



89<sup>th</sup> Congress 10 – 13 May 2018



**Hertfordshire** derives its name from the hart (stag). The county is located just north of London. It is easily reached from France via the Euro tunnel terminus near Kings Cross station.

Hertfordshire is a gateway to the north of Britain from London. The Lea Valley, A10 and A1 are important North – south arteries and the Green Belt to the south separates the urban sprawl of London from its lush green countryside setting.

In Roman times Verulamium ((granted the rank of municipium around 50AD) was the second largest city in Roman Britain after Londinium. St Albans cathedral houses the

tomb of Britain's first martyr St Alban (b?-d 251 c). Hatfield House was the childhood home of Elizabeth I In 1600 she granted a royal charter to the East India Company and all over Hertfordshire there are large country houses owned by those who made their fortunes in the Empire.

In 1809 the East India College moved to a purpose-built facility at Hertford Heath designed by William Wilkins(1778-1831), who also designed the National Gallery in London.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century Watford became a major centre for the printing industry and Ware and Hertford were centres for brewing. This then developed

into the chemical giant Glaxo Smith Kline who are still based in Ware and have a large research facility in Stevenage.

In the 20<sup>th</sup> century Ebenezer Howard's (1850-1928) Garden City ideas were realised in Letchworth Garden City (First Garden City Ltd founded 1903) and then in Welwyn Garden City (1922).

Hatfield became an important centre for the development of aeroplanes with Sir Geoffrey de Havilland developing the famous 2nd World War Moth and Mosquito aircrafts.

Henry Moore (1898-1968) moved to Perry Green after a bomb hit his home in Hampstead and contributed a sculpture Family Group (1950) to the Barclay School(1949 in

Stevenage) designed by the Hertfordshire Architects Department (1946).

The prefabricated education buildings designed by the Hertfordshire Architects Department became world famous for their innovative design and ideas about education. Mary Crowley (1907-2005), a leading architect in the team had designed the children's exhibit at the 1937 Exposition Internationale des Arts et Techniques dans la Vie Moderne.

We invite you to join us to explore Hertfordshire and build on our love of architecture and friendship.