

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



Weekly newsletter 22 September 2023



From Hilary:

This week has been busy with family things for me, alongside dealing with the usual, and some extra, parish matters. The rest of the last week of September will be focused on the upcoming Harvest celebrations where we give thanks for all we enjoy in life, remembering the bountiful nature of the created order. It does us good to remember what we have and can be thankful for - even for those with an 'annus horribilis' where there's been a lot to deal with, there is good to be found. And when it's not all been good for us, if we have the grace, there is the good that others have experienced to share and celebrate.

News of the revised Deanery plan is imminent and will be shared as soon as available. The PCCs have heard all that has come out, and updates (such as there have been) have been published here but do be aware that there were very few people in the Deanery who had the time and the expertise to collect the data and work on how churches in the Deanery were preparing to tackle the future. Input from our parishes has been as full as possible, and nothing has been published that hasn't been shared. I say this having listened to the criticism that somehow things have been done, as it were, in secret and parishes have been left out. It is many months ago that appeals were made for people to take part in this planning process but all in our parishes, including myself, are short of capacity and there was absolutely no enthusiasm, which has been true elsewhere too. I alone have attended such meetings as we have had, but in the end just one or two people in the Deanery have had to take on the donkey work - particularly as the planning process is now being steered by concerns about staffing distribution which were not made as baldly clear in the first place as they seem to be becoming now. The bottom line is about how the Church of England can square the circle of reduced, and reducing, resources of people and finance with increased expectations on the resources that there are. The answer cannot be to demand that the same can be done with less. Our bountiful God supplies what we need but we need to attend to what it is we really need in God, not what we may think we have a right to expect in our own terms.

NEWS FROM EVERTON

Everton Harvest Service is at 4pm on Sunday 1st October (next). School children will be bringing gifts to church, and everyone is invited to contribute.

Gift Day letters have been/are being distributed this week. Everton PCC has historically relied very much on the generosity of those within and without the church who contribute in this way to make ends meet. As mentioned last time, the PCC has Finance as an ongoing concern, but we are optimistic that with the help of our wider parish, obligations will be met again this year including the parish share - though possibly with reduced reserves.

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Update from Anne and John Smith who have completed their Pennine Way route on their tandem – see message and photos below. Well done!

A reminder that Simple Lunches will start again in October. All being well, the first is planned for 3rd October.

Another theft incident at church has necessitated leaving the church locked for a few days at least. Consideration is being given to installing CCTV, particularly as the vestry cannot be closed off in the present configuration of the building. Any offers of help much appreciated!

The PCC has looked at finances for the year, with great congratulations on the fund-raising efforts so far, and with very positive hopes for what remains for the rest of the year. Creative use of existing funds together with generous support from several sources will enable the necessary maintenance and repairs of the Church Hall and Church Cottage, but we will nevertheless be challenged to meet all financial obligations including the parish share.



GAMLINGAY FUNDRAISING



Village Show: Thank you everyone who helped in any way with the provision of refreshments last Saturday. The whole event was a great success, helped enormously by wonderful weather. Our Tea Room was busy throughout and our efforts resulted in a profit of £413.85 for church after handing over £40 to the Show Committee. There was, as always, an amazing array of cakes etc., and our baking reputation is still intact!

THANK YOU!

NEWS FROM HATLEY



The poster features a yellow background. On the left, there is a vertical logo for 'In aid of MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT'. In the center, there are two green coffee cups on saucers with steam rising from them. To the right of the cups, the text reads: 'Come on in Macmillan Coffee Morning at KMSS, Unit 10 St George's Tower'. On the far right, it says 'Friday 29th September 10.30 to 3.30'.

- **Friday, 29th September** / 10.30 am to 3.30 pm.
- At the offices of KMSS, Unit 10, St George's Tower, Hatley St George, SG19 3SH – 01767 257 540.
- Enjoy a lovely cup of coffee and raise money for vital cancer support.
- More details on the Hatley village website: www.hatley.info/news_events/events/macmillan-coffee-morning

Harvest Festival at Hatley – Sunday 1st October at Hatley St. George Church and Village Hall.

(See accompanying poster)



Important notice about the Harvest Supper To be held on Friday 29th September, 7.30pm in Gamlingay Church Hall

This event has always been a popular and important part of our church year. Like everything else it lapsed during the Covid years, but we are hoping to resurrect it in its old format this year. There has been a sign-up sheet in church for a few weeks but, so far, there are not many names on it.



PLEASE, if you are thinking of joining us, we do need to know for catering purposes. Ros Hissett is looking after the list and would be pleased to hear from you: Tel : 650052 email: roshissett@hotmail.com

The menu will consist of cold meats, baked potato and salad, followed by apple pie with cream/custard, tea/coffee. The cost will be £10 a head – please bring your own drink to go with the meal.

Service information and dates

Sunday 24th September

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

Friday 29th September Gamlingay Harvest Supper, Church Hall

Saturday 30th September

2.30pm Ely Cathedral – Admission and Licensing of LLMs

October Services

Sunday 1st October, Harvest Festivals

9.30am Gamlingay Parish Eucharist
11.15am Hatley St George Harvest Celebration
4pm Harvest Thanksgiving words and music at Everton

Wednesday 4th October

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

Sunday 8th October, Trinity 18

9.30am Gamlingay Parish Eucharist
11.15am Everton Parish Eucharist

Wednesday 11th October

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

Sunday 15th October, Trinity 19

9.30am Gamlingay Eucharistic service of Wholeness and Healing
11am-3pm Harvest and Community Sustainable Food celebration at GBC
4pm Evensong at Everton

Wednesday 18th October

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

Sunday 22nd October, Trinity 18

9.30am Gamlingay Parish Eucharist
11.15am Everton Parish Eucharist

Wednesday 25th October

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

Sunday 29th October, last after Trinity - Bible Sunday/Dedication festival (if not on Oct 1st)

10am Benefice Eucharist at Everton

Tuesday 31st October, Light party and children's light service in Gamlingay

Wednesday 1st November

9.30am Midweek Eucharist at Gamlingay

NB: Midweek communion will take place at 9.30am on Wednesdays throughout September unless a cancellation is advertised.

NB : All Saints is to be celebrated on Sunday 5th November.

Congratulations to Anne and John!

We have completed our cycle ride on the Pennine Way described as the ultimate challenge of the National Cycle Network. Now we know why! Our route started in Etwell, Derby and finished 350 miles later in Berwick on Tweed. The terrain varied along the way. There were a few miles on major roads but mostly we found quiet minor roads, canal towpaths, disused railway lines and occasionally footpaths where we were forced to get off and walk! The scenery was truly amazing as we passed through dales and fells. We even did a short stretch beside Hadrian's Wall. We mostly stayed dry which was a huge relief. We sampled the fayre of many tea rooms along the way. We have many memories of a challenging trip. If you would like to support our efforts please follow this link:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/john-Anne-smith-754?utm_term=5eGP29b8k

Berwick, our final destination



From Anne and John Smith

We made it!



Dentdale



This Newsletter is circulated by email each week to all on the Church Electoral Roll plus anyone else who gives their email details and requests it. It contains any news we have been given to share in our villages (Everton, Gamlingay and the Hatleys) plus news of what's going on in all three churches in the two parishes of the Benefice. Gamlingay with the Hatleys is one parish while Everton and Tetworth is the second linked parish in the current Benefice - both looked after by one parish priest.

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

A reminder that if you are temporarily or permanently unable to attend church services and would like to receive communion in your own home, please let us know.

For Gamlingay and Hatley contact Hilary or Valerie.

For Everton contact Hilary.