

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



Weekly newsletter 28 April 2023



From Hilary...

Last week was extremely busy and, in some respects, emotional for me on a personal level as well as in parish life with a funeral and Gamlingay APCM. Alongside the parish work a trip 'up north' was fitted in for my last meeting as a trustee of the Scargill Movement, whose work revolves around the Christian community at Scargill House in Kettlewell (N Yorkshire limestone dales). As Covid, distance and family health have prevented visits over the last two (nearly three) years it has been sad to finish, but the time was right. Some of us who have been there from the rebirth/resurrection of this Christian Holiday and Conference Centre with a residential community at its heart, are stepping aside to let new people take on the Trustee roles with, hopefully, the right overlaps and hand-overs to ensure the continuing flourishing of the mission of this special place where God is so obviously and actively present. As a Vice President I will continue in an advocacy role. There are booklets with the programme for this coming year in both churches. Do chat with me if this is of interest, in particular there is room for community members who take up residence for anything from a few weeks in Summer to several years. There are roles to suit all skills, and training is given for the right people, so it is a place to learn new things - administration, estate management, catering, hospitality, chaplaincy. The main requirement is willingness to commit to a Christian Community - Lives Shared, Lives Transformed, which includes prayer, hard work, laughter and tears in the service of God and God's people.

New PCCs: Welcome and an enormous 'thank you' to everyone who has been willing to take on responsibilities in church governance for this next year. Although Everton APCM has already taken place, both PCCs are now appointed and so this feels like the start of the year, as people will be getting to know one another across the Benefice.

'Thank you' also goes to outgoing PCC members who, for various good reasons, will not be continuing. Their expertise and support will continue to be valuable and valued. Both parishes will be thinking about how, within the structures we inherit, we can operate effectively as church and society evolve, and the opportunities for committing time and energy to church activities decrease. We have work to do to enable us to function in mission and ministry, proclaiming and living out the Good News of the Kingdom of God as we can, not being stopped by what we cannot.

June Flower Festival(s): The Gamlingay Events Group met on Tuesday this week, and put some work into details for this event, with which the Gamlingay Summer Fair is planned to coincide. The idea of a Flower Festival (not all the exhibits have to be flowers!) was first floated some time ago as part of the Events Group's planning, to raise the profile of the church as well as to raise funds. The hope and intention was, and is, for this to reach beyond our local community and to be a Benefice-wide event. Everton PCC agreed, and the planning has been progressed. Gamlingay parish includes Hatley St George Church, and that will be represented in the Gamlingay display. As this will absorb the resources of Hatley as a small community. Hilary is offering to decorate Hatley church following the same theme of 'Tell me a story'. Christians are holders of 'The greatest story ever told' and the little church at Hatley St George will be a wonderful setting to elaborate that story. If anyone not already committed elsewhere would like to help Hilary, do get in touch directly or through Jane O. Sponsorships are welcome for the displays in all the churches.

Coronation: Services on the Sunday morning are being prepared with published material supplementing the Easter festival Eucharist. At Gamlingay Rev Lucy will lead the first part of the worship.
(See information below about the Big Lunch)

This Sunday 30th April Easter 4 (With apologies that it was missed as a 5th Sunday, when there has customarily been a Benefice service)

9.30am Parish Eucharist at Gamlingay St Mary the Virgin

11.15am Parish Eucharist at Everton St Mary

Wednesday 3rd May


9.30am Midweek communion at Gamlingay

NEWS FROM EVERTON

Everton PCC is already operating, again without named Churchwardens whose responsibilities are shared between: Rev Hilary (Chair), Doreen Gurney (Named Secretary - role shared by PCC), Richard Astell (Treasurer), Jane Butcher (Deanery Synod Representative), Beverley Darlow. The advertised consultation will go ahead on the afternoon of **Sunday 14th May**, with facilitation from the Mission and Ministry team. Guided discussions leading to plans which are likely to include future meetings will take place around a tea interval.

The last of this run of **Soup and Social** lunches took place at Everton this past Tuesday, and as usual it went very well. The following notice was put out at the meeting.....

Mini Hunter Trials take place on Sunday 30th April at Tetworth Hall, with a 'walk the course' on Saturday afternoon. Proceeds from this event have supported local activities, including the church.



Everton Soup and Social

Soup and Social was born from an idea of giving residents of the village a warm space to come and enjoy socialising with a warm bowl of soup. It has run every two weeks on a Tuesday at the village hall from 12pm to 2pm since December last year and has proved very popular, with an average of 26 attendees of all ages each session.

Owing to its success it has been decided to carry on through the Summer with some changes. The sessions will remain every two weeks on a Tuesday. They will run from 10.30am to 12.30pm and offer tea/coffee and a selection of cakes.

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 9 th of May 10.30 to 12.30	Tuesday 23 rd May 10.30 to 12.30
Tuesday 6 th June 10.30 to 12.30	Tuesday 20 th June 10.30 to 12.30
Tuesday 4 th July 10.30 to 12.30	Tuesday 18 th July 10.30 to 12.30

Coronation 'BIG LUNCH' (See full details on the poster attached.)



Come and celebrate with us in St. Mary's churchyard on Sunday 7th May, 12 noon – 3pm.

Bring your own picnic and, if you can manage it, your own chairs/picnic blankets and table.

There will be a raffle, Coronation Cake and hot drinks available. Donations welcome.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Gamlingay PCC for 2023/4 consists of several new people, and will again be operating without elected Church Wardens, the role being shared among the PCC members as follows:
Rev Hilary (Chair), Nick Ingles (Treasurer), Anne West (Secretary and Deanery Synod rep) Sandra Macrow (Deanery Synod Rep) Jane Orchiston, Dawn Martin and Steve Hemmings with Amelie Dickinson co-opted

St. George's Dad Parade Service 23rd April–

Group Scout Leader Chris Elwood writes:

This was, I think, the first time Gamlingay and Gransden Scout Group had held their own St Georges Day Parade and Service. I hope it will be the first of many and will become a feature of our calendar. We had an excellent turnout, and massive support from the parents. We were also assisted by a number of volunteer marshals from amongst our parents and family members, without whom we could not have run the parade. A collection in aid of The Children's Society raised the sum of £171.

Gamlingay and Gransden Scout Group would like to thank Reverend Hilary Young for allowing us to hold our St Georges Day Service at St Mary's, and all the help and assistance she gave us preparing the service. We would also like to thank the organist, Jane Orchiston for playing for us. And of course we would like to thank all who joined us for this very special occasion in the Scout calendar.



'Simple Lunch' will continue on alternate Tuesdays at the Church Hall, with the intention of raising funds for Gamlingay and Hatley Churches as well as providing hospitality and a social event. Hilary will be available for anyone wanting a chat (with or without lunch). The next lunch is on Tuesday. It is helpful, though not essential, to know if people intend to attend,

Memory Lane

Once again this wasn't advertised here but took place on the fourth Tuesday afternoon of the month this last week. Flowers were made which will contribute to the Memory Lane display in church in June, and refreshments and a sing-song with David accompanying were enjoyed.

Good News!

Thank you to everyone involved for raising donations for St Mary's, Gamlingay with #easyfundraising! Since St. Mary's joined the scheme £2,000 has been raised.

If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE. 7,400 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to do your everyday online shopping - at no extra cost to you! Every donation you raise makes a difference to us so please sign up & share today. https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/gsmv/?invite=E4QKFN%26referral-campaign=c2s%26utm_campaign=admin-trigger%26utm_content=srt

Alec Hissett.

Church opening times:

Everton church open Friday – Sunday, and on Bank Holiday Mondays, 10am – 4pm.

Hatley church can be opened on request.

Gamlingay church open daily 10am – 5pm.

Please let Brenda Elcome have any articles or pictures for the newsletter by Tuesday evening to Brenda.elcome@gmail.com

May and June services

It continues to be the intention to consult in the parishes as to the ways in which people can and will attend for worship in the churches as the lives of the people of our villages change. We continue to be committed to whole community worship, which means listening to all of our congregations, existing and potential. The following months' services may be adjusted for inclusion of baptisms, either in the Sunday worship (preferred) or on the Sunday afternoon on Sunday if necessary. During the cricket season there will be no afternoon/evening services at Everton due to non-availability of organists.

Sunday 7th May Easter 5 - Coronation weekend

9.30am Coronation themed Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Coronation themed Eucharist at Everton

Wednesday 10th May

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

Sunday 14th May Easter 6

9.30am Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Eucharist at Everton

Wednesday 17th May

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

Thursday 18th May

7.30pm Benefice Eucharist for the Ascension (Venue TBC)

Sunday 21st May Easter 7

9.30am Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Eucharist at Everton

2.30pm Baptism of Fleur Poxson at Gamlingay

Wednesday 24th May

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

Sunday 28th May Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

9.30am Festival Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Festival Eucharist at Everton

Wednesday 31st May

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

Sunday 4th June Trinity Sunday

9.30am Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Eucharist at Everton

Wednesday 7th June

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

Sunday 11th June Trinity 1

9.30am Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Eucharist at Everton

Wednesday 14th June

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

Sunday 18th June Trinity 2

9.30am Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Eucharist at Everton

Wednesday 21st June

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

Saturday 24th June Gamlingay Summer Fete/Flower Festival - Church and Church Hall

Sunday 25th June Trinity 3 Flower Festival Weekend

9.30am Eucharist at Gamlingay

11.15am Eucharist at Everton

Wednesday 28th June

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

Keep the date.....

July 16th morning service at Gamlingay will include a celebration of marriage, as Hilary and Norman were married 40 years ago on that day. An invitation is extended to all our friends to a buffet lunch afterwards. NO PRESENTS PLEASE, although donations to the churches would be very welcome.