

# Bengeo Magazine

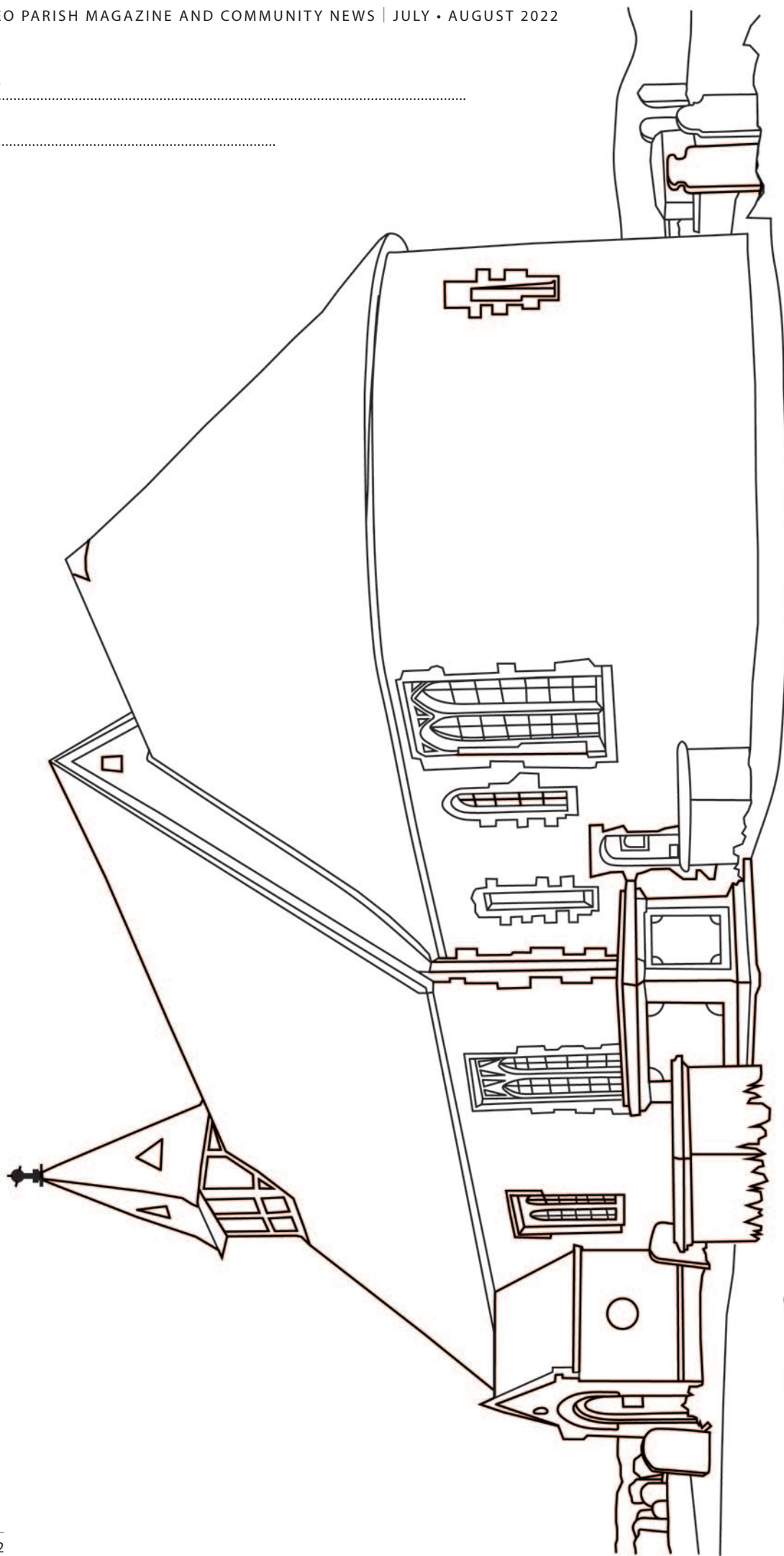
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# CHURCH OF SAINT LEONARD

# Bengeio Parish Magazine and Community News



It was wonderful to come together and celebrate over the four days of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Bengeio was looking resplendent in colourful bunting and many streets were closed off so that residents could arrange lunch and tea parties in the road. Thank you to all those who sent in party photos for the front and back covers of the magazine and thank you to all the organisers and helpers who made these events possible – a once in a lifetime occasion!

It must be summer as swifts are back nesting and wild flowers are all around. Read on page 7 how Clive's swift group have encouraged these birds and enrich your walks by using Bridget's guide to identifying the flora in our hedgerows, woods and fields, page 6 and inner back cover.

An experienced team of ringers celebrated The Queen's Platinum Jubilee by ringing a peal of bells from Holy Trinity church tower. Find out more about this ancient art and join the team of new ringers. See page 5.

## The Editorial Team

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

*Front and back cover: Communities in Bengeio celebrating HM the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with picnics and street parties.*

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## Editorial Team

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

## Copy dates for 2022

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*Tonwell:* Pat Lavis

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# Ringin' Out for the Queen



In the glorious sun, on the morning of Friday 3rd June, eight seemingly unconnected people descended upon Holy Trinity Church, here in Bengeio. But like in any good murder mystery, there was one thing that they had in common, they were all bell ringers. And so, the attempted feat, began. (PS, no murders took place).

What was actually taking place, in celebration of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second's 70th Year on the throne, was what is known as a peal. As a bit of brief understanding, bell ringing is a combination of music, rhythm, patterns and maths, and entices an eccentric bunch to say the least. A peal is where bells are rung continuously in such a way that the bells always ring in a different order, a minimum of 5,040 times, without repeating one order once. The mathematically minded of you may have noticed that 5,040 is the exact amount of times you can reorder 7 things, in this case bells, without any repetition. Depending on how heavy the bells are this can take a number of hours. On this Friday, on relatively light bells, just under half a tonne, it took 2 hours and 45 minutes. It is a task often referred to by some as madness and others as a commendable task of endurance. This would be the first time in 16 years, that such a piece of ringing has been

attempted in Bengeio, and what better reason to do it than for the Queen.

Though peals are rung by experienced ringers, Holy Trinity has just been teaching a number of new ringers to ring the bells, something you may start noticing taking place before the service on Sunday mornings, between 9.45am and 10am. From being complete novices in February, who had never touched a bell rope, a number of the learners were able to learn so quickly that they could ring for the Easter Day Service, and now have their own practice nights on Monday evenings. Bells are an important part of life, and not consigned to the religious, as they are used to celebrate, like with the jubilee or at weddings, to ring out messages. Bells across the country rang out for COP20 in reminiscence of a warning of danger, and in commemoration and sorrow, such as for Armistice or at a funeral.

If anyone is interested in learning, then it is a task open to everyone from 11 to 100 years old. Pop along to Holy Trinity Bengeio on a Monday evening, or email [secretaryeaster.hcacr@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryeaster.hcacr@gmail.com). You can also find more information on the Hertford County Association of Change Ringers website at [www.hcacr.org.uk](http://www.hcacr.org.uk).

**Kevyn Hopkinshall**



## 2nd Bengeio Scouts' News

Second Bengeio Scouts took part in the Castle grounds celebrations on June 2nd where we had a book stall and tombola. We raised £750 so thank you to the people of Hertford. The sun shone and many people attended. It was a fun event so 'thank you' to Hertford Town Council as well.

The picture shows Simon Green, a Cub Leader, with the Mayor Sue Barber.



# On The Doorstep



**Wild Rose**



**Common Mallow**



**Bird's Foot Trefoil**

distinct pineapple smell, also the flower heads have no petals and have the shape of mini pineapples, it is part of the Daisy family.

Then towards the end of May I was thrilled to hear once again, the screech of the returning swallows and see them swoop and swirl above our roof tops, always a joy.

As we head into July and August some of the flowers like the Wild Rose, Garlic Mustard, Honesty and



**Garlic Mustard**

May and June are through but in these months there has been a lot to see and enjoy on our doorstep. The trees put on their luscious green coats of leaves, filling the gaps in our landscape and many summer flowers started to bloom and flourish. We have seen the fading of the spring blooms and the emergence of flowers like Wild Rose, Campion which can be seen in red (dark pink), white or a lovely delicate pink, Common Mallow, Bird's Foot Trefoil, sometimes known as eggs and bacon due to it's yellow and red colouring or the rather unassuming and often overlooked, Pineapple Weed. Pineapple Weed grows along many of our field paths in Bengo, it gets its name because when crushed it has a

others will fade, but some will continue through into the next couple of months and be joined by yet more flowers. Towards the end of June, beginning of July, Waterford Heath and surrounding areas will



**Goat's Rue**



**Dark Mullein**



**Scarlet Pimpernel**

Common Ragwort, a favourite of the very attractive yellow and black Cinnabar caterpillar which transforms into the equally attractive red and black Cinnabar moth.

Over the next few months there will be many more plants to see, so keep on the look out, as you may spot something like the Corn Marigold that is on the vulnerable list but can sometimes be seen in the fields at Panshanger, or the unassuming and not particularly attractive Common Cudweed, which is part of the Daisy family and is on the near threatened list, but again can be seen in our local area, or listen out for the squawk of the Red Kite or the amazing whoop of the lapwings. Keep looking and listening there's lots out there and here's to some happy hunting and spotting on our doorstep. Enjoy.

**Bridget Hersant**

start to fill with patches of Goat's Rue, which provides a beautiful white/lilac display and like the vetches and sweet pea, are part of the legume family. Also, on the heath you will see one of my favourites Dark Mullein with its yellow petals and dark pink and orange stamens, or look out for the small but stunning Scarlet Pimpernel. The next few months will also see the likes of the much maligned (although I don't have it in my garden), but beautiful Bindweed, with its large showy white trumpet flower and its more delicate relative the Field Bindweed with its attractive pink and white flowers. So many to look for Field Scabious, Burdock, Musk Mallow,



# Swifts nesting in Bengoe



*Following on from Clive Fleming's article and Church Hall talk, many residents in Bengoe have had swift boxes installed by the Hertford Swift Group. Here is an update on this year's arrivals.*

We have been using call players to attract young Swifts to new boxes. These work with timers so the calls play early in the morning and in late evening. This method can work really well in getting young birds investigating boxes for future years. These are being used on All Saints and in St Andrews belfry at present. We hope to install a call kit in Holy Trinity church tower soon to attract Swifts to the nest boxes put up there.



Mature birds tend to be faithful to their nest sites. They only start breeding when 3-4 years old and young birds spend a shorter time than the adults here in their first few summers. They get to know the territory and are prospecting for future nest sites. They are the target audience! If they get a good look at the boxes they are more likely to be used in due course. Calls help a lot in attracting the birds to them.

There are Swift nests in Gosselin Road, around Parkhurst Road and around Port Vale among other places. A great spot to watch nesting Swifts is the rear of Wallace House in St Andrews Street (from the St Andrews Street car park) where there are 5 or 6 pairs in the eaves.

One Hertford house with 9 boxes has 5 pairs nesting this year. It took 3 or 4 years for these to start being used but this shows boxes will help over time.

If you think you have seen nesting Swifts, would like a nest box installed at your house or would like information about the call kit, please contact Clive [HertfordSwifts@gmail.com](mailto:HertfordSwifts@gmail.com) or telephone 07954 727133.

**Clive Fleming**





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# What's on at the White Lion

## Summer Sounds in the Garden

- ▶▶▶ Friday 1st July: Jonny Hollis, 7.30–9.30pm
- ▶▶▶ Sunday 3rd July: Wayward Sons, 4–6pm
- ▶▶▶ Friday 8th July: The Mays, 7.30–0.30pm

## Charity Clay Shoot and Race Night

▶▶▶ Saturday 16th July: In aid of Hertford Start at the White Lion and then go on to the Lea Valley Association Shooting Ground in Bramfield Road. Book the shoot ring 01992 509717 for more details. Cost £100 including charity donation.

There will be music, food and race night at the White Lion with Tommy Kendall singing from 4–6pm.

## Magical Mystery Tour

- ▶▶▶ 28th August, 2pm to 10pm: Both the White Lion and The Greyhound will be a venue for this event.



£10 Annual Subscription. £20 Joining fee for NEW members. Reduced price drinks for members.

Facilities: Snooker and pool table, darts (Wednesday's team night); crib boards, cards, cornhole; large spacious newly refurbished bar; outdoor seating; bowls green (Contact Joan 01992 583564 or Christina 07961 529226 to join the bowls club or pay and play.) Function Room available for hire, with or without bar, free car park.

We have Bingo every Tuesday in the Garden Room at 8pm – new players always welcomed. Saturday Bingo is on twice a month in the main clubroom 8pm with a great meat and bottle raffle.

Saturday evening entertainments. Free live music for members, guests £1.

- July**
- ▶▶▶ 2nd Bingo and raffle
  - ▶▶▶ 9th Dakota Smile
  - ▶▶▶ 16th Bingo and Raffle
  - ▶▶▶ 30th Indigo Star

- August**
- ▶▶▶ 6th Bingo
  - ▶▶▶ 13th Back to the 50s
  - ▶▶▶ 20th Caribbean Night
  - ▶▶▶ 27th Bingo

## Classes at the Bengo Club

- Pilates** Monday and Thursday Mornings  
Contact J B Fitness 07768 778390
- Pilates** Tuesday evenings and Friday mornings  
Marta Pilates 07833 145708
- Karate** Children's classes Thursday from 4pm  
Jason 07540 429627
- Meditation** Thursdays 7.30pm (first class free)

## Adult Education classes in Bengo this September

All are welcome at the Parish Hall, Duncombe Road from 10am to 12 noon on a Tuesday to hear eight sessions on 'Maids and Mistresses: Women and Country houses 1500–1950'. Adam Smith is returning to Bengo with more fascinating insights into social history.

- Dates:** 27th September to 22nd November  
**Organisers:** Hertford Adult learning Group (HALG)  
**Cost:** TBA  
**Contact:** 01992 589538 for more information



## Courtyard Arts

**Exhibition Gallery – Another Place, Helen Mason**  
**28th June – 24th July 2022**

Helen's paintings in acrylics are semi abstract landscapes based on observation, memory, and an emotional response to places in her life. Through these she explores colour and texture. The colours are a personal reaction to location and time and the smaller studies are mixed media and explore line; these underpin the more abstract elements of the landscape paintings.





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### Opening Hours

<b>Monday</b>	<b>09:00am - 5:30pm</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>09:00am - 5:30pm</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>09:00am - 5:30pm</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>09:00am - 5:30pm</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>09:00am - 5:30pm</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10:00am - 5:00pm</b>



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**The Children's Society**

**Fundraising Afternoon Tea**  
**Saturday 9th July, 3–5pm**  
**at 1 The Orchard, Bengoe**

Tickets will be available at £5 from Libby and Peter Shillito from the beginning of June. Hopefully we will be able to be in the garden but if wet we will be indoors. There will be a Bring and Buy stall and a raffle, also Peter's model railway will be on display for any enthusiasts.

This event proved to be very popular last year although our numbers had to be restricted, so please get your tickets and come along and support us.

Lifts can be arranged if required, for that and any other details please ring Libby on **01992 583979**.

**Libby Shillito**

## Collections and Hobbies Show, Holy Trinity Church

**Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th September 2022**

There is still time to book a table for the above Show but don't leave it until the last minute otherwise you may be disappointed. Don't think that people will not be interested in your collection – it has not been the case to date as visitors have been fascinated by the variety of collections exhibited. This is the third such show and let us make it the best ever.

Don't feel left out if you have nothing to exhibit, just put the dates in your diary. Come along to view other people's collections and hobbies and enjoy a great Ploughman's lunch.

If you have any queries contact me and I will be happy to help.

**Mary Crane**

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## Lazy Sundays at St Leonard's Church, Bengoe

**Open Season and Afternoon Teas**

Visit St Leonard's, Hertford's oldest building, on Sunday afternoons from 2.30–5pm. Pevsner's Architectural Guide lists it as 'A rare example of an original Norman village Church' and if you so wish a Steward will provide you with a self-guided tour of this peaceful, atmospheric, special place with fascinating stories to tell. And that is not all because tea and cake will be available from 2.30–4.30pm either outside (weather permitting) or inside the building. Come and enjoy a get-together in such lovely surroundings.

## 4th Annual Pet Service at St Leonard's

**Sunday 3rd July, 4pm**



Our Lay Reader Bob Kelly will be taking the Pet Service in the company of his young dog Oskar.

Come and meet Dave and Gemma Wardell whose love of animals is clear for everyone to see. They have a particular skill in training dogs, from obedience to more

sophisticated working dog skills. Both are serving police officers and Dave is a Police Dog Handler with our local Hertfordshire Constabulary.

Dave's last dog Finn was severely injured tackling an armed dangerous criminal which sadly meant early retirement for Finn. Regrettably his attacker received no suitable punishment for the injuries he inflicted on Finn. But Dave and Finn set about changing the law, with much public support, to protect other public service animals injured in the line of duty. 'Fabulous Finn' is bringing about change.

Dave and Gemma have nominated 'Re-homing Animal Telephone Service', or 'RATS' as they are known locally, as our Animal Charity for this year. The charity takes in stray dogs, cats and small mammals, cares for them and finds them new homes whenever they can. If you are looking to take in a stray animal or would like to help in anyway, please contact them at [www.rats-animalrescue.co.uk](http://www.rats-animalrescue.co.uk).

Everyone is welcome to join us for this lovely service with or without a pet. It would be good to see any teddies or other soft toys as well. Reg Newman and Duke his pony also hope to come along and refreshments will be available following the Service.

For any further details please contact me on **01992 583979**.

**Libby Shillito**



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## Church Flower Donations

Anyone wishing to make a donation towards the cost of flowers in church in memory of a loved one or to mark an anniversary, please contact Pam Thain on 01992 583733.

Please make cheques payable to Holy Trinity Flower Fund.



## Church Hall

Bengeo Church Hall, Duncombe Road, is open again for bookings for parties, group functions and committee meetings. The hall is suited to many activities.

It has a fully fitted kitchen with crockery, cutlery, oven, dishwasher and fridge. The hall area possesses a projector, screen and WiFi.

Speak to the bookings Secretary, Wendy Celia on 01992 589538 or download the Booking Form from the Bengeo Parish website [www.parishofbengeo.com](http://www.parishofbengeo.com).

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# St Leonard's Church, Bengoe

## Calendar of Events for 2022

Opening times for visitors – Sundays 5th June to 25th September.

From 2.30pm to 5.00pm. Teas from 2.30pm to 4.30pm.

**QUIET TIME** – every Tuesday Evening at 8pm for one hour from 7th June.

### July

- Saturday 2nd** Concert, Music of Love and Conviviality, in aid of EHCA, 5pm
- Sunday 3rd** Annual Bengoe Pet Service at 4pm, followed by refreshments
- Saturday 9th** **Concert:** Lutenist Sergio Bucheli in recital, 7.30pm
- Saturday 16th** Creative Open Weekend – 10am to 4pm
- Sunday 17th** Creative Open Weekend – 11am to 4pm
- Tuesday 26th** 'Celtic Service' followed by refreshments, 8pm

### August

- Sunday 7th** Service of Praise with Hymns and Pimms, 6.30pm
- Sunday 21st** Concert, Bach, Goldberg Variations for string trio, 7pm

### September

- Saturday 10th** 9am to 5pm  
'Aspects of St Leonard's' Exhibition  
Heritage Open Day  
Herts and Beds Historic Church Trust  
'Bike and Hike'
- Sunday 11th** 11am to 5pm  
'Aspects of St Leonard's' Exhibition  
Heritage Open Day
- Sunday 25th** Harvest Festival Songs of Praise, 6.30pm  
Followed by the Friends of St Leonard's AGM

*September Concert to be arranged*

### December

- Saturday 17th** 'A Christmas Wassail' with Folk Band Magpie Lane, 7.30pm

## Children's Art Days at St Leonard's

St Leonard's Church will be open on Saturday 16 and Sunday 17th July for the Creative Open Weekend organised by the Friends of St Leonard's.

On Saturday 16th July we are holding a Children's Art Day in collaboration with Courtyard Arts. Children will have the chance to draw, doodle and print inside the church and, weather permitting, in the churchyard. There will be a Treasure Hunt to explore the church or children can just do some colouring-in. We start at 10am and all are welcome to drop in for as long as they like. Refreshments will be available during the day.



We are also open from 11am to 4pm on Sunday 17th July when anyone is welcome to come and explore the church and to get creative. Bring your pencils, paints and cameras and spend time in the church enjoying its special atmosphere. Refreshments will also be available on the Sunday.

If you can't make it to the weekend events, drop by and see our colourful bunting. We have had help from local children to decorate the church – they have made some amazing flags of bunting. We are really grateful to everyone who has helped us give St Leonard's a bright summery look. If you haven't had the chance to create a bunting flag yet, you are not too late. Colour in the template on the inside front cover or download it from [www.stleonards.parishofbengoe.com/summer-bunting](http://www.stleonards.parishofbengoe.com/summer-bunting). You can return it to Courtyard Arts or to Holy Trinity and we will add it on.

In May and June have welcomed several local art groups to the church. They have enjoyed spending time in the church and produced some lovely work. We are hoping lots more people will take the opportunity to create something that we can share at our Aspects of St Leonard's Exhibition on Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th September.

Helen Fleming

**CONCERT BOOKINGS: £15 (£10 FOSL members)**  
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07581 423 058

**NEEDED** – the Hertford Disability Support Group is a charity run  
by volunteers to enrich the lives of mostly elderly, disabled  
people. We organise monthly socials, and varied outings during  
the summer.

Our members are thrilled to get out and about and working with  
them is most rewarding. All kinds of help – driving, cooking,  
planning, befriending and more – are needed.

Do please consider helping us. Contact Alison on 01992 584851.



# Bengeo Primary School Jubilee Celebrations



Volunteer sign-up

**SUPER FUN ZONE:**  
Including much loved fun activities for all the family!  
Craft Tent, Bouncy Castle, Face Painting, Sparkly Tattoos, Gardening Club Stall and much more...

**ARENA EVENTS**  
Performances by all year groups in school - see programme on the day, for scheduled times

**SMALL BUSINESS ZONE:**  
Find out about some of Hertford(shire)'s small businesses and grab yourself some unique buys!

**FOOD ZONE:**  
Beer Tent, Cakes and Tea/Coffee, Flaming Phoenix BBQ, StrEats, VanPizza, Waffle Wands, Mr Whippy

Can't wait to see you there!

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12-3pm</b>
<b>10th July</b>	<b>2022</b>

Bengeo Primary School - SG14 3DX  
£1 Entry (under 16s free)

**NEW in 2022:**  
We're going cashless with token & card payments

At Bengeo we had a wonderful day on Tuesday 7th June commemorating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Children came to school wearing red, white and blue, with decorated hair and hats, etc.

In the morning, they participated in a Jubilee assembly and in the afternoon, they partnered up with their buddy class to enjoy celebrating. Each year group also looked at a decade of the Queen's life.

A great day was had by all!







# Mill Mead Primary School



As well as celebrating the Jubilee, there has been a lot going on at Mill Mead.

**The Arts in Schools.** We invited Stuart Mullins, an associate artist, from Hertford Theatre to come and observe a lesson. As part of their Listening Project, Mill Mead is using the Philosophy for Children (P4C) curriculum to generate conversation and debate about the arts. Stuart was struck by the insight and complexity shown by the class as to why the arts were invented. The children said: as humans we NEED to tell stories; it's a way of explaining and understanding ourselves and the world; it makes you feel happy and calm, making problems go away. All of these speak to our three key priorities, be it the state of our mental health and well-being, the status of the arts in schools and why teachers must be supported to teach and practice the arts.

**Nursery** found some snails last week which sparked a lot of in the moment learning.

This term has seen Reception dive to the bottom of the ocean, exploring The Coral Reef and the living creatures that lurk below. We created our own ocean aquariums, filling them with all of our favourite sea creatures.

**Year 1** learnt all the different parts of a plant and we planted our own sunflower seeds. We are enjoying watching them grow. As part of our science week, we will be planting a fruit tree on the school field and some plants including lavender and herbs.

**Year 2** went for a walk around Hertford, taking in the

historical sites as well as observing our human and physical geography. They went for a whole morning to Wodson Park where they faced many physical challenges, not least the wet weather! A lot of fun was had by all. Finally, the children thoroughly enjoyed their visit from ZooLab where they learnt all about a variety of animals and their very specific habitats.

**Year 3** have been exploring the rainforest and its layers as well as writing an adventure story based on our class book. They let their hair down on our residential trip and had so much fun – zip lining and rock climbing as well as practicing bush craft and archery skills.

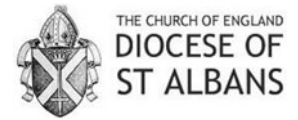
**Year 4** have been exploring co-ordinates in Maths and played a treasure game at the end of the week to use all the skills they learnt. They looked at Roman numerals and recapped on how to read them before completing Tarsia puzzles. They used drama in English to help with explain text writing and all re-created a part to form a contraption from Wallace and Gromit.

**Year 5** looked at solutions and mixtures and what happens when you combine substances. We had great fun with a balloon, vinegar and bicarbonate of soda!

**Year 6** The class threw themselves into their holiday budget maths project – planning fully costed exotic trips to far-flung destinations including Tenerife, Majorca, Vienna and Tallinn. They loved devising their dream trips, complete with beach days, excursions, meals in fancy restaurants and even the occasional night on the tiles.



# Tonwell School News



KS2 had a wonderful day of outdoor learning at Woodhall Park. They joined with juniors from Thundridge to take part in eight different activities, including learning about birds of prey, planting and looking after the sheep.



Our final day of last half term was fun filled with our visit to Thundridge School to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. Our children sang beautifully in the shared collective worship and Y6 presented a timeline of Queen Elizabeth's life very confidently. The sun shone for our picnic!



All of us really enjoyed having Bob and the volunteers from Holy Trinity in school for another Open the Book worship time. The children really love getting involved in the acting as the group retell Bible stories and bring them to life for the children.



## Co-op Fund

A reminder that we have been chosen as a Co-op community fund for the next 12 months. Our cause number is 55334 and anyone with a Co-op membership card living within 15 miles of us can choose us to donate to. Please tell your family and friends!

Go to our fund page to see how much we have raised so far!

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/55334>

Thank you to those of you who are following us on Instagram and liking our posts. It's lovely to be able to share the children's learning with you and promote our school.



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](mailto:admin@tonwell.herts.sch.uk)





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SPRING TERM 2022

## Team Duncombe celebrates NACE Challenge Award third accreditation

Duncombe School is thrilled to share their NACE accreditation has been upheld after our recent re-accreditation inspection.

The National Association for Able Children in Education (NACE) has named Duncombe School the 136th school to be re-accredited for the second time with the NACE Challenge Award. The award is given in recognition of school-wide commitment to high-quality provision for more able learners, within the context of challenge for all.

NACE CEO Rob Lightfoot said: "Duncombe School has worked hard to attain reaccreditation through the NACE Challenge Award. It has displayed a continued commitment to develop an environment in which all learners are challenged and supported to be the best they can be."



NACE's assessor reported:

*Duncombe School has continued to demonstrate a clear commitment to meeting the needs of able learners and ensuring their needs are met and sustained across the curriculum."*

*Pupils have good learning habits, focus, and are engaged and work equally well in collaboration and independently.*

*Pupils feel teachers support them to meet their targets and that they are challenged. They recognise strengths in others and their own gifts and talents, and all are equally valued by everyone within the school community. The language of challenge is pervasive across the school."*

To attain the Challenge Award, schools must complete a detailed self-evaluation using the NACE Challenge Framework, submit a portfolio of supporting evidence, and undertake assessment by a NACE associate. The assessment process includes examination of school data and key documents; lesson observations; and interviews with school leaders, learners, parents and governors.

CEO Rob Lightfoot said, "The Challenge Award is presented in recognition of whole school commitment to and achievement in providing effective challenge and support for all – spanning school leadership, curriculum, teaching and learning, processes for identification and tracking, extracurricular opportunities, strong communication and partnerships, and ongoing evaluation."

Duncombe School will now remain part of the international community of Challenge Award-accredited schools which have demonstrated a sustained and effective commitment to meeting the needs of more able learners, and an interest in sharing expertise for the wider benefit of the education community.

Find out more: [www.nace.co.uk/challenge](http://www.nace.co.uk/challenge)





## A Word from The Rectory

# Sticky words

From The Vicar, The Revd Robert Thompson



The partygate scandal is notable for the large number of column inches produced by so many journalists, none of whom were actually there. 'Never let the truth get in the way of a good story,' said Mark Twain – and we don't. Journalists channelled enough flashbulb memories and vivid snapshots from eyewitnesses to claim a high degree of certainty. But were they telling the truth?

The human memory is fallible. In our post-truth Trumpian world researchers are understandably interested in the way our brains are hard-wired to rapidly and automatically process opinions we agree with as if they were facts. We search for information that confirms our opinions. We cherry-pick the facts that support our point of view.

The research amounts to a rather troubling conclusion: that the interpretation of truth is dependent not upon the stories others tell, but upon the stories we tell ourselves. In that respect, a journalist's job has become rather like that of a vicar. We're all preaching to the converted.

Take it from a vicar, then – a preacher's task is to find reality, and I'm not yet cynical enough to despair of our discovering it. I don't believe everything I read in the newspapers, but like most people I want to believe at least some things – trivial things and profound things too. What people read helps form judgement and shape opinion, which is why it's so vital that papers take truth seriously.

Hence all the high hopes for the Sue Gray Report. Nick-named 'Deputy God', she was thrown into the limelight as the arbiter of Downing Street, and her report was the one everyone wanted to hear, demonstrating the importance – both to society and

the individual – of the need for fact-finding and truth-telling. It might seem wise not to believe everything you read, but it's good not to have to doubt the veracity of everything that's printed. There are some stories that are too important not to be trusted.

For instance, if you read a story about a private function where, towards the end of the evening, a man turned six vats of water into wine, you'd probably want to get a few facts straight: Where did this happen? What day was it? Who was there? What was expected of them? Perhaps most importantly, Who was this guy?

Such an event is reported in some detail in John's Gospel. It was a wedding that took place on a Tuesday in Cana, where a man turned 180 gallons of water into a wine so good the host asked why the best stuff had been kept until last. As for the man's name...

## 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, Bengeo

**2021/2 Dates: Third Thursday of every month (except August):**

16th September	20th January	19th May
21st October	17th February	16th June
18th November	17th March	21st July
16th December	21st April	

⌚ 6:30pm - 8pm

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

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

@ info@parishofbengeo.com

☎ 01992 413691

🌐 www.parishofbengeo.com  
/bereavementcafe.php

📱 @BengeoBereavementCafe



Of course, there's every chance that someone made all of this up for the sake of a good story. Yet for some reason it's a story a lot of people still, 2,000 years on, believe and take seriously. For it's a story that appears in the book that many witnesses – media moguls, movie stars and ministers – hold in their hands to swear an oath, that 'the whole truth and nothing but the truth' be told and not be lost.

At the National Service of Thanksgiving for the Queen's reign last month, this same book was given

to Boris Johnson from which he read this passage from the Epistle to the Philippians: 'Whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable... think about these things.'

Sticky words, those, but all the better to hang on to. The truth you stand on can be slippery.

*With my prayers,*

**Robert Thompson**

### Online Services



Wherever you are, you can be a part of the Parish of Bengo. Join us in person and online every Sunday at 10am. Click here to watch our Communion Service live via YouTube. God is forever at work around us. To discover more, just press play!

**Find out more**

### How to find the Holy Trinity-Bengo online 10am service

Step 1 - go to  
[www.parihofbengo.com](http://www.parihofbengo.com)

Click on 'Find out more' in the Online Services panel.

Step 2 - click 'here' for the link to the Parish of Bengo YouTube page.

Step 3 - scroll down the YouTube page past the adverts at the top until you reach Parish of Bengo online. Click on the image to play the service.



### Online Services

We are worshipping as a congregation at Holy Trinity every Sunday. Join us in person and online at 10am. Click here to watch our Communion Service live via YouTube.

Some elements of the service (assembling and the administration of communion) are restricted to online viewers.

An order of service for Holy Communion in Ordinary Time may be downloaded here





# Parish Calendar JULY 2022

<b>Saturday 2nd July</b>	
5pm	Concert at St Leonard's Church for Citizens' Advice: Courtyard Quartet and Anything Goes string quartet with Colin Eldred (clarinet)
<b>Sunday 3rd July</b> <b>THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
9am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church
10am	Parish Communion at Holy Trinity Church
4pm	Annual Bengoe Pet Blessing Service at St Leonard's Church, followed by refreshments
<b>Monday 4th July</b>	
2–3.30pm	Bereavement Cafe at Mudlarks Garden Cafe, Hertford
<b>Tuesday 5th July</b>	
8pm	Quiet Time at St Leonard's Church: Prayer and Meditation
<b>Wednesday 6th July</b>	
1.55pm	Bengoe Afternoon WI, Church Hall, Duncombe Road
<b>Saturday 9th July</b>	
7.30pm	Concert at St Leonard's Church: Sergio Bucheli (Lute)
<b>Sunday 10th July</b> <b>FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
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
<b>Tuesday 12th July</b>	
8pm	Quiet Time at St Leonard's Church: Prayer and Meditation
<b>Wednesday 13th July</b>	
10am	Community Craft Club, Church Hall, Duncombe Road
<b>Saturday 16th July</b>	
10am–4pm	Creative Open Day at St Leonard's Church
<b>Sunday 17th July</b> <b>FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
9am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church
10am	Parish Communion at Holy Trinity Church
11am–4pm	Creative Open Day at St Leonard's Church
<b>Monday 18th July</b>	
2–3.30pm	Bereavement Cafe at Mudlarks Garden Cafe, Hertford
<b>Tuesday 19th July</b>	
8pm	Quiet Time at St Leonard's Church: Prayer and Meditation
<b>Thursday 21st July</b>	
6.30–8pm	Bereavement Cafe at Secret Garden Cafe, Bengoe
<b>Sunday 24th July</b> <b>SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
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
<b>Tuesday 26th July</b>	
7.30pm	Celtic Prayer Service at St Leonard's Church, followed by refreshments
<b>Sunday 31st July</b> <b>SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
9am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church
10am	Parish Communion at Holy Trinity Church

# Parish Calendar AUGUST 2022

<b>Tuesday 2nd August</b>	
8pm	Quiet Time at St Leonard's Church: Prayer and Meditation
<b>Wednesday 3rd August</b>	
1.55pm	Bengeio Afternoon WI, Church Hall, Duncombe Road
<b>Sunday 7th August EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
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	Hymns and Pimms Songs of Praise Service at St Leonard's Church
<b>Tuesday 9th August</b>	
8pm	Quiet Time at St Leonard's Church: Prayer and Meditation
<b>Wednesday 10th August</b>	
10am	Community Craft Club, Church Hall, Duncombe Road
<b>Sunday 14th August NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
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
<b>Sunday 21st August TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
9am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church
10am	Parish Communion at Holy Trinity Church
7pm	Concert at St Leonard's Church: Bach, Goldberg Variations for string trio
<b>Tuesday 23rd August</b>	
8pm	Quiet Time at St Leonard's Church: Prayer and Meditation
<b>Sunday 28th August ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
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
<b>Tuesday 30th August</b>	
8pm	Quiet Time at St Leonard's Church: Prayer and Meditation



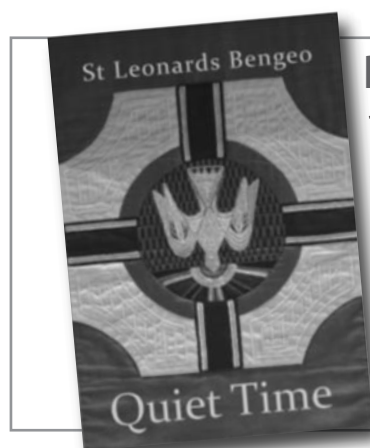
# Parish Prayers

## Daily Prayers for July

1. Families facing poverty
2. Local parking and traffic management
3. Our Sunday 9am service
4. The Warren
5. Those who live with depression
6. The Churches in East Timor
7. HMP Manchester
8. The Commonwealth Games
9. Christians in Sport
10. Churches in Birmingham
11. The Wick
12. MIND, mental health outreach
13. The hospitals and staff in East Timor
14. HMP Moorland, Doncaster
15. Mudlarks gardeners and allotment
16. The Children's Society
17. Our Sunday 10am service
18. Tower Street
19. The Worldwide Anglican Church
20. The Churches in West Timor
21. HMP Morton Hall, Lincoln
22. The Church Army Refuge Centres
23. The Samaritans
24. Friends of St Leonard's
25. Trinity Court
26. Christian churches in Ukraine
27. Hospitals and staff in West Timor
28. HMP New Hall Prison, West Yorkshire
29. Manchester Cathedral
30. The modern slave trade and human trafficking
31. Churches in Birmingham welcome to members of the Commonwealth

## Daily Prayers for August

1. Trinity Grove
2. Beach and City Mission Groups
3. Churches in the Philippines
4. HMP North Sea Camp, Lincolnshire
5. Isabel Hospice
6. Open Gardens for Charity
7. The Scripture Union
8. Young's Mews
9. The Mothers' Union
10. Hospitals and Staff in the Philippines
11. HMP Northumberland, Morpeth
12. Army Chaplains
13. The NHS nursing staff
14. All travelling on holiday
15. Warren Terrace
16. Railway Chaplains
17. Climate Change concerns in the Philippines
18. HMP Norwich
19. Mission Aviation Fellowship
20. The Salvation Army
21. The Church Hall maintenance and upkeep
22. Waterloo Terrace
23. St Leonard's church
24. The Government of the Philippines
25. HMP Nottingham
26. Newcastle Cathedral
27. Age Concern Charity assisting the lonely
28. Our work in Beane River View
29. Watermill Lane
30. All who are Pilgrims
31. Filipinos living in the UK



## Register

11th May 2022 Funeral Susan Graves

10th June 2022 Funeral Allan Naylor

## Quiet Time is at St Leonard's in July and August

A short evening service of **Celtic Prayers and Poems**

**St Leonard's Church, Bengo, 7.30pm, Tuesday 26th July**

Followed by tea, coffee (decaf available)

Part of Hertford and District Churches Together | Contact David Cramphorn 534641

# 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

## Bengio 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/bengio.residents.against.coronavirus](https://www.facebook.com/groups/bengio.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](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

## Information about local council services

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

## Domestic Abuse

[www.sunflower.org](http://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](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/benefits)

### Hertfordshire Citizens Advice Service

03444 111 444

### National Debtline

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

## Advice on avoiding scams

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

### Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline

0808 223 1133

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

HertsHelp 0300 123 4044

## Mental Health Advice and Support

### Herts Mind Network

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

## Emotional Support and Practical Help

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

*Inner back page:*

On the Doorstep Wild Flowers, Bridget Hersant.  
See article on page 6.



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## Harwood Park

*The perfect setting to commemorate  
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Crematorium and memorial  
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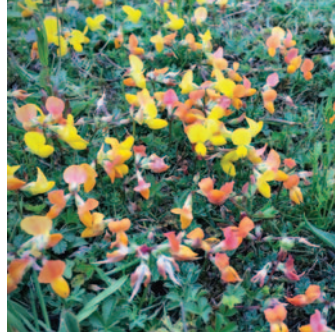
[www.crematorium.co.uk](http://www.crematorium.co.uk)



# Wild Flowers on the Doorstep



Bindweed



Bird's Foot Trefoil



Burdock



Cinnabar Caterpillar



Common Cudweed



Common Mallow



Common Ragwort



Corn Marigold



Dark Mullein



Field Bindweed



Field Scabious



Garlic Mustard



Goat's Rue



Honesty



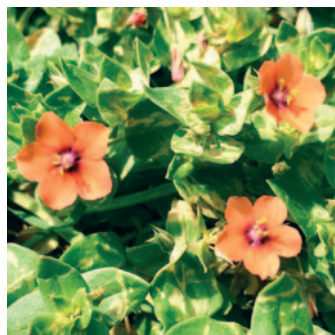
Light Pink Campion



Musk Mallow



Red Campion



Scarlet Pimpernel



White Campion



Wild Rose



