

# Advanced Sunday School

*quirky, intelligent, and more important than it might at first seem*

## A London Friendship

**The lives of Thomas Beri & Isabella Whitney in the early modern city**



**Join us to hear Marion Wynne-Davies talk about the friendship between Thomas Beri and Isabella Whitney.**

The talk uses the poems written by two friends, Thomas Beri and Isabella Whitney, to explore the lives of young people in London during the 1570s.

We know something of Thomas Beri because he is commemorated in a brass plaque in St Martin's Ludgate, while autobiographical details are provided in Isabella Whitney's poem, "Will and Testament," the first description of London written by a woman.

Although devout, they enjoyed eating takeaway pies from Thames Street and drinking at the Steelyard winery on Canongate, but it was their writing that drew them together as they lingered at the bookstalls in St Paul's Churchyard.

Marion Wynne-Davies is Professor Emerita of English Literature at the University of Surrey. She works on early modern writing and her most recent research is for a book on early modern women writers and London.

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2026 at 6pm**

*Followed by wine and nibbles*

**St Martin Ludgate**

40 Ludgate Hill, London, EC4M 7DE