

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



Weekly newsletter 25 March 2022



From Hilary...

As Norman prepares for his second knee surgery on Saturday, I have been less in circulation than would otherwise have been the case, though the requirements for isolation are now much less. Nevertheless, prayers and planning continue with earnest longing for the love and peace of the Kingdom to be manifest in the hearts of each of us individually, and in the Body collectively, as we pray and work together for the common good. We pray for the peace of the world, especially focusing on Ukraine and the threat of a wider war in Europe. We pray too for a world attempting to find a way to emerge from the pandemic and for healing of damaged Creation.

This week - Mothering Sunday

There are two Communion services in the Benefice this week for Mothering Sunday. The one in Gamlingay, at the Hub, will be fairly informal and specially intended to include families. The one at Everton will be our usual Communion Service format. Posies will be distributed from both these services. Anyone wishing to contribute to making posies should contact Sandra in Gamlingay. There will be a gathering at the Church Hall at 10am where flowers and the means to make up the posies will be provided. If you are able to help and/or provide suitable foliage you would be very welcome.

Lent 2022

The study based on 'The Greatest Showman' continues. Last week (2) reflected on what it means to 'come alive' in Christ. This week (3) looks at 'Rewriting the stars' - our experiences and response to prejudice and the challenge of the Gospel in defying conventions and the 'respectable'.

Lent Study 2022 Meeting ID: 827 1111 6762. Passcode: 342373

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82711116762?pwd=Y3R4SDUydEJGTy9rOVlpZ2dCWTVidz09>

Do be in touch if you would like a copy of the résumé of each session. There are also some spare study books with Hilary if you need one.

Wondrous God, we thank you for your abundant love which invites us to find the fullness of life in you. If we are dust and to dust we shall return, help us to know we are fearfully and wonderfully made, crowned with glory and honour.

Help us to receive faith, hope and love as gift and when we mar your divine image, may we hear your voice as you call us back home.

Enable us through your Spirit to be people of dreams and visions, alert to the call of your Kingdom of Grace and Peace. Amen.

Farewell to Hugh McCurdy April 24th, 6pm

The parishes of our Deanery are making our own farewell at Great Paxton at 6pm on 24th April, before the Diocesan service takes place on May 6th. There is a Deanery collection being gathered to make a presentation at the service on the 24th - donations can be given to Hilary who will be making a bank transfer on behalf of the Benefice.

Final Call for singers

Hilary has information which can be forwarded by email to anyone interested in joining the Deanery Choir - no takers so far!

Living Ely 2025

In preparation for Bishop Stephen's visit, the input from our parishes is being collated with others of the Deanery this Saturday. Bishop Stephen will be visiting the Deanery on April 2nd, 10-12 noon and will be listening to where we have got to and speaking more about the process. Anyone is welcome to attend this meeting. Hilary and Sandra, as the Benefice links, will be going. Let Hilary know if you can join them and would like a lift, there has been one enquiry so far. There will be a simple soup lunch available afterwards for which rough numbers would be helpful.

Next week

Sunday 27th March (Lent 4) Mothering Sunday - posies will be distributed from both services

9.30am Family celebration for Mothering Sunday at Gamlingay Eco Hub

11.15am Benefice Mothering Sunday All Age communion service at Everton Church

Wednesday 30th March

Possible midweek communion.

Please contact Hilary on Tuesday evening if planning to attend.

Next Week

Sunday 3rd April Passiontide begins

10.30am Benefice Service at Everton

Project Update

From Alec Hissett

I'm pleased to report that Heritage England have approved additional funding of £22,790, which brings their total grant for the project to £229,576. This increase was obtained as a result of identifying additional costs not included in our original grant submission last year.

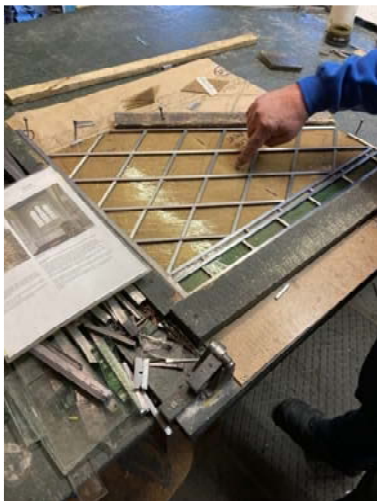
The Project Team met again on 10th March and the reports from CEL, the main contractor, and the Quantity Surveyor confirmed that the work on the roof and windows is still on track for completion by 18th April subject, as always, to the weather.

Visit to Lincolnshire Stained Glass Studio

Last Sunday Hilary, John, Gethin and I visited the workshops where the church windows are being repaired. We were made very welcome by the owner David Sear and his wife and given afternoon tea on arrival - most welcome after the long drive. We then had a tour of the workshops and were given a very interesting explanation of the work involved in the repairs. This is one of only a very few stained-glass companies in the country. The specialist glass required is no longer manufactured in the UK so sourcing new glass for repairs is a constant challenge, nothing is wasted!

For each window that arrives at the workshop a template is made and each glass pane is carefully removed and checked for damage. We were shown examples from our windows where the colour of the glass had darkened in the middle due to UV light, while the edges remained the original shade.

Here are some photos showing the various stages of the repairs.



Window on template with re-leading in progress



Sheet of glass matching the cracked/broken panes in our windows



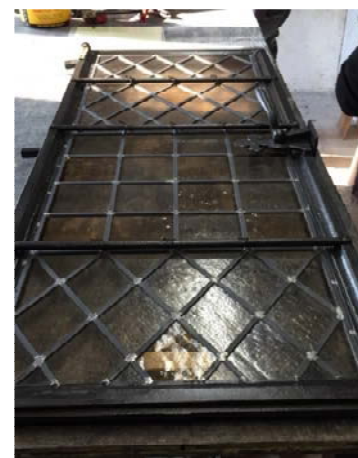
Window ironwork cleaned, painted then stainless steel tips are welded onto each end ready for insertion into the stonework



North porch window ready for glazing



Completed windows ready for delivery



Good example of a well-made louvered window



Our host explaining that some of our windows were too small leaving a gap at the top. They needed additional lead added to the top profile to fill the gap



We believe this pane was damaged by an air pistol bullet



Powder coated stone guards ready for installation

Most of our windows are now complete and will be returned for re-fitting later this week.
Alec Hissett.

A reminder of church opening times and some key contact details:

Everton church open Friday- Sunday, and on Bank Holiday Mondays 10am-4pm.
Hatley church can be opened on request.
Gamlingay church closed to the public until April.

Hilary Young , Parish Priest	hilaryafyoung@gmail.com	650587
Chris Miller , LLM/Reader	cfm55@btinternet.com	650779
Nick Ingles , Gamlingay/Hatley Treasurer	nickingles@me.com	07868 144830
Valerie Miller , Pastoral	vjm55@btinternet.com	650779
Sandra Macrow , LLM Children and Families' minister	sandramacrow@btinternet.com	07958 710703
Dawn Martin , Gamlingay/Hatley PCC Secretary	dawnbeckymartin@aol.com	652832
Alec Hissett	alechissett@hotmail.com	650052

Please let Brenda have any articles or pictures for the newsletter by Tuesday evening each week to Brenda.elcome@ymail.com