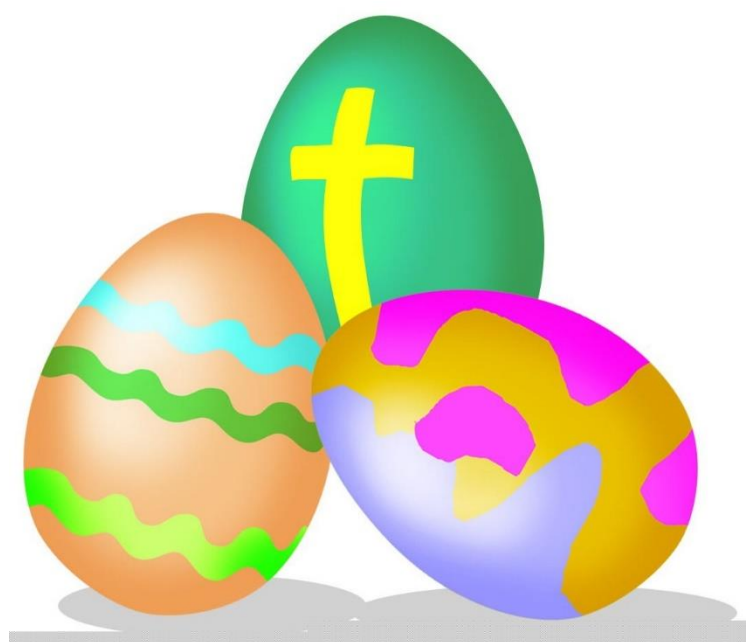


Hertingfordbury & The Five Greens Parish News



“The Great Gift Of Easter is Hope”

Easter & Holy Week details inside

April 2025

Here with you - Here for you

Printed copies are available from St Mary's church

PARISH OF ST. MARY'S, HERTINGFORDBURY

www.hertingfordburystmary.org

Priest in Charge Reverend Alan Stewart - email: h.alanstewart1@gmail.com
Not Friday please unless very urgent **01992 582726**

Assistant Priest Reverend Bill Church - email: churchwj@hotmail.com
01992 410469

Churchwardens

Robin Bishop The Fobury, St. Mary's Lane, Hertingfordbury SG14 2LD
robinhbishop@gmail.com **01992 551946**

David Gorton 3 The Mill, Hertingfordbury Rd, Hertingfordbury SG14 2SB
dgorton1@btinternet.com **01992 551430**

PCC Secretary Ms Rachel Carter **07378 550871**
raich.carter@yahoo.co.uk

Treasurer Robin Bishop (address see above)
robinhbishop@gmail.com **01992 551946**

Cheques should be made payable to "St Mary's Hertingfordbury PCC"

Choirmaster Paul Attridge **01992 627210**

Organist Paul Attridge **01992 627210**

Pastoral Visitors Kay Juniper **01992 558321/07776 340932**
Helen Bishop **01992 551946**
Christine Gorton **01992 551430**
Helen Harris **07773 086646**

Wedding Administrator

Karen Cox **07990 578749**
greggandkaren@hotmail.co.uk

Safeguarding Officer

Robin Bishop (address see above)
robinhbishop@gmail.com **01992 551946**

Parish News Editorial & Advertising

Philip Juniper **07767 312382 / 01992 558321**



A Flower and a Missile

In 2022 a Ukrainian composer transformed an unexploded Russian bomb, which had fallen on his homeland, into a musical instrument of hope. Roman Hryhoriv replaced the explosive interior of the missile with cello strings, and its sound has been described as haunting or funereal. 'This isn't just an instrument to me' he explained, 'it transcends music. It symbolises the horror experienced by the Ukrainian people. No other instrument can come close to its power and outpouring of pain'



At Easter, churches all over the world display their own instruments of pain in the shape of a cross. It took the early church centuries to depict a cross; such was their trauma. The cross has with time become for many not only a symbol of pain and death, but a symbol of God's empathy and love and triumph over death.

At church during Lent, we create a cross made from last year's Christmas tree, which reminds us of both the birth and the death of Christ. On Easter Day we then transform this into a symbol of rebirth or resurrection as people are invited to bring fresh flowers and insert them into the cross. What was dead, comes to life; what was ugly becomes beautiful; a defiant reminder that love always wins.

Each person is invited to make their flower a prayer of hope. This Easter, what might your prayer be for yourself and for the world? Do come and join us on Easter Day and bring that prayer with you in the form of a beautiful flower.

Rev Alan

Registers

Funeral

6 March – Janet Hemsley

Baptism – welcome into the family of the church

9 March – Lara Samantha Pidduck



Baby Lara with Mum & Dad and with Rev Alan at the font

Some Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 9th April – **Mindfulness & Meditation** 7.30pm in St Andrews church and online and the same on Wednesday 16th April during Holy Week. Online 30th April

Sunday 13th April – **Palm Sunday**. This is **NOT** an All-Age service

Monday 14th & 28th April – **Mindfulness On Sele** (10.30am at Sele Hub, Fleming Crescent)

Sunday 27th April – **Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)** immediately after the 9.15am service at St Mary's

Sunday 4th May – **Joint church Away Day** at All Nations College, Ware.

Sunday Services at St Mary's

Sung Eucharist 9.15am every Sunday

Zoom Sunday Service at 10.30am (joining details from Robin Bishop)

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



Holy Week & Easter at St Mary's Hertingfordbury

Sunday 13th April

9.15am **Palm Sunday** at **St Mary's** followed by 10.30am (**Zoom**)

Monday 14th April

8pm **Compline** for Holy Week (**Zoom**)

Tuesday 15th April

8pm **A candle-lit Service for Holy Week** in the style of Taizé (**St Andrew's**)

Wednesday 16th April

8pm **A Meditation for Holy Week** (**St Andrew's & Zoom**)

Maundy Thursday

8pm **Holy Communion** followed by a **candle-lit medieval service of the shadows** (Tenebrae) - **Watch 'til 10pm** (**St Andrew's**)

Good Friday

12noon - 2pm **'One Friday'** A quiet space with interactive prayer stations (**St Andrew's**)

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.** (*Please remember to bring a fresh flower to decorate the cross and something noisy!*)

10.30am (**Zoom**) A Communion service for Easter

Daytime throughout Holy Week: **'One Friday'** art exhibition at **St Andrew's**
(See the article later in this edition)



CUCUMBER FIELDS

AWARD WINNING WELLNESS SANCTUARY



A Space to Breathe

Luxury Treatment Rooms
Expert Practitioners
Stunning Surroundings

Gift Some Pampering

- Massage Therapies
- Body Treatments
- Beauty and Waxing
- Reflexology
- Homeopathic Massage
- Skin Treatments



Book an Appointment or Buy Gift Vouchers



www.cucumberfields.co.uk/treatments



Confirmation Service St Mary's Church Hertingfordbury Monday 17th March at 7.30pm

A special evening Service of Baptism and Confirmation took place at St Mary's in March. Two people from St Mary's were confirmed and three from St Andrew's. The service was conducted by the Rt Revd. Dr Jane Mainwaring, Bishop of Hertford, on her first visit to our church.

It was a special evening for all and we were delighted that Rose Ratna and Harry Boyle from our congregation were confirmed in their own church. Harry had in fact only just returned from Barcelona the previous evening where he had run the marathon and raised money for the charity Younger people with Dementia. God bless Rose and Harry.



Harry and Rose with Bishop Jane – Harry is confirmed by Bishop Jane assisted by Rev Alan with Rose looking on

Easter Church Cleaning

The Easter clean is planned for the morning of Saturday 12th April between 10-12.00. Coffee, tea, refreshments and a chance to chat amongst the dusters and polish. Any queries please contact Virginia 01992 583560



This publication was kindly printed by St Andrew's church



Welcome Scott! Introducing Scott Martin

I'm delighted to let you know that Rev Scott Martin will be joining the ministry team as Associate Priest serving the people of St Mary's and St Andrew's. His permission to preach has now been granted by the Diocese – Rev Alan

We are delighted to welcome Scott who will obviously be playing an important role at both churches particularly as we prepare for Rev Alan's upcoming sabbatical. We look forward to welcoming Scott at our St Mary's service on Sunday 13th April. In the meantime Scott has kindly prepared his own introduction below

"I was born in Enfield in 1973 and grew up in a happy family in Cheshunt attending Goffs School. I had a happy childhood and fond memories of my early years. I was a keen amateur bird watcher and still love visiting RSPB nature reserves to this day. After finishing my GCSE's and leaving school in 1989, I worked in banking for a short while. After deciding this wasn't for me, I became involved in the horticultural industry where I spent most of my early working life. I really enjoyed working alongside Mother Nature and the seasons of the year in Crews Hill, Middlesex. It was during these years that I began to discern a possible vocation to either the religious life or the priesthood. As my sense of calling to the priesthood began to develop, so did my interest in the more academic side of things. In 1996 I went to the University of Hertfordshire to study for a degree in philosophy and later in 2002 as part of my ordination training, I attended Leeds University and gained a master's degree in theology and Pastoral Studies.

I can't quite recall when I first became aware of the Christian faith. As I was not brought up in a church going family, I assume it would have been through school visits to church services and religious studies at secondary school. I remember requesting a children's Bible one Christmas and became fascinated with the stories and pictures of Jesus. I also remember watching Franco Zeffirelli's Jesus of Nazareth on the television at Easter, which made a very strong impact upon me. Family holidays to Spain and Cyprus in my teenage years involved opportunities to visit Catholic and Orthodox Monasteries which absolutely fascinated me! I started to attend my local church in my late teenage years where I began to serve at the Eucharist and began to explore and learn about Christian discipleship which eventually led to confirmation. I was very lucky to have had an encouraging parish priest who journeyed with me throughout the whole discernment process of considering ordination. When I was eventually recommended for ordination training, I went to the College of the Resurrection in Mirfield, Yorkshire for three years. From there I served my curacy at St Luke's Church in

Welcome Scott!

Leagrave Luton and eventually went on to become a Priest in Charge at Holy Trinity Church, Bishop's Stortford.

My connection to St Andrew's started In 2013 when I was going through a period of illness, which resulted in putting life in ministry on hold. My family and I moved to Hertford from Bishop's Stortford and were very fortunate to have been visited by Alan Stewart who kept a pastoral eye on us all. Over the years, I have got to know the people of St Andrew's and have enjoyed becoming part of a friendly and welcoming church community.

Since moving to Hertford, my week involves a daily commute into London where I work in tailoring/menswear at a company called Turnbull & Asser. It's a fascinating place to work as you never now who is going to walk through the shop door, from politicians to movie stars! When I'm not working, I enjoy spending quality time with my children Charlotte (15) and Andrew (13). I also enjoy country walks, the cinema and always have a book or two on the go!

*Three words to describe me? **"Journeying in faith"***

My favourite passage in the bible has always been the story of the Prodigal Son. To my mind, it's one of the best depictions of the love and nature of God. Here we see a young person caught up in the frailties and vulnerabilities of being human, not being perfect in other words! When he comes to the realisation of his true needs... his True North who is God, he doesn't find a stern judge waiting to condemn, but a loving Father running over the horizon with arms open, eager to welcome him home. That's the God I believe in!

My favourite hymn is "I heard the voice of Jesus say" by Horatius Bonar. This hymn has helped me through some difficult times in my life. It is very much a light in the darkness hymn. I just love the imagery used throughout. There's a real sense of Christ and therefore God being our true place of anchorage and rest. It's a hymn that's really there for you as a reminder of where discipleship begins and finds its fulfilment."

Thank you Scott. Your presence will be a massive benefit to both churches and we look forward to welcoming you at St Mary's on 13th April

Rev Alan's Sabbatical

Every ten years, vicars are offered the opportunity to take a three-month sabbatical (or Extended Study Leave). The object of the sabbatical is to recharge spiritually, make time for creativity and to engage in an area of study which is relevant to ministry. Between May and July this year, I will be taking a sabbatical from parish life.

I'm really looking forward to it and I'm hugely grateful for the opportunity. I know that I'm leaving both parishes in the very safe hands of Rev Bill, the wardens and the Ministry Team. My last day will be Sunday 4th May which is our joint Away Day

Encouraging Wonder!

We are continuing to highlight some of the very meaningful messages from our church sermons, not only by Revs Alan & Bill, but also by our inspiring team of Lay Readers of Worship. This month Rev Bill reflects on what useful things we might try to do

Here is Rev Bill's sermon from the Ash Wednesday's service...

Recently, Elon Musk sent an instruction to all Federal employees to send him every week an email listing five useful things they had done that week. Failure to comply would be deemed to be a resignation. Mr Musk may come to realise that you do not win friends and influence people that way; and did he really expect to get truthful replies? It is, nevertheless, a valuable discipline to look back over a period – maybe a week, maybe a day – and think what good or useful things you have done in that time.

Such as? Well, here are some ideas. They are not very original, and they would not appeal to Mr Musk, but Jesus might be more encouraging. I had thought of sorting them into loving God and loving neighbour, but they overlap too much, so I will just go through more or less at random.

Encourage wonder.

Too often, worry or hurry crowd out wonder. So, make space for wonder. Some people find wonder in mathematical equations (not my personal cup of tea) or the vastness of the cosmos. More concretely, if you have bird table, wonder comes to you. Be amazed at how cheeky robins are. Or look at a dunnock. Ostensibly, this is just a small brown bird, but spot the subtle colouring on its body. If you are out walking, stop and look around and look up, maybe at a soaring tree, or look down, perhaps at a tiny flower or a strange fungus. Stop and carry on refreshed and reminded of the wonderful and precious world God has put us in.

Take time to talk with God.

This is easy if you are happy or if you have an urgent ask of God. But don't hide if you are upset or disappointed with life or with God. Read the Psalms. The Psalmists let it all hang out.

They may be praising God, or they may be asking him to destroy their enemies, or they may be scolding God for being unfair or for letting them down. And definitely don't forget to listen to God – prayer is a two-way thing. And while you're at it, don't forget to listen - really listen - to other people. Listen to what they say; and to what they do not say; and to what they would like to say and try not to interrupt.

Encouraging Wonder!

Be grateful.

Complaining that other people are not being grateful enough has been in the international news this week, which is more about the donor's sense of entitlement.

On a more modest scale, it is right to be grateful for any good thing in life. A meal eaten with gratitude is sweeter. Gratitude also reminds us that very few things can be said to be entirely our own work. "We plough the fields and scatter..." but God ensures the harvest. And think about all the effort by other people which makes our life run smoothly and enables our enjoyment.

Think of cleaners, caterers, delivery drivers who bring what we want and binmen who take away what we do not want; even the traffic wardens without whom we would not be able to use the short-term parking spots opposite the church. And, if we feel grateful, we ought to say so.

Be kind.

This seems obvious. The Bible tells us to love our neighbour as ourselves.

In Charles Kingsley's "Water babies," one character is Mrs. Doasyouwouldbedoneby. Maybe even better would be Mrs Doastheotherwouldliketobedoneby.

How we love ourselves might not be how the other would want to be loved. It should be about the receiver not the giver. Maybe my custom of thrusting home produce at people is about me as much as about them.

Kindness is also behind the good Lent tradition of giving up something. Kindness to the world by reducing unneeded consumption and kindness which can be shown with anything saved by self-denial.

Pocket an insult.

There will have been occasions when we have been hurt or offended or insulted by someone else. Sometimes those stay with us. Sometimes they perch on our shoulder and loom large. Take the hurt or offence or insult and put it in your pocket out of sight. Pull it out occasionally and polish it like a cricket ball but mostly leave it there. Give up resentment for Lent.

Happy Lent!

I have never yet been wished a Happy Lent. Will 2025 be the first?

Rev Bill Church

The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary

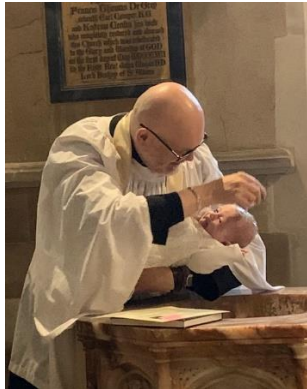
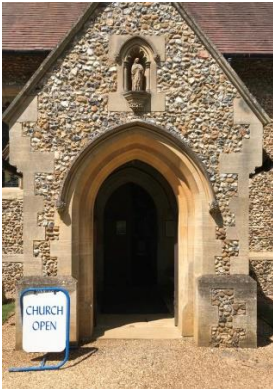
Events 2025

Saturday 12 June – **Summer Fun Day** at St Mary's with cream tea

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

Sponsor a Hymn Book at St Mary's ?



Would you like to sponsor a hymn book? Dedicate it to the memory of someone special or a beloved pet. They would forever be in our church. St Mary's needs to renew it's hymn books in the near future.

More information to come.....



**“One Friday” exhibition
at St Andrew’s
The story of Holy Week in
watercolours by Jenny Hawke**

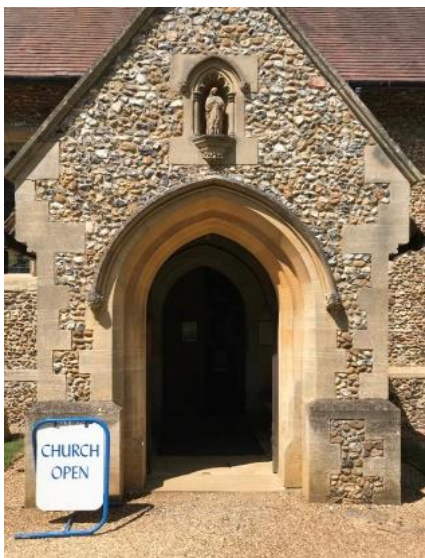
Artist and writer Jenny Hawke (1954-2023) created a moving and thought-provoking series of watercolour paintings entitled One Friday. Her pictures depict the events of Holy Week, from Jesus’ betrayal up to his death and resurrection. We will be displaying large-format prints of these motifs at St Andrew’s Church during Holy Week. There will be an optional written reflection on each picture, or you can simply take in Jenny Hawke’s visual interpretations of the themes.

There are fourteen paintings in the One Friday series – the same number as the traditional Stations of the Cross. But One Friday goes beyond simply narrating the story of Christ’s Passion. Each motif carries a one-word title, such as Fear, Mercy or Tomorrow, and the representations range from the literal (a hammer and nails) to the near-abstract; the motif Tears, for example, is a poignant cascade of pale blues inspired by the idea of the whole of creation weeping.

The traditional Stations of the Cross came about as a way of enabling those who could not make it to Jerusalem on pilgrimage to take their own small walk of faith in their locality. The One Friday exhibition, in a modern-day twist, now invites you to step into the unfolding drama of the Passion story and immerse yourself visually in the events of Holy Week.

The pictures will be on show at St Andrew’s from Monday 14 April until Friday 18 April (Good Friday), during the church’s normal opening hours.

We would like to thank St Helen’s Church, Wheathampstead, for the loan of the prints.



OPENING THE CHURCH – HELP NEEDED

We are very committed to St Mary’s church being open during the day. To be there for our community. However we are very short of volunteers at the moment. Could you help? Even just opening in the mornings is very helpful. You would need to do a weekly stretch if possible. If you think you can help, please contact David Gorton 01992 551430 dgorton1@btinternet.com

Cherish Hertford Blessing

A special event called 'Cherish Hertford' was held at the Castle recently, hosted by The Mayor, Rachel Carter, a member of St Mary's. The event was also the culmination of the Mayors writing competition on the theme "Hertford's Magical Rivers" which saw nearly 80 entries from children and adults. Participants gathered for an afternoon of reflection and appreciation of our wonderful community. Our own Rev. Alan, who is the Mayor's Chaplain, gave a Cherish Hertford blessing, during which water from the four rivers, Rib, Beane, Lea and Mimram was poured into a bowl.

The words of the blessing are shared with you here...

(A central bowl. Four bottles of water, one harvested from each river. Four volunteers who, when invited, pour their water into the bowl, symbolising the coming together of community.)

The nature writer Robert MacFarlane writes: 'Rivers run through us as surely as they run through places.'

So, to begin, a moment just to be still, to reflect personally on all that we cherish about this community



Four rivers meet in this County Town; a rare chalk-stream confluence of Rib and Beane, Mimram and Lea. Four rivers; habitat to houseboats and kayaks, mallards and moorhens, otters and water voles; four rivers meet in this town we, too, call home. And each river brings with it life and blessing.

Water from the Rib

As water always takes the shape of the thing that holds it, may we learn to walk humbly in the shoes of one another. May we cherish our unity and our diversity and may we continue to be a place of welcome and belonging for all.

Water from the Beane

As water is rich in minerals, a biodiversity of flora and fauna; may we delight in and cherish all that enriches this community; its arts and music, its charities and volunteers, its businesses and faith communities, its schools and emergency services; all ages, all cultures, all abilities.

Cherish Hertford Blessing

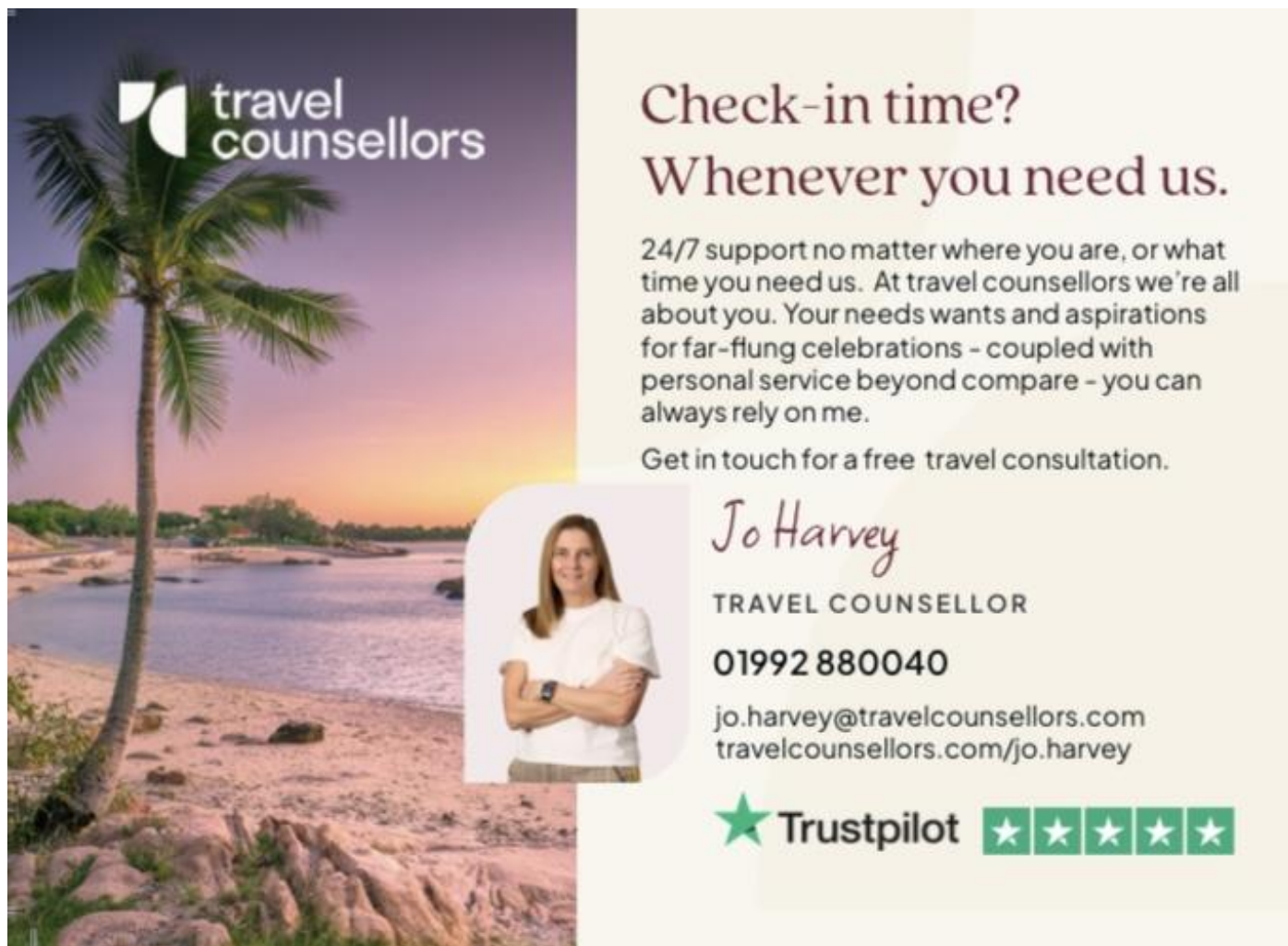
Water from the Lea


As water is buoyant, stronger than gravity, may we carry one another through still waters and through storms. May all that unites us be stronger than anything that divides. May we cherish the riches of human kindness and cooperation, open and wholeheartedness, respect and compassion.

Water from the Mimram

As water is life, without which no living thing exists, may we live fully and thankfully. May we devote ourselves to the wellbeing of one another, of our landscape of these precious rivers. May we live generously as we cherish this one precious life.

And as river water flows into the unknown, without knowledge of what lies ahead, so we step bravely into the future, side by side, in the commitment that we will continue to do all we can to leave this place even better than the Hertford we celebrate and cherish today. Rev Alan





 travel
counsellors

Check-in time? Whenever you need us.

24/7 support no matter where you are, or what time you need us. At travel counsellors we're all about you. Your needs wants and aspirations for far-flung celebrations - coupled with personal service beyond compare - you can always rely on me.

Get in touch for a free travel consultation.

Jo Harvey
TRAVEL COUNSELLOR
01992 880040
jo.harvey@travelcounsellors.com
travelcounsellors.com/jo.harvey

 Trustpilot 



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

Hertingfordbury Cowper C of E (VA) Primary School

News from Hertingfordbury Cowper

Prayer Spaces Day

Earlier in the school year, our teachers received a day's training from Prayer Spaces in Schools. The day was spent exploring the different types of prayer spaces and how these are used to engage in opportunities to develop spirituality by giving time to pause and reflect. We wanted to be able to use these ideas in school and launched it last week with a whole school 'Prayer Spaces Day'. Each teacher set up a prayer space which gave the children, staff and parents and carers time to think about their own spirituality and how they relate to others and the wider world.



It was a time
to carefully
remember that
God is always
with us.

I felt like God was
right next to me and
I felt calm. I liked
the bubbles because
it made me think
about God
watching.



Our New Running Track

Over the half term holiday, we had our new running track installed on part of our school field. This has been a big fundraising project for our school, and it is exciting to have this complete. Linked to our work on sustainability, the surface of the running track is made from recycled Nike trainers.

The running track is an incredible resource for the children to promote both physical activity and wellbeing. To celebrate and open our track, we were joined in school by Annie Brewster, the High Sheriff of Hertfordshire. Annie is a former international athlete and her theme whilst in office as High Sheriff is 'Sport for Good'. After opening the track, each class took part in running a mile. Running five laps of our new track is running one mile. The High Sheriff also ran with our Year 6 children.



World Book Day 2025

We had a wonderful World Book Day in school! It was a real joy seeing the children share books together and just enjoy the sheer pleasure of reading. We enjoyed an assembly where we learnt about the author and poet Joseph Coelho and many of the children and teachers shared their favourite places to read and their favourite types of books. The children were invited to make a story jar at home of one of their favourite books and it was lovely to see all the different stories in a jar. They covered many different genres and authors - from Shakespeare's 'Anthony and Cleopatra' to the well-known and familiar 'Hungry Caterpillar', with many personal favourites there as well! We are enjoying seeing them displayed in classrooms and along the KS2 corridor in school. The children also helped to raise £160 for our link with Orphais in Ecuador, which will help buy school supplies that the children need ready to start their new school year at the end of April.



From all the children and staff at Hertingfordbury, may you have
the gladness of Easter which is *Hope*,
the promise of Easter which is *Peace*,
The spirit of Easter which is *Love*.



The Woodland Bistro opens every Weekend!

Escape the everyday and treat yourself to lunch at The Woodland Bistro, at Celtic Harmony Camp, open every Saturday and Sunday, with dishes from slow cooked beef in a bap to stuffed focaccias inspired by Celtic Mediterranean cuisine. Enjoy a stroll around the ancient woodland, get creative in a workshop or book onto an afternoon activity like drumming and storytelling.

April is packed with exciting events for all ages. Set off on a mythical adventure in our Easter Dragon Quest, everyday from Thursday 10 to Friday 18 April, where you can make your own clay Dragon Easter Egg, weave a spring bracelet, create a nest for your egg, and test your aim in the hunting zone—plus many more hands-on activities. For those looking to learn an ancient skill, our flint knapping, pottery and willow workshops offer the chance to strike stone like a true hunter-gatherer or craft your own coil pot or weave a basket under expert guidance.

Come and discover a taste of the past—right on your doorstep, simply drop in for The Woodland Bistro or pre book your lunch and event at 01438 718543 or go to www.celticharmony.org

Escape the everyday
at Celtic Harmony Camp, Brickendon, Hertfordshire Open Every weekend
Relaxing Woodland Walks Creative Workshops Fun Activities Good Food

The Woodland Bistro

"The site was spotless and lunch was fresh, home cooked, ready on time and delicious."
Jessica O'Sullivan

Plan your great day out at:
celticharmony.org

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 Charles Runcie remembers more tales surrounding his Godmother Joan Middleton, known to all as Miss Midd. She was a remarkable horsewoman who lived and worked at Panshanger Stables from the 1950s-1980's



MORE MEMORIES OF 'MISS MIDD'

In the December/January issue I recalled Miss Midd's prowess as a riding mistress and trainer, based at Panshanger Stables, and the hundreds of children and their parents she inspired with her calm, firm but fair training. She also coached the Enfield Chace Hunt pony club team to win the prestigious Prince Philip Cup at Wembley's Horse of the Year Show in 1961, a competition designed to find the country's best equine mounted games team. Through the 1960's and early 1970's her teams regularly reached finals week, enhancing her reputation even further in the pony world. She also invented many themes for fancy dress and the riding club competitions locally and further afield

During the 1970's Miss Midd added yet more skills to her repertoire. With her talent for equine fancy dress, in 1972 she was asked to choreograph a mounted performance of the pantomime 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs' at the new Christmas Show at Olympia in London. Naturally she used ponies and children drawn from the Enfield Chace and Panshanger Stable

The show director was one of her former riding pupils, an equestrian businessman better known as BBC showjumping commentator Raymond Brooks-Ward. He knew what she was capable of, and it was a great success

For the next few years no Olympia performance was complete without an end-of-show pantomime, with dozens of children and a few adults suitably dressed for a performance of 'Dick Whittington' or 'Aladdin.' Even Father Christmas charging in on his 'sleigh' was another of Miss Midd's Panshanger pals, Sue Rogers on board her smart driven team of four greys.

In the mid-1970's Miss Midd decided to pass on ownership of the riding school she'd set up back in the late 1930's to new younger owners. Remarkably she continued to live in her comfy upstairs flat by agreement with the aggregates firm who had bought the park. She'd have hated staying anywhere else! She had by this time become busy as one of the organisers of the Prince Philip Cup itself. Every year she and her helpers, including Albert Murdoch and later Les and Beryl Oakes, travelled around the country during the school summer holidays. For many weekends this small band of faithful friends helped pack up all the equipment stored at Panshanger, to drive all over the UK and help Miss Midd as she judged the various

MORE MEMORIES OF 'MISS MIDD'

Prince Philip regional qualifying rounds. Many were held at Butlin's holiday camps during their heyday, when the company sponsored the Mounted Games.

Then come October, out came the equipment to be cleaned in the stable yard, then driven to finals week at the Horse of the Year Show. In front of thousands of spectators and millions watching on TV each evening, Miss Midd would oversee the competition from inside the ring, then resolve any disputes afterwards. There were few - no-one would dare argue with her decisions! There were other mounted games events to run, even occasionally taking British teams to shows in Paris and Amsterdam. All masterminded from that upstairs flat at Panshanger. Those two annual events, Wembley and Olympia, would occupy a large part of Miss Midd's year until her final retirement in the mid-1990's.

Miss Midd died in March 2002 after a short illness aged 92. She is commemorated locally, firstly by a residential street in west Hertford near Panshanger Park called Middleton Gardens, and secondly the award of the Middleton Trophy annually by the Enfield Chace Pony Club to a junior member who has been a good ambassador for the Club. I sometimes wonder what might have happened in another age, when women like Miss Midd would have been able to go to university and hold down top jobs. She would have been a firm but fair boss, I'm sure, but I also can't help thinking would have been horse or pony not far away.

That she was never able to was Panshanger's gain, and for the hundreds of pupils that passed through those gates into the magical equestrian world of Panshanger Stables.

charles@charlesruncie.co.uk



CHRISTIAN AID INTER-CHURCH QUIZ

Saturday 10th May

St Andrews Centre, St Andrew's Church

Doors open at 6.30 for a prompt 7pm start

Tickets £12.50 per person to include ploughman's supper.

Bring your own drinks and glasses.

Tables of 6 to 8 people. Numbers limited so first come, first served.

Tickets from Sue Mulligan 07913 666296 or suemulligan@ntlworld.com

All profits to Christian Aid

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: 11-17 MAY

MAKE A CHANGE

BECOME A COUNCILLOR

BECOMING A LOCAL COUNCILLOR

As a local councillor you can become a voice for your community and make real change. Local councillors are the champions of their community who invest time in local projects and issues to the benefit of residents and the neighbourhood.

Local councillor responsibilities fall into three main categories:

- Decision-making
- Monitoring
- Getting involved locally

Local councillors attend to local needs of residents, local groups and businesses, make decisions on local services, collaborate with district and borough councils to adhere to local needs, and progress vital projects to invest in the future of the community.

To find out more, get in touch

clerk@hertingfordbury-pc.gov.uk

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

- 24 April – **The Joy of Indian Classic Music**
29 May – **Thomas Heatherwick: A Modern Leonardo?**
26 June – **100th Anniversary of the Paris Exhibition**

For more information please go to our website
www.theartssocietyeastherts.org.uk

Registered Charity no 281752

Member Society of The Arts Society



SCOTTISH DANCING IN HERTFORD – 65 YEARS AND COUNTING!

Hello Hertingfordbury and The Greens!

Have you done the Dashing White Sergeant at a barn dance or the Eightsome Reel at a wedding? At South East Herts Scottish Country Dance Society (SEHSCDS) we do the same sort of dances, but with a bit more polish.

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.

Look forward to meeting you

Looking for an interesting new part-time job?

Local wheelchair rugby athlete seeks person for a variety of tasks in an interesting and diverse role. Based near Hertford/WGC

Duties to include: Light domestic duties - Food preparation
Some light lifting - Travelling to/from wheelchair rugby training
Must be: Easy going – Trustworthy – Flexible – Able to use initiative

Hours approximately: **Tuesday** (9-2:30) - **Wednesday** (9-10:30)
Thursday (9-2.30) - **Friday** (9-2.30)

Starting in March. Please message me directly. Thanks.

Contact me on jonathancoggan@hotmail.com 0771478076



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

EASY SWEEPS

Hassle free, no mess chimney sweeping.

- Chimney sweeping
- New home safety checks
- bird nest removal
- HD camera inspections
- Insurance recognised certificates

AND MORE!

Call or WhatsApp on **07395585456**

Email on **services@easysweeps.uk**

Check out our website **www.easysweeps.uk**

Member of the Guild of Master Chimney Sweeps



WEST & SONS
FUNERALS

INDEPENDENT FAMILY RUN
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Here for you at your time of need
Professional Services with
Personal Care

Bespoke Funeral Plans	24 Hour Service	Private Chapel of Rest
--------------------------	--------------------	---------------------------

01992 260 800
info@westsfunerals.com
www.westsfunerals.com
110 Fore Street, Hertford SG14 1AB

ELECTRICIAN

www.jjb-electrical.co.uk

**Do you find it difficult to find
someone to do those small
electrical jobs?**

- * Extra Lights * Additional Sockets * New Fuse Boards
- * Rewires * New Installations * Smoke Alarms
- * Outdoor power and lighting
- * Landlord and Homebuyer Inspections
- Fault Finding and EV charger installation**

- * Qualified Electrician * Six Year guarantee * Fully Insured
- * Reliable Service * Free Quote * Flexible Hours
- * Satisfaction Guaranteed

Quick response, & a reasonably priced service...

Call Jamie on.

01992 276127

JJB
ELECTRICAL LTD



Hertingfordbury Parish Council

Chairman – Paul Rochford

Vice Chairman – Haidy Blake

Councillors – Niki Gordon, Roger Morris, Simon Bostock, Lesley Clark

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

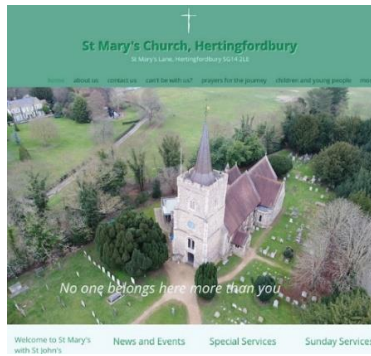
To report an issue with fly tipping, highway fault, overflowing rubbish, street lighting etc, please call East Herts District Council directly on 01279 655261 or go to <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/faultreporting/>



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**



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

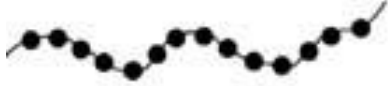
or contact the church office 01992 504373 standrew.hertford@btinternet.com

Sarah Lamb Jewellery

01992 589218 07714660492

Will rethread pearl and bead necklaces
Commissions and other jewellery repairs

www.sarahlambjewellery.co.uk



RRTrees

INSURED & QUALIFIED ARBORIST
DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL WORK

- Tree Surgery
- Hedge Cutting
- Stump Removal
- Seasoned Logs

Free quotation or enquiry?

Contact **Rowan Raymond-Tarplee**

07792 129669 or e mail

rowan@rrtrees.co.uk

achievephysio
relieve • restore • improve

Ian J Johnston
BSc(Hons) MCSP MAACP
Chartered Physiotherapist HCPC Registered

PHYSIOTHERAPY
In Brookmans Park

Clinic, home or work place

Tel: 07702 871780
www.achievephysio.co.uk
info@achievephysio.co.uk

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



PLUMBING & HEATING SPECIALISTS

01992 554941 | 07769 356310

enquiries@ambientheatingsolutions.com

www.ambientheatingsolutions.com

Natural Gas, LPG & Oil
Fully Insured

Rated excellent on ★ Trustpilot



Professional Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

- . Stain & Odour Removal
- . Rug Cleaning
- . Leather Care
- . Scotchguards
- . Fully Insured
- . Free Quotes

Contact Duncan

07958 729074 / 01992 586004

Email - dharris26@hotmail.co.uk

www.dharriscleaning.co.uk

David Raymond

Locksmith – General Maintenance

01707 651617 / 07831 383057

Local & Flexible

Herts Computer Services

Call Iain on **07787 157 937** or email:

iain@hertscomputerservices.com

Home or small business IT support

- PC health checks & virus removal
- Broadband internet issues
- Data recovery
- Laptop repairs such as screen replacement
- PC hardware repairs & installations
- Wireless networking
- Website & internet address setup
- Microsoft server installations & small business support

**Microsoft & Comptia Certified
Microsoft Small Business Specialist**

ROY FRITH

Specialising in Vacuum Cleaner Repairs

Free estimates - ALL MAKES
Spares available for most makes
Phone 01992 503991 - Or call in at
13 Talbot Street, Hertford SG13 7BX

Acorn Pest Control

Over 20 years of experience in Pest Control
LOCAL MAN

MICHAEL JACKSON

07710 494186

Charges as council – quicker response!



PHONE 07850 334 003

TERRY TOLFTS

MOTOR VEHICLE TECHNICIAN

MOBILE SERVICING & REPAIRS TO MOST
CARS AND LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

Fully insured against accident and damage.

John Spinks

Painter & Decorator

Over 40 yrs in the Trade

INTERIOR / EXTERIOR

DULUX NETWORK MEMBER

TEL: 07874 654767

ELECTRICAL (NICEIC Reg)

PLUMBING

KITCHENS

BATHROOMS

Chris Tinworth

01707 251302

07973 561298



ALFS – Animal Food Bank



ALFS Animal Food Bank is delivering free pet food and accessories, helping to neuter, covering vet bills and rehoming dogs and cats.

This is all funded by your donations. Please like and share ALFS Facebook page www.facebook.com/alfsherts so that we can help as many people as possible

If you can help or donate in any way call 07714 999581



HERTFORD OSTEOPATHS

BOA & GOsC Registered

Back & Neck problems? Other troublesome aches & pains?

Friendly, Effective & Local

Call Alastair on 07917 101851

www.hertfordosteopaths.com

Personal,
caring and
independent.

*The complete
funeral service*

24 hour service

•
Private Chapels of Rest

•
Bespoke Funeral Plans

•
Own Crematorium

STEVENAGE • 01438 316623

HITCHIN • 01462 438422

KNEBWORTH • 01438 812365

BUNTINGFORD • 01763 274111

WELWYN GARDEN CITY • 01707 390018

WELWYN • 01438 714686

HERTFORD • 01992 582052

WARE • 01920 468551

LETCHWORTH • 01462 684292

HODDESDON • 01992 471709

HARWOOD PARK • 01438 812515

AUSTIN'S

FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

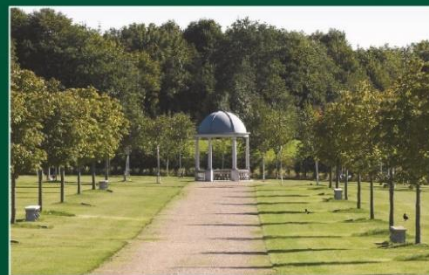
www.austins.co.uk

Serving the local community for ten generations



Harwood Park

*The perfect setting to commemorate
the life of your loved one*



Crematorium and memorial
gardens created and managed by
the Austin family in the beautiful
Hertfordshire countryside.

www.crematorium.co.uk