

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



Weekly newsletter 5 June 2020



From Hilary:

Dear People,

It is Trinity Sunday this week, after which we embark on the long summer sequence of Ordinary Time. The children will be helping us to get our heads around that most challenging of theological ideas, encapsulated in our human experience, of the unseen maker of all things that we call God.

As mentioned last week I have come to the conclusion that, for everyone's sake, I need to take some time off - though obviously not 'away' at the moment. I shall be at home with Norman but without a timetable of commitments. I look forward to catching up with things I've been putting on the back burner, particularly using some of the fabric I have been hoarding as well as some that I was gifted at Christmas.

This Sunday (7th June) there will be, what is now, our usual Zoom service at 9.30am,

Next week will be a little different:

Please note there will **not be** a midweek Communion at 9.30 on Wednesday and there will be **no** Thursday evening Bible discussion and Compline.

The Sunday service on 14th June will still be a Benefice Eucharist at 9.30, though I will not be conducting it. The Tuesday Bible Study and Sparks meetings will be facilitated by others, though still Zoom-hosted by me. All queries should be directed to the Church Wardens in the first instance, though of course I am not far away if emergencies arise - we all hope and pray they don't! Our Rural Dean, Grant Fellows, whom some of you have met at Deanery services, will also be on hand.

JUST FOR FUN!

Can you work out 5 well-known phrases from clues in the boxes below? (Answers next week)

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Mary Booth

Mary's funeral took place on a Friday morning in bright sunshine, with birdsong all around, in a corner of the Cemetery in Stocks Lane. Quite a number of her family and one or two Church friends were able to be there while keeping suitable distance. Under the circumstances we gave her as good a send-off as could be, thank you to all who were involved.

The family have indicated that, instead of flowers, donations can be made in Mary's memory to The Friends of St. Mary's for the care of the building. See below for how this can be done on-line through Crowd Funder. Of course, you can also give myself, Ian or one of the Wardens a cash or cheque donation indicating what it is for or give direct to The Friends via Brian Jones.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/mary-r-booth-donations-to-st-marys-gamlingay>

If you would like electronic copies of the eulogy and/or the service sheet, please email me or Valerie.

Hilary

Update from Niassa during Coronavirus *(from Dawn Martin)*

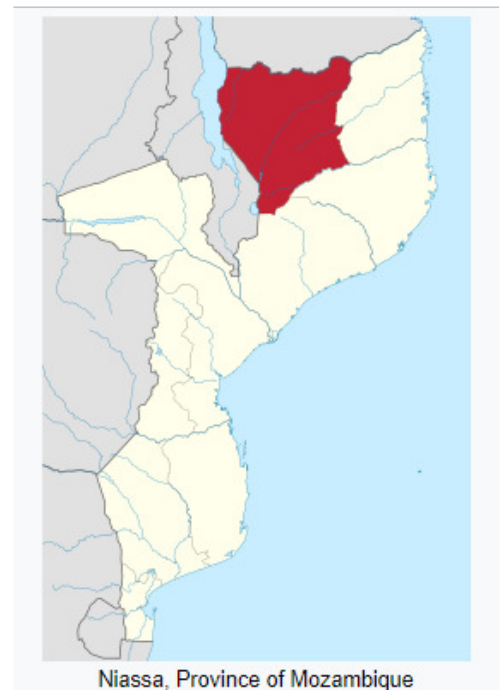
I have heard from Bishop Vincente (Bishop of Niassa) who says:

"The Covid 19 outbreak has had shattering effects and our little economy has suffered enormously. Churches have been closed for 2 months and it has been a real struggle to continue to support the clergy around the regions. We are still waiting to hear if the President will prolong the lockdown, but we will do whatever we need to do to protect lives"

Elizabeth Richardson (Secretary of Manna) told me that Niassa have a Covid educational awareness project that urgently needs funding. The Team is travelling to the villages to provide education and awareness, and they are teaching the villagers how to protect their families. They are also issuing soap and masks. It is very difficult to get accurate details on the number of people infected and the number of deaths, as many of the remote villages are not always able to provide up to date information. However, numbers seem relatively low at present - perhaps due to the simple outdoor lifestyle and, of course, the lack of testing facilities.

If anyone would like to make a donation to MANNA to help with this project, please contact me and I will give you the details you need.

Dawn.



The Glories of Lockdown Gardens.....

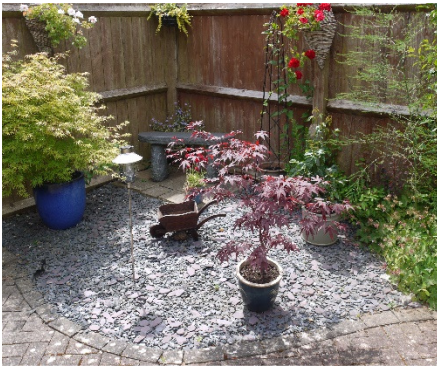
Those of us lucky enough to have gardens have had much more time lately to look after them and enjoy them.

These glorious blooms are from the well-tended garden of Ros and Alec Hissett....



Chris Miller has provided the picture below:
"Our quiet corner amongst the acer trees and geraniums.
Gardening Valerie, photograph Chris!"

The Elcomes' recently planted rhodendron is doing really well in a corner of the front garden. *(A little weeding needed though!)*



Jane Butcher has had a problem sending photos (*maybe try again next week?*) but says she has some beautiful roses in her garden and agrees with Valerie that they seem to be especially good this year, some with a lovely scent.

What all our gardens need now is some refreshing rain and then they will, hopefully, continue to give us pleasure well into the Autumn.

While Alec has been gardening (though no doubt she has done her fair share as well!) Ros has completed another lovely cross-stitch picture to add to her ever growing collection!



And when this is all over
We'll knock on our friends' doors
And go to every party
And say "I love you" more.

And when this is all over
Through bad, we will see the good
Because whenever we are together
We'll appreciate it, as we should.

And when this is all over
And we are no longer in this pain
We'll know to never take for granted
Those little things again.

Further news from the wilds of East Hatley *(from Mervyn Lack)*

The Red Kite, as referred to and pictured in a previous newsletter, has been spotted circling around looking for food. Earlier in the week, in our garden, we were being mobbed by jackdaws and rooks. There were seven (corvids not cvids, fortunately) attacking our peanuts in the bird feeder. The jackdaws free the nuts from the feeder and the mother rook picks the dropped ones off the floor and feeds her baby, who has to be the most demanding bird I have ever seen or heard! The rooks are enormous. The baby is as big as its mother but still wants to be fed continuously.

Yesterday we had a swarm of bees in one of our plum trees. These were initially spotted by our whippet, Louie, who sat fascinated watching them. In the evening Mark Wilsher, one of our East Hatley residents, came and collected them, in all his bee gear, and took them away. He reckoned there may have been up to thirty thousand bees in the swarm. Mark has also posted, on the Hatley Facebook website, some video of badgers he spotted in Buff Wood. Well worth a look.

We are so lucky here in East Hatley to have such an abundance of wildlife to brighten our days during these current difficult times and, of course, in better times as well.

Finally, a reminder of some key contact details:

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Please contact Brenda Elcome with anything you would like to go in the weekly newsletter BY TUESDAY EVENING

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