

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



Weekly newsletter 1 July 2022



From Hilary...

Last Week

Welcome to the church family to Freddie Paul Ron Andrews baptised at Hatley St George on Sunday and congratulations to Joe and Emma Drybrough on their marriage on Saturday.

Everton church will have seen three lovely local weddings this year (although Joe and Emma live in York, Emma's Mum and Dad are longstanding Everton people) so there will be much to give thanks for in October as part of the Benefice celebrations.

The PCC met on Monday. For various reasons numbers were well down but thank you to Eileen for taking the notes - more details next time. A key item discussed was church finance. Gamlingay and Hatley Parish needs to find something like £2,000 per month for the rest of the year over and above what is currently forecast. This is without the expected hike in fuel bills after October when these come up for review. Although we have some good plans for fund-raising, more will definitely be needed. I look forward to ideas for how we might meet this challenge - it is a Benefice concern if either of our churches is struggling financially. Gamlingay PCC has Hatley St George Church to maintain (insurance and electricity bills) as well as St Mary the Virgin building that has been closed for repairs for six months, so this was always going to be a tough year.

At Gamlingay the main building project is now complete and finance details will be available shortly. There is an outstanding 'extra' due to be completed during the next weeks involving the South Porch gates. After the pins are in place the stonework will have to 'cure' before the gates can be hung.

Well done to everyone who cleaned the church last Friday. As from 1st July the building will, once again, be open during the day and a new rota for unlocking and locking will be in place.

This Week

Please publicise and come along to our fundraising events which take place next weekend – see details further on.

September Open Churches

Historic Churches groups will be running their customary events this Autumn, please be in touch if you can help to make sure our churches are properly involved.

Prayers for Healing continue



In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ we pray to the Father, we pray God's healing touch to bring wholeness and healing in body, mind and spirit to all in need at this time.

Chris continues to make good progress; Hilary awaits test results after hospital consultation. Many others in the parishes need our prayers for healing.

Services and Events for July

NB : There will be no mid-week communion on 6th July.

Sunday 3rd July

8.00am BCP Hatley St George - tbc - if intending to be there, please check
9.30am Parish Eucharist Gamlingay
11.15am Parish Communion Everton

Saturday 9th July

10am-12noon Everton Church Coffee Morning at the Village Hall
12 noon - 4pm Gamlingay Church Summer Fete in the church grounds

Sunday 10th July, Sunday 17th July, Sunday 24th July

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay
11.15am Parish Communion at Everton

Memory Lane - First Session was attended by people from Gamlingay and well beyond and was enjoyed and appreciated by all - a 'quiz for fun' (answers on the reverse of the question page) gave much amusement. Lots of ideas and contributions were gathered from these founding group members, including walks, tea dance, art, music and crafts. These are being incorporated into plans for future sessions. The next session in July will be a picnic and walk when one member may well be bringing their dog! The walk will be designed for people of all mobilities from those recovering from surgery to those who can walk miles.

Not long now.....



St. Mary's Church, Gamlingay
Saturday 9th July 12 noon - 4pm

We still need.....

FILLED JARS for the Tombola - please deliver to Alec and Ros at 45 Fairfield.

RAFFLE PRIZES - also to Alec and Ros OR left in the porch at 61 Fairfield (just around the corner!)

PEOPLE willing to staff, mind or run some of our proposed stalls - please let Jane Orchiston know if you can help - 07535005908

YOUR ATTENDANCE ON THE DAY! Don't forget to come and support this vital fundraising event - and bring your friends.

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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](mailto:Brenda.elcome@ymail.com)

# NEWS FROM EVERTON

We are delighted to say that St Mary's Everton-cum-Tetworth Church clock will be returning home after receiving extensive refurbishment. Cumbria Clock Company have worked to repair the mechanism and install a new automatic winding System. This work will give the church its voice back allowing the clock to strike the hour as originally designed. The work to reinstall the clock will last for a full five days starting on Monday 27th of June.

There will be Church restrictions for Health and Safety reasons while the rope work and fine-tuning are completed. Please note that the church will be locked while the tower work is completed and there will be a restricted area outside at the base of the tower.

We look forward to our first service on Sunday 3rd of July with a fully functioning clock and strike.

*Frances Christian-Allan  
Tower Captain.*



We are so pleased to be holding this successful event in Everton again after a 3 year break!

## ST MARYS EVERTON

SATURDAY JULY 9th 10-12noon

Village Hall, Everton

### COFFEE MORNING

Cakes, jams, produce, plants, books and raffle

**A very warm welcome to all**



### *All spick and span!*

*On behalf of the whole congregation, I would like to say thank you to all who swept, hoovered, dusted, tidied and polished St. Mary's, Gamlingay last Friday afternoon. Although there are one or two small, outstanding jobs to be completed by the contractors all the messy work is finished and we can finally reclaim our beloved building. The efforts of those who have worked to make it feel so welcoming once again are hugely appreciated.*

**THANK YOU!**

*Valerie Miller.*



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# NEWS FROM EAST HATLEY

## St Denis' East Hatley open every day.....

St Denis' church in East Hatley is now open every day from around 8.30 am to dusk to look round or for quiet contemplation, *writes Peter Mann.*

This is the first time St Denis' has been open on a regular basis since it was closed for worship in 1959 – when, aided by destructive vandals, it was effectively left to rot. By 2003 it was covered in ivy and in a perilous state on the verge of collapse. Local pressure on SCDC, which owned the building at the time, kick-started the first of many restoration projects, first as a 'safe shell', albeit without windows or a floor – although thanks to Ian Parker's efforts, it was (just) capable of holding Taizé services in 2011 and 2014.

After the Friends of Friendless Churches took ownership of the church (only the building, not the churchyard, which remains consecrated – you can still be buried here) in late 2016, a succession of restoration projects put in floor and windows. This spring, a lot of the crumbling plaster in the nave was removed and replaced with a traditional lime putty mortar, sealed with a lime wash coating specially coloured to match William Butterfield's restoration of 1874.

So next time you're heading out on the road to Croydon hill, passing first though Hatley St George (the key to the church is in the farmhouse opposite) and then the village hall (now with new toilets!), turn right into East Hatley's 'main street' and just after the last of the houses on the right, look for the fingerpost to St Denis', walk down the short footpath and there you will find, proud and handsome, East Hatley's only mediaeval building. And when you go in, think not so much of 2022, but how someone from 1322 might not feel too much of a stranger.

*St Denis' re-skinned* on the Hatley website details this latest restoration project – with an observation on why not investing in church masonry today creates a huge financial burden tomorrow: [www.hatley.info/hatleys-churches/st-denis-east-hatley/st-denis-re-skinned](http://www.hatley.info/hatleys-churches/st-denis-east-hatley/st-denis-re-skinned).

*St Denis' church, East Hatley.*



*Interior of St Denis' – new plasterwork and repair of the reredos allows the church to be open every day from around 8.30 am to dusk.*



## Key contact details:

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