

# Hertingfordbury & The Five Greens Parish News



**Summer Fun day at St Mary's**

**July / August 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](http://www.hertingfordburystmary.org)

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**On sabbatical - no contact please before August 01992 582726**

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**01992 410469**

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# Monthly Letter

In the absence of Rev Alan on sabbatical, it is our pleasure to have the church letter this month written by one of our Lay Readers, Geoff Oates

## Praying for Sunshine, Praying for Rain, Praying for Rainbows

The summer holiday season draws near. Embrace its opportunities for rest, pleasure, recreation and variety. God likes us to get a break. After all, God himself took the first ever holiday, resting on the seventh day after six full on days creating the universe. One of His first gifts to us was our first holiday (Holy Day), the Hebrew Sabbath. One day a week to rest and leave behind the cares and labours of the working week, a gift important enough to feature among the Ten Commandments.

And remember, it was a gift, not a rule.

We should also be grateful to Emperor Constantine, sometimes called the Great, the first Roman Emperor to embrace Christianity. He noted that Christians observed Sunday as a day of celebration, and in 321 AD made it an official day of rest for everyone. 1,704 years ago, Constantine invented the weekend!

It took a long time of economic progress and social struggle to get to the holiday entitlements most of us enjoy today in the West, but they too are God's gift. Be thankful and use them to the full.

We all long for fine weather for our weeks of leisure, but after one of the driest springs that England has ever known, possibly the driest since 1852, the wiser half of me is rather inclined to pray for rain. The climate is not the only worry on our minds as warring violence and political disorientation dominate the headlines. Where do I look for hope in these desperate times?



I look to the rainbow, the sign our God gave us in ancient times after the great upheaval of the Flood as recorded in the book of Genesis. This was the sign of His promise that he would guard and preserve His creation and His human children for all time, even against their own folly and corruption.

As you take your time of rest, hold the image of the rainbow in your mind. It speaks both of the creative diversity and the destructive division in our world, and reassures us that God is big enough and loving enough to hold them together and turn them to beauty.

So pray for sunshine as you go, and pray too for rain. You may get a rainbow. The world needs rainbows - Geoff Oates

# Registers

## Wedding

14 June – **Michael McGuinnity & Clara Ritchie**

## Some Dates for your Diary

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July – **Summer Fun Day at St Mary's** 2-5pm (see poster)

Sundays 27<sup>th</sup> July & 24<sup>th</sup> August – **Evensong at St Mary's** 6.30pm

## Rev Alan's Sabbatical

Please be mindful that Rev Alan Stewart is still away on a much deserved 3 month sabbatical. Church activity will be in the safe hands of Rev Bill Church supported by the Ministry team and our church wardens. Alan will be back at the beginning of August so in the meantime please direct any enquiries to Bill and the team (contact details on page 2).

### **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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month (unless notified)

## Alma says "Thank You"

"A HUGE thank you for all the bouquets of flowers, Easter cards, birthday cards, and get well cards that I received recently. I was reduced to tears.

My mobility is not very good just yet but hopefully I shall be able to return to Church in a few weeks. Thank you all so much for your kindness shown to me".

Alma Cartwright



**This publication was kindly printed by St Andrew's church**

## A Message from Rosemary Caruana

*Dear Friends*

*"I have done it at last I have finally retired. I did not renew my Permission to Officiate (PTO) licence from the Diocese of St Albans at the end of April.*

*Having had nearly 41 years of ministry, 18 wonderful years with you including 12 as your Parish Priest, and the last 20 years I've helped out around the deanery at all points North, South, East and West.*

*Finally spending the last 5 years helping out at the Hartford Hundreds. It is with sadness I hang up my cassock and stoles but it has to be. Thank you for your love and support over all the years*

*God Bless you all. With much love"*

*Rosemary*

Rosemary came to St Mary's in 1987 as a Deacon and a Curate under Canon Jim Birtwistle. In 1994 she was one of 62 women Ordained into the Priesthood in St Albans Abbey. In 1997 she became Priest in Charge in the Parish on Jim Birtwistle's retirement. During her 18 years in the Parish she made many friends and was greatly supported in her ministry particularly at a time when not everyone approved of the priesting of women.

She says she was privileged to conduct many weddings, baptisms and to be with people at the lowest points of their lives when it came to losing members of their families. She still retains close friendships with many of us in the Parish and gives thanks for the privilege of serving us all.

The photograph was taken at Lambeth Palace Gardens when the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, held two garden parties inviting women priests to celebrate 25 years of their Ordinations into the Priesthood.

Thank you Rosemary for all that you have done for us and the love you continue to give to our church and community.

God Bless you Rosemary



# ***The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary***

## ***Events 2025***

### **Saturday 12 July – Summer Fun Day at St Mary's, 2-5pm**

Computer Game Heroes theme Teddy Zip Wire, Computer Game Trail, Welly Tossing, Rocket Making and cream teas

Everyone is very welcome!

### **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September – Bike 'N Hike (see poster)**

**Saturday 22 November - Christmas Market 10-13.00.** Stall holders all booked

### **Friday 12 December – WGC Male Voice Choir 19.30**

(More details to follow of the above)

## **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](mailto:fobury@outlook.com) / 07746 694890



## ***Church Flower Rota - July & August***

***July 6<sup>th</sup> Sharron Maxwell & Penny Duce***

***13<sup>th</sup> Sue Payne - 20<sup>th</sup> Alison Robinson - 27<sup>th</sup> Wedding***

***August 3<sup>rd</sup> Wedding - 10<sup>th</sup> Sue Parsell - 17<sup>th</sup> Jean Skinner***

***24<sup>th</sup> Alison Robinson - 31<sup>st</sup> Wedding***



*We are extremely grateful for the time, generosity and skill that the flower team give each week to make the church look so beautiful*



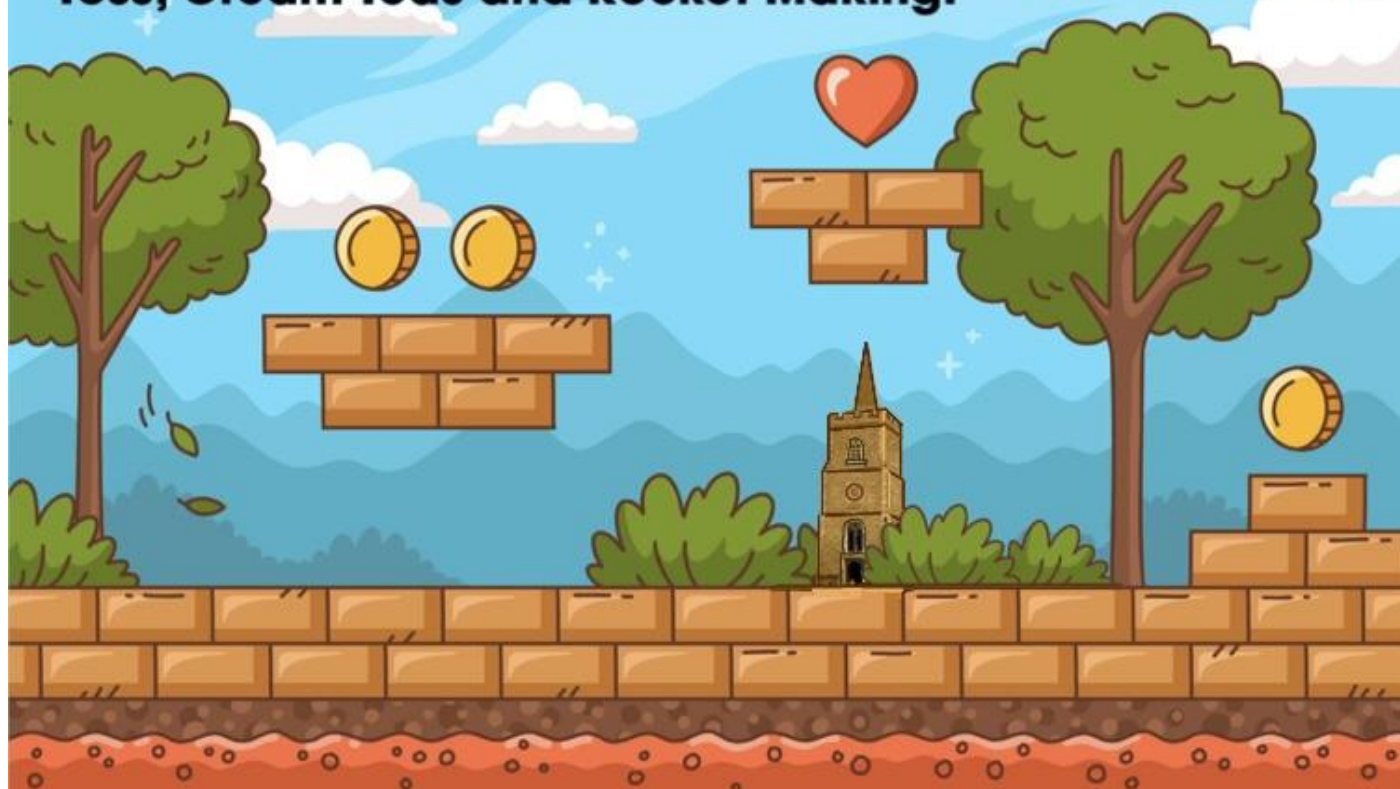
ST. MARY'S CHURCH, HERTINGFORDBURY

# SUMMER FUN DAY 2025

SATURDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JULY  
FROM 2-5PM

Our theme for this year is  
**COMPUTER GAME HEROES!**

Join us for all the usual family fun, includes the Teddy  
Zip wire starting at 3pm, a computer game trail, Welly  
Toss, Cream Teas and Rocket Making!



St Mary's Lane, Hertingfordbury SG14 2LD

# Enjoy Being Surprised !

**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 Forbes Mutch focuses on a situation where he *Enjoyed Being Surprised!***

Sometimes, the opposite happens to what you expect. I was walking down the road one day on my way to Farringdon station in London. It was a few years ago; I was commuting at the time and was heading home after work. It had been a tough day, and I was feeling a bit stressed

As I approached the station, I could see what I instantly recognised as one of London's 12,000 rough sleepers. I don't know them all personally but there was this guy sitting by the Evening Standard paper rack, a young man in his 30s with a grubby blanket draped over his shoulders. He had a polystyrene cup on the pavement in front of him.

I'm sure you've seen that image a hundred times. You know what's coming. As I got closer, sure enough, the man stretched out his arm and opened his hand. Surprisingly, in his hand were a few coins. He looked up at me, smiled, and said: Hey mate, would you like some loose change; you could buy a cup of tea with that.

I stopped dead in my tracks and I burst out laughing. I said, *"That is the funniest thing I've heard all day, if not this week"*. I laughed again and I gave him £20 because he had cheered my day one hundred percent by acting in completely the opposite way to what I had expected. It was funny and refreshing and it cheered me up and my £20 probably gave him a bed for the night and something to eat. It was definitely a better way to end the day.

I saw him the next day in the same place and he laughed when he recognised me, and we had a chat. I've worked for Crisis in the past, the charity for the homeless, and I know that every rough sleeper has a story that is more complex than you might imagine.

Over the following year, I got to know my rough sleeper friend. His name was Liam. He had moved to London from the West Country and had a steady job until he got mugged at knife point on the street and stabbed in the thigh. He spent several weeks in hospital and never really recovered. His mental health was badly affected and he lost his job and his accommodation and ended up sleeping on the street. I gave him money regularly but, more than that, I spoke to him with what I hoped was interest and compassion; we sometimes went for a coffee and talked about his life, my life; stuff that friends talk about.

When Christmas came, I gave him money for a bus ticket to Exeter, where he reconnected with his brother. And that seemed to be a turning point. When we met up in the New Year, he had resumed his begging pitch by Farringdon Station, but now he was getting paid to make sure the piles of Evening Standard newspapers were not blowing about in the wind. He was on the start to slowly rebuilding his life.



## Enjoy Being Surprised!

Soon after, he was allocated a one-room flat by Westminster Council. With an address, he was able to claim some benefits. He told me that he had enrolled on a charity-funded stained-glass art course at St Martin's College, and he was saving to buy a guitar. I don't take any credit for the improvement in his life but, just maybe, our first joke together kick started something that made Liam begin walking, leaping and, who knows (?), praising God.

Sadly, we lost touch with each other when COVID changed the world, and I stopped commuting and the streets of London emptied. But I thought of him the other day when I read this morning's First Lesson. Peter and John meet a beggar at the temple gate in Jerusalem. In a funny sort of way, their encounter is like the story of Forbes and Liam at the gates of Farringdon Station.

In the Bible story in Acts, it is the beggar who experiences the complete opposite to what he's expecting. He asks for money but what he receives is something far greater. Peter famously declares: *I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give to you; in the name of Jesus Christ, stand up and walk.*

I didn't say that to Liam when I first met him, and it was Liam who surprised me by offering me money. But I like to think that the casual, easy-going friendship that developed, where I gave him respect and we laughed together, helped him begin to get back the life that he had lost.

In the story from Acts, Peter and John's meeting with the beggar is a significant moment because it illustrates a shift from material charity to spiritual transformation. While almsgiving was a common and expected practice in Jewish tradition, Peter's response elevates the encounter to an act of divine intervention. The man is healed, not through money, but through the power of Jesus, through positive communication and the faith that Peter has in the man's ability to get up and start walking – walking, leaping and praising God.

In the Bible, the word beggar only appears 12 times, mostly in the Gospels and each time closely associated with Jesus. But beggars in the Bible represent much more than people on the street with nowhere to live; they represent all the world's needy, marginalised, underprivileged people. The word 'poor' as a description for someone appears 276 times in the Bible, which highlights God's concern for the needy.

The passage from Acts also reminds us of God's power to restore, renew and bring life where there was once despair. It prompts us to remember that God delights in all people; that all people, even the beggar at the gates of the Temple and the beggar at the entrance to Farringdon Station, are loved by God – loved, valued, precious and, as believers in God's values, we should regard all people in the same way. Beneath the needy exterior, poor people (we shouldn't really use that term these days), low-income people, are often talented, gifted, capable, powerful, wise and redeemed in Christ in exactly the same way that we are.

# Enjoy Being Surprised!

Peter and John didn't give their beggar money, but they gave him healing. This suggests that the most transformative gifts aren't always material, but are favours that address deeper needs – loneliness, emptiness, desperation.

Peter teaches us that, while giving money to the poor is good, offering love, dignity, and hope can be even more powerful. It calls Christians to give to the poor and needy, not just materially, but holistically, offering concern and compassion and love to bring transformation. Forbes Mutch



## Summer Adventures at Celtic Harmony Camp



This summer, discover the magic on your doorstep at Celtic Harmony Camp – Hertfordshire's hidden gem where nature, history and community come together. Tucked away in beautiful native woodland near Brickendon, the attraction offers a unique experience for families, friends, and curious adventurers of all ages. Open every day from 24 July for the Summer holidays.

Wander through the Iron Age village with its thatched roundhouses, explore the immersive Prehistory Centre, or try something new with our brand-new Disc Golf course – perfect for a relaxed afternoon outdoors. Looking to escape for longer? Our glamping experience offers the charm of camping with the comfort of home, all in the heart of the woods.

This year's Summer schedule is packed with activities, from hands-on workshops and live demos to themed evenings and seasonal storytelling. A highlight of the season, 'A Dance with the Minotaurs Sister' storytelling experience on 2nd August, celebrates Lughnasadh – the traditional Celtic festival marking the start of the harvest – with an evening of folklore, firelight, and feasting.

Whether you're grabbing a bite at the Woodland Bistro, spending quality time as a family, or enjoying an atmospheric evening in the village, Celtic Harmony Camp is a place to reconnect with nature, heritage and each other. Plan your visit now and make this summer one to remember.



Well-behaved dogs on leads are very welcome—bring your furry friends along for the adventure!

To book, visit the website <https://celticharmony.org/events/> or call us on 01438 718543



# CUCUMBER FIELDS CLASS TIMETABLE

Access classes 7 days a week.

Scan the QR code to view the full timetable  
and book your first class.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
<p>● 08:15 - 09:15 REFORMER FOUNDATION Munise</p> <p>● 08:30 - 09:25 ZENCYCLE &amp; MEDITATION Pippa</p> <p>● 09:30 - 10:30 REFORMER EVOLUTION Munise</p> <p>● 09:30 - 10:45 (75mins) VINYASA YOGA Christine</p> <p>● 10:45 - 11:45 REFORMER FOUNDATION Munise</p> <p>● 17:30 - 18:45 (75mins) BCP MAT PILATES Christine</p> <p>● 18:45 - 20:05 POWER UP CYCLE Dougie</p> <p>● 19:00 - 20:00 REFORMER RESTORATIVE Christine</p> <p>● 19:15 - 20:30 (75mins) FORREST-VINYASA FUSION Pippa</p>	<p>● 08:15 - 09:10 ZENCYCLE &amp; MEDITATION Ben</p> <p>● 09:30 - 10:30 GI GONG VINYASA YOGA Paula</p> <p>● 09:30 REFORMER EVOLUTION Amanda E</p> <p>● 09:30 - 10:30 STRENGTH CYCLE Scott</p> <p>● 18:45 - 19:45 REFORMER EVOLUTION Harriet</p> <p>● 19:30 - 20:30 SUNSET YIN &amp; SOUND HEALING Emma</p>	<p>● 08:15 - 09:15 REFORMER EVOLUTION Alex</p> <p>● 08:15 - 09:10 ZENCYCLE &amp; MEDITATION Sarah V</p> <p>● 09:30 - 10:45 (75 mins) STRENGTH CYCLE Kat</p> <p>● 09:30 - 10:25 REFORMER EVOLUTION Alex</p> <p>● 09:30 - 10:30 POWER VINYASA YOGA Pippa</p> <p>● 10:30 - 11:30 REFORMER FOUNDATION Alex</p>	<p>● 08:30 - 09:25 ZENCYCLE &amp; MEDITATION Sarah V</p> <p>● 09:30 - 10:30 REFORMER FOUNDATION Munise</p> <p>● 09:30 - 10:45 (75mins) MIND &amp; BODY YOGA Sara B</p> <p>● 10:45 - 11:45 REFORMER EVOLUTION Munise</p> <p>● 19:00 - 20:00 REFORMER FOUNDATION Maria / Pippa</p> <p>● 19:00 - 20:00 MAT PILATES FLOW Munise</p> <p>● 19:15 - 20:15 STRENGTH CYCLE Amanda</p>	<p>● 06:30 - 07:30 SUNRISE YOGA (Studio &amp; Zoom) Pippa</p> <p>● 08:15 - 09:15 REFORMER EVOLUTION Harriet</p> <p>● 08:30 - 09:25 ZENCYCLE &amp; MEDITATION Ails</p> <p>● 09:30 - 10:30 REFORMER FOUNDATION Harriet</p> <p>● 09:30 - 10:20 POWER UP CYCLE Kat</p> <p>● 09:30 - 10:45 FORREST-INSPIRED YOGA (75mins, Studio &amp; Zoom) Pippa</p> <p>● 10:30 - 11:30 REFORMER EVOLUTION Harriet</p> <p>● 19:00 - 21:30 MONTHLY HOUSTIC NIGHT EVENTS Meditation Circles / Workshops / Sound Healing Cacao / Breathwork</p>	<p>● 09:00 - 10:00 VINYASA YOGA Pippa / Jess / Wayne</p> <p>● 09:00 - 09:55 REFORMER FOUNDATION Susie / Hannah</p> <p>● 09:00 - 09:50 POWER UP CYCLE Dougie</p> <p>● 10:05 - 11:00 REFORMER EVOLUTION Susie / Hannah</p>	<p>● 08:00 - 09:00 MIND &amp; BODY YOGA Talia</p> <p>● 09:00 - 09:50 POWER UP CYCLE Emma / Talia</p> <p>● 09:00 - 09:55 REFORMER FOUNDATION Aimee</p> <p>● 09:30 - 10:30 POWER VINYASA YOGA Elin</p> <p>● 10:05 - 11:00 REFORMER EVOLUTION Aimee</p>



Scan QR Code to book

Please see below the Notice from the Diocese of St Albans regarding the proposal of a **new benefice of Hertford, St Andrew & Hertingfordbury** within the new Hertford benefice structure. More information will be available in church, by the WhatsApp & email group and on the St Mary website.

**Response deadline is Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July**

## **Proposal of a new benefice of Hertford, St Andrew & Hertingfordbury within the new Hertford benefice structure.**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025

The St Albans Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee has prepared a draft Proposed Pastoral Scheme – Dissolution of benefice of Hertford and Hertford Team Ministry

### SUMMARY OF MAIN PROVISIONS OF DRAFT SCHEME (NOT PART OF THE DRAFT SCHEME)

*This draft Scheme provides for:*

- (i) the termination of the Hertford Team Ministry and dissolution of the benefice of Hertford;*
- (ii) the creation of a new benefice of Bengoe;*
- (iii) the creation of a new benefice of Hertford, All Saints;*
- (iv) the creation of a new benefice of Hertford, Saint Andrew and Hertingfordbury;*
- (v) the creation of a new benefice of Little Amwell; and*
- (vi) the appointments of the first incumbents, the parsonage houses and future patronage arrangements of the new benefices in relation to (ii) to (v) above*

*all within the diocese of Saint Albans.*

The draft Scheme is on the Commissioners' website

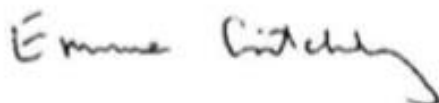
[www.churchofengland.org/consultation](http://www.churchofengland.org/consultation) or you may obtain a copy from me. **Large print and/or audio copies are available on request.**

- Anyone may make representations **for** or **against** all or any part of the draft Scheme (please include the reasons for your views) by post or, preferably, by email to reach the Commissioners no later than midnight on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July. **Please send your representation to Matthew Crowe (email: [matthew.crowe@churchofengland.org](mailto:matthew.crowe@churchofengland.org)) or letter marked for the attention of Matthew Crowe, Pastoral Division, Church Commissioners, Church House, Great Smith Street, LONDON SW1P 3AZ.**
- If they have not acknowledged receipt of your representation before this date, please ring Matthew Crowe on 020 7898 1784 or e-mail them to ensure it has been received. For administrative purposes, a petition will be classed as a single representation and the Commissioners will only correspond with the sender of the petition, if known, or otherwise the first signatory for whom they can identify an address – "the primary petitioner".
- When making a representation, please indicate the nature of your interest in the proposals (e.g. parishioner, member of parochial church council, etc) and whether you



would like an opportunity to speak to their Committee regarding your representation if the Commissioners decide a hearing should be held regarding the case. Please ensure you provide contact information so that they can be in touch with you regarding later stages of the process.

- If they receive representations against the draft Scheme, they will send them, and any representations supporting the draft Scheme, to the Bishop whose views will be sought. Individual representors and the primary petitioner will then receive copies of the correspondence with the Bishop (including copies of all the representations) and will be told whether a hearing is to be held. They and individual petitioners may comment further to the Commissioners. Copies of all of the representations received and associated correspondence will normally be published on the Commissioners' website if the matter needs to be considered by them.
- If a hearing is held, anyone may attend the meeting of the Commissioners that considers the case and representors may have an opportunity to speak to their Committee. Otherwise, if a hearing is not to be held, the case will be considered in private and you will be informed accordingly.
- When they acknowledge representations the Commissioners will let individual representors (and the primary petitioner) know the next few dates of their Committee's meetings. They will confirm the actual date if a hearing is to be held nearer the time.
- The Commissioners' will decide if the draft Scheme should proceed when they consider all the representations on the basis of a paper prepared by the Commissioners' staff and any points raised at the meeting.
- The Commissioners will notify all representors of their decision and give a statement of the reasons for it.
- If they so decide, any representor or petitioner against the draft Scheme may seek leave from the Privy Council to appeal against the decision.
- Please see the Commissioners' website [www.churchofengland.org/consultation](http://www.churchofengland.org/consultation) for further information about the procedure.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emma Critchley", with a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

Emma Critchley, Secretary  
St Albans Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee





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

# Hertingfordbury Cowper C of E (VA) Primary School

## News from Hertingfordbury Cowper

### Sporting News

We are part of the Hertford and Ware Sports Partnership and as part of this we are invited to part in a range of sport festivals and competitions.

This Summer Term, we have taken part in a Hertford and Ware Girls Football Festival and came away as the overall winners. It was a fantastic afternoon, and the girls won a hard-fought final on penalties!

We also attended a Tri Golf event and the children put their skills to the test to come out as overall winners. They will now go on to represent the local area in the County Finals at Mill Green Golf Club.



### Art Club

Children from Year 4 and Year 5 were invited to an Art Club this Summer Term. They have focused on comic book art and also designing a canvas. The children worked alongside a local artist and have shown great artistic skills. We are grateful to The Arts Society (East

Herts) for providing the funding for this club and enabling us to give this great opportunity to our children.



### **Advocates Team**

The children in the Advocates team continue to work towards their Archbishop's Young Leaders Award and have carried out some research into litter in the local area and decided that litter picking would be their next community project. The children have spent two of their lunchtimes going into Birch Green and the park to collect litter. They were amazed at how much they were able to collect in such a short time.





## Out And About With Our Learning

We have a whole variety of visits this term to add to the children's learning and to enhance our curriculum offer.

Linked to their History units of learning, the Year 6 children visited Windsor Castle for a workshop about the change in power of the monarch and also a tour of the castle and grounds. They were able to link all of their learning from their History lessons and a few children even enjoyed dressing up as some of the past monarchs.



Children in Year 3 visited Queen's Park in Bedford for a Faith Tour. During the day, the children visited a gurdwara, a mosque and a church and met with members of each community to learn about the different religions but also to understand the community cohesion.





## Sponsored Bike 'n Hike

BEDS AND HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

# Bike 'n Hike

Saturday 13 September 2025

9am to 5pm



*For more information please make contact:*

Christopher M.T.

07860 228294

[maundertc@aol.com](mailto:maundertc@aol.com)



- ▶ Have fun visiting over 600 churches and chapels
- ▶ Raise funds for your local church or chapel
- ▶ Help save other churches in Beds and Herts



BEDS & HERTS  
Historic Churches Trust

*Bike 'n Hike* in association with the national *Ride + Stride*  
and with acknowledgements to **THE WIXAMTREE TRUST**  
[www.bedshertshct.org.uk](http://www.bedshertshct.org.uk) BHHCT Registered Charity No. 1197228

## ***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.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***Panshanger in the War***

***This month Geoffrey Cordingly recalls the use of Panshanger in the war. The report below is taken from the Hertfordshire Archives & Local Studies Library (HALS). The writer was probably Edward A Williams. In 1939 he was a clerk to the local authority, living with the Cole family at 71, St. Andrew Street, Hertford.***

*The first evacuation was completed the day before the war began in 1939. I was deputizing as clerk of Hertford Rural District Council and we had to receive 1,500 women and children from London. They had arrived at Hertford East and Hertford North stations where they were transferred into buses and taken round to the villages. It was a hastily organized operation and too much was left to be done after the evacuees had reached their billets in the villages. Within a fortnight the mothers were high-tailing it back to London with their babies. The older children who had come in school parties stayed rather longer, but before Christmas most of them had been fetched home by their parents. By May 1940 a bare 300 were left.*

*Then suddenly we were directed to receive a second evacuation. A partial evacuation was to be made of the coastal towns of Essex and Suffolk, and some of the people were to be sent to Hertfordshire. Once again the Hertford rural district was allotted 1,500 and on this occasion we had a little more time to prepare.*

*I knew that Lord Desborough was distressed that no national use had been made of Panshanger. The truth was that Panshanger was an ugly brute, inefficiently planned and dignified only by its surroundings. But when the second evacuation was announced, we decided to base it on Panshanger as a reception centre.*

*The plan involved the arrival of 30 double-decker buses carrying fifty evacuees each with light luggage. They were to be brought in at the west end of the house where the first thing was to deposit their luggage. After performing their ablutions, they were given hot drinks and some food. Finally, they were checked for illnesses but no infectious cases needed to be sent to Gallows Hill Hospital.*

*Names and addresses were taken and our guests were divided into parties of two, three or four and given a ticket with a name of one of the fifteen receiving villages. They were then led to the gravel forecourt where cars labelled with village names were parked. They were reunited with their luggage and driven away.*

*It was not difficult to find the helpers to put the scheme into effect. The Red Cross took over the medical arrangements, the W.V.S. handled the catering. The police (mainly specials) took over the marshalling of the buses and cars and helped with the luggage, and local government and bank staffs looked after the registration and paper work. I think we had ten days in which to collect our helpers and prepare the paper work.*



## ***Panshanger in the War***

*I woke that Sunday morning, July 21, 1940 at 5 o'clock and suddenly remembered I had failed to organise a direction sign. A local builder hastily made and painted one. I drove out to Panshanger and fixed it in the ground. I found Lord and Lady Desborough highly intrigued at the prospect of the coming activity and hadeakfast with them.*

*My great fear was that the buses would all arrive in a single convoy, but happily they came well spaced out, the first one rather earlier than expected, and we were ready for them. In the end only 900 people came but at times it seemed as though the big house would burst at its seams. A detachment of the Home Guard arrived to see if they could help and they performed invaluable policing duties. During most of the day there must have been one helper for every two evacuees and, thanks to their combined efforts, car loads disappeared into the country lanes, where at every village the parish billeting officer was waiting to direct them to a house.*



***Panhanger House North Front – Lord & Lady Desborough***

*The atmosphere, quite astonishingly, was of a happy country outing. The evacuees, old men, women of all ages and children, had been ordered to leave their homes and go and live in strange villages while their native towns might perhaps be destroyed behind them by bombardment and invasion, but they were comforted by the helpful Hertford people.*

*Lady Desborough stayed in her favourite little room. Lord Desborough walked up and down shaking hands and telling people what wonderful birds they would see in the Hertfordshire countryside. Quite suddenly the last party had gone and I walked from room to room thanking people and telling them the job was over.*

*There was a flurry of departing cars. The Home Guard marched away, I said goodbye to Lord Desborough and found myself with one police sergeant and a few of the council staff. We spent three or four hours tidying up the paper work and then the car with the council staff drove away. The police sergeant and I made a final check. I looked at my watch. It was just seven in the evening and I reflected that down in Hertingfordbury Mr. and Mrs Lambert would be opening their bar.*

*“What about a pint Sergeant?”*

*“I never heard a better idea in my life sir.”*



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[info@whitehorsehertingfordbury.co.uk](mailto:info@whitehorsehertingfordbury.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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## Upcoming lectures

25 September – **The Bloomsbury Group: The Art of Vanessa Bell**

30 October – **Oscar Wilde: 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Importance of Being Earnest**

27 November – **A Right Royal Christmas** followed by our Winter Lunch

For more information please go to our website

[www.theartssocietyeastherts.org.uk](http://www.theartssocietyeastherts.org.uk)

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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](mailto:sehscds@hotmail.com) for more info.

Look forward to meeting you

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# 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](mailto: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



## **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

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## **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

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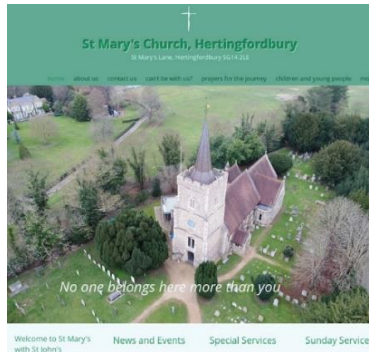


## **Volunteers needed to open/close St. Mary's**



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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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](http://www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk)

or contact the church office 01992 504373 [standrew.hertford@btinternet.com](mailto:standrew.hertford@btinternet.com)

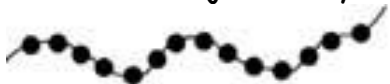
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## WALTER WALLINGER CHARITY

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](mailto:robinhbishop@gmail.com)





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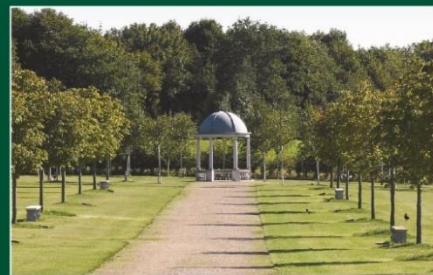
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