

Hertingfordbury & The Five Greens Parish News



"And they're off!" - more details inside

February 2025

Here with you - Here for you

Printed copies are available from St Mary's church

PARISH OF ST. MARY'S, HERTINGFORDBURY

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First-Foot

I'm never quite sure when the cut-off point for wishing someone a Happy New Year is. I suspect it's mid to late January, but this being the first magazine of 2025, I'd like to wish you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year!

Some of us will be familiar with the Scottish and Northern English tradition of First-Footing, where the first person (the First Foot) who steps over the threshold of a home after midnight on New Year's Day brings good luck and blessing. Traditionally, they come bearing gifts which are symbolic of that blessing. These can include a silver coin for prosperity, some shortbread for hospitality, a lump of coal for warmth and a dram of whisky for good cheer!

First Footing is a hopeful thing. As we gaze out into the uncharted territory of 2025, do we look with hope or with a measure of trepidation? It's easy to look at the state of the world, and perhaps at our own private world, and feel daunted or hopeless.

The musician Nick Cave writes that 'Hope is an emotional temper that emboldens the heart to be active... it's a feat of the imagination, both courageous and ingenious, a vitality that inspires us to take innovative action to defend the world. Hope is essential to our surviving and our flourishing and we achieve this by rejecting the relentless promotion of despair and opening our eyes to the beauty of things, however imperiled, degraded or difficult to love the world may appear to be'.

For me, the secret of hope is to invite Christ to be the First Foot of each day, remembering that He also goes ahead into the unknown and is already there waiting.

In 1939 as the country was preparing for war, George VI in his Christmas broadcast quoted an obscure poet called Minnie Louise Haskins... perhaps 86 years later these words might be just as helpful as we step into the next unseen chapters of our lives:

*And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."*

*And he replied:
"Go out into the darkness and
put your hand into the Hand of God."*

*That shall be to you better than light
and safer than a known way.”*

Rev Alan

Registers

Funeral

29 January – **Betty May Treby** (96 yrs). For many years Betty was a faithful member of St Mary’s congregation.

A letter we received recently from David Burgess that he asked to be included in our Parish News

“Each time I visit my lovely daughter Karen (Cox) we enjoy attending the 9.15am Eucharist Service at St Mary’s Church, Hertingfordbury.

Welcoming the congregation on arrival at the entry to the church is Reverend Alan Stewart, a wonderful gentleman and an asset to St Mary’s. After entering the church I am welcomed by fellow worshippers with a lovely smile and greeting. Robin Bishop and I discuss Rugby, invariably our respective passions for The Saracens & Bedford Blues. Philip and Kay Juniper ready with a huge smile, handshake and warm embrace. Also a warm greeting from Jim Eustance. Sunday 1st December last, was my first attendance since my beloved wife and Karen’s Mum Jan passed away the previous Sunday 24th November. I was so touched by the members of the congregation, by their sincerely expressed sympathy and condolences to Karen and I. It was difficult to suppress my tears.

My visits with Karen to St Mary’s never fail on leaving me with the pleasure of being Christians together. Worship, caring, comforting and being there for each other.

Thank you and God Bless you and yours.”

David Burgess

Thank you David and you are always very welcome at St Mary’s

Some Dates for your Diary

Monday 3rd & 17th February – **Mindfulness On Sele** (10.30am at Sele Hub, Fleming Crescent)

Wednesday 5th February – **Mindfulness & Meditation** 7.30pm in St Andrews church and online. Wednesday 19th February online only at 7.30pm

Saturday 22nd February – **A Charity Race Night** 7pm at St Josephs in the Park (see poster for more details)

Wednesday 5th March – **Ash Wednesday Services at St Andrews** (10.30am & 8pm)

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 & Young Church 9.15am on 2nd Sunday of the month



This publication was kindly printed by St Andrew's church




Please note that all Christmas tributes on graves or memorial plaques in the churchyard should have been removed at the end of January – thank you

 travel counsellors



Check-in time? Whenever you need us.

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Parish Giving – A letter from our Treasurer

As we begin a new year, I thought it appropriate to let you know how the finances for last year are looking.

The good news is that I expect the books to balance. And that in no small measure is down to the regular congregation, so *thank you* to those who contribute using;

- the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)
- a Standing Order
- a Weekly Envelope
- the collection bowl/card machine
- in non-financial ways.

Whilst we are pleased that income and expenditure will be closely matched, we await the findings of the five yearly buildings report which we know will identify areas for action. Additionally energy and other costs are set to rise, as will our parish share (which includes a very modest pay increase for the clergy). So there will be a need for additional income.

A recent survey revealed that 1 in 3 church goers had not been asked to contribute to the running of their church. So

- if you are already a regular giver via PGS (non inflation increase)/Standing Order/Weekly Envelope, please consider increasing the amount you are giving.
- if you are not a regular giver or church goer, please consider becoming one.

Whilst I am, of course, grateful for any contribution at St. Mary we are 'Here with you, Here for you' three hundred and sixty five days a year, not just on Sunday. Also our church belongs to the community and we all want it to be available for our weddings, baptisms and funerals as well as a place to go in any time of need

The best way to contribute regularly is via the PGS as once signed up payment, including gift aid, goes directly into the bank account with no further work required by me. There is a link in the 'Giving' section towards the bottom of the weekly notices or go to www.parishgiving.org.uk or call 0333 002 1271. The parish code is 320632147.

If you would like to discuss PGS or any other way of giving regularly, please do contact me. Thank you very much for your support.

Robin Bishop – 01992 551946 / robinhbishop@gmail.com

The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary

CHARITY RACE NIGHT



**Sat 22nd
February
7.00pm
at St Joseph's
In The Park**

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

Book a table with friends to enjoy a fun evening, tickets £18 adult £9 child, contact David Gorton on 07544 702241 to book.

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

Christmas 2024 at St Mary's

We had a great festive period at St Mary's as we celebrated Christmas together as a community. As always the church looked beautiful with 3 Christmas trees and the usual special decorations from our Church flower team for whom we are so grateful. We give thanks for our clergy, church wardens and so many others who put in such hard work over this period especially for those in our community who find St Mary's such a special place to be at Christmas time.



Christmas trees up by the altar – candle arrangements in the windows – font arrangement



Candle-lit service of 7 Lessons & Carols was followed by mulled wine on the Thursday before Christmas.



Beer & Carols on the Saturday afternoon. Accordion music and an interesting mix of carols!

Christmas 2024 at St Mary's - Christingle



The Christingle services have proved so popular over the past few years that we now have two on Christmas Eve (12.30 & 2pm). This year more than 300 adults and children attended the two. Excellent stewarding allows all children (and some adults!) to take the animals and figures up to the manger and also collect their Christingle orange, candle and sweets. It's a brilliant community day and people gave so generously that we raised £1000 for The Childrens Society. Thank you



The Children's Society do so much to transform the hope and happiness of young people in our community. As for the orange & candle.....

The orange represents the world.

The red ribbon symbolises the love and blood of Christ.

The sweets and dried fruit represent all of God's creations.

The lit candle represents Jesus's light in the world, bringing hope to people living in darkness.



The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary

Upcoming Events 2025

Saturday 22 February - **Race Night at St Joseph's in the Park** - Bar open at 19.00 David Gorton 07544 702241

Saturday 29 March – **Welwyn GC Male Voice Choir** – 19.30 at St Mary's (more detail to follow)

Saturday 3 May – **Village Breakfast** at The Fobury (more details to follow)

Becoming a Friend

The Friends of Hertingfordbury St Mary was granted charitable status just before Christmas 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.

Membership forms, with the FoHSM account details, are available inside the church by the south door should you like to become a Friend or make a donation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like more information. Thank you for your support.

Bishop thefobury@outlook.com 07746 694890



Joint St Andrew's & St Mary's Away Day Sunday, 4th May 2025

All Nations College, Ware.

We will once again be having a joint church away day in 2025 and it will be held in the beautiful setting of the All Nations Christian College in Ware. More details will follow in due course but please make a note of the date. Everybody is very welcome

The Nature of Panshanger Park
Thursday 6th February 2025 18.30 – 21.30pm
The Sele School, Welwyn Road, Hertford SG14 2DG

Come along to an open evening of talks highlighting the wildlife and habitats of Panshanger Park with the opportunity to find out more about how you can get involved

18.30 Arrival and Registration

19.00 Introduction to the Evening -Tim Hill, Conservation Manager, Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust

Recording and Monitoring at Panshanger Park – Every Record Counts! - Alexandra Waechter, Manager, Herts Environmental Records Centre

A Landscape-scale Approach to Conserving the River Mimram & it's Catchment
Heidi Mansell, Chalk Rivers and Farm Advisory Officer, Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust

20.00 BREAK

20.30 The Spiders of Panshanger Park – Christopher Benton

Panshanger Stewardship – an update on our habitat enhancement work
Michael Charlton, Mineral Estates Manager, Tarmac

Volunteering Opportunities at Panshanger Park

Dan Hamley, Community Ranger, Maydencroft

21.30 Finish

Booking is not required, please just turn up on the day. Parking is available at the school, on arrival please go to the school reception and follow signs for the event.

Refreshments will be provided.

If you have any questions about the event please email panshangerpark@maydencroft.co.uk



Panshanger Park is located on the site of a former sand and gravel quarry, with its beautiful landscapes making it a vital refuge for wildlife and a favourite destination for thousands of visitors each year.

Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust works in partnership with Tarmac and landscape managers Maydencroft to care for the park's meadows, lakes and woodlands. The Trust provides ecological advice and expertise to help make the site the best it can be for wildlife.

Real Life – Would you invite the ex-Carpenter to your Dinner Party?

We are continuing to highlight some of the very meaningful messages from our church sermons, not only by Revs Alan & Bill, but also by our inspiring team of Lay Readers of Worship. This month Rev Alan (slightly edited) reflects on inviting Jesus to a dinner party

Imagine you're hosting a dinner party, a la *'Come Dine With Me'*, and you can invite four celebrity guests, alive or dead; who would you invite? My list would definitely be the singer Nick Cave, the comedian Bob Mortimer, the rugby player Joe Marler and National Trinket, the Rev. Richard Coles.

I wonder how many of us would dare to invite ex-carpenter and Saviour of the World, Jesus Christ? Imagine that dinner party? Many of us would understandably feel fairly self-conscious in the presence of divinity - a bit like sitting opposite a mind reader or an expert in body language. We would possibly adapt our language and behaviour a bit. Would there be lots of laughter, do you think, or would it all be terribly serious? Most importantly, could we be ourselves? What is our picture of Jesus, anyway?

A few Christmases ago, my son bought me a T-shirt with a picture of Jesus looking round the corner with the slogan 'I saw that'. Is Jesus a killjoy or a meek and mild Mr. Nice Guy? Maybe he's an asexual guru or a religious nutter with a martyr complex?

'What is our picture of Jesus?'

We read in the Bible that Jesus is the guest at a dinner party; a wedding party to be more precise, which in that culture would have lasted for four or five days at least. Was he standing on the sidelines occasionally rolling his eyes disapprovingly, or was he in the thick of the celebrations... we're not told. We are given this snippet of dialogue, however, between him and his mother, which at first glance seems a bit rude, but probably gets lost a bit in translation. Mary, it seems, must have been close to the newlyweds as she is in possession of the insider news that - shock horror! - the wine is about to dry up. Now, in that culture that's social suicide; a disgrace upon the family. So, Mary shares this with Jesus thinking either that her son might be able to work a miracle in the hospitality department, or expecting him to send a couple of the disciples to the nearest off-licence?

Whatever Mary knew or expected, Jesus takes the opportunity to perform his first public miracle.

He gets the servants to fill up some huge stone jars with water. Now, these jars had a particular purpose in Jewish ritual - they were used for ceremonial washing. In a communion service, a priest will often do something similar before he consecrates the bread and wine.

For me, that's a gesture of respect, but for the Jews at the time of Jesus there was a deeply held conviction that certain things could stain or contaminate a human being, make them unacceptable to God, and therefore a form of cleansing was necessary.

Jesus turns this water into wine... the best wine money could buy! And there's plenty of it. Experts estimate it's the equivalent of 2,400 glasses of the stuff; enough to get a whole village plastered. Was that just a compassionate response to spare the blushes of some friends or a belated wedding gift to the happy couple?

Real Life

Or did this miracle have some deeper significance or meaning? The writer of the gospel, John, seems to think so - he calls it the first *sign*.

Weddings and wine were heavily symbolic in that religious tradition. To the Jewish mind, wine equalled joy - 'God gave wine to make the heart glad,' as one Psalm says. A time of great joy is coming. For those who have eyes to see what Jesus was doing, that time has now come.

Going back to our picture of Jesus, it's really important not to make Jesus in our own image; project our ideas of goodness and humanitarianism and niceness onto him. The portrait we have in scripture often actually keeps us guessing; just when we think we have him sussed, he does or says something surprising.

We in the Church have, I think, very successfully managed to put Jesus onto a kind of celestial pedestal which hovers a few feet above ground level. We talk of him being perfect and that, I think, makes him unapproachable and hard to relate to. Reverence, of course, is due - he is the Holy One, the Son of God. But Jesus' perfection wasn't so much to do with his lack of imperfection but instead the degree of integrity he had. His holiness is a way of saying he was whole: W H O L E.

He must have been irritable and tired and difficult at times, just like the rest of us. He was, after all, a human being. The difference is, he was a human being who was fully alive. But, what does that mean - to be fully alive?

There was a drama series called '*Being Human*'. It's the unlikely tale of a werewolf, a ghost and a vampire whose lives are thrown together in a flat in Bristol. It's really a study, as the title suggests, of what it means to be human, because each of them has lost and is in search of their humanity. At one point, the ghost says: 'My name is Annie Claire Sawyer and two years ago I died, but in so many ways that's when my life began. In the company of horrors, I learnt about friendship and loyalty, sacrifice and courage. Humanity isn't a species; it's a state of mind. It can't be defeated, it moves mountains, it saves souls. We were blessed as much as we were cursed. In this little enclave of the lost I witnessed the very best of being human'.

There's a line in a movie where one of the characters says, 'Saying everyone is special is another way of saying no-one is special'. When someone like me says, 'God loves you', those words can sound trite. Love has become the most overused and least understood word in our language, mainly because words don't do it justice. Love is only understood when it is entered. We can only know it if we step towards it, if we take that risk. There's nothing trite about God's love.

It understands our complexities and contradictions. It knows us. And to be known, fully known, is one of the most beautiful and powerful and liberating things.

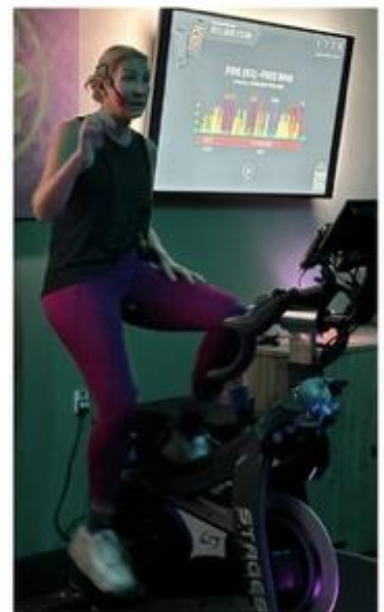
Just as Jesus came to show us what a human being could be like, so he also came to show us what God is like. And the message he wanted those wedding guests, and us, to hear is this: God is not some distant, unfeeling, unapproachable out-there perfectionist. He is love; intimate, fun-loving, risk-taking love.

And that invitation is open to every one of us with no need to dress to impress. We simply come as we are, and that, in the words of Annie the ghost, is when life - real life - really begins. Rev Alan



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

Hertingfordbury Cowper C of E (VA) Primary School

Happy New Year from all our staff
and children here at
Hertingfordbury Cowper Primary School

Before the Christmas break, we had many celebrations in school including our Early Years' performing 'A Bundle of Joy', our Key Stage 1 Nativity 'A Midwife Crisis', our Christmas Service at St. Mary's Church and our Christingle Service. It was lovely to be joined in school by members of local community to watch our Year 1 and Year 2s perform their twist on the telling the story of the first Christmas.



Advocate Team

At Hertingfordbury Cowper, we invite children from Year 2 to Year 6 to become involved in our 'Advocates' team. This year the children will be looking at this through the Archbishop's Young Leaders' Award.



The children will be looking at actions they can make to 'Be the change you want to see'. The Archbishop's Young Leaders' Award is based on the Bible passage 'Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity' (1 Timothy 4:12).

As a team the children will be looking at our school, local and wider community and deciding on how they can be a change maker. This may include projects for charity work and also to improve our environment. The children will then come up with initiatives to support and address these areas. We look forward to sharing examples of their actions with you.

Friends of Panshanger Park

Panshanger Park is a wonderful natural area within our wider community and so the Friends of Panshanger Park who are going to sharing some of it's history - some of which will include the village and greens and some not - but it will all be about Panshanger and the people there. This month Geoffrey Cordingley recalls the fire of 1855 with the extensive use of the Hertfordshire Mercury report (and language) at the time.

Panshanger Fire 1855

In January 1855 there was a major fire at Panshanger which was reported in the Saturday, 3rd February 1855 edition of the Hertfordshire Mercury.

About 12 o'clock on the night of Tuesday, 30th January 1855 a fire broke out in one of the servants' apartments and extended with great rapidity to the kitchen and laundry, to the entire suite of offices as well as the private apartments of 6th Earl and Lady Cowper and their son, Lord Fordwich in the western wing of the building where the progress of the fire was arrested.

The fire was discovered when a housemaid was awoken by a sense of suffocation and found her room full of smoke. She discovered dresses in the '*sort of wardrobe*' were on fire and so aroused the other two servants who shared her room. Having hastily dressed they aroused Mrs M'Cullum, the housekeeper, and M. Sue the cook in the next room, followed by the remaining servants.

The housekeeper dispatched a messenger to the Hertford fire-engine and then proceeded with the assistance of M. Sue and the other servants to arrest the progress of the fire. The female servants dressed mainly in their night attire worked vigorously at a pump and supplied water to M. Sue who poured the water onto the burning timbers. Not surprisingly these exertions were ineffectual especially as by this time the fire had reached the roof.

By now Mr Dawson, the head gardener, his gamekeepers and watchers on the estate had arrived, along with the fire engine from Marden Hill, Tewin. Captain Robertson, Chief Constable, with Superintendent Dunn and several policemen arrived early. Around half past one the Hertford engine arrived with a brigade of men under Mr. Superintendent Knight and fifty of the Herts Militia along with five or six officers joined in the efforts to subdue the fire. The great difficulty with which they all had to contend was the intermittent water supply which had at first been supplied only by a pump.

By this time the whole of the offices including the laundry, kitchen and range of servants' apartments were '*enveloped in a sheet of flame*' which lit up the country for many miles around and '*cast a strange glare over lawn and park covered in snow.*'

The fire having reached Lord and Lady Cowper's apartments, Captain Robertson suggested cutting the fire off from the rest of the building, so the men of the Hertford fire brigade along with the Captain, Superintendent Knight, and some of the servants began to pull down the timber-built passageway between the kitchen and the rest of the house.

In the meantime, the Hertford engine was brought round to the fountain and by this time water carts were supplying the engine from the river. The judicious application through broken windowpanes of streams of water from pipes from Mr Thornton's engine stopped the fire from spreading from beam to beam.

Panshanger Fire 1855

It was not until around 3 o'clock a messenger was sent for the second Hertford engine, the Ware and the Unity engines. The newly arrived Ware Unity engine, under the direction of its Superintendent, Mr Ree, was placed on the banks of the river and transmitted a continuous stream of water to the second Hertford engine and thence to the Ware engine which was able to ply a continuous stream of water on the burning embers. This along with the water from the roof allowed the fire to be brought under control by 5 o'clock.

The building suffered considerable damage, besides the extensive offices which were a heap of ruins. Lady Cowper's apartments were completely destroyed and although Lord Cowper's rooms were saved, they suffered significant water damage.

The private dining room, drawing room, library and picture gallery with all its paintings by great masters were undisturbed.

The servants lost most of their clothing and almost all the laundry, kitchen and rooms above were destroyed but scarcely any of the furniture of the house had been destroyed and no valuables were lost.

The Cowper family was on a visit to Earl de Grey at Wrest Park when the fire occurred. After the events had been relayed by telegraph, the Earl returned on Wednesday and remained until Thursday.

'He expressed his surprise that the fire had not extended further, and his gratitude for the great and successful exertions which had been made to save the building.'



Both images are attributable to Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies (HALS).

The Panshanger fire brigade members are identified as: Back Row; B Chambers; A Dennis; B Holden; W Mason; ? ; ? ; Spicer

Front Row: AF Sumner; James (House Steward & Brigade Captain); W Dubbins (engineer); F Brooks; A Mason senior

The overheating of the laundry flu seems to have been the cause of the fire. Work on restoring damaged areas took a couple of years and cost around £17,000. Presumably as a result of this fire, the 7th Earl (the sixth Earl died just over a year after the fire) decided to create his own fire brigade, buying an engine and training staff members. The photograph shows the brigade around 1900.

Hertingfordbury Village Christmas Tree



A great job was done on the Hertingfordbury Christmas tree. Many thanks to the team above (L-R are Mick, Nicholas, Phil, Mark, Andrew, David & Barry) and any others who helped create such a festive centrepiece in the village



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

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

27 February – **Michelangelo, Copernicus & the Sistine Chapel: The Last Judgement**

27 March – **Becoming Jane Austin: The Making of a Literary Superstar**

24 April – **The Joy of Indian Classic Music**

For more information please go to our website

www.theartssocietyeastherts.org.uk

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Hertingfordbury Parish Council

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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

Next Meeting

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



Churchyard Volunteers Needed



Volunteers required for grass cutting

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

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

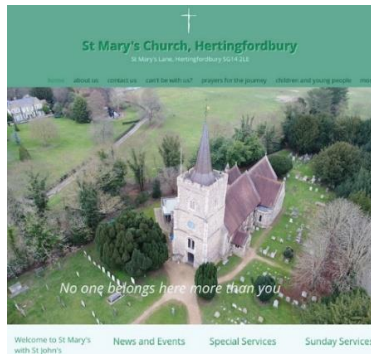
Please contact David Gorton for more information and timings if you think you can help



Volunteers needed to open/close St. Mary's



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



www.hertingfordburystmary.org

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

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



WhatsApp Groups

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

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

Brace Room

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



Zoom Services

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

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

Twice monthly on Wednesday

Mindfulness & Meditation 7.30pm

Every Sunday

Service of the Word 10.30am

(Every 3rd Sunday will offer Communion)

Compline 7.00pm

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

www.hertingfordburystmary.org



Mindfulness & Meditation

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

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

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

For further details and Zoom codes please see our website

www.hertfordstandrews.co.uk

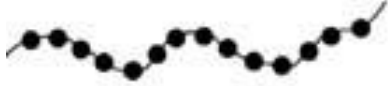
or contact the church office 01992 504373 standrew.hertford@btinternet.com

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WALTER WALLINGER CHARITY

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

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

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

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



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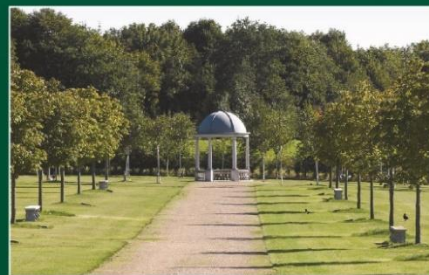
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