

Email your events to: [comms@stalbans.anglican.org](mailto:comms@stalbans.anglican.org)

The Diocese of St Albans in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Luton & Essex

### Concerts & Drama

**St John's Church Harpenden AL5 1DJ.** RSCM Event - Reform and Renewal on **Saturday 23 September** at 2-5pm. This 'Come and Sing' workshop event, for singers of all ages and abilities, will be led by Christopher Muhley and others, rehearsing items from the latest RSCM Festival Book - Reform and Renewal. Book is included in your £6 event fee. [www.stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsharpenden.org.uk). Please book your place online at <http://www.rscm-stalbans.co.uk/?p=2319>.

**St Laurence Church, Wormley.** A concert with the Lynmore Singers will be held on **Saturday 23rd September** at 7.30pm. Tickets £10 to include interval refreshments. Songs from the shows, sacred music and jazz. Tickets £10 on the door but £8 if reserved beforehand. Parish Office 01992 444117 [bwparishoffice@btinternet.com](mailto:bwparishoffice@btinternet.com) or Linda 01992 464405/422874.

**St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted.** Bridgewater Sinfonia Twentieth Anniversary Season of Concerts. **Saturday 30th September** at 7.30pm, includes works by Mendelssohn, Elgar, Nielsen and Britten. Tickets £16/£15 in advance U18s free, from 01442 873205 or [www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk](http://www.bridgewater-sinfonia.org.uk).

**Open Days & Festivals**

**St. Mary, Magdalene Church, Westoning.** Apollo 16 Astronaut and Moon Walker Charlie Duke will be giving a talk about his life 'From walking on the moon to walking with Jesus' on **Friday 8th September** at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 from 01525 714442.

**St Paul's Church, Bedford MK40 1SQ.** Heritage Day to coincide with Sponsored Bike'n'Hike Event, on **Saturday 9th September.** Church open 10-6pm. Refreshments for cyclists will be available all day. Guided tours at 10.30am and 2.30pm. **Organ Recital** at 12 noon by Adrian Gunning from Islington. Admission free. Details 01234 340163 or [www.stpaulschurchbedford.org.uk](http://www.stpaulschurchbedford.org.uk)

**Holy Cross, Sarratt.** There will be a Labyrinth mown into the grass on Sarratt Green from **10th-17th September.** There will be information and activities available to all who visit.

**St. Andrews Church, Blenheim Crescent, Luton** is celebrating its 85th year by holding a Flower Festival on **Sepember 15, 16, and 17th.** Opening times, 12-4pm Friday, 10am-4pm Saturday and 12.30-4pm on Sunday. The Flowers will be designed on the theme of 'Simple Pleasures'. Gardening, scrapbooking, baking to name a few! Admission £1. Tea, coffee and cake will be available.

**St. Andrew's Church, Biggleswade SG18 0AI** Country Fayre on **Saturday 23rd September** 10-3.30pm. Free Admission. Lots of stalls and an entertaining arena programme throughout the day. Grand Raffle with top prize of £200. Fancy Dress Competition 'Musicals' for Children up to Age 10yrs. Home-made refreshments available.

**The Church of the Resurrection, Grovehill, Grovehill Harvest Supper & Barn Dance** on **Saturday 7th October,** 6pm. Tickets £5 per adult, £3 for U16s. Fun for the whole family, sign up at the Community Centre, Henry Wells Square for Bring & Share Meal. Proceeds to DENS.

**St Julian's Church, 3 Abbots Avenue, St Albans AL1 2HY.** 'Culture in Cottonmill', St Albans Pop-up Museum and Art Exhibition on **Saturday 7th October** 10.30am-4pm. St Albans Museum will provide items to view and local artists including Dione Verulam and Christiane Kubrick will display work. Entrance free, refreshments available. For further details contact 01727 763205 or email [stjulianschurch@virginmedia.com](mailto:stjulianschurch@virginmedia.com).

**St. Mary's Church, Ashwell.** The 18th Ashwell Book Weekend will take place on **Saturday 7th October** 10.00am - 5.00pm and **Sunday 8th October** 2.00 - 5.00pm. Come and browse and buy from the hundreds of books at bargain prices. Tea, coffee and home-made cakes available. Entrance £1. Children under 16 free.

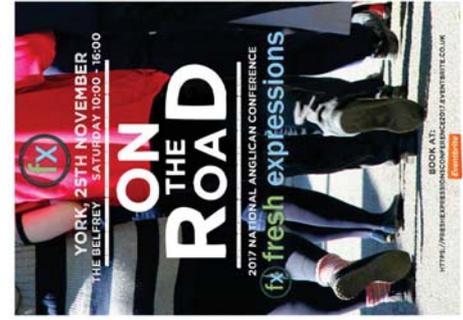
### Talks & Courses

**St. Andrew's Church Kimbolton Road Bedford MK40 2PE.** New BELIEF Courses starting in **September.** Please see posters in the ebundle or visit [beliefbeds.org](http://beliefbeds.org).

**St Paul's Church Chipperfield WD4 9BS.** 'This is my body' An ecumenical workshop sharing understandings of the Eucharist. 'How might we speak together of this gift we have been given?' **Wednesday 4th October** 7.15 for 7.45pm.

**All Saints Church, Shaftesbury Road, Luton LU4 8AH.** Organists' Workshop on **Saturday 7th October** 2.30 - 5.00pm. Players - £5, Observers - free. Directed by Roger Carter. Keen to improve some aspect of your organ playing? An informal opportunity to receive advice from Roger on any aspect of service playing. The afternoon will be tailored to needs of participants and individual advice will be given whilst playing this lovely organ. Book your place here: <http://www.rscm-stalbans.co.uk/?p=2514>

**St Albans Cathedral.** For details of all the events/courses at or connected with the Cathedral, please see the information in the ebundle.



## Peace and Reconciliation in Hitchin

Canon Michael Roden, Team Rector of the Hitchin and St Paul's Walden Team, is one of three priests from around the country who has been instrumental in an imaginative exercise in reconciliation



Canon Michael has been working alongside the Vicar of Darford, Kent and the Sub-Dean of Salisbury, addressing the legacy of The Partition, when India was divided at the moment of independence in 1947 into two countries. Although this sounds like an unusual concern for a Church of England priest, Michael became aware through meeting and working with those of other faiths that there was a painful legacy still affecting the Indian and Pakistani communities. A million people are estimated to have lost their lives in the turmoil and the mass-migration of people. The legacy? Grief, distrust and enmity. As the 70th anniversary of Partition approached, the three clergy decided that it was time something was done. But what form should 'something' take? The tensions of the past were not just between the South Asian communities, but also lay in deeply buried resentment of the British architects of partition.

With intercommunal tensions already heightened over concerns such as radicalisation, Islamophobia or the marginalisation of minorities, taking from Partition its power to oppress and divide was a prize worth seeking. In an interview on BBC Newsnight, Michael said: "At school, I learnt about Clive of India, the Indian Mutiny and then I learnt about Gandhi by watching the film. People just don't know this stuff. My children were taught even less than me. History teaching is largely Hitler and the

Henries and with large South Asian populations living here it's just not good enough. It should be on the national curriculum." The first priority was to find a way of telling the history accurately but sensitively. Four years' research was followed by a seminar organised by Cambridge University, The Runnymede Trust and Coventry Cathedral in which Sikh, Hindu and Muslim educators and historians took part. It concluded that the arts were the best means of telling the story sensitively. Michael was looking for the equivalent of Anne Frank's Diary. Eventually they settled on a play and a novel. The novel is Train to Pakistan, by Khushwant Singh. Michael would love to see this brought to a wider audience and although Lion TV and the BBC were offered and refused the story, Michael believes that their interest was piqued. This led to a panoply of programming covering Partition. The play, 'Child of the Divide' by Sudha Bhuchar, was first performed, fittingly, in St Mary's, Hitchin, before pupils from Denbigh High School, Luton, and St Andrew's C of E School, Hitchin.

Lesson plans and other resources have already been prepared and approved by leading academics. So the prospect of better teaching of the events of 1947 is at least one step closer to reality. Blessed are the peacemakers. Partition stories on the BBC are available at <http://bbc.in/2YOWG8t>

## It takes the whole world to know Christ

Summer came and has probably gone! With the arrival of the warmer months many of us headed off on our hols to other areas of the world. We visited different parts of the United Kingdom and Europe and some travelled much further to other continents.

Why go to this effort? Why leave behind our homes and their comforts? Surely it's to see so much in the world that's different to where we spend most of our days. Different foods, different languages, different architecture, different music, different horizons, different cultures. "Travel broadens the mind" it's said and if you stood in the departure halls of Stansted or Luton this summer you'll quickly have realised that many of us can't seem to get enough of it.

A wise person once said 'it takes the whole world to know Christ'. I wonder if you've considered how encountering other places, other people, other cultures can shape our understanding of the faith that we've been given? For many of us, our perspectives are deeply shaped by the traditions and practices we've been used to at home. If we're not careful, we can think that our own particular experience is how Christian faith is. Yet follow a saint's day procession in Spain, sing with the mourners at a funeral in South Africa, hear the preaching of a Baptist minister in America's Deep South and it becomes inescapable that others' perspectives on Christ can be very different to our own. And can add a great deal to the picture we have.

This summer I did some travelling of my own. Once again I took part in the Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Taizé (Do see here: [www.stalbans.anglican.org/taize-youth-pilgrimage-video-released/](http://www.stalbans.anglican.org/taize-youth-pilgrimage-video-released/) if you'd like to know more of what we got up to last year). Granted, getting to Taizé is not my ultimate ideal in travel (ferry and 12 hour overnight bus journey). But once there I was again excited to accompany around 35 young people from around our diocese as they encountered other Christians from a host of the different countries and cultures of the world. As well as worshipping alongside each other, they met each day in mixed country groups to study the Bible and talk together. This presents some challenges (this year my group contained 5 Germans, 2 Zimbabweans and 2 Brits) but somehow problems of



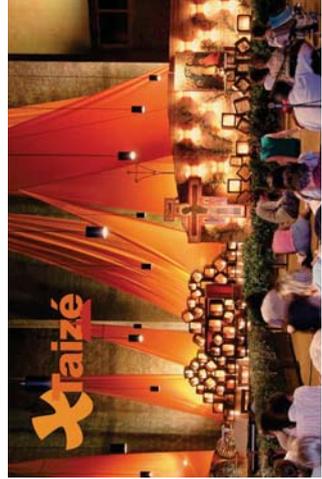
Rt Revd Michael Beasley  
Bishop of Hertford

translation these are always overcome. And the impact of being together is extraordinary. Through sharing different insights from different places our vision of faith grows and expands. We learn from direct experience that 'it takes the whole world to know Christ'.

So what did you learn from your travels this summer? Whether you're in Coniston or Kraków, Southend or the South Seas, how might your encounter with a different way of seeing the world expand and enrich the way you understand your faith – and help you appreciate that 'it takes the whole world to know Christ'?

+ Michael Hertford.

[bishop@hertford@stalbens.anglican.org](mailto:bishop@hertford@stalbens.anglican.org)



## Clergy Appointments

**Daniel Bond**, presently School Chaplain at Merchant Taylor's School, has been appointed Chaplain at Eton College, Oxford Diocese.

**Anne Crosby**, previously Assistant Curate in the benefice of Birstall & Wanlip, Leicester Diocese, is to become Vicar in the benefice of St Anne with St Christopher, Luton.

**Joy Daniel**, is to become Associate Minister, Public Preacher Licence providing interim cover during vacancy at St Paul's Church Luton. She retains PTO.

**Philip Green**, presently Curate (SSM) at St Peter's Church London Colney has also been appointed as Assistant School Chaplain of Aldenham School.

**Christopher Jones**, presently Assistant Curate at St Luke's Church Watford, is to become Associate Vicar at St Laurence's Church Reading, in Oxford Diocese.

**Sam Korn**, presently Assistant Curate in the benefice of East Barnet, is to become Vicar of St Giles' Church in Aintree, in Liverpool Diocese.

**Jane Kraft** who previously held PTO in this diocese has retired to Berkshire.

**Jocelyn (Jos) Perris** presently Associate Priest/Missioner for Young People at St Peter's Church St Albans, has been appointed School Chaplain of Aldenham School.

**Canon Carole Selby** previously Team Vicar in Cheshunt Team Ministry has been appointed Canon Emeritus and has retired to Norfolk.

**Richard Watson**, presently Sub-Dean at St Albans Cathedral is to become Vicar of St Saviour's Church St Albans.

**Teresa Wynne**, presently Priest-in-Charge at St Leonard's Church Lexden, Chelmsford Diocese, is to become Team Vicar with special responsibility for Christ Church Waltham Cross.

**Emma Young**, presently Curate-in-Training in the Benefice of St Augustine, Limbury, is to become Vicar in the benefice of St Margaret of Antioch, Darenth, in Rochester Diocese.

## Diocesan Appointments

**Mandy Brown** has been appointed as Rural Dean of Bishop's Stortford and continues as Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Bishop's Stortford.

**Daniel McCarthy** has been appointed Spiritual Director for Cursillo in the Diocese of St Albans and continues as Team Vicar in Aldenham, Radlett and Shenley Team Ministry.

**Chandry Perera** has been appointed Bishop's Advisor for Women's Ministry, Hertford. Archdeaconry and continues as Vicar of St Hugh and St John, Chells, Stevenage.

## Obituaries

It is with sadness that we announce the death of **Sarah Jane Findlay**, Reader with PTO from Cardington, Bedford.

We have also learned of the death of the **Venerable Edward Norfolk**, who was Archdeacon of St Albans from January 1982 until his retirement in November 1987 and prior to that was vicar in Kings Langley, Berkhamsted and Welwyn Garden City. Revd Norfolk was 95 and had been in a nursing home for some years.

## Ordinations



Deacons (above) and Priests (below) from the recent ordinations. Names of all the ordinands were listed in the last edition of SeeRound (July/August).



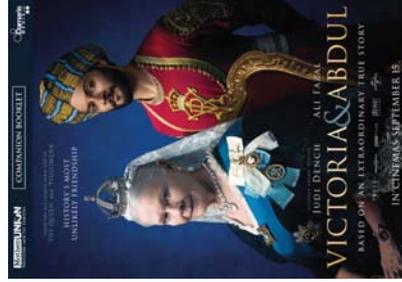
### MU: 'Victoria and Abdul' film provides insight into cultural changes today

Mothers' Union and Damaris Media, the PR and Communications Agency which provides film accompaniments and resources for church and community groups, have teamed up to provide a companion booklet to 'Victoria and Abdul', Judi Dench's latest film. It is especially appropriate for MU to be involved as Queen Victoria was Mothers' Union's first Royal Patron.

The film is released on 15th September and a downloadable booklet is available on Mothers' Union's website [www.mothersunion.org/VictoriaAndAbdul](http://www.mothersunion.org/VictoriaAndAbdul)

Daniel McAllister, Mothers' Union's Head of Fundraising and Communications said, "With Victoria and Abdul's release, I am excited that members, churches and the wider public will not only be entertained, but will be able to access a tool, through the booklet, which highlights the enormous policy and culture change issues we face around the world today."

The film is an historical drama revealing the extraordinary true story of an unexpected friendship in the later years of Queen Victoria's (Academy Award winner Judi Dench) remarkable rule. When Abdul Karim (Ali Fazal), a young clerk, travels from India to participate in the Queen's Golden Jubilee, he is surprised to find favour with the Queen herself. As the Queen questions the strictness of her long-held position, the two forge an unlikely and devoted alliance with a loyalty to one another that her household and inner circle all attempt to destroy. As the friendship deepens, the Queen begins to see a changing world through new eyes and joyfully reclaims her humanity. The issues addressed within the film of breaking down barriers and welcoming the stranger will be reflected upon from a biblical perspective in the booklet. Throughout the movement's 140 year history, Mothers' Union has spoken out against injustice and advocated for policy change at all levels. Mothers' Union believes the themes running through "Victoria & Abdul" are as relevant today as they were then.



### Remembering Herts TA soldiers at Passchendaele 100 years on

To mark the hundredth anniversary of the Battle of Passchendaele, St. Alban's Church, Warners End, Hemel Hempstead held a special Sunday Morning Service. The Hertfordshire chairman of the Royal Anglian Regiment Association, Major Bill O'Connor T.D., related the events of the fateful morning 100 years ago.

Alongside the five hundred men of the First Battalion, the Hertfordshire Regiment were volunteer Territorials from Hertfordshire towns and villages, drawn from the farmyards of Gaddesden, the Cross beds of Boxmoor and, in large numbers, from the paper mills of Apsley. Together, they advanced across open ground towards the enemy positions at the start of the battle, through machine gun and artillery fire. Within 2 hours over a quarter of their number had been killed, including their Commanding Officer. Of the remainder, only 130 were unwounded. With not a single officer left standing, it fell to the Battalion's Padre and the Regimental Sergeant Major to tend the wounded and to prepare the survivors for a possible German counter-attack.

And so the congregation paid tribute to the Territorials of the Hertfordshire Regiment, part-time volunteers. People called them the 'Saturday Night Soldiers', but it was on a Tuesday morning that they went forth for King and Country one hundred years ago.

The Vicar of Warners End and Gadebridge, the Rev'd Pete Stevenson, read from Lawrence Binyon's evocative poem "For the Fallen". After a minute's silence, the service continued with the singing of the Regimental Hymn 'Who Would True Valour See.'

Mr Stevenson said afterwards that it was right and fitting to pay tribute to the memory of those young Territorial Army soldiers who fought so bravely in such appalling circumstances a century ago. *(With thanks to W O Connor)*



### Maulden's Children's Corner draws families' attention



The numbers of children attending monthly family services at St Mary the Virgin, Maulden, is increasing! The church held a holiday club over the summer and plans to introduce Messy Church in the autumn.

This year there has been a huge increase in the number of Baptisms. So far for 2017 there are 23 arranged – well up on the previous ten each year.

Bishop Richard came to preach at the Patronal Festival,

during August. There were 19 children at the service and 80 adults. The children gave the Bishop a rosette, which reads "No 1 Bishop of Bedford" (*reminds me of how my father used to call me his favourite son – I was the only one!* Ed). Bishop Richard is pictured above wearing his rosette and seated in St Mary's children's corner. The teddy bear was dressed as a Vicar as he is affectionately known as "Father Ted".

### The Meaningful Treat Box – A Real Halloween Treat

The Meaningful Treat Pack is a new resource designed to help with mission work on, and leading up to, the eve of All Saints (Halloween). It is suitable for Light Parties, outreach events, schools or for children who call to trick or treat on 31st October.

Inside each pack there is a bag of Fairtrade chocolate buttons and a Challenge Activity Poster. The poster has eight challenges including a quiz, maze, word game, a call to buy Fairtrade, a prayer suggestion, a national competition with a prize, and a challenge to treat someone less well off by donating to a children's charity.

Produced by The Meaningful Chocolate Company, each box costs £30 (there are 30 packs per box - £1 per pack). Each box also includes an ideas sheet for leaders. There is free delivery if ordered by **September 30th. Visit [www.realhalloween.org](http://www.realhalloween.org)**

David Marshall, from Meaningful Chocolate, explains: "Quite often people feel that there has to be more to Halloween than dressing kids up as serial killers or monsters. The Meaningful Treat box is a way for adults to challenge kids to look at the good in the world, to do a bit of good by giving



to a charity and to enjoy some great Fairtrade chocolate. It's a chance for 5-11 year olds to shine this Halloween."

"The word Halloween means 'The night before All Saints Day'. All Saints Day is a time when we celebrate saints: they are a special kind of hero. We also remember friends and family members. It's the time when we celebrate good winning over bad and light over darkness. We also think it's a chance to show love to others."

## Dioceses asked to help fight modern slavery

An exciting new partnership, The Clewer Initiative, could use the eyes and ears of people who care to bring help to at least 12,000 people in the UK who may be victims of modern slavery. This figure suggests that there are at least 200 people within Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire who are being exploited in domestic servitude, the sex trade, under labour exploitation or being deceived into giving up an organ. If this figure sounds small, it is part of a very large international picture: more than 200 years after the abolition of slavery there are still an estimated 45.8 million men, women and children trapped in modern slavery.

The Clewer Initiative is a 3 year project to enable Church of England dioceses and wider Church networks to develop strategies to detect modern slavery in their communities and help provide victim support and care. Working with the Church locally, the plan is to identify resources that can be utilised, develop partnerships with others working in this area, and create a wider network of advocates seeking to end modern slavery together.

**WESEEEYOU.**  
THE CLEWER INITIATIVE

**THERE ARE AN ESTIMATED 11,700 POTENTIAL VICTIMS OF MODERN SLAVERY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM**

**YOU CAN HELP**

## You won't be able to keep this quiet: 'Thank Your Vicar Week' is coming!

'Thank Your Vicar Week', which takes place during **15th-22nd October**, provides parishes and schools with an opportunity for communities to say a big 'thank you' to clergy for everything they do for others.

Over a third of dioceses celebrated the first national Thank Your Vicar Week last year and SeeRound Online is promoting it this year for the first time.

Thank your Vicar Week is an initiative of St Luke's Healthcare for the Clergy, a charity which cares for the health and wellbeing of Anglican clergy and their families. There are free resources for a special service in church or a special school assembly to celebrate your clergy available at [www.stlukeshealthcare.org.uk/events](http://www.stlukeshealthcare.org.uk/events)

Suggestions for how to mark the occasion include interviewing your Vicar during a service or assembly, having short one-sentence 'votes of thanks' from the congregation, baking a special cake, offering to help with something at church or around the vicarage. Or, you could give St Luke's Healthcare a donation!

**ST Luke's**  
Healthcare for the Clergy

## Bishop Michael encourages community school for all round care and attainment

Oughton Primary School is a community school (i.e. not a church school) in Hitchin. The Revd Jane Mainwaring, a Team Vicar in Hitchin and Rural Dean of Hitchin Deanery, is the Chair of Governors.

The school recently welcomed Bishop Michael to the school. He made the visit to celebrate the school's achievements in every aspect of school life, in its educational attainments as well as in the way governors, teachers and support staff together provide effective help to children in all aspects of their development.

Bishop Michael was particularly impressed by the school's recent Ofsted, which judged the school good with outstanding features, because of the breadth of the school's attainment across all the areas tested.

He said: "It is vitally important that all our schools take the well-being of pupils as seriously as their educational attainment. We know that mental health is increasingly identified as the primary issue for young people and Oughton Primary and Nursery is leading the way in showing that it's never too early to lay down good habits to deal with the stresses of life. I have certainly enjoyed meeting the teachers and children here today who have been warmly welcoming. I wanted to come here today to share my joy at what the school has achieved and we've certainly had a lot of fun together."

The school is encouraging mental well-being through development of resilience, a culture of talking about worries, providing ways for children to calm down such as school guinea pigs and rabbits, physical well-being through the gym equipment on playground and a holistic approach to education. These are the features of the school that have been recognised as outstanding.

Lisa Clayton, the Headteacher said, "I am pleased that the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness



has been identified as being developed extremely well by Ofsted through our broad curriculum. Oughton's values are at the heart of all we do."

Revd Jane Mainwaring, said, "I am very proud to be associated with a school which places such a high emphasis on an all-round education for every child."

### Dont Forget!

During the major building project at St Albans Cathedral, there will be no Sleepout in 2017 or 18! If you wish to join in with one of the charities who has been part of Sleepout for several years, DENS are sleeping out at Hemel Hempstead School on 1st December. Other charities may be doing similar things. For more information visit: [www.dens.org.uk/events/sleep\\_out\\_for\\_dens\\_g27.html](http://www.dens.org.uk/events/sleep_out_for_dens_g27.html)



**Sponsored SLEEP OUT 1 December 2017**

