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# Bengeio Parish Magazine and Community News



As Harvest time is here and the nights are drawing in, it is time to think about what local activities are on offer. See page 13 for some ideas.

Hopefully, the weather will be kind and allow us to get out and about in the countryside to see the flowers that Bridget has featured this month. Her photographs are on the back page and you can read about the chosen flower, Toadflax, on page 15.

Don't forget we would love to have your feedback on the magazine and welcome news and articles of local interest. See the panel opposite for our contact details.

## 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.*

## Contents

Local Services Adverts	4, 8, 10, 12 and 26
BNAP, Bengeio Scouts and Pet Blessing	5
Adult Education, Afternoon WI, Bike 'n Hike, The Children's Society and St Andrew's Play	6
The Reverend Roger Martin	7
Friends of St Leonard's	9
Freeland Candle Stands and COPS	11
Activities and events in Bengeio	13
Hertford and District Foodbank and Operation Christmas Child	14
On The Doorstep	15
News from our Schools	16–19
A Word from The Rectory	20–21
Parish Calendar	22–23
Parish Prayers, Register and Quiet Time	24
Contacts	25
Church Hall	27
On The Doorstep	28

## Editorial Team

Items for the magazine should be sent to [magazine@parishofbengeio.com](mailto:magazine@parishofbengeio.com)

## Copy dates for 2023

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## Advertising

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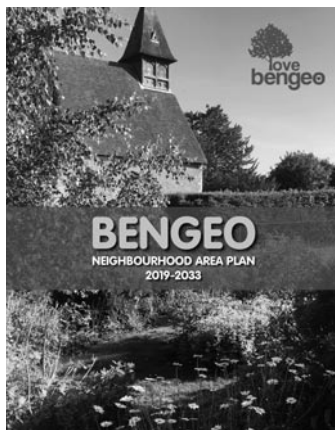
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# Neighbourhood Plan Update



It has been a quiet summer so far as the Neighbourhood Plan is concerned. But things are likely to hot up in September with the expectation that a planning application for 118 homes (of which 40% will be affordable) will come through from

Durkan. These are to be built on HERT4 (Bengeo Field) so long as they get planning permission. Given very strong local opposition to these homes it will be interesting to see how this develops.

Because the land has been taken out of the Green Belt, it looks like it could be quite a tough fight.

The building of the Oak Veterinary Practice at the base of Port Hill has come up for sale. This property was formerly The Reindeer Pub and originally The Running Deer. It is a lovely property but rapidly falling into disrepair. It would be a real tragedy to see it lost. So I hope that a caring new owner can be

found who will be willing to spend the money needed to carry out essential repairs.

We will hope to have a Neighbourhood Plan meeting soon and all are welcome to attend. I will advertise it on the Love Bengo Facebook Group.

**John Howson**

*Bengeo Neighbourhood Area Plan*

## Annual Pet Blessing Service

Our special Pet Blessing Service took place at the beginning of July in St Leonard's Church led by Bob Kelly our Lay Reader and his dog Oskar. We had a good congregation of people and dogs.



**DOGS ON THE STREETS**

We heard about the work of the charity DOTS

(Dogs on the Streets} which we were supporting this year and were able to listen to a few extracts from people who have been helped by the Charity. It was very moving to hear their stories as often their faithful canine companion was their only friend. As there are so few hostels with rooms that would allow dogs, their owners would prefer to stay on the streets. DOTS helps with finding the rooms that are available and also with veterinary help if required from a mobile Veterinary Surgery. Other services provided are food provisions, new harnesses, leads and grooming sessions.

During the Service owners took their dogs up for a Blessing, the dogs all being called by name.

Together with a collection at the Service and a generous donation from the Coffee Pot we were able to give DOTS £250 towards their dedicated work.

Fellowship was enjoyed afterwards when tea and cake was served, the dogs were not forgotten they had their biscuit treats!

Many thanks to all who helped and to those who came to support us. You can find out more about the DOTS charity by going to their website [www.dogsonthestreets.org](http://www.dogsonthestreets.org).

**Libby Shillito**

## 2nd Bengo Scouts

The 2nd Bengo Scout Group finished up the Summer Term with our summer camps. The Cubs and Scouts enjoyed their time at camp and took part in lots of fun activities. Some of the activities included bridge building, high ropes and disability awareness training. We are looking forward to welcoming all of our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts for the Autumn term with lots of exciting activities planned.

We currently have spaces in all sections. For more information please visit the 2nd Bengo Scout Group website [www.bengeoscouts.co.uk](http://www.bengeoscouts.co.uk).





## Adult Education Classes in Bengio in September

All are welcome at the Church Hall, Duncombe Road, from 10.30am to 12.30pm on a Tuesday to hear eight sessions on 'Magic Realism: Art in 1920s Germany'.

Rosanna Eckersley is our tutor (she has given excellent courses in Bengio on the Pre-Raphaelites and French Impressionism).

**Dates:** 26th September to 28th November 2023  
(no class 24 and 31 October)

**Cost:** £40

**Organisers:** Hertford Adult Learning Group (HALG)

**Contact:** 01992 589538

## Afternoon WI

Please note there will be no WI meeting in Duncombe Hall on 6th September – we are visiting Stapleford Church and their WI for tea. If anyone would like to join us the cost is £8 – enquiries to Val on 01992 730565.



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**The Children's Society**


Advance notice for House Box Holders, the annual count will take place in October. We would

be very pleased if your box could be returned to us from September onwards. Your support is much appreciated. Thank you.

*A date for your diary:* the Christingle Service will be held Advent Sunday 3rd December at 4pm in Holy Trinity Church.

More details to follow in the next magazine.

**Libby Shillito**




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# The Reverend Roger Martin



Roger was sadly a victim of the Covid pandemic and although some of our readers will have heard the wonderful tributes paid to him at his funeral, we feel it right to record here a belated appreciation of his life-time of service. Prior to his ordination, Roger was lay reader in the parish of Bengoe for over 30 years and for much of that time was also involved in the wider community in a number of roles.

Although Roger was born in Enfield, his family roots were in Bengoe and as a boy during the war, he spent a great deal of time living with his grandparents in Bengoe Street. After the war the family lived for some years in Suffolk, in the country town of Leisten and it would have been here that he developed his love of the countryside and a lifelong interest in the vagaries of the English weather.

On the family's return, Roger attached himself to All Saints where he sang as a bass in their choir, became a lay reader and was married to Pam. However, in Bengoe, the Revd. Colin Weale was officiating without assistance and in due time, welcomed Roger's offer of help. Roger's addresses from the pulpit were always deeply thoughtful while his natural warmth of character made him a much loved pastor.

Many years later it was Colin Weale's successor, Father Ian Pearson, who encouraged Roger to take holy orders. He was to become curate firstly in the Watton group of parishes and then Broxbourne and he was highly regarded in both. He retired in 2010 but occasionally helped out in Holy Trinity.

Not only did Roger teach English at Saint Mary's School in Cheshunt where he became Deputy Head but also served on the District and Town Councils in Hertford where he became Mayor. In all these varied roles he showed great commitment and integrity.

Our sympathy goes out to Roger's family for their loss but hope they can take comfort from the knowledge that he achieved so much of value in his very full life.

**Cliff Greely**

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# Friends of St Leonard's

## Visit the Church

We have enjoyed welcoming visitors to St Leonard's Church Bengoe on Sunday afternoons this summer. We will be open every Sunday until 24th September between 2.30 to 4.30pm. Tea, coffee and cake are available for a very reasonable charge.

Heritage Open Weekend is 9th and 10th September when St Leonard's, like many other buildings around Hertford, will be open to visitors. Why not take this opportunity to see inside the oldest building in Hertford? You can do a self-guided tour to see our medieval wall paintings and graffiti. Children are very welcome – we have a treasure hunt or colouring they can do while parents relax. Well-behaved dogs are also welcome!

It is also the Herts and Beds Historic Church Trust 'Hike and Bike' on 9th and 10th September. We are looking forward to seeing the intrepid travellers who visit as many churches as they can over the weekend.

## Services

The Church will host the Harvest Songs of Praise service on 24th September at 6.30pm. All welcome.

## Music

There will be a concert at Holy Trinity on Friday 8th September. Viv McLean (piano), Fiona Bonds (viola), Catherine Morgan (violin) and William Schofield (cello) will give us a programme of music including Mozart and Beethoven. Tickets are £15 for adults with under 18s free. The concert will benefit St Leonard's.

We have plans for a further concert at Holy Trinity on 29th October featuring Fiona Bonds. Arrangements for that are to be confirmed so keep a lookout on our website or our Facebook page for more details.

Tickets for concerts are available from [boxoffice@parishofbengeo.com](mailto:boxoffice@parishofbengeo.com).

Local choral group the Mimram Singers will give 'A Summer Celebration' concert at 3pm on Saturday 23rd September (postponed due to illness from its original July date). It will contain songs and readings to mark the lives and music of William Byrd, Thomas Weelkes, Max Reger and Sergei Rachmaninov. There is no charge to attend and instead a collection will be taken to benefit the Isabel Hospice and the Friends of St Leonard's.

## Joining the Friends of St Leonard's

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 and special price reductions for some concerts. You can join through our website [www.stleonards.parishofbengeo.com/friends-of-st-leonards](http://www.stleonards.parishofbengeo.com/friends-of-st-leonards).

You will also be able to sign up if you visit during Heritage Open Weekend on 9th and 10th September. If you are not able to visit, get in touch via our Facebook page – Friends of St Leonard's Bengoe.

## Helen Fleming

Secretary [friendsofstleonards@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofstleonards@gmail.com)



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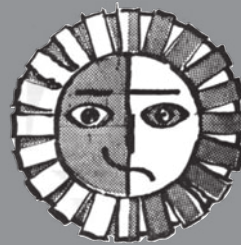


# Freeland Candle Stands



Two bespoke candle stands, donated by the Freeland family, were blessed and dedicated in memory of Tony Freeland at the Hymns and Pimms service at St Leonard's Church on Sunday 6th August. A large congregation including Tony's family and friends was there.

Five parishioners chose their favourite hymns and shared with us what these hymns meant to them.



## The Company of Players

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The Cane explores power, control, identity and gender as well as considering the major failure of the echo-chamber of liberalism and contains scenes of physical violence.

For tickets, please see the website  
[www.cops.org.uk](http://www.cops.org.uk).

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# Activities and events in Bengoe

## Church Hall Duncombe Road



### Mondays

- »»» Keep Fit
- »»» Church lunches twice monthly
- »»» Brownies

### Tuesday

- »»» Hertford Adult Learning Group
- »»» U3a Tai Chi
- »»» U3a Simply Fit
- »»» Bounce

### Wednesday

- »»» Craft Club monthly
- »»» U3a Ukulele Band
- »»» WI monthly
- »»» Move it
- »»» Tiger Cheer

### Thursday

- »»» Bengoe Coffee Pot
- »»» U3a Pilates
- »»» Evening Pilates

### Friday

- »»» Morning Pilates

### Saturday

- »»» Dance school
- »»» Children's parties/Family Celebrations

### Sunday

- »»» Bounce
- »»» Children's parties/Family Celebrations

For more information about these classes and to book the Hall please ring Wendy on 01992 589538 or go to the website [www.parishofbengoe.com](http://www.parishofbengoe.com) and follow the link to Hall Bookings.

## Bengoe Club



The new Petanque court and the five rink Bowls Club remain open to be enjoyed whilst the weather permits.

### Upper Room Activities

#### Monday

- »»» Pilates

#### Tuesday

- »»» Core Shake Down

#### Thursday

- »»» Karate

#### Friday

- »»» Pilates

#### Saturday

- »»» Ballet class for children

#### Sunday

- »»» Pilates
- »»» NCT (National Childbirth Trust)

### Saturday Entertainment

**September and October | Non-member entry £1**

2nd September	Drop the Monkey
9th September	Bingo and Raffle
16th September	Radio Video
23rd September	Bingo and Raffle
30th September	Back to the 50s
7th October	Bingo and Raffle
14th October	Leech
21st October	Bingo and Raffle
28th October	Triple X

If you would like to find out more about any of the activities or events, please contact Bengoe Club on 01992 583665.

# Hertford Foodbank



## Halfway through the year and the need is greater than ever

Already this year we have handed out food parcels supporting 2012 individuals (data taken 26th June 2023) including 810 children – a huge 17% increase compared to the same period of time last year. The cost-of-living crisis is showing no signs of slowing down and with mortgage rates rising higher than anticipated and inflation not dropping as quickly as

hoped it is feared that more people than ever will require our help.

Our incredible volunteers are working tirelessly to ensure that anyone who needs support is given it and we are delighted to be able to say that we now offer some fresh food (fruit, vegetables, bread, spread, eggs and cheese) at both our Hertford and Ware depots.

Donations are urgently needed to enable us to keep supporting all those facing crisis. So please when you next think of the Foodbank, if you are able, do donate an item to your local donation point (found in Tesco, Sainsburys, ASDA and many churches throughout Hertford and Ware). Please do not donate fresh items, we purchase these separately.



Hertford & District  
Foodbank  
United Reform Church  
Cowbridge  
Hertford SG14 1PG



## Operation Christmas Child

It may be early to start thinking about Christmas, but we are ready to begin fundraising for the Shoebox appeal to help children in many parts of the world receive a present this Christmas.

Since 1993, more than 208 million children in over 160 countries received simple shoebox gifts from Operation Christmas Child. We are helping to raise funds over the next few weeks to help with transport costs of sending these boxes throughout the world.

We will be setting up a Sales Table in Holy Trinity church on Sunday mornings so any donations for sale or to buy for the table will be very welcome.



If you would like more information on how to support this project by filling a shoebox with presents for a needy child across the world or providing items for others to fill a box, then please contact Jim on 01992 558070 or email [jimatwick030@gmail.com](mailto:jimatwick030@gmail.com).

We hope for your support.

Thank you  
Jim and Eileen



# On The Doorstep

September and October are upon us, but there will still be a few flowers that carry on flowering into these months. One of these is the Common Toadflax, which starts to flower in June but can continue on into October. The scientific name is *Linaria Vulgaris*. *Linaria* comes from the Greek word meaning lion's mouth (I presume because of the look of the flower) and *Vulgaris* from the Latin word for common. Common names for the flower include wild snapdragon, butter and eggs, bride-weed and bunny mouth amongst others.

Common Toadflax has a beautiful yellow flower that looks like the cultivated Snapdragon, *Antirrhinum Majus*, which is in the same family but not of the same genus. Other flowers you may see that look similar are Purple Toadflax, which is the same genus as Common Toadflax, and Ivy-leaved Toadflax which, like the Snapdragon, is the same family but not the same genus. Common Toadflax is a native to the UK, in fact there is fossilised evidence of it in the Hoxnian interglacial strata in Clacton and in the Weichselian glaciation strata in Essex, Huntingdonshire, Surrey and North Wales. So this means that the plant was around over 400,000 years ago...

I think we can call that native! Purple Toadflax is also native, whereas Ivy-Leafed Toadflax is a non-native, but is considered naturalised now. It is believed that the Ivy-Leafed Toadflax was brought into London from Italy with some marble slabs in the mid-1600s.

Common Toadflax can grow between 15cm to 90cm. It has a thick stem that holds clusters of flowers at the top. The leaves are narrow, hairless and have a serrated edge. The flower is a pale yellow with a darker, orange lower lip which gets darker as the flower ages. The upper lip comes over the lower lip of the flower, which means

that it is usually the stronger insects like bees and bumblebees that pollinate the flower. The flower also has a long spur that comes out from the back of the flower. The plant likes a well-drained soil, favouring sandy and chalky soils, and it can be found on wasteland, path edges and roadside verges. The seeds can remain in the soil for up to 10 years before growing. In our local area there are one or two small patches on the road out of Bengoe towards Chapmore End and several patches along the A10, with some being quite large. Purple Toadflax can also be found on the side of roads and wasteland, unlike the Ivy Leafed Toadflax that prefers cracks or holes in walls and rocky places.

Common Toadflax has been used medicinally for various ailments including urinary tract disorders, arthritis and itchy skin to name a few and is said to have anti-inflammatory, anti-bacterial and antiseptic properties. It has also been used as a yellow dye.

The flower is said to symbolise a sunny disposition, joy and good cheer and in some parts of Europe a bride would carry Toadflax to prevent jealousy harming the couple. It was also thought that the seeds would protect against the devil and witchcraft.

Common Toadflax is indeed a joy to see, with its interestingly shaped flower head and wonderful yellow colours. It is a flower that can also amuse me for hours, just like the Snapdragon, if you squeeze the flower gently on each side, you can make it look like it is talking, not sure my children, when they were young, were ever as amused as I was!

Hopefully, you will be able to spot some joyful, Common Toadflax when you are out, maybe stop a while and have a quick chat too.

**Bridget Hersant**





# Bengeo Primary School

## July

### Bengeo School are Herts School Games Tennis Champions

On 27th June our Year 3/4 tennis team represented Hertford and Ware Schools in the Herts School Games Tennis Competition held at Welwyn Tennis Club. The winning schools from the 11 other districts of Herts were represented. Our team of 4 – Elowen, Isabelle, Thomas and James played brilliantly, serving well and hitting fantastic groundstrokes and some winning volleys. The team was crowned Herts School Champions. We are very proud of the whole team.



## August

### Fantastic athletic performances from Bengeo School

At the annual District Athletics competition, our year 3/4/5 athletic teams produced some brilliant track and field performances. Bengeo dominated the track events with outstanding sprinting and relays, winning the majority of all the races. Strong performances in the long jump and javelin added to our total scores which resulted in Bengeo School winning every age group. We are very proud of our athletics team.





# Tonwell School News



Our junior children learn French as part of the curriculum every week. In July, they found out about the history of Bastille Day and prepared mini games to teach the younger classes some key words. We had lots of fun sampling French food and playing in each of the activities.



The children really enjoyed our sports day. It was lovely to see how well our children support each other with our older ones helping the younger classes. We've had a very sporty couple of weeks at school! Years 5 and 6 took part in a skateboarding lesson at Ware Priory. They learned many new skills and all showed great courage tackling parts of the course. Well done to our children who also took part in the Hertford and Ware Sports Partnership District



Athletics at Wodson Park. Children competed well with some wins in individual events.

Thanks to Chauncy School who hosted their annual community day today. The whole school was collected by mini bus and took part in art, photography, mini Olympics and science lessons all run by Chauncy staff and students.



To find out more about the fun activities we do at Tonwell St Mary's C of E Primary School please follow us on instagram @tonwellstmarys.

## **Tonwell St Mary's C of E Primary School**

**Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Bridgman**

We are offering 30 hour places in our Nursery class.

We also have a Breakfast Club from 8am and After School Club until 5pm daily.

Visits are warmly welcomed.

Please speak to Mrs Moorehead on **01920 462894** between 8.30am and 12 noon to arrange a visit or email **admin@tonwell.herts.sch.uk**

# Excellent in all areas.

ISI Inspection Report 2022

*"Pupils relish the opportunity to learn in every lesson"*  
*ISI June 2022*



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Learning is brought to life at Duncombe School for all our children aged 2-11 years through first-hand experiences and inspirational teaching methods.

A Duncombe education is built upon the firm foundations of inspiring and engaging lessons across the whole school, which contributes to the high academic standards achieved through a diverse curriculum, specialist teaching and a vast number of opportunities. All of these enable independent and creative thinking, resulting in all-round academic excellence.



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- Consistently exceeding Early Years national scores
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- Small classes
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- Part of the 15 free hours Government funding.
- 48 week wraparound care available

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- Specialist teachers delivering French, Spanish, ICT, Forest School, Science, Music and Physical Education.
- International technology collaborations
- Range of facilities including Astro Court, Forest School, Library and Music Studio
- Secondary style timetable in Upper School
- Dedicated preparation and support for Secondary School and scholarship applications
- A vast range of extra-curricular activities
- Outstanding pastoral care instilling confidence and determination
- Offering the most competitive Sibling Discount Scheme in Hertford with 48 week wraparound care available

**Every child at Duncombe is treated as an individual, encouraged to develop strength of character and prepared for life beyond Duncombe with an open, confident and inquisitive mind.**



# A Word from The Rectory Reading the signs

From The Vicar, The Revd Robert Thompson



Some count cars, some play I-spy, some listen to a radio show or podcast, but if keeping the peace on long car journeys was ever a problem, we think we've got it cracked. We spot strange church signs.

Spotting strange church signs has long been a hobby of mine. They help mark out the spiritual contours of my

life, plot its course and its changing boundaries. Family holidays can never truly begin without us spotting an eye-popping death threat erected by charitably-minded Christians in a field alongside the

A1(M). Radio off and conversations interrupted, our eyes are all peeled ready to greet the message emblazoned on a large advertising hoarding directed at the dual carriageway somewhere north of Pontefract. *'THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH.'* Whereupon we all punch the air and cheer.

Not all church signs threaten God's wrath, however. Some of the best aren't even religious. A visit to a chapel in Aberford, Leeds this summer greeted me with this little gem: *'PLEASE FINISH EATING & SMOKING BEFORE YOU COME IN.'* Pinching out my



roll-up and putting aside my bag of chips I was able to grab a photo for posterity:

I'm quite expert in my chosen hobby, and I heartily recommend it. One of the pleasures of perusing church signs is the organisational games you end up playing. Some signs are part of an irresistible

marketing campaign to pull in the punters – like the spray-painted bedsheet I spotted dangling across the front door of a church in rural Essex: *'REFRESHMENT SPIRITUAL AND CORPOREAL.'*

Some are educational, like the sign outside a Catholic church bearing the famous words of St Francis, *'LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE.'* Which seems faintly ironic when 'shouted' at you in block capitals.

Some are straight-forward quotes from the bible, scripture truth in stucco plastic lettering for the edification of the public, with a word of exhortation, reassurance or apocalyptic warning – *'GOD LOVES YOU'/'OBEY GOD OR BURN'* – quite literally, God's writing on the wall.

Others rely more on the power of brevity, like those illuminated stars or fluorescent crosses hanging over church porches and doorways without any further commentary, as if the people that put them there had time to spare you only a brief utterance, a bare

## Bereavement Café

Drop in for tea, coffee and a chat

An informal, twice-monthly drop-in for adults who want to meet, share experiences and chat with people who have also been through bereavement.

Hosted by friendly local people, set up by volunteers from Holy Trinity Church, Bengoe

**2023 Dates: first Wednesday and third Thursday of every month**

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October



Weds 2.30pm - 4pm  
Thurs 6.30pm - 8pm



The Secret Garden Café,  
89 The Avenue,  
Hertford SG14 3DU



**For more information  
please contact us via  
Holy Trinity Church,  
Bengoe, Hertfordshire**



info@parishofbengoe.com



01992 413691



www.parishofbengoe.com  
/bereavementcafe.php



@BengoeBereavementCafe



symbol of their faith, before being taken hostage by the council planning department or beamed up by aliens.

Of course, what piques people's interest in these signs is that the board standing outside a church should, not unreasonably, be some kind of indication of the activities within them. Various messages are emanating from the Church of England these days, most of them sad. Beset as I am by her pious ravings, foot-in-mouth blundering and look-at-me pleading, my attention is automatically drawn to whatever makes me smile.

Church signs in America often provide an essential antidote to all our negativity, and I'd point you to those listed on the webpages of **www.boredpanda.com** where you'll find a poll of choice favourites.

Trending in the top two positions this summer are the socially relevant *'JESUS HAD TWO DADS & TURNED OUT FINE'* to the climate specific *'TOO HOT*



*TO KEEP CHANGING SIGN – SIN BAD, JESUS GOOD – DETAILS INSIDE'.*

Bengeo's church noticeboard will not be badgering you with any clownish insistence or self-promotion, you'll be glad to know – just service times and contact details, temporary pit-stops on life's way. Signs stand still, but God does not. If the Church has one job to do it is to point beyond itself, to be a sign of the God beyond us – to proclaim faith as a humble invitation to a journey of discovery, following Christ on the road to joy.

It was on the unfathomable nature of God's boundless grace that I was reflecting only recently as I approached the gates of a church not so very far from here. Said the sign: *'PARISH CHURCH CAR PARK. NO PARKING'*.

One for the scrapbook there.

*With my prayers,*

**Robert Thompson**

# Parish Calendar SEPTEMBER 2023

Sunday 3rd September		Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity	
9am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church		
10am	Parish Communion at Holy Trinity Church		
2.30–4.30pm	St Leonard’s Church: Tea and Tour		
Tuesday 5th September			
8pm	Quiet Time at St Leonard’s Church: Prayer and Meditation		
Wednesday 6th September			
2.30–4pm	Bereavement Café at Secret Garden Café, Bengoe		
	Bengoe Afternoon WI: Tea at Stapleford Church (no Church Hall meeting)		
Thursday 7th September			
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road		
Friday 8th September			
7.30pm	Concert at Holy Trinity Church. Fiona Bonds and Friends		
Saturday 9th September			
	Herts and Beds Historic Churches Trust, Bike ‘n Hike		
Sunday 10th September		Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity	
9am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church		
10am	Parish Communion at Holy Trinity Church		
2.30–4.30pm	St Leonard’s Church: Tea and Tour		
Tuesday 12th September			
8pm	Quiet Time at Holy Trinity Church: Prayer and Meditation		
Wednesday 13th September			
10am	Craft Club, Church Hall, Duncombe Road		
Thursday 14th September			
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road		
Sunday 17th September		Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity	
9am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church		
10am	Parish Communion at Holy Trinity Church		
2.30–4.30pm	St Leonard’s Church: Tea and Tour		
Tuesday 19th September			
8pm	Quiet Time at Holy Trinity Church: Prayer and Meditation		
Thursday 21st September			
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road		
6.30–8pm	Bereavement Café at Secret Garden Café, Bengoe		
Saturday 23rd September			
3pm	Mimram Singers, St Leonard’s Church		
Sunday 24th September		HARVEST FESTIVAL	
9am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church		
10am	Parish Communion at Holy Trinity Church		
2.30–4.30pm	St Leonard’s Church: Tea and Tour		
6.30pm	Harvest Festival Songs of Praise Service at St Leonard’s Church		
	Followed by the Friends of St Leonard’s AGM		
Tuesday 26th September			
8pm	Quiet Time at Holy Trinity Church: Prayer and Meditation		
Thursday 28th September			
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road		



# Parish Calendar OCTOBER 2023

Sunday 1st October		Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
9am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church	
10am	Parish Communion at Holy Trinity Church	
Tuesday 3rd October		
8pm	Quiet Time at Holy Trinity Church: Prayer and Meditation	
Wednesday 4th October		
2pm	Bengeo Afternoon WI, Church Hall, Duncombe Road	
2.30–4pm	Bereavement Café at Secret Garden Café, Bengeo	
Thursday 5th October		
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road	
Sunday 8th October		Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity
9am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church	
10am	Parish Communion at Holy Trinity Church	
Tuesday 10th October		
8pm	Quiet Time at Holy Trinity Church: Prayer and Meditation	
Wednesday 11th October		
10am	Craft Club, Church Hall, Duncombe Road	
Thursday 12th October		
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road	
Sunday 15th October		Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity
9am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church	
10am	Parish Communion at Holy Trinity Church	
Tuesday 17th October		
8pm	Quiet Time at Holy Trinity Church: Prayer and Meditation	
Thursday 19th October		
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road	
6.30–8pm	Bereavement Café at Secret Garden Café, Bengeo	
Sunday 22nd October		Twentieth Sunday after Trinity
9am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church	
10am	Parish Communion at Holy Trinity Church	
Tuesday 24th October		
8pm	Quiet Time at Holy Trinity Church: Prayer and Meditation	
Thursday 26th October		
10.30am	Coffee Pot Charity Café, Church Hall, Duncombe Road	
Sunday 29th October		BIBLE SUNDAY
9am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church	
10am	Parish Communion at Holy Trinity Church	
7pm	Concert at Holy Trinity Church. Fiona Bonds and Friends (Schubert, 'Trout' Quintet)	
Tuesday 31st October		
8pm	Quiet Time at Holy Trinity Church: Prayer and Meditation	

# Parish Prayers

## Daily Prayers for September

1. All who are refugees in the UK
2. The United Nations Refugee Council
3. All who are Pilgrims
4. Garden Terrace
5. The Churches Conservation Trust
6. Christian Churches in India
7. HMP Durham, County Durham
8. Amnesty International
9. Bike and Hike in Herts and Beds
10. Our Choir
11. George Street
12. The RNLI
13. Christians in Nepal
14. HMP East Sutton Park, Kent
15. Asylum Seekers in the UK
16. Friends of Friendless Churches
17. Friends of St Leonard's
18. Glebe Road
19. Christian Aid
20. Christian Churches in China
21. HMP Eastwood Park, Gloucester
22. Christians in Sport
23. Hertford Disability Support Group
24. Refugees in Palestine and the West Bank
25. Glebe Close
26. The Church Army
27. Christians in Palestine
28. HMP Erlestoke, Wiltshire
29. St Paul's Cathedral, London
30. Bible translators and publishers

## Daily Prayers for October

1. Our Open the Book Readers Group
2. Globe Court
3. Tonwell St Mary's School
4. Thundridge C of E School
5. Youth Training in Prisons
6. Head Teacher Sarah Bridgman
7. Tonwell and Thundridge Teaching Staff
8. Tonwel and Thundridge School Governors
9. Gosselin Road
10. Support Staff at Tonwell, and Thundridge
11. Christians in Pakistan
12. Prison Chaplains
13. Bengo School
14. Head Teacher Justine Page
15. Bengo School Teaching Staff
16. Grange Court
17. Bengo School Governors
18. Bengo School Support Staff
19. HM Prison Inspectors
20. Duncombe School
21. Head Teacher Jeremy Phelan
22. Duncombe School Teaching Staff
23. Grove Walk
24. Duncombe School Support Staff
25. Duncombe School Board of Directors
26. The Prisons' Minister
27. Millmead School
28. Head Teacher Mrs R Walsh
29. Millmead Teaching Staff
30. Millmead School Governors
31. Millmead School Support Staff

### Register

- 25th June Burial of Ashes **Wendy Greenhill**  
 23rd July Burial of Ashes **Brian Jeffreys**  
 27th July Funeral **Agnes Taylor**  
 30th July Burial of Ashes **Janet Cuneen**  
 13th August Baptism **Isabella Joan Velucci Taliadoras**  
 17th August Burial of Ashes **Agnes Taylor**



### Quiet Time

Quiet Time for prayer and meditation is held at 8pm on Tuesday evenings. The last Quiet Time at St Leonard's will be on the 5th of September, then at Holy Trinity church on subsequent Tuesday evenings.



# Church Contacts

## Team Vicar

The Reverend Robert Thompson  
The Rectory, Byde Street, Bengio, SG14 3BS  
E: [info@parishofbengeio.com](mailto:info@parishofbengeio.com)  
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, Bengio, SG14 3JW

# Local Contacts for Help and Advice

## Bengeio Residents Support Network Against Coronavirus

Many volunteers from Bengio and the vicinity are offering help and support to vulnerable neighbours. Ring 01992 230155. Call if you need food or other items, information or just for a chat.

There is a Facebook group to get help or to volunteer: [www.facebook.com/groups/bengeio.residents.against.coronavirus](https://www.facebook.com/groups/bengeio.residents.against.coronavirus)

Below are links to local services that Herts CC have sent out about the coronavirus assistance.

## Medical and Health Advice

[www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

## Information about local council services

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus)

## Domestic Abuse

[www.sunflower.org](https://www.sunflower.org)

## Hertfordshire Domestic Abuse Helpline

0808 808 8088

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

## Financial Advice

### Money Advice Unit

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/benefits](https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/benefits)

### Hertfordshire Citizens Advice Service

03444 111 444

### National Debtline

[www.nationaldebtline.org](https://www.nationaldebtline.org)  
0808 808 4000

## Advice on avoiding scams

Sign up for scam alerts from trading standards  
[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/updateme](https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/updateme)

### Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline

0808 223 1133

If you are interested in volunteering  
[www.thvolunteering.org.uk](https://www.thvolunteering.org.uk)

HertsHelp 0300 123 4044

## Mental Health Advice and Support

### Herts Mind Network

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

## Emotional Support and Practical Help

[www.hertshelp.net](https://www.hertshelp.net)  
[info@hertshelp.net](mailto:info@hertshelp.net)  
HertsHelp: 0300 123 4044

*Back cover: Bridget Hersant photographs of Common, Purple and Ivy-Leaved Toadflax. See page 15 for more information about these wild flowers.*

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WELWYN • 01438 714686

HERTFORD • 01992 582052

WARE • 01920 468551

LETCHWORTH • 01462 684292

HODDESDON • 01992 471709

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