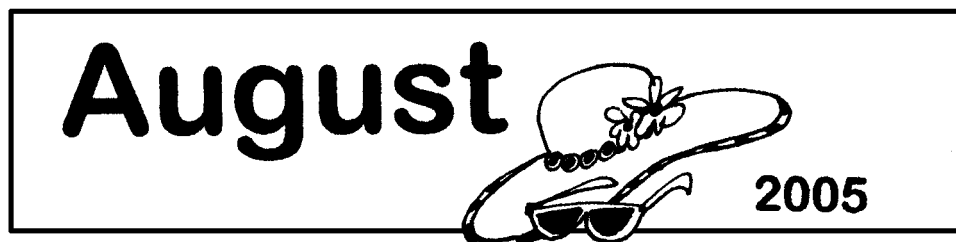


# *ELSTOW PARISH MAGAZINE*



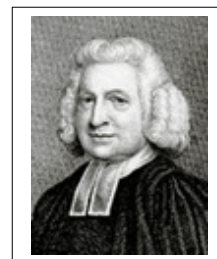
*Soldiers of Christ, arise,  
And put your armour on,  
Strong in the strength which God supplies  
Through his eternal Son;*

....  
*That, having all things done,  
And all your conflicts past,  
Ye may o'come through Christ alone,  
And stand entire at last.*

*Charles Wesley 1707 - 88  
The New English Hymnal No. 449*

Dear Parishioners,

Above is an excerpt from the final Hymn of the Evensong service on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July, where the Bishop of Hertford, the Right Reverend Christopher Foster, came to preach to mark the tenth month since the inauguration of the Team Ministry. Singing this beautiful hymn, which I hadn't sung in a long time, reminded me that in two years time we will celebrate the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Charles Wesley's birth.



The 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of his brother, John Wesley, was last year, 2004. John Wesley was a Church of England clergyman but is also regarded as the founder of Methodism. However, the focus of this Tercentenary celebration was not on John Wesley's birthday (in June) but on a particular day in May. Why was this?

On 24<sup>th</sup> May 1738 an event took place that profoundly changed his life. It was not a conversion in the ordinary sense of the word. John was an ordained Priest who had dedicated his life to the service of God and had made considerable sacrifices. It was also not a conversion to Methodism. He gained the nickname "Methodist" years earlier when he was in Oxford, for this methodical approach to Christian service.

In the spring of 1738 John Wesley was deeply depressed. He felt his ministry was a failure and he was spiritually bankrupt. He had gone to the new colony of Georgia in America to convert the native Indians to Christianity. But he had alienated and antagonised the colonists so much that he had given up and

come home. He wrote in his journal on 1<sup>st</sup> February 1738: "What have I learned? That I who went to America to convert others was never myself converted to God."

In his contacts with Moravian Christians he had seen something in them that he was aware he lacked. He had seen in them calm in a terrifying storm at sea and in their humility. They had had an experience of faith that transformed their lives.

In late May he wrote "I had continual sorrow and heaviness in my heart." On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May he went to Evensong where the Choir sang Psalm 130. Its opening words -"Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord," echoed his mood. That evening he went to a meeting in Aldersgate Street in the City of London, where he heard a passage from Martin Luther's preface to Paul's letter to the Romans. "At about a quarter to nine," he wrote, while describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, "I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust Christ, Christ alone for salvation." (24<sup>th</sup> May 1738)



A profound change had taken place in John Wesley. On the surface he was much the same but he had found a new spirit, a new freedom. His life became "based on the grace of God, not his duty to God." He later described it as "a new birth." That is why the focus of the Tercentenary celebrations was on 24<sup>th</sup> May.

I propose that we have a good old Wesley 'sing-song' with a 'Songs of Praise' Service at Elstow Abbey on Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm, where we can celebrate the wonderful gifts of words and hymns from these two remarkable brothers. This service will be followed by the Friends of Elstow Abbey, brass band concert at 7.45pm. A wonderful varied evening of music is planned and I hope that you will be able to come and join us.

With best wishes,

Jeremy

## AFTERNOON TEA AT THE RECTORY

Thursday, August 11th

3.30pm - 6pm

**All welcome! There will be sign-up sheets in the Church.  
Contributions of sandwiches and cakes it will be appreciated 😊**

**Jeremy.**

Arts and Sports Summer Holiday Workshop  
12.30-3.30pm  
Tues 2<sup>nd</sup>, Wed 3<sup>rd</sup>, Tues 9<sup>th</sup>, and Wed 10<sup>th</sup> August

As a younger member of Elstow Abbey Church Family, you may be interested in the following special Summer Workshop that is coming up.

It is Free and Open to All. (over 7 years old). Bring your Friends.

Activities planned for this workshop include painting of a large canvas on a biblical theme to be agreed by those attending the workshop. Football, Rounders on the green, or indoor games and board games if wet, in the hall. The canvas will be displayed in Church for one month and then will be moved into the hall to its permanent home

The church is funding the costs and providing the volunteers to run the workshop. You will need to ensure that you bring your lunch each day and an afternoon snack. Squash and soft drinks will be provided during the afternoon free of charge.

If you are interested please complete and return the slip at the bottom as we need to know numbers to be able to plan the number of volunteer adults needed. If you need more copies of this letter for your friends, please just ask. Any ideas of other things you would like to do? Please let us know in advance - we may be able to include your ideas.

With best wishes,

Rev Jeremy Crocker  
Team Rector

✂-----

**Summer Arts and Sports Workshop - 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> August. 12.30-3.30pm**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Post code \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact number (Must be completed) \_\_\_\_\_

In the event that contact cannot be made, permission is given to allow medical intervention if needed.

Signature of Consenting Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ for the person above to attend and giving medical permission

Medical Information or Special Requirements \_\_\_\_\_

The leaders of the workshop will provide supervision for the activities but will not be held responsible for the safety of a child who behaves in an unruly or uncontrollable manner. If this occurs the child will be excluded from the workshop and will be required to be collected.

## TUNES OF GLORY

This month we will be singing the favourite hymn No. 376 “*I heard the voice of Jesus say*” by Horatius Bonar 1808~89, to the tune “*Kingsfold*” by Ralph Vaughan Williams. This was one of the best known of Dr Bonar's many hymns. As Erik Routley observed, some hymns can edify one generation and miss the target with another. Its charm lies in what Bishop Bickersteth called its 'severe simplicity'. Bonar published it in his first collection of hymns in 1846 and entitled it 'The Voice from Galilee'. Each of the three stanzas falls into two distinct parts. In the first we hear the voice of Jesus, in words borrowed from the Gospels, inviting us to accept what he has to offer: rest from our burdens (Matthew 11, 28), living water to quench our thirst (John 4, 10), and light for life's journey (John 8, 12). The second part is our response of faith to his invitation.

Elsie Houghton in her book “*Christian Hymn-Writers*” indicates how Horatius Bonar found that he could no longer remain in the Established Church of Scotland, leaving it to form the Free Church of Scotland, and eventually being elected Moderator of the General Assembly, the greatest honour the Free Church can bestow. It was in Leith that Bonar first began to write hymns, replacing what he judged to be unsuitable metrical psalms and hymns by his own hymns set to more attractive tunes. In 1855 Bonar had a very special experience, spending five months in the Middle East. From Egypt he and others travelled by camel through the desert of Sinai to Palestine. It was all very fascinating to him and the visit made an impression on him which influenced all his subsequent preaching and writing. He had a strong sense of humour, and was much amused on being told of a lady in Torquay who met a member of his congregation who exclaimed. 'What, is Bonar the hymn writer still alive? I always thought he was a medieval saint!' Undoubtedly he was a saint, but of more recent times.

The tune is *Kingsfold*, an English folk-song which Vaughan Williams arranged for the hymn in the English Hymnal of 1906. I have written before of my personal recollection of Ralph Vaughan Williams when I was a boy at school in Dorking, where he lived. Vaughan Williams was born at Down Ampney in Gloucestershire in 1872, and died in 1958 in London, aged 85. Educated at Charterhouse, Cambridge, and the Royal College of Music, he studied with Max Bruch and was advised by Ravel. In the early 1890s Vaughan Williams began to be very active in the collection and study of English folk songs, and brought to this his accumulated technical adroitness, adopting manners of expression in keeping with his humanity and temperament. Another influence was that of the English Tudor music, sacred and secular. His songs, e.g, the very early “*Linden Lea*”, became popular favourites, and his chamber music showed remarkable delicacy. He became devoted to musical movements, such as folk dance, and edited the English Hymnal, and other works. We are fortunate to have quite a number of his finely crafted hymn tunes in our New English Hymnal.

John Crookall

### Mary and Graham Railton-Crowder on the Isle of Man

Our holiday on the Isle of Man provided an ideal opportunity to attend the Eucharist Service at All Saints Parish Church, Douglas, on the 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2005, and meet Mary and Graham again. We took our dog Jake (it was apparently the first time that a dog had attended a service at All Saints Church). We also met Canon John and Margaret-Anne Tibbs. Mary kindly welcomed us all to the service, saying that there were seven from Elstow, who had come to check that they were being treated well, and the visit was also announced on the Service Sheet. It was quite an occasion for us, particularly because the day was both our 40th Wedding Anniversary, and the first anniversary of Mary's incumbency. We would like to take this opportunity and thank everyone in the Elstow Family for their kind celebratory card on

the occasion, and also all those who sent individual cards. Jake enjoyed the Service, and had much fuss at Mary's Church; it was as if it was his anniversary really! He then went in for the dog obedience competition at Ronaldsway, The only problem we had was that my car's clutch packed up on the Island. I had to replace it with another car, as we needed it for our holiday there, and then to get to the Lake District, where we met up with our family. It was a most memorable holiday!

John and Gretta Crookall

## ELSTOW ABBEY CHURCH FÊTE

Many thanks to all who helped to raise £850.00 at the church fete. The sun shone, the atmosphere was very relaxed and enjoyable, the games were enjoyed by the adults and children alike. The hot dogs 'sold out' ice creams and cold drinks were very popular as were the cream teas. Margaret and Tony's garden, which looked superb, was the perfect setting. Thank you for everyone's contribution and hard work to make it a very happy day.

R.G.A.

## PUPPET THEATRE

If you happened to be passing the Church Hall on 2nd July you may well have got the shock of your lives. We had it full (and I mean FULL) with about 80 puppets, a complete Puppet Theatre and a team of Puppeteers who had travelled all the way from Bath to be with us. Oh and I forgot, there were over 50 people there to be trained. Now you know why I said it was full!

We organised the day on behalf of **One Way UK**, a Christian-based resource centre in Reading. They have an amazing range of scripts, music and ideas to help spread the gospel through the use of puppetry. The team were quite incredible to watch and had us all spellbound. Some of their shows were very moving whilst others had us in stitches. The delegates had come from Leicester and Luton, Brickhill and Bromham, Cardington and Cotton End, and a complete minibus full from London. Margaret Baron and I represented Elstow. Unfortunately Rosemary could not make it but her place was taken by Hannah who got a special mention as being the youngest on the course and performing with her puppet so well.



The amazing thing was that it became clear that everyone can become involved in this simple ministry. You may not be able to manipulate a puppet but you could make props. You may not be able to make the clothes (size is 18 month old) but you may be able to write scripts. There really is something for everyone!



We were blessed with a fine day and were able to make use of the surrounding areas to practise our shows which we put on at the end of the afternoon. It proved that with good teachers and a little practise plus LOADS of enthusiasm, total beginners could make the puppets perform and convey a message. By the time you read this (hopefully) we will have performed our first little sketch in the July Youth Service and a little dog has already appeared in Sunday School.

If you would like to get involved with working with puppets please get in touch.

John Hinson

OneWay web site: <http://www.onewayuk.com>

## BOOK REVIEW

### “The Wreckers” by Bella Bathurst (HarperCollins £16.99)

We apparently belong to a sea-faring race. We certainly live in what Bill Bryson labelled a small island. No town in our islands is more than about 60 miles from the sea. Any book, then, about our coastline and our seas will have a special allure.

Some three years ago last June, I reviewed for you that most readable book, “The Wreck at Sharpnose Point” by Jeremy Seal which told of one particular wrecking on what I described as “*the North Cornish coast, between Bude and Barnstaple, famous for its inhospitable rocks, cliffs and wreckers.*”

Now I have the opportunity to nudge you towards a delightful book which looks all round our islands’ coasts for areas which were notorious for shipwreck – and for shipwreck’s companion: wrecking. Wrecking, as Bathurst is careful to point out, but as was not the case in Seal’s more sombre and convincing book, did not (necessarily) mean the putting at risk of ships and human lives or, worse, the failure to offer help and rescue to those poor unfortunates thrown so abruptly into the raging waters of a storm.

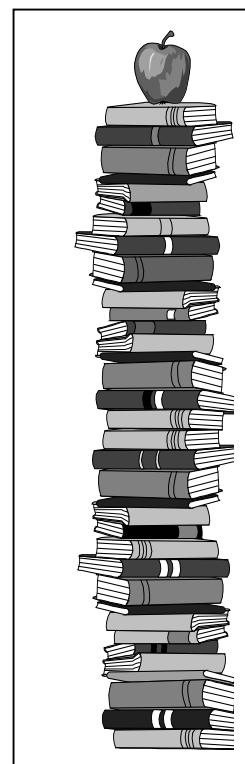
Despite the warnings in the Introduction, this is no morbid or academic history of a dark area of our history, but an effervescent celebration of one aspect of our traditions. Bathurst is a lady who made her name as a writer relating the history of the Stevenson family – yes, the Robert Louis Stevenson we all know and love – and their major impact on the developing of lighthouses around our dangerous coasts. She writes with the relaxed and up-to-date exuberance of the unfettered researcher coming fresh to a new world of marvellous events and characters.

We are taken to such parts as the Goodwin Sands, the Pentland Firth, the Western Isles (remember “Whisky Galore”?), the Scilly Isles. We even end up, in an epilogue, beside the murky waters off the Indian coast of Gujarat. What makes Bathurst’s book stand out is the fact that she finds and interviews real life people and records on tape what they have to say about the sometimes shadowy events that surrounded some of the wrecks on our rocky coasts. Because she is so alive with her interviews, I can forgive her frankly somewhat naïve approach to a topic which, whilst not paintable in the dark and violent colours of Daphne du Maurier’s gothic novel “Jamaica Inn”, nevertheless has enough “baggage” for it to be true to say that there is no smoke without fire. There is simply too much evidence out there to accept Bathurst’s interviewees’ thesis that well, actually, there wasn’t too much skulduggery going on round our exposed coasts. I mean, who on earth is going to admit being a party to, or cognisant of, murder – even at one or two generations’ remove?

Jeremy Seal’s book, “Sharpnose Point”, was a tellingly thorough piece of historical research and had a darkness about it which was well suited to its subject matter. Bella Bathurst’s book is lightweight pleasure, so long as you can discount the disingenuousness of her interviewees.

But there is a further aspect of Bathurst’s book which totally delights me because it is so rare. She has a gift of language and her descriptions of the different coasts she selects are, quite simply, brilliant. No-one could fail to be utterly enchanted by them. What a shame, then, that her publishers allowed silly linguistic solecisms to creep in: “credulity” for “credibility”, “douse” for “sprinkle”, “impunity” for “impudence”, not to mention misspellings such as “gunwhale” for “gunwale”.

But that is a small price to pay for so beguiling a book.



**Bookworm**

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Raspberries are in season now, so here is a raspberry tart.

Melt 5oz butter, add 3oz sugar and mix them together over the heat. Remove from heat and work in 8oz plain flour, or a bit less. Press this mixture into a baking dish – it will cover a tin between 10 and 12 inches in diameter. Prick it all over and bake at gas 3, 170 C, for about 20 minutes. When it has cooled, cover with as many raspberries as it will take – about 1 lb. Sugar them lightly if they need it, and cover with whipped cream.

I think this is best if you put the raspberries on about an hour before serving, so that they have time to soften the pastry a bit, but if you want crisp pastry, add the raspberries at the last minute.

*JMCE*



## UNITED PARISH SUMMER BARBEQUE

Elstow Abbey, St Mary's Cardington and St Michael's Bedford

For All the Family  
In the Elstow Rectory Garden

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2005

From 5.30pm

R.S.V.P.

Diana Hill, Elstow Rectory, Church End, Elstow. MK42 9XT  
01234-261477

## St. Aidan - the man who brought Christianity to England

August 31<sup>st</sup> is the feast of St Aidan, who brought Christianity to northern England. He is a strong contender for the title of the first English bishop. Not that honours meant a great deal to this austere but captivating character.

In 635 he came to Northumbria at the invitation of the local ruler, Oswald. Oswald had spent several years of his childhood on Iona, and when he succeeded to the throne of his northern kingdom he was shrewd enough to realise that the Christian faith would be an ideal unifying force to pacify rival tribes of warlords.

Oswald's invitation was not immediately successful. The first missionary from Iona returned in despair, claiming that the barbarity of the Northumbrians made them unconvertible. But as Aidan listened, he felt the unmistakable call of God to try again. "Perhaps you were too harsh on them," he found himself suggesting to the travel-stained missionary. Shortly afterwards, Aidan found himself at the head of a party of brothers heading for Northumbria. He was never to see his beloved Iona again.

The monks made the long journey to Northumbria on foot, singing psalms as they went. Their need to ward off the powers of evil with prayer was genuine, for these were dangerous times to travel through remote country unarmed. They arrived safely at Oswald's castle in Bamburgh, where he offered them lavish hospitality and assumed that they would found their community there. However, the brothers realised that to live under the king's protection would make it difficult to avoid the world's temptations and establish a rapport with the local people. They saw the tidal island of Lindisfarne on the horizon and chose it as their base. The rest, as the saying goes, is history.

Aidan was much loved as a teacher and evangelist; though stern in his own self-discipline, he was prepared to travel to the most inaccessible villages, where he cared for the local people with compassion and gentleness. In time his influence grew and noble people joined the stream of visitors to Lindisfarne.

Over a thousand years after his death, a statue of Aidan stands in the churchyard of St Mary's on Lindisfarne, visited by pilgrims the world over.

*'Flame in my Heart: St Aidan for Today'* by David Adam, Triangle Books, 1997

[www.parishpump.org](http://www.parishpump.org)

## **ELSTOW PARISH COUNCIL**

The Allotment Site development is continuing to cause problems for residents. The Parish Council is pressing the developers to move the electricity sub-station away from the Public Open Space to the back of the development but Westbury is unwilling to do so and sub-stations do not need planning permission. The road has also been built outside of the approved plan and a retrospective application is expected soon. The Borough Council has suggested some names for the road – Minster Gardens, Steeple Court, Friar Close or Peel Close. If anyone has any views on these or any other suggestions please let me know on 376257 or at [maea@paice31.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:maea@paice31.fsnet.co.uk) as soon as possible.

The application for a certificate of educational use at the old Lower School has been refused and we await proposals for the future use of the site.

The County Council has received letters of objection to the application to extract sand and gravel from Medbury Farm and it is expected that the proposal will be discussed at the September meeting of the Development Control Committee.

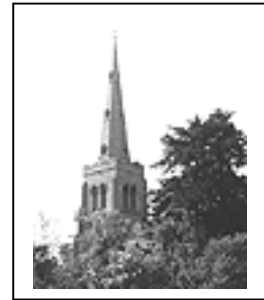
Ann Paice. Clerk, Elstow Parish Council.

## BELL-RINGING NEWS

On Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2005 the Bedford District Bellingers Strinking Competition took place at St. Denys' church, Colmworth. Ten teams took part with four ringing rounds and six ringing methods. The team from Elstow Abbey won the rounds cup – and a team from Kempston the methods cup.

The Elstow Abbey team was as follows:

Treble -	Miriam Clark
2 -	Rev. Jeremy Crocker
3 -	Ann Desias
4 -	Barbara Routledge
5 -	Sarah-Louise Ward
Tenor -	Stephen Stanford



Miriam Clark.

## THE CHURCH CALENDAR

### August and September 2005

#### August

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	7.00pm	Prayer Group meet in the Summerhouse
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	12.30-3.30pm	Children's Workshop in the Church Hall
	7.00pm	Joint Wardens meeting at the Rectory
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	12.30-3.30pm	Children's Workshop in the Church Hall
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)
	12.00noon	Funeral of Vera Blanchard at Elstow Abbey
	6.00pm	Wedding Rehearsal
	7.00pm	Wedding Rehearsal
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup>	12.00noon	Wedding of Jonathan Weller & Ngozi Onyekwuluje (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)
	1.30pm	Wedding of Deniz Ahmet & Joanne Scott (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)
	4.00pm	Wedding Anniversary Blessing of the marriage of Gary & Marina Rodrigues (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August****Pentecost 12**

9.30am Family Communion with Children's Groups including the Baptism of Ella Rose Bromfield (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)  
 11.00am Morning Prayer (Revd Jeremy Crocker)  
 3.00 pm Baptism of Reece John Bullen-Cutting (JC)  
 6.30pm Evensong (JC) (Jane Findlay preacher)

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm Prayer Group meet in the Summerhouse

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> 12-30-3.30pm Children's Workshop in the Church Hall

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> 12-30-3.30pm Children's Workshop in the Church Hall

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> 11.00am Holy Communion  
 3.00-6.00pm Afternoon Tea in the Rectory, all welcome  
 7.00pm Wedding Rehearsal at Elstow Abbey

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm Wedding of Matthew Haines & Rebecca Johnson (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August****Pentecost 13**

11.00am Parish Communion (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)  
 6.30pm Evensong (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm Prayer Group meet in the Summerhouse

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> 11.00am Holy Communion (Revd Steven Smith)

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August****Pentecost 14**

9.30am Family Communion with Children's Groups (Canon Nigel Morrell)  
 11.00am Morning Prayer (Mattins Group)  
 6.30pm Evensong (The Revd Steven Smith)

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> 11.00am Holy Communion (Revd Peter Littleford)

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> NO WORKSHOP

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August****Pentecost 15**

9.30am Young People's Service - New Horizons -The Early Church  
 11.00am Morning Prayer (Mattins Group)  
 6.30pm Evensong followed by Holy Communion & the Laying on of Hands for Healing (Canon Nigel Morrell)

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> BANK HOLIDAY - NO PRAYER GROUP

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> am Group visit to Abbey (Dr. John Crookall)

## September

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>            11.00am            Holy Communion (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)

### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September            Pentecost 16**

9.30am            Family Communion with Children's Groups  
(Rev. Jeremy Crocker)

11.00am            Morning Prayer (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)

3.00 pm            Baptism of Aston Leonard-Glasgow

3.45 pm            Baptism of Shelby Gone-Little (Jeremy Crocker)

6.30pm            Evensong (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)

Monday 5<sup>th</sup>            7.00pm            Prayer Group meet in the Summerhouse

8.00pm            Meeting of the Liturgy Committee at  
43, Armstrong Close, Wilstead.

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>            11.00am            Holy Communion (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>            10.00am – 6.00pm

Beds & Herts Historic Churches Cycle Ride  
Heritage Open Day at Elstow Abbey

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September            Pentecost 17**

11.00am            Parish Communion (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)

Noon-4.00pm            Heritage Open Day at Elstow Abbey

6.30pm            Evensong (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)

Monday 12<sup>th</sup>            7.00pm            Prayer Group meet in the Summerhouse

8.00pm            Meeting of the Trustees and Committee of The Friends of Elstow  
Abbey in the Church Hall

DEADLINE FOR MATERIAL FOR OCTOBER MAGAZINE

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>            11.00am            Holy Communion (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)

6.00 pm            Wedding Rehearsal at Elstow Abbey

7.00 pm            Wedding Rehearsal at Elstow Abbey

8.00pm            Meeting of the Finance & Standing Committee at  
43, Armstrong Close, Wilstead.

Friday 16<sup>th</sup>            2.00pm            Wedding of Kenneth Collins & Louise Bowden  
(Rev. Jeremy Crocker)

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>            2.00pm            Wedding of Anthony Higham & Donna Gribble  
(Rev. Jeremy Crocker)

5.30 pm            Evening Soirée at the Rectory all welcome

### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September            Pentecost 18**

9.30am            Family Communion with Children's Groups  
(Rev. Stephen Smith)

11.00am            Morning Prayer (Mattins Group)

6.30pm            Evensong (Canon Philip McDonough)

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Prayer Group meet in the Summerhouse
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm 7.30pm	Children's Workshop in the Church Hall SAFFA Concert

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September Pentecost 18 HARVEST FESTIVAL**

	9.30am	Young People's Service with Offerings of Harvest Produce (Team)
	11.00am	Parish Communion (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)
	6.30pm	Harvest Evensong for the Benefice followed by Tea and Coffee in the Church Hall (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Bring & Share Harvest Supper in the Church Hall
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am 7.30pm	Holy Communion (Rev. Jeremy Crocker) Meeting of the Parochial Church Council in the Church Hall

October

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October Pentecost 20**

	9.30am	Family Communion with Children's Groups (Rev. J. Crocker) <b>Launch of the Diocesan Mission Strategy 'Vision for Action'</b> , Guest preacher Canon Philip Lovegrove
	11.00am	Morning Prayer (Revd Jeremy Crocker) <b>Launch of the Diocesan Mission Strategy 'Vision for Action'</b> Guest preacher Canon Philip Lovegrove
	3.00 pm 6.30pm	Baptism at Elstow Abbey Evensong (Robert Heley)
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm	Prayer Group meet in the Summerhouse
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Tour of the Abbey by the English Experience (Dr. John Crookall)
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion (Rev. Jeremy Crocker)



**Diocesan Mission Strategy 'Vision for Action'.**  
[www.stalbans.anglican.org/visionforaction/visionaction.html](http://www.stalbans.anglican.org/visionforaction/visionaction.html)