

## Ethelflaeda, Abbess of Romsey

### Welcome to the 8th Ethelflaeda Festival.

Founded as a Benedictine Convent 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's legends, which have been passed down through the centuries, 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 year's festival focusses on the Benedictine Rule which shaped the life of the nuns for 500 years and how it still speaks to us today.

Art, Music, Words, Prayers and Silence all go to make up a reflective and inspiring few days.

We look forward to seeing you over the weekend!

Revd Canon Tim Sledge, *Vicar of Romsey*

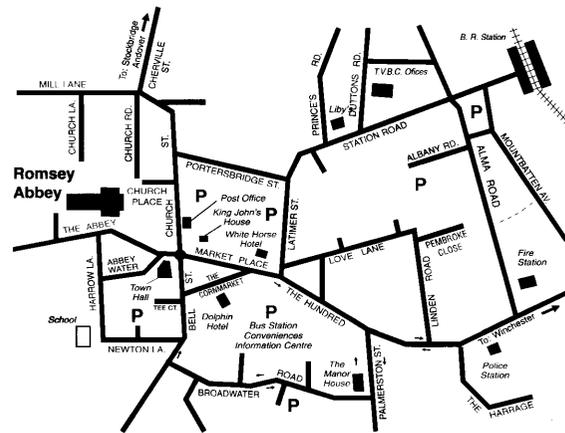


## Welcome to Romsey!

Entrance to services and to the lecture is free, and there is no need to book.

### 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.



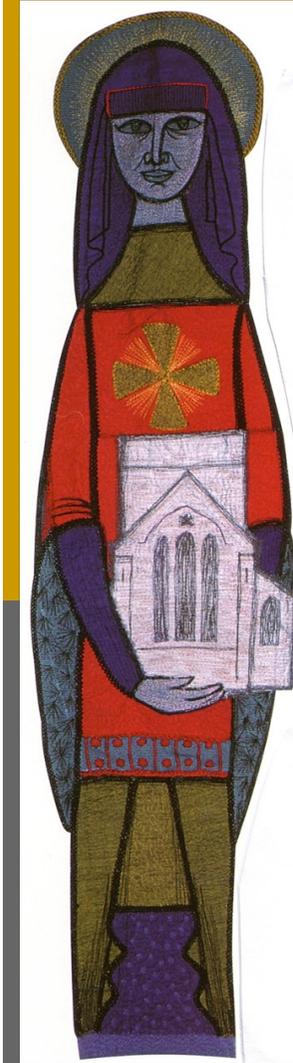
*Please note: The concert previously advertised on the Saturday has had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.*

### 8th Ethelflaeda Festival

For more details, please contact the Romsey Tourist Information Centre on 01794 512987 or Romsey Parish Office on 01794 513125.  
Email: [parishoffice@romseyabbey.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@romseyabbey.org.uk)

## ROMSEY ABBEY

The Parish Church of St Mary and St Ethelflaeda



## 8th Ethelflaeda Festival

18th-23rd October 2016

Supported by the Friends of Romsey Abbey  
[www.romseyabbey.org.uk](http://www.romseyabbey.org.uk)

# Festival Dates

12th Oct -  
7th Nov

## INCARNATION: MARY, AND WOMEN FROM THE BIBLE

A Unique Art Exhibition by Chris Gollon

This powerful exhibition explores the experiences of women in the Bible and is a collection of recent paintings depicting women from both the Old and New Testaments. This will be the very first chance to see a brand new diptych of St Ethelflaeda, painted by Gollon specifically for Romsey Abbey. Gollon's diptych looks at the episode recounted of her candle blowing out and St Ethelflaeda then reading the Bible by the light emanating from her hand.



Tues  
18th

## 9.00pm-9.30pm COMPLINE BY CANDLELIGHT—

Sung by the Southampton University Chamber Choir

A quiet, simple and reflective service, echoing the pattern of prayer of the nuns here in the Abbey. Music to include *I have done what is mine to do* - Cecilia McDowall and *Ave Maris Stella*—George Arthur

Weds  
19th

## All day A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE ABBEY

Pupils from Romsey Abbey Primary School spend the day (and night!) entering into the life of the Abbey and all its connections to their learning. This will include learning and performing as part of...

9.00pm-9.30pm

## COMPLINE BY CANDLELIGHT— Sung by the Girls & Choir men

A quiet, simple and reflective service, echoing the pattern of prayer of the nuns here in the Abbey. Music to include *You are the Lily* - George Arthur, words by Hildegard of Bingen and *Evening Prayers* - Moore

Thurs  
20th

## 9.00pm-9.30pm COMPLINE BY CANDLELIGHT—

Sung by the Boys and Choirmen

Another opportunity to share in this Benedictine Office. The service will include *O orzechis Ecclesia* - Hildegard of Bingen and *Miserere Mei* - Byrd

Fri  
21st

## 10-12.30pm ETHELFLAEDA SCHOOLS MORNING

Run by Trench 1

Story telling, activities, educational tours, and plenty more for primary school children in Romsey.



## 7.30pm The 8th ETHELFLAEDA LECTURE - ESTHER DE WAAL

## Hidden Springs—The gift of Cistercian Women to the Church

In the 12th Century, Cistercian women adopted the Benedictine Rule which transformed their life as an order and also as a community of Christians.

In this lecture, Esther de Waal will seek to connect history, spirituality and how the Benedictine life can inform our own lives today.



*Esther de Waal is one of the country's most celebrated spiritual writers on the Benedictine life and women and monasticism. Seeking God, her classic book on the relevance of the Rule of Saint Benedict, has opened up the riches of the monastic tradition to readers throughout the world for almost twenty-five years. Supported by the Montgomery Trust*

Sun  
23rd

## 10am FESTIVAL EUCHARIST Preacher: Abbot Giles Hill Abbot of Alton Abbey

This service will feature Will Todd's Jazz *Missa Brevis* and a new psalm setting for the day and *It was on that train*—with words by St Teresa of Calcutta.

## 6.30pm CHORAL EVENSONG & PROCESSION Choir of Ascot Parish Church Preacher: Mrs Averil Bamber

The service will include the “Legends of Ethelflaeda” culminating in a procession and prayers in the chapel dedicated to her.

*Wine and juice will be served after the service*