

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



Weekly newsletter 18 February 2022



From Hilary...

Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCMs)

These have been previously announced and are planned for each of our parishes on Sunday 27th February. This is earlier than some churches have them in an attempt to make them as relevant as possible - the reporting is on the year ending December of the previous year (2021 in this case). If we have the meetings as late as permitted (end of April) a third of the year has gone, and it is a bit late to be making new plans for the coming year. It is also a bit far back to remember what happened in the previous year.

So, a huge THANK YOU to those who have worked to put the reports together. Dawn, in Gamlingay, has had a particularly big task, as collating the information from various sources to provide the report is no small undertaking. A special 'thank you' to the people who have been involved with the financial reporting process. Our external examiner Colin Airey has been particularly helpful, with Ian Parker, in enabling timings for earlier meetings to be met.

The reports themselves are required from us by law. Each PCC is a charity in its own right and comes under the umbrella of the Church of England, a Charity exempt from registration. As such, we must produce a report on the finances and associated activities. Certain elements are prescribed by the Church of England (such as the report on the electoral roll) but for the last few years the reports have been expected to be much more closely aligned with other charity reporting requirements than with our traditional ones.

As Dawn wrote last week, this is an opportunity to celebrate what has been achieved in the previous year, look at where we can see God at work among us then and now, and to look forward to what will happen and needs to be done in the coming year. Do please make the effort to be there and be part of the story of our churches. The report, as presented, is owned by the whole PCC of each parish and is intended to relate the financial picture to the programme of activities. It should give a comprehensive picture of the church's year to people who do not know the parish, as well as to those who do.

APCM in Gamlingay - why evening, and after an evening service?

The PCC collectively decided, after some reflection, to go for this time and day. The assumption made by Hilary was that the meeting should take place after some act of worship. However, this doesn't have to be the case if that's a problem though, if it is, the question is why?.

The option to follow a morning service, as in some previous years, was not available since we are not in St Mary's for worship so cannot meet there or easily move to the Church Hall from either of the churches we are using. The PCC thought we should stick to Sunday rather than a weekday. The plan is to share refreshments (cheese and wine is planned, with other nibbles and soft drinks included) to make this a social as well as a business occasion. It would be helpful therefore to know rough numbers.

I shall be writing to everyone on the Electoral Rolls of each church before the meetings, and the reports will be available from this Sunday. To save paper we will be only printing the copies we need to, please let Dawn or Hilary know if you need a paper copy.

APCM

Annual Parochial
Church Meeting

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Apologies for confusion over the date of the planning meeting as published last time. It is in fact on Wednesday 23rd February at the Ecohub and is, of course, for Gamlingay only. The Hatleys and Everton will no doubt be doing their own things as well but I don't, as yet, have information on those.



Further Reminder - Evensong at Clare College Chapel

Next Sunday, the APCM day and last before Lent, will be the last chance to book for this event which will be on March 6th. Numbers are capped at about 30 and there are plenty of places at time of writing. Revd Mark Smith, Dean of Clare College (Clare College is a Patron at Everton) has extended an invitation to attend 6pm Evensong at the college. Preacher - Hilary. There is an invitation to both the service on that day and a meal afterwards. The meal will cost about £5 per person, payable by contactless card at the till, and is of course optional.

Lent 2022

As previously indicated there will, this year, be a course exploring themes of Faith, Hope and Redemption using the film 'The Greatest Showman'. Hilary or Chris would like to know the preferences of those who would like to participate. A 'film night' is likely begin the course.

Living Ely 2025

We shall be looking at a course written for the Diocese, entitled 'Baggage and Treasures' to help us to think about what we need to take with us, and what we need to leave behind, as we journey into the future. Representatives from across the Deanery will be meeting on Saturday 26th, 10 -12 at Great Staughton. I shall be there and would love to take at least someone else with me. Let me know if you can and will come with me. There will be more information for everyone at and following the APCMs. <https://www.elydiocese.org/about/strategy/living-ely2025/>

Hilary

This Week

Sunday 20th February - 2nd Sunday before Lent

10.00am CW Shared Benefice Communion service at Everton

Next Week

Sunday 27th February - Sunday next before Lent

10.00am CW Communion at Everton St Mary
followed by APCM for Everton Cum Tetworth at the Parish Hall

6.00pm Short Service of the Word at Gamlingay Church Hall
followed by refreshments and APCM for Gamlingay and the Hatleys

Monday 28th

2pm Short church service followed by Ashes Interment Audrey Wright, at Everton

Into March

Sunday 6th March – First Sunday in Lent

8.30am BCP communion at Hatley St George

10.30am Benefice Communion at Everton

6.00pm Evensong at Clare College Chapel (booking required)

St. Mary's Church Gamlingay – Project Update *(From Alec Hissett)*

Last Thursday, 9th February, several members of the Project Group met with the architect, quantity surveyor and representatives of CEL Group Ltd. (our main contractor) for the monthly progress meeting. The work on the nave roof is now complete and work is due to start on the south transept roof repairs this week. Some of the capping stones on the north parapet and north porch were found to be loose and have been removed. These will be reinstated as part of the current work.

Four windows have been removed and sent off to be re-leaded. Repairs to the surrounding stonework have been specified and a quotation for the work will be provided this week. Again, this work was anticipated and is budgeted as part of the Project.

No major problems have been experienced, although overnight frosts have caused some minor delays. The bulk of the work (80% of total cost) will be complete by the end of March. It is hoped that we will be back in church soon after Easter.

Here are a few photos showing progress to date.



From Sandra Macrow

We have some great news about the Church Hall Kitchen. Howdens at Sandy have very generously donated a brand-new ex-display kitchen to us. The showroom display is being dismantled at Howdens this week and will be delivered end of this week or next week. The plan is to store the kitchen on the stage until we are ready to install it.



I will be reaching out to people through Facebook for any kitchen fitters that might be able to donate their time to fit our new kitchen. In the meantime, the old kitchen has been removed and we are busy preparing the walls. Painting will begin this week.

If you have time and are willing to help with the painting, please contact me on 07958710703. Or perhaps there is someone you know that would be willing to help? If so, please let me know.

Thank you
Sandra

GUILD OF ST MARY



The next meeting of the Guild of St. Mary will be held in Gamlingay Church Hall on Monday 21st February starting at 7.30pm. The evening will take the form of a light-hearted Quiz together with the opportunity for a chat over tea/coffee and biscuits.



As the kitchen in the hall is currently out of action and we will not be able to wash up, it would be helpful if those attending could bring their own mug, although if that is not possible, we do have disposable ones.

A reminder of church opening times and some key contact details:

Everton church open Friday- Sunday, and on Bank Holiday Mondays 10am-4pm.
Hatley church can be opened on request.
Gamlingay church closed to the public until March.

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Please let Brenda have any articles or pictures for the newsletter
 by Tuesday evening each week to Brenda.elcome@ymail.com