

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



Weekly newsletter 7 February 2025



From Hilary:

This Sunday 9th February as we count down to Lent (4 before) the theme is around commitment and dedication. It works well with Norman Young's wish to be at church for his 90th birthday, celebrating a life which has included a great deal of dedication to God in Jesus Christ.

There will be some of my family at church in Gamlingay contributing to the worship music in honour of Norman's birthday, and they will be joined by singers from both parishes. With that in mind **-there is no service at Everton this Sunday** as we join together for this occasion.

Norman's local 90th birthday party

There is an open invitation to those living locally to come to the Ecohub between 2.30 and 4.30pm on Saturday 8th February for an afternoon tea party with some musical entertainment and refreshments suitable for the occasion. *(See attached invitation)*

Norman does not want birthday presents, but it will be possible to donate to the churches of the Benefice either before or at the event.



The full revision of Church Electoral Rolls is now underway in both parishes.

Everton's APCM has been agreed for Sunday April 6th and the **Electoral Roll revision started last week.**

Looking Ahead

Although we are only in the second week of February, it is a short month and March will soon be upon us, with Shrove Tuesday on the 4th and Ash Wednesday on the 5th. I am proposing that we follow the Church of England material on Hope this year and arrange to meet up and share how we are doing as the weeks go by. There will be more details on this next week, but do let Hilary know if you have an interest in meeting in person or online, and if so what time constraints might exist for you.

Material for Children and Families - will be forwarded separately this week.

Rest in Peace

Thank you once more to everyone who helped with Rebecca Stanton's farewell. Love and prayers continue with her family, friends, work colleagues and pupils.

Gwen Janes' funeral takes place on Tuesday 11th February, 12 noon at St Mary's, Gamlingay

Jane Colebrook's funeral will be on Thursday 13th February, 11am at St Mary's, Gamlingay - hosted by us for Adrian at GBC where the service would have been if the building had been available.

NEWS FROM EVERTON

The History Event on 31st January went very well, to kickstart consultation with the wider community on the future of the church building by sharing some of the past history, ancient and more modern. Special thanks to the PCC, Samuel Pedlar from the Diocese, Mike for the Village Association and Dorothy Jamieson (Bedfordshire and Cambs local historian) for their invaluable input.

The exhibition in Everton church remains on display this weekend, and possibly next weekend also.

The Survey (*see attachments which will take you to an online or hard copy which can be printed and returned to Everton church or any of the PCC*) asks about the use of the church and is for everyone who has any connection, whether they live in Everton parish or not. As such, anyone in Gamlingay with Hatleys Parish is most welcome to respond, as we are 'in it together' as a Benefice in terms of the use of our church buildings.

Everton's APCM has been agreed for Sunday April 6th and the **Electoral Roll revision is now underway.** (*See page 4 for full information.*)

NEWS FROM GAMLINGAY

Simple Lunch will take place on February 11th, 12.30 - 2pm at the Church Hall. As it coincides with a funeral at Gamlingay church, there is special thanks to helpers for making this work without Hilary.

The Vicar of Dibley: Congratulations to the Players for a most entertaining presentation of the play this last weekend. It deserved to be as well attended as it was.

QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 21st March, 7.30pm in Gamlingay Church Hall

Book your places now before the event goes on social media!

Contact Jane or a member of the Task Group – last time the places went really fast.

The usual rate of £5 per head will apply.

Teams to comprise a maximum of 6 – sole quizzers can be slotted into an ad hoc team.

DON'T DELAY – BOOK NOW!

The Big Blunham Book Sale

Will be held on Saturday 22nd February 2025. 10.00 am to 3 pm in Blunham Parish Church, MK44 3NQ,

There will be an enormous selection of nearly new books - specialist and fiction sorted into categories.

Homemade soup, homemade cakes, hot dogs, teas and coffees served all day. All profits to Blunham Church Fabric Fund. For further details please ring Sue and Peter Holden 01767 640572

Benefice Services and Church Events for February and March

Midweek said Eucharist services take place at St Mary's in Gamlingay every Wednesday at 9.30am unless otherwise advertised.

Saturday 8th February – Celebration Party for Norman Young (fundraising for Benefice churches)

2.30–4.30 pm - At Gamlingay Ecohub - General invitation extended to community

Sunday 9th February: 4 Before Lent

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay

NB: No service at Everton this Sunday.

Tuesday 11th February

12noon Funeral of Gwendoline Janes at St. Mary's, Gamlingay

Sunday 16th February: 3 Before Lent (Septuagesima)

9.30am Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with a focus on healing

4pm Evensong at St. Mary's, Everton

Sunday 23rd February: 2 Before Lent (Sexagesimal)

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay

11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton

Sunday and Festival services in March

Sunday 2nd March: Sunday next before Lent (Quinquagesima)

9.30am All-age Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay

11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton

Wednesday 5th March Ash Wednesday

9.30am Ash Wednesday Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with ashes

7.30pm Ash Wednesday Eucharist at St Mary's Everton with ashes

Sunday 9th March: Lent 1

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay

11.15am Parish Eucharist with Baptism at St. Mary's, Everton

Sunday 16th March: Lent 2

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with a focus on healing followed by APCM and lunch

4pm Evensong at St. Mary's, Everton

Sunday 23rd March: Lent 3

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay

11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton

Sunday 30th March: Lent 4 - Mothering Sunday

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Gamlingay with posy distribution

11.15am Parish Eucharist at St. Mary's, Everton with posy distribution

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.

Hilary Young , Parish Priest	hilaryafyoung@gmail.com	650587
Chris Miller , LLM/Reader	cfm55@btinternet.com	650779
Ann Davis , Churchwarden and Gamlingay/Hatley PCC Secretary	anngamlingay@aol.com	07970 076972
Nick Ingles , Gamlingay/Hatley Treasurer	nickingles@me.com	07868 144830
Richard Astell , Everton Treasurer	richard@astell.co.uk	
Valerie Miller , Pastoral	vjm55@btinternet.com	650779
Jane Butcher , Everton contact	Janebutcher59@gmail.com	

Please let Brenda Elcome have any articles or pictures for the newsletter by Wednesday afternoon to Brenda.elcome@ymail.com

NB: The basic information in the document below is relevant to both Parishes in the Benefice but please note that completed application forms should be returned as follows:

For Gamlingay and Hatley:

Return by 16th February to Gamlingay Church or to Valerie Miller, Electoral Roll Officer for Gamlingay with Hatley St George and East Hatley vjm55@btinternet.com 01767 650779

For Everton:

Return by 16th March to Everton Church or to Dick Edwards, Stone Lodge, Everton Road Sandy SG19 2DE, or scan, and email to: rje@stone-lodge.co.uk

Forms can also be obtained from and returned to Doreen Gurney at Manor Farm.

Electoral Roll Revision 2025

In every parish there must be a church Electoral Roll on which the names of lay (i.e. not clergy) persons are entered. In accordance with the Church Representation Rules, 2025 is a year in which an entirely new Electoral Roll must be prepared in advance of the Annual Church meeting in **every parish** in the Church of England.

Under the rules notice must be given in every church in the parish not less than two months before the Annual Meeting.

Whether or not a person has their name entered on the existing Electoral Roll, anyone wishing to be enrolled on the new Roll must complete a new application. [Click here to download the application form.](#)

Under Church Representation Rules no one may be elected as a lay representative to a PCC or Deanery Synod, unless his or her name is on the Electoral Roll.

Under the Church Representation Rules, a lay person is entitled to have his or her name entered on the Roll, if the person – (a) is baptised, (b) is aged 16 or over, and (c) has made one of the following three declarations and duly applied for enrolment.

- The first declaration is that the person is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it and is resident in the parish.
- The second declaration is that the person is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it, is not resident in the parish, but has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months.
- The third declaration is that the person is a member of good standing in a Church which is not in communion with the Church of England but subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and is also a member of the Church of England and has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months

The PCC of the parish of **Gamlingay with Hatley St George and East Hatley** has set the Annual Meeting for 16th March 2025.

The APCM at **Everton** has been set for 6th April 2025.

Forms may be obtained from the churches or from the named Electoral Roll officers – see above.

(NB: A pdf copy of the application form is attached to this Newsletter. It will need to be printed off, filled in and returned as a hard copy. Alternatively, it could be scanned and returned by email – see email addresses above.)