touchstone, Bekesbourne Hill after a comparatively short illness leaves her family utterly bereft. A church service on 4th November preceded interment in the churchyard.

The cremation of Mrs DOROTHY FAULKNER, Windmill Close, was on 31st October, and of Mrs CONSTANCE 'CON' DOWN, Western Avenue on Friday, 11th November. The cremation of 'BILL' DISS, 1 Ford Close followed a service in Bridge Church on 18th November.

### ***Gladys Griggs - an acknowledgement***

Sister-in-law Dolly Hogben and nieces Shirley and Daphne would like to thank people from the Bekesbourne bingo & whist drive, also neighbours and friends of Mrs Gladys Griggs who were so kind to her. They would also like to thank those who at the time of the funeral sent flowers or donations to The Pilgrims Hospice.

### **Bekesbourne Church on the Move**

Bekesbourne PCC was greatly encouraged by the size of the response from villagers to a questionnaire it sent to every household in the ecclesiastical parish during September. Attendance at the open meeting on 27th also exceeded expectations and the comments made on the forms

and at the meeting were most helpful and thought provoking, leading to the PCC meeting on 6th October being the longest we could remember.

All residents of Bekesbourne were told what decisions the PCC arrived at via a circular newsletter that went to every home in November, but other readers might be interested to hear of the two main spin-offs from all this discussion.

### ***The Friends of Bekesbourne Church***

Since the problem of raising money for the upkeep of St. Peter's Church on top of the PCC's other financial commitments was at the root of the questionnaire and open meeting, and since a lot of help has been forthcoming, the PCC has decided to create an organisation to be called *The Friends of Bekesbourne Church*.

Preparations for its foundation are well under way and when it's up and running *The Friends* will take over all the fund-raising for the maintenance of the building, to keep the church in business. Perhaps *On The Nail* readers outside Bekesbourne would like to be associated with *The Friends*, in which case even at this early stage we'd love to hear from you. You can either contact one of the church officers, whose addresses and phone numbers are on page 17 of this magazine, or Mrs Zan Clifford, Oakleigh, Bekesbourne Lane, who has kindly offered to be co-ordinator in the *The Friends'* initial stages.

### ***Family Service***

There is to be an alteration to the pattern of services at St. Peter's Church in an effort to make the church more worshipper-friendly. Instead of Matins on third and fourth Sundays, as at present, on the fourth Sunday we will hold a Family Service, with a special emphasis on children's worship. The first of these is fixed for 22nd January at 11am, and we hope these will prove as popular at Bekesbourne as the Family Service is at Bridge.

### **Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch**

*by Jim Stripe, Secretary*

At the AGM held on 26th October the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: D Cartwright *Chairman*, M Smith *Vice-Chairman*, J T Stripe *Secretary*, B Vaughan *Treasurer*.

Members are advised the annual subscription is now due. It is £5.50 for the year, of which £4.50 is sent to the General Funds and £1 retained by this branch. Please help by paying promptly.

Meetings are held at the *Plough & Harrow* on the last Wednesday of every month (except December) at 8pm.

The annual Service of Remembrance took place in St. Peter's Church on Remembrance Sunday, 13th November at 11am. The branch would like to thank the vicar, trumpeter Keith Pritchard and all the congregation for their support. It was very heartening to have the Nailbourne Scouts participate. The church collection raised £65 towards the Poppy Appeal, which this year totalled £888, a truly remarkable result. Our thanks to Barry Whiting and his team of collectors for their efforts.

### **In Memory of Douglas R Hill**

Joan, Judy and Richard Hill, along with their families, were keen to make some form of contribution to St. Peter's Church, Bridge to mark Doug's long and faithful association with it.

Bearing in mind Doug would have insisted any memorial should be useful and to do with the service that meant more to him than any other, they have donated a new chalice and paten for celebrations of the Holy Communion. These were used for the first time at the Parish Communion on Remembrance Sunday. The chalice is inscribed - *In Memory of DOUGLAS RICHARD HILL 1994.*

### **CHRISTINGLE & CHRISTMAS**

Christingle Services and Christmas go together, which is why Bridge Church always has one at Christmas. Aimed principally at the young the Christingle Service gets Christmas off to a good start by stressing the real meaning of the festival and also helps swell the coffers of *The Children's Society*. If you have never been to one, see you in St. Peter's Church at 4pm on Christmas Eve.

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*STOP PRESS* - Bridge & Patrixbourne Autumn Fayre on 19th November netted **£935**, for which grateful thanks to all involved.

## CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY

As a fund-raiser and service to the villagers of Bridge, this year, for the first time, the Nailbourne Scout Group is organising a local Christmas Card Delivery. Because of resources available, this delivery will have to be confined to the village of **BRIDGE ONLY**.

Decorated Christmas posting boxes will be at the following locations from **3 to 18 December: Laurie Wakeham (Butcher), Plough & Harrow, Nicholas James (Hairdresser), Bridge Newsagent, White Horse, Bridge School (Box only), Chemist, Churchill House, Village Shop (Box only)**.

Each envelope must bear the special stamp, priced 10p, available at most of these same premises. The boxes will be emptied regularly and all mail clearly addressed and stamped will be delivered before Christmas. We hope you will give this **NEW VENTURE** your support.

The Nailbourne Scout Group now has three flourishing units - Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, and caters for some ninety boys from Bridge and the surrounding area. Proceeds from this delivery will go towards Group funds. *Kathy Walder, Group Chairman*

## BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL - November meeting

**Kill your speed** The Parish Council was happy to endorse recommendations from the KCC, following a traffic survey, for additional 40 and 30 mph signs together with a repositioning of the village name plate signs. Elsewhere these changes have been found to encourage drivers to observe the speed limit and highway engineers hope for the same effect in Bridge.

**This sporting life** Planning permission has recently been granted for an extension to the pavilion on the Recreation Ground, which should be finished early next year.

**Counting the minutes** Those who missed the Village Hall clock will have noticed its return after repair. During its absence some continental visitors were perplexed: it featured in a treasure hunt!

**Bricks & Mortar** Planning permission has been granted for a change of use for 52 High Street from retail to residential. The City Council Planning Department is looking into a breach of planning consent in Beech Hill.

**Man on the Beat** In November PC Alan Gladwell will take up his duties as one of the rural constables for Bridge and the surrounding villages. He can be contacted for non-urgent matters on 710487. *Margaret Church, Clerk*

## FISH NEWS

VOLCARE volunteers are available to offer breaks to Carers in this area, free of charge. Contact Kate Gollop, 373293, for details.

The Christmas Coffee Pop-In is on Wednesday, 14th December in Bridge Village Hall. A very happy Christmas! *A.R.*

Vicar The Revd Raymond Gilbert, AKC, 23 High Street, Bridge (830250)

Reader Mr Handley Stevens, MA, 6 Bridgeford Way, Bridge (831376)

**PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE**

Churchwardens Mr HPM Lawrence, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge (830472)

Miss J Carpenter, 3 The Green, Patrixbourne

Hon Secretary Mr TJ Flisher, 52 Riverside Close, Bridge (830871)

Hon Treasurer Mr K Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patrixbourne (830947)

Covenants Officer Mr NC Francis, 54 Riverside Close, Bridge (830945)

Organist (Bridge)

Organist (Patrixbourne) Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill, Patrixbourne (830205)

Verger (Bridge) Mr J Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopsbourne

**BEKESBOURNE**

Churchwarden Mr AJ Fullaway, Snaefell, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne (830261)

Hon Secretary & Treasurer Mr D Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bek'ne (830256)

Organist Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill, Patrixbourne (830205)

Captain of the Rings Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekes'ne (830659)



On The Nail Advertising: Mr HPM Lawrence, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge (830472)

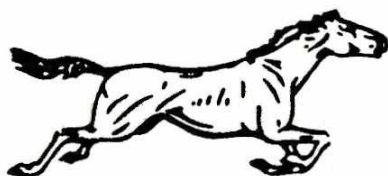
On The Nail Editor: The Vicar, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

Items for *On The Nail* should reach the editor by the 15th of the preceding month.

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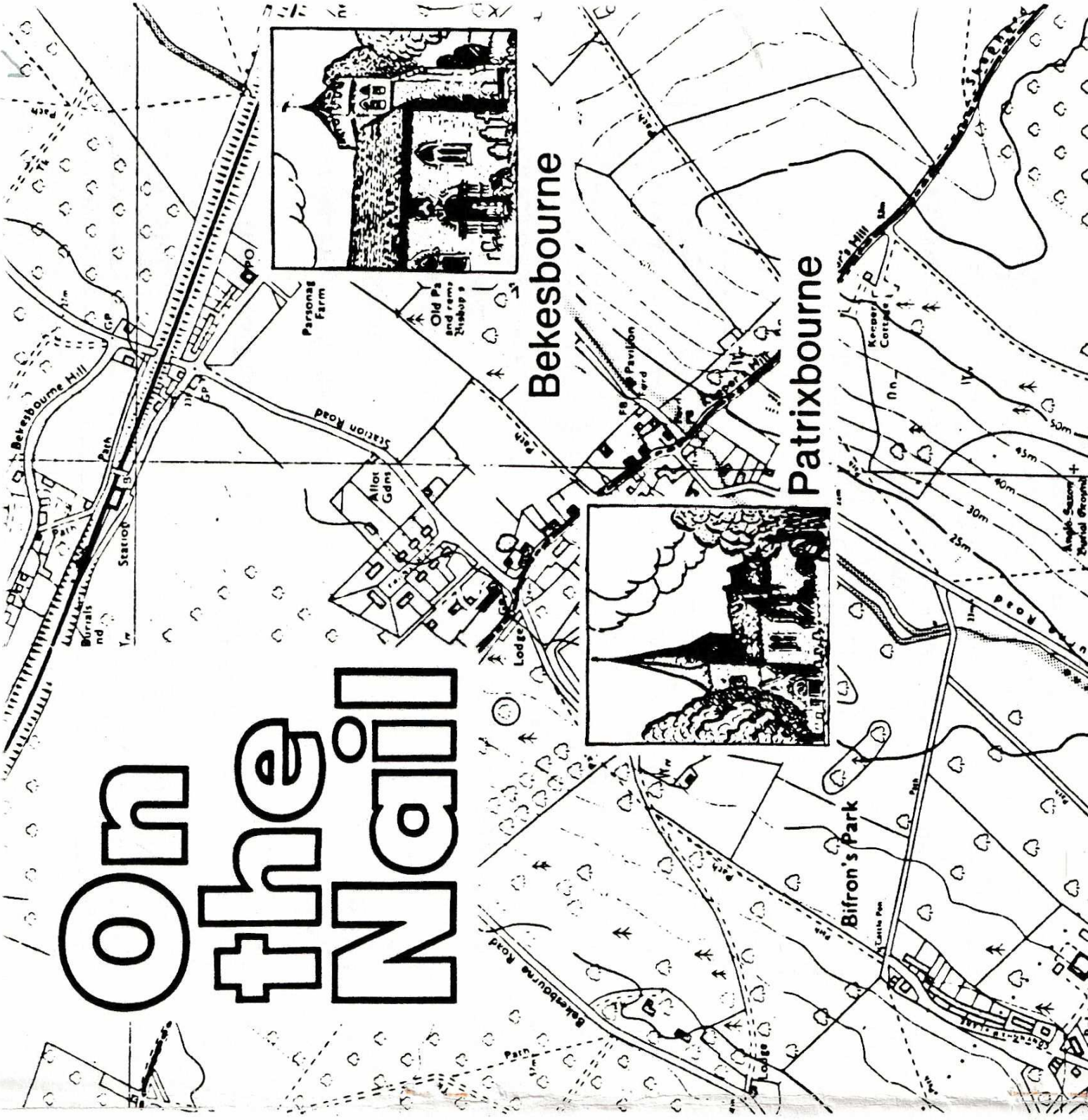


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# On the Nail



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