

JANUARY • FEBRUARY 2025

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and be known as nothing more
than a rather dull time in British
history. But when three hapless
squires approach him about
changing that legacy...
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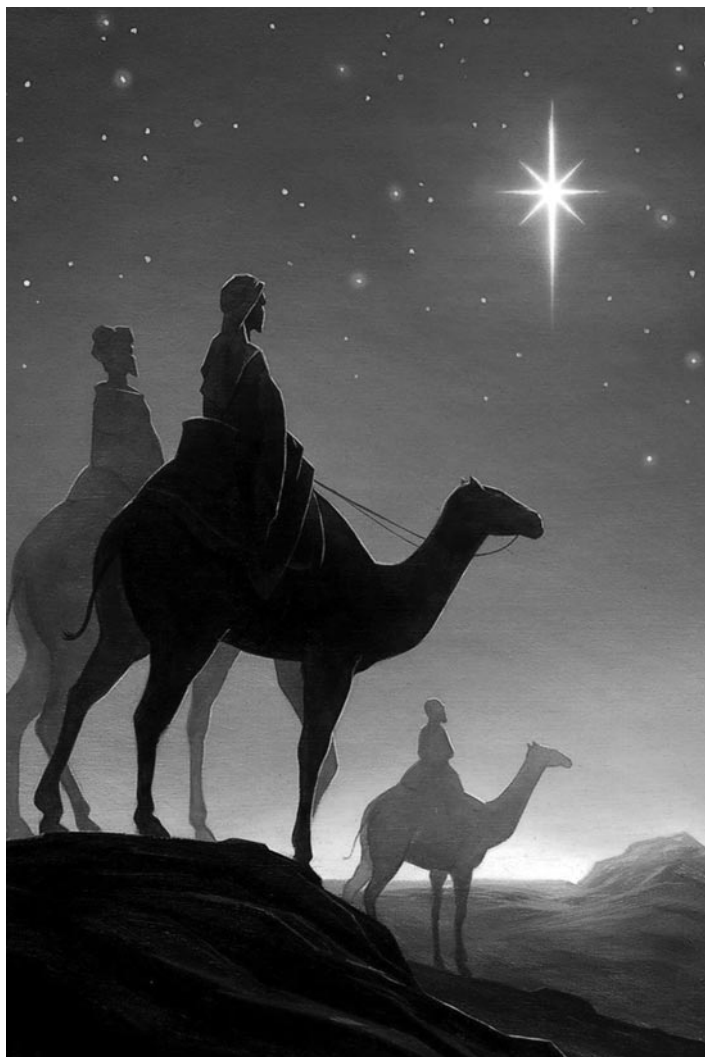
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KING ARTHUR



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Bengeio Parish Magazine and Community News



After all the festivities of the Christmas and New Year season we come down to earth with resolutions for 2025. Good luck with your dry January or trips to the gym.

In the cold, dark winter months of January and February please keep an eye on your elderly or vulnerable neighbours, especially those who live alone. There is a lively community spirit in Bengeio to help look after one another.

In this issue we also look forward to local cultural events at BEAM, The COPS Theatre and Courtyard Arts. As Bridget says, you may even find a Common Daisy in the winter snow.

The Editorial Team

The views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily those of the Editorial Team or the PCC. Whilst every care is taken, we cannot be responsible for the action of any of the contributors or advertisers in this magazine.

Front cover: St Leonard's in the snow.
Barry Goodey, Big Drone Shots.

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Editorial Team

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The Bengelo Neighbourhood Area Plan was adopted in 2021 and from that time the BNAP Steering Committee have continued to meet to discuss local planning applications. Currently the second phase of the development on Bengelo Field and the creation of local projects such as the Bengelo Community Garden on Duncombe Road. Now it has been decided that the committee should transition to become the Love Bengelo Community Group and place more focus on new local projects.

John Howson has chosen to step-down as Chair and I would like to express our thanks for the hard work and dedication John has shown steering the BNAP through its many stages

Our new projects include continuing to develop the Bengelo Community Garden, creating a walking trail, and Bengelo Cycling Routes for those that take their exercise on two wheels. The walking trail will take in some of the most interesting and historic sites in

Bengelo possibly including online information at specific sites accessed by a QR code.

We will continue to try to resolve the traffic problems in Lower Bengelo and preserve the former railway land as a green space and possible walking or cycling path.

Whilst it is very disappointing that East Herts District Council Planning Committee decided to approve the application for the second phase of building 118 homes on Bengelo Field, throwing the area into years of construction chaos and destroying a highly valued unique landscape, we will now try to engage positively with Durkan to get the best possible buildings and green spaces in the development.

If you have any ideas how you would like Bengelo to become an even better place to live or if you are able to contribute to the new projects, please come along to a meeting, they are all open to the public. We meet once every three months and the next meeting is on Monday 27th January 2025 at 7pm at the Bengelo Club.

Paul Keyworth

Chair, Love Bengelo Community Group

Read all about it! Bengelo Community Garden

Our newly installed Information Board features a summary of the site and its recent transformation from waste ground into a Community Garden. We hope to restore the iron fence in the New Year and will be holding a fundraising raffle in early February. Look out for the date.

Veronica Fraser



On The Doorstep – Common Daisy



The lovely Common Daisy is a much-overlooked and indeed, trampled on, little flower. It is a delicate but hardy beauty and can be seen pretty much all year round. I have even seen it poking out through snow. The Daisy is a member of the Asteraceae family which is one of the largest flower families. The Common Daisy is a low growing plant that can be found in many lawns and grassy areas. It is a native of Europe and can be found as far north as the Faroe Islands. It is widespread and naturalised in most temperate regions including the Americas and Australasia.

The flower has a rosette of small rounded, spoon-shaped leaves that grow flat to the ground. The plant sends out rhizomes, which then send out shoots, which means that the plant can colonise large areas. The stalk is hairy with no leaves and can grow to around 20cm in height with a single flower at the end. The flower is actually not one flower head but many, the flower is made up of hundreds of tiny yellow flowers (florets), surrounded by a disc

of white flowers (ray florets), these can also sometimes be red/pink tipped. Each tiny floret has its own stigma and stamen. The flowers are held on a bract, a leaf structure. The yellow flowers in the centre are actually in a spiral pattern.

The Daisy is visited by many insects including Hoverfly, honey bee and bumble bee. However, the insects that are probably the Daisy's best pollinators are the thrip and small beetles.

The plant displays heliotropism, which means that the flowers follow the position of the sun. The flowers also close at night and open in the day. This is possibly where the name Daisy originates from as the flower was known as 'day's eye'. In fact, Chaucer mentions the Daisy calling it 'eye of the day'. The flower has also been known as Bruisewort and its Latin name is *Bellis Perennis*, *Bellis* probably from the Latin *Bellus* meaning pretty and *perennis* meaning everlasting.

The Daisy has been used since ancient times as an herbal remedy. The Egyptians grew them and used them to help ease stomach ulcer, gout and fever and you can still see herbal teas using daisies in them. The young leaves have been used in salads and can also be cooked.

The Daisy is synonymous with innocence and youth, evoking memories of making Daisy chains and playing 'loves me loves me not' whilst pulling off the petals and no impromptu posy making for your Mum was ever complete without a few wilting Daisies in it. So, it is no surprise that the Daisy symbolises innocence and purity and, of course, there are many legends about the delicate flower. There is a Celtic legend that said when an infant

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died God would sprinkle daisies over the land as a sympathy flower. In Norse mythology the Daisy is known as the sacred flower of the Goddess Freya, who was the Goddess of love, beauty and fertility, so a flower for motherhood and new beginnings.

Of course, Daisies have been written about in literature and in many poems over the years, but seeing as January is the month that Robert Burns is celebrated, I will end here with little extract from a poem by him:

*"Now nature hangs her mantle green,
On every blooming tree,
And spreads her sheet o'daisies white,
Out o'er the grassy lea."*

From 'Lament of Mary, Queen of Scots, On the Approach of Spring.'

Bridget Hersant



Friends of St Leonard's

The Friends of St Leonard's rounded off a very successful 2024 with a Christmas Wassail with Magpie Lane on 7th December. The church was packed and we all enjoyed a fantastic concert with some rousing singing-along.

The Friends have started thinking about what to do in 2025. If you have any ideas on special events or activities in St Leonard's, please get in touch as we would love to hear them – Secretaryfriendsofstleonards@gmail.com.

The programme of activities will be advertised on the website so keep an eye out for updates www.stleonards.parishofbengeo.com/events-and-concerts-at-st-leonards. Or you can follow us on Facebook (Friends of St Leonard's Bengeo).

Membership

If you want to get more involved, we would be happy to welcome you into the Friends. A very reasonable £5 for individuals and £10 for families for a year's membership gets you advance warning of our events. You can join through our website www.stleonards.parishofbengeo.com/friends-of-st-leonards or just get in touch via my email.

We are always looking for help with keeping the church open, so if you are interested in offering some of your time to help out, we would be very glad to hear from you.

Helen Fleming

Secretaryfriendsofstleonards@gmail.com

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2nd Bengo Scouts update

2nd Bengo Scout Group have enjoyed a wonderful Autumn Term!

Both Beaver colonies have been very busy this term with activities such as mini raft building, map reading and bulb planting with former Mayor of Hertford, Sue Barber. Both Cub Packs have enjoyed making Christmas cakes, a visit to the archives, a walk around Panshanger Park and making stir fries!

The Scouts have enjoyed taking part in the Green Beret challenge and taking part in the annual Christmas Carol Service! Each section performed sketches to friends and family members and sang carols. A perfect way to start the festive season. A big thank you to Melanie Delaney for organising the event.

2nd Bengo also held a seasonal fayre that attracted many visitors despite awful weather! We would like to thank everyone for their support at the fayre.

2nd Bengo are very proud to have had one of our Beavers earn their highest achievement award. Eleanor Simmonds has achieved her Chief Scout Bronze Award, well done Eleanor!

We are currently looking for volunteers to help in our leadership teams in Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. If you think this is something you can help with and would like more information please get in touch via the 2nd Bengo website www.bengeoscouts.co.uk.



The Coffee Pot celebrates



On 14th November we celebrated Margaret Game's 90th birthday at Coffee Pot. She is one of our most loyal and long-standing customers so celebrations were in order. It was a full house on that day and cakes, candles, balloons, a tiara and sash were all in order. It was a very jolly occasion. Thanks to everyone who made it a special day for Margaret.

Our most recent charity was Libury Hall at Great Munden, near Ware. This is a comfortable and friendly home for 40 men and women aged 40 and over who have mental health problems and are in need of practical, emotional or social support. We raised £1,800 for them and this is an excerpt from the Director's email: "Thank you for such a wonderful amount raised for Libury Hall. I cannot begin to tell you how much it is appreciated. The amount of

money you have made will enable us to pay for the Christmas Party with food and drinks and go towards their Christmas presents. Please send my thanks to everyone who contributed."

The Coffee Pot's current charity, for whom we are raising money, is the Bereavement Café.

Pam Thain

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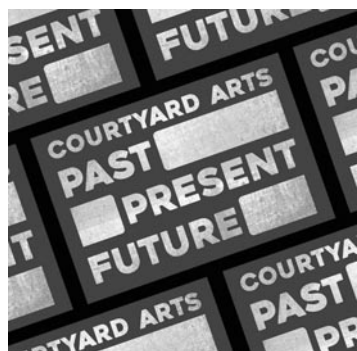
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Courtyard Arts Exhibitions

**Courtyard:
Past, Present &
Future**

**Courtyard Gallery
7th–18th January**



The year starts with a special exhibition. They will be celebrating all things Courtyard Arts. Looking back through their history, the people who started it all, the way the centre has grown to be the community it is today and what their ambitions are going forward.

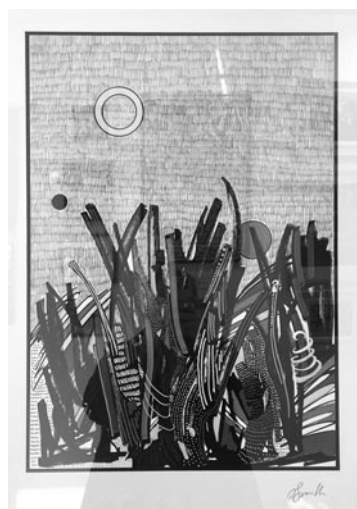
Hertford Regional College

**Courtyard Gallery
21st January–1st February**

Courtyard Arts once again showcases the latest artworks from the Higher Education students at Hertford Regional College.

Ollie Smith

**The Stables Gallery
14th January to 8th February**



The first exhibition of the year in The Stables Gallery is from local Graphic Artist and commended Courtyard Open 2024 artist, Ollie Smith.



COPS Theatre

presents

Ghosts by Henrik Ibsen

**7th–15th February 2025 at
7.45pm | Matinee on 8th
February at 2:30pm**

"We may even be ghosts ourselves. I look out there – everywhere there are spirits – everywhere – in numbers like grains of sand. And we're all – all of us – so pathetically afraid of the light."

Helen Alving is preparing to open an orphanage in memory of her late husband when her son Osvald returns home after many years abroad. As she begins to feel the presence of ghosts from the past, he discovers that there is more to his mystery illness than he first thought. Long-hidden secrets unravel and his father's legacies emerge – only by uncovering the truth can they both be set free.

Ghosts is the most accomplished play of Ibsen's middle period, in a sparse, tense version by Mike Poulton that crackles with energy. Like a thriller, the revelations rise to fever pitch. Characters tell truths, half-truths, lies – conscious and unconscious – and there are ghosts everywhere.





The Children's Society

Christingle Service on Advent Sunday

Many thanks again to Rachel at the Bengo Co-op for donating the oranges and to all those who helped assemble the Christingles and for their support at the Service.

The Service was led by our Lay Reader Bob Kelly who was well supported by Bridget, Robert, Eileen and Jim. and several volunteer children. Bob gave us a different take on the original Christingle and we had fun watching Jim riding a scooter along the aisle in a high-viz jacket explaining the need of a bright light. We also had Anne with our musician's band which greatly added to the delightful Service. So thank you to everyone who took part and to all those who came and supported us and received a Christingle in return for a donation to the Children's Society.

We were able to raise £205 for the invaluable work of the Charity so were very pleased with the result.

House Box Collection

Another thank you to all those who have house boxes, they have all been counted and with your generosity have raised £982.05.

We are so grateful to all our supporters and are very pleased to say that the total for 2024 with our Coffee Morning, Box collection and Christingle Service is £1,825.45.

Our grateful thanks to everyone involved in any way for the willing support you give us.

Our very best wishes for 2025

Libby and Peter



Operation Christmas Child

Shoe Box Appeal 11th November 2024

Today we were delighted to deliver 59 boxes to the collection point at Christ Church, Ware. The boxes were donated by Bengo Parishioners, Scouts and Brownies.

We also presented cheques to the value of £365 donated by the congregation of Holy Trinity Church.

We were thrilled by the response from you all and, on behalf of the many children across the world who will receive the boxes, we thank you for your most generous gifts.

We wish you all a very Happy New Year.

Eileen and Jim Smith



Remembering Guy Horlock – 1929 to 2024



Guy was born at home in Slough 16th June 1929, but shortly after moved to Beckenham in Kent. The first child of 'older' parents, Guy was constantly getting into trouble.

Life changed dramatically for him at the age of 10 when war was declared. Guy and his brother Roger were evacuated to their

cousins in the Cotswolds. Initially he worked on the farms and delivered milk, helped with the harvest, stooking grain and gathering in crops to the barns. He loved it. School unfortunately wasn't as successful and he was moved back to Windsor in order to go to St George's School Windsor Castle and then Dulwich College. Shortly after this the family moved to his beloved Margate.

1947 saw Guy proudly joining the elite 42 Commando Royal Marines as part of his National Service. Alongside winning many of the top cadet awards, he went to Lympstone, St Ives, Plymouth, Malta, Gibraltar, Tripoli gun running to Palestine and ended with defending the Suez Canal. It was on his way home that he managed to catch chicken pox. His temperature went up and his hair fell out. It never recovered!

Returning to the UK he trained as a brewer and got a job as a chemist at the local maltings firm in Stanstead Abbots – French and Jupps. 62 years later he retired as chairman!

An old chicken farm came up for sale on The Avenue in Bengeio. Borrowing his Dutch friend's house plans, 'Fireflies' was designed. It took a year to build, and whilst working full time he learnt as he went along. Always one for a deal, he used the house as a demonstration for a new type of plastic damp course. The bricks were second-hand bricks from old maltings being pulled down in Ware.

Meeting Jenny in Cambridge in March 1967, getting engaged in the September and then marrying her here at Holy Trinity 6 weeks later, the man who said he would never get married had finally settled down! Then went on to have three children.

Bengeio was his home. He threw himself into village life. As church warden, where he was the instigator in having St Leonard's re-consecrated for weddings, a PCC member for many years, one of the Summer Fete organisers and stained-glass window benefactor, Holy Trinity was at the heart of his faith and beliefs.

Eventually his health started to deteriorate due to his Parkinsons and the decision was made to finally leave Fireflies after 55 years and move into 'Dial House'. He amazed us all by driving himself on his mobility scooter round to the new house with barely a look back. He was ready for his new adventure.

Guy's attitude to life was live it to the full. His father's advice to him when he joined the marines was 'take every opportunity you are given, they won't ask you twice!' It was the mantra he lived by and passed onto the next generation as well.

He died peacefully in the late hours of 25th August 2024.



The Trinity Window in Holy Trinity Church, representing God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, was presented to the church as a gift by Guy and Jenny Horlock in 2006.

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Bengeio School

We are seeking dedicated individuals to join our board of governors at Bengeio Primary School. This is a gratifying opportunity to play a vital role in shaping the educational landscape of our local community. As a governor, you will collaborate with staff and stakeholders to promote the school's vision, ensuring that every child achieves their full potential.

Governors are instrumental in setting strategic direction, supporting community initiatives, and fostering partnerships that benefit our children. Your involvement will enable the school to thrive, while

also affording you the chance to influence positive change within the community. This role is ideal for individuals who are passionate about education, have a commitment to serving others, and possess a desire to make a meaningful contribution.

If you are interested in making a difference and have the skills to support our local school, we invite you to apply to become a governor.

For more information, please contact the school office on **01992 582765** or email **admin@bengeio.herts.sch.uk** to be put in contact with the Clerk of the Chair of Governors.

Hertford Adult Learning Group

We meet on a Tuesday morning at the Parish Church Hall, Duncombe Road, Bengeio. The current course, *'The Soul of Russian Music with a Native Russian'*, has proved very popular and filled up quickly.

After Easter 2025 we hope to run 'The Rise of Hitler and Nazi Germany to 1939' with Stephen Corley, a five week course from 22nd April to 20th May. Stephen is no stranger to Bengeio, having taught several enjoyable history courses for Hertford WEA, which was the forerunner of Hertford Adult Learning Group.

Everyone on our database will be sent information about the next course. If you would like to join the database please send your email details to **halgcontact@gmail.com**.



Hertford and District Churches Together are part of the local 'Churches Together in Hertfordshire' and national 'Churches Together in England'.

Congregations of Churches in and around Hertford are working together to promote the Gospel message through actions and prayers into the communities. We all seek to serve in our own way but there is a benefit in together to support special projects. By doing so we can reach out into areas that require more resource that only a unified response can achieve.

We celebrate God's blessings for Hertford and District through the Annual Unity Service and afternoon tea, always a popular, busy and enjoyable worship event. This year it is hosted by the Methodist Church in Ware Road on Sunday 26th January at 3pm. As you can imagine from the Methodist Church there will be a rousing and uplifting service with excellent tea and cakes.

David Cramphorn

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Mill Mead Primary School



Ducklings have been learning about Guy Fawkes and the reason we have fireworks on 5th November and created a role play area where we could retell the story and act it out. We had a special

visitor who came in and talked to us about celebrating Diwali. We used lots of different media to represent our loved ones.

Mice This time of year is always a busy time, and Reception have been up to a lot since half term. We started the term with our whole school Rebellion Project. We were very busy preparing for the Christmas Nativity.

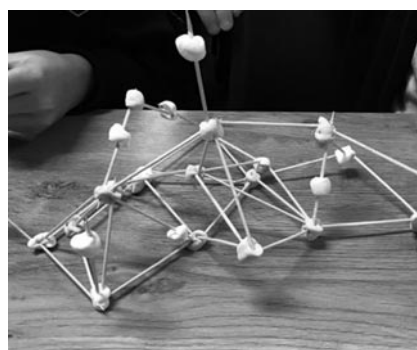


Birds In Art we have been Inspired by artists such as Bridget Riley and have created art to cheer up our book corner and a seascape, inspired by listening to Claude Debussy's 'La Mer.' In Maths we have been working on strategies for 'make ten'.

Hedgehogs We have tackled really tricky tasks like building a tower out of card and testing the stability of 3D shapes in DT. During PE we worked on our gymnastic and fitness skills. In Maths we are really getting to grips with our 2, 5 and 10 times tables.



Squirrels have enjoyed being scientists and capturing their inner Mary Anning. They created their own informative video about making their own fossils. In English, they have enjoyed innovating the play script of our book *The Witches*.



Owls have been learning a Science topic on electricity, creating circuits and testing switches and a Geography topic on volcanoes. In Maths, we have

been working on interpreting and creating bar charts and line graphs. In DT we have explored frame structures with cocktail sticks and mini marshmallows, and in RE we have been learning about what Christians believe about Pentecost.

Badgers are reading about Shackleton's Journey and writing applications to join Shackleton's crew! In Maths they have mastered the long multiplication method as well as winning the TT Rockstars trophy for the first time – what an achievement!



Foxes Year 6 performed their interpretation of Macbeth at the Spotlight Theatre as part of the Shakespeare

Schools' Festival. A professional theatre Director said, 'A thrilling, scary and gripping Macbeth, well done! We are in awe of all your passion, hard work and creativity! What you have accomplished is something truly special!'



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Duncombe School's Community Chronicles

December 2024



Hello Everyone!

Can you believe how swiftly this term has flown by and now we are immersed in the festive spirit, adorned with Christmas displays, gearing up for the much-anticipated 'Team Duncombe Christmas Dinner' – the perfect grand finale to our Autumn Term!

This term we have held our annual Team Duncombe Carol Service at Haileybury. The Chapel was filled with beautiful music from the children and our solo performances, were wonderful and their music enjoyed by all of Team Duncombe, children, parents and staff.

Throughout the term, we've joyfully welcomed parents to share in the delights of Class assemblies, Music Breakfast Concerts, our youngest Team Duncombe members have performed in their Nativity shows. Our calendar has been filled with festive Jingle and Mingle Parties, engaging educational trips and events, and our school community has joined together for our annual Glow Party Light Show and Christmas Frost Fest! Along side these, we have celebrated exciting sporting victories and embarked on thrilling enrichment workshops, adding an extra dose of vitality to our term.

What an incredible term! It truly reaffirms that learning comes to life here at Duncombe.

Stay tuned for more tales of our adventures in the next edition.

Team Duncombe

Celebrating International Languages Day: Team Duncombe Exploring the Richness of African Cultures

This year, Team Duncombe celebrated International Language Day with a focus on the richness and diversity of African cultures. The day came alive thanks to some of our wonderful Team Duncombe parents, who generously volunteered their time to visit the school and hold engaging, and often musical, lessons. They taught the children a variety of African languages, songs, and greetings, including basic phrases in Yoruba, Twi, Swahili, and Ndebele.

A heartfelt thank you to our incredible parent volunteers for making this celebration so memorable!



Celebrating a Day of Literacy: With Duncombe's Patron of Reading, Beth Garrod

Team Duncombe's Years 4, 5, and 6 had the privilege of welcoming Duncombe's Patron of Reading and celebrated children's author, Beth Garrod, for a focused literacy workshop.



Beth guided our Upper School pupils through an engaging creative writing session, tackling the ever-daunting Blank Page Syndrome. With her encouraging message to "just give it a go," she inspired everyone to let their ideas flow freely before showing them how to refine their work. Her praise for the pupils' creativity was the highest compliment!

The excitement didn't stop there, Beth also delighted our younger Team Duncombe Treetops pupils with her captivating storytelling, sparking their imaginations with stories.

A huge thank you to Beth for another unforgettable visit! We're already looking forward to her next role as Guest Judge for our 2024 Christmas Write competition!

Celebrating Success: Team Duncombe Sporting Triumphs !

Our U11 football team has done it again, winning the Prep 5-a-side Football Shield! What an incredible term for our unstoppable team, who remain unbeaten after seven games this season, scoring an impressive 19 goals and conceding just two.

Team Duncombe's U11 team has had a remarkable term, showcasing their talent and determination with an impressive list of achievements. They've qualified for both the U11 ISFA and IAPS National Finals, emerged as winners of the U11 East Herts Prep Partnership Football Cup, and most recently claimed the title of Champions in the U11 5-a-side Herts Football Shield.

Are these triumphs down to skill and determination, or perhaps a boost from their stylish new kits, generously provided by our amazing PA Committee? We like to think it's a winning combination of both!



Stay up to date with all our exciting adventures by following us on
Instagram



A Word from The Rectory

Hope: The shape of things to come

From The Vicar, The Revd Robert Thompson



'Happy New Year'
I wished someone in the street the other day, only to get a grunt in return. 'Hope so,' they said, and strode past.

Fair enough – it was an honest answer to an honest question. Oftentimes, our best wish for a new year is to hope that it will be better than the last one.

That won't be difficult. The reviews of 2024 have already set the bar

of expectation low – their annual account of war, economic crisis, social disease and climate catastrophe would make the four Horsemen of the Apocalypse blanch and turn tail.

To summarise: The end of the world is well-nigh. Things are going to get worse. Warmer. Poorer. More divided. The general tenor is 'be afraid, be very afraid.' Where once a new year would see us recklessly braving resolutions, a collective neophobia has descended.

But are we living in the end of days? Are these the worst of times? Or are these the projections – even the ambitions – of middle-aged men like me? I'm old enough to see that things are bad, but I'm also ugly enough to remember worse. I also know that fear sells. Sells papers, votes and products.

It feels as if the pedlars of fear have been buying all the airtime and ad space for far too long, encouraging people who already feel threatened to see threats everywhere. It's dangerous. Stimulating fear in people and then making it sound like wisdom, faith or patriotism makes fear a resolution.

Scouring the internet seeking better stories, I struck Google gold with news on the burgeoning medical revolution of recent times. So bless you Bertalan Meskó, director of the Medical Futurist Institute in Budapest, for leading a chorus of voices hailing a

new 'golden age' of medicine – thanks, in part, to Covid-19.

'Breakthroughs in mRNA technology first applied in Covid vaccines could soon help eradicate certain types of cancer,' he said. 'Then there's the huge potential of Ai and 3D printing and, most excitingly, advances in genomics, which will unlock the genetic bases of many diseases, leading to new and more targeted treatments.'

'It's an amazing time,' he added. 'I feel lucky to be living through it.'

Which is enough to put a smile on my face under a runny nose and winter snuffles.

We need to hear that kind of voice right now. The voice of hope. Rather than being a luxury we can't afford, hope is an essential, even necessary, part of being human. We are these extraordinary creatures able to make great leaps of imagination and faith. We can dare imagine a better year ahead and then dare play our part in bringing it about.

Let's not write off this future before it has arrived. Scripture says God promises us a future. 'For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.' It's freely given. We just have to say yes to it.

2025, then – and should old acquaintance be forgot we'll soon put New Years' greetings behind us. And we'll go on hoping for a better year, despite the evidence.

Hope's not a luxury. It's a precious and unexpected gift to take forward together into this coming year.

And may God go with you.

With my prayers,
Robert Thompson

Open the Book



A group from Holy Trinity church have had great success in making Bible Stories come alive for children in local schools.

As invited guests in school, our storytelling team uses the Open the Book programme to prepare and present a 10–15 minute scripted Bible story to a school assembly, involving the children as much as possible. The costumes, backdrops and other props are all devised by members of the group.

Bob Kelly, our Lay Reader who co-ordinates the group, says “The children are all very enthusiastic to join in. It is wonderful to hear them shout, ‘Open the Book’ to encourage us to start each story”.

The group is willing to come into more schools and share these Bible stories. Please contact mail@bengeomagazine.co.uk for more information.

Parish Calendar JANUARY 2025

Thursday 2nd January	
10am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road
Sunday 5th January The Epiphany	
9am	Holy Communion
10am	Parish Communion
Tuesday 7th January	
8pm	Quiet Time Holy Trinity
Wednesday 8th January	
10am	Craft Club, Church Hall, Duncombe Road
Thursday 9th January	
10am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road
Sunday 12th January The Baptism of Christ	
9am	Holy Communion
10am	Parish Communion
Tuesday 14th January	
8pm	Quiet Time Holy Trinity
Thursday 16th January	
10am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road
6.30–8pm	Bereavement Café at The Secret Garden Café, The Avenue
Sunday 19th January The Second Sunday of Epiphany	
9am	Holy Communion
10am	Parish Communion
Tuesday 21st January	
8pm	Quiet Time Holy Trinity
Thursday 23rd January	
10am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road
Sunday 26th January The Third Sunday of Epiphany	
9am	Holy Communion
10am	Parish Communion
Tuesday 28th January	
8pm	Quiet Time Holy Trinity
Thursday 30th January	
10am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road

Parish Calendar FEBRUARY 2025

Sunday 2nd February		The Presentation of Christ (Candlemas)
9am	Holy Communion	
10am	Parish Communion	
Tuesday 4th February		
8pm	Quiet Time Holy Trinity	
Wednesday 5th February		
2pm	Bengeo Afternoon WI, Church Hall, Duncombe Road	
2.30–4pm	Bereavement Café at The Secret Garden Café, The Avenue	
Thursday 6th February		
10am	Holy Communion	
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road	
Sunday 9th February		Fourth Sunday before Lent
9am	Holy Communion	
10am	Parish Communion	
Tuesday 11th February		
8pm	Quiet Time Holy Trinity	
Wednesday 12th February		
10am	Craft Club. Church Hall, Duncombe Road	
Thursday 13th February		
10am	Holy Communion	
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road	
6.30–8pm	Bereavement Café at The Secret Garden Café, The Avenue	
Sunday 16th February		Third Sunday before Lent
9am	Holy Communion	
10am	Parish Communion	
Tuesday 18th February		
8pm	Quiet Time Holy Trinity	
Thursday 20th February		
	No 10am Communion today	
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road	
Sunday 23rd February		Second Sunday before Lent
9am	Holy Communion	
10am	Parish Communion	
Tuesday 25th February		
8pm	Quiet Time Holy Trinity	
Thursday 27th February		
10am	Holy Communion	
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road	

Parish Prayers

Daily Prayers for January

1. The New Year
2. HMP Pentonville London
3. Local pubs and clubs
4. Local shops and businesses
5. All who preach in Church
6. Wellington Street
7. Christians against Poverty
8. Christian Churches in Syria
9. HMP Peterborough
10. The Salvation Army homeless hostels
11. Age Concern UK
12. UNICEF Children's Appeal
13. Westfield Road
14. Hertford and Ware Foodbank
15. Christian Churches in Turkey
16. HMP Portland, Dorset
17. The Samaritans Ware Office
18. Young Life Hertford
19. Hertford, Portvale and Sele Farm
20. USA Presidential Inauguration
21. Future Hope Hertford in the Pioneer Hall
22. Christian Churches in Lebanon
23. HMP Prescoed, South Wales
24. Open the Book in local schools
25. Local Sports Teams
26. Hertford and District Churches Together
27. Woodhall Close
28. All Nations Christian College, Easney
29. Christian Churches in Gaza
30. HMP Preston, Lancashire
31. Derby Cathedral

Daily Prayers for February

1. Local Councillors
2. Our choir and worship groups
3. Woodville Place
4. The Barnabus Fund for persecuted Christians
5. Christian Churches in Egypt
6. HMP Ranby, Retford, Nottingham
7. Our Bereavement Café
8. Our Church maintenance and decorating
9. All who clean the Church and Church Hall
10. Youngs Mews
11. Church Mission Society
12. Christian Churches in India
13. HMP Risley, Warrington
14. Those we love
15. Local Bus Routes H5 and H6
16. The Church of England General Synod
17. Alexandra Place
18. Mercy Ships head office, Stevenage
19. Christian Churches in China
20. HMP Rochester, Kent; first used in 1874
21. Hertford Doctors' surgeries
22. Advertisers and supporters of this magazine
23. All who read in Church
24. Alma Place
25. Christian Doctors' Association
26. Christian Churches in South Korea
27. HMP Rye Hill, Rugby; run by G4S
28. Durham Cathedral

Register

Funeral 4th November

Rita Webb

Funeral 15th November

Susan Horner

Burial of Ashes 22nd November

Barrington Gray

Burial of Ashes 30th November

Guy Horlock



Quiet Time

Every Tuesday evening in Holy Trinity church at 8pm. A short service of prayer. A time for reflection.

Church Contacts

Team Vicar

The Reverend Robert Thompson
The Rectory, Byde Street, Bengoe, SG14 3BS
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T: 01992 413691

Associate Priest

Fr. David Pepper
T: 07583 985266

Reader

Bob Kelly
T: 01763 274653

Churchwardens

Diana Howarth
T: 07711 571272
Graham Squires
T: 01992 553465

Parochial Church Council

Chairman: Rev Robert Thompson
Honorary Secretary: David Greely
T: 01920 412485

Director of Music and Organist

Dr Andrew Sentance

Assistant Organist

William Sarjeant

St Leonard's Church

Friends of St Leonard's
New Member Secretary: Sue Patterson

Addresses

Holy Trinity Church
New Road, Hertford SG14 3JJ
St Leonard's Church
St Leonard's Road, Bengoe, SG14 3JW

Local Contacts for Help and Advice

Below are links to local services.

Medical and Health Advice

www.nhs.uk/coronavirus

Domestic Abuse

www.sunflower.org

Hertfordshire Domestic Abuse Helpline

0808 808 8088

[Freephone Monday to Friday, 9am–9pm
Saturday/Sunday 9am–4pm]

Financial Advice

Hertfordshire Support Fund

If you need help, regardless of whether you qualify for benefits, please call HertsHelp on 0300 123 4044, email info@hertshelp.net or visit www.hertshelp.net.

For more information about the support on offer for residents both locally and national, please visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/costofliving.

Money Advice Unit

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/benefits

Hertfordshire Citizens Advice Service

03444 111 444

National Debtline

www.nationaldebtline.org
0808 808 4000

Advice on avoiding scams

Sign up for scam alerts from trading standards
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/updateme

Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline

0808 223 1133

If you are interested in volunteering

www.thvolunteering.org.uk

HertsHelp 0300 123 4044

Mental Health Advice and Support

Herts Mind Network

www.hertsmindnetwork.org
020 3727 3600
0300 777 0707 [8am–7pm]
Nightline: 01923 256391

Emotional Support and Practical Help

www.hertshelp.net
info@hertshelp.net
HertsHelp: 0300 123 4044

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WELWYN • 01438 714686

HERTFORD • 01992 582052

WARE • 01920 468551

LETCHWORTH • 01462 684292

HODDESDON • 01992 471709

HARWOOD PARK • 01438 812515

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On the Doorstep



Academy of St Martin's in the Fields

Academy of St Martin's in the Fields
Remembrance Concert.

Date for your diary:
the next concert is on
28th March 2025.

