



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

REFOCUSED

JULY/AUGUST 2018
PARISH MAGAZINE OF
ST ETHELDREDA'S CHURCH
WITH ST LUKE'S CHURCH



Letter to the Parish from Alison Churchouse, Deputy Church Warden, on the Holy Land Pilgrimage in June 2018

On the 4th June, twenty one Pilgrims set off for a ten day tour of the Holy Land led by Father Darren Collins and accompanied by The Venerable Jonathan Smith.

The Pilgrimage consisted of six nights based in Jerusalem and three nights near Tiberius on the edge of the Sea of Galilee.

Any previous concerns about spending ten days with a group of people not well known to each other, soon disappeared. We were accompanied by a local guide, Dawud (David) at all times—an extremely knowledgeable Coptic Orthodox Christian with strong opinions.

The trip was jam packed with visits to Holy sites connected to Jesus' life and ministry, as well as activities and experiences related to the areas we travelled through. Jerusalem, built on a series of hills - great for getting your step count up for the day—is a busy and vibrant town and even more so during our stay as it coincided with the last week of Ramadan. Cannons mark the end of fasting at about 7.50pm and the start of fasting at about 3.45am giving us all an early morning alarm call.

Of course, today, the Holy Land does not look as it would have done during Jesus' time. Israel has lived through a number of different empires including Roman, Byzantine, Arab, Crusader, Mamluk, Ottoman and British Empires as well as enduring the odd earthquake here and there. Sites marking Jesus' original life and ministry, are now celebrated in more modern places of worship, although excavated remains can often be seen inside.

Highlights of the trip for me included: the spontaneous singing of a group of young people in the Church of the Resurrection at Abu Ghosh; Yad Vashem Holocaust Remembrance Centre; reading Psalm 88 in the dungeon at the Church of St Peter in Gallicantu; bearing up in the 45^o heat at Masada in the Judaeen Desert; floating in the Dead Sea; listening to the Roman Catholic service in the Church of Annunciation in Nazareth and finding our special stones to take home from the edge of the sea of Galilee at Mensa Christi. However, the most remarkable highlight for me was the fellowship with my Pilgrim friends—finding out each others stories and journeys of faith and most of all, laughing. We spent a lot of time laughing!

We had six services of worship during our stay which were all incredibly special in their own way. They included following the Via Dolorosa with readings at each Station of the Cross, renewing our baptismal vows on the banks of the River Jordan (again in 45^o heat!), celebrating Holy Communion on the edge of the Sea of Galilee at Tabgha and stumbling through the Holy Communion Service at St George's Cathedral conducted in both Arabic and English at the same time.

What did I bring home from this Pilgrimage? I think this will develop over time and with reflection as there is still a lot to process. What I do know is that I still have a smile on my face and some amazing memories and I am fairly sure that one day I will visit the Holy Land again.



The Dead Sea
400m below sea level



Ready for Holy Communion at Tabgha
by the Sea of Galilee

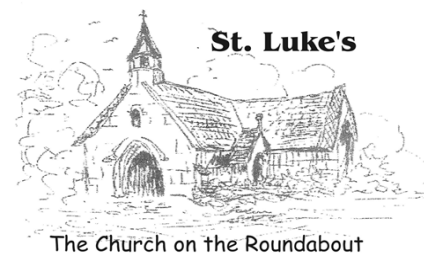
Parish of Bishop's Hatfield St Etheldreda with St Luke—Regular Services

St Etheldreda's Church

Sunday: 8am Holy Communion
9.30am Holy Communion with Sunday School
3rd Sunday of month: 9.30am All age Eucharist
Tuesday: 9am Morning Prayers
Wednesday: 10am Holy Communion
Thursday: 7pm Holy Communion or Compline

St Luke's Church

Sunday:
11.30am
Holy Communion
with hymns



Weddings in July/August

14th July—Edward Abbot & Jade Major
14th July—Ethan Halter & Katie O Hare
5th August Wedding Blessing—Pierre Audiger & April Koyejo
11th August—Adebayo Randle & Alexandra Middleton
24th August—Peter Holly & Victoria Martin

Please contact Fr. Darren —t: 01707 256638 —e: frdarren@yahoo.co.uk to book your wedding or baptism

What's on in July & August at St Eth's

On Saturday 7th July, at 7pm, **Thelma Dummer and many of her musical friends** will once again be coming together in St Etheldreda's Church to provide a feast of music for all tastes – with performers ranging in age from 7 to 85 years - either as soloists (vocal or instrumental) or as members of choral groups – all in aid of church funds. Entry is just £5 with accompanied children free. All are welcome.

Sunday School—Meets at 9.20am at 12 Fore Street (STEPS office)

Team Rector of Bishops Hatfield: Fr Darren Collins—t: 01707 256638 E: frdarren@yahoo.co.uk

Assistant Priest:

Fr William Clocksin
e: wfc@me.com

Journey Light Church:

The Rev'd Sue Stilwell
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Curate:

The Rev'd Dr Penny Thomson
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Nicky Jackson—07745 630176

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mikeberwick@ntlworld.com— 07973 469849

Treasurer:

Mark Knight—01707 894949
knightmark2@gmail.com

What's On at Hatfield House

1 JULY @ 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

THEATRE IN THE PARK – ROBIN HOOD AND HIS MERRY MEN—Robin Hood and his band of merry men are feared by the richest of the land who travel through Sherwood Forest.

11 JULY @ 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

THEATRE IN THE PARK – THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST—Everybody loves Ernest. In fact, Cecily and Gwendolen are both engaged to Ernest! The only trouble is, Ernest doesn't exist.

14 JULY @ 4:00 PM - 10:30 PM

BATTLE PROMS—A summer celebration with music, Spitfire, cannons, cavalry & fireworks!

15 JULY @ 12:00 PM - 10:30 PM

FOLK BY THE OAK—A festival of folk's finest acts gathered in beautiful leafy parkland for one uplifting summer day of music.

21 JULY @ 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

STABLE YARD ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES MARKET

22 JULY @ 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

STABLE YARD FARMERS' MARKET

30 JULY @ 4:00 PM - 4 AUGUST @ 6:30 PM

LUNA CINEMA FOR CHILDREN—This summer we are delighted to welcome Luna Cinema for children to Hatfield House for the very first time!

11 AUGUST @ 7:00 PM - 11:30 PM

MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S MURDER MYSTERY DINING EXPERIENCE -BRAND NEW EVENT! - Moonstone theatre and Hatfield House Hospitality are excited to present a Murder Mystery Dining Experience brand new to Hatfield House!

12 AUGUST @ 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S MEN PRESENT – THE TEMPEST

17 AUGUST @ 10:00 AM - 19 AUGUST @ 5:30 PM

ART IN CLAY

18 AUGUST @ 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

STABLE YARD ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES MARKET

19 AUGUST @ 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

STABLE YARD FARMERS' MARKET

23 AUGUST @ 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

THEATRE IN THE PARK – PETER PAN

29 AUGUST @ 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

THEATRE IN THE PARK – TREASURE ISLAND

More Info: www.hatfield-house.co.uk/events/
01707 287010 e: visitors@hatfield-house.co.uk

www.stetheldreda.org

What's on in the Bishops Hatfield Team

7th July 8am

Men's Breakfast, St Michael & All Angels Church

7th July 10am

Ramble leaving St Michael & All Angels Church

7th July

Team Outing to Sonning Mill

7th July 7pm

Thelma and Friends at St Etheldreda's Church

10th July 2.30pm

Friendship Teas, St John's Church, Lemsford

14th July 10.30am

Summer Fete at St Michael & All Angels Church

20th July 2.30-4.00pm

Poetry Group at St Mary's Church, North Mymms

22nd July 6pm

Informal Evening Service, St John's Church

4th August 8am

Men's Breakfast, St Michael & All Angels Church

4th August 10am

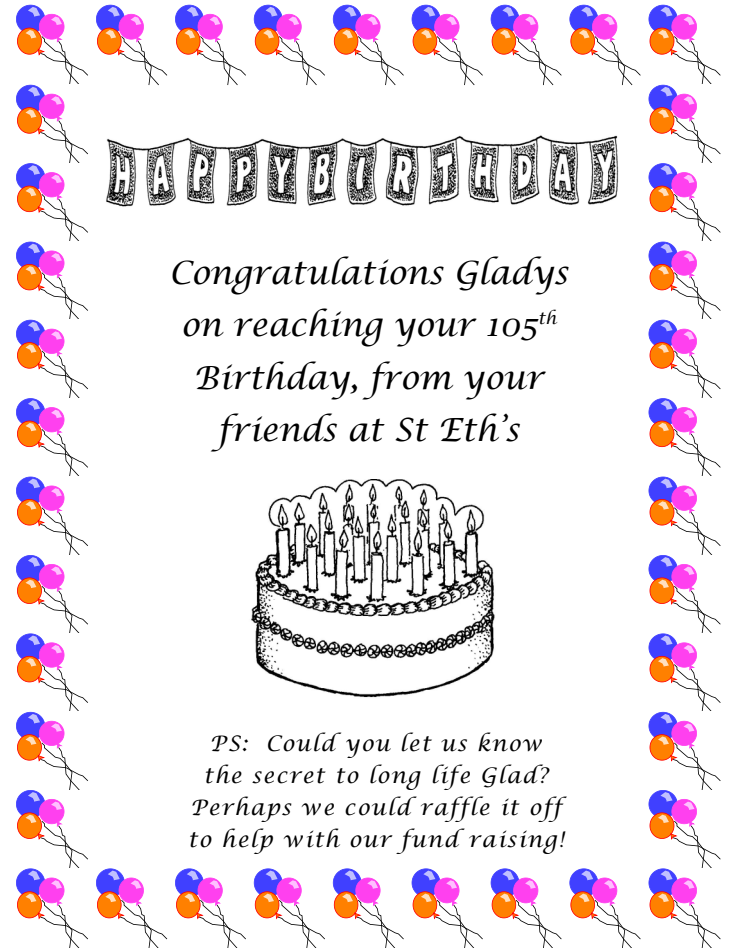
Ramble leaving St Michael & All Angels Church

14th August 2.30pm

Friendship Teas, St John's Church, Lemsford

17th August 2.30-4.00pm

Poetry Group at St Mary's Church, North Mymms



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The Great War — Hatfield Roll of Honour — WW1 1914—1918

Remembering those WW1 soldiers from Hatfield who died in service to their country in July & August

The 2nd Battle of Marne took place one hundred years ago between 15th July—6th August 1918. This was a defining battle in WW1 as it was the last major offensive against the Allies on the Western Front. The enemy were defeated in it, which signalled a drawing to end of warfare.

The 2nd Battle of Marne was followed by a series of rapid victories for the Allied forces, won during a one hundred day counter offensive. This series of battles culminated in an armistice being signed on 11th November 1918, followed by a return to peace.

However, Hatfield suffered significant loss. Between 1st July—31st August 1918 eleven Hatfield soldiers gave their lives, with many more fatalities over the next few months leading up to the end of WW1. It is also tragic to note that we lost nine men between 31st July—31st August 1917, in the 3rd Battle of Ypres—four on the first day of battle.

***We will never forget the sacrifice they made for our freedom. May they all rest in peace and rise in glory ...
... Father Darren***

William James Andrews, Age: 23

Rank: Private
Regiment: Bedfordshire Regiment
Date/Cemetery: 8th August 1916/Abbeville Communal Cemetery

Conrad Joseph Austin, Age: Approx. 38

Rank: Sergeant
Regiment: Northumberland Fusiliers
Date/Cemetery: 19th July 1917/Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery

Vincent John Austin, Age: 19

Rank: Rifleman
Regiment: London Regiment (London Rifle Brigade)
Date/Cemetery: 1st July 1916/Gommecourt British Cemetery

George B Buxton, Age: Approx. 24

Rank: Second Lieutenant
Regiment: Royal Flying Corps and 5th Bn. Norfolk
Date/Memorial: 28th July 1917/Arras Flying Services Memorial

Patrick (Charles) Caesar Age: Approx. 29

Rank: Lieutenant
Regiment: King's Shropshire Light Infantry
Date/Memorial: 14th July 1916/Thiepval Memorial

John Arthur Gascoyne Cecil MC, Age: 25

Rank: Captain
Regiment: Royal Field Artillery 75th Bde.
Date/Memorial: 27th August 1918/Bucquoy Road Cemetery, Ficheux

Rupert Edward Gascoyne Cecil, Age: 20

Rank: Lieutenant
Regiment: Bedfordshire Regiment 1st Bn.
Date/Memorial: 11th July 1915/Railway Dugouts Burial Ground

David Cochrane, Age: Approx. 32

Rank: Private
Regiment: Queens Own (Royal West Kent Regiment)
Date/Memorial: 5th July 1917/Arras Memorial

John James Coe, Age: Approx. 21

Rank: Lance Corporal
Regiment: Hertfordshire Regiment
Date/Memorial: 31st July 1917/Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial

James Day, Age: 22

Rank: Private
Regiment: Hertfordshire Regiment
Date/Memorial: 31st July 1917/Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial

Thomas George Doss, Age 28

Rank: Privates
Regiment: Army Service Corps 402nd
Date/Memorial: 30th August 1918/Faubourg D'Amiens Cemetery

Malcolm Drummond, Age: 22

Rank: Private
Regiment: London regiment (London Scottish)
Date/Memorial: 10th August 1916/Aubigny Communal Cemetery

Herbert Edward Freeman, Age: Approx. 19

Rank: Private
Regiment: Bedfordshire Regiment
Date/Memorial: 1st July 1916/Thiepval Memorial

James Walter Gittings, Age: 28

Rank: Lance Corporal
Regiment: Hertfordshire Regiment
Date/Cemetery: 19th July 1916/Le Touret Military Cemetery

Geoffrey Riddell Goody, Age: 28

Rank: Lieutenant
Regiment: Kings Royal Rifle Corps
Date/Cemetery: 14th July 1918/Terlinchun British Cemetery

Frank H J Greenham, Age: 20

Rank: Sapper
Regiment: Royal Engineers 249th (East Anglian) Field Coy.
Date/Cemetery: 3rd July 1918/Acheux British Cemetery

Albert Edward Halsey, Age: 30

Rank: Private
Regiment: 1st Lincolnshire Regiment, Formerly 26840, Beds Regt.
Date/Memorial: 1st July 1918/Avesnes-Sur-Helpe Comm. Cemetery

Ernest Frederick Hawthorne, Age: 24

Rank: Acting Corporal
Regiment: Household Battalion
Date/Memorial: 25th August 1917/Roieux British Cemetery



William Alfred Hill, Age: 25

Rank: Sergeant
Regiment: Hertfordshire Regt. A. Coy. 1st Bn.
Date/Memorial: 11th July 1918/St Amand British Cemetery

William Hipgrave, Age: Approx. 37

Rank: Private
Regiment: 1st/5th Bn. Bedfordshire Regiment
Date/Cemetery: 27th July 1917/Gaza War Cemetery

Walter Sidney Humphreys, Age: 23

Rank: Private
Regiment: Hertfordshire Yeomanry 'D' Sqdn. 1st/1st
Date/Memorial: 21st August 1915/Lala Baba Cemetery

Frederick William Hunt, Age: Approx. 28

Rank: Private
Regiment: 1st/2nd Bn. London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers)
Date/Memorial: 17th August 1917/Brandhoek New Military Cemetery

Walter James Ivory, Age: 20

Rank: Private
Regiment: 7th Norfolk Regiment
Date/Memorial: 8th August 1918/Morlancourt British Cemetery No.2

Arthur Charles Lancaster, Age: 30

Rank: Private
Regiment: Cheshire Regiment 10th Bn.
Date/Memorial: 11th August 1917/Brandhoek New Military Cemetery

Charles Adam Massam, Age: 21

Rank: Private
Regiment: Bedfordshire Regiment 3rd Bn.
Date/Memorial: 22nd July 1917/St Luke's Churchyard

Frederick George Nason, Age: 34

Rank: Private
Regiment: Dorsetshire Regiment 5th Bn.
Date/Memorial: 16th August 1917/Tyne Cot Memorial

John Charles William Page, Age: 21

Rank: Private
Regiment: Hertfordshire Regiment 1st Bn.
Date/Memorial: 20th July 1916/Delville Wood Cemetery, Langueval

Gordon M Panter, Age: 19

Rank: Private
Regiment: London Regiment (London Scottish)
Date/Memorial: 1st July 1916/Thiepval Memorial

Herbert James Parrott, Age: Approx. 31

Rank: Private
Regiment: Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) 199th Coy.
Date/Memorial: 2nd July 1917/St Vaast Post Military Cemetery

James Payne, Age: Not known

Rank: Sergeant
Regiment: Rifle Brigade 13th Bn.
Date/Memorial: 10th July 1916/Thiepval Memorial

Harold Peart Age: 28

Rank: Lance Corporal
Regiment: New Zealand Machine Gun Battalion
Date/Memorial: 31 August 1918/Bagneux British Cemetery

Godfrey/Geoffrey Powell, Age: 28

Rank: Corporal
Regiment: Hertfordshire Regiment
Date/Memorial: 5th August 1917/Lussenthoek Military Cemetery

Robert Putterill, Age: 41

Rank: Private
Regiment: Royal Berkshire Regiment
Date/Memorial: 31st July 1917/Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial

Albert Edward Skeggs, Age: 28

Rank: Private
Regiment: Bedfordshire Regiment 6th Bn.
Date/Memorial: 9th August 1916/Thiepval Memorial

Arthur Smith, Age: 20

Rank: Private
Regiment: Manchester Regiment
Date/Memorial: 5th July 1918/Bertrancourt Military Cemetery

Walter T Smith, Age: Not known

Rank: Private
Regiment: Bedfordshire Regiment 4th Bn.
Date/Memorial: 21st August 1918/Achiet Le Grand Comm. Cemetery

Frederick W Spriggs, Age: Approx. 19

Rank: Private
Regiment: Bedfordshire Regiment
Date/Memorial: 11th July 1916/Serre Road Cemetery No. 2

Robert Sunderland, Age: Approx. 35

Rank: Sapper
Regiment: Royal Engineers 79th Field Coy.
Date/Memorial: 12th August 1916/Erquinghem-lys Churchyard

Harry V Warren, Age: Approx. 18

Rank: Private
Regiment: Royal Fusiliers 9th Bn.
Date/Memorial: 29th August 1918/Guillemont Road Cemetery

George Victor Webster, Age: 22

Rank: Corporal
Regiment: Machine Gun Corps 118th Coy
Date/Memorial: 31st July 1917/Bufs Road Cemetery

Cecil B White, Age: 25

Rank: Private
Regiment: Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) 24th Battalion
Date/Memorial: 16th August 1916/Carnoy Military Cemetery

Christopher Wren, Age: 20

Rank: Private
Regiment: Bedfordshire Regiment 2nd Bn.
Date/Memorial: 3rd July 1916/Thiepval Memorial

In July & August 1918 WW1 started coming to an end in a series of battles over 100 days

It is called World War 1 and certainly no previous conflict had spread its ugly fingers so widely. We tend to think just of the Western Front. Our default image of the War is of men in trenches, of mud and blood and soldiers with drawn bayonets going 'over the top'.

In fact, the War was being fought on many Fronts: the Eastern & Western Front; the Ottoman Front, in the Middle East; the Italian Front (Italy and France against the 'Central Powers'). Then there was the Ocean Front (U-boats against Allied shipping).

Not surprisingly, in view of all that, WW1 became one of resources, human, military and economic and by 1918 the Allies had a great advantage. Hard pressed armies were being continuously refreshed by the arrival of well-trained and committed troops from many quarters, notably Canada, Australia and New Zealand and decisively the United States. These soldiers and many from other countries in the British Empire, were now being equipped with newly designed, modern equipment. At last the Allies outnumbered the enemy in tanks and aircraft – and the new planes were faster, better equipped and armed.

All of this was, of course, evident to the German High Command, and persuaded them to launch in July 1918 what one historian, Gary Sheffield, has described as perhaps the defining battle of WW1, the second Battle of the Marne. It was a desperate attempt to inflict a heavy defeat on the Allies – not in the vain hope of winning the War, but of getting a better bargaining position in the peace negotiations that everyone expected. Launched on July 15th, it succeeded in driving the Allies back across the Marne. But they had been prepared for it, and three days later launched a massive counter-attack. Two French divisions captured 15,000 men and 500 tanks in a single



THE GREAT WAR
1914 - 1918

www.stetheldreda.org

morning, and then went on to drive the enemy back across the Marne.

From now on the Allies knew they could win the War, and the opposition finally accepted that they could not. This marked the beginning of the 'Hundred Days', an Allied counter-offensive that finally broke the military stalemate on the Western Front and brought WW1 to a close.

Central to this triumph was the Battle of Amiens (8th-11th August 1918). This combined air, artillery, infantry and tank offensive was prepared in utmost secrecy, with the aim of driving the opposition forces away from an area with vital railway links. Ludendorff (Chief of Staff, German Eighth Army) famously described 8th August 1918, the first day of the battle, as 'the black day of the German army'. By 13th August, British and French forces had advanced up to 11 miles eastwards on a 47-mile front, killing, wounding or capturing 48,000 enemy troops.

Although the offensive, hampered by heavy tank and aircraft losses, slowed down as it reached the old battlefields of the Somme, the psychological damage that it wrought within the enemy force's army was immense. Both Ludendorff and Kaiser Wilhelm II (the last German emperor (kaiser) and king of Prussia) now concluded in private that Germany could no longer win the war.

Throughout the rest of August, in accordance with Douglas Haig's (British Commander on the Western Front) new strategy, the Allied armies advanced across a wide front, forcing enemy troops under Crown Prince Rupprecht (son of Ludwig III, the last King of Bavaria) and Max von Boehn (Colonel General, German Imperial Army) into rapid retreat. They captured towns such as Albert (22nd August) and Péronne (30th-31st August) that had been in German hands for much of the war. The area that had witnessed the bloody stalemate of the Battle of the Somme two years earlier now fell within a matter of days between 21st August and 3rd September 1918

Read more about the final battles of WW1 in *Refocused* September & October. Our November issue will be dedicated to remembering all who suffered in WW1, from all sides and in all ways. Please let us know if you have a story, along these lines, that you would like to contribute. Contact: maryrathbone@icloud.com.

Article compiled by Mary Rathbone—using sources from:
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pathways/firstworldwar/battles/counter.htm
www.parishpump.co.uk
www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures

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One 'high point' in a wonderful pilgrimage

by John Barnard, Reader

Our pilgrimage to the Holy Land, led by Fr. Darren, was based for the first six nights at Jerusalem from where we visited many of the Holy sites there as well as venturing into the desert and the Dead Sea area, Jericho and the river Jordan. We then spent three nights in the Galilee area and it was on the eighth day of our trip that we were taken to Mount Tabor.

Mount Tabor is the place where Jesus took three of his disciples, Peter, James and John, where he was transfigured, where his face shone like the sun and his clothes became dazzling white as you can read in Matthew Ch. 17 and Mark Ch. 9. The mount stands at 1850 feet above sea level and is the highest mountain in the area. It is a mountain on its own not connected to any other mountain and gives magnificent views in all directions over the plains of Jezreel and Samaria.

To get there we were taken by coach so far and then transferred into mini-buses to the top where the Basilica of the Transfiguration stands. This building is a recent addition to the area having been built by Antonio Barluzzi and consecrated in 1924 but for me, it seems to take me to another level in spiritual life.

At ground level there is an altar underneath an arch which is beautiful enough but above that, beneath another arch is a mosaic showing Jesus as described above with Moses to his right, Elijah to his left and the three disciples below them. Moses is the bringer of the law having received the commandments from God and Elijah is the greatest of all the prophets. Neither of these men have a known grave. Moses is reported to have died but his body was never found indicating that he may have been taken directly into heaven, Elijah did ascend into heaven in a whirlwind as described in 2 Kings Ch. 2. It seems to me that at this moment, at the transfiguration of Jesus, these three come together for the first time in heaven and the three disciples are privileged witness to this meeting, to see into heaven and the glory of God.

Churches all over the world concentrate on the crucifix on which our Lord suffered and died for our sins. Some show Jesus on the cross whilst other show a plain cross indicating the risen Christ, but here on Mount Tabor we seem to be taken into heaven itself. That is what it did for me.

A wonderful moment on a fabulous pilgrimage.

Christ's Transfiguration

by Jo Roscoe

The Transfiguration is one of those New Testament events that make us feel uncomfortable because it takes us outside our earthly material environment.

Jesus went up the mountain (as described by John to the left) to pray, taking with him his closest disciples Peter, James and John.

The Jews, especially under oppression, were constantly waiting and longing for the promised Messiah. Shortly before the Transfiguration, Peter had begun to see a special quality in Jesus – 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God' he had exclaimed (Matthew 16: 16).

On the mountain top Jesus drew a little apart and as the others watched, became bathed in brilliant radiant light. Amazed and perhaps a little afraid, they saw two further figures who they took to be Moses and Elijah. Then a voice from heaven said 'This is my beloved Son, in whom I take delight; listen to him.' (Matthew 17: 1-8). The scene and light then faded.



The Gospels tell us that Jesus told the disciples not to talk about this. Perhaps he was asking them not to do so because it was still a precious encounter that he had yet himself to absorb fully; and how could he explain this incredible happening to these simple fishermen at this time?

Only after the crucifixion and resurrection would it make sense to them. And perhaps for Jesus too it was a glorious confirmation that he would be held and sustained through the difficult path he must follow to its bitter, shaming and agonized end.

Theologians are intrigued by the symbolic meaning of the Transfiguration, but I think it is sufficient for us to take it just as recorded in the Gospels.

Hatfield Remembers Rowland

With us in Hatfield for approximately five years, Rowland was a well-known figure around town and accepted shelter at St Luke's Night Shelter when it first opened last winter. Dean Norris of Resolve, who helped out at the Night Shelter, best remembers him for his attitude to life which was 50/50, meaning he was willing to meet people half way, and he lived by that principle. Rowland was a favourite amongst volunteers and guests alike at the shelter, always keeping his space spic-and-span, rebuking other guests who did not do likewise. Sadly, Rowland passed away in May, but he lives on in the memory of those who knew him in Hatfield. We remember his huge smile which could light up a room as well as his 50/50 philosophy on life **RIP Rowland**



Canine Corner *with Bentley*

reporting on The Royal Wedding

Dear readers, as Chief Royal Correspondent, I am deeply honoured to be reporting on the recent Royal nuptials, an occasion to be celebrated and remembered for many years to come.

Getting in the spirit of the day, I was dressed in my best collar and bow tie and, although my wedding invitation did not reach me in time, I had a prime spot in front of the television with my Mum, who was excited beyond belief.

Prince Harry was much to be admired in his military uniform—what a fine specimen of a human, if a little nervous. Who wouldn't be nervous on such a momentous occasion, with the eyes of the country, and indeed the world, upon you. My acquaintance, HRH Prince Charles, had a twinkle in his eye and I believed he rather enjoyed the honour of accompanying his future daughter-in-law partway down the aisle.

The ceremony was unstuffy and informal. Everybody was happy and smiley. Even the magnificent horses appeared to be whinnying silently to themselves. I was disappointed that the Royal Corgis were not in attendance—I am sure they would have made an excellent contribution to the ceremony, although if a little dangerous with a 15ft long veil amongst the proceedings.

The guests did not disappoint and all turned out spectacularly. Her Majesty looked resplendent, as always, in her lime green ensemble and just so elegant. Oh, I could go on and on...

It is reported that Meghan shares her passion for dogs with the Queen. She had two beloved rescue dogs—a beagle called Guy and a Lab/Shepherd mix called Bogart. Only Guy came to England, as it was reported that Bogart was too old to travel. Guy the beagle already appears to be living the Royal high life, after being spotted riding in one of the Queen's Range Rovers. Apparently Harry joked about how the Corgis have done nothing but bark at him for 30 years, but when they met Meghan they instantly loved her!

Hmm, those Corgis can be very temperamental and hard to please (not like us Westies of course, who are the epitome of good behaviour—well most of the time). Guy will also have the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's dog, Lupo, as a near neighbour in Kensington Palace. Oh how I would love to visit and live the Royal life, if only for a day—I promise I would be on my best behaviour and brush up on my doggy etiquette.

What a splendid time for all, and it appeared that, after all the extensive preparations, events went according to plan and it turned out to be the most perfect day. We will certainly remember this Royal occasion for some time to come.

Congratulations to the Duke and Duchess of Sussex and: **God Save the Queen!**

Over and out from, Bentley, Chief Royal Correspondent

An Introduction to Safeguarding

From Caroline Roberts, Safeguarding Officer

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults involves everyone. I have recently been appointed Safeguarding Officer which means I have responsibility for ensuring St Etheldreda's with St Luke's are places of welcome and safety for the young and vulnerable. As the Bishop of St Albans says:

*"As a Diocese we have a vision of Living God's Love so that God's Kingdom might grow in this world. In seeking to realise that vision our objectives include a desire to grow the faith of children and young people, and to **protect the vulnerable**. If we are to achieve those objectives we must ensure our churches are safe, and seen to be so, and therefore our safeguarding policies and practice are core to what we do. In October 2016 the Diocesan Synod affirmed its commitment to safeguarding all God's people. It adopted the national policies and Practice Guidance for Safeguarding within the Church of England and commended them to the deaneries and parishes for adoption and implementation."*

Those of us who teach and care for children and vulnerable adults in church (in Sunday School, Choir, Bell Ringing etc) do so out of love, with a genuine desire to help our community. Sadly, there will always be those who will attempt to infiltrate any organisation to abuse others. Safeguarding has three purposes – to provide background checks on individuals (depending on their role in the church), to recruit safely, but also, most importantly perhaps, to train us all to be vigilant in spotting any abuse that may be happening.

Over the next few weeks and months the Safeguarding team, which meets monthly, will be reviewing both our policies and the individual training and DBS certificates held on file. The majority of training is online and takes about an hour to complete. We hope to offer a group session with support for anyone who feels this would be of assistance.

This is not a witch-hunt, nor is it Big Brother rearing its ugly head. It's easy to imagine *"that sort of thing wouldn't happen here"*. A quick look at the newspapers will tell you that abuse can occur anywhere. We pray that our churches will be a haven for all God's children, and to achieve that we all need to take responsibility for the safety of those who are young or vulnerable. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact a member of the team: Caroline Roberts, Alison Churchouse, Nicky Jackson, Sarah Holmwood or Fr Darren.

Old Hatfield Residents' Association

Summer Picnic

1pm-5pm Sunday 18th August—Salisbury Sq.

Bring your singing voices, and your lunch.

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Western front 100 years



www.britishlegion.org.uk

As we enter the final few months of the commemorations of the First World War. I will be trekking along the Western Front with the Royal British Legion to remember the incredible sacrifices made by all those who fought in the First World War. I'll be passing through the battlefields and memorials of the Somme and Ypres, walking on average 14 miles a day for four days.

A team of us will be walking along the hill-ridges, through fields and woodland while looking at the beautiful views over the now tranquil country-

side. It will be hard to imagine what happened in this region during the First World War, it will be a poignant experience as well as a physical challenge.

My trip will start from Blackheath on an early September morning and finish with a moving last post ceremony at the Menin Gate.

I'll be taking in places like Amiens- Bray-sur-Somme, Beaumont Hamel, Arras, Vimy Ridge, Ablain st-Nazaire, Lille, Ypres, Langemark, Ypres, Tyne cot and Hill 60.

For me this is a memorable and

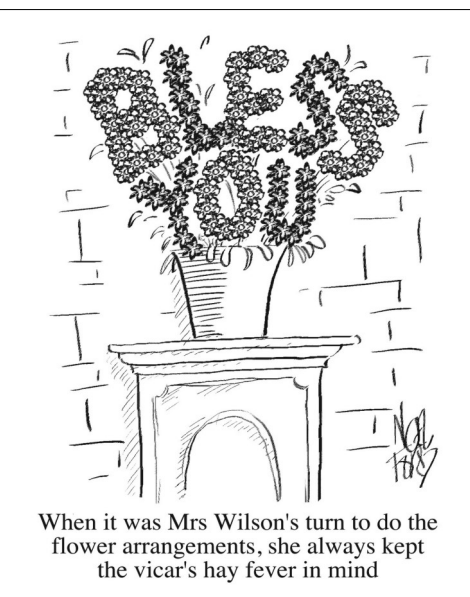
meaningful way to raise funds for the Armed Forces community. If you would like to support me, you can go to my just giving page or contact me via my email address:

mark.jackson270@hotmail.co.uk

Just giving address:

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Mark Jackson
Deputy Church Warden



When it was Mrs Wilson's turn to do the flower arrangements, she always kept the vicar's hay fever in mind



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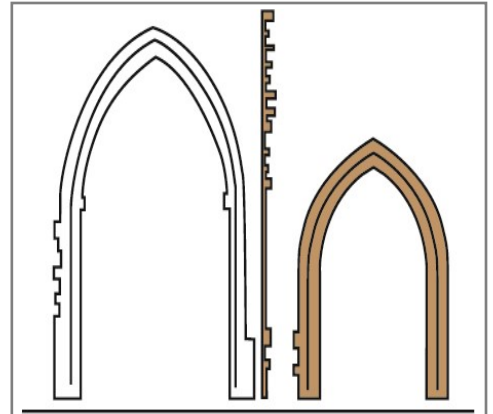
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Winner takes the biscuit! *by Jo Roscoe*

Well, actually, we don't have any biscuits. But how would you like a Eurostar weekend trip to Paris for two? Or stay on New Year's Eve at a London hotel close to the river? A week in a cottage in Ireland? A magnum of superb wine? Or a Christmas hamper?

Some chance, you might say..... But exactly! That chance is what our PRIZE DRAW is offering.

Our plans for improvement of the facilities at St Etheldreda's Church are going ahead and we need to raise a great deal of money. Generous benefactors and grants from Heritage Trusts will provide a large part of this because St Etheldreda's Church is an important historical building. But more than that, it is **our** Parish Church, for centuries the center of our community life. The improved facilities will enable it to meet the needs of a modern community

Photographs—Wikipedia

with kitchen, meeting room and toilets, all perfectly designed to fit in with the architectural beauty of this ancient place.

However we can't leave it all to outside benefactors. The PRIZE DRAW is part of our own efforts to raise money and there's no reason why that shouldn't be fun!

Please help us in this by buying tickets (available at £10 per book of five or £2 each) we also need a team of volunteers to sell them in various ways and places, including manning a stall at Hatfield House events.

Further information and tickets are available at church as well as from the Parish Office and John Barnard (see page 2 for contact details) and look out for more publicity, posters etc. Prizes will be drawn on 11th December. Make sure you get your tickets in good time. And good luck!

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