

## Dates For Your Diary

**Monday 11th June** 7.15 for 7.30 start  
AGM followed by  
Mike Allen -Discovering Essendon

**Monday July 9th** 2.15 start  
HLHS WW1 Exhibition  
Commemorating the ending of the War.  
and Social Afternoon.

**Monday 10th Sept.** 7.15 for a 7.30 start.  
Julian Grenfell: Hertfordshire's War Poet.  
Herts. Archives & Local Studies

**Monday 10th Dec.** 2.15 start  
Christmas Social Afternoon



The Salisbury Crest Hotel Essendon

All meetings are held at  
Friendship House, Wellfield Cl.  
AL10 0BU  
Members £1 Non Members £2

### WW1 Exhibition

The first showing of our WW1 exhibition covering 1914–1919 with some stories of men who returned to Hatfield, will be at our social meeting on July 9th. Do come along and have a look. After this the exhibition will be at St Etheldreda's Church from 10th July to the end of August, then at various other sites. So keep an eye on our website for updates.

[www.hatfieldhistory.uk](http://www.hatfieldhistory.uk)

### Newtown Research

I am researching the Newtown area of Hatfield from the Census 1851-1911. I want to analyse the occupations of the families that lived there. If there is anyone who has memories of the people who lived there or the layout of the Rights of Way, also any photographs of Newtown and the Rights of Way I would be delighted to hear from them.

Janet Robinson nee Tingey

### General Data Protection Regulation

On 25 May 2018, new EU data-protection legislation passed into UK law. The new legislation is called the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). It imposes much stronger rules on how personal data must be controlled, to such an extent that, even small organisations such as ours, are affected. Your committee has studied the new legislation and feel that a brief statement here would be useful.

HLHS holds only the absolute minimum of personal data, comprising: name, address, phone no(s), email address and membership status. In order to protect against breaches, the data is held in an encrypted membership spreadsheet. The data is used solely for the legitimate interests of the society, namely for announcements, reminders and administration. Paper records (e.g. annual renewal forms) are also held. None of this data is shared with any other organisation.

We also receive contact details from members of the public via contact forms on the HLHS website (e.g. book purchase requests). That data is also subject to the GDPR and handled in the appropriate manner.

## Memories of Hatfield When I Grew Up. Part 2

By Donald James Hyde

This is the second of three instalments of a speech given to the Hatfield Mitre Club Christmas 1990 when Mr Hyde was President of the Hatfield Rotary Club.

“As one begins to get nostalgic one begins to think of people who influenced you in your childhood and youth. What was one of the dominant factors in my childhood? Without a doubt it was the influence of the Rev. Tommy Lacey and the new Congregational Church.

I can't remember the old Chapel in Park Street but I do remember going there during the war years with my pal Ralph Smith and his Dad Charlie to try to keep the grave yard tidy. But the new Chapel was my family's life. As it was for quite a lot of other people. My Father was a Deacon and one of the First Trustees. I've still have some of his sermon notes from when he used to take Devotional Evenings.

The Rev. Lacey, was a very persuasive personality. He came to Hatfield as a young man straight from College and stayed for over thirty years. His drive and efforts made possible the building of this new Church in the New Town, opposite the Council Offices. The building of the Church was only made possible by the sacrificial giving of the Congregation and with the help of Sir Hally Stewart the then Chairman of the London Brick Company. The cost of building this absolutely first class Church and supporting buildings in 1931-2 was £6,669. An awful lot of money of course in those days. I wonder how much it would cost today to build what is still a first class suite of buildings ideal for the purpose for which they are designed.



Christchurch United Reform Church,  
St Albans Road East, Hatfield

Members of the Church at that time are still very vivid in my memory. Old Mr Smith the Senior Deacon approaching his eighties, blind, standing in his favourite pew with tears streaming down his face as he sang “When I survey the wonderous cross on which the Prince of Glory died”. Of his addressing us youngsters in Sunday School telling us of his hard life as a child, giving his testimony about the Saviour he loved. Making us boys quiet and subdued as we listened. Old Mr George Parrott standing there telling us of the 1st World War, how because he had signed the Pledge he would not take rum that was on offer before they went over the top. Miss Hopkinson who followed in her father's footsteps and became the Local Registrar of Births and Deaths. When you were with these people you knew that they were people of God—you could feel their faith without them even having to say a word. Yes memories of great people—not important people may be, but great never the less”.

Part 3 to follow in next newsletter.