

Hertingfordbury & The Five Greens Parish News



June 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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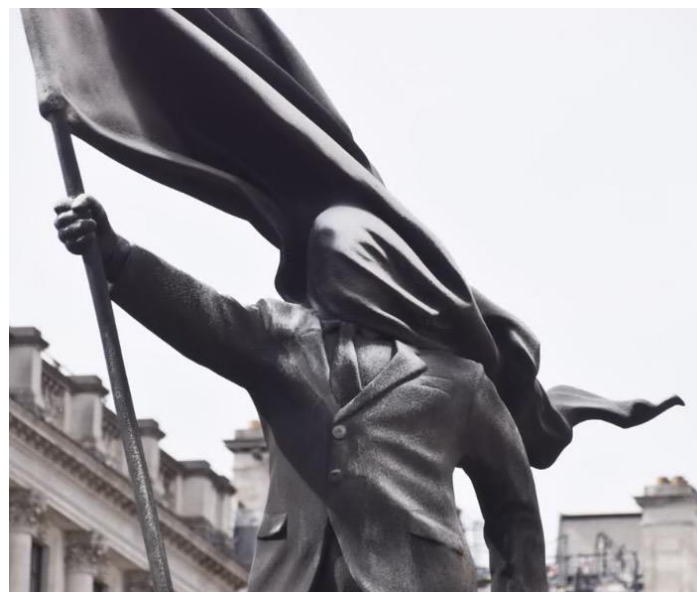
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Blind Faith

In the early hours of the morning of the 29th April, a statue (right) was installed in Waterloo Place, London, by the secretive street artist known as Banksy. It depicts a man in a suit holding a large flag, which is blowing across his face obscuring his vision, as he confidently steps off the plinth he's standing on. Surrounded by other statues celebrating British Imperialism, this newcomer statue is for many a powerful social comment about the pitfalls of blind patriotism.



Blindly following any idealism, or religion for that matter, can easily lead to a fall. To quote Socrates 'The unexamined life is not worth living'. It's essential therefore that we question everything in a world of 'alternative truth', A.I. and fake news. That said, there are certain things in life that we cannot empirically prove. For some things we need faith.

Everyone puts their faith in something, but faith need not be blind. Religious faith asks for the eyes to see beyond the visible, what one character in the film American Beauty calls, 'the life behind things'

There's a famous scene in another great movie 'Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade', where Dr Jones has to set aside his rational logic and make a step of faith into what looks like a cavernous drop. That faith is rewarded as a previously invisible stepping stone miraculously appears. Sometimes we have to take a similar step of faith, based on spiritual conviction or trust in something bigger. Experience tells me that making those steps of faith doesn't lead to a fall, but to a stepping stone into a fuller, more dynamic life.

Rev Alan



This publication was kindly printed by St Andrew's church

Registers

Baptism – Welcome into the Family of the Church

17 May – Jamie & Forest Frank Newport

Wedding

23 May – Rebecca Stratton & Evan Jones



Katie & Russell were married at St Mary's in April. *Photos by Purple Kit*

Some Dates for your Diary

Monday 1 June – **God's Little Wonders** starts 10am at St Andrews (see advert)

Monday 1 June – **Prayer Course "How to talk to God"** starts 8pm at St Andrews (see advert)

Mondays 8 & 22 June – **Mindfulness on Sele** 10.30am at the Sele Hub, Fleming Crescent.

Wednesday 10 June – **Mindfulness & Meditation** 7.30pm in person (and online) at St Andrew's. Online only Wednesday 24 June at 7.30pm

Sunday 14 June – **All Age shorter child-friendly service** 9.15 at St Mary's



All-Age Services 2026



*A shorter child-friendly service for all ages at 9.15am
on Sundays at St Mary's church*

14 June - 12 July - 9 August - 13 September

11 October (Harvest) - 1 November - 13 December - Christmas Day

The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary

Forthcoming Events in 2026

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

Village Breakfast at The Fobury



The Village Breakfast at the Fobury in early May was a great success with over 90 breakfasts served. The most ever. All those who attended from across our community were treated to not only a delicious cooked breakfast but also lovely weather and of course the very special views of our beautiful village. Special thanks go to Robin and Helen for hosting this lovely occasion especially given their need to postpone it last year.

Thanks also to all those that helped and worked so hard and a to all who attended to support the church which is so central to our community

St Mary's News Rev Alan's 20th Anniversary at St Mary's

Twenty years of service is something not just worth noting but celebrating. It seems amazing to think that Alan Stewart has served as priest to the people of the parishes of St Mary's and St Andrew's for two decades. That milestone was reached on 15th May, being the twentieth anniversary of his licensing and installation.

It was celebrated with a surprise party arranged with the help of Alan's partner Paul after the morning services on Sunday 17th May in the St Andrew's Centre attended by well over 80 people from the two churches. David Gorton, Churchwarden at St Mary's, presented Alan with a gift and card signed by members of the congregations. There was a creative "20" cake shared by all and a large spread of food for all to enjoy.



Our new vicar Alan - With his first churchwardens (L-R) Jane Hoare & Robin Bishop (SM) and Peter Ruffles & Vivienne Thornton (SA)

The fresh-faced fairly newly-ordained priest who arrived with his wife Rachel and two young children, Rosie-Beth and Elijah, from Stanmore where he been Curate, quickly came to terms with managing two churches and two congregations. Alan has been supported in his ministry throughout the twenty years by the Rev Bill Church as Assistant Priest and from time to time by others including the Rev Wendy Sellers and Rev Scott Martin, together with Readers and Lay Leaders of Worship. Nonetheless it is no mean feat to oversee the workings of two very different churches with varying demands. He has done so successfully with a light touch and a natural ability to work with and relate to people of all ages and backgrounds.

One of Alan's strengths is his love of children and he has baptised countless numbers of children and adults at the two churches. Alan has a natural way with children, and can add a theatrical touch which grabs children's attention and brings humour to the subject. This has extended beyond the churches to the primary schools of Hertford St Andrew and Hertingfordbury Cowper where he has been a regular at assemblies

St Mary's News Rev Alan's 20th Anniversary at St Mary's

and other occasions, working first with Tracy and latterly with Lindsey, our Children and Families Workers.

In his time as vicar Alan has overseen the construction of the Brace Room at St Mary's providing kitchen and toilet facilities for the first time, and the development of the St Andrew's Centre creating a bright and well-used hall with direct access from the church. Alan has introduced what are now regular elements of monthly services including Mindfulness and Meditation, Breathe prayer meetings and Compline, as well as adopting the use of Zoom for some services and maintaining, post-Covid, the regular Sunday morning Zoom services run by Kath and Nick.

More recently, Alan has made an appearance on TV behind the counter of Rossi's Attic in an edition of the Antiques Road Trip, showing off his thespian side. Alan has also shared his love of music on Three Counties Radio. He is an accomplished artist. In 2024 he held an exhibition of his drawings at St Mary's Hertingfordbury, with many finding happy buyers.

He is indeed a man of many talents. Thank you Alan for all you have done for St Mary's and St Andrew's over the past twenty years and we look forward to the years to come as our parish priest.



Rev Alan's 20th Celebrations



St Mary's News Christine's BIG Birthday



Amongst the many birthdays we seem to have at our church in May, there was one special one this year for Christine on Sunday 3rd. So as we need no excuse for some cake and fizz (oh and the legendary sausage rolls), we were able to celebrate with her after the lovely All Age service that day. She had a further surprise in that many of her family attended the service and could sit with her as there was no choir duty that day. Well done Christine and all those who worked and baked to make this special for a very special lady who does so much for the church

..... **We are looking for a new PCC Secretary**

St Mary's needs a new PCC Secretary to help run the bi-monthly PCC meetings, preparing agendas and minutes, and organising the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. If you are interested and want to find out more about helping St Mary's in this way, please contact Rev Alan or the churchwardens (contact details on page 2)

..... **Tick Tock the Church Clock**



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

How to talk to God

What is prayer?

How and why should I pray?

Does prayer change things?

Three evenings
exploring these
& other questions.
Everyone welcome!

**Mondays 1st, 8th
& 15th June 8pm**
Hertford St Andrew's Church

**A little
service for
tots & their
carers**

with familiar
songs,
instruments,
a story & snacks

God's Little Wonders

St Andrew's Church
Mondays, 10am

Contact Lindsey
07974 141083
lindseybett@icloud.com



www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk



Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The St Mary's APCM took place on the last Sunday of April in church after the 9.15 service. There was an excellent turnout and below are the main extracts from Rev Alan's team vicar report

'The Church is the Church only when it exists for others' Those are the words of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, German pastor and theologian.

This is our call, not to be a member's club for the likeminded, but a community which exists for the good of those who are not members, a people who help hold a space where all belong, which all can call home.

This year's joint Parish Away Day was focused on what it means to belong. During that day we explored what it means to celebrate diversity, to disagree well when conflict arises, and to ask that hard question 'who are the people who may not feel they belong in a church, and why?'

We want to learn from those questions and where necessary, adapt and change; be accountable to being a church that exists for others, a church that welcome all.

"We are so lucky to have such a beautiful church to welcome people to!"

We are so lucky to have such a beautiful building and churchyard to welcome people to! It is indeed a space for all and thank you to those who enable us to keep the church open and who maintain the grounds so wonderfully.

I'd like to say a huge thank you here to the Friends of St Mary's who have run so many memorable events throughout the year, raising not only important funds for the upkeep of this historic place, but creating opportunities to bring people together to form a deeper sense of community and belonging. Special thanks to the chair Helen Bishop.

We continue to be a popular choice for weddings and baptisms, and we're extremely grateful to Karen, our wedding administrator, who with Laura Manning (both married here!) has been attending wedding fayres on our behalf and generating interest and hooray, bookings! Karen develops such a lovely bond with each couple, helping them feel at ease and creating that deep sense of belonging. Special thanks also to Laura for heading up our social media platform on Instagram ([stmaryschurch_hertingfordbury](#)). Check it out!

We're delighted that our two school communities (Hertingfordbury Cowper and Hertford Prep) continue to hold their special services here. It continues to be a joy, with Lindsey, to lead weekly Collective Worship on Tuesdays with the whole schools, and on Wednesdays with Early Years. Last year we welcomed the children of Hertingfordbury Cowper into our church for an Easter themed story workshop, and this year, we are doing the same to



APCM

Experience Pentecost. Another highlight has been the Big Questions Club, a lunchtime club for years 5 and 6 where the children set the questions. Like 'What happens when we die?', 'Why do bad things happen to good people?' and 'How do I feel less anxious?'

Every half term, Lindsey also runs some pop-up prayer spaces at Hertingfordbury Cowper. Last September we had our first Teddy Bear's Picnic at St Mary's where we welcomed young families for a story and games, ending with a picnic on the lawn. We hope to build on this, perhaps incorporating our famous Teddy Bear zipwire!

On 1st June, at our sister church St Andrew's, we're launching God's Little Wonders, a little service for toddlers and their carers. It will include songs to the tune of nursery rhymes, a story from the Story Basket, birthday time and time to play and catch up. If it's something you think you might be able to help with, please speak to me or Lindsey.

In September we had our joyfully chaotic and now infamous Pet Service, complete with a horse for the first time. News got out and people came from far and wide.

Thanks to our Eco Group, chaired by Rachel Carter, we have secured the Bronze Award for commitment to the environment from the organisation A Rocha. We are also looking into working with Hertford Prep to create bug hotels and habitats in the churchyard.

Alongside our churchyard, we are blessed to have Panshanger Park on our doorstep and a small working party will be meeting soon to explore how we might develop opportunities to meet and worship in the great outdoors.

Over Creation Weekend this year in October we're looking forward to hosting an exhibition of art from the local group which meets here weekly.

Continuing the creation theme, last October, we gathered with friends from St Andrew's and All Saints to bless the River Lea and plan to do the same this year, and look for other ways we can work across the wider Church.

"Prayer is the oxygen of our church"

We continue to offer Zoom church on Sunday mornings which reaches far beyond any building and brings together people from near and far. Thank you to Nick and Kath who lead and create the liturgies each week.

Prayer is the oxygen of our church and to deepen our prayer-life, we will be holding three nights in June at St Andrew's entitled 'How to Talk to God', where we'll explore and learn together about why and how we pray, and hear inspiring stories of how prayer has shaped lives.

Also having Scott with us has enabled me to be available once a month to pray with folk in the chapel during communion and stay behind for refreshments. Recently, we've launched our lay prayer ministry team, Stephane and Juliet, who are available to listen and pray with people in the chapel on the first and second Sundays of the month.



APCM

This past year we held two Exploring Faith courses here in the Brace Room and some of those who took part were among those confirmed here on 27th January. It's wonderful to see that members from those courses have gone on to Exploring Faith Further, a fortnightly group exploring the Bible Course under the guidance of Maria Henriksson-Bell and Jane Chaplin. Small groups continue to be the place where deep church takes place and if you would be interested in joining a small group to socialise, reflect and support one another, please let me know.

There are so many other people to thank, and apologies if I miss anyone out – our priests Bill and Scott. Our Readers Melanie and Geoff. Our Lay Leaders of Worship Adrian, Kath, Nick, Maria and Forbes, to Paul, our exceptional organist and choir master and our choir. Our Children's Worker Lindsey who works across the two parishes. Our wardens David and Robin who each wear many hats including treasurer, safeguarding, bell captain, verger, churchyard manager etc, etc. The PCC, Deanery Reps, Prayer Ministry team, Pastoral Visitors, Flower arrangers, our Servers, sides people. Our coffee teams, the Friends group, bell-ringers, churchyard team, cleaning team, Philip our fantastic magazine editor, those who open and close the church, so many who support and sustain the valuable ministry of this place.

"It's hard to believe that I have now been your priest for 20 years!"

It's hard to believe that I have now been your priest for 20 years! I know, I haven't aged a bit! Where has the time gone?! So much has happened and it genuinely continues to be a joy to serve alongside you. Thank you for your kindness, your support and your prayers. I'm excited for what lies ahead.

To end; you might have heard of a Mezuzah. It's a small enclosed scripture scroll usually attached at eye level to the outside doorpost of a house or building, which serves as a reminder for prayer that can be touched or glanced at when entering. To end, here's a Mezuzah prayer from the Northumbria Community.

'Jesus the Door, the Word and the Welcome, soften my step and still my mind; so may Your presence of peace be over me. Peace be here; my heart is open.' 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

Eco Church update

Summer is almost here and there is a lot happening!

Hertford Town Council's Eco Fest took place in the Castle grounds in May – unfortunately on the same day as St Mary's and St Andrew's Awayday. Nonetheless, the Churches Together Eco Church group had a place on one of the stalls and we were able to advertise some of our upcoming events:



Photo of St Mary's churchyard courtesy of Sharon Kaplan from All Saints

June highlights:

Plant sale with coffee and cakes at St Andrew's on 6 June 10.30 to 12.30.

People's Emergency Briefing – film of the National Emergency Briefing followed by a discussion about the future of our community and the unprecedented risks to our food, water and jobs resulting from climate change *at Hertford Methodist Church on 9 June 6.30 to 8 pm*

Churches Count on Nature – this is a scheme where people visit churchyards and record the plant and animal species they encounter. You can record your sightings on the smartphone app: iNaturalist. Or you can fill in one of the recording forms which will be available in the South Porch. Full details are on the Caring for God's Acre website here:

<https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/about-recording/add-your-records/>

St Mary's churchyard 6 to 14 June

Bug Hotel - Thank you to all who have donated materials for our bug hotel! We are still collecting:

- untreated wooden pallets - clay plant pots, old bricks and clay tiles - bamboo canes or other hollow plant stems - straw or hay

Contact – raich.carter@yahoo.co.uk Hopefully we will be able to begin making it very soon

Art Exhibition

More news on the Art and Photography exhibition scheduled for October in next month's issue of the Parish Magazine.

St Mary's Reflective Churchyard Trail has now been updated, so that you can follow it on a smartphone as well as using the printed leaflet.

<https://www.hertingfordburystmary.org/general-1> Or scan the QR code



Hertingfordbury Cricket Club



NEW PLAYERS WELCOME You don't have to be good to play here!
Join us for practices throughout the summer – Wednesdays from 6.30pm
07747 374638 www.hertingfordbury.play-cricket.com

Hertingfordbury & Greens Tennis & Pickle Ball Club

We are highly delighted to let you know that the long established tennis club in Hertingfordbury has now been revamped to also include a pickle ball court!

We can run an introduction to pickle ball or tennis for anyone interested.

If you would like to have a go at either pickle ball or tennis please contact Sarah Price on 07999 880419 or the email : thepricesaffrons@btopenworld.com



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BELONGING A Day's Journey into What it Means to Belong and to Not Belong

Our Joint Churches Away Day

Late May approximately 85 people from the churches of St Andrew's and St Mary's were warmly welcomed by a reception team at the beautiful All Nations' Christian College in Easneye, Ware. To start our annual Away Day, Revd Alan read a short verse from the poet Rumi '**Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and right-doing there is a field. I will meet you there**'... An invitation to what that field could hold lay ahead of us as we were then led into an informal worship service by Sam Chaplin, who was accompanied by a small group of singers and musicians.



We then went off to our various workshops, while the children went with Lindsey and her small team of helpers for their activities. The theme this year was **Belonging**, and this was explored through various deep and reflective workshops.

Workshop 1 was led by Kath Oates and Nick Hoyle, exploring '**Nobody belongs here more than you**'. Questions such as what helps us to feel that we **do** belong and what can we all do to overcome the barriers to that sense of belonging were explored, as well as why some might feel that they **don't** belong in church.

Workshop 2 was led by Juliet and Alistair Curry, exploring '**Home**' and what it is that evokes that feeling of being at home, and what that might mean for our Christian pilgrimage throughout our lives.

Workshop 3 was led by Jules and Mick Donovan exploring '**Playing your part in God's Family**'... this exploration used exercise, games, improvisation and acting out scenes from the Bible to develop a deeper understanding of belonging, through the joy of bringing Biblical stories to life.

Workshop 4 was led by Revd Alan and Jane Chaplin, titled '**Can prayer unite.**' This was a creative exploration using senses to help us in prayer particularly thinking of places where there is disagreement and disunity. Questions such as "how can prayer unite?" were asked and symbolic objects that remind us of belonging were used. It was a meditative and soul-searching workshop that led us into deep questioning of our own experiences with disagreement and lack of unity and how they might be resolved.

BELONGING

The Children (led by Lindsey, and her team) were being creative with beautiful flowers that had been brought from our local gardens. Each individual flower was given its 'own place' of meaning by the children, expressing through this symbolic placing, the beauty of belonging. They also made a beautiful work of art a 'Belonging Collage' which I'm sure all will be able to view at some point in the future.

After the workshops we all met up for a two-course lunch with plenty of time to share our workshop experiences. During the afternoon we were given the choice of using our lexicography skills in compiling Bunting with a dictionary of words attached describing our feelings of belonging. It was a beautiful, colourful and meaningful addition to the decor at the Eucharist. There were outdoor games for both children and adults. Adrian led different games on the football pitch, there were quiet meditative prayer walks in the beautiful surrounding woodland, or opportunities for quiet reflection and getting to know each other.



At 3pm we joined together for a Eucharist service where the day's events were discussed and brought together. Symbolic tying of yellow ribbons on a tree was used to remember those who feel that they do not belong followed by worshipful music by Sam and the musicians. It was a joyful time as we prepared for the end of the day enjoying a lovely afternoon tea.



The whole wonderful day and people's participation, helped us to understand where and what that **field** that Rumi spoke of is about, and what it could feel like within us. The day gave a huge amount of love through the people...all the organisers and helpers as well as those participating as guests.

From all at St Andrew's and St Mary's.... a huge **thank you** to Jenny and Melanie and all the teams of organisers, musicians, teachers, cooks, friends and spiritual advisors. It was a very memorable day.

Jenny (left) with one of the vases of flowers created on the day

**HERTINGFORDBURY
& THE GREENS**

SUMMER FETE

**20th June
1.30 - 4.30**

**Hertingfordbury
Recreation Gd
St Mary's Lane
SG14 2LE**

**Traditional Stalls & Games,
Model Steam Train,
Bouncy Castle, Prize
Raffle, Live Music & School
Dancing, Homemade Cakes,
Food & Drink, BBQ, Crafts
Stalls plus...**

Fun Dog Show!

(weather & temperatures permitting!)



Supported by



Email: HertingfordburyFete@live.com



HertingfordburyVillage



HertingfordburyRecGround



Church Flower Rota - June



7th Alison Robinson - 14th Sue Payne
21st Sharron Maxwell & Penny Duce
28th Sue Parsell

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

Toddler Service Assistance

We hope to start a new Toddler Service on Monday mornings at St Andrew's and volunteers are needed so that we can offer refreshments. If you could help, please contact Lindsey Betteridge: lindseybett@icloud.com or speak to Philippa in the St Andrew's Church office. Thank you. Lindsey



Studio57 Pilates



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

Based in a tranquil garden room studio at 57 Birch Green

Mixed ability, everyone is welcome. Classes are adapted to suit your needs so whether you want a gentle class with lots of stretching or a cardio hit with high intensity we have it all

Small classes of 6 people - All equipment provided

Book online studio57.com where a full timetable is available

Contact Victoria : 07912755130

Specialised Classes available on request

Parent, toddler and baby - Couples - Family - Prosecco Pilates with friends

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.



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PHOTOGRAPHY by SARAH WHYTE

WEDDING & FAMILY

..... Photography

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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

TCS Mini London Marathon

On Saturday 25th April, a team of children from Years 4 to 6 took part in the TCS Mini London Marathon. Our children from Year 6 ran the 2.6km route and the children from Years 4 and 5 completed the one-mile route. Each route started in Horse Guards Parade, went past Buckingham Palace and ended at the iconic London Marathon finishing line on The Mall. There were lots of happy smiles as the children received their medals. Some of our children were greeted by the Gladiator 'Nitro' after crossing the finishing line! It was a brilliant day with the sun shining and another occasion for us to be proud of our children.



Dinosaur and Fossil Workshop

Last week, our children in Nursery, Reception and Year 3 took part in different workshops about dinosaurs and fossils. The children learnt lots of facts and enjoyed being palaeontologists for the morning.



Hertingfordbury School Summer Fete

On Saturday 4th July, we will be holding our school summer fete between 12pm and 3pm.



Nursery - September 2026

We are able to offer places in our Nursery class starting in September 2026. Please contact the school office directly if you wish to make an application to our Nursery.

Alternatively, pass on the school details to friends and family who may need a Nursery class place.



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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Brownies
1st Birch Green Brownies



Join the fun at Brownies!

We welcome all girls aged 7-10 who are looking to make new friends and have fun each week!



Day: Mondays

Time: 18.15-19.30

Location: Hertingfordbury Cowper School

Want to know more? Get in touch today! Email
us at birchgreenbrownies@aol.com



Girlguiding

1st Birch Green Brownies

Hertingfordbury Parish Council

Chairman – Paul Rochford

Vice Chairman – Haidy Blake

Councillors – 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.co.uk>



CUCUMBER FIELDS

SUMMER SOLSTICE

Friday 19th June | 19.00 – 21.30

Join us for a beautiful evening of ritual and movement to celebrate the longest day of the year.

Together we'll journey through a sacred '*Despacho Ceremony*' to offer our gratitude to mother nature, along with a fiery and uplifting yoga practice, followed by light refreshments after the sun sets on the longest day of the year. Open to all abilities. Limited spots.



What is the Summer Solstice?

The Summer Solstice marks the longest day of the year, when the sun reaches its peak and offers its fullest radiance.

In yoga, it's seen as a powerful invitation to absorb this energy - enhancing vitality, clarity and inner light to carry you through the months ahead.

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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

25 June – **Botticelli's Florence** by *Paula Nuttall*

24 September – **Science of Art at The National Gallery** by *Aaron Hunter*

29 October – **Banksy; Fraud or Genius** by *Pepe Martinez*

For more information please go to our website

www.theartssocietyeastherts.org.uk

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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.

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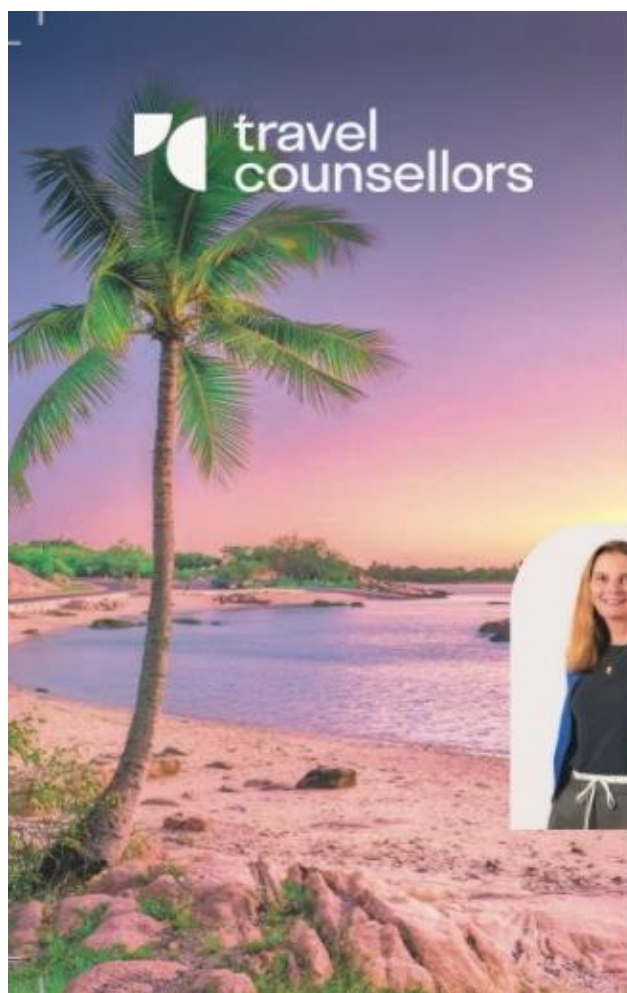

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Church Cleaners

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

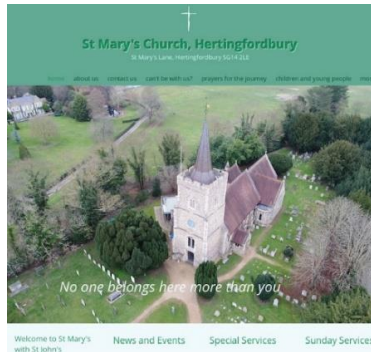


Volunteers needed to open/close St. Mary's



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

Wednesday (Usually Twice Monthly)
Mindfulness & Meditation 7.30pm

Sunday
Service of the Word 10.30am

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 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 Wednesdays, usually twice a month at 7.30pm – dates vary so please see St Andrew's website or "Dates for you Diary" earlier in this publication

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

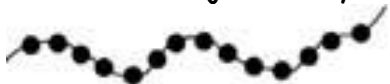
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WALTER WALLINGER CHARITY

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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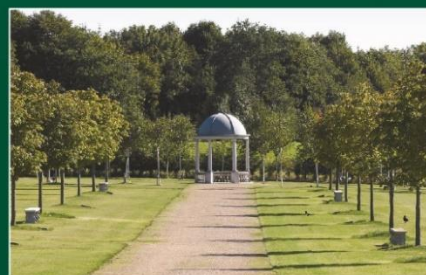
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