

Hertingfordbury & The Five Greens Parish News



**WGC Male Voice Choir in Concert at St Mary's
Saturday 21st March**

March 2026

Here with you - Here for you

Printed copies are available from St Mary's church

PARISH OF ST. MARY'S, HERTINGFORDBURY

www.hertingfordburystmary.org

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“Love is the Only Thing Stronger than Hate”

I have to confess that until the recent Grammys, I'd never heard of the world's most played music artist. At the ceremony, Bad Bunny made history as the first Spanish-language-singer to win three awards. His fame spread even further when recently he performed a joyous Puerto Rican set at the interval of this year's prestigious Super Bowl, alongside Lady Gaga and Ricky Martin.

After his anti-ICE comments at his Grammy acceptance speech, it's unsurprising that President Trump was not a fan, deeming the Super Bowl show; 'Absolutely terrible, one of the worst EVER! No one understands a word this guy is saying.'

The Puerto Rican Bad Bunny, real name Benito Occasio, used his Super Bowl performance as a love letter to the Americas. He ended the show holding a football with the message 'Together we are America', as a giant bill board displayed the slogan 'Love is the only thing stronger than hate.'

For a Latin artist to perform on the world's biggest sporting stage was momentous for the many Latino people across the U.S. and the Americas. In the words of one, 'It was a decolonizing moment, a healing moment.'

Jesus, another non-English speaker, was a similar beacon of hope for those marginalized by the elite and powerful. As we enter this time of Lent in preparation for Easter, we are reminded that the message of Resurrection is the same as that half-time billboard; 'Love is the only thing stronger than hate.' On the cross, Jesus took the full force of the world's hate and transformed it through a forgiving Love. May that same Love remind us that Together We Are Humanity. And may it create within us, and through us, many healing moments this Lent, this Easter and beyond.

Rev Alan



Sunday Services at St Mary's

Sung Eucharist 9.15am every Sunday

Zoom Sunday Service (with St Andrew's) 10.30am

All-Age Service 9.15am on 2nd Sunday of each month (unless notified)

Registers

Baptism – Welcome into the family of the church

14 February – **Archie George Earnest Adams**



Jane Brooke. It is with great sadness that we report of the passing of Jane Brooke in mid February. She was a much loved and big part of the St Mary's and Hertingfordbury community. You are invited to celebrate her life at St Mary's at 12.30pm on Tuesday 3rd March. A full tribute to this lovely lady will appear in our April edition. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family at this time.

Some Dates for your Diary

Monday 2nd March – **Mindfulness on Sele.** 10.30am at the Sele Hub, Fleming Crescent.

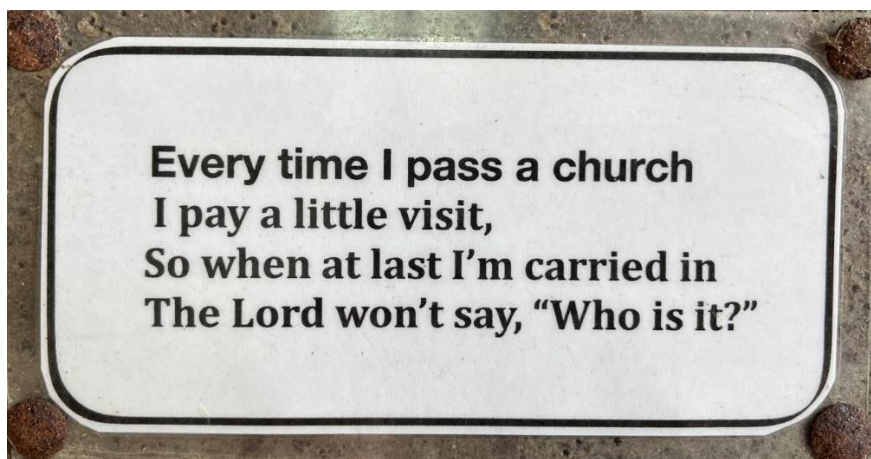
Wednesday 4th March – **Mindfulness & Meditation** 7.30pm in St Andrews church and on line.

Friday 6th March – **World Day of Prayer- Nigeria 2026** 2pm at St Andrew's

Sunday 15 March – **Mothering Sunday All-Age Service** 9.15am at St Mary's

Sunday 29 March – **Palm Sunday Service** 9.15am at St Mary's. For those able to, join us at the entrance to the churchyard to process into church

Please note that due to the Mothering Sunday & Easter services there will be no All-Age services on the usual second Sundays of 8th March and 12th April





Holy Week & Easter at St Mary's Hertingfordbury

Sunday 29th March	Palm Sunday 9.15am at St Mary's (10.30am Zoom available)
Monday 30th March	8pm Compline for Holy Week on Zoom
Tuesday 31st March	8pm A candle-lit Service for Holy Week in the style of Taizé at St Andrew's
Wednesday 1st April	8pm A Meditation for Holy Week at St Andrew's & on Zoom
Maundy Thursday	8pm Holy Communion followed by a candle-lit medieval service of The shadows (Tenebrae) & watch 'til 10pm at St Andrew's
Good Friday	2-3pm The Last Hour at St Mary's
Easter Sunday	5.30am Dawn Service at St Mary's 9.15am at St Mary's . All-Age Holy Communion with Easter Egg Hunt. (<i>Please remember to bring a fresh flower to decorate the cross and something noisy!</i>) 10.30am A Communion service for Easter on Zoom

Have a joyful Easter!

Good Friday Walk of Witness, 10-11.30am, Friday 3rd April 2026

Last year's Good Friday Walk of Witness was a great success. About 130 gathered at three of our churches, took to the streets and carried three large crosses through Hertford. We converged on Salisbury Square and from there processed to Hartham Common for a short time of worship, prayer and Bible readings.

This year we hope to have three groups walking through the town, carrying large crosses, giving out chocolates, and a small card with a link to the Alpha Course Video - Why Did Jesus Die?"

The three groups will gather at different locations between 10.00am - 10.15am:

Hertford Methodist Church * All Saints Church * Baptist Church, in the garden.

Join us and play your part in sharing God's great love with Hertford this Easter. Simply turn up between 10.00am – 10.15am on Friday 18th April at one of the 3 locations

The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary

Forthcoming Events in 2026

Race Night – Saturday 7th March 19.00 at Hertford Prep (formerly St Josephs in the Park).

Bar opens 19.00 & First Race 19.30. Tickets are £20 including fish & chip supper. Please contact David Gorton 07544 702241

WGC Male Voice Choir in Concert – Saturday 21st March 19.30 in St Mary's church

They're back again due to popular demand! Our friends at the WGC Male Voice choir will be entertaining us once again with their usual mix of traditional and popular music and always accompanied by talented young guest soloists
Tickets are £10. Please contact Kay Juniper 07776 340932.

Village Breakfast at The Fobury – Saturday 2 May from 8.30-11am.

Contact Helen Bishop 07446 694890 for more information

Bike 'n Hike – Saturday 12th September at St Marys & local churches

Contact Christopher Maunder Taylor 07860 228294 for more information

Le Café Francais – Saturday 26th September 9-11.30am at St Mary's church

Contact Helen Bishop 07446 694890 for more information

The Christmas Market – Saturday 21st November 10 – 13.00 at St Mary's church. Contact Helen Bishop 07446 694890 for more information

Helping the Friends

The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary was granted charitable status in 2023 (Charity number 1206041).

The purpose of The Friends is to raise money for the restoration and preservation of the church building and churchyard. The funds are not for the day to day running of the church. That's the responsibility of the congregation. We should like to make sure that this beautiful church is here for future generations.

If you would like to make a donation there is a card reader at the back of the church on the wall by the South Door or please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your support. Helen Bishop the fobury@outlook.com / 07746 694890



**Welwyn Garden City
Male Voice Choir**

will be performing on



**Saturday 21st March @ 19.30
St.Mary's Church
Hertingfordbury**

*tickets £10 msg Kay Juniper
07776340932*

music from a variety of genres, songs from
shows, spirituals & traditional English, Scottish
& Irish pieces

St Mary's News Janice's Confirmation



Janice Brown is a member of the choir at St Mary's and a very special part of the church family. We were all thrilled when she was confirmed by Jane, The Bishop of Hertford, at a lovely service in late January at St Andrew's church. Jean and Kay sponsored her during the service which also included candidates from St Andrew's and Holy Trinity New Barnet. It was a special evening. Congratulations Janice. God Bless you

..... Wedding Fayre



At the Wedding Fayre recently held at The White Horse, our Wedding Administrator, Karen Cox, presented the wedding opportunities at St Mary's alongside Laura Manning, both of whom were married at St Mary's and spoke of their experiences. As well as the presentation of photos and procedures etc they also used the knitted "Our Church in Wool" display that had been made by Jean Skinner as part of the Yarn Bombers Christmas project. Jean also added a bride & groom to make it more relevant and we have already had some bookings as a result of this project. St Mary's has always been a special venue for weddings in Hertingfordbury and long may it continue. Thank you so much Karen and Laura

St Mary's News Jim's Big Birthday



Long standing choir member at St Mary's, Jim Eustance, celebrated a big birthday in early February. We were delighted to be able to celebrate with him especially after the service with a lovely fruit cake made specially for him by Sue Eades. Accompanied by his sister Gillian he also had a card signed by all his friends at St Mary's

Jim with Sue (holding the cake) and Gillian

..... Bells in the Belfry



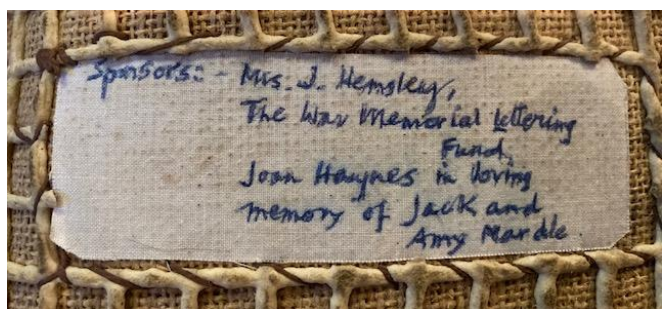
Church bells play such a massive part in the life and communication of a church. At St Mary's we are so blessed to have had our own team of bell ringers for the past few years. For services, weddings, national celebrations and other occasions. Four of our 6 bells in the Bell Belfry go back to the 1550's with a further one added a 100 years later and the sixth in the works of 1891. The bells are hung for full circle ringing in an oak frame and were rehung in 1958.

(See photo above on the right)

The photo on the left shows several of the team in the Ringing Chamber below the Bell Belfry. This chamber is accessed by a very narrow spiral staircase in the SW corner by the west doors. The members of the team here from L-R are Laura, Phil, David, Jon, Elizabeth, Maxine & Howard. In addition to the full bell ringing occasions one of the team also does a one bell tolling at 9am on a Sunday morning prior to the 9.15am service.

We are so grateful and fortunate to have our own bell ringers who also practice on a Wednesday evening. If anyone is interested in this further they should contact David Gorton

St Mary's News Altar Rail Kneeler



Very recently Kay removed the Altar Rail Kneeler in the church to do some repairs and it gave us the wonderful opportunity to reflect on who made this beautiful piece and the sponsors. The sewn in labels (above) are still in great condition and read
“Worked by:- E. Manson, G Culham, J Brooke, K Juniper, J Wood, J Smith, M Crane, J Walker, D Brownsword, R Hitch, R Lee”
“Sponsors:- Mrs J Hemsley, The War memorial Lettering Fund, Joan Haynes in loving memory of Jack & Amy Mardle”

..... Tick Tock the Church Clock

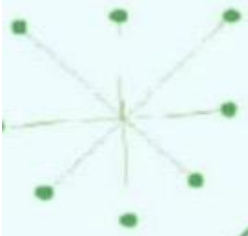


Hertingfordbury Millwright, Thomas Newman (1782 -1870), who is buried in St Mary's churchyard, spent two years in his capacity as Church Warden researching and planning a clock for St. Mary (**left**), as well as organising its financing and installation. On 6th May 1854 a deposit of £30 was paid to Hertford clock maker James Skerman. The village raised the further £73-19

St Mary's clock, having kept time for Hertingfordbury for a century and a half, is now in need of urgent specialist attention. The Friends are raising money for its restoration. Donations to support this project would be much appreciated. If you can help please contact Robin Bishop

The Friends of Hertingfordbury St.Mary

CHARITY RACE NIGHT



**Sat 7th
March
7.00pm
at Hertford
Prep**

A virtual race evening with a fish & chip supper & a pay bar which opens @7.00pm

Book a table with friends to enjoy a fun evening, tickets £20 adult, £10 child. Contact David Gorton on 07544 702241 to book.

This is a FOHSM event which raises money for the restoration & preservation of the church and churchyard

“Jesus is the Answer – What is the Question”

We are continuing to highlight some of the very meaningful messages from our church sermons, by not only Revs Alan & Bill but also our inspiring team of Lay Readers of Worship. This month we have a sermon from Lay reader Geoff Oates

I'm not a big film fan, but I can't help noticing that our film and TV industries seem ever keener on reinterpreting beloved classics of past years for a new generation. 2025 saw Disney's live action Snow White, you can always count on the BBC for their annual Agatha Christie remake, 2026 already threatens us with a new Wuthering Heights, HBO is reworking all the Harry Potter stories, and Netflix promise us two Jane Austen standards. I wonder how faithful they will be to the originals?

Are you the kind of person who looks forward to discovering what new and creative angles can be given to familiar scenes and characters? Or are you, like me, the kind who will sit there in growing annoyance, pointing out all the good bits they've left out or spoiled, or the bits they've added that only pander to passing fads and trends....until my wife tells me to go sit in the kitchen and leave her to enjoy the film on its own.

So maybe I'm not the right person to introduce one of history's earliest and best known remakes – the Gospel of St John. One, maybe two generations after St Mark's classic “Gospel”, a man named John reworks the tale for a new and very different audience.

Right at the start John makes his mark with a very different take on two familiar scenes from the original – the Baptism of Jesus, and the calling of the first disciples. There's a good start, we still get the Holy Spirit coming down on Jesus, but watch carefully - maybe you'll have to rewind that bit and look again – John the Baptist doesn't actually baptise Jesus at all. Maybe St John was so fed up with all the years of argument in the early Church about why the sinless Jesus had to be baptised, that he just thought it was easiest just to cut the scene out.

There is one big bit that isn't in the original version. But it's hard to grumble about this one because it really sounds like it was. ‘Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.’ One of the best loved, and most profound and most familiar of epithets for Jesus. Yet this is the first and only time we hear these words in the whole Bible. It sounds like John the Baptist is quoting the Old Testament prophets – but he isn't. This is new, and yet like so many good new things, it has ancient roots.

It has echoes of the Passover lamb, slain on the night God delivered Israel from slavery in Egypt, it has echoes of the scapegoat, the ancient annual Hebrew ritual of driving an animal off into desert with the sins of the people figuratively borne on its back.

And the name lives on in our hymns and our liturgy in the *Angus Dei*: ‘Jesus, Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.’ A new thing that has become part of the heritage.

But you're more likely to notice what's missing from the next scene, the first disciples. No Lake Galilee, no fishing boats, no pairs of brothers, no iconic call to become ‘fishers of men’ (he'd have to make that a bit more inclusive today anyway). Surely St John's version lost something here?

Instead, John the Baptist turns to two of his followers and says, ‘he's the one, go follow him’, and they do. Maybe John recognises that for a new generation of believers around the

“Jesus is the Answer – What is the Question”

Eastern Mediterranean, this new narrative might be more helpful? His readers are no longer people who met Jesus in the flesh, and they live far removed from the provincial backwaters of Galilee. They have found faith because someone else has pointed the way to Jesus and shared His Good News. Maybe St John’s “remake” gets closer to our experience too?

One of those two disciples is Andrew. ‘The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon’. The first instinct of the new follower is to pass on the good news to those nearest to us. Does the remake offer another challenge we need to hear?

The first words Jesus speaks in Mark’s Gospel are commands. ‘Repent. Believe. Follow me’.

The first words Jesus speaks in John’s Gospel are... a question. ‘What are you looking for?’

There’s an old tale of an exchange of graffiti found on a bus shelter wall. ‘Jesus is the answer’ proclaimed an unnamed Christian scribbler. Beneath was written, in a different hand, ‘But what’s the question?’ And the dialog ended with the response ‘It doesn’t matter’.



That’s kind of true – for those who have already put their faith in Jesus. But it can sound awfully smug to everyone else. Unless we are prepared to help them to find the question that they need to ask.

Down the centuries the Church has been very good at telling people what the answers are, often without waiting for them to ask a question. Or telling them that they are asking the wrong questions. Would we get a lot more engagement with the wider world if we opened our dialog with those first words of Jesus, ‘What are you looking for?’

And we don’t need to worry that we might not always have an answer, and certainly not one of the off-pat, neatly pre-packaged answers that our creeds and catechisms might sometimes encourage.

We might achieve more by sharing openly our own questions, even our doubts and fears, and then setting off together to wherever we need to go to find an answer, rambling on together towards trust and truth.

That would need a big “remake” of the story for a lot of people in the Church. But it’s faithful to the call of Jesus, and it’s faithful to the example of John – to try tell the Gospel again in words that speak to a new generation, that helps them find what they looking for, and maybe also to find what we are looking for.

Geoff

Spring Litter Pick - Saturday 28th March

The next litter pick around Hertingfordbury and the Five Greens will be on Saturday 28th March, at 9.30am. Anyone who would like to join us at this, or any future litter picks, please email Sarah Sullivan sullivanpipers@icloud.com so that you can be added to our email list. It is important to let us know you are coming so that we can allocate teams to areas and provide all the equipment. Many thanks.

Sarah Sullivan & Ray Green



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Pilates has come to Birch Green; no need for parking in Hertford

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Contact Victoria : 07912755130

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Build strength, flexibility and balance, improve posture, reduce risk of injury. Pilates really can do all of this. It changed my life and now it's time for me to pay it forward.



Purple Kite

PHOTOGRAPHY by SARAH WHYTE

WEDDING & FAMILY

..... Photography

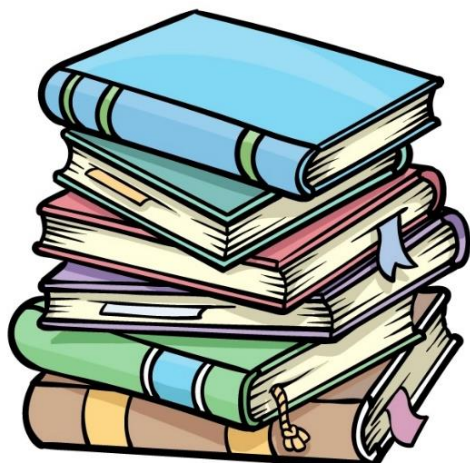
Joyful, documentary-style photography that feels effortless and natural.

Weddings, families, and all the moments that matter.



PURPLEKITEPHOTOGRAPHY.CO.UK

Recreation Ground Library



A library, containing books, both fiction and non-fiction, including a good children's section, DVD's and games has been set up in the tennis pavilion on the Hertingfordbury recreation ground. This is a free resource for all Hertingfordbury residents. Access can be gained at any time by the use of keys that are kept in a key-safe at the pavilion. Should anyone have any books, DVD's, or games to donate to the library new stock is always welcome.

If you are interested in using this facility please contact Penny or Mick Barratt on 07715 378212 and they can provide you with the key safe access code.

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'ROOTED IN JESUS, GROWING IN WISDOM,
OVERFLOWING WITH THANKFULNESS'
(COLOSSIANS 2:7)

Hertingfordbury Cowper C of E (VA) Primary School

News from Hertingfordbury Cowper

It is hard to believe that we are now halfway through our school year!

Hertfordshire Schools Athletics Association (HSAA) Cross Country Championships

In the first half of the Spring Term, a team of Year 5 and Year 6 children represented our school at the Hertfordshire Schools Athletics Association (HSAA) Cross Country Championships. They ran 1.6km at St Margaret's School, Bushey. All of the children did brilliantly, running a very muddy course! Congratulations to Ava, in Year 5, who finished tenth in her race and is now invited to run at the National Cross Country Championships in March.



Gardening Club

As part of our sustainability plan for our school, we are looking at ways to increase our biodiversity and the wildlife habitats around our school. The children at Gardening Club have been busy making these 'Bee Bug Hotels' to hang up around our school.

Art at Hertingfordbury

We explore a range of artists in our art curriculum from Picasso to Beatrix Potter, Andy Goldsworthy to Leonardo Da Vinci, Vincent Van Gogh to Frida Kahlo to name just a few. This term, our children in Year 1 have been looking at the artwork of Wassily Kandinsky. They have explored the shapes and colours that he used as well as how he used music.



Nursery Admissions for 2026-2027

Applications for our Nursery September 2026 are now open. We have Nursery tours available, please contact the school office for details.



Reliable Babysitter Available

Caring, responsible and patient babysitter available for evenings and weekends.
DBS checked. References available upon request.

Based in Hertford - £20 per hour.

Please message me if you are looking for someone trustworthy to care for your little ones.

Rose Ratna Tel: 07818024104 Email: rose.ratna@yahoo.com



This publication was kindly printed by St Andrew's church

Friends of Panshanger Park

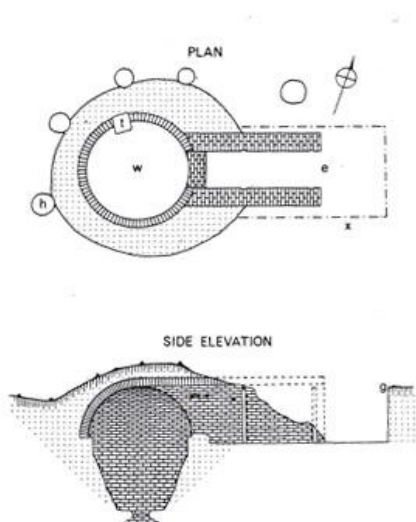
Panshanger Park is a wonderful natural area within our wider community and so the Friends of Panshanger Park are sharing some of it's history - some of which will include the village and greens and some not.

This month Kate Harwood looks at the Panshanger Ice-House and how these were used more widely in the 18th century

The Panshanger Ice-House

The problem of saving ice, available in winter from frozen ponds and lakes, for summer when it could be used for preserving food, medical uses and luxuries such as ice cream, led to the development of the ice-house in the 17th century. However, these did not become popular until the 18th century, especially after the development of grand landscape gardens with extensive canals or lakes. Although distinction has been made between ice well (an underground facility) and ice- house (an ornamental parkland building above ground) most people refer to all of them as ice-houses.

The construction of an ice-house was also expensive so, although there were some commercial ones, many were in the grounds of grand country houses. The commercial ones were found in places like London where high demand and low supply led to the import, from the 1840s of huge blocks of ice from the United States. Wenham Lake Ice Co (Mass.) was the leading supplier and gained a Royal Warrant from Queen Victoria. By 1880 10 million tons of ice were being imported from America. Since 1857, ice had been imported from the southern Norwegian mountain lakes. This was cleaner and soon became more popular than that from America. On arrival at the docks the ice was transferred to commercial ice-houses such as the giant one built in the 1780s in Regents Park or the two on the Regent's Canal built for Carlo Gatti, the ice-cream manufacturer. His wells were 42 feet deep and 30 feet diameter. It was also sent to private residences in portable ice boxes, invented in 1803. With the development of the refrigerator from 1913 (although customers had to wait will 1927 for a safe version) and the making of ice in factories, the import trade ceased about 1921.



An ice-house is essentially a giant brick-lined hole, most of them shaped like an inverted cone, and with a domed roof, so the whole thing resembles a filled ice-cream cornet. The domestic ice-house was of similar design to the commercial ones but of more modest dimensions. One at Balls Park in Hertford was measured and found to be 10 foot diameter at the level of the entrance passage. 14 foot high from apex of dome to bottom, of which 8 foot

The Panshanger Ice-House

was below the level of the passage. Ice-houses were dug in a hill where the access door could face north, to keep it cool, with earth piled on top for insulation.

Trees were often planted on top to provide extra shade and beech was a popular species. Behind the door was a short brick-lined passage leading to the hole, often with another door to help with the insulation. At the bottom of the cone a channel ran downhill to carry away the meltwater.

In Hertfordshire alone, 36 Ice-Houses have been identified, and others, probably mis-labelled 'Game Larder' etc, by Ordnance Survey are possible. Roxford in Hertingfordbury, Balls Park and Hertford Castle were also furnished with them and Hertford Castle's mound is still there in the garden by Castle Street.

In country estates ice was harvested from nearby frozen lakes or ponds and stacked in the ice-house. Insulation was provided by the brick wall and by packing the ice with straw. This proved effective enough to keep the ice until summer.



Panshanger Ice-House



Hertford Castle Ice-House

It is likely that Panshanger's ice-house was not constructed until Humphry Repton's Lake had been dug in 1799 and there was thus sufficient ice to make it worthwhile. Capability Brown often provided ice-houses on estates where he laid out a lake but at Cole Green, up on the plateau, there was no lake, only a couple of modest ponds. The first map to show the ice-house is the 1862 Panshanger Estate Map which shows it nestling at the north-western end of the Chisel Shelf with the door facing north west over the approach drive across the park. Just to the side of it is Cowper's Seat, which we have mentioned previously

For many years this was locked with access limited as it was considered a bat roost. However, last year the entrance was cleared and repaired by Maydencroft and the steps leading up to Cowper's Seat rediscovered. As can be seen from the photographs supplied by Maydencroft this was a well-built entrance with splayed approach and an engineering brick pavement which continues inside the passage to the brick pit.

More research is still required to discover the dimensions of the ice-house and its date of construction.

Hertingfordbury Parish Council

Chairman – Paul Rochford

Vice Chairman – Haidy Blake

Councillors – Roger Morris, Simon Bostock, Lesley Clark, Steve Healey

Member of Parliament – Chris Hinchliff

County Councillor – Ken Crofton

District Councillor – Bob Deering

If you wish to contact the Parish Council please contact the Clerk

Clerk: Katie Eyre at clerk@hertingfordbury-pc.gov.uk

Council Meetings

Meetings are at Hertingfordbury Cowper School between 7pm – 9pm. Members of the public are welcome. Please see website for latest dates

To report an issue with fly tipping, highway fault, overflowing rubbish, street lighting etc, please call East Herts District Council directly on 01279 655261 or go to <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/faultreporting/>



Defibrillators

Please note that Defibrillators are housed on the outside walls of the.....

- Parish Room (The Brace Room) at St Mary's Church, Hertingfordbury
- Cowper School, Birch Green – outside the school gate



Hertingfordbury Village

Your local representatives at a glance

Hertingfordbury Village falls within Hertford's Castle Ward and Hertford St Andrew's Division

Hertford Town Council website: www.hertford.gov.uk

For events and what's on: <https://gohertford.co.uk/>

Hertford Town Councillors for Castle Ward:

Rachel Carter: rachel.carter@hertford.gov.uk

Sarah Hopewell: sarah.hopewell@hertford.gov.uk

Ryan Henson: ryan.henson@hertford.gov.uk

East Herts District Council website: www.eastherts.gov.uk

East Hertfordshire District Councillors for Castle Ward

Rachel Carter: rachel.carter@eastherts.gov.uk

Sarah Hopewell: sarah.hopewell@eastherts.gov.uk

Hertfordshire County Council website: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk

Hertfordshire County Councillor for Hertford St Andrew's

Rachel Carter: rachel.carter@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Member of Parliament for Hertford and Stortford

Josh Dean: josh.dean.mp@parliament.uk

<https://www.joshdean.co.uk/>

Castle Plus Neighbourhood Plan

Hertingfordbury Village residents are involved in drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan for Hertford Castle Plus area. To find out more and get involved, contact Mick Barratt: michael.barratt@sky.com

You can find out more on the website here: <https://www.castleplushertford.c>



CUCUMBER FIELDS

THE ART OF FLOW – MOVEMENT, ART & INK-TUITION | AFTERNOON RETREAT

Saturday 11th April | 11.30 – 15.00



Welcome the new energy of Spring with this inspiring afternoon retreat. Weaving together an awakening yoga practice with Pippa Johnson before transitioning into a guided mindful art workshop with Emily Styles, and a soul-nourishing lunch prepared by Tara of *Tara's Vegan Treats*.

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We bring people together through a shared curiosity for the arts. We meet on the last Thursday of the month to hear arts related lectures in a comfortable, friendly atmosphere at the The Spotlight in Hoddesdon. We meet for coffee at 10am, followed by the lecture at 10.30. **Visitors are very welcome at the lectures for a small fee.** Contact Philip Juniper at kpjuniper@yahoo.co.uk for more information on joining

Upcoming lectures

26 March – **Down Fen Lane; the art of John Constable** by *John-Paul Stonard*

30 April – **The Magic Flute** by *Peter Medhurst*

28 May – **Monopoly; evolution of the best-selling game** by *Peter Mendham*

For more information please go to our website

www.theartssocietyeastherts.org.uk

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Scottish country dancing is a very social form of dance which relies on mutual co-operation. Following the patterns of the dance and dancing in time together is fun, exciting and highly satisfying. We are a friendly group of people and would be delighted to get to know you.

So if you're interested in something fun, which helps you get fitter and make new friends, then come along and try Scottish Dancing for yourself. Complete beginners always welcome. First session free.

We meet on Tuesday evenings in term time at Sele Farm Community Centre, Hertford, SG14 2LW. Visit <https://www.rscdsherts.org/south-east-herts> or email us on sehscds@hotmail.com for more info.

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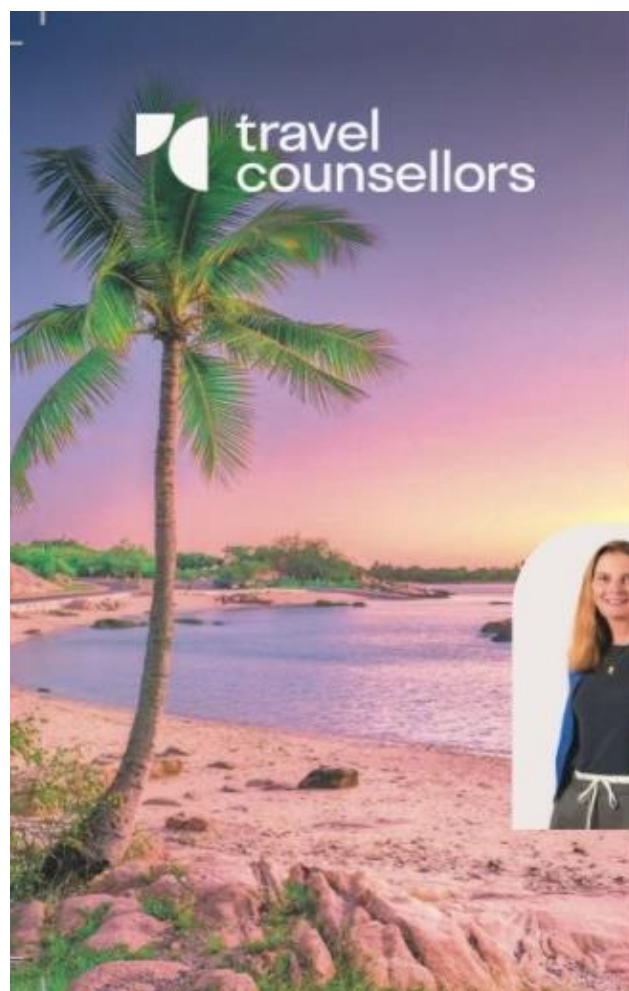

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Church Cleaners

We really need people (men or women!) to join our church cleaning rota

It takes a couple of hours every few weeks. We want our beautiful church to always look its best

If you can help please contact Virginia on 01992 583560



Churchyard Volunteers Needed



Volunteers required for grass cutting

Between 9 - 12 noon on a Saturday, we are now trying to coordinate dates to coincide with our weddings at St Mary's

Reward is a picnic lunch and good company..... and a laugh!

Please contact David Gorton for more information and timings if you think you can help

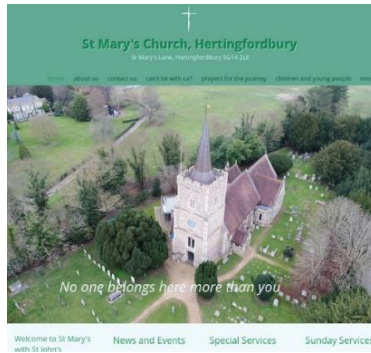


Volunteers needed to open/close St. Mary's



As part of St. Mary's commitment to be 'Here with you, Here for you' we are pleased that we have been able to keep the church open during the day. However, to do so requires volunteers to open and close the building every day. As a village if we want the church to be open – and I think we do - we need some new volunteers. It is not an onerous task.

Please give serious thought to joining the rota and speak to one of the Churchwardens. Thank you for considering this



www.hertingfordburystmary.org

The St Mary's website features all the church news including the latest digital Parish News in full colour

This website is a vital communication tool to be able to follow updates on the church.
If you wish to contribute in any way please contact Rachel via e mail
raich.carter@yahoo.co.uk



WhatsApp Groups

If you would like to be part of the **St Mary's Church WhatsApp Group** please contact David Gorton on 07544 702241

Hertingfordbury Village WhatsApp Group is a sociable community group. For more information please contact Mick Barratt

Brace Room

The Brace Room at St Mary's Church is available for hire for anybody in our community. This could be for meetings, exercise sessions or any other purpose. Includes excellent toilet and kitchen facilities. For more information contact David Gorton 01992 551430 or dgorton1@btinternet.com



Zoom Services

While we welcome you to services at St Mary's, Zoom services available for your worship

Please contact the church office if you'd like to be added to our mailing list and receive the service or meeting invitation details: standrew.hertford@btinternet.com or contact Robin Bishop to be added to the St Mary's distribution list

Twice monthly on Wednesday

Mindfulness & Meditation 7.30pm

Every Sunday

Service of the Word 10.30am

(Every 3rd Sunday will offer Communion)

Compline 7.00pm

Please note that a recording of the Reading, Sermon and Prayers from the Sunday morning service is now available on the St Mary's website

www.hertingfordburystmary.org



Mindfulness & Meditation

Explore the riches of Christian Meditation and how it fits with the practice and insights of Mindfulness

Each weekly session is free and lasts for about 45 minutes. We begin with some gentle exercises to help still the mind and then a guided meditation, followed by some silence. Beginners especially welcome!

Online by Zoom on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm except for the first Wednesday which will also be in person at St Andrew's church

For further details and Zoom codes please see our website

www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk

or contact the church office 01992 504373 standrew.hertford@btinternet.com

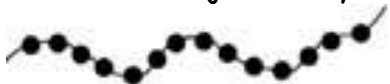
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WALTER WALLINGER CHARITY

Walter Wallinger died in 1709 leaving "Four hundred pounds for the placing of poor children of this Parish as Apprentices."

Times have moved on and the trustees of the charity now take the view that the income from the endowment should be used to give grants for educational purposes to people under 25 who have for at least two years lived, or been educated, within 'the ancient parish of Hertingfordbury' which today roughly means Hertingfordbury village and the five Greens and outlying houses.

Something of the order of £1500 is available annually. Typically grants are one-off payments not exceeding £450 for something that will help with the applicant's education in a broad sense, such as a musical instrument, specialist equipment, a field or other course. Grants are available to anyone in school, FE or Higher Education.

An application form is obtainable from Robin Bishop, the Chairman of Walter Wallinger's charity at robinhbishop@gmail.com



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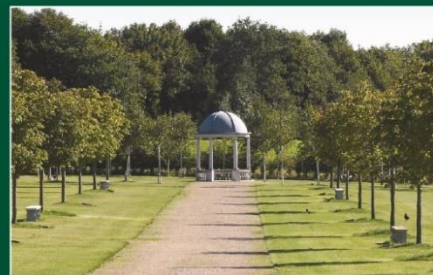
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