

## THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

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

Please take another look at the new polymer £20 banknote that has just been issued. It features the British artist JMW Turner (1775 – 1851) and his painting, *The Fighting Temeraire*. The painting shows HMS Temeraire in 1838, being towed by a steam tug towards a scrapyard at Rotherhithe on the Thames. It was a sad ending for a ship that achieved considerable fame at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. The Temeraire was immediately astern of Nelson's flagship, the Victory, and played a major part in the battle, her crew capturing two enemy ships while suffering heavy casualties.

The captain of the Temeraire at Trafalgar was Eliab Harvey (1758 – 1830) from Chigwell in Essex. He shared his time between naval duties and being one of the two Members of Parliament for Essex. He was later knighted and promoted to the rank of admiral. Sir Eliab's final resting place is in the Hundred Parishes, in the Harvey family crypt beneath St Andrew's Church, Hempstead. The crypt holds the coffins of around fifty members of the extended Harvey family.

An earlier family member was William Harvey (1578 – 1657), the first doctor to describe the circulation of the blood. His mortal remains are also in Hempstead Church although his body was moved in 1883 by the Royal College of Physicians from the crypt into a large sarcophagus in the chapel above the private crypt.

A print of *The Fighting Temeraire* hangs in Saffron Walden in The Temeraire, a Wetherspoon pub whose walls are richly decorated with pictures and information about local history.

The £20 note is not the first to have a local connection. The £50 note in circulation from 1994 to 2011 featured Sir John Houblon. Members of his family once owned Hatfield Forest.

Ken McDonald, Secretary

### Photos:

£20 banknote

The Fighting Temeraire by JMW Turner

Hempstead Church

William Harvey sarcophagus