

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



Weekly newsletter 4 September 2020



From Hilary:

Return to work has been a bit of shock to the system as the new month starts. Thank you for your good wishes - it was a nice break under the limitations of the circumstances. The weather hasn't been great, as you will realise, so much less has been done than originally intended. As I've been encouraging everyone else to do, I am looking at what has been good and has been done rather than what hasn't - we had trips out with family, built a garden pond, tried to give ourselves and each other little treats. 'It was, you may say, satisfactory' (Brownie points if you can identify the quote.)

PCC meetings are on the way next week (14th) but before that the Cambridgeshire churches of the Benefice are involved in Open Days. Do visit, but also your help would be most welcome as follows:

St Mary the Virgin, Gamlingay is taking part in the Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust fund-raiser **'Ride and Stride' on Saturday, September 12th 10am - 6pm**

Lots of information about this on their website <https://camhct.uk/rideandstride/>

Obviously, anyone is welcome to collect sponsorships and visit this church among others, but we are particularly looking for stewards to be in church on the day. If you can help, please let Chris Miller know when you could be available. Stewarding simply involves welcoming and directing people according to the notices. We cannot offer hospitality or leaflets.

Hatley St George Church and St Denis' East Hatley will both be open that same weekend with another organisation, **Heritage Open Days**, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Help would be particularly welcome at Hatley St George where Penny Hewlett would like to hear from you if you can spare an hour or two between 10am and 4pm.

Thank you for feedback on the wearing of masks. Every sympathy with the fact that they are a nuisance, especially for those of us who wear glasses. (I'm still working on a mechanism for sealing mine round nose that allows glasses to function effectively) but we all want to keep one another safe, so thank you. I will be staying well away from everyone during the parts of the service where I am allowed to be free of a face cover.

We are still working on the service arrangements. Perhaps it is worth reminding ourselves that this is not 'the new normal' but a stop-gap to enable us to use our church buildings during a time when infection control is of utmost importance for the sake of individuals at risk and for the wider community as we seek to care for one another. THANK YOU every one for your patience in difficult times - we are all finding this very wearing as it goes on and on, particularly in respect to uncertainties for the future – will we be in lockdown again? I certainly hope not! But we must be prepared for whatever comes along, as far as we can be.

Blessings all.

Hilary

Cycle 100 miles in August for Prostate Cancer UK

I have now completed this challenge and cycled 252 miles during the month of August. A huge thank you to everyone who sponsored me and gave their support to the Prostate Cancer UK charity. I have raised £500 to date but it's not too late if you would like to donate. Here is the link to my Just Giving page:

<https://cyclemonth.prostatecanceruk.org/fundraising/cycle-the-month280>



JustGiving

Alec Hissett

'Nature Notes' from Lindy Gorton....

I came down one morning last week to find a kestrel having his breakfast just outside our kitchen window. I do not know how long she had been there when I first saw her, but it was certainly an hour before she flew off. She was probably no more than 6 ft away from me and was concentrating so hard on tearing her greenfinch to pieces that she took no notice of me. She consumed every bit of her meal so that when she left there were only a few feathers left. I was surprised how small she was, because I know they attack much bigger targets, as we have found the remains of 3 pigeons on the lawn during the summer.

I suppose it is all due to climate change - a spring flowering Clivia (with a beautiful large orange/scarlet flower) is in flower for a second time. I shall be interested to see if it flowers next spring.

From "A Sort of Prayer Book" by David Kossoff :



Young Mind

I have been giving thought, Lord
... you have a minute? .. to getting old.
Natural enough, as the years pass.
Do the years pass more quickly, Lord?
Whatever happened to those longer
years we used to have?
Did you discontinue them? To speed up
the process, sort of? To replace us faster?
Hoping for improvement in the product?
Understandable.

However, getting old. Subject for today
... and I'm *not* talking about staying young.
Indeed not; I was young once and
wasn't mad on it. But to continue
Getting old, a fellow said, is all in the mind.
True. It's also inclined to get into the joints,
the digestion, and the poor old feet.
Spectacles appear, then a second pair.
Certain powers wane. Expected; allowed for.
But the fellow's right, or nearly right.

Now, Lord. To the point.
What if the *mind* gets stiff in the joints?
Where are you then?
What if the *mind* goes lame, needs two
pairs of specs?
Then, it would seem, a person's got trouble.
I mean, if the mind is in charge, and
starts taking days off; loses its grip.
Where are you then?
Seems it's time for a person to shut the office.

So, Lord, please, keep me young in the mind.
Let me enjoy, Lord, let me enjoy.
If creaky I must be, and many-spectacled
and morning-stiff and food-careful,,
If trembly-handed and slow-moving and
breath-short and head-noddy,
I won't complain. Not a word.
If, with your help, dear Friend, there
will dwell in this ancient monument
A Young Mind. Please, Lord?

Another verse for the 'Zoom Limerick Epic'

From Valerie Miller

Zoom has its quirks; funny old ways
But whatever everyone says
When you go away for a break
If your tablet you take
You can still join in on Sundays.

Jan Cooper's latest gorgeous creation.....

"I've had a lovely time knitting it and it's used up a lot of spare wool!"



*"We must accept finite disappointment,
but we must never lose infinite hope"*

**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

A reminder of some key contact details:

Hilary Young , Parish Priest	hilaryafyoung@gmail.com	650587
Alec Hissett , Gamlingay/Hatley Churchwarden	alechissett@hotmail.com	650052
Chris Miller , LLM/Reader, Gamlingay/Hatley Churchwarden	cfm55@btinternet.com	650779
Valerie Miller , ALM Pastoral	vjm55@btinternet.com	650779
Dawn Martin , Gamlingay/Hatley PCC Secretary	dawnbeckymartin@aol.com	652832
Jane Gurney , Everton Churchwarden		
Ann Naseby , Everton PCC Secretary	annpnaseby@btinternet.com	
Ian Parker , Treasurer to both PCCs	iangparker@hotmail.com	652992
Jane Butcher , Everton Assistant Churchwarden	jane.butcher59@gmail.com	680105