REFOCUSED

ST ETHELDREDA'S CHURCH WITH ST LUKE'S CHURCH

September 2017 letter to the Parish from Mary Rathbone, Reader in Training, on beating swords into plowshares



It is estimated that almost 600,000 Allied and German soldiers were killed, wounded or went missing 100 years ago at the Battle of Passchendaele. Hatfield suffered many losses, in over three months of fighting, during what has been described as one of the most horrific battles of WW1.

Overall throughout WW1 and WW2 there was an unprecedented loss of life, the longer-term effects of which altered and scarred the course of many families for generations to come.

So, the United Nations (UN) was established shortly after the end of WW2. One of its main objectives was to maintain international peace and security. It now has 193 member states. Today the UN is the largest, most familiar, most internationally represented and most powerful inter-governmental organisation in the world.

Interestingly, the UN has a wall outside its New York head office with an inscription taken from the Book of Isaiah, in the Old Testament. It is about a vision the Prophet Isaiah had of everlasting peace in God's Kingdom, in which he says:

They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they learn war anymore. Isaiah

The UN was also gifted a sculpture in 1959 by the, then, Soviet Union. Created by the Soviet artist Evgeniy Vuchetich, it is called 'Let Us Beat Swords into Plowshares'. The bronze statue is symbolic of the prophet Isaiah's vision of world peace, in which men would beat their war weapons into agricultural tools in God's new world.

It is marvellous that the vision of hope and peace described in Isaiah's prophecy, nearly three thousand years ago, should inspire people and organisations today. Many of whom might not

even be aware of its biblical origins. Jesus said, 'blessed are the peace-makers' and we pray continually, at St Etheldreda's and St Luke's, that God's grace will motivate, inspire and bless all who work for world peace. But we believe that true peace flows from God and we need to allow Christ's love and wisdom to rule in our hearts as a starting point for world peace.

We believe that by accepting Christ into our lives the Holy Spirit can begin to work within us, gently guiding us towards the pure joy and triumph God intended for us. That, in the ultimate destination, the Kingdom of God, there will be no need for weapons of war, as there will be no war and it is there that lasting world peace will be found. We believe this is the meaning of Isaiah's prophecy, and also that this peace can live and be nurtured individually within each of us today.

If you would like to learn more about how Christ might bring peace into your life today, why not join us at some of our services or various events, details are on page two, or contact Fr Darren t: 01707 256638 e: frdarren@yahoo.co.uk



'Let Us Beat Swords into Plowshares' by Evgeniy Vuchetich https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swords_to_ploughshares

Parish of Bishop's Hatfield St Etheldreda with St Luke—Regular Services

St Etheldreda's Church

Sunday: 8am Holy Communion

9.30am Holy Communion with Sunday School

3rd Sunday of month: 9.30am All age Eucharist

Wednesday: 10am Holy Communion

Sunday School: 9.20am for 9.30 in Parish Hall

St Luke's Church

Sunday: 11.30am Holy Communion with hymns



The Church on the Roundabout

What's on at St Etheldreda's Church unless stated otherwise

Saturday 2nd September 8am

Men's breakfast at St Michael and All Angels Church

Sunday 17th September 7.30pm

Hatfield Chamber Orchestra Concert—details on pg. 3

Saturday 23rd September 7pm

Thelma and Friends

Saturday 30th September

Harvest Supper, St Eth's Church Hall

Sunday 1st October 9.30am

Harvest Festival

Sunday 8th October 6.00pm

Choral Evensong and Burghley Sermon

Baptisms and Weddings at St Etheldreda's Church

Weddings: 15th September: Jay Costello and Clair Caswell

Baptisms: 10th September: Harrison George Humberstone

Maya Lilly Brunger

Please contact Fr. Darren —t: 01707 256638 —e: frdarren@yahoo.co.uk to book your wedding or baptism

Team Rector of Bishops Hatfield:

Fr Darren Collins—01707 256638 frdarren@yahoo.co.uk

Assistant Priest:

F. M.C.

Fr William Clocksin wfc@me.com

Journey Light Church:

The Rev'd Sue Stilwell susan.stilwell@clara.co.uk

Curate: The Rev'd Dr Penny Thomson

drpenny.thomson@btconnect.com

Reader: John Barnard—01707 335074

john209barnard@btinternet.com

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St Luke's Deputy Churchwardens:

Michelle Jervis—07584 897872 Alison Churchouse—01707 801567

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Mark Jackson—07708 199591 Nicky Jackson—07745 630176 Bell Steeple Keeper: Rob Goss-01438-718038

Choir Director & Organist: Jill Knight—01707 894949

jill.jkmusic@gmail.com

Church Hall Bookings: Church Hall is closed for renovation work and not currently available for hire. **Creative Corner**: ruth.letton@googlemail.com

Communications Officer: Linda Barnard

linda.barnard3@btinternet.com

Flower Team:

Carrie Shannon—carrieshannonuk@gmail.com

Mother and Toddler Group:

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knightmark2@gmail.com

Sunday 17th September 7.30pm Hatfield Chamber Orchestra - St Etheldreda's Church

Local musicians Jonathan Williams and Gabrielle Lester return to St Eth's at 7.30pm Sunday 17th September to conduct and lead Hatfield Chamber Orchestra.

Jonathan has enjoyed a lifetime as a leading horn player, playing principal horn with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe and the BBC Symphony. Gabrielle has been guest leader of numerous major orchestras, and is Professor of Violin at the Royal College of Music.

Jonathan Williams

The forty players of Hatfield Chamber Orchestra comprise professionals, amateurs, students and some outstanding school pupils.

The concert opens with Mendelssohn's 'Hebrides' overture, followed by Haydn's 'Drumroll' symphony, and ends with Beethoven's Symphony No 8.



Tickets are available online stetheldreda.yapsody.com:
Adults are £10, seniors £8, children £3.

Proceeds will be divided between the Willow Foundation and church restoration fund.

Music News from Jill Knight

We are delighted to announce our very first Choral Scholarships at St Etheldreda's Church (St Eth's). After a generous response from the congregation and local community, we have established a fund which will support up to four young choristers each year for several years. This fund will support individually selected choristers with an award of £200 per annum, to be put towards a musical enterprise of his or her choosing. It will also provide for further training and workshops for all the young people in Y.E.S! so that we can raise standards and support choral development and team work. For example, we are hoping that some of the "King's Men" who sang for us in July, will be leading a workshop for Y.E.S! in January/February followed by a trip to King's College, Cambridge to hear Choral Evensong sung there.

Auditions were held at St Eth's in July for applicants who hold RSCM dark blue, red or green ribbon awards and will be 12-18 years of age in the school year September 2017-August 2018 (ie. in school years 7-13). This year, we have appointed two scholars: Catriona Stewart will hold the Garland Choral Scholarship, donated by Judy Bird in memory of her sister, and Cheryl Jeyakumar will hold the Stratton Choral Scholarship, donated by Chris Stratton in memory of his father.

Through the kind generosity of the Salisbury family, we have also been able to award an organ bursary to Catriona Stewart to support her in learning to play the

organ.

These awards will be presented at St Eth's during our next "All-Age service" on Sunday 17th September at 9.30am. We would like to thank everyone who has donated to our fund for inspiring, encouraging and helping to secure the future of choral music at St Eth's for many generations to come.

Both of our choirs have had a busy few months singing at services, concerts and weddings. The adult choir ended the term with a lovely concert featuring some of the "a cappella" music we sing during services. Y.E.S! particularly enjoyed singing at the Teddy Bear's Picnic Service at St Mary's, North Mymms, followed by a teddy bear hunt and then a bear parachute jump from the tower! Both choirs have taken a welcome break over the summer but will start again in September. The first rehearsal for the adults is on Wednesday 30th August at 7.30pm and Y.E.S! are starting the term with a training morning on Saturday 2nd September, followed by an activity afternoon at Phasels Wood.

We are now starting to plan our programme of music and activities for the Harvest, Advent and Christmas season. If you are interested in singing with one of our choirs (adults or Y.E.S!) or know someone who would like to, we would love to hear from you.

Keep on singing!

Jill Knight, Director of Music

e: jill.jkmusic@gmail.com t: 01707 894949



Within a few days of the beginning of the offensive, the heaviest rain for thirty years had turned the soil into a quagmire, producing thick mud that clogged up rifles and immobilised tanks. It eventually became so deep that men and horses drowned in it. On the first day, the Hertfordshire Regiment fought at St Julien and Hatfield lost four men:

Hatfield in the battle of Passchendaele

By Derek Martindale, Hatfield Local History Society
The 31st of July 1917 was when the 3rd Battle of Ypres
began and continued until the fall of Passchendaele
village on the 6th November 1917. Today the whole
series of battles is known as Passchendaele, however,
Passchendaele village lay barely five miles beyond the
starting point of the offensive.

It took Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig,
Commander of the imperial forces on the Western
Front, after forecasting a decisive success, over three
months, 325,000 allied and 260,000 German casualties
before the devastated village of Passchendaele was
taken.

Lance-Corporal John James Coe of the 1st Herts Regt.

Private James Day of the 1st Herts Regt.

Private Robert William Putterill of the
6th Royal Berkshire Regt.

Corporal George Victor Webster of the Machine Gun Corps.

The Parish Magazine reported that there had been a large number of casualties incurred in the action at St Julien from Hertfordshire, and that all the officers of the 1st Herts Regiment were killed, or wounded, and a heavy toll of life of men under them was taken.

By the end of the campaign on the 6th November, some fifteen men from Hatfield were killed. The wounded were never recorded.

A Litany of Peace

www.churchofengland.org/prayer-worship/topical-prayers/prayers-for-peace.aspx

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict, and ask that God may give us peace: for the service men and women who have died in the violence of war, each one remembered by and known to God;

May God give peace ... God give peace

for those who love them in death as in life, offering the distress of our grief and the sadness of our loss;

May God give peace ... God give peace

for all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day, remembering family, friends and all who pray for their safe return:

May God give peace ... God give peace

for civilian women, children and men whose lives are disfigured by war or terror, calling to mind in penitence the anger and hatreds of humanity;

May God give peace ... God give peace

for peace-makers and peace-keepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free;

May God give peace ... God give peace

for all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership, political, military and religious; asking for gifts of wisdom and resolve in the search for reconciliation and peace.

May God give peace ... God give peace

O God of truth and justice, we hold before you those whose memory we cherish, and those whose names we will never know. Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world, and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm. As we honour the past, may we put our faith in your future; for you are the source of life and hope, now and for ever.

Amen.

Memorial for the Battle of Passchendaele

Hatfield Town Council held a memorial service on Monday 31 July (8pm) to remember those who gave their lives in the Battle of Passchendaele.

The service took place at Hatfield War Memorial on Great North Road, and was attended by members of the public, the Mayor of Hatfield – Councillor James Broach, and the Leader of Hatfield Town Council – Councillor Lenny Brandon.

Led by Father Darren Collins, Team Rector of Bishops Hatfield, the service began with a bidding prayer to those who lost their lives, followed by a reading from the Bible.

The Leader of Hatfield Town Council then laid a wreath of poppies, and members of the public were invited to light candles. Those attending then joined Father Collins in prayers, before a final prayer and blessing was made.

Read more about the Battle of Passchendaele on the Royal British Legion website.

This article and photographs are from the Hatfield Town Council website: www.hatfield-herts.gov.uk





Memories of WW1 and/or WW2

Over the coming year many will likely be reflecting on 100 years ago when WW1 was drawing towards its end, we at St Eth's/St Luke's certainly will. We are interested to hear of any war memories you might have, from either world wars. Perhaps you might allow us to retell them here in Refocused, in remembrance of the courageous efforts by previous generations. They will be recorded for posterity too, as copies of the Parish magazine are stored in our archives which go back over 100 years.

Gladys Bullen was born just before WW1 in 1913 but as her father was disabled (he had to wear a 'big boot' because he had one leg shorter than the other) he was not called up for war service. Gladys remembers soldiers returning from WW1 in 1918 as a child of five. She was married just before WW2 in February 1938 and lived in

Folkestone with her husband Victor, who worked for the General Post Office (GPO as it was then) in communications. When WW2 started Victor's job was classed a reserved occupation, so he wasn't called up, however, he did serve in the local Home Guard. During the war he spent time working in the tunnels in Dover cliffs, where a telephone exchange, hospital and war rooms were set up. Today, it is a very interesting place to visit! Gladys knew nothing of this until many years after though, as he was sworn to secrecy under the 30 year rule, what a surprise that must have been for her! Gladys now lives in Hatfield and is well cared for by Celia and David. She turned 104 years old this July which was reported in the Welwyn Hatfield Times.

Would you like to share war memories with our readers? Then send them to maryrathbone@icloud.com.

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What's On at Hatfield House

16 SEPTEMBER @ 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM STABLE YARD ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES MARKET

Our FREE monthly antiques market features a huge range of antiques and collectibles. Pick up unusual curiosities including furniture, mirrors, hats and ornaments!

17 SEPTEMBER @ 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM STABLE YARD FARMERS' MARKET

Our regular Farmers' Market held in Stable Yard selling Cakes, crafts, beers, breads, baskets and honey are often part of the market.

22-24 SEPTEMBER @ 6:30 PM -11:00 PM THE LUNA CINEMA

Join us for an evening under the stars with a choice of 3 fantastic films including the multi award winning LaLa Land, a classic, Top Gun and the thoroughly enjoyable Mamma Mia which we are sure many viewers will want to sing-a-long with:

- La La Land Friday 22nd SeptemberTop
- Gun Saturday 23rd September
- Mamma Mia Sunday 24th September

The entrance for attendees will be opposite Hatfield Train Station, known as Station Lodge .

24 SEPTEMBER @ 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM THE FRENCH MARKET

The fantastic French Market returns to Hatfield House. The French traders will drive to Hatfield from northern France.

28 SEPTEMBER @ 12:00 PM - 1 OCTOBER @ 10:00 PM HATFIELD HOUSE CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

This long weekend of music making is now entering it's sixth year, and is an annual treat for music lovers. Welcoming musicians of the highest international standards, the festival is put together by Artist Director Guy Johnston. Hailing from Hertfordshire, Guy delights in bringing live music to the special setting of Hatfield House.

This year works by Haydn will feature throughout the festival, opening with the lively Cello Concerto in C and culminating with his uplifting oratorio The Creation in The Old Palace. We can look forward to musical offering from three quartets, two orchestras, a chorus and a number of acclaimed singers and soloists.

More Info: www.hatfield-house.co.uk/events/

01707 287010 e: visitors@hatfield-house.co.uk

Story continued from back page

Robin Harcourt Williams, of Gascoyne Holdings, made the comment; 'the Estate has inherited a number of fine historic monuments and historic works of art. I'm very glad that it is able to invest in undertaking exemplary conservation work (including, for instance,

exemplary conservation work (including, for instance, on the Victorian wall-paintings in the Salisbury Chapel) besides maintaining its wide-ranging stock of older houses and continuing to build new ones'.

Historians agree that the 3rd Marquess, Prime Minister to Queen Victoria in her later years, was a strong and effective leader, especially in foreign affairs. He was a devout Christian and one of his first acts after succeeding to the Estate in 1868 was to carry out an, perhaps to our eyes, overly drastic restoration of the parish church.

Described also as a reactionary, he is supposed to have said 'Whatever happens will be for the worse, and therefore it is in our interests that as little should change as possible.' We wonder what was in his mind when he said that? As a successful Chairman of the Great Eastern Railway and a pioneer in the use of the telephone and of electricity, he was clearly not against progress. A fuller account of his life and his personality can be found in 'Salisbury, Victorian Titan', by Andrew Roberts.

The statue's new look perfectly complements the station's make over and long awaited arrival of SimplyFresh, which Lady Salisbury formally opened on the 15th July. The opening attracted quite a crowd and SimplyFresh served Bucks fizz and pastries to all. We think that the manager, Mehmet, was quite overwhelmed as he said that he had never had such a wonderful welcome to the opening of a new shop before.

So, he was given a good old Hatfield warm welcome, as was another visitor to the town some many years ago when the **queen arrived at Hatfield station** ...

The small patch of Hertfordshire that we call home has always offered a warm welcome to newcomers and visitors. But, records in Hatfield House Archives recall that a telegraph operator at Hatfield was once the cause of a ludicrous misunderstanding.

A son of the, then, Marquess of Salisbury raised bees. He sent to the nearest town for a queen bee and received a telegram saying;

The queen will arrive by 3.40 this afternoon.

The operator, supposing it to refer to Her Majesty, could not keep such important news to himself and, as a consequence, there was an immense crowd at the railway station when the 'queen bee' arrived! Only in Hatfield.

OHRA vs Hatfield House cricket match on

Cricket match on 3 July 2017 by Jonathan Fisher

On Monday 3 July, the Old Hatfield Residents Association (OHRA) and Hatfield House played their annual cricket match on the 'cricket pitch' in front of Hatfield House. The teams were not quite so illustrious as Lord Salisbury's XI for a charity match in 1956 which had included test players, two of whom were then residents of Hatfield. See photo and names below.

The teams this year were well matched with both teams having 3 batsmen retiring on 25 not out. Hatfield House narrowly won with their captain returning to the wicket for the over in which the winning run was hit. This was the first time they had won the trophy. The match was played in the true spirit of cricket under careful supervision of the umpires (David and Richard). The teams had a good mix of experienced cricketers and novices who were well encouraged. Everyone had a go at batting and all those who wanted to had a bowl. Thanks to advice from a former member of the ground staff at the Oval, Hatfield House had much improved the state of the pitch and outfield so that it was in a reasonable and safe condition - though not quite the Oval or Lords!

It was a lovely warm summer's evening. Andy and his team from the 8 Bells provided a bar and barbecue to sustain the many spectators. A good time was had by all. We all look forward to next year's match.





This photo is from the book Hatfield a Pictorial History by Sue Kirby and Richard Busby.

It is credited to H John Gray.

Lord Salisbury's XI at Hatfield Park cricket ground, Sunday, 10 June 1956. (L to R) Lord Robin Balniel (local MP and 12th man); Patrick Petrie; Hon Patrick Lindsay; Denis Compton; Fred Titmus (who ran a newsagent's shop in Hatfield Garden Village); W J 'Bill' Edrich (who lived in Green Lanes, Hatfield at the time); Lord Salisbury; John Murray; R V C Robins; Leslie Compton; Earl de la Warr (former Postmaster General); J J Warr and Lord Kilmuir (Lord Chancellor). They were playing A C L Bennett's XI in a charity match to raise funds for Hatfield Youth Centre. Lord Salisbury's XI lost by only 11 runs.

Michaelmas by Jo Roscoe

September for me will always be Michaelmas and purple daisies. In 'olden days' – and not so old – Michaelmas was a Quarter Day and in market towns it was a bustling, vibrant holiday; farmers and their wives, with harvest safely in, would come to town to live it up a little. Farm labourers and women and girls 'in service', their summer contracts ended would line the streets 'available for hire'. Excitement was in the air; new beginnings, the promise of things to come.

Michaelmas, officially 29th of September, is the feast of Archangel St Michael. In the New Testament's Book of Revelation (Ch 12,v 7) we are told that Michael leads the army of Heaven against the army of the Devil and defeats and casts him out. There are lots of interpretations and commentaries about the Book of Revelation, and I don't think we are supposed to interpret this literally; but it is good to know, and of this I am assured, Good will prevail. (The famous Jacob Epstein sculpture of the winged St Michael with his sword adorns the exterior wall of what we

all know as Coventry Cathedral, but is actually the Cathedral of St Michael.)

The Parish Pump tells us that from early times, Michael's cult was strong in the British Isles. Churches at Malmesbury (Wiltshire), Clive (Gloucestershire) and Stanmer (East Sussex) were dedicated to him. Bede mentions him. St Michael's Mount in Cornwall was believed to commemorate a vision there in the 8th century. By the end of the Middle Ages, Michael had 686 English churches dedicated to him.

In art Michael is often depicted as slaying the dragon, as in the 14th century East Anglican Psalters, or in Epstein's famous sculpture at Coventry cathedral. Or he is found (in medieval art) as weighing souls, as at Chaldon (Surrey), Swalcliffe (Oxon.), Eaton Bishop (Hereford and Worcester), and Martham in Suffolk. Michael's most famous shrine in western Europe is Mont-Saint-Michel, where a Benedictine abbey was founded in the 10th century.

The 'All Angels' bit of this feast-day was added in 1969 when Gabriel and Raphael were included in with Michael.

Parish Weekend news...

We'd like to encourage families to come on our parish weekend away. We are going as a community to High Leigh in Hoddesdon; a wonderful place to join together and explore our faith more.

This will be a time of creative, fun workshops, spiritual worship and prayer. We also eat together, spend free time together and get to know one another a little more; building a stronger community of faith. There will be workshops such as insect hotel making and sewing with Creative Corner as well as activities for children of all ages to get involved with and we'd really like to encourage families to come, High Leigh caters really well for families. Come for the weekend or for a day.

Dates are: 20-22nd October. If you'd like more information please contact either:
John Barnard john209barnard@btinternet.com or

Father Darren frdarren@yahoo.co.uk

St Eth's Sunday School

Every Sunday — 3rd Sunday in Church
Drop off at St Etheldreda's Church Hall at
9:20am

Children return to church for communion and re-join their families

Bible stories Songs Crafts &

Remembering Barbara Robinson

by Philip Robinson

Well where can I start, what an EPIC adventure I have had. Mum passed away with Alzheimer's back in September 2015 and since then I have felt driven to get off my backside and try and make a little difference in this world for other people going through this horrible disease.

Last year I started doing a little cycling and managed a measly 50 mile charity ride and this year spurred on by a mid life crisis of being a couch potato, I decided to challenge myself and do the London to Paris bike ride. Which ended up being 350 miles long, 14,000 ft of climbing and 24 hrs in the saddle over 4 days.

We cycled through sun, rain, hail stones, storms and some of the windiest conditions I have ever been in, I was blown 3-4 ft across the road at times. 135 people were all riding with one purpose; to make a difference for others dealing with and combating this horrible disease. The support and camaraderie was incredible and really humbling. On the first day four people were hit by cars coming out of London. One broke the knuckles on her hand and was bruised and battered all over, but she was so determined to keep going that on the last day she got back on her bike and cycled the last 30 miles into Paris.

Cycling into Paris was one of the most amazing experiences of my life, we all congregated in a park four miles outside of the centre and then in one big velo

cycled up to the Arc de Triumphe, down the Champs Elysees and around to the Eiffel Tower. It was incredible with such mixed emotions. These were of elation at completing such a huge ride, happiness at seeing my wife at the end and then sadness thinking about mum which turned into happiness again when I thought she made me the man I am today, watched over me on the ride and brought me home in one piece.

As a group we have raised over £290,000 and individually I am a few pounds short of hitting £5000. Richard and I cannot say thank you enough to everyone for the support and well wishes, it's been incredibly humbling.

So over and out from me, but I will be down soon to Hatfield and will come and say thanks in person.

Thanks again the Robinson Clan.



Refocused, September 2017—Page 8



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Financial advice from Prudential

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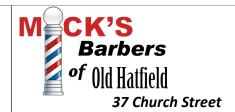
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St Etheldreda's Church

Old Hatfield, Hertfordshire

Patrons: Lord Salisbury & the Lord Bishop of St Albans

He has scrubbed up well!

By Jo Roscoe & Mary Rathbone Did you notice the scaffolding around the statue of Robert Gascoyne-Cecil, 3rd Marguess of Salisbury which stands outside the gates of Hatfield House earlier this year? It was up for several weeks as part of the statue's restoration – which is now revealed again in all its original splendour.

The restoration of the statue wasn't a bucket of Flash and a scrubbing brush job though and the instructions for cleaning it were specific and thorough - rather like the great man himself; basically they say 'take stock, make a plan, prepare the ground, make a start'.

Taking stock included taking

photographs from close up and all angles and we realised what a privilege is afforded the specialist restorers of historic statues and buildings. The artwork and detail is impressive but cannot be appreciated from the ground. The bronze statue is life size and he sits on an Elizabethan chair, its ornate carving faithfully reproduced. He is dressed in his gown as Chancellor of Oxford University over a coat and waistcoat, and wearing the collar of the Order of the Garter.

Paul Westwood, Head of Building Services at Gascoyne Holdings, took the above photos and kindly allowed us to use them so that our readers could see the finer details not normally seen from ground level.

Cont. pg. 6







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