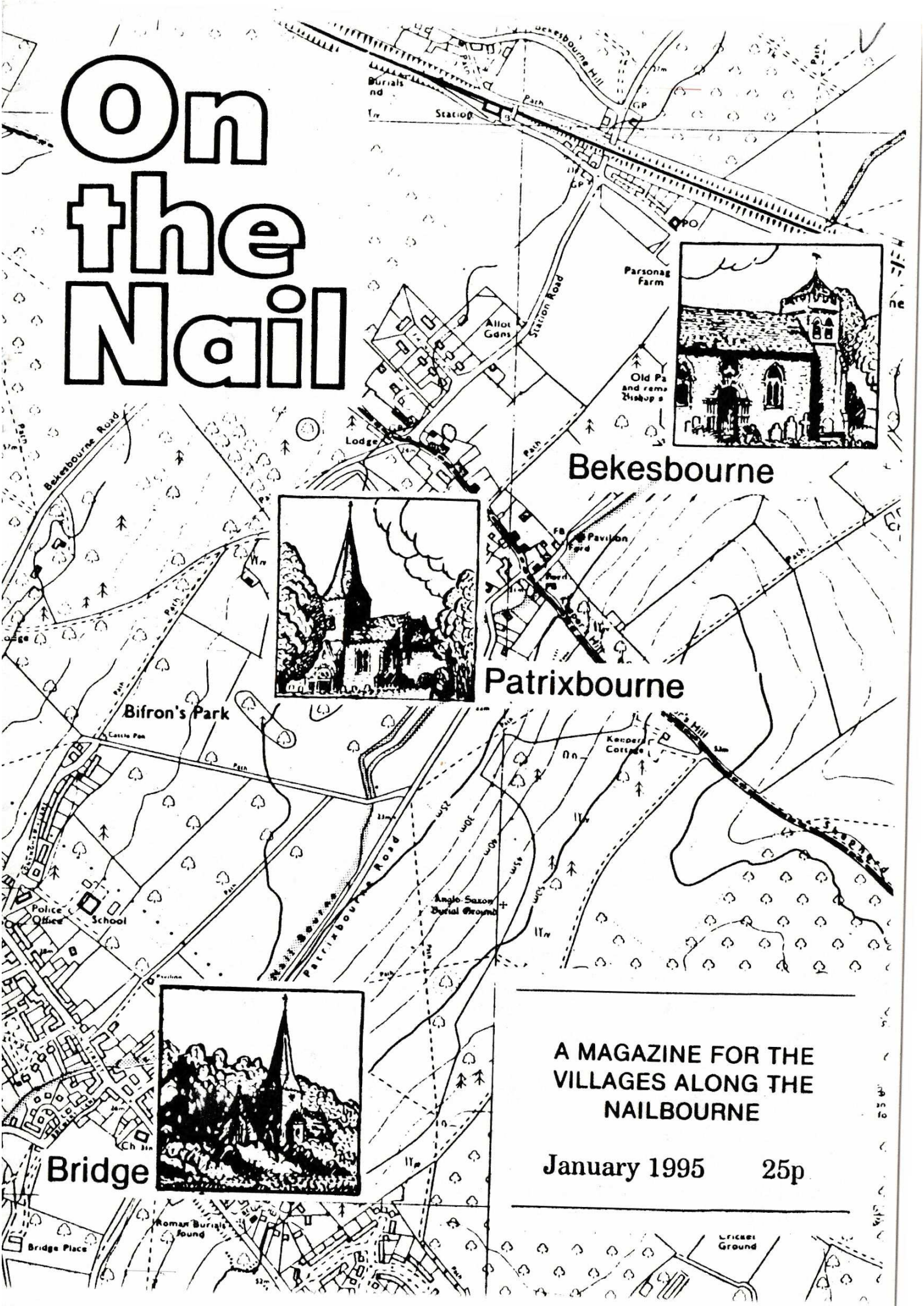


On the Nail



Bikesbourne



Patricxbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE
VILLAGES ALONG THE
NAILBOURNE

January 1995 25p

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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN JANUARY

- 1st** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekeshourne*)
11am Family Eucharist (*Bridge*)
3.30pm Evening Prayer (*said*)(*Bridge*)
- 8th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bekeshourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)(*Canon J Packer*)
11am Matins (*Patricbourne*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)
3.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)
- 15th** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
11am Matins (*Bekeshourne*)
3.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 22nd** 8am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricbourne*)
11am Family Service (*Bekeshourne*)
6.30pm Peter's Praise (*Bridge*)
- 29th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bekeshourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion with Laying-on of Hands (*Bridge*)
11am Matins (*Patricbourne*)
3.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)

5th February

- 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekeshourne*)
11am Family Service (*Bridge*)
3.30pm Evening Prayer (*Bridge*)

STARTING THIS MONTH

- Bridge Evensong will be at 3.30pm during the winter.
- The fourth Sunday of each month at Bekeshourne will be a Family Service at 11am, which we hope families from Bekeshourne and beyond will want to attend.

Junior Church meets in Bridge Methodist Church, Patricbourne Road from 9.15 to 10.15am 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: *1st*, Miss Catherine M Spiller, MA *8th*, *Covenant Service*, The Revd Mary R Teed *15th*, Mr Alistaire P Barwick, BSc *22nd*, The Revd Cyril G Webb *29th*, The Revd Mary R Teed

Weekdays The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. There are no Wednesday morning Communion services during the winter: they resume on Ash Wednesday. Holy Communion takes place 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.

Rosemary and Raymond Gilbert thank all those who sent personal Christmas greetings and would like to thank everyone for support in so many ways throughout the year. The Vicar will be having a post-Christmas break from Monday, 2nd to Tuesday, 10th January inclusive, during which time, in case of emergency please ring 830364.

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 1st Sunday after Christmas: Naming of Jesus**
The Family Service will be a Eucharist celebrating the feast of the Naming of Jesus. Evening Prayer will be said at 3.30pm, with neither hymns nor a sermon.
- 5th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, 7 Windmill Close, 7pm**
- 6th EPIPHANY**
- 8th First Sunday after Epiphany**
- 11th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am**
- 12th The Archdeacon of Canterbury visits the benefice of Patricxbourne with Bridge and Bekesbourne.**
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 13th St. Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, Teacher of the Faith, 367**
Special joint PCC meeting, Bridge Methodist Church, 7.30pm
- 15th Second Sunday after Epiphany**
- 17th St. Antony of Egypt, Abbot, 356**
Bridge with Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 18th Week of Prayer for Christian Unity until 25th**
- 19th United Service, St. Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm**
- 21st St. Agnes, Virgin, Martyr, 304**
Bekesbourne Senior Citizens party, Village Hall, 3-6.30pm
- 22nd Third Sunday after Epiphany**
11am Family Service, St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne
- 24th St. Francis de Sales, Bishop, Teacher of the Faith, 1622**
- 25th Conversion of St. Paul**
Pray for the Deanery Clergy who meet in Chapter this lunchtime.

- 26th *St. Timothy & St. Silas, Companions of St. Paul*
Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Bridge Methodist Church, 8pm
- 27th *St. John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, Teacher of the Faith, 407*
- 28th *St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Teacher of the Faith, 1274*
- 29th **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**
The healing ministry of the laying-on of hands will be offered at the Parish Communion.

From the Vicar and Rural Dean

What follows is my annual article for January magazines throughout the deanery.

It's been quite year, though we're assured the Church Commissioners aren't wholly to blame for the radical reassessment of diocesan strategy with which we're now very familiar. Clutching our copy of *THE FUTURE* and aided by the Bishop of Dover, the Parishes of East Bridge Deanery have had to discuss its ramifications with what some felt was undue haste. If we'd never heard about ministry teams this time last year we certainly have now!

The crunch came on 12th November, when the Diocesan Synod passed the eight proposals laid before it. So ministry teams are on the cards, once they've been picked and duly trained. That will take time, but by the time you read this, it will have been adieu to the Quota and in with yearly contributions to the Ministry Fund, the Support Services Fund and the Mission Fund, coupled with quite a speedy farewell to grants from the Church Commissioners.

As always we shall cope, though despite rallying cries from on high and assurances that it won't cost us that much more than previously, there's a nagging feeling, not restricted to the clergy, that in the short term we're in for a rough ride. However, let's be positive and keep our sights on the hope we're here to proclaim, not forgetting the Spirit in whose power all things are possible. From 1995 the Church of England will have a facial the likes of which it's never known before, but under God it really will survive and flourish.

1994 was the year of the Rural Dean's triennial visitation of the deanery churches, and it's been most stimulating to meet churchwardens and hear how robust the church is in their parish. Acting for the Archdeacon, I've been encouraged by their devoted commitment. They made me very welcome and in thanking them for their help I pay tribute to their diligent service.

The Deanery Cathedral Pilgrimage on 13th November was a very inspiring devotional experience. Canon Peter Brett devised and led a candlelit event few will quickly forget. The cathedral virgins were most helpful. What a privilege for East Bridge Deanery to have that glorious building virtually to itself.

May the people and parishes of East Bridge Deanery throughout 1995 'have joy and peace in believing, and abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Spirit'.

Family Services

December's Family Service at Bridge was a very happy occasion with plenty going on. First came the baptism of Edward Patrick Hugh Needham, 20 The Close. Then after some scene shifting Junior Church presented a nativity play about which Hilary Pike and Kath Pierce write: *Thank you Junior Church for the delightful nativity play that you produced. It was the best I have ever seen. The acting was brilliant and the musical accompaniment excellent. Well done, Alice, the timing was perfect. I know you must have all given up so much of your free time (especially the helpers) to have reached that standard and we are all really grateful to you. It was a lovely start to Christmas!* The service ended with the usual presentation of Christmas presents for the residents of The New Close.

This month, in addition to the Family Service at Bridge on the first Sunday, we shall start having a monthly Family Service at Bekesbourne also, on the fourth Sunday at 11am. The very first is on 22nd and we hope the families of Bekesbourne (and of the other villages too) will grasp this opportunity and join us for what promises to be a popular innovation at St. Peter's Church. A lot of careful thought has gone into making it an event the whole family can take part in and feel welcome.

Junior Church mums want to say a big public thank you to Evelyn and Jean who are leaving Junior Church after many years service. Both have given so much of their time and talents to benefit our children and we are really grateful. They are both very busy people and yet they found time, week after week, to prepare activities and plan lessons and outings for our children, when we're sure they would rather have been with their families. They were unfailingly cheerful and caring to our children and we have appreciated it. Good luck, Jean, in your move to Tankerton and Evelyn in all your other activities on behalf of our church and village.

Fuel for the Post Office

In case you don't know, both gas and electricity bills can be paid over the Post Office counter at no extra charge. Save yourself a trip to Canterbury and help keep the local Post Office in business!

BEKESBOURNE NEWS

Christmas Market: The market held in Bekesbourne Village Hall last month raised £334 for St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne and Bekesbourne Brownies. Very many thanks to all the helpers, to everyone who bought gifts for the stalls, and to our customers.

Sponsored Bike Ride: Bekesbourne Church has now received £206 from the Friends of Kent Churches. This means that the sponsorship of Bekesbourne riders reached no less than £412. What a splendid effort by the riders and organisers of this event in Bekesbourne!

Parochial Church Council: Bekesbourne PCC met on 7th December last.

The Archdeacon of Canterbury is visiting the parish (and Patrixbourne with

Bridge) on 12th and 13th January and will attend a joint meeting of the two PCCs during his visit.

The PCC further discussed the new diocesan strategy as set out on the back page of the December diocesan newspaper *Outlook*. It remains unconvinced of the viability of the proposal for Ministry Teams consisting mostly of lay people, if regarded as a substitute for the clergy, and in any case doubts the possibility of recruiting such people in small rural parishes.

It was reported that a substantial deficit, perhaps as much as £1500, could arise on the 1994 PCC accounts but it was agreed to take no more than £500 from the already much-depleted reserve fund. This means that for the first time ever the parish will not pay its diocesan quota in full.

The next ordinary meeting of the PCC will be on Wednesday, 15th February.

Friends of Bekesbourne Church: The new Friends organisation will be starting work very soon under the co-ordination of Mrs Zan Clifford of Oakleigh. The PCC has approved a constitution and has handed over all the suggestions made in the responses to the September 1994 Questionnaire.

Parish Council: The Parish Council of Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne met on 12th December.

A Recreation Ground Subcommittee has been set up to liaise more closely with the Sports and Social Club.

The precept for 1995-96 has been set at £2000, which is £1000 less than in the current financial year.

Applications have been made to Canterbury City Council for capital grants to provide new children's play equipment on the recreation ground and to repair and resurface the village hall car park.

The Council is to continue to draw to the attention of the County Council the hazards caused by the volume and speed of traffic on Station Road, School Lane and Bekesbourne Hill.

The Council was informed that repairs to Bekesbourne Hill are included in the 1995-96 KCC roads programme. Repairs will include installing edge kerbs to prevent further erosion of the banks.

The Council has identified a number of bridleways and footpaths in the parish for regular surface maintenance by the County Council and is pressing for proper resurfacing to be undertaken to the Wappings footpath.

The Council has received details of the revised Conservation Areas in the parish.

One application for planning permission was noted: for an extension to North Hill, Bekesbourne Road, Patrixbourne. The Council had no objection to this.

The Council has contributed £100 towards the cost of a party for senior citizens to be held in the village hall on 21st January.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 6th February.

Bekesbourne Village Hall Management Committee is inviting all senior citizens (ladies 60 years or over, gentlemen 65 years or over) resident in Bekesbourne or Patrixbourne to

a party in Bekesbourne Village Hall on Saturday, 21st January from 3pm to 6.30pm. Written replies to the invitation must be in by 6th January. Please advise if transport is required. Catering for this function is in the hands of the new owners of *The Unicorn*. Please contact M Howells, Hall Management Committee Chairman on 830892 if you have not received an invitation or if you are attending.

CONFIRMATION 1995

1995's Confirmation Service for the churches of East Bridge Deanery is on Saturday, 24th June at 7pm in St. John the Baptist's Church, Barham.

Preparation for this needs to get underway quite soon and as usual younger candidates will be instructed separately from adults.

Youngsters of at least 12 years who are thinking in terms of confirmation are themselves (Don't leave it to mum!) asked to contact the vicar and/or come to the vicarage on Thursday, 19th January at 6pm for a short get-together, when all will be explained.

Two adults have already told me of their desire to be confirmed, but before we fix our first meeting, let me urge any others who might be interested (at this stage it's too early for final commitment, so just see it as an enquiry) to approach me either at church or on 830250.

CHURCHILL HOUSE and CLOSE

by Pearl Johnson, Housing Officer

To newer village inhabitants, and a reminder to the 'older' ones, Churchill House is a sheltered scheme for the elderly 60-plus, owned by Canterbury City Council. There are 22 flatlets with shared bathrooms and WCs built on the 'hotel' system, and situated at the top of Union Road. The scheme also consists of 10 bungalows in Churchill Close.

We hold various functions at Churchill House and anyone of pensionable age is very welcome. A Scrabble Club meets every Wednesday afternoon in the lounge, where anyone over 60, new player or experienced, is most welcome. The cost is just 20p for tea or coffee and biscuits. Just turn up!

On Tuesday and Thursday the Council has a Lunch Club at Churchill House: a two course meal costs £2.05 and members can enjoy a glass of sherry or squash and/or a cup of tea or coffee. We also have a small raffle. Any excess received to the fund allows us to give the members a special free lunch at Christmas. From time to time we hold coffee mornings to which *everyone* is welcome.

We sometimes feel a bit forgotten 'at the top of the hill'.

Should anyone be interested in moving to a sheltered scheme or joining the Lunch Club, please do not hesitate to contact me, Pearl Johnson, on 830529. If I'm not on duty an answerphone will take your message. If you would like to pay us a visit to look round, give us a ring. Looking forward to hearing from you!

BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The local WI will commence the year with their January meeting on Tuesday, 17th

January at the usual time of 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. The speaker will be Mr. Kitchenham, and his subject is *Owls*. Any new member will be made welcome. *D. King*

NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

1995 welcome to all our members - old, new and potential! Our year starts with a talk and slide show on *A Fresh Look at Herbaceous Perennials* in Bridge Methodist Church on Thursday, 26th January at 8pm. *Billie Anderson*

BRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The meeting held in the Village Hall on Friday, 25th November was attended by about 35 members, and included Sgt R Pollard and our new village policeman, PC A Gladwell, who both spoke and answered questions.

Mr John Hill, Chairman of the Parish Council, has kindly arranged for financial help with our expenses in respect of the printing of notices, etc. This will help us get any information to our members more speedily.

Cllr Martin Vye spoke, but Cllr David Pentin was unable to attend and sent his apologies. His comments were read out.

The main problem in Bridge is vandalism, especially to cars, and it is difficult to know what we can do, apart from immediate contact with the police. Some crime might be avoided if we *all* persevere with vigilance in all areas where crime could be committed; cars parked off the road if possible, and sufficient personal security and lighting in our homes.

There now exists at *Bridge News* shop an 'incident book', in which all details of incidents of criminal damage, theft, break-ins, etc can be recorded. Whilst these occurrences should be reported to the police at once, a record can now be kept for the information of villagers.

The co-ordinators of Bridge Neighbourhood Watch Scheme take this opportunity of wishing all villagers a happy and crime-free New Year, and thank you for the time and help you give to the community. *Edgar Smith, Controller*

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL December Meeting

Not a load of rubbish: The City Council is changing the day on which household refuse will be collected in the Bridge area. From 2nd January the normal collection day will be THURSDAY of each week. Anyone experiencing difficulties as a result of this change should contact the City Council on 763763.

Tubs and Trees: New flower containers have been placed outside *Bridgeway Stores*, supplied by the Parish Council and kindly planted by Mrs Possee. Following complaints from local residents, work will be carried out on two trees in the recreation ground. The two sycamores will be reshaped and have overhanging branches removed.

Nailbourne Valley Scheme: Two new conservation areas have been designated by the City Council. The areas, the first around Bourne Park, the second covering Renville Farm and the former railway station area, are part of a wider scheme for the Nailbourne Valley.

Decisions on an enlargement of the Bridge Conservation Area and the designation of an area centre on Bifrons Park are still outstanding.

Money matters: The Parish Council agreed its budget for the financial year 1995/6 at £14,116. The sum of £5586, which includes the costs of local elections in May 1995, has been precepted; an amount of £4705 to cover costs involved in the maintenance of the recreation ground and street lighting has been requested under concurrent powers, and a further £3825 is sought for capital projects which include the fitting of photo-sensitive cells to lighting columns. This latter project should significantly reduce the number of problems with street lights.

Bricks and Mortar: Planning applications considered included the building of a brick wall at 19 Union Road and the erection of a single dwelling on land adjacent to Greenaways, Bridge Hill.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Thursday, 12th January.

Margaret Church, Clerk

FISH NEWS

Did you know there is a service called DIAL KENT? It gives information on many aspects of disability, including benefits, housing, equipment and appliances, holidays, access and mobility. The number to ring is 775511 or 772631.

The next Coffee Pop-in will be in Bridge Village Hall on Wednesday, 11th January.

There will be a Chiropody Clinic from 9th to 13th January.

A.R.

CHURCH ROTAS

Bridge Church Cleaning 6th, Kathy Eynon 13th, Kay Barnard 20th, Pat Hulyer 27th, Joan Monk **Brasses:** Gladys Lemar and Kath Pierce. The ladies would very much welcome offers from anyone who can spare an hour or so once a month to help with our task. Please volunteer to any of the above, who will be able to give you further details.

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Bekesbourne Historical Snippet

David Millyard writes on a 19th century Vicar of Bekesbourne

I have referred previously to Henry John Wardell as the Vicar of Bekesbourne in whose time St. Peter's Church was restored. There cannot be many vicars whose parishioners have erected **two** memorial tablets to them after their death, (as well as the family's inscription on the gravestone). It happened to Henry J. Perhaps it helps to die in office at the age of 68 as he did. But more likely, I guess, it was because he was a popular and much-respected parish priest.

The first memorial is a brass plate in the church on the north side of the altar. It reads: 'To the glory of God and in affectionate memory of Henry John Wardell who entered into rest on May 12th 1898. For 17 years vicar of Bekesbourne. This brass was erected by his Parishioners and Friends.'

The second memorial is a weather-worn sandstone tablet only just decipherable, fixed to a wall in the garden of School House. It reads: 'IN MEMORY OF THE REVEREND HENRY J. WARDELL VICAR OF BEKESBOURNE 1881-1898 THIS PLAYGROUND WAS ACQUIRED BY THE EFFORTS OF HIS FRIENDS AND PARISHIONERS FOR THE USE OF THE SCHOOL CHILDREN IN GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE OF THE GREAT AND ACTIVE INTEREST HE SO LONG TOOK IN THEIR WELFARE.'

Henry J was born in 1830, the son of a parson. He was educated at Durham School and Emmanuel College, Cambridge taking his BA degree in 1853 and proceeding MA in 1858. He was ordained Deacon at Durham in 1853 and Priest in 1854. His first job was to be curate in his father's parish 1853-1859. (Henry senior was Rector of Winlaton, Co. Durham for no less than 51 years and died still in office at the age of 84). In 1859 he became assistant master at Forest School, Walthamstow, where he remained for nine years, and then moved to be Curate of St. Mary's, Ramsgate. He remained there until he came to Bekesbourne. He married in 1860 and his wife survived him, dying in 1928 at the great age of 92.

I suppose that Henry J's chief claim to fame is that he saw through the restoration of St. Peter's. Plans had been drawn up in the time of his predecessor, but that is another story. He was evidently a strong supporter of the local C of E primary school and it was also in his time that the church first began to be supported by voluntary contributions instead of the church rate which had become unpopular in Bekesbourne as elsewhere. Indeed he comments somewhat acerbically in the rate book when part of the 1875 assessment was written off as 'irrecoverable'. 'Why? Because the Churchwardens neglected to ask for it'. And in 1887 he records: 'The rate granted on the opposite page [in 1882] was never collected by the Churchwardens, and in consequence thereof in January 1887 there wa a considerable debt upon the Church due to the Vicar and the Sexton whose salary was 2 years in arrear. At a meeting held March 31, 1887 it was resolved to ask for a voluntary contribution in lieu of the Rate.'

His entry in the Cambridge *Alumni Register* states that he was a writer of Psalm tunes. Here's a challenge: can anyone find out what they were and are they still in use?

Vicar The Revd Raymond Gilbert, AKC, 23 High Street, Bridge (830250)

Reader Mr Handley Stevens, MA, 6 Bridgeford Way, Bridge (831376)

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Verger (Bridge) Mr J Hopkins, Old Station Cottage, Bishopshourne

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Churchwarden Mr AW 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 Ringers Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekes'ne (830659)

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

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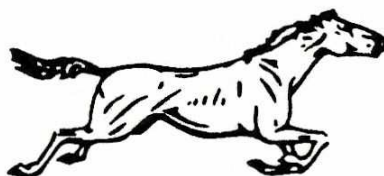


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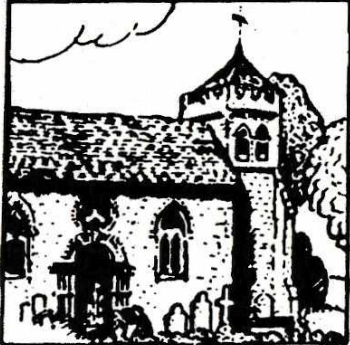
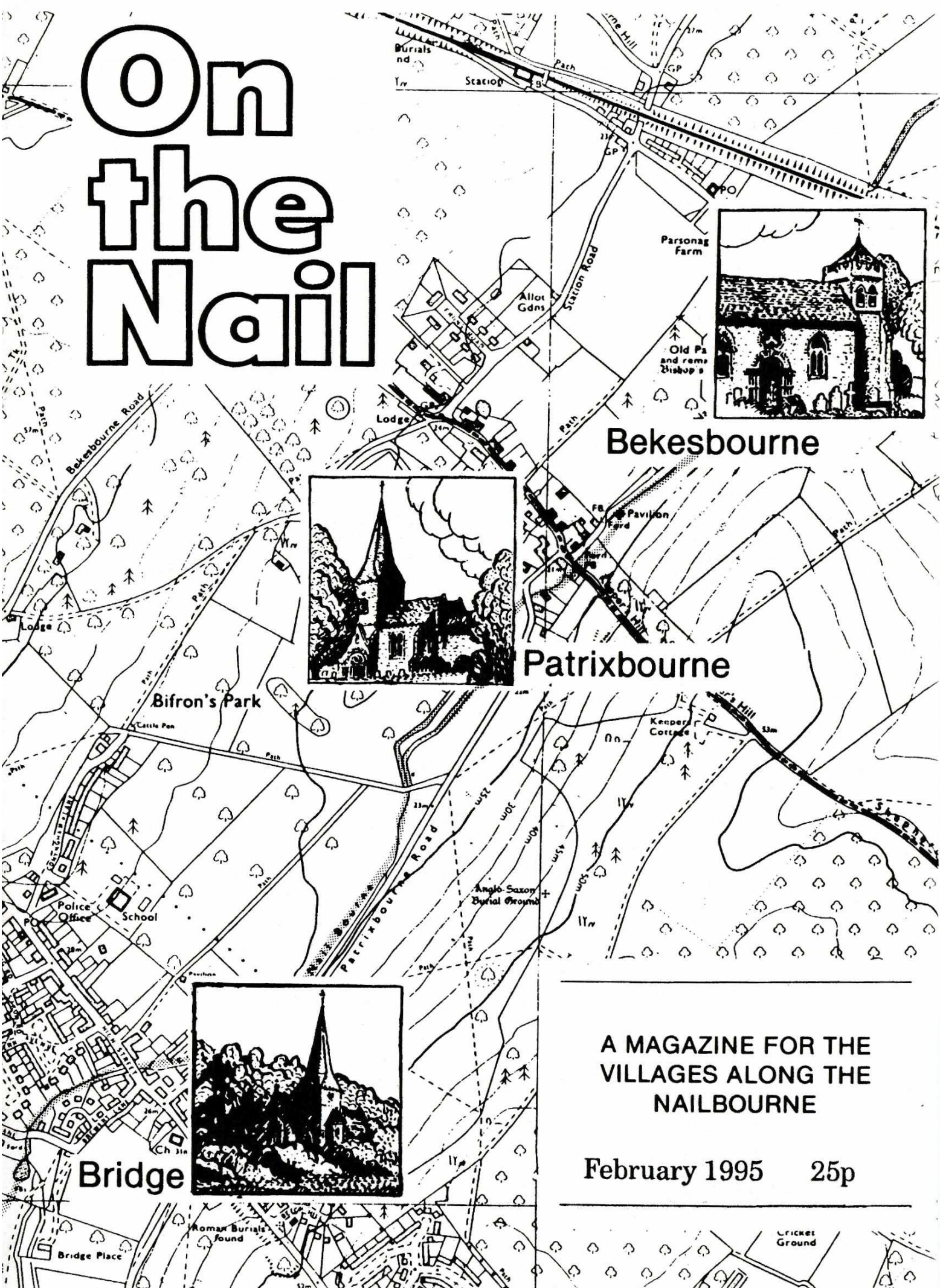
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On the Nail



Bikesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE
VILLAGES ALONG THE
NAILBOURNE

February 1995 25p

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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY

- 5th** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11am Family Service (*Bridge*)
3.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 12th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
11am Matins (*Patricbourne*)
3.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)
- 19th** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)(*Preacher: H Stevens*)
11am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)
3.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 26th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricbourne*)
11am Family Service (*Bekesbourne*)
6.30pm Peter's Praise (*Bridge*)

5th March

- 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11am Family Service (*Bridge*)
3.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)

Junior Church meets in Bridge Methodist Church, Patricbourne Road from 9.15 to 10.15am 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: *5th*, Mrs Beryl P Skinner, RGN, NDN *12th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Mary R Teed *19th*, Dr John R Butler, MA *26th*, The Revd Michael J Walling

Weekdays The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. There are no Wednesday morning Communion services during the winter: they resume on Ash Wednesday. Holy Communion takes place 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

- 2nd **Presentation of Christ in the Temple**
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
Nailbourne Horticultural Society AGM, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5th **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**
- 6th *The Queen's Accession, 1952*
- 8th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am
Deanery Synod, Methodist Church, Bridge
- 9th Patrixbourne with Bridge PCC, Methodist Church, 7.30pm
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 12th **Ninth Sunday before Easter: Septuagesima**
- 14th Bridge Village Hall AGM, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 15th Bekesbourne PCC, School House, 7.45pm
- 16th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 18th Pray for two members of the congregation, Julie Henman and David Latham, to be married in St. Peter's Church, Bridge at noon.
- 19th **Eighth Sunday before Easter: Sexagesima**
- 21st Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 22nd Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough and Harrow, 8pm
Churches together in Bridge meet in the Methodist Church at 7.30pm
- 23rd *St. Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c155*
- 25th Pray for Pennie Hill and Martin Harman to be married this afternoon at St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne.
- 26th **Seventh Sunday before Easter: Quinquagesima**
- 27th *George Herbert, Priest, Pastor, Poet, 1633*

From the Vicar

Friday the thirteenth is considered unlucky by the superstitious but for the members of our two Church Councils, who hopefully are above such things, Friday, 13th January was a date to remember with relish, as the occasion when they met together and were fired with enthusiasm for the future of the three church communities in this benefice.

This special joint meeting was held at the behest of the Archdeacon, who was on a visit to the benefice. However, it gave us a golden opportunity to discuss the role of the church (people not buildings) in the light of the new diocesan strategy, featured on the back page of December's *Outlook*, a copy of which you should have had with *On The Nail*. Meeting and talking together was very refreshing and we quickly realized the way ahead would mean working together wherever possible, not as at present.

Boundary problems

I'm occasionally asked about the connection between Patrixbourne, Bridge and Bekesbourne in church terms. To understand it we must forget about civil parish boundaries, since for ecclesiastical purposes the parish split is St. Peter Bekesbourne is on

the one hand and St. Mary Patrixbourne with St. Peter Bridge on the other. These are very ancient parish units, and whereas Bekesbourne is self-evident the other is slightly more complicated.

It's scarcely credible now, but originally Patrixbourne was the parish church since the village was the centre of population, Bridge being merely an off-shoot and its church a small chapel. With the growth of Bridge and the corresponding reversal of sizes St. Peter's Church was officially designated the parish church but the official title of the parish remains Patrixbourne with Bridge and not the other way round.

Wedding separation

Where the distinction between the two parishes touches most parishioners is when it comes to weddings. According to the law of the land it's only possible to have a church wedding in the parish where either the bride or bridegroom resides, and this can be most keenly felt along the street in Patrixbourne, because the boundary between our two parishes runs down the middle of the road. So no one living on the Bekesbourne side of the street can be married in Patrixbourne Church, even though it's just round the corner. Ludicrous? Certainly, but it's the law!

Legalities apart

To cut a long story short, although we remain legally two distinct parishes, we mean henceforth to work together as closely as the present law will allow. This will enable us to derive encouragement and support from each other and make more sense of the fact that by dint of having the same vicar the two parishes are one benefice and should acknowledge it. We'll keep you posted on developments, which we hope will strengthen the churches and better equip them to serve the wider community.

Obituaries

The death on New Year's Day of RAYMOND MARSHALL has deprived Meadow Close of its most senior resident. With his wife Olive he came to Bridge on retirement from his Herne Bay chartered accountancy practice 25 years ago. The vicar being on holiday Canon John Packer officiated at a funeral service in Bridge Church on 10th January followed by committal at Barham Crematorium.

The following day the cremation took place of an old Bridge resident and church member, WILLIAM (BILL) CRAMPTON. Bill, with his first wife and their two children, lived for many years at The Lodge, Bourne Park, during which time their son Colin was killed in a road accident in Bridge, aged 32. Bill survived his first and second wives and lived alone for 15 years at the top of Union Road.

The vicar officiated at the cremation of Mrs VIOLET MAY (DUDIE) YOUNG on 19th January at Barham. Known even to her late husband as Dudie (a name acquired in childhood) she spent her last years in Saxon Lodge but is better known as a Conyngham Lane resident of many years standing. She and husband Launce lived abroad most of their married life, retiring to Bridge about 20 years ago. Dudie had a wide circle of friends and was a staunch supporter of *Save The Children* fund, serving for a time on

the Canterbury committee. She and Launce were regulars at Bridge Evensong, always arriving in time for the pre-service choir practice, and latterly she was among the small congregation for the monthly Communion Service at Saxon Lodge.

ON THE NAIL NOTICEBOARD

Nailbourne Scout Group Christmas Card Delivery

The Christmas Card delivery for Bridge was a great success. Some 700 cards were delivered by the Scouts to homes in the village and a handsome profit of £65 made for Group funds.

Many thanks to all who helped and to all those who supported the venture. We look forward to repeating the service next year.

K Walder

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

Please may I remind all members that the AGM will be held at Bridge Village Hall on Thursday, 2nd February at 7.30pm.

The business of the meeting will be followed by refreshments and a slide show entitled *All things bright and beautiful*, given by Gwenda and Geoff Jordan.

Once again can I remind members that subscriptions paid by or at the AGM will qualify their names for entry in the Chelsea ticket draw.

Billie Anderson

Bekesbourne/Patrixbourne Neighbourhood Watch

A post code marking session will be held at Bekesbourne Village Hall on Saturday, 4th February. The new Crime Buster bus will be on show to the public between 10.30am and 12.30pm. Police officers from Canterbury Police Station will be present to answer any questions you wish to ask. Anyone from our NWS requiring items to be marked at home please contact the Co-ordinator on 830892. I already have the marking kit available.

M.Howells, Co-ordinator

Bridge Village Hall Annual General Meeting

The next AGM will take place on Tuesday, 14th February at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room. It is hoped that all groups/clubs that use the hall will send their representative(s). Nominations are invited for the posts of Chairperson, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Booking Secretary, and should be sent in writing to the Hon Sec. Vernon David, Bridgeford House by 7th February.

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

New members will be made very welcome at the next meeting on Tuesday, 21st February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Local member Mrs Madeleine Franklin will relate experiences of the Belgium Occupation, 1940-44. A jumble sale will be held in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday, 25th March at 10am.

J.Hopkins

Royal British Legion (Bridge & District Branch)

The Branch would like to take this opportunity of thanking the village for its support during last year, particularly for the efforts made in aid of the Poppy Appeal.

The monthly meeting is in the Plough & Harrow on Wednesday, 22nd February at 8pm.

Jim Stripe (830761)

Delhi Brotherhood Society

by Keith Nicholson

For the last few years the parish of Patricbourne with Bridge has sponsored Rakesh Kumar's education in Delhi. Unfortunately, he failed his Class X board examination. Whilst disappointed he is not too dispirited and is preparing to re-take the examination this year under the Indian government's scheme. He is confident of being successful on this occasion. He is now taking driving lessons and is learning to be a car mechanic. I am sure everyone will join us in wishing him every success in the future.

Our new sponsored child is Ashu, who is 14. He is in class VIII and he has two brothers and one sister. His father is a private car driver. The family migrated from Aligarh and live in their own house in Shahid Nagar Delhi. We look forward to watching Ashu's progress through the Delhi Brotherhood's Deenabandhu School with interest.

The Children's Society

Thank you to all who attended our lovely Christingle Service on Christmas Eve, especially Junior Church members and helpers, enabling the splendid sum of £106.14 to be raised for the Society.

At the cathedral Christingle Service on 28th December our parish was represented by Alice, Sam and Jack Barnard, who, again for the Society, presented purses of money from our collection to the Bishop of Dover.

Many thanks are also due to the valiant band of Carol Singers who braved the icy weather to sing on Bridge Down and raise over £50 for the joint benefit of the Royal School of Church Music appeal and the Children's Society.

Due to these efforts and other generous contributions throughout 1994 from house boxes, the envelope collection, donations etc, the total sent for the year from this parish amounted to £954.11, which has been very much appreciated by the Society.

Please continue to support this worthy cause and those working hard to improve the lives of children, teenagers and families in need during 1995, remembering that the main appeal period will be between 25th March and 8th April. I would be glad to receive any offers of help with the envelope collection as soon as possible. It is also hoped to hold a coffee morning, further details in next issue.

Kathy Eynon, 830466

EARLY WARNING!

BRIDGE VILLAGE FETE 1995

Saturday 17th June

12noon - 4pm

Plans for this are already afoot, so now's the time to put it in your diary before it gets filled.

Lots of ideas and lots of people are needed!

The organising group would like to hear from you if you have an idea for something different this year or if you can help in any way on the day. Please contact Evelyn Andrews (830960) or Lawrence Dunderdale (830668). The next preparation meeting is early March. *L.H.D.*

Bridge Parish Council - January Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday, 30th March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Local organisations will be invited to make short reports on the past year's activities.

Following requests for additional street lighting in a number of locations in the village, parish councillors decided to commission a survey of lighting provision throughout the parish prior to considering any further improvements. It is hoped to have the results of the survey available at the Annual Parish Meeting.

After continued pressure on the City Council, the long-awaited street nameplate at the junction of Riverside Mews and Riverside Close has finally been installed.

The pavilion extension is now virtually finished and will provide a useful addition to sporting facilities for Bridge Village Sports Trust.

Problems with the newly-repaired village clock have been disappointing, but a further overhaul under guarantee of one of the electrical motors should cure the problem.

Councillors turned down a suggestion from the City Council that a further paper recycling bank should be put in the layby near the Recreation Ground in Patricbourne Road. They felt it was too close to the children's play area, could result in other types of waste being left in the layby and would be visually very intrusive.

Councillors debated amended proposals from the City Council on the extended Bridge Conservation Area, and the proposed Nailbourne (Bifrons Park) and Highland Court Conservation Areas. Welcoming proposals to designate the areas, councillors have asked for some amendments to the boundaries proposed by the City's Director of Planning, Mr Mansell Jagger. Members of the City's Planning Committee will make a site visit in mid-January, followed by a recommendation to be considered by the whole City Planning Committee at the end of January.

Planning applications considered during the past month included amended proposals for a third tennis court by Bridge Tennis Club, the replacement of a rear window by a dormer window at 30/32 Western Avenue, and internal and external alterations to Skippers Restaurant, High Street.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 9th February.

Margaret Church, Clerk

Fish News

Positive Ageing is run by and for people who want to put their positive ideas about growing older into practice. HANNAH EADY, founder of Positive Ageing, will talk about the organization on 20th March at the Sidney Cooper Centre, Canterbury. If you would like to know more telephone 373293.

The next **Chiropody Clinic** is 6th to 10th March, and this month's **Coffee Pop-In** takes place on Wednesday, 8th February in Bridge Village Hall from 10.15-11.45am A.R.

Bekesbourne Church Cleaning and Flower Rota

4th & 11th, Mrs Jane Millyard

Kent County Constabulary 6 Area Canterbury LOOKOUT!

The police have suggested to the Bridge Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator that whenever space permits the local crime figures for the village should be published in 'On The Nail' in an effort to see that we stay security conscious. These figures cover the whole of 1994.

Vehicle Theft - Home:5 Road:11 Other:3 CP:3
Theft from Vehicles - Home:8 Road:15 CP:2 Other:1
Burglary-Dwelling - 9
Criminal Damage - Premises:7 Vehicle:16 Other:4
Cycle Theft - 3
Theft from Village Hall - Shed:3 Garden:3 Other:12 Tools:2
Burglary other than Dwelling - 1
Other - 4

Last year 112 crimes were reported in this area, 8 occurring in December.

Churches Together

The course of Christian unity is long and tortuous; it also has a limited appeal amongst members of the mainstream churches, some of whose members are less enthusiastic about unity than others. Yet the quest and the prayers continue.

A few years ago the British Council of Churches gave way to Churches Together in Britain. Its aims were the same but this time the Roman Catholic Church felt it was able to take a full part, having only been an observer at the BCC.

Stemming from the parent body are more localized versions, like Churches Together in Kent and more locally still Churches Together in Canterbury. Coming right home we have Churches Together in Bridge (CTB). CTB isn't formally structured like the others but a free-wheeling organisation whose object is to pave the way for the major Christian denominations in Bridge, the Church of England, Methodist and Roman Catholic Churches, to meet together for prayer and discussion.

Last month we came together in St. Peter's Church for the annual act of worship within the official Week of Prayer for Christian Unity but on a more regular basis we meet in the Methodist Church, Patrixbourne Road for an evening of shared experience, prayer and discussion.

If CTB has no fixed structure neither has it a membership roll, on the understanding that all sympathetic to the cause of unity and who are eager to meet with Christians of other persuasions are welcome to join our gatherings. Topics range over a wide area, not exclusively religious. The next meeting is on Wednesday, 22nd February at 7.30pm and we shall have the Revd. Howard Skinner with us to talk about his role as a prison chaplain. You're very welcome to come along!

Bekesbourne Organ: a sad tale

recounted by David Millyard

In 1879 there was a vestry meeting in Bekesbourne on 3rd October. Five men attended - about par for the course. They were three farmers, William Gardner of Sondes House, Septimus Sladden of Cobham Court and Bradbury Tassell of Hode Farm, Augustin Sargent the local building contractor of Court Cottage at the corner of Old Palace Road or close by, and Frank Sherrard coal merchant and shopkeeper. They duly resolved in these words, "that Mr Tassell be deputed to see Mr Gipps [the owner of Howletts and the largest landowner in the parish] relative to the debt of £7 5s 6d on the organ, asking Mr Gipps if he will take the organ and pay the debt; if not the Parishioners see no other way to meet the debt than by selling the organ. Carried unanimously."

A month later Mr Tassell reported back. "Mr Gipps declined to take the organ and pay the debt, said he should be sorry to see the organ sold but as it belongs to the parish, the parish must deal with it as it pleases."

So they agreed to sell the organ and put any surplus on deposit at Hammonds bank, to be used to keep the harmonium in tune. Unfortunately the record does not give the outcome. Was the organ sold? And when was our present organ acquired?

ANIMALS OF THE BIBLE

The Bear – *Ursus Syriacus*

The bear is mentioned 13 times in the Old Testament, suggesting bears were quite common then. The only New Testament reference is Revelation 13:2 "The beast... had feet like those of a bear".

The hills of Israel and Lebanon were once covered with trees, ideal country for bears. The Rev. F. W. Holland, wrote in 1865: "I slept on the top of Mount Hermon. Just as the sun was setting, I saw two bears rolling each other over in the snow. Our guide, who lived in a village at the foot of the Mount, did not consider them worth looking at, saying there were many of them."

The clearance of timber and hunting led to the extinction of the Syrian bear, though very similar bears can be found in parts of Syria, Turkey and Iran.

George Cansdale writes that bears do not truly hibernate, but sleep much of the winter, venturing out on sunny days. The young are born then, up to four cubs, each weighing under one pound and dependent on their mother for several months. It is then that the female is most aggressive.

Three Old Testament passages refer to the ferocity of the female. Proverbs 17:12 says "Better to meet a bear robbed of her cubs than a fool in his folly", see also 2 Samuel 17:8 and Hosea 13:8. George Cansdale speculates that the cubs could have been taken for circuses, a very ancient practice, although it cannot be traced back further than the fourth century BC. The bear can also be seen as a symbol of maternal protectiveness.

The bears lived mainly on fruits and roots, but might be driven by hunger in early spring to take a lamb. Bears and lions once prowled around Bethlehem. David told Saul that while keeping flocks there: "When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth" (1 Samuel 17:34).

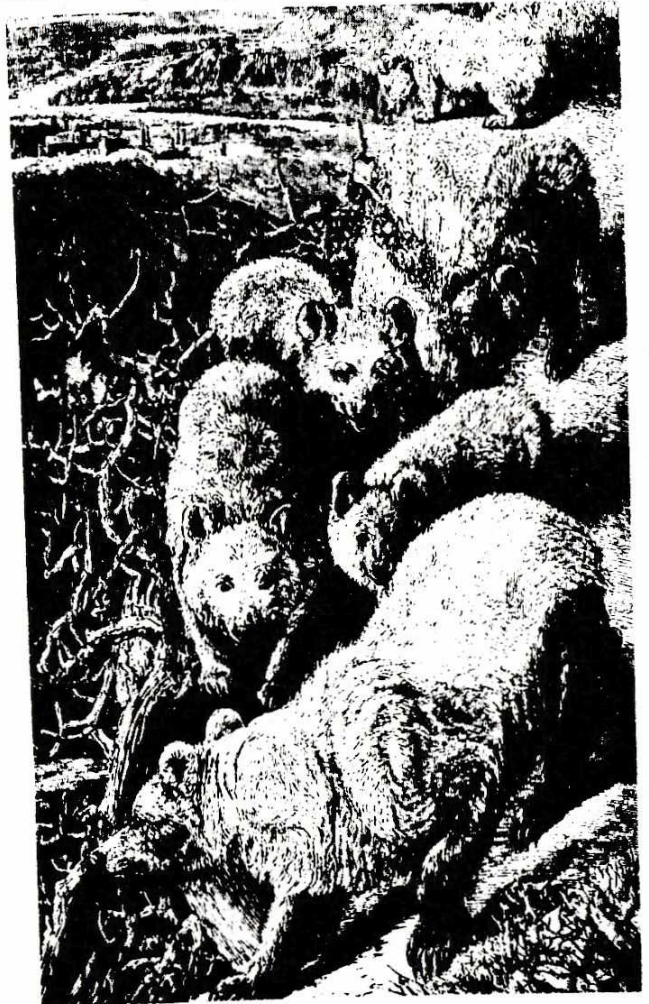
Amos, who was both a shepherd and prophet, wrote that the Day of the Lord would be: "As though a man fled from a lion only to meet a bear" (chapter 5:19).

George Cansdale comments that most experienced animal handlers would agree that a lion is more predictable and therefore safer, while a bear hides its intentions.

When youths from Bethel jeered at Elijah, "Go on up, you baldhead!", two bears came out of the woods and mauled 42 of them (2 Kings 2:23). The ravine leading up from Jericho to Bethel is now treeless, but once would have been a haven for wild animals. George Cansdale writes, "Two bears meeting a provocative crowd of youths in a narrow defile could cause panic and heavy damage."

W. M. Thomson, who travelled in Bible Lands in the last century wrote, "The inhabitants of Hermon say that when the bear is chased up the mountain he will cast back large stones upon his pursuers with terrible force and unerring aim", a report to be taken with a pinch of salt.

Isaiah 11:7 looks forward to the day when, "The cow will feed with the bear, and their young will lie down together".



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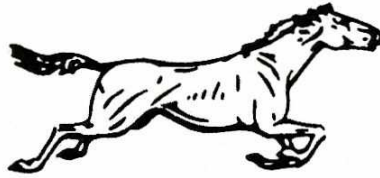


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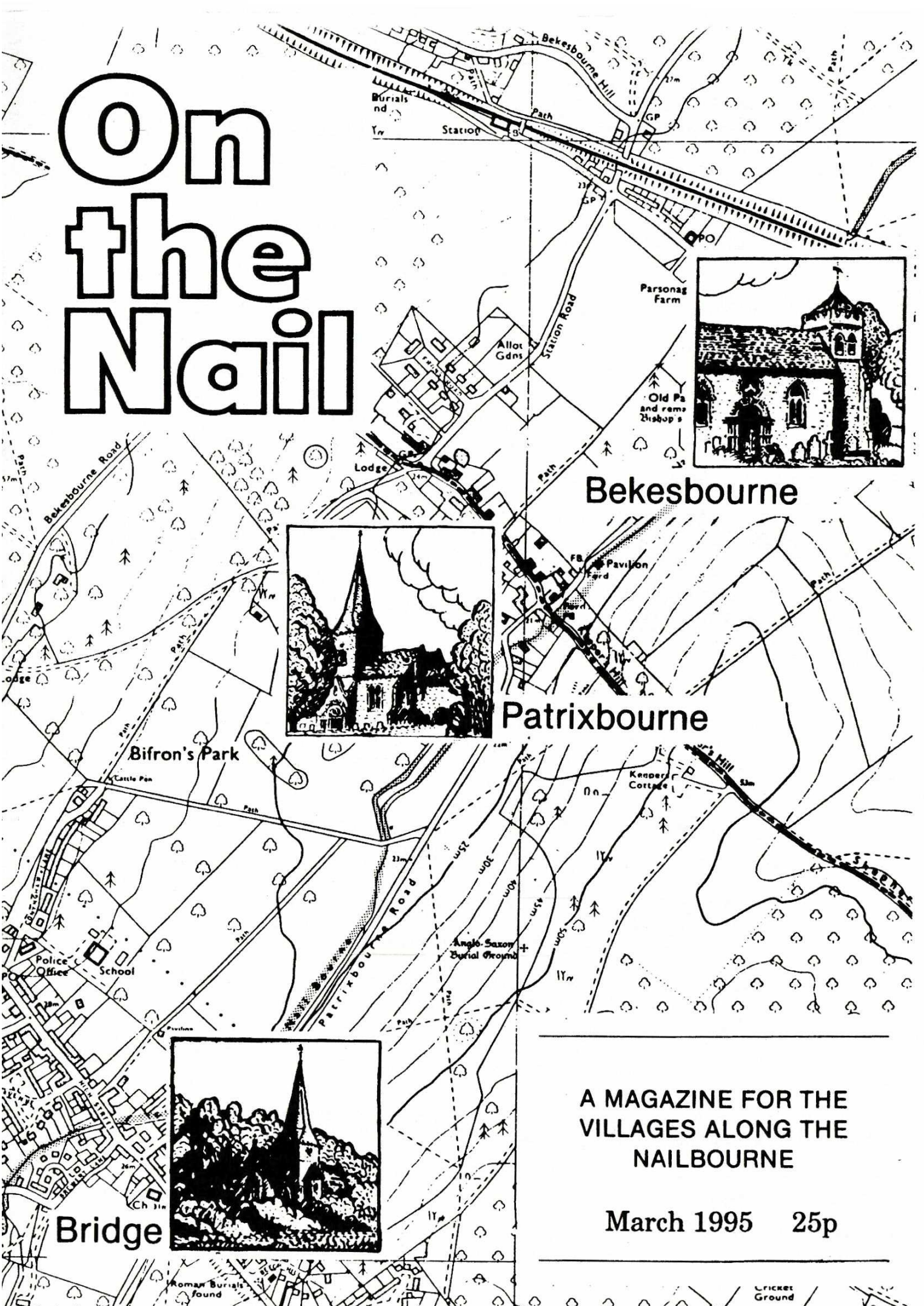
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A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

March 1995 25p

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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN MARCH

- 5th** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11am Family Service & Baptisms (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 12th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
11am Matins (*Patricbourne*)
3.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 19th** 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
11am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)
3.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)
- 26th** 8am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricbourne*)
11am Mothering Service (*Bekesbourne*)
6.30pm Peter's Praise (*Bridge*)

2nd April

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

Junior Church meets in Bridge Methodist Church, Patricbourne Road from 9.15 to 10.15am 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: *5th*, The Revd Albert Ball *12th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd Mary R Teed *19th*, Mr Kenneth Elgar *26th*, The Revd Howard Skinner

Weekdays The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. Wednesday morning Communion (*BCP*) at 9.30am resume on Ash Wednesday. Holy Communion takes place 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 **Ash Wednesday**
- 2nd **St. Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary, 672**
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 3rd **Women's World Day of Prayer Service, St. Peter's Church, Bridge, 3.30pm**
Friends of Bekesbourne Church Wine & Wisdom Evening, Bekesbourne Village Hall, 8pm
- 5th **First Sunday in Lent**
Evensong with the choir in attendance has been retimed to 6.30pm: 3.30 the rest of the month. Instead of a sermon at this Evensong Canon John Packer will introduce the course of Wednesday evening Lent Addresses for 1995, more details of which are on page 9.
- 7th **St. Perpetua and her Companions, Martyrs of Carthage, 203**
- 8th **Lent Address & Compline, St. Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm**
- 9th **Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am**
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 12th **Second Sunday in Lent**
- 15th **Lent Address & Compline, St. Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm**
- 16th **Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm**
- 17th **St. Patrick, Bishop, Patron Saint of Ireland, c460**
- 19th **Third Sunday in Lent**
- 20th **St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 21st **Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm**
- 22nd **Lent Address & Compline, St. Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm**
- 23rd **Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Bridge Methodist Church, 8pm**
- 25th **Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary**
Women's Institute Jumble Sale, Bridge Village Hall, 10am
Pray for Anna Thomas and Michael Sam, to be married this afternoon at St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne.
- 26th **Fourth Sunday in Lent Mothering Sunday**
The 11am Family Service at Bekesbourne will be the ever popular Mothering Sunday service with posies of flowers, to which mothers and children of all ages are specially invited.
- 29th **Lent Address & Compline, St. Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm**
Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough and Harrow, 8pm
- 30th **The Children's Society Coffee Morning, Bridge Methodist Church, 10.15-noon**

From the Vicar

As the story (joke, really) goes the bride-to-be came back from seeing the vicar and told mum they couldn't have the organ because it's Lent. Mum asked, 'Who's he lent it to?'

Not having flowers in church during Lent is an established custom, but banning the organ (presumably for *all* services) is right out! Such nonsense would be really taking Lent too far, fuelling the common misconception of Lent as a negative time when we are urged to cut down on creature comforts for our own good. So we get the idea that Lenten abstinence is to do with weight loss or saving money, the object being to get a grip on ourselves by giving up the customary pleasures of life, whatever they may be, all for our general well-being.

The dull face of religion

Religion has a bad name for being a kill-joy, stressing the gloomy side of life. Starting with the Ten Commandments, most of which begin 'Thou shalt not ...', critics draw on a lengthy catalogue of doom-laden restrictive practices all designed to knock the shine off the business of living. So the Christian faith is accused of adopting a puritanical attitude, intent on robbing everyone of all *joie de vivre*, condemning out of hand anything that exists purely for pleasure, and in extreme cases censuring such innocent pastimes as going to the cinema or dancing, since they are of the devil.

As with an organ-free Lent, that's going a bit far, yet religion has in the past been presented in a most unfavourable light, giving the impression of a deadpan God who can't abide frivolity of any kind and is determined to remove the smile off all faces. Abstinence is the order of the day; religion is a serious matter, nothing to laugh at!

Let's be positive!

In an age when that idea was rampant Lent never stood a chance. Life was cheerless enough as it was, and the onset of Lent only made matters worse. But looked at from the opposite angle, where Christian faith and practice is joyful because brimful of hope and love, the whole coming as gift from an all-loving heavenly Father, Lent too can be made to take on a different complexion.

Someone once said the secret of Lent is not what you give up but what you take on and viewed from that positive perspective Lent becomes a season of refreshment, of taking steps not just to improve the physique but to reinforce the quality of one's faith. That could be done by strict self-denial but is more rewarding if tackled from a positive aspect. Developing one's prayer life, taking steps to learn more about the faith via any of the specially published Lent books or, in the company of others, through Lent lectures or group study courses. God doesn't want us to go about with sad faces but smiling ones, genuinely so. Life is to be enjoyed and the best Lent is one that concentrates on making spiritual progress rather than bodily abstention, that adds zest to life by increasing our understanding of the ways of God, which is where real hope and true gladness lie.

Joy ...

On 18th February St. Peter's Church, Bridge was the venue for the marriage of two newer members of the congregation. DAVID and JULIE LATHAM currently live in Sturry but hope shortly to move into Riverside Close.

... and Sorrows

The death on 25th January of FRANCES ELSIE APPS brought to an end a long associa-

tion with Bridge and its church. People with long memories will remember twice-widowed Elsie living with her mother and serving behind the counter of Bridge News, when it belonged to Harry Hawkins. Elsie's small figure was a familiar sight around the village, more often than not along the High Street going to and from St. Peter's Church, which she cared for in her own particular way for very many years. In addition to cleaning she served for a time on the PCC, regularly ran a Gifts and Toiletries stall at the old Church Fete and Christmas Market and saw to 'stage one' of magazine distribution, also collecting money from the individual distributors. Her village interests covered the local branch of the League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals, being a telling member of the committee.

Always an exceptionally private person, once she moved from the cottage in the High Street to Saxon Lodge, she appeared to draw a veil over her Bridge life. She wouldn't venture out into the village streets and never again went to St. Peter's Church, although she did enjoy worshipping at Bridge Methodist Church and made her communion at the monthly Eucharist in Saxon Lodge.

Elsie's funeral on 3rd February took place in St. Peter's Church, after which her body was laid to rest in the churchyard with that of her husband.

* * *

The sudden death of FREDERICK TOMLINSON at his home in Ford Close on 30th January came as a great shock to his family and many friends in the district. Fred came to Bridge when he retired as Town Clerk of Whitstable and despite being on his own lived a very active life, travelling extensively on the continent in his camper van until age began to take its toll. Even then he didn't vegetate but got out and about, mainly in the direction of Bishopsbourne, where he was a regular at The Mermaid.

A service in Bridge Church on 7th February was followed by cremation at Barham.

* * *

A large company of family and local friends attended the funeral service in Bridge Church, prior to cremation, on 9th February of long-standing Bridge resident Mrs MYFANWY MULLENS, 'Miff' to most people, who died in hospital on 1st February after the briefest of illnesses.

On The Nail Noticeboard

Royal British Legion, Bridge & District Branch

The Branch would like to acknowledge, on behalf of the Poppy Appeal, a cheque for £15 from the Remembrance Sunday collection at Patricbourne Church. This brings the total for 1994 to over £900.

This is to give advance notice of a Group 4 (not the security firm) meeting which is to held at The Plough & Harrow on Monday, 11th April at 8pm. A group, in RBL terms, is a sub-division of a County, the eight branches in the Canterbury/Whitstable area constituting the Fourth Group, of which this Branch is a member.

At these meetings, matters of more general interest are discussed. As with our other meetings, all are welcome.

Lastly, can I remind people about subscriptions?

Jim Stripe, 830761

Bridge Mother, Baby & Toddler Group

Just had a baby? Got a lively toddler? Or both? If so why not come and join us in the Village Hall for a cup of coffee and a chat every Friday afternoon from 1.30pm. £1 includes coffee, biscuits and juice. Any questions, call me on 830251.

Susanne Leggatt

Fund-raising

Since we started raising money together for the Samaritans in 1988 our total has reached over £2,434. For your support I am most grateful. This year on Thursday, 1st June I plan a change and hope to raise a substantial amount of money for the Royal College of Radiologists Appeal for research into the detection and treatment of cancer. I know when the time comes I can rely on your help.

M.E.J.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

Our next meeting is at Bridge Methodist Church on Thursday, 23rd March at 8pm. The speaker will be Mrs E Thomas, on the subject of hanging baskets, containers, etc. This, I am sure, will be a very helpful lecture to a lot of us. May I also remind members that the schedules for the spring show are available, and also that our annual subscriptions are due, if not already paid.

Billie Anderson (Show Sec)

The Children's Society

The "JESTER APPEAL" for funds this year is taking place between 25th March and 8th April. Many fund raising events are planned throughout the country to enable the Society to continue its work and meet ever increasing demands on its resources.

In Bridge we will be holding a house-to-house envelope collection and a coffee morning (details below) for which your usual generous support is requested.

**COFFEE MORNING
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Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

A jumble sale with cake stall will be held in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday, 25th March at 10am

At the next WI meeting on Tuesday, 21st March the speaker will be Mrs Angela Newport. She will show slides of her visit to New Zealand, including some taken at Tinopai CWI, which is a link institute with Bridge. New members will be made very welcome. J.H.

Wednesdays in Lent

Those who enjoyed the series of Lent Addresses with Compline held in 1993 and 1994 will be interested in those planned for this year. They will be on Wednesdays at 7.30pm in St. Peter's Church, Bridge and are on 'The Psalms in Christian Worship'. Canon Packer will conduct the first three under the headings 'The Book of Praises' (8th March), 'The Kaleidoscope of Psalmody' (15th) and 'The Psalms at Work' (22nd). The Vicar will cover the remaining two, 'Psalms that Rhyme' (29th) and 'Psalms in Song' (5th April).

As a prelude to the course Canon Packer will explain what's involved during Choral Evensong on 5th. Those interested should find this 'trailer' helpful to the series.

Neighbourhood Watch

Bridge

There is a slight improvement in the crime figures for January, these being the best since May 1994. This may well be due to the presence of our new village policeman. The figures are:

Burglary from dwellings	1
Theft from motor vehicles	3
Theft of Vehicle	1
Criminal damage to vehicle	1
<i>Total</i>	6

Please be aware and if necessary improve house lighting and security, and where cars have to be parked overnight in the street, choose well-lighted areas.

The police have available a new Personal Attack Alarm at £6 inc. VAT, obtainable from the Canterbury Police Station, tel 817157 or 817127.

Edgar Smith, Co-ordinator

Bekesbourne/Patrixbourne

Crime figures received from the police at Canterbury report five crimes in Bekesbourne and none in Patrixbourne for January 1995. Relevant details are:

Burglary from dwelling	1
Burglary from others (farms)	2
Theft from other places	1
Theft of cycle	1
<i>Total</i>	5

The Crime Buster bus from No 6 Area Kent Police was on display at Bekesbourne Village Hall on Saturday, 4th February. Three police officers from

Canterbury were in attendance to answer any questions and show people round the bus. Sadly, only seven people turned up, which was very disappointing. All the hard work involved by link persons and myself in setting up this event, distributing leaflets to every house in the area, did not bring the expected response. 17 cycles were postcoded, so it wasn't an entirely wasted morning.

M Howells, Co-ordinator

Bridge Parish Council

Recycling Children Children from Bridge CEP School turned out to be photographed for the press making good use of recycling facilities. The banks on Town Hill are amongst the most heavily used in the Canterbury area and the proceeds from the paper bank go to the Nailbourne Scout Group. This bank can now be used for all types of paper and cardboard, other than those with wax finishes.

Spring cleaning Following complaints about litter and mud in the High Street, and dog-fouling on footways, Cllr Mrs Jones will be meeting officials from the City Council to discuss improvements. As part of National Spring Clean Week in April the Parish Council hopes that local groups will tackle projects such as cleaning out litter from the Nailbourne.

Stepping out Repairs and maintenance work on local footpaths have been scheduled for the spring. In addition to clearing undergrowth on paths in Whitehill Woods, work to make the bridges in Church Meadow safer, and the reinstatement of the vandalised kissing gate will be carried out under the Parish Paths Partnership with Kent County Council.

Cash for Kids Three different groups of children will benefit if applications by local organisations to the City Lottery are successful. The Parish Council is backing applications from the Mother and Toddler Group, the Scout Group and the Parents and Friends Association of Bridge School.

New Faces Local council elections to be held in May will include those for parish councillors. Two of the present councillors have indicated that they will not be standing for re-election and so two new councillors will be needed.

Parks and Plans Canterbury City Council has designated the new conservation area centred on Bifrons Park, enlarged the area around Bridge and propose to add an additional area between Mill Lane and Station Road, including Field House. Planning applications lodged with them include a garage extension at 10 Brewery Lane and rear extensions to 11 High Street. City Councillors visited a site adjacent to Greenways in Beech Hill and their decision is expected shortly. Amended proposals have been submitted to the City Council for the proposed service station on Barham Downs at Kingston and the Parish Council has repeated its strong objections to them.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday, 9th March.

Margaret Church, Clerk

Bekesbourne with Patricbourne Parish Council

The Parish Council met on Monday, 6th February.

It was agreed to reply to the Royal British Legion that it was not intended to promote any VE Day 50th anniversary celebrations in the parish.

Councillor Howells will attend a meeting arranged by the KCC Highways Department for representatives of parish councils at Barham on 2nd March.

There were no planning applications. It was noted that planning permission had been granted for work at North Hill, Bekesbourne Road and at 1 and 2 Unicorn Cottages.

The council expressed concern at the recent theft of a number of road signs in the parish.

It was agreed to take up with Canterbury City Council their very poor publicity about the new dates for rubbish collection in the parish and to complain that there had been no rubbish collection between Monday, 19th December 1994 and Thursday/Friday, 5th/6th January 1995.

It was reported that despite appalling weather some 35 people had attended the senior citizens' party arranged by the Village Hall Committee and to which the council had contributed. A good time had been had by all.

The next meeting of the council will be on 20th March and the Annual Parish meeting will take place on Monday, 1st May.

* * *

Further to the party in Bekesbourne Village Hall, the Chairman of the Hall Management Committee writes: The very bad weather did not deter the 35 brave pensioners from coming. Some excellent music was provided by 'Two's a Crowd' duo. Caterers for this event were the new owners of The Unicorn, Clive and Cheryl Barker. The food was first class and enjoyed by all. The event was very successful and it is hoped to have this venture annually. I would like to convey my thanks to all Village Hall management committee members, their friends and family who helped to make this party a great success.

FRIENDS OF BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

In addition to the Wine and Wisdom evening on 3rd this month plans are afoot for a great **BEATING THE BOUNDS** on **Sunday, 21st May**, Rogation Sunday. Bring all the family and the dog for a walk to discover different parts of the village and, to do things properly, pause at various spots for a hymn and prayer to beg a blessing on the parish. The church council has decided there won't be a service in church that morning. We will end with a picnic or pub lunch at The Unicorn.

Jot down **Saturday, 1st July** for a **BOOT FAIR**, further information about which can be got from Mrs Zan Clifford, 830328.

Fish News

Dates coming up:

1. The **BLOSSOM TOUR** is on **Wednesday, 10th May**. The tea will cost £2.50 and the cost of the coach will be met by the Fish Scheme. Please telephone Mrs Joy Monk, 831903 if you would like to go.
2. The annual **FUND-RAISING COFFEE MORNING** will take place this year on **Saturday, 20th May** in Bridge Village Hall.

3. Further details have come through about the FOCUS ON POSITIVE AGING. It will be on **Monday, 20th March** from 9.30am to 1pm at the Sidney Cooper Centre, St. Peter's Street, Canterbury. There will be talks, questions and answers and coffee. It costs £1.50 (payable at the door) and is open to everyone.
4. The next COFFEE POP-IN will be on **Wednesday, 9th March** in Bridge Village Hall. If you have any left over knitting wool we would love to have it. Please either bring it along then or telephone Rosy Green on 830204.
5. The next CHIROPODY CLINIC will be from **6th to 10th March**. Please telephone Mrs Joan Warren on 830233 if you would like details. A.R.

Bekesbourne in Wartime

1995 sees the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. What was Bekesbourne like in the war? I can look up the records but it is people's own memories (and photos) which are interesting. What sort of memories? Anything, really ... family life, going to school, going to church, food, clothing and petrol rationing, air raids, troop movements, troops at Bifrons, the Home Guard, the railway, farming controls, VE day, VJ day, church bells again ... If anyone would like to share their memories, please phone me (830256) or write (School House, School Lane) and we can try to get together.

David Millyard

Bekesbourne Church Cleaning and Flowers

There are no flowers this month, it being Lent, but posies would be appreciated for the Mothering Sunday Family Service on 26th. In the run up to Easter Christine Ash will be pleased to receive cash contributions towards the purchase of lilies for Easter. Please take or send your donation to her at Parsonage Farm or *Nippers*. Better still hand it in at any of the church services between now and then.

And finally ...

Plans are afoot for an original and in its way challenging observance of Good Friday this year that involves all three churches.

Much has still to be decided, not least the timings, but our aim is to hold a meditative pilgrimage from St. Peter's Church, Bridge, walking through the village, then via Conyngham Lane and Bifrons gardens to Patricbourne, where a short service of devotion will be held in St. Mary's Church. Then a walk along Old Palace Road and up the hill to St. Peter's, Bekesbourne. Children will be able to have their own event at Riverside Cottage, Patricbourne, by kind invitation of Andrea and Keith Nicholson, and will join the final stage of the main pilgrimage as it passes the door. We shall make allowance for those who can't walk the whole course by holding a short service at each church. Each service though complete in itself will cover some of the events of Good Friday, from Christ's announcement that he is going up to Jerusalem (recalled at Bridge) to the final act on calvary (remembered at Bekesbourne). More information next month, but we hope this new programme will give everyone a chance to ponder the Lord's Passion and prepare for a truly joyful Easter!

Vicar The Revd Raymond Gilbert, AKC, 23 High Street, Bridge (830250)

Reader Mr Handley Stevens, MA, 6 Bridgeford Way, Bridge (831376)

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Miss J Carpenter, 3 The Green, Patrixbourne

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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 AW 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 Ringers Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekes'ne (830659)

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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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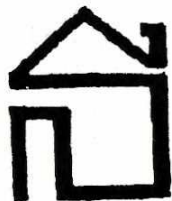
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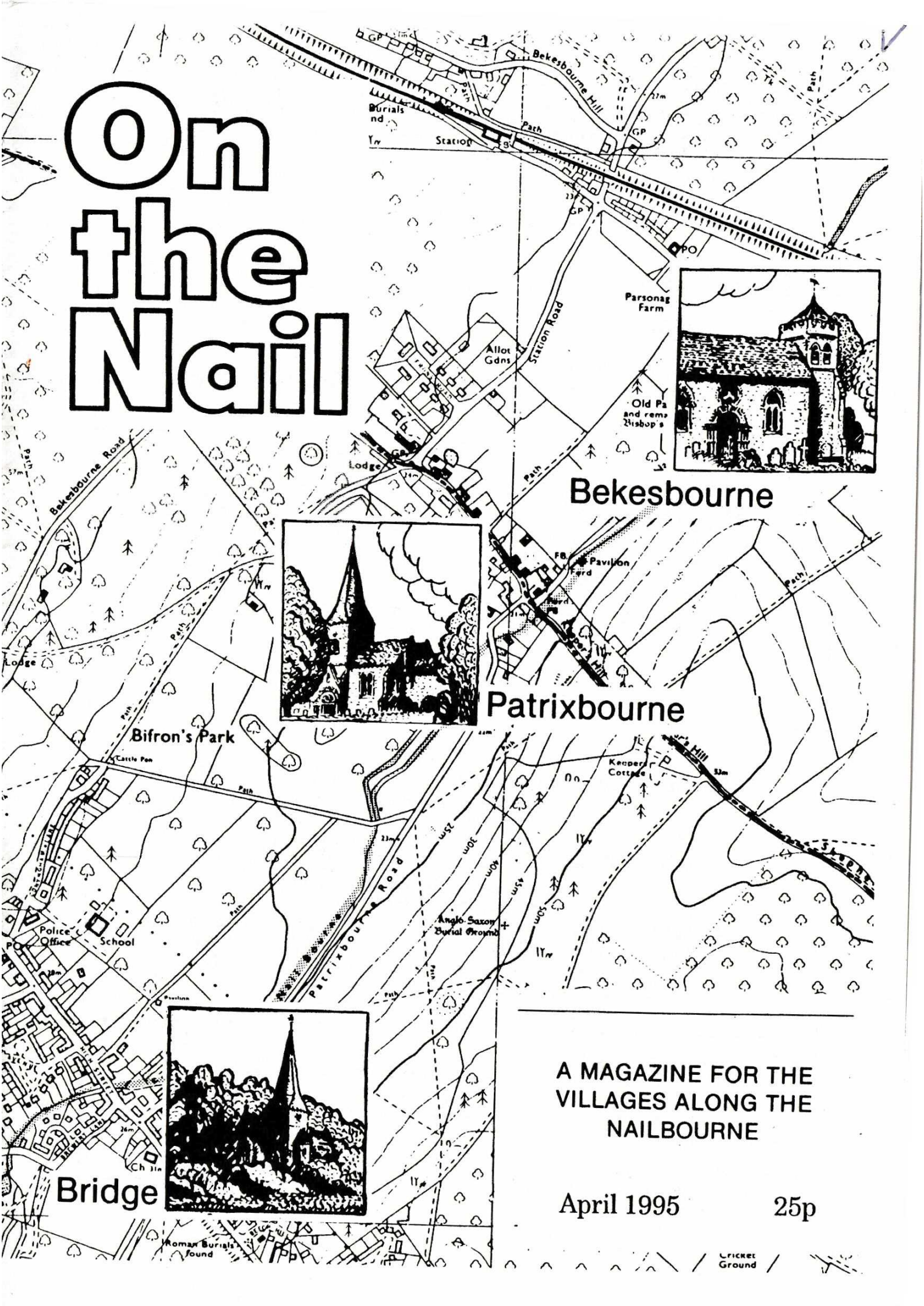
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On the Nail



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Patrixbourne



Bridge

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April 1995

25p

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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN APRIL

2nd 8am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11am Family Service (Bridge)
6.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)

9th 8am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
2.30pm Holy Baptism (*Bridge*)
3pm Holy Baptism (*Bekesbourne*)
11am Matins (*Patricbourne*)
3.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)

16th: EASTER DAY

9.30am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
11am Easter Eucharist with Baptism (*Bridge*)
11am Easter Eucharist (*Bekesbourne*)(*Revd John Shorrocks*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)

23rd 8am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)(*Revd John Shorrocks*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricbourne*)(*Revd John Shorrocks*)
11am Family Service (*Bekesbourne*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)
6.30pm Peter's Praise (*Bridge*)

30th 10.30am Benefice Eucharist - Rite A (*Bekesbourne*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)

7th May

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

Junior Church meets in Bridge Methodist Church, Patricbourne Road from 9.15 to 10.15am 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: *2nd*, Mr Michael Baybutt, BSc *9th*, Dr Eileen AH Tresidder, BA *16th*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd. Stanley Taylor *23rd*, Miss Joan Charlesworth, MA *30th*, The Revd Mary R Teed

Weekdays The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesday mornings (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am, though not in the immediate fortnight after Easter. Holy Communion takes place 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 support is always most welcome.

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 2nd **Fifth Sunday in Lent**
- 4th Bekesbourne Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Parsonage Farm, 7.30pm
- 5th Lent Address and Compline, St. Peter's Church, Bridge, 7.30pm
- 6th Nailbourne Branch, League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals, Coffee Morning, Bridge Methodist Church, 10am to 12 noon.
Nailbourne Horticultural Society Spring Show, Bridge Village Hall
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 7th Patrixbourne with Bridge Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Bridge School, 7.30pm
- 9th **Palm Sunday**
- 10th **Monday in Holy Week**
- 11th **Tuesday in Holy Week**
Holy Communion, Patrixbourne, 9.30am
Bekesbourne Village Hall AGM. 8pm.
- 12th **Wednesday in Holy Week**
Holy Communion, Bridge, 9.30am
Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am
- 13th **Maundy Thursday**
Holy Eucharist in commemoration of the Last Supper, with Stripping of the Altars, 7.30pm
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 14th **Good Friday**
The Way of the Cross, a processional devotion (Bridge, Patrixbourne & Bekesbourne) [See p.7 for details]
- 15th **Easter Eve**
- 16th **EASTER DAY** [See previous page for details of services]
- 17th **Monday in Easter Week**
- 18th **Tuesday in Easter Week**
Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 19th **Wednesday in Easter Week**
There won't be a celebration of the Holy Communion this morning.
- 20th **Thursday in Easter Week**
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, Red Deer, Bridge Down, 7pm

- 21st **Friday in Easter Week**
There won't be a celebration of the Holy Communion this morning.
- 22nd **Saturday in Easter Week**
Pray for Nicola Gillanders and Gary Canning to be married this afternoon at St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne.
- 23rd **First Sunday after Easter**
- 25th **St. Mark the Evangelist**
- 29th **St. Catherine of Siena, Mystic, 1380**
- 30th **Second Sunday after Easter**
Please see page 4 and the bottom of this page for details of a significant change to the pattern of services on a fifth Sunday.

FROM THE VICAR

Moral perspective

It's a fallacy that the clergy have to be impartial where party politics are concerned, indeed many of my profession make a point of nailing their political colours to the mast. Nevertheless please don't read more into what follows than is there: I'm one of the great *don't knows* where party politics is concerned. To be honest, the subject bores me stiff! That said, however, I'm impressed with a phrase in the Labour party's revamped Clause IV. It hasn't grabbed the headlines but expresses a sentiment that perhaps should be latched on to by anyone concerned about present day attitudes. It's a guiding principal for more than Labour party adherents. The perceived ideal community is one 'where the rights we enjoy reflect the duties we owe'.

Nowadays there is a widespread clamour for rights - the rights of the disadvantaged, animal rights, and, topping the bill for many people, individual (i.e. *my*) rights. "I know my rights!" Yes, but for every right there is a corresponding duty, and it's not always someone else who has that duty. It's easy to demand our rights but less attractive to face the fact that certain responsibilities go with those rights and that those liabilities are ours. Society cannot survive if everybody is demanding his or her rights but isn't prepared to accept the issue of duties, responsibilities, obligations.

This imbalance may be less prevalent than we think, but I find it significant that a political party carrying out a reappraisal of one of its key policy issues has picked this point up sufficiently to offer it as a guide for the future. I wonder if having a new young leader who also happens to be a practising churchman has anything to do with it?

Benefice progress

To help deepen relations between the congregations of Bridge, Patrixbourne and Bekesbourne, the decision has been made to hold occasional benefice services. These will be Eucharists according to Rite A, the new form of service. Benefice Services will take place on fifth Sunday mornings, will move around the churches and will be the only service for the benefice that particular morning.

The first Benefice Eucharist is on 30th April in Bekesbourne Church at the special time of 10.30am and we hope members of the other churches will come along to join the celebration and fill St. Peter's Church. Coffee will be served afterwards.

GOOD FRIDAY ON THE MOVE

As a variation on our previous programme detailed plans have been made to observe this Good Friday in a different format involving all three churches of the benefice, rather than just two as before, and lasting from 10am till noon.

It will take the form of a pilgrimage from Bridge to Bekesbourne, calling in at Patrixbourne. In each church there will be a service of devotion, those at Patrixbourne and Bekesbourne being longer than at Bridge. There will be something special for the children of Junior Church and we shall cater for anyone who for whatever reason cannot walk far but would still like to attend one or all of the services.

We start in Bridge Church with a ten minute devotion, then walk along the High Street, pausing on the corner of Western Avenue for a hymn and prayer, go along Conyngham Lane and across the fields, past Bifrons, then via the Street in Patrixbourne to St. Mary's Church. There will be an opportunity for a pause and devotions, starting at 11am and lasting about 20 minutes.

The route to Bekesbourne is along Old Palace Road but we shall stop at Riverside Cottage to collect the children, who will have had their own programme, courtesy of the Nicholsons. They will join us for the remainder of the pilgrimage to Bekesbourne and the final devotion of a further 20 minutes in St. Peter's Church.

Each pilgrim will have a printed programme containing words of hymns and other relevant information: these will also be available at each church for non-walkers. For safety's sake marshalls with clearly marked clothing will accompany the walkers. The devotions focus on parts of our Lord's Passion, beginning at Bridge with Jesus telling his disciples they are going up to Jerusalem where various words of prophecy will be fulfilled [Matthew 20. 17-19]. At Patrixbourne we contemplate the agony in the garden of Gethsemane and Jesus' arrest, culminating at Bekesbourne in the crucifixion, with a hint of what followed.

We do hope you will want to take part in this imaginative venture and would invite those who won't be walking but will want to join the devotions to contact John Anderson (830260) who will be gladly ensure you get there.

JOYS & SORROWS

Baptism

The Family Service at Bridge on 5th March included the christenings of CRAIG WOOD, 17 Dering Road and ROBIN MARTIN SOCHACKI, Silver Birches, Patrixbourne Road.

Wedding

The Bekesbourne wedding of PENNY HILL and MARTIN HARMAN on 25th February drew media attention on account of the Nailbourne being in flood. Road access to St. Peter's Church being impassable for cars arrangements were for the bridal car, bride

inside, to be carried across the river on a low loader. The exercise was repeated after the service when bride and groom crossed the Patrixbourne ford the same way. Despite the intricate manoeuvres let it be said Penny still got to the church on time.

The Departed

Leonard Trott, The Willows, Patrixbourne Road

John Forsaith, Lindisfarne, Bekesbourne Road

John Hodgson, Barberry Cottage, Patrixbourne Road

Albert Wilson, Boundary Cottage, Aerodrome Road, Bekesbourne

Pat Grant, 62 Western Avenue, Bridge

Johan Coombes, late of Station Road, Bekesbourne

- OBITUARIES -

LEONARD TROTT died on 23rd February at the age of 77 and the vicar officiated at Barham Crematorium on 2nd March. The same afternoon the funeral took place at Patrixbourne of a former consultant anaesthetist of the Kent & Canterbury Hospital JOHN FORSAITH. He also died on 23rd February, was aged 82 and after a church service was buried in the churchyard at Patrixbourne.

The sudden and totally unexpected death of JOHN HODGSON at the early age of 60 has left his wife and family greatly shocked. John was a lecturer at Christchurch College, Canterbury, where a funeral service was conducted by the Revd. Dr. Edward Norman, Dean of Chapel on 8th March, followed by interment in Patrixbourne churchyard, at which the vicar officiated. John's involvement in village life was not inconsiderable. He served on the Parish Council and was a very active member of the Tennis Club. His extremely pleasant disposition made him highly approachable and resulted in the large circle of friends enjoyed by John and Mary.

The passing of PAT GRANT, a devoted husband and father, lifelong Methodist and for many years Church Steward of the Bridge Church, has hit everyone who knew him very hard. Pat collapsed and died in Canterbury while his wife Nora was attending a meeting at St. Peter's Methodist Church and his loss leaves both family and church community in a state of shock.

In many ways Pat was Bridge Methodist Church and it's difficult to realise the one everyone turned to (his influence extended throughout the village) is no longer there. He was passionately concerned about church unity and was widely respected and revered by both the Roman Catholic and Anglican communities of Bridge, who have lost a true friend.

Christine Ash writes: Bekesbourne, enriched over the years through the valued support of many of its villagers, mourns the loss of two senior citizens both in the same week.

Mrs COOMBES, affectionately known as 'Joey', was in her 94th year. Her husband worked for the railways and they lived at Bishopsbourne Station until the demise of the Elham Valley Line in 1947, prior to moving with the railway to Bekesbourne.

Always smiling, Mrs Coombes soon became active in village life. A member of the Mothers Union, the WI, a regular attender at the church, in Canon Appleton's days encouraging her son Roland into the choir. Her renowned cake baking for village fetes and her active support for the village Whist Drives continued long after her retirement. Working as housekeeper for Ernie Baker, the then tenant of Parsonage Farm, prior to being gratefully inherited by the Ash family when the tenancy changed, her friendship and loyalty never faltered even after her retirement in her 80th year.

ALBERT WILSON, also closely involved with the railways, was the original resident at the other end of the village on the Aerodrome. In his 86th year Albert survived his beloved wife by just one year and four days. He spent much of his youth playing football for the village before moving on to form a regular youth club. A school manager, and President of the Sports Club, he only retired from the Village Hall Committee last year.

Past village life has been much enriched by such active members of the community and we extend our sympathies to their families.

ON THE NAIL NOTICEBOARD

Bridge Village Hall Management Committee

The committee is urgently looking for an honorary Booking Secretary whose task is to allocate the use of the Village Hall by clubs, groups and private parties. Will any volunteer please contact the Hon Secretary on 830268. *Vernon David*

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

The Spring Show will take place in Bridge Village Hall on Thursday, 6th April. The hall will be open at 6pm for members to stage their exhibits. Judging will start at 7.15, during which refreshments will be served.

For any members who have not yet got a schedule, there are some in Bridge Post Office, or they can contact me. May I also remind members that they cannot show if their membership subscription is not paid up to date.

Please help to make this an enjoyable and good evening, at which in addition to the show there will be a Bring & Buy stall. *Billie Anderson, Show Sec.*

Hospital League of Friends

An Easter Coffee Morning will be held in the Methodist Church on Thursday, 6th April, 10am to 12 noon. Coffee, Cakes, Bring & Buy, Lucky Dip. Donations of cakes, plants, fancy goods or prizes will be gratefully received on the morning or beforehand: ring 830204. All money raised goes to aid local hospitals. *Rosy Green*

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

The WI meets every third Tuesday in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm. Visitors are always made very welcome. On 18th April Mr H Howe will speak on *78rpm records, 1900-1958.*

Bekesbourne Village Hall

Mr Jack Gater, caretaker of Bekesbourne Village Hall for several years has tendered his resignation. The chairman and management committee of the hall wish to thank Jack for all his work and commitment to the hall over the years. Anyone interested in taking over

the post of caretaker/cleaner please contact the chairman on 830892. A modest remuneration is offered.

The AGM of Bekesbourne Village Hall will take place at the hall on Tuesday, 11th April at 8pm. All are welcome to attend. *M Howell*

Friends of Bekesbourne Church

A very enjoyable and successful Wine and Wisdom evening was held on Friday, 3rd March in Bekesbourne Village Hall, on behalf of the Friends of Bekesbourne Church. Many thanks to all who helped and to all who came to take part. Zan Clifford organized the event; Jenny and Brian Skinner set the questions and Brian was an indefatigable question-master. A total in excess of £300 was raised for the Friends. *D.M.*

CHURCH FLOWERS FOR EASTER

Anyone wishing to contribute towards Easter lilies for Bridge Church please leave their donation with Viv Brasier, The Archways, Conyngham Lane (830981).

Many thanks to the two ladies who replied to our cry for help with the flower rota in St. Peter's Church. We have substituted a plant on the pedestal by the organ, instead of fresh flowers, and the year's rota is now completed. However, offers of financial help are always appreciated. Several donations were made at Christmas, in memory of a loved one, and vases of flowers arranged as requested. I would be happy to continue this idea and if you would like to make a donation in someone's memory, on a certain date, please contact me and I will be pleased to help. *Viv Brasier*

At Bekesbourne, Christine Ash will gratefully receive donations any time to buy Easter lilies for St. Peter's Church.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEMES

BRIDGE

The crime figures for February are not at all satisfactory, having in fact doubled, as the following shows:

Burglary from dwellings	1
Burglary other than dwelling	1
Theft other than from home	1
Theft from vehicles	3
Theft of vehicle	1
Theft of cycle	1
Criminal damage	3
Other crimes not listed	2
TOTAL	13

Crimes for the first two months of 1995 total 19.

Edgar Smith, Co-ordinator

BEKESBOURNE/PATRIXBOURNE

During the latter part of February Patrixbourne area was hit by a number of crimes. A Bedford midi van stolen from Bifrons Road was believed to have been used in a very large burglary in Patrixbourne. The same night, within three days of these crimes St. Mary's Church was broken into and two valuable chairs stolen from the sanctuary. I have been informed that approximately 18 years ago the same chairs were stolen. Another burglary occurred in Cranmer Close, Bekesbourne on 9th February. Police no.6 Area *Lookout* crime details for February look like this:

Bekesbourne

Burglary from dwelling	1
Burglary other than dwelling	1
Theft of Vehicle	1
TOTAL	3

Crimes for the first two months of 1995 total 8.

Patrixbourne

Burglary from dwelling	1
Burglary other than dwelling	1
TOTAL	2

Crimes for the first two months of 1995 total 2.

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

John Hodgson Following the recent, sudden death of Cllr John Hodgson the Chairman, Cllr JE Hill paid tribute to his work on the council since his co-option in November 1993. Mr Hodgson had taken a full and active part in local affairs, particularly the Tennis Club, and would be missed at many levels of village life.

Just the ticket Cllr Mrs Joan Monk reminded the Council of the service available to local residents through the Dial-a-Bus scheme. This weekly bus service will pick up local residents, who may find ordinary service buses difficult, from their own homes and deliver them to the centre of Canterbury, then pick them up and return them to their own front doors. At £1 a head for the return journey it's a real bargain. The bus runs through Bridge each Friday morning and Karen Botting at Canterbury City Council can provide more details and application forms for a permit - a doctor's certificate is no longer needed. Like all village amenities it's a case of use it or lose it!

Public meeting - public lighting The provision of street lighting in Bridge will be one of the topics under discussion at the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday, 30th March at 7.30pm. Following several requests for more lighting columns and for all-night lighting in some areas, councillors are hoping to sound out local opinion on the possibility of change.

Parish Council Elections Elections to the Parish Council will take place on 4th May. Bridge Parish council has nine seats and councillors serve for a period of four years. Candidates can obtain the necessary nomination papers, together with a short guide giving

further information, from the Returning Officer at Canterbury City Council. Nomination papers and consent forms must reach the Returning Officer by noon on 4th April and a statement of those nominated will be published on Thursday, 6th April.

Margaret Church, Clerk

FISH NEWS

Again this month there are two reminders:

The BLOSSOM TOUR is on Wednesday, 10th May. Please telephone Mrs Joy Monk, 831903, if you would like to go.

The annual FUND-RAISING COFFEE MORNING will take place on Saturday, 20th May in Bridge Village Hall.

The next Coffee Pop-In in Bridge Village Hall is on Wednesday, 12th April and please remember that we can arrange transport too by your ringing Ann Medhurst, tel no.830762.

* * *

Many of our members will remember with affection Mrs EVA CROUCH and Mrs JOEY COOMBES who have died recently. The Fish Scheme would also wish to pay a loving tribute to the late Mr PAT GRANT. A founder member of the Scheme back in 1980, he did everything. He drove for the Lunch Club at The New Close, he visited, he organized and he befriended. He was delightful and he will be sorely missed. A.R.

BEKESBOURNE CHURCH - Cleaning & Flower Rota

Decorating for Easter will be done on Holy Saturday, 15th, and all help is welcomed from 10am. Donations for Easter lilies gratefully received by Christine Ash, Parsonage Farm. 22nd, Jill Gillanders 29th, Joan Atkins

BEATING BEKESBOURNE'S BOUNDS

Further to last month's announcement that the ancient custom of beating the bounds (or some of them) of Bekesbourne Parish is to be revived on Rogation Sunday, Brian Skinner, for the *Friends of Bekesbourne Church*, has provided more details, which regrettably cannot be given in full this month through lack of space. Watch next month's *On The Nail* for some interesting facts about the walk.

To whet your appetite, you might like to know that the proposed route is a little over three miles long and will visit the ruined Well Chapel, Gassington (in case you're wondering we'll fill you in on that next month). Our path also includes Howletts Wild Animal Park and we aim to end at the Unicorn public house around lunchtime.

Intending bounds beaters should assemble outside the Village Hall at 10.45am on 21st May, ready to make a start at 11.00am.

THE LAMBS

by Sam Barnard

On Sunday 12th March the children of Junior Church and their parents went to see the lambs at Courtlands Farm. The sheepdog soon played with Jack and Christopher. We saw the sheep with their new born lambs. Before we left we saw a new lamb was born. A happy ending to a happy morning.

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 AW 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 Ringers 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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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN MAY

- 7th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Family Service with Baptism (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 14th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
11.00am Matins (*Patricbourne*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 21st** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)(*Revd J Shorrock*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bekesbourne*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)
- 28th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricbourne*)
11.00am Family Service (*Bekesbourne*)
6.30pm Evensong [ASB version] (*Bridge*)

4th June: PENTECOST

- 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Family Eucharist (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Festal Evensong (*Bridge*)

Junior Church meets in Bridge Methodist Church, Patricbourne Road from 9.15 to 10.15am 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: *7th*, Mr Ron Chadwick, MA, DMS *14th*, Holy Communion, The Revd Mary R Teed *21st*, Chapel Anniversary, The Revd Stuart Ward *28th*, Mrs Susan Sigfrid

Weekdays The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesday mornings (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am, except 19th and 26th. Holy Communion takes place 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 support is always most welcome.

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 1st ***St. Philip and St. James, Apostles***
Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne Annual Parish Meeting, Bekesbourne Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 2nd ***St. Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, Teacher of the Faith, 373***
- 4th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 7th **Third Sunday after Easter**
- 8th ***Julian of Norwich, Mystic, c1417***
- 10th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am
- 11th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 14th **Fourth Sunday after Easter**
Christian Aid Week begins.
Nailbourne Horticultural Society outing to Hertfordshire
- 15th ***St. Matthias the Apostle***
- 16th Archdeacon's Visitation, The Cathedral Quire, 7.30pm
Churchwardens, Sidesmen and PCC members are required to attend in order to be formally admitted to office and hear the Archdeacon's charge to the parishes.
Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 18th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, 7pm
- 19th ***St. Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, 988***
- 20th Fish Scheme Fund-raising Coffee Morning, Bridge Village Hall
- 21st **Fifth Sunday after Easter: Rogation Sunday**
There won't be a morning service at Bekesbourne in view of the Rogation Beating the Bounds, beginning at the Village Hall, 11.00am. As a result, Evensong will be at Bekesbourne instead of Bridge.
- 24th ***John and Charles Wesley, Priests, Poets, Teachers of the Faith, 1791, 1788***
- 25th **Ascension Day**
The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 7.30pm in St. Peter's Church, Bridge.
Hospital League of Friends Wine & Wisdom Evening, Bridge Village Hall
- 26th ***St. Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury, 605***
Pray for the Deanery Clergy who meet in Chapter this morning at Barham.
- 29th **Sunday after Ascension Day**
- 31st ***Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth***

FROM THE VICAR

At every Sunday service the congregation says one of two Creeds: at Matins or Evensong it's the Apostles' Creed, at the Eucharist the Nicene Creed.

The difference between them is largely one of detail, the Nicene being an elaborate version of the Apostles', and each is a concise statement of Christian belief beginning either 'I believe' or 'We believe'. So in reciting the creed each member of the

congregation declares the orthodoxy of his or her beliefs, in effect asserting 'this I believe' or 'I am a member of this company and this we believe.'

But how far do we actually believe? I suspect for many people it's tantamount to picking and choosing: we'll happily go along with most of it though not all. It's not that we purposely decide what we want to accept and what reject, as if there was a choice, but facing up to the fact that certain clauses in the Creeds test our beliefs more than others.

It may trouble us if we can't accept everything contained in the Creeds because reciting them, and in church too, makes us feel dishonest. We're mouthing sentiments we can't entirely agree with and doing so in the course of worshipping God. As we reason it, joining in public worship about which we have one or two reservations must be to some degree an offence against God and thus sinful.

It's not only with Creeds that Christians are prone to uneasy doubts. Other areas of faith and practice also present us with problems that we'd rather not have but which won't go away. But then are we always expected to be totally doubt free? That would be asking too much. In fact, there's always room for doubt in areas of belief, particularly the right kind of doubt; i.e. doubt that springs from an inquiring mind rather than a truculent refusal to conform under any circumstances.

On this issue there's a reassuring text in the Gospel for Ascension Day, which is the closing few verses of St. Matthew's Gospel. Jesus and the disciples are together for the last time and he has a parting message for them, explaining what they are to do after he has returned to the Father. Their orders are to 'make disciples of all nations; baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you.' He adds the heartening promise, 'know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Here Jesus explains the future Church's *raison d'être*, the purpose of its mission, but in his introduction St. Matthew records that when on this occasion the disciples saw Jesus they fell down before him, and he adds the significant phrase, 'though some doubted.' It doesn't say the doubters were ostracized or discarded, nor that they had no worthwhile contribution to make to the Church. I like to think it was a hurdle they were enabled to cross and that their doubts were acceptable and paradoxically strengthened their faith and commitment to the Lord. I also like to think their doubts make our doubts all right, provided they are reluctant doubts and not a self-willed refusal to believe.

The doubts we have may not easily go away, but the Lord understands our predicament and doesn't view those doubts as an irremovable obstacle between himself and us, undermining both his love for us and also the blessings that come our way via his death, resurrection and ascension, and the subsequent gift of the Holy Spirit. In every area of life God is on our side. Are we on his?

JOYS AND SORROWS

Holy Baptism

On 9th April at Bridge:

Rachael-Louise Stonard, 8 Mill Terrace

Aimce Stonard, 8 Mill Terrace
Mark David Anderson, 13 Filmer Road
On 9th April at Bekesbourne:

Matthew Gater, 1 Station Cottage
On Easter morning at Bridge:

James Peter Alexander Walker, The Cottage, Bridge Hill
Thomas Joseph Briant, 11 Filmer Road

Holy Matrimony

At Bekesbourne:

Michael Sam & Anna Rachel Thomas, 25th March
Gary Canning & Nicola Gillanders, 22nd April

Funeral

On 28th March at Barham Crematorium

Mary Jane Austin, 19 Churchill House

AN EASTER TO REMEMBER

The new pattern for observing Good Friday this year proved to be both popular and moving, and thankfully we had perfect weather for the pilgrimage along the Way of the Cross from Bridge to Bekesbourne via Patrixbourne.

About 50 pilgrims comprising people from all three villages took part. After a brief beginning in Bridge Church the walk set off along the High Street, following a rough wooden cross carried by Matthew Brodie. There was a pause at the bakery for the blessing of a tray of hot cross buns, marking the link between the cross on the buns and the cross of Jesus. We had a second pause at the corner of Western Avenue for the singing of 'There is a green hill far away' and a prayer, after which we went along Conyngham Lane, over the fields to Bifrons and then along Patrixbourne Street to St. Mary's Church, Junior Church children peeling off for a session on their own at Riverside Cottage.

At St. Mary's the cross was placed on the altar and Handley Stevens conducted a devotional service around the agony in the garden of Gethesmane and arrest of Jesus. Then the cross led us along Old Palace Road, picking up the children en route, to St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne for a final devotion centred around the death of Jesus.

It was good to see some less than able-bodied walkers amongst the pilgrims, with a good mix of young and not so young.

A special word of thanks and appreciation to Bridge Scouts who acted as highly efficient marshalls all the way. You did a great job, lads, and were a credit to yourselves and the scout movement generally.

This is certain to become a regular Good Friday event, so if you missed it this year you will have a chance to join in next.

* * *

Kathy Walder writes: The second Grand Nailbourne Scouts Duck Race was held on the

Saturday of Easter weekend. Hundreds of bright yellow plastic ducks were launched into the Nailbourne at the ford in Brewery Lane and floated merrily, helped if they got stuck, by a few hardy Scouts, to the Recreation Ground, where a large crowd welcomed home the winner. The £100 first prize was won by Mr McManus, who lives at Deal.

The race raised over £600 towards Scout Group funds. Many thanks to all who supported the race and to all those who helped in the organisation of the event.

* * *

Easter morning worship in all three churches was very well attended, especially at Bridge where eventually it was standing room only. Each church had been beautifully and skilfully decorated for the festival. At Bridge the Easter Candle was ceremoniously lit, after the choir had sung a spirited Easter carol. There were two baptisms and during the Peace the children of Junior Church handed out homemade flowers to the congregation. After the service they had an Easter egg hunt in the churchyard.

FUND-RAISING THANKS

The Children's Society

Thank you to all who made it possible for £100, proceeds of the Coffee Morning, plus £391.86 from the house-to-house collection in Bridge, to be raised for The Children's Society during their Jester Appeal period.

Kathy Eynon

Nailbourne League of Friends

A big thank you to everyone who supported our Coffee Morning. £185 was raised to aid our local hospitals.

On Thursday, 25th May we shall be having a Wine and Wisdom evening in Bridge Village Hall. For time and tickets please phone Elizabeth Stewart, 830344.

Rosy Green

ON THE NAIL NOTICEBOARD

Bridge with Patribourne Women's Institute

The annual resolutions will be discussed at the May meeting, followed by a Beetle Drive. Visitors will be made very welcome in the Village Hall on Tuesday, 16th at 7.30pm. Enquiries please ring 830400.

J.H.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

OUTING on 14th May to three small gardens in Hertfordshire, departing Bishopsbourne 8.00am and picking up in Bridge. For details and booking please contact Mrs E Cartwright, 831095.

M.J. Holmes, Secretary

Neighbourhood Watch - Bridge

Canterbury Police figures for crime in this area in March are as follows:

Burglary from dwellings	2	
Burglary other than dwellings	1	
Theft of vehicle	1	
Crimes not listed	1	
TOTAL	5	<i>continued on p.13</i>

These show a considerable improvement over February and bring total crimes for this first quarter to 24.

Edgar Smith, Co-ordinator

* * *

Just a reminder of the fund-raising day at 18 Conyngham Lane on Thursday, 1st June. Look out for the posters that will be around!

M.E.J.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 1995

by Wendy Durrell

Rwanda, Burundi, Somalia and many other countries become household names (if only briefly) through our TV screens. *Christian Aid* is at work in all countries where major disasters demand a prompt answer to the day-to-day problems of survival, but *Christian Aid* never forgets that it was founded on a commitment to help the world's poorest people, especially by helping them to help themselves.

Christian Aid calls each year for volunteers to support this commitment. Volunteer collectors will be giving everyone in our villages the chance to take part by giving as generously as possible in the red envelopes which they will deliver and collect between 14th and 20th May. The poor of the world await our response.

From Norman Francis, Parish Covenants Officer

Since I last wrote in *On The Nail* much has been made of the financial problems of the Church Commissioners and the effect these problems will have on the local parishes.

The Diocese of Canterbury has already taken steps to ask parishes for greater contributions to their own ministry costs and we know that all those living in our villages will rise to the challenge to ensure that our churches and our vicar are there for when we want them, be it for baptism, wedding or funeral, or regular Sunday worship.

The best and easiest way of helping is by joining our Planned Giving Scheme, which operates mainly in two ways: 1. Agreeing to give the same amount every week by using an envelope provided and date stamped, whether we attend church or not. 2. For those who are taxpayers, covenanting to do the same thing. The principal advantage to the church is the regular income, with the amount being a secondary consideration. Like everyone else, though, we would hope for a realistic contribution. Even £1 a week covenanted by taxpayers puts £69 a year into church funds.

Already nearly 100 of our parishioners and supporters, both living inside and out of the parish, contribute regularly through the scheme but we are asking for more help. We believe that there are some people living in the villages who, without the commitment of attending church on Sunday, would want to be a part of the church life, to support and maintain the local ministry and the fabric of our churches, and we invite them to join the scheme. We ask those, too, who are already in the scheme to reconsider their contributions at this time. A Covenant can be amended at any time during its four-year life.

- Please contact Norman Francis (830945) to
- find out more.
 - Join our Planned Giving Scheme.
 - Increase your Covenant.

Thank you in anticipation.

ERIN'S GONE MOBILE

After 13 years at 88 High Street, Bridge Erin Swain has closed her salon - 'A CUT ABOVE' - and has taken to the road as a mobile hairdresser.

She is sad to be leaving of course, but hopes that clients and friends, past and present, will feel happy to continue with her in her new enterprise. Prospective new clients are also welcome. The numbers to call are 711545 (home) or 0860 148522 (mobile). Needless to say, Erin's high standards and commitment remain the same, and along with Sylvie she thanks all those whose loyalty and good humour over the years has been much appreciated.

PARISH OF BRIDGE ANNUAL MEETING

At the Annual Parish Meeting on 30th March the Chairman, Cllr John Hill, reviewed the Parish Council's work over the previous twelve months. He first paid tribute to the late John Hodgson and extended the sympathy of the meeting to his family.

Summarising the work of the various sub-committees of the Council, he noted that many problems such as difficulties over street cleaning, parked vehicles, theft and vandalism continued to occur. He asked that residents help control the latter by reporting incidents which they have witnessed to the police.

Planning matters which had been considered during the year included the designation of the Nailbourne (Bifrons Park) Conservation Area and the extension of the Bridge Conservation Area. Cllr Hill regretted that the City Council had not seen fit to exclude the blighted land between the Recreation Ground and the A2 by-pass. The Parish Council would make representations on the matter. Residential applications had also been considered and the City Council had served one enforcement order in respect of a property in Beech Hill. Responsibility for grass-cutting and for street lighting maintenance had been awarded to different companies in the coming year and it was hoped that standards would improve. Proposed deepening of the Nailbourne river bed had been put off until the water disappeared.

Reminding parishioners that the councillors would be standing down in May on completion of their four-year term, he hoped that there would be sufficient nominations for the new Parish Council to ensure a poll. Thanking councillors for their hard work and commitment over the last four years, he gave special mention to Mrs B Anderson and Mrs A King, who would not be standing for re-election.

* * *

A wide range of local groups gave brief summaries of their activities over the past year including Bridge and Patricbourne CE Primary School PFA, Bridge Playgroup, Mother

and Toddler Group, Nailbourne Scout Group, Bridge and Patricxbourne WI, Horticultural Society and Royal British Legion. Details were given of the inaugural meeting of Bridge History Society, which will take place on Thursday, 27th April at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall and to which everyone is welcome.

* * *

A discussion on street lighting in the village was introduced by Cllr Gulvin. The Parish Council sought the views of the meeting on the possible changes to the present schedules of lighting, in particular to the possibility of all-night lighting and an increase in the number of lighting columns. Points raised included the improvement in security and reduction in crime, the undesirability of increasing pollution from lighting, the costs of any changes and the possible constraints imposed by Conservation Area restrictions. The matter was referred back to the Parish Council.

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL - April Meeting

VOTE, VOTE, VOTE ... for your Parish Councillors. The April meeting was the last in the life of the present Council. Cllr John Hill, Chairman, thanked members for their work over the previous four years, mentioning especially Ann King and Billie Anderson, who would not be standing for re-election. The Council was glad to see fourteen nominations for the poll on Thursday, 4th May in the Village Hall and hoped there would be a good response from the local electors. The candidates for election are Meriel Connor, Ranjit Dhaliwal, Reg Franklin, Mervyn Gulvin, Alan Hague, John Hill, Margaret Jones, Sue Leggatt, Joan Monk, Emily Shirley, Jim Tamsitt, Stephen Varley, Tony Walder and David Wilding.

MOTORWAY MAYHEM?? Resurfacing on the Bridge-Thannington section of the A2 is due to begin on 23rd April. The work, costing approximately £2.2 million, is expected to last approximately eight weeks and will involve reconstruction of the worn-out road surface as well as some drainage and bridge repairs. Contra-flows, with lane closure on both carriageways, will operate and motorists are warned to expect delays.

VE-DAY CELEBRATIONS Chris Maclean, on behalf of the Nailbourne Scout Group, put proposals to the Council for a VE-day commemoration on 8th May involving residents and local groups. The events would be linked to the official opening of the Scouts' new Centre in Mill Lane. The council was unanimous in supporting the idea and agreed a grant of £600 towards the cost of the day.

READY FOR SPRING Work has been completed on steps at the bridge in Church Meadow and clearance work and numbering undertaken on other paths. A further agreement under the Parish Paths Partnership with Kent County Council has been signed and the scheme will run till at least 1988.

FISH NEWS

The coach for the **BLOSSOM TOUR** on Wednesday, 10th May, will leave from Green Court, Bridge. Please be there at 1.45pm.

Please remember the annual **FUND-RAISING COFFEE MORNING** in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday, 20th May. Cakes, plants, bric-a-brac, in fact anything you think might sell would be very welcome.

The next **COFFEE POP-IN** in Bridge Village Hall will be on Wednesday, 10th May from 10.15 to 11.45am.

There will be a **CHIROPODY CLINIC** from Monday 22nd to Friday 26th May.

BEKESBOURNE CHURCH Cleaning and Flower Rota

6th, Rosie Mount 13th, Cheryl Baker & Mrs McPherson 20th, Rosie Mount 27th, Pam Farbrace

BEATING BEKESBOURNE'S BOUNDS

Actually on 21st May we shall only 'beat' a fraction of the parish boundary, Bekesbourne being quite extensive, but having joined Brian Skinner and David Millyard on a preliminary walk of the route I can promise you a truly delightful, not to say interesting morning out and about, with, if you've a mind, a pleasant lunch afterwards in the Unicorn.

Of particular interest on the walk, as mentioned last month, are the Well Chapel, Garrington and Howletts, about which the following may interest you.

The Well Chapel is believed to be pre-13th century and was built alongside a manor house that has long since disappeared. It is reported as having been a ruin prior to the 17th century. Its whereabouts not widely known, the chapel retains an element of sanctity despite having long since ceased to be used and will be an obvious point at which to stop for a brief prayer - doubtless the first prayers to have been offered there in centuries.

Howletts is known far and wide as a wild animal park, where the owner John Aspinall's contribution to wild animal conservation is renowned throughout the globe. Our route takes us via a public footpath that traverses part of the zoo and has been well preserved by Mr Aspinall. From it we shall be able to see a few of the big cats and the elephants - it passes right by their enclosure.

This use of Howletts, of course, is very recent! Historically the manor was designed and built by John Leach on or about 1787, for a gentleman of some local standing called Isaac Baugh. It possesses certain architectural features, including the large Ionic portico and a large central top-lit staircase in a square well beyond a screen of two Tuscan columns, all hidden from the public gaze except for the portico. As with most manor houses of this era location was of prime importance, hence its commanding position on the side of the gentle Nailbourne valley.

A reminder that those taking part should assemble outside Bekesbourne Village Hall on Rogation Sunday, 21st May at 10.45am for an 11 o'clock start. As already mentioned families with a dog are more than welcome to bring it along, but you must bring a lead, as it will be essential for even the best behaved dog on certain parts of the route. Let's hope we get a fine day to ensure a really enjoyable Rogationtide celebration of prayer and enjoyment of natural beauty in the open air.

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 MF Leggatt, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830251)

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 AW 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 Ringers 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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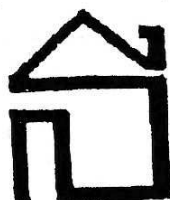
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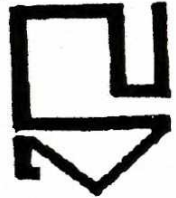
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Associate Member of
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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN JUNE

- 4th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Family Eucharist (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Address: Canon J Packer*)
- 11th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)(*Preacher: Mr H Stevens*)
11.00am Matins (*Patricxbourne*)
3.00pm Holy Baptism (*Bekesbourne*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 18th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
11.00am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)
- 25th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricxbourne*)
11.00am Family Service (*Bekesbourne*)
6.30pm Address & Compline (*Bridge*)(*Canon J Packer*)

2nd July

- 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricxbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Family Service (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)

Junior Church meets in Bridge Methodist Church, Patricxbourne Road from 9.15 to 10.15am 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*, Mrs Beryl P Skinner, RGN, NDN *11th*, Holy Communion, The Revd Albert Ball *18th*, Miss Cathryn M Spiller, MA *25th*, Dr S John Rogers

Weekdays The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesday mornings (*BCP*) at 9.30am, except 28th, and Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am, except 16th and 30th. Holy Communion takes place 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 support is always most welcome.

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 1st *St. Justin, Martyr at Rome, c165*
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 4th **Pentecost (Whitsunday)**
Pentecost being a major Christian festival, often called the Church's birthday, the Family Service at Bridge will be a Eucharist. At Evensong Canon John Packer will introduce the series of fourth Sunday addresses beginning at 6.30pm on 25th. See Vicar's article below for further information.
- 5th *St. Boniface, Bishop, Martyr, 754*
- 8th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 9th *St. Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary, 597*
Pray for the life and work of the present-day ecumenical Iona Community.
- 11th **Trinity Sunday**
- 12th *St. Barnabas the Apostle*
- 14th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am
Pray for the members of Bekesbourne PCC who meet this evening at 7.45.
- 15th *Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of the Holy Communion*, also known as *Corpus Christi*. To mark the occasion the Holy Communion will be celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge at 7.30pm.
- 17th **THE VILLAGE FETE**
- 18th **Second Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 1**
- 22nd *St. Alban, first Martyr of Britain, c209*
Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Bridge Methodist Church, 7.30pm
- 23rd Pray for the members of Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC who meet this evening at 7.30pm.
- 24th ***Birth of St. John the Baptist***
Deanery Confirmation Service in St. John the Baptist's Church, Barham at 7pm. Pray for the following from our benefice who are being confirmed at this service: Pauline Pritchard, Joan Atkins, Marie Bridger, Helen O'Brien, Emma Flisher, Hannah Green, Alice Barnard and Simon Dunderdale.
- 25th **Third Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 2**
Address at 6.30pm in Bridge Church given by Canon Packer on The Pastoral Epistles, to be followed by the late evening service of Compline.
- 28th *St. Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, Martyr, c200*
- 29th **St. Peter the Apostle, Patron Saint of Bridge and Bekesbourne**

FROM THE VICAR

Strange as it may seem the Bible is still the world's best-selling book, though whether it's

the best-*read* is another matter! I imagine most homes possess at least one copy, and the chances are they've had it a long time, it's of sentimental value, was given as a present and is in the old Authorized Version. Families with young children are likely to have a more recent version, bought for school use.

Despite all this the Bible remains largely unread, though it's the proud boast of some challenge-seekers that they have read the Bible from cover to cover. That's quite an achievement but I don't recommend it if you want to understanding the scriptures: in any case the Bible's not a novel and, although bound in one volume, isn't just one book but many.

But even for a serious Bible reader there are certain books we're unfamiliar with because we rarely notice them, and some are never read in church. A selection of these are to be given an airing during Sunday evening addresses on fourth Sundays at Bridge.

Just in case you're wondering what's become of Peter's Praise that previously occupied this slot and which Martin Leggatt, aided by our young people, has skilfully produced over many months, let me explain. Some of us, Martin among them, came to the reluctant conclusion that it has served its purpose and should finish. But before we consign it to posterity, from all of us, very many thanks Martin! You put a tremendous amount of thought and effort into Peter's Praise, every one of which, without exception, was imaginatively and painstakingly devised and has been a major inspiration to the worship of Bridge Church.

Beginning this month, and following on the success of Wednesday evenings in Lent, Canon Packer, our 'resident' Bible scholar and stimulating teacher, will provide us with what is sure to be a tantalising insight into the lesser known books of the Bible, starting with what are called The Pastoral Epistles from the New Testament. As in Lent the evening will end with Compline, an ancient form of service with which to round off the day.

To set the scene, Canon Packer will introduce this new venture in the sermon slot at Choral Evensong on 4th June, so if you want to know what's on offer come to that service on Whitsunday at 6.30pm and all will be explained.

Charging for Entry to the Cathedral Precincts

As you know, we shall be introducing this charge on 5th June 1995. The reason quite simply is that, in spite of increasing economies made in recent years, including some redundancies, we are faced with a growing annual deficit of £½ million, which in a few years would lead to financial catastrophe.

I am writing this letter to make it quite clear that those who regularly attend the churches of our Diocese will not be charged for entry to the Precincts. Anyone who is a member of your congregation and who wishes to have a Free Pass should simply make application and one will be issued.

John Simpson, Dean

Vicar: I have been given some application forms and anyone interested is welcome to call at the vicarage and pick one up any day but Monday. Even if you're not a churchgoer it's

likely you are eligible for a Free Precincts Pass because one of the criteria is living within 4 miles of Bell Harry Tower, which residents of our three villages do.

Obituaries

Roy Hargeaves

The very sudden death of Roy Hargreaves came as a tremendous shock to his devoted family, and the chapel at Barham crematorium was very full for his funeral on 1st May.

Roy was in the Wholesale and Retail Newspaper trade for 50 years and followed Eric Hawkins in running the Bridge newsagent shop until ill health caused him to retire. He continued to help his successor and was even up at 4am to do so on the day he died.

Roy's wife Jan is well-known in Bridge for her pies at the butcher's. Sons Tim and Adrian both gave a brief appreciation at the funeral.

Audrey Perry

All who knew the wife of the previous vicar, Canon Colin Perry, will be sorry to hear that she died on 11th May. A funeral service was held at Barham Crematorium on Friday, 19th May.

When she became a widow, Mrs Perry (always called 'Micky' by her husband because, so she said, he didn't like the name 'Audrey') moved to St. Radigund's and was often to be seen around the city centre. We offer our sympathy to her family in their sad loss.

VE Day commemorated at the Mill Centre

Thanks to inspiration and perspiration on the part of Chris Maclean, Bridge's Assistant Scout Leader and landlord of the Plough & Harrow, the fiftieth anniversary of VE Day was duly marked in Bridge, neatly dovetailed in with the official opening of the Mill Centre, Mill Lane as the local Scouts' and Guides' HQ.

A broad spectrum of Bridge residents assembled in the specially decked out building on 8th May and after the opening ceremony observed the two minutes silence, heard the Royal British Legion's local president, Doug Cartwright speak the well-known words of Lawrence Binyan and sang the National Anthem. There followed a pleasant social evening with a barn dance and general opportunity to chat over a drink. Commemorative mugs were on sale, and Chris Maclean still has some left if you have £2 to spare.

On behalf of the Bridge & District Branch of the RBL the Secretary, Jim Stripe writes: *We were very proud to be associated with the Scouts and Guides of Bridge in the opening of the new Mill Centre on VE Day. The combination of youth and age in the various ceremonies made it a memorable occasion, and a fitting celebration of this anniversary. A time of remembrance should also be a time for looking forward and we wish the Scouts and Guides well with their new venture.*

The Methodist Church, Bridge

Following the death of Pat Grant a meeting was held at the Chapel to discuss the future. Two volunteers from the Methodist Church at Canterbury have taken on key roles in the

Church. Mr Alec Shelley has assumed the office of Property Steward and the Treasurer is now Mrs Kathleen Higginson. Cheques, still made payable to 'Bridge Methodist Church', should be sent to the Revd. Mary Teed, who will pass them on accordingly. All other queries either through Mrs Mabel Harrison as the Secretary or to the Revd. Mary Teed please.

During the meeting there was a pleasing atmosphere of mutual encouragement and co-operation. It was noted that there are many activities for the village now using our premises and that was to be encouraged, as it was felt that we have a distinctive role to play within our community. We are delighted that people find the atmosphere warm and friendly and hope this will continue to be so as we serve the village. *Mary Teed*

Dragons in Bekesbourne Church

by Pat Kusel

Yes, it's true! Thankfully they were not real but came along to help tell the story of St. George. The occasion was the recent Family Service held on St. George's Day and led by Mr Handley Stevens. By the end of the service we also had a soldier who had been dressed by helpful members of the congregation in his Christian armour; sandals of peace, sword of the Spirit, etc.

What will happen next? Come and join us at the next Family Service on 25th June at 11.00am. If there is anyone - young or old - who would like to take part in the services or help organize them then please contact either me (830272) or Romany Cowans (831029).

Delhi Brotherhood Society

We have just received the latest report on Ashu, the boy whom Patricxbourne with Bridge Parish is supporting through his school. He has done well in his half yearly examination and passed in all subjects - Hindi, English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. He is ranked third in his class.

On a routine medical check-up there was concern that he may have been suffering from TB. However, after antibiotic and anti-inflammatory drug treatments the follow up cleared him of possible TB. *K Nicholson*

The Unicorn, Bekesbourne
is holding a
BEER FESTIVAL

on
Friday & Saturday, 23rd/24th June
Real Ales, Live Music, Barbeque
Further details on 830210

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

The June meeting is on Thursday, 22nd at 7.30pm in Bridge Methodist Church. The speaker is Mrs P Davidson on *Understanding your Show Schedule*. Tea and biscuits served! Visitors very welcome!
J Holmes, Secretary

The Children's Society

A grateful thank-you to the thirty-one house box holders who raised a total of £375.13, mainly in small change, over the past year. The pence become pounds and help fund the society's efforts to get youngsters at risk off 'the streets' and into shelter where protection and advice is available for them.

Should anyone else like to have a box, which is emptied once a year (unless full before then!) please contact me on 830466.
Kathy Eynon

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CRIME REPORT: April

Bridge

Burglary from Dwellings	0
Burglary other than Dwellings	1
Theft	3
Theft from Vehicles	0
Criminal Damage	4
Crimes not listed	2
TOTAL	10

As we are now approaching the holiday season may I please ask all householders to advise their neighbours that they will be away, and if possible leave a key with either them or your street Linksman, who should also be advised.

Edgar Smith, Co-ordinator

Bekesbourne

Burglary from Dwellings	2
Burglary other than Dwellings	3
Theft	1
Theft from Vehicle	1
Theft of Vehicle	1
Theft of Cycle	1
TOTAL	9

Patricxbourne

Burglary from Dwelling	1
Burglary other than Dwelling	3
TOTAL	4

Anyone who is going on holiday this year, make sure you do not put your home address on baggage labels on the outward journey. These can be spotted at airports, etc and you

could find on return a burglary has occurred. Remember to contact your link person if you are going on holiday, to check your house daily when away.

Malcolm Howell, Co-ordinator

Bridge Parish Council

NEW FACES: Following their recent election, the nine members of Bridge Parish Council met for the first time on Thursday, 11th May. Elected to serve for a four-year term were Meriel Connor, Ranjit Dhaliwal, Reg Franklin, Mervyn Gulvin, John Hill, Margaret Jones, Joan Monk, Emily Shirley and Tony Walder. Mervyn Gulvin was elected Chairman and Meriel Connor Vice-Chairman.

MEMORIES ARE MADE OF THIS: Chris Maclean attended the meeting to report on the successful launch of the new Mill Centre, when VE-Day was also commemorated. Over one hundred children were entertained at a party in the afternoon and given very attractive, specially produced, commemorative mugs. In the evening between three and four hundred people went along to see the Scouts and Guides parade and observe the two-minute silence, before enjoying a barn dance. Mr. Maclean and his colleagues were thanked by the Council for all the hard work involved in organizing a memorable event.

BRICKS AND MORTAR: Amongst the planning items which the meeting considered was an application by Lesley Coates to open a new pharmacy to serve the village and surrounding area of Wingham. Councillors were happy to support the proposal, on condition that it would not affect the facilities presently available through the Bridge Pharmacy. Other planning applications included internal and external alterations to Greenways. Beech Hill; the reduction to a single-storey dwelling of an earlier proposal for land adjacent to Greenways, renewal of windows and other alterations at 37 High Street and renewal of outline planning permission for a two bedroomed dwelling on land at the rear of Kent House, High Street. Permission has been granted for alterations to Skipper's Restaurant in the High Street.

BRIDGE IN BLOOM: The annual Hanging Basket and Flowering Tub competition will take place again this year, with Margaret Jones co-ordinating the various entries and judging. Forms will be available at the beginning of June from the offices of Gulvin & Marsh or from Mrs Jones. Householders are reminded that entries in the *private house* class should be their own composition!

YELLOW PERIL: Following complaints of cars and delivery lorries being parked in the bus bays, Kent County Council will be marking the areas out in bright yellow - just like the double yellow lines - to show that cars shouldn't be there! It causes real difficulties to both bus drivers and passengers if the buses have to stop in the middle of the road because of a car driver's unwillingness to walk a few yards.

ON YER BIKE: There will be an opportunity to leave cars at home and cycle at 11.00am on 10th June, when a three-mile bike ride from Bridge through the orchards to Canterbury will take place as part of National Bike Week.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Thursday, 8th June at 7.30pm.

Margaret Church, Clerk

FISH NEWS

Very many thanks to everyone who helped to make the annual fund-raising coffee morning a success.

Please continue to look out spare knitting wool and either bring it to the Pop-In or telephone Rosy Green on 830204.

The next Coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday, 14th June in Bridge Village Hall from 10.15 to 11.45am. All are welcome - regardless of age or condition!

A.R.

Bekesbourne Church: Cleaning & Flower Rota

3rd, Jill Gillanders 10th, Mrs Watson 17th & 24th, Zan Clifford

See you at
BRIDGE VILLAGE FETE
on
Saturday, 17th June 1995
12 noon - 3.30pm
usual attractions, including
Crockery Smashing and other Side Shows
Steel & Youth Bands
Country Dancing
Face Painting
Craft & Bottle Stalls
Lunches & Afternoon Teas
not forgetting
the ever popular
GRAND PRIZE DRAW

Royal Appointment

Hot off the presses comes news of the appointment of a true son of Bridge to a distinguished position in the royal household.

Lieutenant Commander Toby Williamson RN, second son of Ailsa and John and a former Bridge choirboy and server, has landed the prestigious post of equerry to HM the Queen. His work is closely involved in the Queen's engagements and he will accompany her on her travels at home and overseas. The post also brings with it an apartment in St. James's Palace and goodness knows what additional recognition. Our heartiest congratulations, Toby, on this great honour and forgive us back home if we bask a little in your reflected glory. We shall watch your progress with keen and proud interest.

A Tale told in Old Jerusalem

Samir and his wife, Samira, lived in a small village some miles from Jerusalem, and were proud parents of eight healthy, lively children.

During the day the couple worked on their small plot of land while the children played outside and cared for the cow and the four goats. But at night, what a problem they had, with the floor covered with mats, pillows and quilts, and 10 people trying to sleep in one room. No one slept well, the crying baby disturbed them all, someone snored and another had a nightmare, and by morning the air in the room was so stale everyone had a headache.

The parents were at their wits' end, as they could not afford to build another room, so they went to ask advice from the wise village elder. He thought for a while and then said, "Bring the cow into your house at night, too."

Samir and Samira were shocked, why add to their troubles? But the elder would say nothing more, and having asked his advice they felt bound to follow it. That night and for six nights, the cow joined the family at bedtime, adding its own noise and smell, and forcing the people to move their sleeping mats even closer together.

A week later the couple went back to the elder. "Our lives are unbearable, what can we do?" they asked. After careful thought the elder said, "Bring the four goats in your house at night too." In spite of their protests he would say no more, and that night the obedient man and wife tried to sleep with their eight children, one cow and four goats in their small room. The goats were even more trouble than the cow, and the children were packed so tightly in their part of the room they could only turn over by turns.

The despairing couple returned to the elder, who thought for a moment then said, "Let the cow sleep outside at night." What a relief! That night they spread the mats a little and enjoyed a little more space and fresh air. The following week when they went to the elder he advised, "Let the goats sleep outside at night." A wonderful improvement took place, the mats could be spread out comfortably, the room was quiet and the air was fresh. Everyone slept well and woke refreshed.

Samir and Samira took a gift of their best olive oil to the elder with their thanks for his wise advice.

From the Bible Lands Society Magazine 'The Star in the East'

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 MF Leggatt, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830251)

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 AW 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 Ringers 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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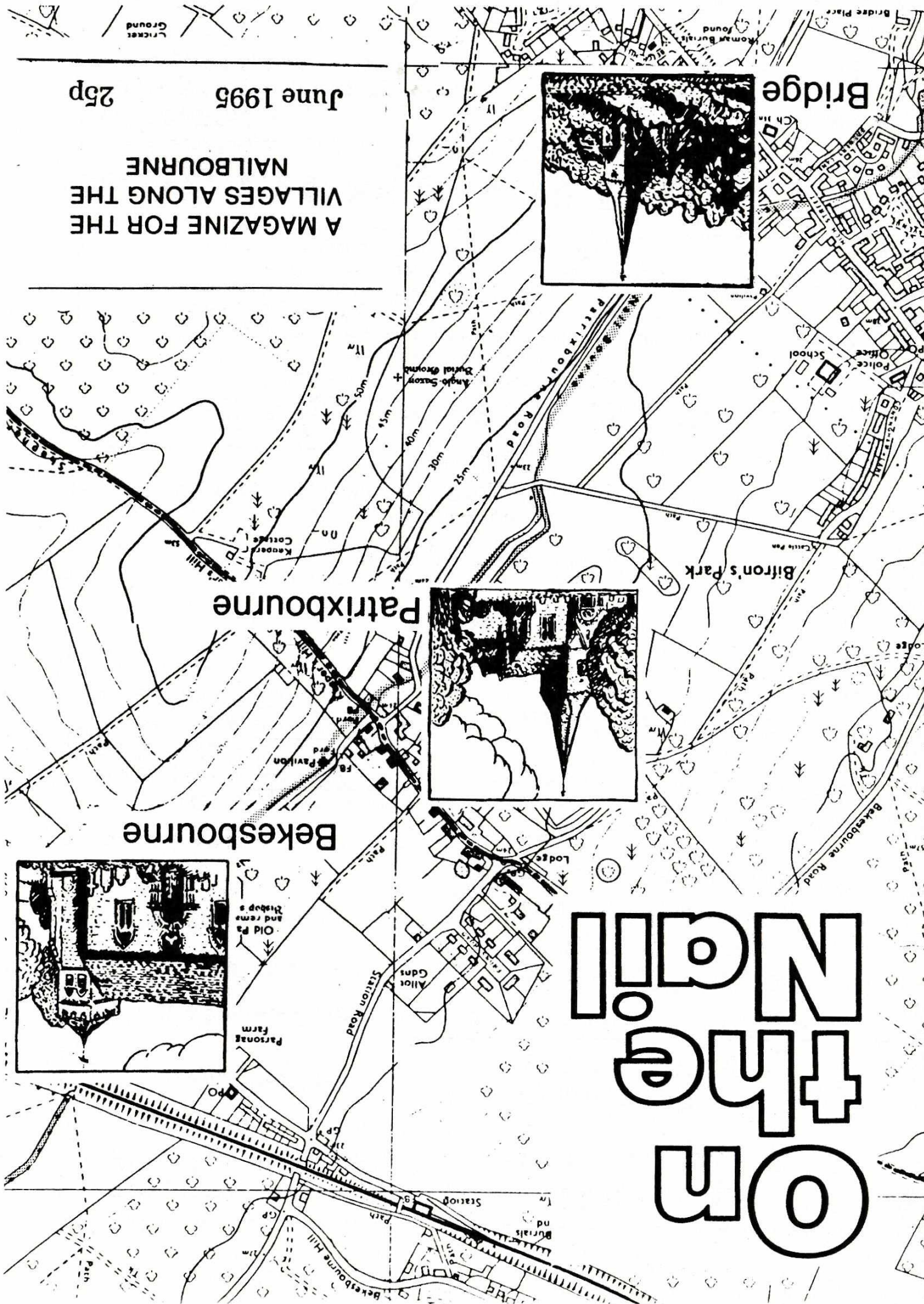
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A MAGAZINE FOR THE
VILLAGES ALONG THE
NAILBOURNE

25p

June 1995



On
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Patrixbourne

Bokesbourne

Bilton's Park

Parson's Farm

Allot Gdns

Lodge

PA Pavilion

Kepper Cottages

Anglo-Saxon Burial Ground

School

Police

Police

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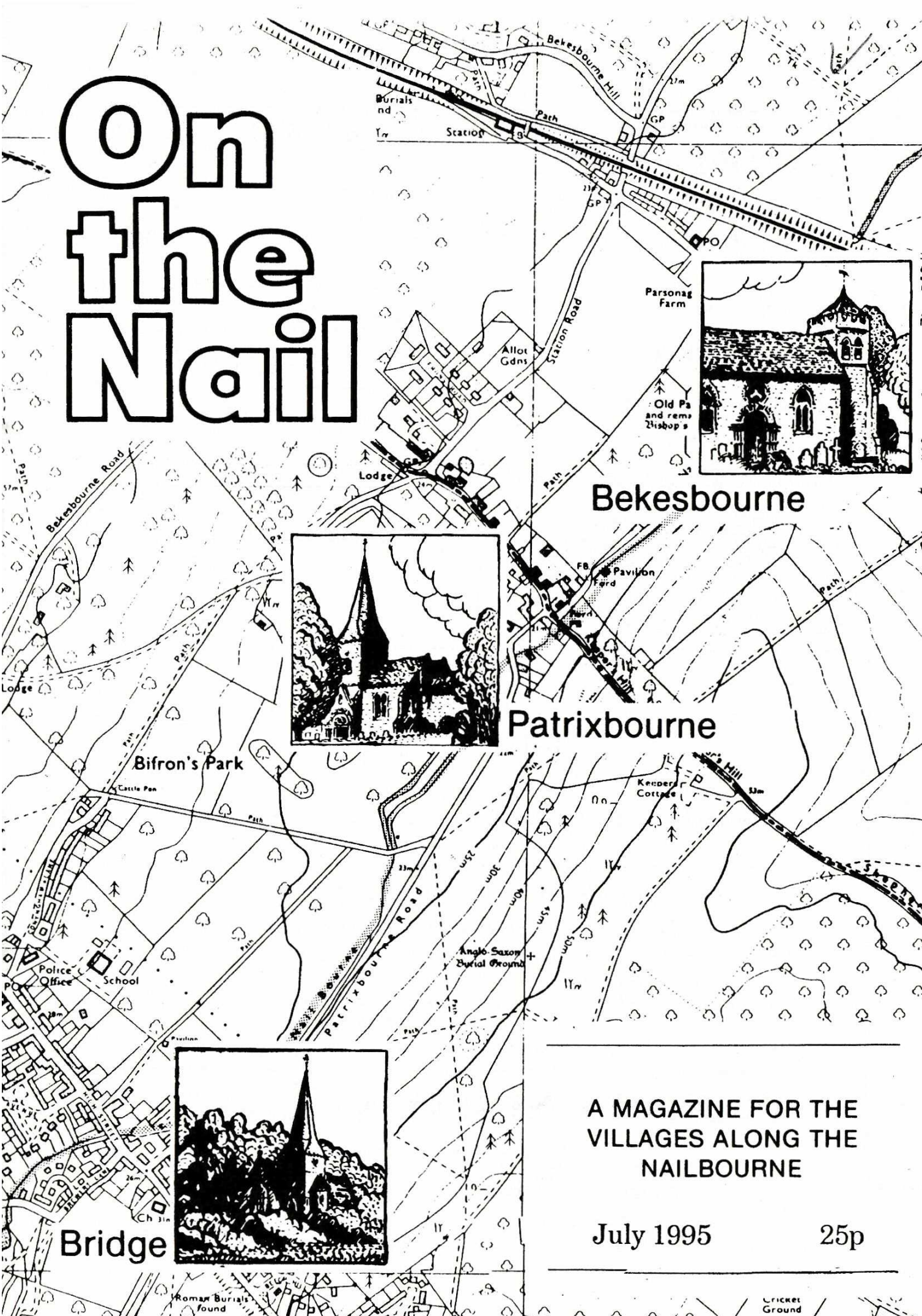
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On the Nail



Bevesbourne



Patricxbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

July 1995

25p

Cricket Ground

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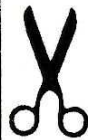
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T.A.H.A. ~ REFLEXOLOGY

Associate Member of
Association of Reflexologists

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9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Family Service (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 9th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)(*Revd J Shorrocks*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)(*Revd J Shorrocks*)
11.00am Matins (*Patricbourne*)(*Revd Eric Alder*)
6.30pm *No Service this evening*
- 16th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
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6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)
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- 30th** 10.30am Benefice Eucharist (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bekesbourne*)

6th August

- 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Family Service & Baptism (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)

Junior Church meets in Bridge Methodist Church, Patricbourne Road from 9.15 to 10.15am 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). Junior Church breaks up for the holidays on 16th July.

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *2nd*, Mr Michael Baybutt, BSc, DMS, C.Eng *9th*, Holy Communion, The Revd Mary R Teed *16th*, Dr Eileen AH Tresidder, BA *23rd*, Miss Joan Charlesworth, MA *30th*, The Revd Mary R Teed

Weekdays The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesday mornings (*BCP*) at 9.30am, except 5th and 12th, and Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am,

except 7th. A brief, informal service is held at The New Close on Wednesdays at 2.30pm. Though specifically for the residents, outside support is always most welcome.

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 1st Friends of Bekesbourne Church Boot Fair, Parsonage Farm
- 2nd **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 3**
- 3rd ***St. Thomas the Apostle***
- 6th ***St. Thomas More, Martyr, 1535***
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, 7 Windmill Close, 7pm
- 8th Bekesbourne Churchyard working party, 10am
- 9th **Fifth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 4**
Junior Church will be visiting the Rare Breeds Centre at Woodchurch today and are offering an open invitation to join them. If you are interested ring either 830823 or 830726.
- 11th ***St. Benedict, Abbot of Monte Cassino, c550***
- 12th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am
- 13th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 15th Pray for Elizabeth Hollister and Nicholas Gall, to be married at noon today in St. Mary's Church, Patrixbourne.
- 16th **Sixth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 5**
- 18th Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.00pm
- 20th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 21st 7.30pm, Deanery Service at Nonington, in connection with the Bishops' Walk through the diocese. *More information over the page.*
- 22nd ***St. Mary Magdalen***
Pray for Elizabeth Redfern and Andrew Gladin, to be married this afternoon by the Rector of Barham in St. Peter's Church, Bridge.
- 23rd **Seventh Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 6**
- 25th ***St. James the Apostle***
- 26th ***St. Anne, Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary***
- 29th Pray for Rachel Callas and Christopher Cutter, to be married this afternoon in St. Mary's Church, Patrixbourne.
Nailbourne Horticultural Society Show, Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne, 2.30pm
- 30th **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 7**
Being a fifth Sunday there is only one service this morning in the benefice of Patrixbourne with Bridge and Bekesbourne, a Benefice Eucharist in St. Peter's Church, Bridge at 10.30am. Evensong at 6.30pm will be at Bekesbourne.

FROM THE VICAR

Living with sin

The recent Church of England Board for Social Responsibility report, *Something to*

Celebrate, has brought the word 'sin' into prominence by suggesting the Church changes its attitude towards couples who live together outside wedlock. The commission that produced the report wants such people no longer to be branded as 'living in sin'. Heated arguments within the Church, both for and against, rage on!

In a way this issue begs the question of what sin really is. In common parlance the word is used frivolously, when we can't resist something we know is bad for us, like Belgian chocolates or cream cakes. We also use it of a mischievous child or a person with a wicked sense of humour. But though used light-heartedly here, in the area of religion, where the word originates, there's nothing flippant about sin and we certainly shouldn't adopt a nonchalant attitude towards it.

Where society treats it more seriously, sin is equated with wrongdoing or immorality. So we say it's a sin to tell a lie, to deceive, to steal or to violate someone's property or person. Sin is quite simply misbehaving, and no laughing matter!

In its original religious setting a sin is an offence against God - a word or deed or thought that misses the mark (what the Greek word the Bible translates 'sin' literally means) and so drives a wedge between ourselves and God, marring the good, loving bond that ought ideally to exist between us. It may be that the effect of our sins is to cause hurt to other people, and no doubt also to ourselves, but at bottom a sin is anything that destroys or diminishes the intimate relationship that God wants us always to enjoy with him. It was to counter sin that Jesus died and rose again, for although we are the sinners it takes God, who has the wherewithal and the loving concern for mankind, through Jesus, to save us from sin's devastating consequences. For which *Deo gracias!*

Bishops on the march

The Bishop of Dover certainly likes a good walk, as witness his trudge through the Channel Tunnel on that memorable occasion. However, not many thought of his brother bishop, Gavin Reid of Maidstone, sharing his enthusiasm. That is, not until the two of them decided to travel throughout the diocese on foot.

The trek starts at St. Michael's Church, Harbledown on the morning of Thursday, 13th July and ends at St. Stephen's Church, Canterbury a fortnight later. In the course of it they visit every Deanery and join in a Deanery act of worship, where one of them will speak.

They arrive in this Deanery on Friday, 21st July and will be with us until early Saturday morning. The service will take place at Nonington on the Friday evening at 7.30 and everyone is warmly invited. Do come and give the bishops a good East Bridge Deanery welcome.

GRATEFUL THANKS

Woolton Farm Garden Opening

The Friends of Bekesbourne Church are most grateful to Lady Mount for kindly opening her lovely garden to raise money for Bekesbourne Church on the Saturday of the Spring Bank Holiday weekend, as also to the large number of visitors who took advantage of the

opportunity and stayed for tea or purchased from the plant stall and tombola. As a result of the day £570 was raised for the church and a pleasant time was had by all.

Bridge Village Fête

This year's fête will go down as the coldest and wettest since we've had a combined church and school event. The adverse weather certainly took its toll in that whereas people usually spend a lot of time (and money) conditions were such that people came, looked round, spent and went. It was such a shame, especially for those who had worked so hard to give us all a good time. Despite all this, the takings reached the quite amazing total of £3200, for which we are extremely grateful. Thank-you everyone who once again supported this popular annual village occasion. The next fête is on 22nd June, 1996!

Christian Aid

£434.90 was collected for Christian Aid in the three villages, even though we were desperately short of collectors. If there is anyone who would be willing to collect from just a few houses next time please call me now on 830003.

Thank you to all who gave time or money, from all the people in the world who will benefit from your generosity.

Wendy Durell

Royal College of Radiologists Appeal Fund for the Detection and Treatment of Cancer

I am grateful for all the help and support you gave me on my fund-raising day. Together we have raised £577.50.

M.E.J.

HOLY BAPTISM was administered to **MATTHEW THOMAS BARKER**, 2 Chalkpit Cottages, Adisham Road, in St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne on 11th June.

IN MEMORIAM The death on 28th May of the Reverend **CECIL BEAUMONT VERITY** brought to an end a very long and active life of dedicated service within the ministry of the Church, during which he travelled widely. Mr Verity, who was ordained way back in 1926, served as a Church Missionary Society missionary in Rwanda, then as an RAF chaplain before becoming Vicar of Barton Stacey. He and his late wife Nancy eventually retired to Conyngham Lane, Bridge during which time Mr Verity was always pleased to take services for me if asked. Until comparatively recently he continued to serve as a chaplain at the cathedral, specially enjoying guiding French parties around.

A much travelled man, he visited the Caribbaean for the first time this year and just a few years ago returned to Rwanda to assess the changes in fifty years. When his wife was alive they spent every summer at their cottage in the Dordogne, only in recent years resorting to Motorail rather than doing the long drive through France.

Mr Verity was held in great affection in Bridge, his upright figure and cheerful manner adhering to many more people than he actually knew. A lesson in Christian witness for all of us!

A funeral at Patricxbourne on 7th June was followed by cremation at Barham.

LOST BUT FOUND A black wooden crucifix was handed in to the vicarage, having been found in Union Road. I can confirm it didn't come from the church but obviously have no idea how it could have got lost. It's not intrinsically valuable but if you know anything about it do call at the vicarage.

Kentish Gazette: Village News

John Williamson, Bridge Village Correspondent, writes:

I wish to bring to everyone's notice that as the *Kentish Gazette* publishes now on a Thursday, it is essential that any copy is sent or delivered to my house by 11am on the previous **Sunday**. The paper is not printed in Canterbury but in Maidstone, so copy for printing is sorted on the Monday.

St. Peter's Churchyard, Bekesbourne

It is proposed to have a working party in the churchyard on 8th July at 10.00am. Any willing helpers, who can spare a couple of hours, will be gladly welcomed. If you can bring shears, sickles, strimmers, it would be super, but mainly bring yourselves.

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Nailbourne Scout Group

For those ecologically minded with green wheelie bins newspapers can still be put in the paper bank, next to the bottle banks in the Town Hill lay-by.

The Scout Group - beavers, cubs and scouts - benefit financially from this collection point and would like to thank all who use this facility. Please put your waste cardboard in the green wheelie bin and newspapers in the paper bank.

Kate Rathmill, Secretary Scouts Executive Committee.

1st BRIDGE BROWNIES

WE NEED HELP! - CAN YOU HELP! Our Brownie Pack urgently need assistance to run their unit. The Brownies meet on Friday evenings at the Methodist Church from 5.30 till 7.00pm. Their Brown Owl is taking maternity leave shortly and I would hate to see the pack close through lack of help, as all the girls are keen, enthusiastic to learn new skills and to have plenty of fun doing them. Brownies are aged 7 - 10 years.

We can train you as you go along, you don't have to wear uniform, you can be a unit helper. We have an excellent young leader with the pack who would be only too willing to help you.

ANY HELP YOU CAN GIVE WOULD BE VERY WELCOME. If you feel you could help in any way and are aged between 18 and 55 please ring me on 450605 (evenings). Thank you!

Wendy Dyer, District Commissioner

ON THE NAIL NOTICEBOARD

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

The WI meets this month at the earlier time of 7.00pm, on Tuesday 18th July in the garden of 'St. Benets', Beech Hill, Bridge by kind permission of Mrs Leaver. *J.H.*

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

The annual summer show is a little earlier this year, so remember Saturday, 29th July, as usual at the Conrad Hall, Bishopsbourne. Open to the public at 2.30pm. There will be teas served in the garden (weather being good, we hope!) Schedules for members wishing to show are available at Bridge Post Office or from Mrs B. Anderson in Dering Road.

Please don't be shy of showing. There is something for everyone, and we are all hoping for a good show.

Billie Anderson, Show Secretary

KENT COUNTY CONSTABULARY

6 AREA CANTERBURY

The Police suggested to Bridge Parish Council that they would like to attend an open meeting in the village to launch a new scheme to recruit Parish Constables and to discuss other topics connected with the reduction of the crime rate in the area, the meeting to be open to all Bridge residents, with a special invitation to the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators, who are already doing a great job.

The meeting has now been arranged and is in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30pm on **TUESDAY, 11th JULY.**

Cllr R S Dhaliwal

CRIME FIGURES for MAY

Bridge

The only crime reported in Bridge during May was one of unspecified criminal damage. This means the crimes total for the previous four months was 35.

Everyone in the village is to be congratulated on this decrease in crime for May. This very welcome reduction has been achieved with the joint efforts and co-operation of the Police and local inhabitants.

Let's all strive to maintain a crime-free village by being vigilant at all times and by making a rapid 999 call if any suspicions are aroused.

Edgar Smith, Co-ordinator

Bekesbourne

Burglary from Dwelling	1
Theft from Vehicle	1
Theft of Vehicle	1
TOTAL	3
[Total in 1995	12]

Patruxbourne

Burglary from Dwelling	2
[Total in 1995	6]

A 10% discount card for all security purchases from *Do It All* can be obtained from your co-ordinator for all NWS members. Contact me on 830892 should you require one.

During the past two months seven arrests by the Police have been made. This was based on good information given by Bekesbourne NWS to the Police.

I would like to say that burglaries are increasing during the day and at night-time. Antiques are a prime target. Be very careful when answering the door to strangers. They only take a second to view items of any value. Remember to contact your link person or myself if you are going away on holiday. We can keep a watchful eye on your property during this period.

M. Howells, Co-ordinator

SPONSORED BIKE RIDE

A date for your diary! This year The Friends of Kent Churches' Sponsored Bike Ride will be on 9th September. So - cyclists and walkers - book the day right now and keep it free!

For those who haven't taken part before, I can honestly say that it is a good day out. The idea is to visit, by bike or on foot, as many churches as you can, to get your 'kind friends' to sponsor you for each church visited, at so much per church. You plan your own route (to include as few uphill stretches as possible!!) and preferably include a good lunch stop - pub or otherwise, according to taste. The target for the number of churches visited in one day is 45. Care to challenge it? Of the money you raise half goes to the Friends of Kent Churches and the other half to the church you ride for.

Sponsorship forms are available from Hilary Pike, 12 High Street, Bridge (830708) or at the school.

H.P.

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL - JUNE MEETING

BRIDGE IN BLOOM The annual hanging basket and flowering tub competition will be judged during the month of July. Prizes will be awarded in two sections - one for private houses and one for commercial premises. Entrants are advised to water and dead head regularly - who knows when the judges will call!

TELETALK Councillors were unhappy at proposals for telecommunications posts to serve the A2 area south of the village towards Dover and Lydden but felt that simple pole masts along the line of the A2 would be the least intrusive of the schemes suggested by Canterbury City Council.

THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME Other planning applications considered this month included the erection of a pergola and fence at the White Horse Inn, relocation of the satellite dish at Bridgeway Stores, provision of floodlighting on the newly completed tennis court for Bridge Tennis Club and the demolition of a lean-to shed at 1 Brewery Lane. Canterbury City Council is to undertake essential repairs at renovation work at 45 High Street.

MARKING TIME As problems with the village clock continue, the Parish Council will be asking the repairer to come to the next council meeting to discuss possible solutions to the present difficulties.

LIGHTING UP Street lighting provision was discussed in depth and, following a vote, it was agreed to continue the present arrangements as it was felt that these suited the

majority of local residents. However, any special cases for change will be considered on their merits.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 13th July.

Margaret Church, Clerk

FISH NEWS

The Fish Scheme is here to help! If, for example, you have trouble getting to a hospital appointment, our volunteer drivers will help. But we are willing to help in other ways if we know what the need is. Telephone Ann Medhurst, 830762, to see what we can do - or if you could be a driver yourself.

Many thanks to everyone who helped to raise over £200 at the fund-raising coffee morning in May. We would particularly like to thank the village businesses who contributed raffle prizes.

The next Coffee Pop-In in Bridge Village Hall will be on Wednesday, 12th July at the usual times. A.R.

THE FRIENDS OF CANTERBURY CYRENIANS

by Mary Duke

Reserve the afternoon of Sunday, 30th July to come and eat a Cream Tea with freshly-made scones, for £1.50!

Come to Whitelocks Cottage in Kingston - the home of Alan and Grace Goodman - any time between 2.30 and 5pm. It's the last house on your left at the far end of The Street.

There will be a couple of stalls and raffle as the Friends continue to raise funds to support the work of Canterbury Cyrenians among single, homeless people. We do really hope you'll join us, but if you REALLY can't come, why not support us by sending something along beforehand? We'd love some homemade jam or cakes, plants for the Bring and Buy. Alan and Grace (831592) would be very pleased to receive anything, or alternatively things could be left in the front porch at Barham Rectory (831340).

We're building up stocks of BOOKS of all sorts for our Autumn Book Sale in Canterbury and would be most grateful to receive these. They can be left at Barham Rectory.

THE FRIENDS OF BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

BOOT FAIR

Parsonage Farm

1st July from 9.00am

***BENEFICE OF PATRIXBOURNE WITH
BRIDGE & BEKESBOURNE***

Join us at the next

BENEFICE

EUCCHARIST

St. Peter's Church, Bridge

Sunday, 30th July

10.30am

**BEKESBOURNE CHURCH
July Cleaning & Flower Rota**

1st, Lois Whigham

15th, Christine Ash

22nd, Joy Smith/Jane Shorrocks

29th, Pam Farbrace

Bekesbourne Church Restoration Committee, 1877

by David Millyard

At last September's church meeting in the Village Hall the chairman remarked that it was better attended than one held on similar lines about 120 years before. On that occasion only two people turned up and one of them was the vicar. The other was Septimus Sladden, who lived at Cobham Court. They had called the meeting by posting a notice on the church door - presumably the customary method. Prudently the two decided to adjourn the meeting for a few days. On the new date enough came along for them to be constituted the building committee, to plan for the restoration of the church.

The new committee passed four resolutions: first, to ask the Marquess of Conyngham to be chairman; secondly, that Joseph Clarke, the diocesan architect, be asked to draw up plans and estimates; thirdly, to ask Hammonds, the Canterbury bankers, to act as treasurer (they accepted and agreed to pay interest on deposits at 2½%); fourthly, that Stephen Jenner, the Curate, should be secretary.

It was this committee which was dissolved in 1881 when Sir George Cox was vicar.

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 MF Leggatt, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830251)

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 AW 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 Ringers 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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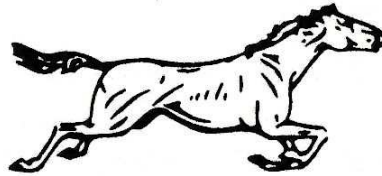


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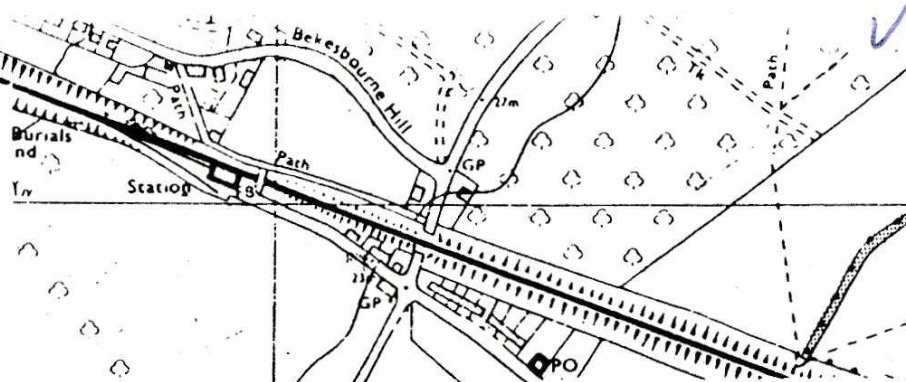
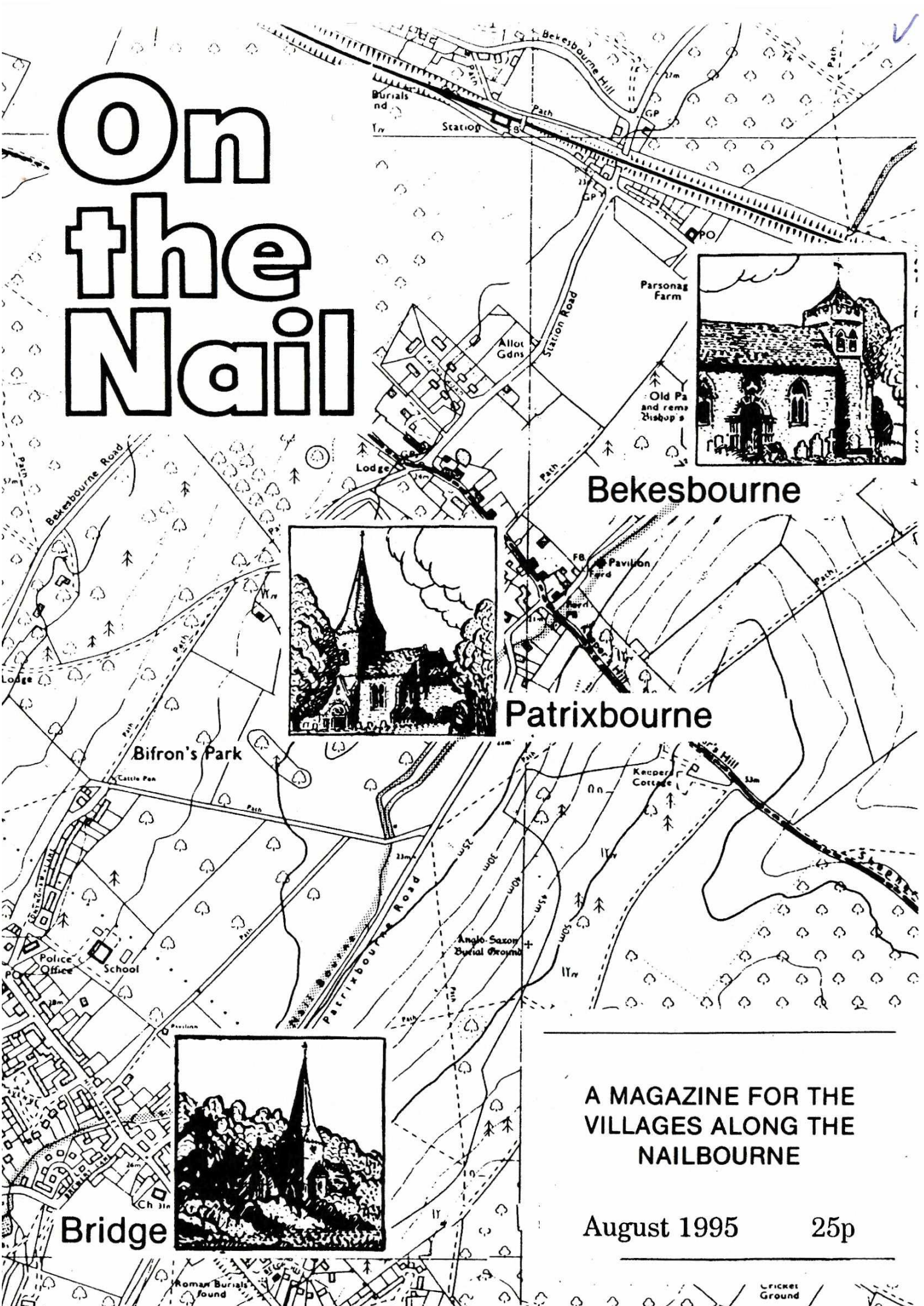
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On the Nail



Bekesbourne



Patricxbourne



Bridge

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25p

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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN AUGUST

- 6th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Family Service & Baptism (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 13th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
11.00am Matins (*Patricbourne*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)
- 20th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
11.00am VJ Day Commemoration Service (*Bekesbourne*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 27th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricbourne*)
11.00am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)
6.30pm Address & Compline (*Bridge*)(*Canon J Packer*)

3rd September

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13th, Mr F Jim Allen *20th*, Dr Doreen M Rosman *27th*, The Revd Michael J Walling

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FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 3rd Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
4th *St. Dominic, Priest, Friar, 1221*
5th *St. Oswald, King of Northumbria, 642*
Pray for Debbie Levermore and David Pay, to be married this afternoon at Bekesbourne.
6th ***Transfiguration of our Lord***
9th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am
10th *St. Laurence, Deacon, Martyr, 258*
11th *St. Clare of Assisi, Virgin, 1253*
12th Pray for Geraldine Knox and Neil Sullivan, to be married this afternoon at Bridge.
13th **Tenth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 9**
15th Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
17th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
20th **Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 10**
In place of Matins at Bekesbourne there will be a special Service of Commemoration at 11 o'clock marking the 50th anniversary of VJ Day.
24th ***St. Bartholomew the Apostle***
27th **Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 11**
The theme of Canon Packer's exploration of the lesser known books of the Bible this evening deals with the Old Testament book of Esther and its sequel, found in the apochrypha. The evening starts at 6.30 and concludes with the late evening service of Compline.
28th *St. Augustine of Hippo, Teacher, 430*
31st *St. Aidan, Lindisfarne, Missionary, 651*

FROM THE VICAR

The height of the British summer occasionally leads to quite zany behaviour in people who are normally of a sensible disposition. This seems particularly to affect people in responsible positions, notably politicians, and is, I suspect, largely due to its being the holiday period.

Those who give vent to such off-beat conduct will often excuse themselves by saying we're in the silly season when anything goes, as if to imply that because parliament is in the long recess and most local authorities are quietly left to tick over for the time being a little flippancy is permitted, provided, of course, it does no harm.

Well, all right! During the rest of the year the powers-that-be are obliged to take both themselves and their political responsibilities extremely seriously so we can surely allow them some leeway during the holiday period, especially when we ordinary mortals aren't doing anything very serious ourselves and feel like a spot of fun.

Of course those at the heart of national government can never stand down entirely, because just as the Queen is obliged to deal with her red state boxes every day of her life, so the officers of state can't evade their responsibilities totally. Like the head of state they may have to interrupt the family holiday to deal with some day-to-day matters, let alone any emergencies that may occur.

All right, so it's just too bad! If they choose a parliamentary career then they have to put up with the antisocial side of it; though even they might be allowed their light-hearted moments of respite, since - yes - it is the silly season.

* * *

August for most of us, I fancy, is a silly season; a month in which we like to take a break from the mundane, run-of-the-mill existence normally inflicted upon us. It's holiday time and we catch something of the general relaxed and easy-going atmosphere surrounding us, in a way that we don't at any other time of year. The clubs and associations that form our leisure activities and interests the rest of the year invariably close for the duration and we accept the fact with a good grace and look elsewhere for our recreation.

How does our church-going fit into this? The church is one body that doesn't close and although we may scale down the intensity of our normal service pattern the worship continues, for as the hymn says:

the voice of prayer is never silent,
nor dies the strain of praise away.

If you're going away this month, I'd like to suggest that in abandoning your normal home timetable you keep up your church attendance. If you're staying on these shores there should be no problem finding a church to go to on Sunday. It won't be exactly what you're used to here, it seldom is, but a change is no bad thing, and a fresh approach will broaden your outlook on the church at large and maybe add an extra dimension to your church-going when you return. If you do go to church while you're away make yourselves known and pass on greetings from the home congregation to the folk there.

I'd like to encourage those going abroad to take the opportunity to share the worship of other denominations and traditions, and even if there is a language problem it's interesting how you know where you are in such as the Catholic Mass because of the actions.

Wherever you go, have a really good holiday and come back completely refreshed and revitalized, ready to take up your customary pattern of life once the silly season is over for another year.

HOME CHURCH CHANGES FOR AUGUST

As usual Junior Church won't be meeting during the holiday but the regular pattern of Sunday services throughout the benefice of Patricbourne with Bridge and Bekesbourne will continue, with the following exceptions.

On Sunday, 20th at Bekesbourne at 11am, instead of Matins there will be a special service as part of the weekend's commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of VJ Day.

On Sunday, 27th there will not be a Family Service at Bekesbourne but 11am Matins, as of old. That evening at 6.30 in St. Peter's, Bridge Canon Packer will continue in characteristic fashion to whet our appetites for some of the less familiar parts of Holy Scripture, when he explores the book of Esther and its sequel. The evening will again conclude with the late evening service of Compline.

* * *

TO BE OR NOT TO BE? That was the question posed by the Vicar at the June Family Service in St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne.

What was he referring to? Not Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, but membership of the Christian Church. A very apt subject as it followed hard on the Confirmation Service held the preceding evening at Barham. Some of those new members confirmed from these three churches came along, with their families, and made a valuable contribution to the occasion.

The musical talents of the congregation were put to the test by lively and modern hymns but they rose to the challenge with aplomb and set about performing them with enthusiasm and gusto. (*Vicar: Next time we'll have a run through beforehand, so that things go with even more of a swing!*)

This certainly was a Family Service in every way and the relaxed, informal atmosphere created a feeling of welcome and belonging to a wider family, that of the Church. Come and join us in future! You don't know what you're missing! *Pat Kusel*

JOYS AND SORROWS

Joined in Christian Marriage

St. Mary's Church, Patricbourne was the venue for the wedding on 15th July of ELIZABETH HOLLISTER of 6 St. Mary's Road, and NICHOLAS GALL from Bickley. The church was exquisitely decorated and the very accomplished organist and choir of Bromley Parish Church, of which Nick's mother is a member, provided led the singing.

The Bridge wedding of ELIZABETH REDFERN, 82 High Street and ANDREW GLADIN from Northants on 22nd July was conducted by the Rector of Barham, the Revd Alan Duke, a friend of the bride's family, assisted by the Vicar.

The late Gladys Ann Price

Mrs Price died on 28th June, aged 90 years, and was cremated at Barham on 6th July, the Revd John Shorrocks standing in for the Vicar, who was on holiday at the time. She was caringly nursed by her husband Bernard at their home, 7 Bridgeford Way, until shortly before she died at The New Close.

Gladys Price was born at Petham and lived in this area all her life. During the war she kept *Ann's Pantry* which served as a great meeting place for the troops. She will be greatly missed by her husband, family and friends.

BEKESBOURNE CHURCHYARD

Churchwarden Tony Fullaway says

Thank-you to those stalwarts who turned up on the dot with tools and slogged away for a couple of hours on the morning of 8th July in spite of it being an exceptionally hot day. A lot was done and the churchyard looks all the better for your efforts. Once again - thanks!

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

In June several members were welcomed by Michael Blee, son of a former Bridge police sergeant, when visiting his farm at Upchurch. Farm walks and PYO were enjoyed, also a delicious ploughman's lunch, ending with a visit to a well-stocked farm shop, which included a great variety of cheeses.

The next meeting is in Bridge Village Hall on Tuesday, 15th August at 7.30pm, when the Bridge president, Beryl Heap will relate her *Travels Coast to Coast in the USA*.

J.H.

The 125th Anniversary Year of the British Red Cross

The recent collection in Bridge was £279.47. The Canterbury Branch of the BRC was very grateful to everyone for their help and support, especially as there are so many demands throughout the year for fund raising. Thank you so much. *Mary D Evans*

FRIENDS OF BEKESBOURNE CHURCH NEWS

The highly successful BOOT FAIR, organized by the Friends of Bekesbourne Church, took place on 1st July in the field next to Parsonage Farm, by courtesy of John and Christine Ash.

Fifty-five pitches were booked and the total money raised between 9.00am and 12 noon, including donations, came to the magnificent sum of £587.

Grateful thanks to all the willing helpers for their hard work and dedication, to *Nippers* who very kindly sponsored an advertisement in the local press, and from Bekesbourne PCC our warm appreciation to the FBC for this further indication of their enthusiasm for St. Peter's Church and its future.

The following comment came from one of the stallholders: 'Very well organized event! When are you going to do another?' Praise indeed!

BRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Bridge crime figures for June are as follows:

Burglary other than from dwellings	2
Theft from vehicles	1
Theft of Cycle	1
Criminal damage	2
Other crimes not listed	1
TOTAL	7

At a recent Parish Council open meeting, also attended by Neighbourhood

Watch Co-ordinators, the police discussed a proposed new scheme to recruit Parish Constables, and any interested volunteers, preferably between the ages of 25 and 40 years, were asked to contact the police for further information. However, anyone over the age of 18 can apply.

With the holiday season upon us, will anyone who is planning on being away from home, please make provision for a Neighbourhood Watch Link person to keep an eye on their property until they return.

Edgar Smith, Co-ordinator

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGISTS' APPEAL

by Dr Stuart Field, Consultant Radiologist

The Royal College of Radiologists' Appeal has been established to initiate further research in Clinical Radiology and Clinical Oncology.

Clinical Radiologists (Radiologists or X-ray doctors) spend most of their time diagnosing disease, much of it cancer, while Clinical Oncologists (previously known as radiotherapists) spend all of their time treating malignant diseases, using a combination of drugs and radiotherapy. Together they comprise the two Faculties of the Royal College of Radiologists.

The objective of the Appeal is to raise money for further research into improved methods of diagnosis and treatment. The appeal is administered by the College and will be publicly launched later in the year. Already money has been given to 'pump prime' several research proposals, thought suitable by its newly formed research committee.

Mrs Margaret Jones has kindly donated all the £600 raised during her recent fund raising day to the Royal College of Radiologists' Appeal. The College and its Fellows living in Bridge (Drs. Bodger, Coltart and Field) are extremely grateful to Margaret for her efforts and for the generosity of all those who contributed to a most successful day.

BRIDGE & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY

Following its inaugural meeting in April, the well-supported, successful and encouraging second meeting was held on 27th June. Guest speaker David Cousins of the Canterbury Library's Local Studies Collection spoke about the vast range of material available to researchers in both national and local collections. The next meeting is on 28th September. Projects currently include shops and schools. The Society welcomes photographs and memorabilia on any subject. All enquiries telephone (01227) 831044.

Bill Dawson, Hon Secretary

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Constable Scheme

Inspector Gerry Skinner and Area Officer Chris Longmire from Kent Police gave a brief presentation on the Parish Constable Scheme at a recent public meeting in the village.

While similar in many ways to the Special Constable Scheme, parish constables serve in their local area and the police are actively seeking recruits between the ages of 18 and 48.

Time standing still - still

Various proposals to solve the problems with the village clock were put to the meeting. Councillors decided they would like a second opinion and more information before coming to a decision on future repairs. The matter was deferred until the September meeting.

Traffic Problems

Heavy lorries travelling at speed are again using the High Street at peak times to gain access to the A2 to Dover. Following complaints from local residents, the Council will be writing to the police to ask for the lorries to be routed away from the village or to have their journey rescheduled to reduce the hazard to children walking to school.

Moving on

The Village Appraisal, compiled over six years ago, gave a picture of the village in the 1980s. Time moves on, and the Parish Council feels another survey would provide a valuable picture of the village in the 1990s as we move towards the millennium. Local residents volunteered to produce the last one - and volunteers interested in helping with this one are asked to contact Mervyn Gulvin at 92 High Street.

Partnership Plan

The Parish Council's Partnership Plan with Cantley Estates Ltd, was to be the subject of a special Parish Council meeting on Wednesday, 26th July in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall, which local residents were welcome to attend.

Planning

New applications considered this month included an extension to the rear of 16 Conyng-ham Lane and a return to private use of 47 High Street. Councillors objected to the proposal to renew planning consent for a 100 bed hotel on land on the A2 adjacent to Pond Cottages, and were pleased to hear that the City Council had refused consent for a service station and ancillary development on land on the A2 at Kingston.

Next Meeting

The Parish Council does not meet in August so the next monthly meeting will be on Thursday, 14th September at 7.30pm in the Hunter Room of the Village Hall.

Margaret Church, Clerk

FISH NEWS

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

Saxon Lodge kindly houses various pieces of useful equipment for the Fish Scheme, which we'd be delighted to lend out. These include a light-weight wheelchair, a

zimmer frame and rails to go round the toilet. Please telephone Saxon Lodge (831737) if you would like to book any of them!

A.R.

BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

August Cleaning and Flower Rota

5th, Mrs Rees

12th & 19th, Mrs Jenny Skinner

26th, Mrs Watson

BEKESBOURNE HISTORICAL SNIPPET

David Millyard fills us in on the interesting life and career of the Honourable and Reverend William Eden, a 19th century Vicar of Bekesbourne.

On the nave wall opposite the entrance door of St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne are two expensive looking stone tablets one above the other. The upper one commemorates the Honourable and Reverend William Eden and his wife; the lower one four of their children who died young.

The Edens were a family of considerable distinction in the late 18th/early 19th century. In particular two sons of Sir Robert Eden, third baronet, of West Auckland, County Durham, made names for themselves in diplomatic and government circles. The older, William, statesman and diplomat was born in 1744. He became member of Parliament from 1774 to 1793, held several senior government and diplomatic posts, and was made Baron Auckland. On his death in 1814 he was succeeded by his son George, 2nd Baron Auckland, a staunch Whig at the centre of the political scene, who was Governor General of India from 1835 to 1841 and was made Earl of Auckland in 1839.

The second son of Sir Robert Eden, Bart. was the Frederick Morton Eden of our memorial tablet. He was born in 1752 and like his brother was educated at Eton and Oxford. He became a diplomat representing his country in many European capital cities. He retired in 1799 on a pension of £2000 a year and was made Baron Henley of Chardstock. Other honours heaped upon him included Privy Councillor in 1794 and GCB in 1815. He married in 1783 Elizabeth, daughter of the Earl of Northington. He died in 1830 and was succeeded as Lord Henley by his oldest surviving son Robert, who was a chancery lawyer and married the daughter of the first Sir Robert Peel, mill owner and philanthropist and father of Sir Robert Peel, founder of the police and later Prime Minister.

William Eden was born on 9th November 1792 into this distinguished family. Like his father and uncle he was educated at Eton and Oxford and like so many younger sons of the aristocracy of his day was destined for a career in the church. In 1820 he married Anna Maria, the young widow of the 19th Baron Grey de Ruthyn, the same age

as himself, and in the same year was instituted as Vicar of Bekesbourne. Like the Revd John Toke his predecessor, he was also Rector of Harbledown. There he stayed for twenty-five years until in 1846 he resigned on appointment as Rector of Bishopsbourne (with Barham); which had always been a better-paid job! He also became a Six Preacher in Canterbury Cathedral and for a time was Rural Dean. He died in 1859 at the age of 66 and was buried back in Bekesbourne churchyard. His widow lived on until 1875 when she died aged 83. Their grave is marked in Bekesbourne churchyard by a massive stone cross, now becoming somewhat eroded by the weather, on the higher ground south east of the chancel.

So, what of Eden in his time at Bekesbourne? As a young man he was responsible for the construction, in 1822, of a new and larger gallery at the west end of the church, "for the purpose of providing more seating room therein". The contract with John Pilcher, the local carpenter, was in the sum of £21. In 1825 he and George Gipps of Howletts each gave £5 for a new "Altar Piece". Then too, it was in his time that the church tower was rebuilt in 1841.

Now here is another mystery! From 1820 to 1835 Eden took all the services at Bekesbourne, lived in Bekesbourne and employed a curate in Harbledown. But from 1836 onwards he moved to Harbledown and employed a curate in Bekesbourne, only coming back for the annual Vestry Meeting and to take some funerals. What, one wonders, caused this change in the Edens' lifestyle?

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Miss J Carpenter, 3 The Green, Patrixbourne

Hon Secretary Mr MF Leggatt, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830251)

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 AW 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 Ringers Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bekes'ne (830659)



On The Nail Advertising: Mr HPM Lawrence, 72 Bridge Down, Bridge (830472)

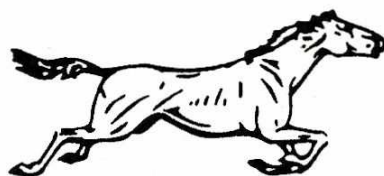
On The Nail Editor: The Vicar, who is responsible for unsigned articles.

Items for *On The Nail* should reach the editor by the 15th of the preceding month.

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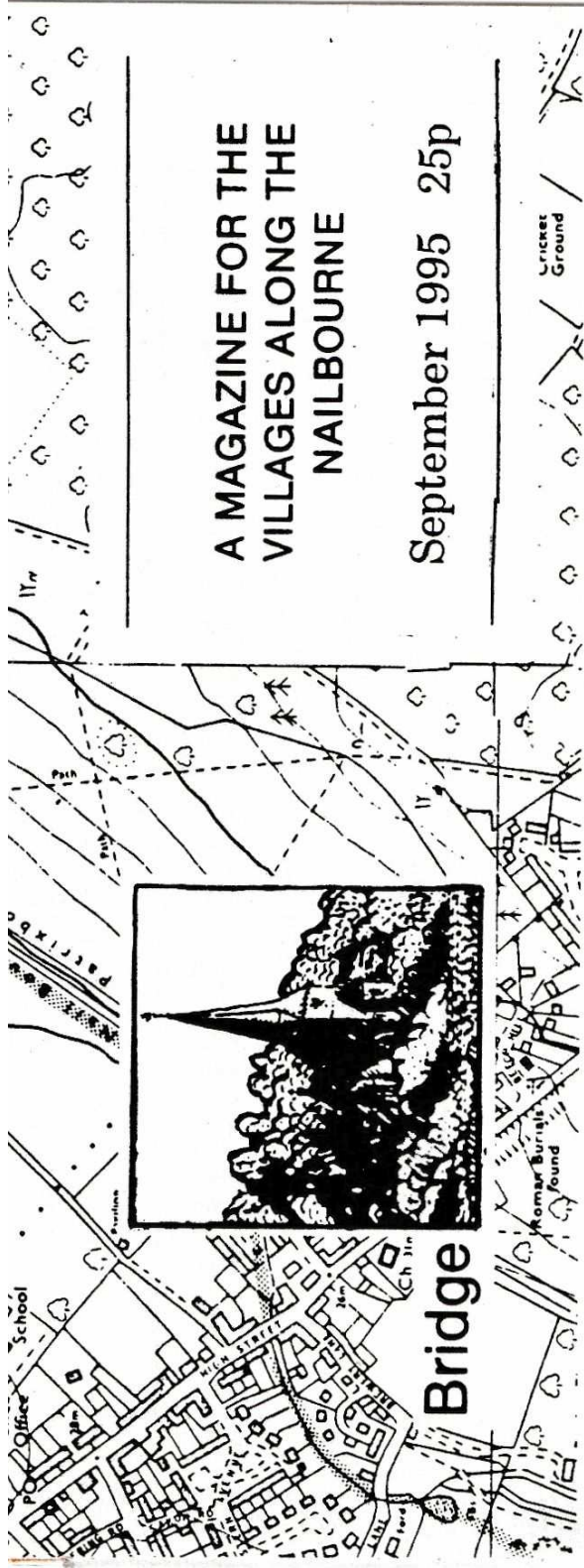
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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

- 3rd** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Family Service (Eucharist) & Baptism (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 10th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)(*Revd J Shorrocks*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)(*Revd J Shorrocks*)
11.00am Matins (*Patricbourne*)(*Canon John Packer*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Canon John Packer*)
- 17th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)(*Revd J Shorrocks*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)(*Revd J Shorrocks*)
11.00am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)
- 24th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricbourne*)
11.00am Harvest Family Service (*Bekesbourne*)
6.30pm Talk "Revelation" & Compline (*Bridge*)(*Canon J Packer*)
- 1st October**
8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Harvest Family Service (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Harvest Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Preacher:Mr Handley Stevens*)

Junior Church meets in Bridge Methodist Church, Patricbourne Road from 9.15 to 10.15am 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: *3rd*, Mr F Jim Allen *10th*, Harvest Festival, The Revd George Baugh *19th*, Miss Joan Charlesworth, MA *26th*, Holy Communion, The Revd Mary R Teed

Weekdays The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesday mornings (*BCP*) at 9.30am, except 13th and 20th, and Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am, except 8th, 15th and 22nd. A brief, informal service is held at The New Close on Wednesdays at 2.30pm. Though specifically for the residents, outside support is always most welcome.

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 3rd **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 12**
5th Saxon Lodge Coffee Morning, 10.15 - 11.30am
7th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
8th ***The Blessed Virgin Mary***
9th Pray for Rebecca Hollister and Roger Cordery who are to be married at St. Mary's, Patrixbourne at noon.
10th **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 13**
13th *St. Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, North Africa, Martyr, 258*
14th *Holy Cross Day*
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
16th Pray for Tim Howells and Marina Daniels who are to be married at St. Peter's Bekesbourne this afternoon.
17th **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 14**
19th Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
21st ***St. Matthew the Apostle***
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, 7pm
24th **Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 15**
Bekesbourne celebrates the Harvest Festival today at the 11am Family Service.
25th *Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, 1626*
27th Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough and Harrow, 8pm
29th ***St. Michael and All Angels***
Pray for the deanery clergy, who meet this lunchtime, also for Patrixbourne with Bridge PCC which meets this evening.
30th Women's Institute Jumble Sale, 10am, Bridge Village Hall

FROM THE VICAR

In the Book of Common Prayer there are number of services that even the most ardent supporters of the book probably never have and almost certainly never will experience. Among them is The Order for The Visitation of the Sick.

The neglect is more because of its off-putting aloofness than the archaic language, though both make it quite unhelpful in sick visiting. At such times a more relaxed, personal approach is called for.

The Prayer Book service begins 'when [the priest] cometh into the sick person's house', whereupon he must say, "Peace be to this house, and to all that dwell in it." The

story is told of a clergyman getting the reply, "You'll get no *** peace in *this* house!" Haughtily he pointed out that was *not* the correct response.

Rigid formality apart, there is everything to be said for greeting a person, sick or otherwise, with a prayer that peace shall be with them; indeed it's right and proper. The re-introduction of THE PEACE into the Eucharist (it's not as new as we think but actually very ancient) though embarrassingly unsettling to some people, brings an informal exchange of good wishes and affection into the proceedings, and even though a set form of words is provided the emphasis is on sincerity so we generally exchange it in whatever way seems right at the time.

There's peace and peace

Sharing the Peace in church or entering a sickroom with a greeting of peace, of course, has nothing to do with adopting peaceful intentions towards someone. Peace in this context is more than the absence of war or being still and quiet. It's the peace of God, which, the Blessing says, 'passes all understanding.' and it marks the ideal relationship between humanity and God. It's beyond comprehension in that it comes as a gift from God and leads to unity with him. This is the peace of heaven, of which we only have a tantalizing foretaste in this life, but by God's grace hope to enjoy completely in the next.

The peace which the former Yugoslavia finds so illusive and which we've just been celebrating fifty years on, accords with the will of God, though it's largely dependent on human effort and determination for its achievement. However, the peace that brings health to the sick and hope to all mankind is in God's hands and although he often uses people to convey it, all we can usefully do is turn to him in prayer for it, knowing he is always willing to give it.

Peace be to your house and all that dwell in it - and that's not a comment on its present harmonious state but the sincere prayer of your vicar for you and yours now and always.

FAMILY NEWS

Holy Baptism

Bridge's Family Service on 6th August was once more enriched by the administration of the sacrament of Baptism to CHARLOTTE BETH DOBSON, Dover Lodge, High Street and EVIE MAY PRITCHARD, 1 Pond Cottages, New Dover Road.

It's a moot point as to whether the family in a 'Family Service' means mum, dad and the kids, what sociologists like to call the nuclear family, or the family of the local Church. There's room for both, which makes a Family Service an ideal occasion for christenings, when a new member of an earthly family is made a member of the heavenly one.

Marriage

This summer's weather has proved a blessing where those getting married were concerned, the sun having shone on the weddings of CHRIS COTTER and RACHEL CALLAS at Patricxbourne on 29th July, of DAVID PAY and DEBBIE LEVERMORE at

Bekesbourne on 5th August and of NEIL SULLIVAN and GERALDINE KNOX at Bridge on 12th August. May God's richest blessings pour upon them in the years ahead.

In memoriam

The passing of Mrs GLADYS WILTSHIER at the age of 92 has taken from Bridge one who although not born in the village came to live here as a little girl, when her parents became Master and Matron respectively of the Close in Union Road. Mrs Wiltshier's interest and involvement in the Wiltshier family business was total, and she eventually was made Life President of the company. The vicar officiated at a cremation service at Barham on 2nd August.

Bridge friends and acquaintances were greatly shocked by the tragic news of the death in a plane crash of Wing Commander SYLVIA GIBSON, RAF, daughter of Mr and Mrs Stanley Gibson, New Georgian House, High Street. Sylvia and her husband were with married friends on a private flight when their aircraft came down within seconds of take-off and burst into flames. There were no survivors. We extend our deepest sympathy to the Gibson family in this appalling loss.

Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute

To mark WI promotions month members are asked to take a guest to the September meeting. On Tuesday, 19th September at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall, Mrs J Bexon will give a Marzipan Demonstration. The competition is a four line nursery rhyme, the winning verse to go to the group meeting in October.

There will be a Jumble Sale on Saturday, 30th September, also in the Village Hall, at 10.00am. Jumble may be left from 8 o'clock. J.H.

FRIENDS OF KENT CHURCHES

SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE - Saturday 9th September

The annual two-wheels fund-raiser is upon us once more and the organisers from our three villages are eager for you to contact them either as a cyclist or sponsor. To refresh the memory, the idea is for sponsored cyclists to visit (you don't have to spend time looking round if you don't want to, notching them up being the name of the game!) as many churches as possible during the course of Saturday 9th September. You go at your own pace and plan your own route, making sure to get your visit to every church validated by those manning them - they may even have a refreshing drink to send you on your way to the next port of call.

Of the money each rider raises half goes to the *Friends of Kent Churches* and the other half to whichever church the cyclist decides to ride for. The organisers for each of our three churches can give you full details, and they are:

Bekesbourne *Jill Gillanders, 830894*

Patrixbourne *Pauline Pritchard, 830685*

Hilary Pike Bridge, *830708*

COPY DATE

Contributors please deliver items for
October's *On The Nail* to
Laurence Dunderdale,
37 High Street, Bridge
(not the Vicar)
by 15th September.

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL ***THE VILLAGE IN BLOOM***

The results were:

Commercial Properties

- 1st* The Plough & Harrow
- 2nd* The White Horse Inn
- 3rd* The Red Lion
- 4th* Skippers Restaurant

Hanging Baskets

- 1st* Mr & Mrs Morgan, 52 Union Road
- 2nd* Mrs Thrift, 72 Riverside Close

Tub or Window Boxes

- 1st* Mrs Lewsey, 56 Western Avenue
- 2nd* Mrs Lanaway and Mrs O'Brien, Caldys,
Patricbourne Road

A special prize was awarded to Mrs M Boswell, 39 Mansfield Court for her hanging baskets and pot plants.

The judges, Mr Alec Smith and Mr Frank Tunnell, remarked that in spite of adverse weather conditions and fewer entries the standard this year was higher. They felt it would be nice if a few more people made the effort to participate in the competitions. It was probable that some tubs and baskets they had seen in the village may well have won if they had been entered.

AUTUMN FAYRE - ADVANCE WARNING!

This year's Autumn Fayre will be held on Saturday, 11th November, starting at 2pm in Bridge and Patricbourne School Hall.

Continued on p.13

In order to make it a success we need your help now! Please can you start putting aside for the Autumn Fayre jars of homemade jam, chutneys, marmalade for the Preserves Stall and get knitting and making for the Craft Stalls. If you cannot make jams, etc yourself then donations of sugar or jam jars can be used by others with fruit to make preserves for the stall.

We are also having a Jewelry Stall this year. Please sort out all your unwanted trinkets and beads - your redundant necklace may be some other lady's delight and joy when bought at our stall! Children can get thinking and collecting too. There will be a competition for the best decorated potato - so start collecting items for your potato now. We will need donations for the Bottle Stall and prizes for the Grand Raffle. We also need volunteers to help set up and man the stalls.

All offers of help or donations of goods can be made to Penny Spencer (830735), Ailsa Williamson (830399), Sheila Fenn (830284) or Andrea Nicholson (830947). Please help to make this year's event an even greater success than previously!

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEMES

Bridge

Crime figures for July for the village of Bridge are as follows:

Burglary other than Dwelling	2
Theft from Person	1
Theft from Vehicle	3
Theft of Cycle	1
Criminal Damage	2
TOTAL	9

Edgar Smith, Co-ordinator

Bekesbourne & Patrixbourne

Last month's crime figures did not appear in this magazine because they did not arrive from the Crime Prevention Panel until after the deadline. Both June and July's figures for each village appear in this issue.

Bekesbourne

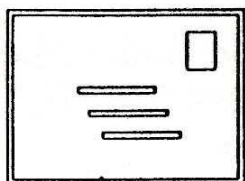
	JUNE	JULY
Burglary Dwelling	-	1
Burglary other than Dwelling	-	2
Theft from Person	1	-
Theft from Vehicle	1	-
Criminal Damage	-	2
TOTAL	2	5

Patricxbourne

	JUNE	JULY
Burglary from Dwelling	-	2
Theft of Vehicle	-	1
<i>TOTAL</i>	-	3

During hot weather remember to lock all windows, etc before going out: it only takes a burglar a couple of seconds to gain entry. This should also apply whilst asleep. Burglars have entered property while occupants were asleep, bungalows being a prime target.

M. Howells, Co-ordinator



4 Station Hill
Bekesbourne
CT4 5EP

I would like all readers of *On The Nail*, especially in Bekesbourne, to know about the amount of voluntary work that has been put in by Bekesbourne's Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Co-ordinator, Mr Malcolm Howells.

Since taking over a run-down scheme in 1990 at the request of the Canterbury Police, Malcolm has achieved heights in making Bekesbourne/Patricxbourne NWS one of the best in this Police Area.

In October 1992 he received a Certificate of Merit from Superintendent Peter Gammon, who was the No.6 Area Commander. Two other NWS Co-ordinators also received this award.

At a recent meeting of Bekesbourne and Patricxbourne Parish Council Chief Superintendent Richard Baker, No.6 Area Commander, accompanied by PC Hedley Grace, the No.6 Area NWS Liaison Officer, made another presentation to Malcolm. This was a Kent County Constabulary Area Commanders Commendation Award for Malcolm's personal contribution to Neighbourhood Watch which directly resulted in the arrest of seven offenders between 4th April and 8th June this year.

In all, since taking over this NWS no fewer than 27 arrests in five years have been made. This is an excellent achievement by any standard.

Being a neighbour of Malcolm's over the last seven years, I feel very secure knowing that he is constantly on the alert day or night in protecting the community.

The Bekesbourne/Patricxbourne NWS AGM will take place sometime in October. Let us all give Malcolm the support that he so richly deserves by making a good attendance at this meeting. I personally would like him to carry on being our NWS Co-ordinator for this area.

Thea Skiffington

Bekesbourne Family Services

by Pat Kusel

Going on a journey - a journey through life! This was the theme of the Family Service at Bekesbourne Church on 23rd July, at which the vicar discussed the various points in life where major changes are made in the way we go, e.g. a new school, a career to follow, where to live. The Bible story of Saul blinded on the road to Damascus, followed by his conversion to Christ, was used to illustrate the theme. Despite the fact that the school holidays had begun a good-sized congregation, largely made up of families, was present.

The next Family Service at Bekesbourne is on 24th September and will be the annual Harvest Festival. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible, together with any small offerings representative of the harvest you may care to bring, joining us in our thanksgiving. We hope these harvest offerings will be presented during the service and later that day they will be delivered to the Canterbury Women's Refuge. See you on the 24th!

THE FRIENDS OF BEKESBOURNE CHURCH have planned the following events, and we hope you will be able to support them:

Sunday, 24th September In connection with the Harvest Festival (*see above*) an American-style Harvest Lunch will be held in Bekesbourne Village Hall at 12.30pm. You are invited to bring a picnic lunch and any personal choice of drinks. Tea, Coffee, cider and squash will be provided. After lunch Mr Joe Hull, broadcaster on local and national radio, will give a talk entitled *Reflections of Harvest*.

The main purpose is to have a social gathering for the Friends and Parishioners of Bekesbourne Church and we hope as many as possible will join in making this a happy occasion.

Saturday, 4th November Hallowe'en Party in Bekesbourne Village Hall

Saturday, 2nd December Christmas Fair with the Brownies.

Further details about all events from Zan Clifford, tel.830328.

WANTED FOR ST. PETER'S, BEKESBOURNE

Does anyone have to spare a large piece of plain white linen in good condition, which they would be willing to give to St. Peter's Church to be re-made as a fair linen altar cloth? It would need to be at least 48" wide and 8ft long to allow for hems. If you can help please contact Jane Shorrock on 01227 832133.

St. Peter's Church, Bridge Re-ordering

In case you're wondering what became of the scheme suggested by the TARGET 2000 working-party of the PCC to provide meeting rooms, etc in the north aisle of St. Peter's Church, we decided not to go ahead with it. The need for extra facilities is no longer pressing and we realised that should it arise in the future an alternative scheme that left the church untouched would be more certain of widespread approval. Subsequent to this an exciting and important growing together of the three village church communities has

begun and its success depends on each church within the Benefice of Patrixbourne with Bridge and Bekesbourne tailoring individual priorities to common needs.

The PCC recorded its sincere appreciation of TARGET 2000's work, including its valuable report, much of which has already been taken up.

Although the grand scheme for St. Peter's, Bridge has been shelved the suggestion of removing six pews at the back of the north aisle, to create an open space for socializing after services and other gatherings, was given PCC approval and is to go ahead. Official permission has been given by the Diocesan Advisory Committee and a faculty to carry out the work been obtained. All that remains is to find a buyer for the pews, the sale of which we hope will cover the conversion costs; for once the pews have gone the idea is to carpet the area and buy free-standing chairs for use by groups and on the occasion of big services. We're getting on with this as speedily as possible!

BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

Cleaning & Flower Rota

2nd Mrs Rees

9th Joan Atkins

16th Cheryl Barker/Mrs McPherson

23rd Harvest Christine Ash

CHRISTIAN AID LUNCH

by Hilary Pike

This year is the 50th anniversary of *Christian Aid* and in order to celebrate this in Bridge we have decided to combine our Harvest Festival with an austerity lunch.

After the Family Service at Bridge, members of all the three churches are invited to Bridge School for lunch* on 1st October. Tickets will be on sale for £1 each, which will go towards the cost of the meal. In addition, everyone will be asked to donate the amount that they would have spent on their Sunday lunch, and all profits raised will be given to *Christian Aid*.

We hope that this will be a chance for people from all three churches to come together informally, and for *all* members of the family to enjoy themselves.

Tickets will available from:

Andrea Nicholson, 830947 at Patrixbourne

Romany Cowans, 831029 at Bekesbourne

Hilary Pike, 830708 at Bridge

[*Please bring your own cutlery, glasses and liquid refreshments!]

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 MF Leggatt, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830251)

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 AW 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 Ringers 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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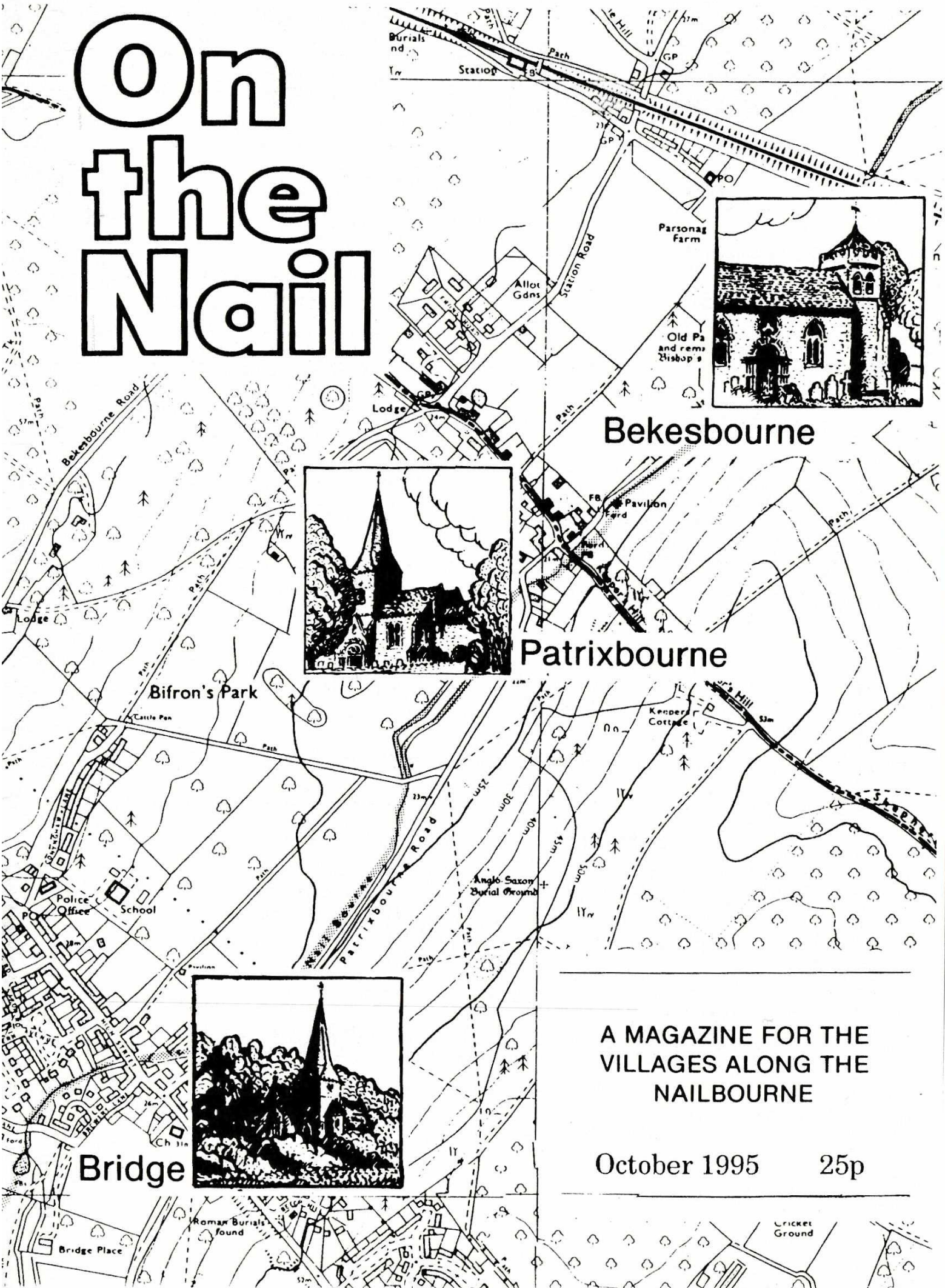
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On the Nail



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Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE
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NAILBOURNE

October 1995

25p

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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

- 1st** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Harvest Family Service (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Harvest Evensong (*Bridge*)(*Preacher:Mr Handley Stevens*)
- 8th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
11.00am Harvest Matins (*Patricbourne*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 15th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
11.00am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)
6.30pm Evensong & Re-commissioning of Rural Dean (*Bridge*)
- 22nd** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricbourne*)
11.00am Family Service with Baptisms (*Bekesbourne*)
6.30pm Talk "Judith" & Compline (*Bridge*)(*Canon J Packer*)
- 29th** 10.30am Benefice Eucharist - Rite A (*Patricbourne*)
6.30pm Evensong (*Bekesbourne*)
- 5th November**
8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Family Service with Baptism (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)

Junior Church meets in Bridge Methodist Church, Patricbourne Road from 9.15 to 10.15am 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: *1st*, Mr Leslie Dron *8th*, The Revd David Marshall *15th*, The Revd Mary R Teed *22nd*, *Holy Communion*, The Revd. Albert Ball *29th*, Dr Edmund I Marshall

Weekdays The Holy Communion is celebrated in St Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesday mornings (BCP) at 9.30am and Fridays (Rite A) at 7.30am. A brief, informal service is held at The New Close on Wednesdays at 3pm. Though specifically for the residents, outside support is always most welcome.

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 1st **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 16**
Bridge Harvest Festival Service at 11am will focus on the work of *Christian Aid* on its 50th anniversary, and the service will be followed by an austerity lunch at the school. The preacher at Harvest Evensong is our Reader, Handley Stevens.
- 4th *St. Francis of Assisi, Friar, 1226*
Pray for the members of East Bridge Deanery Synod meeting this evening at Littlebourne, especially for our own lay representatives Kath Pierce, Evelyn Andrews, Sheila Fenn, Jane Millyard and Anthony Copley.
- 5th Bridge Methodist Church's Coffee Morning and Sale, 10.15am-12 noon.
Prayers for Health and Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm.
- 8th **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 17**
St. Mary's Church, Patricbourne celebrates Harvest at 11am. There will be a collection for the Poverty and Hope Appeal run by the diocese for aid work in the Philippines and in our link diocese of Madagascar.
- 10th *St. Paulinus, Bishop, Missionary, 644*
- 11th Pray for Bokesbourne PCC which meets this evening.
- 12th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm.
- 13th *St. Edward the Confessor, King of England, 1066*
- 15th **Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 18**
The Archdeacon of Canterbury will attend Evensong at Bridge to commission the Vicar for a second and final three years as Rural Dean.
- 17th *St. Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, Martyr, c107*
- 18th *St. Luke the Evangelist*
- 19th Prayers for Health and Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm.
- 22nd **Last Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity 19**
This evening at Bridge, in the series of discourses on the lesser known books of the Bible, Canon Packer will speak about the book of Judith, which is in the Apocrypha. It will be followed as usual by compline.
- 25th British Royal Legion, Bridge Branch AGM. Plough and Harrow, 8pm.
- 26th *Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths* Coffee Morning, Bridge Village Hall, 10am to 12 noon.
- 28th *St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles*
- 29th **Ninth Sunday before Christmas: Trinity 20**
British Summer time ends at 0100 hours. Clocks go back one hour.

FROM THE VICAR

It's hard to be topical when, as now, I am writing at the end of August. Unfortunately that's how it must be, because at the time this edition of *On the Nail* is in production, I shall be enjoying a late holiday in the Yorkshire Dales. While I think of it, thank you Laurence Dunderdale for standing in as editor and the Nicholsons for type setting in my absence!

To be thoroughly topical I should be covering such topics as the Nine O'clock Service or the current state of play in the Oval Test, and wondering when it's finally going to rain. However, as you are reading this in October all those items are very much old hat.

Truth to tell, periodicals, such as *On the Nail*, are not really geared to topicality, only appearing once a month - although we did steal a march on the *Kentish Gazette* over Toby Williamson's appointment as equerry to the Queen. Mind you the editor had inside information about that. I also remember on one distant occasion being so topical that I reported a funeral and the issue it appeared in was out and about before it had taken place, much to the consternation of at least one person who intended to be there and thought he had missed it. Thank goodness it seldom happens that we get that topical!

It does not automatically follow that to be topical you have to be up-to-date: merely holding forth on a specific topic is being topical. However 'topical' is most commonly used when we mean modern, and in this respect we do not often hear it applied to the Church, which most people always assume is always old fashioned, out of date, and so in their book a spent force.

To be honest, such an estimate of the Church is not often that far out. for originality is not exactly our hallmark, but then is being 'with it' always a commendable attribute, especially for the Church? Obviously it does not help to be way out and so antiquated that we lose touch with the real world; on the other hand, should the Church ever strive to identify itself with contemporary Society?

It's a sore temptation to class the Church's effectiveness by prevailing worldly fashions but that will not do. Secular practices and standards come and go but the Church's concerns are timeless, and to do with spiritual matters, because God formed it as a world-wide spiritual community with Christ as its head, and the Holy Spirit as its strength and guide. Its message is for the world and is only irrelevant when the Church makes it play second fiddle to popular taste. The Gospel by its very nature is always topical and the Church's preaching will also be topical if it begins with the Gospel and not the cultural trends of the time.

FAMILY NEWS

Baptism

Bridge's Family Service on 3rd September was a shortened form of the Eucharist, within which the Baptism took place of GRACE BEATRICE LEGGATT, 5 Dering Road.

Marriage

Canon David Naumann, Chaplain of the Chaucer Hospital officiated during the Vicar's holiday at the wedding of Dr REBECCA HOLLISTER, 7 St Mary's Road, Patricbourne and Dr ROGER CORDERY of South Dulwich. The service was in St. Mary's Church, Patricbourne on 9th September.

On 16th September at St. Peter's Church, Bekesbourne the Revd. John Shorrock conducted the wedding of TIM HOWELLS, Kilburn, Station Road, Bekesbourne and MARINA DANIELS, St. Stephen's Road, Canterbury.

Obituaries

As true a son of Bridge as ever existed, SIDNEY HOGBEN died on 5th July at the age of 92. He died outside the parish and news of his death did not come to light until the funeral had taken place, hence this late notice in *On the Nail*. Until a couple of weeks before his death, Sid lived at 41 High Street, the house in which he had been born. However he had not spent all his life there - just most of it - between times living at Glen Falls (65 High Street), Gordon House and the former barber shop near the newsagents.

His early working life was spent at Price's, the grocer, then he went on to drive for the long-defunct Bridge Rural District Council and its successor Bridge-Blean RDC. He retired thirty years ago, well before local government reorganisation swallowed up the RDC in Canterbury City Council.

The death of JIM PARSONS on 27th August at the age of 66 came as a shock to his many friends although he had been ill for several months.

Jim, with his wife Mavis, had happily settled into their bungalow in Bridge in November 1993 for their retirement from Bourne Park. He was a true sportsman and countryman, a keen and popular member of Barham Bowls Club and the Nailbourne Horticultural Society. He had a "green fingered" skill for growing prize winning plants and creating his beautiful gardens. He will be much missed and our sympathy and condolences go to Mavis, daughter Julie and all the family.

AUTUMN FAYRE

Please note the date of this year's Autumn Fayre in your diary - Saturday 11th November, starting at 2pm in Bridge and Patricbourne School Hall. We are still short of helpers on some of the stalls - please come and help even if you have never done so before! There will also be a match the photograph competition, for which we would appreciate donations of photographs (which will be returned) of parishioners in their childhood.

Raffle tickets will soon be on sale from PCC members - please support the Autumn Fayre by buying and selling as many tickets as possible. Donations of prizes for the Raffle Draw and various Tombolas are also being sought. Donations for the Bottle stall would be most welcome in advance - please give these to committee members as soon as possible.

PLEASE HELP US TO MAKE THIS YEAR'S AUTUMN FAYRE A GREAT SUCCESS!

Penny Spencer (830735), Ailsa Williamson (830399), Sheila Fenn (830284) and Andrea Nicholson (830947).

BRIDGE WITH PATRIBOURNE W.I.

"A funny thing happened to me on the way to church"

by Canon A Dawkins

7.30pm on Tuesday 17 October

Bridge Village Hall

Visitors and new members welcome

Enquires to Beryl Heap on 830400

NAILBOURNE SCOUT GROUP

Thank you to all who helped and supported the annual jumble/bric-a-brac sale on 16 September. You will be delighted to learn that you helped us raise a spectacular £270.

CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY SERVICE Watch out for details of this service which proved so popular in Bridge last year.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Canterbury and Whitstable Citizens Advice Bureau is having an Open Evening at 3 Westgate Hall Road, Canterbury on Tuesday, 3rd October between 4.30pm and 6.30pm in order to try and attract new volunteers.

The CAB offers volunteers full and on-going training in skills and subjects; the chance to work in a friendly and supportive team; the satisfaction of helping people with anything from a minor query to a major life crisis; payment for all travel expenses.

From volunteers it needs commitment to CAB's aims and principles; an average of 10 hours a week on a regular and committed basis; a willingness to learn and to train; an ability to examine your own attitudes.

In 1994 Canterbury CAB dealt with over 11,000 people with questions and problems about benefits, credit, debts, jobs, unemployment, relationship breakdown, housing insecurity and the law. The service CAB offers is free, impartial, confidential and independent.

Anyone who would like to contact CAB should either telephone Canterbury 761493 and ask for Dee or Judith, or write to

Canterbury CAB
3 Westgate Hall Road,
Canterbury.
CT1 2BT

FISH NEWS

The AGM of the Fish Scheme will be held on Tuesday 10th October in the Methodist Church in Bridge at 8pm.

Do come along and find out what the Scheme achieves in Bridge and the surrounding areas. If you think you can help by, for example driving someone into Canterbury occasionally please get in touch with Ann Medhurst on 830762. Please use the same number if you think the Scheme might be able to help you.

The next Coffee Pop-In in Bridge Village Hall is on Wednesday 11th October, from 10.45am to 11.45am.

The NHS chiropody clinic, which is free for people of retirement age, expectant mothers, children and the disabled, will be at the New Close from 2nd to 6th October. Please telephone 01304 840474 if you would like to make an appointment in the future. The Fish Scheme will be able to help with transport if you need it, please telephone Mrs Warren on 830233 for details.

PARISH COUNCIL OF BRIDGE - SEPTEMBER MEETING

YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU! Volunteers are need for two very different activities - helping to clear public footpaths and helping to produce a new Village Appraisal. For the first, training can be arranged in the use of a brush cutter, after which you would be asked to help occasionally in cutting vegetation back from the parish footpaths in the company of other volunteers. For the second, you would be working with a committee of volunteers from the village to produce an up-to-date Village Appraisal, as recommended by the Kent Association of Parish Councils. Volunteers in either capacity (or both!) should contact the Chairman Mervyn Gulpin or the Parish Clerk.

BLOOMING BEAUTIFUL. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of both entrants and organisers the Floral Tubs, Window Boxes and Hanging Baskets competition was again a great success. Prizewinners included Mr and Mrs Morgan, Mrs Thrift, Mrs Lewsey and Mrs Lanaway and Mr O'Brien with a special award for Mrs M. Boswell. The Plough and Harrow topped the commercial section with the White Horse PH coming second. Prizewinners were presented with vouchers and certificates on behalf of the Parish Council by the Chairman Mervyn Gulpin.

TIME, AND TIME AGAIN. The village clock should be back in position again shortly, having been tested in workshop conditions. It will be watched carefully to see whether further steps need to be taken to ensure it continues to keep proper time.

SAFETY FIRST. An extension to safety surfacing in the children's play area of the Recreation Ground is shortly to be installed around the climbing frame. Repairs will also be undertaken to a vandalised section of the old surfacing.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE. Premise at 8 High Street and land adjoining 3 Bridge Down have been the subject of planning applications recently. Planning permission has been granted for alterations at 47 High Street, at the White Horse Inn and for a rear extension at 16 Conyngham Lane. A further exhibition of plans for land adjacent to the Recreation Ground proposed by Cantley Estates Limited and the Parish Council took place on 8th September and there was public meeting on 21st September.

NEXT MEETING. The October meeting of the Parish Council will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 12 October.

SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE

THANK YOU to all who took part, all who helped and all the sponsors. Details next month of how many took part and the amount raised. In the meantime by the time you have read this we hope you have got all you sponsorship moneys and paid it in.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Annual General Meeting
8pm Wednesday 25 October
Plough and Harrow, Bridge
The future of the branch will be the main
item on the agenda as we have a falling and
ageing membership

SUSTRANS

SUSTRANS (Sustainable Transport) is a Bristol based Charity campaigning for a National Cycle Network, and to raise awareness hundreds of Riders recently took part in a 26 day cycle ride covering the 1300 miles from Inverness to Dover. The aim of the NCN is to provide traffic free routes on minor roads and the 'Jarrow' cycle ride took them along old railway lines, and along towpaths besides canals and rivers.

Taking part in the ride were Bridge's own intrepid cycling Shirley family of John and Parish Councillor Emily, together with 7 year old Sam, 5 year old Meg and even 19 month old Finbar.

Another reasonably local rider was Robin Townsend of Kingston. In a long report of the marathon bike ride Robin observes: *To travel on a bike, like walking is always to be close to nature, the environment and people. With other forms of travel, however, our bodies are held in containers of various kinds. Perhaps it is the openness and vulnerability of cyclists that makes for an enhanced awareness of places and people. Certainly on reaching a high point in the Highlands or Pennines after much pedalling and perspiration I could be overwhelmed by the scenery, but to be delivered there by one of the container forms of transport I wonder if the sensation would be quite the same?*

NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The history and uses of herbs
a talk by Mrs P Jeffery
7.30pm Thursday 19th October
Methodist Church, Bridge
All welcome

WHO'S FOR COFFEE?

Three Coffee Mornings crave your support this month. The first is on Thursday, 5th October and is being run by members of Bridge Methodist Church in the Patricbourne Road Chapel between the hours of 10.15am and 12 noon.

Three weeks later, on Thursday 26th October from 10am to 12 noon, the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths has its Coffee Morning in Bridge Village Hall.

Then on 10th November from 10am to 12 noon there is a coffee morning for the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund and Friends of Cossington in Bridge Village Hall. There will also be a Bring and Buy, Raffle, Soft Toys, Craft, Bric a Brac and more. So come along and start your Christmas shopping!

All events are to raise money for very worthwhile causes. Please patronise them!

BRIDGE CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

October	6th	Kathy Eynon
	13th	Volunteer needed
	20th	Pat Hulyer
	27th	Joan Monk

We are sorry to lose Kay Barnard and thank her for all her help over many months, and wish her and the family well at their new home in Barfrestone.

PLEASE. Are there any ladies, or gentlemen, willing to fill the gap and spare up to two hours a month to help Hoover, dust, polish our Church. It is not too onerous a task, but if we could have more volunteers it would be possible to work in pairs and lighten the load considerably. Any of the above would be pleased to give you any information required or telephone Kathy Eynon (830466).

BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

Cleaning and flower rota

7th Pip Riccini

14th Mrs Smith/Mrs Shorrocks

21st Pam Farbrace

28th Lois Whigham

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 MF Leggatt, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830251)

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 AW 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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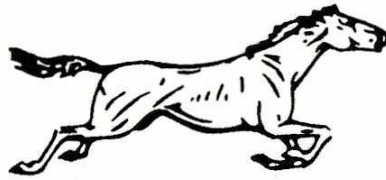


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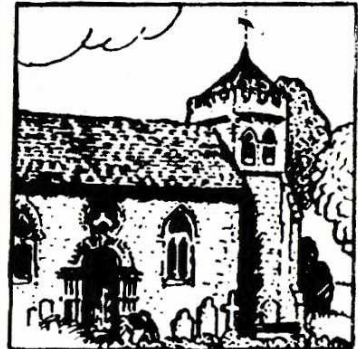
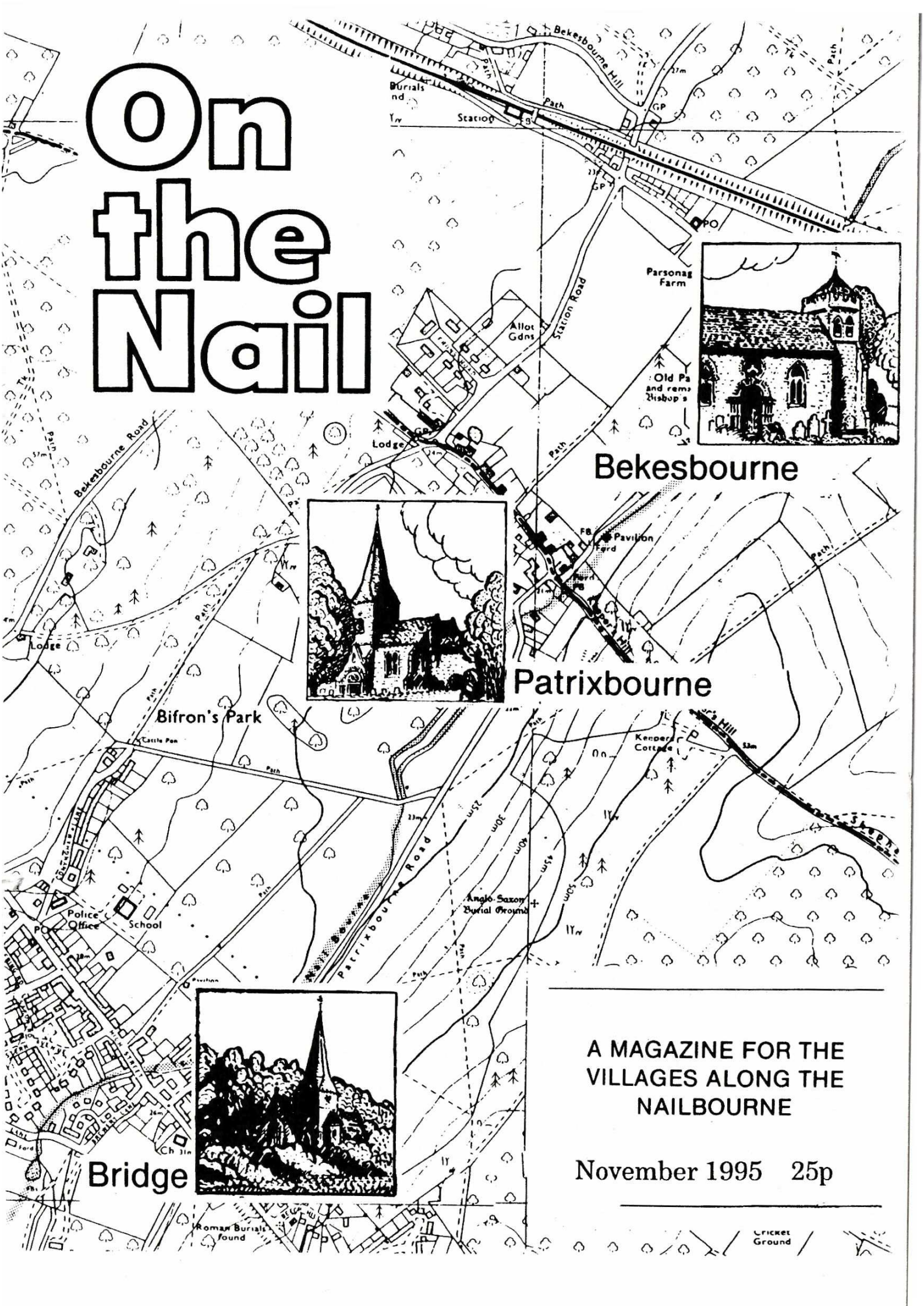
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A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

November 1995 25p

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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

- 5th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Family Service with Baptisms (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)
- 12th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
11.00am Matins (*Patricbourne*)(*Mr Handley Stevens*)
11.00am Remembrance Service (*Bridge*)(*The Vicar*)
- 19th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
11.00am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)
- 26th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Patricbourne*)
11.00am Family Service (*Bekesbourne*)
- 3rd December**
8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Family Gift Service (*Bridge*)
3.30pm Ecumenical Advent Service (*Bridge*)

There is no Choral Evensong on 26th because of the Diocesan Songs of Praise in the Cathedral at 6.30pm, to which parish choirs and congregations are specially invited and may prefer to go.

Junior Church meets in Bridge Methodist Church, Patricbourne Road from 9.15 to 10.15am 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 Sue Watson (830726) or Mrs Jane Martin (830653).

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *5th*, Mr Ron Chadwick, MA, DMS *12th*, Mr Alistair P Barwick, BSc *19th, Holy Communion*, The Revd Mary R Teed *26th*, Mr E Ron O'Mahony

Weekdays The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Wednesday mornings (*BCP*) at 9.30am and Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. A brief, informal service is held at The New Close on Wednesdays at 3pm. Though specifically for the residents, outside support is always most welcome.

Sundays at Bridge during the winter months Many people will remember that for the past few winters the time of Sunday Evensong at Bridge has been changed to 3.30pm. This winter, with the agreement of the PCC and choir, Evensong on first and fourth Sundays will be sung at 6.30pm, and on second and third Sundays there will be no Evensong. This system will be in operation till Easter.

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 1st **All Saints' Day**
The two PCCs will meet together in the Methodist Church at 7.30pm for a Eucharist followed by a discussion of benefice interests. All PCC members are asked to attend if at all possible.
- 2nd **Commemoration of All Souls**
Traidcraft Christmas Goods Sale, Bridge School Hall, 3-6pm
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 3rd **Richard Hooker, Teacher, sometime Rector of Bishopsbourne, 1600**
- 4th Friends of Bekesbourne Church disco, Village Hall
- 5th **8th Sunday before Christmas**
- 8th **Saints and Martyrs of England**
Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am
- 9th Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 10th Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund Coffee Morning, Bridge Village Hall, 10.00am - 12 noon
- 11th **St. Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397**
AUTUMN FAYRE
- 12th **7th Sunday before Christmas: Remembrance Sunday**
The customary Service of Remembrance, preceded by the Silence and Wreath-laying, at St. Peter's Church, Bridge. Assemble at the War Memorial in the churchyard shortly before 11.00am.
Knock-out Conker Championship, The Unicorn, Bekesbourne, 1pm
- 16th **St. Margaret of Scotland, Queen, Wife, Mother, 1093**
Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 17th **St. Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680 & St. Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200**
- 19th **6th Sunday before Christmas**
- 20th **St. Edmund of East Anglia, King, Martyr, 870**
- 25th Christmas Fair for The New Close, Bridge Village Hall, 10am to 12 noon

26th **5th Sunday before Christmas**

29th Royal British Legion, Bridge Branch meeting, Plough and Harrow, 8pm

30th **St. Andrew the Apostle**

FROM THE VICAR

The Parson's Pocket Book, which I used as a diary till its price rocketed beyond my pocket, annually began with the clever observation, 'Memory has been defined as the faculty by which we forget things.' And how!

Important dates locked away in the memory have a habit of staying there without something to release what's stored there. Hence diaries, data bases, birthday and address books - and of course *The Parson's Pocket Book*!

Memories get several jogs in November, what with All Saints' and All Souls' Days, Remembrance Sunday and, to a greater or lesser extent, the gunpowder plot. In the Church there are several minor saints whose days fall in November, not forgetting St. Andrew the Apostle on the 29th. If you want to be really pedantic the 8th November is reserved for a commemoration of the saints and martyrs of England, first among them being St. Alban, closely followed in this locality by the saints of Canterbury. Not only of the fallen in battle would it be fitting in November to say, 'We will remember them.' Their names in our calendars help to ensure they aren't forgotten, even if our consciousness of them is only of the order of 'Who on earth was St. Margaret of Scotland?'

We will remember ...

Recently the church community at Bridge has lost, happily only via the removals men, one family and one person from among its ranks, all of whom are already being sorely missed.

On 18th October Joan Hill, erstwhile resident of Red Deer, Bridge Down, went to live near her family in the Winchester area and already it's strange not having her around. Joan left the church politics to Douglas and like many a good woman before her was contented to be the quiet background support. The lavish hospitality of Red Deer was Joan's doing and those who partook of it will have something special to remember. But all who knew her will miss her gentle presence and the smile that always seemed on the verge of breaking into a giggle. She joined the church choir in recent years but her contribution to the church and to Bridge Down all through her time here was renowned and will assure her place in our memories. I hope and suspect we shall see her over here on occasions.

The Barnard family moved to Barfreystone at the beginning of October and we wish them great joy and abundant happiness in their new abode. Malcolm, a choirman, was confirmed while they were here, Kay gave sterling service as co-leader of Junior Church and young Alice made a very valuable contribution to the church, both as an altar server and assistant at Junior Church. She was also a fine reader and always willing to

lend a hand, whatever was asked of her. Sam and Jack are still at Bridge School so don't be surprised if you see a Barnard around still.

The Pike family is on the move, Stephen already spending the week at his new job in Bath, with Elizabeth attending Bath College, but happily for the moment we still see them in church most Sundays.

LINEN FOR BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

Jane Shorrocks says: On behalf of Bekesbourne Church, I would like to thank all those who so kindly responded to my appeal for linen to refurbish the altar at St. Peter's Church. Thanks to your generosity, we now have enough material to provide for all our needs, and your donations are greatly appreciated.

However, the sewing involved, and other items which it would be nice to provide for the church in the future, prompts me to enquire whether there are any ladies and gentlemen 'out there' who would enjoy getting together, say once a month in the winter, to undertake the stitching required. If anyone is interested, we could meet first at Bekesbourne Church to discuss what is needed, and thereafter at my home. So, if you like the idea, please phone me on Canterbury 832133. Thank you again for your generous response!

ON THE NAIL NOTICEBOARD

Traidcraft Sale

There will be a sale of Traidcraft Christmas goods and cards in the School Hall on Thursday, 2nd November from 3 to 6pm. Both goods and cards are excellent value and all money goes to help those in the third world who produce them.

Bridge Grand Fireworks Display

... in Church Meadow, Brewery Lane on Saturday, 4th November. Entry is £2.50 for adults and £1 for children (under school age FREE). Food available from 5.30pm, light the bonfire at 6pm, fireworks at 6.30pm! Do please come along and support the Bridge School Fireworks Display. The organisers are taking great care to make it a safe and most enjoyable evening.

Disco

Friends of Bekesbourne Church are holding a disco to raise much needed funds for the church, at the Village Hall on Saturday, 4th November. Bring your own food and drink. Tickets £3. If you are at a bonfire party do come along later. For tickets phone Zan Clifford (830328) or Gill Moon (832134).

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

Our annual Cheese & Wine and Fun Quiz evening takes place in Bridge Village Hall on Thursday, 9th November, at 7.30pm. This is a happy, informal evening, giving everyone a chance to meet up for a chat. Tickets from Mrs E Cartwright in Bridge Post Office.

B Anderson

Coffee Morning

... with Craft Stalls (plus all the usual stalls, i.e. cakes, soft toys, gifts, books etc.) and

Bring & Buy to be held in aid of Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund and Friends of Cossington House, in Bridge Village Hall on Friday, 10th November from 10am to 12 noon. PLEASE COME and bring your friends to help raise funds for these two worthy causes. There will also be a superb raffle. For further information telephone 831628.

Can you solve the Rope Trick??!! Come along and solve the riddle!

Maggie Field and Pauline Pope

CHURCH AUTUMN FAYRE - Final reminder

Please support this year's AUTUMN FAYRE in Bridge and Patrixbourne School Hall on Saturday, 11th November.

The Fayre will be opened at 2pm by the Lady Mayoress of Canterbury, Alicia Pentin, and will have the usual attractions PLUS NEW STALLS, such as Jewellery. Donations of gifts for the stalls can be made to Penny Spencer (830735), Ailsa Williamson (830399), Sheila Fenn (830284) or Andrea Nicholson (830947). If you need items to be collected please point this out when you make contact. Your generous support with donations is vital for success, the event itself being vital to support the work and fabric of our two churches in this parish.

Entries for the Best Dressed Potato competition should be taken to the school hall on the morning of the Fayre, between 10.00 and 11.30am - entries are invited from children for the two classes, under 8s and 8-12 years old. All donations of cakes for the ever-popular Cake Stall can also be taken to the school hall at this time.

**PLEASE COME TO THE FAYRE -
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!**

Conker Conquest

The Unicorn at Bekesbourne is holding a Knock-out Conker Championship on Sunday, 12th November. Conkers for sale at the pub for £1 each. Proceeds in aid of Bekesbourne Church. 1.00pm start - three groups; gents, ladies and under 14s. Sunday lunch available, also barbecue. Enquiries 830210.

Christmas Fair

... on Saturday, 25th November from 10am to 12 noon in Bridge Village Hall. Raffle, Cake Stall, many other attractions. All proceeds for the amenity fund for the residents of The New Close. Please give us your support.

Bridge Church Choir at Christmas

Sue Osbourne issues a plea you'll find hard to refuse.

All voices are needed this Christmastide;

If you can sing, then please do not hide.

A friendly and lively choir are we -

7pm Tuesdays - Join us and see!

Sopranos, altos, tenors and basses - especially tenors and basses - are needed to swell the choir this Christmas. We should love you to come and sing with us.

Funerals

Agnes Irene Harris, Saxon Lodge at Barham Crematorium
Thomas James Marshall, 60 Riverside Close at Barham Crematorium
Olga Petrovna Matthiesen, London at Patricxbourne Church

A BEKESBOURNE CHURCH TRIUMPH

by Pat Kusel

What a wonderful harvest! St. Peter's, Bekesbourne was packed on Sunday, 24th September for the annual Harvest Festival. The service was preceded by the ringing of the bells, which made a lovely welcome.

Following the opening hymn a short play about a farmer in Sri Lanka was performed by a group of local children. This was followed by a symbolic presentation of wheat, grain, flour and bread as a village thank-offering for God's gift of life and the means of preserving it. Then harvest gifts were brought by individual members of the congregation, over which we all said a prayer of thanksgiving.

After the service attention focused on the church bells and an appeal was made by Gill Moon for potential bell-ringers, who would be given training in handling bells prior to making up a team, so that the bells could be rung more frequently before services. The ringers present willingly responded to a request for a demonstration and children and grown-ups gathered at the entrance to the tower to watch.

It was a very sociable gathering, no one venturing to leave for sometime due, partly I feel to the rain of tropical proportions outside.

This month's Family Service is on 26th, at which 1st Bekesbourne Brownies will parade and perform some drama. We look forward to seeing you there!

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CRIME FIGURES

These figures cover two months, in each case the lefthand column being those for August and the right for September.

BRIDGE

Burglary from dwelling	2	1
Burglary other than dwellings	3	-
Theft	2	
Theft other than from home		1
Theft of Vehicles	1	-
Theft of Cycle	1	-
Criminal Damage	1	2
TOTAL	10	4

Crimes for the first nine months of the year total 65,

The police have issued a handbook which the Neighbourhood Watch linkperson should by now have distributed to all households in the village. Please read and retain.

The Neighbourhood Watch Scheme urgently requires help from villagers to act as linkpersons in their own street. Please offer your help to your own co-ordinator or phone 830626 or 830466.

Edgar Smith, Area Co-ordinator

BEKESBOURNE

Burglary other than dwelling	-	1
Theft	1	1
Theft of Vehicle	-	1
Theft of Cycle	-	1
TOTAL	1	4

Crimes for the first nine months of 1995 total 25.

Cars and vans which have been parked at Bekesbourne Railway Station have had windows broken and items stolen. The Bekesbourne NWS reported this incident to the police, who on 5th October arrested two males from the Bromley area after British Rail had put them off a train at Bekesbourne Station for failing to pay their fares.

PATRIXBOURNE

No crimes reported in either month, so the total for 1995 remains 9.

M Howells

It's history now, but I couldn't resist James Fairweather's report of:

The Bridge Challenge Cricket Match

On an unusually sunny September afternoon the crème de la crème of the cricketing world took the field as the now annual 'Lads v Dads' cricket match took place.

The Lads, captained by Bobby *Tactics* Whitten, opted to bat first and despite losing two early wickets scored quickly, thanks to Matt *Six-Hit* Horgan. James *Killer* Fairweather and David Morris then helped the score along by top scoring in the innings, with 36 runs apiece. Ending on 176 for 9 from their 30 overs, the Lads had thrown down the gauntlet to the Dads.

The Dads were put firmly on course thanks to a scintillating innings from Clive *The Drive* Medhurst. However, a middle order collapse swung the game towards the Lads, but steady Atherton-style innings from Viv Pritchard and Peter Morris left the match in fine balance. An inspired Bothamesque knock from Peter Fairweather gave the Dads one last chance of victory, whilst a duck from Frank Whitten left him wondering why he got padded up at all!

The Dads eventually fell just seven runs short of their target, which was a difference that not even umpire Andy *No Ball* Johnson could rectify! A fun day was had by all and thanks must go to those who helped it go ahead - Roll on next Summer!

SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE 1995

Bridge

Many thanks to our team of cyclists who raised £162.10 for church funds in the recent cycle ride. Tim Flisher visited an incredible 51 churches and cycled as far as Dover, and the other cyclists, Lesley and Chris Finney, Matthew Andrews, Daniel Brasier, Stephen,

Elizabeth and Katie Pike all went into double figures and cycled miles and miles! Special congratulations must go to the youngest cyclist, Jack Barnard who with his sister and father cycled to 11 churches.

Thanks too, to all those who gave their time to man the church and make visiting cyclists so welcome. Also to Bridgeway Stores and the Village Shop who kindly donated the orange squash and biscuits which were much appreciated by the cyclists.

Hilary Pike

Bekesbourne

I would like to thank Joan Atkins, John, Jane and Patrick Shorrocks and Marian Trudgill for cycling for St. Peter's Church and raising the magnificent sum of £340.53, and Tony Fullaway, Ralph Barnes and Mrs Watson for manning the church. 119 people came to the church from as far afield as Chatham in one direction and Lyminge in the other.

Last but not least, thank you to all the people who sponsored the riders.

Jill Gillanders

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

A public meeting to discuss proposals by Cantley Estates and Bridge Parish Council for land between the Recreation Ground and the A2 took place on 21st September in the Village Hall. A short history of the proposals having been given, questions were invited by a panel which included parish councillors and representatives of the landowner, the Marquis of Conyngham. After a brief debate a show of hands was taken indicating that most of those present were opposed to the scheme and wished to see it abandoned.

At the monthly Parish council meeting on 14th September councillors discussed the outcome of the public meeting, together with proposals made earlier in the year to undertake a new Parish Appraisal, and voted unanimously to defer any decision regarding the 'partnership' proposals until the Appraisal was complete. Volunteers who had come forward at the public meeting, together with councillors, will shortly meet a Field Officer from the Kent Association of Parish Councillors to discuss the framework for an appraisal.

The area of safety surfacing under the spider frame in the Recreation Ground is now complete, thanks to a grant from Canterbury City Council's Village Capital Project Fund. Litter bins, which had been removed by the Parish Council in the hope that people would take their litter home with them, will now be put back despite frequent problems caused by vandals.

Councillors serving their first term of office recently attended training courses organised by the Kent Association of Parish Councils. Further events will shortly take place in Canterbury covering procedure, planning, finance and the role of parish councils.

Councillors had no comment to make on applications for planning consent in respect of 104 High Street and Beechmount, Conyngham Lane and further information is being sought about an application to dispense from the Hawkinge and Elham Valley medical practice.

Margaret Church, Clerk

FISH NEWS

The AGM of the Fish Scheme took place on 10th October in the Methodist Church. The many activities of the scheme were reviewed, particularly the house-bound library service organised by Mr Bill Johnson (tel 830450). He is happy to bring books and tapes to your house from the local library and is concerned that residents are not aware of this service. Do get in touch if you would like more details. Volunteer drivers are always needed and the commitment is only as great or as little as you can manage. Please telephone Mrs Ann Medhurst (830762) if you think you might help.

The next Coffee Pop-in in Bridge Village Hall is on Wednesday, 8th November from 10.15 to 11.45am and do remember that we can provide transport to and from.

There is a Chiropody Clinic from 27th November to 1st December. Please contact Mrs Joan Warren (tel 830233) if you need transport. A.R.

Bridge & Patricbourne Church

AUTUMN FAYRE

Bridge School Hall

SATURDAY

11th NOVEMBER

from 2pm

Bekesbourne Church Cleaning & Flowers

4th, Lois Whigham 11th, Joan Atkins 18th, Christine Ash 25th, Advent

The Church Christmas Party

... is on Saturday, 9th December in the School Hall, from 4 till 7pm. Last year's was such a success that you'll want to come again, so put it in your diary straightaway! No fund-raising this time, just fun and games for all and plenty of food and cups of tea!

For more information contact Evelyn Andrews (830960), Jane Smith (830238) or Pat Dunderdale (830668).

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 MF Leggatt, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830251)

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 AW 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 Ringers 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

Items for *On The Nail* should reach the editor by the 15th of the preceding month.

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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN DECEMBER

- 3rd** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Family Gift Service (*Bridge*)
3.30pm Ecumenical Advent Service (*Bridge*)
- 10th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)(*Preacher: Mr H Stevens*)
11.00am Matins (*Patricbourne*)
- 17th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
11.00am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)
6.30pm Carol Service (*Bridge*)
- 24th** 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bridge*)
4.00pm Christingle Service (*Bridge*)
11.30pm Midnight Eucharists (*Bridge & Bekesbourne*)
- 31st** 10.30am Benefice Eucharist (*Bekesbourne*)
- 7th January**
8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
11.00am Family Service (*Bridge*)
6.30pm Choral Evensong (*Bridge*)

Junior Church meets in Bridge Methodist Church, Patricbourne Road from 9.15 to 10.15am 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 Sue Watson (830726) or Mrs Jane Martin (830653).

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *3rd*, Miss Joan Charlesworth, MA *10th*, Mr E Ron O'Mahony *17th*, Holy Communion, The Revd Michael J Walling *24th*, Carol Service, The Revd Mary R Teed

Weekdays The Holy Communion is celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Fridays (*Rite A*) at 7.30am. A brief, informal service is held at The New Close on Wednesdays at 2pm, at which outside support and assistance are always most welcome.



CHRISTMAS AT CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE

4.00pm Christingle Service (*Bridge*)

11.30pm Midnight Mass (*Bridge & Bekesbourne*)

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am Parish Communion with Carols (*Patrixbourne*)

11.00am Family Eucharist (*Bridge*)

11.00am Family Carol Service (*Bekesbourne*)

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

1st Patrixbourne with Bridge PCC, Methodist Church, 7.30pm

2nd **BEKESBOURNE CHRISTMAS MARKET from 10.30am**

3rd **1st Sunday in Advent**

Following our custom of many years, those attending today's Family Service are asked to bring with them a ready-wrapped Christmas present for one of the elderly residents (male or female) of The New Close to get on Christmas Day. A representative from the home will receive them during the service. This might be the only present for some of them if they have no family.

Instead of 6.30pm Choral Evensong there is to be a special Advent Service in St. Peter's Church, Bridge **at 3.30pm** held jointly with the local Roman Catholic and Methodist Church communities.

6th *St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c.326*

7th *St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher, 397*

Bridge Village Playgroup Christmas Bazaar, Village Hall, 11am

Bridge Church Flower Arrangers Meeting, The Archways, 7pm

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

8th Pray for the Clergy of East Bridge Deanery who meet in chapter at Ash this morning.

- 9th Christmas Party for the three congregations of the benefice, Bridge School.
- 10th **2nd Sunday in Advent**
- 12th Saxon Lodge Whist Drive, 10.00am - 12 noon
- 13th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am
- 14th *St. John of the Cross, Mystic, Teacher, 1591*
Senior Citizens' afternoon entertainment, Bridge School, 1.15-2.45pm
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 17th **3rd Sunday in Advent**
Bridge Carol Service by Candlelight, 6.30pm
- 19th Bridge with Patricbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm, with a talk by Capt M Forward on *Tall Ships*.
- 21st Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 22nd Patricbourne Carol Service, St. Mary's Church, 7pm
- 24th **4th Sunday in Advent: *Christmas Eve Details on page 4.***
- 25th **CHRISTMAS DAY** *Details of services on previous page.*
- 26th ***St. Stephen the First Martyr***
- 27th ***St. John the Evangelist***
- 28th ***Holy Innocents***
- 29th ***St. Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170***
- 31st **Sunday after Christmas**
The 10.30am Benefice Eucharist [Rite A] at Bekesbourne will be the only service today.

FROM THE VICAR

As you will discover when you read on, there's a lot happening in this area during the run up to Christmas, much of it with a Christmas slant.

There was a time when most clergy, myself included, despaired of the way the trappings of Christmas encroached on the period just before it. In those days the commercial world only began its seasonal blitz three weeks before, but nowadays most shops and civic authorities seem to start the ball rolling half way through November.

The sad thing about it, and the cause of our disquiet, was the squeezing out of Advent, a season in its own right, by the anticipation of Christmas. The rector I served as curate refused to countenance anything to do with Christmas until the Eve itself and even tried to persuade the school to have its carol service after the holidays rather than before. It was a losing battle, of course, and now I can't see why he bothered to fight it. In fact Advent *does* now get a look in, if only through the popular appeal of Advent Calendars, though I suspect that's as much to do with their Christmassy appearance as a desire to keep Advent.

Yet it's a shame to play down Advent completely, because although its four-fold theme of death, judgement, heaven and hell scarcely thrills, it helps to pave the way for Christmas in a tantalising way with some cheerful and expectant hymns. I still incline to

the view that a good Advent means a good Christmas and whereas I'm not a hard-liner any more intent on saving the carols for Christmas Day, the excitement of Advent is worth experiencing for its own sake and also because the festival and festivities of Christmas really are worth preparing for in other than the food, drink and presents departments.

In mid-November I saw a toddler tearing the wrapping paper off a parcel he'd found at the base of a Christmas tree in a local store, only to find an empty box inside. The tree and the parcel were part of a shop's Christmas display - in mid-November, as I say - and apart from its funny side (a joke probably not shared by toddler or staff) I detect an acted parable about anticipating Christmas. On the surface it may look like Christmas but the reality is some way off: only at Christmas itself does the tree have real presents under it. Meanwhile, there's Advent to be enjoyed, so let's make the most of it!

**BEKESBOURNE
CHRISTMAS MARKET
Saturday, 2nd December
at the new time of
10.30am
BEKESBOURNE VILLAGE HALL
in aid of The Brownies and
The Friends of Bekesbourne Church**

HOLY BAPTISM

Bekesbourne, 22nd October

Michaela Zoe Wilson, 2 Holwetts Farm Cottages

Jamie Ian Godden, 2 Cranmer Close

Bridge, 5th November

Michael Edward Pearson, 3 Mill Terrace

Hayley Marie Pearson, Chartham

Bridge Church Flower Arrangers

There will be a Flower Arrangers Meeting at The Archways, Conyngham Lane, commencing at 7pm on Thursday, 7th December for all members of the team at St. Peter's, Bridge, and anybody who is in the smallest amount interested in joining us. There is no pressure to perform "Constance Spry" award-winning masterpieces - just putting a few flowers, even wild ones, into a vase. Please come and join us for a coffee and a chat. Thank you!

Viv Brasier

ASSORTED THANKS

Sponsored Cycle Ride, Patricbourne

A somewhat belated thank-you to Marion Harlow, John Martin, the Morgan-Evans family and the Pritchard family for their sterling efforts in raising £232.10 on the Ride. Further thanks to Joan Carpenter, Mary Evans, Andrea and Keith Nicholson, Ros Pullman and Clive Relf for their time in manning the church and for donations of drinks, biscuits and moral support to a frazzled organiser. Special thanks to Joan for providing and contributing so much to putting up the awning.

A.Nicholson

Bridge Methodist Church

The Coffee Morning on 5th October realised £227.81, from which a donation of £100 was sent to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. Thanks to all whose support contributed to this successful event.

Mabel Harrison

Coffee Morning at Bridge Village Hall

The Coffee Morning on 10th November raised £780 for the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund and the Friends of Cossington House - the money for the latter going towards the purchase of a defibrillator and a nebuliser, both items of life saving equipment.

In addition to the above a representative of ASDA came to the event and presented a cheque for £500 to a member of Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund Canterbury Committee.

Very grateful thanks to all those who helped to make this event so successful.

Pauline Pope

Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths

The Coffee Morning for the above held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 26th October raised £569, and Christmas cards to the value of £270 were also sold. Grateful thanks to all supporters who made this a successful event.

Elizabeth Stewart

The Friends of Bekesbourne Church

Seventy-five supporters enjoyed the Friends' successful Hallowe'en Party on 4th November, at which Mr Lennox provided the music. £210 was raised for the church and our thanks go to all who got the hall ready, decorating it so appropriately, and to those who donated raffle prizes.

Do please come and support our annual CHRISTMAS MARKET on 2nd December, which is at the new time of 10.30am. There will be lots of stalls where you can buy Christmas Gifts, a Cake Stall, a Raffle and a Tombola Stall. We look forward to seeing you!

Jane Shorrock

BRIDGE CHURCH OPEN SPACE PROJECT

by Peter Lawrence

Six pews have been removed from the west end of the north aisle of St. Peter's Church. The next step is to sand and seal the floor now exposed and decorate the whole area - volunteer working-parties will be sought when we reach that stage.

To replace the seating lost we propose to purchase 25 stacking chairs (plus a folding table) with delivery in time for Christmas - 1995! The whole project will be funded from the sale of the pews.

Meantime, the Flower Arrangers have 'lost' a lot of storage space for flower baskets, pots, buckets, etc., most of which was hitherto hidden behind the back pew. This equipment remains, of course, as also the problem of where to relocate it. Accordingly we are looking for a fairly large cupboard or wardrobe suitable for conversion into a locker with shelves to augment or replace the one currently in use at the west end of the church. Should you have something which might be suitable and which is surplus to requirements, please contact me, tel:830472.

Christmas Card Delivery

Kathy Walder writes: Following last year's success the Nailbourne Scout Group is organising a local Christmas Card Delivery again this year. The delivery will, as last year, be restricted to the village of **Bridge only**. Decorated Christmas posting boxes will be at the following locations **from 1st to 20th December**: Laurie Wakeham (Butcher), Plough & Harrow, Nicholas James (Hairdresser), Village Shop [box only], Bridge News (Newsagent), White Horse, Churchill House & Bridgeway Stores [box only]. Each envelope must bear the special stamp (price still 10p) available at most of these same locations. The boxes will be emptied regularly and all items clearly and correctly addressed and stamped will be delivered before Christmas.

The Nailbourne Scout Group caters for more than 120 boys from Bridge and the surrounding area, from the ages of 6 to 15 in its three sections - Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Proceeds from this will go towards Group funds. Please support the Group by using this service for your Bridge village Christmas cards.

Senior Citizens afternoon entertainment

All local senior citizens are invited to Bridge School on Thursday, 14th December from 1.15 to 2.45pm for an afternoon of entertainment. The children will sing excerpts from their Christmas productions and will also serve refreshments. If you would like to come along please contact the school on 830276 - transport can be arranged if necessary.

BRIDGE VILLAGE PLAYGROUP will be holding their Christmas Bazaar on Thursday 7th December at Bridge Village Hall. Amongst the many attractions we have planned there will be cakes, books, dried flowers and decorated plant pots for sale, plus a tombola and Grand Draw. Please come along to support the playgroup and hear the children sing carols.

Jane Martin

Royal British Legion, Bridge & District Branch

by Jim Stripe

The 14th AGM of the branch took place at the Plough & Harrow on Wednesday, 25th October. Some considerable time ago two of the principal officers gave notice that they would not be standing again. With a falling and ageing membership, no volunteers have come forward, so the decision was reluctantly made to disband the branch.

I have been asked by the President to thank the village and the church for their support and encouragement in the past and would earnestly ask them to carry on supporting the Poppy Appeal in the future.

The last parade of the Bridge & District Branch RBL took place on Remembrance Sunday, 12th November. The President, Col Richard Hearn laid a wreath on the village memorial and recited the exhortation, and Keith Pritchard sounded the Last Post and Reveille. There followed a Service of Remembrance in St. Peter's Church at which the Vicar officiated and preached. The Branch Standard was carried by David Walder of the Nailbourne Scout Group.

The Poppy Appeal total this year was £850, which included the collection from the Remembrance Service.

Bridge, Patrixbourne & Bekesbourne Churches'

CHURCH FAMILY

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, 9th December

4.00 - 7.00pm

BRIDGE SCHOOL

Contact: Pat Dunderdale, 830668, Evelyn

Andrews, 830960 or Jane Smith, 830238

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Due to recent ill-health Edgar (Ted) Smith has had to resign as Co-ordinator of Bridge NWS. We thank him for all his efforts and enthusiasm for the scheme and hope he will soon return to good health. He is succeeded by David Lancashire of 57 Bridge Down (tel:830627).

Before Christmas all Bridge residents should receive an up-to-date list of the Area Controllers and their Link Persons for the five areas of Bridge.

The crime figures for October:

Bridge

Burglaries (dwellings)	3
Burglaries (other than dwellings)	2
Theft	2
Theft (vehicles)	1
Theft of vehicles	1
Theft of cycle	1
Criminal damage	1

Bekesbourne

Burglary (dwelling)	2
Theft	1
Theft from vehicle	1
Theft of cycle	1
Criminal damage	3

Patruxbourne

Burglary (dwelling)	2
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Malcolm Howells, Bekesbourne/Patruxbourne Co-ordinator reports a number of bogus callers in the area, and police advise householders to be careful in dealing with them. If you see anything suspicious dial 762055 or 999!

Bridge Parish Council - November Meeting

Money matters The Council set its budget for 1996/7. Expenditure under the agreed precept of £4900 includes administration costs and insurance, while the sum of £4640 sought under concurrent powers covers gang-mowing, street lighting and grants to certain local organisations, including the newly-formed Parish Appraisal Committee.

Looking to the future At a meeting on 30th October volunteers willing to undertake the Parish Appraisal elected Mr M Loughlin as Chairman. Other members include Mrs V Argent, Ms A Beed, Mr J Epps, Messrs R Franklin, M Gulvin, P Langley and Mesdames P Possee and E Shirley.

New noticeboard Cllrs R Franklin, M Gulvin and J Hill have installed the new Parish Council noticeboard, partly funded by Kent Rural Community Council.

Retirements Councillors were sorry to learn that Mr Edgar Smith had decided to stand down as Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator for health reasons. Mrs Billie Anderson, the village's tree warden for some years, also decided to hand over to someone else. Anyone willing to replace her by making regular inspections, carrying out minor work and advising the Parish Council is asked to contact the Parish Clerk (458437) or Chairman (830881).

FISH NEWS

The local Community Health Council held a series of public meetings in November about

eligibility for continuing NHS Health Care. If you missed the posters you may wish to telephone the Council on 766011. The people most likely to be affected are older people, people with dementia, older people with mental illness and younger adults who need long term health care because of illness or an accident.

Excellent Report for our School on its 25th Birthday

Bridge and Patricbourne CEP School gained an outstanding report from Inspectors of the Office of Standards in Education (OFSTED) following their inspection in June. The main findings can be summarized as follows:

The school is a very good school. It provides a high standard of education for its pupils, is an orderly community where children feel safe, secure and enjoy attending. It is a vibrant, interesting place to be, with an excellent ethos. Its standards are well above the County average.

The curriculum fully meets National requirements. It is broad, well planned and provides pupils with a very good, balanced education. The quality of learning and teaching is good, with examples of outstanding practice throughout the school.

The school benefits from the very good leadership of the Headteacher. The teachers are caring, committed and have a wide knowledge and understanding of the National Curriculum.

The school has already implemented the only areas for action raised by the Inspectors: the hedge around the pond has been cut down, and parents have been asked to notify the school on the first morning of their child's absence.

Chairman of Governors, Grace Goodman said, "The Governors are very proud of this report as it shows what they have always felt, that the teaching, management and ethos of the school is of the highest level. Our aim now is to continue in the same way in the future."

Bekesbourne Church Christmas decorating will get under way on Saturday, 23rd December and all who are willing and would like to give a hand are asked to turn up at 10am.

THAT'S NOT MY JOB!

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it ... Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realised that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

I'm indebted to Kathy Eynon for that cautionary tale, as a corollary to which and apropos of the Bridge Church Cleaning Rota, she writes: "We are still hoping that Somebody or Anybody will come forward to take Kay Barnard's place on the rota and help us, as Everybody seems too busy!" Volunteers (it needn't be only one person) to join Kathy, Pat Hulyer, Joan Monk and Gladys Lemar contact Kathy (830466) who would be delighted to hear from you, whatever your name.

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, Patixbourne

Hon Secretary Mr MF Leggatt, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830251)

Hon Treasurer Mr K Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patixbourne (830947)

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

Organist (Bridge)

Organist (Patixbourne) Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet,Keepers Hill,Patixbourne (830205)

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

BEKESBOURNE

Churchwarden Mr AW 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,Patixbourne (830205)

Captain of the Ringers 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

Items for *On The Nail* should reach the editor by the 15th of the preceding month.

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