



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

# REFOCUSED

SEPTEMBER 2018  
PARISH MAGAZINE

ST ETHELDREDA'S CHURCH  
WITH ST LUKE'S CHURCH



## Letter to the Parish from Fr Darren on spending time with God in silence

Bored, bored bored! I'm really bored! I wish I had a pound for every time that I said this to my parents, normally within ten minutes of the summer holiday starting, or within five minutes of setting out on the car journey to the coast.

I was one of those annoying children who had a very low boredom threshold. I needed to be doing something, not sitting down navel gazing. I suppose I was a creature of my upbringing. Sitting and being was a sign of laziness, and in my family, laziness was not allowed. 'If you are bored, get off of your backside and do something productive' would be the response to 'I'm bored'.

On a recent diocesan youth pilgrimage to Taize, a Christian community in France one of the Brothers, Brother Paolo, spoke about the gift of being bored. How being bored should be seen as God sent, and a time to sit and be, instead of a situation to be filled with activity.

To me this was crazy talk! Who in their right mind would want to be bored, to sit with nothing to do! God gave me a smart phone, an iPad and a community to minister to, to make sure I was never bored. So how can boredom be good? How can it be beneficial to me?

Brother Paolo also said that boredom should be seen as a time to sit with God and be still. To use it as a opportunity to wait on God, to be still, to dwell in his presence. Not a time of prayer, but a time to be present with God. You sitting with God, God sitting with you, and just being pleased to be in each other's company. No words spoken, just being. He also said that this would take practice, and we would need to fight to desire to do stuff. In my case to be productive.

So, my big question to you is, are you up for being bored? Are you up for sitting quietly with God, and doing nothing?

I challenge you, join me in taking a few moments each day to be bored, unproductive, and sit. It may be hard, but no time spent sitting with God is ever wasted.

### *Silence and love*

*Christ says: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12). We need silence in order to welcome these words and put them into practice.*

*When we are agitated and restless, we have so many arguments and reasons not to forgive and not to love too easily. But when we "have calmed and quieted our soul", these reasons turn out to be quite insignificant.*

*Maybe we sometimes avoid silence, preferring whatever noise, words or distraction, because inner peace is a risky thing: it makes us empty and poor, disintegrates bitterness and leads us to the gift of ourselves. Silent and poor, our hearts are overwhelmed by the Holy Spirit, filled with an unconditional love.*

*Silence is a humble yet secure path to loving.*

*Extract from article on silence:  
[www.taize.fr/en\\_article12.html](http://www.taize.fr/en_article12.html)*

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

### St Etheldreda's Church

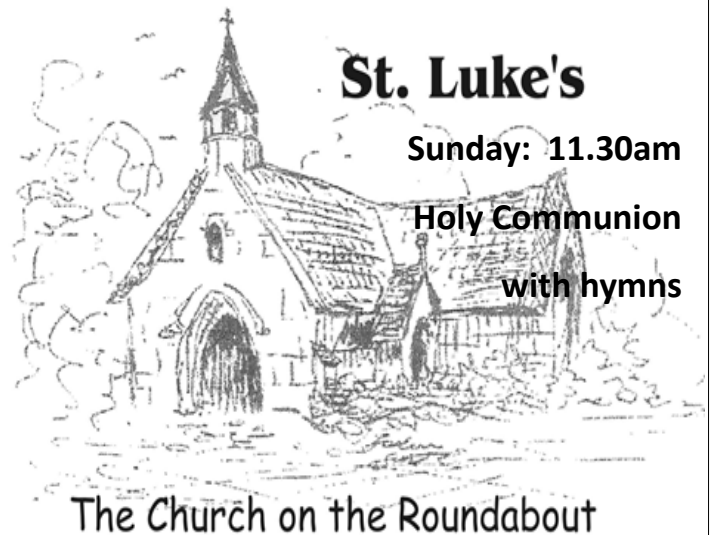
**Sunday:** 8am Holy Communion  
9.30am Holy Communion with Sunday School

**3rd Sunday of month:** 9.30am All age Eucharist

**Tuesday:** 9am Morning Prayers

**Wednesday:** 10am Holy Communion

**Thursday:** 7pm Holy Communion or Compline



**Children's Sunday School:** meets at 9.20am on Sundays in term time at 12 Fore Street (STEPS office)

### Weddings in September

1st September: Helen Maybury and Mark Evans  
15th September: Hannah Dean and Paul Bygrave  
29th September: Stacey Brett and Martyn Cartlan

### Baptisms in September

1st September: Jackson Shane Waller  
22nd September: Evalyn Aurora Rose Threadgold  
23rd September: Valentina Elsie Rice

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

### What's on in September at St Etheldreda's & St Luke's Churches

8th September 11.30am: Poppy Knitting— St Luke's Church—see page 9  
8th September, Bike n Hike: St Eth's and St Luke's Churches are participating—see page 3  
9th September 7.30pm: Hatfield Chamber Concert at St Etheldreda's Church—see back page

### What's on in the Bishops Hatfield Team

1st September 8.00am: Men's Breakfast at St Michael & All Angels Church  
1st September 10.00am: Ramble leaving St Michael & All Angels Church  
11th September 2.30pm: Friendship Teas, St John's Church, Lemsford  
21st September 2.30-4.00pm: Poetry Group, St Mary's Church, North Mymms

### Father Darren Collins, Team Rector

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Email: [bhteamoffice@gmail.com](mailto:bhteamoffice@gmail.com)

Open Saturdays 9am – 10am

## What's On at Hatfield House in September

**1 SEPTEMBER @ 5:30 PM - 10:15 PM**

### **CLASSIC IBIZA**

The Urban Soul Orchestra conducted by Stephen Hussey return for another fantastic performance of classic Ibiza anthems under the stars, with live DJ and vocalists.

**15 SEPTEMBER @ 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

### **STABLE YARD ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES MARKET**

Our FREE monthly antiques market features a huge range of antiques and collectibles. Pick up unusual curiosities including furniture, mirrors, hats and ornaments!

**16 SEPTEMBER @ 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

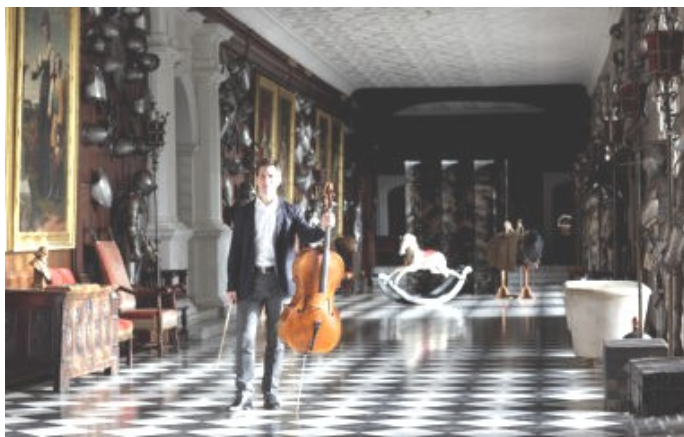
### **STABLE YARD FARMERS' MARKET**

Our regular Farmers' Market held in Stable Yard selling Cakes, crafts, beers, breads, baskets and honey are often part of the market.

**20 SEPTEMBER - 23 SEPTEMBER**

### **HATFIELD HOUSE CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL**

This year sees the seventh Hatfield House Chamber Music Festival celebrating Brahms and Friends! For further details about the festival please visit [www.hatfieldhousemusicfestival.org.uk](http://www.hatfieldhousemusicfestival.org.uk)



**30 SEPTEMBER**

### **THE FRENCH MARKET**

The fantastic French Market returns to Hatfield House the French traders will drive to Hatfield from northern France in time for opening at 10am and will be selling products such as: baguettes, croissants, tarts, soft and hard cheeses, charcuterie, tartiflette, saucisson, crêpes, olives, spices, fruit, nougat, chocolate, Provençal soaps, garlic, onions and baskets.

More Info: [www.hatfield-house.co.uk/events/](http://www.hatfield-house.co.uk/events/)  
01707 287010 e: [visitors@hatfield-house.co.uk](mailto:visitors@hatfield-house.co.uk)



**BEDS & HERTS**  
Historic Churches Trust

## **Bike N Hike 8<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

It happens every year, but what is Bike n Hike all about? Below are some questions and answers on the subject.

### **Q. Who runs the Bike 'n Hike event?**

A. An organisation called Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust (B&HHCT) who raise funds to help churches in Beds & Herts with essential finances. They have supported St Eth's on two occasions in the past with financial donations. We are hoping that they might support us further with funding for the West End project and feel it is important that, we in turn, support their work.

### **Q. How does Bike 'n Hike work?**

A. We have lists of participating churches in Beds & Herts and the idea is for people to get friends and family to sponsor them for each church they visit, much like a sponsored walk. Traditionally the visit takes place on a bike, or by foot, but we understand the rules have relaxed and a visit by car is also now acceptable – as long as you sign the B&HHCT register which each participating church will have. The money raised through sponsorship, is split 50/50 with half going directly to B&HHCT, and half to a church of your choice (hopefully St Eth's with St Luke's).

### **Q. How can I help by participating in Bike 'n Hike?**

There are two main ways for you to support this cause:

1. By getting people you know to sponsor you to visit a range of churches in Beds & Herts.
2. By helping out on the day welcoming Bike 'n Hike visitors to St Eth's & St Luke's.

### **Q. Can I visit any churches I like – or is there a plan I must stick to?**

A. The sponsored visits to participating churches are entirely your choice and do not have to be local, much will depend on whether you are travelling by foot, bike or car.

### **Q. Is this something that you could help us with ?**

If so please contact either:

Richard Morton—e: [richard@rm-architects.com](mailto:richard@rm-architects.com), or

Mary Rathbone—e: [maryrathbone@icloud.com](mailto:maryrathbone@icloud.com)

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

## Remembering those WW1 soldiers from Hatfield who died in service to their country in September

There were a great many losses for Hatfield during the month of September throughout WW1, but in particular in September 1916, when the Battle of the Somme raged. Commencing on 1st July 1916 and ending on 18th November 1916. The Battle of the Somme was one of the defining events of WW1, resulting in over one million casualties.

On a lighter note, church bells rang out spontaneously around the country on the 11th November 1918 to celebrate news of the signing of the armistice, marking the end of the most catastrophic war the world had yet seen. However, amongst the losses were 1400 bell ringers—including one of ours, Rupert Edward Gascoyne Cecil. The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers have now launched a campaign to recruit 1400 new bell ringers to ring in their honour on 11th November 2018—could you be one of those? More details on page 8.

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

*... Father Darren*

**Adams, E.W. Age: 26**

Rank: Private

Regiment: Hertfordshire Regiment

Date/Memorial: 23rd September 1917/Tyne Cot Memorial

**Angell, F.T. Age: 19**

Rank: Private

Regiment: Royal Berkshire Regiment

Date/Memorial: 30th September 1916/Theipval Memorial

**Baker, Albert Arthur Age: 39**

Rank: Private

Regiment: Canadian Infantry

Date/Cemetery: 2nd September 1918/Wancourt British Cemetery

**Buck, William Age: 22**

Rank: Gunner

Regiment: Royal Field Artillery

Date/Memorial: 30th September 1917/Mendinghem Cemetery

**Cecil George Edward Age: 18**

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Regiment: Grenadier Guards No. 4 Coy. 2nd Bn.

Date/Memorial: 1st September 1914/Villiers Cotterets Forrest

**Cooper, George Ernest, Age: Approximately 36**

Rank: Lance Corporal

Regiment: Middlesex Regiment

Date/Memorial: 29th September 1918/Tyne Cot Memorial

**Currell, John T. M.M Age: 21**

Rank: Private

Regiment: West Yorkshire Regiment

Date/Memorial: 25th September 1916/Theipval Memorial

**Davies or Davis William George, Age: Approximately 23**

Rank: Private

Regiment: Canadian Infantry

Date/Memorial: 17th September 1916/Adanac Cemetery, Miramont

## Music at St Eth's—Jill Knight, Director of Music

I am writing this article on the west coast of Ireland on a sunny but blustery day, after a wonderful walk on Valentia Island to one of the most westerly points in Europe; from Bray Head, you can see two jagged rocks 12 miles out to sea – The Skelligs. Star Wars fans may recognise them as featuring in the latest Star Wars films. However, way before then, Skellig Michael was the site of a very early Christian monastery where the monks worshipped God, in a beautiful, but at times very harsh environment. It is inspirational in its remoteness, beauty and tranquillity – and helps me as I look ahead to prepare the music at St Eth's for Harvest, the Burghley Sermon, Remembrance, Advent and Christmas.

Both our junior and adult choirs have taken a break over the summer but will start again in September. The first rehearsal for the **adults** is on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm** and **Y.E.S!** are starting the term with a **training morning on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**,

followed by an activity afternoon at Phasels Wood. On Pentecost Sunday we appointed

**Catriona Stewart** as our first **Head Chorister** for Y.E.S! and **Lewis Gower and Cheryl Jeyakumar** as **Deputy Head Choristers**.

These positions of responsibility within our Junior Choir will be held for one year and give our young people an opportunity to demonstrate their organisational, caring and leadership skills within Y.E.S! and our Christian family.





**Dollemore, Alfred James Abel Age: Approximately 21**

Rank: Private  
 Regiment: Queens Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) 7th Bn.  
 Date/Memorial: 30th September 1916/Thiepval Memorial

**Fox, William Henry Age: Approximately 21**

Rank: Private  
 Regiment: Bedfordshire Regiment  
 Date/Memorial: 18th September 1916/Jerusalem Memorial

**Garland, Charles Henry Age: 25**

Rank: Private  
 Regiment: Army Service Corps  
 Date/Cemetery: 28th September 1917/Lussenthoek Military Cemetery

**Groom, David Age: Approximately 32**

Rank: Private  
 Regiment: Royal Irish Fusiliers, 5th Battalion  
 Date/Cemetery: 30th September 1916/Mikra British Cemetery

**Hedger, John Age: Approximately 22**

Rank: Private  
 Regiment: 7th Bn. Bedfordshire Regiment  
 Date/Memorial: 26th September 1916/Thiepval Memorial

**Hooker, Frederick Age: 25**

Rank: Corporal  
 Regiment: 8th Bn. Bedfordshire Regiment  
 Date/Memorial: 15th September 1916/Thiepval Memorial

**Laughton, Joseph Thornton, Age: 22**

Rank: Second Lieutenant  
 Regiment: 1st Bn. Bedfordshire Regiment  
 Date/Memorial: 22nd September 1918/St Sever Cemetery

**Matthews, James E. Age: Approximately 19**

Rank: Private  
 Regiment: Grenadier Guards 2nd Battalion  
 Date/Memorial: 15th September 1916/Serre Road Cemetery No.2

**Monk, Henry J. Age: Approximately 24**

Rank: Private  
 Regiment: Bedfordshire Regiment 1st Bn.  
 Date/Memorial: 18th September 1915/Carnoy Military Cemetery

**Newman, Frederick Age: Approximately 22**

Rank: Private  
 Regiment: Royal Fusiliers 3rd Bn.  
 Date/Memorial: 27th September 1915/Loos Memorial

**Page, David Age: 30**

Rank: Gunner  
 Regiment: Royal Marine Artillery HMS Aboukir  
 Date/Memorial: 22nd September 1914/Portsmouth Naval Memorial

**Pollard, Thomas David Age: 25**

Rank: Private  
 Regiment: Bedfordshire Regiment 2nd Battalion  
 Date/Memorial: 25th September 1915/Loos Memorial

**Rice, George Age: Not known**

Rank: Sergeant  
 Regiment: Gloucestershire Regiment, 18th Battalion  
 Date/Memorial: 3rd September 1918/St Luke's Churchyard

**Roberts, Thomas W. Age: 24**

Rank: Private  
 Regiment: Royal Dublin Fusiliers  
 Date/Memorial: 18th September 1916/

**Walby, Sidney. M.M Age:**

Rank: Sergeant  
 Regiment: Bedfordshire Regiment 2nd Bn.  
 Date/Memorial: 21st September 1918/Unicorn Cemetery Vendhuile

**Welch, Henry William Age: 37**

Rank: Private  
 Regiment: York and Lancaster Regiment  
 Date/Memorial: 19th September 1918/Vis-en-arts Memorial



This year's choral scholarship auditions were held at St Eth's in July for choristers who are RSCM dark blue award or above level and will be 12-18 years of age in the school year September 2018-August 2019. This year, we appointed four choral scholars: **Catriona Stewart, and Cheryl Jeyakumar** will be **St Etheldreda's Choral Scholars**, **Lewis Gower** will hold the **Garland Choral Scholarship**, donated by Judy Bird in memory of her sister, and **Evie Harding** will hold the **Stratton Choral Scholarship**, donated by Chris Stratton in memory of his father. Through the kind generosity of the **Salisbury family**, we have also appointed **William Douglas as the Salisbury Organ Scholar for 2018-19** and have awarded an organ bursary to **Catriona Stewart** to support her in learning to play the organ.

These awards will be presented at St Eth's during our next "All-Age service" on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30am. **We would like to thank everyone who has donated to our fund to inspire, encourage and support our young choristers and organists and secure the future of music in our services at St. Eth's for many generations to come.**

This year we are planning a special event to commemorate 100 years since the end of WW1 in 1918. On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm Y.E.S! will join our adult choir for a concert of Words and Music at St Eth's for Armistice, featuring Fauré's "Requiem". If you are interested in singing with the choir for this event (or indeed for our Advent and Christmas services and beyond), please contact me as soon as possible about rehearsal dates and times.

e: [jill.jkmusic@gmail.com](mailto:jill.jkmusic@gmail.com) t: 01707 894949



The Creation of Adam is a fresco painting by Michelangelo, which forms part of the Sistine Chapel's ceiling, painted c. 1508–1512.

This painting has become an icon of humanity

Sometimes people ask, if God is real then why do miracles not happen today? Well my belief is they do – all around us every day, but are often taken for granted.

I am talking about the miracle of God's creation of course. Of the sea and sky, the mountains and forests, the different seasons and unpredictability of a wide spectrum of weather conditions. And the amazing miracle of the human mind, body and spirit. It is rare (if not impossible) to be alive anywhere – day or night – and not be able to catch at least a glimpse of the awe inspiring beauty of God's creation.

God's newest creation on earth is the Church, brought about by the miracle of the resurrection from death of Jesus Christ, after he was crucified on the cross.

There is a hymn we sing in church, the first verse goes:

*The Church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
**She (the church) is His new creation,  
by water and the Word;**  
from heaven He came and sought  
her to be His holy bride;  
with His own blood He bought her,  
and for her life He died.*

This hymn has become one of my favourites as I continue to better understand the Church as, possibly,

God's greatest creation here on earth. We believe that God works through it to bring about his will on earth and for over 2000 years, millions of people, all over the world, have worked hard to help develop the Church, for God and for future generations.

We believe that God is alive and working through us in Hatfield at St Eth's and St Luke's today, and that, through his grace, we are making great progress in many dimensions of our work as listed to the right. Also in the background on many more projects and working groups, for example:

- Our new Children's Sunday School meets every Sunday, in term time. It offers creative/ artistic activities built around the biblical theme of the day.
- A planning group now meet regularly to develop a clear strategy for progressing God's plan for our two churches and, in particular, how we communicate with the wider parish.
- This magazine, Refocused, launched in September 2013, celebrates its 5th anniversary this month. We now distribute it widely within the parish, to bring the word of God's great love for the whole of his creation to as many as possible.

## Where is God in our work?

*'It was humbling to be able to support Hatfield's homeless project last winter with the offer of shelter at St Luke's which gave essential support to over twenty adults.'*

**Father Darren**

*'Taste & See' is a parish weekend away, whilst staying at home! Held at St Mary's North Myms, 12-14 October it offers wonderful opportunities for Christian fellowship'*

**Rev Penny**

*'Our building renovation project is progressing at a steady pace; this work will enable us to offer modern facilities at our wide range of services and community social functions.'*

**Church Warden, Richard Morton**

*'With community wide support, we have set up a way for all to offer financial support to our building work, through a Prize Draw, offering a range of first class prizes'*

**Reader, John Barnard**

*'The miracle of the human voice becomes very apparent in song. Not just the beauty of the sound created, it also supports our worship and creates community for all age groups'*

**Choir Director, Jill Knight**

All this work is to make St Eth's and St Luke's more amenable to all who live in our parish—that means you!

We warmly invite you to join with us and to support us in—what must be one of the longest continually running projects ever undertaken by mankind—the development of the Church. All are welcome to join us and become a modern day working part in the miracle of God's newest creation.

## Taste & See our Parish Weekend on 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> October at St Mary's Church, North Mymms

John Barnard, Reader—e: [john209barnard@btinternet.com](mailto:john209barnard@btinternet.com)

St Mary's is a lovely church that has good meeting facilities and is an ideal place to hold our Parish Weekend.

It would be wonderful if you could envisage attending the whole weekend as there are many exciting activities planned from country walks, to flower decorating, to glass painting, as well as teaching sessions on prayer and studying the Bible.

There is a full programme planned, the details of which are on a leaflet at the back of church. We will be asking for a small contribution to the cost of the weekend from everyone and are suggesting £20 each with children under 16 free. This donation however is not set in stone. We ask that you contribute whatever you are comfortable with and no-one will know what you have 'put in'.

Be sure to pick up your leaflet which also has an application slip, or contact Fr Darren, Rev Penny, Fr William, Mary Rathbone or myself.

I really hope that you will be able to come and make this a truly memorable weekend.



### West End Project — Richard Morton, Church Warden—e: [richard@rm-architects.com](mailto:richard@rm-architects.com)

On the back page of this magazine you will find a brand new perspective to show just how fine the west end of St Eth's will look once our project is complete. Not only will it look good but it will give us a lovely new meeting room for the benefit of a whole array of church and community users, a new exhibition and education gallery upstairs, a much improved vestry for our growing choir, a brand new kitchen and, best of all, three toilets.

This promises to be a wonderful new facility for the church and for Hatfield, and it now has approvals from the Diocese, the Council and Historic England (formerly English Heritage), but it's going to cost a great deal.

We think we can make a good case to various funding bodies and documents for this are being put together right now, but we need to back all that up with our own efforts so please support this hugely worthwhile project with your money, time and ideas.

### St Etheldreda's with St Luke's Prize Draw — Jo Roscoe

Have you bought your tickets yet? You might win; a Eurostar weekend trip to Paris for two; a 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? This 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 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!

Further information and tickets are available at church as well as from the Parish Office and look out for more publicity, posters etc. Prizes will be drawn on the 9th December. Make sure you get your tickets in good time. And good luck!

## Tail End.....news from the bell ringers—1400 bell ringers required...

...to commemorate the 1400 bell ringers who died in the First World War, the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers have launched a campaign to recruit 1400 new bell ringers. This is a call out to all of us and an opportunity for everyone, a chance to make this wonderful ancient tradition open to all.

When the bells rang out on the 11th November 1918 they announced the end of the most catastrophic war the world had yet seen. 100 years ago we had eight bells in the tower – unfortunately, we don't have any records as to who rang the bells on 11/11/18. In 1929, two trebles were added in memory of Rupert Edward Gascoyne Cecil, one of our bell ringers, who lost his life at Ypres in 1915.

On 11th November 2018, St Etheldreda's bell ringers will endeavour to ring all of our ten bells to commemorate

the occasion. Those of you who live close to the tower will hear only six bells ringing on Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings because we don't yet have enough experienced ringers to ring all ten bells.

The campaign to recruit 1400 bell ringers was mentioned in The House of Commons in June and in Radio 4's 'Archers' programme in July. David Malpas (an avid Archers fan) listened to the episode about "the 1400" and contacted us with a view to learn to ring. He is making good progress and we hope he will be a valued member of the band for Armistice Day this year.

If you would like to be one of the 1,400, we can teach you how to ring. Please contact:

Mary and Rob Goss

t: 01438-718038 e: mary.rob.goss@gmail.com

"On 11 November 1918 the ringing of church bells erupted spontaneously across the country, as an outpouring of relief that 4 years of war had come to an end. I am pleased that to honour that moment and the 1,400 bell ringers who died in the war, we will be recruiting 1,400 new bell ringers to take part in the commemorations in 2018."

**Karen Bradley, Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport**

[www.gov.uk/government/news/nations-bells-to-ring-out-together-to-mark-armistice-centenary](http://www.gov.uk/government/news/nations-bells-to-ring-out-together-to-mark-armistice-centenary)

## New Beginnings – New Ventures — Jo Roscoe, Associate Governor

September marks the start of a new academic year for our Church school Countess Anne (CA). But before turning to that, let us take a look at some of last term's achievements:

- Year 2 enjoyed their first residential (i.e. overnight) camp – a big step for these younger boys and girls.
- Year 6 took their much bigger steps among the peaks of Snowdonia in the early summer and ended their last CA term at the top of Helvellyn, in the Lake District - ascending by the most difficult rocky ridge route. A milestone experience if ever there was one.
- The Gardening Club, after winning gold in 2017 at Chelsea, this year went to RHS Wisley and won silver for Garden Design!
- The year ended with the now traditional Cannes Film Festival, with highly praised films and wonderful "dressing up to the nines".
- And I must mention that CA was even short listed for the Times Educational Supplement national competition for Primary Schools with the best and most varied extra-curricular activities. Comedian Al Murray – one of the panelists - declared CA as his personal favourite.
- All that while sustaining good academic outcomes.

The end of the year also brought departures of several much loved and appreciated staff. And special mention should be made of Glynis Cracknell as she prepares to leave the Governing Body. A committed and hard-working Governor, she will be very much missed. Our thanks and many blessings go with her and husband David as they leave the area to move closer to their children and grandchildren.

So new beginnings for the Governing Body, new staff members and especially for the new Year 1, while our old Year 6 are now beginners again at "big" school. Let us keep them all in mind with our prayerful support as they begin their new ventures.

I am conscious that I never write about CA's substantial sporting achievements. Although I read about them in the weekly school newsletter\*, they slip out of mind. But what I do know is that CA teams play hard to win, but take pride and pleasure in having done their best whatever the result. Perhaps in the end this is the most valuable lesson which Countess Anne has to offer its pupils so that they may achieve a happy, healthy and **successful lifestyle**.

\* countessanne primary.org.uk



# KNIT A POPPY

for display in St Luke's Church

Find out more at:

St Luke's 11.30 Sat. 8th Sept.

Contact:

Eve Lloyd 01707 884981

## Bishops Hatfield Team Retreat 16th—18th November 2018

is at Pleshey Retreat House  
near Chelmsford.

Our Retreat Leader this year  
will be Revd Dr Penny Thomson.  
Please contact Linda Barnard  
on 01707 335074 or email her  
at [bhteamoffice@gmail.com](mailto:bhteamoffice@gmail.com)  
for further information or to  
book a place.

St Martin in the Field are running a **free Autumn Series of lectures** which focus on the theme of encounter. How are we changed by the people, events or objects we encounter when we meet them face-to-face? What inspires us to new ways of being and relating to God and to others? How do we encounter God in our lives? The first being:

### Encountering the Other: with Rowan Williams

Monday 17 September 2018, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

[www.stmartin-in-the-fields.org/whats-on/?tags=autumn-lecture-series&tag-category=296](http://www.stmartin-in-the-fields.org/whats-on/?tags=autumn-lecture-series&tag-category=296)

**Alice  
Coralie  
Glyn** Homes  
Trust

We are a local Almshouse Charity with  
14 properties in

Turmore Dale and Hyde Valley

Welwyn Garden City

If you are over 60 and looking for accommodation,  
please contact our Managing Agents:

Welwyn Garden City Housing Association on:

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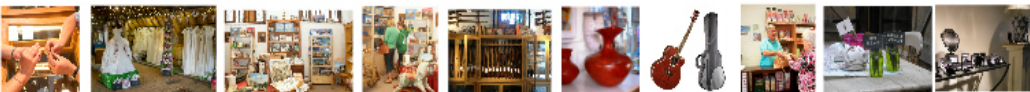
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## Parish Team Office

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**Hatfield Chamber Orchestra  
at St Etheldreda's Church  
on  
Sunday 9<sup>h</sup> September 7.30pm**

Gabrielle Lester is the soloist in the ever-popular 'The Lark Ascending' by Vaughan Williams at St Etheldreda's at 7.30pm on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September. She has been guest leader of numerous major orchestras, and is Professor of Violin at the Royal College of Music. The Lark Ascending is performed with two classical symphonies: No. 99 by Haydn and No. 4 by Beethoven.



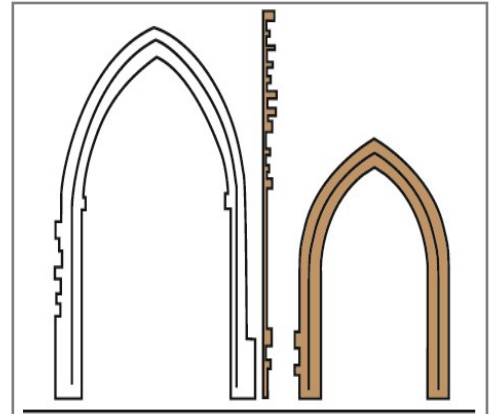
The concert sees a return to St Eth's by Hatfield Chamber Orchestra, which has established a reputation for exciting concerts. Conducted by Johnathan William, it comprises professionals, amateurs, students and some outstanding school pupils.

**Gabrielle Lester**

Tickets to the concert  
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