

ST MARY'S GAMLINGAY, HATLEY ST GEORGE & ST MARY'S EVERTON



Weekly newsletter 31 July 2020



From Hilary:

Dear All,

I wonder if you have spotted yourself getting worked up over things - angry, hurt, disgruntled, disappointed? It is very difficult to keep a sense of proportion in these troubling times, particularly when our heads may tell us that our troubles are not so great compared with those of others around us, and our hearts tell us that nothing is working and everything is out of balance. If you spot this in yourself, then you are by no means alone in feeling that way, and definitely one up if you know when it is happening! You are especially blessed when, as the recipient of thoughtless or even apparently deliberately unkind behaviour, you not only rise above it but realise the problem might be as much with your perception as with the other person's misconduct. We are all in need of a good deal of extra grace; let us pray for that, for ourselves and each other as we seek to live as Kingdom people:

- *The people who raise the spirits of those around them like yeast raises dough.*
- *The people whose faith, tiny as a mustard seed, is sown to grow all manner of amazing things.*
- *The people who hunt for the treasure of the Kingdom and are willing to give everything else up to possess it when they find it.*
- *The people who grow a healthy spiritual life that brings into being love, joy, faith, kindness, goodness, patience and self-control.*

Can we live this way? Yes, we can! Let us never let go of the hope we have been given.

Return to Church

After a setback last week, there will have been a trial said communion service in church by the time you read this. The main Sunday service for all the Benefice will continue to be a Zoom service at 9.30am until mid- September. The first Sunday back in churches is planned to be September 20th. The regular pattern for Benefice services is expected to be as follows:

Gamlingay : 9.30 a.m. Communion.

On the first Sunday of the month this will particularly include the children.

Everton A p.m. service (time TBC) - not always communion.

Hatley : A monthly service - variable depending on festivals.

When no festival - 8 am said communion.

Here are the arrangements we have put in place in response to guidance from the authorities. They explain what will be expected of you and what you can expect if/when you attend a church service in August and September.

This could change with changing guidance, so keep watching this space.

- Services will be made available electronically and live wherever that is possible.
- There will be someone at church to direct members of the congregation and ensure that everyone keeps a safe distance (2M).
- Congregation members are asked to wear a face covering and take away the service booklet/sheet they have used.
- There will be no singing, and live speaking together will be kept to a minimum. We will have recorded music - **please indicate if you can contribute your voice to this.**
- The priest will be leading the service from the chancel (Altar and choir area) and will be the only person who uses this area.
- The service leader will not wear a face covering during the speaking part of the service but will have done so while setting up if it is a communion service, as well as using full hygiene procedures, and when approaching other members of the congregation especially at Communion.
- Communion will be given in one kind (bread) at the chancel arch/steps with sanitised hands, and minimal touching of the bread.

Hilary

GUILD OF ST. MARY OUTREACH (*Chris Wareham*)

The Guild of St. Mary provides a very successful form of outreach for the church within the area with membership open to all. Over the last few years the Guild has been sending gift-filled shoeboxes to countries in Eastern Europe. Most of us are not exactly enjoying lockdown but people in Eastern Europe are going through very hard times. It is not difficult to imagine how awful their lives must be without heat, wood, food or medicine to ease their burden.

Throughout the year members of the Guild, and other people in the area, fill 20 shoeboxes with knee blankets, knitted hats, scarves & gloves together with an assortment of toiletries, writing materials, small tools, toys & sweets etc. The boxes are packed at the end of October, wrapped in cheerful Christmas paper and delivered to a depot in Orwell for distribution overseas.

Anyone interested in helping in any way is most welcome! Call Chris Wareham on 01767 448915 (Shoebox co-ordinator)



More tidying of St Denis' churchyard – a sunny morning's work :by East Hatley resident Peter Mann

Sorry this report is a week late – I, erm, forgot to submit it to Brenda.....

Anyway, once again the weather was nice two Sundays ago (19th July) with a dozen people turning up to help mow and rake the grass in St Denis' churchyard, East Hatley. A week earlier we'd tackled the long grass on the south side of the church (see 17th July newsletter); this time we did the west end and part of the north side, which, for some reason, always seems easier to cut than the south side – perhaps the grass isn't so tough or thick.

With lots of bees and butterflies buzzing and beaming about and the way things have changed in the churchyard (which is also a Local Nature Reserve and a County Wildlife Site), even over the last ten years, we sought the advice of the Wildlife Trust on how much to mow – and decided to leave uncut a large portion of grass on the north and east sides to provide refuge areas for invertebrates, not just bees and butterflies but grasshoppers and all sorts of other useful and friendly bugs. You are welcome to come and peer. Thank you to everyone who came and helped, especially Neil Carter, who strimmed around the church and graves – impossible without you!

Here are some of my action shots – more photos and a list of all those who took part are in the [news section of the Hatley website](#).



The south side after its recent cut.



*Sarah, John, Neil, Carole
Charlie and Nicola – raking*



*Joyce and Carole filling
wheelbarrows with mown grass*



*Neil strimmed round the
church and graves.*



*Charlie in full mowing
mode.*

From Pam Offord who has an incredible memory!

I wonder if there is anyone else who travelled on the London Underground in the 1950s and early 1960s, when every compartment showed not only the route the train was taking, but numerous advertisements! This one was (I think) one of many issued by the Wool Marketing Board and went as follows:~

Arriving for her pas de deux
This ballerina caused a stir
For underneath a froth of white
A pair of stockings came in sight.
When challenged to explain her act
She said, "It's an undoubted fact
These ballet tights are tutu cool
There is no substitute for wool.

Such is the power of advertising that this piece of trivia can stay with one all these years!

Chocolate and Courgette Cake

If you are growing courgettes it is very likely that you currently have more than you know what to do with! Why not try this deliciously moist and chocolatey cake recipe provided by Jan Smith.

Ingredients

250g plain flour	1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
375g caster sugar	4 eggs
65g cocoa powder	350 ml vegetable oil
2 teaspoons bicarbonate of soda	340 g grated courgette
1 teaspoon baking powder (optional)	90g chopped walnuts



Method

1. Grease and flour a 20 x 30cm baking tin. Preheat oven to 180°C.
2. Stir together flour, sugar, cocoa, bicarb, baking powder and cinnamon. Add the eggs and oil, mix well. Fold in the courgettes and nuts (if adding them). Pour into the tin.
3. Bake for 50 to 60 mins until a knife inserted into the centre comes out clean. Cool the cake before icing with your favourite icing.

Answers to last week's mental exercise :

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| 1. 40 Days and Nights in Lent | 6. 1901 Queen Victoria Died |
| 2. 1 Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest | 7. 18 Holes on a Golf Course |
| 3. 13 in a Baker's Dozen | 8. 5 Toes on Each Foot |
| 4. 88 Keys on a Piano | 9. 1936 King Edward the Eighth Abdicated |
| 5. 10 Points for the Letter Q in Scrabble | 10. 3 Men in a Boat |

Please contact Brenda Elcome with anything you would like to go in the weekly newsletter BY TUESDAY EVENING

Brenda.elcome@ymail.com or phone 650489

Finally, a reminder of some key contact details:

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