

# Ethelflaeda, Abbess of Romsey

## Welcome to the Eleventh Ethelflaeda Festival

Founded as a Benedictine Convent some 1000 years ago, Romsey Abbey is dedicated to St Ethelflaeda, who was one of the early abbesses of the convent.

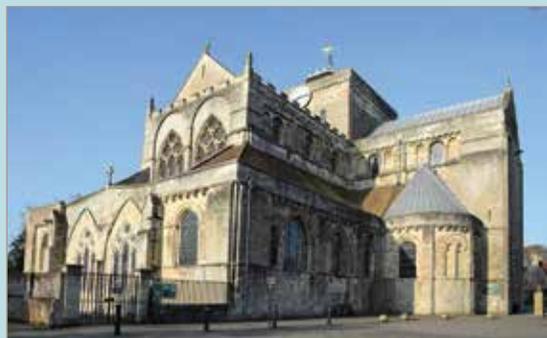
Placed in the convent in the 990s, Ethelflaeda was the source of legends which have been passed down through the centuries and point to her devotion and good works including reciting the psalms at night whilst standing in the River Test.

Romsey Abbey is built on the foundation of holy women, who through words, music and actions, sought to express the glory of God and serve their local community.

This festival aims to bring to the fore the place and legacy of women both in the history of the church and Christianity, but also in the arts.

We hope everything which inspired Ethelflaeda all those years ago will continue to inspire us today.

We look forward to seeing you during the Festival.



## Romsey Area Map

There are car parks in Lortemore Place (off Latimer Street) with pedestrian access to Church Street and the Abbey, Newton Lane car park (which has 70 places) has pedestrian access to the Abbey via Abbey Water.



The Ethelflaeda Lecture and this brochure have been kindly sponsored by The Friends of Romsey Abbey. To find out more about the Friends visit [romseyabbeyfriends.org](http://romseyabbeyfriends.org) or pick up a membership form on their noticeboard in the Abbey.



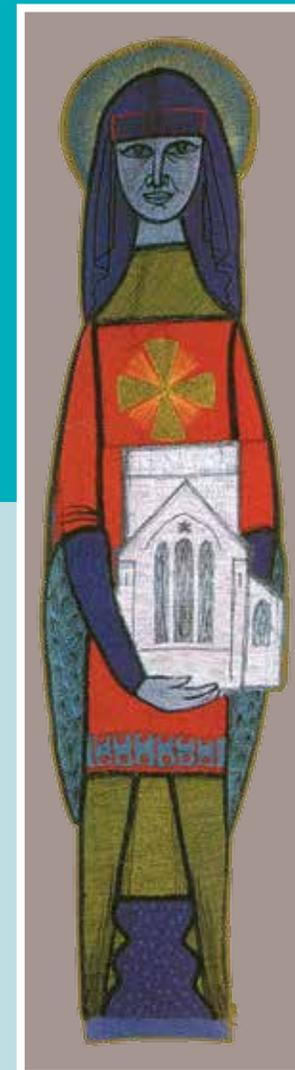
## 11th Ethelflaeda Festival

For more details please visit [romseyabbey.org.uk/ethelflaedafestival/](http://romseyabbey.org.uk/ethelflaedafestival/) or contact the Parish Office  
e: [parishoffice@romseyabbey.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@romseyabbey.org.uk)  
t: 01794 513125  
@RomseyAbbey



## ROMSEY ABBEY

The Parish Church of St Mary and St Ethelflaeda



## 11th Ethelflaeda Festival

16th - 20th October 2019

[www.romseyabbey.org.uk](http://www.romseyabbey.org.uk)

# Festival Dates 2019

## Wednesday 16th October

### 3pm WEEKLY ABBEY TOUR

Roger Leech, Visiting Professor of Archaeology at Southampton University, will give a tour focusing on the Archaeology and Architecture of Romsey Abbey. Cost is £5 per person which is donated to Abbey funds. No booking required except groups, via the parish office. Tour lasts approx. 1 hour.

### 8pm COMPLINE

A sung service at the end of the day.

## Thursday 17th October

### 6pm CHORAL EVENSONG

A service of evening prayers, psalms and canticles, sung by the Choirs of Romsey Abbey.

### 7.30pm at the United Reformed Church CAROLINE WILLSHIRE IN CONCERT

Caroline, a gospel singer songwriter from Romsey will perform a selection of songs with her band from her latest Album 'Wings Like Eagles'. Caroline aims to 'Shine a Light'



and encourage and renew. Her music has a Celtic style, influenced through having lived on the Isle of Skye. Caroline's songs are available from online retailers and streaming services, as well as a Songbook and CD available from Oasis Christian Centre in Romsey. *No booking is required. Free entry with a retiring collection for the Abbey URC.*

## Friday 18th October

### 7.30pm ETHELFLAEDA LECTURE

by TINA BEATTIE

**Jesus' Grandma -  
Saint Anne in Medieval Art  
and Devotion.**



Tina Beattie is Professor of Catholic Studies at the University of Roehampton and Director of Catherine of Siena College based at Roehampton. Since doing her PhD on the Virgin Mary in patristic and modern theology she has developed a keen interest in the visual representation of theological ideas focusing on the maternal Marian traditions of medieval art and devotion. The apocryphal figure of Saint Anne, mother of the Virgin, is unfamiliar to many today but she was a saint of great significance in late medieval Catholicism. Tina shows how representations of Saint Anne provide the key to understanding much about the incarnational significance of female embodiment and maternal relationships for medieval devotion to the humanity of Christ. *There is no charge for this lecture but booking is required. There will be a retiring collection for Abbey funds.*

## Saturday 19th October

### 9am - 2pm PEAL OF BELLS

**7pm ETHELFLAEDA CONCERT by THE  
BLOOMSBURY QUARTET - 'ReCENTRED'  
a performance experience inspired by the life and  
works of Elizabeth Maconchy.**

Formed in September 2017, The Bloomsbury Quartet is made up of Eva de Vries, Rachel Maxey, Felicity Smith and Janell Yeo. As winners of the 2018 Stroud Green



Festival Ensemble Scheme, they are on their first UK tour with ReCentred, which aims to bring women composers into the centre of their own narrative. This performance experience explores the life and music of the prolific string quartet composer Dame Elizabeth Maconchy DBE putting the composer in a wider context. The programme will encompass the breadth of Maconchy's repertoire including Quartet no.1 and Quartet no. 11. Alongside these will be works by her teacher Ralph Vaughan Williams and her daughter Nicola LeFanu. The evening begins with a first-half multimedia installation during which refreshments will be available and audience members are encouraged to freely move around the space, followed by a second-half concert.

*Tickets £10, all unreserved.*

*Festival lecture and concert tickets are available from The Romsey Visitor Information Centre, 13 Church Street, 01794 512987, or online at [ticketsource.co.uk/romseyabbey](http://ticketsource.co.uk/romseyabbey) or on the door.*

## Sunday 20th October

### 10am FESTAL EUCHARIST

The Reverend Canon Sue Wallace to preach.

### 6.30pm FESTAL EVENSONG

The Right Reverend Debbie Sellin, Suffragan Bishop of Southampton to preach. *Wine and juice will be served after this service.*