

MARCH • APRIL 2020

Bengeo Magazine

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Bengeio Parish Magazine and Community News



We are heartened by the response to our first combined community and parish magazine issue in January and February. Many of our readers, both for the paper copy and online versions, have given us very positive feedback and I hope we can continue to produce a worthwhile local publication.

More organisations have been in touch with the Editorial Team to tell us about their events, so you will see that we have tried to include as many as possible. If you have a local club or group that you wish to see represented then do get in touch so that we can continue to reach out to more organisations and people. We also need more keen gardeners to open their gardens this summer in aid of Save Beane Marshes.

In this issue we are looking forward to the warmer weather with events and entertainments leading up to Easter and encouragement to get out into the open and walk for your health.

We welcome more advertisers and subscribers to help us provide additional revenue to go towards community projects for YOUR magazine. Do contact us on magazine@parishofbengeio.com.

The Editorial Team

Front cover photograph: **Sunrise, PIXNIO**

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Editorial Team

Items for the magazine should be sent to magazine@parishofbengeio.com

Copy dates for 2020. Items should be sent to the above email address by the middle of the month preceding publication: **16th April, 18th June, 13th August, 15th October.**

Advertising

Please address all advertising enquiries to magazine@parishofbengeio.com

Distribution

Bengeio: Pam Martin

Tonwell: Pat Lavis

The magazine can be delivered to your door for a subscription of £6.00 per year. Contact Pam Martin, phone 01992 422441, to ask about obtaining the magazine.

Individual issue: **£1.00**. Cheques payable to: 'Bengeio Magazine'.

6 issues per year: **January/February; March/April; May/June; July/August; September/October; November/December.**

The magazine is printed by MSPC Ltd, Unit 10, Hartham View Industrial Estate, Hartham Lane, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 1QN.

Parish Events – What's on

**Every Thursday
10:30am – 12noon
Duncombe Road Church Hall**



Everyone welcome for homemade cakes and great coffee



**The Lobster Pot
Catering Company
*Bengeo Lunch***

'Let's do lunch!' Our three course Monday lunches every fortnight in the Church Hall are a great success. Book on 01438 798416

Wednesday Craft Club

Our monthly craft club



10 am - 12 noon



2nd Wednesday of each month in the Church Hall

£1.00 per person including refreshments

**citizens
advice**

Citizens Advice East Herts

Council Office, Wallfields,
Pegs Lane, Hertford SG13 8EQ

Drop-in Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
from 10am to 2pm.

Phone : 03444 111 444
(Mon to Fri: 10am to 4pm)

Online and email advice: www.ehcas.org.uk

Also at 20 Tudor Square (near Prezzo),
West Street, Ware on Tuesdays from 10am to 1pm.

Bengeo Ladies' Circle

Meetings on the third Thursday of the month
2pm in the Church Hall, Duncombe Road.

We are a local friendly group that have
been meeting for over 50 years!

Why not come and join us?

*Entrance is only £3.50 which includes a
hot drink and biscuits.*

Church Flower Donations

To make a donation towards the cost of
flowers in Church in memory of a loved
one or for an anniversary please contact

Pam Thain on 01992 583733.

Bengeo Church Hall Duncombe Road

For parties, group functions, committee
rooms and other activities.

WiFi, projector and screen.

Fully fitted kitchen with crockery, cutlery,
oven, dishwasher and fridge.

Speak to the Bookings Secretary
Wendy Celia on 01992 589538

or download the Booking Form from the
Bengeo Parish website
www.parihofbengeo.com

Sunshine and Rainbows

*A free playgroup for bereaved parents and
their children, born before or after loss*

*11am until noon on the 3rd Monday of each
month at the Church Hall, Duncombe Road.*

*For more information contact Gigliola Hartley
gigliolahartley@hotmail.com*

Bengeio Neighbourhood Area Plan

Spring 2020 update on the Bengeio Neighbourhood Area Plan



The Bengeio Neighbourhood Area Plan has been written by a group of local residents, with consultation input from hundreds of other residents. It's been

produced with the support of a planning consultant, Hertford Town Council, and several residents' organisations. Later this year, there will be a public referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan and, if we vote in favour of it, it will have the same legal status as the East Herts District Plan. This will give us real influence, over the next 13 years, on planning applications that could impact on our local green spaces, community and business facilities, air quality, roads, natural habitats and important buildings.

The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan are designed to support sustainable development. The housing policies set out the importance of development proposals optimising energy and water conservation, mitigating flood risk, providing sufficient cycle parking and protecting local aquifers. In other policies, valued local green spaces are identified for protection from development, including a section of Bengeio Field, the former railway line in Lower Bengeio, St Leonard's Garden and the woodland adjacent to the Sacombe Road Play Area. Important views are also identified for protection from the impact of development, including views across Beane Marshes, Hartham Common and Bengeio Field.

Several community facilities are proposed for registration as Assets of Community Value, including the Folly Island and Bengeio Allotments, Courtyard Arts and the Company of Players Theatre. A number of buildings are identified as worthy of protection from unsympathetic development, and a Nature Conservation policy highlights the importance of development proposals achieving net biodiversity gains. Another policy supports the landscaping of the empty plot on the corner of Tower Street and Duncombe Road into a community wildlife garden.

Throughout consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan, residents raised concerns about traffic speeds, particularly on Bengeio Street and Sacombe Road, as well as traffic volumes on the Lower Bengeio roads. Sustainable travel is a consistent theme throughout the Neighbourhood Plan. Its transport policies promote walking and cycling and are designed to mitigate the impact of development on our roads and air quality. Separately, several Hertford organisations, including the Neighbourhood Plan, are submitting a proposal to Hertfordshire County Council's Sustainable Travel Town Programme. The proposal aims to reduce traffic congestion on Hertford's roads and improve conditions for pedestrians and cyclists.

In the last few months, several locally significant planning applications have been submitted to East Herts District Council, including the proposed development of 52 dwellings on the former Bengeio Nursery site, the Hartham Leisure Centre extension, the refurbishment of the Hartham Common children's play area and an application to demolish 1a Tower Street (Castle Joinery). The Neighbourhood Plan submitted responses to these planning applications, referencing policy criteria in the Plan. They can be viewed on

www.lovebengeio.org.uk/blog. If residents vote to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan, its planning policies, developed by residents who live in Hertford Bengeio Ward, will help determine the outcome of planning applications like these.

Having gone through a full public consultation last summer, the Plan will now be reviewed by East Herts District Council and assessed by an independent examiner. The draft Plan is on

www.lovebengeio.org.uk/blog. The Love Bengeio Facebook page has regular updates on the Neighbourhood Plan, as does the Love Bengeio Twitter account.

We'll update you on the Plan's progress in a future edition of the *Bengeio Magazine*. If you have any queries on the Plan, please email info@lovebengeio.org.uk.

Brenda Henningham

Bengeio Neighbourhood Area Plan

What is a Bereavement Café?

Volunteers from Holy Trinity Church, Bengoe, have set up a Bereavement Café to offer a place to meet and connect with others who have had similar experiences to their own. It is a safe place to speak openly about our experiences or simply just meet up for a coffee or a cup of tea.

Who can come?

Anyone who has experienced the loss of someone close to them, no matter how long ago, is welcome to the Bereavement Café. It is free to attend and you are welcome to drop in at any time during the evening. The atmosphere is very relaxed and informal with hot drinks and refreshments. Everyone is welcome to attend from across the district and wherever you live. The café is one of a number of Bereavement Cafés throughout Essex and East Herts.

When is it open?

Our Bereavement Café runs monthly every third Thursday evening of the month from 6.30pm to 8pm at **The Secret Garden Café, 89 The Avenue, Bengoe SG14 3DU.**

Find out more?

Contact us on 01992 413691 or at info@parishofbengeo.com. We will do our best to help.

Bereavement Café

Drop in for tea, coffee and a chat

An informal, 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

2020 Dates: Third Thursday of every month (except August):

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 19 th March | 18 th June | 15 th October |
| 16 th April | 16 th July | 19 th November |
| 21 st May | 17 th September | 17 th December |

🕒 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@parishofbengeo.com

☎ 01992 413691

🌐 www.parishofbengeo.com/bereavementcafe.php

📱 @BengoeBereavementCafe



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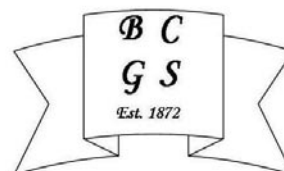
East
Herts
Archaeological
Society

East Herts Archaeological Society Lectures

14th March: David Perman - Origins of Hertford and Ware
At 2.30 in the Church Hall

25th March: AGM followed by refreshments and a lecture:-
Andrew Fitzpatrick: Julius Caesar and Hertfordshire
at 2.30 Great Arnwell Village Hall

Visitors welcome to both events. Donations welcome.
For more information contact B R Shillum 01992 581076



Bengoe Cottage Gardeners' Society

Getting Ready for the Show

A talk by Brian Ruskin (07818 676981)

8pm, Wednesday 11th March 2020

New members welcome.

Contact Stella Saggars on 01992 586811

Spring Show

2pm to 5pm Saturday 11th April 2020

50p entry

A colourful display
of Bengoe's best blooms and floral art
with refreshments, raffle, etc.

Both events held at
Church Hall, Duncombe Road, Bengoe





Save Beane Marshes Update

Save Beane Marshes is a registered charity (Charity Number 1187171) whose aim is to preserve a piece of land bordering the River Beane. It lies to the left of Beane Road as you walk from Hertford North Station towards Molewood Road.

Beane Marshes habitat

The marshes are a good example of a lowland, chalk river marsh, with riverside and meadowland that contains marsh marigold, purple loosestrife and yellow flag iris, lively waterfowl and good fishing. It sits between the Waterford Marsh, upstream, and the King's Meads, downstream, the first site being owned by Stapleford Parish Council, the second by the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust, both conservation-conscious bodies which have spent considerable time and money in restoring and managing their sites. The Beane Marshes would provide a useful wildlife corridor between these two sites.

Ensuring the future

The first part of the Save Beane Marshes project has been to raise the money to purchase the land, which has involved an enormous and amazing community effort to raise £165,000. Of this we have raised around £137,000. This has come from local donations including a grant of up to £30,000 from Hertford Town Council. That we have achieved this target reflects the amazing generosity and public spiritedness of local people.

Our aim has always been to gift the land to the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust, so it makes far more sense for us to

donate them the money and for them to purchase it, rather than have two different land transactions. So, in the last few weeks we have been working together with the HMWT to purchase the land and currently they are appointing solicitors to carry out the transaction. However, even when we have purchased the land it still will need upkeep and this will include, for example, a new boundary fence. The land will need annual grazing to bring it up to the highest conservation value for wildlife and this too involves a cost.

How you can help

So as ever with this type of project there is a need for even more money. One great initiative has come from a group of local parishioners who are suggesting to have Save Beane Marshes as the chosen charity for local open gardens this summer. We are looking forward to working together on this. See below for more details about getting involved.

Studying the marshland

We have also started an education group, involving local teachers and educationalists, which has met twice so far and has already put together some great educational materials using the marshes. The long term aim is to allow school groups and other local interest groups onto the marshes to study local wildlife and ecosystems.

Please stay in touch through our website at www.savebeanemarshes.org.uk.

Hannah Lilley and John Howson

Open your garden for Beane Marshes this summer

We plan to open Bengeo gardens again this year during May, June and July. In previous years we have raised funds for St Leonard's church, but now the proceeds will be given towards the worthy cause of Bengeo Marshes who need more financial help. We think this would be a very popular cause, and would appeal to most people.

We would love to hear from anyone who would be willing to open their garden. It doesn't matter if it is small, my garden is small but full of interest.

Saturday or Sunday morning or afternoons would be fine, when tea and cakes or biscuits could be offered. If anyone would like an evening slot with cheese and wine that would go down very well too.

If you are interested, please contact Janet Guilbride at janetguilbride@icloud.com.

The British Red Cross is 150 this year!

Help us celebrate by coming to our Open Gardens

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|----------|-------|
| 3rd May | Fanhams Hall SG12 7PZ | 1pm–5pm | £5.00 |
| 24th May | Datchworth Village | 12pm–5pm | £8.00 |
| 7th June | Dassels Bury SG11 2RW | 2pm–5pm | £5.00 |
| 14th June | Thundridge Hill House SG12 0UE | 2pm–5pm | £4.00 |
| 14th June | Manor Farmhouse SG3 6QB | 2pm–5pm | £4.00 |
| 28th June | Letchworth | 11am–5pm | £7.00 |

Please contact Cathy ccurtis@redcross.org.uk or 01992 585969 to make a donation or find out more about organising an event.

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Concerts in Bengoe



CONCERTS: MARCH TO MAY 2020

All 2020 tickets can be purchased from Bengoe Post Office SG14 3ES and Hertford Tourist Office on 01992 584 322. All tickets are £14 (apart from The Easter Concert which is £20) and are FREE for under 14's. Tickets are also available on the door, subject to availability.

SATURDAY 21st MARCH, 2020
MENDELSSOHN D MINOR PIANO TRIO
 Rhys Watkins - Violin
 Rebecca Gulliver - Cello
 Sophia Rahman - Piano

With over 20 critically acclaimed CD's to her name, Sophia Rahman joins principal cellist of The London Symphony Orchestra and Hertford based LSO violinist to play the most celebrated trios by Mendelssohn and Clara Schumann.

FRIDAY 10th APRIL, 2020 (Good Friday)

THE EASTER CONCERT
 RACHEL PODGER - SOLO VIOLIN
 Sonata no 3 in C major BWV 1005 23'
 Partita no 3 in E major BWV 1006 20'

Winner of Gramophone's 2018 'Artist Of The Year Award' Rachel Podger is described as '... the unsurpassed British glory of the baroque violin' by The Times and '...there is probably no more inspirational musician working today' by Gramophone magazine.

SATURDAY 23rd MAY, 2020

UNITED STRINGS OF EUROPE SIMON CALLAGHAN - PIANO
 Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 4 in G major Op. 58
 Beethoven: String Quartet in B-flat major Op. 130 (arr. Azkoul)

Celebrating Beethoven by uniting musicians from around the globe to play with 'phenomenal' Steinway Artist, Simon Callaghan to perform Beethoven's most loved piano concerto.



All concerts are at 7.30pm
 and will be held at
 Holy Trinity Church,
 New Road, Bengoe,
 Hertfordshire
 SG14 3JL

 Follow us
 on facebook



Artistic Directors Rowena Calvert and Rhys Watkins present a varied programme at Holy Trinity church, Bengoe, for the first half of the year. We are fortunate to have internationally renowned artistes performing locally.

The concerts are always well-attended so book early to avoid disappointment.

MENDELSSOHN D MINOR PIANO TRIO

With over 20 critically acclaimed CD's to her name, Sophia Rahman joins principal cellist of The London Symphony Orchestra and Hertford based LSO violinist to play trios by Mendelssohn and Clara Schumann.



7.30PM SATURDAY 21ST MARCH

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TICKETS £14, FREE FOR UNDER 14'S
BUY TICKETS AT BENGEIO POST OFFICE
 OR CALL HERTFORD TOURIST OFFICE ON

01992 584322

TICKETS CAN ALSO BE PURCHASED ON THE DOOR
 BUT ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY ON THE NIGHT

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The Children's Society Spring Bring & Buy Coffee Morning

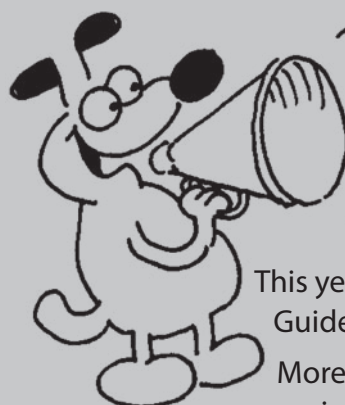
Our first Coffee Morning this year will be held on **Saturday 4th April** at 1 The Orchard, Bengoe, at 10am until 12 noon. Donations of cakes would be most welcome please.

Do come and join us, you are welcome to bring a friend. It is always an enjoyable morning as well as raising money for a worthwhile cause. There will be all the usual stalls: cakes, white elephant, cards and the raffle.

Please contact me on 01992 583979 if you require a lift.

A further date for the diary is **Saturday 3rd October** when the Autumn Coffee Morning will be held in the Church Hall.

Libby Shillito



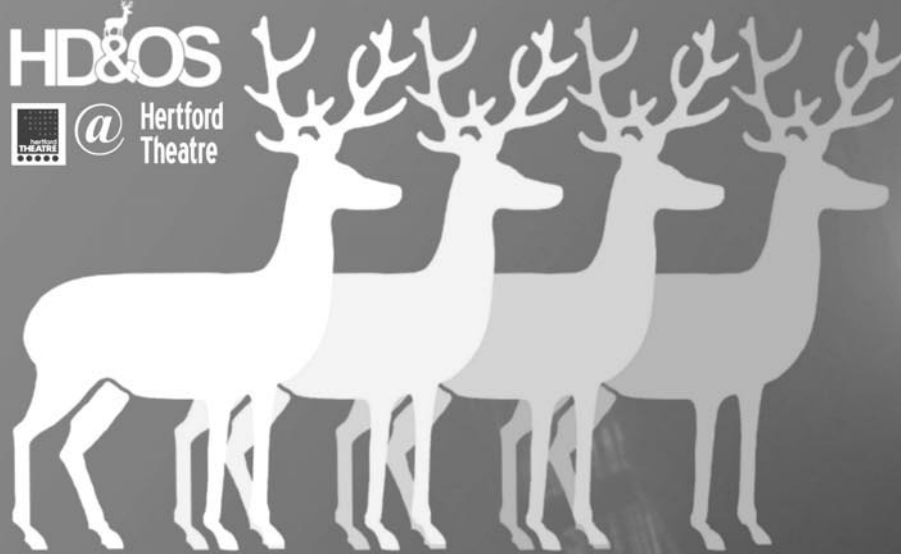
Pet Service

Our annual Pet Service will be held at St Leonard's Church Bengoe on **Sunday 5 July** at 4pm.

This year we will be supporting Guide Dogs for the Blind.

More information in the next magazine.

Libby Shillito



HERTFORD THEATRE WEEK 2020

*Our 59th year of
quality theatre
in Hertford!*

Monday April 20

Barn Theatre Club (Welwyn Garden City)

WAITING IN THE WINGS

by NOËL COWARD

An amateur performance by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.
(This performance contains smoking)

Tuesday April 21

Heath Players (Hatfield Heath)

THE WOMEN OF TROY

by EURIPIDES adapted by CHRISSE WAITES

Wednesday April 22

Global Theatre Company (Waltham Forest)

IN PRAISE OF LOVE

by TERENCE RATTIGAN

An amateur performance by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.

Thursday April 23

Hutton Players (Brentwood)

IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY

by RAY COONEY

An amateur performance by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.

Friday April 24

The Company of Players (Hertford)

RABBIT HOLE

by DAVID LINDSAY-ABARE.

An amateur performance by arrangement with William Morris Endeavour Entertainment, LLC

Saturday April 25

Hertford Dramatic & Operatic Society (Hertford)

GOING GREEN

by David Tristram

An amateur performance by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.

Followed by the presentation of the awards

In extreme circumstances this programme may be subject to change without notice

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Adjudicator: Chris Jaeger MBE FRSA GoDA

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(Including £1 Hertford Theatre Booking Fee)

The Box Office is open Tuesday to Saturday 10:00am to 5:00pm

Call 01992 531500 or visit www.hertfordtheatre.com

COPS 'Little Theatre' Balfour Street

The new production *Rabbit Hole* by Pulitzer Prize winner David Lindsay-Abaire deals with the ways family members survive a major loss, and includes comedy as well as tragedy.

Becca and Howie are a happy suburban couple with everything they could want until a shocking, sudden event turns their world upside down and leaves them drifting perilously apart. David Lindsay Abaire's drama is a painstakingly beautiful, exquisitely human work, following a family's search

for a way back from tragedy. Quietly elegant, aching with sadness, and yet full of wit and grace, the play charts the path from grief to its antidotes – love and hope.

The play is directed by Mel Powell and runs from **27th March to the 4th April 2020 at 7.45pm** each evening.

As you can see from information on the links below, not only is it the Theatre's 50th anniversary, but we have also launched our Theatre Development Fund. This means all ticket prices now include a £1.00 levy but still remain at £12.00 for members and £14.50 for non-members, inclusive of a welcome drink, programme and interval refreshments. We have a number of plans and ideas which will be advised as next year progresses.

COPS links

www.cops.org.uk for general information

www.cops.org.uk/buy-tickets.php

for all methods of buying tickets.

www.ticketsource.co.uk/cops for online bookings

www.cops.org.uk/history.php for the history

www.cops.org.uk/theatre.php about the theatre



Courtyard Arts

Courtyard Arts Gallery



The Tutor with a Thousand Students

Deana Kim Page presents

3rd–28th March

Deana returns to celebrate the creativity of her students, inspired by her tutoring across the South East. A diverse collection showcasing the achievements of artists of all ages and experience.

Hertford Theatre Gallery

The Art of Printmaking

3rd March–4th April

Showcasing and celebrating the abundant talents and varied techniques of printmakers working in the region.

15th COURTYARD OPEN

7th–25th April

Marking Hertfordshire's Year of Culture, the Open's 15th anniversary sees an expanded exhibition at both COURTYARD and HERTFORD THEATRE GALLERIES. Artists are invited to submit work with entrants and awards selected by a judging panel.

HERTFORD ART TRAIL 2020

11th April–9th May

The centrepiece of the annual Hertford Arts Festival, the Art Trail splashes the work of over 40 local artists across town. Look out for pop-up exhibition spaces – from retailers to bars and cafes; beauty salons to gift shops – or pick up a map guide from Courtyard Arts.

Calling all Friends of St Leonard's

We are very privileged to be associated with St Leonard's Church, the oldest building in Hertford, and now that we have splendid toilet facilities we are exploring the viability of providing a cup of tea or coffee with a cake on Sunday afternoons during the Open Season, ie June to September (inclusive).

If you would like to help us either with stewarding or providing a cake on one or more Sunday afternoons we would be very glad to hear from you. We will gather together all volunteers before the Open Season commences so that we all know exactly what we are doing! All profits will go towards the upkeep and expenses incurred in maintaining St Leonard's as a valued community asset.

Mary Crane 01992 314003

em.crane@virginmedia.com

Gill Cordingley 01992 423879

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Herts Health Walks

Come and join us...on one of our friendly, free, sociable and fun circular walks in the Hertford and Ware area and enjoy seeing our lovely landscapes. A trained volunteer [one of 23 in this area] will lead one of the 11 weekly graded Hertfordshire Health Walks, with another trained volunteer [on most walks] at the back. This means you can walk at a pace that feels comfortable for you.

My name is Linda and I've been a volunteer walk leader for Hertfordshire Health Walks for four years as well as being a Bengeio resident. Nine years ago I had a completely unexpected heart bypass. When I was discharged from hospital, I could only walk 100 steps. Every day, with my trusty step counter, I walked more and more steps, until 8 weeks later I entered a 5km fundraising event! Walking helped to keep me sane, brightened my mood and made me fit again.

Our walks' programme is delivered on behalf of Public Health England through the Countryside and Rights of Way team at County Hall. Our walks started in May 2013, with walks from Sele and Hartham Common, followed by the Bengeio walk in June 2014.

Why join us?

I've observed how people enjoy the Health Walks:

- ▶▶ Walkers who attend regularly say they feel fitter
- ▶▶ Many walkers form new friendships
- ▶▶ Many walkers enjoy staying for coffee/tea at the cafés at the end of our walks
- ▶▶ Some walkers who have been bereaved say that being out in the fresh air and having the opportunity to talk to other people helps them enormously
- ▶▶ Quite a few walkers have been able to reduce their medication as they enjoy the many benefits of walking and being outside

We would love you to join us on one of our walks – why not try one of the walks below and see if group walking is for you?



Are you worried if the level of walk is right for you?

Try one of our easier walks first – just turn up 15 minutes earlier and complete our New Walker form.

Are you worried about coming to the walk for the first time on your own?

Don't worry as many people turn up on their own the first time. Our walk leaders, in their high viz yellow vests, will make you feel welcome and introduce you to other walkers.

What do I wear?

No special equipment is needed, just some suitable shoes for walking and waterproofs. It's also a good idea to bring a water bottle.

We look forward to seeing you on our walks. Happy walking!

Linda

Find the East Herts walk programme here www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/healthwalks or ring 01992 588433 or email Healthwalks.cms@hertfordshire.gov.uk.

You can sign up for the monthly ebulletin too.

Linda Pryor



This is a photo of one of our leaders, Anne, walking at the back on the Sele walk on a Monday morning.

| WALK GRADE | DAY AND TIME | WHERE TO MEET | DESCRIPTION |
|--------------------|------------------|--|--|
| First Steps | Tuesdays 2.30pm | Ware Asda, Park Road entrance | Our shortest walk, 20–30 minutes, flat ground, gentle pace, regular stops |
| | Wednesdays 10am | Hertford, Salisbury Square | |
| Grade 1 | Wednesdays 10am | Hertford, Salisbury Square | 30 minutes, about 1.5 miles, flat ground |
| Grade 2 | Mondays 10am | Hertford, Sele Farm, bench by shops | 45 minutes, about 2 miles, faster pace, some hills |
| | Thursdays 2pm | Hertford, Hartham Common, bench by swimming pool | |
| Grade 3–4 | Mondays 10am | Hertford, Sele Farm, bench by shops | Between 1–1.5 hours distance between 3–5 miles, faster pace, including possible stiles and hills |
| | Tuesdays 10am | Bengeio, shops on The Avenue | |
| | Fridays 10am | Alternating between Ware Wodson Park or Stanstead Abbots, The Red Lion | |
| | Sundays 11am/2pm | Hartham Common, swimming pool bench | |
| Grade 4 | Tuesdays 10am | Watton at Stone, Poulton Hall | Up to 2 hours, fast pace |

What's on in Bengoe



Bengoe Club

Entertainment on Saturday evenings at the Club:

- »»» Bingo at 9pm on 7th March; 21st March, 11th April, 25th April.
- »»» Mario at 9pm on the 14th March.
- »»» The Legendary Swordsmen (60s Night) 28th March at 9pm.
- »»» Laurel at 9pm on the 4th April.
- »»» Family Karaoke at 8pm on the 12th April.
- »»» The Bonnet – 9pm on the 18th April.



The White Lion

There are regular entertainments at the White Lion:

- »»» Open mic every Thursday from 8.30pm–11pm.
- »»» Sunday 15th March from 4pm–6pm. St Patrick's Day celebrations with Gerry and a guest appearance from some Irish dancer.
- »»» 22nd March – Mother's Day: we are taking bookings for family meals.
- »»» 29th March Mario 5pm–7pm.
- »»» Easter Sunday 12th April – free children's Easter Egg Hunt from 12 noon.
- »»» 25th April – OMJ: 9pm until late.

Keep an eye out for theme nights.

The Greyhound

Don't miss Quiz Nights on Tuesdays at 8pm.

Eat at The Greyhound on Friday evenings, Saturday evenings and daytime on Sundays, especially popular are fish and chips on Fridays and roast lunches on Sundays.

The Greyhound is also available for functions – ring 01992 552277.



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Bengeo Lives – THE EARL FAMILY OF BENGEO



Following on from W E Johns (William Earl Johns) in the last issue, this article tells us more about his mother Elizabeth's family.

William Ayres Earl had a butchers shop at 37 Cowbridge, now Hertford Art House. He was born in Huntingdonshire in 1846, the son of James and Elizabeth. James was a carpenter and

millwright and by 1861 the family were living in Salisbury Court, St Andrew Street.

William married Mary Ann Hankin on 24th June 1867 in Hertford and they went on to have 10 children, 3 of whom died young.

The family made their home in Bengeo on the newly built 'Port Hill Common' (now Byde Street) but it is not clear which house. In 1881 they were living at 1 George Street. It is not known exactly when he started his own business. By 1891 the family were still in George Street but two of the sons were 'Butchers helps' so it would seem likely they were working with their father.

The children:

Elizabeth born 1869 (W E Johns' mother) married Richard W E Johns in 1892 in Bengeo.

William Ayres born 1871 married twice, Clara Taylor in 1896 and Jessie Acres in 1921.

Flora Emily born 1872 married Percy Peck in 1902.

Rosa E born 1874 unknown death date.

Ernest Edward born 1875 married Bessie Bradfield in 1899.

Gertrude Amelia born 1877 married in 1903.

Edgar Arthur born 1880 married Lilian Valentine Catling in 1903.

Edith Ada born 1881 married Percy James Hoare in 1913.

In 1897 Mr William Ayres Earl bought the land on the corner of Parkhurst Road and Elton Road for £100. This was to have been shop plots but were never used as that. He built Laburnum Villa, a double fronted house for himself, his wife and four of his seven children.

The family all stayed close even after marriage, Elizabeth at 41 Cowbridge, William on Port Hill, Flora in Nelson Street, Ernest at 37 Cowbridge above the shop and Edgar in Parkhurst Road. Some, if not all, of the properties were owned by William and he had a number of other houses in Bengeo he rented out. William Ayres was a true Victorian, a self-made man, patriarch of a large family and a local philanthropist. He died in 1927 and the house was left to his widow Mary. When she died in 1929 Edgar bought Ernest's share of Laburnum Villa for £450 and the house continued as an Earl family home for another generation.



Edgar died in 1929 and the house was left to his son Kenneth Edgar Earl who was running the butcher's business and had had a house built at 10 The Avenue. Laburnum Villa was then rented out until 1970.

In the churchyard of Holy Trinity three graves lie in a row marked by identical crosses. The first grave is of William and Mary, the second of Elizabeth and Richard Johns and the third Russell Johns and his wife Maggie.

Mr Kenneth Earl had to pay for making up a large part of The Drive in 1957 as the side of his property in The Avenue bordered The Drive. The garden has since had 2 houses built on it at the end of The Drive.

Marilyn Taylor

Photos: Courtesy Hertford Museum and Marilyn Taylor

Research: Stephanie Nugent in Hertfordshire Countryside and Marilyn Taylor

Local Links for Live Discussion

All these links are live in the digital version of the magazine

Facebook Groups and Websites Bengoe

Love Bengoe

www.facebook.com/groups/334572663543095

Bengoe Residents

www.facebook.com/groups/698539580298046

Molewood Residents Association

www.molewood.org.uk

Facebook Causes/Campaigns Bengoe

Stop Bengoe Quarry

www.facebook.com/groups/992628417479697

Save Bengoe Countryside Stop the Quarry

www.facebook.com/savebengoe

Save Beane Marshes

www.facebook.com/groups/savebeanemarshes

www.facebook.com/groups/1952984661585380

Hertford including Bengoe

Hertford Town Council Events

www.hertford.gov.uk

www.facebook.com/hertfordtowncouncil

Pages

I Love Hertford Page

www.facebook.com/ilovehertford

Hertford Facebook Groups

Photos of Hertford, Ware and surround

[www.facebook.com/groups/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/photosofhertfordandware)

[photosofhertfordandware](https://www.facebook.com/groups/photosofhertfordandware)

Local History

www.ourhertfordandware.org.uk/content/category/groups/hertford-and-ware-local-history-society

Hertford Museum have an online image library with 15,000 images for users to browse or buy from their collection

www.hertfordmuseumimages.org

Parish Group

Holy Trinity Church Bengoe

www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityBengoe

Parish website: www.parishofbengoe.com

If you want to more up-to-date information about what is going on in Bengoe, then link to these local websites and social media pages. Please tell us about other links you think would be useful to Bengoe residents.

News from 2nd Bengoe Scout Group

We are your local Scout group meeting in Watermill Lane. We have Beavers, aged six to eight, Cubs who are eight to ten and a half and Scouts who are ten and a half to fourteen. All open to boys and girls. Brownies and Guides meet at our hut as well. We are refurbishing our hall and already have a brand new kitchen and toilets. Our hut is to become a community hall and we are looking for groups to use it especially during the day time. We are also looking for new leaders and would love to hear from you if you are interested in helping us.

Contact Barbara Kiln: b.kiln@sky.com.

Second Collectors' Fayre at Holy Trinity Church

Put the following dates in your diary now – either to contribute or simply to view.

Saturday 5th September, 10.30am–4.30pm

Sunday 6th September 11.30am–4.00pm.

We had amazing collections and memorabilia, retro and vintage last year and if you would like to participate this year please contact Mary Crane, 01992 314003 or em.crane@virginmedia.com.

Watch this space for further details in future issues of the magazine.



Tonwell School News



Basketball Wow Day

Children at Tonwell were very excited to welcome Paul Sturgess, NBA basketball star, to their school. Paul not only played for the Harlem Globetrotters in America for seven years, but is also Britain's tallest man (7,7) and a successful actor with Avatar 2 and Doctor Who on his CV.

Most importantly, Paul shared his experiences of being different and how he has embraced this and used it to his advantage. We were all inspired by his message 'Celebrate differences and make the most of what makes you unique'. We were also wowed by his interactive basketball sessions and enjoyed learning some NBA tricks.



Viking Day

We love to invite visitors to our school and enjoy making our learning experiences hands on and practical wherever possible. Our junior children got fully involved in our Vikings Day – dressing up, acting out battle scenes, handling artefacts and storytelling.



Multisports

As a small school, we take every opportunity to work with other local schools in the community. We are active members of the Hertford and Ware Sport Partnership with every child getting to participate in competitive events each year. Our KS2 classes really enjoyed the challenges at the Multisports Festival held at Wodson Park.

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**



Bengeo Primary School

A few of the events we have celebrated recently at Bengeo Primary School



We have had a wonderful start to the year here at Bengeo Primary. Here are a few of the exciting activities our children have taken part in.

Year 1 Toy Museum Workshop

On Thursday 23rd January, Year 1 enjoyed investigating how toys have changed over the years. They played with a variety of toys from the past, including some toys that the teachers used to play with when they were young! They thought about how the toys work and what they were made of, and also held a teddy which was over 100 years old.

The children said, 'It was really fun.' 'It was the best day ever.'

Foundation Stage 'Goldilocks and Three Bears' workshop

On Wednesday 5th February, Foundation Stage had a visit from a 'Goldilocks and The Three Bears' interactive drama workshop.

The children were enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity.

Singing Club trip to Young Voices, Wembley

Our Singing Club attended Young Voices Concert for primary children at Wembley on Friday 7th February. They had a super time singing the songs that they had been rehearsing, along with 4,000 other children in this amazing venue. It

was an amazing experience for all who attended.





Mill Mead School



For 14 years now Mill Mead Primary School has partnered with Nabalongo Primary School in rural Eastern Uganda. The link began when Mrs Nesbitt met Patrick, a former pupil of Nabalongo Primary School and a head teacher at a secondary school in Kampala, as Mill Mead were actively looking for a sister school to work with in Africa.

Over the years, the Mill Mead school community has raised thousands of pounds to spend on improvements to Nabalongo school. Initially the money was used to purchase land at the back of the school so that the children could have a sports field and an area to cultivate vegetables. After this staff quarters were built so that staff and a security guard could live on site. The next major project the funds went towards was to sink a borehole on the school site. This enabled families in the village to source good quality water locally. Previously children were walking at least a mile to and from the village to obtain clean water, sometimes alone and in the dark.

In 2015 another big project started to put electricity

in the school. Mrs Nesbitt switched on the first lightbulb back in February 2015 and since then every classroom now has electricity. They now also have a laptop and a printer.

This week children at Mill Mead School had a Uganda day and came to school dressed in colours of the Ugandan flag. They have also been making gifts, writing letters, drawing pictures and making films to swap with the children at the school.

Mrs Nesbitt travelled to Nabalongo in February this year to give the children the gifts and to see how the latest project that the school is working on is coming along. The current project is to renovate the staff quarters. Once this has been completed staff and security will be able to stay on site making it easier for the teachers each day and ensuring the school is secure every day.

This is a link that the children and parents of Mill Mead find so rewarding and its fabulous to see the improvements that have been made to the school over the years.



Duncombe School

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Team Duncombe

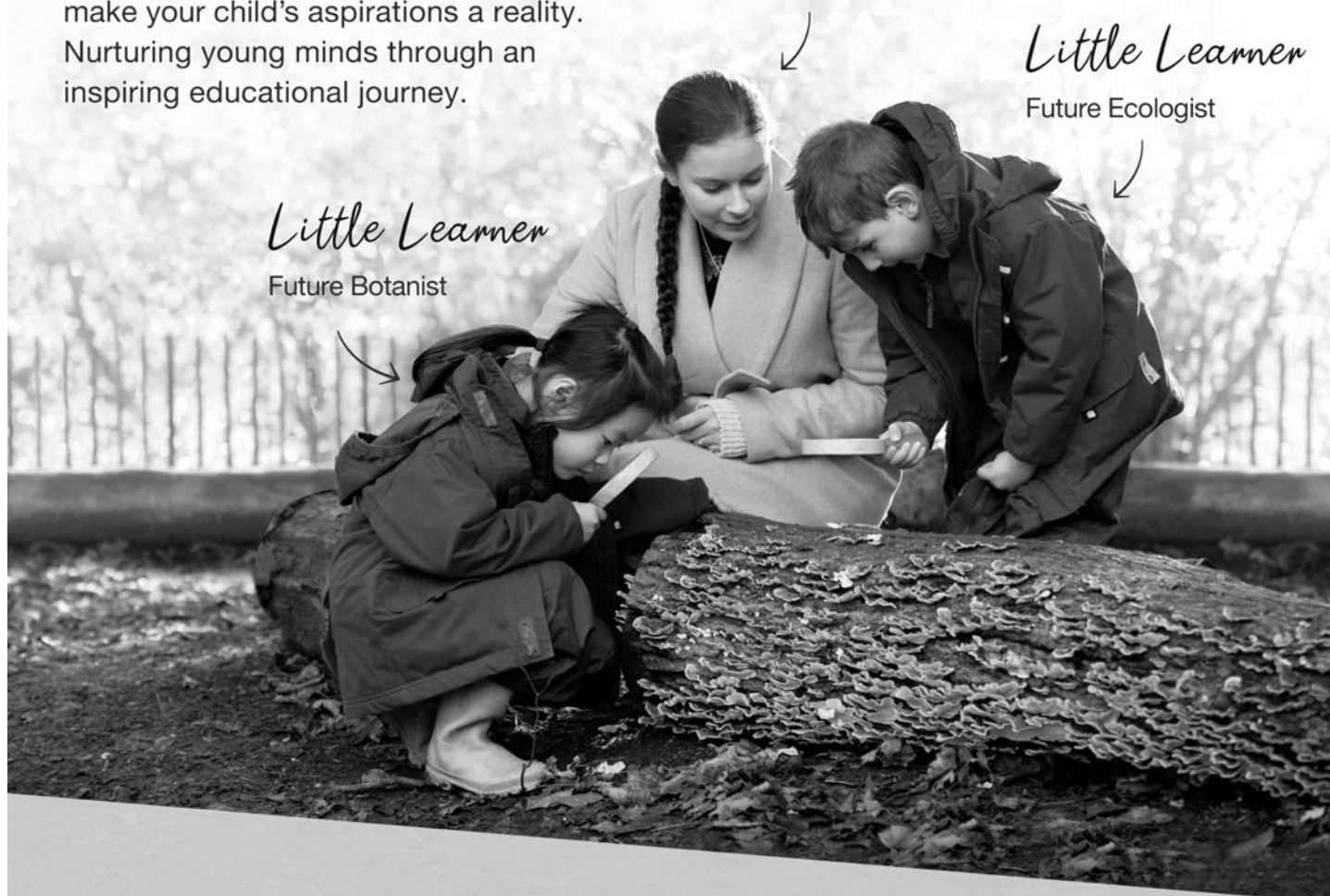
Teaching the Future

Little Learner

Future Ecologist

Little Learner

Future Botanist



Open Mornings

Thursday 12th March & Friday 24th April 2020 | 9:30am – 11:30am

To book your place or to arrange a private tour, call **01992 414100**
or email lucy.evans@duncombe-school.co.uk

4 Warren Park Road, Bengoe, Hertford, SG14 3JA
www.duncombe-school.co.uk

Treetops
Pre-School

COGNITA



Duncombe
School

An Independent Preparatory
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Duncombe School

It's been a busy start to the spring term for Duncombe School and Treetops Pre-School. Our teachers continue to nurture our children's minds through an inspiring educational journey, encouraging all our little learners to have big dreams!

Choral Competition

We started the term with the wonderful news that Team Duncombe's Harmony Choir had reached the finals of the Barnardo's National Youth Choral Competition! The judges commented on the lovely tone of the choir, how well-balanced the parts were and how 'together' they sounded.

This is a prestigious competition and Duncombe is one of only 18 young choirs selected from across the country. The children and our wonderful Music Department are practising hard for the finals, which will be held at The Royal Festival Hall, London in March.

Paradise Park visit

Team Duncombe's ECO team invited Paradise Wildlife Park to come and talk about the effect that rubbish and pollution has on the environment. As a result, Duncombe is taking part in the HEART project (Helping Endangered Animals by Recycling Trash). Over the coming weeks we will research the habitat of the gibbon and then design and make a sculpture of a gibbon using recyclable materials. The finished sculpture is taken to Paradise Wildlife Park in May and put on display, which we are very excited about.

World Book Week events

We are looking forward to our World Book Week in March and this year's theme is Reading Rocks! Our Head of English has orchestrated a week of reading fun and arranged for a variety of lessons to be involved, from Science creating a non-fiction book about rocks to the PE Reading Relay. Throughout the week we'll be posting our reading fun on Facebook, so please take a look.

Finally, on March 17th Alice Hemming our Patron of Reading will be opening our Reading Café in Treetops Pre-School. Come along and enjoy a reading from Alice, who is the author of *Bibble and The Bubble* and enjoy other fun activities. Spaces are limited, so please book a FREE ticket via our website.

Open Mornings

If you would like to find out more about a Duncombe education and how we bring learning to life, please come along to our Open Morning on March 12th or April 24th, from 9.30am–11am. Visit our website for more details.

Parish Prayers

Prayers for March

1. The Church in Wales.
2. Trinity Grove.
3. Hertfordshire Hospitals Charity.
4. Christians in Zimbabwe.
5. HMP, Preston.
6. World Day of Prayer.
7. Future Hope, Hertford.
8. Hospital Chaplains.
9. The Commonwealth.
10. The Lister Hospital, Stevenage.
11. St Mary and All Saints Cathedral, Zimbabwe.
12. HMP Ranby, Nottingham.
13. All Nations Christian College, Easneye.
14. Youth Outreach in Hertford.
15. Our Church Music.
16. Ware Road.
17. The Church in Ireland.
18. Mission Aviation Fellowship in Zimbabwe.
19. HMP Risley, Warrington.
20. Plans for Hertford Town Centre.
21. Christians in Sport.
22. Our Mothers.
23. Ware Park Road.
24. Lister Butterfly Service Volunteers.
25. The Mothers Union in Zimbabwe.
26. HMP Rochester, Kent. First used in 1847.
27. Mount Vernon Cancer Centre.
28. Our local Doctors and Surgery Staff.
29. Local Clubs and Societies.
30. Warren Park Road.
31. Hertford County Hospital, Volunteers and Staff.

Prayers for April

1. Christians in Africa.
2. HMP Rye Hill.
3. The Trustees of the East and North Herts NHS Trust.
4. The new QE11 Hospital, Welwyn Garden City.
5. All who teach.
6. The Red Cross in Refugee Camps.
7. Our prayers and Daily Office.
8. Christian Aid in Zimbabwe.
9. The Betrayal.
10. Amnesty International.
11. Hertford and District Churches Together.
12. The Risen Lord Jesus.
13. Our Families.
14. Our Bereavement Café in the Secret Garden.
15. Africa Mercy Hospital Ships.
16. HMP Send, Woking.
17. MIND charity for mental health.
18. The Samaritans in Ware and Hertford.
19. Friends of St Leonard's.
20. Warren Terrace.
21. School Groups in St Leonard's.
22. The Bengio Coffee Pot.
23. Persecuted Christians.
24. Local Businesses.
25. Mudlarks Allotments.
26. Community use of our Churches.
27. Waterloo Terrace.
28. Our Bengio Magazine.
29. Hope Ships, Newlyn, Cornwall
30. HMP Spring Hill Open Prison, Aylesbury.

From the Church Register

Baptism

22nd December 2019: **Edwin Miklos Cross**

19th January 2020:

Theodore John James Chambers

Funeral

21st January 2020: **Jo Cracknell**

3rd February 2020: **Raymond Hankins**

Burial of Ashes

10th December 2019: **Joan Cook**

15th December 2019: **Wendy Broome**

22nd December 2019: **Joan Whiting**

Lent Events

Hymns and Cake – Sunday 1st March at 3pm

Hertford Methodist Church will be holding its 'hymns and cake' afternoon in aid of Christian Aid for cake followed by singing your favourite hymns.

Maundy Thursday – 9th April at 7pm

Join us at Duncombe Hall for a first taste of Easter – a simple parish supper. We will eat together and listen to the story of the Last Supper. Please contact Penny Andrew pennyandrew22@hotmail.com to book in advance, or sign the sheet in the church.

A Word from the Rectory

From The Vicar, The Revd Robert Thompson

Lent – sweeter than you think



Having tried a host of ways to encourage people back to church I think I might have stumbled upon a ready answer. A free delicious bar of chocolate given to everyone who comes to church in Lent.

Just imagine – at a time when your average local vicar is espousing the benefits of giving

up sweet treats, Bengio church can get ahead of the competition. We could begin a Sunday in Lent enjoying a Flake, a Ripple, or a Twirl – and then, finally, I'd lay on the twist. We'd talk about the problems of cocoa growers and the ethics of the trade and begin our Lent together determined that of all things to give up in our world, it's global injustice that should be giving us most food for thought.

Neat though the gimmick might sound, I can't imagine that many church-goers will be surprised by my pitch. In most churches these days there's more talk about giving our minds to something good than giving something up, many Christians following a strict programme of daily acts of kindness or charitable practice all the way through Lent until Easter Day, (when the chocolate comes back around).

But there are plenty of critics of the trend too. Abstinence, they say, albeit temporary, is a message still worth preaching. What harm does it do to learn a bit of poise and self-control once in a while? Surely the churches have gone soft. Does chomping on chocolate throughout Lent really focus the mind on child labour and slavery in the cocoa industry any more than sweat shops and poverty wages come to mind when you put on your favourite pair of jeans?

Whether it's better to give something up or take something on during Lent comes down to personal judgement. There's little clue from Jesus on which course to take; he was the man who weathered severe temptations in the wilderness but also played fast and loose with many Sabbath regulations.

He was clear on one thing, though: proper religious observance is not for God's benefit, but for ours. Religious traditions and religious time are good gifts given so that we might learn to share the goodness God is giving us. God creates all time. All time is good. Lent is too.

Which is why we owe Lent a change of attitude. Run like some pointless endurance exercise it will leave you miserable and exhausted. Embraced as a positive disciple for body, mind and soul it will inspire, engage and transform our lives through that unconditional grace that Jesus is, quite literally, dying to give you.

We should worry less about how to get right with God and remember that we are already alright with him. We should stop peering at our spiritual selves in the mirror with doubt and self-loathing and remember how God sees us, chosen and beloved.

And whilst there is a very clear need in all situations to discern carefully between what is good and what is evil, what is right and what is wrong, Lent is no time to wallow and wade through our sins and shortcomings. God would only ever have us pursue his merits, and not be afraid to leave the rest behind.

Happy Lent!

Robert Thompson

Parish Calendar MARCH 2020

| Sunday 1st March | | THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT |
|----------------------|--|--|
| 8am | Holy Communion | |
| 10am | All Age Communion for <i>'New You Sunday'</i> Speaker: Bridget Hersant | |
| Tuesday 3rd March | | |
| 8pm | Quiet Time | |
| Thursday 5th March | | |
| 10am | Holy Communion | |
| 10.30am | Coffee Pot Charity Cafe, Church Hall, Duncombe Road | |
| 7.30pm | Service for Healing and Wholeness | |
| Sunday 8th March | | THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT |
| 8am | Holy Communion | |
| 10am | Parish Communion and Junior Church | |
| Tuesday 10th March | | |
| 8pm | Quiet Time | |
| Wednesday 11th March | | |
| 10am | Craft Club, Church Hall, Duncombe Road | |
| Thursday 12th March | | |
| 10am | Holy Communion | |
| 10.30am | Coffee Pot Charity Cafe, Church Hall, Duncombe Road | |
| Sunday 15th March | | THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT |
| 8am | Holy Communion | |
| 10am | Parish Communion and Junior Church | |
| 6.30pm | Evening Service: <i>'Words and Music'</i> Short reflective prayer service | |
| Tuesday 17th March | | |
| 8pm | Quiet Time | |
| Thursday 19th March | | |
| 10am | Holy Communion | |
| 10.30am | Coffee Pot Charity Cafe, Church Hall, Duncombe Road | |
| 2pm | Ladies' Circle, Church Hall, Duncombe Road | |
| Sunday 22nd March | | THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (MOTHERING SUNDAY) |
| 8am | Holy Communion | |
| 10am | All Age Communion for <i>'Love You, Mum' Sunday</i> | |
| 6.30pm | Evening Service with Thought for The Day | |
| Tuesday 24th March | | |
| 8pm | Quiet Time | |
| Thursday 26th March | | |
| 10am | Holy Communion | |
| 10.30am | Coffee Pot Charity Cafe, Church Hall, Duncombe Road | |
| Sunday 29th March | | THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (PASSION SUNDAY) |
| 8am | Holy Communion | |
| 10am | Parish Communion and Junior Church | |
| Tuesday 31st March | | |
| 8pm | Quiet Time | |

Parish Calendar APRIL 2020

| | |
|--|--|
| Thursday 2nd April | |
| 10am | Holy Communion |
| 10.30am | Coffee Pot Charity Cafe, Church Hall, Duncombe Road |
| 7.30pm | Service for Healing and Wholeness |
| Sunday 5th April PALM SUNDAY | |
| 8am | Holy Communion |
| 10am | Parish Communion and Junior Church with procession of palms around the church |
| 6th April MONDAY IN HOLY WEEK | |
| 8pm | Holy Communion |
| 7th April TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK | |
| 8pm | Quiet Time with Holy Communion |
| 8th April WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK | |
| 10am | Craft Club, Church Hall, Duncombe Road |
| 8pm | Holy Communion |
| 9th April MAUNDY THURSDAY | |
| 10am | Holy Communion |
| 10.30am | Coffee Pot Charity Cafe, Church Hall, Duncombe Road |
| 7pm | Prayer supper in the Church Hall, Duncombe Road Commemorating the Last Supper through word and action |
| 10th April GOOD FRIDAY | |
| 12noon–2pm | Prayer and Meditation |
| 2pm | Good Friday devotions |
| Sunday 12th April EASTER DAY | |
| 8am | Holy Communion |
| 10am | Festival All-Age Communion |
| Tuesday 14th April | |
| 8pm | Quiet Time |
| Thursday 16th April | |
| 10am | Holy Communion |
| 10.30am | Coffee Pot Charity Cafe, Church Hall, Duncombe Road |
| 2pm | Ladies' Circle, Church Hall, Duncombe Road |
| Sunday 19th April THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER | |
| 8am | Holy Communion |
| 10am | Parish Communion and Junior Church |
| 6.30pm | Evening Service: <i>'Words and Music'</i> Short reflective prayer service |
| Tuesday 21st April | |
| 8pm | Quiet Time |
| Thursday 23rd April | |
| 10am | Holy Communion |
| 10.30am | Coffee Pot Charity Cafe, Church Hall, Duncombe Road |
| Sunday 26th April THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER | |
| 8am | Holy Communion |
| 10am | Parish Communion and Junior Church |
| 6.30pm | Evening Service with Thought for The Day |
| Tuesday 28th April | |
| 8pm | Quiet Time |
| Thursday 30th April | |
| 10am | Holy Communion |
| 10.30am | Coffee Pot Charity Cafe, Church Hall, Duncombe Road |

Church Contacts

Team Vicar

The Reverend Robert Thompson

The Rectory, Byde Street, Bengoe, SG14 3BS

E: info@parishofbengeo.com

T: 01992 413691

Associate Priest

Fr. David Pepper

T: 01992 314012

Reader

Bob Kelly

T: 01763 274653

Churchwardens

Diana Howarth

T: 01992 587292

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

As you can see from the pages in this magazine there are many activities and groups in Bengoe.

We would love to list your local club or society here as we know there is lots more happening in the area and it will be a handy reference for readers.

Whether you have a sports club, interest group or work with young people let us know and we can feature your activities and spread the word.

Please contact magazine@parishofbengeo.com.

Answers to the Church Christmas Quiz

Thank you to Peter and Libby Shillito for again providing us with Christmas teasers.

The stage or film musicals without vowels or gaps were:

1. CMLT – *Camelot*
2. CRSL – *Carousel*
3. GRS – *Grease*
4. KLHM – *Oklahoma*
5. LSMSRBLS – *Les Miserables*
6. MSSSGN – *Miss Saigon*
7. NNGTYRGN – *Annie Get Your Gun*
8. NNNNTT – *No No Nanette*
9. SHWBT – *Show Boat*
10. STRPRD – *Easter Parade*
11. THPHNTMFTHPR – *The Phantom of the Opera*
12. VT – *Evita*

The answers on a Christmas theme were:

1. Which company "hi-jacked" Santa Claus and changed his costume from red? **Coca Cola**
2. What was depicted on the first 1s 6d Christmas stamp issued in this country in 1966? **A Snowman**
3. According to the bible, how many kings brought gifts to the infant Jesus at Epiphany? **NOT stated**
4. A Christmas tree erected in Trafalgar Square in London is a gift from which European city? **Oslo**
5. Which popular "Christmas" song was written in 1857 to celebrate US Thanksgiving Day? **Jingle Bells**
6. According to the popular song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" how many geese were a-laying? **Six**
7. Which Christmas carol mentions Boxing Day (indirectly) in its second line? **Good King Wenceslas**
8. Following a law passed in the 16th century and which was not repealed until the 1960s, what was it compulsory to do on Christmas Day? **Attend Church**
9. The Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come are three of the four ghosts to appear in Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol". Who was the fourth? **Jacob Marley**
10. Which American actor was born with the festive name of Joe Yule? **Mickey Rooney**
11. George V made the first live Christmas Day radio broadcast in 1932. The script was written by a cousin of the Prime Minister of the day. Who was the well-known author who wrote the speech? **Rudyard Kipling**
12. Who had a Christmas No 1 hit single in the UK in 1978 with "Mary's Boy Child? **Boney M (Harry Belafonte was 1957)**

Back cover photograph:

Easter Flower Cross, Holy Trinity Church, John Thain

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See page 25 for EASTER SERVICES