

Hertingfordbury & The Five Greens Parish News



“Hertingfordbury on Sea”
(see Friends of Panshanger Park article)

Enjoy the Summer Holiday!

July & August 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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Hope and Humour

During Lockdown, I heard about a young boy who, instead of selling lemonade, set up a driveby stand outside his house selling jokes! Laughter, they say, is the best medicine, especially in an epidemic. And science certainly backs that up. Laughter can help reduce stress, boost immunity and manage pain. It decreases stress hormones, and releases 'happy chemicals' like dopamine, serotonin and endorphins.

New research shows that laughter boosts child development by building healthy brain growth, emotional connection, improving memory and creating resilience. Dr. Jacqueline Harding in her book 'The Brain That Loves to Laugh', says

"Hope and humour, it seems, are not just the seasoning of life, but foundational to a recipe for healthy development. When we see children laugh, we witness the brilliance of the brain in action: learning, connecting, and growing." Hope and humour. In a world wracked with despair, these are two of the most powerful and necessary things.



The Bible speaks a lot about hope but surprisingly few examples of humour or laughter made the final cut. That's not to say these early people, or Jesus, or God for that matter, didn't/don't have a sense of humour. I believe that Jesus had a twinkle in his eye on many occasions especially in his run-ins with the Pharisees. I believe in a God who laughs with us and perhaps sometimes at us! If he engineered human beings to need laughter, it follows that he's the original comedian!

Laughing Christ by Cranbrook Townsman

Laughter, I think, is a spiritual discipline; good for body and soul. It's like a prayer that celebrates the joy, wit and craziness of life.

So, note to self; laugh daily. Where possible, cause laughter. When necessary, laugh at myself! Rev Alan

A Big Thank you from Rev Alan

'I wanted to express my sincerest thanks to everyone who helped arrange, cater for and attend the get-together to celebrate 20 years of being your vicar. It was a wonderful surprise. You are all amazing at keeping secrets!

I was also very humbled by your very generous gift of vouchers and money, so thank you so much. It continues to be my delight and privilege to serve as your vicar in these two wonderful parishes. With love.'

Rev Alan

Registers

Baptism

Welcome into the Family of the Church

7 June – **Imani Neriyah Watkins-Bingham**

20 June – **Charlotte Kimberley Stickland & Martin Stickland**

21 June – **Joseph Antony Wu**

Rebecca & Evan (right) who were married at St Mary's in May



Burial of Ashes

4 June – **Jane Heather Brooke**

Some Dates for your Diary

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

Mondays 6 & 20 July – **Mindfulness on Sele** 10.30am at the Sele Hub, Fleming Cres

Wednesday 15 July – **Mindfulness & Meditation** 7.30pm in person (and online) at St Andrew's. Online only Wednesday 22 July at 7.30pm

Wednesday 26 August – **10.30am Morning Eucharist will be at St.Mary's (not St Andrew's)**

Saturday Mornings – Exploring Faith 10.00-11.15am 4, 11, 18, 25 July & 1, 8 August (see advert)

There will be no Mindfulness in August

How to Talk to God – Recordings from the June prayer group are now available on the St Andrew's website (see later in the magazine)



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)



All-Age Services 2026



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

12 July - 9 August - 13 September

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

A Prayer for Being Thankful

Approaching the height of summer we give thanks through prayer



Dear God

Thank you for all the good things in my
life, big and small.

Thank you for the people who care for
me.

Thank you for the beauty of the world –
the birds, the trees, the sky.

Thank you for everything that makes
me the person I am or helps me grow
as a person.

Amen

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



Sponsored Bike 'n Hike
BEDS AND HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Bike 'n Hike

Saturday 12 September 2026
9am to 5pm



For more information please make contact:
Christopher Maunder Taylor
07860 228294. maunderc@aol.com

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- ▶ 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.bedshtshtct.org.uk BHHCT Registered Charity No. 1197228

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



This publication was kindly printed by St Andrew's church

St Mary's News Thank you Rachel & Welcome Sue

Rev Alan and the congregation at a recent service expressed their massive thanks to Rachel Carter for all the work she had done for the past 10 years as our PCC secretary. Rachel has stepped down from this role which she did so well but will continue to manage our website and lead our Eco strategy and action for St Mary's

Rachel is a very busy lady as many will also know her as a Hertford Town Councillor for Castle Ward which Hertingfordbury village falls within, as well as being an East Herts and County Councillor. So thank you Rachel for all the work you continue to do for our church and local community



Rachel (left) is handing over to Sue (right)

With Rachel standing down, Sue Eades has kindly agreed to take over as our PCC Secretary for which we are most grateful. However Sue has many other commitments and so we would like to continue to appeal to anyone who thinks they could take on this role in the future.

The PCC Secretary helps 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)

..... Flowers & Weddings



At this time of the year our church is appreciated by a much wider audience as we host weddings and baptisms in particular. We are a very popular church for weddings given the beauty of St Mary's both within and outside. We have 6 weddings coming up in August and September so special thanks go to the work of Karen, our wedding administrator, with help from Laura in spreading the word. Our flowers are also a very special part of the church especially in summer so great thanks go to Sue and her team – Alison, Sue, Sharron, Penny Jean and others who help.

A Quiz for Trinity Sunday ?

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

“The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all”. Trinity Sunday! But let’s start with a quiz. This time it’s not my usual rock and pop, it’s about the cinema.

Have a guess – answers at the end

Three films. What do they have in common?

- The Great Dictator – 1940
- Dr Strangelove (or how I learned to stop worrying and love the bomb) – 1964
- Kind Hearts and Coronets - 1949

What has this got to do with the Holy Trinity? The answer is that, when Greek Christians in the 3rd or 4th century AD tried to make sense of the idea of One God in Three Persons, the image that would naturally come into their minds was one from the theatre – their equivalent of cinema.

The old Greek word we translate as ‘person’ is ‘prosopon’, and it means ‘mask’. The mask that Greek actors wore on stage. One God in Three Masks?

We need to tread carefully here. When we think of a mask, we usually think of anonymity or disguise. Someone who doesn’t want us to know who they are, or more deceitfully, wants to think they are someone else. Many theatrical comedies use the mask this way. But that doesn’t sound right for the God I know.



Ancient Greek theatrical masks had precisely the opposite purpose. The mask was used to show the audience which character the actor was representing, as it was common practice for each actor to play several parts in the same play. The mask was also designed to reveal the mood of the character, and might express grief, or anger, or love through conventional designs. These were the original emojis

This was probably necessary in a large outdoor theatre where it is hard to express yourself sensitively when you have to shout to make yourself heard on the back row. The masks were also designed to act as a crude megaphone, amplifying the voice.

So the role of the mask was not to disguise or conceal, and certainly not to deceive, but to reveal and communicate, to reach out and make known. That does sound rather more like the God I know.

A Quiz for Trinity Sunday ?

When we read St Paul's words in that much loved benediction or when we hear those words from the Gospel 'Go and baptise in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit' it's tempting for us to imagine that St Paul and St Matthew had learned the Nicene Creed off by heart at Sunday School and were repeating well established Trinitarian phrases. They weren't. The word 'Trinity' doesn't appear in the Bible, and the wise folks who choose our lectionary had to dig pretty deep to find the handful of places where Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all lined up together.

For the early believers, the important thing is that they encountered divine Grace again and again in three recognisable ways, in the divine Father that Jesus taught about, in Jesus himself both in his earthly life and his resurrection life, and in the unpredictable being that first manifested himself in wind and tongues of fire.

Only later did they start trying to make sense of how those three experiences fitted together, and three hundred years later there was still very lively debate about how the Father, Son and Holy Spirit fitted together. Were they all equal, or was there hierarchy in the Trinity? Had all three always existed, or had some come into being after another?

And over the centuries the original image from the theatre became the Latin persona and English person, and was replaced by tricky arithmetical puzzle that we know in our traditional creeds

So much as I love the familiar words of the Creeds, I really wonder whether our God is really all that bothered about them. Because God doesn't really want us to believe that He is Three in One and coeternal and consubstantial: he wants us to know Him. To know Him as a loving, creating Father who is happy to be called 'Abba', 'Dad'. To know Him as a redeemer and guide who shared our mortal life and calls us to be His brothers and sisters. He wants us to know him as the Spirit, the fire that enlivens us, the wind that gives us strength and the breath that gives us voice. And once we know him, as our Gospel reading reminds us, he'd like us to introduce Him to our friends.

He is a God who wants to reveal Himself, not hide himself. A God who is out on the stage of human life, who shows us his emotions, his grief, his anger, and above all else His love. A God who wants us to find him anywhere and everywhere in our lives, who wants to meet us in every act and scene of the drama, a God who comes at us from all angles. A God who gets in our faces. Our God does not need us to reduce him to difficult bit of algebra, to a neat mathematical paradox.



He is a God who wants us to encounter him everywhere we can. To discover his face in every crowd, in every fellow creature.

May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be present and alive in your lives, centre stage! Amen. Geoff

Answer: They all had a single actor playing several lead roles.

Bonus point if you got the actors: Charlie Chaplin, Peter Sellers, and Alec Guinness

Online Church Celebrates its Fifth Birthday

Sunday, 20 June 2021: the day Online Church held its first service in its current format via Zoom. A service of morning worship with a mix of hymns and worship songs, Bible readings, a sermon or reflection (often, but not always the same as the one being heard in church), plus a few other distinctive features. So we've now reached our fifth birthday!

But let's scroll back a little further.

I'm sure we all remember those strange lockdown times when church services – and much else – suddenly needed to take place Online via Zoom. Like everyone else, we had to learn the hard way. All those functions to master, acoustic feedback, the trials and tribulations of sharing screens, and music that sounded quite frankly weird! Kath Oates and myself attended lots of webinars during lockdown to try and work out how to understand the tech side and especially to learn how to “do” music and videos on Zoom. By winter 2020 we were getting the hang of things but when our then-curate, Rev Wendy, left we simply didn't have the personnel to continue with regular online communion services. So I got together with Kath and Geoff Oates to put together a service of the word that could be led by lay members: the Sunday Morning Worship that we've been offering and ever since.

We felt it was important to let a standalone Online service find its own identity. It was neither possible nor desirable simply to imitate the in-building worship services, so we tried to identify what the strengths of this online medium were. We wanted our new service to be visually appealing, keep participants involved, use the innovations made possible by the medium, but also offer reassuringly familiar elements of liturgy. The result was a “bright and clear” look and feel that needs no further explanation, and a mood that shifts with the natural and liturgical seasons.

“When in-person worship resumed I continued engaging online, recognising that the online service is not a duplicate experience but a distinct and valuable form of worship with its own identity.”

Our format has gradually evolved over the years but it's basically the same service we created five years ago. Each week Kath and I take turns to lead the service. Beyond a small core of regulars, we never know who is going to join us on a Sunday and we continue to welcome new faces from near and far. We've had people join us from hospital beds and car parks, holiday homes and hotels, sometimes they are unwell or convalescing, or the weather is awful and it's just nicer to stay at home and join our service. People have joined us from France, Italy, Australia, India, Canada, Nigeria and the USA. And that's just the ones we know about! Because another distinctive feature of our online service is you can be as visible or invisible as you want. You're welcome to have a front-row seat if you wish, and we'll extend a friendly hello. Or if you prefer anonymity (who knows, you might still be in your pyjamas!), you just keep your camera off. And you can join in with the responses at home and sing along at the top of your voice if you want, or just listen in. It's entirely up to you.

“I'm so glad you're there. I really needed that this morning.”

Online Church Celebrates its Fifth Birthday

There are many familiar features in our service: for our three hymns or contemporary worship songs we generally use recordings supplied by the Church of England, with vocals and music by St Martin-in-the-Fields and the Royal School of Church Music. When the sermon or reflection is recorded for us by one of our Ministry Team, it's the same one that people at St Mary's and St Andrew's are hearing and in fact you wouldn't know from their videos that they aren't actually with us live. But we've also recently had access to some fantastic reflections on the day's Bible readings provided by the churches network HeartEdge, including from the pen of Revd Dr Sam Wells.

Another unique feature of our online service is our visual reflection with music. This comes straight after the sermon, when we show a picture (art or photography) that picks up on the sermon theme, with a couple of minutes of instrumental music. We like to think of it as a few precious word-free moments.

“This service offers a sense of community and family, as well as support, friendship, comfort, and opportunities for prayer, sermons, and hymns wherever I am.”

To keep the service visually engaging we developed a set of icons to guide us through our intercessions, which follow the traditional pattern: for the Church, the world, our society and those closer to home in need of prayer. We always remember St Mary's and St Andrew's in our prayers, so please do also remember us wherever you are worshipping. Ever since Ukraine was invaded in early 2022 we've been using the Archbishops' prayer for Ukraine and are committed to continue doing so for as long as necessary.



We've found our own way of marking certain occasions with special services. Our version of Lessons and Carols blends familiar readings and seasonal music with thought-provoking poetry and images in a way that we hope provides fresh insights into a familiar story. On Palm Sunday we follow the tradition of telling the entire Passion story from Palm Sunday through to Good Friday, again with engaging pictures and music. We also mark major events such as the death of the late Queen Elizabeth II.

On a lighter note, our post-service chats have enabled us to forge wider friendships with people both within and beyond our physical parishes. And we had one power cut, amid a howling gale! That was interesting. The Online leader and host both disappeared, leaving most participants to sit tight until our connections were back up and running. Gratifyingly, everyone was still there. Rather like our Zoom service, in fact. Still here, five years on!

Nick Hoyle

Online Worship & Activity for St Mary's Sunday Morning Worship – Sunday Evening Compline – Mindfulness & Meditation

If you can't get to church or it's not convenient then you don't have to miss out! In conjunction with St Andrew's we continue to offer online services and activity, be it Sunday mornings, Sunday evening Compline or Wednesday evening Mindfulness

This online communication has been fine tuned over the past 5 years to an excellent standard and content. Emails are sent out each time with the details to log on via Zoom but below is the connecting information that can be a direct link on all occasions via the digital magazine

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83350205497?pwd=RubSuCwx8yt50PyrCGqNyrCs1GUCPn.1>

Meeting ID: 833 5020 5497

Passcode: 602435

'Is there more to life than this?'
'Who was Jesus and why did he die?'
'Why pray?'
'How do I read the Bible?'



Exploring Faith

A short informal discussion course exploring the Christian faith.

An opportunity to think through the big questions of life.

**10am on Saturdays 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th July & 1st, 8th August
at The Brace Room, St Mary's Church Hertingfordbury**

Contact Alan: h.alanstewart1@gmail.com 01992 582726

How to talk to God - If you weren't able to come along to the 'How to Talk to God' sessions in June, or you'd like to read/hear the content again, you'll find the details on the St Andrew's website. Across three weeks Alan led us as we looked at what prayer is and what it does; how God answers prayer and how we pray with all five of our senses; and the place of silence, meditation and the imagination has in our prayer.

www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk/howtotalktogod

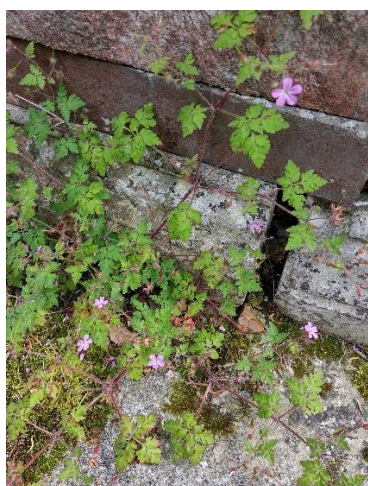
Eco Church update

If you've spotted members of the congregation walking slowly around the churchyard, peering closely at trees and wildflowers, phone in hand, there is an explanation! It's all to do with the Churches Count on Nature which took place during the second week in June. It's a scheme where people visit their local churchyard and record the plant and animal species they encounter. This being the modern world, there are phone apps (iNaturalist, Merlin and PlantNet) to help identify and record observations. Next year, we hope to involve more people of all ages and use printed ID sheets as well, so that anyone can take part. Here is a flavour of what we came across!

Wrens, magpies, wood pigeons, blue tits, hoverflies and wood lice, green lacewing flies, grey squirrel as well as the growth below



Bird's Foot Trefoil Sunburst Lichen Mouse Eared Hawkweed Yorkshire Fog (grass)



Herb Robert



Green Alkanet



Morning Glory

If you've spotted some interesting wildlife in the churchyard, let us know! If you've taken a pleasing photo of some aspect of nature in Hertingfordbury and the Greens, you'll be able to send it in to our autumn Community Photography exhibition. This will run alongside the Art Exhibition organised by Jim Eustance and the Painting for Pleasure Art group. More details to follow – so please do to take photos of nature this summer! Your Eco Church contact is Rachel Carter at raich.carter@yahoo.co.uk

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 : theprices.saffrons@btopenworld.com



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PER YEAR

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throughout the whole year!

Contact Sarah Price to register or for more details
theprices.saffrons@btopenworld.com

Contact Sarah at theprices.saffrons@btopenworld.co

Church Flower Rota - July & August

July 5 Sue Payne - 12 Alison Robinson

19 Sharron Maxwell & Penny Duce - 26 Sue Parsell

August 2 Sue Payne (2 weddings) - 9 Alison Robinson

16 Sharron Maxwell & Penny Duce (wedding) - 23 Sue Parsell

30 Sue Payne

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

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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

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



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WEDDING & FAMILY

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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

Advocates Team

The children in the Advocates team continue to work towards their Archbishop's Young Leaders Award and this half term organised a 'Toy and Treat Sale'. They managed to raise over £100 for Orphahids in Ecuador.



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 both their History and PSHE units of learning, the Year 5 children visited the Houses of Parliament. We travelled into London by train for a workshop and tour. As part of the tour, the children were able to sit in the gallery and view some of the debates for the day in the House of Commons.



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.

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.



The Friends of Hertingfordbury Cowper Primary School's

SUMMER

Fete

**Saturday 4th July 2026
12pm-3pm**

Friends of Panshanger Park

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

This month Kate Harwood looks at The Hertfordshire Convalescent Home at St Leonards, Sussex or "Hertingfordbury on Sea"

Hertingfordbury on Sea

The south coast of England has long been famed to its health-giving climate and, following the lead of Brighton under The Prince Regent, became the go-to place for convalescents. Eastbourne, Brighton, Bognor and other resorts soon had convalescent homes either adapted from existing houses or purpose-built

St Leonards was a favourite destination with West Hill Road, parallel to the coast, offering sea-views from its elevated position as well as health-given breezes soon the favourite. Half a dozen convalescent homes were built there by the end of the 19th century, including the Hertfordshire Convalescent Home.

This was championed by Rev Frederick Burnside, rector of Hertingfordbury (1872-1904), later Canon of St Albans Cathedral and Rural Dean of Hertford. His obituary in the Diocesan Gazette for 15 June 1904 called him 'one of the hardest workers for the Church of England' and credited him with forming 'the beautiful Hertfordshire Convalescent Home at St Leonards'. In fact, he was responsible for raising the fund both to set it up and for annual maintenance. At a public meeting held at Shire Hall, Hertford on 13 January 1875, he put forward a plan for a convalescent home for the poor of the county.

Hertfordshire Convalescent Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea.



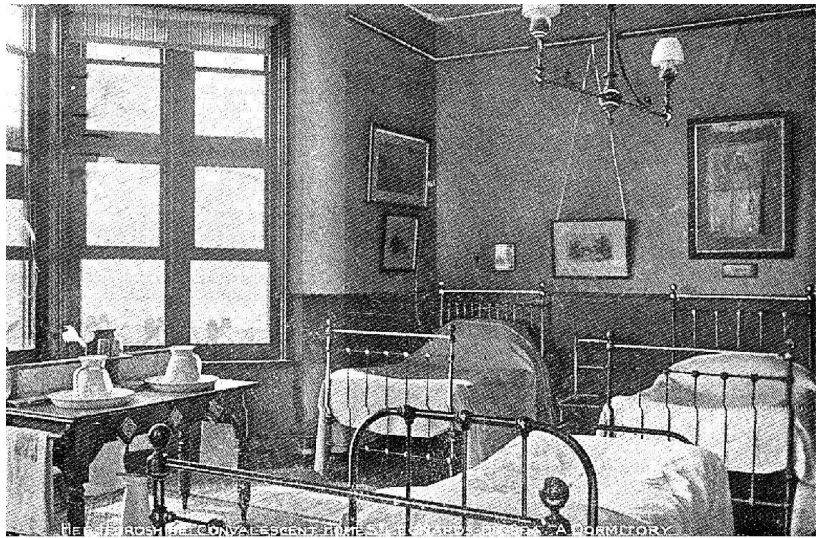
Hertfordshire Convalescent Home

The first Home, opened in May 1878, was adapted from two houses on Silchester Road in St Leonards, set back from the coast due to the high rents on more favourably sited properties. However, the Home soon outgrew this and the new home was built further west near Bo-Peep station with money again raised by Rev. Burnside. This was opened in October 1880 by Princess Christian who was President both of the British Nurses' Association and of The Workhouse Infirmary Nurses' Association

Hertingfordbury on Sea

Even at the opening, money was still being raised as there was a shortfall of £1500. Many Hertfordshire people attended, aided by the special train chartered to take them from Liverpool Street Station with a 3rd class return ticket costing only 5 shillings.

The Home was open to anyone who had been nominated by a subscriber, who paid an annual fee of 1 guinea which allowed them to nominate one person per year. Although not all residents were from Hertfordshire many were and included housemaids, cooks, gardeners, agricultural labourers and at least one worker from Redbourn Silk Mill. In theory these convalescents had to pay a small weekly charge towards their maintenance but some were charitably supported.

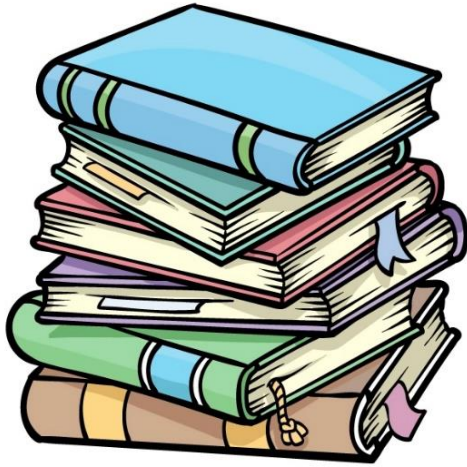


Advert in the Hertford Mercury August 1880 and a dormitory at the home

A children's convalescent home, run separately was opened eight years later and eventually took 20 children (and 3 babies). Although, initially opened all year round, in 1907 there was a four-week winter shut-down to enable maintenance, ventilation and thorough cleaning. The First World War saw both Homes offered to the Soldiers and Sailors Help Society but it was the Naval and Military War Pensions Committee who actually nominated some patients. Post-war the children's home was sold to Hertfordshire County Council, who, in 1937 passed it onto the Chelsea Hospital for Women until 1980. The building is still there although now private flats. Hertfordshire patients were admitted throughout the second World War to the main Home as there was no demand for military use. After the war Barclays Bank became trustees and renovations were undertaken. It was not absorbed into the new NHS and eventually closed in 1982.

St Leonards was not the only Sussex resort with a Hertingfordbury connection. In 1914, Almeric Paget and his wife rented Panshanger from Lord & Lady Desborough. Paget had started the Massage Corps to help injured service men, following the relief his wife, who had suffered from diphtheria, had had from massage. Hospitals across the country, including Cambridge, offered this facility and eventually, the Pagets added a convalescent home at Eastbourne where the combination of massage and the healthy sea-air would benefit the injured. (*Almeric Paget Massage Corps* HPN May 2025)

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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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>

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Upcoming lectures

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

29 October – **Now You See it, Now You Don't: The Art of Visual Deception**
by Bertie Pearce

26 November – **Harp & Holly** *by Margaret Watson*

For more information please go to our website

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

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

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

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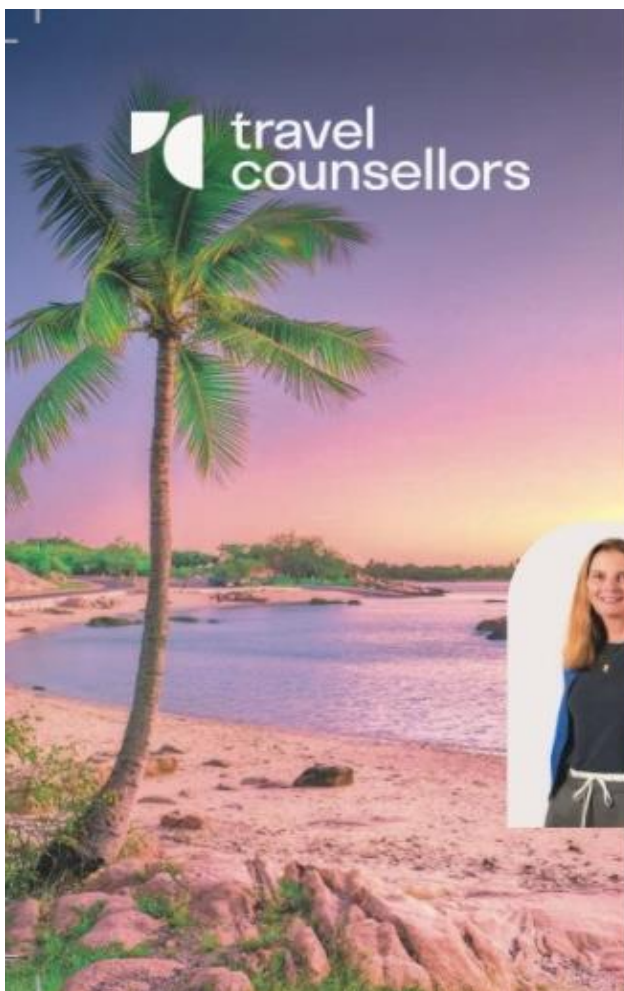
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Church Cleaners

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

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

If you can help please contact Virginia on 01992 583560



Churchyard Volunteers Needed



Volunteers required for grass cutting

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

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

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

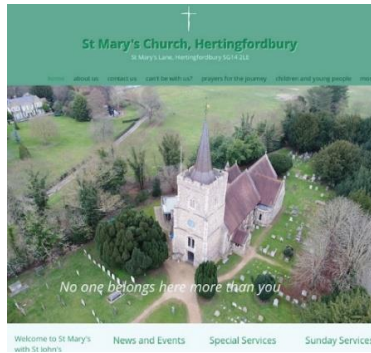


Volunteers needed to open/close St. Mary's



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

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



www.hertingfordburystmary.org

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

This website is a vital communication tool to be able to follow updates on the church.

If you wish to contribute in any way please contact Rachel via e mail

raich.carter@yahoo.co.uk



WhatsApp Groups

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

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

Brace Room

The Brace Room at St Mary's Church is available for hire for anybody in our community. This could be for meetings, exercise sessions or any other purpose.

Includes excellent toilet and kitchen facilities. For more information contact

David Gorton 01992 551430 or dgorton1@btinternet.com



Zoom Services

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

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

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

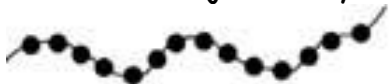
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Walter Wallinger died in 1709 leaving "Four hundred pounds for the placing of poor children of this Parish as Apprentices."

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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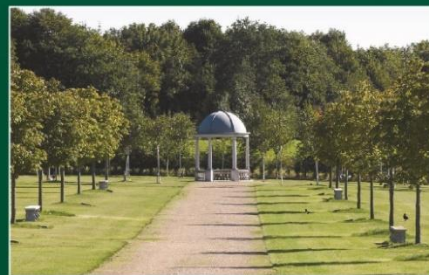
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