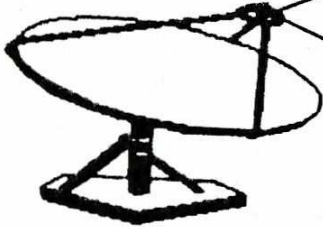


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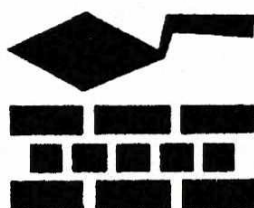
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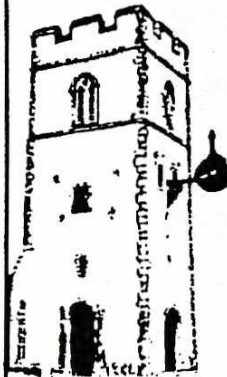
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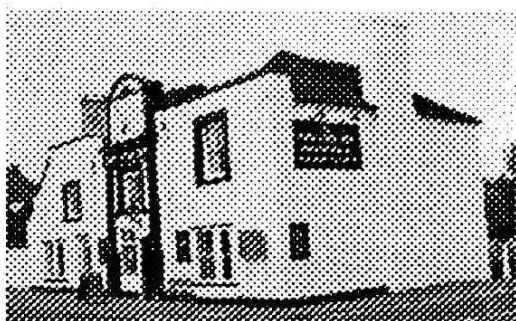


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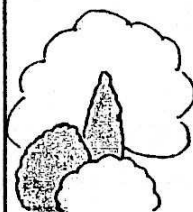
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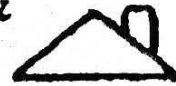
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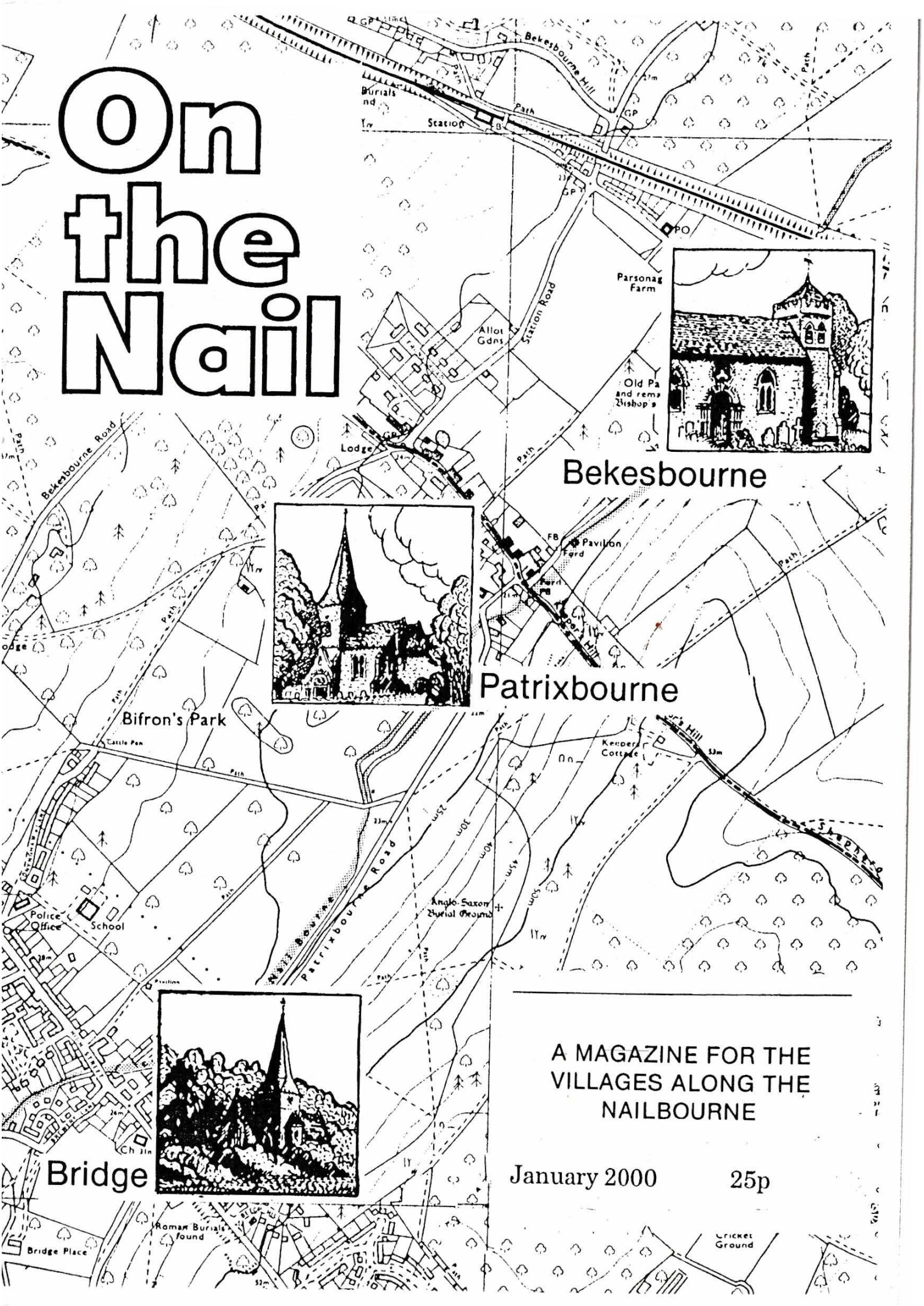


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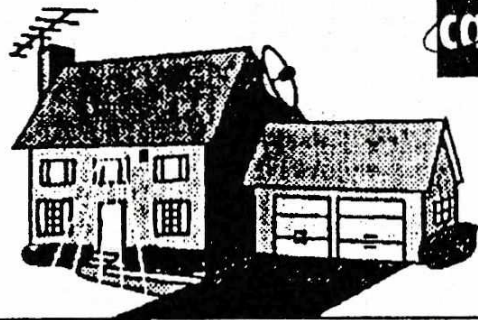
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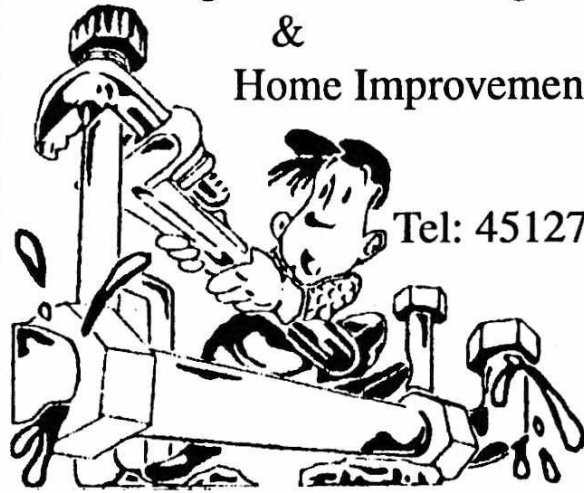
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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN JANUARY

2nd: The Naming of Jesus

- 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
- 9.30am Parish Communion (*Bekesbourne*)

9th: The Baptism of Christ

- 8.00am Holy Communion (*Bekesbourne*)
- 9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
- 11.00am Matins (*Patricbourne*)

16th: The Second Sunday of Epiphany

- 8.00am Holy Communion (*Patricbourne*)
- 9.30am Parish Communion (*Bridge*)
- 11.00am Matins (*Bekesbourne*)

23rd: The Third Sunday of Epiphany

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

30th: The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

- 10.30am Benefice Eucharist (*Bridge*)

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am: *2nd*, *Covenant Service*, The Revd George Baugh. *9th*, The Revd David Marshall. *16th*, Mr Ron Chadwick, MA, DMS. *23rd*, The Revd Maurice Weatherup. *30th*, The Revd Donald Lugg

MARKING THE MILLENNIUM

All three churches will be taking part in the national call to ring church bells at noon on New Year's Day. A short, specially prepared order of service to mark the occasion will precede the ringing, and will begin simultaneously in all three churches promptly at 11.45am. Do come along for this quarter of hour act of worship to herald the millennium at whichever church is the most convenient for you.

ON THE NAIL - A CHANGE OF EDITOR

The Vicar's retirement at the end of this month necessitates a change in the editorship of *On The Nail*, and this is the last issue he will be editing and producing. For the time being both jobs will be in several hands but contributors should send their material to Laurence Dunderdale, 37 High Street in time for the usual deadline, the 15th of the preceding month. Those with computing facilities might care to submit contributions on disk to save them having to be re-typed and initially also it would be helpful to send a printed copy in case programmes aren't compatible.

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 1st **The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus**
Remember, today also celebrates the 2000th anniversary of the birth of Jesus, and please note the previous page's details of the special service at 11.45am.
- 2nd **The Second Sunday of Christmas**
There will be just two services in the Benefice today: 8.00am Holy Communion at Patrixbourne and 9.30am Parish Communion at Bekesbourne. There won't be a service at Bridge.
- 6th **THE EPIPHANY**
It is on this day that the worldwide Church marks the visit of the Wise Men to the infant Christ. Holy Communion will be celebrated in St. Peter's, Bridge at 7.00pm.
- 9th **The Baptism of Christ**
- 12th *Aelred of Hexham, Abbot of Rievaulx, 1167*
Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45am
- 13th *St. Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, Teacher of the Faith, 367*
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, The Hunter Room, 7.30pm
- 16th **The Second Sunday of Epiphany**
- 17th *St. Anthony of Egypt, Hermit, Abbot, 356*
- 18th The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity until 25th
Bridge with Patrixbourne Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 19th *St. Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester, 1095*
- 20th Prayers for Health & Healing concerns, The Vicarage, 7pm
- 21st *Agnes, Child-martyr at Rome, 304*
- 23rd **The Third Sunday of Epiphany**
- 24th *St. Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, Teacher of the Faith, 1622*

25th **The Conversion of St. Paul**

26th *Timothy and Titus, Companions of St. Paul*

28th *St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Philosopher, Teacher of the Faith, 1274*

30th **The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**

On this fifth Sunday at the Benefice Eucharist Raymond Gilbert conducts his last service, and would be delighted if as many as possible from all three congregations could join him for this final celebration in St. Peter's Church, Bridge at 10.30am.

FROM THE VICAR

And finally ...

Allowing for those January issues of *On The Nail*, when I have handed over this slot to the Rural Dean for his new year message, I must have been responsible for almost 240 pieces *FROM THE VICAR*.

Well, this is the last, and it's proving the most difficult. What to put in it? Some clergy opt for controversy in their magazine articles and there are those who try to be topical and draw on the current political scene, but that's never been my style. Perhaps not surprisingly I've tended to concentrate on religious matters, often suggested by the season in the Christian calendar, and I trust my offerings have been couched in terms that don't require a degree in theology to understand them. It's been good to have this monthly opportunity of addressing our readers.

* * *

Throughout my twenty year tenure as editor, and for many of them compositor, I've aimed to make *On The Nail* not just a purely church magazine but one of local interest, covering a variety of topics. I'm greatly indebted to those who have sent in notices, articles, reports or words of thanks in connection with village organisations and charitable activities - keep it up - and let's not forget the army of distributors who month by month deliver *On The Nail* around the villages.

Glancing occasionally at other parishes' efforts I'm often amazed at the paucity of their editorial content, not to mention the quality of their presentation. Some seem overfilled with advertisements; though that's a criticism also levelled against *On The Nail*. On which subject, it's the clamour for advertising space that has enabled us to peg the price at 25p for years. In addition, for residents and people moving into the area the magazine adverts provide useful help on where to go for building, electrical and plumbing needs, not to mention the local shops and businesses. *On The Nail* Advertising Editor, Peter Lawrence, will tell you the advert pages are constantly in demand: there's always a waiting list.

Just to reiterate, the editorial team are ready and waiting for all your future contributions, which should be given to Laurence Dunderdale either in person or through the letterbox of 37 High Street, and, as always, by the 15th of the previous month.

I close with a reminder that despite being temporarily without a vicar the work of the church in Patricbourne with Bridge and Bekesbourne carries on. Those who require baptisms, weddings and funerals will continue to be provided for, although the initial approach for the time being should be made through the relevant churchwardens (see page 21). Sunday worship will carry on as at present, though I understand there won't any longer be a service at 11 o'clock on first Sundays at Bridge.

The Christian Church wherever it is to be found is the agency by which the Lord Jesus Christ carries on his work in the world, and that is not affected by changes in personnel. My earnest prayer is that the churches along this stretch of the Nailbourne will, through the power of God's Holy Spirit, 'blossom and flourish, as leaves on a tree', quoting the hymn. His richest blessing upon all who live and work in these delightful villages of Patricbourne, Bekesbourne and Bridge where Rosemary and I have been so privileged to be these past twenty years.

BRIDGE CHURCH

Cleaning Rota - week ending

8th January - Pat Hulyer

15th January - Debbie Hennessy

22nd January - Kath Pierce/Gladys Lemar

29th January - Kathy Eynon

Brasses - John Hill

A YEW FOR THE MILLENNIUM

As you may have read in last month's *Outlook*, a full congregation gathered in the nave for Evensong in the Cathedral on Saturday 20 November. The service concluded with the blessing and distribution of seedling yew trees to many local parishes, including Bekesbourne. These trees are part of a country-wide

distribution of 7,000 trees, propagated under the auspices of the Conservation Foundation, to celebrate the year 2000. All the parent trees are thought to be at least 2000 years old and were growing during the lifetime of Christ. Bekesbourne's small tree, which will be planted in the churchyard in the spring, has as its 'parent' the ancient Eastling Yew at Faversham. *Jane Millyard*

Canterbury Diocese has decided that from now on Rural Deans are to be known as Area Deans: phasing out an ecclesiastical title of several hundred years standing. So here is East Bridge Area Dean's message for January 2000.

There are occasions when it would be instructive to be able to borrow H.G. Wells' famous Time Machine. If we could instantly transport ourselves back 100 years, to January 1900, how would our churches and our parishes have looked? Of course, we have a few old sepia photographs, but these can do no more than give a vague idea of life at the end of the Victorian era. How I should like to be able to talk with the clergy and parishioners of those days, and to find out what were their concerns, their hopes, and their aims for the years ahead! I suspect I would discover that, whilst there have been enormous changes in the world around, within the hearts and minds of people, the essential questions remain much the same - Who am I? Why am I here? Where am I going? What is the purpose of it all?

In our liturgy for Easter morning, as the great Paschal candle is prepared in the darkness of the church porch and made ready to be carried into the church - a symbol of the light of Christ driving out the darkness of death and sin - these majestic words are said:

Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,
Alpha and Omega,
all times belong to him,
and all ages;
to him be glory and power,
through every age and for ever. Amen.

For 2000 years that has been the belief of Christians everywhere; and a change of date does not affect it. It applied on January 1st, 1000, and will apply on January 1st, 3000, and it is the only thing that can give meaning and purpose to our lives here on earth.

For some, the threshold of a new year and a new century is a cause for anxiety, whilst for others it is the opportunity for a new start and a new hope. With Christ as our leader and our Lord, we should have no fears; we can step into

the new century with total confidence, knowing that he will be there to uphold us in all that we think, say and do.

Crown him the Lord of years,
the Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime:
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

David Barnes

JOHN WILLIAMSON

Ailsa and the Williamson family would like to thank everyone in the villages who so kindly wrote or sent cards upon the death of John. There were many who reflected on the different aspects of his life and his love of the locality. We have much to be grateful for and he will be sadly missed.

BRIDGE & PATRIBOURNE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The first meeting of the new millennium is on Tuesday, 18th January at 7.30pm, when Mrs Ailsa Williamson will talk about the St. John's Eye Hospital in Jerusalem. The competition is your favourite Christmas card. *J.H.*

TWO CHARITABLE SUCCESSES

Barry Whiting writes: The 1999 Poppy Appeal yielded a record sum of £1,217.48. This total included generous donations from the church and the Hon. David Clark, to whom we are profoundly grateful.

Once again sincere thanks are due to our many loyal supporters and the team of conscientious collectors who give their time so willingly.

And Kathy Eynon reports: Sales of The Children's Society Christmas Cards amounted to £443.50. Many thanks to all who supported the charity in this way.

MILLENNIUM LIGHTING

A small grant under the Canterbury City Council scheme for Millennium Lighting has been awarded to St Peter's Bekesbourne. This has enabled us to improve the lighting on the church lych-gate by upgrading it to small flood lights, making it easier for people to see their way up to the church after dark. *Jane Millyard*

FRIENDS OF BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

The Friends are tremendously grateful to all who supported their recent fund-raising events, which have produced the splendid overall total of £911.

The Wine & Wisdom evening, enthusiastically run by Eve and Hugh Pearson, raised £225, and the Christmas Bazaar made £589. £140 of this came from the raffle of the Hogben Quilt, which was won by Mrs Hardy, who came up with the idea in the first place. We do thank all our helpers, and the Brownies, for their superb efforts.

Once again we thank Clive and Cheryl for arranging another very enjoyable *Carols at The Unicorn* evening, where the singing was ably led by the Vicar on the piano and Stuart Field on violin, and the raffle (with many prizes provided by Hoverspeed) raised £87.

Our warmest thanks to all our helpers and supporters and every good wish for the next Millennium!

Jane Shorrock

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL: December meeting

Millennium Lighting A total of 17 trees with lights have been purchased from the grant provided by Canterbury city council for millennium lighting. Trees have been installed at first floor level over the High Street and have been commented upon favourably by residents.

Annual Parish Assembly The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on 29 March 2000 in the village hall at 7.30 pm. It is hoped that a speaker from the Canterbury and Thanet Community Health Council will give an update on the alterations to the provision of health care in east Kent.

Police Liaison Cllr Hill advised councillors that he had attended a police liaison meeting where it had been reported that crime figures were down but that demographic trends indicated a likelihood of increases in the future. Details of a fast track justice system for 10 - 17 year olds were given along with notification of the appointment of a youth officer for the Canterbury area, in April. Councils had been asked to identify local policing concerns and it was felt that in Bridge, vandalism and speeding vehicles were the two main issues.

Village of the Year Competition Councillors agreed that Bridge should again enter the Village of the Year competition in the categories of Business; Older People; Community Life. The event replaces the Best Kept Village competition and aims to encourage residents to work together to enhance the quality of life of people who live and work in rural communities. The judges look for features that show the village as public spirited, cohesive, vibrant, friendly and enterprising. Anyone with specific information which may be relevant and which relates to one

or more of the three categories for which the village is being entered, should contact the clerk on 01227 832219.

Cricket It was agreed that the parish council should continue to maintain the cricket square for the next season whilst an attempt is made to attract another cricket club to the village. In the event that there is no interest from a cricket team, it would be possible to change the area for use by a different sports club, should it be required.

Relocation of Canterbury College It was reported that a Relocation Draft Development Brief for Canterbury College had been received and Cllr Hill had attended a planning briefing in this connection. Councillors agreed to object to the development of the college on this site because it requires the use of Grade 1 agricultural land and is likely to generate additional traffic in the vicinity of Bridge from four of the five possible access points. Public consultation is taking place until 31 January 2000, with a public meeting at 7.30 pm on 12 January at Simon Langton Girls' School. Exhibitions can be viewed at the city council offices until 31 January and Canterbury library until 10 January.

Planning applications: The following applications had been received: a) CA/99/1127/BRI - conversion of stable block to garages with studio over and installation of new gate at 24 High Street; b) CA/99/1163/BRI - two storey side extension at 36 Bridge Down.

ORGANS IN THE CRYPT

David Flood, the Cathedral Organist, will be giving a talk (and presumably a demonstration) entitled *Organs in the Crypt* at 2.30pm on Thursday 17 February in the Crypt. This has been organised by the Friends of Kent Churches who have generously supported the repairs to Bekesbourne Church. Tickets are £5 each and include tea in the Chapter House; please send applications and an S.A.E to the Chairman, Charles Oliver, Hurst Hill Farm, Hothfield, Ashford, TN26 1ER.

Jane Millyard

FISH NEWS

A happy New Year from the Fish Scheme. Despite the Millennium Jubilee the Coffee Pop-Ins in Bridge Village Hall are set to continue on the second Wednesday of the month. Everybody is welcome and do telephone Ann Medhurst (830762) if you would like a lift to and from. So January's Pop-In will be on 12th from 10.15 to 11.45am. If you have thought of being a volunteer driver for Fish but have worried about the tie please don't be put off. If you cannot help when asked, for any reason, Ann simply contacts another person. So do telephone her for details.

Lastly the members of Fish want to thank Raymond and Rosemary for their support right from the scheme's beginning, and wish them a very very happy retirement. A.R.

John Anderson wishes to thank everyone who enquired about him in the wake of his recent operation, from which he has made a good recovery.

Somewhat bashfully the editor prints this letter, at the unnamed writer's request.

Dear Raymond,

Twenty years ago you knocked on my door, you were new to the parish and eager to meet your flock! With some trepidation (being a little in awe of vicars and such like in those days and not just a little apprehensive as to how my three lively youngsters would behave in your presence) I invited you in.

No sooner were you settled in my comfiest armchair, than along toddled my little two year old with her then proudest possession, a bright red potty and plonked it firmly down at your feet and sat on it. I was mortified, but knew by her resolute expression that to try and persuade her otherwise would be foolhardy. Raymond you soon put me at my ease, informing me that you had four young children of your own and were quite used to these sort of antics.

A few years later I took part in a production of *Cinderella* put on for Junior Church, where you Raymond did a dazzling performance as an ugly sister, barely needing the script, happily ad libbing throughout like a true professional. It was memorable!

Time flew by, and in no time at all the little girl of red potty fame had joined your confirmation class and was confirmed along with a group of her friends from Junior Church at a service in Bridge Church, followed by a lovely party in the school hall.

Approximately seven years later, on a sunny July day just before her 21st birthday, that same little girl was married by you Raymond in Bridge Church and now has a little girl of her own.

Thank you for these enduring memories and good luck and lots of happiness to you and Rosemary in your retirement.

WHAT GOES ON IN BRIDGE VILLAGE HALL?

The Management Committee has an *Open Day* on Saturday, 29th January from 10.00am to 12.30pm, to meet representatives of the groups that use the hall and see what they do. Free refreshments will be served, so do drop in with the family and see what's on offer. Age no limit!.

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

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens Mr J Anderson, Aunt Betsy's Cottage, Dering Road, Bridge (830260)

Dr AM Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patrixbourne (830947)

Hon Secretary Mrs A Williamson, Beechmount, Conyngham Lane, Bridge (830399)

Hon Treasurer Mrs JB Stingemore, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830763)

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

Choirmaster & Organist (Bridge) Mr PD Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road (830293)

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

BEKESBOURNE

Churchwardens Mrs J Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne (830256)

Mr IG Gillanders, Cala, Aerodrome Road, Bekesbourne

Hon Secretary Mr JW Cowans, Distant View, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne (831029)

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

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

Captain of the Ringers Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bek'ne (830659)

On The Nail Advertising: Mr HPM Lawrence, 21 Windmill Close, 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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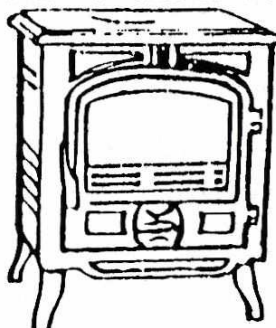
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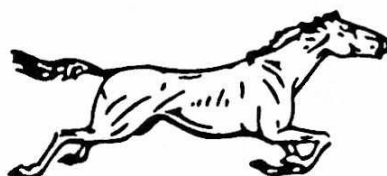
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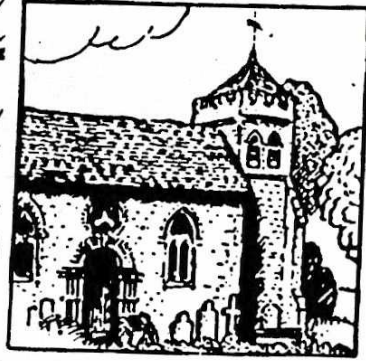
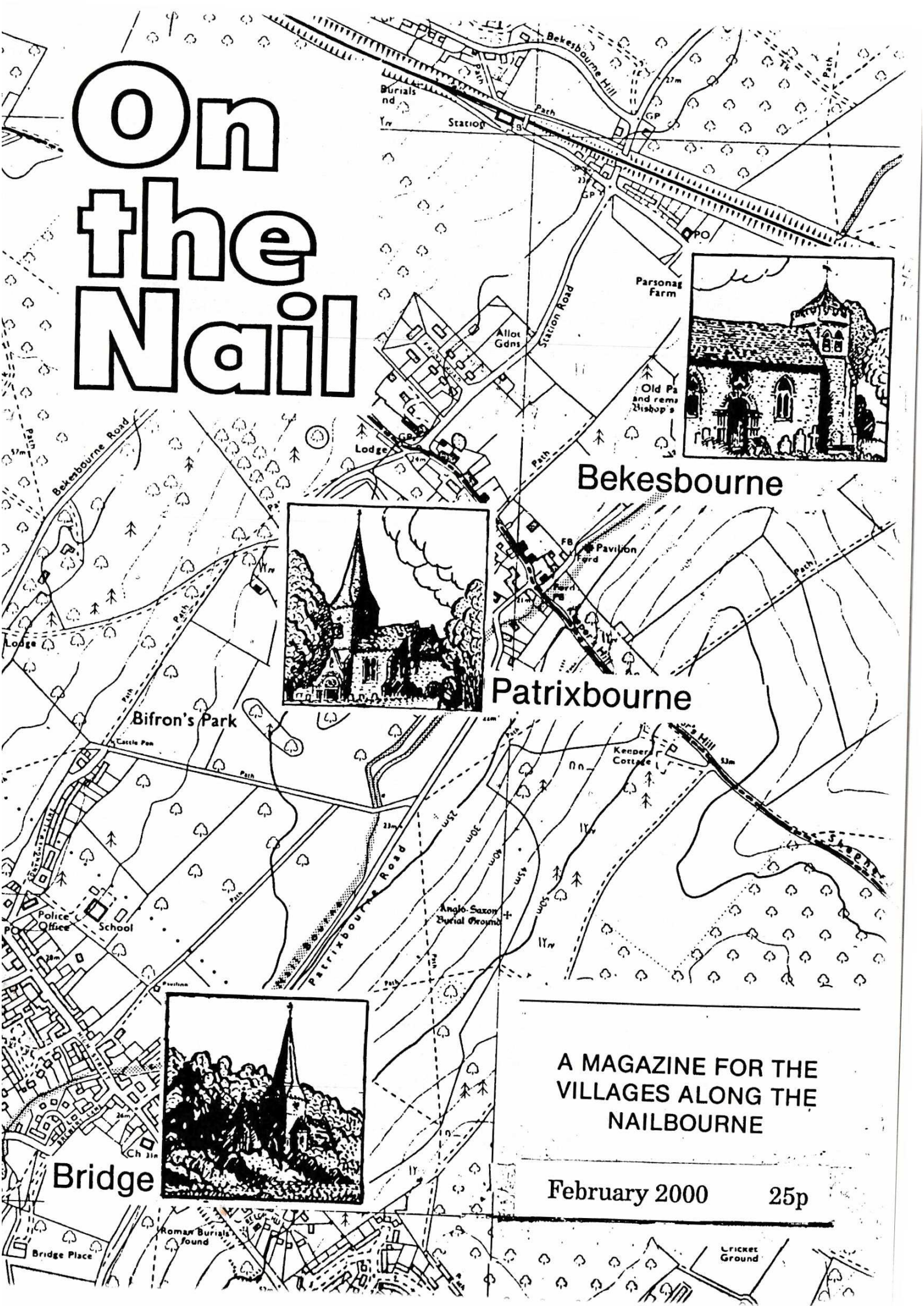
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SUNDAY WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY

6th: The Fifth Sunday before Lent

- 8.00am Holy Communion – *Patricxbourne* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 9.30am Parish Communion – *Bekesbourne* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 11.00am Parish Communion – *Bridge* (Revd. John Thackery)
- 6.30pm Evensong – *Bridge* (John Anderson)

13th: The Fourth Sunday before Lent

- 8.00am Holy Communion – *Bekesbourne* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 9.30am Parish Communion – *Bridge* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 11.00am Matins – *Patricxbourne* (Andrea Nicholson)

20th: The Third Sunday before Lent

- 8.00am Holy Communion – *Patricxbourne* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 9.30am Parish Communion – *Bridge* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 11.00am Matins – *Bekesbourne* (Revd. Don Soppitt)

27th: The Second Sunday before Lent

- 8.00am Holy Communion – *Bridge* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 9.30am Parish Communion – *Patricxbourne* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 11.00am Family Service – *Bekesbourne* (Pat Kusel)
- 6.30pm Evensong – *Bridge* (Revd. John Thackery)

Bridge Methodist Church at 11.00am: 6th Mr Don Skinner, 13th, Mr Alistair Barwick B.Sc., 20th *Holy Communion* Revd. David Marshall, 27th Mr Michael Baybutt B.Sc.

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 2nd **The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemass)**
- 3rd *Anskar Bishop of Hamburg, Missionary in Denmark and Sweden, 865*
Prayers for Health and Healing concerns, 7 Windmill Road, 7pm

- 5th Nailbourne League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals. Coffee Morning and A.G.M., Bridge Village Hall, 10.am to 12noon.
- 6th **The Fifth Sunday before Lent**
- 9th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15-11.45 am
- 13th **The Fourth Sunday before Lent**
- 14th *Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs, 869 and 885*
- 17th *Janani Luwum , Archbishop of Uganda, Martyr, 1977*
Prayers for Health and Healing Concerns, 7 Windmill Close, 7pm.
- 20th **The Third Sunday before Lent**
- 23rd *Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, c.155*
- 27th **The Second Sunday before Lent**

FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

The Vicar has retired so what happens now?

The Vicar was kind enough to give us plenty of notice of his retirement and it was therefore possible to start the procedure of looking for a new Vicar in the Autumn, prior to Raymond's retirement. The first step of this process was a meeting with the Archdeacon at which the proposal was made that the new Benefice, under the new Vicar, would also contain our neighbouring Parishes of Nackington and Lower Hardres. Both PCCs have agreed to this taking place as with 'manpower cuts' we can no longer expect a Vicar to just ourselves, and at least this way the present Parishes in the Benefice stay together. An alternative might have meant a splitting up of the present Benefice. The fact that the suggestion for the new Benefice had first been mooted by our neighbouring Parishes, and that they were in favour of it, helped sway the decision to merge the parishes into one new Benefice. The Vicarage at Bridge will continue as the Vicar's home and is now located in the centre of the new Benefice. This new Benefice will come into force when a new Vicar is appointed.

The next step for Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne with Bridge was to assemble what is effectively our 'advert' for our Parishes. This document is known as the 'Parish Profile' and contains information as to the location of the Parish, the schools, transport links, shops and other facilities on offer in the area, as well as descriptions of the Churches, the Vicarage, our congregations and the pattern of

Worship in our Benefice. We also had to include what was effectively a 'job description' for a new Vicar and our 'wish list' of the kind of person we might be looking for to fill the vacancy.

We are now actively looking for a new Vicar. The process is undertaken with the guidance of the Archdeacon and we have been informed that, although we have had a 'head start' in the process, it could take at least a few months before it is complete. Representatives from each of the Parishes in the new Benefice are involved in the selection process, and they are very aware of the responsibilities entailed in ensuring that we obtain the right kind of person for the job.

Whoever is appointed may have to give a number of months notice to their present Parish. It is also possible that if the new Vicar is a parent, children's schooling or other family commitments may mean that it is not possible to take up residence in Bridge until the end of the present school year. It is therefore possible that a new Vicar may not be with us until late summer.

The Benefice is therefore in the state of an Interregnum. We will endeavour to keep as much of a 'normal service' as possible but inevitably changes will have to occur, although maybe not immediately. Bekesbourne expects to continue with its usual pattern of services in later months, and Patrixbourne and Bridge churches will endeavor to do the same. There may be further changes when the new Vicar arrives, as he will have five congregations to care for.

The services at our Parish Churches for February are as shown on page 4. We are grateful to the Reverend John Shorrocks for assisting us in arranging this schedule and for taking many of the services. Services such as Matins and Evensong will be taken either by a Reader from another Parish or by a Churchwarden. It is hoped that members of the congregation can also play a part in these services by reading intercessions or other parts of the service. We will also need to rely on a number of other clergy from elsewhere so please make them welcome when you meet them at one of our churches.

Parishioners who need to contact a member of the clergy to arrange Funerals, Marriages or Baptisms should, during the Interregnum, contact the Reverend John Shorrocks directly (Tel C.832133). For all other matters please contact a Churchwarden. The Churchwardens hope that these arrangements will enable the life of our two Parishes to continue with minimal disruption during the next few months. As for news about a new Vicar – WATCH THIS SPACE!!!

FISH SCHEME

The outing to the Marlowe Theatre pantomime was greatly enjoyed thanks to Mrs Mavis Parsons who organized the trip.

The next Coffee Pop-In at Bridge Village Hall will be on Wednesday 9th February from 10.15 to 11.15am. Do come.

NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

All gardeners and flower arrangers take note that on Thursday 2nd March at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church, Mrs Jo Dirkin will be giving a talk on 'Flower Arranging within Competition Guidelines'. There will be plenty of tips for everyone, from the absolute beginner to the more experienced exhibitor, and all in time to be put in practice at the Society's Spring Show on Tuesday 4th April! We look forward to welcoming you to our meeting.

Kathy Walder

NAILBOURNE SCOUT GROUP CHRISTMAS MAIL

It was another successful year for the Scout Group who organised and delivered over 900 Christmas cards. Over the past few years this service has grown to be valued by the people of Bridge as well as raising much needed funds. Once again our grateful thanks go to-

- The proprietors who kindly agreed to hold mailboxes in their premises and arrange the sale of stamps
- Those who use the service
- Scouts, Leaders and Parents who gave up valuable time so close to Christmas

Rajini Dasan, Secretary.

BRIDGE CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

Rota for week ending

5th February – Pat Hulyer

12th February – Kath Pierce, Gladys Lemar

19th February – Debbie Hennessy

26th February – Kathy Eynon

Brasses – John Hill

WINTER SERENADE

At Bridge Church

Saturday 12th February at 8.00pm

Solos and duets: Serious to the lighter!

Featuring Philip Spendley Bass-Baritone, Susan Powell and Helen Hearn Sopranos, and Jane Farrell Mezzo-Soprano. Accompanied by Margaret Barns and Peter Giles.

Tickets £3.00 including refreshments, available from John Anderson (C830260) or Andrea Nicholson (C830947)

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY – fund raising

Christingle Service 24/12/99

Thank you to all who braved the wind and rain to fill St. Peter's Church Bridge and for your generosity in giving a total of £244.44 for the Children's Society. A record number of Christingles were distributed to the children. Special thanks to our helpers and to the benefactor who has supplied the oranges for many years. Thanks also to the children who contributed although not well enough to attend the service.

During 1999, through various efforts in Bridge for the Children's Society, a total of £1450.28 was raised, as specified below:-

March Coffee Morning	£330.00
Home/Shop boxes emptied	£393.55
Sale of Easter cards	£23.70
Donations	£15.00
Sale of Christmas cards	£443.59
Christingle Service	<u>£244.44</u>
	£1450.28

Please continue your support in 2000 for this charity's work for young children, teenagers and families in need.

K.E.

BRIDGE AND PATRIBOURNE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

This month's talk is on acupuncture by Mr. B. Sullivan with the appropriate competition "a pincushion". The meeting is at 7.30pm on Tuesday 15th February in Bridge Village Hall. All are welcome.

NAILBOURNE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF CANTERBURY HOSPITALS

A Coffee Morning and A.G.M. will be held on Saturday February 5th 10.00am to 12 noon in Bridge Village Hall. Raffle, Cakes and Bring and Buy. All donations welcome – please support your local hospitals.

Rosy Green

BRIDGE AND PATRIBOURNE SCHOOL

JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 4th March 11.00am to 1pm
in the School Hall

Admission 20p

Jumble can be delivered to school from Wednesday 1st March.

For collection please phone 830276 during school time or 830960 after 5pm.

ELHAM VALLEY TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Sixty members and friends were in Kingston Village Hall(The Barn)for our Champagne Millenium Breakfast on Sunday 16th January, where we had a most sociable couple of hours. The breakfast of scrambled eggs, smoked salmon, cold ham and chipolatas, with baguettes and croissants, was served by a willing team of helpers. Complimentary Bucks Fizz was served throughout and coffee and orange juice were also available. After we finished eating, a table quiz kept us busy for half an hour and then it was time for a brief speech from our chairman and our breakfast was over.

There were many favourable comments on the newly refurbished Barn, which was an ideal setting for this for this occasion.

Information about the Twinning Association may be obtained from your village rep. as follows – Barham – Graeme Smith 830395, Bridge – Yvette West 830438 or from me for Kingston – Gerald Crease 830093.

NOTES FROM THE JANUARY MEETING OF BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Traffic management: Members of the parish council have been in discussion with the Highway Management Unit about traffic issues which concern the village. As a result, a Draft Traffic Plan has been drawn up, which if implemented would have a significant impact on traffic in the village. The recommendations include measures to reduce the speed of traffic entering the village and through the High Street, the provision of safe crossing places, making Union Road a one-way street (westbound) at its junction with the High Street and a parking time restriction outside the shops in Western Avenue. These suggestions have to be considered by the city council's Highways and Transportation sub-committee on 10th February after which it is hoped that some of the recommendations, if not all, can be implemented.

Village seats: The three benches from the centre of the village have now been refurbished and one replaced outside the Post Office. Any suggestions for suitable locations for the other two should be addressed to the clerk at 50 Riverside Close or on 832219. A further bench, situated half way up Town Hill, has also been cleaned and repainted.

Lighting: All remaining streets lights without photo-electric cells are to be updated within the next few weeks. This will bring the benefit of self-correction after power cuts and thus reduce the costs of resetting street lights in these circumstances.

Recreation ground: The handles on the cat see-saw have now been replaced and the new swings are expected to be installed shortly. The contractor working on the new pavilion has agreed to re-instate the ground which has been churned up during building. Moles are still causing a problem but are being treated regularly.

FRIENDS OF BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

A Wine and Wisdom Evening is to be held on 10th March 2000 at 7.30pm in Bekesbourne Village Hall.

For further details contact Jennifer Skinner on 768925

BRIDGE AND DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY – NEWS

‘Steady, the Buffs!’

The Buffs, speaker Peter Ewart told the Society’s November meeting, can be traced back to May 1572. Engaged in the Low Countries for over 70 years, in the 1680’s Prince George of Denmark became Colonel-in-Chief of the regiment and they acquired the Tudor green dragon emblem and the distinctive buff facings on their uniforms.

In action across Europe in the early 1700’s – including Blenheim in 1704, they won their first battle honours, fought the Scots at Culloden in 1746, served in the Mediterranean, the Caribbean, North Africa and the American War of Independence. About this time they became known as the East Kent Regiment. More battle honours were won in the Napoleonic Wars, and afterwards the Buffs saw action in the Far East, accompanied prison ships to Australia, fought in India in 1843, the mid-1850’s Crimean War when one of the first Victoria Cross was awarded, and the 1860’s Chinese Wars.

The East Kent Regiment name was formally adopted in 1868 when the buffs based themselves at the new County depot in Canterbury. The Buffs were in the Zulu wars in South Africa in 1879, and from 1887 to 1903 in India. The Boer War in South Africa, 1900-1902 saw them fighting against a civilian army of farmers defending their homeland. Links with the Royal House of Denmark were reinstated in 1906 when the King of Denmark became Commander-in-Chief.

Peter Ewart concluded with World War I which saw them in action in Europe, North Africa, Turkey and Palestine, with the huge loss of around 6000 men. The Book of Life in Canterbury Cathedral honours their memory.

Christmas Buffet

The Society’s annual Christmas Buffet was held on Saturday 11th December. After braving the cold and rain to get to the White Horse Inn, Bridge the ‘welcome’ glass of mulled wine was appreciated. In festive spirit, after the draw for the Lucky Ticket Prize, everyone set their minds to solve the Photo, Cryptic and General Knowledge Prize Quizzes, with an extra prize for overall winner – a total of five prizes this year! All this activity was accompanied throughout by a generous spread of warm and hot foods, so that a splendid time was had by all.

Next Visit 26 February and next Meeting 1 February. Society information from the Secretary Bill Dawson, Tel 01227 831044.

PARISH PARTNER PROJECT – A DIOCESAN CONFERENCE

The Aim of the conference is to enable every Parish in the Diocese to have a link, or strengthen existing links, with a Parish in the Anglican Communion where there is poverty or oppression.

This conference is a particular response in the Diocese to *New Start – for the World's Poor*. The conference will be held in the new Cathedral Education Centre on Saturday 18 March from 9.30am till 3.00pm. Peter Price the Bishop of Kingston will be the main speaker and Bishop Stephen will celebrate the Eucharist and chair the Open Forum.

The Parish of Patricbourne with Bridge would like to send a representative or representatives to this Conference. If anybody would like to attend as the Parish representative(s), please contact Ailsa Williamson (C830399) for further details.

Sounds New 2000

Anything new is exciting and challenging – but it can be off putting as well. Sounds New was created to help meet these concerns. Between March 3 and April 8 Sounds New will present its fourth series of concerts and events in Canterbury and beyond. New music is put in the context of older music, we have talks and demonstrations and you have a chance to meet the composers and performers.

In March we welcome the world famous composer John Tavener for three days and the brilliant Kentish-born jazz musician Django Bates. We feature the extraordinary talent of Scotland's James MacMillan; as well as the music of Paul Patterson, one time composer in residence at the King's School. You can hear Peter Maxwell Davies next to Handel and Shostakovitch with Vittoria's music for Good Friday – and much more. There is also a major education programme in schools and colleges, with many performances by students, often of their own work.

Come and hear more about it at our launch on Thursday 17 February at 6pm in the Canterbury Environment Centre, St. Alphege Place.
Nicholas Cleobury Artistic Director.

For more information contact Amelia Power (Tel 01227 738901, e-mail sounds.new@virgin.net)

Vicar:

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens Mr J Anderson, Aunt Betsy's Cottage, Dering Road, Bridge (830260)

Dr AM Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne (830947)

Hon Secretary Mrs A Williamson, Beechmount, Conyngham Lane, Bridge (830399)

Hon Treasurer Mrs JB Stingemore, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830763)

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

Choirmaster & Organist (Bridge) Mr PD Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road (830293)

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

BEKESBOURNE

Churchwardens Mrs J Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne (830256)

Mr IG Gillanders, Cala, Aerodrome Road, Bekesbourne

Hon. Secretary Mr JW Cowans, Distant View, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne (831029)

Hon. Treasurer Mr D Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne (830256)

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

Captain of the Ringers Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bek'ne (830659)

On The Nail Advertising:- Mr HPM Lawrence, 21 Windmill Close, Bridge (830472)

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

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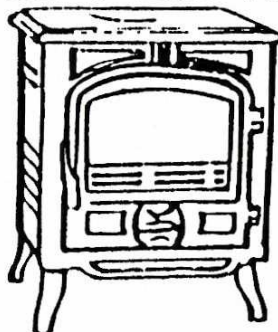
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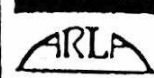
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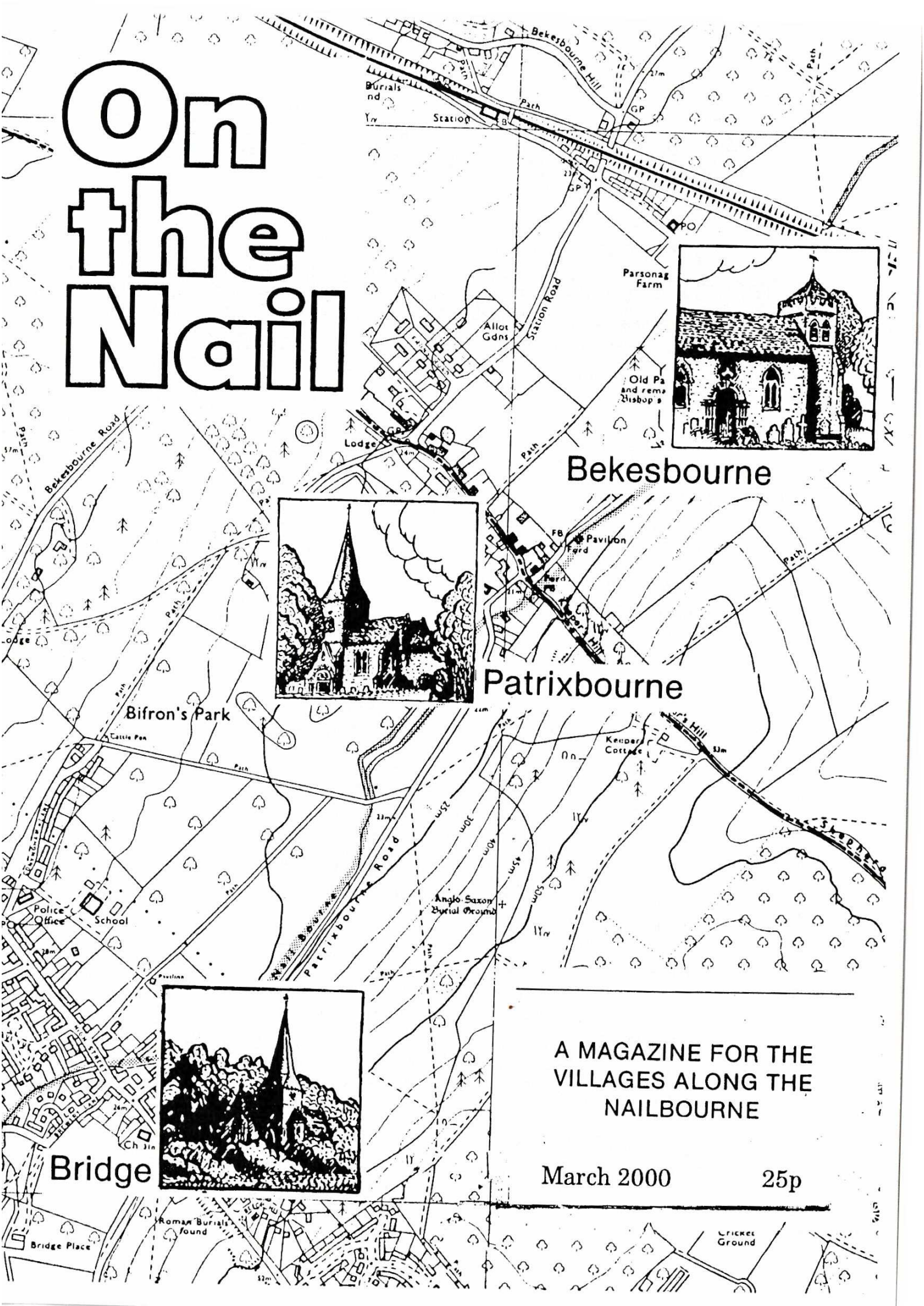
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WORSHIP IN MARCH

5th: The Sunday next before Lent

- 8.00am Holy Communion – *Patricbourne* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 9.30am Parish Communion – *Bekesbourne* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 11.00am Matins – *Bridge* (John Anderson)
- 6.30pm Evensong – *Bridge* (Revd. John Thackray)

8th: Ash Wednesday

- 7.30pm Benefice Eucharist – *Bridge* (Canon Gordon Manley)

12th: The First Sunday of Lent

- 8.00am Holy Communion – *Bekesbourne* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 9.30am Parish Communion – *Bridge* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 11.00am Matins – *Patricbourne* (Andrea Nicholson)

19th: The Second Sunday of Lent

- 8.00am Holy Communion – *Patricbourne* (Canon Gordon Manley)
- 9.30am Parish Communion – *Bridge* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 11.00am Matins – *Bekesbourne* (Nigel Hale)

26th: The Third Sunday of Lent

- 8.00am Holy Communion – *Bridge* (Revd. John Thackray)
- 9.30am Parish Communion – *Patricbourne* (Revd. John Shorrocks)
- 11.00am Family Service – *Bekesbourne* (Pat Kusel)
- 6.30pm Evensong – *Bridge* (Revd. John Thackray)

Bridge Methodist Church at 11.00am: 5th March, Mrs Marjorie Beckwith; 12th, Rev David Marshall (Holy Communion); 19th, Rev Howard Skinner; 26th, Mr Ron Chadwick.

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 1st *David, Bishop of Menevia, Patron of Wales. c.601.*
- 2nd *Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary, 672.*
Prayers for Health and Healing Concerns, 7 Windmill Close, 7pm.
Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Methodist Church, 7.30pm.
- 3rd Women's World Day of Prayer, Methodist Church, 11.00am.
- 4th Bridge School jumble sale, School hall, 11.00am.

- 5th **The Sunday next before Lent**
- 7th *Perpetua, Felicity and their Companions, Martyrs at Carthage, 203.*
- 8th **Ash Wednesday.**
Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-in, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am.
- 9th Bridge Parish Council, Hunter Room, 7.00pm.
Patricxbourne Choir Rehearsal, Patricxbourne Church, 8.00pm.
- 10th Friends of Bekesbourne Church, Wine and Wisdom, Bekesbourne Village Hall, 7.30pm.
- 12th **The First Sunday of Lent.**
- 17th *Patrick, Bishop, Missionary, Patron of Ireland, c.460.*
- 19th **The Second Sunday of Lent.**
- 20th *Joseph of Nazareth..*
- 21st *Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, Reformation Martyr, 1556.*
Bridge & Patricxbourne Womens Institute, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm.
- 25th **The Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary.**
- 26th **The Third Sunday of Lent.**
- 28th Bridge History Society, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm.

FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

First of all, we would like to thank everyone who worked so hard to make Raymond and Rosemary's final weekend with us a most memorable occasion – it was a real team effort and we know it was much appreciated. We are sorry that we were not able to acknowledge personally the many contributions to their farewell gifts; as well as cheques from both parishes, the benefice gave them some music CDs, framed photographs of the three churches and a rose bush (and gardening book) as a contribution to their new home.

* * * *

Most of you will have already heard the good news that we have been extremely fortunate in the appointment of Raymond's successor, without a long interregnum. Paul Filmer, who is currently a Curate with the Stone Street group of parishes, will be licensed to the new benefice by the Bishop of Dover at **7.30pm on Tuesday 2 May** in Bridge church. Do put the date in your diary and come to welcome Paul and his family.

Paul has sent us some information about them all:

“Paul and Judy have been married for 21 years and have 4 daughters. Before his theological training and ordination, Paul's work was industrial training and development. Judy was until recently a local school secretary, and is now

looking forward to college in September when she will begin nurse training. As well as keeping a busy household together, Judy works tirelessly, helping Paul behind the scenes in his ministry.

Sam (19) is busy adding a Chemistry A level to the 3 she gained last year, so that she can read medicine and train to be a doctor. Vicky (17) is currently studying Theatre Studies at Canterbury College. In September she will begin her degree in drama and psychology before moving on to teacher training. Her ambition is to teach drama therapy. Amy (16) is just completing her GCSEs at Langton Girls and will be around for another two years whilst she studies for As. She also plans to become a teacher after university. Kate (12) is just finishing her 2nd year at St Anselm's and is looking forward to settling into her new home in Bridge.

The vicarage is also set to become home to a number of pets. Two dogs; Percy (golden lab) and Tessa (heinz 57) and joined by three cats; Minnis, Bob & Mr Bigglesworth; and a killer rabbit called Bernard.

The whole family is looking forward to the move to Bridge in May and would like to get to know as many people as possible in Bridge, Patricxbourne & Bekesbourne in the shortest time. So, don't be shy, introduce yourself if they don't get to you first."

* * * *

A reminder that you should contact the Reverend John Shorrocks (Tel: C.832133) to arrange funerals, marriages or baptisms during the interregnum. For all other matters, please contact a churchwarden.

THANK YOU SO MUCH

Rosemary and I want to say a heartfelt thank-you for the quite overwhelming send-off given us over the last weekend of January 2000. Together with the large number of retirement cards and letters, including some gifts from individual friends, we could not have received more wonderful indications of your love and affection. Both school and church communities did us proud and for it thank you so much!

The Friday morning assembly at the school set the ball rolling, when the children showered us with gifts, one being a specially made HAPPY RETIREMENT book signed by every child in the school, including those who had only been at school a couple of weeks. That same evening Bekesbourne PCC entertained us to a sumptuous dinner at Parsonage Farm: magnificent food, excellent wine, most congenial company and all in homely surroundings. Small wonder we partied well beyond midnight.

The glorious party in the school hall on the Saturday was incredible! Clearly a lot of thought and hard work had gone into it. The food was scrumptious, the wine perfect and the cake likewise, the atmosphere warming – and all for us. Most humbling! And how good to see, among our many local friends and well-wishers, faces from the past, many having travelled long distances just to be with us. A huge “thank-you” to the planning committee. It was a complete surprise, and we are so grateful! And such generous presents: beautiful flowers, CDs of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* (conducted by the incomparable Solti), a rose bush and a very large cheque from each of the two parishes. All this and the framed photographs of the three churches makes a mere “thank you” very inadequate, but, let me assure you, it couldn't be more heartfelt.

The Sunday Eucharist was intensely moving, partly because it was my last, but also because of the large congregation of parishioners past and present from the three villages and beyond. Having family members taking part made it extra special, as also did the unexpected invitation for them to communicate first. What a way to go out!

Thank you for a weekend-in-a-million and for your loving support and prayers for Rosemary, for me and our family over the years. God bless you always! We shall never forget you!

Raymond Gilbert

PATRIXBOURNE CHOIR

Every year the Patricbourne Carol Service is ably led by a large choir of singers from our villages and further afield. We are now hoping to re-form a Choir to sing at the 11am second Sunday of the month Matins service. Any singers from the Christmas Choir or anyone else interested in joining the choir are asked to come to the first choir rehearsal on Thursday 9th March in Patricbourne Church at 8pm.

For further details please contact Rosalie Stacey (830205).

LENT LECTURES IN 2000

There are no Lent talks this year in the benefice but information has been received about the following lectures taking place elsewhere:

Ss Cosmus and Damian in the Blean

Wednesdays 8 March to 19 April at 7.30 pm in Blean Church.

Theme: *Jesus for the third millennium -- a series of personal views of Christology for the 21st century*, by several different speakers.

The lectures will last for 35 to 45 minutes and will be followed by time for questions and discussion and refreshments.

The City Centre Parish, Canterbury

Date and Time: Wednesdays 15 March to 12 April at 12.30 pm.

Place: St Peter's Church, Canterbury

Theme: *All my hope on God is founded*, by Bishop Stephen Venner of Dover.

Further details from Rev David Hayes, 01227 462395

BEKESBOURNE FAMILY SERVICES

At present we are still meeting on the 4th Sunday of each month at 11am.. We have a thriving congregation and families regularly join us from Bridge and from as far away as Petham. A warm welcome is extended to all who come, young or old, with families or without.

Our next service is on the 26 March and the topic will be *The Days of Lent*. We have decided not to hold a Pets Service this year. But don't worry, I'm hopeful we will renew the tradition next year! Easter falls on the date of the April family service, so there will not be one that month. But there is a service for families in April -- Mothering Sunday on 2 April. The Benefice Mothering Sunday service is traditionally held at Bekesbourne and we hope lots of families will join us then. For those who do not know our Mothering Sunday service I should tell you that during the service we distribute posies of flowers (donated by parishioners within the benefice) to all the "children", young or old, to take and give to their mothers.

Pat Kusel

On 23rd January Tony Budell, the founder of British Humanitarian Aid, came to address the congregation. He began by recounting how, at a nadir in his life, he underwent a "Pauline" conversion and first became a hospital porter, later a full-time humanitarian aid worker. The congregation sat rivetted as he expounded on the difficulties and challenges the aid organisation encountered: the sheer logistics of gathering aid and organising convoys – there have been 94 so far – of many vehicles delivering some 8000 tons of aid to the affected countries. He spoke passionately about their successes in Bosnia, Kosovo and in Chernobyl. Our thanks to Pat Kusel, herself involved in the aid charity, for persuading this remarkable man to recount his experiences, inspiring us with his example.

Ian Gillanders

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The service this year will be held at the Methodist Church, Bridge on Friday 3 March at 11.00am. It will be led by Mrs Muriel Packer. The speaker will be Mrs Anne Rooke. All are welcome.

FISH NEWS

The next chiropody clinic will be from March 6th to 10th. Please contact Joan Warren (830233) if you would like more details.

Remember the Coffee Pop-In at Bridge Village Hall on Wednesday 8 March . Transport can be arranged by telephoning Mrs Ann Medhurst (830762).

HEALTH AND HEALING CONCERNS

During the interregnum the group will meet only once a month at 7 Windmill Close at 7.00pm. The March meeting will be on 2 March and then on the first Thursday of future months.

This is quite an informal group, sharing concerns for the ill, bereaved and any situations that need prayerful thoughts. Do feel free to join us, or let us know of anyone you wish to be included in our prayers (phone 830844).

Kath Pierce

NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

A reminder that the next meeting will be held on Thursday 2 March at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church when Mrs Jo Dirkin will give a demonstration of flower arranging, with particular attention to keeping arrangements within competition guidelines.

This talk is nicely timed for the tips gleaned to be put into practice at our Annual Spring Show on Tuesday 4 April in the Village Hall, Bridge. Schedules for the Show will be available at the demonstration on 2 March and also from the Show Secretary, Mrs Joan Stingemore (830763), Mrs Billie Anderson (830260) or any other member of the committee.

We look forward to seeing members and non-members at these events.

Kathy Walder, Secretary

MORE GRANTS FOR BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

Bekesbourne Church has been extremely fortunate in receiving two further grants towards the recent maintenance work -- both of them to be set against the unexpected cost of re-roofing the vestry. The Sir James Colyer-Fergusson Charitable Trust has given us a second grant, this time of £5,417, and we have received another £1,000 from the Friends of Kent Churches. This brings the total raised through grants to just over £55,000.

Jane Millyard

FRIENDS OF BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

The Friends are holding another of their popular **Wine & Wisdom** evenings on Friday 10 March at 7.30pm in Bekesbourne Village Hall -- Tickets £2.50, bring your own food and drink, tables of six or eight. Hurry and book your tickets with Jennifer Skinner on 768925 as soon as possible.

WINTER SERENADE

The concert at St Peter's Bridge held last month was a great success. Before a packed audience, the pupils of Peter Giles rendered a polished selection of solos and duets, from Mozart to Richard Rodgers, and Elgar to Purcell. They also managed to raise £280 for the church music fund, thereby making savings on general parish expenses. Many thanks to all the artists, helpers and those who supported the event to make it such a success. Next concert: the Canzonet Choir on Wednesday 5th April.

John Anderson

FLOWER FESTIVAL SERVICE

This will take place in St Peter's Church, Bridge at 9.30am on Sunday 9 September 2000 as part of Bridge Village Millennium Celebrations. The Archdeacon, The Ven John Pritchard, has graciously assented to be present at this Eucharist and Thanksgiving Service. We hope that as many as possible from the benefice will attend.

John Anderson

BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL: FEBRUARY MEETING

Recreation ground: New swings have now been installed on the recreation ground to replace those removed on health and safety grounds. The parish council has not, to date, been able to attract a new cricket club to the ground. Although the council would like to continue to maintain the square for at least a season, it is possible that the cost will be prohibitive if no rental income is received. Anyone interested in discussing the use of the cricket field, at Patrixbourne Road, Bridge, should contact the clerk on 01227 832219.

Proposed new medical centre: A planning application had been received for a new medical centre for the Bridge surgery at Patrixbourne Road, the costs and benefits of which were debated at some length in the meeting. Issues raised included the loss of a green field site, the impact on the play area and its rural setting, the possibility of further expansion of the site and the restriction which would be placed on the recreation ground should the need to enlarge it occur in

the future. Councillors noted the stated need for enhanced medical provision due to the increase in patient numbers and the development of primary care in general practice surgeries. They were also aware of the lack of a suitable brownfield site being available in the centre of the village and the current problems concerning parking in Green Court and Western Avenue by visitors to the present surgery. A resolution to support the planning application was passed by a majority vote.

Planning applications: The following planning applications had been received from the planning department of the city council and commented on by the planning sub-committee.

CA/99/1244/BRI - single storey extension to the side of 17 Union Road.

CA/00/0013/BRI - demolition of outbuilding, internal and external alterations to Flat 5 Bridge Hill House, Higham Lane.

CA/00/0084/BRI - extension and alterations to form a single dwelling at 1 & 2 Old Renville Farm Cottages, Renville.

CA/00/0036/BRI - new doctors' surgery at Patricbourne Road.

The following application was notified as granted by the city council:

CA/99/1127/BRI - conversion of stable block to garages with studio over and installation of new gates at 24 High Street.

BRIDGE AND PATRIBOURNE WOMENS INSTITUTE

On Tuesday 21 March local author Ann Shirley's talk will be about her latest book *The Search for the North West Passage*. The competition is: "An animal ornament in any medium bought or made". The winner will go on to the Group meeting in April. Visitors and new members will be made very welcome

Joyce Hopkins

YOGA

Why not start the week off with a yoga class in Bekesbourne Village Hall? These are held every Monday from 10.00–11.30am. All ages and beginners welcome. Please phone Cheryl Rivers on 728648

Zan Clifford

PROPOSED NEW SURGERY

John Rofe, Practice Manager of the Bridge medical practice, has written to *On the Nail* explaining the need for new premises. There are now 3 full-time doctors caring for double the number of patients compared with ten years ago.

The proposed new surgery will have: on the ground floor 2 doctors' consulting rooms, waiting area and reception office, visiting consultant/therapist room, minor operations room, nurse treatment/prep. room, district nurse/health visitor/patient confidential interview room and WCs; on the first floor rooms for staff training, administration, and staff kitchen and WCs. Outside there will be car parking for patients and staff. The disabled will be fully catered for. Expanded services will include: more doctors' surgery time with minor operations being undertaken, in-house clinics with visiting hospital consultants and therapists and extra nurse clinics. There will also be new opportunities for in-house physiotherapy, osteopathy and chiropody.

THE GUIDE ASSOCIATION

Wendy Dyer, Canterbury Rural District Commissioner, has written to *On the Nail* inviting adults to join the Association to be trained as leaders. This would help reduce the waiting list for girls to join the Bridge Rainbow, Brownie and Guide Unit. No qualifications are needed "except that you enjoy being with children and helping them fulfil their potential". Those interested should telephone her on 01227 450605

BEKESBOURNE FLOWER AND CLEANING ROTA IN MARCH

4th	Romany Cowans	Flower check and cleaning
11th	Jane Shorrocks	Clear flowers and cleaning
18th	Joan Atkins	Cleaning only
25th	Janet Street	Cleaning only

Advance warning! Posies from all flower arrangers are requested for Mothering Sunday on 2 April

We are in need of some new people to join our rota, particularly cleaners for times of year when there are no flowers in church. Could you spare an hour once or twice a year to vacuum and dust? No brass cleaning required! If you can help, please ring Christine Ash (830214) or contact the Churchwardens.

BRIDGE CHURCH CLEANING ROTA IN MARCH

Week ending 4th

11th Pat Hillyer

18th Kath Pierce, Gladys Lemar

25th Kathy Eynon

Brasses: John Hill

Vicar:

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens Mr J Anderson, Aunt Betsy's Cottage, Dering Road, Bridge (830260)

Dr AM Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patrixbourne (830947)

Hon Secretary Mrs A Williamson, Beechmount, Conyngham Lane, Bridge (830399)

Hon Treasurer Mrs JB Stingemore, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830763)

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

Choirmaster & Organist (Bridge) Mr PD Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road (830293)

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

BEKESBOURNE

Churchwardens Mrs J Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne (830256)

Mr IG Gillanders, Cala, Aerodrome Road, Bekesbourne

Hon. Secretary Mr JW Cowans, Distant View, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne (831029)

Hon. Treasurer Mr D Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne (830256)

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

Captain of the Ringers Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bek'ne (830659)

On The Nail Advertising- Mr HPM Lawrence, 21 Windmill Close, Bridge (830472)

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

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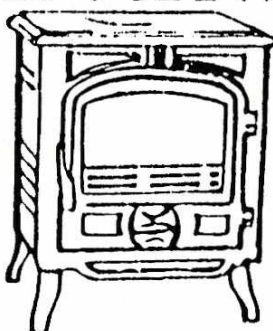
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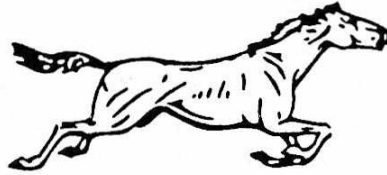
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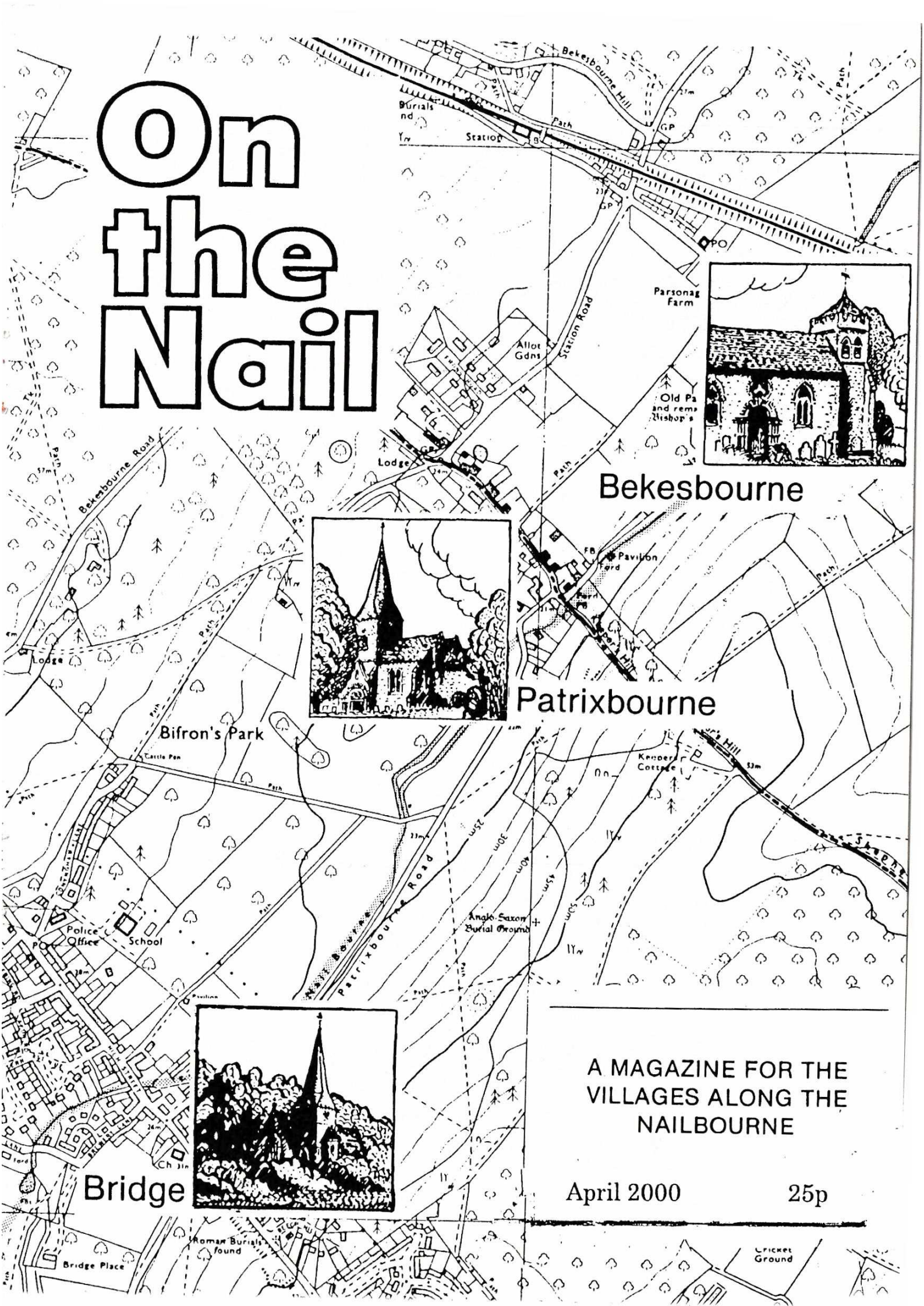
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WORSHIP IN APRIL

2nd: The Fourth Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday

9.30am Benefice Eucharist – Bridge (Revd. John Thackray)
11.00am Mothering Sunday Service – Bekesbourne
(Revd. John Shorrocks)

9th: The Fifth Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Communion – Bekesbourne (Revd. John Shorrocks)
9.30am Parish Communion – Bridge (Revd. John Thackray)
11.00am Matins – Patrixbourne (Andrea Nicholson)

16th: Palm Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion – Patrixbourne (Revd. John Shorrocks)
9.30am Parish Communion – Bridge (Revd. John Shorrocks)
11.00am Matins – Bekesbourne (Nigel Hale)

21st: Good Friday – ‘Way of the Cross Walk’

10.00am Bridge 10.45am (approx.) Patrixbourne
11.30am (approx.) Bekesbourne (Revd. John Shorrocks)

23rd: Easter Day

8.00am Holy Communion – Bridge (Revd. John Shorrocks)
9.30am Parish Communion – Patrixbourne (Canon Gordon Manley)
11.00am Parish Communion – Bekesbourne (Fr. Harry Smythe)
11.00am Parish Communion -- Bridge (Revd. John Shorrocks)

30th: Second Sunday of Easter

10.30am Benefice Eucharist – Patrixbourne (Revd. John Shorrocks)

7th MAY : Third Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion – Patrixbourne (Revd. Paul Filmer)
9.30am Parish Communion – Bekesbourne (Revd. Paul Filmer)
6.30pm Evensong – Bridge (Revd. Paul Filmer)

BRIDGE METHODIST CHURCH -- APRIL 2000

2nd: Revd George Baugh **9th:** Revd David Marshall
16th Mrs Mary Weatherup BA **23rd:** Revd George Baugh (Holy Communion)
30th: Mr Alan Thorn

Bridge Methodist Church will be holding a **Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale** on Thursday 6 April from 10am to 12 noon. A warm welcome to all.

FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 2nd **The Fourth Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday**
- 4th Nailbourne Horticultural Society Spring Show, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30 pm.
- 5th Canzonet Chamber Choir Concert, Bridge Church, 7.30 pm
- 6th Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy, Bridge Methodist Church, 10.00 am to 12 noon.
Prayers for Health and Healing Concerns, 7 Windmill Close, 7.00 pm
- 8th Bridge & Patrixbourne Womens Institute, Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy, Bridge Village Hall, 10.00 am to 12 noon.
Saxon Lodge New Millennium Party, 30 Western Avenue, Bridge, 2.00 to 6.00 pm.
- 9th **The Fifth Sunday of Lent**
Nailbourne Horticultural Society, outing to Stowe, Bucks., 9.00 am.
- 10th *William Law, Priest, Spiritual Writer, 1761.*
Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne Parish Council, Annual Parish Meeting, Bekesbourne Village Hall, 7.30 pm
- 11th Patrixbourne with Bridge Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Bridge School, 7.30 pm.
- 12th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-in, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 to 11.45 am.
- 13th Bridge Parish Council, Hunter Room, 7.30 pm.
- 15th Spring Coffee Morning, Bridge Village Hall, 10.00 am to 12 noon.
- 16th **Palm Sunday**
- 17th **Monday of Holy Week**
- 18th **Tuesday of Holy Week**
Bridge & Patrixbourne Womens Institute, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30 pm
- 19th **Wednesday of Holy Week**
Bekesbourne Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Parsonage Farm, 7.30 pm.
- 20th **Maundy Thursday**
- 21st **Good Friday**
Way of the Cross Walk, meet at Bridge Church, 10.00 am.
- 22nd **Easter Eve**
- 23rd **Easter Day**
Higham Park House and Gardens, Open Garden, 11 am to 6 pm.
- 29th Please pray for Matthew John Wood and Lisa Melonie Birch who are to be married today in St Peter's Church, Bridge.
Exhibition: "Images of the Parish Past and Present", Bekesbourne Village Hall, 10.30 am to 4.00 pm (also on Sunday 30 April).

Bridge History Society, Trip to Winchelsea and Rye.
30th **The Second Sunday of Easter.**

FROM THE REVD JOHN SHORROCK

My dear Friends

This will be my first and last letter for *On The Nail*. Next month we will welcome The Reverend Paul Filmer as our new parish priest, and also the parishes and people of Nackington and Lower Hardres to our Benefice.

As a parishioner, I would like to pay tribute to the Churchwardens of our present three churches, who have done so much to organise the services, and also to those who have helped to lead our worship during the Interregnum.

I do hope that you will all make a note of the Mothering Sunday Service at Bekesbourne on Sunday 2nd April, at 11 am. This service is not just for children, but for mothers and fathers too. It will be full of surprises!!

Easter Day comes as another surprise at the end of Lent. It will be late this year and Spring will be well on its way. We will be reminded of the New Life brought to us and to the world by the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. His death is a sign of the outpouring of God's love on Good Friday, and we will be remembering this as we walk through the parishes. A service of devotion will be held at 10 am at Bridge, at 10.45 at Patricbourne and at 11.30 at Bekesbourne. Do join us at one of the services, or come on the whole walk if you are able. It is GOOD FRIDAY because Christ died for YOU.

There are a number of vacant parishes in the deanery and in the diocese, and we are blessed indeed that after such a short interregnum we will have our own new incumbent from 2nd May. A young family man, The Reverend Paul Filmer is already well experienced in rural ministry and will bring vision, energy and imagination to us. I am sure we will all strive to be worthy and ready to work with Paul as he seeks to lead us and guide us to be the Church of God in our new Benefice.

I wish you all a Joyful and Happy Easter.

FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

As you know, Paul Filmer is to be licensed by the Bishop of Dover as Priest in Charge of the new benefice at 7.30pm on Tuesday 2 May in Bridge Church. After the service there will be a reception in the John Baker White Memorial

Hall at Lower Hardres. We hope that we can fit in as many of our regular churchgoers as possible, but space is going to be very tight. We have to accommodate a number of 'official' guests, as well as Paul's personal guests and representatives of his former parishes. The licensing service involves a fair amount of processing round the church, so it is not an occasion for standing in the aisles!

We have decided, therefore, that admission to the service and reception will be by ticket only, available from the churchwardens from the beginning of April and have allocated a number of tickets to each of the five churches. If demand exceeds supply, we shall have a reserve list, so that we can allocate any extra tickets once we know how many of our official guests are coming.

If for whatever reason you are not able to come to the licensing service, you will be able to meet Paul on the first Sunday in May, when he will be taking a service in each of our three churches.

HOLY BAPTISM

We welcome into God's family at St Peter's, Bridge, JAMES EDWARD KING, of 12 Green Court, who was baptised on Sunday, 27th February 2000. By God's Grace he was made a child of God and an inheritor of the Kingdom of Heaven, and his parents and godparents promised that he would be brought up in and taught the Christian Faith. We remember them in our prayers.

FUNERALS

It is with great sadness that we record the funeral at Barham on 28 January 2000. of EILEEN H. BEVAN, who died at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Margate. She is greatly missed by her husband Tony and the family and her many friends. May she Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

A large congregation filled St Peter's, Bridge, on Friday 11th February 2000, to thank God for the life of EDITH JOYCE MARY WORSLEY of 11 Ford Close, who died at the Kent & Canterbury Hospital aged 77 years. Her son, Mike Raggett, spoke movingly about her life and particularly about her work in Bridge where she had so many friends. She was cremated at Barham Crematorium at a service conducted by The Reverend John Shorrocks. May she Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

**Come to our
Mothering Sunday
Celebration**

We're holding a special service for children, their families and everyone who cares for children.

Please join us.
Sunday 2nd April 11 am
Bekesbourne Church




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Morning*



**Bridge Village Hall
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Prizes for 'Best Easter Bonnets' -under12's, and 12's to 112's.

Please bring donations to stalls on the day or give in advance to Pat Dunderdale, Andrea Nicholson or Sheila Fenn.

PUDDING EVENING

Come and join us at 7.00 pm on Saturday 6 May in Bridge Village Hall for an evening devoted to Puddings Old and New. Cheese and bread or biscuits will be served first, followed by a variety of puddings for you to sample. Coffee or tea will be served afterwards. Quizzes and raffles will be held too. Tables of eight, but bring your own plates, cutlery, glasses, drinks, and most importantly pudding bowls and spoons. £5 per person.

Tickets available from Pat Dunderdale, Sheila Fenn or Andrea Nicholson. Do you have a favourite pudding you can bring? – then contact Pat and let her know!!

FLOWER ARRANGERS, EASTER LILIES & CHURCH CLEANING Patixbourne

Donations are requested towards the cost of Lilies and other flowers for Easter at Patixbourne Church. If you would like to remember a loved one by donating £1 towards the cost of a stem of lilies, please send your donations to Andrea Nicholson, by April 14th.

At present we have a few gaps in the flower rota for St Mary's for the coming year. Members of the flower rota are normally responsible for the Altar flowers for a period of two weeks a year and/or also help decorate the church at Easter, Harvest and Christmas. Anyone who would like to be included on the rota should contact Andrea Nicholson.

Bridge

Donations for Easter lilies are now being accepted by Viv Brasier. Sadly our usual florist has closed; so a new source with less discount has had to be found. Lilies this year will be about £4 each, although I am told they will be of a superior quality – only time will tell.

To arrangers or anyone who is interested in trying their hand at arranging: all help welcome at 10.00 am on Saturday 22 April. Thank you.

Bekesbourne

A reminder to all flower arrangers that posies are needed at 11.00 am on Sunday 2 April for the Benefice Mothering Sunday service in Bekesbourne Church.

Anyone who would like to contribute to Lilies for Easter should send their donation to Christine Ash at Parsonage Farm.

The church will be decorated for Easter at 10.30 am on Saturday 22 April – all help welcomed.

The rota for April is:

1st	Jane Millyard (cleaning only)	8th	Pam Farbrace (cleaning only)
15th	(cleaning only)	29th	(cleaning & flower check)

Please contact Christine Ash (830214) if you can fill either of the gaps.

THE FRIENDS OF BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

A very merry evening was enjoyed by the 74 people who came to our WINE & WISDOM EVENING at Bekesbourne Village Hall on 10 March, and they raised £267 for our funds. We thank all who supported us and those who organised the evening, especially Brian and Jenny whose questions taxed our minds and memories and gave us a lot of fun as well!

Future events

Sunday, 28 May 2000 – OPEN GARDEN at Woolton Farm, by kind invitation of Lady Mount.

FEBRUARY FAMILY SERVICE AT BEKESBOURNE

The service opened by welcoming Rosalie Stacey as our new organist in place of Raymond who normally played for us. The first part of the service was spent exploring the meaning of the phrase “The Church”. Then, focusing in on “The Church” as a place where we worship God together, the congregation was moved up into the choir stalls for the second part of the service. This provided a more intimate atmosphere and a new perspective on our surroundings. I'll let the

following report, provided by a junior member of the congregation, complete this account of an unusual shared worship.

“The February family service was enjoyed by everyone. Pat asked us to move up to the choir stalls which was a bit of a squash. Then with pen and paper plan ready we named all the parts of the church. The older members of the congregation helped the younger ones. The children, armed with blue-tack and card, went and placed labels such as 'aumbries' around the church. It was very interesting and made me realise how much I didn't know about the church in which I worship.”

Pat Kusel

FISH NEWS

The ever-popular Cornelia Slawin Blossom Tour is coming up on 3 May. Please contact Mrs Mavis Parsons (832042) to secure a place.

The monthly coffee pop-in is on Wednesday 12 April in Bridge Village Hall, and the annual Fundraising Coffee Morning this year will be on Saturday 13 May.

BRIDGE & PATRIBOURNE WOMENS INSTITUTE

On Tuesday 18 April Mrs Collins will give a talk entitled “The Bayeux Tapestry” and the competition is a cross-stitch card maximum size 4" x 3". Visitors and new members will be made very welcome in Bridge Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

On Saturday 8 April we will be holding a Bring & Buy and Coffee Morning from 10.00 am to noon in Bridge Village Hall.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2000 – 14 TO 21 MAY.

Christine Hoare writes: The time is approaching for our house to house collections in Bridge, Patribourne and Bekesbourne and I hope I can call upon your support, as before, in raising funds for the many different activities undertaken by the Charity.

Whilst the discussions and to some extent, agreements are in place for cancelling substantial amounts of debt in the Third World, the need still exists to support projects in under-developed countries and to respond to natural disasters, such as the floods in Mozambique.

I shall be contacting those who were kind enough to deliver and collect envelopes last year, hoping that you can do the same again. Fresh helpers are always welcome of course, and lighten the load for those already involved. Therefore, if you have a little free time available to help, please let me know on 832447.

NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

On Tuesday 4 April the Society hold their Spring Show in Bridge Village Hall. The hall will be open at 6.00 pm for members to have their exhibits staged by 7.15 pm for judging.

There are 20 different classes from daffodils to rhubarb, tulips to a "display in a wine glass", and not forgetting the cookery section with carrot cake and coconut squares. A guide to the Schedule of Classes can be obtained from Joan at 5 Dering Road (830763) or Billie at 7 Dering Road or from any committee member. Notices are also on display in village shops etc.. Exhibitors can complete an entry form when they come to the hall with their displays.

Joan Stingemore

HIGHAM PARK – NATIONAL GARDENS SCHEME

The gardens of Higham Park will be open on Easter Sunday from 11.00 am to 6.00 pm in aid of the National Gardens Scheme.

The owner writes: Many improvements have taken place over the winter. We look forward to seeing you all and thank you for your support in the past. We open from 2 April on Sundays to Thursdays until October.

Gardens only: £2.50; House tours: £1.50.

SAXON LODGE – A PARTY INVITATION

To all the people of Bridge: – Would you like to join the residents of Saxon Lodge to celebrate 12 years of being open and the New Millennium on Saturday 8 April from 2.00 pm to 6.00 pm.

THE MARCH MEETING OF BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Re-siting of benches: Several suggestions have been made by parishioners for suitable locations for the two benches which are currently in storage. A suitable site is being investigated for one to be replaced near the shops in the centre of the village and the possibility of siting the second one at the junction of Bridge Hill and Beech Hill is also being considered.

Precept and concurrent functions grants: The parish council has been able to maintain the precept at the level set last year thus eliminating any increase in 2000/01 on this portion of the council tax. The sum applied for from Canterbury City Council in order to fulfil concurrent functions, which includes maintenance of the recreation ground, bus shelters and lighting columns as well as the lighting charge, has been awarded in full. In a change to procedure this year, sums for capital projects were applied for and allocated under a three-year programme. For the current year, £800 has been awarded for electrical upgrading in the village hall. No amount has been awarded for 2001/02 and a sum of £2800 allocated for 2002/03 to cover the cost of replacement swings

and an upgrade of the heating and provision of a toilet for the disabled in the village hall. No award was made for a request for additional and replacement street lighting columns.

Street lighting: As a result of this last decision by Canterbury City Council, the parish council has decided that it cannot go ahead with the column which was requested in Conyngham Lane, at the present time. When funds become available the column will be installed. On the grounds of health and safety, column No 21 in Western Avenue has been cut down and an estimate is awaited for its replacement. All lighting columns have now been upgraded with photo-electric cells which, in the event of a power cut, should allow the time switches to automatically re-set. Any reports of lighting failures should be telephoned to the clerk on 832219. If you leave a message on the answer phone please give your name and telephone number so that the clerk can return your call.

Extension to village hall: After discussions with the owner of 26 High Street a price has been agreed for the purchase, by the parish council, of the shop section of the property. It is anticipated that in the future this will allow the provision of a toilet for the disabled, a safer and larger entrance hall, storage space and a parish office. The purchase is subject to several conditions and successful planning applications. Quotations are to be sought for essential work on the property and sources of finance actively pursued.

Planning applications:

Received and no objection made: CA/00/0153 – Detached double garage incorporating lean-to log store at 1 & 2 Old Renville Farm Cottages.

Granted: CA/99/1244 – Single-storey side extension to 17 Union Road.

Refused: CA/99/1163/BRI – Two-storey side extension to 36 Bridge Down.

BEKESBOURNE WITH PATRIXBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

An exhibition, called *Images of the Parish Past and Present*, will be held in Bekesbourne Village Hall on Saturday and Sunday 29 and 30 April from 10.30 am to 4.00 pm on each day. Entry is free and refreshments, provided by the Friends of Bekesbourne Church, will be available.

A talk, entitled *The Winter Diary of a Country Rat*, will be given by Peter Firmin in Bekesbourne Village Hall at 6.30 pm on Saturday 29 April.

Admission free but by advance booking only. Phone Catrina Lennox-Gurr on 831618.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in Bekesbourne Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Monday 10 April. The speaker will be Ruth Goudie from Canterbury City Council Highways Department. She will speak on Traffic Management in the parish.

Vicar: none at present. Contact Revd John Shorrock re Weddings, Funerals etc (832133)

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens Mr J Anderson, Aunt Betsy's Cottage, Dering Road, Bridge (830260)
Dr AM Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patribourne (830947)

Hon Secretary Mrs A Williamson, Beechmount, Conyngham Lane, Bridge (830399)

Hon Treasurer Mrs JB Stingemore, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830763)

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

Choirmaster & Organist (Bridge) Mr PD Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road (830293)

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

BEKESBOURNE

Churchwardens Mrs J Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne (830256)
Mr IG Gillanders, Cala, Aerodrome Road, Bekesbourne

Hon. Secretary Mr JW Cowans, Distant View, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne (831029)

Hon. Treasurer Mr D Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne (830256)

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

Captain of the Rings Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bek'ne (830659)

On The Nail Advertising Mr HPM Lawrence, 21 Windmill Close, Bridge (830472)

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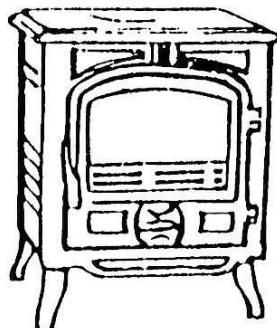
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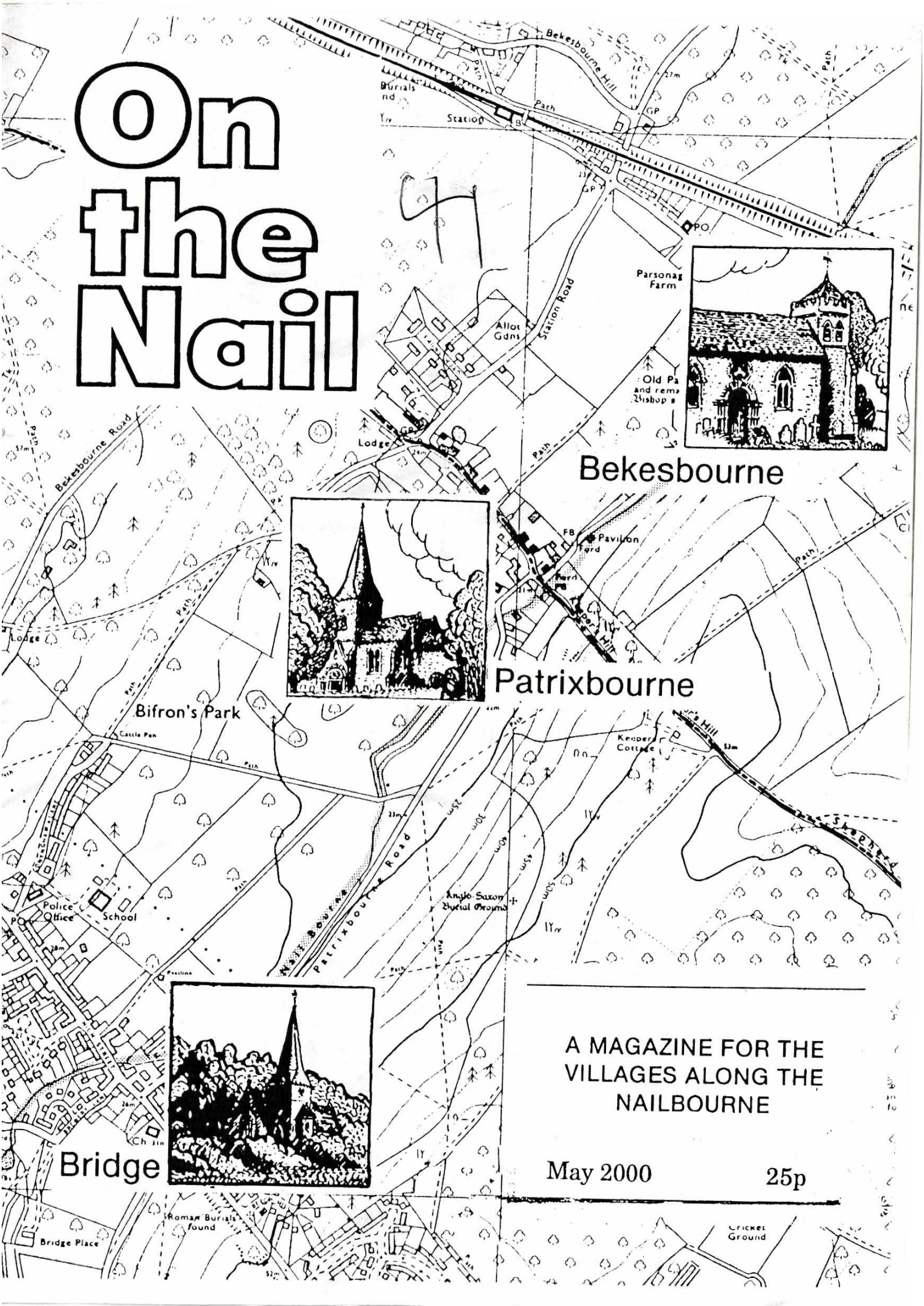
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Worship in May

7th: Third Sunday of Easter

- 8.00am BCP Communion – *Patricbourne* (Rev Paul Filmer)
- 9.30am Holy Communion – *Nackington* (Rev Arthur Soar)
- 9.30am BCP Communion – *Bekesbourne* (Rev Paul Filmer)
- 10.00am Holy Communion – *Lower Hardres* (Rev Donald Bretherton)
- 6.30pm Evensong – *Bridge* (Rev Paul Filmer)

14th: Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 8.00am BCP Communion – *Bekesbourne* (Rev Paul Filmer)
- 9.30am Holy Communion – *Bridge* (Canon Gordon Manley)
- 10.00am Family Communion – *Lower Hardres* (Rev Paul Filmer)
- 11.00am Matins – *Patricbourne* (Andrea Nicholson)

21st: Fifth Sunday of Easter

- 8.00am BCP Communion – *Patricbourne* (Rev John Shorrock)
- 8.00am BCP Communion – *Nackington* (Rev Paul Filmer)
- 9.30am Holy Communion – *Bridge* (Rev Paul Filmer)
- 11.00am Matins – *Bekesbourne* (Canon John Dilnot)

28th: Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 8.00am BCP Communion – *Bridge* (Rev Paul Filmer)
- 9.30am BCP Communion – *Patricbourne* (Rev Paul Filmer)
- 9.30am Holy Communion – *Nackington* (Rev Ron Diss)
- 10.00am Family Service – *Lower Hardres* (Margaret Clarke)
- 11.00am Family Service – *Bekesbourne* (Pat Kusel)

1st June: Ascension Day

- 6.00pm Holy Communion – *Bridge* (Rev Paul Filmer)

4th June: Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 8.00am BCP Communion – *Bekesbourne* (Rev John Thackray)
- 10.00am Holy Communion – *Bridge* (Rev John Shorrock)
- 10.00am Matins – *Patricbourne* (Andrea Nicholson)
- 10.00am Holy Communion – *Lower Hardres* (Rev Donald Bretherton)

BCP=Book of Common Prayer

Bridge Methodist Church at 11am : 7th, Mrs Beryl Skinner. RGN. NDN., 14th, Rev David Marshall, 21st Mr Michael Baybutt. B.Sc. DMS. C.Eng., 30th Mr Alistair Barwick. B.Sc.

MAY 2000 – FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

- 1st *Philip and James, Apostles*
2nd *George, Martyr, Patron of England C.304*
Licensing of Reverend Paul Filmer, St. Peter's Bridge, 7.30pm
3rd *Mark the Evangelist*
Fish Scheme. Cornelia Slavin Blossom Tour, Green Court
4th Prayers for Health and Healing Concerns. 7 Windmill Close, 7pm
Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Methodist Church, 7.30pm
~~6th Pudding Evening, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm~~
7th **The Third Sunday of Easter**
10th Fish Scheme Coffee Morning Pop-in, Bridge Village
Hall, 10.15 to 11.45am
'Health for All' –talk by Dr. M. Jones, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
11th Bridge parish Council, Hunter Room, 7.30pm
13th Fish Scheme Coffee Morning/Bring and Buy, Bridge Village, 10am to 12 noon
Woodpeckers Nursery May Fair, School Grounds, 11.30am to 2pm
14th **The Fourth Sunday of Easter**
15th *Matthias the Apostle*
16th Bridge and Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
19th *Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, 988*
21st **The Fifth Sunday of Easter**
24th Bridge History Society, talk at Barham Village Hall, 7.30pm
26th *Augustine, First Archbishop of Canterbury, 605*
28th **The Sixth Sunday of Easter**
Open Garden, Friends of Bekesbourne Church
31st *The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth*

1st June Ascension Day

Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC meeting, Bridge Church, 7.30pm

FROM THE REVEREND JOHN THACKRAY

It has been both a privilege and a pleasure to have assisted in the maintenance of church services in the Benefice during the interregnum. As the Scout Leader in the Benefice I, like you, am looking forward to welcoming Paul Filmer as our new parish priest, together with his family, on May 2nd.

The Benefice will not be the same again. For two parishes, Lower Hardres and Nackington, which are part of the Stone Street Group (where the Rev Paul Filmer is presently an assistant priest) will be joining us. Family is an image often used of the church. In a marriage, it is not only the couple who are joined together, but also their families. There can be all sorts of practical questions to be resolved: for example where to spend Christmas or whom to invite for Easter. Resolution of these needs understanding, humour and patience. All the five parishes in the new Benefice may well need these qualities in the months and years ahead!

The Benefice will not be the same again. One thing our new parish priest will need to examine soon, together with the church councils, is the form of worship. This is not because Paul Filmer is a reforming firebrand but because the *Alternative Service Book*, on which many of our present services are based, will after this year no longer be valid. The *Book of Common Prayer* will continue, of course. And the Church of England is introducing, from Advent Sunday, a service book called *Common Worship*. It is probable that what will be agreed is forms of service not dissimilar to the ones already used. But this does provide a timely opportunity for all of us to reflect on what we are seeking to do in worship.

The Benefice will not be the same again. A new priest will have a different style and differing ideas from his predecessor. All of us will know him – he will need time to know all of us. It will be tempting to jump in quickly with our own pet schemes – he will need time to assimilate the Benefice and will probably spend much of his early time simply discovering the joys of living and ministering with us.

The Benefice will not be the same again – and yet this has been true many times over the centuries since Christians have worshipped in our parishes. In the King's School where I am chaplain, we are vividly aware of the eternal faith in a changing world. I look forward to continuing to be a part of the Benefice, as it continues to do that which is important: being a witness to the love of the Father in the Gospel of Jesus through the power of the Spirit.

FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

We welcome Paul to be our Priest-in-charge this month and, as described by the Reverend John Thackray above, the Benefice will not be the same again. From this month on we will be members of a Benefice of five churches. The list of services for May is therefore much longer as we have included the services at all the churches within the Benefice. We hope that those who wish to attend a service at a certain time on a Sunday will feel that that are able to visit a church other than the church where they normally worship, if no suitable service is being held in their local church

Services for May follow roughly our normal pattern of services, but as from June the pattern will change, hence the inclusion of the services for the first Sunday of June, in the list. Changes have been made so that Paul can take three services on a Sunday and has time to meet the congregation after a service. He will also need time to travel without rushing between churches to attend the next service. Times will be standardised across the Benefice at 8am, 10am and 6pm, so that we all know the time services are likely to be. However local variations may occur for special occasions.

Bridge Church will have a service every Sunday, but the other four churches in the Benefice will each have a Sunday in a month without a service – the perfect occasion to visit one of the other four churches in the benefice. Any one who has problems with transport to a service should contact their churchwarden who will try to arrange a lift for you to the other church. A Benefice Eucharist will continue to be held in months

with a fifth Sunday – the first is planned for the end of July at Bekesbourne with a picnic lunch afterwards nearby! Come and join us and meet some of our new friends from the other Parishes.

Finally we would like to thank the Reverend John Shorrock for guiding us so ably through the interregnum. Thanks are also due to Reverend John Thackray, Canon Gordon Manley and to everyone else who has helped with the services during the interregnum. We hope that the friendships and links made during this period will continue and strengthen in the future.

You may have seen in our Churches the following formidable notice from the Diocese, signed by the Bishop of Dover.

WE STEPHEN by Divine Permission **BISHOP OF DOVER** hereby declare that subject to the provisions of Section 67 of the Pastoral Measure 1983 during the period of five years from the date hereof the vacancy of the Benefice of **PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE AND BEKESBOURNE** shall not be filled and during that time the Patron shall not be entitled to exercise his Right of Presentation.

This is diocese-speak for appointing Paul Filmer as Priest-in-charge instead of Vicar. Both PCCs were asked their views and protested strongly about the proposal but to no avail. The danger is that the diocese could unilaterally decide to change the composition of the benefice again during the period. There do not seem to be any advantages for the parishes. The covering letter stated that the “suspension” would be reviewed “two years after the appointment of a new priest”.

COVENANTS OUT! DECLARATIONS IN!

The Government has announced a new and simpler way for charities – and that includes churches – to claim back income tax paid on donations.

There will no longer be new or renewed Deeds of Covenant after 6th April 2000 – but don't worry if you have a current one; it will simply go on as before until it expires or you want to change it.

Instead a simple Declaration will be required in which you, the donor, will state that the income tax you pay in any one year will be at least equal to the amount of tax which the church can reclaim. Obviously if for any reason you do not pay income tax, then you will not be affected and the position will be just as before.

Donations under the new scheme can include: bank standing orders, existing

regular envelope schemes for the offertory at church services, and also any cash/cheque donation or gift – but with one vital proviso; that the donor must be able to be identified (by the authorities) so that, if it came to the crunch, the Inland Revenue could trace back a tax refund claim and check that the person concerned has indeed paid the requisite amount of income tax.

So how is this going to work ? First the tax reclaims will be done for us by Diocesan House, which has already agreed with the Inland Revenue how they will operate. We, the Treasurers and Covenant Officers in the parishes, have already been given Declaration Forms for the new scheme and we know what information we must supply to Diocesan House, which will include the forms themselves and the amounts each donor gives from time to time. However we are still working on the detailed

administration, which may turn out to be different between our two parishes. We shall try to keep it simple and maintain confidentiality such as to ensure that, as now, as few people as possible know the amounts each donor gives. So we ask you to *watch this space*.

Finally we would like to say that this new concession by the Government offers a lot of potential. Anyone who would like more information is invited to contact one of the undersigned.

David Millyard
Bekesbourne
830256

Norman Francis
Patixbourne with Bridge
830945

MATINS AT BEKESBOURNE

On Sunday 21 May, Matins at Bekesbourne will be taken by Canon John Dilnot, who has recently retired as Vicar of St Mary and St Eanswythe, Folkestone. This will be the last regular service of Matins at St Peter's before we start our new pattern of services. Do come and join us.

THE HARENT SINGERS AT BEKESBOURNE

On the weekend of 17-18 June the Harent Singers will be visiting Bekesbourne to give a concert in St Peter's on the Saturday evening at 7.30pm and to sing Matins on Sunday at 11.00am. The choir was founded over 20 years ago and has given concerts in London and further afield, as well as singing in many cathedrals in England and Wales.

In its recital on 17 June, the choir will be singing music both secular and sacred (motets, part-songs, madrigals, folksongs, barbershop, etc.) and will include works by Krystof Harant (from whom the choir takes its name), Brahms, Grieg, Stravinsky, Holst and that well-known and prolific composer, 'anon'.

Tickets for the concert are £5 each (to include a glass of wine); contact Jenny Skinner on 768925, Jane Millyard on 830256, or any member of the Committee of Friends of Bekesbourne Church.

FISH NEWS

Wednesday 3rd May, the popular Cornelia Slavin Blossom Tour will leave from the Green Court. Telephone Mrs Mavis Parsons(832042) if you need further details.

The fund raising annual Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy is on **Saturday May 13th 10-12noon at Bridge Village Hall**. There are always excellent plants and cakes as well as bric-a-brac. Do please come.

The usual monthly Coffee Pop-in is on **Wednesday 10th May**.

The next local chiropody clinic is in the week **June 5th to 9th**. Please telephone Mrs Joan Warren for more information.

FRIENDS OF BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

Open Garden 28th May 2000 – We are grateful to Lady Mount who is so kindly opening her garden again in aid of Bekesbourne Church. As well as seeing the garden, visitors will be able to purchase plants, browse through our varied stalls and have a delicious tea, as well as buying a cake to take home! Admission is £2, children 50p. Do come to support us, and have a good time.

MARCH FAMILY SERVICE AT BEKESBOURNE

Lent has forty days, doesn't it? No! It has forty-six. And what about the special days in Lent? Maunday Thursday has something to do with mourning, surely? The March Family Service challenged our knowledge of the days of Lent with many such questions. We all discovered there were things we had misunderstood and other things we had never known about this important period in the Church's calendar. In place of the readings the Bates family treated us to a dramatisation of the story of Jesus in the Wilderness being tempted by the devil.

The next family service will be on Sunday May 28th. The topic will be The Lord's Prayer. I would like to thank everyone who makes the family services such a success, from the bell ringers to the organist and all those who willingly participate.

In the new programme of services the family service will be moving to the second Sunday of the month at 10am EXCEPT for June as we already have a visiting choir booked to conduct Matins on the third Sunday. Apologies for any confusion. Keep checking the magazine for details.

Pat Kusel.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY – FUNDRAISING – BRIDGE

Many thanks to the holders of home and shop boxes, which over the year to the 31st March, raised a total of £333-70 for the charity. From 30 boxes this is an excellent result.

The boxes are normally emptied annually in March (sooner if full!) and they make a handy receptacle for small change, which mounts up surprisingly and painlessly during the year. They are a valuable source of funds for the Society's work with the homeless and deprived children and teenagers.

Should anyone else like to have a box, please contact Kathy Eynon (Telephone 830466), 19 Bridgedown, who has a supply available.

K.M.E.

NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Calling all gardeners! The next meeting of the Horticultural Society will be on Thursday 4th May at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church when our speaker will be Mr William Friend from Thanet, who is going to give a talk to us about Mediterranean plants for our gardens. This will give us some ideas for growing more suitable plants now that our climate is meant to be getting warmer and drier (not very believable as I write this on a cold and rainy Saturday in April!)

As always, non- members are very welcome to join us.

Kathy Walder

PARISH MAGAZINES WANTED

One of Reverend Gilbert's last acts before retiring as Vicar was to deposit with me, as current custodian of the 'Bridge Archive' originally assembled by the late John Williamson, a quantity of past Parish Magazines, the earliest dating from 1957. I am anxious to make the collection as complete as possible, as a record of the village(s). If anyone has past copies stacked away, which they would be willing to donate, I shall be delighted to receive them. Wanted items are:

All earlier than April 1957; February and April 1958; ALL of 1963-1972, plus January-April 1973; ALL of 1975-1977; January-June 1979; July 1977; February-December 1999.

I am of course also very keen to know of any other documents, cuttings, photographs relating to people, places and events in Bridge and the surrounding villages in past years, which you think may be of future interest (and almost everything is, however trivial it may seem to be now).

Maurice Raraty

Hon Treasurer, Bridge and District History Society, Phone 830508.

PUDDING EVENING - Saturday May 6th Bridge Village Hall 7pm

Tickets for this evening are still available from Pat Dunderdale, Sheila Fenn or Andrea Nicholson.

Do you have a favourite pudding you can bring? – then contact Pat and let her know!!

Come and indulge in some old favourite puddings served with lashings of custard or cream – forget the diet for one night!

MILLENIUM CELEBRATIONS –DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

BRIDGE FETE- this years fete forms part of the Bridge Millenium celebrations and will be held on the school grounds, as usual, on Saturday 24th June. Watch the fancy dress parade in the High Street. Come at 12 and stay until 4.

There will be entertainment and refreshments throughout the afternoon.

Your fete needs your help! We can sell any cakes you make. We particularly need volunteers to help with the door to door collections, to set up on Friday 23rd and to clear up afterwards. If you can only spare an hour or two don't be shy. Please telephone me, on 830251, with any offers of help. Thank you.

Martin Leggatt, Chairman Village Fete Committee.

BEKESBOURNE VILLAGE FUN AFTERNOON – Saturday 17th June, Bekesbourne Recreation Ground. Starts at 1pm with a Millenium Photograph of all parishioners and continues with Fun races; Punch and Judy; Cream Teas; Treasure Hunt; Bat and trap; Barbecue and other Rural Entertainment.

ST PETER'S CHURCH BRIDGE-Cleaning rota for May

Week ending May 6th –Pat Hullyer

May 13th – Kathy Eynon +1

May 20th – Debbie Hennessy

May 27th – Kath Pierce, Gladys Lemar

Brasses : John Hill –as available, Kath Pierce, Gladys Lemar –as available

NOTES FROM THE APRIL MEETING OF BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Village seats: The seat situated outside of the post office has again been uprooted by vandals and has had to be removed for reasons of safety. A contractor has been appointed to re-install the seat more securely and the work is expected to be done before the end of April. A quotation is awaited for the installation of a second seat at the junction of Beech Hill and Bridge Hill and the third seat is to be returned to Green Court.

Local Plan Review: As a result of the Local Plan Review, FPD Savills have notified the parish council that they have responded as representatives of Cantley Estates. Their response is to offer to make available land between the recreation ground and the by-pass in Patricbourne Road, for housing and small, light industrial units. The parish council has replied, reminding Savills that previously villagers were against such expansion outside of the confines of the village and that there is no evidence of a change of opinion, in fact, quite the reverse. All responses to the Local Plan Review will be made available for comment at the beginning of next year.

Cricket Club: The parish council is pleased to welcome Exiles Cricket Club to the recreation ground for the forthcoming season. It is hoped that the club's association with the village will be a long and successful one.

Street lighting: There has been a spate of vandalism in the village recently resulting in damage to lighting columns. Each column costs in the region of £65 to repair and some repairs are being repeated within 2 months. Such incidents of vandalism are to be reported to the police in future.

District/Parish Surgeries: The chairman of the parish council was pleased to join Cllr Bill Oakey at his surgery, held at the Methodist church hall in March. These are to be a regular feature of village life, taking place at the above venue on the third Saturday of alternate months. A parish councillor will join Cllr Oakey on each occasion.

Planning Applications: The following applications had been received and commented upon by the planning sub-committee:

CA/00/0021/BRI - Re-locatable office at Corralls, Union Road. There were objections on the grounds that too many employees already park in Union Road causing inconvenience to local residents many of whom do not have drives or garages, and that temporary buildings are unsuitable placed so close to conservation areas.

CA/00/0215/BRI - Single storey rear and two-storey side extensions, and dormer windows to front and rear of 44 Western Avenue. There were objections on the grounds that such a large extension was not in keeping with the surrounding properties.

Priest-in-Charge: Reverend Paul Filmer , The Vicarage, 23 High Street, Bridge (830250)

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens Mr J Anderson, Aunt Betsy's Cottage, Dering Road, Bridge (830260)

Dr AM Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne (830947)

Hon Secretary Mrs A Williamson, Beechmount, Conyngham Lane, Bridge (830399)

Hon Treasurer Mrs JB Stingemore, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830763)

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

Choirmaster & Organist (Bridge) Mr PD Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road (830293)

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Churchwardens Mrs J Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne (830256)

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Captain of the Ringers Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bek'ne (830659)

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

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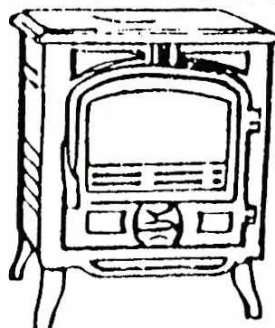
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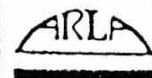
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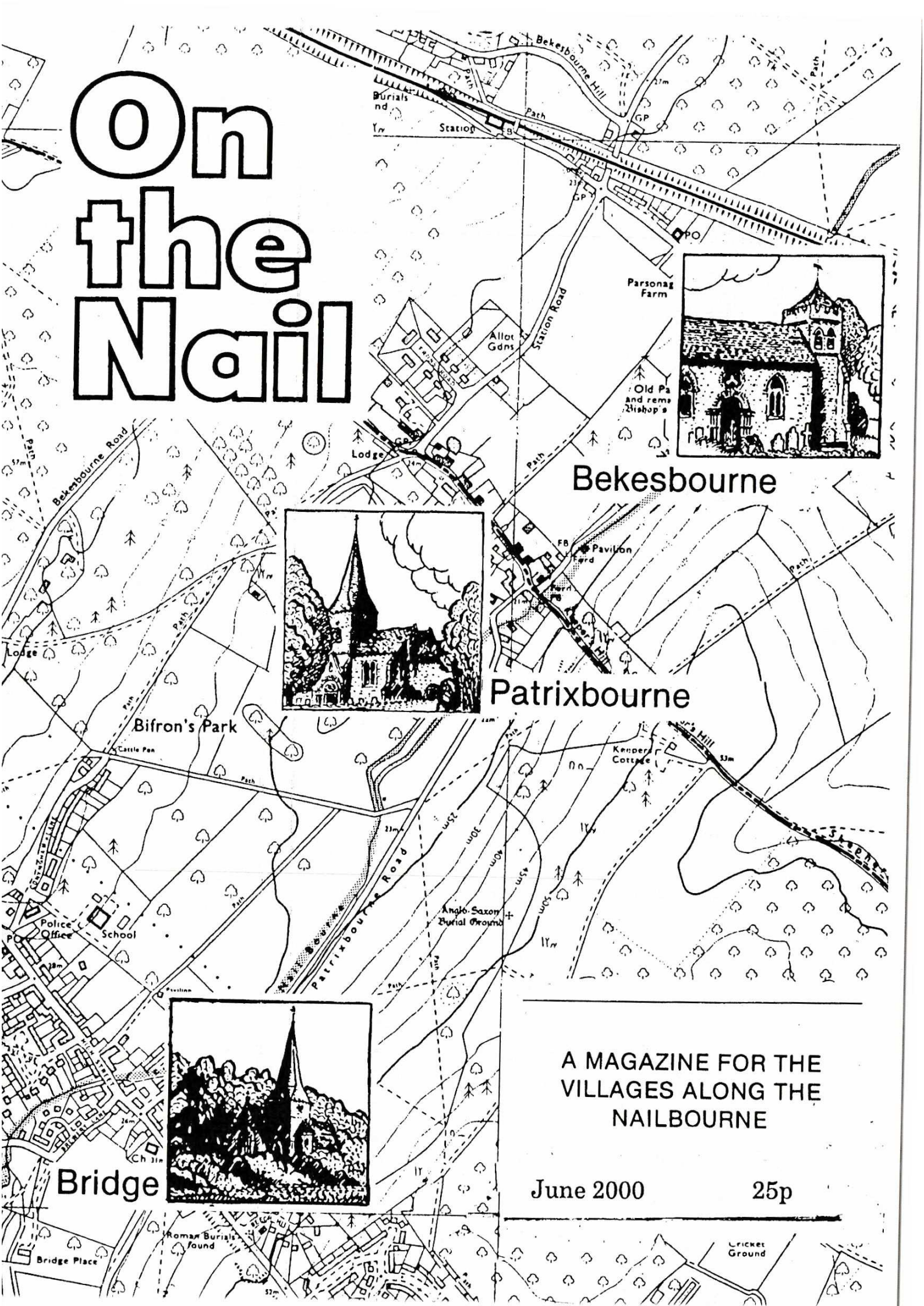
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June 2000

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THE BRIDGE GROUP

Sunday Worship in June 2000

Thursday 1st : Ascension Day

6.00pm Holy Communion - *Bridge* (Rev Paul Filmer)

4th : Seventh Sunday of Easter

8.00am BCP Communion – *Bekesbourne* (Rev John Thackray)

10.00am Holy Communion – *Lower Hardres* (Rev Donald Bretherton)

10.00am Holy Communion – *Bridge* (Rev J Shorrocks)

10.00am Matins – *Patricxbourne* (A Nicholson)

11th : Pentecost Sunday

8.00am BCP Communion – *Patricxbourne* (Rev Paul Filmer)

9.30am Holy Communion – *Nackington* (Rev Paul Filmer)

10.00am Holy Communion – *Bekesbourne* (Canon Gordon Manley)

6.00pm Evensong – *Bridge* (Rev Paul Filmer)

18th : Trinity Sunday

8.00am BCP Communion – *Nackington* (Rev Paul Filmer)

10.00am Family Service – *Lower Hardres* (Mrs Margaret Clarke)

10.00am Holy Communion – *Bridge* (Canon Gordon Manley)

11.00am Matins – *Bekesbourne* (Rev Paul Filmer)

25th : First Sunday after Trinity

8.00am BCP Communion – *Bridge* (Rev Paul Filmer)

9.30am Holy Communion – *Nackington* (Rev Ron Diss)

10.00am Holy Communion – *Patricxbourne* (Rev Paul Filmer)

6.00pm Evensong – *Lower Hardres* (Rev Paul Filmer)

BCP= Book of Common Prayer

Bridge Methodist Church at 11.00am :

4th- Rev. Donald Lugg, 11th -Rev. Albert Ball (Church Anniversary) , 18th-
Rev. David Marshall (Holy Communion), 25th – Rev. Howard Skinner.

Calendar Date – June 13th Church Anniversary – Evening Service 7.30pm
Speaker Mrs Mary Weatherup. M.A.

JUNE 2000 – FOR YOUR DIARY AND PRAYER LIST

1ST Ascension Day

Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC Meeting, Bridge Church, 7.30pm.

4th The Seventh Sunday of Easter

5th *Boniface (Wynfrith) of Crediton, Bishop, Apostle of Germany, 754*

8th *Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, Non-Juror, Hymn Writer, 1711*

Prayers for Health and Healing Concerns, Wayside, 18 High Street, 7pm

Bridge Parish Council, Hunter Room, 7.30pm

9th *Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missiponary, 597*

11th Day of Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

12th *Barnabas the Apostle*

13th Bridge Methodist Church Anniversary Services, 7.30pm

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

16th *Richard, Bishop of Chichester, 1253*

17th Bekesbourne with Patricxbourne Village Fun Afternoon and Picnic

Bekesbourne Recreation Ground

Harant Singers Concert, Bekesbourne Church, 7.30pm

18th Trinity Sunday

20th Bridge and Patricxbourne Women's Institute Outing to Walmer Castle
11.00am

22nd Nailbourne Horticultural Society Visit to Summerfield Nurseries,
Staple , 7.15pm

24th Bridge Village Fete, Bridge School, 12 noon.

25th The First Sunday after Trinity

28th *Irenaeu, Bishop of Lyons, Teacher, c200*

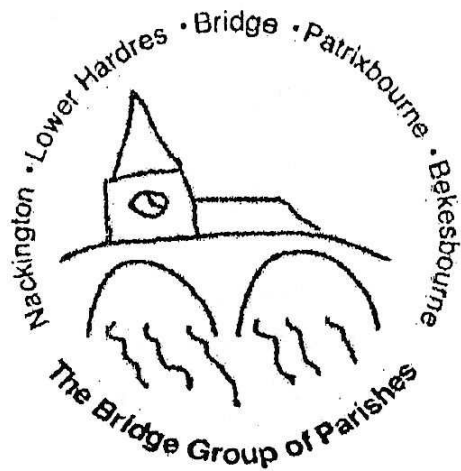
29th *Peter and Paul, Apostles*

SERVICES AT BEKESBOURNE IN JUNE

On the first Sunday in each month there will be a service of Holy Communion (BCP) at 8.00am at St Peter's. On Whitsunday 11 June at **10.00am**, for this month only, there will be a Parish Communion (ASB), celebrated by Canon Gordon Manley.

A reminder that, following their concert on Saturday 17 June, The Harant Singers will be singing Matins at Bekesbourne Church at **11.00 am** on Sunday 18 June. This is a long-standing booking which over-rides the new pattern of services and timings beginning elsewhere this month. There will not be a regular Family Service in June, but we hope that families will join us at Matins. The Family Service will resume at **10.00 am** on the second Sunday in July (9 July).

Jane Millyard



Rev Paul J Filmer
The Vicarage
Bridge
CT4 5JZ

01227 830250
paulos@enterprise.net

Under New Management

When a pub or shop changes hands, the natural assumption is that things will be different. At the very least, the layout and decoration will change, and any number of new items will be introduced. In many ways, it would be a disappointment if new management did not mean a new start.

In the church, however, things work differently. A new start, with a new vicar, can seem like an unwanted threat to the stability of the past. New ideas cause disruption, and any change can be read as the thin end of the wedge. What's needed now is a steady hand at the tiller, and not a new broom, sweeping away everything that the last vicar worked so hard to build.

This is where I can give some reassurance to those who are concerned about change. As John Thackray said last month, some things must change, but we will be working to make changes only when we know that they will be beneficial, and only after consultation. If you are looking forward to change, please be patient. I need to 'feel the pulse' of the parishes before introducing anything new, or changing anything. If you are wondering what all the fuss is about - (where is the church anyway?) - I hope to share my enthusiasm for the Christian faith with you over the coming years - and who knows - you may change as well!

Paul

Prayer Group for Health and Healing Concerns

The prayer group for health and healing concerns will be held on 8th June which is the 2nd Thursday, as there will be a service for Ascension Day on the 1st of June. The venue for June has been changed and the prayer group will meet at Thea Carr's, Wayside, 18 High Street, Bridge.

Fish News

We would like to thank everyone who supported the Annual Coffee Morning. £336.15 was raised. The next Coffee Pop-In in Bridge Village Hall will be on Wednesday 14th June.

There is to be special Strawberry Tea in the third week of June to celebrate both the Millenium and the Fish Scheme's Twentieth birthday. At the time of writing in mid May the exact date has yet to be decided, so please find out through the local press or at the Pop-In.

Bridge and Patricbourne Women's Institute

The Birthday Meeting on Tuesday 20th June is in the form of an outing to Walmer Castle. Cars will be leaving form 26 Western Avenue at 11.00am. For further information ring Mrs Parsons on 832042.

Bekesbourne Bowls Club

Would you like to try your hand at short mat bowls? If so, why not come along to Bekesbourne Village Hall on Friday evenings between 7 and 10pm and have a go. You will find us all very friendly and happy to meet you.

K.Diss Bridge 830463

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

To enjoy what we hope will be a warm summer evening, we have arranged an informal visit to Summerfield Nurseries at Staple on Thursday 22 June, for an informal tour of the nurseries to learn first hand about the cultivation of roses. Some members may remember that Mr Leo Wessel came last year to give us a talk on roses. Refreshments will be provided and, of course there will be the chance to ask any questions of the experts and to make purchases.

The plan is to meet at the nursery at approximately 7.15pm. If anyone is not sure where to go please contact me, Kathy Walder, on 830057(after 6pm, or at weekends) or any committee member. If you do not have transport of your own, telephone me, or a committee member, and I will arrange for someone to pick you up and return you home again. We hope for a nice balmy evening on the 22nd. See you then!



**St Peter's Church
Bekesbourne**

Concert
by
The Harant Singers

Programme will include sacred and secular music,
motets, part-songs, madrigals, barber-shop etc,
including works by:

Harant	Brahms
Grieg	Stravinsky
Holst	and anon.

Saturday
17th June 2000
7.30 pm

Admission £5.00 to include interval drink
Tickets in advance from the Friends of Bekesbourne
Church (01227 768925) or at the door

Friends of Bekesbourne Church

Many thanks to all the helpers and cake makers, for providing the refreshments, at the recent Photographic Exhibition in the Village Hall. All very much appreciated.

Another date for your diary : September 2nd Boot Fair in John Ash's Field, Parsonage Farm.

Images of the Parish past and Present

The Photographic Exhibition held in the Village Hall on April 29th and 30th was a great success, attracting 654 visitors. The talk and slide show by Peter Firmin, author of the 'Winter Diary of a Country Rat', which was set in Patricbourne and Bekesbourne, was most enjoyable, so much so that he has volunteered to do it again sometime. The sum of £7003 was raised for the Gorilla Orphanage. Thanks go to the Photograph Mounting Team, Jill

Thomas, Peter Rothwell, Gill Moon and Jane Millyard for all the hard work and time they put into this excellent display, which it is hoped will be restaged at a later date.

Zan Clifford

BRIDGE
MILLENNIUM
FESTIVAL

**Don't miss this once
in a lifetime event !**

The day will include:

The Annual Village Fete

Snowdown Male Voice Choir at Bridge Church	Sealed Knot Civil War Display
Tours of the village by the Bridge History Society	Barbecues at local hostelrys
full range of Youth Activities and contests	
Musical Entertainment outside each of the three Public Houses	Morris Dancing
fancy dress Pram Race	Fireworks to end the day

SATURDAY 24TH JUNE 2000	If you would like to be involved or more information please contact Alan Walton on 01227 830249
---	--

All proceeds of the day will be shared between Bridge School PFA and St. Peter's Church

Millenium Fete: Saturday 24th June 2000

This year the fete forms part of the Bridge Millenium celebrations (see previous page). We would be delighted to see as many of you as possible at the fete as well as at the many other celebrations. There will be a fancy dress parade from the Red Lion (departs 11.45am) along the High Street and arriving at the school at 12 noon. Please come out in force to encourage the children participating.

The fete will have its normal mix of stalls, sideshows and entertainment from the school pupils, the Frank Montgomery Steel Band, Punch and Judy, and a magic Show. There will be plenty to eat, drink and buy – so come along. (Car parking available in the recreation ground)

There are many jobs to do before, after and during the fete, so if anyone can help I would be very grateful. Just contact me on 830251.

We also need cakes for the cake stall, bottles, groceries, books, plants. Please be prepared for the door- to -door collection for these items.

Martin Leggatt
Fete Chairman

R.N.L.I. House to House Collection. April 2000

The sum of £358 was collected in the village: the total in the Canterbury District was £7275. Many thanks to all who supported this worthy cause.

Joan Hill

‘On the Nail’

It is proposed to amend the layout of the magazine to include a ‘Diary of Events’. It is intended that any activities across the whole Benefice area will be included whether church related or not.

Hopefully the diary will appear in the July edition. Any items for inclusion should reach me by 15th June, at 37 High Street Bridge.

Laurence Dunderdale, Editor ‘On the Nail’ C. 830668

‘Outlook’ – Diocesan Newspaper (Bridge magazines only)

Copies are no longer sent automatically with ‘On the Nail’. If you require a regular copy please ask your magazine distributor. A number of copies are available for collection in Bridge Church.

Easter Flowers – Bridge Church

Thank you to all who donated flowers, especially for the anonymous donation, and to all who helped to arrange the flowers, making the church look special both for Easter and for Paul’s licensing.

Viv Brasier

The Early Train at Bekesbourne.

The first train out of Dover passes through Bekesbourne at about 4.50am. At the moment it doesn't stop. Connex SE has a request for this train to stop and pick up passengers. They are willing to timetable this from September provided nobody objects. Please let the Parish Council have your views. If nobody has objected by the end of June the Parish Council will ask Connex SE to schedule the stop.

Jill Thomas, Parish Clerk. Tel 832573

NOTES FROM THE MAY MEETING OF BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Election of officers: At the May meeting of the parish council, Councillor John Anderson was re-elected as chairman with Cllr Tony Walder as vice-chairman. The Recreation Ground and Sports Committee members are Cllrs M Gulvin, J Hill and T Walder. The Planning Committee comprises Cllrs J Connor, J Corfield, J Hill and J Monk, whilst on the Environmental Committee Cllr J Connor has responsibility for footpaths, Cllr J Monk for trees and Cllr E Shirley for general matters. Cllr Anderson has taken over responsibility for streets, footways and lighting, although a member of the public, Mr M Smith, has kindly offered to identify and report problems relating to streets and footways. Cllrs C Beer and M Gulvin remain representatives to Bridge Village Hall Management Committee as well as to the Mill Centre Management Committee. Cllrs J Connor and J Corfield continue as representatives to the Kent Association of Parish Councils and Cllr J Monk is the parish council's representative on the Mary Gregory Trust.

Millennium matters: Cllr Beer reported that the millennium committee has organised a fun packed day on the 24 June 2000 when apart from the village fete, there will be Morris dancing in the streets, musical entertainment and a civil war display by the Sealed Knot. The History Society will be organising history tours of the village. A pig roast is to be held and barbecued food will be available at the local public houses. The evening will end with a firework display. Put the date in your diary now.

Allotments: Estimates have now been received for allotment renovation but are too high for the parish council to fund in full. The parish council will be seeking alternative means of clearing the land and providing water and are considering setting up a local action group of allotment holders and other willing volunteers. Anyone interested in forming a working party should contact the parish clerk on 832219.

Planning applications: The following planning applications have been received:
CA/00/0398/BRI - Single storey extension and Orangerie to The Paddock, Higham Lane;

CA/00/0374/BRI - Conservatory at 72 Bridge Down;

CA/00/0051/BRI - Internal alterations at The White Horse Inn;

CA/00/0431/BRI - Two-storey side extension to 3 Union Road.

The following applications have been notified as granted:

CA/00/0013/BRI -Demolition of outbuilding, internal and external alteration to Flat 5 Bridge Hill House, Higham Lane;

CA/00/0153/BRI - erection of detached double garage and lean-to at 1 & 2 Old Renville Farm Cottages

CA/00/0084/BRI - Extensions and alterations to form a single dwelling at 1 & 2 Old Renville Farm Cottages

The following application have been notified as refused:

CA/00/0215/BRI - single-storey rear and two-storey side extensions and dormer windows to front and rear of 44 Western Avenue.

Forthcoming Event – Flower Festival in St. Peter’s Bridge : 8th-10th September 2000

At the flower festival there will be a stall selling plants. Please start growing and collecting plants for this stall now.

For further information, or to make donations, please contact either, Rosie Green 830204, Elizabeth Kirkwood 831056 or Viv Brazier 830981

Pudding Evening - a successful new event.

The winning pudding at the ‘Pudding Evening’ held in Bridge Village Hall on May 6th was a Pavlova, made by Phil Andrews. The prize for this culinary achievement was a cookery book. The evening raised £165 for the parish and also allowed the Reverend Paul Filmer and his wife, Judy, to meet some of his new congregation in informal surroundings.

A special thank you goes to Mrs Pat Dunderdale and her team of helpers for providing such an entertaining evening.

Anyone for seconds?

St. Peter’s Church Bridge – Cleaning rota

Week ending June 3rd Kathy Eynon, June 10th Debbie Hennessy, 17th Kath Pierce, Gladys Lemar, 24th Pat Hullyer.

St Peter’s Church Bekesbourne – Flower and cleaning rota

3rd June – Rosie Mount, 10th June – Zan Clifford, 17th June – Pam Farbrace, 24th June Jill Gillanders/Janet Street, 1st July- Cheryl Barker/Vickie McPherson

Priest-in-Charge: Reverend Paul Filmer , The Vicarage, 23 High Street, Bridge (830250)

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens Mr J Anderson, Aunt Betsy's Cottage, Dering Road, Bridge (830260)

Dr AM Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne (830947)

Hon Secretary Mrs A Williamson, Beechmount, Conyngham Lane, Bridge (830399)

Hon Treasurer Mrs JB Stingemore, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830763)

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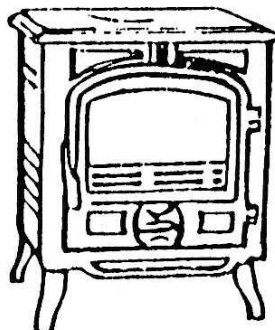
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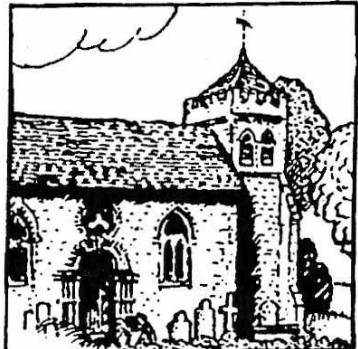
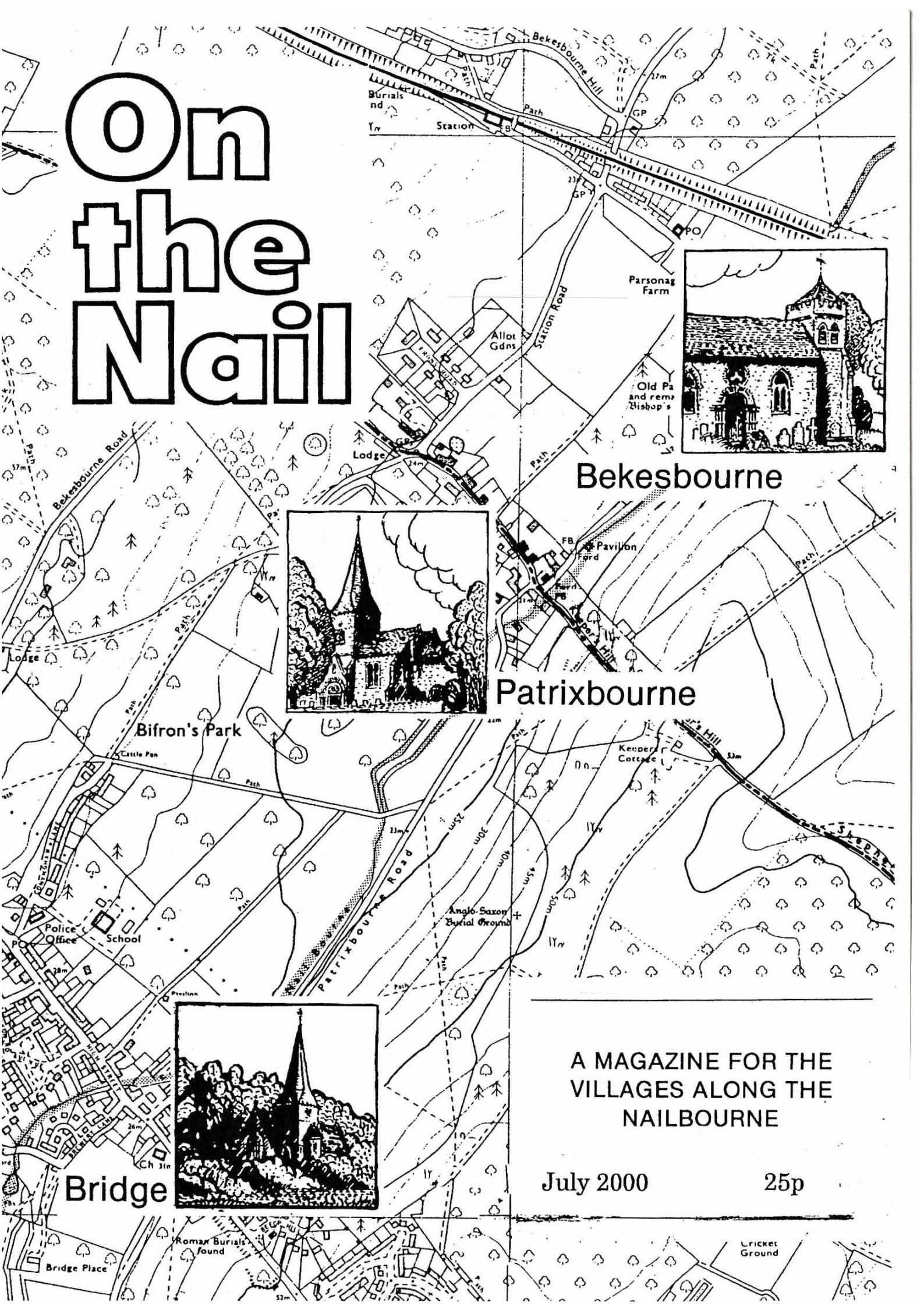
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The Bridge Group

Sunday Services in the month of July 2000

	Nackington	Lower Hardres	Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekebourne
Sunday 2nd Trinity 2		10.00 am Holy Communion Rev J Shorrock	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev P Filmer	10.00 am Mattins A Nicholson	8.00 am BCP Communion Rev P Filmer
Sunday 9th Trinity 3	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev P Filmer		6.00 pm Evensong Rev P Filmer	8.00 am BCP Communion Rev P Filmer	2.00 pm FS + Baptism
Sunday 16th Trinity 4	8.00 am BCP Communion Rev P Filmer	10.00 am Family Service Mrs M Clarke	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev G Manley		10.00 am Holy Communion with Baptism Rev P Filmer
Sunday 23rd Trinity 5	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev R Diss	6.00 pm Evensong Miss J Metcalfe	8.00 am BCP Communion Rv Shorrock/Packer	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev J Thackray	
Sunday 30th Trinity 6					10.00 am Benefice Communion Rev B Hopkinson

Bridge Methodist Church: Sundays in July 2000 at 11.00am:

2nd – Rev. George Baugh; 11th – Mrs Marjorie Beckwith, 16th – Rev. David Marshall, 23rd – Mr Ron Chadwick MA DMS, 30th – Rev. George Baugh.

July 2000 – for Your Diary and Prayer List

2nd **The Second Sunday after Trinity**

3rd *Thomas the Apostle*

6th Prayers for health and healing: 7 Windmill Close, 7.00pm

8th Chartham Millennium Open Gardens 10.00am - 6.00pm
Bridge School PFA Barn Dance, Bridge School, 5.30 - 9.30pm

9th **The Third Sunday after Trinity**

Chartham Millennium Open Gardens 2.00 - 6.00pm

11th *Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Casino, father of western monasticism c.550*

12th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-in, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am.

14th *John Keble, Priest, Tractarian, Poet, 1866*

15th *Swithun, Bishop of Winchester, c.862*

Wickhambreaux School Summer Fayre, 12.30pm.

16th **The Fourth Sunday after Trinity**

Bridge Group Barbecue, Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne, from 12.30pm.

18th Bridge and Patricxbourne Women's Institute, 26 Western Avenue, Bridge, 3.30pm

19th *Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, and his sister Macrina, Deaconess, Teachers, c.394 and c.379.*

22nd *Mary Magdalene*

Kent Air Ambulance Coffee Morning, Bridge Village Hall, 10.00am - 12noon

23rd **The Fifth Sunday after Trinity**

25th *James the Apostle*

26th *Anne and Joachim, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

29th *Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Companions of Our Lord.*

Nailbourne Horticultural Society Summer Show, Bridge School, 2.00pm

30th **The Sixth Sunday after Trinity**

Baptisms

At St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne: on Sunday 28 May, the Revd. John Shorrocks baptised **Dominic Joseph Howells, Megan Carla Howells, Ben Edward Michael Hudson, Tom Paul Hudson, and Holly Ann Canning;** on Sunday 4 June, he baptised **Grace Roma Hill.**

Blessing of A Marriage

On 4 June at St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne, the Revd. John Shorrocks blessed the marriage of **Nicholas John and Katherine Ann Hill.**



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It's All Greek To Me!

Have you ever felt the urge - through curiosity or the belief that it will be worth while - to try something different? Well, last year I finally took the plunge and went back to college for a week to start learning to read the New Testament in its original language; Greek. Not everyone's cup of tea I admit. But it was an itch that needed to be scratched, and it was time and money well spent.

Of course, I could have studied Greek when I was at college, and probably would have if it hadn't looked so daunting. The need to know about genitive & dative cases, first declensions, imperfect indicative actives, etc had me running for the hills before the term started. It was only when it was too late that I appreciated the value of Greek to someone who's main task was to make the bible understandable to others.

The secret code of the ivory tower professionals can sometimes make us feel second class, or give the impression that the whole thing is irrelevant to us down here in the real world. Well, I want to help those of you who feel this way about Christianity, especially if you feel that it is wrapped up in mystical coded language or that it is something that normal people cannot hope to understand or live with.

I hope that over the next few months I will manage to scratch your itch and answer some popular questions about the Christian faith, in non technical language. Feel free to answer me, either in person or through letters in this magazine, if you feel I am drifting away from the planet Earth or speaking another language.

It was obvious that our Greek tutor believed passionately in the benefits of understanding NT Greek and he put 110% into the lessons. I believe passionately in the benefits of understanding the basics of the Christian faith, so that individuals can make an informed choice about finding out more, or heading for the hills.

Watch This Space!

Paul

Confirmation

On Thursday 15th June the Bishop of Dover confirmed **Katherine Ann Filmer** (Paul and Judy's youngest daughter) and **Ann Margaret Nicholls** of Lower Hardres, at a service in Canterbury Cathedral.

Bridge Group Barbecue

Come and join us for a summer lunch time barbecue

Sunday 16th July

Riverside Cottage Patrixbourne

From 12.30pm

Bring your own plates, bowls, cutlery, glasses and drinks
and a garden chair or picnic rug.

Tickets £4 per adult, £2.50 per child or family ticket £10

Tickets available from Andrea (830947) or Pat (830668)

Bekesbourne Parochial Church Council

Apologies for a rather belated report on the elections at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting for Bekesbourne held at the end of April. We are pleased to welcome two new members on the PCC, Vicki McPherson and Hugh Pearson, who join the re-elected members – Christine Ash, Jonathan Cowans, Pam Farbrace, Jill Gillanders, David Millyard and Jenny Skinner. Pat Kusel is an ex officio member as the representative on the Deanery Synod, as is Jane Millyard, who was re-elected Churchwarden.

Sadly, Ian Gillanders has resigned as the other Churchwarden as he felt unable to continue while taking on a new job. He has been a great support during the last four years and the PCC is very grateful to him for all he has done.

Jane Millyard

Bekesbourne Church: Money Matters and Gift Aid

On 14th June we held the PCC's first meeting since the APCM. We agreed that we have the opportunity of making a new start because we are now part of a newly-enlarged benefice and we have a new Parish Priest. But new starts need new money on which the church can depend. So we are starting by asking church members, ie those on our church electoral roll, those who come to our services and all who are committed to the mission of the church in Bekesbourne to review what they give. Please note that we are not speaking here of our heritage, the church building: a Grade I listed building for which there is an on-going need for maintenance and insurance. That we believe is covered by the fund-raising efforts of the Friends of Bekesbourne Church to whom we are extremely grateful. It is being able to pay the "quota", which means our share

of our priest's stipend and expenses, paying the diocese for the services it gives us, towards the training of the next generation of clergy and in-service training for those in post now, paying for any improvements needed in our own Sunday services and for everything else to do with the real purposes of the church here, and to have something over to give, as a church, to help people elsewhere who are less well off than ourselves.

Please ask yourselves how much you can give and when you decide, please consider making your donation either by regular bank standing order: ask our treasurer for a form or pick one up in church; fill it in and hand it to a sidesman in church, give it to a member of the PCC or send it to our treasurer whose address is at the back of this magazine. Or if you prefer, join our new envelope scheme: we'll provide the envelopes and give you an ID number to put on your's. Then put your money in the envelope every month and put it in the offertory plate in church or hand it to a PCC member if you can't get to church.

And if you pay income tax – then why not let us claim back the tax you pay on your gift to the church? At present we can get an extra 28p for every £1 you give. It needs a declaration from you that you actually pay the amount of tax involved but there is no other commitment. Please ask for a form or pick one up in the church, fill it in and let us have it back as above. We'll do the rest.

Bridge Village Playgroup

Last month the playgroup were asked to accept the resignation/retirement of Mrs Ettie Webb. Mrs Webb has over 30 years of child care experience, a founding member of the playgroup, a qualified supervisor, a mother and grandmother. She has devoted much time and care to many, many children. The Children staff and parents involved with the playgroup will miss her but wish her a long and happy retirement.

Joanne Wyatt, secretary Playgroup

Tel: 832343

Christian Aid Week

My thanks to all who contributed to our collection for Christian Aid Week, making the grand total of £1,105.71. I am grateful to all those who helped delivering and collecting envelopes, and to my cashiers for help with counting

This year we had the additional task of preserving those envelopes where donors had made the declaration that they are taxpayers, enabling a tax refund to be claimed by the charity. Although a request of this type can appear intrusive, the benefit to the charity is very considerable.

Not only did we exceed last year's total by about £150, we are able to claim a "bonus" from the tax man to boost the sum still further. My thanks again.

Chris Hoare

Fish News

The next Coffee Pop-in in Bridge Village Hall will be on 12th July. The August one will be on the 9th. Both are from 10.15 to 11.45am.

Please telephone Ann Medhurst (830762) if you have not been before and would like a lift.

Bridge and Patricbourne Women's Institute

On Tuesday 18th July the garden meeting will be in the afternoon at 3.30pm at 26 Western Avenue, Bridge. If possible please bring a garden chair, also a small plate of food. There will be a bring-and-buy stall with a garden theme.

Nailbourne Horticultural Society Summer Show

On Saturday 29th July the hall in Bridge School will again be filled with all the best of flowers and vegetables when members hold their Summer Show. All are welcome to come and view the specimens and arrangements of the many members' exhibits of their gardening skills as well as cookery, handicrafts and photography. There is a special class open to all children to make a collage picture of garden flowers or to make a vegetable animal; we hope there will be several entries this year. Doors will be open at 2.00pm and afternoon tea with home made cakes will be available. Members who are exhibiting are reminded to obtain their entry forms from either Joan Stingemore, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830763) or Billie Anderson, 7 Dering Road, Bridge. Completed entry forms must be in by Thursday 27 July.

Bridge School Barn Dance

Back by popular demand. Bridge School PFA are holding their annual family summer barn dance on Saturday 8th July. The intriguingly named band *4 Poster Bed* are guaranteed not to send you to sleep. Bring the whole family young or not so young. All are welcome. Festivities commence at 5.30pm and finish at 9.30pm. Tickets (available from the school office or from Roz

Beeching 831027) are reasonably priced at: £3 per adult, £1.50 per child or £8 for a family ticket (2 adults and up to 3 children) only available if purchased before the day. Pre-booked tickets to include a lucky draw number. BBQ and refreshments will also be available.

Forthcoming Event

Flower Festival in St Peter's Church, Bridge: 8th – 10th September 2000

At the flower festival there will be a stall selling plants. Please start growing and collecting plants for this stall now.

For further information, or to make donations, please contact :

Rosie Green 830204, Elizabeth Kirkwood 831056 or Viv Brazier 830981.

Kent Air Ambulance

A coffee morning in aid of the Kent Air Ambulance will be held in Bridge Village Hall on Saturday 22nd July 10.00am to 12.00 noon.

Bekesbourne Register of Baptisms

St Peter's turned over a new leaf for the new century when a new Register of Baptisms was begun for a record five baptisms on the afternoon of Sunday 28 May, the first ones of the year.

On the advice of Paul Filmer, I have deposited our old Register in the Cathedral Archives, where it will be cared for in a much better atmosphere and available for consultation on microfiche. It was sad to see it go, but the damp was causing it to deteriorate and it seemed the best thing to do. The register, a handsome, large volume with leather covered boards and (broken) metal clasps, was begun on 26 August 1877 with the baptism of Agnes Emma Hopper of Bekesbourne by the Revd C E Smith, 'late Vicar of Nackington'. Of the 400 pages, 108 have been filled over the years and it would be an interesting exercise to calculate when it might have been completed! The last entry (Number 863) is for Honor Louise Pollard of Chartham, the daughter of Marietta (nee Johnston) whose parents live at the Old Vicarage.

The old register is prefaced by an 'Act for the better regulating and preserving of Parish and other Registers of Births, Baptisms, Marriages and Burials in England' dating from the 52nd year of the reign of George III. The new one includes columns for the date of birth (as well as date of baptism) and for the occupation of the mother as well as of the father.....

I have made a copy of the old register, as I hope to do some analysis of those baptised at St Peter's during these years, and am happy for anyone to consult this if you do not want to visit the Cathedral Library.

Jane Millyard

Friends of Bekesbourne Church

In spite of poor weather many loyal supporters came to Lady Mount's Open Garden on 28 May and we were able to raise an excellent total of £384. We do thank Lady Mount for so generously opening her garden in aid of Bekesbourne Church, and all those who prepared for and helped on the day

We are again doing the teas for the *Essentially Hops Farm Walks*, which will be held on Sundays 2 and 16 July, and 13 August.

Our annual **Boot Fair** will be on 2 September.

Bekesbourne Church flower and cleaning rota

8 July	Jane Mason	15 July	Joan Atkins
22 July	Jill Thomas	30 July	Christine Ash

Notes From the June Meeting of Bridge Parish Council

Rural policing: The parish council was pleased to welcome Chief Inspector Peter West, PC Paul Whitehead and Special Constable Tony Seymour to the June meeting. PC Whitehead has recently taken up the post of rural community liaison officer for Bridge and other south Canterbury villages. Special Constable Seymour has been assigned to the villages of Barham, Kingston and Bridge. PC Whitehead said that he expected to visit the village regularly and intended to liaise with the parish council on a twice monthly basis.

Village traffic management plan: Following a successful application for funding for traffic improvements in the village it is expected that gateway signing and anti skid surfacing will be introduced in the High Street, close to the junction with Conyngham Lane, in the current financial year. Pedestrian crossings and the extension of the 40 mph speed limit in Bridge Hill are likely to take place in 2001/2002. An opportunity for public consultation is to be offered, probably associated with a display of the proposals. Further information will be available at a later date.

Fish Scheme: Councillors were pleased to congratulate the Fish Scheme on its 20th Anniversary this year. The work undertaken by volunteers to this scheme in helping the elderly and infirm is much appreciated.

Blocked drains: It was noted by councillors that there were several blocked drains in the village which had contributed to flooding during the recent heavy downpours. Canterbury city council highways department is to be contacted and asked to clear the drains.

Planning applications:

The following planning applications have been received:

- CA/00/0453/BRI Two storey side extension to 36 Bridge Down (revised scheme);
- CA/00/0453/BRI Two storey side and single storey extension and dormer to rear of 44 Western Avenue (revised scheme);
- CA/00/0527/BRI Conservatory to front of 1 Riverside Close;
- CA/00/0435/BRI Renewal for planning consent for erection of a dwelling on land adjoining Cedars, Higham Lane;
- CA/00/0431/BRI Two storey side extension to 3 Union Road.

The following applications had been notified as granted:

- CA/00/0374/BRI Conservatory to rear of 72 Bridge Down;
- CA/00/0201/BRI Re-locatable office at Corralls, Union Road.

Becket Weekend in Canterbury 7 - 9 July 2000

Mrs Stephie Morelli has written drawing attention to a weekend programme of events in celebration of St Thomas Becket, taking place on 7 - 9 July in and around the Cathedral. The programme will include the official launch of the charity *THE BECKET HOMES A Canterbury Project for the Homeless With Addictive Behaviour* and profits from entry fees for the various events will go to the charity

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Dr AM Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patricxbourne (830947)
Hon Secretary Mrs A Williamson, Beechmount, Conyngham Lane, Bridge (830399)
Hon Treasurer Mrs JB Stingemore, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830763)
Covenants Officer Mr NC Francis, 54 Riverside Close, Bridge (830945)
Choirmaster & Organist (Bridge) Mr PD Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road (830293)
Organist (Patricxbourne) Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill, Patricxbourne (830205)

BEKESBOURNE

Churchwardens Mrs J Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne (830256)
Hon. Secretary Mr JW Cowans, Distant View, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne (831029)
Hon. Treasurer Mr D Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne (830256)
Organist Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill, Patricxbourne (830205)
Captain of the Ringers Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bek'ne (830659)
On The Nail Advertising Mr HPM Lawrence, 21 Windmill Close, Bridge (830472)

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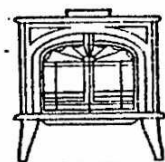
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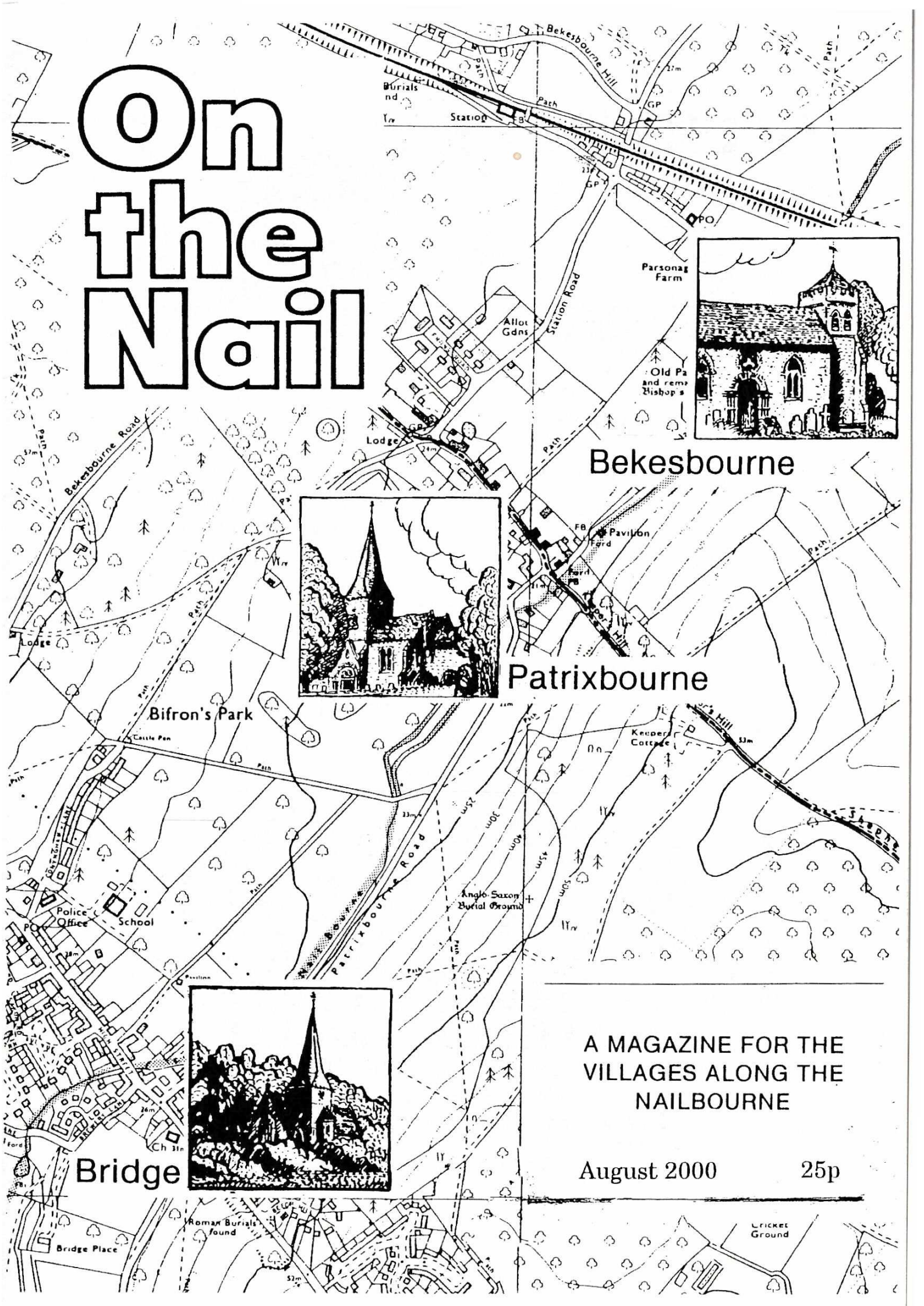
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The Bridge Group
Sunday Services for the month of August 2000

Year B	Nackington	Lower Hardres	Bridge	Patricxbourne	Bekes
6/8 Trinity 7		10.00 am Holy Communion Rev A Duke	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev B Way	10.00 am Mattins Mrs A Nicholson	8.00 BCP Co Rev R
13/8 Trinity 8	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev P Filmer		6.00 pm Evensong Canon Dr R Heinz	8.00 am BCP Communion Rev P Filmer	10.0 Ma Mrs A
20/8 Trinity 9	8.00 am BCP Communion Rev P Filmer	10.00 am Family Service Mrs M Clarke	10.00 am Holy Communion Canon G Manley		10.0 Holy C Rev F
27/8 Trinity 10	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev A Soar	6.00 pm Evensong Rev P Filmer	8.00 am BCP Communion Rev P Filmer	10.00 am HC + Baptism Rev P Filmer	
3/9 Trinity 11		10.00 am Holy Communion Rev P Filmer	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev B Hopkinson	10.00 am Mattins Mrs A Nicholson	8.0 BCP C Rev

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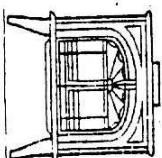
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Bridge Methodist Church: Sundays in August 2000 at 11.00am:

6th – Mr Michael Bayutt, B.Sc. DMS. C.Eng., 13th – Rev. David Marshall
(Holy Communion), 20th – Mr John Whalan, 27th Rev. Donald Lugg.

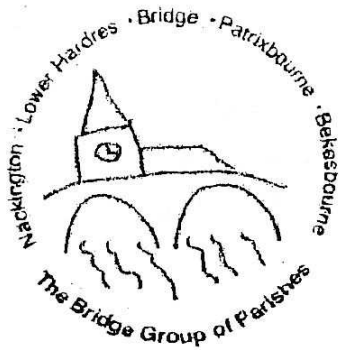
August 2000 – for Your Diary and Prayer List

- 5th *Oswald, King of Northumbria, Martyr, 642*
- 6th **The Transfiguration of Our Lord**
(The Seventh Sunday after Trinity)
- 8th *Dominic, priest, Founder of the Order of Preachers, 1221*
- 9th *Mary Sumner, Founder of the Mothers' Union, 1921*
Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village hall, 10.15-11.15am.
- 10th *Laurence, Deacon at Rome, Martyr, 258*
- 11th *Clare of Assisi, Founder of the Minoreesses (Poor Clares), 1253*
- 12th *Smallest Garden Party, 25 The Close, afternoon.*
- 13th **The Eighth Sunday after Trinity**
Jeremy Taylor, Bishop of Down and Connor, Teacher, 1667
Florence Nightingale, Nurse, Social Reformer, 1910
Octavia Hill, Social Reformer, 1912
Farm Walks, Essentially Hops, Bekesbourne.
- 15th *The Blessed Virgin Mary*
Bridge and Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Bridge Village Hall,
7.30pm.
- 19-20th *Millenium Horticultural Show, Herne Bay Bandstand.*
- 20th **The Ninth Sunday after Trinity**
- 24th *Bartholomew the Apostle*
- 27th **The Tenth Sunday after Trinity**
- 28th *Augustine Bishop of Hippo, Teacher, 430*
- 30th *John Bunyan, Spiritual Writer, 1688*
- 31st *Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 651*

Can You Hear Me, Mother?

The answer should be 'Yes'. Bridge Church now has a sound enhancement system, which was used for the first time on Sunday 16th July. The system comprises a radio microphone for the Priest together with a microphone at the lectern. A further microphone is available on a stand or hand-held to go anywhere in the church. For those who wear a hearing aid a 'loop' has been installed which covers all the pews. It will take a few weeks to people used to the 'technology' but first reactions from the congregation were very favourable.

L.H.D.



Rev Paul Filmer
Bridge vicarage
01227 830250
paulos@enterprise.net

Who is Christ?

As promised last month, this is the first in a series of articles dealing with the basics of the Christian faith. As it is Christ that makes us CHRISTIANS, "Who is Christ?" seems like a good place to start. So here goes!

When the Queen commissions an Ambassador and sends him abroad, he goes with full authority to represent her, and speaks on her behalf. The Jewish people have always believed that God would keep his promise and send his special ambassador (they call him the 'Messiah') to protect them from persecution and become their most powerful leader ever. When Greek became the official language of the Middle East, the Hebrew title Messiah became Christ, and so people looked for the arrival of "the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One." (Mark 14:61).

The Old Testament, written and compiled between 1000 - 400 years B.C. contains over 300 prophecies (predictions) about the Christ; when, where & how he would be born, what he would do, how he would die, how people would react to him - including his betrayal by a close friend. It has been calculated that for someone to fit just eight of these prophecies the odds are 100,000,000,000,000,000 : 1.

Although other people have claimed to be the Christ, only one man, Jesus of Nazareth fits the bill. His life fulfilled all 300 prophecies, many of which were beyond human control! 2000 years later, his followers, Christians, are still living according to his teaching, and acknowledging his claims to be the Christ, the Son of the living God. Find out more about him next month.

Paul

Notices From The Church

Canon Dr Rudi Heinz

If you think (like I did) that church history is boring, then you need to hear this guy speak with a passion and knowledge that will take your breath away. Rudi was my church history lecturer at college, and many sessions finished on a knife edge - more like the end of a soap episode than a dry lecture on the Church of England.

Rudi has now retired back to the States, but has returned for the summer, with his wife Mildred, to research his new book. As a treat he has offered to preach at our Evensong at St Peter's Bridge on 13th August where he would love to meet as many people as possible; regulars & occasional church goers.

The service is at 6pm, and you are encouraged to stay afterwards and mingle with a glass of wine.

General Synod

Elections to serve on General Synod until 2005 will take place in October this year. Any lay person can stand for election providing they are at least 18 years old, an actual communicant and on the electoral role of a parish in this diocese.

If you have ever thought you could make a difference to the Church of England, why not have a go? More information and nominations forms are available from David Kemp at Diocesan House, Lady Wootton's Green, Canterbury CT1 1NQ tel 01227 459401 or E-mail dkemp@diocant.clara.co.uk

Key to vehicle gate at St Peter's, Bekesbourne.

It has been agreed that the part of the gate giving vehicle access to the path to the lych gate will in future be locked. Vehicle access will be available for those carrying disabled passengers or heavy loads by obtaining the key from a Churchwarden or sidesperson for a particular church service.

Jill Thomas

From The Parish Registers

Baptisms

25/6	Nackington	Isobel Pimperarai Walton
2/7	Patrixbourne	Hamish Zac Oisín Talbot
2/7	Patrixbourne	Jake Finn Cosmo Talbot
16/7	Bridge	Joseph John Needham
16/7	Bridge	Samuel David Harlow
23/7	Bekesbourne	Molly Elizabeth Stephens

Banns of Marriage

13/8-27/8	Nackington	Andrew Stuart Ford & Debra Helen Bensted
30/7-13/8	Bekesbourne	Michael John Moorlands & Sophie Sami Taha Hunt

Funerals

3/7	Patrixbourne/Barham	Rev William Owen OBE
11/7	Barham	Doreen Anne Mills

Paul F

Prayers for Health and Healing

There will not be a meeting during August, due to many being on holiday. The group will meet again on Thursday 7th September at 7 Windmill Close, Bridge at 7.00pm. Anybody interested in attending or wishing prayers to be included are invited to contact Kath Pierce on 830844.

Teas at Essentially Hops.

The Third Farm Walk, featuring mainly Hops, will be on Sunday 13th August, so do come along for an interesting walk and a nice tea afterwards.

Annual Boot Fair

This will take place at Parsonage Farm, Bekesbourne, by kind permission of Mr John Ash, on Saturday 2 September 2000, starting at 9.00am. Please book your pitch with Jennifer Skinner on Canterbury 768925.

Give us this day our daily bread Do we really know what we are saying?

As a child, I can remember proudly reciting The Lord's Prayer but paying little or no attention to what I was saying. Now that my children are reciting it too, I wonder what they think about when they say those familiar words?

This was put to the test during the Family Service at Bekesbourne on Sunday 9th, when the congregation was asked to define the meaning of 'bread'. Food and money were the responses, but it was clear that we needed to think deeper. Led by Pat Kusel and ably assisted by her flipchart, we set to work. The bread shaped paper provided for our answers was an education in itself! By the end of the service we had cracked it. The words food and money had been replaced by LOVE, COMPASSION, COMFORT, UNDERSTANDING and many more. This was the second service in recent months to concentrate on the Lord's Prayer and my question had been answered.

To fully appreciate God's love, it is important for all of us, children and grown-ups alike, to 'Get back to Basics'. Only by understanding the basics can we begin to build upon them.

Well done Pat, looking forward to the next service on September 10th.

Victoria Brown.

Although Pat Kusel is taking a break during August, Margaret Clarke (lay reader) who takes the Family Service at Lower Hardres will be conducting a Family Service/Matins on the 2nd Sunday at Bekesbourne.

Bridge and Patrixbourne Women's Institute

"Designing your Garden for Ease" is the subject for Mr William's talk for the August Meeting. The competition is a photograph of any garden. New members and visitors will be made very welcome on Tuesday 15th August at 7.30pm

Joyce Hopkins

Fish News

The next Coffee Pop-In in Bridge Village Hall will be on Wednesday 9th from 10.15 to 11.15am. Please telephone Ann Medhurst(830762) if you have not been before and would like a lift.

Smallest Garden Party in the World (this Millennium!)

This event will take place again at 25 The Close, Union Road, on Saturday 12th August 2000. This year the proceeds will be presented to a local Charity, Becket Homes. Tickets are available for 2 sessions during the day from Christine Hoare, 01227 832447(eves) and are priced at £3.00



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Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne Parish Council – dates of future meetings.

Meetings are held in the Village hall at 7.30pm.

September 18th, November 13th, January 15th 2001, March 12th, May 14th –
Statutory Annual Meeting, April 2nd – Village Meeting.

Also note October 7th there will be a Millennium Walk to commemorate the
bicentennial of Dr Charles Tilstone Beke.

Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Bike and Hike

Don't forget that this annual event will be taking place on Saturday 9th September. If you are willing to ride a bike or walk between churches to raise money, please contact Jill Gillanders (Bekesbourne), Pauline Pritchard (Patricxbourne) or Christine Beer (Bridge). We should also love to hear from you if you can spare an hour on the day to sign off cyclists who visit the churches or if you are willing to sponsor someone or provide refreshments. Remember, it's all in a good cause: both Bekesbourne and Patricxbourne have recently had grants from the Friends of Kent Churches for urgently needed restoration work and half of what you raise goes directly to the church that you nominate.

We hope to hear from you soon.

Jill, Pauline and Christine.

Fete Full Day ----- Over 4500 Pounds Raised

As most of you will be aware, because you were there, the Village Fete was again a great success, as indeed were all the other events marking the millennium in Bridge. (The pig on the spit may of course not agree).

Only those closely involved know how much work goes in to ensuring the event runs smoothly, even with the invaluable advice from past masters. There are too many sponsors, stall holders/helpers, supporters, tent erectors and door-to-door collectors to mention you all by name. You know who you are – thank you from all the fete committee.

There are one or two people however whom I wish to thank in print: everyone on the fete committee, including your partners for giving you so many evening passes: Rex Boughton (school caretaker), Graham Atkins and Intake Engineering, Ranjit Dhaliwal of Bridgeway Stores, (sorry I missed you off the sponsors list), and last but not least the teachers, dancers, gymnasts and competitors in Bridge Euro 2000, (what an inspired idea!).

Martin Leggatt

Fete Committee Chairman

Nailbourne Group of the League of Friends of Canterbury Hospitals

We are having a 'table' boot sale on Saturday September 16th, 10am to 12 noon in Bridge Village Hall.

Any organisations or individuals wishing to make some money and clear out some clutter, please phone Rosy Green(830204) to book a table. Items can be donated to be sold, for the League, which will therefore support your local hospitals. Thank you for your support.

NOTES FROM THE JULY MEETING OF BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Millennium Festival: Councillors recorded a vote of thanks to members of the Millennium Festival Committee who had worked so hard to make the celebration held on 24 June such a success. Councillors reported that it was so successful that many villagers wished to make it a regular event, possibly taking place every two years. The second stage of this year's event is to take place in September.

Playground surfacing: The contractor is to repair the safety surfacing under the new swings, which was not done properly at the time the swings were installed last February. Further repair work is also to take place to the edging of the original surface. The parish council regrets any disruption to the use of swings may be experienced during the school holidays.

Planning applications: The following planning applications had been received and commented upon:

- i) CA/00/0615/BRI - Conversion of 3 agricultural buildings to 4 dwellings at Renville Farm. No objection was raised.
- ii) CAC/00/0015/BRI - Demolition of farm dwellings at Renville Farm. No objection was raised.
- iii) CAL/00/0061/BRI & CAA/00/0038/BRI - Illuminated and non-illuminated signage, floodlights and lanterns at the Red Lion PH. No objection was raised
- iv) CA/00/0535/BRI - installation of 22.5m radio mast at the orchard, High Street North. An objection was made on the grounds that it 22.5m mast would be more intrusive than the 15m mast already in existence and for which planning permission was unnecessary.
- v) CA/00/0507/CAN - revised layout to Park and Ride to allow access and egress to Canterbury College. This application is to be objected to.

The following application had been notified as granted:

CA/00/0453/BRI - outline planning permission (renewal) at land adjoining Cedars, Higham Lane

The following application had been notified as refused:

CA/00/0431/BRI - 2 storey side extension to 3 Union Road, Bridge

The following application had been notified as withdrawn CA/00/0453/BRI - 2 storey side extension (revised scheme) to 36 Bridge Down.

Dial a Bus.

Do you have difficulty using public transport? Dial a bus is an initiative by Canterbury City Council and Kent County Council aimed at providing a service for the disabled and elderly. You can phone for a specially adapted bus to call at your house, take you into the town centre and home again. The service operates on weekdays and covers the Canterbury district including rural areas. For more information and an application form contact Jan Uden, Development and Planning, Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW. Or, phone 01227 862436.

Bekesbourne Flower and Cleaning Rota – August 2000

5th August- Zan Clifford, 12th August Pam Farbrace, 19th August Joan Atkins, 26th August Jenny Skinner.

sbourne	
0 am ommunion Podger	2Sam 11:26-12:13 Eph 4:1-16 Jn 6:24-35
10 am ttins A Clarke	2Sam 18,5-9,31-33 Eph 4:25-5:2 Jn 6:35,41-51
10 am ommunion P Filmer	1Ki 2:10-12;3:3-14 Eph 5:15-20 Jn 6:51-58
	1Ki 8:22-30,41-43 Eph 6:10-20 Jn 6:56-69
10 am ommunion P Filmer	S of S 2:8-13 Ja 1:17-27 Mk 7:1-8, 20-23

Priest-in-Charge: Reverend Paul Filmer,

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Dr AM Nicholson, Riva

Hon Secretary Mrs A Williamson, Bee

Hon Treasurer Mrs JB Stingenore, 5 D

Covenants Officer Mr NC Francis, 54 Ri

Choirmaster & Organist (Bridge) Mr PD

Organist (Patribourne) Mrs RM Stacey

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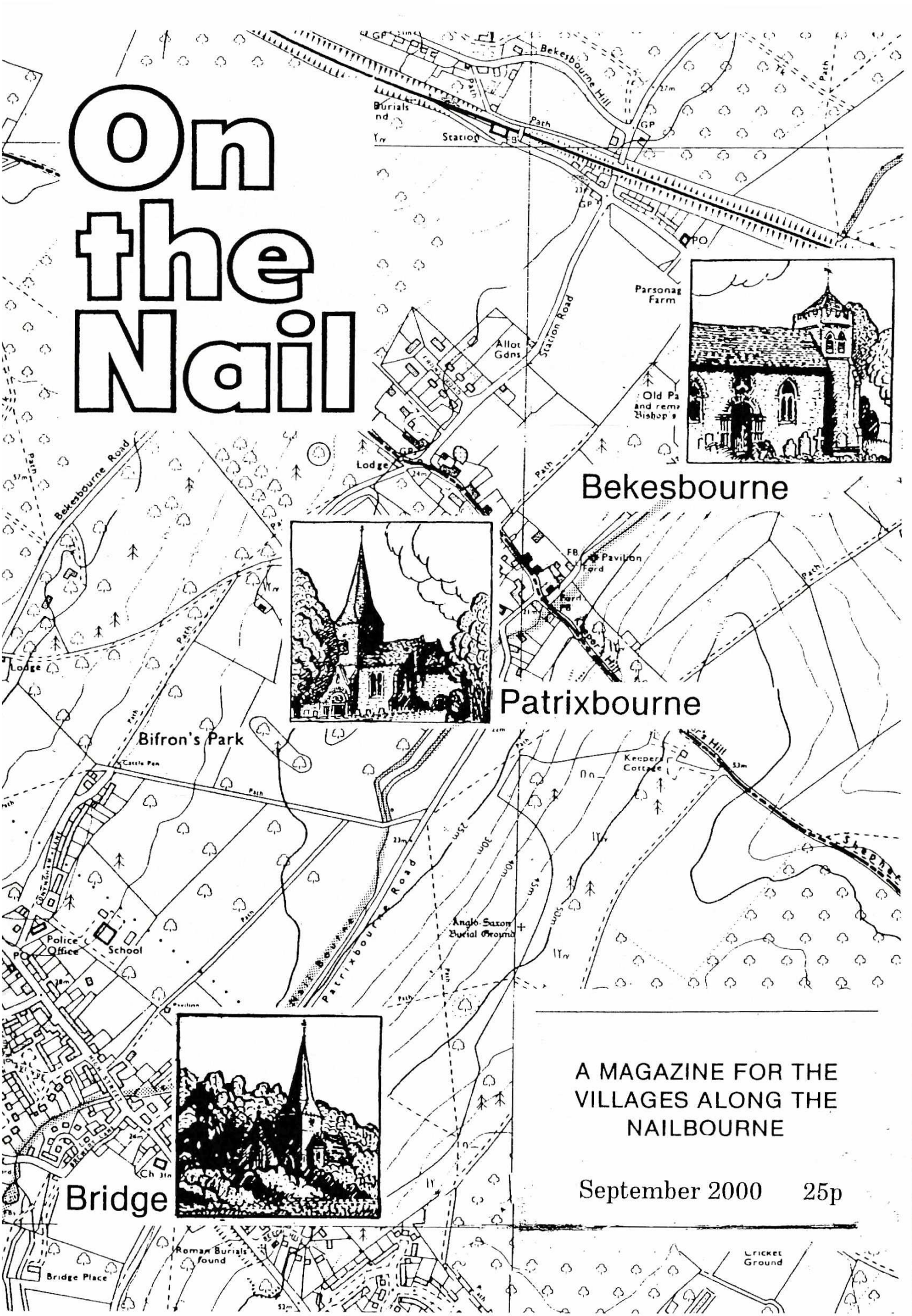
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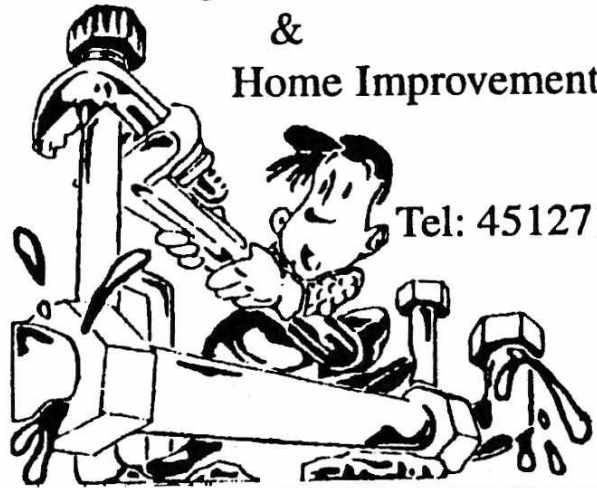
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The Bridge Group
Services for the month of September 2000

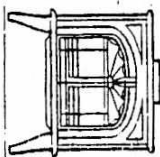
Year B	Nackington	Lower Hardres	Bridge	Patricxbourne	Beke
Sun 3rd Trinity 11		10.00 am Holy Communion Rev P Filmer	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev B Hopkinson	10.00 am Mattins Mrs A Nicholson	8.00 BCP C Rev P
Sun 10th Trinity 12	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev P Filmer 2.30 pm Baptism		6.00 pm Evensong Rev P Filmer Ven J Pritchard	8.00 am BCP Communion Rev P Filmer	10. Family Mrs
Sun 17th Trinity 13	8.00 am BCP Communion Rev P Filmer	10.00 am Family Service Mrs M Clarke	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev G Manley		10. Holy C Rev P
Sun 24th Trinity 14	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev R Diss	6.00 pm Evensong Mrs M Clarke Rev P Filmer	8.00 am BCP Communion Rev P Filmer	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev P Filmer	
Sun 1/10 Trinity 15		10.00 am Holy Communion tba	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev P Filmer	10.00 am Harvest Festival Mrs A Nicholson	8.00 BCP C Rev P

2 readings for each service should always be either OT or NT, plus
Please note - visiting preachers may specify alternative readings

Churchwardens Mrs J Millyard, School
Hon. Secretary Mr JW Cowans, Dist
Hon. Treasurer Mr D Millyard, School
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Bridge Methodist Church: Sundays in September at 11.00am.

3rd - Mrs Marjorie Beckwith, 10th –Rev Howard Skinner, B.A., 17th -Harvest Festival, Mr Alistair Barwick, B.Sc., 24th –Mr Michael Baybutt, B.Sc., C. Eng.

September 2000- for your Diary and Prayer List

1st *Giles of Provence, Hermit 710*

2nd *The Martyrs of Papua New Guinea 1901 and 1942*

3rd **The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity**

Nailbourne Horticultural Society Outing to Wisley

4th *Birinus, Bishop of Dorchester, Apostle of Wessex 650*

6th *Allen Gardiner, Missionary, Founder of the South American Missionary Society 1851*

7th Prayers for Health and Healing, 7 Windmill Close 7pm

8th The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Flower Festival, St. Peter's Church Bridge 10-6

Millennium Exhibition, Village Hall 10-8

'Quodlibet' Concert, St Peter's Church 8pm

9th Flower Festival, St. Peter's Church Bridge 10-6

Millennium Exhibition, Village Hall 10-6

Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Bike and Hike

CHEK Bar-b-Que, White Horse Inn Bridge 12noon

Charles Fuge Lowder, Priest 1880

10th **The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity**

Flower Festival, St. Peter's Church Bridge 10-4

Millennium Exhibition, Village Hall 10-4

12th Patricxbourne with Bridge PCC, The Vicarage, 7.30pm

13th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall 10.15am

John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, Teacher 407

14th **Holy Cross Day**

Bridge Parish Council, Hunter Room 7pm

15th *Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr 258*

16th League of Friends, Table Boot Fair, Bridge Village Hall 10-12noon

Ninian Bishop of Galloway, Apostle of the Picts 432

17th **The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity**

Hildegard Abbess of Bingen, Visionary 1179

19th Bridge and Patricxbourne Women's Institute, Bridge Village Hall
7.30pm

Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury 690

- 20th *John Coleridge Patteson, First Bishop of Melanesia, and his Companions, Martyrs 1871*
- 21st **Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist**
- 23rd Coffee Morning in aid of George Maben-Mead Appeal, 7 Windmill Close 10-12noon
- 24th **The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**
- 25th *Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, Spiritual Writer 1626*
- 26th East Kent Ploughing Match, Goodnestone 9am
Wilson Carlisle, Founder of the Church Army, 1942
- 27th *Vincent de Paul, Founder of the Congregation of the Mission (Lazarists) 1660*
- 29th **Michael and All Angels**
Afternoon Tea 'The McMillan Fund' Mansfield Court, Riverside Close, Bridge 2.30pm
- 30th *Jerome, Translator of the Scriptures, Teacher 420*

I Can Hear You Loud and Clear, Son

At Bridge Church the sound enhancement system, and the 'loop' for those who use a hearing aid, is now being used at each service. The system has been paid for by donations and a small grant from the Diocesan 'Growth and Opportunities Fund'. The shortfall is being met from PCC funds. If any Parishioner feels able to assist the PCC with a donation towards the cost of the system, please talk to John Anderson, Churchwarden, (830260)

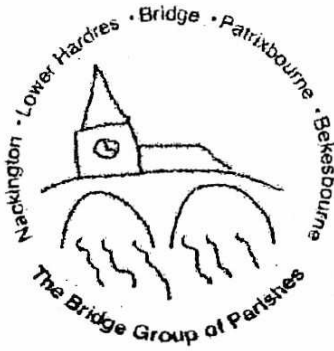
St Peter's Bridge Flower Festival 8th, 9th, 10th September

The organisers are looking for stewards to man the church over the three days of the event. They would be grateful for as much or as little time as anyone can offer. Please contact John Anderson(830260)or Ailsa Williamson(830399)

Refreshments will be served each day, and volunteers to help with serving refreshments, or to supply cakes would be appreciated. Please contact Pat Dunderdale (830669)

Following the Flower Festival we are holding a Festival Evensong at 6pm. To this service we welcome the Venerable John Pritchard, Archdeacon of Canterbury, who will give the address.

We hope to welcome many of you to this service.



Rev Paul Filmer
Bridge Vicarage
01227 830250
paulos@enterprise.net

Was Jesus Real?

When we watch Batman battling it out with The Riddler, Penguin and all the other baddies of Gotham City, we don't actually believe they're real - do we? Comic book heroes can be helpful when promoting healthy morals, but we know the characters are only made to believe.

Things get more complicated when we look at someone like Robin Hood - robbing the rich to feed the poor; fighting against the corrupt Sheriff of Nottingham. Now the divide between fantasy and reality is not so clear. There really is a place called Sherwood Forest, and Nottingham would have had a sheriff at the time of Richard the Lion Heart and his brother Prince John. Belief in a real Robin Hood is not far fetched, perhaps romantic, but possible. At least, the story could be based on a real person who stood up for the poor and persecuted.

But what can we believe about Jesus? Does he come from the comic books with Batman?; or out of the mists of folklore with Robin Hood?; or straight from the history books like Julius Caesar? Can we prove that Jesus really existed?

YES! We have accounts of Jesus' life and teaching, written and published during the lifetime of eye witnesses. We have letters written about him, by his friends and enemies. We have reports from Roman historians of the time. And we have a lack of written evidence to argue that he did not exist, or that he was not the man his followers claimed.

The Encyclopaedia Britannica records that "in ancient times even the opponents of Christianity never doubted the historicity of Jesus." The entry on Jesus takes up 20,000 words - more than Aristotle, Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar or Napoleon Bonaparte; all accepted historical figures. (even though none of us has actually seen them!)

Proving that Jesus was a real person is only the beginning. Next time we will look at who he was and what he did.

Paul

From The Parish Registers

Baptisms

6/8 Bridge

Liam Dodd

6/8 Bridge

Laura Margaret Knox

27/8 Patrixbourne

Edward Alan Woodhall

Funerals

25/7 Patrixbourne/Barham

Graeme M Hamilton

New Noticeboards at St Mary's Patrixbourne

Patrixbourne Church now has two beautiful new Noticeboards. Many thanks to John Hill, who made them, and to Bekesbourne and Patrixbourne Parish Council, which paid for them.

Rosalie Stacey

Bridge and Patrixbourne Women's Institute

On Tuesday 19th September at 7.30pm, Farmer John Palmer will talk about the 'Heritage Centre'. The competition is for a limerick based on the media, the winning entry to go forward to the group meeting.

Everyone is invited to a Coffee Morning with bring-and-buy stall on Thursday 14th September between 10.30 and noon at 26 Western Avenue.

Fish News

Have you recently moved to these parishes, or would you just like to meet more friends? Why not come to the monthly Fish Pop-In Coffee Morning in Bridge Village Hall? They are on the second Wednesday of the month and the next will be on September 13th from 10.15 to 11.45 am. If you would like transport just telephone Ann Medhurst on 830762

CHEK(Concern for Health in East Kent)

CHEK is holding its second annual Bar-b-Que/Bat & Trap Competition on Saturday 9th September at the White Horse Inn, Bridge commencing at 12 noon. Tickets £6 for bar-b-que available from the White Horse Inn or CHEK Secretary (832058). Entrance fee for Bat and Trap competition: £1 adults, 50p children, payable on the day. There will also be a Teddy Bear Tombola and the raffle of a Steiff Bear.

Are you interested in campaigning for the acceptable provision of local health services but not yet a member? Membership is open to over 18s and costs only £1 per year.



ST PETER'S CHURCH
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FLOWER
FESTIVAL

CHURCH OPEN

FRIDAY 8th SEPT 10 am - 6pm
SATURDAY 9th SEPT. 10 am - 6pm
SUNDAY 10th SEPT 10 am-4 pm

MUSIC
&
REFRESHMENTS

Nailbourne League of Friends of the Canterbury Hospitals

We are holding a Table Boot fair in Bridge Village hall on Saturday September 16th 10-12noon. We need donations of items to sell for the League. We also need cakes and raffle prizes and your support on the day to snap up those bargains. For table bookings please phone Rosy Green(830204), also if you have donations that need collecting. The proceeds will be going towards a digital camera for the Hospital's Oncology Department to aid the treatment of cancer. Thank you for your support

Royal British Legion – Littlebourne and District Branch

Is there anyone out there who would be willing to become a collector for the Poppy Appeal this year? We are constantly looking for new people to help. Anyone interested can ring 728507

The next two Branch monthly meetings will be Tuesday 12th September at the Anchor, Littlebourne at 8pm and Tuesday 10th October at the Recreation Club, Littlebourne at 8pm. Following the success of the last Beef Pudding Supper at the Unicorn, Bekesbourne, we are holding another one on Tuesday, 24th October, tickets £5.50. Contact Fred on 721237 for tickets.

We also hope to hold our Annual Remembrance Parade and Service at Wickhambreaux this year – confirmation and further details will be announced later.

For anyone in Bridge who does not know about us, our Welfare Officer is Ron Bates (720272) and he will be pleased to hear from any ex-service person or their dependant who feels that the Legion may be able to help them. If you are unable to reach Ron, you can ring our Branch Chairman, Doug Fenn (721327)

East Kent Ploughing Match

Tuesday September 26th, Rowling Farm, Goodnestone, 9am start. Ploughing, livestock, trade stands, country crafts, bar and refreshments.

Millennium Exhibition

Pictorial History of Bridge Village (updated from the 1994 display) in the Village Hall. Friday 8th September 10.00am-8.00pm, Saturday 9th September 10.00am-6.00pm, Sunday 10th September 10.00am-4.00pm. Admission free.

Kent Air Ambulance

Many thanks for all the support for the Coffee Morning on 22nd July. The grand sum of £310 was raised. Your support is asked for an Afternoon Tea with a Bring-and-Buy Sale at 2.30pm Mansfield Court, Residents' Lounge, Riverside Close at 2.30pm in aid of 'The McMillan Fund'

George Maben-Mead Appeal



Coffee Morning

Saturday September 23rd

10am-12 noon

at

7 Windmill Close

Cakes Bric-a-Brac Raffle

Many friends in Bridge will remember Detective Sgt. Jack Maben and his wife Betty when they lived in Western Ave. Their daughter Jill went to Bridge School. Jack was later transferred to Maidstone on promotion and sadly has since died. Betty regularly receives a copy of 'On the Nail' and she is appealing for help to raise funds to send her 7 year old grandson George to Melbourne.

George was born with a tumour deep within his brain, which causes as many as ten seizures a day. The rare condition is called Hypothalamic Hamartoma. The neurology team in Melbourne has operated on these tumours with great success. Sadly this operation is not available here in England, yet Jill and Robert (her husband) have the blessing of their doctor at the Great Ormond Street Hospital to raise the funds to take George to Australia.

Please help, if you can, either by a donation or by supporting the Coffee Morning. Jill will acknowledge all donations personally.

Many thanks, Kath Pierce.

Bekesbourne Flower and Cleaning Rota September 2000

2nd - Jenny Skinner. 9th - Cheryl Barker/Vickie McPherson. 16th - Rosie Mount. 23rd - Rosie Mount. 30th - Pip Riccini.

Future Event

Sunday 8th October- Benefice Harvest Lunch at Bridge School Hall at 12.30pm.

Tickets £3 or £8 for a family ticket. Details from Pat Dunderdale (830668) or Andrea Nicholson(830947).

St Peter's Church Bridge Cleaning Rota- September 2000

Help!! We are in need of more volunteers, for regular help, back up or occasional assistance – maybe a 'B' team to the 'A' team. If you can come to the rescue please contact Kathy Eynon(830466).

2nd September- Kathy Eynon, 6th (polishing pews) Kathy Eynon +1. 8/9/10 Flower Festival – Volunteers? 16th September –Pat Hulyer. 23rd – Kath Pierce/Gladys Lemar. 30th – Kathy Eynon/Joyce Dean. Windows(as possible)- John Hill.



Don't forget that this annual event will take place on Saturday 9th September. Collect your sponsorship form to 'Bike or Hike' from Jill Gillanders, Pauline Pritchard or Christine Beer. Volunteers are also needed to sign off cyclists who visit the Churches. **Please ride for our churches and support this event**

Stop Press!!



St. Peter's Church
Bridge

Friday 8th September
at 8pm

During the
Flower Festival and Bridge Millennium
Celebrations

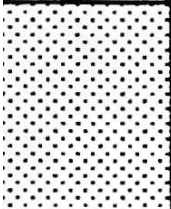
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sbourne	Readings
00 am ommunion P Filmer	OT: SofS 2:8-13 NT: Ja 1:17-27 G: Mk 7:1-8,,20-23
00 am / Service P Kusel	OT: Prov 22:1-9 NT: Ja 2:1-10 G: Mk 7:24-37
00 am ommunion P Filmer	OT: Prov 1:20-33 NT: Ja 3:1-12 G: Mk 8:27-38
	OT: Prov 31:10-31 NT: Ja 3:13-4:3 G: Mk 9:30-37
00 am ommunion P Filmer	OT: Esth 7:1-10 NT: Ja 5:13-20 G: Mk 9:38-50

Gospel
ngs

Priest-in-Charge: Reverend Paul Film
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 Dr AM Nicholson,
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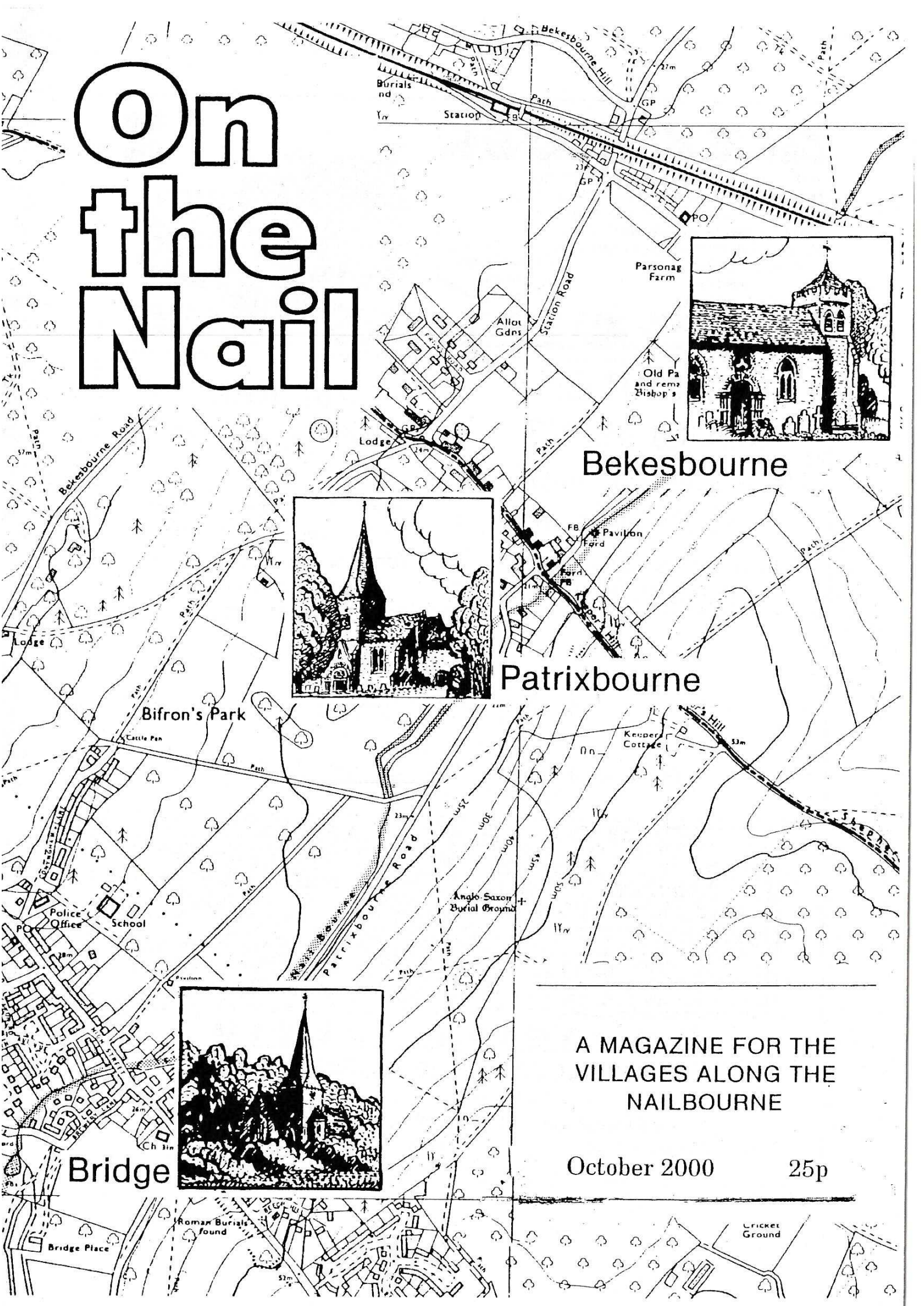
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Patricxbourne



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October 2000

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Bridge Methodist Church: Sundays in October 2000 at 11.00am.

1st - Rev Donald Lugg, 8th - Rev David Marshall (Holy Communion), 15th - Mrs Beryl Skinner, 22nd - Rev. Howard Skinner, 29th - Rev George Baugh.

Our annual Coffee Morning/Bring and Buy Sale will be on Thursday 12th Oct at 10.00am until noon. We look forward to seeing all our friends at this event.

September 2000 - for Your diary and Prayer List

1st The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

4th Francis of Assisi, Friar, Deacon, Founder of The Friars Minor, 1226

6th William Tyndale, Translator of The Scriptures, Reformation Myrtyr, 1536

*7th Bridge Village Playgroup, Jumble Sale, Bridge Village Hall, 2pm
Beke Walk and Barbecue, starting in Seaton, 2.30pm*

8th The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Benefice Harvest Lunch, Bridge School, 12.30pm

10th Paulinus, Bishop of York, Missionary, 644

*11th Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In, Bridge Village Hall, 10.15 - 11.45am
Ears 'n' Beers, Plough & Harrow, Bridge 8pm*

12th Wilfrid of Ripon, Bishop, Missionary, 709

*Methodist Church Annual Coffee Morning/Bring & Buy 10am-12noon
Bridge Parish Council Meeting, Hunter Room, 7.30pm*

13th Edward the confessor, King of England, 1066

14th Bridge School P.F.A. Boot Fair, Bridge School, 10am

15th The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

17th Ugnatius, Bishop of Antioch, Martyr, C.107

18th Luke The Evangelist

19th Henry Martyn, Translator of The Scriptures, 1812

20th Health for All "Wine & Wisdom", Lower Hardres Village Hall, 7.30am

22nd The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

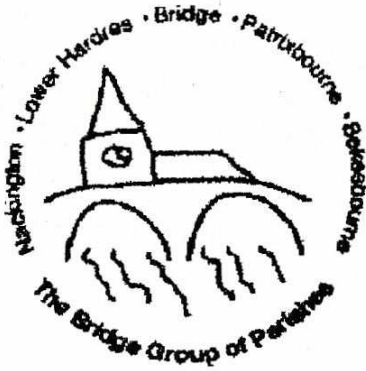
26th Alfred the Great, King of the West Saxons, Scholar, 899

Nailbourne Horticultural Society, Methodist Church, 7.30pm

28th Simon and Jude, Apostles

Autumn Coffee Morning, Bridge Village Hall, 10am - 12noon

29th The Last Sunday after Trinity



Rev Paul J Filmer
The Vicarage
Bridge
CT4 5JZ

01227 830250
paulos@enterprise.net

Who Was Jesus?

As far as we can tell, for thirty years of his short life, Jesus led a normal existence as the eldest son of a carpenter from Nazareth in first century Palestine. What we know of his childhood is focused on his conception and birth, with a short account of his visit to Jerusalem to prepare for his bar-mitzvah. Only 5 of the 89 chapters in the Gospels, the record of his life, concentrate on Jesus' childhood; the other 84 are devoted to the last three years of his life - three years that were to change the world for ever.

There are many different views about who Jesus was, some put forward by his followers, some by his enemies, and others by neutral observers. However, the most important view is that of Jesus himself. Who did he say he was? Well, put simply, he claimed to be God's son, who existed with God before creation, and had come from heaven as the promised Messiah. He claimed equality with God, telling people that if they had seen him, they had seen God. When asked at his trial if he was the 'Son of God' he said yes - his accusers needed no other evidence to prove his blasphemy.

'Ah', but you may be thinking: 'He claimed to be God's son, but that doesn't mean he was. He may have been mad - or a con man.' Well, he could have been either, but if a madman told you he could fly, it would be proved wrong when he tried to do it; and if a con man told you he could fly, he would not actually try (unless he was a mad con man!) Jesus' claims were backed up by his teaching and actions, and ultimately by his crucifixion and resurrection.

Sometimes we try and play safe, by allowing that Jesus said some great things, but denying his claims to be (the son of) God. But the things he said and did pointed to who he was, and to ignore that is to commit intellectual suicide.

CS Lewis, author of the Narnia Chronicles, put it like this: "You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon; or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God. But let us not come up with any patronising nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

Paul

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms

10/9 Nackington Arabella Mollie-Wae Keyte

Weddings

2/9 Nackington Debra Bensted / Andrew Ford

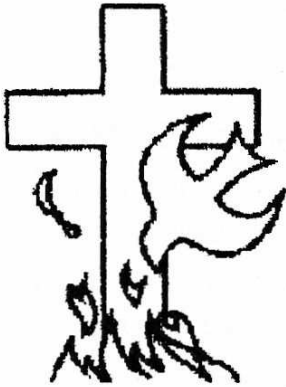
2/9 Bekesbourne Sophie Hunt / Michael Moreland

Funerals

23/8 Bekesbourne Kathleen EJ Goodwin

29/8 Bridge / Barham Doris M Smith

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION



Over the summer, a number of families have made a public commitment through baptism to bring their children up as Christians. If you would like to apply for a baptism, or find out what it would mean to have your child baptised as a Christian, please contact Paul at the Vicarage

Adults and children aged 12 and above are encouraged to 'confirm' the promises made on their behalf by their parents and godparents when they were baptised as young children. A confirmation service has been arranged for the autumn of 2001, and we would like to offer preparation classes in the spring for anyone wishing to be confirmed as a member of the Church of England.

We will meet for a total of ten evenings; once in Jan & Feb, once each week during Lent, and once in April, May & June. Please contact Paul for further information, or to register your interest in the course.

BEKESBOURNE FAMILY SERVICE

What's the point of lighting a candle, and then obscuring the flame with a saucepan? What do we have in common with breakfast cereal, tabasco sauce and Bisto? These and other intriguing questions were posed by Pat Kusel during the 10.00am Family Service at Bekesbourne Church on Sunday 10th September. Young and old alike grappled with their thoughts but two readings from the Bible provided clues and during an entertaining and lively discussion answers gradually emerged.

Of course, salt is present in many foods as a preservative and to add flavour. We need to resemble salt in acting honestly, fairly, stopping rotteness and inspiring others to do the same. But what was the connection with the candle, and why did most of the congregation leave the Church on a bright sunny morning carrying lanterns? To find out ask any member of the congregation or come to the next Family Service in Bekesbourne at 10.00am on 8th October.

FLOWER FESTIVAL at St. Peter's Church Bridge was an outstanding success, over 800 visitors plus all the pupils of Bridge Primary School with the exception of the infant classes visited the displays over the three days. Added interest to what was a very professional and exceptionally high standard of composition, was the various arrangements depicting the history and life of Bridge. The Domesday book; The Romans, Pilgrims and Travellers; Sacraments of the Church; Kitchener; Farming and Fruit; Sport; Caring and Education. Each were designed by individuals or teams of local volunteers demonstrating what a wealth of talent there is in the local community. The majority of the display material used in the education section was actually produced by the pupils at the school.

Over the same period a group of hard working parishioners and their friends provided snack lunches, teas and refreshments in a marquee in the churchyard. The Churchwardens would like to thank not only the organising committee and the sponsors, but all the arrangers, helpers and stewards etc, too many to name here in case of an omission that might give offence. At the same time they would like to thank all those who supported the event and gave so generously. At the time of going to press somewhere between £800 and £1000 has been raised for the Church restoration fund. On the Friday evening a free concert in the church was given by 'Quodlibet' a section of our own Canzonet choir to

further celebrate the Millennium festivities. Before a large audience a polished performance was given by Ruth Hoskins soprano, Jane Farrell mezzo-soprano/contralto, Richard Pond tenor and Mark Gardner bass. Directed by Peter Giles counter tenor; pianoforte. The programme offered a wide variety of songs to suit all tastes from folk songs to glees and part-songs to humour. A retiring collection raised £127 for the Church restoration and music fund. A vote of thanks was given by the Revd Paul Filmer. On the Sunday evening a large congregation attended the Festival Evensong to end the celebrations. A warm welcome was given to our new Lay Reader Margaret Clarke who is transferring from Chartham to Bridge. The sermon was given by the Venerable John Pritchard Archdeacon of Canterbury, both he and the Revd Paul Filmer praised the work of the flower arrangers. The evening concluded with a small reception.

J.E.A.

Many, many thanks to EVERYONE who helped make the flower festival such a wonderful success.

Firstly to my band of flower arrangers who showed such artistic talent, and attention to detail in their displays. A great deal of time and thought went into each item, and although the energy levels reached zero at times, their sense of humour always came through.

My thanks to the 'tea ladies' who supported the flowers with superb cakes, lunches and cream teas, and always made sure the 'staff' were well watered! So many businesses and local people supported us with artifacts and financial help, without which none of the festival could have been staged, so grateful thanks to you all.

The people behind the security, stewarding, printing and advertising, as well as the music, must be congratulated. The fact that it all went so smoothly reflects on the time that had been spent on preparation.

All visitors, around 800 of them to be precise, commented on the baptistry, and the wonderful display composed by the children and staff of Bridge Primary School. Thank you for all your hard work.

Finally my thanks has to go to the gentleman who did all the odd jobs, from loos to car bollards, from advertising boards to staging boards, whatever we ladies needed doing he was always there to support us. What a way to spend a holiday.

Thank you everybody.

Viv Brasier



Harvest Lunch

Sunday October 8th

12.30pm

At Bridge School Hall

Tickets £3 per adult or £8 for a family ticket.

Please remember to bring plates, bowls, glasses, cutlery and your own drinks.

Do come and join us for this Benefice Event!!



Harvest Lunch Tickets are available from:-

Pat Dunderdale

tel: 830668 or

Andrea Nicholson

tel: 830974

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The Plough & Harrow

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Bridge High Street

8pm second Wed each month

Starting 11th October



Introducing a regular time for some serious ear-bending with the new vicar,

Paul Filmer, over a pint or two.

Bring along all your unanswered questions and contentious issues, and see what Christianity has to say for itself.

FISH NEWS

The next Coffee Pop-In in Bridge Village Hall will be on Wednesday morning, 11th October and will include the Annual General Meeting. If you are mystified as to what the fish Scheme does, why not come?

Please remember that we are always after knitting wool. Telephone Rosy Green (830204) if you have any to spare.

**AUTUMN COFFEE MORNING
BRIDGE VILLAGE HALL
SATURDAY 28TH OCTOBER
10-12
IN AID OF
ST MARY'S CHURCH, PATRIBOURNE
AND
ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BRIDGE**

THE FRIENDS OF BEKESBOURNE CHURCH

BOOT FAIR Thanks go to the hard work of all concerned, we were able to raise £250 at our recent Boot Fair and we are grateful to John Ash for the use of his field.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR This will be held in Bekesbourne Village Hall on Saturday **25 NOVEMBER**, from 10am, so please book the date now and come for some super home made cakes and Christmas presents. The brownies will also be there to make their contribution to what is always an enjoyable morning.

BRIDGE SCHOOL PFA are holding a Boot Fair/Table top Sale on Saturday 14th October from 10am - noon (set up from 9am) at the school.

Pitches bought in advance from school office - £6

Pitches on the day £8

EVERYONE WELCOME - REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

(No outside caterers or traders)

Beke Walk and Barbecue - Saturday 7th October

Walk starts at Seaton at 2.30pm; Unveiling ceremony at 4.00pm in Old Palace Road. Barbecue refreshments afterwards in the Sports Pavilion in the Recreation Ground.

This event combines a village walk tracing the route of the Little Stour upstream from Seaton with the unveiling of two parish heritage boards and a parish footpath map. The walk is intended to commemorate the bicentennial of the birth of the Nile explorer Charles Tilstone Beke (b. 10 Oct 1800 d. 31 July 1874 - buried in St. Peter's churchyard). After the unveiling of the heritage boards and footpath map there will be barbecue refreshments in the Sports Pavilion and in the evening there are plans for a dance.

BRIDGE VILLAGE PLAYGROUP are holding a JUMBLE SALE on Saturday 7th October 2pm at Bridge Village Hall. If you have any jumble please contact Joanne Watt, tel 832343 for collection.

J.W.

HEALTH FOR ALL a local charity supporting health and education projects in India, is holding a 'Wine & Wisdom' evening at 7.30pm on Friday 20th October at Lower Hardres Village Hall. Further details from Sue or Sharon at Littlebourne Surgery, tel 01227 720522.

S.B.

ESSENTIALLY HOPS, BEKESBOURNE

On Sunday 1st October between 2-4pm Radio Kent is visiting Essentially Hops. They hope to talk to people about Hop Picking and Hops. For further information please contact Amanda Barker on 830666. Visitors are welcome.

A.B.

BEKESBOURNE FLOWER AND CLEANING ROTA - SEPTEMBER 2000

7th Oct Jane Mason, Jill Gillanders, 14th Oct Joy Smith, Jane Shorrocks, 21st Oct Joan Atkins, 28th Oct Christine Ash

NOTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Council vacancy: As no election was called, the vacancy on the parish council is to be filled by co-option. Any resident living in Bridge or within 3 miles of the parish boundary wishing to be considered for the position of parish councillor should send a letter of application to the parish clerk. Applicants should give brief details about themselves and ensure the letter reaches the clerk at 50 Riverside Close, Bridge, Canterbury, Kent CT4 5TN by 13 October 2000.

Street furniture: The benches, which were recently vandalised, have now been repaired and re-sited, one at Green Court and the other at the junction of Bridge Hill and Beech Hill. Councillors were pleased to accept an offer from Mrs Eades, to purchase another bench in memory of her parents who lived in Ford Close. It is hoped to place the bench in the open area adjacent to Ford Close.

Flooding: As a result of recent flooding in the village, the city council were requested to look at the drainage with a view to improving the situation during heavy rainfall. All gullies have been cleaned out, pipes repaired in the High Street and an outlet pipe near Meadow Close is to be repaired shortly. The parish council has been informed that the drains can now cope with normal storm conditions. However, a bid is to be made by the city council to install additional drainage in Town Hill and the High Street, during the next financial year.

Playground: The annual inspection of the playground has now been undertaken by RoSPA, who find the equipment and surfacing to be in a good state of repair. Some recommendations have been made which the parish council will follow up.

Floral competition: This year's winner of the floral competition for commercial premises was the Plough and Harrow public house. Congratulations go to Chris and Melanie at the Plough and Harrow and to all the other commercial premises which provided such excellent displays during the summer.

Bulb planting: The parish council were pleased to accept an offer from a local resident who wishes to donate bulbs to be planted in the grassed area at the junction of Bridge Hill and Beech Hill.

Millennium Festival: The September festival to celebrate the millennium, held

on the 8 - 10 September was another successful event. Both the flower festival in the church and the history display held in the village hall were well supported. Councillors expressed their thanks to all who had worked so hard to make the weekend a resounding success.

Planning applications: The following applications had been received and commented on:

- CAL/00/0096 - External alterations to 24 High Street - no objection;
- CA/00/0943 - Two and single storey side extensions to 51 Union Road - no objection but request made for materials to match existing;
- CA/00/0888 - Two storey side extension to 36 Bridge Down - no objection;
- CAA/00/0055 - Externally illuminated hanging sign and CA/00/0911 - Installation of ATM machine at 2 Western Avenue. After discussion by the full council an objection was made on the grounds that parking problems would be increased in the vicinity of Western Avenue/ High Street and that the machine was not in keeping with conservation policy for the area;
- CA/00/0897 - Conversion of former shop/store and dwelling to form two dwellings with associated extensions and alterations at 26 High Street - no objection but a request is to be made that adequate sound insulation be provided to avoid noise nuisance from the village hall.

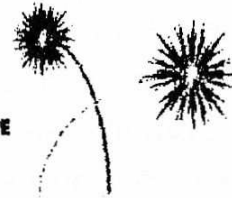
The following applications had been notified as granted:

- CA/00/0507/CAN - Revised layout to access and egress to park and ride site - New Dover Road;
- CA/00/0820 - First floor extensions to sides of The Cottage, Bridge Hill;
- CAC/00/0015 - Demolition of farm buildings at Renville Farm;
- CA/00/0615 - Conversion of 3 agricultural buildings to 4 dwellings and erection of garage and store at Renville Farm;
- CA/00/0398 - Single storey rear extension to The Paddock, Higham Lane;
- CA/00/0494 - Two storey extension to side, and single storey extension and dormer window to rear (revised scheme) to 44 Western Avenue;
- CA/00/0527 - Conservatory to front of 1 Riverside Close;
- CA/00/0580 - Extension and pitched roofs to garage at High Beech, Patrixbourne Road.

 **Bridge & Patrixbourne School**
BONFIRE NIGHT

Hot Dogs
Mulled Wine
Tea - coffee
Baked Potatoes
Sparklers

Saturday 4th November
Brewery Lane, Bridge
5.30pm Gates Open
6.30pm Fireworks



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Family (2 adults/3 children)	£6.99	£7.99
Adult	£2.99	£3.99
Child	£1.99	£2.99

Please note: NO PARKING IN BREWERY LANE

NAILBOURNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Just in time for planning your bulb displays for next Spring, Mr Barry Ridsdale will be giving a talk on "Daffodils" in the Methodist Church, Patrixbourne Road on **Thursday 26th October** at 7.30pm. As always, everyone is welcome, be they members, prospective members or interested parishioners.

Then, to let you plan in advance, on **Tuesday 28th November** (and not Thursday 28th November as printed on the membership card), our annual Social Evening for members and their friends this year is going to take the form of an American Supper and Sing-Song to be held in the Village Hall, Bridge, again at the usual time of 7.30pm. There will be no charge, but everyone will be expected to bring a plate of food to share. Watch out for more details nearer the time.

ELHAM VALLEY TWINNING ASSOCIATION

As part of the Elham Millennium celebrations and with the help of the Elham Valley Twinning Association (EVTA) there is now a proper Boules Terrain in Elham, situated on the green at the Lyminge end of the village. There are 3 separate "pistes", which everyone is welcome to use, unless pre-booked, at no charge and it is planned to have a telephone number to ring if you require to hire balls. Do come and try it out!

EVTA itself will be organising an annual Boules Tournament with representative teams from all the villages in the valley - the first was held during the Millennium celebrations at the end of June and was won by Lyminge. So, now is the time to practise for next year! See you on the piste!

K.W.

Nick James

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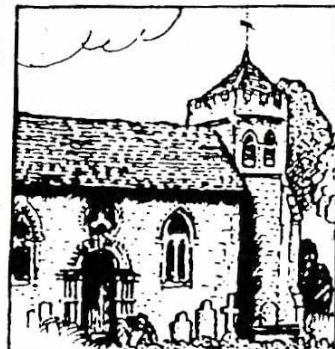
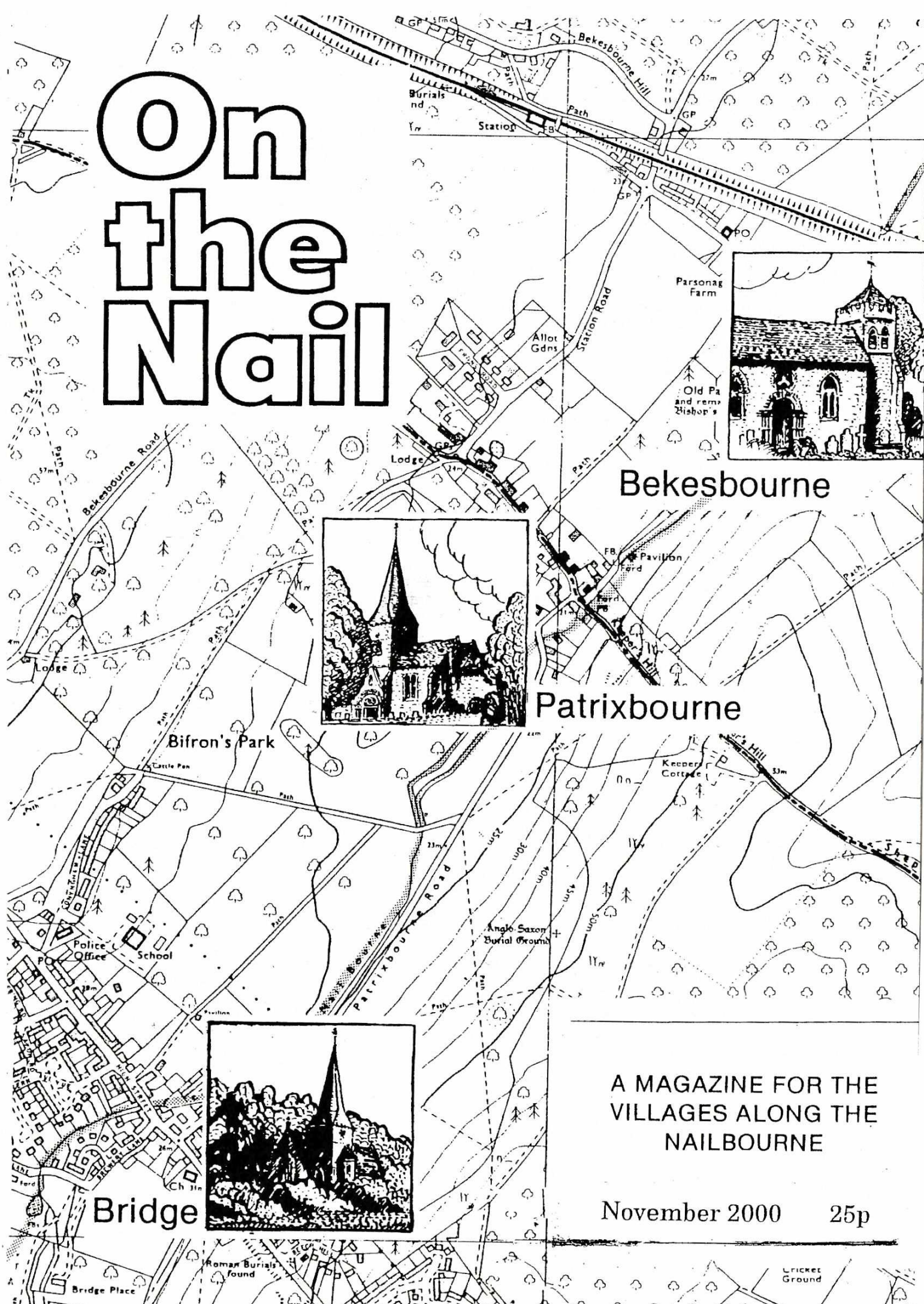
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November 2000 25p

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What Did Jesus Do?

One of the first books I read about vicars said that their job was to "comfort the disturbed, and disturb the comfortable". I reckon this is a good definition, as it describes what Jesus did as he taught his disciples, cared for the marginalised, and challenged the authorities of the day.

First he taught his disciples. He looked beyond human appearance, and chose a small group of unlikely characters to take into his confidence. They lived and worked with him, struggled with his teaching, and gradually saw the big picture of God's purpose for the human race, and all creation.

Second, he cared for society's rejects; prostitutes, tax collectors (Roman collaborators), lepers, samaritans. All these people were casualties of a culture that said the way to God was through a set of rules - which they had all broken. Whilst society and religion wrote them off as outcasts or sinners, Jesus took time to deal with their deepest needs; physical, mental and spiritual.

Third, he opposed the complacency and piety of those who claimed to be 'holier than thou'. In particular, he tackled the Pharisees, a religious group who trusted in their own self-righteousness to get them to heaven. They kept the rules, but were always on the lookout for loop holes. If God left them a get-out clause, that was his problem.

Jesus spent time working with real people, dealing with real issues, but always with a long term view. His message was the same then as it is today. God has such a high view of the human race that he considered us worth the cost of sending his son to die on our behalf. This selfless act has given us the opportunity to 'get right with God' in a way that we could never achieve by keeping a set of rules.

Throughout history, people have convinced themselves that they are not good enough for God, or that he is not good enough for them. Jesus broke through this despondency and self-righteousness with a message of hope and a challenge against complacency.

I hope you are still with me, and that these articles are helping you to revise your understanding. Whether you are comfortable or disturbed, I look forward to your thoughts and comments; either through this magazine, or face to face.

Paul

Diary for November 2000

- 2nd *Health and Healing*, 7 Windmill Close 7.00pm
Traffic Management Exhibition, Bridge Village Hall, 1.00pm - 7.00pm
- 3rd *Traffic Management Exhibition*, Bridge Village Hall, 1.00pm - 5.00pm
- 4th *Traffic Management Exhibition*, Bridge Village Hall, 10.00am -
4.00pm
- 8th *Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-in*, Bridge Village Hall, 10.00 - 11.15am
Ears 'n' Beers, Plough and Harrow, Bridge, 8.00pm
- 9th *Bridge Parish Council*, Hunter Room, Bridge, 7.30pm
- 14th *British Legion*, Plough and Harrow, Bridge, 8.00pm
- 21st *Bridge Women's Institute*, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 22nd *Celebration of Music*, Bridge Church, 8.00pm
- 25th Friends of Bekesbourne Church *Christmas Bazaar*, Bekesbourne
Village Hall, 10.00am
Air Ambulance Christmas Fayre, Bridge Village Hall, 10.00am
Bridge Group Wine and Wisdom, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 28th *Nailbourne Horticultural Society*, Bridge Village Hall, 7.30pm.

Bridge Methodist Church: November 2000 Services at 11.00am

- 5th Mr Alistair Barwick BSc
- 12th Rev Maurice Weatherup
- 19th Rev David Marshall (Holy Communion)
- 26th Mr Ron Chadwick MA DMS

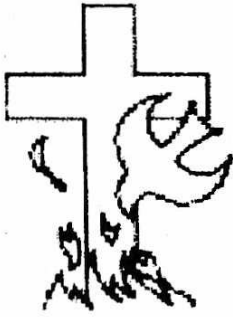
From the Parish Registers

Interment of Ashes

17 September at Bekesbourne Graeme Hamilton

Funeral

6 October at Nackington Mel Finn



Baptism and Confirmation

Over the summer, a number of families have made a public commitment through baptism to bring their children up as Christians. If you would like to apply for a baptism, or find out what it would mean to have your child baptised as a Christian, please contact Paul at the Vicarage.

Adults and children aged 12 and above are encouraged to 'confirm' the promises made on their behalf by their parents and godparents when they were baptised as young children. A Confirmation Service has been arranged for the autumn of 2001, and we would like to offer preparation classes in the spring for anyone wishing to be confirmed as a member of the Church of England.

We will meet for a total of ten evenings: once in January and February, once each week during Lent, and once in April, May and June. Please contact Paul for further information, or to register your interest in the course.

Annual Tree Dressing: Bekesbourne

National Tree Dressing Day is celebrated on the first weekend in December. Trees are vital to life on earth. They provide food, stabilise the soil, reduce pollution and erosion, absorb carbon dioxide, create oxygen, purify and humidify the air. Their grace and beauty are a source of inspiration. They are the longest lived creatures on earth, they give us shelter and shade and add layers of meaning to a place. Deciduous trees keep us in touch with the seasons and with the brevity of our own mortality. Trees need our help more than ever before. We can build on the tree dressing traditions to show that we value our local trees and wish them to be well cared for. (*Extract From Common Grounds Leaflet on Tree Dressing.*)

Continuing the tradition started in Bekesbourne several years ago there will be a tree dressing ceremony in the grounds of Cobham Court (next to the Church – usual venue) at 3.00pm on Sunday 3rd Dec. The theme is Garlands. This year there will be a workshop, before the ceremony, at 1.30 pm at Cobham Court for all those young and old (and not so old!). Please bring with you any colourful plastic sheet such as coloured carrier bags to be cut into strips for the garlands. We look forward to seeing you there!

Jill Thomas and Pat Kusel.

November Family Service at Bekesbourne

This year the service falls on Remembrance Sunday. We also want to plant our Millennium Yew, so the service will be divided into three parts:

10.00am short family service in the church;

10.30am outside to plant Millennium Yew (see below) in the church yard;

10.50am short service of remembrance in the church yard around the war memorial. This part of the service will be conducted by Margaret Clarke, our LayReader.

Feel free to choose which bits of the service you want to attend. The 1st Bekesbourne Brownies will also be holding their annual church parade and it would be greatly appreciated if they could remain for the whole service. If anyone else attending the service belongs to a uniformed organisation (eg Guides, Red Cross) please feel welcome to come in uniform.

NB If you have difficulty finding a parking space, please do not block access to the Old Palace. There is room for a few cars on the verge beyond our ford towards Patrixbourne.

The Millennium Yew

The Conservation Foundation has distributed hundreds of small yew trees to parishes around the country to commemorate 2000 years of Christianity and as a symbol of continuing life in the third millennium. All the trees have been propagated from yews believed to be at least 2000 years old. The Bekesbourne yew's "parent" is the Eastling yew near Faversham.

Arrangements for the Bekesbourne Christmas Family Service

The December Family service, which will incorporate a children's Nativity Play, will be on the third Sunday, 17 December, at 10.00am, at Bekesbourne. Any children who want to take part in this service will need to meet for a rehearsal in Bekesbourne Church on the previous Sunday at 10.00am. To help me with my planning the sooner I know who is willing to take part and are available the better. So please could parents ring me on 01227 830272 and give me their children's names and ages. Many Thanks. I look forward to seeing you on the 10th Dec.

Pat Kusel

Fish News

As a new venture Fish is trying to set up a gentle exercise session on a regular basis. If you are interested please contact Mavis Parsons on 832042. Mavis is also ready to take the names of those who would like to go to a matinee of the pantomime at the Marlowe Theatre again this year.

The next coffee Pop-In will be on Wednesday November 8 from 10.00 to 11.15am. Please note the new times which in fact reflect what is happening already.

Christmas Puddings for L'Arche

This year would you like to eat a perfect Christmas Pudding expertly made and finely laced by the Ultimate Christmas Pudding Company in Kendal? And whilst you're eating it you would know that you're helping L'Arche communities for people with learning disabilities to set up a workshop near Krakow, a minibus in Bangalore or a family helper in Uganda. If you buy a pudding each year, please, this year, help L'Arche. The 2lb size is £7.75 and the small 1lb ones are £4.60. Telephone me, Anne Rooke, on 830298, and I'll get it to you by Christmas. Thank you.

Health and Healing Concerns

The next meeting is on Thursday 2 November at 7.00pm at 7 Windmill Close. If you are unable to attend but would like a loved one included in the prayer list, please phone 830844.

Kath Pierce

Bridge Women's Institute

The A.G.M. will take place in Bridge Village Hall on Tuesday 21 November at 7.30pm. There will be the usual stall and raffle and the competition is your favourite egg-cup.

J.H.

Ears 'n' Beers

The Plough & Harrow
(Function Room)
Bridge High Street
8pm second Wed each month
next session 8th November



A regular time for some serious ear-bending with the vicar, Paul, over a pint or two. Bring along all your unanswered questions and contentious issues, and see what Christianity has to say for itself.

Sponsored Bike Ride

Patixbourne

A big thank you to all those riders, sponsors and "church sitters" from Patixbourne who combined to raise the magnificent sum of £250 for the Bike Ride in aid of the Friends of Kent Churches.

P. Pritchard

Bekesbourne

On a warm sunny September day cyclists Clive and Cheryl Barker (Unicorn) plus their friends, David and Jenny Hogbin, Jack and Penny Goodhew and Sue Paurrelle, Joan Atkins, Roger Nickolls plus walkers Syd and Gill Moon and their dog Bobby raised between them the magnificent sum of £376.50 to be shared equally between St Peter's Bekesbourne and The Friends of Kent Churches. (Last year we received grants from them of over £5000 towards the restoration

of the church fabric).

Thanks also go to Mrs Watson and Janet Street who manned the church and served refreshments, and to all the sponsors for their invaluable support. Well done all!

Jill Gillanders



The Friends of Bokesbourne Church

Christmas Bazaar

Bokesbourne Village Hall

Saturday

25 November 2000

10.00 am

Stalls Raffle Coffee

*Proceeds for Bokesbourne Church
and Bokesbourne Brownies*



George Maben-Mead Appeal The coffee morning for young George was an outstanding success! So many friends gave their support and didn't the sun shine! It was George's 8th birthday too that day.

My grateful thanks to all who helped and to all who came. The final total sent to Jill was a staggering £737. Thanks a million everyone! George will be operated on in Melbourne on November 24th. Please pray for George and his family – they need our support.

Kath Pierce

George's family have written as follows:

"We would like to say a very big thank you to all those who contributed to the fund-raising event organised by Mrs Kath Pierce. A special thanks goes to Kath for all her amazing efforts on George's behalf. As many of you will know, George is the son of Jill Maben and the grandson of Betty and the late Jack Maben who lived in Bridge from 1967-1973. George was born with a rare brain tumour called a hypothalamic hamartoma which causes him to have epilepsy, autism and learning difficulties. We have been raising money to take George to Australia for pioneering surgery to remove the tumour. This has been successfully completed by the same team in 11 other children who have benefited through a huge reduction in seizures which has given them a much greater opportunity to learn and have fun. The fantastic and overwhelming support of the people of Bridge has taken our total to £23,000 which means that we can now realise this dream for George too.

With grateful thanks."

Jill Maben, Robert Mead, George and Lisa

Kent Air Ambulance Christmas Fair

This will take place on Saturday 25 November from 10.00am to 12.30pm in Bridge Village Hall.

With a visit by Father Christmas: child's present £1.

Tea/coffee and mince pie: 50p.



Fund-raising in Bridge

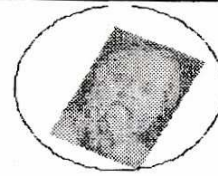
In September, thanks to the League of Friends table fair, £100 was raised from the sale of goods donated for Children's Society funds. The outlay of £10 for a table was well justified and the support appreciated.

Christmas Cards

This year they are on sale at the Children's Society shop at 6 Palace Street, Canterbury (next door to opticians Tinto & Walker). A full range of cards is on display. However, for the housebound or anyone unable to get to Canterbury, brochures are available for direct ordering from the Society's trading company. Please contact Kathy Eynon, 19 Bridgedown, tel. 830466, for a brochure or more information.



The Bridge Group of Parishes



Wine and Wisdom Evening

Saturday 25 November 2000

7.15 for prompt 7.30 start

Bridge Village Hall

Tables of 8 (or come as less and join others)

£5 per head to include food

**Please bring your own plate, cutlery glass and
drinks**

Tickets (limited to 72) from:-

Pauline Pritchard 830685

Andrea Nicholson 830947

Pat Dunderdale 830668

John Anderson 830260

Book early for this popular event

Nailbourne Horticultural Society

A reminder to members that the Society's annual social evening will be on Tuesday 28 November at 7.30pm in Bridge Village Hall. This year, for a change, it is taking the form of an American Supper and Sing Along to live accordion accompaniment, and other surprise entertainment, plus, of course, a raffle.

All you need to do to make the evening go with a swing is to bring a plate of food as well as your own drinks and glasses and come along with your friends ready to join in and enjoy the fun.

Kathy Walder

Church Cleaning and Flower Rotas

St Peter's Church Bridge: Cleaning

For Sunday 5 November:	K Pierce
	G Lemar
For Sunday 12 November	K Eynon + 1
For Sunday 19 November	Pat Hillyer

St Peter's Church, Bekesbourne: flowers and cleaning

4 November	Christine Ash
11 November	Christine Ash
18 November	Jane Mason / Jane Millyard
25 November	Jane Millyard

Royal British Legion, Littlebourne & District Branch

Twelve members were present at the October meeting when Doug Fenn was in the chair. Several members were absent through illness and we wish them well. The Chairman gave the Exhortation and the Silence was observed.

Correspondence and finance matters were dealt with. The Treasurer reminded members that branch subscriptions are now due. Hugh Wheeler reported on attendance at the recent Group 4 meeting in Canterbury.

Our branch Annual Parade and Service is at Wickhambreaux on Sunday 12 November.

We are still looking for new people to help with poppy collections. Anyone interested should please ring 728507 and speak to Geoff, our poppy organiser. Members should have received their Grand Draw tickets and we hope you will all support this again. The draw will follow the AGM at the Littlebourne Recreation Centre on Tuesday 7 November at 7.30pm.

Nominations for Branch Officers for the coming year were taken as follows:

President:	Oswin Kent	Chairman:	Doug Finn
Vice Chairman	Fred Bennett	Secretary:	Barbara Hunt
Treasurer	John Hewett		

The next two branch meetings will be:

Tuesday 14 November at the Plough & Harrow, Bridge

Tuesday 12 December at the Recreation Club, Littlebourne

Bekesbourne needs Ringers

New bellringers would be very welcome at Bekesbourne church; so, if you would like to learn to ring or have been a ringer in the past, do come along to a practice on Monday evenings between 7.30 and 9.00pm. Once trained, you will have the opportunity of ringing for services, weddings etc, the chance of visiting other towers to ring their bells and of becoming a member of the Kent County Association of Change Ringers. Two of our band who have been learning for two years were admitted to the Association last month.

Anyone from 12 years old is welcome – there seems to be no upper age limit! Please contact Gill Moon (tel: 832134) or David Farbrace (tel: 830659) if you are interested.

A CELEBRATION OF MUSIC

FOR

ST CECILIA'S DAY

canzonet

***WITH MADRIGAL AND QUODLIBET
AND SOLOISTS***

DIRECTOR: PETER GILES

ACCOMPANIST: ROBERT SCOTT

***VARIED PROGRAMME INCLUDES
HOWELLS'S A HYMN TO ST CECILIA
BUXTEHUDE'S JESU JOY AND TREASURE
GIBBONS'S CRIES OF LONDON
PART-SONGS, MADRIGALS, GLEES, FOLK-SONG AND
OTHER ARRANGEMENTS***

8 PM

WEDNESDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 2000

BRIDGE PARISH CHURCH

ADMISSION BY PROGRAMME £4-00

AVAILABLE FROM

JOHN ANDERSON (01227 830260)

ANDREA NICHOLSON (830947)

OR THE TOURIST OFFICE, ST MARGARET'S STREET, CANTERBURY

Notes From the October Meeting of Bridge Parish Council

Traffic calming measures: In conjunction with the City Council the Parish Council has been looking at ways of making the village a safer place for all. As a result several proposals have now been formulated. Residents will have the opportunity to comment on these before they are put into operation. Plans will be on display in the village hall at the following times:

Thursday 2 November 1 pm - 7 pm;

Friday 3 November 1 pm - 5 pm

Saturday 4 November 10 am to 4 pm..

A response questionnaire will be available for comments. Make a note of the dates in you diary now, so that you can have your say in the plans to make the village a safer place, especially for children and the. elderly.

Village of the Year Competition: The village was entered in this competition under the section, Older People, and was awarded a "highly commended" certificate for the work undertaken by the Fish Scheme.

Planning applications: The following applications have been received and commented on:

CA/00/Temp/G - 6 classroom extension plus IT room, art room and cloakrooms, together with extension of the hall and staffroom; glazed link playground extension at Bridge and Patricbourne School

CA/00/0987 - First floor extension to Gardenways, Bridge Hill

The following applications have been notified as granted:

CAL/00/0096 - External alterations to 24 High Street

CA/00/0897 - Conversion of former shop/store and dwelling to form two dwellings with associated extensions and alterations at 26 High Street.

A bumper crop.....

of quinces at School House, Bekesbourne this year. If you would like some, please ring Jane and David Millyard on 830256. Donations to Bekesbourne Church.

Nick James

Hair Specialist

Western Avenue Bridge

Tel: 01227 830565

FAMILY BUTCHER

LAURIE WAKEHAM

BRIDGE : Tel: Canterbury 830220

PRIME LOCAL ENGLISH MEAT : HOME-MADE SAUSAGES

FRESH POULTRY : COOKED MEATS

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BRIDGE PHARMACY AND POST OFFICE

16 High Street, Bridge CT4 5JY

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Tel: (01227) 830679

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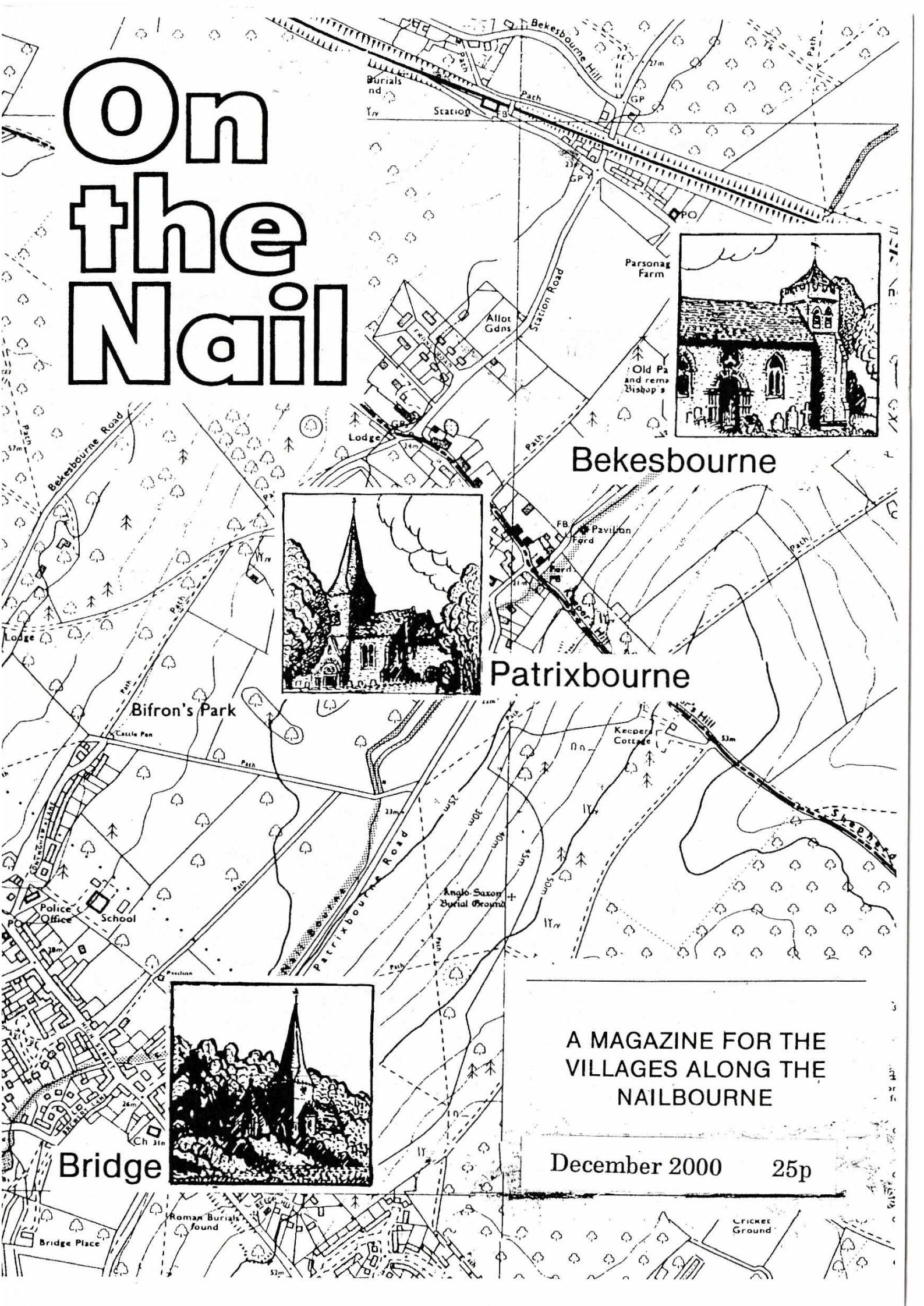
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On the Nail



Bikesbourne



Patrixbourne



Bridge

A MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGES ALONG THE NAILBOURNE

December 2000 25p



Rev Paul J Filmer
The Vicarage
Bridge
CT4 5JZ

01227 830250
paulos@enterprise.net

It's A Boy!

By now, the first windows of the Advent calendars are open, and the countdown to Christmas is underway. But what are we getting all excited about? Are we looking forward to a bank holiday; a chance for the family to get together; a good excuse for a party; a time to let our credit cards off the leash; or even the season of goodwill, when bosses buy a lunchtime round, and hatchets are buried until the new year? Or is it an opportunity to celebrate the birth of a new baby, sent by God as the ultimate present from heaven to earth.

We all have our personal ideas of the meaning and significance of Christmas, and a few years ago I was interviewed by our parish mag, to get my views. I thought I would share them with you, perhaps you'll agree, perhaps you'll wonder what planet I was on. Either way, I hope you would be able to answer each question for yourself, if I ever interviewed you for this magazine!

Q1 *What do you like most about Christmas?* Going to church as a family on Christmas morning. We always take one of our Christmas presents with us to say thank you to God. I like to remind myself that without acknowledging God, there will be one guest missing from the birthday party - Jesus himself, whose birth we are celebrating.

Q2 *What do you dislike most about Christmas?* Christmas trees on sale in September! The way that Christmas has been commercialised in recent years has made it wider (it goes on for so long) and shallower (people take it less seriously). I would prefer it to be deep and narrow.

Q3 *What would you change about Christmas, if you could?* I would stop Christmas being a national holiday, and then people would have to choose to make it special, by taking time off to celebrate it, they would be making a sacrifice which would encourage them to take it more seriously.

Q4 *How important is Christmas?* I rate it No2 behind Easter Day. Although we celebrate a great miracle on Christmas day, the miracle that took place on Easter morning is far greater. Our technology now allows a virgin to give birth, we're a long way from raising the dead! Also, Christmas made Easter possible, and it was the events of Easter that were Jesus's real reason for coming into the world.

Have a peaceful & meaningful Christmas

PAUL

Diary for December 2000

- 4th *Christmas Carols with Salvation Army* Bridge School, 7.30pm
- 7th *Flower Arrangers Meeting* The Archways, Conyngham Lane, Bridge
2.30pm
- Health and Healing* 7 Windmill Close, bridge 7.00pm
- 12th *Bridge Village Playgroup Nativity Play* Bridge Village Hall 11.00am
Bridge Women's Institute Bridge Village Hall 7.30pm
British Legion Littlebourne Recreation Cub 8.00pm
- 13th *Fish Scheme Coffee Pop-In* Bridge Village Hall 10.00-11.15am
- 14th *Senior Citizens Entertainment* Bridge School 1.30-3.00pm
Bridge Parish Council Hunter Room, Bridge 7.30pm

Bridge Methodist Church Preachers for December 2000

- 3rd Rev David Marshall, Toy service
- 10th Mr Ron Chadwick MA DMS
- 17th Rev David Marshall, Christingle Service
- 24th Mr Michael Baybutt B.Sc. DMS C.Eng
- 31st Rev Donald Lugg
- 7th Jan Rev George Baugh, Covenant Service

THE BODY SHOP DIRECT

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I will also be on hand to give advice and demonstrate a full range of Body Shop skin-care products, make-up and gift ideas.

For further information call your local Body Shop Direct consultant Judi Dunn.

01227 700364

From The Parish Registers

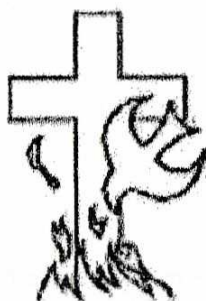


Funeral

13/10	Bridge/Barham	Bernard L Woodcock
18/10	Barham	Brenda M Fuller
3/11	Barham	Victor J Baldock

Open House at the Vicarage

Paul & Judy invite you to drop in between
10am and 10pm on Monday 18th December
for a seasonal glass of mulled wine and a mince pie.



Baptism And Confirmation

Over the summer, a number of families have made a public commitment through baptism to bring their children up as Christians. If you would like to apply for a baptism, or find out what it would mean to have your child baptised as a Christian, please contact Paul at the Vicarage.

Adults and children aged 12 and above are encouraged to 'confirm' the promises made on their behalf by their parents and godparents when they were baptised as young children. A confirmation service has been arranged for the autumn of 2001, and we would like to offer preparation classes in the spring for anyone wishing to be confirmed as a member of the Church of England.

We will meet for a total of ten evenings; once in Jan & Feb, once each week during Lent, and once in April, May & June. Please contact Paul for further information, or to register your interest in the course.



New Ideas for the New Year

Bridge Family Service

- Catering for families with young children, but open to members of our church family of all ages.
- Relaxed, children friendly format
- Starting in January
- Second Sunday of each month (Bekesbourne family service now at new regular slot of **First Sunday** each month)
- 11.00 - 11.45 am (but stay for coffee)

- **First service: 11 am on Sun 14th January 2001**

Caring & Sharing Group

- For women across the benefice.
- Meeting @ the Vicarage evenings and/ or daytime.
- Time for a chat/ mutual support over a cup of coffee.
- Planning meeting to discuss content, time, frequency, etc and share a pre-Christmas drink at
7.30 pm on December 11th.

- Contact Judy Filmer (830250) or Margaret Clarke (765598) for more info.

The Friends of Bekesbourne Church

CONKER COMPETITION Our thanks to Clive and Cheryl at The Unicorn for once again organising this popular Competition, which raised £118 for our funds. Thanks also to HOVERSPEED for their splendid raffle prizes.

Cheryl and Clive are again hosting our annual "Carols at The Unicorn" Evening at 8 pm on **Wednesday 20th December**, when Stuart Field and Dave Cutting will accompany the singing, and the proceeds from the raffle will support our funds. Do come along for a very enjoyable evening - and book early if you plan to dine beforehand!

The Friends wish all those who contribute to their efforts a very **HAPPY CHRISTMAS** and thank them for their support

NOTICE

The Trustees of the Eleemosynary Charity of Mary Gregory of Bridge, Kent, Charity Commission No.239043, hereby give notice that they have passed a RESOLUTION under Section 74(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993 to TRANSFER the Property of the Eleemosynary Charity of Mary Gregory to the Bridge Fish Scheme of Bridge, Kent, Charity Commission No.1035797.

Interested persons may make representations regarding the said RESOLUTION in writing and quoting the Charity Commission reference numbers, to the Charity Commission of England & Wales, Harmonswoth House, 13-15, Bouverie Street, London EC4Y 8DP within SIX WEEKS from the date hereunder.

(Signed) H.Peter M.Lawrence, Trustee & Correspondent. 01 December 2000.

HEALTH AND HEALING

The next meeting is on Thursday 7th December at 7.00pm at 7 Windmill Close. If you are unable to attend but would like a loved one included in the prayer list, feel free to phone me on 830844. Please pray for George Maben whose operation was scheduled for 22nd November in the Melbourne Hospital and for his parents Jill and Robert and little sister Lola.

Kath Pierce

BRIDGE CHURCH - FLOWER ARRANGING

There will be a meeting at "The Archways", Conyngham Lane, on Thursday 7th December at 2.30pm for all Flower Arrangers of St. Peter's, Bridge. We will discuss Christmas decorations and next years rota. Anyone interested in joining our team, please, do come along.

Viv Brasier

FISH NEWS

A new gentle exercise class for the over 60s has started in the Bridge Methodist Church on Thursday mornings. At present it runs from 10.00-11.30am with a break for coffee. The cost is £2.50 a session. If you would like more details please telephone Jean Johnson on 766182.

The next Coffee Pop-in at Bridge Village Hall will be on Wednesday December 13th from 10.00-11.15am.

W.I.

The December meeting is at the earlier date, 12th December, at the usual time 7.30pm. After a session of folk dancing there will be a buffet supper for which members are asked to supply a plate of food and a glass. The competition is a Christmas table decoration.

BRIDGE VILLAGE PLAYGROUP

On Tuesday 12th December the Bridge Village Playgroup are having their Nativity Play - ALL are most welcome - the rear door to the Village Hall will open just before 11.00am. Refreshments will be served and there will be a raffle, cake stall and lucky dip.

Joanne Watt

ST PETER'S BRIDGE
CAROL SERVICE

With Augmented Choir

Wednesday 20th December

7.30pm

Followed by Carols
Sung by the choir and Canzonet
In the three
Bridge Hostelries!

The Bridge Group
 Services for the month of December 2000 page 1

Year C	Nackington	Lower Hardres	Bridge	Patricxbourne	Beke
Sun 3rd Advent Sunday		10.00 am Holy Communion Rev P Filmer	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev J Shorrocks	10.00 am Mattins Mrs M Clarke	8.00 BCP C Rev J
Sun 10th Advent 2	9.30 am Holy Communion Rev P Filmer		6.00 pm Advent Carol Service Rev P Filmer	8.00 am BCP Communion Rev P Filmer	
Sun 17th Advent 3	8.00 am BCP Communion Rev P Filmer	3.00 pm Crib Service Mrs M Clarke	10.00 am Holy Communion Rev G Manley		10. Family Se Mrs
Wed 20th			7.30 pm Carol Service Rev P Filmer		
Fri 22nd				7.00 pm Carol Service Rev P Filmer	

The Bridge Group
 Services for the month of December 2000 page 2

Year C	Nackington	Lower Hardres	Bridge	Patricxbourne	Beke
Sun 24th Christmas Eve	11.30 pm Midnight Communion Rev P Filmer		4.00 pm Christingle Rev P Filmer 11.30 pm Midnight HC		11. Midn Rev J

Source	Readings
10 am Communion P Filmer	OT: Jer 33:14-16 NT: 1 Thes 3:9-13 G: Lu 21:25-36
	OT: Mal 3:1-4 NT: Phil 1:3-11 G: Lu 3:1-6
100 am Nativity Service P Kusel	OT: Zep 3:14-20 NT: Phil 4:4-7 G: Lu 3:7-18

Source	Readings
30 pm Light HC Shorrocks	OT: Is 9:2-7 NT: Tit 2:11-14 G: Lu 2:1-14

St Mary's Patrixbourne
Carol Service

Friday 22nd December

At 7 pm

'A Ceremony of Carols'
by Benjamin Britten
And Traditional Carols
and Readings

Choir conducted by
Prof. Grenville Hancox

Accompanied on the Harp by
Camilla Pay

All welcomed after the service, for Mulled Wine
and Mince Pies, at Riverside Cottage,
Patrixbourne

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY - CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

St. Peter's Church, Bridge on Sunday 24th December - 4.00pm.

All proceeds go to the Society to help fund its work with vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people.

Kathy Eynon

CAROLS WITH THE SALVATION ARMY BAND

Please join us for an Evening of Christmas Carols with the Salvation Army Band on Monday 4th December at 7.30pm in Bridge School Hall. Refreshments will be served. Admission by ticket, £1.50, available from the School Office, tel 830276.

Evelyn Andrews

SENIOR CITIZENS AFTERNOON OF ENTERTAINMENT

The Staff and Pupils of Bridge & Patricxbourne School invite all Senior Citizens to an afternoon of entertainment on Thursday 14th December 1.30 - 3.00pm at the School. Refreshments will be served. Please contact Evelyn Andrews on 830276 if you wish to join us, also if you wish to arrange transport.

Evelyn Andrews

CANTERBURY CHORAL SOCIETY

Handel's Messiah

Saturday 9th December 7.30pm

Family Carols

Monday 11th December 7.00pm

Canterbury Cathedral

Handel based this magnificent Messiah on the dramatic story of Christ as told in the Bible - a glorious challenge to which the composer triumphantly rose.

The festivities will continue with traditional Family Carols at 7.00pm on the 11th December.

Bookings can be made by telephoning the Canterbury Visitors Centre on 01227 455600 or by e-mail on boxoffice@canterbury.gov.uk

ROYAL COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGISTS' APPEAL FUND

Following the C

Coffee Morning held back in September of last year I realised I would not be able to have one in the year 2000. However, I wanted to try and increase our contribution to the Fund. I am afraid it has been a "painfully" slow process - entirely my fault. At last I am able to send a cheque to Professor Field for £700. My grateful thanks to those who have supported me so loyally over many years. I hope to go on raising money but probably on a more modest scale.

M.E.J.

CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY

The **NAILBOURNE SCOUT GROUP** is organising a **Christmas Card Delivery**, again this year for **Bridge Village Only**.

Special stamps, (price still held at 10p), and decorated Christmas posting boxes will be at the following locations from 6th to 20th December.

Laurie Wakeham (Butcher)
Plough & Harrow
Nicholas James (Hairdresser)

Bridge News (Newsagent)
White Horse
Bridgeway Stores

The boxes will be emptied regularly and **all stamped mail clearly and correctly addressed** will be delivered before Christmas.

Please support the Scout Group by using this service for your Bridge Village Christmas Cards.

CANTERBURY SWALLOWS RSPB WILDLIFE EXPLORERS

5.12.00 Let's explore. Sponsored Quiz and Party Food
16.12.00 Let's explore Stumpshaw Fen RSPB and Titchwell RSPB (O/D)
Let's explore our wildquare (O/D)

For more information about any of our events, please phone Brian Warren, Registered Group Leader after 6pm please on 01227 751008. Please give three days notice to attend outdoor events (O/D). Under 8's must be supervised by parents/guardians. Indoor meetings are charged at £1 per person.

LITTLEBOURNE AND DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

On Tuesday 7th November 2000, 26 members and guests attended the Branch AGM held at The Recreation Club, Littlebourne. The Chairman reported the Branch had had a good year and was thriving due to the efforts of all the Branch officers.

On Sunday 12th November 2000 the Branch held its Annual Parade and Service of Remembrance at Wickhambreaux Church. The Branch Standard was supported by a good attendance of Branch members and the wreath was laid by Branch President, Oswin Kent.

New members are always welcome, anyone interested please ring 01227 472023 or 721327.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th December, 8pm at Littlebourne Recreation Club, the January meeting will be on 9th January 2000, same venue.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH - CLEANING ROTA

For Sunday 3rd December	Kath Pierce Gladys Lemar
For Sunday 10th December	Kathy Eynon Joyce Dean
For Sunday 17th December	Pat Hulyer
*	
24th December	Helpers as available
* Brasses	Kath Pierce, Gladys Lemar As available

ST. PETER'S CHURCH BEKESBOURNE - CLEANING ROTA

2nd December	Romany Cowans
9th December	Jane Shorrocks
16th December	Janet Street
23rd December	Christmas Decorating

NOTES FROM THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

New councillor: As a result of a casual vacancy on the parish council, a new member has been co-opted. This is Mrs Pam Dobson of the High Street, Bridge. Cllr Dobson was welcomed to her first meeting, by the chairman, Cllr Anderson.

Traffic calming measures: A good response to the exhibition of traffic calming measures, held in the village hall at the beginning of the month, and to the questionnaire, had been received from members of the public. Results of the survey are to be examined and any amendments considered necessary as a result of the public consultation will be made to the plans.

Christmas lights: Councillors agreed that illuminated Christmas trees should again be displayed in the High Street this year, reusing the lights provided by the city council from their millennium lighting fund last year. Christmas trees are to be offered, in the first instance, to those who displayed them last year. Any other resident of the High Street, who would like a tree and lights should contact the clerk on 01227 832219. Any available trees will be provided on a first come first served basis. Trees and their installation are being funded by the parish council, but anyone wishing to make a donation to help offset the cost should do so by forwarding a cash/cheque (payable to Bridge PC) to the clerk at 50 Riverside Close, Bridge.

Planning applications: The following applications had been received and commented upon: CA/00/1099/BRI and CAL/00/0138/BRI - Replacement garage store at 45A High Street; CA/00/1132/BRI - Erection of detached garage at 41 Union Road;
CA/00/1167/BRI - Erection of 15 m pole with 3 antennae, 2 dishes, associated equipment cabinet and security fencing at BT Exchange, High Street.

The following applications had been notified as granted:

CA100/0987/BRI - First floor extension to Gardenways, Bridge Hill;

CA/00/0943/BRI - Two and single storey rear extension at 51 Union Road;

CA/00/0888/BRI - Two storey side extension (revised scheme) to 36 Bridge Down;

Priest-in-Charge: Reverend Paul Filmer , The Vicarage, 23 High Street, Bridge (830250)
Lay Reader: Mrs Margaret Clarke. (Tel 765598)

PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE

Churchwardens Mr J Anderson, Aunt Betsy's Cottage, Dering Road, Bridge (830260)
Dr AM Nicholson, Riverside Cottage, Patrixbourne (830947)
Hon Secretary Mrs A Williamson, Beechmount, Conyngham Lane, Bridge (830399)
Hon Treasurer Mrs JB Stingemore, 5 Dering Road, Bridge (830763)
Covenants Officer Mr NC Francis, 54 Riverside Close, Bridge (830945)
Choirmaster & Organist (Bridge) Mr PD Giles, Filmer House, Filmer Road (830293)
Organist (Patrixbourne) Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill, Patrixbourne (830205)

BEKESBOURNE

Churchwardens Mrs J Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne (830256)
Hon. Secretary Mr JW Cowans, Distant View, Adisham Road, Bekesbourne (831029)
Hon. Treasurer Mr D Millyard, School House, School Lane, Bekesbourne (830256)
Organist Mrs RM Stacey, Joslet, Keepers Hill, Patrixbourne (830205)
Captain of the Ringers Mr D Farbrace, 3 Downside, Adisham Road, Bek'ne (830659)
On The Nail Advertising:- Mr HPM Lawrence, 21 Windmill Close, Bridge (830472)

Items for *On The Nail* should reach Laurence Dunderdale by the 15th of the preceding

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Green Woodland Traditional

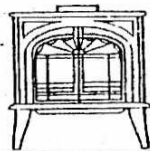
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